Farmers Must Act

Now is the time for farmers to come to their own aid. The National Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1971, better known as the Soil Bill (H.R. 1793), has been sponsored and introduced by 16 U.S. Senators and 83 members of the House of Representatives. The House Agriculture Committee is holding hearings to be studied for this legislation.

From time to time a number of questions have been raised by farmers and processors regarding some of the main points of the proposed legislation. Following are some of the questions with answers.

Q. What are the main provisions of the Soil Bill? A. The bill would (1) establish a three-member National Agricultural Bargaining Board to conduct hearings and to determine which associations of producers are “qualified” bargaining associations under the terms of this legislation, and (2) establish “the mutual obligation of a handler and a qualified association to meet at reasonable times and negotiate in good faith with respect to the prices, terms of sale, compensation for commodities produced under contract, and other contract provisions relative to the commodities that such qualified association represents and the execution of a written contract incorporating any agreement reached if requested by either party.

Q. Who would appoint the members of the Agricultural Bargaining Board? A. The President would appoint them, with the advice and consent of the Senate. The President would select one member to serve as chairman.

Q. What is an “association of producers”? A. It is any association of producers of agricultural products engaged in marketing, bargaining, shipping, or processing, as defined in the act.

Q. What would an association of producers do if it is a qualified bargaining association? A. It would submit a petition to the National Agricultural Bargaining Board containing such information and supporting documents as the Board may require.

Q. What are the qualifications set forth in the act? A. The Board is required to qualify an association if, based on the evidence submitted at a public hearing, it finds: (1) That under the charter documents or by-laws of the association, the association is duly organized and is acting as a producer owned and controlled; (2) the association has contracts with its members that are binding under state law; (3) the association is financially sound and has sufficient resources and management to carry out the purposes for which it was organized; (4) the association represents a large number of producers; (5) the association has a substantial amount of agricultural products in its disposal in the marketplace. If the Board finds that these things are true, it will issue a certificate of qualification to the association.

Farm Bureau strongly supports this bill. Every member should understand the proposed legislation and contact his Congressman in Washington urging their support.

Carl P. Kentner

**Increased Charter Life Dividends**

Farm Bureau Life Charter Policyholders will receive another dividend rate increase from 30 to 37 percent, effective September 20.

Excellent investment returns, low operating costs and favorable underwriting were cited as primary reasons for the charter dividend increase by the company’s Executive Vice President Nile L. Vermillion. “We feel this dividend return exemplifies the strong financial development.”

Charter Life policies were issued to obtain initial funds for starting Farm Bureau Life. The wisdom of Charter Life policyholders’ investment is obvious...approximately 70 percent of all Farm Bureau members, at a cost of $25 million, have approved. At the year-end, about $259,000 will have been spent in special charter dividends.

---

**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION**

(Act of October 2, 1933, Sections 5901, 5902, Title 39, United States Code)

**MICHIGAN FARM NEWS**

**FREQUENCY OF ISSUE:** Monthly

**LAST ISSUE:** November 1971

**LOCATION OF PUBLISHER:** 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**MANAGING EDITOR:** None

**PUBLISHER:** Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS, MORTGAGEES, AND OTHER SECURITY HOLDERS OWNING OR HOLDING 1 PERCENT OR MORE OF TOTAL AMOUNT OF BONDS, MORTGAGES, OR OTHER SECURITIES:** None

**AVG. NUMBER COPIES OF EACH ISSUE PRINTED:** 19,757

**AVG. NUMBER COPIES DISTRIBUTED TO KNOWN ADDRESSES:** 19,757

**TOTAL NUMBER COPIES DISTRIBUTED:** 19,757

**SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:** 50 cents per year; 50 cents per copy.

**MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE:** None

**THE JEWEL OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU**

**THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU NEWS is published weekly by the Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911. Price of subscription, 50 cents per year.

**MANAGEMENT:** Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**DIRECTORS:** District 1, Arthur A. Potting, Saginaw; District 2, Robert A. Beals, Saginaw; District 3, Donald F. Lenie, Saginaw; District 4, Arthur H. Winer, Saginaw; District 5, Robert W. Cook, Saginaw.

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:** David L. Fullen, Saginaw.

**PUBLISHER:** Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**PUBLISHER’S ADDRESS:** 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**MISSION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU:** To promote the economic welfare of the farmer, through education of the public, legislative action, and aid to farmers in carrying out the social responsibilities of the farmer.

**PERIODICAL POSTMASTER:** Postmaster at the Saginaw, Michigan, Michigan, Michigan 48911.

**POSTMASTER:** Postmaster at the Saginaw, Michigan, Michigan 48911

---

**FARM BUREAU LIFE YOUNG FARMERS’ CLUB:**

**OFFICERS:** President, John W. Farley, Lansing; Vice President, Harold R. Smith, Lansing; Treasurer, William A. Smith, Lansing; Secretary, William A. Leach, Lansing.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

**MEMBERSHIP:**

**MICHIGAN FARM NEWS**

**PUBLISHER:** Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**MANAGING EDITOR:** None

**PUBLISHER:** Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**DIRECTORS:** District 1, Arthur A. Potting, Saginaw; District 2, Robert A. Beals, Saginaw; District 3, Donald F. Lenie, Saginaw; District 4, Arthur H. Winer, Saginaw; District 5, Robert W. Cook, Saginaw.

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:** David L. Fullen, Saginaw.

**PUBLISHER:** Michigan Farm Bureau, 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**PUBLISHER’S ADDRESS:** 7373 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing, Michigan 48911

**MISSION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU:** To promote the economic welfare of the farmer, through education of the public, legislative action, and aid to farmers in carrying out the social responsibilities of the farmer.

**PERIODICAL POSTMASTER:** Postmaster at the Saginaw, Michigan, Michigan 48911

**POSTMASTER:** Postmaster at the Saginaw, Michigan, Michigan 48911

---

**Wise Land Use**

Many persons are speaking out with increased concern about the ever-increasing need for more and improved highway systems. Expanding industry looks to open spaces for expansion, and farmers look for open fields in which to develop housing projects.

These are all worthwhile, and planning and building for the future is a must. But before converting present farmland into residential areas, industrial parks, new homes or super highways, we must consider all alternatives and make a careful study of the problems involved.

The general public’s awareness of the need for water and land conservation and the preservation of open spaces for recreational purposes is greatly needed for many years, is encouraging. However, we may not lose sight of the need to keep the few remaining acres of prime farmland in a productive state. Ohio to continue producing the food requirements of the nation.

Professional planners have indicated that they have little, if any, genuine interest in maintaining agricultural land for future agricultural uses. Instead, their educated projections tend to indicate, without exception, the conversion of land to producing land for non-agricultural expansion.

