...for more on our winged warrior see page two.

MAC-LUCE FIRST TO REACH GOAL

ON THE INSIDE:

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- Free School Supplies? page 10
- New AFBF President Page 6
- Four V.P.'s Named page 6
More than 5,000 farmers from 49 states and Puerto Rico gathered together in Houston, Texas, for the 52nd annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation during the second week of December.

Over 250 Michigan farmers took time out from their daily farm chores to take part in this annual meeting of the world’s largest farm organization.

From the opening vespers service to the motion to adjourn, Michigan members took an active part in the convention.

It began when Michigan representative Robert B. Harms of Sunfield was selected one of the five finalists in the national Discussion Meet.

Our lovely Michigan Farm Bureau Queen, Miss Judy Behrenwald, proudly represented us in the parade of queens at the large Coliseum before thousands of people. She also assisted in the organization conference for the 1970 membership kick-off.

Michigan was presented with a three-star award at the “Gold Star Award” program. State Farm Bureaus were required to show a gain in membership over their 1969 total in order to qualify for the gold star program. Michigan was well qualified, having had a membership gain for five consecutive years. Other program areas of the MFB to receive a “Gold Star Award” were women’s activities and marketing.

Marketing programs were emphasized throughout the convention with special sessions conducted on cotton, dairy, grain, soybeans, livestock, and horticultural crops.

Major guest speakers at the general sessions were U. S. Representative Rogers C. B. Morton of Maryland, recently nominated to the post of Secretary of the Interior by President Nixon and John B. Connally, former governor of Texas and former Secretary of Navy and most recently selected by President Nixon to be his new Treasury Secretary.

Roger Fleming, secretary-treasurer of the AFBF said in his report that farmers and ranchers are determined to get “muscle in the marketplace.”

“In terms of far-reaching importance to the net incomes of farmers and ranchers,” he said, “the most significant Farm Bureau programs have been and are in the field of building greater market power for farmers and ranchers.”

“We have some of the most ‘battle tested’ volunteer leaders in this field anywhere. We have made a substantial start at taking hold of a problem area that has plagued farmers and ranchers for as long as any of us can remember.”

Fleming also reported that Farm Bureau membership reached a new all-time high during 1970.

We are proud to say that Michigan helped AFBF in reaching this all-time high membership figure and the Michigan member is again gearing up to conduct a membership campaign that will show an increase.

January is membership campaign time in Michigan. Voluntary workers will be contacting many farmers who are not now members offering them the opportunity to join an organization that is of-by-and-for farmers. Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization. It is local, statewide, national and international in its scope and influence.

Carl P. Kentner

Chubby Chicken is Here!

The great white bird has landed! Chubby Chicken is here! The White-Winged Warrior has returned from his flight to Houston and is ready for the coming membership campaign. In case you’re wondering who Chubby Chicken really is, don’t feel alone, there’s a lot of folks from Ohio wondering the very same thing. Chubby Chicken is a combination of the Lone Ranger, Superman, Batman, and a chicken with a thyroid condition. He is a character symbolizing the SUPER MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN WORKER in the 1971 Membership Campaign and will soon be attending many of the membership campaign kick-off meetings via a new slide-tape film.

In the presentation, Chubby, the super worker, takes on the world’s most stubborn protestor, Merlin Mode, in a battle of wits. Of course, our champion reigns as the victor, proving without a doubt that the 1971 Membership Campaign Team is the best in the country.

Roger has it. Chubby might be stepping it up at several county Farm Bureaus for a personal visit ... and he is definitely going to attend the regional Barnyard Bash prize drawing.

While in Houston, Michigan’s White-Winged Warrior swooped down on the Michigan-Ohio Breakfast. The Ohio representatives were immediately struck with fear and terror as our hero fluttered around the room with a sign reading, “Ohio laid an egg.” Following the breakfast, he disappeared as quickly as he appeared — and was last seen at about 30,000 feet — somewhere between Houston and New York. According to informed sources, Chubby is now flying from county to county, and may very likely be at your kick-off.

“Look back and give thanks
Look forward and take courage
Look around and serve
Look up and ask God’s help.”

Some of the greatest changes of agriculture are in the marketing and bargaining area. In Houston I believe farmers made real headway in national policy by recognizing the importance of leadership in keeping growing and changing, with the future of agriculture. Some of the greatest changes of agriculture are in the marketing and bargaining area.

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October, November and December have been busy months for farmers in the policy development area. If the farmers want to proceed in bettering agriculture is probably one of the most important things we can do. Without an agreed upon plan, farmers would find it easier to get together; but if we farmers would lose our direction. We farmers avoid this at the county, state and national policy meetings.

That’s what we accomplished at the American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting held in Houston, Texas in December. And all of us Michigan people, more than two hundred of us, who were there took part in an exciting event. I believe any annual meeting where representatives of the nearly two million family members of Farm Bureau get together is invigorating and productive. Each of us has the opportunity to meet and talk and learn about our business with farmers from New York to California. I hope the opportunity prevailed.

I would hope that every farmer could attend a national annual meeting, it truly is a worthwhile experience.

To begin to report to you of all the events is a big task and I’m sure your representatives attending the meeting will do a much better job for you than what this newspaper column will provide. But I can review with you some of the highlights.

William J. Kohls of Illinois is the new AFBB president. President Kohls, before his election, had been the Illinois Agricultural Association president for 13 years. He is a third generation farmer and is in livestock and grain in Tuskeaw County, Illinois. He is a dedicated, sincere man who will give our organization the kind of leadership to keep growing and changing, with the future of agriculture.

