If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom; and the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money it values more, it will lose that too.

...W. Somerset Maugham
The first place winner of the Essay Contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

"AMERICA AND ME" by Tom Kellner
Grand Blucne, Michigan

Whenever I hear the great word "free," I think of America and me. But then I sometimes start to cry. And then I ask myself, Why? Why should others feel the strain of war and crime, and the things they bring? Why do some lock the door? Of peace and plenty, how much more? Why do none get the equal pay? While others are locked in the great black tower? Maybe I can fix this place some day. So others in the future may say "Good morning! Hello! How are you? Hi!" What's happening? Good Evening! So Long! Good bye!

They will say it with feeling, not with haste. Without desire, there is no need. I can fix this land with the things I do. I can fix it for me, I can fix it for you. I can be a farmer and make my bricks rise out of happiness and love, not out of sticks.

Sticks fall apart all along the way. I want my bricks of good to stay. I can be a florist in the sod. Where no evil is allowed to trod. My blossom will be great for all to see, Maybe a flower is what I'll be. I can be a carpenter and out of wood I'll make the house safe and good. The wood will materialize out of sand Which will come from all over the land. Any maybe this house that I will build Will be in memory of those who were killed in the middle of a dream just like mine. Oh yes! That house will be fine. I can be an artist and out of wood it will paint a window into life. 50 years. I'll create a masterpiece and when I'm done I may be a fork or a spoon or a knife It may not be an exciting life But I will need everyone's dinner, The poor, the rich, the good, the sinner. I can be a mailman and I can send happiness and joy and love ten times. Neither snow nor rain nor gloom of night Will keep me from sending my sunshine bright. But maybe if I just be me I can accomplish tasks from A to Z. I'll help my nation to be free. And show it in every place. But there is one that can do more than I, to prove His point He had to die. I think if we get together and try America will shape up one day. And with His help I think that we can come together to plant the tree, the tree of joy that we will make So strong that it will never break. But we need some help to plant the sod We need the helping hands of God. - Carl P. Kentner

Our Transportation Needs

Agricultural goods are unlike most others in that speed with which they are transported to market has a great effect in determining their value and acceptance by the purchaser. Our current dependence on transportation makes it imperative that all of us have more than just a cursory knowledge of the transportation issues confronting our industry.

When farmers have produced a commodity decisive to the worth which it is to assume, it may be well to realize that every transport, whether a smudge in a pig, with poll, tood, tood, and worry, that commodity, regardless of what it may be, should be able to move to market. If not, it is lost and the time, effort and money put into it has been wasted.

Proposed legislation, now pending in Congress, would provide a means for promptly and permanently settling transportation strikes. It provides for the power of the Government to extend the "cooling-off" period 15 days beyond the 30-day cooling-off period provided by the Taft-Hartley Act.

Additionally, the President would also have the authority of the strike to specify portions of the total industry or appointing a "final offer selector panel" which would choose one of the final offers, either the final offer of the union or the offer of management.

Another disturbing transportation issue which is being reared up, is gaining momentum, is the sort of attempt to open the door to more regulations on farm trucks through the disguise of freight rates.

Two major proposals have been introduced. One, and the most sensible, favors greater regulation on competition, rather than on regulations to determine freight rates. The other favors more regulations, including the provision that only common carriers would be allowed to haul livestock, poultry products, processed milk, redried tobacco and核实 peanuts.

The rules and regulations governing the operation of common carriers — those who "haul (do it themselves) for the public at large, transporting either property or passengers or both," generally are beneficial. Placing all haulers of farm products under these regulations would eliminate many farm-owned vehicles that operate between the highways. This in turn would make more farmers dependent upon common carriers and could very easily increase the cost gap between what the producers receive and what the consumer pays for the product.

History clearly shows us that when the rates for hauling agricultural commodities are not set, competition forces those competing for the business to lower their rates. Two cases in point show this. When the rates for frozen fruits and vegetables and processed poultry were deregulated, the freight rates declined 19 and 33 percent, respectively.

I find it somewhat difficult to picture common carriers being willing to load less than truckload lots on the farm for the short haul to the sale barn or processing plant. Likewise, I find it difficult to picture a sort of attempt to adapt their schedules to meet the needs of such things as loading farm products in the wee hours of the morning to get it to the market at day break.

Because of agriculture's dependence on efficient and dependable transportation, reliance on fewer federal regulations, and the attempt of freedom of competition to stimulate improvements in the service of moving our products to market should be the aim of those working in our behalf.

Elton R. Smith
Marketing and Bargaining Legislation

Farmland Tax Bill
Before House

The House Taxation Committee has now favorably reported out for action by the Legislature H.B. 6229. This bill was introduced by Rep. Warner and 40 others, has been rewritten in committee and came out of committee with no votes to spare. The final version affects the taxation of agricultural and other open land.

In order to qualify for specific taxation, a farm would have to be of 60 or more acres in size, devoted primarily to agricultural or horticultural use during three of the five preceding years. Farms between five acres and 60 acres could qualify if they produce a gross income of $100 or more per acre during three of the five preceding years.

An owner of such farmland desiring to come under the provisions of the bill could do so by application, together with a $10 fee, to the assessing officer. The application would also be filed with the Register of Deeds.

