MFB Administrative Director Robert Braden (seated left), President Elton Smith (seated right), Legislative Counsels Al Almy and Bob Smith and Vice President Dean Pridgeon (standing I to r) met with Governor Milliken in an extended conference to present him with official Farm Bureau Policy books on state affairs for 1972 and also to discuss specific areas of concern.

Total tax reform and educational finance reform were key subjects, as were issues dealing with promoting marketing and bargaining legislation to provide farmers with the tools they must have to do a more effective job of marketing their products. Environmental problems were also discussed, along with specific legislation on this issue. Other areas of general discussion included various agricultural issues, farm labor issues, land use programs, etc. (See inside pages for news of meetings with other legislative leaders.)

Governor Milliken addressed the combined Legislature on Thursday, January 13 and outlined a ten-point program for legislative goals coming in the 1972 session. He said that Michigan is in a "state of paradox," that a high percentage (93%) of the labor force is employed, but also a high percentage of people are without jobs; in spite of good economic recovery, welfare rolls continue to grow; housing is booming, with 75,000 new units, but 265,000 families living in substandard housing; more money is being spent to control crime, but crime increases; the environment is being cleaned up, but air, water and land are still misused.

He said his budget message would recommend a $2.68 billion budget—11% larger than the current budget. However, it should not be necessary to increase taxes due to the increasing economic growth and the fact that income in Michigan continues to rise.

He called for more effort to attract new industry and help industry and agriculture increase sales to foreign markets. (Michigan agricultural export sales are at an all-time high—$113 million, which is more than 10% of the total value of agricultural production.)

He mentioned that property tax relief must be accomplished, that the petition drive to cut property taxes by eliminating school operating taxes is progressing well. The petition drive will put the issue on the ballot for a decision by the people in November, 1972.

He asked for support of a transportation package, saying that the two-cent increase in gas tax would increase jobs by 8,000, build 650 new miles of freeway, increase county road maintenance monies by nearly 20%, increase improvement of city streets by 14% and provide over $20 million for mass transit in 16 metropolitan areas, including funds to solve problems of urban congestion. (Diversion of highway funds for mass transit is very controversial.)

He pointed to the problems of environment, and especially the growing problem of misuse of land. He said that an "overall land use policy" must be developed.

He mentioned the fact that 476,000 young people have now reached the age of majority through the recent legislation and requested that a presidential primary system for Michigan be enacted in order to give all voters an opportunity to directly assist in nominating presidential candidates.

He suggested that the legislative process be improved and speeded up. He said that numerous special messages will follow the State of the State Address, giving specific recommendations for the numerous areas of concern requiring legislation.

He mentioned the divided authority in the Legislature between the political parties and said that "divided government carries with it a mandate from the people to Legislators to act with wisdom, to work together, to seek ways to reach honorable compromises. If both parties take this approach, then the public interest will be served ..."
The question often arises, "Why belong to Farm Bureau?"

This is a question that all non-members want answered and even some members like to be reassured. Many times the question is stated in a color comment, as a dollars and cents answer is desired. Other times, the question is asked in a manner seeking understanding and information. Both forms of the question are easily answered if one takes time to get the facts and then accepts them.

Farm Bureau has been and still is the farmer's "watch dog" in our state and national legislative halls. We have worked diligently to protect farmers on many issues, some which carry economic value.

It is virtually impossible to set down and figure up what Farm Bureau has helped farmers over the past fifty three years. However, some items can be measured in dollars and cents savings. The Farm Bureau organization works to secure and is constantly on guard to maintain such items as - sales tax exemptions on agricultural machinery and production supplies, elimination of farm personal property tax, and farm machinery for gas instead of fuel used in agricultural production. farm truck license savings due to special farm rate, exemption from costly regulations on anhydrous nitrogen tanks, and similar additional savings on fertilizer spreaders. These are but a few of the items that can be measured in cold cash savings of from $23 to as high as $800 per item to the farmer, depending on the type of farm operation.

Farm Bureau has consistently supported total tax reform for some years. Many have been frustrated, but only through a basic change in the Michigan Constitution can we get tax reform that will meet the needs of all the people of this state. The property tax rate must continue to climb and there is no stopping it unless we have tax reform.

According to USDA data, farm real estate taxes are the second highest per person of any state and are over 20 percent higher than other types of real estate taxes and burdens as high as 50 percent are not unusual. Farm Bureau will continue working for tax reform in behalf of farmers.

Farm Bureau is continuously working on programs to assist in solving environmental problems. Public concern for the environment is developing into a reactive force and could pose a threat to agriculture. The future of agriculture is dependent on air, water, and land as material tools of production. Continued research is necessary to find adequate answers to agricultural waste disposal problems and all other aspects of environmental problems.

We feel the need for marketing and bargaining legislation is of top priority because of a decline in the bargaining power of farmers due to the rapidly occurring changes in the system of food processing, distribution and marketing.

