FARM BUREAU CENTER OPEN HOUSE
7373 W. Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan
Wednesday...July 28, 1971...10:00 a.m.

Program

Welcome To The Farm Bureau Center, Elton R. Smith, president, Mich. Farm Bureau.

History of Project and Physical Characteristics of the Building ... N. L. Vermillion, Executive vice president, Farm Bureau Insurance Group.

Dedication Address ... The Honorable William G. Milliken.

Official Opening Ceremony ... Governor Milliken and President Smith.

Guided tours of the building following the official opening to allow all visitor's to view the entire structure.

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Every human has many ideas but most of us do not take the time to sort out the good ones from the bad, the workable, so many go for naught. This world has been built on good ideas, well thought through and carried out.

In one group of people had an idea of how they would like to live land be governed, so declared their independence from a mother country and established a new nation. They carried out their ideas in their new government — a self-governing system based on representation. They also spelled out some principles for every citizen of the new nation. They said every person should be able...

...to worship God in his own way without interference by government.
...to exercise freedom of speech and religion, even if others disagree with what one may say or print.
...to pursue a personal ambition to the fullest extent of his abilities, regardless of family background, race or creed.
...to choose his own occupation, apply for any job, quit his job if he doesn't like it and pursue another.
...to use his honestly acquired property and finances in his own way — spend it, invest it or give it away.
...to go into business for himself, be his own boss, work the hours he pleases and make a profit.
...to offer his services or products for sale on his own terms, even if he loses money on the deal.
...to buy or not to buy any service or product offered for sale without interruption so long as he pays the price asked.
...to be free to make his own decisions and be his own master.
...to buy or not to buy any service or product offered for sale without interruption so long as he pays the price asked.
...to secure medical care as completely. No one else can better care for it.
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A Pictorial Preview of the New Farm Bureau Center...

Expansive Halls of Vinyl and Paneling

The Voice With A Smile (Main Reception Center)

The Laying Down of the Sod

F.B. Ins. Receptionist

"Secretarial Session" . . . F.B. Services


Office Services Personnel

Cafeteria Staff
The State of Michigan will have reached the end of its fiscal year on June 30 — and perhaps the end of its financial rope unless the Legislature shows more activity during the final week than it has during the past several months. Governor Milliken said that unless the Legislature adopts a budget before July 1, he would have "no alternative but to put all departments of state government on notice that emergency measures may be required at that date." He warned that the impact will be severe, particularly upon education, welfare and mental health, which represent more than one billion dollars, plus farm and "FF" in the House (Folks for School Operation) is possible if the Legislature will permit the voter to make a decision of his own merit.

ASSUMPTIONS

The general public will have an opportunity to appear before a special House Committee on Assessments, as meetings are being held throughout the state. Farmers are taking advantage of this opportunity to let the committee know firsthand the effect of assessments on their property. The remaining hearings will be in Benton Harbor on Friday, July 6, Bay City, Monday, July 10, Houghton, Friday, July 23; Marquette, Saturday, July 24, and Detroit, Monday, August 2. Testimony on H.B. 4963 has been made in the Senate by senators indicating that they were made in the equally divided Senate, which represents the Gov- ernor's money interest free. The identical bill, S. 130 in the Senate, is under considera-
tion. One in the Senate and House may pass, but water structures, ditches, irrigation projects, are exempt farm. The identical bill, S. 130 in the Senate, is under considera-
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More environmentalists are beginning to support the idea. Governor Milliken continues to suggest, as does the recent news media, that a rearview mirror should be placed on slow moving vehicles, such as tractors and implements, unless other provisions were made for soil erosion and sedimentation. H.B. 4909, still another important bill to agriculture, would establish a revolving sewer, inspection control within the state, which has proved to be, in many areas, such mains are assessed on a front footage basis, some areas, such mains are assessed on a front footage basis. This bill needs some work on it, and it is essential to many farm- ers planning farm ponds.

Another bill, S. 122 (Ballenger), which provides for sale of products of food processors, canners, freezers, etc., in so doing, it also repeals numerous other old regulations and licensing statutes. One of the repealed statutes, known as the Canning and Preserving Act, contained protective pro-
viso's for a license to any canner who had produced a minimum of 100 cases of fruit or vegetable products for purchase of fruits and vegetables within the preceding year unless provided by a written contract.
### Notes From All Over...

