

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

Vol. 51, No. 8

MAKE IT HAPPEN

August



The primary is one of the most important elections. You will decide who will be the party choice for numerous local, state and national offices. In many cases, the primary is the final election. Please note the accompanying map to determine whether your district has been substantially changed. Your present State Representative may not be in your district under the new reapportionment. Many legislators are running against one another. It is interesting to note that several well-qualified farmers are also seeking the election. You also may be in a new congressional district.

A constitutional amendment will also be on the ballot which will be known as "Proposal A" and, if passed, will "allow a trial by a jury of less than 12 jurors in all prosecutions in all courts for misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year."

Many local issues will be up for your decision. Don't fail your responsibility. Vote Tuesday, August 8.

VOTE IN AUGUST 8 PRIMARY

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Make Your Vote Work

It has been said that the modern farmer must be more than an agronomist or an animal nutritionist. He must be a purchasing agent, planner, credit manager, accountant and marketing expert.

While it is true that all these skills are necessary, they are not enough. Farmers have mastered many new fields and have become experts in production, but they have neglected one area, and they may suffer for that neglect.

The additional skill that all farmers must master, if agriculture is to survive, is political analysis and political involvement. This is necessary because, as farmers decrease in numbers, and cities and suburbs grow and more people move to the rural area, the farm vote becomes proportionately less. Also, we need to realize that many more of the issues that agriculture will be confronted with will be decided in the political arena.

Our democratic process is based on the idea that each voter will educate himself on the issues in question, then vote for the man who best represents him on those issues. There's more to the electoral process than just voting along party lines, for a change, for a name or for a face.

Just voting is not enough. Farmers must learn to make their vote work for agriculture. We have to learn to separate candidates who profess friendship for farmers from those who are truly willing and able to work for agriculture.

It's not enough to just listen to speeches, applaud politely and shake the candidate's hand. For one thing, speeches are sometimes quite general and it's often the best speaker and not the best man, who will work for agriculture, who comes across best.

Farmers need to listen carefully to what candidates say or don't say. Think of points he doesn't explain satisfactorily, or issues he avoids.

We need to meet with a candidate personally or in a very small group to get answers to questions concerning agricultural issues. Don't be hostile, but do a little digging to find out if he really believes as you do and if he will stand up and be counted when the time comes to take a position.

After you have determined which candidate best represents you and all of agriculture, get behind him. Tell him you will support him — you will help in his campaign. Remember to contribute "dollars" to get him elected. It takes a lot of work by a lot of people to bolster the thinning farm vote.

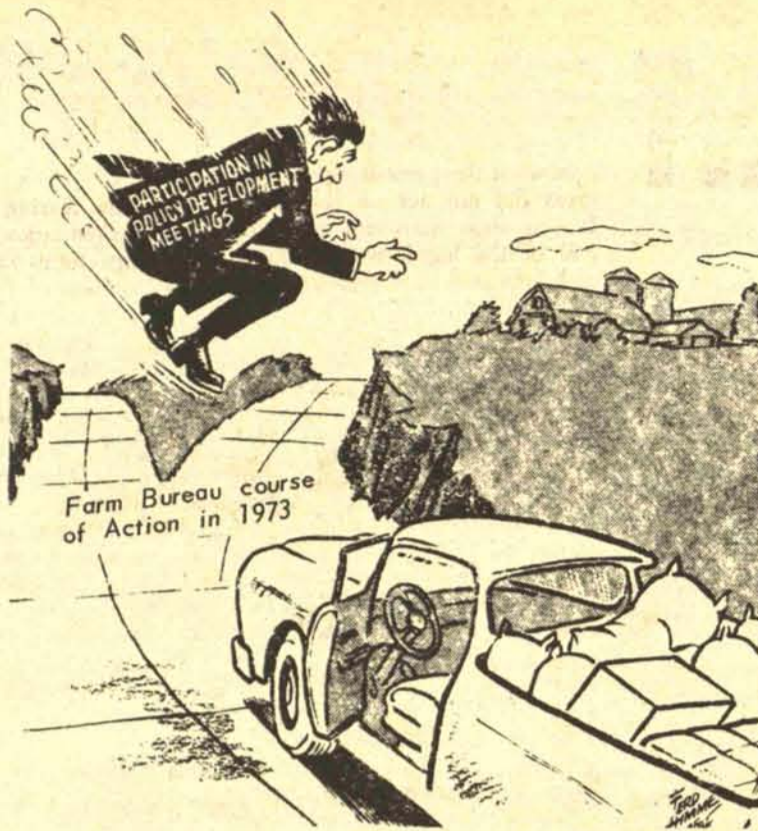
On August 8 we have a very important election. This offers us a chance to decide who will be the party candidates in many local, state and national offices. In some cases, the decision at the primary election will be the final selection as there may not be any competition in the general election. This is why it is even more important to pick the right candidates at this time.

The person you select to support and vote for will represent you for the entire term of that office. The time for action is not after the elections, but before if your thinking is to be reflected in our legislative halls.

If the voice of American agriculture is to be heard, it will be because American farmers learn still another skill, that of political involvement. Picking their candidates carefully and working for their election. Every farmer needs to make his vote work for agriculture.

Carl P. Kentner

"PUT YOURSELF IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT" . . .



SPECIAL NOTICE TO BS-BC SUBSCRIBERS

By this date, most member-subscribers to Michigan Blue Cross and Blue Shield have received their Annual Rate Renewal Notice.

These notices are not billings but announcements to comply with a legal requirement to advise subscribers at least thirty days in advance of a rate adjustment which is to take place.

Regular billings reflecting the new rates will be mailed ten days to two weeks prior to the due date of August 20, 1972. These new rates will be in effect for a twelve month period to August 20, 1973.

Michigan Farm Bureau is rated primarily on the cost and number of benefits used by their members and dependents. Other factors having some influence on the rate charged are the administrative expense to operate the program and the effect of inflation on health care costs. The inflationary factor has been minimized to some extent this year because of the government imposed wage and price controls put into effect in August, 1971.

The latest data show that as of May, 1972 medical care costs had risen less in the past year — 3 percent — than the overall cost of living — 3.2 percent. Prior to the advent of wage and price controls, medical care costs were rising 6 to 7 percent a year while the overall cost of living increased only about half as much.

Many hospital costs during the same period, May, 1971 to May, 1972, have risen at a sharper rate but government controls have limited most of these to a six percent ceiling.

Michigan Farm Bureau subscribers, as is the case with other Blue Cross and Blue Shield group programs, have benefitted from these inflationary controls in the form of smaller rate adjustments. The cost of health care will continue to rise in the future, but hopefully at a slower pace.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN . . .



You Are The Key

Farm Bureau members can claim substantial credit for making farming the noble profession that it is today. But what of tomorrow?

The answer to that question lies with you — the member who is willing to become involved. Involved in developing the programs, policies and goals which will guide Farm Bureau in the future.

Through the years, Farm Bureau has been directed by soundly developed policy. Members have proven what can be accomplished when enough like-minded people join together to get something done. Our organization exemplifies the practical application of democracy. All members have an opportunity to be heard if they so desire.

Farm Bureau has never abandoned the heritage on which it was established. Few organizations — by creed or action — are so firmly dedicated to the sound principles of individual liberty and free enterprise as Farm Bureau. We don't just mouth those principles, we act by them. We make them work. And we must never let selfish interests divert us from our loyalty to those principles.

When policies are hammered out at county and state annual meetings and formally adopted this fall, one thing is certain — they will represent the deliberation and the decision of the majority of those members willing to let their voices be heard and who are willing to be involved.

Farm Bureau members have successfully avoided the divisive pitfalls of narrowness in the development of programs, policies and goals. They have sought to have our organization serve the entire agricultural industry and the broad interests which all farmers share. Our success has been by no means accidental. It has been tough, agonizing, exhausting work.

Because Farm Bureau members have been willing to sidestep blind adherence to specific commodity interests, our overall goals have made more sense and earned broader respect and support. We are a united organization as a result.

In developing policies for the future, we must continue to recognize agriculture's vulnerability as a minority — despite its importance to mankind. We must clearly realize the futility of becoming dependent upon an increasingly urban Congress which could, in one quick legislative whim, pull the rug completely out from under us. We must be beholden to neither political party.

The deliberation which lies ahead in the development of sound policies needs the enlightened wisdom of all members. You, the members of Michigan Farm Bureau, are served by the organization. You know what you want and what you need. You have an organization through which you can speak effectively if you care to use it.

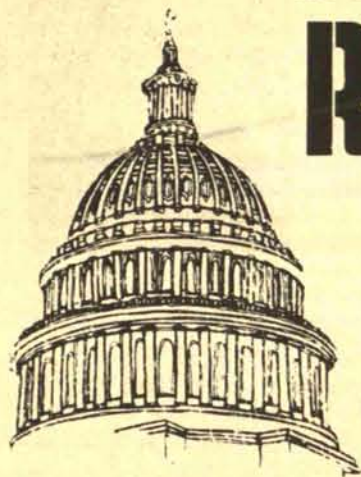
Naturally, dedicated members will differ in their approaches to Farm Bureau policy. And there is no single flawless method to achieve the goals which we all seek — a fair return for our investment, our labor and, at the same time, a maximum degree of freedom for all of us to manage our farms in line with our individual preferences.

The wisdom and foresight of Farm Bureau members in developing programs and policies helped to make possible the vitality of agriculture. In the weeks ahead, you and other Farm Bureau members have a great opportunity to continue this tradition and to bring into clear focus the real issues facing agriculture today.

Together, I am sure, we can make it happen.

Elton R. Smith

CAPITOL REPORT



Robert E. Smith

Marketing and Bargaining

A strong effort was made at the last moment of the legislative session before recess to vote on S. 1225. Three test votes were taken. The issue is carried over until the Legislature returns in early September.

