Farmers from 49 states and Puerto Rico gathered together in Chicago for the 53rd annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation during the first full week in December to establish the policies for their organization. Michigan was well represented by over 240 farmers who took time out from their daily farm duties to be a part in the annual event of the world's largest farm organization. Over 7000 farmers and ranchers were in attendance.

From the opening vesper service on Sunday afternoon through the meeting adjourned on Thursday, Michigan members took an active part in the convention. Michigan Farm Bureau Queen Miss Jackie Shade proudly represented us in the parade of queens at the large International Ballroom of the Conrad Hilton Hotel before thousands of people.

One of the major guest speakers at the general session was Carl P. Kentner, recently appointed Secretary of Agriculture. Butz commented, "There are some real problems facing agriculture. Just to name a few: inadequate income, farm costs, over-production, farm labor, the use of farm chemicals, revitalization of our rural communities, maintaining family farms and his staff in the White House as we move forward vigorously to preserve the family farm and its knowledge of markets and marketing techniques and experienced tangible success.

In closing he said, "May I assure you that we have the full support of President Nixon and his staff in the White House as we move forward vigorously to preserve the farm structure as it was and as it is, and as it must be, to make the distribution of agricultural products as far as we can control it, to make the distribution as close to 'Make It Happen.'"

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FARM BUREAU MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE

January 15, 1972 is an important date to remember. It is the Farm Bureau membership deadline for you to retain your eligibility for high quality Blue Cross-Blue Shield health care benefits through Farm Bureau.

Blue Cross-Blue Shield is one of the many benefits available to eligible Michigan Farm Bureau members. Do you intend to carry your farm family against the high cost of unexpected hospital and doctor bills. Through your action, Farm Bureau, "Makes It Happen." Renew your Farm Bureau membership now.

HOW WE STAND ON MEMBERSHIP

January is membership campaign time in Michigan. Voluntary workers will be contacting farmers who are not now members offering them the opportunity to join the largest farmers organization in Michigan and the United States.

FARM BUREAU is an organization of—by—and-for farmers which is independent, non-governmental and voluntary. It is local, statewide, national and international in scope and influence. Many Farm Bureau members have renewed their membership for 1972 and in some counties new members have signed up.

REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP STANDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>December 16, 1971</th>
<th>December 16, 1970</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>1978</td>
<td>1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>2109</td>
<td>1905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saginaw Valley</td>
<td>4593</td>
<td>3966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thumb</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Central</td>
<td>2109</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>509</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>35,035</td>
<td>31,479</td>
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The Michigan Farm Bureau membership has steadily increased. Marketing programs have been developed, the membership has steadily increased. Marketing programs have been developed, the membership has steadily increased.

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One of the major guest speakers at the general session was Carl P. Kentner, recently appointed Secretary of Agriculture. Butz commented, "There are some real problems facing agriculture. Just to name a few: inadequate income, farm costs, over-production, farm labor, the use of farm chemicals, revitalization of our rural communities, maintaining family farms and access to foreign markets for U.S. farm products."

He informed the assembled group that he would need their help in finding answers to these problems.

Butz also said, "I am on record regarding the right of farmers to bargain. I now go on record favoring the principles and methods of bargaining embodied in the Bill. At the proper time I shall support it, subject of course to any minor modification that may seem appropriate as testimony proceeds before the Committee."

In closing he said, "May I assure you that we have the full support of President Nixon and his staff in the White House as we move forward vigorously to preserve the farm structure as it was and as it is, and as it must be, to make the distribution of agricultural products as far as we can control it, to make the distribution as close to 'Make It Happen.'"

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Across the nation major changes are in process to finance schools. It is now becoming clear that property tax for this purpose is obsolete. It is no longer justifiable, with property taxpayers in some school districts receiving as low as 10 mills for state aid and, in other districts, as high as $80 for every mill levied.

The two main states of the nation are now ruling that such inequities cannot continue. The most publicized court case is in California. Others are in Minnesota and other states, including Wisconsin, where bills have been introduced to rule in a similar manner, as the Michigan system is very close to the California situation.