There must be some rational logic and interrelationship between the various ordinances to save our land, township, county or even state-wide planning and zoning laws may be the tools, if used intelligently, which can help in solving the problems of land use.

A farmed area assessment program alone will not retain land for agricultural use in areas where it is subject to urbanization. It is an essential step, however, as agriculture cannot compete with most other land users when subjected to the rigorous of the land market. Farmers are victims of a spreading real estate route. Basing the evaluation of land now projected use rather than on its agricultural value, increases the inability of farmers to pay taxes. This forces the sale of land to speculators for speculative building for the future and leaving returning to productive farmland are slim.

Now is the time to consider whether intelligent land use planning is to be encouraged in defining the future needs for providing open spaces and green belts around the major centers of population as an aid in preserving or improving the environment and maintaining the agricultural expansion.

Leonard R. Kyle, professor of agricultural economics, MSU, recently pointed out that if large blocks of farmland are not restricted to keep people out for a long, indefinite period, it will be difficult to maintain this farmland industry in Michigan. This holds true with other types of farming as well and will not, do not, place definite ceiling on the value of farmland.

We, the people of Michigan, will make the final determination as to whether or not the state will, indeed, keep our land. Agriculture, the only industry geared to providing open spaces, will have the need for green areas to purify air cannot be taken lightly. Agriculture, the only industry geared to the production of food which comes from green plants, can survive with intelligent, effective planning of the land's use.
PROPERTY TAX REFORM

The Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors, meeting on September 14 and 15 in Lansing, passed the following resolution in support of putting the property tax reform issue on the ballot:

"In mid-April, this Board of Directors went on record supporting an opportunity for the voters of this state to make any necessary constitutional changes at a special election in 1971 to achieve property tax reform. At the same time, we supported and urged immediate legislative action on educational finance reform.

"Since that time, the Legislature has failed to agree on any constitutional amendment to be placed on the ballot. This is the fourth time that this has been true. Other legislative efforts have also failed.

"It is now obvious to us that meaningful and lasting tax reform must be initiated by amendment to the Constitution. We are convinced that the continued voter rejection of millage proposals throughout the state clearly mandates the need for property tax reform and new approaches to school finance. We believe that despite legislative leaders' assurances that significant property tax reform can be achieved, the Legislature has marked time except to the obvious that the people must exercise their inherent power and do for themselves what their elected legislators have failed to do.

"We are for property tax relief. The situation is serious. The solution of this issue cannot be evaded any longer. We, therefore, will join with others who also recognize the seriousness and inequity of the property tax burden on the people of this state and will support a petition drive to place on the ballot a constitutional amendment to place a meaningful limit on total property taxes and to eliminate as nearly as possible property taxes for school purposes; however, they would have to be on a state-wide basis in order to achieve equity.

"Already there have been several announcements of petition drives that will immediately after the failure of the Senate to pass HJR "GG", putting the property tax reform issue on the ballot. Governor Milliken has announced that he would support a petition drive of the type that the Legislature failed to endorse. The single issue of property tax reform on the ballot next year, leaving only one issue - the independently initiated income tax will be permitted.

"Since that time, the Demo- cratic Party has announced that it is also formulating a specific constitutional amendment to go before the voters in 1972. It is likely that this proposal will include a graduated income tax related to the state Constitution into the constitutional proposal.

"Senator Gray (D-Detroit) has also announced a petition drive to amend the Constitution to eliminate all property taxes on all "owner-occupied" homes.

"Meanwhile, Senator DeMass (R-Ann Arbor) has announced a package of legislative bills designed for tax relief, to be considered in the Legislature. This proposal would place a $5,000 property tax exemption for homesteads and a $10,000 property tax exemption for farms. Such a proposal would be $643 million, which would require an income tax increase from the present 50 mills down to 38 mills. This would require a Value Added Tax (VAT) of 5%.

"Another bill with the $5,000 property tax exemption is in the making now by Rep. Smart (R-Walled Lake).

"Farmers should be wary of the total homestead exemption by Senator DeMass. The present homestead exemption is $24,000 and would likely result in higher property taxes for farmers insur- ance for the people who have voted for the large homestead exemption may be more likely to vote added property tax for schools or other purposes.

"Another petition drive that is for property tax reform is one circuit by Michigan Association of Farm- ers, with the intention that the "legislature might have cut that大佬 down to 30 mills, but this is a reduction in property tax that would have been outside of the limit.

"In any event, if enough organiza- tions unite in supporting the operation is that the income tax would not need to be raised as much to offset the reduction in property taxes.

"It has become obvious that the Legislature cannot, either by statute or by constitutional proposal, arrive at an agreement for property tax reform. It is also obvious that any lasting reform must be under limitations placed in the Constitution.

"One new factor affecting the issue is the recent California Supreme Court case a just such as the Constitution. If Michigan's Attorney General, or courts, ruled in a similar manner to California, it would still be possible to have property taxes for school purposes; however, they would have to be on a state-wide basis in order to achieve equity.

"Still another drive is being headed by Mayor Cribbs of Detroit, who has announced a petition drive to amend the Constitution in order to have strict gun controls. He maintains that the police are unable to stem the crime rate in Detroit due to the ease of obtaining guns. Many others believe that if present gun laws were enforced, adequate control would be possible.

"Legalization of a petition is another decision that the people might have to make at the polls next year. About 40 political, civic and religious organizations are planning a petition drive to put this constitutional question on the ballot. One bill legalizing abortion has already been defeated, but has been stalled in the House.

"Another petition drive in pro- gram in some areas is an effort to place on the ballot a constitutional issue of whether Michigan should adopt the unicameral (one house) legislative system. This has picked up some support due to the frustration created by the many legislative logjams this year.

"It has recommended that a "state-wide agricultural and/or open space conservation district should be created which would give farmers an opportunity to receive a partial income tax relief. Such districts would be mapped and entered into a "farm cabinet" composed of members of the Legislature who would be responsible for legislation and administration. (See the Discussion Topic in this issue for further information.)

"Along this line of seeking legislative reform, the Michigan Sen- ate has passed a resolution creating a special five-member committee to study changing "the structural basis of state government and changing our present form of state government to a unicameral assembly system; in short, means that the Governor's power, or Executive power, would be vested in a "cabinet" member of the Legislature who would be responsible for legislation and administration. (See the Discussion Topic in this issue for further information.)

"The Commission recommends a centralized state agency charged with the responsibility for development and enforcement of specific land use programs. Prime agricultural lands, it states, must be preserved and encouraged for the production of needed food and fiber crops.

"The recommendation that a "state-wide agricultural and/or open space conservation district should be created which would give farmers an opportunity to receive a partial income tax relief. Such districts would be mapped and entered into a "farm cabinet" composed of members of the Legislature who would be responsible for legislation and administration. (See the Discussion Topic in this issue for further information.)