Our nation has become one of organizations. Great economic strength has been attained by major industries and labor unions through large scale organization. Farmers must be allowed the same opportunity in order to obtain incomes compatible with other occupational groups in our nation. There are those who think we do not need legislation in order to bargain, but experience has proven that if farmers are to produce under contract, protective legislation is a must.

Unfortunately, not all the benefits provided by Farm Bureau are limited to members only, but members must strive to improve agriculture as a whole.

Carl P. Keuster
Petitions For Constitutional Change
Will Reform
Property Tax and School Finance

It was intended that every Farm Bureau member would receive a property tax reform petition with this issue of the Michigan Farm News. However, through a check of the postal regulations it was found that this was not legally possible.

The petitions on Governor Milliken's constitutional proposal have been sent to every Farm Bureau member group, urging members in that group to circulate them and also available to others in the community for further circulation. Everyone in that group will have additional copies of the petition. Every county is being urged to have a special county committee to assure a maximum effort on the petition drive for tax reform, along with a coordinator in each township.

As the Michigan Farm News goes to press, the Democratic Party's petition is not yet available; however, they will also have a petition for circulation. These, too, will be made available to Farm Bureau members in a manner expected to pass in the Legislature. The only alteration is the exercise of the power of the people at the ballot box to change the basic law — the same method that the framers used when drafting the Constitution to follow up with realistic legislation.

The Democratic petition will be very similar to the Governor's petition as far as property tax reform is concerned. The Democratic Party sees the proposed tax reform for property taxes will be cut from the present 50 mills in the Constitution to somewhere between 20 and 30 mills for school operational purposes. This has already been suggested under various plans. In Martine Michigan, this could well mean much higher school taxes on property than are presently imposed.

Some information being put out by some groups is misleading. For instance, they point out that the proposed 26-mill limit in both the Democratic and Miliken programs does not include millages for boards or charter millage such as cities, charter townships, charter counties, community colleges, bonding, etc., nor to statutory millages imposed which are outside the Constitution. The fact is that this is no different than it is under the present Constitution. These kinds of millages are not now within the present 50-mill limitation of the Constitution but would there be any change when that is cut to 26 mills.

In both proposals, there is a difference for industrial properties that in a state property tax could be levied instead of additional corporate income taxes, value added taxes or other alternative means of revenue to state and businesses. It should be pointed out very strongly that residences and property used for agricultural purposes would be exempt from this provision.

Another area that can lead to confusion is the eight-mill limit placed on counties and the one-and-one-half mill limit placed on townships. This would mean, in the constitutional language, that counties and townships would never be able to go beyond those limits unless they were voted by the people. It does not necessarily mean that each township and each county would automatically raise local taxes up to those limits. Presently, townships are guaranteed one mill if they need it, however, many, many townships do not use it. On the other hand, many other townships use the one mill guaranteed to them plus additional millage. Some counties are presently levying up to the eight mills. Most counties, however, levy somewhere between five and six mills.

The petition proposal can be summarized, in general, as follows:

1. Counties would be limited to not more than eight mills (some now raise that much, most of them raise much less)
2. Townships would have a limit of one-and-one-half mills (most raise more than that, some less and others more)
3. Intermediate school districts, special education, vocational education and compensatory education would be permitted four-and-one-half mills (present millage for these purposes varies anywhere throughout the state).

These figures total 14 mills. Extra mills could be voted not to exceed six mills for school "enrichment" purposes, meaning that such voted millage could not be used for just ordinary operating expenses. Another total of six mills could be voted by the people for additional township or county use. All of these (14.6-6.0-6) add up to a total constitutional limit of 26 mills. Presently, the constitutional limit is 50 mills.

A quick way to determine the property tax cost is to look at your property tax statement you have recently received and the amount on the statement for school operating expenses. For most farmers, this would be in the hundreds of dollars, or perhaps thousands.

The 2.3% additional income tax necessary to replace that money for most people, farmers especially, would be very small in comparison to the property tax now being paid.

To repeat, it should be kept in mind that millage for interest on bonds and other indebtedness are not now within the constitutional limits nor would they be under the constitutional proposals.

Governor Milliken and Lt. Governor Brickley are having a series of meetings throughout the state, along with experts, to explain the tax program in full and also a system that could be used for financing schools. Watch your paper and appear at any such meeting that is within driving distance.

It is essential that the tax reform issue be put on the ballot. It may be the last opportunity for any meaningful reform.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
February 1, 1972

SPECIAL BULLETIN

Farm Bureau state marketing and legislative leaders meeting this year at Grand Rapids have a good chance of being introduced and reacting action. A special meeting was held with Senator Zollar, who is most concerned over possible legislation concerning fruits and vegetables. Senator Ballenger also participated in the meeting. Legislative leaders in the agricultural committee. He, too, recognizes the problem. Both Senators also recognize that if legislation is needed, such as the Sick Bill; however, Farm Bureau would support other policies at the state level can be most helpful.