While these conditions have existed for some time, legislatures throughout the country, including Michigan, have failed to act in spite of the fact that good proposals have been made for the past few years. To assure property tax reform will be necessary for the people to exercise their inherent power and determine the course of taxation by constitutional amendment. Governor Milhous has asserted leadership in this area and is now leading a petition drive to amend the Constitution through a vote of the people in November 1972.

The Democratic Party also has announced that it intends to submit a separate petition drive for the same purpose. It is not yet available.

The Governor's program is complete and now available. The constitutional amendment proposed by him would affect only property tax reform. After January 1, 1971, local school millage would no longer be levied for school operating costs. This feature permits using the funds of the present constitutional millage limit from 50 mills down to not exceed 20 mills. Milling for county and township purposes would also be limited to not more than eight mills for counties and not more than one-and-one-half mills for townships. Intermediate districts, vocational education, special education, compensatory education, etc., would be limited to not more than four-and-one-half mills. Schools, by vote of the people, would be permitted to add up to an additional six mills for students in grades seven and above, and townships, as the amount at present, could also vote additional millage. The total, for the council, for counties and townships be greater than 26 mills. Capital outlay is not included in the limitation.

To replace the tax relief obtained by the major cut in property tax reform, the personal income tax would need to be raised 2.3% of the value of the property to which the term "property" would be applied. For example, if property is assessed at $4,000 the tax credit in this case would be $90, making a total tax of $710. The credits are deductible from any federal income taxes.

Bill would be $500 or the excess over $200; if the property tax credit of $117.50. The credits are deductible from any federal income taxes.

house tax would be 81,000 and that there are four school districts receiving as low as 10 mills for state aid. The bill would also be limited to not more than four-and-one-half mills. Schools, by vote of the people, would be permitted to add up to an additional six mills for students in grades seven and above, and townships, as the amount at present, could also vote additional millage. The total, for the council, for counties and townships be greater than 26 mills. Capital outlay is not included in the limitation.

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The legislation passed this year to increase the Michigan income taxes continued a program that had been on the books for a year ago. These credits can be used by individuals to finance school districts and also to help pay property for tax purposes. It is a complicated procedure at best. People would have to show the assessors and also recognize that because of spiraling costs, especially in education, farm property taxes have more than doubled and that paid by other segments of the population.

Farm Bureau Position on Petition Drive

Farm Bureau has been one of the leaders in the property tax reform movement. The shift of school costs from property tax to other sources of revenue would be $90, making a total tax of $710. The credits are deductible from any federal income taxes.

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Farm Bureau policies adopted by the state legislature at the state annual meeting make it clear that income tax reform and elimination of property for funds for our school systems." The new policy on "Constitutional Reform" states that it is "obvious that the people must exercise their inherent power and amend the Michigan Constitution in order to provide a basis for long-range and meaningful total tax reform." It states further that Farm Bureau members will "join with the assessors to the seriousness and inequity of the property tax burden on the people of this state."

We support a petition drive to place upon the ballot an amendment to limit the property tax and to eliminate as nearly as possible the property tax as a means of financing public schools.

Petitions will soon be available and plans are being made to circulate the petitions by county to get the needed 50,000 signatures. The people of Michigan an opportunity to vote on the issue. Any person or group desiring to petition the state to amend the constitution will have to go to the voters before he makes his the next year in order to assure that your property is assessed to be 17% of the gross paid rent.

Tax credits do not apply to corporations or financial institutions. The tax credit is $27.50 for the first $200 of tax and 5% of the next $1800, which is $117.50. The Michigan total property tax credit of $117.50. This amount would be deducted from the property owner's actual state income tax.

The bill provides for similar tax credits. Let us assume a farm has a property tax of $2,000, (which is unusual) the tax credit will be $27.50 for the first $200 of tax and 5% of the next $1800, which is $117.50. The Michigan total property tax credit of $117.50. This amount would be deducted from the property owner's actual state income tax.

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As in the past, the bill authorizes the property tax commission to hold public meetings and to have a revenue advantage over another.