Our new resolution recommends that law be passed to set standards for agricultural bargaining associations, and to make it illegal for buyers to refuse to negotiate with good faith with them. The rights of qualified bargaining associations to enter into contracts with handlers to supply their full requirements should be clarified.

The fourth point would make it unlawful for a handler or processor to negotiate with an individual farmer while negotiating with a qualified bargaining association. Furthermore it should be unlawful for a handler to buy from one producer for other than the terms negotiated by the association.

Of course, one of the changes of this year’s national meeting is the very little time spent in talking about the prices of farm products. It indicates that after years of battling this legislation, it is finally on its way out. It is greatly encouraging for all of us farmers that these programs are deteriorating. Many experts predict this will come because of readjustments over the long hassle over the present disputed farm government program.

Elon R. Smith
Delegates to the AFBF national convention in Houston have completed the annual task of determining the Farm Bureau policies on governmental affairs. Delegates represented fifty Farm Bureaus from every state and Puerto Rico.

As usual, important changes occurred in national policies to reflect the recommendations of state Farm Bureau policies resulting from county and state annual meetings. At least 150 titles are included in national policies on every subject that directly or indirectly affects agriculture.

Now that Congress has enacted a farm program for a three-year period—one which was not supported by a single farm organization (certain sections are in line with Farm Bureau policies, such as continuation of Food for Peace Program, P.L. 480, Class I Base Program, Wool Program, etc.) the delegates said that the next three years should be used for "an intensive study and reappraisal of all approaches to the improvement of the incomes of American farm families looking toward the development of a market oriented agriculture that directly affects all of agriculture."

They further urged the Secretary of Agriculture to use the vast authority given him by the new act in such a manner that farmers will have "income opportunities more comparable to those of persons in other segments of the national economy." They said that "farmers must not be forced to compete with the CCC for markets and that surplus stocks should not be used, as in the past, to "depress prices." They continued support for various specific programs, one of which affects Michigan—the extension of the Sugar Act.

Marketing and Bargaining

Continued emphasis was put on marketing and bargaining, with recognition that certain federal legislation must be passed in order to assist farmers in these marketing efforts. This includes provision of standards for recognition by buyers of agricultural products and requiring a buyer to negotiate in good faith with a qualified association.

Clarification of the rights of farmers to enter into contracts with handlers is needed, along with making it unlawful for a handler to buy from any producer for other than the terms negotiated.

Although the strike was just in California, there is common in the union movement in other states. UFWOC is free to use whatever tactic is illegal in industry.

Michigan Farm News

"The following wire was received from Congressman Charles E. Chamberlain of Michigan's 6th District. "Your message regarding food stamp bill received. Know you'11 be disappointed to learn that the House late yesterday day rejected a substitute bill which I supported that excluded strikers from food stamp coverage. The committee bill then passed as reported. Bill now goes to conference."

Charles E. Chamberlain
Member of Congress

FARM PRODUCT BOYCOTT EXPANDS

Efforts to force farm workers into joining a union have expanded and are now directed at grape growers. Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC) aimed their sights at lettuce workers following an end to the grape boycott.

The lettuce boycott is designed to mirror the methods used in the same boycotts as the lettuce boycott itself—a nation-wide network of UFWOC boycotts on businesses along with help that can be mustered from churches, social action groups and retail food stores.

However, there are some major differences between the grape boycott and the lettuce boycott.

Most of the lettuce moving from California is produced under a contract between the growers and the Western Conference of Teamsters. Although some growers have rescinded their Teamster contracts to avoid a confrontation with UFWOC, many growers prefer the Teamsters contract to the Teamster boycott, to the extent that growers who do not abandon Teamster contracts, will be directed against "union" produce.

Another difference is that the Teamsters who participated in the closing of big cities terminal markets in 1968 will not want to keep these markets open to Teamster lettuce.

Despite the many conferences, Chavez has stated that the boycott against lettuce will be conducted on an even larger scale than was the grape boycott. Union organizers say there is no timetable for success, but there is inevitability.

Support for the lettuce boycott is now evident in Michigan. The Detroit offices of Dow Chemical Company and its Midland-based headquarters, are the scenes of pickets by UFWOC and clergy supporters. Dow Chemical owns an interest in the large California lettuce farm which has a Teamster contract. This farm has a Teamster contract which is held by UFWOC.

California Superior Court Judge last summer ordered Chavez to cease picketing this lettuce farm. Chavez retaliated with the nationwide boycott. As a result, Chavez has been jailed by the Judge until the boycott is ended in California and elsewhere.

The Michigan supporters of the lettuce boycott are demanding that the use of some pesticides in the lettuce fields be stopped and that restrictions be placed on all pesticides used. Dow Chemical is being picketed because Dow chemicals are supplied to the California lettuce farm in which it has ownership.

In the absence of state legislation to establish guidelines for the orderly handling of agricultural labor disputes, UFWOC is free to use whatever tactics are necessary for force workers into the union. Propaganda can be used in California, here is common in the union effort to obtain public support for the union.

Many growers of other commodities are not concerned with the threat of product boycott and forced unionization of farm labor because they have not yet heard the "bell toll for them." Often commodity is fairly big, growers must not wait for the "inevitable" to become concerned.

Please Don't Shop Here!

[Image: Please Don't Shop Here!]

food Stamps For Strikers!