The bill was reprinted as a House Substitute. It is a much better bill than that passed by the Senate. Procedures and details have been clarified and made more workable. The Senate-passed bill had exempted most commodities except fruits and vegetables; the House Substitute makes this very clear by defining eligible commodities as "perishable fruits and vegetables." It is still enabling legislation, to be available for use to any eligible marketing association.

Chairman Bradley (D-Detroit) and members of the House Labor Committee are to be commended for the personal efforts they made on this bill. No other legislation has received such extensive consideration as the marketing rights legislation. There were five public hearings, (2 Senate, 3 House) all heavily attended, together with numerous committee meetings where individuals were permitted to present their views.

Major opposition continues to be processing associations and the Chain Store Council. Support for the bill continues to be strong from Farm Bureau, MACMA, and other producer associations, even though some commodities, such as milk, would not be covered. Recent events in bargaining efforts for cherry prices prove as never before the need for realistic enabling legislation such as S. 1225, setting up legal procedures for orderly marketing.

(For further details see special article elsewhere in this issue.)

Property Tax and School Finance Reform

The coalition petition drive has been extremely successful in making sure that the issue will be on the ballot for voter decision in November. There were 422,272 signatures submitted to election officials on the property tax reform petition and 366,784 submitted on the petition that would remove the present constitutional ban on a graduated income tax.

Governor Milliken said that the tax reform proposal will be "the single most important statewide issue for Michigan voters and taxpayers in November . . . a means of assured quality and equality in the education of our children."

The property tax reform proposal cuts the present 50-mill property tax limit in the Constitution to 26 mills. This is accomplished

by eliminating property taxes for school operation. The 26 mill total limit would accumulate as follows: counties would be limited to not more than 8 mills, townships to not more than 1½ mills and intermediate districts, special education, vocational and compensatory education to not more than 4½ mills. This adds up to a total of 14 mills. To this amount, by a special vote of the electors, 6 mills could be added for school "enrichment" purposes and 6 mills by voter approval for township or county purposes, making the total limit 26 mills.

As in the present Constitution, millage limits would not apply for capital outlay purposes; however, new language would limit the rates and amounts to only that necessary to make payments on the indebtedness.

The Michigan Supreme Court has yet to make a decision on whether the property tax as used in Michigan is presently constitutional. Several other state courts have ruled that it is unconstitutional in the manner in which it is presently used. Should the Michigan court rule in a like manner, this could mean, under the present Constitution, a statewide property tax for school purposes. Much will be heard on this issue in the coming weeks.

Farmland Taxation and Assessments

Rep. Mastin (D-Hazel Park), Chairman of a special Subcommittee on Assessing Practices, has announced plans to hold at least four hearings during the last two weeks of August in various areas of the state on problems affecting farmland taxation, assessments and open space or recreational lands. Farm Bureau has worked closely with Rep. Mastin on this issue.

Hearings are expected to be held in the Saginaw area, Battle Creek-Kalamazoo area, Southeast Michigan area around Milan and in Oakland County. Rep. Mastin hopes that farmers will attend and present their views. Times and places will be publicized as soon as possible.

In an earlier study released in March by this subcommittee 21 recommendations were made on assessment practices and six recommendations on appeal procedures. At that time it was recommended that assessments based on use of agricultural land should be "coupled with stringent land use easement provisions."

Another approach is already on the floor of the House, scheduled for action in September—H. 6229 (Warner, R-Eaton Rapids). This bill was explained in detail in the July issue of the Michigan Farm News.

Meat Standards and Inspection

Two issues have arisen in the meat industry. One was the problem of adequate state appropriations to maintain Michigan's meat inspection program. Federal legislation was expected to pass that would increase the federal share of meat inspection costs to 80% instead of the present 50%. Congress did not act on this issue. It was then necessary near the end of the legislative session to seek increased state appropriations for this purpose or lose control of meat inspection.

Several Legislators are in favor of letting the federal government take over the entire inspection program. Should this happen, many smaller meat processors could well be forced out of business.

The second problem arose when an amendment to a bill in Congress threatened to remove federal funding from any state with standards different from the federal standards. Michigan's comminuted meat law is much stricter than federal requirements.

A victory was achieved on this issue when Michigan Farm Bureau, along with state officials, went to Washington, D.C. to protest. The congressional committee, by a vote of 9-8, changed the amendment in order that Michigan's higher standards would be continued.

Some of the large meat processors throughout the country have attacked Michigan's stringent meat law in federal court and lost and apparently were the leaders in attempting to accomplish their goal by amending the federal bill.

For further information see National Legislative Notes in this issue.

State Budget

The General Fund budget approved by the Legislature totals \$2.31 billion. This is 13% higher than last year and \$48.3 million higher than the budget requested by Governor Milliken.

The major budget item is \$1.12 billion for school aid. This is \$90 million higher than a year ago; however, the number of students in the state remains the same at 2.2 million. The Legislature placed restrictions on the school budget with a clause to prohibit use of transportation funds for cross-district busing for integration purposes. Over 20% of all school aid money, or a total of \$233.4 million, goes to the Teachers' Retirement Fund. The Legislature did increase contributions to be made to the fund by teachers. Before becoming effective, constitutionality of the provision will have to be determined by the court.

The next highest item is \$641.7 million for welfare—about \$122 million higher than the previous year and much higher than that recommended by the Governor. Provisions are included to get tough and require adults to work wherever possible. A limit was also placed on the amount of money that can be spent for ADC purposes. Also, checks for medical, dental and other services will be made out to both the recipient and the doctor involved to prevent use of money for disapproved purposes. These restrictions are contrary to federal regulations and may result in a clash between state and federal authorities.

Colleges and Universities increased 12.7% to \$345.6 million. Community and Jr. colleges appropriation is \$57.3 million and the Department of Mental Health is at \$218.9 million. State Police and Military Affairs receive \$52.4 million; Public Health, \$26.5 million; Drug Abuse and Alcoholism,

\$5.2 million; Department of Corrections, \$39.7 million; Department of Education, \$36.9 million; Natural Resources and Agriculture Departments together are \$33.4 million; Capital Outlay, \$47.3 million; Grants and Transfers, \$80 million; Regulatory, \$32.2 million; appropriations for general government purposes, including the three branches of government, \$81 million.

Revenue sharing with local governments (counties, cities, villages, townships) totals \$237.7 million—\$10.7 million of this is from the State General Fund, the rest from restricted funds of state income tax, sales tax, intangibles tax, certain liquor revenues, etc.

The budget is precariously balanced and it is estimated that revenue will be a scant \$4.7 million above cost. This will be true only if the new state lottery, to go into effect December 1, produces the \$20 million in revenue that is expected. When the General Fund appropriations are added to the restricted fund monies, total state spending will amount to \$5.6 billion.

State Lottery

The voters, on May 16, changed the Constitution by a 3-1 margin and eliminated the restriction on gambling. Since then, the Legislature has passed a lottery bill. It is expected to be in operation by December 1. It will be run by a Lottery Commissioner appointed by the Governor. Forty-five percent of the revenue will go into prizes and the remainder to the state. Lottery tickets will be sold most everywhere, making them easily accessible. It will be illegal for those under 18 to buy tickets. Lottery winnings will be exempt from state and local taxes.

Other states permitting lotteries are New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

Other gambling bills will receive further consideration in September. These include legislation to legalize bingo for religious, fraternal, service, senior citizen or veterans' organizations.

Another bill would legalize dog racing in Michigan, permitting ten greyhound racing tracks around the state. Money from betting at these tracks would be divided among local governments, with one-half going to all counties on a population basis.

A third bill would legalize off-track betting.

If these bills finally pass, it is estimated that total state revenue, together with the lottery, could be \$120 million or more.

Agriculture

A legislative measure that could have a very significant effect on agricultural markets was the creation of a Michigan Foreign Trade Office to be set up in Brussels, Belgium, to promote Michigan products in the European market.

It is said that Michigan ranks second among all the states in exports, with more than \$2 billion a year, but is 38th among the states that actively promote such trade. Many of Michigan's agricultural commodities must find markets outside of the United States, as it would be impossible to use them all within this country.

The Legislature continued the Committee to Study Feedlot Licensing. Michigan is one of four states that does not have some type of feedlot regulations. Farm Bureau is active on a committee with state officials to set up a voluntary approach to feedlot management.

Potato legislation included requiring a "color coding" on unclassified potato packages and changing the Potato Commission Act to permit 18-year-olds as members and require growers to keep sales records.

An 11-member Beef Council was created to promote red meat, with a check-off of 1/10 of 1% of the gross proceeds from all cattle sales. A producer referendum is required after three years and each five years thereafter.

A bill to quarantine animals that have ingested toxic substances was passed.

The FFA appropriation was maintained, as was the 4-H appropriation; however, strong forces are at work to eliminate many of these appropriations. The appropriations for migrant housing cost-sharing were maintained and appropriations for the Extension Service and Experiment Station remain about the same as the previous year.

Many other bills affecting agriculture will be considered in the session.

Environment

Many environmental measures were passed—one that received a last minute final approval was the air pollution bill, which includes the amendment supported by Farm Bureau to exempt animal odors from the definition of air pollution.

H. 4948, requiring permits for water course changes, including farm drainage, was heavily amended and will be further considered in September. Further amendments are necessary to protect farmers' drainage rights.

Another measure exempts ponds of five acres or less from DNR approval.

Numerous other environmental bills were considered and many are still pending, including several on land use, erosion, etc.

The Legislature adopted an official Pledge of Allegiance to the state flag—"I pledge allegiance to the flag of Michigan, and to the state for which it stands, two beautiful peninsulas united by a bridge of steel, where equal opportunity and justice to all is our ideal."



All state FFA officers, including state president Carl Kincade, Port Austin, recorded a radio tape for use on their local radio station when they visited Farm Bureau Center last month. The state officers met with the Council members of Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives to gain a better understanding of the role cooperatives have in serving agriculture.