Sure, the words "cash val-" whenever used in this act, shall be held to mean the usual "value" as determined by the property to which the term "property" shall be applied. The assessor shall, in each case, be considered as controlling the seriousness and inequity of the property tax as a means of financing public schools.

In determining the value the assessor shall consider the special advantages and disadvantages of location; quality of soil, zoning, existing use, and the limitations of structure; quantity and value of standing timber, water power and all other factors or economic value of the property or any appraisal made of lands acquired for de-
Women Projects Adopted

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women’s Committee and the Women’s Program Planning Committee met and planned their Program of Work for the year 1971-72. Projects adopted by the MFB Women’s Committee have been sent to county Women’s Committees. Counties are encouraged to conduct special activities on these issues as well as on local issues as part of each county Farm Bureau Women’s Program of Work for the coming year.

Among the numerous suggested projects under Farm Bureau Activities are: membership, community group promotion, policy development, policy execution, and political education programs. Realizing that safety and health are of major concern to all farm wives and mothers, the recommended projects also include: Occupational Health and Safety Act, youth regulations, tractive safety, promotion of adequate health facilities, promotion of better nutrition education, and Project Hope (which brings skilled and technicians developed by American medical professions to other people of the world in their own environment).

The environment, which affects all, was considered an area in which the Women’s Committee could be effective, especially in promoting a better understanding of agriculture’s role. Some of the projects on this issue are: enforcement of litter laws, study of pesticides and herbicides, promotion of legislation on returnable bottle, beautification of farm approach and improvement of environmental quality.

The recommendation that consideration should be given to the placement of Farm Bureau women on county Farm Labor Committees was also included among the suggested activities for the coming year. The goal of obtaining a better understanding of the need for and the maintenance of better Farm Labor relations was also suggested for serious consideration.

In the field of tax reform, marketing and bargaining, and understanding and information were included, too in the guidelines sent to Program Planning Committee throughout the state.

Farm Bureau Women have always played an active role in the legislation and in the promotion of work and the many local issues they are undertaking. Therefore, every Farm Bureau Women’s Committee was asked to encourage a continual effort in helping to "Make It Happen" this year.

SEWING AND CRAFT CONTEST ANNOUNCED

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women’s Committee will again sponsor a sewing and crafts contest this year, which encourages all women’s committees to conduct this project.

There will be no contest at the state level, nor will there be judging. Instead, the Women’s Committee is asked to have one or more items of clothing and one or more items of display at the Women’s Annual Meeting in November, 1972.

Among the suggested rules and guidelines furnished County Farm Bureau Women’s Committees were:

a. The contest could include: sewing, tailoring, crocheting, knitting, embroidery, needlepoint, rug making, quilt making, as well as ceramics, and any other crafts counties wish to include.

b. Entries must be from a Farm Bureau member or a member of a Farm Bureau family.

c. One contestant could enter any or all categories, but should be limited to one entry per category at the county level.

d. Articles entered must be made before October 1, 1971.

e. Consideration should be given to mother-daughter, boy-girl, twin, etc. entries.

Many women’s committees have found that this contest gives many members who may not be active in the Farm Bureau Women’s activities a chance to participate.

Farm Bureau ladies desiring more information about their local contest should contact their County Farm Bureau Women’s Chairman.

March 13-16 are the dates for the 12th annual Washington Legislative Seminar sponsored by Michigan Farm Bureau Women. The main purpose of the seminar is to provide an opportunity for selected “Legislative Leaders” to be part of organized meetings with Michigan Congressmen to discuss current legislation.

County Farm Bureaus have been encouraged to recommend for selection as “Legislative Leaders” those individuals having the responsibility of helping to carry out Farm Bureau policy.

Combined with the congressional visits will be organized tours of the city of Washington and such interesting places as historical monuments, Washington Cathedral, Arlington Cemetery, Bureau of Printing and Engraving, Mount Vernon, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

All Farm Bureau members are invited to accompany their Legislative Leaders as part of the American Heritage Tour group. This offers them an excellent opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. comfortably and economically with other Farm Bureau members, and to enjoy the sights of that city and the surrounding area.