The land would then be classified and would remain under such classification for at least five years and until withdrawn from classification. It would also be qualified for a specific per acre tax in lieu of the regular property tax. The farm would continue to be taxed according to the capability of the land as defined by the USDA Handbook on Land Capability Classes. Farmland Classes I and II would be in Category A, with a per acre tax of $9; Class III in Category B, with a per acre tax of $7; Class IV in Category C, with a per acre tax of $5; Classes V, VI, and VII in Category D, with a per acre tax of $3. Class VIII land in Category E, with $1 per acre tax. The specific tax would only apply to buildings, which would continue to be taxed as at present.

The owner could request withdrawal of the land from specific taxation any year after three years of the initial five-year classification period. The request would be made to the assessor. The assessor then, after two annual tax days having lapsed, would withdraw the land from classification. In other words, after withdrawal request there would be two years before the withdrawal takes effect.

Upon withdrawal, there would be a tax rollback not to exceed five years. The tax would be the difference, if any, between the specific tax and the tax that would have been paid had the land been assessed for taxes under regular property tax laws. The rollback would also include interest.

There would be severe penalties for failure to report the land, the change of its use during the period of classification and before it had been classified. The specific per acre tax would then be subject to the regular rollback plus a penalty amounting to a declining scale, depending which year the land was lawfully changed. For example, if this should occur the first year after the classification, the penalty would be 12.5% of the market value. This would decline to the fifth year or more, which would be 2.5% of the market value. Such penalties, of course, could be avoided by withdrawing the land from the classification and change of use. In the event the land was condemned for public use, the penalties would not be imposd.

This legislation, if passed, will be interim legislation in an effort to encourage the preservation of farmlands in those areas where property taxes have reached well above the amounts per acre specified in the bill. Thirty dollars or more per acre tax on farmland is not unusual, with some running $70 or more.

The bill is limited, as applications would not be accepted after 1975. It is thought in the meantime that more comprehensive land use legislation will be developed.

Provisions in the bill for "open land" are considerably different than for agricultural land. In order to qualify for that designation, it would have to be approved as part of a land use plan adopted by the Michigan Blueberry Growers Assn. and the Michigan Celery Growers' Assn. Several farmers from all parts of the state spoke on behalf of the bill.

One supporter of the bill was a farmer nor did he represent an organization, he was John S. Olds, President of the Van Buren State Bank. He said that eight years ago growers were in good shape, but that now the "good, efficient growers are in real trouble." He used prunes as an example of where bargaining is needed. He said that two years ago they sold in the store for 38c a pound and the farmer got 5c. Last year, there was a big crop and he got 2.5c. He said only

the amount needed for processing was bought. The prices to the consumer obviously did not come down. The conclusion that can be reached from this testimony is that while only the amount needed for processing was bought and the rest left on the ground there was no reason for the price to the producer to drop in half.

Those strongly opposing the bill in public have been elevator and grain handling groups; also sugar processors and bean ships.

It is interesting that this should be true inasmuch as grain and livestock have been exempted from the bill. The strongest opposition comes from chain stores, fruit and vegetable processors, canners and freezerers, etc. — and yet while these interests have the record set straight is the fact that many in the independent grain trade have used their opposition to the bill as an opportunity to attack cooperatives in general, implying that cooperatives do not pay taxes. This is absurd, misleading and absolutely false. At least one Legislator has failed for this propaganda, and has distributed it to his constituents and on the radio.

Another area that needs to have the record set straight is the fact that many in the independent grain trade have used their opposition to the bill as an opportunity to attack cooperatives in general, implying that cooperatives do not pay taxes. This is absurd, misleading and absolutely false. At least one Legislator has failed for this propaganda, and has distributed it to his constituents and on the radio.
Every wheat grower is faced with a decision that must be made. How will the wheat be marketed?

Despite this open-ended question, growers answer as they cannot afford not to get the maximum amount of money for their wheat. Wheat can be sold for cash at harvest, stored for later sale, fed to livestock, or consigned to the Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing Cooperative Elevator Exchange.

Severe weather damage soft white wheat in this state has caused a crisis for many growers. Many fields that were planted to wheat last fall have been torn up and planted to other crops this spring.

Growers who sell at harvest time forfeit their opportunity to take advantage of any increase in price during the wheat marketing season. Yet, many growers need to convert their wheat crop to immediate cash.

Storing of wheat for later sale provides maximum returns if the grower can determine in advance the best time to sell. A wrong guess means a loss, not a gain.

To assist wheat producing members in realizing the maximum return for their 1972 crop, the Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing Program will again be available this year. This unique approach to marketing can be a great benefit to growers in what promises to be an unusual marketing year.

A large crop of wheat is expected nationwide. A plentiful supply of wheat should be available to most users. Thus, the outlook for improved prices is not good.

The carryover of eastern state's soft white wheat from previous years is very low. Mills and cereal manufacturers may show a strong demand for white wheat to meet their needs.

This year's market is very low. Mills and cereal manufacturers may show a strong demand for white wheat to meet their needs. The rice market is very low. Mills and cereal manufacturers may show a strong demand for white wheat to meet their needs.

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For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing Program coordinator.

Program for Special Students

Frequent, in Newaygo County, has Michigan public schools participating in vocational agriculture for students with special needs.