Legislature discussed included a bill to require processors to bar

gain in good faith with any accounted association representing 51% of the growers and growing 51% or more of the crop. Other marketing legislation would include the requirement that processors deduct necessary marketing fees and another bill to require price announcement at least by the time the product is ready to be marketed. Legislation to help assure prompt payment to growers is halfway through the legislature. Another bill to require the filling of contracts with the Department of Agriculture is still alive and carried over from the last session. This is also true of other specific marketing bills, such as those concerned with poultry, wine, etc.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Robert E. Smith

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE RYAN (center) looks at a copy of 1972 Michigan Farm Bureau Policy Book delivered and discussed by (left to right) Administrative Director Robert Braden, Legislative Counsel Robert Smith, Vice President Pridgeon, and President Smith.

STATE MAJORITY LEADER VANDERLAAN (center) was one of the legislative leaders personally presented copies of the 1972 Michigan Farm Bureau Policy Book. Meeting with the Senate were (left to right) Al Almy and Robert Smith, legislative counsel, Administrative Director Robert Braden and President Elton R. Smith.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR BRADEN, Legislative Counsel Smith, Vice President Pridgeon, and President Smith presented copies of the MFB 1972 Policy Book to House Minority Leader Smart.
Another Farm Bureau Insurance First

While Michigan Legislators wrestle with various no-fault auto insurance proposals, Farm Bureau Insurance Group members are forced to act quickly to protect themselves against the possible effects of a no-fault system. This spring, Farm Bureau Insurance Group again strived to improve the conditions for its members by planning to attend the annual meeting of FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY of Michigan on Wednesday, February 23, 1972, beginning at 1:30 p.m., at its Home Office, 7373 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan.

The annual meeting of the policyholders of Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 7373 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 21, 1972, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:

1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: W. S. WILKINSON
Kenneth Bull
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office in Lansing.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
COMMUNITY SERVICE INSURANCE COMPANY

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Community Service Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 7373 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, on Monday, February 21, 1972, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:

1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: W. S. WILKINSON
Kenneth Bull
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office in Lansing.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

FARMS BUREAU LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 7373 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 23, 1972, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:

1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: W. S. WILKINSON
Kenneth Bull
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office in Lansing.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

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1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: W. S. WILKINSON
Kenneth Bull
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office in Lansing.
**Holiday Camp For Women**

Farm Bureau Women of Districts One and Two have announced their plans for a Holiday Camp to be held April 5 and 6 at Wesley Woods, Dowling, Michigan. All Farm Bureau Women are invited to attend this two-day meeting both for information and for education and for sociability.

The cost of $8.00 per person includes one overnight lodging, four meals, instructions, entertainment, and registration. Those staying overnight should bring their own bedding (sheets, blankets, pillows), towels, soap, etc.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. on the 5th and the camp will adjourn at approximately 2 p.m. on the 6th.

Speakers will include Helen Fulton, St. Joseph, telling of "Leader Dogs and the Blind" and Gary Parlin, Sturgis, speaking on "Overview of Economics and Government."

Reservations should be sent in advance (it is not necessary to send money with the request) to Women's Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904, not later than March 20.

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**Karker-Farm Bureau Scholarship**

Applications are now being accepted for the Marge Karker-Farm Bureau Scholarship to be given for the 1972-73 year.

This scholarship fund was made possible by contributions from Farm Bureau women in Michigan and invested at Michigan State University. The interest from this investment is used each year as a scholarship given to a student or students meeting specified requirements.

The scholarship is available to a student at MSU after three years of study in the Agricultural Technical Course. Other student requirements will include:

- Must be from the county in which the student's family resides;
- Must be prepared to show financial need, should have a scholastic average of 2.6, as measured by MSU Scholarship Office of at least 2.6;
- The students must also be enrolled at MSU in any of the following areas of education: Field Crops, Livestock, related fields of food science, feed marketing, leadership training in agriculture, journalism as related to agriculture, food packaging, horticulture, agricultural technical course, veterinary medicine, field of human medicine (including premedical, nursing, medical technology), or field of teaching (vocational agriculture and human ecology).

The scholarship will be a gift, not a loan.

Completed applications must be received by March 20, 1972. The Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Scholarship Committee will review all applications the latter part of March and personify to the Senate and approved members of the House and Senate Agricultural Committees. Public hearings will be held in May, 1972 to consider the provision for the scholarship in the fall term at MSU.

Applications should be obtained from county Farm Bureau secretaries, county Farm Bureau Women's committee chairman, or by writing to the Women's Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

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**Young People's Citizenship Seminar**

The Michigan Farm Bureau's 1972 Young People's Citizenship Seminar was held at Ferris State College, Big Rapids, Michigan, during the week of April 19-23.