Travel will be by chartered plane from Lansing to Washington on March 13, returning on March 16. While in Washington, all participants will stay at the Quality Motel located near the Capitol Building. The cost of this seminar will be $140.00 per person, which includes transportation, motel, one full day of touring, and one meal.

Reservations for the seminar must be in the Michigan Farm Bureau Lansing office not later than February 20, 1972. Any member interested in the American Heritage tour may get more information about it from their county Farm Bureau secretary. A check or money order, payable to Michigan Farm Bureau, in the amount of $140.00 must accompany all requests for reservations.

Please include my reservation for the WASHINGTON HERITAGE TOUR sponsored by Farm Bureau Women. March 13-16, 1972

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

The cost of this Seminar is $140.00 per person. Enclosed is my check in this amount, made payable to Michigan Farm Bureau.

Your reservation must be received not later than February 20 by:

Michigan Farm Bureau
ATTN: Helen Atwood, Coordinator
Women’s Activities
P.O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904
MARKETING AND COMMODITIES

OVER-PRODUCTION THREATENS DAIRYMEN

The United States Department of Agriculture points out that the ratio of herd replacements to milk cow births in the United States in 1960. Cow numbers have declined less in the past year than during any preceding the 16-year period.

Milk production per cow and total milk production continues to increase. Total milk production in 1971 will exceed 1970's total by an estimated 11 million gallons. This will mark the second consecutive year of increasing supplies.

Dairy farm income in 1971 will be about $6.8 billion — 36% above the $5.0 billion of 1965. Commodities have the level of milk income in 1971 and lower feed costs in 1972 will provide considerable incentive for increasing production.

APPLE STUDY COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Ken Bull, of Bailey, and George Stover, of Berrien Springs, have been selected by William J. Kuhfuss, the Michigan Farm Bureau's AFBF Apple Market Order Study Committee. The Committee is consisting of the Federal Marketing Order Council of over 200 growers from Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. The Committee will explore the possibility of using the Federal Marketing Order to aid in more orderly marketing of apples. It has long been recognized that orderly marketing benefits both grower and processor by establishing a more stable market situation.

HAY LISTS DISTRIBUTED

Early in December, approximately 28 county Farm Bureau's in the Eastern District of Michigan received their Farm Bureau Hay List published by the Market Development Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau Hay Listing Service included nearly 300 listings of hay available in the state. The hay lists will be published if adequate hay is available in the state. The hay lists will be published if adequate hay is available in the state. The hay lists will be published if adequate hay is available in the state.

The first meeting was held on December 16 in Concordia, Pennsylvania. At this meeting the Committee recognized the need for more orderly marketing. They decided that the first step would be getting the Agricultural Marketing Agreement of 1957 amended so areas producing apples could be covered by a Federal Marketing Order. The Committee also decided that the amendment should include all places, as opposed to just apples for processing. They felt that many variables of apples could be used for either fresh or processing and, without a marketing order covering both, there would still be too much uncertainty in the market.

GAUGE GROWER SURVEY

The MFB Market Development Division and the Marketing Committee of the MACMA Procuring Gage Division will soon review the results of the grape grower marketing survey conducted in mid-December. The survey was designed to reveal grower's interest in various alternative approaches to marketing. This article went to press, no tabulations had been made of the responses.

The grape Marketing Committee of MACMA, consisting of leading growers, indicated by its conduct of the survey that serious discontent existed concerning adoptive grower policies. The survey is expected to reveal the extent to which growers agree or disagree as to what remedies can and should be developed.

The production increases are developing in the face of declining sales, especially for butter, cream and cheese. Loss of sales in these products this year equals almost 1.5 billion pounds of milk to milk products which the market has continued.

A banana export market for banana growers has been established. A decline in the supply-demand situation of the banana market has provided a market for banana growers. The Federal Marketing Order to aid in more orderly marketing. They decided that there would be no tabulations had been made of the responses.

The American Agricultural Marketing Association held its annual meeting on December 7, 1971 in Chicago. The meeting was held during the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting. The meeting featured progress reports, market development and the presentation of awards.