Wayne Playford is the new manager of the Farm Bureau Services' Egg Marketing Division Field Operations Department. Wayne served as flock supervisor and manager of the Brighton Processing Plant.

Dan P. Crowle assumed the managerial position of the Egg Sales and Operations Department of the Egg Marketing Division, effective May 24. Mr. Crowle served as a flock supervisor and manager of Field Operations for the past three years.

Both announcements were made by Clyde I. Springer, vice president, Egg Marketing Division, Farm Bureau Services.

William J. Kubfuss, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, has been named a member of the National 4-H Service Committee. The Service Committee provides a central national source for educational publications and visual aids. Currently, a record 4 million boys and girls are active in 4-H programs.

Several Farm Bureau members have been named to official positions for McDonald Cooperative Dairy Company. Arthur Forbush, Jr., St. Charles (Jackson county), is secretary and Carl Middleton, Marysville (Tuscola county), treasurer. Other F.B. members on the board are John Friese, Perrinton, (Gratiot county); William Brodbreck, Lake Odessa, (Ionia county); and Gibson Strickling, Mason, (Ingham county).

James Berrens, Marion, (Osceola county), Ronald Haines, Gladwin county). Chairman. Vice chairman is Edward Weiss, Frankenmuth, (Saginaw county).

Mr. Kubfuss said his appointment was adopted by the AFBF Board of Directors in Phoenix, Arizona, on June 8.

"We strongly support inclusion of grains and other farm products in the North American Free Trade area, particularly under consideration for authorized sale to Mainland China under general license.

"We also urge removal of cargo preference and part-cargo restrictions on sales to Communist countries.

"We favor such sales when they are consistent with national security and when made by the private trade on commercial terms without credit guarantees by any agency of the U.S. government."

President Nixon on June 10 announced that farm products and fertilizer would be included among the commodities for which export sales may be made to Mainland China under general license. The President also announced that he was eliminating cargo preference restrictions on sales to all Communist nations with which trade is now permitted. Enhancements continue in effect on U.S. trade with Cuba, North Korea, and North Vietnam.

MAFC Chairmen Testifies

Glenn Hanson of Howell, president of the board of the Federal Land Bank Association of Ann Arbor and chairman of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives, appeared before a U.S. Senate committee in support of the Farm Credit System. Hanson cited provisions in the Farm Credit Act of 1971 which would remove the restrictions that presently prohibit Federal Land Banks from financing more than 65 percent of the value of a farm.

He also pointed out that the removal of the restriction would give Land Banks and local Associations more flexibility in financing today's modern agriculture and could be especially important to young farmers.

Other provisions in the bill permit Production Credit Associations to finance more than $14 billion in loans to farmers and for the Banks to cooperate in financing a wider range of credit needs for farmer cooperatives.

The Farm Credit System is owned by more than 500,000 farmers and provides for advances to farmers and ranchers. Together with the Federal Land Banks, they provide more than $14 billion in credit to agriculture each year.

F.B. Backs Wheat Exports to Mainland China

The American Farm Bureau Federation has urged the Nixon Administration to authorize the sale of U.S. grains and other farm products to Mainland China.

Farm Bureau also urged removal of cargo preference and part-cargo restrictions on sales to Communist countries.

In a letter to President Nixon, AFBF President William J. Kubfuss said the following statement was adopted by the AFBF Board of Directors in Phoenix, Arizona, on June 8:

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State Winner Named In Freedoms Foundation Contest

Cara Bocowski was selected as the Michigan student winner in the fourth annual Freedoms Foundation Essay Contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance Group. Cara and her parents live at 1325 North State Street, Jackson.

An eighth grade student at St. Joseph School, Jackson, Cara will receive a four-day, all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. for herself, her parents and her teacher, Mrs. Rita Fullerton. The sight-seeing trip is expected to be August 6-9, 1971 and will include tours of Washington, Alexandria, and the U.S. Naval Academy.

In addition to the trip, Cara received an engraved presidential desk flag and her school was presented a large stand-up display flag. Presentation was made by Bob Nelson, representative of the Farm Bureau Insurance Group Agency located in Jackson, during a school honors assembly on June 9th.