"Meaty" Program of Work

A "meaty" program of work for county Farm Bureau Women's Committees to sink their efforts and talents into, was the way Women's Activities Coordinator Helen Atwood described the results of a two-day session at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing on July 6 and 7. Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Program Planning Committee, consisting of 28 district chairmen, vice chairmen and new district officers, spent long hours analyzing women's activities in Michigan and came up with a list of recommendations for a "Program of Work" for the 1972-73 year.

At the helm of this group was Mrs. Claudine Jackson, vice chairman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committee, who was pleased with the productive and stimulating meeting, and especially with the amount of participation by the officers elect in discussion of issues of concern.

The Committee recommended that county committees throughout the state concentrate on such projects as encouraging members to become more active; the study and execution of Farm Bureau policies, including legislative activities; understanding the market system and promotion of MACMA; safety and health promotion; and further development of good farm image. Top priority was given to the promotion of first-aid kits on every farm.

In addition to rural-urban activities and a speakers bureau to help tell the story of agriculture, the women will concentrate their efforts on a welcome wagon type "This Is Farm Bureau" project. The goal of this project is to personally welcome new Farm Bureau members and provide them with information on the services and products available to them through the total organization. Volunteer "hostesses" from the county Farm Bureaus will call on each new member family, welcome them to Farm Bureau, and leave a kit of materials.

Included in the kit, which will be contained in an attractive folder with Farm Bureau design and colors, will be a brochure from each affiliate company telling of

the services and products available, a gift item from each company, and a county directory of persons representing all companies who can be contacted for further information. Follow-up contacts will be made based on information supplied by the hostesses, indicating any product or service in which the new member showed particular interest. Although this project will be spearheaded by Farm Bureau Women, in some counties husband-wife teams will welcome new members.

Participants in the program planning meeting were MFB Women's Committee members: Mrs. Doris Wieland, chairman; Mrs. Claudine Jackson, vice chairman; Mrs. Alice Burandt, chairman, Dist. 1; Mrs. Ruth Rigg, chairman, Dist. 2; Mrs. Leora Smith, chairman, Dist. 4; Mrs. Evelyn Rhodes, vice chairman, Dist. 4; Mrs. Maud Bristol, chairman, Dist. 5; Mrs. Grace Greenhoe, chairman, Dist. 7; Mrs. Lillian Woney, chairman, Dist. 8; Mrs. Harriet Schindler, vice chairman, Dist. 8; Mrs. Ruth Cooper, chairman, Dist. 9; Mrs. Doris Cordes, chairman, Dist. 10-E; Mrs. Edna Timm, vice chairman, Dist. 10-E; Mrs. Bertha Parsons, chairman, Dist. 10-W; Mrs. Marie Postma, chairman, Dist. 11-E; and Mrs. Mille Corey, chairman, Dist. 11-W.

District officers elect contributing efforts and ideas to the program planning were: Mrs. Jeanne Sparks, chairman, Dist. 1; Mrs. Nancy Geiger, chairman, Dist. 3; Mrs. Olis Hudson, vice chairman, Dist. 3; Mrs. Linda Jennings, chairman, Dist. 5; Mrs. Janice McMical, vice chairman, Dist. 5; Mrs. Martha Thuemmel, chairman, Dist. 6; Mrs. Louise Wagoner, chairman, Dist. 7; Mrs. Leona Chapin, vice chairman, Dist. 7; Mrs. Lorraine Lutz, chairman, Dist. 9; Mrs. Amelia Benson, vice chairman, Dist. 9; Mrs. Faye Gribbell, chairman, Dist. 11-E; and Mrs. Julia Kronemeyer, vice chairman, Dist. 11-E.

The complete Program of Work, as recommended by the MFB Women's Program Planning Committee, was adopted by the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors on July 11.

Leadership Workshops

Recommendations made by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committee will be the main topic at a series of multi-district leadership workshops for state, district and county Farm Bureau Women's leaders scheduled for August. The workshops will be in session from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All county Women's Committee officers, including newly-elected officers, and especially women who are willing to be leaders in promoting the recommended projects, are urged to attend. The workshops are scheduled for:

Districts 6 and 8 (Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair, Tuscola, Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw Counties), Friday, August 4, Delta College, Saginaw County.

Districts 7 and 9 (Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Benzie, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee, N.W. Michigan and Wexford), Monday, August 7, McGuire's Motel, Cadillac.

Districts 1 and 4 (Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent and Ottawa), Wednesday, August 9, Sveden House, Kalamazoo.

Districts 10E and 10W (Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Otsego and Presque Isle), Thursday, August 10, Chief Shoppenagon Hotel, Grayling.

Districts 2, 3 and 5 (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw, Wayne, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham and Shiawassee), Friday, August 11, Farm Bureau Center, Lansing.

Details for similar workshops in the Upper Peninsula, scheduled for October, will be announced at a later date.

Aiming toward involving more women in the activities of the Farm Bureau Women, the Program Planning Committee urges that each county have at least five women present at the workshops, and as many more as are interested.

LETTUCE BOYCOTT MYTH

By Creston Foster

Support of the so-called lettuce "boycott" was an "in" thing of the "new politics" dominating the recent Democratic convention in Miami.

Most of those waving banners before TV cameras calling for a support of the lettuce "boycott" by Cesar Chavez, head of the United Farm Workers National Union (AFL-CIO), didn't have the vaguest idea of what it was all about. They apparently were following orders of the supporters of the Democratic party nominee, Senator George McGovern, who has pledged his support to the Chavez cause.

TV viewers unwittingly were victims of a propaganda campaign which had been seized upon with vigor by the young radicals who had taken the convention away from Democratic party regulars.

The demonstrations at the convention revealed once again that the lettuce "boycott" is perhaps the most misunderstood issue of the day.

Convention viewers never were given any facts on the boycott as the media blindly accepted the statements of Chavez and his cohorts and failed in their responsibility to even check any other available sources in the trade.

The real truth about the "boycott" is that 75 percent of the 1972 lettuce crop is being harvested and moved to market by the Teamsters union which has contracts with the large growers. If consumers were restricted to purchasing only Chavez union lettuce, they wouldn't find much on the market to buy, and it would be extremely expensive.

The jurisdictional dispute between Chavez's union and the Teamsters' union has never been settled and growers have stuck by their contracts with the latter union.

It is also interesting to note that Freshpict Foods, Inc., in Salinas, California, one of the few lettuce producers operating under a Chavez contract, has announced it is ending its lettuce and celery har-

vesting and marketing operations after October 1. Floyd Griffin, district manager for Freshpict, a subsidiary of Purex, Ltd., said that the firm's contract with the United Farm Workers National Union, has pushed labor costs too high.

The Democratic presidential nominee who claims to be a friend of farmers has not shown much concern about effects of Chavez's boycott, which he supports, on lettuce producers.

Lettuce producers who may not even hire labor, and many miles removed from the union jurisdictional dispute, could have their product completely barred from the market because it does not bear the Chavez black eagle emblem.

It will be interesting to see if Senator McGovern continues his ardent support of Chavez's efforts when the United Farm Workers union carries its coercive pressures into the Midwest farm belt to force farmers to sign their workers into the union.

The Good Stuff



Now available for the first time at Kroger stores throughout Michigan... "Florida's Best" frozen concentrated orange juice. You have enjoyed "Florida's Best" citrus through our farmer-to-farmer marketing program, now that same great flavor is available frozen from your friends at Florida Farm Bureau — packers of "The Good Stuff."



Marketing Bill Ready for House

The agricultural marketing rights legislation (S. 1225) is now before the Michigan House of Representatives. The bill will be up for consideration when the House of Representatives reconvenes on September 6 following its summer recess. The Michigan Senate passed S. 1225 in April.

On June 28, S. 1225 was voted out of the House Labor Committee just two days before the House recessed on June 30. Repeated efforts by supporters of the bill to bring it up for a vote on Friday, June 30 were almost successful, but a significant number of representatives did not want to reveal their positions on the bill prior to the August Primary Election.

The House Labor Committee, under the able leadership of Rep. James Bradley, spent considerable time working on the bill. The committee held three public hearings on farm marketing rights legislation. The hearings were held on March 20 at Shelby, May 23 at the Capitol in Lansing and June 16 at Blissfield. (The Senate had two public hearings, one in St. Johns, the other in Benton Harbor.)

Several committee meetings were very lengthy, with much of the time taken up by opponents who chose not to express their opposition at the public hearings in the presence of farmers.

The bill reported out of committee is now known as the House Substitute for Senate Bill 1225. The bill has been reprinted and contains clarifying amendments. Most of the changes in the bill resulted from the committee's review of the testimony received at the public hearings and committee meetings. Dr. James Shaffer of the Michigan State University Department of Agricultural Economics served as a technical consultant to the committee.

Many of the amendments contained in the House Substitute for Senate Bill 1225 clarify the procedures for accreditation, bargaining and arbitration. They do not change the substance of the Bill, but will improve the application of the provisions of the legislation after it has been enacted into law.

Agricultural commodities that will be eligible to use the legislation will be limited to "all perishable fruits and vegetables as defined by the Board." This limitation resulted from legislators yielding to the pressures of the buyers and processors of many commodities. Fruit and vegetable growers and their organizations have been most active in support of S. 1225. Michigan Farm Bureau policy states: "This legislation should be available to the producers of all agricultural commodities if they, through their marketing organizations, desire to organize and operate through the provisions of the act."

The House Substitute for S. 1225 still contains an undesirable expiration date. As it stands, the act will expire September 1, 1976. The Senate passed bill has a January 1, 1975 expiration date. Either date would result in too brief a period of time for marketing associations to effectively operate under the law.

Farm Bureau members are urged to contact their local member of the Michigan House of Representatives and ask him to support the House Substitute for Senate Bill 1225 and oppose all crippling amendments.

Agricultural marketing rights legislation is urgently needed, especially by fruit and vegetable producers who are faced with a radically changing marketing system that leaves them with little or no individual bargaining power.

Record Year for Michigan Asparagus

Preliminary Michigan asparagus production, pack and price statistics reveal that growers and processors had a record high year in 1972.