The program was designed as a means of providing for students who have cultural and socio-economic needs as well as to develop a job for the general interest in a Farm Bureau program.

The morning tour will coincide with the state high school competition and field experience. The morning tour includes:

- The Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce was assisted by area educators in pre-vocational skills aimed at those students who do not have cultural and socio-economic needs as well as to develop a job for the general interest in a Farm Bureau program.

Asparagus Smorgasbord

The Asparagus Smorgasbord is an expansion of the Michigan State Farm Management Program to offer extension service for students.

Operators are being asked about their interest in four types of programs.

A national survey to determine the general interest in a Farm Bureau Marketing Association is underway. The survey was designed to determine the type of the Smorgasbord program that is wanted. Also, road- side farm marketers are being questioned about their interest in an expanded "direct marketing" program, coordinated through the AAMA (American Agricultural Marketing Association).
Bills have been introduced to create the four new cabinet level departments. One of the bills is H.R. 6062 which would create a new cabinet level Department of Community Development.

H.R. 6063 proposes to transfer to the Department of Community Development the functions of the Rural Electrification Administration and the Farmers Home Administration related to rural housing programs and water and waste disposal loans and grants. These REA and FHA functions are new within the Department of Agriculture.

The REA administers loan programs for rural electrification and rural telephones. The FHA administers housing loans to farmers, rural residents and others in open country and small rural communities and water and sewer programs in rural areas.

Congressman B. F. Sisk (D-California). The new bill, H.R. 14987, is known as the National Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1972. It incorporates a number of amendments designed to clarify certain provisions of the original bill, but does not change its purpose. H.R. 14987 would establish a mutual obligation of a handler and a qualified producers' organization to meet at reasonable times and negotiate in good faith with respect to commodities covered under contract. The Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing and Consumer Relations of the House Agriculture Committee has held early hearings on H.R. 14987.

### FARM LABOR LEGISLATION
A key farm labor relations bill with strong bipartisan support has been introduced in the House of Representatives. Known as the Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1972 (H.R. 13961), it would create an Agricultural, Labor Relations Board with jurisdiction over agricultural labor disputes. This Board would have essentially the same powers as the National Labor Relations Board.

Strongly supported by Farm Bureau, the Agricultural Labor Relations Act would permit the development of rules and regulations suited to the needs of 'producers of perishable farm products' and in the process of the bill would be a promotion of secondary boycotts and a secret ballot election to permit workers to decide for themselves whether or not to be represented by a collective bargaining agent.

The House Farm Labor Subcommittee has begun hearings on H.R. 13961 and several other different pieces of farm labor legislation, most of which would bring agriculture under the National Labor Relations Board.

#### MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION
The House has approved a Minimum Wage bill (H.R. 7130). The House-passed bill makes little change in the eligibility or coverage of farm workers from existing minimum wage requirements. It does, however, add a new minimum wage rate, from $1.30 per hour to $1.50 per hour 60 days after enactment and to $1.70 per hour a year later.

H.R. 7130 is now before the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. It has also has under consideration another minimum wage bill (S. 1661) that would have an adverse effect upon farmers. S. 1661 would increase the farm minimum wage rate to $2.00 per hour after enactment, substantially reduce the scope of current agricultural exemptions and eliminate the present exemptions from overtime now applicable to farm employers.

#### AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS
The Federal Existing Pesticide Control Act of 1971 (H.R. 10729) passed the House last November by a strong 285-91 vote. As approved by the House, H.R. 10729 would divide pesticides into "general use" and "restricted use" categories.

"General use" pesticides would be those considered relatively safe under normal conditions and could be applied by anyone following usual precautions. "Restricted use" pesticides would be those that are considered toxic or hazardous under normal operating conditions. Farmers and others applying these pesticides would be licensed. States would have responsibility for licensing users of restricted pesticides.

The Senate action on H.R. 10729 is expected during 1972.

### TRUCK ACCIDENT REPORTING
The Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety of the Department of Transportation has proposed new revisions to regulations for the reporting of truck accidents. The revisions would require all private carriers to conform to the reporting requirements of common carriers. If adopted, the proposed revisions would increase by about 50 percent the number of trucks for which accident reports must be made to the Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety. Common carriers and other for-hire carriers operate an estimated 760,000 trucks. Private carriers operate an estimated 17 million trucks.

Any private carrier, including any farmer, engaged in interstate commerce, would be required to submit accident reports in triplicate on forms which he would be supplied in order to obtain from the Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety. A person would be considered to be engaged in interstate commerce if one or more of the trucks he operates crosses a state line for purposes connected with the transportation business.

Farm Bureau has written to the Director of the Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety protesting the proposed revision and its impact upon private carriers.

### CABINET REORGANIZATION
In his January 1971 State of the Union Address, President Nixon proposed an extensive reorganization of the Executive Branch of government. The proposal would combine the functions of several present cabinet level departments into four new departments.

### Clarified Version of Sisk Bill Introduced
In April 1971, the National Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1971 (H.R. 7597) was completed last fall. It has been opposed by handlers and processors partly because of misunderstandings about certain provisions in the bill.

The bill has been in the Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing and Consumer Relations of the House Agriculture Committee since it was completed last fall. It has been opposed by handlers and processors partly because of misunderstandings about certain provisions in the bill.