Judges for this year's contest were: John B. Swainson, Michigan Supreme Court Justice; Earl E. Nelson, State Representative from Michigan's 57th District; Charles E. Chambers, Congressman for Michigan's 6th District; Dr. Clifton Wharton, Jr., Michigan State University President; and Detroit Free Press Columnist Bob Talbert.

A record 379 schools and 4,000 students participated in the contest which was conducted through 52 Farm Bureau Insurance Group offices around the state.

### Frosty Strawberry Squares

(Serves 12)

1 cup flour

1/4 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup chopped nuts

2 egg whites

Beat until stiff peaks form.

2 cups frozen strawberries, partially thawed. (Do not drain.)

2 tablespoons lemon juice

Combine with the egg whites. (It will be rather thin and syrupy.)

1/4 oz. package of Dream Whip. (Whipped as directed on box.)

Fold Dream Whip into the strawberry mixture. Pour over the crumbs. Top with remaining crumbs. Cover and freeze. May be made as much as a month ahead and kept in freezer. Serve frozen.

Have a Happy Summer.

Mrs. Jerald (Maxine) Topliff

### Michigan Bell

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All wheat producing members have the opportunity to participate in the Program that has proven successful. Since the Program was started in 1967, each producer was able to earn from $1.10 to $1.60 more per bushel for their wheat than was paid by the program the previous year.

The Program paid a record high final payment of 40.4¢ per bushel at the completion of the marketing year, probably in March or April. The program was a success in 1971.

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F.B.S. Securities Sales Representative

Elden T. Smith, former Michigan Farm Bureau and affiliate companies personnel manager, has been appointed Securities Sales representative. The announcement was made by Clifton A. Merrill, manager of Securities Promotion Dept., Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

Mr. Smith was also a field representative for MFB. He was with Michigan Farm Bureau from 1956 to 1969 when he left to become a DeWitt city engineer.

Prospectus and additional information may be obtained by writing: Farm Bureau Services, Inc., P.O. Box 999, Lansing 48904 or P.O. Box 278, DeWitt 48820.

U.P. Citizenship Seminar

MORE THAN 50 ... junior and senior high school students from the Upper Peninsula attended a three day Citizenship Seminar in Escanaba in early June. American and Michigan Farm Bureau staff personnel conducted the annual event.

West Central F.B. Women Tea

FARM BUREAU WOMEN ... in the West Central Region have been busy preparing for their annual Sewing and Craft tea. Lloyd Wilder, (right), Pentwater, served as one of the judges, and in appreciation of her efforts, Oceana Co. F.B. Women's Committee chairman Mrs. James Ramthun, (left), presented her with a chrysanthemum plant. Mrs. Helen Wyns, Shelby, the second judge, is not pictured.

Barry Co. Y.F. Parade Entry

"EVERYBODY LOVES A PARADE" ... the Barry County Young Farmers included. Early in June, Hastings (county seat of Barry County) celebrated its 100th birthday with a Centennial Parade. The Young Farmer parade entry was led by a whistle blowing steam engine pulling an antique grain thresher. A 1928 tractor pulled a stationary baler and a pair of work horses.

Those that work with "heavy" mechanical equipment are apt to forget the eyes, ears, hands and lungs are in need of protection as well as the back, arms and legs.

Safety is a three-way proposition in agriculture: there is a constant need for safety in the machinery we use, in what we handle and in the protection of the operators.

Agriculture has long been known as a hazardous occupation. At any time there are several new techniques and studies are being considered to make farming equipment safer. Included are such devices as protective cabs and shields, in fact full shields to protect the entire operator.

Agricultural development is the enactment of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act. The purpose of the legislation is regulation for farm workers and the Hazardous Occupations Order in Agriculture. These actions are bound to reflect agricultural safety.

In a statement to Leon J. Urban, Mgr., Natl Safety Council Farm Department, there were about 200,000 disabling injuries in agriculture in 1970, with 2400 fatalities. He stresses that the farmer or manager should use adequate personal protective equipment in his operations. Employees and farm workers should also be trained to know why, where and when and how to wear it and the case of it.