The MACMA Asparagus Division, which represents over 50% of the tonnage in the state, negotiated with processors for a 25¢ per pound base price. The 1971 negotiated price was 23½¢ per pound.

Canners and freezers processed about 20.8 million pounds of Michigan asparagus this year, exceeding the previous record high 1969 pack of 20.4 million pounds. About 95% of Michigan grown asparagus is processed. Canned and frozen asparagus is moving to a ready market at improved prices.

Asparagus production in Mich-

igan is increasing while production in several other major producing states is declining. The Michigan Crop Reporting Service conducted a special survey this spring which will reveal the expansion of acreage in the state.

Research to further improve asparagus production, handling and processing practices is being conducted through a three-year asparagus research project under the sponsorship of Michigan State University, the Michigan Asparagus Research Committee and the American Farm Bureau Research Foundation. Funds to support the research are paid by processors at the rate of \$1.00 per ton. This arrangement was negotiated by the MACMA Processing Asparagus Marketing Committee.

Wheat Marketing—Last Chance

The Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing Program is again available to serve wheat marketing needs of members. All wheat producing members are urged to consign wheat to the Program this year.

The 1972 Program will be operated similar to the Programs of the past few years. The advance payment rate will be the same as last year and vary according to the freight rate zone of the receiving elevator. Final payment will be made at the close of the marketing year.

Two marketing pools—a red wheat pool and a white wheat pool—will be new to the program this year. The advance pay-

ment rate will be the same for both types of wheat. Different final payments will be made for red wheat and white wheat.

Members can consign wheat to the Program simply by delivering wheat to a participating cooperative elevator and telling an elevator employee that the wheat is to be in the Program. A Delivery and Settlement form is completed at the elevator and signed by the producer. First year participants will also need to sign an agreement.

The deadline for sign-up in the 1972 crop Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing Program will be September 1, 1972.



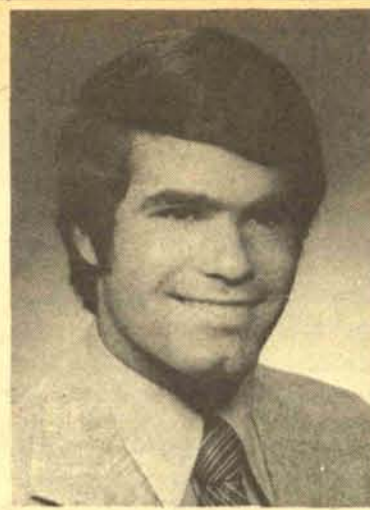
WIMMER

Effective August 1, Kenneth Wimmer, Regional Representative in the Central Region will be transferring to the Thumb Region replacing Dave Pohl who recently resigned to enter farming.

Before joining the staff of the Michigan Farm Bureau in June, 1966, Ken taught in the Howell Junior High School.

A graduate of Michigan State University with a B.S. degree in Agriculture Mechanics, Wimmer is a life-long resident of Livingston County. His background includes several years of 4-H club work and FFA activity. He has also been active in the Howell Jaycees and is past chairman of the Howell Melon Festival.

Ken will be serving the counties of Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, Lapeer, St. Clair and Macomb.



ATKINSON

Donald Atkinson of Kalamazoo has been appointed regional representative of the West Region (Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa Counties) effective July 10, according to Charles Burkett, Manager of the Field Operations Division of Michigan Farm Bureau.

Don is a native of the Hickory Corners area of Southern Barry County where his parents are Farm Bureau members. He graduated from Gull Lake High School where he was very active in all sports.

He earned his B.S. degree in agriculture from Western Michigan University in June, 1972. While in college, he was active in the Agriculture Club, intramural athletics and a member of Delta Tau Alpha agriculture honor society.



NELSON

Ronald E. Nelson, regional representative of the West Region since April, 1970, has been appointed marketing specialist in the Market Development Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau effective June 26, 1972. His new responsibilities will involve dairy, fruits and vegetables.

Before joining the MFB staff, he attended Muskegon Community College, Ferris State College and graduated from Western Michigan University with a B.S. degree in agriculture. He also served a period of active duty in the U.S. Army and was employed in the research department of Gerber Products Company in Fremont.

Ron, his wife Betty and their family reside in Jenison, but plan to move to the Lansing area in the near future.

Cherry Pricing

Perplexed, dismayed and angry cherry growers from throughout the state have been attending special meetings called by the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) to discuss the red tart cherry price.

Early in July the MACMA Red Tart Cherry Marketing Committee announced that the price for this year's crop should reflect ten cents per pound for 92 grade score level cherries. This is the same price growers received last year.

This action was taken following the recent initiation of a Federal Marketing Order by which growers were ordered to set aside 15 percent of this year's crop. The main purpose of the order is to cut volume in big crop years in an effort to maintain a stable price for both growers and producers.

With the Order in effect, some processors announced a price as low as 7.2 cents per pound.

Over 300 cherry producers attended a price strategy meeting in southwestern Michigan. After considerable discussion, the group, with a near unanimous vote, decided to support a MACMA two-fold plan of action.

The plan called for mass visitation of growers to processors in an effort to establish a price comparable with last year, and what was termed a "processors holiday" when growers would not deliver to a certain processor on a day when harvest was in full swing.

Visitations were conducted and an announced price by processors of eight cents per pound was recognized by the growers. However, cherry producers warned that any processor not meeting the eight cent per pound minimum price could expect mass visitation.

In recognizing the eight cents per pound price, Harry Foster, manager of the Red Tart Cherry Division of MACMA, stated, "It doesn't satisfy our price objective of ten cents per pound, but we

have to be practical and responsible. Eight cents sure beats the seven cents that was offered. The crop is ready to pick and a boycott won't pay bills."

Foster also added that price offers of seven or eight cents would mean a grower loss of from \$6 to \$7 million, and this figure can be multiplied greatly in terms of loss of business generated to local communities.

Meetings were also held in Hart and Traverse City in order to bring some processors in line with the eight cent minimum price.



Art Dowd (l), acting chairman, MACMA Red Tart Cherry Marketing Committee and Harry Foster, manager, MACMA cherry division, review plan of action at cherry meeting.

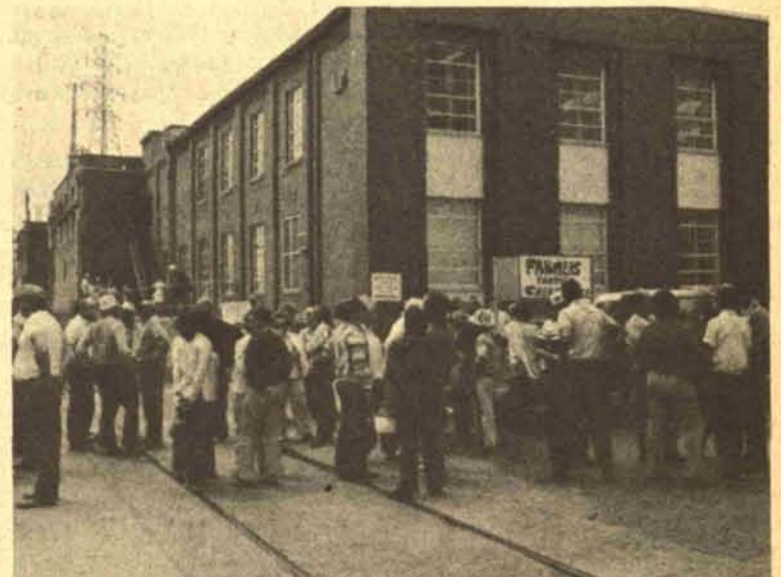
"Fall Outlook" Meetings

A series of "Fall Outlook Meetings" to review the available supplies and prospective prices of feeder cattle will be held by the MACMA Order Buyer Division.

The scheduled meetings, which will start at 8 p.m., are: August 8, Hamilton Farm Bureau Cooperative, Hamilton; August 9, Livingston County Farm Bureau office, Howell; and August 10, Lenawee County Farm Bureau Office, Adrian.

The feeder cattle situations in states which supply cattle through AAMA to MACMA will be discussed by representatives from those states. Dr. James McKean, Farm Bureau Services staff veterinarian, will be on hand to discuss ways of keeping new feeder cattle healthy and answer questions about the proper starting of calves. MACMA staff will present their views and answer questions.

Feedlot operators who are MACMA members or prospective members are invited to attend the meeting most convenient for them.



Cherry growers show their muscle at processor's plant in Benton Harbor.

Tax Break For Political Contributions

It is generally recognized that in order to conduct a successful campaign a candidate or political party must have financial support. Contributions to specific candidates or political parties by individuals is an important source of campaign funds.

Except for voting, a contribution to a candidate or political party of their choice may be the most important action many individuals can take to be politically active in 1972. As added incentive for individuals to make political contributions both the Michigan Legislature and Congress have enacted laws giving tax breaks for small contributions to candidates or political parties.

The Michigan law provides that when computing taxable income for State income tax purposes, any person shall be allowed to deduct political contributions to candidates or political parties up to \$50.00 per year. This deduction will be permissible for the first time when filing 1972 Michigan income tax returns.

At the Federal level, the Revenue Act of 1971 contains two provisions for political contributions.

First, beginning with 1972 Federal income tax returns, any individual who owes income tax can check off \$1.00 of the tax to a Presidential Election Campaign Fund. In the case of a joint return, \$2.00 can be checked off. The amount can be designated for use by a Presidential candidate, political party or as a general fund to be shared. This check off will not have any effect on the 1972 Presidential election because tax returns for the calendar year 1972 are not due until April 15, 1973.

Second, the Revenue Act of 1971 allows an individual a credit against his Federal income tax for one-half of the political contributions he makes during a taxable year. The credit cannot exceed \$12.50 for the return filed by a single person or \$25.00 for a joint return filed by husband and wife. In principle, this credit will work in the same manner as investment credit on purchases of farm equipment.

