

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE **ACTION** PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

Vol. 49, No. 9

Focused On The Future

September 1, 1970



Michigan Farm Bureau Buildings

The PAST....The PRESENT....And the FUTURE....

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EDITORIAL . . .

Spending Our Money

Everyday as I read the newspaper, watch television or listen to radio, I realize that the citizens of America are entrapped in a vicious circle. New laws or federal programs seem to be announced daily which require more and more tax dollars.

We are living in a time when many of our citizens keep asking for more and more.

Each time a situation or problem arises, regardless of the size or importance, a group of sympathetic citizens calls it to the attention of one or more legislators who jump to the conclusion, "There ought to be a law . . ."

Seldom does the problem or situation apply to each and every American, but the law adopted applies equally to all and so does the cost.

If the law happens to be one under which certain citizens can qualify for some "benefit," "federal funds" or "assistance" they are all too willing to help expand the program.

Thousands of other citizens are stimulated to invent ways to "qualify for benefits" or to devise ways to increase the "benefits."

Each new law, in the hands of its interpreters or administrators, becomes an invitation to expand. Each expansion requires more people to administer the law or program which in turn requires more money. Thus the citizens of America find themselves entrapped in a vicious circle.

This vicious circle is again causing us to face a federal budgetary situation that is getting too critical to remain silent about any longer.

Congress is approving more and more measures which require expenditures that will exceed the tax revenue at the risk of another inflationary binge.

We need to remind ourselves of what happened in the 1968 fiscal situation when the federal budget went \$25 billion in the red. Such lack of fiscal responsibility helped to provoke the inflation that has since eroded the value of our dollar.

In fiscal 1969, the budget picture improved with a small surplus, but the picture changed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970. The estimated deficit for the federal budget is \$2.9 billion and some expect the actual figure to be much higher.

Where are we headed in fiscal 1971? With a two month's history, predictions are for a red ink year. Again, citizens are asking for more federal "hand outs" and Congress is letting them have their way. In the House of Representatives actions so far, it is estimated, have increased the projected deficit by nearly \$3 billion and the actions of the Senate, which is slower at its appropriation work than the House, have boosted the projected deficit about \$2.3 billion.

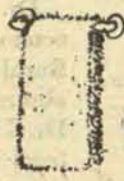
Assuming Congress takes no action to cut back, eliminate or curtail federal spending programs (after all, this is an election year) and the present pace of new programs continues — the 1971 federal budget may show a deficit of \$10 to \$12 billion.

We must also remember that new spending of one year often builds automatic spending for the following year. The results of the 1971 budget deficit will also be reflected in the 1972 fiscal results.

Congress can and must begin to correct the situation now or in 1972 we could have a repeat of 1968. They must assume their responsibility to the citizens of America and keep budget spending in line. They may have to tell some people NO — on new laws and programs. The federal budget must be balanced if we are to stop the inflationary spiral and free American Citizens from the vicious circle.

Carl P. Kentner

GUEST EDITORIAL

FAMILY LIFE HERE TO STAY

Will the family survive in the coming century? What a question to be asking, I can hear say.

There are some who argue that family life is "going to the dogs." The family, as an institution, is in the process of disintegration. Is yours a house divided against itself? Do your young people go their way and you another? Sitting down to eat together may be the only time you see each other. It has been said that farm families are more secure — more closely knit than others. I'll grant this, but have you noticed that distances are shorter now and how often Susie and Johnnie have to go back to town for a special activity? Who would have it other-wise — we want our children to have the same advantages, experiences and opportunities of others.

Some say that the family today has few functions — we do little or no food processing (home canning seems a lost art), do little educating (we leave it to the school) and the family sponsors but few religious activities. These functions do seem to be all performed outside of the home.

Critics then go on to quote the divorce rate and juvenile delinquency statistics and thus feel they have sealed the doom of the family.

But a ray of hope was shed by Dr. John W. Riley, Jr., of the Equitable Life Assurance Society in a recent talk on the future of families. According to Dr. Riley, he sees no sign that marriage and family seem headed toward unpopularity in our culture. The proportion married and currently living with their spouses is at a relatively all-time high in our history. Ninety-three percent of both males and females likely will marry at some time in their lives and there will be a continuation of the tendency for increasing proportions of women to bear children.

"If the family were on the way out, would they still want homes?" Dr. Riley asks. The fact is, since World War II, the single family dwelling has enjoyed the highest demand. His conclusion is that we can expect increasing value to be placed upon family life and the idea of family in years to come.

I believe the vast majority of us feel that young people require a family environment — one that is the center of love, education and Christian teaching.

Shut your windows and doors occasionally to all outsiders and revitalize that special family feeling.

A crisis in our families? No — a crisis infers the ship is going under. In the families I know the ship is not sinking. Will the family survive? Christian couples have the answer — we can look to a new century with optimism.

North Dakota Farm Bureau News

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

**The Farm Bill**

Much of this season's crop is being harvested, and out in the fields farmers are keeping their fingers crossed for favorable weather. One is never sure about the climate, but one thing is for sure, it is sometimes easier to do battle with the unpredictable weather than it is with the government.

Since the farm bill was passed in the House of Representatives in Washington, D. C. recently, the farm outlook has indeed been dimmed and has made farmers even more determined to work for favorable legislation.

Government control of agriculture is a bone of contention lawmakers have yet to concede to the man on the land. Congressmen need to recognize that the federal government is not running a rescue operation for family farmers but instead is trying to manipulate the workings of our great industry down to the finest detail. This manipulation at best has been a bungled job. There was hope by the government that the Agricultural Act of 1965 would solve the farmers' problems but in five years time it has failed to do this. Now lawmakers have taken essentially the same legislation and plan to extend it another three years to 1973, which will cost the American public an estimated ten billion tax dollars.

These programs haven't worked. Government's so-called cheap food policy is met with rising retail food prices at record levels. The money that government pays with taxpayers' dollars for farm subsidies is nothing more than what farmers would receive for their crops if they were allowed to grow and market them. It is an artificial system that denies the right of Americans to utilize the free market system.

The free market system based on competitive market and the law of supply and demand has always worked when given a chance. This can be seen in the commodities that are on the free market today of which meat is one example, soybeans another and fruit is yet another.

But over on the floor of Congress, this bill was hitched to a stoneboat before it began. The idea of lumping all farm legislation into one package could never hope to do more than a mediocre job. This omnibus approach was designed with a concern for politics rather than sound and solid economics in the best interest of farmers and the nation.

The favorable legislation in the bill is the continuation of the wool, dairy and Public Law 480 programs. We had hoped these issues would have been treated separately and on their merits.

These few good things about the bill are far overshadowed by the continuation of government's desire to keep the farmer dependent on government. The \$55,000 payment limitation is an example. Farmers have always know that payment limitations such as what we have would eventually put a ceiling on farmers' opportunities.

Furthermore, the bill continues to ignore the needs of low income farmers; continues the current costly, ineffective annual land diversion programs; continues to propose to depress market prices for wheat, feed grains and cotton and to keep producers dependent on compensatory payments, and continues the Commodity Credit Corporation's authority to dump government-owned stocks of agricultural commodities on the market at prices slightly above the government loan rate.

Only if the bill is defeated in the Senate or referred back to the House Agriculture Committee will it be possible to get serious consideration for better alternative farm program proposals.

— Elton R. Smith

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
House of Representatives

Mr. Dan E. Reed, Secretary-Manager
Michigan Farm Bureau
P. O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904

Dear Dan:

Many thanks for your letter in support of my position on the farm bill.

I concur that a better solution can and must be found — it was true then and it is true now.

With kind regards,

Sincerely
Garry Brown

IS MY COMMODITY NEXT?

Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, has said, "What every citizen must know is that a powerful union alliance has been able to destroy markets for farmers and force them to sign over their work force without giving the workers a choice. If this device is not broken by legislation and exposure, it will dictate the market decisions for every farmer and consumer in America. Every farmer must now ask himself, 'Is my commodity next?'"

Trade unions began to appear in some cities in the United States as early as the 1790's.

The Clayton Act (1914) was the first major piece of legislation to recognize associations or committees as business entities, instituted for the purpose of mutual help, representing workers. The law did not require anyone to recognize them or the program they developed. The law simply permitted them to exist. Specifically, employers were not required to recognize associations, committees, or unions claiming to represent workers as bargaining agents.

In 1935 the National Labor Relations Act came into being. It was designed to, among other things, cause employers to recognize labor organizations as the collective bargaining agents for their employees.

In 1947 the National Labor Relations Act was amended by the Labor Management Relations Act to diminish the causes of labor disputes pertaining to or obstructing interstate and foreign commerce, to create a National Labor Relations Board, and for other purposes.

In 1959 the National Labor Relations Act was further amended by the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act to have the effect of making unions act in a financially responsible manner with respect to their members, employers, and the general public.

The National Labor Relations Board was created to, among other things, establish rules of conduct, provide for elections, and to rule on disputes between employers and employees. The decisions of this board have established what has become known as "Unfair Labor Practices."

Agriculture and agricultural employees have been excluded from the National Labor Relations Act and the National Labor Relations Board has no jurisdiction in case of disputes.

There have been numerous sporadic attempts to organize farm workers during the past several years. The movement of Cesar Chavez to represent grape workers of California has received the most attention.

Chavez first attempted to sign workers into his union. However, workers resisted voluntary membership in his union; without specific laws governing the unionization of agricultural workers, Cesar Chavez has, through public support of the grape boycott, forced workers to join his union without the benefit of free choice through the election process. At this writing it appears that his efforts will be at least partially successful.

It was this apparent partial success that prompted Mr. Shuman to admonish farmers to ask themselves, "Is my commodity next?"

Another question to be asked and answered is, "What effect will unionization efforts have on Michigan agriculture?"

Certainly, production costs will increase and more emphasis will be given to mechanization. The cost of food will surely increase. Some crops will diminish in the number of acres grown; some may even disappear entirely.

Union pressure on the terminal markets can mean the acceptance of only union label products moving through the market.

M. J. Buschlen, Manager of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association, reports "Farmers should become familiar with what has happened in the farm labor management field. It is my belief that farmers should choose to support national legislation that would establish rules and regulations to develop equity and a balance of power between employers, agricultural employees and the consumer."

B. Cross-B. Shield How the Rate Is Determined

The rate for experience-rated groups under the Blue Cross-Blue Shield merit rating system takes three basic factors into consideration.

1. Money required by law for reserves and expenses for operating the program.
 - a. The Insurance Bureau of the Department of Commerce requires that a figure equalling one month's premium be retained for reserves.
 - b. Blue Cross-Blue Shield retains approximately five cents of every dollar received for administrative expenses. The balance or ninety-five cents is returned to the members in the form of benefits.
2. Rising cost of health care or inflationary factor.
 - a. Hospital costs are rising at an average rate of 16% annually.
 - b. Doctors costs are increasing at an 8% annual rate.
3. Utilization of benefits by group members.
 - a. A 68% increase in cost and the number of services utilized, by Farm Bureau member-subscribers over the previous year.

As can be seen by the above, the two factors which were most influential in the sharp increase in rates this year was the utilization of benefit services and the inflationary factor.

PUBLIC CONTROL PROTECTION

The two non-profit corporations, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, were established over 30 years ago by enabling legislation by The Michigan Legislature. This legislation placed them under the jurisdiction of a state agency which is now known as the Insurance Bureau Department of Commerce. **No change in benefits or rates can be made without the approval of the Bureau.** As part of its function, The Insurance Bureau conducts periodic audits of the internal operations of Blue Cross-Blue Shield and does hold public hearings regarding rate adjustments when deemed necessary. **Private insurance carriers are not subject to these stringent controls.**

In addition, the governing bodies of Michigan Blue Cross-Blue Shield are composed of public representatives drawn from many walks of life. The Blue Cross Board of Trustees is composed of 22 public representatives, 18 hospital representatives and two medical representatives. The Blue Shield Board of Directors is composed of 21 physicians and 14 public representatives.