Safely Hats

Head injuries are frequent occurrences. Safety hats (or helmets) protect the head (when worn) from impact and flying objects. Non-conductive types also protect the wearer from electric shock. There are several types from which to choose. Each individual type has distinctive merits and should be considered to fit the type of job.

Eye Protection

Here is an area in which listening and other field jobs involve dust, chaff and other foreign material that can cause havoc to the eyes. Low hanging branches, farm structure construction and maintenance, spraying (both chemicals and paint) and the handling of feeds and soil can be a hazard unless the eyes are protected. Spectacles with impact-resistant lenses, flexible or cushion fitting goggles and chipping goggles are recommended types of protective eye wear. Side shields are also advisable for those that wear regular glasses.

Ear Protection

Noise pollution is the third pollution (in addition to air and water) that afflicts all of us. Noise is a product of our modern society ... a product that is gradually robbing people of their natural ability to hear. Noise is generated by powerful machinery such as tractors, harvesters, grinders, chippers, conveyers, chain saws and power mowers ... all contributing to the noise problem on the farm.

There are two basic types of ear protection: insert and muff types. The insert type (rubber, soft or hard plastic, wax and special cotton-like fibers) is placed in the ear canal. Plain cotton is a poor noise suppressor and offers little protection. Don't use it.

Muff or cup type devices cover the external ear ... looking like earphones.

Tip-top mechanical shape farm equipment is the best protection.

Other Protection

Gloves (suitable to job) and protective creams and lotions will protect the hands. The lungs can be severely irritated by dust, molds, bacterial infection, chemicals, etc. When applying chemicals, two kinds of respiratory devices are generally used: chemical cartridge respirators and gas masks.

Farm dealers can best recommend the type of lung protection to use.

1971 STATE FARM MANAGEMENT TOUR

Several farms owned by Michigan Farm Bureau members are to be featured on the 1971 State Farm Management tour August 5-6.

Three northeastern Michigan fruit and vegetable farms are on the tour schedule for August 6. These hosts will be Fruit Haven, owned by Calvin "Pete" Lentz, Kalkaska, the Rev. Howes farm, Copemish, and the Bowling Fruit and Vegetable Farm, Inc., Bear Lake ... all in Manistee county.

Eleven specialty farms will be visited August 5. These Farm Bureau farms include Negus Farms, (Don Negent), Beulah, (Benzie county); Ken Bushue, Fruit, (Manistee county), a polysacred operation and Joy Roundhouse, Manistoc, (Wexford county), a fruit producer.

Other farms to be toured August 5 are those of Loy Putney, Beulah, (Benzie county); Ken Bushue, Fruit, (Manistee county); Donald Lundberg, Pentwater, (Owosso county) and Walter Edward, Jr., Menick and Donald White, Harrietta, both of Wexford county.

1971 STATE FARM MANAGEMENT TOUR
EIGHT

July 1, 1971

PUBLIC HEARING ON NONRETURNABLE BOTTLES

By ALBERT A. ALMY

Approximately 40 persons testified recently at a public hearing on three bills dealing with nonreturnable beverage containers. The testimony, lasting nearly three hours, was heard by the House Consumers and Agriculture Committee.

The three bills before the committee would ban nonreturnable beverage containers and require a ten cent deposit on returnable beverage containers of 20 ounce volume or less; H.B. 4153, which would require redemption of returnable bottles by retailers who sell them; and H.B. 4170, which would ban nonreturnable beverage containers and require a minimum six cent deposit on returnables.

Only a handful of the more than 40 witnesses supported the bills. The opposition was largely made up of producers, environmental and student interests and one labor union group. Opposition to the bills was expressed by a majority of the witnesses who represented industry, Chambers of Commerce, several labor unions and retail food stores. The labor unions had arranged for their members to be present in large numbers to show support for their position.

Weiners from the labor unions cited loss of jobs to those employed in the manufacturing of nonreturnable bottles as their major objection. Representatives of the bottle manufacturers threatened that passage of rural roads, the bottles become a nuisance and a hazard.

to the farmers - they are a nuisance and a hazard.