This annual ninth annual Citizenship Seminar is specifically designed for high school students who will be juniors or seniors during the 1972-73 school year. The program is composed of sessions presented by outstanding educators and will include such subject matter as Americanism, economic systems, participation in political parties, and people and governments around the world. The experience of the county Farm Bureau has been encouraged to sponsor three students, and a fourth on a first come, first served basis. Selection of students will be made at the county level by individuals assigned this responsibility by County Farm Bureau Boards.

Persons desiring more information on this forthcoming Young People's Citizenship Seminar should contact their county Farm Bureau secretary.

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**Search for Mother of the Year**

The annual search for the outstanding Michigan Mother, who will be honored at a state function sponsored by the Mother's Conference in New York during the week preceding Mother's Day, is being sponsored by Farm Bureau Women can assist in this search by notifying nominations.

Application blanks for the mother of the Year nominees are:

- Must be fully qualified to represent the mothers of America in all the responsibilities attached to her role as "Mother of the Year;"
- Must be a successful mother and home maker as evidenced by the character and achievements of her individual children, and indicating those traits highly regarded in mothers — courage, cheerfulness, patience, affection, understanding, and homemaking ability;
- Must be an active member of a religious body; must have a sense of responsibility and the ability to work actively in public service to society; must be a legal mother (not a di
tersary) and of at least 15 years of age, and any adopted children may be included with her own in qualifications.

Nominations blanks and more detailed information may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Wesley L. Miller, 30150 Cheviot Hills Court, Franklin, Michigan 48025.

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**Reserve for Holiday Camp**

Reserve for Holiday Camp at Wesley Woods, Dowling, Michigan

April 5-6, 1972

Name: _______________________

Address: ___________________

The following ladies will accompany me:

Approximate time of arrival: __________________

Approximate time of departure: __________________

Reservations due in MFB Office, Lansing, not later than March 20.

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**WASHINGTON HERITAGE TOUR**

The deadline for reservations for the annual Washington Legislative Seminar and American Heritage Tour, sponsored by Michigan Farm Bureau Women, is drawing near. Reservations for this event must be in the Michigan Farm Bureau Lansing office not later than February 20, 1972.

This tour offers all Farm Bureau members an opportunity to see in one tour the travel and economically enjoy the sights of the nation's capital in the spring with fellow members.

While selected "Legislative Leaders" are making congressional visits, those on the American Heritage Tour will be given the opportunity to see many of the highlights of Washington D.C. which are not included on the scheduled combined bus tour.

Travel from Lansing to Washington will be by chartered plane on March 13, returning on March 16. The cost will be $140.00 per person, payable at the time reservations are requested. A check or money order payable to Michigan Farm Bureau, in the fall amount due 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 no later than February 20 by:

Michigan Farm Bureau
ATTN: Helen Atwood, Coordinator
Women's Activities
P.O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904
A joint committee of asparagus growers and processors has been appointed which will direct the funding of research projects, with special emphasis on increasing the yields of asparagus in Michigan. The committee members are (left to right) Ronald Bailar, Harry Foster, Warren Collins, Tom Greiner, Eric Ray, Ray Fioote, C. H. Carlson, and Alton Wendzel.

Members of the Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmers Committee are (standing L to R) John Spero, District 8; Wayne Ward, District 6; David Diehl, District 5; Richard Kreger, District 3; Robert Lutz, District 6; William Spike, District 6; Steve Carlson, District 4; William Randall, District 7; George Parsons, District 7. Seated (L to R) Darryl Dosson, District 8; James Nugent, District 9; Leslie Dowd, District 1; Jay Landis, District 2; Gay Smith, District 2; Gill Van Wagoner, District 10; Mary Weidmayer, District 3. Committee members not pictured are Tom Stears, District 11; Howard DeWest, District 4; Fred Baumberger, District 9; Mike Paradis, District 10; and James Mamph, District 11.

President Smith smiles approvingly as Donna Sweeny, right, presents Administrative Director Robert Braden a copy of her thesis "Organizational Dynamics: An Analysis of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association." The thesis was submitted to MSU by Mrs. Sweeny in partial fulfillment of the requirements for her degree of Master of Science, College of Social Science.

"Standing room only" was the order of the day as nearly 200 persons attended the 26th Annual Meeting of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives recently held at Farm Bureau Center.
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING LOW-FAT DAIRY DESSERTS

The trend in the dairy industry is away from whole milk and towards the use of low-fat milk. This change is driven by consumer preference for milk with reduced fat content. Dairy farmers and processors are adapting to this trend by increasing the production and use of low-fat milk.

PRODUCTION AND USE OF LOW-FAT MILK

The production of low-fat milk has increased significantly over the years. In 1950, the average milkfat content of milk marketed in the U.S. was 4.0% (1). However, by 1960, the milkfat content had decreased to 3.8% (1). Further decreases were observed in subsequent years, reaching 3.5% in 1970 (1). The trend towards lower fat milk continues as consumers demand products that are lower in fat content.