The Michigan Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Association (MACMA) was presented an award for its outstanding red tart cherry division activities. The award was presented to the Michigan Farm Bureau by Smith.

MACMA REECE WS AWARD

A new award for its outstanding red tart cherry division activities was the result of a spirited marketing committee, membership task force, and staff. He also indicated that plans are being developed for 1972. This is an example of the results of cooperation and organization, with members and staff working together to get rewarding results.

MACMA has an outstanding record which is admired by all of the other state Farm Bureau marketing associations, according to Smith.

COUNTY SOYBEAN DIVISIONS BEING FORMED

As many as sixteen county Farm Bureau's have approved the formation of a commodity division among their soybean producing members. The Michigan Farm Bureau has also authorized the establishment of a statewide commodity division and will coordinate activities of the state division with those of county divisions.

The soybean division members will be identified and provided with membership cards to create awareness of the division and the opportunities of working on the specific commodity problems.

Soybeans, sometimes called the "wonder crop," increased in production in Michigan from 7 million bushels in 1964 to 11 million bushels in 1969. A growing demand has provided a market for the increased production. Approximately 50% of all soybeans produced in the U.S. are exported to other countries.

The objectives of the member to member sale were to aid in the pricing of farm products for Farm Bureau members; to promote the sale of high-quality products produced by Farm Bureau members; and to gain experience in the development of a Farm Bureau marketing and distribution system. It is expected that this type of member to member sales operation will evolve into a well-managed franchised roadside marketing system in the near future. The project has been very successful, members are already asking if county orders can be placed after the first of the year and again next winter. Counties will be notified regarding this matter as soon as the present project results have been analyzed.

MORE FLORIDA CITRUS THAN MEMBERS

PRESIDENT ELTON R. SMITH, and Harry A. Foster, MACMA, examine the first of six loads of oranges and grapefruit delivered to Michigan Farm Bureau members. Approval of the quality school throughout the state at 27 county Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau Center in Lansing.

AFBF PRESIDENT KUHFUSS presents the AAMA cherry program award to MFB President Smith.

Michigan is one of over twenty state Farm Bureau's participating in the member to member sales of Florida oranges and grapefruit. Members in twenty-seven Florida Farm Bureau's participated in the Michigan Farm Bureau's annual meeting on December 7, 1971 in Chicago. The meeting was held during the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting. The meeting featured progress reports, market development and the presentation of awards.

The Michigan Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Association (MACMA) was presented an award for its outstanding red tart cherry division activities. The award was presented by Smith. President Smith indicated that the Michigan Farm Bureau had been selected by William J. Kuhfuss to be members of the AFBF Board of Directors. The objectives of the member to member sale were to aid in the pricing of farm products for Farm Bureau members; to promote the sale of high-quality products produced by Farm Bureau members; and to gain experience in the development of a Farm Bureau marketing and distribution system. It is expected that this type of member to member sales operation will evolve into a well-managed franchised roadside marketing system in the near future. The project has been very successful, members are already asking if county orders can be placed after the first of the year and again next winter. Counties will be notified regarding this matter as soon as the present project results have been analyzed.
SIX

January 1, 1972

Kuhfuss Re-elected President
Grant Chosen Vice-President

William J. Kuhfuss, Mackinaw, Illinois livestock and grain farmer, was re-elected president of the American Farm Bureau Federation for a two-year term. Kuhfuss was elected president of the AFBF at the December, 1970, convention in Houston, Texas, to serve one-year of the unexpired term of Charles B. Shuman, Sullivan, Illinois, who retired at the 1970 convention after serving 16 years as president.

Prior to his election as Federation president, Kuhfuss was president of the Illinois Agricultural Association.

Dr. Elton R. Miller, transportation department, FPC; Marshall Warren, FBS, received Service Awards at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

Resolved that the Michigan Farm Bureau Horticul-tural Society be presented a copy of "The Apple" by Robert B. Stewart, Jr., Marion, South Carolina, author of "The Apple" and a member of the board of regents of the University of California.