The following wire was received from Congressman Charles E. Chamberlain of Michigan's 6th District. "Your message regarding food stamp bill received. Know you'll be disappointed to learn that the House late yesterday day rejected a substitute bill which I supported that excluded strikers from food stamp coverage. The committee bill then passed as reported. Bill now goes to conference."

Charles E. Chamberlain
Member of Congress

Michigan Farm Bureau

FEDERAL TAX POLICIES

They said that federal tax policies must be designed to encourage private initiative, help stabilize the dollar, and promote employment and economic growth, and favored, among other things, tax deductions or credits for college students supported by the taxpayer, deduction of the full amount of the cost of medical insurance for those who must pay their own, reinstatement of the seven percent investment credit, and numerous other recommendations dealing with capital gains, depletion allowance and income taxes.

Support For Task Force

At its annual meeting on December 14, 1970, the Michigan Agricultural Conference gave unanimous support to the report of the Governor’s Task Force on the Future of Agriculture.

Task Force Chairman Dan E. Reed briefed the Conference on major points recommended by the Task Force for the Governor’s consideration:

1. Property tax relief on agricultural land.
2. Legislation to improve the climate for agricultural sales and marketing.
3. Farm labor.
4. Land use.
5. Research.
7. Recognition of society’s responsibility in housing farm workers.

The Task Force made 30 other significant recommendations as well as 24 suggestions and recommendations for program improvements.

Attending the Agricultural Conference session with Chairman Reed were Task Force members Mrs. Eric Fiori and Dianne Baldwin, both of whom served as members of subcommittees of the Task Force.

Copies of the Task Force report may be obtained by writing the Governor’s Office, The Capitol, Lansing.
Reverent Theme Set at Vesper

The candlelight Vesper Service opens the American Farm Bureau Federation's convention each year. Mrs. Haven (Virginia D.) Smith, Chairman, American Farm Bureau Women's Committee, conducts the solemn, inspiring service. The 1971 Vesper Service was held on Sunday, December 6, in the Jesse H. Jones Hall, Civic Center Complex. Rev. E. Herndon Westmoreland, pastor of the South Main Baptist Church since 1955, emphasized the theme, "justice - mercy - humility" as guide line for a good Christian life. He also stated that "The way we climb is by stooping to help others." AFBF staff members assisted in the candlelighting ceremony.

The College Singers of Houston Baptist College, provided the musical background for the Vesper Service. The 28 singers, in addition to their annual tours, average 200 performances each year, for civic, cultural and church groups.

Building America—Together

(Mrs. Haven Smith, Chairman, American Farm Bureau Federation Women's Committee, gave the following speech to the several hundred women attending the 52nd Annual Meeting. Following are several excerpts from her report.)

"We are gathered here, at the beginning of our second half century, with another new all-time high in membership—1,943,181 member families united in Farm Bureau. And, with our rapidly urbanizing population, and with bureau problems pressing on us from all sides, we are gathered here, where Farm Bureau has gained the highest degree of effective mobilized woman-power than ever before in our history. Some of the many important Single State Farm Bureau needs to concentrate its greatest effort are areas in which women can be just as effective, and sometimes more effective, than men. There are six areas where we must increase our effectiveness, these are:

- Rebuild Faith

"We need to work, every day, in our communities, in our country. Everyone of us has continuous contacts, with our families, our neighbors, our friends, and with other organizations. There is no limit to the influence of 1,943,181 informed, dedicated women, in over 2,800 Counties across this land, can have if we will speak out, stand up, and be counted against the hodgepodge of America's down graders who seem determined to destroy the foundations on which this country was built. I've talked about this before, today I'll talk about it again and again.

- Law and Order — Our Responsibility

"We must be an active part of a citizenry concerned enough to stop the wave of lawlessness that has swept across our country. Any thinking person knows that to continue the road we have been on, is national concern, dictatorship, and the end of our great America.

- Government By The People

"Each year it becomes more imperative that every one of us get active in our government affairs to make government 'by the people' a reality. A quick analysis of the current political situation shows the value of as much as we chart our course ahead.

First, fifty-six million votes were cast. This is a record turnout for an off-year election, and reflects citizen concern.

- Controlling Inflation

"In the months ahead, we must be more aware, active and increasingly vocal on government issues. We believe we can make our country what we want it to be, but we cannot do it unless every one of us is informed and concerned about government. A top priority for Farm Bureau women in the year ahead is to get, not only our own members, but the people around us, to understand the necessity to be an active, part of 'government by the people'."

- Rural Development — Its Time Has Come

"A major challenge to every Farm Bureau member, man and woman, is the three and one-fourth billion dollar Rural Development, and to play a leadership role in study and action programs throughout Michigan, to be an active part of government by the people.

- The World — Our Workroom

"Every woman — every woman — has a responsibility to make of herself, and of our American force, a force for bringing peace and friendship, and a better world for all human beings. The United Nations is the area of agriculture, and your own country where we must be an active part of the work. We play an important role, and your own country where we must be an active part of the work. We play an important role, and your own country where we must be an active part of the work.

Another Gold Star In Our Crown!

As I sit here this morning the radio is playing Christmas carols and outside is one of the most beautiful winter scenes one could ever wish to see. The branches are covered with thick beautiful frost glistening in the sun against a cloudless blue sky. It makes you feel great to be alive. It is cold and slippery under foot, so we must remember to be careful as well.