"The report further suggests that in urban development areas the state have authority to override local ordinances to assure that the development plans are properly accomplished. For the first time, land use as it applies to the whole state is being considered in a "broad and coordinated manner, with a comprehensive approach. It is a "basic industry and that soil is a basic resource."
GRAPe CROP UP–PRICES DOWN

By Harry Foster, MACMA

Prospects of a larger crop have not dampened the "spirits" of Michigan apple growers. In fact, wine consumption has been increasing at a rate of 10% per year, while wine prices have also been increasing gradually. This price and consumption optimism is not being translated into grower grape prices this year by wineries, according to the President of the Michigan Winegrowers Council, chairman of the MACMA Grape Division Marketing Committee.

The first wine grape variety harvested in Michigan is the Niagara variety. Wineries have offered $100 per ton for this variety, a price that can be paid for Michigan grapes which are to be sold as wine in Michigan. This offer compares to $120 and $140 per ton paid to growers in 1970 and 1969 respectively.

Farm Bureau members worked diligently a few years ago to have Michigan legislation enacted to establish the minimum wine grape price to the grower on every bushel of apples which he harvests and markets to the processors. Apple growers can get $1.25 per cwt. for their grapes, but they have not gotten the below cost of production figure which was paid in 1970. With the knowledge in mind, processors have announced their opening grower prices for 1971. Apple prices are the same to lower than 1970. The Michigan laws regulating apple pricing objectives.

The Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) Processing Apple Marketing Committee and their consultants in the analysis included apple product carryover, 1971 crop projections, and their effect on the apple market. The analyses therefore aid the apple production/price outlook.

Following the announcement of these price recommendations, Committee members met with processors to explain and discuss the reasons for the recommendations and the feasibility of achieving these price levels, reports Braden. Most processors felt that MACMA recommendations were reasonable.

The 1971 national processing apple crop is 1% smaller than last year, while the Michigan crop is up 1%. However, the smaller crop is primarily concentrated in the southern portion of the State, as a result of drought. The Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors at its August meeting has recommended to the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors of a pilot project in hay marketing. The Chippewa board asked in August for assistance to market their large supply of 1971 crop hay. Chippewa County is at the eastern end of the Upper Peninsula. Adequate rainfall and favorable weather over the Upper Peninsula and the northern portion of the Lower Peninsula added hay growers in producing a large crop this year. Coincidentally, a general deficit developed in the southern portion of the State as a result of drought.

The Chippewa Farm Bureau board felt that selling hay to deficit areas could result in an economic advantage to the State's economy. Hay that might otherwise be used to feed livestock and to prevent liquidation of the State's beef and dairy enterprises in this year's roughage shortage will benefit the grower, the state and the schools which receive the tax revenue.

APPLIED PRICES SQUEEZED

The Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) Processing Apple Marketing Committee and their consultants in the analysis included apple product carryover, 1971 crop projections, and their effect on the apple market. The analyses therefore aid the apple production/price outlook. E. Braden, MACMA General Manager.

In keeping with this mind, the Committee recommended that processors and buyers, such as Spies, be priced at $3.75 per cwt., other preferred varieties at $3.50 per cwt., Macs and Wealthy's at $3.85 per cwt. and juice apples at $4.00.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced a estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.

Most hay produced in Chippewa County is a mixture of various grapes. Quality is determined largely by maturity and weather conditions at harvest. The county produced an estimated 41,000 tons of hay in 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau and delivery of the hay, will be matters between the buyers and others or their authorized representaives.
The 1971 annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau will be called to order at 9:30 a.m. on November 8, 1971 at the Civic Auditorium, Grand Rapids. This year's theme for the three day event will be "Make It Happen." Highlights of the Monday morning program will be the annual address of MFB President Elton Smith and Dan E. Reed's Secretary-Manager report.

The Black and Silver room will be the location of the Farm Bureau Women's luncheon and afternoon program. Guest speaker Rev. Charles H. Wilby of Moline, Illinois, election of officers, a style show and display will be some of the features of the program.

The Commodity Day program will begin with a luncheon in the main auditorium and the finals of the Young Farmer Discussion Meet. Individual commodity sessions on livestock, dairy, field crops and fruit and vegetables will be held during the afternoon. Two special meetings for all members will be held on labor and natural resources following the commodity sessions.

"Dan E. Reed Night" will be the theme of the annual banquet which will be held in the main auditorium at 6:00 p.m. on Monday evening. Dan Reed, Secretary-Manager of the Michigan Farm Bureau, will be retiring the early part of 1972, so it is fitting that the organization honor him for his many years of service to Farm Bureau and Michigan agriculture. Roger Fleming, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Farm Bureau Federation, will be the main speaker. Other features of the evening will be membership and county program awards, selection of the Michigan Farm Bureau queen and the Distinguished Service to Agriculture awards.

County Farm Bureaus are urged to get as many members as they can to attend the banquet. The Tuesday, November 9th program will start at 8:30 a.m. with the annual meetings of Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. Election of directors, financial and progress reports will be part of the sessions.

A complimentary lunch will be served in the exhibit hall as part of the Product Show.

The afternoon session will be devoted to the consideration of resolutions by the MFB voting delegates.

Tuesday evening is a special time for the MFB Young Farmers with a 6:00 p.m. banquet and guest speaker Rev. Charles H. Wilby.

The "President's Banquet" will also be held the same evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Continental Room, for all county Farm Bureau presidents and their wives.

Wednesday, Michigan Farm Bureau will be in general session for the consideration of resolutions.

Show Place '71 is the theme — of this year's product show which will be open to delegates and visitors on Monday from 4:00 to 6:00 and 8:30 to 11:00 p.m. Tuesday 11:00 to 1:15, 4:00 to 6:00 and 8:30 to 11:00. The show will feature displays on agricultural supplies now on the market and should interest today's modern farmer.

...and even more

1971-72 Membership Chairmen who will...
**CANDIDATES FOR FB WOMEN'S OFFICERS**

**Doris Wieland** (Mrs. Richard) is the only announced candidate for the position of MFB Women's Committee Chairmanship. Doris has served as Vice-Chairman of the MFB Women's Committee for the past two years. She has been active in Arenac County Farm Bureau, 4-H, her church and school and a number of conservation study groups. Doris and her husband live on a 700-acre dairy farm near Ellsworth and have four children. Her hobbies include antiquing, reading, square dancing, bowling, and sewing.