MARKETING AND USE OF LOW-FAT MILK

Low-fat milk is used in a variety of dairy products. The most common use is in fluid milk, where it is sold as low-fat or non-fat milk. Other uses include milk for manufacturing processes, such as the production of margarine, cheese, and ice cream. In recent years, there has been an increase in the use of low-fat milk in the production of non-dairy products, such as margarine and spreads.

LEGAL AND REGULATORY ISSUES

The use of low-fat milk has been regulated by government agencies. The FDA has oversight over the labeling of dairy products, and the use of the term "low-fat" is subject to specific criteria. The use of low-fat milk in the production of non-dairy products is also subject to regulation, as it must be labeled appropriately.

CONSUMER PREFERENCES

Consumer preferences for low-fat milk have been a driving force behind the increase in its production and use. As consumers become more health-conscious and seek out products that are lower in fat content, dairy farmers and processors have responded by increasing the production and use of low-fat milk.

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

The increased use of low-fat milk presents opportunities for dairy farmers and processors. As consumers seek out low-fat products, there is a growing demand for low-fat dairy desserts. This demand can be met by expanding the production and use of low-fat milk.

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

To capitalize on this demand, dairy farmers and processors must market low-fat milk effectively. This may involve developing new products, such as low-fat ice cream and milk desserts, and promoting these products through advertising and other marketing strategies.

REFERENCES


F.B.S. Incentive Program

Farm Bureau Services is continuing its special volume incentive for Farm Bureau members. The program is based on total purchases and sales of all products handled by the branches of Farm Bureau Services.

In order to qualify for the program one must be a Farm Bureau member for the year in which the incentive is paid, have a minimum volume of $5,000 in sales and purchases with a FBS branch and have approved credit by an authorized person.

The member patron is responsible to keep his own record of sales and purchases and present them for verification. All accounts must be kept current or covered by a current approved F.P.P. loan.

The program includes all farm supply items purchased and the grain marketed by the member from January 1 to December 31.

The incentive must be applied for before February 15 at the FBS branch where the business was transacted and will be paid in non-transferable certificates which are redeemable against the purchase of any products handled by that branch.

No incentive will be allowed on service revenues or on special price promotion sales.

TRUCK SAFETY REGULATIONS

The Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety has published the final revised Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations with respect to qualifications of farm truck drivers. These final revised regulations are in accordance with Farm Bureau's recommendations.

In brief, the revised regulations provide:

1. A complete exemption from federal regulations of truck driver qualifications in the case of a farmer driving a farm truck; (a) if the gross weight of the truck is 10,000 pounds or less, or (b) if the truck is a straight truck with a gross weight over 10,000 pounds, within a radius of 150 miles of the farm. In such cases the driver must be at least 18 years of age and after January 1, 1973 must carry with him while driving a truck a certificate showing he has passed a medical examination.

In addition, the description of the revised regulations says that, "Generally, the operation of trucks wholly within a state are not subject to the Driver Qualification Regulations."

Farmers or employees of farmers who are not exempt as provided above, are subject to the same regulations as nonfarm drivers. These requirements are that the driver must be at least 21 years old; take a road test in driving a truck; take a written examination in the motor vehicle safety regulations; pass a medical examination and carry a certificate so indicating; if an employee, file with his employer information relative to the above examination and medical information relative to his background and experience. The employer is required to maintain such records.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is preparing a leaflet summarizing the revised regulations. This will include a sample medical certificate. These leaflets will be distributed by the Agricultural Extension Service.

Inquiries relative to the application of the regulations in specific cases should be referred to the Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety, Federal Building, Room 211, Lansing 48901.

NEW ASPARAGUS COMMITTEE

The MACMA Asparagus Division members recently elected The Marketing Committee for the next year. The Marketing Committee consists of:

Southwest Michigan Area: Ronald Burks, Watervliet; Roy Basner, Benton Harbor; Stanley Dowd, Hartford; Ernest Frese, Decatur; Jerry Nitz, Baroda; Alton Wendzel, Watervliet; and Paul Wicks, Dowagiac.

West Central Michigan Area: Wayne Price, Shelby; Tom Greiner, Hart; Mathew Kowalski, Hart; and Gary Loesch, New Era.

Northeast Michigan Area: John Brock, East Jordan.

Following the Committee election, Alton Wendzel was re-elected chairman of the Marketing Committee. Tom Greiner was re-elected vice chairman, Harry A. Foster, MACMA, was re-elected secretary.

The Asparagus Marketing Committee will be participating in the AAFB and MACMA asparagus marketing meetings which will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan during the early part of February.

The Asparagus Marketing Committee will analyze asparagus crop and market information prior to announcing its marketing and price objectives for the coming harvest year.