The AFBF convention in Houston is now history. As we were taking off in our chartered jet the pilot told us we should be two hours and thirty-five minutes to Houston. My seatmate said, "'From our house we could only just across the street in that amount of time.' We had a beautiful flight to Houston, traveling through the clouds up to the blue sky and bright sunshine with hilly white clouds under you, made you feel like you were on top of the world.

We arrived in 76 degrees weather and promptly shed our coats. We boarded buses and started to our hotel with a tour of the Astradome on the way. We walked the one and a quarter miles around on the inside, some times going up a floor or down whichever would take us to another point of interest. The temperature inside is regulated so it is always between 70 and 72 degrees. We had a bus driver who talked to us all the way to the hotel telling us what many of the buildings were. You felt a little acquainted after listening to him.

The convention started with a Vesper service at 3:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon. It was an inspirational service and set the mood for a busy three days for many of us.

The women's delegate dinner was Sunday evening. Each state chairman gave a one minute report of their outstanding project for the year. This is always a time to listen to what other states are doing and you can evaluate your own state program. Some states are doing things we have done or are doing and some are doing things we can do in the future. Michigan Farm Bureau women were thrilled at the awards program. The women's program won a Gold Star for Michigan. You gain in the counties are doing a great job and I know you keep on doing a great job. Many hands make light work and get more done, so let's keep getting more of our ladies involved.

The women's business meeting was Monday afternoon and Virginia Smith was reelected chairman of the AFBF women's committee. Beatrice 'Bea' Wilkie, who was our vice chairman, found it necessary not to run again and Mary Jane Smith from Oklahoma was elected our new vice chairman. Someone said, "Looks like the Smiths have it, doesn't it?"

On our way home Wednesday, we had a tour to NASA, the early space flight vehicles. Some of them looked like they had been used yesterday, and we were glad we hadn't been the one to ride in them. Another beautiful flight home, another convention over and many happy, tired people had had a great time.

Mrs. Jerald (Maxine) Topliff
Notes From All Over

Martin J. Bauer, long-time Hemlock civic leader, retired December 31 as general manager of the Hemlock Farmers Cooperative after 45 years with that organization. Mr. Bauer was one of the original 112 stockholders of the Hemlock Co-operative Creamery. Mr. Bauer has been an active Farm Bureau member, local and state, since 1930. He has served on the State Farm Bureau Advisory Board of Managers and is a director of Farm Bureau Services. Alvin C. Zabel, a 25 year employee, will succeed Mr. Bauer as manager.

Several letters have been received at Michigan Farm Bureau Center from members who attended the annual meeting in Grand Rapids. William Notestine, Petoskey, wrote (in part) "My wife and I thought that the annual meeting last year could not be improved upon. However, the annual meeting this year was a definite improvement over last year. Of course, the principal reason was the location, which was ideal. I had always objected to a change but it was all for the best. The other improvement was the smoothness with which the meeting progressed. More was accomplished, it seemed to us, in a shorter time than ever before."

A portion of a letter from Howard Ebenhoe, Saginaw County Farm Bureau, reported "The Saginaw County Farm Bureau delegates would like to take this opportunity to express their sincere approval and satisfaction of the selection of the Pantlind Hotel—Civic Auditorium in Grand Rapids, for the Annual Meeting location. Congratulations!"

Still another — Ruth W. Dowd, secretary of the Ke-Hart Group, Van Buren County, wrote (a portion quoted) "We feel that the convenience of not having to worry about cars and weather added a great deal to the now relaxed atmosphere . . . Thank you again for a very worthwhile three days."

The Citizens Research Council of Michigan received notice that it has received two awards from The Governmental Research Association. One award was for "Effective Presentation of Government Research" for its report "Public Education in Michigan" and the second for "The Most Effective Brief Presentation of Government Research" for its report "Taxes On Industry and Individuals: Michigan Compared to the Competitor States". The Governmental Research Association is the national organization of individuals professionally engaged in governmental research. Dan E. Reed is Michigan Farm Bureau's representative on the council.

Dr. Hannah Honored by AFBF

Michigan Farm Bureau's nominee, Dr. John A. Hannah, received one of two American Farm Bureau Federation Distinguished Service Awards at the organizations annual meeting, December 8. The Award was presented by Charles A. Shuman, immediate past president, AFBF. Dr. Hannah was introduced by Michigan Farm Bureau president, Elton R. Smith.

Dr. Hannah, former Michigan State University president and now Administrator of the Agency for International Development (AID), said (in part) in accepting the award, "I have been interested in the Farm Bureau since its beginning and have had continuing relationships with the Michigan Farm Bureau for the better part of 50 years."

"If I have always been a farmer and continue to be one. As the president of Michigan State University for 28 years and as a part of its administration and College of Agriculture for an additional 18 years, I participated in countless numbers of farm meetings and programs sponsored by or for the Farm Bureaus, local, county, State and National."

"As administrator of the U. S. Agency for International Development, I continue to have a real interest in world agriculture and in the part American farmers can play in helping the direction of providing better lives for all of their peoples."

Dr. Hannah continued, "Farmers have a great feeling for other people. That is why some of the best examples of foreign aid have involved farmers."

The Award is presented on the basis of the individuals' service to agriculture.

Dairy farmer members of Kalamazoo Milk Producers Cooperative have voted to merge with Michigan Milk Producers Association, April 1, 1971. Vote on the merger proposal, which was recommended by the KMPC board of directors, came at the organization's annual meeting held recently in Kalamazoo.