**Claudine Jackson** (Mrs. Andrew) is a candidate for MFB Women's Committee Vice-Chairmanship. Claudine is Chairman of District 3 Farm Bureau Women's Committee and is presently serving on the state board of Michigan Women for Highway Safety. She has been active in Livingston County Farm Bureau, extension work and her church, serving as a Sunday School teacher. Claudine and her husband live on a 700-acre dairy farm near Howell and have one daughter. Her hobbies include cooking, helping people, antiques, and gardening.

**Marie Postma** (Mrs. Ray) is a candidate for MFB Women's Committee Vice-Chairmanship. She is presently serving on the Women's State Executive Committee and on the state board of Michigan Women for Highway Safety. Marie is chairman of District 11-E Farm Bureau Women's Committee. She has been active in Chippewa County Farm Bureau, a Red Cross First Aid Instructor, an ambulance Corp Volunteer, her church and school board. Marie and her husband live on a 200-acre dairy farm near Rudyard and have five children. Her hobbies include sewing and mixing with people.

**Margaret Welke** (Mrs. Harland) is a candidate for MFB Women's Committee Vice-Chairmanship. Margaret is chairman of District 6 Farm Bureau Women's Committee and a member of the MFB Women's Safety Committee. She has been active in Lapeer County Farm Bureau, a member of her county's hospital auxiliary, past matrons and past president of Lapeer County Order of the Eastern Star, and her church. Margaret and her husband live on a 175-acre feeder cattle farm near Mayville and have four children. Her hobbies include reading, embroidery and baking.

---

**Farm Bureau Women's Fall District Meetings**

Michigan Farm Bureau Women have scheduled their Fall District Meetings. All Farm Bureau Women, as well as their friends and neighbors, are invited to attend these informative and entertaining meetings which will commence at 10:00 a.m. at the meeting place shown below.

**District 1** — October 21 (Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren counties) Berrien County Farm Bureau Building, Berrien Springs. Lunch (estimated) $1.50. Reservations, Mrs. Harry Nye, Route 1, St. Joseph by October 16. Speakers, Al Almy, "The Nation's Number One Ecologist" and Mrs. Claudine Jackson, "The ACWW Triennial in Norway."

**District 2** — October 20 (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee counties) Lenawee County Farm Bureau Building, Adrian. Lunch $1.75. Reservations to Lenawee County Farm Bureau, Adrian by October 20. Speaker from Michigan Pesticide Association, and "Travel Tour of Europe" by Mrs. Wilfred Schwab.


**District 4** — October 25 (Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Ottawa counties) Osceola Town Hall. Lunch $1.75. Reservations by October 18 to Mrs. Delores Inumkin, Hamilton, Speaker, Mrs. Herbert Lankser, "Love-Life-and-Laughter in an Eggshell." Film, "Miracle of the Land."

**District 5** — October 18 (Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, Shiawassee counties) Mason Methodist Church. Lunch $1.75. Reservations to Mrs. Janice McMichael by October 11. "How many fellow Fowlers are you going to have rolling by. With October comes bird hunting, picking and shelling of corn, Farm Bureau Women's District Fall Meetings, and County Farm Bureau annual meetings."

**District 6** — October 19 (Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair, Tuscola counties) 4-H Building, Goodells. Lunch $1.75. Reservations by October 14 to Mrs. Helen Vreemouch, Yale. Speaker from Michigan Pesticide Association and Edward Sulkowski, "Drug Use in the Thump."

**District 7** — October 12 (Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola counties) Faith Methodist Church, Edmore. Lunch $1.25. Reservations to Mrs. Davina Perkins, Edmore, by October 8. Speaker from Michigan Pesticide Association, and Mrs. Helen Lockwood, "ACWW Triennial."

**District 8** — October 13 (Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Iosbelle, Midland, Saginaw counties) Hemlock Methodist Church. Lunch $1.75. Reservations by October 6 to Mrs. Wanda Pascal, Merrill. Speakers, from Michigan Pesticide Association, and Mrs. Lillian Wonsey, "1971 ACWW Triennial."


---

**ATTEND YOUR COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING**

**MAXINE TOPLIFF**

**STATE WOMEN'S CHAIRMAN**

Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting is only a little over a month away. Let's make plans to attend the meeting in Grand Rapids at least one day in advance. I'm sure you will enjoy it.

In looking for a venue to leave with you this month, I came across this poem by George Eliot, entitled "To Make This Life Worth While." As I read it, I thought that if each of us would practice what is says, we might begin to make a better world where we live.

May every soul that touches lives...
Be it the slightest contact... Get there from some good; Some little grace, one kindly thought; One aspiration yet unfelt; One bit of courage. For the darkening sky; One gleam of faith. To brave the thickening ills of life; One glimpse of brighter skies Beyond the gathering mists — To make this life worth while. Mrs. Jerald (Maxine) Topliff
effective September 30, farm bureau insurance group began paying...

**GOOD DEAL**

AT LEAST OUR POLICYHOLDERS THINK SO. The Farm Bureau Mutual Auto dividend totaled $378,000...10% of semi-annual premiums. That's the 15th auto dividend in 22 years. And those 15 dividends total $3 million. The Farmowners insurance dividend...the first of its kind in Michigan insurance history...totaled $228,000...5% of annual premiums. That's over $606,000 paid back to our policyholders. You can't ask for more. You deserve no less.

If you're not insured with Farm Bureau Mutual, why not call your local Farm Bureau Insurance Group agent today?

THAT'S WHY WE'RE CALLED THE FARM EXPERTS!
EYES RIGHT as Judy Behrenwald, Michigan Farm Bureau Queen, was named one of the ten finalists in the Michigan State Fair queen contest.

THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION moved to a new home on September 27, 1971, located at 225 West Touhy Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois. The new AFBF home is a two-story colonial-style building, built in 1960 with 41,800 square feet of space on 3.7 acres of land.

More than 50 leading Michigan dairymen participated in a chartered plane tour, sponsored by Farm Bureau Services, to the Cooperative Research Center in Fabius, New York.

YOUNG FARMER discussion meet contestants in District 5 study the topics. (Left to right) Tom Semans, Bill Sill, Keith Haynes, Dave Diehl, panel moderator, Delane Ruess and Tom Atherton.

BENZIE COUNTY CHERRY FIELD DAY attracted over 350 visitors. (Left to right) Mrs. Elton Smith, Mrs. Dorothy Smeltzer, field day desert chairman and Elton Smith, president of Michigan Farm Bureau.

"OPEN LINE" meetings sponsored by Farm Bureau Services were held around the state in August. Leading a discussion on "Make Your Co-op Yours," is Don R. Armstrong, executive vice president of Farmers Petroleum Co-op and Farm Bureau Services.
WHAT IS OSHA?

By M. J. Bucenich

Operation Manager, MASA

The Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, effective April 28, 1971. This new law applies to all labor, including farm labor.

In general terms, the law has two major parts.