MACMA SEeks NEW MEMBERS

MACMA fruit and vegetable growers represent over half of the processing fruit and vegetable crops produced by Michigan growers. While this has been a very effective representation, many member marketing committees are determined to expand MACMA membership and increase the volume of the commodities represented by each division marketing committee. The expanded membership provides for a more informed community of growers through newsletters and marketing meetings. Informed growers working together through MACMA is market power.

Marketing and bargaining legislation can also be used as a marketing aid for the improvement of contracts, prices and profits. Meaningful self-help marketing legislation will be introduced and hopefully adopted this year.
VIP LIST

Two persons who are very much a part of the "Make It Happen" team in each county are the county Farm Bureau president and the county Farm Bureau secretary. In order to acquaint Farm Bureau members with these officers we are printing their names in this issue of the Michigan Farm News. Please clip and save for future reference.

VACATION PROGRAM

Activities of county Farm Bureau committees in the areas of Membership, Young Farmers, and the County Farm Bureau are featured in this section. Each committee will again be the basis for determining the 1972 Gold Star Counties. Individuals who have been instrumental in obtaining an award for a county Farm Bureau must attain its 1972 membership goal. Factors affecting in determining award-winning counties will include the activity and participation of members, interest in the county committee in the aforementioned program areas, involvement of members, and the achievement of goals.

Last year 13 county Farm Bureaus, led by Chippewa County in the thumb area and Eaton County in the东部 area, received star awards for their outstanding contribution to Michigan agricultural supply cooperatives.

A meeting on the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) will be held at 1:30, February 15 at the Sanilac County Farm Bureau Office. This meeting sponsored by the county Young Farmer Committee, has been called for the purpose of acquainting all farmers in the thumb area with the legal and practical application of OSHA.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a new policy which will require that contractors and Stockyards Administration on a voluntary basis meet the same standards as bonds required of livestock market agencies and dealers under regulatory authority.

The new policy became effective January 8, 1972.

The policy will not affect such firms as livestock dealers and market agencies which are required to provide bonds as a measure of financial protection for both the dealer and the seller. The policy will affect persons who are not required by the Act and regulations to post bonds. In recent years many persons have voluntarily filed various types of bonds to show good faith and assurance of payment for livestock purchases.

Previously, the Packers and Stockyards Administration accepted voluntary bonds for informational purposes only. Under the new policy, P&S will accept voluntary bonds only when they meet all conditions imposed on bonds required under the regulations. The agency will continue to provide assistance in bringing claims against voluntary bonds to prompt conclusion.

The P&S policy is part of an overall program to provide better financial protection for livestock sellers, to prevent misunderstanding, and to protect the integrity of bonds required under F&S regulations.

The Tuscola County Farm Bureau Young Farmers are sponsoring a special meeting for all farmers of the thumb area. The meeting will be in Caro on February 18 at 1:00 p.m. in the Caro High School cafeteria. The meeting is to discuss the legal and practical applications of the Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act.

MACF ANNUAL

One hundred seventy representatives of fifty-seven member co-ops attended the Twenty-Third Annual Meeting of Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives recently held in Lansing.

Also in attendance were county extension directors who had been invited to attend a special session on cooperative marketing.

All council members were re-elected and included in the MacF Council were Edward J. Holm, representing Federal Land Bank Associations, was re-elected chairman and Elton Smith, vice-chairman. Activities representing Farm Bureau Services, Inc., was re-elected vice-chairman.

Awards were presented by the Association to Jim Hughes, Stationary WCEN, Mt. Pleasant, (Publicity Award) for his publicity efforts on the 1971 Ohio cherry crop in October. Fifty-Fifth Anniversary Certificates were presented to the Elton and songwriter, and the Stephenson Marketing Association for their years of service to agriculture.

Don E. Reed, Paradise, received the Appreciation Award for five years of legislative contribution to Michigan Cooperatives. Receiving the Cooperatives Award with a gold rating for their outstanding activities in bettoring the understanding of cooperatives among its members was the Rockford FFA Chapter.
Michigan Farm Bureau's policy on land use as developed by its delegates at the last annual meeting states in part:

"We support the formation of a centralized state agency with responsibility for coordinating the development of land use guidelines to include such areas as agricultural land, urban development, recreational land, undeveloped lands, and development corridors. Any statewide land use program should identify and preserve prime agricultural land. Prime agricultural land should not be used solely on a piecemeal basis for non-agricultural purposes. The State should provide necessary guidelines and financial assistance to local governments to assist with the development of such land use programs. The guidelines should be used to coordinate land use programs of local units of government. State land use programs should be established only if local governments cannot establish such programs.

Zoning and Land Use

1. It is recommended that a land use agency be created to provide a comprehensive review of all state land use programs.

This agency should consist of lay citizens appointed by the Governor. In order to assure review of all Departmental decisions and all land use plans, adequate staff should be provided and supported by a legislative appropriation.