Farm Bureau also noted that rural roads and adjoining fields are popular disposal sites for nonreturnable bottles. When these bottles were not picked up by the road crews, they became a major hazard to excessive tractor and implement tires. Non-

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A RESOLUTION ...proclaimed "Bed-

on the basis of these consider-

Agriculture Included in 1899 Refuse Act Permit System

On December 23, 1970, an Executive Order was issued by President Nixon implementing permit provisions under the 1899 Refuse Act. The purpose of this order was to regulate the discharge of pollutants and other refuse matter into the navigable waters of the United States or their tributaries.

One of the major objections to the bills was expressed by a majority of the witnesses who represented industry, Chambers of Commerce, several labor unions and retail food stores. The labor unions had arranged for their members to be present in large numbers to show support for their position.

Weiners from the labor unions cited loss of jobs to those employed in the manufacturing of nonreturnable bottles as their major objection. Representatives of the bottle manufacturers threatened that passage of rural roads, the bottles become a nuisance and a hazard.

"Bedding Plant Week" was passed by the Michigan House of Representatives last week of May. During the House session, Representative Raymond Ker-
Michigan-Ohio Farm Safety Survey

New Service-To-Member Program Announced - Auto Rustproofing

Approximately 3,000 Michigan and Ohio farmers are participating in a study of farm machinery use which will give accident frequency rates for tractors, combines, baled and other farm machinery. The study is sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Research Foundation in cooperation with the National Safety Council and the Michigan and Ohio Cooperative Extension Services.

Typical of the twenty persons conducting the survey is Mrs. Howard Ebenhoch, Saginaw county, who is collecting information from all types of farming enterprises; large or small, in Michigan and Ohio. Mrs. Ebenhoch interviewed Norbert Birchmeier, a Michigan dairy farmer, on his farm, Birchleet Farm.

The machine accident rates will be useful in: 1) avoiding bad farm legislation; 2) designing safer machinery; 3) establishing reasonable insurance rates; 4) improving safe machinery operation training programs carried out by 4-H, FFA and other organizations; 5) making farm management decisions; and 6) improving machinery storage.


The bill, first introduced by California's Representative B. F. Sisk in April, is strongly supported by Farm Bureau. It is designed to improve the bargaining position and the bargaining power of farmers by establishing a mutual duty to bargain in good faith on the part of processors and associations of producers.

Seventy-two members of the House of Representatives announced their sponsorship previously. Michigan farmers, because of production of diversified processing crops, could be expected to be major users of the measure. Plagued by unprofitable prices and rising costs, farmers have sought to bargain for the sale of commodities.

The Administration, the Department of Agriculture and both political parties have given verbal support to the efforts of the farmers to improve their condition.

New doors have opened

And you are cordially invited

Farm Bureau Services joins with Michigan Farm Bureau to invite you to the "Open House" of the new Farm Bureau Center. We are proud of our affiliation with Michigan Farm Bureau and the new Farm Bureau Center --- your home away from home.

New records have been established this year in your use of Farm Bureau feeds and fertilizers indicating your confidence in the cooperative system and the ability of your Farm Bureau Services company to serve your needs.

Marketing capabilities in the sale of your grain and beans through the Michigan Elevator Exchange and Egg Marketing divisions are second to none.

Your Farm Bureau Services is truly "Where your farm comes first."

Open House, July 28, 1971
Save the Land

If we were to look at a thirty-year-old land-use map of Michigan, we would see vast oceans of green, indicating agricultural land and island of grey representing our population centers. Looking at a 1971 land use map, the reverse is true. We would see vast areas of grey, but only islands of green. The trend would seem to point to the result that in thirty years hence — will green land and open spaces be gone?

Take the green fertile agricultural land just in the southern half of Lower Peninsula. Urban sprawl is moving like an octopus to smother this productive food land. Each time its tentacles push out to build yet another housing development, another grave for our food supply is sealed. Two-thirds of Michigan's dynamic agriculture is produced in 22 of our 83 counties and no less than 20 of these 22 fertile counties in southern Michigan could virtually disappear within 30 years because our state lacks the necessary guidelines for intelligently controlled growth.

The crisis grows larger each day because state and local governments get most of their funds from property taxes. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, farmers pay over 20 percent of their net income in property taxes — four to five times greater than non-farmers. According to the U.S.D.A., land values have zoomed. Starting in 1830, an acre of land was worth about $11 in the United States. By the turn of the century, $20. In 1950, $65. And today, $195.