There is a representative from Michigan Farm Bureau serving on each Board. They are, Dan E. Reed, Secretary-Manager, serving on the Blue Shield board, and Robert Smith, Legislative Counsel, serving on the Blue Cross board.

Notes From All Over . . .

Ivan K. Maystead, a past president of the Michigan Milk Producers Association and a former MFB Board of Directors member, died in June. Mr. Maystead helped organize the Hillsdale County Farm Bureau. He received the Michigan Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award in 1957.

Dr. Daniel Sturt, Michigan State University agricultural economist, has been named Director of The Farm Labor and Rural Manpower Service, Washington, D. C. In Dr. Sturt's absence, MSU's Rural Manpower Center will be headed by Dr. Dale Hathaway, chairman of the Department of Agricultural Economics.

Word has been received that former Jackson County Farm Bureau president Carlton Moe, Parma, died in July. Mr. Moe served six years on the county board of directors.

The Greenville Branch of Farm Bureau Services has a new manager — Roger Conroy — according to John H. Williamson. He has served as assistant manager since 1969.

Michigan Farm Bureau members planning to attend the AFBF annual convention in Houston, Texas in December, may take advantage of two Pre-Convention tours — one, the Texas-Rio Grande tour leaving from the travelers chosen point of departure December 1 and returning them to their Houston hotel in ample time to check into the AFBF convention on Sunday, December 6. The other tour is to Mexico. Guests may leave from four points of origin — Houston, Indianapolis, Detroit or Chicago — Saturday, November 28 and return them to Houston, Sunday, December 6. Complete details and a brochure on the trips, may be obtained from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Inf. Div., 4000 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48904

Two states — Florida and Mississippi — have taken legal actions regarding milk sold in their states. In Florida, the Supreme Court ruled that the state's 1941 law prohibiting the sale of "filled milk" is no longer valid. The Mississippians "dumped" their state milk control law in June. The law, under which the state control agency had operated, permitted the setting of producer, wholesale and retail prices. Michigan Farm Bureau's policy commends the dairy industry for developing and financing strong promotion programs to expand the market for DAIRY products and take issue with the promotion of dairy substitutes.

The nation's farm labor force numbered 5,402,900 in July according to a USDA report. Michigan rated among the top seven states to show a gain in average farm employment.

In June, 1970, national legislation authorizing \$120 million per year for the school milk program became law. This coincides with Farm Bureau's policy stating, "The National school lunch and special milk programs have proved beneficial to school children. The programs have helped to establish proper dietary habits among our young people. We recommend their continuation. Only domestic food should be used for this purpose. It is important the general public understand that the chief beneficiaries of the national school lunch and special milk programs are school children."

SMV Emblem Cuts Accidents

Michigan Farm Bureau Women can be proud of their part in helping to pass the legislation requiring farm machinery and other equipment operating at less than 25 m.p.h. to have a slow moving vehicle sign.

A report compiled by Dr. Richard Pfister, Safety Engineer at Michigan State University, shows a 21 percent reduction in rear-end collisions involving slow moving farm vehicles. This reduction has been noted just since the SMV symbol has been used. The law went into effect on March 10, 1967.

While the overall reduction in accidents was 21 percent, rear-end collisions involving moving equipment, and also stationary farm vehicles, dropped 32 percent. For comparison, all other kinds of accidents involving cars and farm machinery on public highways dropped only four percent.

The law is presently in effect in 14 other states and four Canadian Provinces. Farm Bureaus in other states are also pushing for the legislation — not only for safety reasons but, as was the case in Michigan, to prevent the licensing of farm equipment, which would be another added farm cost.

HOUSE PASSES EXTENSION OF FARM PROGRAM

The "something for everyone" omnibus farm bill passed the House of Representatives on August 5. The vote on the Poage-Hardin government farm program bill was 212 YEAS to 171 NAYS.

The bill was supported by 126 Democrats and 86 Republicans, with 85 Democrats and 86 Republicans voting against it. A switch of 21 votes would have defeated the bill and given the Congress an opportunity to give consideration to some other program than an extension of the present bankrupt farm policy approach.

The three-year extension will carry the program past the next Presidential election, thus giving the voters little chance to react to farm issues.

"Package" Creates Confusion

Some confusion resulted in the minds of Michigan's Congressional delegation and Michigan dairy farmers as a result of support for the bill by Michigan Milk Producers Association and opposition by Farm Bureau. Actually, there was no difference of opinion between the two organizations on the dairy section of the bill in which Michigan Milk Producers Association was particularly interested.

Farm Bureau supported the principles carried in the Dairy section, as well as extension of the Wool Program and extension of Public Law 480, which assists in the movement of agricultural commodities in export.

The bill was created to cause exactly this kind of confusion. The principle in an omnibus bill is to put together enough "goodies" so that it will attract the necessary votes. In this case, the technique was successful.

Separate Vote Turned Down

Before the vote on passage of the bill, Congressman Teagus (R-California), a member of the House Agriculture Committee and one of the 50 sponsors of Farm Bureau's proposed Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1969, offered a motion to recommit the bill to the Agriculture Committee, with instructions to report it back with all sections stricken except those providing for the dairy, wool and P. L. 480 programs. Had this motion passed, these noncontroversial programs could have been adopted. The House Committee could then have given consideration to the problems of wheat, cotton and feed grains. The cotton and wheat States did not have enough votes without adding the dairy, wool and export interests so that Teagus amendment was defeated.

If the farm program bill had been defeated, there is no doubt but that the three noncontroversial sections would have immediately been reoffered for action.

Payment Limits Are "Red Herring"

Much of the debate on the bill centered on proposed limitations of payment. The importance of the issue was greatly exaggerated as only some 1100 farms in the Nation will be affected under present provisions. However, the idea of million dollar payments

had caught the public notice and Congressmen were responding on this issue, which was really a red herring drawing attention away from the real issues involving the future of agriculture.

The bill extends for the three years of its life the direct payment type of program once known as the Brannan Plan, which has been used to confuse consumers by providing cheap food, but presenting added costs through taxes.

Promise Forgotten

Farmers were particularly concerned that the Nixon Administration provided crucial support for the Poage-Hardin bill after the platform promises for "change" carried in the 1968 campaign.

Following is the Michigan Congressional delegation vote on the bill:

(Y, y=Yea - N, n=Nay - (p)=paired)

Vote #1 was on recommitting the bill, with instructions to report the dairy, wool and P.L. 480 sections. Vote #2 was on passage of the bill. Farm Bureau's recommendation was YES on #1 and NO on #2.

	Party	Vote (1)	Vote (2)
1 Conyers	D	p(y)	p(n)
2 Esch	R	Y	N
3 Brown	R	Y	N
4 Hutchinson	R	Y	N
5 Ford, G'd	R	n	y
6 Chamberlain	R	Y	N
7 Riegle	R	Y	y
8 Harvey	R	Y	N
9 VanderJagt	R	Y	N
10 Cederberg	R	Y	y
11 Ruppe	R	Y	y
12 O'Hara	D	Y	N
13 Diggs	D	(p)y	(p)n
14 Nedzi	D	(p)y	(p)n
15 Ford, Wm.	D	Y	N
16 Dingell	D	n	y
17 Griffiths	D	Y	y
18 Broomfield	R	Y	N
19 McDonald	R	Y	N

SOILS REMOVE PHOSPHORUS FROM SEWAGE

Spreading sewage effluents over soil to remove phosphorus is a possibility, but few soils will remove more than 3,000 pounds per acre, reports B. G. Ellis, Michigan State University soil scientist.

IN MICHIGAN GET TYLAN + SULFA

IT'S IN OUR VITA-BITES

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm Bureau
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

Michigan Support for FB Proposal The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1969, carrying Farm Bureau recommendations, has been introduced by 50 Members of

the House and 20 Members of the Senate. Seven Michigan Congressmen—VanderJagt, Broomfield, Harvey, Hutchinson, Chamberlain, Cederberg, Brown, and one Michigan Senator, Robert

Griffin, are among the introducers. The House and Senate Agriculture Committees have given little real consideration to the proposal despite the strong introducer support.

New polyphosphate development in wheat starter fertilizer.



New hurryup wheat starter fertilizer (8-36-10 with 2% manganese) is made with polyphosphates...a major development in fertilizer technology that offers eight times more phosphorous activity than older-type fertilizers.

The result: vigor and hardiness throughout the winter, higher yields, increased phosphorous and protein content, and earlier maturity.

Polyphosphates react more slowly with soil minerals than conventional orthophosphates. They resist tie-up in the soil by other soil chemicals, convert added micronutrients to a more effective form for plant utilization and improve phosphorous utilization by the plant.

Field tests have proven new hurryup wheat starter fertilizer hurries wheat to higher yields. Prove this new "wonder drug" fertilizer for yourself on your Fall wheat. For more information, contact your Farm Bureau dealer or write: Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Lansing, Michigan 48904.

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm Bureau

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

State Farm Bureau Women's Committee



THE STATE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE . . . and the State Women's Program Planning Committee jointly met in Lansing on August 10 and 11 to develop a Farm Bureau Women's State Program of Work for 1970-71. Seated left to right are Mrs. Linda Jennings, Swartz Creek, newly elected Vice Chairman of District #5; Mrs. Faye Gribbell, Engadine, newly elected Vice Chairman of District 11-East; Mrs. Doris Wieland, Ellsworth, State Vice Chairman and Program Planning committee chairman; Mrs. Maxine Topliff, Eaton Rapids, State Women's Committee Chairman; Mrs. Bertha Parsons, Charlevoix, District 10-West Chairman and Mrs. Alice Burandt, St. Joseph, District #1 Chairman.

Standing left to right: Mrs. Claudine Jackson, Howell, District #3 Chairman; Mrs. Betty Marquardt, Charlotte, Retiring Vice Chairman, District 5; Mrs. Nancy Geiger, South Lyon, newly elected Vice Chairman, District 3; Mrs. Maud Bristol, Durand, District 5 Chairman; Mrs. Mille Corey, Stephenson, newly elected Chairman, District 11-West; Mrs. Grace Greenhoe, Carson City, District 7 Chairman; Mrs. Martha Baker, Merrill, Vice Chairman, District 8; Mrs. Ruth Crouch, Grass Lake, newly elected Vice Chairman, District 2; Mrs. Eleanor Honkala, Crystal Falls, retiring Chairman, District 11-West; Mrs. Leora Smith, Hastings, District 4 Chairman; Mrs. Betty Rhoda, Schoolcraft, newly elected Vice Chairman, District 1; Mrs. Marie Swindlehurst, Mt. Pleasant, District 8 Chairman; Mrs. Evelyn Rhoades, Clarksville, Vice Chairman, District 4; Mrs. Edna Timm, Herron, District 10-East Vice Chairman; Mrs. Louise Wagoner, Carson City, Vice Chairman, District 7; Mrs. Marie Postma, Rudyard, District 11-East Chairman; Mrs. Ruth Cooper, Mesick, District 9 Chairman; Mrs. Alice Lee, Addison, District 2 Chairman; and Mrs. Loraine Lutz, Kaleva, newly elected Vice Chairman, District 9.

SITE OF MFB ANNUAL MEETING



The Grand Rapids Civic Auditorium — designed specifically for conventions!