On May 15, 1971 a clarified version of the bill was introduced by Congressman B. F. Sisk (D-California). The bill, known as the National Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1972 (H.R. 14987), contains a number of amendments designed to clarify certain provisions of the original bill. It would establish a mutual obligation of a handler and a qualified producers' organization to meet at reasonable times and negotiate in good faith with respect to commodities grown under contract.

The Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing and Consumer Relations of the House Agriculture Committee is conducting hearings on H.R. 14987. It is important that both Subcommittees reach agreements on terms of commodities grown under contract.

Farm Bureau members are encouraged to write their respective Congressmen and urge his support of H.R. 14987.

### Licenses Issued
Licenses have been issued to 2,300 registered use pesticide dealers by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, according to B. D. Russell, director.

The restricted use pesticide law, which became effective this year, requires any dealer handling such products to obtain a state license. A license is issued only after he has demonstrated, through written examination, his knowledge of the law and rules governing the sale of pesticides.

"During the short period of time since implementation," Ball said, "we have established testing procedures, printed tests and licenses and have authorized 125 dealers to sell restricted use pesticides."

As established in MDA Regulation No. 653, the person in charge of each sales location or outlet must be licensed. Pesticides covered under the regulation are those formulations determined after public hearings to be hazardous to man, warm-blooded animals and to the environment, when applied under normal acceptable conditions.

There are thousands of sales outlets for pesticides in Michigan. They may still sell non-restricted materials, but only the licensed dealers may handle products on the restricted list.

"Selling restricted pesticides without a license," Ball added, "is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to $200 and up to 60 days in jail."

Copies of Michigan's economic poisoning law, Regulation No. 653 and a list of restricted use pesticides are available by writing without a license," Ball added, "is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to $200 and up to 60 days in jail."

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Copies of Michigan's economic poisoning law, Regulation No. 653 and a list of restricted use pesticides are available by writing to the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Division, Lewis Cass Building, Lansing, Michigan 48913.

### INTEREST ON DEBENTURES

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### FOR $1,000.00 OR MORE YOU CAN PURCHASE

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Speaker of the House William A. Ryan (D-Wayne) (L) chatted with Miss Pam McKenzie, Michigan Bean Queen and Representative J. Bob Traxler (D-Bay City) about Michigan Navy Beans.

Representatives Dennis O. Cawthorne (R-Manistee) and James F. Smith (R-Davison) were two of the legislators who enjoyed bean soup on Capitol Bean Day.

Michigan Bean Queen, Pat McKenzie of Breckenridge; Representative John M. Engler (R-Mt. Pleasant) and Maynard Brownlee, executive secretary, Michigan Bean Commission, were on hand when tasty bean treats were served by the Gratiot County Farm Bureau Women.

Representative Stanley M. Powell (R-Ionia) enjoyed the tasty steaming bean soup served on Capitol Bean Day.

Nile L. Vermillion, Farm Bureau Insurance Group executive vice-president, (center right) accepts the Freedoms Foundation George Washington Honor Medal Award from the Honorable Thomas E. Brennan, Associate Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court. Elton R. Smith, MFB president (L) and Kenneth Bull (r) president of Farm Bureau Mutual, the Community Service Insurance Company and Community Service Acceptance Company are on-lookers. Farm Bureau Insurance Group received the award for its sponsorship of the "America and Me" Essay Contest.

City guests take a good look at farm produce on display at the Genesee County Rural-Urban meeting sponsored by the Farm Bureau Women's Committee.
UP Farm Bureau Appreciation Days

A Special Two-Day Event

"There is no place like the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. We have the cleanest air, the best food, fishing, hunting and people."

In a two-day event, "U.P. Farm Bureau Appreciation Days," leaders and insurance agents attempted to prove their point to Elton Smith, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Nile Vermillion, executive vice president of Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Vermillion and other special guests.

An "Open House" was held on May 18 at the new area service office of Farm Bureau Insurance, located at 213 North Front Street, Marquette, to start the Appreciation Days. This new facility will provide additional services to members and insureds in the ninth central area of the peninsula.

A guided tour of the Sawyer Air Force Base, including a close-up look at how bombs are loaded, how planes are refueled in the air, housing for service men and the Base facilities helped spotlight the second day.

A first-hand view of what happens to some of the forest products as they are transformed into paper was experienced at the Mead Paper Company in Escanaba. Publication paper stock for many magazines flows from the end of the long paper mill, including paper for the AFBF "American Farmer."

The world's largest iron ore docks at Escanaba were also visited. Tons and tons of iron ore, mined in the U.P., are shipped by rail to the edge of Little Bay De Noc where ore is stockpiled in huge mountains for later shipping or placed directly on board ship to be sent to other parts of the country.

The special two-day program was sponsored jointly by Farm Bureau members and insurance agents of the U.P. to show their gratitude for having a Farm Bureau program in the Upper Peninsula.
AIC Meeting

The Michigan Association of Farmers Cooperatives will sponsor youth, young farm couples and adults to the national meeting of the American Institute of Cooperatives again this year.

Attending the AIC meeting July 30 through August 3 on the campus of Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, will be approximately 800 youth, 100 young farm couples and 1,500 adults from 40 states.