These are only averages. For instance, in New Jersey you can't touch an acre of land for less than $1,000. On the other hand, Wyoming's land is worth some $60 an acre, the lowest in the nation.

In southern Michigan's Eaton County, typical of urban and suburban growth overrunning the rural areas, property values are soaring.

A comparison of rural land assessment values that has remained primarily rural land, full assessed value has about doubled since 1959. Property in 1958, fully assessed at $100, is now $101. Another which sold at $80 is now $200 an acre, all tillable land.

Neater the population centers, tillable land value assessed for its full value tripled, quadrupled and even more. One piece selling in 1958 for $120 an acre, today is $22,000 an acre. Asking price for one piece of land is as high as $22 million. Some is fully assessed at $7,000 an acre.

Although farmland values have increased astronomically in past years, a slowdown has occurred. The national increase per acre between November, 1958 and March, 1959 was only one percent, the lowest in the nation. Of this amount, only 438 million acres are cropland, and of this amount only 72 million are in Class I land — and over half of this highly fertile Class I acreage is in urban areas! It is in these areas that the population explosion is creating demands for all kinds of land for a variety of public and private uses. Prime land is becoming an extremely limited resource. It is estimated that in the U.S., 1.5 million acres disappear each year — one-third of which is good cropland. In Michigan, it is estimated that, at the present rate, urban sprawl will eliminate 20 of the 22 best agricultural counties within 30 years.

Such changes in land use are permanent and irreversible and can be disastrous to the total environment. Pollution of water and air can be reversed — what is done to land is often irreversible.

Mr. Ralph Barlowe, Chairman, Department of Resource Development, Michigan State University, at a recent land use seminar said suburbanization around our cities is Michigan's foremost land use problem. He said a measure of rural land disappear- ance is found in an M.S.U. study during the period 1955 to 1965. In southern Michigan alone, it was found that urbanized land use increased from 669,- 000 acres in 1940 to more than two and a half times that in 1961 or 1,722,000 acres. From 1955-1961, rural lands were shifting to urban use at the rate of 303 acres per day.

Solutions In Taxation Reform

The millage increase for school finance has played a large part in increased property taxes. Another pressure is the rate of assessed valuation on property. Both factors generally increase in tax as the degree of suburbanization increases.

But if school districts throughout Michigan were able to have in recent years, action to reform property tax- ation would receive yet a bigger boost.

People generally agree that schools need money, but as voters, they are saying the method is wrong. Property taxes can no longer bear the burden.

Governor Milliken's recent recommendation for complete elimination of property taxes for school operation has accurately reflected the mood of the property taxpayer. His request to the legislature for a constitutional amendment would put this issue on a special election ballot in November, 1971. The proposal would eliminate property taxes as a base for school operating funds, but permit up to six mills by vote of the people for special programs.

It would cut the 15-mill limitation down to ten mills.

And in those counties with limitations up to 17 mills, cut the rate to 13 mills.

Furthermore, it would cut the total millage limit in the Constitution from the present 50 mills down to 30 mills.

The base for school operating funds would come from the state income tax. It provides a sound method of equitable taxation and would alleviate the economic pressures on farmland, thereby slowing its disappearing from the landscape. All citizens would participate, whether they live in a trailer or in a house. Income tax based revenue for school financing would be shared more equally by all.

Green Acres

On another front in the tax struggle to protect and save the farmland of Michigan, is current legis- lation to save open land in the "Green Acres" bill. It is House Bill 4100 and Senate Bill 130. This legislation can help save agricultural land by assessing it for taxation only for agricultural purposes and not for its development potential. (For further information, read the Michigan Farm News Capitol Report page of recent issues.)

Arguments against the idea of this bill are quick to declare that agriculture should not require a "free ride" but this is far from any semblance of truth. The bill clearly points out that if agricultural land were ever sold for another purpose besides agriculture, it would be very hard to have the land re- stored to its productive function. The bill is en- forced to equalize any tax relief the land had re- ceived in the past.

Speculators

Can land developers be held at fault for the disappearance of this country's most valuable natural resources? Growth is healthy and as a state, our growth and progress is important to its residents for their very quality of living. What Michigan's prob- lem is, however, is lack of controlled growth. Un- neglected income tax reform and land use reforming is due to inflation. But, they say there have also been gains in productivity on the land increasing net income for property taxes - four to five times the values of 1955.