Conventions large or small find the Civic Auditorium an ideal place for their activities. Its three auditoriums accommodate 5,000, 800 and 200 persons and can be used simultaneously without any conflict or disturbance. Five large adjoining committee rooms can be used separately or as one unit. The Exhibit Hall offers 44,000 sq. ft. of usable display space and has facilities for illumination, electric power, gas, water and drainage. Other facilities and equipment include banquet accommodations for 2,200 persons, a complete amplifying system, stage properties, 12 direct wires for newsmen, radio broadcast connections, Western Union service, telephone booths and several public lounges. During inclement weather, a heated, lighted underground passage from the Pantlind Hotel, across the street, is a great comfort to conventioners staying or dining at the Pantlind.

IN
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ANIMAL
HEALTH
PRODUCTS

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm
Bureau
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

Plans are being finalized for the Michigan Farm Bureau's 51st Annual meeting to be held November 9, 10 and 11, according to David Morris, chairman of the MFB Board of Directors Annual Meeting Committee.

Several major changes should be noted for this year's meeting. First it is scheduled to be held at the Grand Rapids Civic Auditorium and the three day event will encompass the annual meetings of Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. The Farm Bureau Services Product Show will be set up in Exhibition Hall (basement) of the Auditorium, offering the delegates an opportunity to participate in it.

On Monday (November 9), delegates and guests will share in the formal opening of the convention and will hear MFB Pres-

ident Elton Smith's annual address. Following Pres. Smith's address, Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative will open their Annual Meetings which will include progress reports and general business.

Farm Bureau Women will meet at noon in the Blue and Silver Room of the Civic Auditorium. Their annual meeting program will follow the luncheon. Further details will be announced later.

Plans are to have the Commodity luncheon also at the Civic Auditorium and those attending this luncheon, will hear the Young Farmers Discussion Meet.

The Right Reverend Monsignor Hugh Michael Beahan, widely known as Father Michael, has accepted an invitation to be the Monday night Annual Banquet speaker.

"A minute with Maxine"

MAXINE TOPLIFF
STATE WOMEN'S CHAIRMAN



School Bells

School bells ringing, oh, where did the summer go? We must all do our part to keep alert to our young people as they are on their way to or from the bus. They are young and full of energy and sometimes they just don't think before they act.

As you read this little article, I expect to be dangling a line in the beautiful blue waters of O'Sullivan Lake, in Ontario, Canada. Yes, it's our vacation time and we plan to spend it on our favorite lake, only six cabins of people, no phones, no highways, just one road down to the lake. The most noise you hear is an occasional airplane and a few gulls.

Your State Farm Bureau Women's committee met recently at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing for two days of program planning, communications training, and business of our Women's Committee. You can guess that we had a full two days and we all felt it was a very good meeting. Many resource people talked with us, each one had ideas that were good program material and after hearing all these ideas your State Program Planning Committee came up with what sounds like an interesting and working group of suggestions for the coming year. Your District Chairman or Vice-chairman will be calling you to set a date when they can come to your county to present these ideas. I do hope you will work closely with them. They are eager to be of assistance to you. They are your elected District leaders and very capable ladies.

You all know I like to cook, but here's a recipe I'd like to pass on that takes more than cooking. Think about it.

LIFE'S RECIPE

- 1 cup of Good Thoughts
- 1 cup of Consideration for others
- 3 cups of Forgiveness
- 1 cup of Kind Deeds
- 2 cups of Sacrifice for others
- 2 cups of well Beaten Faults

Mix these thoroughly and add tears of Joy and Sorrow and Sympathy for others.

Fold in 4 cups of Prayer and Faith to lighten other ingredients and raise texture to great heights of Christian-living. After pouring all this into your daily life, bake well with heat of Human Kindness. Serve with a Smile.

This recipe was written by Mrs. George Fleming of Nebraska.

Mrs. Jerold (Maxine) Topliff

1970 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA (Tentative)

Monday, November 9, 1970

- 10:00-11:00 Joint Opening of the MFB, FPC, and FBS Annual Meetings. President Smith presiding.
- 11:00- 1:00 FBS and FPC Annual Meeting
Womens Program to run from 12:00 until 4:00
- 1:15- 3:00 Commodity Luncheon — to include finals of the Young Farmers Discussion Meet.
- 3:15- 5:15 Individual Commodity Sessions
- 6:30- 9:30 Annual Banquet and Program
- 9:30-11:30 FBS-FPC Product Show to be open

The Product Show will be in the process of being set up throughout the day of November 9. It will be open the evening of November 9 and continue through November 11.

Tuesday, November 10, 1970

- 8:30- General Session
- 10:30- Begin Resolutions
- 4:00- District Caucus
- 6:00- Young Farmer Banquet
Presidents' Banquet

Product Show open for those not involved in the Banquets.

Wednesday, November 11, 1970

- 8:30- General Session
Resolutions until complete

FARM BUREAU BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES



CONSTRUCTION IS ON SCHEDULE . . . for the new Home Office at 7373 West Saginaw, Lansing. Work is underway on exterior brickwork, parking lots and mechanical-electrical systems. Above, Clerk of Works Paul Boutwell (left), and Nile L. Vermillion, Executive Vice President of Farm Bureau Insurance Group, discuss the building's progress.

Four successive dynamite blasts shook the ground as the sound raced through the crisp December air. The blasts did not destroy. They signalled the beginning of a new building . . . the Farm Bureau Building.

Those dynamite charges, detonated in a 48-acre field last December, heralded much more

than the start of "just another building." It will become the home of some of Michigan's most dynamic organizations . . . the "Farm Bureau Family." Michigan Farm Bureau and its affiliates will be moving to the new facilities located just off the I-96 Saginaw Highway interchange west of Lansing, sometime next spring.

The new three story structure will be the home for Michigan Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau Insurance Group, composed of Farm Bureau Mutual, Farm Bureau Life, Community Service Insurance Company and Community Service Acceptance, Farm Bureau Services Inc., Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Inc., Michigan Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Assoc., Michigan Agriculture Services Assoc. and Michigan Assoc. of Farmer Cooperatives.

Over 450 Lansing area employees will work in 114,000 square feet of office space . . . almost twice the size of the present building.

The Farm Bureau Life Company is providing the funds for the construction of this new facility. Such an investment will provide a new growth base with increased service capability for Farm Bureau.

F. B. Policyholders Share Dividends

Since September 1, 1969, Farm Bureau Insurance Group has paid 228 business operations over \$41,500 in Workmen's Compensation dividends. Currently, additional Workmen's Compensation dividends estimated at almost \$24,000 are being processed.

Businessmen throughout Michigan . . . on the farm or in the city . . . are learning that safety does pay in a Farm Bureau Insurance Group Participating Dividend Plan.

How much does safety pay? An Eastern Michigan mushroom farmer received a Workmen's Comp dividend check for \$657.62. A construction company earned \$1,124.50 in safety dividends; for a turf nursery . . . \$1,096.04; an orchard operation . . . \$1,525.97; a West Michigan school district earned \$2,779.87; a mid-Michigan school district

was awarded \$2,738.88 in Workmen's Comp dividends.

How can Farm Bureau Insurance Group return so much in dividends to its policyholders? Because each Workmen's Comp policy is judged individually on safety experience for that particular policy alone. The safety experience of an individual policyholder will determine the size of his dividend, or whether any dividend is earned at all. Farm Bureau's Participating Dividend Plan allows a larger premium discount for the policyholder and the possibility of a larger dividend.

At Farm Bureau Insurance, the integrity and responsibility of each individual is the concept behind Workmen's Compensation Participating Dividend Plan. For Farm Bureau Insurance Group and its policyholders . . . the idea is paying off.

Freedom Foundation Essay Contest

One of the outstanding programs sponsored by the Farm Bureau Insurance Group is the Eighth Grade Freedoms Foundation Essay Contest.

The month-long contest begins on February 22 each year. Its purpose is to encourage eighth grade level students throughout Michigan to seriously consider what part they will play in their country's future.

Three levels of competition exist in the essay contest. The three best essays are selected from each school and the authors rewarded for their efforts. The top essay from each school is then forwarded to a panel of notable judges who select the three best essays in the State. The top 1970 Freedoms Foundation essayist in the State, Tim Endean, and his parents enjoyed a four-day three-night all expense paid trip to Washington, D. C. The top three essays are then forwarded to Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for entry into national competition.

Through the cooperation of Freedoms Foundation, the first Essay Contest was conducted as a community project in Lansing during the Spring of 1968. This first contest was strictly a trial balloon for measuring public interest, educator accessibility and student response. Lansing area results were favorable . . . seven schools and some 300 students participated.

In 1969 new promotional materials were created including radio and newspaper ads. The decision was made to expand the contest to statewide competition. The number of essayists grew to 900 from 68 schools.

The results of the 1970 contest must be considered staggering. With an expanded promotion campaign, the number of schools swelled to 204 with 3,500 essay entries.

With the help of a newspaper clipping service, the majority of printed newspaper articles about the 1970 contest were collected. They number some 120. Many articles carry most, or all of the company news releases with local photos. The Essay Contest story was also picked up by Associated Press Wire Service. The July 6 issue of the *American Farm Bureau Federation Official News Letter* announced that the winning essay was featured in their "Across The Land" radio broadcast, aired on 150 radio stations across America. Many local Michigan radio stations aired the story.

Commenting on the tremendous growth of this community relations program, Nile Vermillion, Farm Bureau Insurance Group Executive Vice President, said, "Skyrocketing growth charts, and increasing policyholder confidence in Farm Bureau Insurance Group certainly is gratifying. But we're especially proud of the success of our Freedoms Foundation Essay Contest. It's our way of working with, and helping to develop, the heart of a community . . . its young people."

For this effort, Farm Bureau Insurance Group was presented two consecutive George Washington Honor Medal Awards by Freedoms Foundation for 1968 and 1969 essay contests. Hopefully, next February, the third Honor Medal Award will be announced for the firm's 1970 Eighth Grade Freedoms Foundation Essay Contest . . . "What I Can Do For My Country."

Auto Dividend After October 1

The fourteenth auto dividend in 21 years will begin arriving in Farm Bureau Mutual policyholder mailboxes after October 1. In a continuing effort to encourage driver safety, the new dividend will approximate \$300,000 . . . 10% of the semi-annual premium for some 35,000 Michigan auto policyholders.

Member cooperation was cited as prime reason for the dividend declaration by the Company's Executive Vice President, Nile L. Vermillion. "Individual Farm Bureau members have been very helpful in holding down the rising accident rates and claim costs through safe driving practices. We're simply returning the benefits of this cooperation."

This latest auto dividend was approved by Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Board of Directors on August 14. Since September, 1967, Farm Bureau Mutual has declared five consecutive auto dividends to policyholders while most insurers have been raising rates. These five dividends total nearly \$1.5 million.

Few companies within the auto insurance industry have been able to justify a dividend or premium reduction during recent years. Spiraling costs and accident rates have created a general upward trend in auto insurance premiums.

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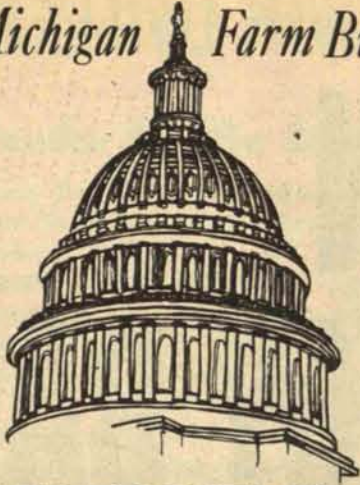


**Farm
Bureau**

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.



Michigan Farm Bureau

CAPITOL
REPORT

by Robert E. Smith

SALES TAX EXEMPTION
CLARIFIED

Recently, one of the Farm Bureau Board members called my attention to a newspaper clipping from his local newspaper. The headline was "Only Full-Time Farmers Exempted From Sales Tax." The article stated that under the new law part-time farmers are not eligible for tax exemption when buying farm supplies.