Karl Kincaide, State FFA President, a representative from the Hastings FFA Chapter, which won the State Cooperative Activities Contest, and an outstanding 4-H youth will be among the youth, young couples, managers and directors from various Michigan cooperatives in attendance.

Executive Committee officers of the Michigan 4-H Foundation recently elected at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees were: Jack Leaver, Director of Agricultural Operation for Gerber Product Company, elected president for a one-year term; two vice-presidents elected with equal status were P. R. Schepers, Consumers Power Company and Elton R. Smith, president of Michigan Farm Bureau.

Managers from 14 co-ops, serving the needs of agriculture participated in the Financial Comparis Program conducted June 13 by the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives.

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EIGHT July

The Michigan Association of Teachers of Vocational Agriculture held their May meeting at Farm Bureau Center. Following a dinner meeting with members of the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors, items of mutual interest and concern were discussed.

Supplies—Heavy infestation of alfalfa weevils reported with Malathion-Methoxychlor and Aflatox in good supply. Seasonal rush on fertilizers still in full swing in some areas. Pre-emergent and pre-plant herbicides sales are sharply down due to dry soil. Heavy use of post-emergence herbicides on corn and soybeans is drawing strongly on supplies.

Navy bean seeds still available. Some soybean seeds are left. Certified wheat seed could become tight due to Thumb area winter kill estimated at 50-80 percent.

Supplies—Prices rose $2.30 per cwt. from mid-April to mid-May. The mid-May average price of $8.40 per cwt. was the highest for May since the $2.85 average in 1954. Hog futures have been relatively steady, and it is felt price improvement will be made in the mid-summer period, unless the USDA report of June 23 shows large on-farm increases.

CATTLE—Heavy supplies needed to market at continued higher prices. A strong demand for the cash beef absorbs all offerings. The average price, mid-April to mid-May increased $1.60 per cwt. to $29.80 — the highest on record for any month.

Wool—Prices rising sharply to $1.18 in Boston, June 9, 1972 from 50-50 low of 48 cents per pound, August, 1971.

Supplies—Corn price is expected to be weaker than previous incentives such as more exports occur. If progress of corn crop is good, lower prices expected into the summer. As of June 12, bulk soybean meal, Decatur, Illinois, 64 percent of lowfat milk to see consumption May 15, 1972, $5.90. Change from April 15, 1972, minus 15 cents. Cheese and lowfat milk to see consumption increase. The import price on cheese to go up from 47 cents to 62 cents — seven cents above the CCC purchased price. Formerly, imports valued at 47 cents per pound were covered by this quota.

Supplies—Prices paid by Michigan farmers for mixed dairy feed, 16 percent protein per ton, May 15, 1972, $8.90. Change from one year ago, May 15, 1971, plus five cents; change from April 15, 1972, minus 15 cents. Cheese and lowfat milk to see consumption increases. The import price on cheese to go up from 47 cents to 62 cents — seven cents above the CCC purchased price. Formerly, imports valued at 47 cents per pound were covered by this quota.

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6% to 7% INTEREST ON DEBENTURES

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The frost damaged tender vegetables and fruit in many of the low ground areas of the state.

 def. FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES—Millions of dollars worth of horticultural crops were lost due to the low temperatures on June 11. The frost damaged tender vegetables and fruit in many of the low ground areas of the state.

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FARM BUREAU SERVICES

FIELD CROPS—Dry soils have delayed planting of dry beans and retarded germination of late planted corn. Cool, dry weather has limited development of oats, early planted corn and wheat. Soil moisture has varied from short to adequate in southeastern and upper peninsulas counties, to short in most other counties. Eighty-two percent of soybeans were planted by June 12. Less than 20 percent of the dry bean acreage was planted by June 10, because of dry soil and farmers waiting for rain. Winter wheat is developing well. Slight eight percent of the state's acreage is reported headed. Dry soils have limited growth of oats. Dry bean varieties was ideal for first cutting hay and about one-fifth of hay is harvested.

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Crop and Supply Report

by Gregg Sheffield

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU SERVICES

BLUEBERRIES—A high percentage of the blueberry crop was destroyed by the freeze.

ASPARAGUS—Production in the state this year is expected to exceed 1971 by about 10 percent despite a late start and dry weather.

RED TART CHERRIES—The crop in Michigan is larger than last year. The amount of cherries marketed in the Great Lakes area may need to be tailored through a Federal marketing order to be kept in line with market needs.

Supplies—Farm Bureau appointed distributor of Ethrel the "shake-off chemical" when sprayed on tart and sweet cherries 7-14 days before harvest it causes cherries to shake-off mechanically with a minimum of damage to trees and roots. On certain hard-to-shake cherry varieties, just a three-second burst of shaking removed 90 percent of the cherries. Technical Parallels is in unusually critical short supply. Vegetable and fruit growers should get their parathion now. Sevin insecticides remain short, too.

DAIRY PRODUCTS—Milk wholesale per 100 weights: Price of May 15, 1972, $4.90. Change from one year ago, May 15, 1971, plus five cents; change from April 15, 1972, minus 15 cents. Cheese and lowfat milk to see consumption increase. The import price on cheese to go up from 47 cents to 62 cents — seven cents above the CCC purchased price. Formerly, imports valued at 47 cents per pound were covered by this quota.