First, farmers will be required to keep a record of all work-related accidents and illnesses. It is generally understood that these records will be required of all farmers beginning January 1, 1972. The records to be kept are in the form of logs as follows: a daily log of occupational injuries and illnesses; a supplementary record of each occupational injury and illness; and a record of all fatalities.

Definitions of occupational injuries and illnesses under the new act may differ from state workmen's compensation regulations and other record systems. A book of record-keeping requirements for agricultural employers with employees in states which have made social security payments on behalf of employees in recent years. Obviously, some farmers may be omitted. The records must be kept in the forms provided by the government or a facsimile that contains all the required information. MASA will attempt to secure a limited supply of the necessary forms and assist farmers in obtaining additional record forms directly from the district offices.

Existing Safety Standards

Secondly, each employer under the act has the general duty to furnish a workplace free of recognized hazards, and to comply with occupational safety and health standards.

This implies that safety standards will be set for agricultural operations. In general, job safety and health standards include rules to control recognized hazards which have been proven by research and experience to be hazardous to personal safety and health.

Many thousands of occupational safety and health standards are already listed under certain federal and state laws. One typical standard is in existence—aisles and passageways shall be kept clear and in good repair, no obstructions across or in aisles that create potential tripping hazards.

Agriculture has been exempted from safety standards until the passage of this act (OSHA). The act and the executive orders of Labor to promulgate as occupational safety and health standards any existing federal statutes, or any national consensus standards. He may do this without complying with the rule making requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act. In other words, the Secretary of Labor may bring agriculture under the existing industrial rules immediately. However, the Secretary of Labor may, upon the basis of information submitted by the Committee of Health, Education and Welfare, advisory committees and others, revise and rework existing standards as well as announce new ones.

Developing Safety Standards for Agriculture

The official announcement of standards for the operation of farm machinery will probably create the most concern among farmers. Standards have already been promulgated with reference to the use of the slow moving vehicle, the standing guard, workers, the use and handling of anhydrous ammonia, and livestock facilities.

The act requires the standards to be the most effective, efficient, and economical for the protection of health and safety. In addition, any state may assume responsibility for the development and enforcement of safety and health standards applicable to agriculture.

Barry Brown, director, Michigan Department of Labor, serves as a member of the National Advisory Committee to the U.S. Department of Labor. The Michigan Department of Labor is taking an active and aggressive interest in developing recommendations for safety standards and rules which will apply to agriculture.

In the soybean producing counties, the county Farm Bureau will be adopting a Memorandum of Understanding with the Michigan Farm Bureau which sets up joint guidelines relative to Farm Bureau commodity divisions. The memorandum guidelines will aid Farm Bureau members in the decision-making process from county to county and from state to state.

As a part of the organizing process, every Farm Bureau member who produces soybeans will be identified. Participating counties, having large numbers of soybean producers, should have the leadership of Farm Bureau members authorized to make the identification list of division members submitted to the Michigan Farm Bureau by November 1, 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau will cooperate with counties by providing membership cards for division members.

NOTICE

Please remove Joseph Molinaro, Port Huron, Michigan, from your list of Ziebart dealers who are participating in our discount program.

PELLE DEKRYGER

The appointment of Pelle Dekryger, farm field Representative for MCAIA in the Northwest Region, an Assistant Appraisals Division Manager has been announced by Robert Braden, Manager of MCAIA Agricultural Marketing Association.

A graduate of Michigan State University, with a B.S. degree in Horticulture, Dekryger was born and raised on a poultry and potato farm near Fremont. He attended Western Michigan Christian High School and Calvin College before serving in the U.S. Army for two years. In his leisure, he enjoys fishing, hunting, and the Detroit Lions.

JOINT COMMITTEE NAMED

A joint committee of the boards of directors of the Michigan Livestock Exchange and Michigan Farm Bureau was appointed in April to further the livestock industry in Michigan.

Members of the committee are Blaine Knoblauch, Edward Ochsenbruch, and Norris Young representing the Michigan Agricultural Association. Robert Fraher and James Sayer of Farm Bureau.

The committee has been studying the livestock industry in Michigan as well as visiting industry leaders in other states to better understand how a joint effort can be accomplished.

COUNTIES CONSIDER SOYBEAN DIVISION

In the soybean producing counties, the county Farm Bureau are now discussing or developing plans for soybean divisions.

All counties wishing to establish county soybean divisions will be adopting a Memorandum of Understanding with the Michigan Farm Bureau which sets up joint guidelines relative to Farm Bureau commodity divisions. The memorandum guidelines will assist Farm Bureau members in the decision-making process from county to county and from state to state.

As a part of the organizing process, every Farm Bureau member who produces soybeans will be identified. Participating counties, having large numbers of soybean producers, should have the leadership of Farm Bureau members authorized to make the identification list of division members submitted to the Michigan Farm Bureau by November 1, 1971. The Michigan Farm Bureau will cooperate with counties by providing membership cards for division members.

NOTICE

Please remove Joseph Molinaro, Port Huron, Michigan, from your list of Ziebart dealers who are participating in our discount program.

ATTEND YOUR COUNTY ANNUAL MEETING

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS October 1, 1971
Proposed Lower Cost Health Care Plan

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

A decision must be made on whether Michigan Farm Bureau will offer this revised low cost plan. Therefore, in order to reach this decision, a vote must be taken on the question with all enrolled Farm Bureau group members, who aren't on Medicare. The result of this vote will have a very strong affect on the final decision to provide this program or not.

A previous article (September issue Michigan Farm News) described the proposed plan and asked for those interested in the plan to reply by returning a form. The number of responses was very light. Only 103 members responded in favor of the new low cost plan.

Proposed Lower Cost Health Care Plan

Benefits — Blue Cross (Hospital)

Same as present $50.00 Deductible Hospital plan, adult subscribers (but not children) pay the first $50.00 of each admission as a deductible.

Benefits — Blue Shield (Physician)

Blue Shield will pay 80% of physicians reasonable charges for covered benefits; subscriber will pay 20% of the following: surgery, anesthesia, technical surgical assistance, obstetrical care, medical care (doctors calls in hospital for non-surgical cases), physicians consultations, radiological therapy, diagnostic x-rays, diagnostic laboratories services and emergency first aid.

A minimum of 3,000 affirmative responses must be received in order for the Farm Bureau Blue Cross and Blue Shield subscribers whose subscription rates changed, to be made.