This is not true! However, it is a good example of misinformation that is often circulated. A similar allegation was made in one area of the state during a political campaign for the primaries.

Farm Bureau members will recall that we fought a battle to maintain the sales tax exemption on farm machinery, supplies, etc. There were actually four bills involved. S. 969 and S. 971, introduced by two metropolitan area Senators would have eliminated most of the exemption. However, after a period of weeks, the bills were finally referred back to committee which, in effect, killed them. Two other bills did pass, S. 1092 and S. 1093, which made many changes in sales tax exemptions. There are, in fact, 20 subsections in the statute dealing with exemptions of one kind or another. Both these bills were amended to remove the word "direct," which would have brought some farming supplies under taxation.

In short, the agricultural sales tax exemption on farm machinery, supplies, etc. is essentially the same as it always has been. Supplies purchased by part-time farmers to be used in producing farm commodities for sale are exempt, the same as always.

After seeing the misunderstanding that was created, we took the matter up with the heads of the Revenue Department and they assured us that the exemption remains as before. A meeting was then called in the Board member's area and, besides myself, officials from the Department of Revenue were present. It should be reported, however, that the regulations to the sales tax act are being enforced more

rigidly than ever before and that farmers and dealers alike must be sure that the purchase qualifies for the exemption and is used for the purpose for which it is bought.

There have always been "gray areas" in the interpretation of the sales tax act. The agricultural exemption has been and continues to be for the commercial production for sale of crops, livestock and other agricultural products. There are some cases under the regulations where an item might be half taxable inasmuch as it might be used part of the time for strictly agricultural production and part of the time for a use that does not qualify for the exemption.

One regulation that should be mentioned for the benefit of any person who may sell produce at retail is that he must have a sales tax license to do so if he sells more than \$50 in any one month. If a business operates less than a month, the deduction is computed at the rate of \$1.64 per day. The regulation that has been in effect for many years reads in part "every person, including farmers . . . who sells any agricultural product . . . at retail to persons for consumption of use and not for resale shall obtain a sales tax license . . ." The regulation further states that it makes no difference whether "such retail sales are made at the place of production, a roadside stand . . . from a vehicle or elsewhere."

One last thing to remember is that whenever a buyer signs the statement for the sales tax exemption he is declaring that the property will be used or consumed in connection with the production of horticultural or agricultural products as a business enterprise.

To help maintain this tax exemption, it is essential that the law be strictly followed. Almost constantly, there are questions of interpretation coming before the Department of Revenue. Farm Bureau is still involved with the issue regarding taxation of certain potato equipment. The question is still before the Tax Board of Appeals.

LAND ASSESSMENT BILL
STILL HANGS FIRE

H. 2533, the bill that can be called by various names, such as land assessment bill, green acres, green belt, open space, pollution control, or whatever, is the legislation that sets up realistic procedures for assessing farmland to serve two purposes. One, to prevent farmers land from being confiscated by unrealistic taxes resulting from assessments based on potential values rather than on the value for agricultural purposes; and the other to help encourage the preservation of one of our most important natural resources — the soil.

Different legislators supported the bill for different purposes. It will be recalled that it passed the House last year and passed the Senate this year by a two-thirds vote. On August 7, when the legislators returned, all that was needed for final passage was House concurrence with the Senate amendments.

Suddenly, a move was made to send it to the House Appropriations Committee. This resulted, in large part, from a letter from the Tax Commission claiming that the bill would be very costly in lost revenues. It was apparent that opposition from various sources had been quietly building up, and at least one legislator said that part of the behind-the-scenes opposition was coming from land developers.

Rep. Spencer (R-Attica) chief sponsor of the legislation, blasted the Tax Commission, especially on their claim that the bill "usurped administrative prerogatives." Rep. Spencer and others pointed out that the legislature determines policy, and it is the duty of departments to carry out the policy and that if the Tax Commission is not capable of administering this act, all they need to do is to write New Jersey, or any of the 16 states having a similar act, and ask for their procedural handbooks.

Rep. Ballenger (R-Ovid) has also blasted the Tax Commission, along with those he considers responsible for attempting to kill the legislation.

As reported in previous columns and Minuteman Letters, H. 2533 is based on New Jersey and California approaches — two states, along with 14 others, where such legislation has been very successful in helping to preserve agricultural land.

As passed by the Senate, the legislation requires the owner to apply each year for assessment under its provisions and in order for the farmland, not including buildings, to be eligible, it must be either zoned for that purpose or must have been used for agricultural purposes for the last three years. Furthermore, the owner must receive at least one-third of his total income from agriculture. This provision eliminates the so-called speculators, hobby farmers, etc. The land would then be assessed, based on its productivity for agricultural purposes and not on some potential value.

When and if the land is sold for another purpose or is used for a different purpose, additional taxes based on its value for the new use would become due for the previous three years. This is known as a "roll-back" provision and is used in most legislation of this kind. This problem is becoming acute because Michigan's population is growing more rapidly than other industrial states; however, on this issue, Michigan is far behind other states.

Farm Bureau Policy
Development in Full Swing

County Farm Bureau leaders from throughout the entire state were present at the Fifth Annual Statewide Policy Development Conference, designed to assist in providing up-to-date information to county leaders to help in developing policy recommendations.

William Anderson, AFBF Legislative Counsel, Washington, D. C. discussed national and international affairs. The farm program before Congress was discussed in detail. He pointed out that many of its provisions, such as the wool program, P.L. 480 program, Class I Base program, etc. were fully supported by Farm Bureau. However, under present policy, cotton, wheat and feed grains provisions were strongly opposed.

He said that the farm labor issue is such that national legislation is essential to set up the rules. Farm labor unionization was discussed, recognizing that Michigan is presently a prime target. Federal legislation is needed. Of two bills in the Congress, one would bring agriculture under NLRB, which is geared to industrial labor, and the other, supported by Farm Bureau, would set up labor regulations based on the particular problems in agriculture.

Foreign trade, both exports and imports, are presently a major issue. One out of four acres or so of agricultural production is now exported. We export twice as much as we import of commodities that are produced in this country. There are import restriction bills before Congress on 178 different commodities, including textiles, manufactured goods, etc.

Other national issues discussed included marketing legislation, national commodity checkoffs, rural development, the U. S. budget and its effect on ordinary citizens, federal highway trust funds, general federal taxation and inheritance taxes, etc., and environmental problems.

Other speakers for the day included Glenn Allen, Michigan State Budget Director, who outlined the state's budget problems and the fact that from 1963-69 costs have increased 10% per year to carry on the same programs. This results from increased population, such as more students in all school systems, increasing cost of Medicaid, direct relief and general inflation.

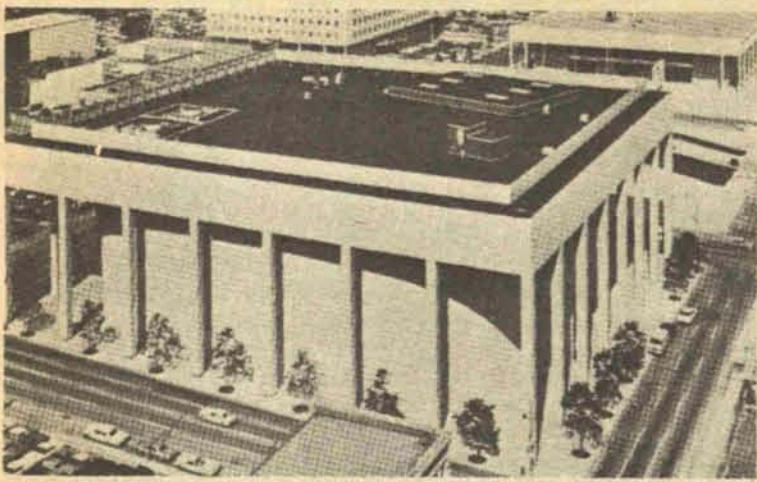
Dr. William Cooper, MSU Ecologist, spoke on environmental problems. He said in part that "the back door of cities should be hooked up to the front door of farms."

He said that the U. S. is the world's greatest polluter, that with 6% of the population, we consume 45-50% of the world's natural resources. Eighty percent of the world's population does not pollute, as they still live in a balanced environment. He said that the amount of DDT presently used in agriculture is insignificant and that 80% of DDT used in the world has been to save people's lives.



MICHIGAN FARM BUREAUS . . . Legislative Counsels Al Almy, (left) and Robert Smith, right, witnessed the signing by Governor Milliken of one of the many bills of interest to Farm Bureau members and agriculture.

Join the Jet Set to Houston



A schedule of sessions for the 1970 annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation, December 6-10, in Houston has been announced by Federation officials.

The Houston Civic Center, a \$40 million complex of buildings, and the Rice hotel, will be the site of general and business sessions.

Vesper services, traditional opening ceremony, will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, in the Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts in the Civic Center.

First general session of the annual meeting will be held Monday morning, Dec. 7, in Sam Houston Coliseum in the Civic Center. Charles B. Shuman, president of the Federation, will address the opening session.

Monday afternoon will be devoted to conferences, including the American Farm Bureau Women's Committee, organization, marketing, natural resources, insurance, and open session of the resolutions committee. A talent program will be held at 8 p.m. and a dance at 10 p.m.

A second general session of the convention is scheduled for Tuesday morning, Dec. 8, in the Coliseum, with Roger Fleming, Federation secretary-treasurer, giving his annual report. Tuesday afternoon will be occupied by conferences including dairy, field crops, horticultural crops, livestock and poultry.

A recognition and awards program will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Coliseum.

Business sessions of the convention will be held Wednesday, Dec. 9, and Thursday morning, Dec. 10, in the grand ballroom of the Rice hotel.

Attendance at the convention of the nation's largest general farm organization with a membership of 1,865,854 families in 49 states and Puerto Rico is expected to reach 5,000.

Last year the Federation celebrated its 50th anniversary in Washington, D. C.

The 1971 annual meeting of the Federation will be held in Chicago.

New Postal Regulations Help Rural Delivery

"A new postal regulation means home mail delivery to many rural and small town Americans for the first time," Michigan Congressman Marvin Esch said recently. The rule applies to communities with a population of less than 2,500 persons which have a first, second or third class post office.

"In rural or sparsely populated areas of Michigan, this means an added number of people in communities such as Fowlerville, Pinckney, Clinton, Onsted, Britton, Carleton, Dexter and hundreds of others of their size, can get home delivery."

Under previous rules, only persons who lived at least a half mile from post offices in such sized communities were eligible for rural delivery service. Residents who lived less than a half mile away had to pick up their own mail at the post office. Now, the minimum distance for home delivery has been cut from half a mile to a quarter mile.

Esch said, "For the past three years we have been concerned with this problem. Many Michigan Congressmen have worked in an effort to bring this new ruling around to better serve our constituents. We are particularly pleased because many people who had found it a hardship to travel back and forth to the post office, can now receive their mail directly at home. All persons who do not now have this home delivery but who believe they qualify, should contact their local postmaster. He will make the necessary arrangements."

FATTEN YOUR PIGGY BANK. CUT FEED COST TO 11¢ PER POUND OF GAIN.



Hog-raising has boomed to a \$50 million Michigan business. Farm Bureau Services' Porkmaker feeds can help you profit from this growing market with fast-gaining, healthier pigs. Porkmaker supplements hold costs to 11 cents per pound of gain for the average 100-day feeding program. Financial aid and valuable discounts are added pluses to help you earn more ... and fatten your piggy bank, too. Cooperating with farmers is our business, and we do it better than anyone else ... right from piglet to profitable porkchop.