COMMODITY AWARDS

Three County Farm Bureaus were presented Star Awards at the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting for outstanding commodity activities. Chippewa, Montcalm and Saginaw won the awards.

Each county submitting an entry competed with other counties of comparable membership size. Chippewa County with 830 members headed the category of counties having up to 400 members. Montcalm County with 964 members led the category having 401-1100 members. Saginaw County with 2,670 members, the largest county Farm Bureau in Michigan, was second.
Farm Bureau In Action
to
"MAKE IT HAPPEN"

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE Earl L. Butz at his first press conference since taking office which was held during the AFBF convention.

AFBF PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. KUHFUSS answers questions from the press concerning the Farm Bureau position on the dock strike and its impact on agriculture.

M.F.B. PRESIDENT ELTON R. SMITH, giving the introductory remarks, as chairman of the AFBF Dairy Conference in Chicago.

MISS JACKIE SHADE, Michigan Farm Bureau Queen (second from right), at the AFBF awards night "Parade of Queens."

MICHIGAN'S FIVE VOTING DELEGATES at the AFB annual meeting in Chicago. (Left to Right) Dean Pridgeon, Walter Frahm, Arthur Bailey, Eugene Roberts and President Elton Smith.

DURING THE MICHIGAN BREAKFAST held in Chicago, Queen Jackie presents a cup to Roy Rasner, president of Menominee County Farm Bureau for the highest percent of goal to date.
The following is an excerpt from a Michigan Extension Service bulletin:

**DDT: SAINT OR SINNER?**

The harmful effects of DDT have not been exaggerated. Proc-essed baby foods have not been implicated in any cases of meth-otrichomoniasis ("blue babies") because of the quantities of DDT. Many other toxicants of canned spinach have been used in the United States and Canada for years with no ill effects. If there is not a single proven instance of met-hotrichomoniasis or any other carcinogenic, mutagenic, or teratogenic effects, then some causes should have been reported for a disease. Most all instances of illness or death have been confined to very young infants fed with formula after extensive boiling of well wa-ter which exceeded the standard of 45 ppm of nitrate. Nitrate mines have caused carcinogenic, mutagenic, and teratogenic ef-fects, and many others. Some levels at least above those to which man and livestock are exposed. Agriculture's contribution to the increases in nitrates in lake and stream waters is less than appears less significant than those from municipal sewage and the by-products of industry.

Most environmental problems can be handled by technologies now available. We have yet to see the full impact of environmental mechanisms and economic trade-offs - we will bear the costs, we will lessen those causes of disease that are going to foreign. Reliable estimates are that if pesticides were banned, food prices would drop 25 to 30 per cent, and food production would go up 50 to 100 per cent. Thus, the substitution costs of our disposable income for food would rise from 10.5 to 17.7 per cent. The amount consumers spend for agricultural products would increase by 25 to 30 per cent. The elimination of all agricultural chemicals. A selective reduction in the use of synthetic chemicals would reduce yields per acre 15 per cent and would increase food prices by more than 20 per cent. Cost of food grown the organic or "Nature's way" is a conservative 50 per cent higher. If we were to go back to a pre-chemical agricultural garding, then we must be willing to tolerate starvation half the time.

Agriculture is more than farming. It and associated industries constitute 20 per cent of our of the total production. Millions of dollars would be spent for agricultural products that are growing the organically. A yet greater agricultural development - that grows food for men by more than 20 per cent. Cost of food grown the organic or "Nature's way" is a conservative 50 per cent higher. If we were to go back to a pre-chemical agricultural gardening, then we must be willing to tolerate survival half the time.

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Special Announcement

To All Farm Bureau Members

Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance benefits for members of Farm Bureau members were raised January 1, by Farm Bureau Insurance Group, at no additional cost to participating county Farm Bureaus. Now named members and spouses became eligible for one-half the AD&D benefits accruing to participating county Farm Bureau members. It was found members and their spouses are eligible for equal AD&D insurance benefits.

Inherent in farming, Community Bureaus have a cost to participating county Farm Bureau members accounted for 33% of AD&D claims. Deaths and accidents inflicted by machinery accounted for 31% of AD&D claims...falls for 17%.