As an alternative to the credit, a person filing a single tax return can deduct from his adjusted gross income an amount not to exceed \$50.00 for political contributions. Taxpayers filing a joint return can deduct up to \$100.00 for political contributions.

The credit or deductions can be claimed only for contributions made to candidates who have publicly announced for local, state or national office; to committees operating in support of one or more announced candidates; and to local, state or national committees of national political parties.



VOTE AUG. 8th



National Legislative Notes

By Albert A. Almy

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING AND BARGAINING ACT OF 1972

On May 15 a clarified version of the Sisk Bill was introduced. The new bill, H.R. 14987, is known as the National Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act of 1972. It incorporates several amendments which clarify certain provisions of the original Sisk Bill without changing its purpose. H.R. 14987 would establish a mutual obligation of a handler and a qualified producers' association to meet at reasonable times and negotiate in good faith with respect to the production and sale of commodities grown under contract. H.R. 14987 is under consideration by the Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing and Consumer Relations of the House of Agriculture Committee.

FARM LABOR LEGISLATION

The Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1972 (H.R. 13981) has been introduced with strong bipartisan support. The bill would create an Agricultural Labor Relations Board with jurisdiction over agricultural labor disputes.

H.R. 13981 would permit the development of rules and regulations which recognize the needs of producers of perishable farm products and be fair to farm labor. It would prohibit secondary boycotts and provide secret ballot elections to permit workers to decide for themselves whether or not to be represented by a union.

The House Farm Labor Subcommittee has begun hearings on H.R. 13981 and several other pieces of farm labor legislation, most of which would bring agriculture under the National Labor Relations Act.

MINIMUM WAGE

The House has passed a minimum wage bill (H.R. 7130) which would raise the Federal farm minimum wage rate from the current \$1.30 per hour to \$1.50 per hour 60 days after enactment and to \$1.70 per hour a year later. Eligibility or coverage of farm workers from existing minimum wage requirements was not changed.

The Senate has passed its own minimum wage bill (S. 1861). The Senate passed S. 1861 after defeating a substitute bill which called for minimum wage increases identical to the House passed bill. Senate bill 1861 would increase the farm minimum wage to \$2.20 per hour in periodic steps. It would also reduce the scope of current agricultural minimum wage exemptions.

Differences in the House and Senate passed minimum wage bills will now go to a Conference Committee.

CABINET REORGANIZATION

An extensive reorganization of the Executive Branch of government has been proposed. Bills have been introduced to combine the functions of several existing cabinet level departments into four new cabinet level departments.

One of the bills is H.R. 6962, which would create a new cabinet level Department of Community Development. It would transfer to the new department 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 now within the Department of Agriculture.

The REA administers loan programs for rural electrification and rural telephone service. The FHA administers housing loans to farmers, rural residents and small rural communities. It also administers water and sewer programs in rural areas.

Concern has been expressed that if transferred to the proposed Department of Community Development, the rural-oriented REA and FHA programs would be diminished by growing demands for more money and programs in urban areas. This concern may be justified since the new department also would absorb the entire Department of Housing and Urban Development with its Model Cities and urban renewal programs.

H.R. 6962 has been reported from Committee and is awaiting consideration by the House.

FEDERAL MARKETING ORDER FOR APPLES

H.R. 15352 has been introduced and would authorize federal marketing orders for apples in all apple-producing states. Apples used for the fresh market, canning and freezing would be eligible.

Current authorization for federal marketing orders for apples excludes several important apple-producing states such as Washington, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina. Apples produced in these states would be eligible for a federal marketing order if H.R. 15352 were enacted.

Under the bill, a marketing order involving apples for canning or freezing would have to be approved by processors who

canned or froze fifty percent of the total volume to be regulated.

The Subcommittee on Domestic Marketing and Consumer Relations of the House Agriculture Committee has held hearings on H.R. 15352.

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

The Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1971, H.R. 10729, has passed the House. It 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 without restriction 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 be permitted to administer licensing of such applicators.

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported H.R. 10729 with amendments. The bill was then transferred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, which reported it with more amendments. It is now awaiting full Senate action.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT

Recent House and Senate consideration of the Department of Labor appropriation bill resulted in action that is expected to alter for one year the administration of OSHA to small employers.

The Labor Department appropriation bill was amended by the House to prohibit the use of appropriated funds for OSHA inspection of employers who employ 25 or fewer workers. The Senate also approved an amendment which would prohibit the use of appropriated funds for OSHA inspection of employers who employ 15 or fewer workers. A Conference Committee will work out the differences between the House and Senate passed bills.

The purpose of the amendments is to provide a one-year moratorium from inspection of small employers and allow Congress time for consideration of amendments that would ease the problems of OSHA administration to small employers. Hearings may be held later this year on the impact of OSHA on small employers.

MEAT INSPECTION

The Senate has passed a bill, S. 1316, which would increase from 50 percent to 80 percent the amount that may be paid as the federal government's share of the cost of any cooperative meat inspection program carried out by any state.

The House Agricultural Committee has received S. 1316 from the Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains with an amendment that is of much concern to Michigan. It provides that states with any different marking, labeling, packaging, or ingredient requirements than provided by Federal law shall not be eligible for Federal funds to conduct a cooperative inspection program.

Michigan's Commuted Meat Law contains stricter ingredient standards for commuted meats than Federal law provides. Only skeletal meat is permitted in hot dogs, sausages, bologna, etc. under Michigan law while Federal law permits lips, snouts, spleens, tripe, etc. to be used.

Such a requirement would force Michigan to lower its high commuted meat standards in order to qualify for 80 percent Federal funding for meat inspection.

Farm Bureau became active on this problem and went to Washington, D. C. along with state officials to protest. As a result of this effort, the committee amended the bill to permit Michigan to continue its high standards for commuted meats.



Eugene Roberts (l) accompanied by his wife Eleanor, accepts a certificate of Achievement for Service from President Elton R. Smith following Roberts' resignation from the MFB Board of Directors.

Crop and Supply Report

By Greg Sheffield

Farm Bureau Services

FIELD CROPS — The effects of cool, cloudy weather in the early half of July and dry soils in many localities limited crop growth. Corn was averaging 25 inches. Some dry bean acreage was replanted because of root rot. Many soybeans planted late have good stands. Sugarbeets show good top growth and potatoes not hurt by frost are developing well. Most wheat has turned yellow and more than ten percent is ripening. Harvesting of early maturing fields in the state's southeast started in early July. More than 80 percent of our oats have headed with dry soils limiting development in some areas. Almost all first cutting hay is made, with yields in Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula. Pastures are below average in most of the state. U.S.D.A. report showed national corn acreage is down ten percent; wheat production five percent smaller than 1971 harvest. Corn predicted at 57.3 million acres, two million less than expected. Soybeans, 45.6 million acres predicted, compared to 43.1 million in 1971. Wheat export is expected to exceed previous season's 623.8 million bushels barring dock strikes. 22.8 million bushels indicated for Michigan in 1972 compared to 20.5 million last year.

Supplies — Normal, with fertilizer, pesticides, twine and most other supplies adequate. A shortage of Genesee seed wheat is expected. Post-emergence use of Outfox herbicide on corn giving excellent control. Post-emergence soybean weed controls drawing on supplies. Corn drying and storage equipment in strong demand.

SWINE — U.S. No. 1 to 2, 200-220 lbs. \$30 to \$29.75, July 14, Peoria, E. St. Louis, Omaha. Michigan hogs per cwt in June \$25.80, up \$7.80 over June 15, 1971. Although farmers are shipping less hogs to market, curtailed wholesale demand is keeping prices steady to lower. With hog prices so variable and curtailed slaughter, packer margins must slow improvement for still higher prices. \$25.80 cwt. for Michigan was the highest June price on record.

CATTLE — Mid-June Michigan beef cattle prices continue up reaching a new record, \$34.20 per cwt up \$1.10, May. Slightly more cattle are coming to market but demand exceeds supply and margins for packers appear firm.

LAMB & WOOL — Michigan lambs \$32.40 cwt, up \$3.50 over June, 1972. Wool at \$1.20 lb., fine staple Boston, compared with 58 cents lb. year ago. Michigan wool 33 cents lb., June 15.

DAIRY PRODUCTS — Generally increased production and use. Net manufacturing use of whole milk was 1.7 billion pounds, up six percent from 1960 and ten percent more than 1969. Butter

production is up 11 percent and is 35 million pounds. Cheese up five percent over 1970 and totals 30.3 million pounds in Michigan. Our American cheese which includes Cheddar, Colby and Jack (Monterey), are down eight percent from 1970. Other cheeses including Italian and Brick were up 28 percent. Creamed cottage cheese was 66.6 million lbs., a six percent increase over 1970. Milk wholesale, per cwt. \$5.90, June 15, 20 cents over last year.

Supplies — Feed purchases slower with full use of pastures. Higher ingredient prices have not slowed farmer purchases because of high meat prices received. Flooding in New York and Pennsylvania caused serious feed shortages and plant shutdowns but Michigan supplies have not been affected.