The land use agency should have the authority to recommend to the appropriate state agencies the adoption of zoning acts, as provided for in a subsequent recommendation. While it is not recommended that this agency have approval over the programs of the state, it should have the rights of review and comment.

2. It is recommended that the state develop and adopt map open space districts.

Zoning is an essential element of a total land management program. The loss of open space land, including prime agricultural land, forest land and recreational land must be reviewed from a broader perspective than the economic viewpoint of present value.

The State Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources should be directed to recommend to the Governor and to the designation of facility sites.

Its recommendations to the Governor and to the appropriate department. This agency should further be responsible for the development of guidelines for major state investments which influence evolving land use patterns.

"One method of achieving developmental goals is to channel growth in an orderly pattern of expansion. This can take the form of two towns, satellite communities which complement the growth of the state or the preparation of a general comprehensive plan. Development along major transport facilities is evidence that state investment in urban and agricultural development gives early warning signals of the future. However, the secondary developmental patterns, consisting of low-density development surrounding this initial growth, indicate that the review of investment decisions is becoming more important in control of the desired goals. A continuing program of review should be required, to assure that development falls within acceptable parameters provided by comprehensive land use plans.

5. It is recommended that enforcement of state and local laws be strengthened.

The successful implementation of a land management program requires state and local governmental enforcement. Without enforcement, the value of the program is reduced and its results will be minimal. The purposes of local land management programs are the basis for this month's discussion and are:

1. It is recommended that a land use agency be created to provide a comprehensive review of all state land use programs.

2. It is recommended that the state develop and adopt map open space districts.

3. It is recommended that legislation be enacted which places the responsibility on all counties to prepare and adopt a comprehensive land use plan.

The legislation should further require that these plans be approved by the state upon the determination that the plan properly protects state designations and uses and adheres to state land use policies. The present planning and zoning enabling acts are deficient in two major areas. First, there is no restriction on the use of such plans and second, the hierarchy of responsibility is not clearly defined.

4. It is recommended that the land use agency be required to prepare and adopt all county plans prior to adoption by the county to monitor any changes in these plans.

5. It is recommended that the state land use agency be required to review all state plans that impact upon state land use policy and to transmit its recommendations to the Governor and to the appropriate department. This agency should further be responsible for the development of guidelines

by Ken Wiles

Director of Communications

9. It is recommended that the state develop an inventory of significant mineral deposits and include consideration of these areas in the state land use policy.

Land is a finite entity, which is managed to ensure that all local comprehensive land use plans also be given to the mineral deposits which reside on and under the land — deposits which are of significant economic value and are irreplaceable.

Uninhabitable land areas should be included in those areas designated as having mineral deposits. A positive program of mineral site predetermination and reservation should be included in revised land use management agreements. Policies should also be adopted to require that all lands so designated, if they are exploited, be restored to a condition suitable for future designation.

10. It is recommended that a state-designed solid waste management plan be developed, and the proposed open space districting authority be used to provide for the sites recommended in this plan.

The Michigan Farm Bureau has recognized as a critical problem by local government, as well as numerous state agencies and county health departments. The development of solid waste disposal systems requires planning and a designation of facility sites, both of which are difficult for local governments to provide, due to financial and jurisdictional limitations. Therefore, the state should assume primary responsibility for planning these facilities.

"A state solid waste management plan is already in the formulation process. Utilizing the authority to designate open space districts, the state land use agency should reserve areas for implementing this plan.

11. It is recommended that the Michigan State Housing Development Authority be expanded by state legislation to develop commercial, industrial and office facilities, and the sponsoring infrastructure for these facilities where they are elements of a housing program or are necessary to support it.

Population growth and rapid urbanization often lead to individual economic and social problems, as well as land development pressures. The programs and policies necessary to accommodate this type of community development patterns are needed if we are to deal effectively with related processes of inner city decay and urban sprawl.

The Federal Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 includes provision for two very positive efforts on a federal level: creation of a national plan for ensuring the effective formation of the Community Development Corporation. It further specifies that the role of the states shall be enlarged, and it provides mechanisms for the states to participate in federal programs for both urban and rural community development patterns. Such a corporation is designed to facilitate large-scale community development projects, and to enhance the growth of the commercial and industrial facilities, which are responsive to local and regional needs and interests and which rely heavily on the participation of private interests. Through its involvement in these community development efforts, the Housing Authority can encourage development patterns consistent with state land use policies.

12. It is recommended that the state initiate an immediate review program of all major state land use programs and suggest revisions and modifications of these programs to meet the requirements of the six methods of community development regulations. It is further recommended that the state adopt a land sales act to regulate the sale of land within real estate developments.

Michigan's northwestern area is largely unregulated, which is a clear exception to the principles of land use planning. A major increase in development is occurring in the northern areas of the state, and is not occurring at the same rate in undeveloped areas in southern Michigan.