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The importance of the bean crop in Michigan was shown to the Governor, Legislators and Capitol staff at the biennial Capitol Bean Day, held in Lansing the latter part of May.

Governor Milliken ladled out bean soup - tasty and steaming - to Lansing residents and Capitol guests during the lunch hour.

In the afternoon, Gratiot County Farm Bureau Women, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Lester Derksen, set up a long snack table in the Capitol hallway and served hot bean treats which they have made famous over the past 35 years.

The ladies brought homemade bean breads, bean sweet rolls, bean cookies and cakes, bean coffee cakes, and bean doughnuts and other treats. These were handed out as dessert when the legislators, other officials and their staff returned to their afternoon duties.

A new multi-million dollar phosphate terminal is being planned in Florida which will improve Michigan's future supplies of this fertilizer essential.

The new terminal, which will be completed by 1973 at the new port facility in Tampa, is being built by C. F. Industries, a combine of 18 regional farm supply cooperatives, including Farm Bureau Services of Michigan.

Phosphates produced by C. F. Industries in Florida will be channeled through the terminal for delivery up the Mississippi to distribution points serving the Midwest farm market.

The new terminal will handle up to 500,000 tons annually and facilitate movement of phosphate to all of the cooperatives, including Michigan's.

Clarence Yntema retired as Plant Manager of the Farm Bureau Services Jenison Egg Plant as of June 1, after 13 years of loyal service.

Clarence has had a long and diversified background in the egg business, including three years with the original Farm Bureau Egg Association of Zeeland. He was also employed by Taylor Produce Company for 21 years, Van Harn Egg Company for six years, Vande Grift Egg Company for one year, and Farm Bureau Services for the past 13 years.

H. Eugene Wyenorden was appointed Plant Manager to replace Yntema.

Gene, a graduate of Ferris State College, Big Rapids, has been the manager of the Michigan Fowl Marketing Exchange for the last two years. In this new position, Gene will report to the Sales and Operations Manager for the Egg Marketing Division, Dan Crowle. Gene has a diversified background in all areas of the poultry business including four years as a flock supervisor.

Gene, his wife Hazel, and their four children will continue to reside in Jenison.

Lynn Coleman

An Upper Peninsula seed potato selection and parent stock program to develop new varieties of potatoes in Michigan won the 1972 Agricultural Development of the Year award in the annual Michigan Week event.

Developed at Coleman Farms, Sandia, with the cooperation of Lynn Coleman, the potato seed program received impetus from Michigan State University, the Michigan Crop Improvement Association and the Michigan Foundation Seed Association.

Experimental plots of numbered varieties of plants were field selected and field and laboratory tested with serological procedures in 1967 and 1968, in the initial phase of the project. In following years, plots were expanded and additional varieties introduced. The major aim was to fill an existing gap in the Michigan seed program by introducing new varieties and new seed stock into the total seed program.

At the present time, the project has some seven newly released varieties which are in various stages of increase, and is working with six varieties which are still being improved, as well as with several new seedlings in a potato breeding program.

Drought Areas Declared

Fall Wheat Starter

Twenty-one counties have been declared as drought areas. ASCS is permitting farmers to "buy back" their set aside acreage and facilitate movement of phosphate to all of the cooperatives, including Michigan's.

Three eighth-grade students earned top honors for their entries in the fifth annual "America and Me" Essay Contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance Group.

Tim Ketleher of Holy Family School in Grand Blanc, Bonnie Bernard of Escanaba Junior High, and Marti Cole of Gladwin, Junior High in Gladwin, Junior High in Grand Rapids placed first, second and third, respectively, in the statewide competition.

Tim won a fully expense-paid, four day, three-night trip to Washington, D.C., with his parents and teacher, Mr. Michael Kelly.

In addition to the trip, Tim will receive an engraved presidential desk flag. A large stand-up display flag will be presented to Holy Family School third grade teacher, Mary Spotts, manager of the Farm Bureau Insurance Group Agency in Flushing.

An all expense-paid weekend in Chicago awaits Bonnie, the second-place essayist. Also, she has earned a presidential desk flag which she will display in the school where she is secretary to Gene Mercer, Farm Bureau Insurance Group's agent in Delta County.

As third-place winner, Marti earned a trip to Mackinac Island and an executive desk flag. Parent Hills Junior High, where Marti attends school, will receive an engraved executive flag. Miss Martha Dixon, principal, and representative of the Farm Bureau Insurance Group in Comstock Park, will present the third place awards.

Serving on the panel of finalist judges were: James H. Brickley, Lieutenant Governor of Michigan; Philip A. Hart, United States Senator; Charles E. Chambers, Congressman for Michigan's Sixth District; Bob Talbert, Columnist for the Detroit Free Press and Martha Dixon, mid-Michigan TV personality.

Beginning as a Lansing community project in 1988, the contest, encouraging young people to seriously consider their role in shaping America's future, was expanded to a nationwide competition in 1969. This year, over 250 schools and 5,000 students participated in the contest conducted through 52 Farm Bureau Insurance Group offices around the state. In March, the young essayists wrote on the theme "How Can I Help America." In April, first, second and third place awards were presented to top entries from each school. Finally, the top essayist in each school was placed in statewide competition.