Dairymen savings on Milk Replacer, Manna Mate, Optimil and Serum 591 possible through August. Soybean meal 44 percent Decatur \$101-102; Michigan, Indiana, Ohio \$102.50 to 103. Restraints on DES in feeds are proposed by the FDA. Selenium in feed may be delayed by FDA.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

— The 20 percent smaller than last year crop of strawberries was marketed at higher prices. Processing strawberries sold for 19-20¢ per pound compared to last year's 16¢ per pound. Michigan asparagus processors packed a record 20.8 million pounds and paid growers 25¢ plus per pound. Blueberry harvest is underway with about a 40-50 percent of a normal crop anticipated due to the June

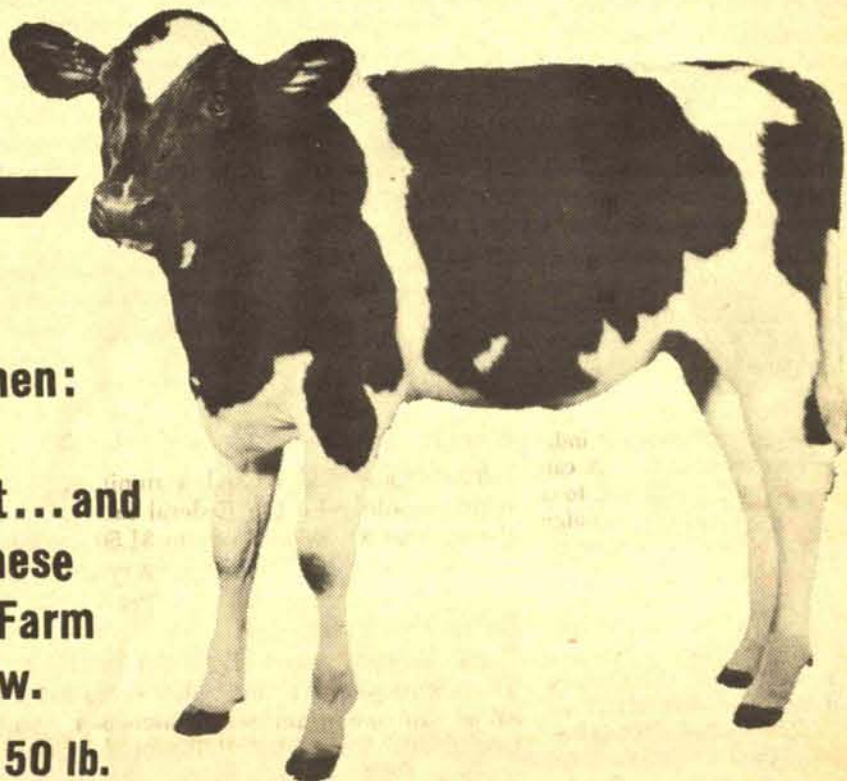
11 freeze. Demand exceeds the supply of the very short Michigan peach crop with only 14 million pounds available compared to the 82 million pounds produced in Michigan last year. Harvest of the 30 percent larger than last year's crop of red tart cherries has been completed in southern Michigan and is now in full swing in northern Michigan. The Michigan apple crop is estimated at 4 percent less than 1971 and the U.S. apple crop is expected to be down one percent from last year.

Supplies — Vegetable and fruit sprays generally in good supply with the exception of scarce Sevin and Parathion. Environmental Protection Agency proposes longer pre-harvest intervals for Maneb, Dithane M-22, Manzate, Zineb, Dithane Z-78, Parzate, Poly-

ram, Cosanil, Dithane M-45, Manzate 200. Aldrin and Dieldrin may be cancelled if manufacturers do not answer restrictions of FDA.

POULTRY AND EGGS — long term outlook indicates price improvements in eggs. Higher prices for other high-protein foods will hopefully help the consumption of low priced eggs. Detroit prices week of July 10 to 14 ranged: large whites, 29½ to 33; medium, 23 to 27¼; small, 14 to 18. Spent hen offerings 9½ cents F.O.B. farmtruck lots.

Supplies — Prices paid by Michigan farmers, laying feed, ton \$88; chick starter, ton \$108, Michigan crop report. Bulk corn approximately \$44.60. Adequate supplies and steady prices.



**Attention Michigan Dairymen:
Let us show you stronger,
healthier calf development... and
save you money, too, on these
calf starter items at your Farm
Bureau Feed Specialist Now.**

- MILK REPLACER - 40¢ off on 50 lb. bag, 20¢ off on 25 lb. bag
- MANNA MATE - 15¢ off on 50 lb. bag
- OPTIMIL - 50¢ off per pail
- SERUM 591 - 50¢ off on 100 cc vial

Offer Ends Aug. 31, 1972

See these Farm Bureau Feed Specialists NOW!

Allegan - Allegan Farmers Co-Op Assoc. 616/673-2508	Fremont - Fremont Co-Op Produce Co. 616/924-3851	Pinconning - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 517/879-3411
Battle Creek - Battle Creek Farm Bureau 616/962-4025	Harbor Beach - Wruble Elevator, Inc. 517/479-5254	Remus - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 517/967-3511
Bay City - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 517/893-3577	Hart - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/873-2158	Ruth - Ruth Farmers Elevator, Inc. 517/864-3391
Buchanan - Buchanan Co-Op, Inc. 616/695-6823	Hastings - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/945-2223	Saginaw - Farm Bureau Services 517/753-3457
Caledonia - Caledonia Farmers Elevator Co. 616/891-8108	Herron - Wolf Creek Farm Bureau 517/727-2391	Scottville - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/757-2594
Caro - Caro Farmers Co-Op Elevator 517/673-3101	Highland - Highland Producers Association 313/685-1503	Sebewaing - Sebewaing Farmers Co-Op 517/883-3030
Charlevoix - Charlevoix Co-Op, Inc. 616/547-6721	Hillsdale - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 517/437-4487	Snover - Snover Co-Op Elevator Co. 313/672-9221
Charlotte - Eaton Farm Bureau Co-Op, Inc. 517/543-1160	Holland - Holland Co-Op Company 616/396-6526	Stanwood - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/823-2081
Chelsea - Farmers Supply Company 313/475-5511	Howell - Howell Co-Op Co. 517/546-3450 & 546-3960	Sterling - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 517/654-3142
Chesaning - Chesaning Farmers Co-Op, Inc. 517/845-3040	Hudsonville - Farmers Co-Op Elevator Co. 616/669-9596 & 669-1114	St. Johns - St. Johns Co-Op Company 517/224-2381
Climax - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/746-4286	Ithaca - Ithaca Roller Mills 517/875-4134	Tecumseh - Hayden Mills, Inc. 313/423-2158
Coldwater - Farm Bureau Services 517/279-9404	Kalamazoo - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/381-0596 & 381-0593	Three Rivers - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/279-2550
Coopersville - Coopersville Co-Op Elevator 616/837-8051	Kent City - Kent City Farm Bureau 616/887-5041 & 887-9990	Traverse City - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/946-5836
Dorr - Salem Co-Op Co. 616/681-9570	Leslie - Leslie Co-Op, Inc. 517/589-2191	Ubley - Wruble Elevator 517/658-4271
Durand - Durand Milling Co. 517/288-3178	Marcellus - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/646-5115	Union City - Farm Bureau Services 517/741-8921
Elkton - Elkton Co-Op Farm Produce Co. 517/375-2281	McBain - Falmouth Co-Operative Co. 616/825-2483	Vestaburg - Vestaburg Marketing Assn. 517/268-5272
Ellsworth - Ellsworth Farmers Exchange 616/588-2300	Mendon - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 616/496-2385	West Branch - West Branch Farmers Co-Op 517/345-0428
Falmouth - Falmouth Co-Op Co. 616/826-4424	Mt. Pleasant - Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 517/773-3670	Yale - St. Clair County Farm Bureau Services, Inc., 313/387-2202
Fowlerville - Fowlerville Co-Op Company 517/223-8821	North Star - North Star Elevator 517/875-4131	Ypsilanti - Ypsilanti Farm Bureau Assn. 313/483-0662
	Pigeon - Cooperative Elevator Company 517/453-3313	

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Where Your Farm Comes First
Farm Bureau
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

—NOTES—

Tom Kloosterman has been named manager of the Farm Bureau Services St. Joseph County operation at Mendon and Three Rivers.

Tom graduated from the Otsego High School and has spent the past four years in the feed business.

Tom and his wife, Nancy, and their four boys plan to move to the Mendon area in the near future.

• • •

Recent visitors to Farm Bureau Center included several car loads of Farm Bureau Women from Gratiot County and a bus load of Farm Bureau Women from Ottawa County. Following their visit to Farm Bureau Center, the Ottawa ladies visited the Pesticide Research Center and the Horticulture Garden and greenhouses at Michigan State University.

• • •

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz announced appointment of Walter Wittenbach of Belding as a member of the Michigan State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) Committee. Mr. Wittenbach fills a vacancy created by appointment of Nicholas Smith, former chairman, to the position of Assistant Deputy Administrator for State and County Operations, Washington, D. C.

Committee member W. Arthur Rowley of Richmond was named to succeed Mr. Smith as Michigan State Committee Chairman.

Since 1932 Mr. Wittenbach has operated a 300-acre farm in Kent County where he has lived all his life. He specialized in dairy farming until 10 years ago when he switched to growing fruit and cash crops.

For ten years he has been a member of the Pomsters and once served as state president for one year. He is a member of Farm Bureau and the National Association of Farmer Elected Committeemen.

Other members of the State ASC Committee are William F. Vanderbeek of Ithaca, and ex-officio member George S. McIntyre, East Lansing, Director of the Michigan Cooperative Extension Service.

• • •

Appointment of Paul R. Schmidt of Marshall as feed sales representative in the eight county Southwestern Michigan area for Farm Bureau Services, effective July 5, was announced by Donald R. Armstrong, executive vice president of the state farm cooperative.

Schmidt will serve livestock producers in Berrien, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Cass, St. Joseph, Branch, Hillsdale, Calhoun and Lenawee Counties.

A graduate of Marshall High School and the Michigan State University general agriculture course, Schmidt previously has been employed by the Marshall Farmers Elevator, the Nappanee Distributing Co., and Brown Molasses Company.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The annual meeting of Michigan Farm Bureau, Farmers Petroleum and Farm Bureau Services will be held again this year in Grand Rapids on November 8, 9, and 10.

Highlights of the first day's program will include the Michigan Farm Bureau president's address by Elton R. Smith, a combined luncheon; the Farm Bureau Women's program; special commodity sessions and the all Farm Bureau Banquet.

The second day will open with the annual meetings of Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative followed by a complementary luncheon provided by these two companies. The afternoon of the second day will be devoted to developing the policies of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Two special banquets will be held on Thursday evening involving the Young Farmers and County Presidents.

The third day of the three day session will be taken up with elections and finishing the resolutions.

A special event during the three day meeting will be the "Showplace 72" product preview show sponsored by Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. New products and applications will be demonstrated that are of interest to all farmers.