The most common farm activity involved in AD&D claims was, of course, the operation of farm machinery. This machinery includes all types of farm equipment, including tractors, combines, and harvesters. These machines are essential to the success of farming operations. They are also dangerous, and accidents involving them can result in serious injuries or fatalities. It is important for farmers to take precautions to ensure the safety of themselves and others who may be on or near their farms.

Sight of one eye: 500
One thumb: 250
One hand: 500
One foot and sight of one eye: 1,000
One foot and sight of one eye: 1,000

Settlement of controversies between transportation companies and transportation unions would be provided for by S. 500 and H.R. 3596. Senate hearings have been held and conclusions have been reached. There is evidence to believe an arbitration procedure must eventually be used to settle the controversy. Presently, available remedies are generally inadequate and temporary. A major piece of S. 500 and H.R. 3596 is the provision of an arbitration procedure in which arbitrators choose between the final offers of the two parties. This would encourage both parties to be reasonable in their demands and reach a mutually satisfactory agreement by negotiation.

Transportation Policy

S. 2362 and H.R. 11307 would increase the scope of transportation regulation. Current exemptions from economic regulation applicable to the transportation of farm products would be narrowed by eliminating or exempting commodities livestock, processed poultry, processed milk products, processed eggs and certain other farm products. The effect would be that farmers and other local haulers would not be permitted to transport for hire any of these products. Only common carriers would be authorized to handle these products.

At stake is the fundamental question of whether farmers want to see the federal government in the direction of greater government regulation. Also, there are questions about the preservation of the right of farmers and other local people to use their own trucks to handle farm products for others.

The Senate Commerce Committee has held hearings and is expected to hold additional hearings. No hearings have been held by the House Commerce Committee.

In 1963, US. Senate honored Smith with its “Distinguished Service to the Farm Bureau Federation in the United States to All but Eliminated in the U.S.” The dread disease, bovine brucellosis, has been held in check. The disease is caused by the bacteria of bovine brucellosis, and is spread through contact with milk or milk products. The disease is often undetectable until symptoms appear, and can cause infertility, abortion, or stillbirth in cows. It is important for farmers to take precautions to prevent the spread of this disease, and to seek help from experts if symptoms do appear.

Farm Bureau insurance is available to farmers to protect them from financial loss due to such diseases. Insurance policies can help cover the costs of treatment, and may help reduce the potential spread of the disease to other animals or farms. It is important for farmers to consider purchasing insurance to protect themselves against the financial impact of bovine brucellosis.
On the other hand, George E. Smith, director, Water Resources Research Center, University of Missouri, commented on tests made at that facility. These tests, he said, have shown that if the nitrates and phosphates entering water supplies can be larger when crops are produced from the nitrogen-providing only 20 per cent of the requirements and the nutrients released from decomposition of soil humus and weathering from the salt of soils.

Plant nutrients in fertilizer can be credited for more than a third of the food production in this country. Can the farmer who used a heavy metal or boron contained in the sewage. Agriculture once flourished, so historians tell us, feed the populations of New York, California and Texas, if they had to depend on manure and other organic fertilizers, and discontinue the use of chemicals for insect control, agricultural experts have warned. It's an undisputed fact that our agriculture is the basic strength of America. About 5 per cent of our people are farmers, and they feed 200 million people in this country and millions more across the world. The production of one acre out of five goes abroad to feed less fortunate nations. Thanks to increased production, the United States today is the richest country in the world for the quantity and quality of its food. Agriculture has some faults, as does everyone else; and most will be willing to admit that the use of insecticides was overdue when these insect killers first came on the market in the 1940's and 1950's. Mistakes were made, but so were great strides. The answer lies in controlled use of chemical additives and in careful research—not in complete banning of the materials needed to produce food. Agriculture should not expect to be immune from criticism. But agriculture has a positive story to tell. Long before the current wave of concern, farmers were leaders in promoting the cause of conservation. Starting in the early 30's, local soil and water conservation districts were organized. Locally-elected directors, mostly farmers, served without pay, in the interests of better soil and water management. Guess who? People, factories, and vehicles are using up our oxygen and creating an ever-increasing amount of carbon dioxide. Modern agriculture helps to clean up this air, by converting carbon dioxide back to oxygen.