With the inequities of taxation and the lack of protection for our farmlands, it is not surprising that the weakest chain in our land use is Michigan's agricultural land. Even the zoning laws, if zoning is utilized, can be defeated in municipalities which bend to the call of the dollar.

Our state is one where the fickle society have been forced to look at its environment, see the damage it is doing and take action to correct this damage. Saving open spaces, such as agricultural land, should be part of every environmental salvage plan. Action in the state legislature and local government can help cure the problem. The majority of states are either working on such action or already have adopted corrective measures such as the "Green Acres" bill. Michigan must share the foresightedness of these states.

These steps are not curable for land reform, but are steps to allow time for more effective land use planning.

Mr. Barlowe of M.S.U. sums it up eloquently... These steps are not curable for land reform, but are steps to allow time for more effective land use planning.

If we feel that a more orderly and ef- ficient use of land is needed, then we must want in Michigan? What do we want our southern counties to look like in another 10 or 20 years? According to the M.S.U. "Cultural Land Use" reports: "This prospect prompts the question: What do we want these lands throughout the United States generally to resemble in 2001 or to 1,722,000 acres. From 1955-1961, rural lands were shifting to urban use at the rate of 303 acres per day.

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Discussions Topic

by GARY A. KLEINHENN

Director, Education and Research
LIVESTOCK FEEDLOT STUDY PROPOSED

A resolution proposing a study of livestock feedlots has been introduced in the House of Representatives and referred to the Committee on House Policy. Sponsors of the resolution are: Representatives W. G. A. Rose (Lansing), A. E. Hymas (Detroit), R. L. Engler (R-Royal Oak), and Frank Wierzbicki (D-Detroit).

House Resolution No. 123, if approved, would create a special five-member committee of the House to study livestock feedlots now and during the interim period between the 1971 and 1972 regular sessions of the legislature. The committee would report its findings and recommendations to the 1972 legislature. An appropriation of not more than $3,900 would be used to finance the study.

The resolution cites actions by state anti-pollution agencies against livestock feedlots in violation of air and water pollution laws and regulations. It also cites the need for answers to the questions of how to effectively regulate livestock feedlots and whether the state should provide adequate facilities or systems to prevent air and water pollution from these operations.

Further, the resolution states that it is necessary for the legislature to prepare guidelines for regulating livestock feedlots and associated waste disposal districts. It aims to determine the ability and interest of the Michigan Department of Agriculture in protecting our essential livestock feedlot industry.

Voting on the resolution to introduce the legisaltion to the House was 40-34. Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting approved a policy which states that "technological changes and environmental concerns dictate a need for some study of problems connected with concentrated commercial (livestock and poultry) operations and the feasibility of licensing them."

House Resolution No. 123 was introduced at the request of Farm Bureau. However, Farm Bureau spokesmen have contacted the sponsors and offered to provide whatever information might be helpful to the committee should the House take favorable action on the proposed resolution.

DISCUSSION TOPIC SUMMARY—MAY

Discussion held on May topic, "What is Farm Bureau Member's Responsibilities?" numbered 682 groups reporting with an approximate total of 5,572 members taking part.

Q: What is the fundamental responsibility for a member to help his organization grow? A: Get new members—talk to neighbors about Farm Bureau policy and benefits. 188 groups; Be active and help Farm Bureau to grow by encouraging others to grow. 66 groups; Be active, participate, be willing to serve. 56 groups; Support Farm Bureau policies and programs after they are properly approved. 42 groups; Believing in what you are promoting—enthusiastic support. 30 groups; Use all the service of our organization and encourage others to use them. 26 groups.

Q: What is the members basic responsibility? A: Overwhelmingly replied—participation—support policy, attend meetings, study and vote on farm issues, elect delegates to attend annual meetings, serve on committees. 466 groups.

Q: What areas do we have to work at be better members? A: Participation in all areas. 219 groups; Keep legislators informed of our positions on issues. 66 groups; Be informed. 66 groups; County meeting attendance, accept responsibility, voice opinions, 50 groups; and Membership and organization of more discussion groups. 45 groups.

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