Henry C. Gleason, Three Rivers, is KMPC president. MMFA general manager is Jack W. Barnes and Glenn Lake, North Branch, president.

Grow With Farm Bureau

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.

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm Bureau

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC
Jane and daughters Susan and Viee President and Assistant operative's Crude Oil Division have been announced by the convention when he announced he was retiring at the Four Named To Vice-Presidencies Illinois, who has led the organization for 16 years. Shuman shocked delegates on the opening day of the convention when he announced he was retiring at the close of the meeting.

Four Named To Vice-Presidencies

Four vice-presidential appointments in Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative have been announced by Donald R. Armstrong, Executive vice president of FBS and FPC. The appointments were effective December 1.

Kenneth J. Harvey, Operations Services Division Manager, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, since 1987, was appointed as President in charge of Operations Division and Assistant Secretary. Mr. Harvey started with Farmers Petroleum in 1955 and received several advancements prior to his appointment. He resides in Lansing with his wife Betty-Jane and daughters Susan and Linda.

Duane Cohoon, Division Manager of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative's Crude Oil Division since 1965, was promoted to Vice President and Assistant Treasurer in charge of the Crude Oil Division. Mr. Cohoon started with Farmers Petroleum in 1956 and has held responsible positions with FPC. He resides in Lansing with his wife Betty-Jane and daughters Susan and Linda.

Arlo E. Wason, Vice President in charge of Marketing Division, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, since 1984, was appointed as President in charge of Marketing Division and Secretary. Mr. Wason started with Michigan Farm Bureau as a fieldman in 1949. He started with Farmers Petroleum in 1953 as Director of Membership Relations and continued with Farmers Petroleum in several capacities. Mr. Wason and his wife, Shirley, live in Mason.

Mr. Charles B. Shuman, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation for the past sixteen years, unexpectedly announced his resignation following his annual address at the 52nd annual meeting of the AFBF in Houston, Texas on December 7, 1970.

Mr. Shuman said in his resignation remarks, "I want to return to the farming profession that I make after long and prayerful thought. This is one of the more difficult decisions I have ever had to make — that is, to retire this year as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and ask the voting delegates to accept my resignation effective with the close of this convention. I have come to this decision primarily because of a number of personal reasons. First, I have an offer which I find difficult to turn down — my teen-age son, George, has made me a proposition to join him as a partner in the hog business. I hope prices will turn up soon. Furthermore, I want to return to the farming business while I have the health to make the transition. The AFBF presidency is a very demanding responsibility and I recognize that physical deterioration accelerates with each passing year. Also, I have the desire to do some writing."

"In making this decision, I have considered the state Farm Bureau with which I am associated."

Shuman’s retirement does not mean the end of his involvement in Farm Bureau. He understands the underlying principles that set America apart from all other nations, which is time for old generals to "just fade away." No one can interpret this change in Farm Bureau leadership as a reversal in policy direction.

"My greatest regret in retiring at this time is that there are many challenging, unfinished tasks. I also regret the disruption it causes in a capable and dedicated team of officers and staff. But this would also be the case a year or two from now. Several of the staff are nearing retirement age and my successor will have a better opportunity to shape the organization structure than when the change were delayed."

"For these and other reasons, I trust you will understand my action in retiring before the completion of my current term. After the close of this convention, I will be on call to be of service to you and will look forward to seeing you at many more conventions. This has been a wonderful, fully rewarding experience for me, a plodding country boy, to come to the top of the greatest voluntary organization of the finest people on God's earth."

"I thank you for your loyalty and support, Mabel and our five children and their families join with me to thank you most sincerely and invite you to come see us on the farm near Sullivan in South Central Illinois."

Shuman's resignation and the Federation's highest recognition, the Distinguished Service Award for Agriculture, during the four-day meeting.

The award was made to Shuman by unanimous action of the voting delegates from the member state Farm Bureaus.

The nomination was made by William J. Kuhfuss, former president of the Illinois Agriculture Association and the new AFBF president.

In his nominating speech Kuhfuss said, "We, the elected voting delegates — representing the 1,943,181 member families of Farm Bureau — appreciate Charles B. Shuman — the man and his work — and wish to pay him the greatest honor this organization can give any man."

"He is a Christian gentleman. He understands the underlying principles that set America apart from all other nations.

"He has the ability to convey a message in both the written and spoken word.

"He understands that man must govern himself or he will be governed.

"He has had the courage to stand up and be counted for decentralization of government and the sharing of governmental power.

"He has long been an advocate of market power as the sound economic alternative to politically devised panaceas.

"Those who know Charles B. Shuman and have observed his individual style, know that he is a giant among men.

"Humble in manner, he conveys a sincerity of purpose that wins the respect of a friend and foe alike. He relies on truth to advance the things in which he believes, knowing that harmony in the world cannot be achieved by diluting the truth with fallacy.

"Mr. Shuman is a student of public affairs. He knows that if you have built up any fund of your own knowledge, you must sound knowledge to all with whom you come in contact."

"He has a deep and abiding faith in the achievements of God's people. This belief conveys to you the incentives of the market system for your loyalty and support. Mabel and our five children and their families join with me to thank you most sincerely and invite you to come see us on the farm near Sullivan in South Central Illinois."

Mr. Armstrong said, "These promotions are consistent with organizational levels of responsibility throughout the Michigan Farm Bureau affiliate communities."
NASA ... ASTRODOME ... HOUSTON ... OHIO-MICHIGAN BREAKFAST ... ALL PART OF AFBF CONVENTION

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU MEMBERS ... were proud to carry the trophy home — to be kept permanently — for beating Ohio membership wise. Pres. Elton Smith accepted the trophy from Ohio President Robert Summer.