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm Bureau

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

**Farmer Cooperatives often have the largest local payrolls and are the biggest taxpayer in the town.

**Many farmers are served by four or five different cooperatives and some farmers are served by as many as nine.

**The Michigan Farm Bureau is dedicated to the idea that farmers cannot afford the luxury of independence, and to the replacing of such independence by mutual, cooperative effort.

**Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperatives serve over 70% of the dairy herds being bred artificially.

**Michigan's Legislature adopted the nation's first cooperative statute — March 20, 1865.

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MARKETING AND COMMODITIES

MACMA Feeder Cattle Available

The MACMA Order Buyer Division is now purchasing cattle through several State Farm Bureau Marketing Associations for Michigan cattle feeders.

The MACMA Order Buying service is a part of the new national feeder cattle marketing program recently established by the AAMA and eight state Farm Bureau marketing Associations. The AAMA, through its Chicago office, provides up to the minute listing and price information on the nationwide supply of cattle that are available to Michigan cattle feeders.

The national approach to buying and selling feeder cattle through AAMA offers cattle feeders an excellent opportunity to purchase fresh, healthy, well described feeder cattle on an order basis. Colorado, Arkansas, and Oklahoma are some of the selling states involved in listing and making available feeder cattle through the AAMA program. Michigan and Iowa are leaders in making this supply of feeder cattle available to its members. Comprehensive guidelines and trading practices govern the business being done in buying and selling states.

Included in this new action program is a market information on a weekly basis and soon to come is a timely, daily information service.

This total package is available to cattle feeders for an annual fee of \$30 plus a \$1 share of MACMA voting stock, payable once. The \$30 annual listing and information fee applies towards the 25¢ per hundredweight on the initial load of cattle purchased.

For up to the minute supply and price information, contact MACMA, Box 960, Lansing or 317-485-8121, Ext. 372.

Beef Carcass Evaluation Services

The USDA has initiated a new beef grading carcass evaluation service. The service is designed to provide carcass information and aid cattle feeders and commercial cow-calf operators in recognizing outstanding breeding stock and the kind of cattle most profitable to feed. The USDA Meat Grading Service has looked to the American Farm Bureau Federation and four midwest State Farm Bureaus, including Michigan, to serve as pilot states to determine the feasibility and interest among cattlemen in such a program.

A meeting held recently, involving the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension personnel, and Michigan Farm Bureau staff to review the program and formulate plans to make the program available to Michigan cattlemen.

The chain of events in collecting the information includes the calf being tagged by the calf producer or feedlot operator with a special numbered orange USDA tag, which may be purchased through Farm Bureau for 30¢ each. Providing the remains in the ear of the animal through his feeding cycle and is marketed to a federally graded plant, the packing plant personnel and grader will recognize the tag as an indicator to collect information on the livestock.

The tag is placed on the carcass so the federal grader recognizes the program cattle and can collect such information as quality, grade, fat thickness, loin eye area and yield grade. This information, including the animal identification number, is entered on appropriate forms.

Once the information is assembled, Farm Bureau staff and other cooperating personnel will assist the participating farmer in interpreting this information and making the best use of such information.

The tag number is used only once so that there is no duplication of numbers. The information is then forwarded to the USDA meat grading branch and then returned through its respective channels to the original purchaser, the cow-calf operator or feedlot operator. At such time as the information is presented to the farmer, an additional \$1.20 per head is required for the information.

AAMA Seeks \$185 Per Ton for Concord Grapes

A minimum price of \$185.00 per ton has been recommended by the American Agricultural Association for the 1970 crop of Concord grapes.

The \$185 per ton for U. S. No. 1 16 degree brix grapes, plus or minus seven percent for each degree change in brix (the sugar-acid ratio), was recommended for Concord grapes grown by members of Farm Bureau marketing associations in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Washington. AAMA is common marketing agent for these associations.

The AAMA recommendation was based on reports of a strong demand for Concord grapes in 1970. Prices for ConCORDS in the Lake States in 1969 ranged from \$145 to \$165 per ton.

All trade sources indicate that inventories of Concord grape juice and processed products are practically non-existent, according to AAMA reports, and demand for juice to be used as concentrate, jellies, jams, wines, and other products is at an ever-increasing level. Expanding population, increased disposable income, and consumer preference for the unique Concord flavor have helped swell the demand for Concord grapes and grape products, AAMA said.

Grape growers who serve on the AAMA grape advisory committee reported the need for an increase in price in order to cover the rapidly increasing cost of producing grapes. Grower production records verify that costs of labor, capital, machinery, real estate, and management have nearly doubled in the last 10 years.

MACMA RECOMMENDS GRAPE BASE PRICES

Michigan's MACMA Grape Marketing Committee has announced the following recommended base prices, based on a 16° brix sugar, or on a flat price basis, where grapes are received

U.P. CATTLEMEN BEGIN FEEDER CATTLE MTG. PROGRAM



FIVE UPPER PENNINSULA CATTLE PRODUCERS . . . were elected to the recently formed MACMA Feeder Cattle Marketing Committee. Standing (left to right), Frank Schwiderson (MFB Board member); and Gordon Andrews, Chippewa Co. Seated, left to right, Larry McTiver, Luce Co., Bill Byrum, Committee secretary; Bob McCrory, Chippewa Co., chairman, and John Zellar, Luce Co., vice-chairman. The all-member meeting was held in mid-August at Kinross.

A new production and marketing program has been established by 25 commercial cow-calf operators in three Upper Peninsula counties—Chippewa, Mackinac and Luce. The program will work through MACMA (Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association).

The present membership represents over 1,000 cows; they expect to nearly double their membership by early October.

The Division members recently met and elected a five-member producer marketing committee (picture below). Their responsibilities are to make price recommendations, membership acquisition, and guide operations of the program.

Bob McCrory, newly elected chairman of the MACMA Feeder Cattle Marketing Committee, reports that two assembly dates are scheduled for October 15 and November 5. On these dates, feeder cattle will arrive between 6:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. The cattle are unloaded, sorted by sex, and identified. They are then graded and penned according to grade and weight. Grading will be done by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Prior orders for these cattle are then confirmed, and the cattle are moved to the feedlots by early evening.

The private treaty approach to merchandizing the feeder cattle and utilize the full service package of production and management assistance in his cattle operation.

Cattle feeders have indicated strong support for this new approach to marketing feeder cattle, which should develop a supply of fresher, healthier calves with a minimum of handling.

on a no sugar test basis; ConCORDS, \$185 per ton; Delaware's, \$190 and Niagara, \$170 per ton.

For ConCORDS purchased on a sugar test basis, a sugar payment of 7% per degree brix on the \$185 Concord base plan was also recommended by the Committee.

The Michigan grape crop was estimated on August 1 to run

65,000 tons but the Grape Marketing Committee believes that as much as 10,000 tons more will be harvested. New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania are estimated to be below the recent five-year average (Michigan's was 45,800 tons) while Washington's estimate was reduced 2,000 tons to 66,000 tons.



LIVESTOCK MARKETING—personnel representing 12 State Farm Bureau marketing associations participated in a special feeder cattle workshop held by the American Agricultural Marketing Association July 22-23. One of the purposes of the workshop was to achieve a uniform understanding of USDA grade standards on feeder cattle so that marketing associations in the various states may accurately communicate regarding livestock offered for sale or in demand. The workshop was carried out under the direction of Al Keating, manager of AAMA's livestock division, with assistance from Dr. Don O. Pinney, assistant professor, Oklahoma State University animal science department; Robert E. Daugherty, OSU extension livestock marketing specialist; Robert Leverette, USDA beef marketing specialist, Washington, D. C.; M. L. Marshall, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Ft. Worth, Texas; Howard Dinges, USDA market news office, Oklahoma City; and Dwight F. Stephens, superintendent of the Fort Reno Livestock Research Station of Oklahoma State University, where the second day of the workshop was conducted.

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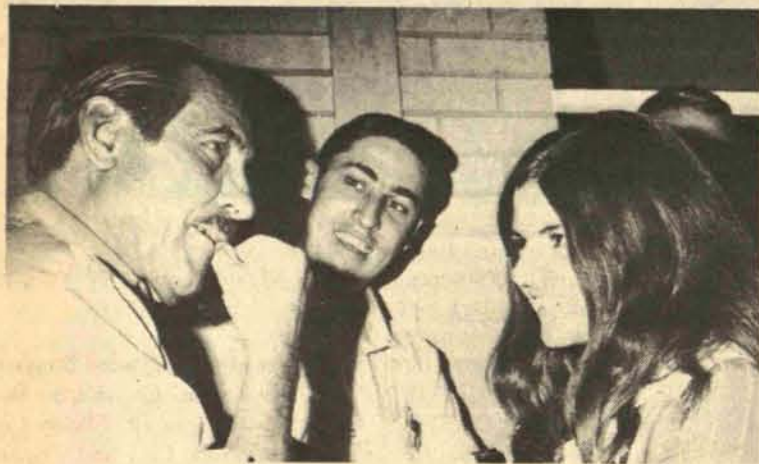
Farm Bureau
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

TODAY'S YOUTH...TOMORROW'S LEADERS

185 HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

HEAR "WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT"

A common theme, "Americanism", was carried out at Michigan Farm Bureau's Seventh Young People's Citizenship Seminar recently completed at Central Michigan University. One hundred eighty-five high school junior and senior students attended.



DR. JOHN FURBAY . . . (left) proved once more that he is one of the most popular speakers at the Citizenship Seminars. Even away from the stage, he can hold a small audience spell-bound.

"OUR HERITAGE"

"Americanism" . . . what it is . . . what makes it — and what keeps it going . . . in this young, energetic country, America, was discussed by several outstanding speakers.

Dr. Clifton Ganus, president of Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, reminded the youth and the 16 counselors that "if we understand ourselves and those that might oppose us, we have one foot in the door of communication." He said, "We're human beings and bound to have imperfections; we are what we are taught to be. When we take God out of our lives, what is left? Without God — there is no restraining force . . . anything can develop and this is proven by the increasing crime rate, due in part to, the lack of moral responsibility and foundation." Dr. Ganus continued "How do you measure a nation? We measure it by the service, dedication and morals of her people. America is good because her people are good. When her people cease to be good, America will cease to be good."

Another speaker, Dr. Arthur Mauch, professor of Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University, pointed out, "What Makes Our Economy Tick" in a day long presentation. Dr. Mauch discussed the "Corner Stones of our Economic Progress," listing first, *the desire and drive for more things that we want for a better life; our abundance of natural resources and the economic system we have chosen.* Dr. Mauch said, "Sometimes our individual free choice system does not provide all the various goods and services which we want. To get them, we have supplemented certain economic activities through the operation of government agencies such as the public education system, post office, etc. However, finally, we must not overlook the fact that our economic progress rests in other areas as well. Development must take place in the spiritual and moral area and in the social area as well."

"Four Dreams of Man", "Let's Join the Human Race" and "Count-down for Tomorrow" were three of the lecture-topics delivered by Dr. John Furbay at the Seminar. Dr. Furbay stated that the first dream of man is for *peace*; the second dream, to *feed the hungry people of the*

world; third, to *rule oneself and the fourth dream, human dignity for everyone.*

Dr. Furbay told the students, "No one ever wins a war, but then again, no one ever completely loses either. Wouldn't it be nice if we could invent a civilized way to end all wars and nations could take out their frustrations some other way? *Your generation's job is to make the United Nations more effective.*"

"THE HUMAN RACE"

"Forget the color of one's skin. We're all one color. The closer to the equator your ancestors were born — the browner the skin is apt to be and if they'd lived in Greenland or far away from the equator, the lighter their skin will be" Dr. Furbay said. "We're all a shade of tan — who ever saw a completely *white* person? The Indian isn't a red man — he's a rich shade of brown; Look at the Asian — he isn't yellow — he's a medium shade of



A GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE . . . from Midland presented their "Up With People" program on the second night of the Seminar. The program is patterned after the National "Up With People" singers.

tan and the African isn't black, he's a beautiful shade of dark brown. Put a white man against a pure white sheet and you'll see — he'll be a real light tan. So you see — we're all one race really — all part of the Human Race."