The proposed plan will not replace the present low-cost option $50.00 Hospital Deductible plan. Those members now carrying this coverage will have to select the higher option comprehensive plan or the proposed low-cost plan if approved by the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

This plan will replace the present low-cost option $50.00 Hospital Deductible plan. Those members now carrying this coverage will have to select the higher option comprehensive plan or the proposed low-cost plan if approved by the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

Proposed Lower Cost Health Care Plan

A group of farm wives in Berrien and Van Buren Counties have given attention to the Sisk Bill. The Michigan Farm Bureau, recently introduced, with Administration support, which is in line with Farm Bureau policies (see pages 39 and 45 of 1971 Policies of Farm Bureau — locally. It would cover deductibles, who have not responded will be given the high benefit comprehensive program, effective February 20, 1972.

Act today, a decision one way or the other must be made by Michigan Farm Bureau, no other solicitation of your desires will be made.

AUTHORIZATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 1971

AUTHORIZATION FORM

I would prefer the Lower Cost Blue Cross-Blue Shield program described above.

Signed ____________________________

B.C. — B.S. Group Number __________ County __________

B.S. Service Code __________

Clip and Mail this form to:

Mr. Marcie Drew
Michigan Farm Bureau
P. O. Box 900
Lansing, Michigan 48904

October 1, 1971

Affect of Wage-Price Freeze on Mich. BC-BS

By Marcie Drew
Director, County P.B. Offices

Many inquiries have been received from Farm Bureau Blue Cross and Blue Shield subscribers regarding what affects, if any, the new policy will have on their rates.

Since the President's announcement August 15, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans have been seeking a ruling from the Cost of Living Council on just how they would be affected by the ruling.

In the interim period, subscribers have been asked to pay the amount shown on the billings they have received. If there was to be an adjustment, it would be made on subsequent billings or a refund would be issued to the subscriber.

On September 21 a decision was rendered by the Council. This ruling will allow new rate adjustments to take effect for all groups receiving new rates in August 1971. Included will be all Farm Bureau Blue Cross and Blue Shield subscribers whose subscription rates changed, effective August 20, 1971.

Farm Bureau members will be given the opportunity to vote on a new proposed low-cost option program. This program will allow any Blue Cross-Blue Shield subscriber to reduce their present rates by assuming more of the cost of health expenses when they are incurred. This article in this issue of the Farm News for details.

FARMERS loose on WASHING STRIKES

By Dan E. Reed
Secretary-Manager

Farm Bureau has asked Congress to enact legislation providing for means of settling the costly and recurrent labor-management disputes in the transportation industry.

Farmers stand first in line to suffer from the transportation tie-ups resulting from controversies between management and labor. The West Coast Longshoremen's strike and the recent rail strike, both fresh in our minds, underline the need for legislation.

Loss of foreign markets and destruction of the period of commodities cost farmers hundreds of millions of dollars.

There Must Be A Better Way

With the frequency of labor disputes increasing, emergency action on the right to strike does not involve involuntary servitude since individuals are not bound to the employment."

A bill has been introduced, with Administration support, which is in line with Farm Bureau policies (see pages 39 and 45 of 1971 Policies of Farm Bureau — locally. It would cover deductibles, who have not responded will be given the high benefit comprehensive program, effective February 20, 1972.

Act today, a decision one way or the other must be made by Michigan Farm Bureau, no other solicitation of your desires will be made.

AUTHORIZATION FORMS MUST BE RETURNED NOT LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 1971

AUTHORIZATION FORM

I would prefer the Lower Cost Blue Cross-Blue Shield program described above.

Signed ____________________________

B.C. — B.S. Group Number __________ County __________

B.S. Service Code __________

Clip and Mail this form to:

Mr. Marcie Drew
Michigan Farm Bureau
P. O. Box 900
Lansing, Michigan 48904

2-speed HUMIDIFIER

adds moisture — and comfort — automatically

HUMIDIFIES UP TO 2500 SQ. FT.

West Bend's efficient moisturizing action helps relieve discomforts of nasal dryness . . . lets you breathe easier, feel fresher. Features include ‘water wheel’ action, automatic humidistat, removable 8-gal. gal. reservoir, automatic shut-off and refill indicator, light plus handsome furniture styling with walnut-grain vinyl exterior. Moistures average 4-bedroom home automatically — just plug it in!

Features:

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?

AIR TOO DRY in your home?
On September 20, 1971 the Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan was twenty years old. The occasion was commemorated by the cutting of a cake modeled in the shape of the new Farm Bureau Center.

In less than twenty years Farm Bureau Life reached the top twenty percent, in issued life volume, of more than 1800 life insurance firms. By the end of 1971, the company will have nearly $1.4 billion of issued life insurance. Compared to the ten-year growth pattern of the nation's 25 top life insurance firms, Farm Bureau Life assets have increased 441.8 percent while the other leaders only rose 61.5 percent. Farm Bureau Life's total income grew by 317.5 percent while the top 25 companies' income grew by 317.5 percent, in the same field, rose 91.6 percent.

In the national Farm Bureau family of life insurance companies, Michigan Farm Bureau Life is the third largest single-state company and the fifth largest overall. The five-year growth rate is 83 percent—highest among the top five Farm Bureau Life firms.

The new $4.3 million Farm Bureau Center, which is the home of Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliate companies, was financed solely by the 20-year-old youngster, Farm Bureau Life.

---

**BUY AHEAD NOW...**

**CHOOSE ONE OF MANY BONANZA GIFTS!**

**FIELD BOOKING BONANZA**

---

**See one of these Feed Booking Bonanza Dealers Now...**

---

**Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.**

---

**Farmer Life Insurance Company of Michigan was twenty years old. The occasion was commemorated by the cutting of a cake modeled in the shape of the new Farm Bureau Center.**

---

**Or take it to a Farm Bureau Bonanza Dealer...**

---

**BUY AHEAD NOW...**

**CHOOSE ONE OF MANY BONANZA GIFTS!**

---

**See one of these Feed Booking Bonanza Dealers Now...**

---

**Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.**

---

**Farmer Life Insurance Company of Michigan was twenty years old. The occasion was commemorated by the cutting of a cake modeled in the shape of the new Farm Bureau Center.**

---

**Or take it to a Farm Bureau Bonanza Dealer...**

---

**BUY AHEAD NOW...**

**CHOOSE ONE OF MANY BONANZA GIFTS!**

---

**See one of these Feed Booking Bonanza Dealers Now...**

---

**Farm Bureau Life Insurance Co.**

---

**Farmer Life Insurance Company of Michigan was twenty years old. The occasion was commemorated by the cutting of a cake modeled in the shape of the new Farm Bureau Center.**

---

**Or take it to a Farm Bureau Bonanza Dealer...**
FLY WITH US TO
GREENER PASTURES

Canadian Pacific Air’s 10th Annual Farmers and Ranchers Tour Will Take You Where Sun’s Gone for the Winter...and the Sun’s Gone for the Winter