THE HORSES TAIL TROPHY ... found a permanent home in Ohio, completing a three year membership race between Michigan and Ohio. Pres. Smith gave the trophy to Pres. Summer.

OHIO FARM BUREAU ... members didn’t need to be reminded that they had “laid an egg” — but nevertheless, Chubby Chicken danced around with a sign, saying so.

SPACE CITY’S SPARKLING JEWEL

THE ASTRODOME ... is part of the largest convention facility in the nation. More than a million square feet of exhibit space, 78,000 seats and parking for 30,000 cars fascinated the Michigan tourists while on a guided tour.

PORT OF ENTRY ... for all visitors to NASA is the Reception Building where all tours are scheduled and screened. AFBF travelers from Michigan found the clinical, spacious grounds typical of the minute detailing of the space program.

THEY WALKED WHERE SPACEMEN WALK ...

AT LEAST 207 ... flew by the Purdue chartered planes to Houston. Others came by train, some drove with campers, others commercial flight and some by auto. The planes cruise at 525 to 550 miles an hour — 31,000 feet above the clouds. At one time Captain Benjamin announced the temperature at 45° below zero outside the plane, but 76° above on the ground at Houston.

PUBLIC EXHIBITS ... In the Reception Bldg. on Gemini, Mercury and Apollo programs, including moon shots, placing of the flag on the moon and actual space flight gear, food and clothing held the visitors’ interest.

MICHIGAN-OHIO BREAKFAST
Take your polyphosphate fertilizer now...

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Take your corn, sugar beet and bean HURRYUP starter fertilizer now and make yourself some real money. Your order now guarantees you a price that's well below the price on March 1, 1971. You can't lose. If our price drops, we rebate you. If our price goes up (it rose 22% in 1970), we eat the increase. It'll pay you well to find some bulk or bag storage room right now.

HURRYUP 8-36-10 Corn Stater - With new polyphosphate and fortified with zinc. Exclusively formulated for maximum phosphorus uptake for Michigan growing conditions. Promotes corn yield, helps plant vigor and speeds maturity.

HURRYUP 10-22-14 Dry Bean Starter - Has all new polyphosphate, plus manganese and zinc to increase your bean yield more than any Michigan formulation known.

HURRYUP 7-28-18 Sugar Beet Starter - Formulated with new polyphosphate, boron and manganese to help insure you a heavier, higher quality sugar beet. Count on HURRYUP quality formulations for fewer fines and less dust. It's dry and hard, ideal for clog-free machine application, and stores well.

Take this guarantee form to a participating dealer. Order your bulk or bag HURRYUP fertilizer at his pre-season price. Your dealer will fill-in the guarantee as to quantity and price (and give you a free pocket watch).

Starting Guarantee

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Michigan Blue Cross-Blue Shield
by Marlie Drew

The Michigan Farm Bureau's official 1971 theme is "The New Ag Age." And, because of the broad range of services available through membership in the Farm Bureau, thousands of farm families are looking forward to "The New Ag Age" -- the chance to successfully compete with organized labor in the market place, or to keep up-to-date on time-saving technological advances and trends which strengthen your financial security.

Through Farm Bureau membership, you can add to your financial security in still another way. You can protect your family and yourself against the high cost of unexpected hospital and doctor bills with Michigan Blue Cross and Blue Shield health care protection.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield offer eligible Farm Bureau members outstanding paid-in-full benefits at low, group rates. Benefits of a full year of hospital care, including all of the costly services you need to help you get well, paid-in-full regardless of cost. There are no separate riders for conditions such as heart trouble or arthritis.

Renew your Farm Bureau membership by January 15th and look forward to "The New Ag Age." At the same time, you qualify for complete paid-in-full Blue Cross and Blue Shield health care protection.

Muskegon County Reclaims Wasteland

Along with the problem of polluting the Great Lakes comes one of assuring the population that there will be enough "pure" water for all -- plenty of land to grow the needed crops and a means of utilizing land that is now termed "marginal" or at times, even "worthless." State and Federal government officials have long studied a means of solution to one of these problems. Muskegon County has seemingly found a solution to two of its problems -- wastewater and marginal land.

Muskegon County has been awarded more than 82 million in Federal grants (for research, demonstration and research) to be applied towards a seven-year project that will attempt to turn its wastewaters into a valuable resource for reclaiming poten- tially valuable land.

In announcing the grants, Secretary of the Interior Walter Hickel said, "With the help of these grants, Muskegon County will attempt total management of its wastewater problems. Rather than considering its wastes as something undesirable to be disposed of as rapidly as possible in the nearest water, the County will attempt to give primary treatment of the area's entire daily output of 12 million gallons of wastewater, pump this to a central point for treatment in oxidation lagoon (two lagoons of 30 to 40 acres) and then after additional treatment, use this wastewater to irrigate 10,000 acres of marginal land."

Along with the project's success, the County will receive the benefits of a full year of hospital care, including all of the costly services you need to help you get well, paid-in-full regardless of cost. There are no separate riders for conditions such as heart trouble or arthritis.
Michigan Vegetable Growers To Meet

Educational programs keyed to commodity groups and a Tuesday evening banquet will be new fea-
tures for the 1971 Michigan Vegetable Growers annual con-
vocation, January 19-21, at the Lansing Civic Center. The educational programs by commodity groups will supple-
ment general sessions for all vege-
table growers.