"POLITICAL ACTION"

Since the August 6 Primary Election, it is a sure thing that the 1970 Seminar students have joined with all former students in appreciating how much time and effort goes into being elected to a political job.

Larry Ewing, Manager of the Michigan Farm Bureau Development Division, led the 185 soon-

to-be-voters through a run-down on being politicians, into joining a political party of one's choice, conducting political conventions and into the primary and general elections. Slates of candidates to be elected included senators, representatives, prosecuting attorneys, a sheriff and precinct delegates. Directions on the correct procedures for filing petitions (stressing the importance of the proper signature) and registering to vote plus voting for the candidate of their choice were given by Mr. Ewing.

"CHOOSING YOUR 'ISM'"

How does an interested citizen measure the differences and similarities which exist among the three economic systems — Capitalism — Socialism and Communism? All the speakers at the Seminar gave five yardsticks — 1. Ownership of property; 2. Freedom of enterprise; 3. Economic incentives; 4. The price system and 5. Competition.

Dr. Mauch, co-editor of a paper on "A Comparison of Economic Systems," Dr. Ganus, Dr. Furbay and Mr. Ewing clearly proved the benefits of living under the American Capitalism system.

Ray Monsalvatge, Georgia born psychologist and sales training specialist, wound up the five day Seminar with a presentation on "Who Cares." Mr. Monsalvatge combined tricks of magic, words of wisdom, humor, facts and love of God, Country and Self into an hour-packed talk that had the audience feeling "God's in His Heaven, all's right with the world."

All was not just classes and study. Lighter times were the

wake-up calls (a couple of senior counselors with a cornet and pail lid (for drums) at 6:30 a.m.; the talent show put on in the Coffee House ("Mother Wouldn't Like It") and lasting friendships . . . to the extent of tears shed by both sexes when it was time to go home.

Students, who were sponsored by County Farm Bureaus and other organizations, will be happy to report to the sponsoring groups.

"WE GOT LETTERS"

Dave Cook, Chairman of the Seminar Committee, and committee members have received several "thank yous" from students.

Words like "The Farm Bureau 1970 Citizenship Seminar was absolutely terrific! I could go on forever telling you how much fun I had and especially on how much I learned. This was a wonderful experience and I am so proud to have been a part of it!" Another wrote "It was a wonderful experience and I learned so much more than words can express. Thank you for being interested in the youth of America." "Last week was a total experience that I will not soon forget. I was

honored to represent my school and county. Thank you for the most wonderful week of my life." And there are many more plus the evaluation sheets from each student with more than 50 of them asking to be considered as junior counselors for the 1971 Seminar.

These youth — and the thousands more like them — are what makes America great and good. And as long as they are the majority, America will stay great and good.

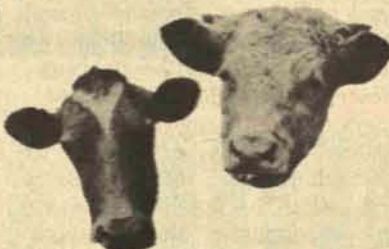


KENNETH CHEATHAM . . . AFBF representative, was one of the key speakers at the Upper Peninsula Young People's Seminar held in June. More than 80 attended this Seminar. Dave Cook, Hugo Kivi and Larry Ewing also participated.

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS BELIEVE . . .

- . . . in the American competitive enterprise system.
- . . . that man's search for progress should be encouraged by maintenance of opportunity, not hindered by illusions of security.
- . . . that a person should be rewarded in accordance with his productive contribution to society.
- . . . that every man is entitled to own property, earn money honestly, save, invest and spend as he chooses.
- . . . that property rights cannot be taken away without infringing on rights guaranteed by the constitution.
- . . . that the constitution is the basic law of the land, and that its interpretation should be in accordance with the intent of its authors.
- . . . that government should operate impartially in the interest of all.
- . . . that government's regulatory functions should be based on law.
- . . . that government should provide only minimum controls and aids.
- . . . that government should stimulate, not discourage, individual initiative.
- . . . that propagandizing by government is dangerous to the maintenance of self-government.
- . . . that monopoly, whether by government, industry, labor or agriculture, is dangerous.
- . . . that voluntary cooperation is a part of the American system.
- . . . that all candidates for public office should state their beliefs with respect to communism, socialism and capitalism.

CUT SUPPLEMENTAL FEED COST BY OVER 70%



New **PRO-SIL** liquid silage additive offers extra profits for beef and dairy production.

Extra profits for Michigan beef and dairy producers are possible now through Pro-Sil...the new liquid corn silage additive developed at MSU. Tests show Pro-Sil is equal to soybean oil meal supplement or to urea-treated silage in performance...but it's far superior in reducing feed costs. Pro-Sil contains anhydrous ammonia, mineral nutrients and molasses. These MSU test charts below show how Pro-Sil can cut your supplemental feed costs.

	1% Concentrate Ration		All Silage Ration	
	Soy Treatment	40.2 Lb/T Pro-Sil Treatment	Soy Treatment	40.2 Lb/T Pro-Sil Treatment
Days on Test	110	110	128	128
Average Daily Gain, Lb.	2.68	2.75	2.31	2.30
Daily Feed, Lb. 85% Dry Matter:				
Corn Silage	11.35	12.90	16.67	17.49
Ground Shelled Corn	7.98	8.47		
Soybean Oil Meal	1.47		1.57	
Salt Minerals	0.51		0.74	
Total	21.32	21.38	18.98	17.49
Per Cent Body Weight	2.22	2.22	1.97	1.81
Feed Efficiency:				
Feed per Lb. Gain, Lb.	7.96	7.77	8.22	7.60
Total Supplemental Cost per Head	\$10.33	\$2.52	\$13.84	\$3.98
COST SAVINGS IN THIS TEST		76%		72%

For more information fill out the coupon and mail to:

I would like more information on how to cut my feed costs.

Please tell me where my nearest supplier is located.

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Farm Bureau

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Town _____ Phone _____

Emphasis... Cooperative Education

The theme, "Emphasis: Cooperative Education", spotlighted the American Institute of Cooperation's 42nd Annual farm business conference held at Ohio State University in August.

The Institute featured the expanding role of cooperatives in dealing with rural development, community affairs and environmental problems.

Several key note speakers addressed the youth who were special guests at the convention, including Stephen E. Zumbach, National FFA Vice President from Iowa, a regular visitor to Michigan (in his national area) who helped lead the discussion: "Cooperatives: The In Thing In My Community." The conference draws nearly 1000 youths from across the country who learn about the better business methods on marketing their farm products and how to better purchase necessary farm services and supplies.

L. A. Cheney, Executive Secretary of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives, MAFC, (with offices in the Farm Bureau Center, Lansing,) was re-elected to the National American Institute of Cooperation Board of Trustees.

Others attending from Michigan were Tom Walton, 4-H Scholarship winner from Michigan, Three Oaks, sponsored by the Three Oaks Co-op; John Young, State FFA president, Port Austin, sponsored by Farmers Petroleum Cooperative; Dennis Miller, Hopkins FFA, sponsored by Allegan Farmers Cooperative and Hamilton Farm Bureau Cooperative and his FFA Chapter.



STATE FFA PRESIDENT... John Young (left) (sponsored by Farmers Petroleum Cooperative) and FPC President Carl Heisler attended the 4 day event at Ohio State University.

Others attending were Stephen Chellis, Antrim Co. Farm Bureau; Tom Leippradt, Elkton Co-op Farm Prod. Co., and Pigeon Co-op Elevator; Chuck Bollens, Fremont Cooperative; Gloria Paulis, Presque Isle Elec. Co-op, Inc., and David Wyrick, Mich. Animal Breeders Co-op.

Arlo Wasson, Sales Manager, Farmers Petroleum Co-op; The Belding Parli-Pro FFA team and their advisor, Richard Bird (sponsored by the Michigan Milk Producers Association) and Mr. Cheney attended the four day conference.

The MAFC hosts the state FFA officers yearly and sponsors several other youth related activities.



THE BELDING FFA PARLI-PRO... team (sponsored by the Michigan Milk Producers Association) attended the AIC. The Belding team was the state winner in the Spring FFA contests. Front row, left to right, are John Feurstein, Joe Brechting, Tom Hefron and Leroy Hubbert. Standing, left to right, Mike Roby, Advisor Richard Bird and Gordon Gasper.

Agricultural Task Force Appointed

State Journal Capitol Bureau

Gov. William G. Milliken has named Dan Reed, secretary-manager of the Michigan Farm Bureau, to head a special task force on the future of Michigan agriculture.

The task force will study ways for alleviating problems faced by Michigan farmers and propose new state programs to assist agriculture, the governor said.

Other appointees serving on the state force include Sen. Charles O. Zollar, R-Benton Harbor; Rep. Stanley M. Powell, R-Ionia; Dwayne Baldwin, a Stockbridge farmer; Dr. Arthur Mauch, professor of agricultural economy at Michigan State University, and John T. Dempsey, a special assistant to the governor.

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ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS

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Farm Bureau

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

*Farmer Cooperatives market dairy products, eggs, livestock, fruits and vegetables, grain and beans... provide petroleum products, farm supplies, electric service, credit, insurance, animal breeding, education and legislation for farmers.

**Farmers market about 40% of their products and obtain about 30% of their supplies from Farmer Cooperatives.

**Credit Cooperatives provide more than 40% of the institutional credit needs of Michigan farmers.

**Many cooperatives are located in small Michigan towns which might not exist today if it were not for the local cooperatives bringing farmers into town, not only to patronize the cooperative but the other business people as well.

Price Set for 1970 Peach Crop

The Peach Operations Committee of MACMA's Multi-Fruit Division has recommended that the 1970 Michigan grower price of 2 1/4" up peaches for processing be \$87/ton.

In arriving at the price recommendation, the committee considered crop and market factors of previous years and known factors to date for the 1970 season. These factors included:

Historical relationship of Michigan processing market to the local fresh market. In the most recent 15 year period, the season average price for processing peaches has ranged from 47% to 65% of the season average fresh market price — the percentage being in the 59-65 range, nine of fourteen years for which statistics are published.

Strong fresh market. This harvest season is running 10 to 14 days earlier than last year. The tourist season is still active and creating a strong demand for peaches at roadside markets — significantly greater than a year ago according to committeemen.

Crop size. The USDA estimates the Michigan crop size at 100 million pounds; the committee estimates the State crop at 75 million pounds. Historical relationships indicate that the season average fresh market price will likely range from \$3.25-3.80/bu. based on these estimates. Also noted was that the USDA peach crop estimates for nearby competing states are down from one year ago. The committee felt that \$87 per ton would most likely equate supply and demand.

Quality. The earlier season, coupled with fewer fruits per tree will favor the development of fruit size. Good sized fruit is a quality factor which should return

growers a premium in both the fresh and processing market.

Competing grower prices. California clingstone peach processors are expected to pay growers \$81 to \$83/ton for No. 1 fruit. The California crop to date is grading 89.5% No. 1's. The price for No. 1 peaches in Michigan generally exceeds the California price on No. 1's.

Ontario, Canada, peach processors will be required to pay \$128/ton for 2 1/8" freestones. These prices are established by the Ontario Tender Fruit Growers Marketing Board. Peach trade is not free across the Canadian border, but some processors purchase peaches in both markets.