Already, many thousands of acres of northern open space have been divided into parcels exceeding 10 acres. The lack of a state program to guide subdivision development is an indication of the lack of sufficient regulation of these developments, a myriad of problems can arise, ranging from a severe reduction in the quality of forest and open space lands to pollution created by inadequate provisions for sewage disposal.

"Developments which involve individual parcels larger than 10 acres do not fall under the jurisdiction of our current Subdivision Control Act. As a result, if the land contract device is utilized for land sales, local governments have no effective way to control these types of activities. The developer may or may not take cognizance of the environmental effects of development, and no level of government is involved in the determination of the fate of these lands.

In the absence of regulations under existing laws, the state should review major land sale policies to include adequate planning and to protect the natural resource potential of the land. It is proposed that each governmental unit establish a system of legal regulations with the developer to fully disclose the development plans and provide some guarantee of construction of the promised facilities. Additional information could then be used not only to protect the land, but as a basis for environmental and developmental impact analyses by the state and local governmental units. Such an act would provide for a better regulation of the sale of subdivided and undeveloped land where such sales are inconsistent with state land use policies or the county comprehensive land use plan.
Michigan's New Snowmobile Law

Michigan has experienced a very rapid increase in the number of snowmobiles registered and operated. Many Farm Bureau members fear that snowmobiles at an exciting form of winter recreation will not perform useful jobs on the farm.

As one of its last major actions of the 1971 session, the Legislature passed a comprehensive new snowmobile act which was signed into law by the Governor on December 2 and given immediate effect. The new law's eleven articles, tightly packed small print, include the following provisions:

1. The three-year snowmobile registration fee has been raised from 85 to $9. Persons who operate a snowmobile entirely on their own property, or property under their control, are exempt from registering.

2. Revenues from the registration fees will be deposited into the General Fund. Of this amount, 50% will be returned as state aid to counties desiring to conduct snowmobile safety education and training programs. State aid for these county programs will be in the county's proportion of the cost of the program.

3. Snowmobiles sold in Michigan after December 1, 1972 must bear a prominent and indelible number on a number plate similar to the registration number on an automobile.

4. Dealers renting, leasing or furnishing snowmobiles must carry liability insurance of $20,000 for bodily injury or death of one or more persons and $10,000 to cover property damage. The previous minimum insurance requirement was 10-20-5.

5. In Zone 1, the Upper Peninsula, and Zone 2, the area north of U.S. 10 and west of Lake Superior between the Lake and Lake Bay, snowmobiles may be operated on the extreme right of the highway right-of-way as long as they are moving in the same direction as traffic on the road. In southern Michigan, between Zone 2 and Zone 3, snowmobiles may not operate on the highway right-of-way except to gain access to areas adjacent to the highway.

6. In Zones 1 and 2, snowmobiles may operate on the road in case of emergency or on adjacent private property. New snowmobiles may be operated on private property in Zone 3.

7. When a snowmobile is involved in an accident with a motor vehicle, the driver of the snowmobile shall be presumed negligent until otherwise proven.

8. Snowmobiles may be operated on county roads which are maintained by the county by state law. Current automobile traffic or any other county road designated for snowmobiles by a county road commission.

9. Law enforcement officers of cities, villages, townships, counties or the state may acquire, maintain and operate snowmobiles for special events of limited duration.

10. Snowmobiles may be operated on public roads and streets when an emergency occurs and automobiles cannot be used for travel due to extreme snow conditions.

11. Children under the age of 12 cannot operate a snowmobile under direct supervision of an adult.

12. Beginning January 1, 1973, a person who is 12 or older may operate a snowmobile without direct supervision of an adult.

13. The three-year snowmobile registration fee must be brought to a complete stop before entering the roadway.

14. When a snowmobile is involved in an accident with a motor vehicle, the driver of the snowmobile shall be presumed negligent until otherwise proven.

15. A snowmobile shall not be used on public hunting lands or to conduct snowmobile safety education and training programs. Of this amount, 50% will be returned as state aid to counties desiring to conduct snowmobile safety education and training programs. State aid for these county programs will be in the county's proportion of the cost of the program.

16. Snowmobiles may be operated on public roads and streets when an emergency occurs and automobiles cannot be used for travel due to extreme snow conditions.

17. Children under the age of 12 cannot operate a snowmobile under direct supervision of an adult.

18. Beginning January 1, 1973, a person who is 12 or older may operate a snowmobile without direct supervision of an adult.

19. The new snowmobile law requires the driver of a snowmobile to be 16 years old.
If you have an accident, we want you to be reimbursed without delay. Without red tape. We want you to have the best. We already have it. And if you're a Farm Bureau Insurance auto policyholder, you can have it at your next renewal date. It's called "No-Delay" Medical Payments and Disability Income coverage.

Before, you had to sue the driver who caused the accident. Now that's our problem. Your fault or not, we pay you up to $3,000 for hospital/medical expenses; and up to $4,380 in disability benefits for non-wage earners and $6,000 for wage earners.

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