One session features Univer-
sity of Michigan economist, Dr. J. Philip Wernette, who will dis-

tend to the question, "Getting Your Share of American Prosperity." Dr. Wernette has done financial advisory work around the world and is a registered investment broker. The convention focuses on veg-
etable marketing this year but will also provide other vegetable information too.

General sessions will include: a panel discussion on successful ventures in organized marketing; "Methods of Achieving a More Equitable Price for our Products" by Dr. Eric Thor of the Farmer Cooperative Service, USDA; cost inputs for vegetable growers and evaluation of inputs to maximum profits; and, "Marketing" by experts in the industry for the expansion of tart cherry markets and utilization and for improved profit-
ability.

Federal Marketing Order for Red Tart Cherries Approved

Tart cherry growers and handlers have approved the Federal Marketing Order for red tart cherries. Spokesmen of the USDA made the announcement after a referendum was conducted among cherry growers and handlers in the eight-state area of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. The USDA conducted the refer-
endum during the last of November and early December. Growers approved the proposed Marketing Order program, voting 75% in favor by volume and 71% in favor by number of those cherry producers voting on the program. A two-thirds majority was required in numbers or in volume, but not neces-
sarily in both.

The margin of approval in both number and volume indicates solid support for the Marketing Order program, says Harry A. Foster, Manager, Red Tart Cherry Division, MACMA. Tart cherry handlers approved the Market Order, voting 64% by volume in favor. Only 51% by volume was required for approval.

In the event that production of red tart cherries exceeds de-
mand in 1971, it is anticipated that the Federal Marketing Order will be employed to stabilize and strengthen the market. The Federal Marketing Order program is the result of a great team effort, reports Foster. The industry has worked together for nearly two years to enact the Market Order. It is a real credit to the industry and MACMA. MACMA leaders and staff have worked on every phase of developing the Market Order, and MACMA members gave encouraging support throughout the effort.

Before the Marketing Order is operational, names of six growers and six handlers will be submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture for appointment to the Market Order Cherry Ad-
ministrative Committee. District meetings will be called by the USDA for growers and handlers respectively to select their Board nominees.

Time will be required for the Cherry Administrative Board to employ a staff and develop operating policies. Many of the flexible provisions provided in the language of the Marketing Order must be readied for growers and handlers for the orderly marketing objectives to be achieved. The Marketing Order is a marketing tool to be used by the industry for the expansion of tart cherry markets and utilization and for improved profit-
ability.
SCHOOL SUPPLIES

They're Free

Say the Courts

The midsummer State Supreme Court ruling stretched school budgets to the hilt when it declared that henceforth textbooks and other supplies must be provided free of charge to students.

Since school opened in September all of Michigan's over 600 school districts are surviving the costs of adhering to the state's interpretation of the "free education" concept. "At least we haven't heard of any school districts closing down," said one high-ranking official of the Michigan Education Association.

Estimates of the costs are called little more than "shots in the dark" and range anywhere from twelve to twenty million dollars. In Detroit alone an expected $800,000 was to be needed. The city already had been providing free supplies for students up to the 10th grade.

The cost would have been estimated at a much greater figure if it were not for the fact that 30 percent of Michigan school districts had previously provided free textbooks before the high court ruling took effect.

While state school officials are surveying the effects of this ruling at the time of this writing, the current method of providing free supplies is expected to continue to be trimmed to meet the costs resulting from this court case that began back in 1969.

The suit began in Ann Arbor by Mrs. Lillian Bond, a cleaning woman and mother of five, along with Mr. Daniel Fusfeld, a University of Michigan economics professor. Since the suit was filed in 1966 the State Supreme Court ruled that the city of Ann Arbor must return the general fees paid by parents of students which amounted to $14,962 plus interest. What money is extracted for attorney's fees and what is left unclaimed by parents will be awarded to the plaintiffs.

The struggle to reach a decision by the court apparently centered around the concept of the word "free" in relation to education as stated in the 1965 State Constitution, Article 8, Section 2: "The people shall have the advantage of "the privilege of free schools" whereby it is said that many students take woeful advantage of the privilege — again the budget can be knocked haywire.

The issue of paper supplies, let alone pencils and the like, have also produced new terminology. Some students have adopted the nickname of such supplies as "constitutional paper" or "constitutional pencils."

However, it should be pointed out that these are fragmented reports and perhaps do not draw a true picture of the statewide scene. Results of the ruling are still being studied by the State Department of Education at the time of this writing.

However, for discussion groups, the policy guidelines released by the State Board of Education are significant.

The interpretation of the Supreme Court ruling is:

1. School districts may not make charges for:
   a. General or registration fees
   b. Course fees or materials ticket charges
   c. Textbooks and school supplies
2. School districts may charge fees for:
   a. General or registration fees
   b. Course fees or materials ticket charges
   c. Textbooks and school supplies
3. School districts may charge fees for:
   a. General or registration fees
   b. Course fees or materials ticket charges
   c. Textbooks and school supplies
4. Fees for external tests, such as National: Merit and college entrance plays
5. Deductions for damage or loss of school-owned materials
6. Tuition
7. Lunch
8. Football shoes
9. Gym shoes
10. Bus transportation for nonresident students
11. School sponsored educational trips, unless such trips are a requirement of the course, in which case they must be provided without charge
12. Shots (vaccinations)
13. Summer school courses, when such courses (programs) are not a part of a scheduled year-round program
14. School districts may require fees for clothing and food which are offered during the regular school programs.