THE SOUTH PACIFIC — 33 DAYS — $2170 DEPARTURE FROM LANSING, MICHIGAN FEBRUARY 2nd, 1972

Visit Such Fascinating & Interesting Places as:

Fiji • New Zealand • Australia • Hawaii

(Plus Orient Extension)

SINGAPORE • BANGKOK • HONG KONG

When it’s winter here, it’s summer in New Zealand and Australia. Join tour a Maori village in New Zealand and see surfers paradise near Brisbane. And you will visit many famous sights like the hot springs at Rotorua and the big bustling metropolis of Sydney. You will meet farmers so you can really get to know what farming is and Ranchers Tour Will Take You Where Sun’s Gone for the Winter. Mac has been a farmer, earned his B.S. in agriculture from Mason, Michigan 522 East South Street 48837. Contributions are requested to "PROTECT MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE FUND," Michigan Farmers Bank, P. O. Box 160, Grand Ledge, Michigan 48837. Contributions are requested before the trial begins October 13.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONF. SCHEDULED AT MFB ANNUAL

The first Natural Resources Conference in recent years will be held during the 1971 Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at Grand Rapids. The Conference will be held Monday afternoon, November 8, at the Pantlind Hotel.

Given the continuing emphasis on environmental quality, it is apparent that agriculture can expect to become increasingly subject to legal actions for alleged pollution. Several serious consequences can result to producers from such legal actions. Producers should be aware of the laws that may be used against them in the name of quality and what the possible consequences are.

This topic of Legal Implications to Preserve Environmental Quality will be discussed at the Natural Resources Conference by Mr. Donald Levi, University of Mignant and currently advanced studies at Washington State University. All members, especially livestock and poultry producers, are invited to attend the Natural Resources Conference and become familiar with the legal aspects of pollution control.

Mr. Steffen served as general counsel of the Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliated companies from 1945 to 1966. In January 1968, he assumed the position of coordinator for the new Farm Bureau Center.

He was a former teacher, athlete, coach and school principal and was a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School. He was very active in the cooperative movement and served on many committees of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.

On the occasion of his official retirement from the organization this past June, the large conference room at the Farm Bureau Center was designated the "Edwin F. Steffen" Conference Room.

EDWIN F. STEFFEN PASSES

You can lower the cost of loving by 40%.

Discounts also apply to station-to-station calls.
Warm up Winter with our hottest bargain

When you warm cold winter with Farmers Petroleum Oil Heat, you'll discover that it's your hottest buy in heating. We've tried to make our product and service second to none. We think our customers will verify that. Call or write your Farmers Petroleum dealer. Do it now.

Where Your Farm Comes First

FARM BUREAU
FARMERS PETROLEUM
OIL HEAT
Circulation of petitions by Michigan Jaycees in an attempt to bring the issue of unicameral legislation for Michigan before the voters in November of 1972 focuses attention upon the fact that Michigan Farm Bureau has no current policy statement on this issue.

This is an issue which the voters of this state should decide now — at county annuals in October and the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual in November — the position they desire Farm Bureau to take.

The legislative system as Michigan residents know it, has, to many, historical significance. The legislatures during colonial days were single chambered or unicameral. The American Revolution was a turning point in experimentation with legislative structures. Some states changed to the two-house form shortly after the Declaration of Independence. Others, including Nebraska, followed in a few years. More than a century passed before Nebraska instituted the one-house system in 1937.

The entire issue was strongly debated throughout Michigan during the Constitutional Convention. After extended debate, the delegates decided to continue the two-house plan. This decision was supported by the voters in 1963 when the new Constitution was adopted.

The current period of interest in unicameralism in the United States began in 1913 when Governor Hodges of Kansas suggested it as a cure for the legislative ills of that state. Since then it has been proposed in various forms in fifty states. Despite widespread discussion, the issue has only been placed before the voters in two states — Nebraska and Missouri. Nebraska accepted the one-house legislature in 1936 and it became effective in 1937. Missouri voters, on the other hand, rejected the proposal in 1945.

The one-house legislature has been in operation in Nebraska now for 34 years. As it has been the official legislature of the state for that period of time, one must admit that it has worked. A similar admittance must also be passed on the two-house legislatures of the other states and the United States — none have collapsed into oblivion.

"The question of a one-house or a two-house legislature comes down to which best serves the constituents,"

Under the proposal of State Representative Joseph P. Swallow (B-Alpena), who is heading the petition movement, one or two house legislature would be more firmly established under unicameralism, since control of the one-house legislature and the governor’s office would more frequently coincide under a single-house assembly properly apportioned. It would appear to be far easier for the same party, or coalition of parties, to secure a majority in one house than to do it in two units of the legislature differently constituted.

A unicameral type of legislature would accord, according to some views, by reducing the total number of members in the legislative body, permit the selection of higher caliber individuals, get the payment of higher, more attractive salaries with little or no increase in legislative costs.

Party responsibility for state governmental policy and its execution would be more firmly established under unicameralism, since control of the one-house legislature and the governor’s office would more frequently coincide under a single-house assembly properly apportioned. It would appear to be far easier for the same party, or coalition of parties, to secure a majority in one house than to do this in two units of the legislature differently constituted.

A unicameral type of legislature would be a simpler form of organization eliminating the complexities of double consideration of measures by two houses. It would eliminate the necessity for such peculiar devices as conference committees to untangle differences of opinion in legislation, which inevitably arise under the bicameral system before the bill goes to the governor for his signature.

The defenders of the bicameral, or two-house system submit many counter arguments. They maintain that unicameralism is a violation of American traditions and of the concept of checks and balances of the American Constitutional form of government. A second correcting, revising or delaying chamber is necessary, they say, to prevent bad, hasty, or ill-considered legislation. The important element of check and balance is lost when one chamber replaces the two-house system in a state legislature.

Lobbyists would find the pickings easier in a unicameral legislature, opponents maintain. It would be easier for special interest groups to exert influence on a smaller legislature than on the present 145 members of the state legislature, they reason.

Whether money could or would be saved by a one-house legislature is open to debate. Michigan is often considered extremely efficient in its operations when compared with other states as far as the number of state employees is related to the population.

In a letter to supporters of the unicameral proposal, one legislator pointed out, Michigan, a state of nearly nine million people and a great diversity of industry, agricultural and recreational business, can hardly be compared to Nebraska, the only state with unicameral legislation, which has only 1.5 million residents and an economy limited largely to one industry.

Michigan has one representative to only 30,000 persons while in Michigan, if the unicameral system is adopted, each legislator would represent an average of 116,777 persons, according to the legislator. This, to many, would appear to mean that their chance of personal attention from their Senator under the unicameral system would decrease rather than increase.