Price realistically in the interest of future production. Committeemen feel that a realistic grower price will encourage the use of Michigan peaches in processing. Growers desire to strengthen their processing peach market. This can only be done through returns which encourage upkeep of present orchards and reasonable plantings for future production. The recommended price of \$87/ton 2 1/4" up this year is believed to be a realistic price.

The committee analyzing the peach market statistics and recommending the 1970 price for processing peaches included Robert Rider, Chairman, Peter J. Daley, Wayne Gafford, Max Kokx, Hart, Robert Bender, H. L. Fox, Robert Hukill, Shelby; Robert Buskirk, Paw Paw; Richard Krogel, Bangor; Roy Peachey, Eau Claire and Donald Wright, Ludington.

Norman Veliquette, fruit marketing specialist for the Michigan Farm Bureau's Market Development Division is the Acting Manager of the MACMA peach marketing program.

100-BUSHEL OAT YIELDS

More than a half million acres of oats are planted in Michigan each year, according to Michigan State University crop scientists. New varieties, early planting and proper use of herbicides and fertilizer help farmers commonly get yields of 100 bushels per acre.

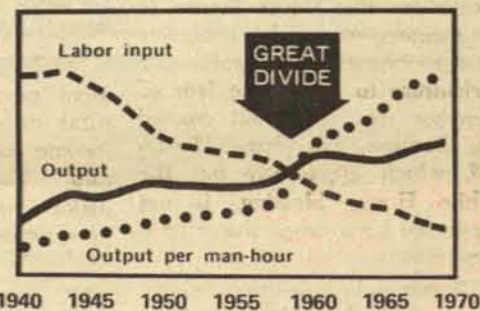
4-H EMBLEM

The 4-H emblem . . . HEAD, HEART, HANDS, HEALTH . . . is synonymous with responsible, capable, achievement-minded youths.

4-H HELPS

- 4-H helps young people improve home and family living
- 4-H helps promote safety, health and fitness
- 4-H helps young people engage in community development

Where are you now that we've passed the great divide?



Michigan farming passed the great divide in the late fifties. Technology is now well ahead of labor when it comes to increasing agricultural output. As a result, farming as our fathers knew it, is gone forever.

Your Farm Bureau is concerned about the number of farms that still haven't met the "output per man-hour" challenge.

With Farm Bureau supply and crop marketing know-how you can get your output up and your input down. Farm Bureau Services can help you lower basic costs, get you extra discounts and net you extra dividends. It's the only way to play today's agri-game. Let us show you the new rules. Ask your local Farm Bureau dealer, or write: Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Lansing, Michigan 48904.

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NORTHERN MICHIGAN COOPERATIVE FEEDER SALES — 1970

OVER 9000 HEAD

These are all native cattle sired by Registered Beef Bulls, and out of predominantly beef type cows. Most guarantee heifer calves open and male calves knife castrated. All calves dehorned.

SCHEDULE OF SALES

Oct. 5 — Bruce Crossing	Yearlings and Calves	750
Oct. 6 — Rapid River	Yearlings and Calves	1100
Oct. 8 — Gaylord	Yearlings and Calves	2600
Oct. 9 — Baldwin	Yearlings and Calves	1400
Oct. 13 — Alpena	Yearlings and Calves	1200
Oct. 14 — West Branch	Yearlings and Calves	2000

Baldwin Sale starts at 12:30, all other sales start at 12:00 Noon.

Cattle are graded by U.S.D.A. standards and will be sold in lots of uniform grade, weight, sex and breed. Brochure available with description of cattle in each sale.

MICHIGAN FEEDER CATTLE PRODUCERS COUNCIL
Posen, Michigan 49776

STATEWIDE CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE

Michigan Farm Bureau will be one of many co-sponsors of a Statewide Conference on Drug Abuse to be held at the Civic Center in Lansing on Wednesday, September 30, 1970, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and closing at 4:00 p.m. The Michigan Congress of Parents and Teachers will be the prime sponsor and coordinator of the conference.

The program will include an opening speech by Judge John Swainson, President of NARCO. There will be a morning panel of four experts discussing drug problems in the schools throughout the state, the overall drug picture, police enforcement problems and drug education. Governor Milliken will be the main speaker at lunch, followed in the afternoon by workshop sessions, each headed by one of the panel experts. The conference will close with a general session on drug legislation and a concluding speech by Mrs. Jane Tate, PTA President.

Promises Forgotten?

Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the nation's largest general farm organization, today accused the Nixon Administration of renegeing on campaign promises by supporting what he called the Poage-Hardin farm bill.

With the government farm program bill scheduled for consideration by the House of Representatives in Washington, D. C., next week, Shuman issued the following statement:

"Farmers have viewed with amazement and disbelief the recent activities of the Nixon Administration in promoting a patched-up version of the present unsatisfactory farm program.

"As a candidate in 1968, President Nixon made several specific promises which farmers accepted in good faith and which helped swing several farm states to his support in the 1968 campaign.

"In the campaign Mr. Nixon promised to change the direction of government farm policy. In spite of this promise, the farm bill developed by President Nixon's Secretary of Agriculture, Clifford Hardin, and Bob Poage, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives, is a camouflaged extension of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965.

"As a candidate, Mr. Nixon said that, 'instead of having a Secretary of Agriculture who speaks for the White House to the farmers, we need a Secretary of Agriculture who speaks for agriculture to the White House.' Somehow the wires got crossed up, because the Poage-Hardin bill, which apparently has the White House blessing, is not supported by a single major farm organization.

"If the Administration continues to support the Poage-Hardin bill it will have renegeed on an-

other specific Nixon promise. Candidate Nixon said: 'We will strengthen markets so more of your income can come from the market — which will give you both higher prices and greater freedom to manage your own farm affairs. I am deeply concerned that many farmers are being forced to depend on payments as a source of income — farmers deserve to receive a larger share of their income — and larger incomes — from the market.' The legislation which is now before Congress with Administration support most certainly would increase the farmer's dependence on government payments for his income.

"Candidate Nixon was rightly concerned with the 'cheap food' policies of the previous Administration and promised that 'the first thing I would do is put an end to the dumping of CCC stocks on the market to depress prices.' The bill now before the Congress would continue the government's authority to dump CCC stocks and wreck market prices.

"Another Nixon campaign statement said: 'Parity prices the last eight years have averaged 77 percent. Farmers deserve, must have better than that.' The parity ratio is now 74 percent! This disastrous situation came about under the present farm program which, with insignificant revisions, is being pushed on Congress by President Nixon's Secretary of Agriculture.

"Still another campaign statement promised improvement in rural development to help low income rural people. Mr. Nixon said: 'The time has come for major improvements in the opportunities and quality of rural life.' He recognizes that 'more than half of our citizens below the poverty level live in rural America, farm unemployment is

twice as high as city unemployment, and half the nation's inadequate housing is found in rural areas.' The Poage-Hardin bill ignores the low income problem and lumps all farmers together. In contrast, the farm bill proposed by Farm Bureau has a separate program to improve opportunities and provide assistance for low income rural people.

"The apparent intention of the Nixon Administration is to attempt to please the vested interests that have learned to profit from present farm programs by continuing to keep farmers dependent on subsidy payments as a substitute for fair market prices. This is a bankrupt strategy. The Administration cannot afford to take farmers for granted!

"For over 20 years, Farm Bureau has consistently opposed the compensatory payment concept. We knew from the beginning that payment limitations would eventually put a ceiling on farmers' opportunities.

Cesar Chavez... a Complete Failure

Dan Reed, MFB Secretary-Manager

Having utterly failed to convince grape workers to voluntarily join his UFWOC, (United Farm Workers Organizing Committee) Cesar Chavez completely changed his tactics.

Under the secondary boycott supported by labor and church leaders, he did succeed in destroying enough of the market that growers were forced to their knees.

As a ransom payment, they were pressured by the banks to sign agreements which force their workers to join the union or lose their jobs.

Any chance to vote on the selection of a union, or whether to have a union, is denied the workers.

Even the possibility of a choice of union was settled, not by the workers but by agreement between the Teamsters Union and the Chavez AFL-CIO UFWOC. In reaching this agreement, the labor leaders were "assisted" by professional churchmen.

The AFL-CIO now begins to receive a cash return on its investment in Chavez — over \$2 million. Dues in UFWOC, per person, are more than twice the amount a Michigan farm family pays in Farm Bureau dues.

Chavez's promise of a "voluntary" membership was never offered to the workers.

As late as February 8, 1969, a Chavez article, with his byline, was carried in the *Washington Post*. It claimed that Farm Bureau was "smearing" the boycott with the label "compulsory unionism."

If his efforts were sincerely devoted to a union which workers could join voluntarily, Chavez has utterly failed!

"OPEN-LINE" Holds Open Discussion

Over 250 Michigan agricultural leaders representing almost every local farm supply cooperative joined in a series of three discussion meetings sponsored by Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative on August 17-19.

Described as "Open Line" Meetings because they encouraged discussion and exchange of ideas, the August sessions were a follow-up to similar seminars held throughout the state last March. Another series is planned early in 1971.

Elton R. Smith, President of Farm Bureau Services, chaired the three meetings which he characterized as a method of improving communications between the two state-wide cooperatives and local farmer owned cooperatives.

At the conclusion of the sessions, Smith said he was impressed with the value of the idea exchange and the benefits obtained by joint discussion of current farm supply information.

Speakers at the meetings included William N. Guthrie, Executive Vice President of Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative; William E. Callum, Jr., Vice President of Farm Supply Division; E. R.

Powell, Vice President of Michigan Elevator Exchange Division; and Duane Cohoon, Crude Oil Division of Farmers Petroleum.

Guthrie outlined business progress of the two state cooperatives and described the current study to consider improved coordination of activities of the two organizations at some future date. Callum reported on the success of the dealer discount program which resulted in the return of more than \$126,000 to local branches and cooperatives on the basis of sales volume during the last fiscal year. Callum said the program will be continued this year. Powell provided local cooperative leaders with up-to-the-minute information on the southern corn blight situation which has upset all grain markets. Cohoon described the crude oil acquisition program of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative to provide improved future supplies of Crude Oil products, benefiting Michigan customers.

During the open discussion periods, dozens of questions were answered on farm supplies, competitive pricing, supply handling, developing improved services, and expanding sales to large farmer producers.

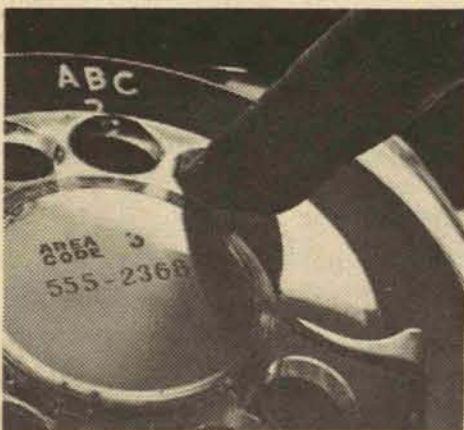
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Farm Bureau FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC



all you need to get out of town in a hurry

Dial your long distance calls direct and get somewhere the easy way.

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Dial your long distance calls direct. And get out of town, on time.

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ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS...

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Discussion Topic

SCHOOL FINANCE

By Gary A. Kleinhenn, Director,
Education and Research

No doubt you're feeling the pinch of rising property taxes. Maybe you have a neighbor selling out because he cannot cope with the rising cost of property ownership. It's a cinch one wouldn't have to search far to discover such glaring examples of the destructive force of inequitable taxes on property.