Young Americans Learn

Young Americans learned how to become better citizens at a five-day seminar on the campus of Ferris State College, Big Rapids, in June.

The 189 high school junior and senior students, both rural and urban, who attended the ninth annual Young People's Citizenship Seminar, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau, were selected on the basis of their academic records by county Farm Bureaus.

Dr. Clifton Ganus, president, Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, presented the story of our American Heritage. Dr. John Sparks, chairman, department of economics and business administration, Hillsdale College discussed economics and compared the performances of socialism and capitalism.

People and governments around the world were brought to life by philosopher and world traveler, Dr. John Furbay, Forest Hills, New York.

Leading participation in local government and political activity, which began on the first day of the seminar and continued throughout the week, was Larry

Ewing, director, Program Development Division, MFB.

Arthur Holst, National Football League official, concluded the seminar with an entertaining and challenging speech.

The students displayed a keen interest in the subject matter and expressed a great concern about the problems facing our society today. They departed the seminar determined to contribute all they can towards solving those problems.

The twenty-member counseling staff and students were welcomed to the college by Dr. William Wenrich, vice president of Administrative Affairs, and by Elton R. Smith, president of Michigan Farm Bureau at the opening session.

A two-day Young People's Citizenship Seminar was held at Escanaba for students in the Upper Peninsula. This seminar was conducted by Claude de St. Paar, assistant director, Program Development Division, AFBF; Hugo Kivi, MFB regional representative; Larry Ewing; and David Cook, director, Young Farmer Programs, MFB.

SPOTLIGHT ON DISCUSSIONS

The spotlight will be on county Discussion Meet winners at a series of District Young Farmer meetings this fall. Four challenging questions will be discussed by contestants who will be vying for district honors:

1. What is agriculture's role in improving environmental quality?
2. How can farmers in the 70's adjust to the changing farm labor situation?
3. How can farmers create additional markets for their products?
4. What is the impact of vertical integration on agriculture?

District Discussion Meet winners (two from each district) will compete in the state contest at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting in Grand Rapids in November. The state winner will be awarded a trip to the American Farm Bureau Federation convention in Los Angeles, California, to represent Michigan in the national contest. Included in the California trip will be a visit to Disneyland and a motion picture studio.

Dates of the fall District Young Farmer meetings are (times and places will be announced later): District 1, September 28; District 2, August 29; District 3, October 2; District 4, September 27; District 5, September 14; District 6, September 21; District 7, August 30; District 8, October 3 and Districts 9 and 10, September 25.

Forty-one students participated in the two-day UP seminar. The subject matter was economic systems and their characteristics with emphasis on the private enterprise system; the structure of the American way of life with emphasis on the political and economic rights of U.S. citizens; and studies in county and township government.

Students from both seminars will be making reports and presentations at county Farm Bureau annual meetings and to other interested groups requesting presentations.

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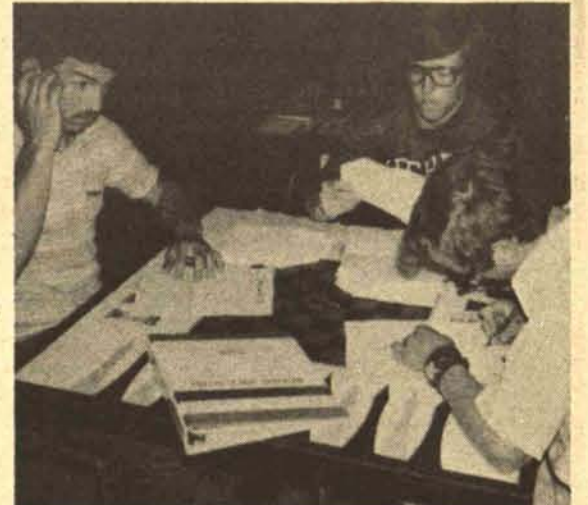
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Running for a political office involved making campaign posters.



Counting ballots proved a tiring task.



Dr. John Furbay challenged the students to join the human race.



Discussion groups provided an opportunity for an exchange of ideas.

Agricultural Production Training Special

"Management is the key to success in modern farming. Today's farmer needs a much higher level of knowledge and skills than his predecessor. This is why college training is becoming the rule rather than the exception for the young commercial farmer," says the Occupational Handbook of the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Statistics in Agriculture.

Southwestern Michigan College at Dowagiac, Michigan, a community college, is attempting to meet these post-secondary agriculture training needs for young men and women seeking an agricultural career. Its instructors and administrators feel that SMC has many distinct and unique features in helping the agricultural student get the best possible experience from his agricultural education.

The four agriculture programs offered at SMC are agriculture

management, horticulture management, agri-business, and the agriculture transfer program.

The SMC agriculture and horticulture management curriculums are designed to prepare the student for occupational opportunities such as herdsman, farm manager, farm partnership, laboratory technician, field representative, and agriculture management consultant. It includes studies of basic principles of soils, agriculture economics, agriculture engineering, disease, insect and weed control.

The SMC agri-business technology curriculum is designed for the student interested in combining his agriculture knowledge with a business career. Occupational opportunities include, office supervisor, agriculture-loan agent, fieldman, feed, fertilizer, or chemical company representative, salesman, livestock manager, or agri-

culture equipment manufacturer's representative.

Students interested in agriculture mechanics can develop this area of study at SMC through the agri-business curriculum.

The fourth SMC program is for the agricultural transfer student who plans to graduate from a four-year college. Because of its direct parallel to Michigan State agriculture courses, SMC's agriculture classes are readily transferrable to other institutions.

A unique advantage of the SMC Agricultural Department is its direct computer hook-up to the Michigan State University Agriculture Department. Readily accessible to SMC agriculture students are over forty computer programs dealing with such agriculture related subjects as weed sprayer calibration, fertilizer recommendations and beef and cow planning guides, in addition to several programs dealing with budgeting and taxation.

Another special feature of SMC is its Work Placement Plan. Francis Hiscock, SMC's dean of Applied Sciences, commented, "Work

placement provides the SMC agriculture student with the opportunity to put into practice classroom theories while earning full-time wages."

"Students in this semester's work placement program have obtained jobs in such diverse farming situations as local dairy and fruit farms, grain elevators, and agriculture machinery dealers." Hiscock mentioned that all students are placed in a position.

An added benefit for SMC agriculture students is the fact that the SMC Agriculture Department has moved up the date of its job placement programs so that students can begin working in April, the peak work period in the agribusiness industry, and the farming season of Southwestern Michigan. This also benefits the SMC agriculture students by enabling them to find employment before the summer job rush begins."

Agriculture instructor Lance Jepson said, "It is essential that farm sales and technical personnel be fully knowledgeable in production so that he can help the farmer and suggest solutions for his problems, while at the same time boosting his own sales."

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DREAM of Hawaii

An opportunity to mix pleasure with business, and a choice of "before" or "after," will be offered to Michigan Farm Bureau members in December. In conjunction with the 1972 American Farm Bureau Federation convention in Los Angeles, California, both pre and post convention tours to beautiful Hawaii are planned.

A four-island Hawaii pre-convention tour begins on November 29, when Farm Bureau members will be flown from either Grand Rapids, Lansing or Detroit airport to Honolulu where they will be quartered at the new Surfrider Hotel in the heart of Waikiki Beach. The next ten days will be spent touring the islands of Oahu, Kauai, Maui and the big island of Hawaii.

Highlights will include visits to Pearl Harbor, Mt. Haleakala (the largest dormant volcano in the world), vast sugar cane fields, pineapple fields and coffee plantations; a boat trip up the Wailua River for a view of the unspoiled Hawaii of centuries ago — with the boat guide singing the famous "Hawaiian Wedding Song;" and many other exciting sightseeing tours.

On Sunday, December 10, Farm Bureau members will be flown to Los Angeles for the national AFBF convention set for December 11, 12 and 13, then back to Michigan on the 14th.

For those who prefer to vacation after the convention, a two-island Hawaii tour is offered. On December 10 members will be flown from either Grand Rapids, Lansing, or Detroit airport to Los Angeles for the 3-day AFBF meeting. On Thursday, December 14, conventioners will board the plane for a non-stop flight to Honolulu, Hawaii. This group will also stay at the Surfrider Hotel and take many of the same tours as the pre-convention tourists, with visits to the islands of Maui and Oahu. Members selecting this tour will be home on Friday, December 22, in time to trim the family Christmas tree.

Cost of the four-island tour is \$690.64, and \$564.84 for the two-island tour. Included in these costs are air transportation, hotels, transfers with tips for baggage handling, all sightseeing as listed in the itinerary, and admissions where applicable. Meals are not included.

Not included in the cost of either tour are meals, all items of expense other than transfer of baggage while attending AFBF convention, room service, telephone calls and items of personal nature. Hotel room costs while in Los Angeles are not included in either tour.

For a day-by-day itinerary of the two tours, send the coupon below to the Program Development Division, Michigan Farm Bureau.

To: Program Development Division
 Michigan Farm Bureau
 P. O. Box 960
 Lansing, Michigan 48904

Please send me a brochure giving details on the December tours to Hawaii.

Name _____
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URBAN SPRAWL

Discussion Topic

by KEN WILES

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Most Americans are uncomfortable if a friend converses closer than two feet. They feel intruded upon if a stranger invades the invisible, four-foot barrier most of them have built around themselves. As the population continues to increase, there is a growing demand for more space to prevent over-crowding in the urban areas. There is also a growing wave of resistance from the rural areas to slow, if not prevent, the urban sprawl.

Thoughtful people have a new concern about the environment in this country. Yet, in thinking about the physical and biological environment other goals and values, not the least of which are economic opportunities, jobs and cultural environment must also be kept in mind.

For too long the rural environment was thought of as being separate from the urban environment. The well-being of rural people and that of urban people are inevitably tied together; they share many of the same environmental, cultural and economic opportunities and problems. Thus, for sustained and efficient use of resources for all people, the environment must be dealt with as an entity.