The three top essays from this year's state competition will be forwarded to Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for entry into national essay competition.

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, nondenominational, educational organization created to achieve a better understanding of the basic principles underlying the Republic and to encourage Americans to be more knowledgeable about Freedoms in today's America.

The Freedoms Foundation George Washington Honor Medal Award was conferred on Farm Bureau Insurance Group for sponsorship of the 1971 "America and Me" eighth-grade contest. This was the fourth consecutive Freedoms Foundation award earned by the Lansing-based firm for its annual statewide essay competition.
In all ages and all societies, there have been individual and groups who were not able to sustain themselves.

History tells us that people tossed bread to the lepers, converts took in foundlings. Caesar made a big deal out of flinging gold to the mobs, and our grandparents wept over Oliver Twist. But, it has only been in recent years, in what might be described as surplus economics, that the right of an individual to some kind of minimum living, whether physically handicapped or crippled, during a distress or just plain lazy, has gained broad acceptance.

During the last few decades, as this country's prosperity reached unparalleled heights, there has been a shocking rise of dependency. The easier it has been for a man or woman of good intentions and energy to make the grade of self-support, the more the displays of individual irresponsibility have increased.

The higher the public outlays for "relief," the worse the crime; the higher the illegitimacy, the higher the venereal disease rate; and the higher the incidence of narcotics addiction, the more critical the problem of juvenile delinquency.

This is not to say that "relief" was the cause. But it has certainly been no cure. The rising tide of unrest testifies to the growing desperation of those receiving public assistance and those providing it.

Many individuals receiving public assistance appear to be afflicted by self hate. In an effort to flee this evil, they hurl bitter, harsh and abusive language against the so-called "establishment" — against those who operate within the laws of a productive economic system, who hold the jobs, who pay the taxes, and who provide the "relief."

Groups of citizens in this and other states, in an effort to provide cash, incentives, medical care, meaningful jobs, adequate housing, day care facilities etc., which they feel an enlightened nation owes the unfortunate, have organized to promote meaningful welfare reform.

This has lead many to ask the question: Why, if I'm not eligible for low cost housing, don't qualify for food stamps, can't get free baby-sitting at preschool nurseries, can't get set up in business with free management to help run it, can't escape paying light or heat bills, and can't receive free medical care, am I eligible to help support those who do benefit from these?

Many citizens, particularly those with political aspirations, are busily researching and searching for new approaches to the welfare situation. So far, while no agreement has been reached on just how to correct the situation so all concerned will be happy, there is general agreement that the present systems are the wrong ones.

They are also in general agreement on several basic principles. First and the most obvious, that the people who have difficulty making it through no fault of their own have a prior claim upon public assistance. The ill, the old and the disabled must be cared for.

Secondly, children must be shielded from the consequences of the inadequacy or misbehavior of their parents. The theory that any home, however drunken or disorganized, has to be maintained at public expense for the sake of the children has gotten a little threadbare.

Beyond these points the areas of agreement widen. But all are trying to find the magic formula which will produce the maximum degree of self-support and dignity with the minimum cost for public relief for the "deserving" and the "undeserving" poor. There would be more incentive to self-improvement and renewed individual responsibility if it was known that the welfare worker ceased and if all persons could count on a minimum subsistence income from the government (taxpayers).

One of the problems, according to this school of thought, is that the present method of distributing relief degrades the receiver. He is subject to a penalty unless he pleases the distributor of the funds. This leads to resentment, self-humiliation and a general occupation for staying within those guidelines necessary if he is to be a card-carrying pauper.

By removing these pressures, say the advocates of guaranteed income, men will be more inclined to leap for an opportunity to work.

On the other side of the question are those who believe that a large number of people will work only if forced by the necessity. They argue that there is no way you can explain a rising appetite for relief during periods when jobs have been plentiful except for the fact that when the threat of starvation is removed many people will simply set.

The United States, they fear, is headed for the day when the conscientious will retain less and less of the fruits of their own labor as they contribute to an ever increasing tax load to maintain a growing army of takers.

Welfare costs account for a large share of the financial costs of the State of Michigan. Michigan was required to spend 24 percent of its 1970-71 budget on public assistance programs. The recommended appropriation for welfare during the coming fiscal year is $904 million — $60-70 million more than for the current fiscal year. This enormous sum is to match funds coming from the federal government. Thus, one can readily add and realize that the expected expenditure for public assistance programs in Michigan for the next fiscal year will be in excess of a billion dollars.

Some of those concerned with the rising costs of welfare in this state claim that in many cases welfare aid is equivalent to a wage of as much as $3.75 per hour. Rep. Roy Spencer (R-Attica) has said that, if this is true, the state would be better off to put welfare clients on the payroll, inasmuch as many state jobs pay between $3.75 and $5 per hour.

Rep. Spencer seriously presents the idea that welfare payments could be considered as wages and able welfare recipients should be required to work. Even if they were only required to keep their living quarters clean and neat, wash the windows, keep the litter picked up in the yard and neighborhood, this would clean up the slums to a great degree and, at the same time save large amounts of money for local governments, he philosophizes.