These eight statements constitute the policy of the State Board of Education regarding the charging of fees to students enrolled in the elementary and secondary schools of the state.

To further help clarify some of the questions regarding fees charged to students which were raised by the Michigan Supreme Court decision in Bond, et al. v. the Public Schools of the Ann Arbor School District, staff of the Michigan Department of Education solicited specific questions from local school administrators.

In accordance with the stated policy guidelines of the State Board of Education, some of the allowable and unallowable charges are provided below.

School districts must provide the following items free of charge for any required or elective course:

1. Pencils, paper, crayons
2. Band instruments
3. Shots (vaccinations)
4. Weekly readers or other periodicals if required for classroom use.

School districts may not make charges related to any required or elective course for:

1. Textbooks
2. Shovels
3. Lockers
4. Shop materials
5. Drafting supplies
6. Home economics materials
7. Workbooks
8. Materials in science classes
9. Book rental
10. School educational trips that are required to successfully achieve course credit
11. Vocational or special education

School districts may charge students for:

1. Class or organizational dues

DISCUSSION TOPIC

By GARY A. KLEINHEINN, Director, Education and Research

2. Admission fees to athletic contests, dances and plays
3. Student activity cards on voluntary basis
4. Fees for external tests, such as National Merit and college entrance
5. Deductions for damage or loss of school-owned books and non-consumable supplies through the collection of reasonable refundable deposits
6. Club dues (FFA, FHA, etc.)
7. Lunch
8. Yearbooks
9. Football shoes
10. Gym shoes
11. Swimming suits
12. Bus transportation for nonresident students
13. School sponsored educational trips, unless such trips are a requirement of the course, in which case they must be provided without charge
14. Shots (vaccinations)
15. Summer school courses, when such courses (programs) are not a part of a scheduled year-round program
16. Caps and gowns
17. Insurance fees of interscholastic athletics consistent with present statutes

One editorial commenting on the ruling is, "that the free textbooks and school supplies are not free. Sooner or later the Legislature is certain to be called upon for supplemental or new appropriations to cover the costs to local school districts. This, in all probability, will mean increased taxes somewhere further down the line."

If there was grumbling among teachers across the state over the July ruling, it didn't show, other than a small increase in class hours. Of course, when you're teaching nine months and have to pay a part of your salary out of your own pocket, you're going to have those one-on-one classes. But there is another major problem, however, and that is the supply shortage. If you turn on the radio at any time during the day, you'll hear some teacher or school official talking about the shortage of supplies. It's not just the textbooks and other supplies that are needed; it's also the pens, paper, pencils that are reasonable for the use of pupils, and determine the length of time such materials shall be provided. Likewise, pupils may voluntarily bring their own school supplies for any curricular subject.

School districts may require students to place a deposit to cover damage to textbooks, non-consumable materials, and supplies provided free by the school district, for those economically able to pay as determined by school authorities, after consulting with the parent. These deposits must be reasonable and refundable.

School officials may determine the quality and quantity of school supplies such as textbooks, paper and pencils that are reasonable for the use of pupils, and determine the length of time such materials shall be provided. Likewise, pupils may voluntarily bring their own school supplies for any curricular subject.

School districts may require a person to pay for adult education courses offered by the public school districts, provided that the adult is not a high school diploma and is not counted in membership for state aid purposes.

School districts may charge for summer school except where such activities are a part of a regularly scheduled year-around program.

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Farmers Urged to Study Tax Changes

Recent changes in federal income tax laws could mean many dollars lost to farmers not aware of the changes, warns Michigan State University agricultural economist.

"For estimating 1970 tax and making end-of-year purchase and sale adjustments, farmers should study the 1969 revisions in the federal tax codes," says Dr. M. P. Kelsey. "Many of these revisions went into effect this year."

The Tax Reform Act of 1969 contains nine provisions concerning farm income, according to Kelsey. For depreciation taken after 1969, the income gain on sale of livestock purchased for draft, breeding, sporting or dairy purposes is treated as ordinary income rather than a capital gain, up to the full value of previous depreciation deductions. This change puts livestock on the same tax base as other property used in business. Depreciation is normally recaptured at time of sale.

A second provision affecting livestock extends the holding period for livestock animals before they can qualify for capital gains treatment. Cattle and horses acquired after Dec. 31, 1969, and used for draft, breeding, sporting or dairy purposes must be kept two years. The holding period for other livestock remains one year.

Another revision involves taxation of insurance received for crop damage or loss. The old law required farmers using the cash accounting method to include crop insurance proceeds in their year's income, even though the crop might not have been lost until the following year. Farmers selling crops in the year following harvest paid taxes on two crops in one year.

The 1969 law eliminates this hardship by allowing farmers to report indemnities the year after the loss, if they establish that under their usual practice, income from the damaged or destroyed crops would have been reported in the year after the year of the loss. This provision was effective for 1969 and following years.

Other sections of the revised tax law concern limitation of farm losses, hobby losses, tax-free exchange of livestock of different sexes, recapture of soil and water conservation expenses and extension of the date for filing tax returns by farmers who do not file tax estimates.

"Year-end tax moves should be aimed at leveling taxable income between years," says Kelsey. "Deferring or accelerating income from year to year."

Contact the Internal Revenue Service for more details of the federal tax law and the county Cooperative Extension Service office for farm management information.

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