It's not just a local problem nor just a Michigan problem, it's nationwide and it grows from the rising demand for additional school funds to supply education to a vast student population while being harnessed with the need to stay up with inflation. But more often than not, farm income is not keeping pace, folks can't afford rising costs as reflected in millage election after millage election which in many areas of Michigan is being voted down.

However, another slant of thought on schools needing more and more money was presented from a national point of view when President Nixon said this year in his message on education reform to Congress, "We must stop congratulating ourselves for spending nearly as much money on education as does the entire rest of the world—\$65 billion a year on all levels—when we are not getting as much as we should out of the dollars we spend."

But in Michigan the problem of needing more money hasn't been erased. Much concentration has been directed to creating an efficient method in paying for education. A program that was developing, and even though it was voted down by the Michigan Legislature in the August session, still may come alive in the near future, is an idea that would provide for equal support of schools by the entire public through a combination property and income tax. Aims of the state program would include equalizing educational opportunities and inequalities caused by differences in the wealth of various school districts. This proposal will be discussed further on in the topic.

The state legislature in turn has belabored the school finance issue for the past year with few new wrinkles presented in the 1970-71 budget. In the state aid bill for education there is one marked difference. It is a \$22 million allocation for the support of non-public schools. It is only a part of the record \$969.3 million school aid bill—up some \$30 million from the previous year.

School operational costs are up. Since the school year 1964-65, the state portion of the cost of K-12 schools has risen from \$436.9 million to \$969.3 million . . . a jump of some \$532.4 million in only five years.

Reporting on the state aid act, Robert Smith, Legislative Counsel, Michigan Farm Bureau, states that, "One feature of this year's act is the inclusion of much of the 'Spencer Plan' to become effective next year (1971-72). Under this plan, state aid to each school district for operational purposes would be \$420 for the first ten mills of school tax. This represents \$42 for each mill. The local school district, if it chose, could raise additional local millage up to another ten mills of property tax, with each mill's yield guaranteed at \$30. Instead, the district could, raise the local additional money by a local income tax, not to exceed 2 percent, in which case the state would guarantee each 1 percent of income tax to yield \$150. In addition, the bill provides for the first time for state aid for building facilities and debt retirement. This would be achieved by guaranteeing that each mill for these purposes would return \$30.

"In short," Mr. Smith states, "every district would be considered to be worth \$30,000 per pupil. This means that every district would be guaranteed state funds to assure the same income as a district with a per pupil valuation of \$30,000. Districts with less valuation would gain considerably. An important feature is that the taxpayer's dollar would be worth the same regardless of where he might live."

Mr. Smith cautions that this bill is still tentative and must be approved in next year's school aid bill to pave the way to transfer a bulk of the cost of education to the income tax.

It is true that all levels of government are concerned with the financial problem. On the national scene, President Nixon recently launched a National Institute to study and search for solutions for all the 50 states.

But traditionally schools are more a local problem than a national one. And if this tradition is to be judged by its dollar support by local people it will remain so, while national government will remain a distant voice. Nationally, dollars for education through federal support of K-12 education averages 8 percent of the total; state support national average—38 percent, local support national average is 54 percent.

In Michigan our Federal aid average was lower than from the national average. Federal aid was 3.6 percent in the 1968-69 school year. Total state contributions were about 41 percent, 8 percent of this state money went into the retirement fund. And on the local scene in this same year, folks paid a total of 54.92 percent of the school bill (9.9 percent of this went to fund debt retirement, building and site needs) while the remaining 45 percent went for operational needs.

If one were to tabulate these percentages into dollars and cents the results would be staggering. For example in 1965, the total amount of local property taxes for K-12 schools (including building costs) was \$524 million. In 1969, this totaled \$1.03 billion. The grand total of state and local costs is now over \$2 billion. And in addition there is some federal aid going to K-12 schools.

However, local people may not always control their local problems. Recognizing this, President Nixon said, "When local officials do not respond to a real local need, the search begins for a level of officialdom that will do so, and all too often in the past this search has ended in Washington."

The school finance pressure upon local officials to take the lead, has become more difficult with the population boom. Nationally, in the last 20 year period, enrollments have climbed by 80 percent—from 25 million to 45 million pupils—in just two decades.

Michigan jumps ahead of the national average to nearly a 100 percent pupil increase. In the same 20 year span the 1949-50 school population was 1,234,794. Today it has nearly doubled to 2,456,620. That's an increase of 1,221,826 students, as reported by the Michigan Department of Education.

QUALITY EDUCATION

Another school problem linked to financing is the issue of quality education.

A method to enhance quality education, and to get the most for the taxpayers dollar has been proposed by both President Nixon and Governor Milliken through a concept of "accountability."

For instance, President Nixon explained in his message to Congress, "School administrators and school teachers alike are responsible for their performance and it is in their interest as well as in the interest of their pupils that they may be held accountable."

Like good farm management, the results of one's labor should reflect the effort, knowledge and technique of a successful operation. Likewise, the job done in schools should be more measurable in order to produce a more qualified product. This could result in sounder financing in the future.

Furthermore, measuring school productivity is seen by many as a method of local control of its own school system.

A step in this direction is in a project of the Michigan Department of Education in working to determine levels of educational performance in primary and secondary schools. In 1969-70 the Michigan Assessment Program to determine the quality of education was begun with 4th and 7th grade students statewide. Data was gathered from 320,000 students in approximately 4,000 schools in over 600 school districts.

Basically, the program sought information in four geographic regions (Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties; Southern Michigan; Northern Michigan; and the Upper Peninsula.)

Six categories of information were compiled and rated from median school district scores. The categories were: socioeconomic status; attitude toward school; percent of teachers with masters degrees;

K-12 instructional expense per pupil; vocabulary; and composite achievement.

Highlights of the assessment revealed that suburban and urban areas generally spend more money but don't necessarily achieve the best results. It is true that there probably is a multitude of reasons for this, but it is interesting to note that the fourth and seventh grades of the Upper Peninsula showed the highest composite achievement score and the highest vocabulary showing of the other districts. This was achieved even though they scored lower than other districts in overall socioeconomic status in both grades, according to this report. Attitude toward school generally was on a par and better than other districts. Percent of teachers with masters degrees was slightly above the median.

Assessment programs such as this move closer to the concept of "accountability."

AID TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As mentioned, aid to non-public schools will take an additional \$22 million of support through the state aid fund for school operations.

Justification for aid to non-public schools according to the Enrolled Senate Bill No. 1082 states that non-public schools are not unlike public schools in performing the task of education. The state can support the furtherance of education in the secular subject courses it conducts. Secular subjects are those courses of instruction commonly taught in the public schools of the state. It does not include any course in religious or denominational interests.

The legislature contends that the public good and general welfare require state appropriations for the purpose of furnishing quality secular education.

Funds for these purposes are not to exceed two percent of the total expenditures from state and local sources for public schools as paid in the preceding school year.

But all is not final with this action. Even though the Governor and legislature have approved the funding two other steps for its final approval are in the making. First, the Michigan Supreme Court must decide its constitutionality and secondly the Court of Appeals will be hearing of whether the idea should be decided by voters at the Nov. 3 state general election.

FREE BOOKS

Presently school districts are gearing themselves to comply with the State Supreme Court judgment that the concept of a "free education" also means free books and supplies. The July 17 decision also created a degree of upheaval in the minds of retail operators of school books and supplies. With orders contracted months past, cancellation for most appears unlikely, and what to do with stock—a question mark.

But doubt still shrouds the high court ruling and the Attorney General's office is investigating the meaning of "supplies" at the time of this writing. Officials ask, does it mean pencils and paper or more? There are locker fees, physical education fees, science laboratory fees; where does it begin? Where does it stop? One official remarked that if a student wanted to build a yacht, would he legally be within his rights to receive the supplies needed for the project?

Dr. John W. Porter, Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction, noted that further research on this decision would include such questions.

It can be pointed out that the free book and supply judgment could prove to be less costly for parents of school aged children, because non-parents and those with non-school age children, through taxation, will have to share in the cost.

PROPERTY TAX CEILING

Despite property owners' need for property tax relief, the legislature recently voted down a proposed statewide ceiling on property tax for school operations as mentioned earlier. It was a significant segment of Governor Milliken's school reform proposal. It failed 12-22 in the Senate. Its defeat in the Senate (it was passed in the House), according to one report was accredited to a partisan duel in the legislature. The proposal was to set a 12 to 16 mill limitation on local school district property tax for school operation. It would have required a constitutional amendment with an approving vote by the public in order to become effective. It could have meant a significant reduction from the state average millage for school operation from about 24 mills.

The millage limitation, if passed, would have secured additional funds for school operation through a shift to the state income tax.

Farm Bureau Policy Educational Finance

We believe that school finance is undoubtedly a major key to total educational reform, as statewide equality of educational opportunity cannot be achieved unless the method of financing is first restructured to achieve equity.

With the adoption of a state income tax, new methods of financing our schools became available. It is generally agreed that property taxes for this purpose are obsolete and do not have the capacity to expand to meet the increasing needs nor are they a good measure of ability to pay.

It is interesting to note that new studies show that during the seven years between 1961 and 1968 the average millage rates on property for schools increased 57% (17.89 to 28.05). However, during that same period of time, if, beginning in 1961, an income tax for schools had been levied with \$600 exemptions at 4.19% rate, the rate could have remained unchanged during the seven year period and yielded \$20 million more than the actual yield of the property tax despite the 57% increase that occurred in the property tax rate. During that period of time, assessed valuations also increased at an alarming rate, which multiplied the tax burden. This is ample proof that income taxes can keep pace with increasing needs and property taxes cannot.

Increasing voter rejection of millage proposals throughout the state clearly indicates the need for new approaches to school finance and for educational reforms.

We recommend:

- Property taxes for all K-12 school purposes be strictly limited by law (should not exceed 12 mills).
- The income tax be used as one of the major sources of funds for our schools.
- A reasonable state aid formula be developed to assist school districts in meeting the cost of building needed facilities.
- Sufficient funds should be appropriated to pay in full all state aid formulas.
- Legislation to require each taxpayer to identify his school district on his income tax form.

JULY DISCUSSION TOPIC SUMMARY

Zoning, Planning Commissions and Building Codes

More than 3,400 persons participated in 332 groups that replied in the questionnaire for this subject. Results: Question, Does your township have a zoning ordinance? Yes, 174; No, 141. Q., Why not? Forty-four groups said there hasn't been a need for it, 21 said because of a lack of interest and 19 said it has been voted down. Q., Those who have zoning, have you been satisfied with it? Yes, 120; No, 44. Q., Has it been challenged to be changed by developer? Yes, 76; No, 38. Q., Has it been helpful in the growth of your community? Yes, 84; No, 13. Q., Has there been undesirable development because of a lack of zoning? Yes, 117; No, 71. What kind of development? Junk yards, 34 groups; low income housing and tarpaper shacks, 27; residential developments, 8; were the most frequently mentioned. Q., Are any of your members on the zoning board? Yes, 85; No, 232. Q., Has the zoning ordinance been updated recently? Yes, 138; No, 129. Q., Generally, does your group think zoning is a good thing? Yes, 238; No, 34.

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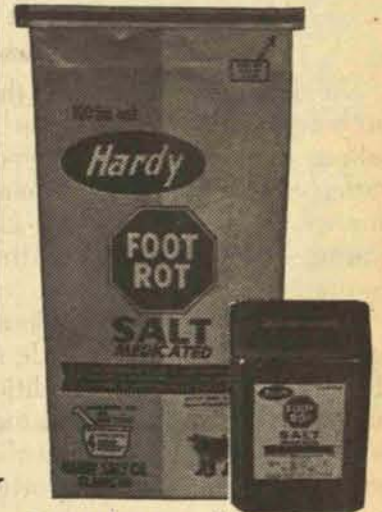
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