The legislator goes on to point out in his letter that presently, under the two-house system, the Upper Peninsula has four House districts and 14 Senate districts, with a total representation of less than six. Under the unicameral system, there would only be three legislators, representing the entire Upper Peninsula and the counties of Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Montmorency and Presque Isle. Other districts would also be significantly larger geographically.

If unicameralism were adopted in Michigan, a unicameral legislature, as half of the population is concentrated in the counties of Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw and Wayne, an unicameral legislature could assure one party rule in Michigan and whichever party dominated the metropolitan area would be assured of political control of the state. Rule by one strong man or one strong clique would not be out of the realm of possibility.

State Representative William A. Ryan (D-Detroit) pointed out in a recent article, "the present two-house structure prevents the concentration of tremendous legislative powers in the hands, of a few legislators. When one considers that the same legislator has vast authority to tax and spend to almost any limits and to regulate the lives of citizens throughout the state in critical ways, this argument becomes brutal."

How much, if any, the operational cost of a one-house legislature versus the present two-house legislature would save the tax payers of the state brings forth statistics from the supporters on both sides of the issue.

Supporters of a unicameral system point out that the cost of operating and maintaining a one-house chamber would be sharply reduced. They also point out the possibility of lowering the cost of a new Capitol. Opponents, on the other hand, predict that unicameralism would most certainly lead to far larger staffs for individual legislators than is now the case and that to serve the needs of their constituents the legislators would feel they need to maintain offices within their home districts.

One or two house legislatures? A subject briefly covered in this article that after much study and discussion should be decided upon the merits of the issue, not on emotional feelings.
1971-72 DEBURENTE KICK-OFF BY FPC

The 1971-72 kick-off session of the Farmers Petroleum Cooperative deburense sales campaign was held on September 25 in Lansing.

The cooperative re-entered the money market this year with an offering of "Selective Maturity" deburense with six percent to 71/2 percent interest on 5, 10 and 15 year maturity.

The sales personnel were informed that the proceeds of this financing will be used for constructing new retail outlets, making improvements at several retail outlets, expanding present facilities, purchasing new rolling stock and such other projects as may be authorized by the board of directors.

The deburense have the following advantages: Interest starts the day of purchase. They can be registered in as many as three names. Interest is paid annually on December 1st. They can be transferred to new owners at any time without a charge. There is no breakage fee for - no commutation cost to the purchaser. The entire investment draws interest.

The group was also informed of the company's progress, new products and services that have been instituted during the past year.

FPC Progress Report

On September 1, 1971 over $94,000 was mailed to Farmers Petroleum Cooperative deburense holders as interest on their investment plus stock dividends of $42,000. A 3 percent dividend on all the allocated refund certificates will be distributed around November 1st.

The FPC board of directors approved a "call" for a class of "A" stock totaling $105,000 and authorized the dividend for this year will be distributed in 50 percent in cash and 50 percent in 10-year Guaranteed allocated refund certificates.

The cooperative's projected reports indicate that total company sales increased by 6 percent for the year. Sales leaders were: custom diesel fuel, 15 percent; motor oil, 20 percent; the price was 20 percent and anti-freeze and equipment both showed a 24 percent increase.

New products and services were introduced and weeded out to better serve farmers. The Mark IV tire, which is an all New Polystyrene tire, was added to the line of tires. Lube oils were up-graded to meet the new engine service classifications. Unless snowmobile oil experiences its first full year of sales and the expected life of the "farm" tire service and oil burner service continues.

NORTHERN MICHIGAN COOPERATIVE FEEDER SALES 1971

8800 Head

These are all native cattle registered by Beef Feeder Bulls and out of predominantly beef type cows. Most guarantee heifer calves open and male calves properly castrated. All calves dehorned.

Schedule of Sales

October 11 - Bruce Crossing 1000 yearlings and calves
October 12 - Rapid River 1200 yearlings and calves
October 14 - Gaylord 2600 yearlings and calves
October 19 - West Branch 1600 yearlings and calves
October 22 - Baldwin 1100 yearlings and calves

All 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

ENCLOSED COUPON
Program Development Division
Michigan Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE
SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: 25 words for $2.00 each edition. Additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as $12 or $12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word each edition, two or more editions, 10 cents per word. Copy deadline: 20th of the month.

FARM NEWS WANT-ADS GET RESULTS!

(Special Member Rate)
25 Words for $2.00

Send to: Michigan Farm News
Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS October 1, 1971 FIFTEEN


FOR SALE: RFD #1, Oaoadqa, two years, electric water beater. wash tanks, boars and gilts. Production data available. Phone 517-537-4963. Pbone: Charlotte 49630.

FOR SALE: For complete refund manual to be refunded to reprinted classified advertisements. Send to: Michigan Farm Bureau, 2630 East Valley Park, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48331.

FOR SALE: Proposed Roman Tour For Farm Bureau Members

Have you ever dreamed of seeing Rome? Here's a chance to see the Vatican, the Amphitheatre and many other points of interest in this famous historical city. A tour is being planned for regular Farm Bureau members only, to leave Detroit on February 25, 1972 and return to Detroit on March 5, 1972. The flight is aboard a DC8 Jet operated by the Alitalia Airlines, the regularly scheduled airlines between Detroit and Rome.

Because this is a charter flight and a prearranged tour, the cost will be surprisingly low. The tour package includes all air transportation, ground transportation in Rome between the airport and hotel, first class hotel with bath for six nights, Continental breakfast each day, 3 dinners, sight-seeing of Rome by day and night, an excursion to Tivoli, fashion show-shopping discount coupons, gratuities, and Italian Airport tax. The cost of the proposed complete package is less than $325.00.

To qualify for this tour, you must be a regular voting Farm Bureau member, or dependent of a regular voting Farm Bureau member as of August 31, 1971. Dependents include spouse, children and parents living in the same household as the Farm Bureau member.

For more information, please send the enclosed coupon to the Program Development Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

ENCLOSED COUPON
Program Development Division
Michigan Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:
Our birthday was September 20, this year. We've come a long way. In less than 20 years, Farm Bureau Life has risen to the top 20 percent, in issued life volume, of 1800 life insurance firms. In the past five years, assets have more than doubled. By the end of 1971, Farm Bureau Life will have nearly $2 billion of life insurance in force.

Compared to the ten-year growth pattern of the Nation's 25 top life insurance firms, Farm Bureau Life assets increased 441.8%, while the leaders' rose 61.8%. Our total income grew by 317.5% while the top 25 companies' income rose 91.6%.

In the national Farm Bureau family of life insurance companies, Michigan Farm Bureau Life is the third largest single-state company and the fifth largest overall. Our five-year growth rate is 83% ... highest among the top five Farm Bureau Life companies.

That's our story. That's your story. Farm Bureau Life thanks you. As Farm Bureau Life policyholders, you are our success.