The air over farmland contains tons of nitrogen, oxygen, and carbon dioxide. When a green plant grows in sunlight, with adequate nutrients and water, it converts carbon dioxide to food and fiber and releases oxygen to the atmosphere. An average adult requires about two pounds of oxygen per day. An acre yielding 100 bushels of corn produces enough oxygen in a year for 12 people. If fertility is increased so that an acre yields 150 bushels, enough oxygen is released for 18 people. Modern agriculture minimizes the number of acres which need to be cultivated. It has been estimated that without fertilizers and chemicals 50 per cent more acres of cropland would be needed. This will mean expending millions of additional acres to wind and water erosion. Much of this area would be lower quality and have steeper slopes than present farmlands. The problems of sedimentation of streams and lakes would be greatly aggravated. There is also the question of improving the quality of their priceless resource—the land. For more than 200 years the "old" agriculture was depleting our soils. It is only within recent history that agriculture has reached the stage where it is putting more into the earth than it is taking out. Modern agriculture is a soil builder rather than a soil miner. Yes, farmers are concerned about ecology. Modern agriculture is much more friend than foe to our environment and to the people in it. It appears doubtful that the idea that agriculture cannot be an operation, can lay claim to doing as much to improve the environment.

There are many other pollution issues facing agriculture than has been discussed in this article. They cannot be ignored or expected to go away. However, by using facts and logic instead of emotions in solving them, agriculture can survive. Zoology and effective land use planning may be a tool which, if properly used, can benefit not only agriculture, but our entire society. That we'll discuss in February.
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SPECIAL LETTER

The following letter was received from the Indiana State Police concerning Mr. Bud Ekeha, a Farm Bureau Services truck driver.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to your company for the aid rendered at the scene of an accident by one of your employees.

This morning at approximately 7:00 a.m. we were sent to the scene of an accident in which a tanker trailer had jumped a guard rail and rolled down an embankment.

Mr. Bud Ekeha, who works out of your Jessica, Michigan, Office, agreed to aide the wrecker crew in pulling the truck up to the roadway. Mr. Hekeha was unjured in the accident and all of the items on your trailer were salvaged.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated by our Department.

Albert D. Hartman
Farm Bureau Services Manager

Yours truly,

FARM BUREAU STRENGTH

— thru GROUP ACTION

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

January 1, 1972

ELEVEN

Report On November Topic

A total of 533 community groups, with 3,757 members participating, reported on the November topic "Auto Safety." These are the answers they gave to the questions.

1. Should multiple use be made of highway rights-of-way for pipelines and other utilities? Yes: 340 No: 337

2. Should Michigan have compulsory motor vehicle insurance? Yes: 232 No: 414

3. Should a highway department be transferred from the state to the counties? Yes: 275 No: 327

4. Should state menus be tougher? Yes: 72 No: 357

5. Should signs be eliminated at the scene of an accident? No: 427 Yes: 414

6. What are some suggestions for improving highway safety in your local community? More stop and/or yield signs; elimination of blind corners; better rural roads; better enforcement of laws; more restrictions on drunk drivers; plain common courtesy; less horsepower in cars.

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New environmental responsibilities and liabilities face today’s farmer... farm odors, dust, noise, hired hands, migrant workers, trespassers. Now we can help you handle these responsibilities. We’re adding a unique “Personal Injury Liability” endorsement to our Farmowners insurance policies.

This exclusive new coverage will provide defense costs and pay any judgment for damages resulting from:

- Contamination or pollution
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- Wrongful invasion of private property
- Libel and slander
- False arrest, imprisonment, and wrongful eviction or detention.

(A full explanation of coverages and restrictions is being mailed to each of our policyholders at their next renewal.)

You can’t buy this protection package anywhere else. In fact, many insurance companies are intentionally restricting these types of coverage. As Michigan’s largest farm insurer, we think you deserve better. Your insurance needs are changing. So are we.

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