Since the Federal Emergency Relief Act of 1933 was passed, the federal government has granted passed billions of dollars in grants-in-aid to states for public assistance. The Social Security Act of 1935 established three public assistance programs, The Social Security Act of 1935 established three public assistance programs: Aid to Families with Dependent Children; Aid to Dependent Children (now Aid to Families with Dependent Children); and Aid to the Blind

An additional category, Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled was added in 1939 and in 1955 Medicaid was authorized for medical care of dependent persons. Although those under 18, which made them eligible for public assistance in terms of family characteristics. By early 1970 the figure had risen to 41,000 heads, with 64.5 percent with children under 18.

Accurate statistics are extremely difficult to obtain in order to determine the exact number of these eligible public assistance recipients. The Michigan Department of Social Services indicate that in 1961 approximately 35.5 percent of those who were eligi-

The public assistance program which, more than any other, has brought the working of the present welfare system into question is AFDC. Noncontroversial in the beginning as a program to assist in benefit widows with dependent children. However, the program has grown at a high rate and has changed in character and orientation. In other words, illegitimacy has replaced widowhood as the main cause of dependency.

It has been reported that in 1960 there were in Michigan 160,548 heads of families Michigan 40 percent of these had children under 18, which made them eligible for public assistance in terms of family characteristics. By early 1970 the figure had risen to 21,272 heads, with 64.5 percent with children under 18.

The percent of eligible people who apply for public assistance is dependent on the supposed edge of the existing programs and their willingness to make application. The increased urbanization, some say, has lead to greater awareness and applicability of the law. The War on Poverty has brought the programs to the attention of many, as were sent out to encourage and capable to apply for assistance and helped them obtain it.

Public assistance programs are usually administered by the local welfare department on county lines. The federal department of Health, Education and Welfare provides programs which the director of the social services department has any direct control is general assistance. But, even these expenditures are limited by state law.

The Department of Social Services has any direct control is general assistance. But, even these expenditures are limited by state law.

The Food Stamp Program (administered by USDA) is considered to be a form of welfare or public assistance program by most individuals. However, many of those administering it point out that the program is not a welfare program rather than a welfare program. Their raison d'etre is that the children and adults using the program get better food and they can purchase varieties of food not otherwise possible on their limited funds.

Many individuals have expressed knowledge of items improperly being removed from public assistance programs. Those who administer the program agree that there may be some cases where this is true, but they also emphasize that very few people are actually willing to report cases to the authorities so corrective action can be taken. Putting together a public assistance program which will be satisfactory to all appears to be somewhat like "the graying puppers. Youngsters have lost a number of pieces. However, one thing is clear, it appears that welfare, as the case may be, is considered a self perpetuating."
Discussion Topic Report Sheet

The Discussion Topic and Report Sheet for the discussion topic on the opposite page is furnished for use of community group members who may wish to review it prior to their group meeting.

If used by a limited group, in lieu of a report sheet furnished the Discussion Leader, please forward answers with minutes to Program Development Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 900, Lansing, Michigan 48904 on or before August 1, 1972.

COMMUNITY FARM BUREAU
Discussion Exercise and Report Sheet
July 1, 1972

Community Farm Bureau

County ... Please indicate the number of people taking part in this discussion.

TOPIE: Welfare

Farm Bureau policy on this month's topic reads:

"We urge that a realistic reevaluation be conducted of the total welfare program including the amounts of money spent, sources of the money, desirability of federal and state intervention in the local level, effectiveness in reducing the numbers of welfare recipients and the employability of employees on strike.

We support welfare benefits to those who are really in need of assistance.

Welfare should not become a way of life or perpetuated in future generations. All members of society must be motivated to sustain their self-esteem and self-respect by earning as much of their livelihood as possible."

1. Should welfare recipients be required to furnish proof of their financial condition as a requirement for eligibility? 

Yes No

2. Does your group think that welfare has become self-maintaining? 

Yes No

3. Do you believe welfare programs should be funded and administered solely by the state or federal governmental agencies? 

State Federal

4. Should free child care services for children of AFDC families be provided where the adult family member(s) participate in a job training or employment program?

Yes No

5. Should after-work training programs for heads of working income families plus others with low earning powers be initiated on a voluntary basis?

Yes No

6. Should governmental jobs be provided for AFDC adults who create jobs are lacking in preference to other individuals?

Yes No

7. Comments:

...
PLEASE TAKE FIVE MINUTES...

to add up the value of your farm personal property

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<th>MACHINERY &amp; TOOLS</th>
<th>ACTUAL CASH VALUE</th>
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<td>Item</td>
<td>Units</td>
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<td>Beet and Bean Drill</td>
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<td>Beet Harvester</td>
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<td>Combine (self-propelled)</td>
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<td>Portable Feed Mill</td>
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<td>Rotary Hoe</td>
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<td>Shop and Small Tools</td>
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<td>Silo Unloader</td>
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<td>Sprayers</td>
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<td>Tractors</td>
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<td>Wagons and Trailers</td>
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those five minutes could save you thousands of dollars.

Using this form, briefly estimate cash value of your machinery, supplies, livestock, crops and produce.

You may well need additional insurance protection. With us, additional coverage is inexpensive. For example, your coverage levels for personal property insurance could be increased by $10,000 for just a few dollars annually. That's not much considering what you could lose. We care about what happens to you.

that's why we're called the farm experts!