Most large cities are overcrowded. Most lack living space for growing children, especially places for them to play near their homes. Problems of crime and traffic have increased in rural and urban areas.

Mass huddling—many families living in skyscrapers and block after block of solid living units—is no longer desirable or considered necessary. Excellent highways, electric lines, telephone cables, radio and television reach across the nation, making it possible to live in a comparatively rural environment and arrive at one's work in a metropolitan area in less than an hour.

Urban sprawl is not new. It didn't develop overnight. Villages, towns and cities have grown outward into the countryside throughout the history of this country. The displacement of agriculture has long been a characteristic of urban industrial development. Now, however, the effect of urban expansion on agriculture is regarded with a much greater degree of urgency because the disappearance of prime agricultural land has become a national concern.

Urban sprawl takes a variety of forms. It once was confined chiefly to a gradual expansion of cities, whose outward growth was limited by the prevailing means of transportation. Improved transportation has altered the pattern to include rapid urbanization of land along highways, encirclement of agricultural land, and an uneven diffusion of urban expansion has spread over the countryside.

The sight of fertile farmland being taken for residences, commercial and industrial purposes and roadways is alarming because once out of agricultural use, it seldom, if ever, can be returned to farming. Reportedly only a portion of the land going into non-agricultural uses each year actually was recently used for crops or livestock.

There is a tendency toward less intensive use of some of the land that remains in agriculture. Urban dispersal often leads to an increase in the acreage of idle land. Considered over a longer period of time, changes in land use in the rural-urban fringe generally tend to involve a shift from agricultural use to nonuse and a subsequent shift of idle land and forest land into urban uses.

Rural-urban fringe areas are characterized by a shift of rural land to urban uses. The economic effect of city growth on farming is more important, in some respects, than the actual loss of farmland. One sign of this is the increase in land values and real estate tax levels. Making it difficult for farmers to expand their operations through the purchase of additional land. There is also the possibility that the friendly new neighbor might not care for the distinctive aromas associated with agriculture.

Growth of nonfarm population in formerly rural sections leads to a demand for more public facilities and services such as new schools, roads, water and sewer mains. The sequel is higher tax rates on property, higher land values, and a greater tax burden.

Higher property taxloads mean higher fixed costs for farm operations. Tax increases have sometimes led to more intensive use of the land remaining in agriculture, but have also been partly responsible for forcing land out of agriculture before it is actually needed for urban development.

Can space be created to help relieve the problem? No! The earth's surface area is fixed. For all practical purposes, the geographic boundaries and topographic features of our nation and state are fixed.

Some claim that most of the land area of this state is habitable, but in some areas only at extreme cost. By the same theory, industry could be placed anywhere, but again at what cost, and to whom would the cost accrue? Homes could also be built anywhere, but would people be willing to live in them?

Is it necessary to go to this extreme? Some feel not. They point out that right now 74 percent of all Americans live and work most of their time on only 2 percent of the land. It has been suggested that with a big increase in population expected by the turn of the century, our nation faces a choice between continuing to crowd into jammed urban areas or using space for living in the countryside.

Some say that inevitably the next 30 years will bring an explosion of urban-type growth in areas that now consist of farm trading towns, placid villages, and the fields and woodlots of farmers. It appears to them that the United States needs perhaps 400 or more new towns and cities, of about 25,000 to 250,000 population, and with space to grow.

They base their reasoning on census figures which show that the United States today is largely an urban nation. Farm and nonfarm rural people make up about one-fourth of our total population. This faction has remained fairly steady for the past couple of decades. Farm people make up less than five percent of the U.S. population, and large numbers of them are continuing to leave the farm.

Nonfarm residents made up 47 percent of the rural population in 1940, 71 percent in 1960 and are expected to make up 86 percent of the rural population in 1980.

The first U.S. census showing the country had become predominantly urban was in 1920 when the urban population numbered 54.2 million as compared with 51.6 million rural. Today, less than 20 percent of the rural residents live on farms and earn at least part of their livelihood from agriculture.

Delegates at the last Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting, well aware of the threat of urban sprawl, but concerned also for the future capabilities of agriculture to produce food, adopted a policy on land use.

"Urban sprawl is moving steadily across much of our most productive farmland. Each year, over 50,000 acres of farmland is converted to urban use. Without intelligently planned growth, the fertile land in no less than 20 counties could virtually disappear within 30 years. This sprawl creates a number of conflicts to agriculture, such as permanent removal of prime farmland from production, unrealistic and confiscatory tax assessment of farmland, and a number of social and environmental problems. Current land use programs within our state foster the continuation of such conflicts."

Insight into what the state of Michigan may do regarding urban sprawl can perhaps be gained from the report of the Governor's Special Commission on Land Use. In one section of the report entitled "Urbanizing Areas," it says:

"This Commission has been dramatically confronted with the complexity of the land use problems facing the state. Nowhere are these problems more complex and the ill effects of insensitive land management on our natural environment more readily apparent than in our urbanizing areas.

"In developing a program to assist in structuring the development of Michigan, it is necessary to address more than the ecological input of poor land use. We must be concerned with the effects of land use decisions not only on the ecology but also on the social and economic fabric of the state. Recognizing the intricate relationship between these social and economic impacts and land management, the Commission feels passive controls alone may fail to insure that the development and redevelopment that must take place in the future will be to the overall general welfare of the citizens of the state.

"There is a need for the state to formulate a conscious land use policy for the distribution of future population growth for urban areas. Much and perhaps most of the residential growth in suburban areas has been the result of migration from core cities of middle and upper income families. This migration has been accompanied by commercial and industrial expansion in the same areas to the detriment of low and moderate income families in core cities.

"Adherence to traditional subdivision design has resulted in urban sprawl, inefficient use of land and high cost of installing utilities. Zoning policies of suburban local government have in many instances required and even more frequently encouraged laying out of land subdivisions in large lots with the above noted results. When examined even casually, this demonstrates an inconsistent mixture of the powers to plan, zone and control subdividing, most of which has been delegated to local governments and counties and some of which has been reserved to the state.

"Historically, the initiative for large scale development has been left in the hands of private sector, stimulated by programs of the federal government and guided to some extent by the controls imposed by local jurisdiction. This arrangement has failed to deal comprehensively with the needs and desires of the citizens of the state.

"This Commission, therefore, recommends that the Michigan State Housing Development Authority be vested with adequate power to assist in development of new communities, new towns in-town, satellite towns, growth centers, paired new communities and redevelopment projects as will respond to the needs of the people of the state.

"Legislation is needed to provide these additional community development capabilities, thereby expanding the Housing Development Authority into a full-fledged community development corporation. The need for large-scale, government initiated development efforts is greatest in Michigan's central cities, so the initial focus of activity should be in these areas.

"The federal government and several other state governments have recently taken encouraging steps in addressing these problems. The Federal Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 includes provision for two very positive efforts on a federal level; creation of a national urban growth policy and establishment of a Federal 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 both formulation of the Urban Growth Policy and development of balanced communities.

"Title VII of the act authorizes extensive federal assistance in land acquisition, planning and infrastructure for a variety of new community development projects including free standing new communities, growth centers, satellite communities, new towns in-town and paired new communities. Moreover, the Act specifies that communities developed under the auspices of the National Community Development Corporation shall receive priority treatment in their application for other federal funds.

"We feel that it is time for Michigan to move in this direction, but to move in a priority oriented manner, expanding the authority in the urban areas immediately, and in the suburban areas as the need grows. The Commission recognizes that there must eventually be a public benefit corporation that possesses strong, comprehensive development powers and performs the total range of functions of project and community development to play an integral role in the total land management program outlined in this report."

As one considers the urban sprawl situation, the realization slowly comes that there are many more facets to the problem than appears at the first glance. Questions arise as to how people will get along in the next 30 years? Where will the next 100 million people live? Will settlement patterns be much different in the year 2000 than they are today? What will living conditions be? And on and on. . . .

Topic Summary

The June Discussion Topic dealt with the question of "Farm Credit." The responses given by the Community Groups reporting are shown below:

1. In your opinion, should farm credit be restricted and controlled along with other forms of credit in an attempt to keep inflation in check? Yes: 49% No: 51%
2. Is the credit policy needed for agriculture different than the credit policy required by other segments of our economy? Yes: 83% No: 17%
3. Do you believe it would be sound to advocate rather unlimited expansion of credit for agriculture at the present time? Yes: 11% No: 89%
4. What suggestions do you have for farmers to insure for themselves guaranteed fair interest rates on farm loans? Shop around for banks giving lowest interest rates; form a farmers' credit union; have good records.
5. Are you familiar with the mail-in farm records program offered to Farm Bureau members by the Agricultural Business Corporation? Yes: 40% No: 60%
6. If the answer to the above question is no, would you like to be advised of the program? Yes: 38% No: 62% (The response for material exceeded our expectations. More has been requested and when received will be furnished those individuals and secretaries of the groups requesting it.)
7. Comments: Without easily available credit no young person can start farming; no room left for small farmers; too many farmers are already too far in debt; need more farm-oriented credit representatives who are more aware of farming and what the farmer needs.



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ANSWER: Take your Blue Cross and Blue Shield Identification card with you! You are entitled to all of the benefits of your Michigan Blue Cross coverage in any participating hospital in California or along the way. If you require hospital outpatient services, you will normally be required to pay the hospital. When you do, be sure to obtain a receipted bill showing date, type of treatment and be sure to include your Blue Cross and Blue Shield contract number. Blue Cross will reimburse you for covered outpatient benefits.

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 Community Group, in lieu of report sheet furnished the Discussion Leader, please forward answers with minutes to Program Development Division, Michigan Farm Bureau. If used by individuals, please forward answers to Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P. O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904 on or before September 1, 1972.

COMMUNITY FARM BUREAU

Discussion Exercise and Report Sheet

August, 1972

Community Farm Bureau _____ County _____
Please indicate the number of people taking part in this discussion _____

TOPIC: URBAN SPRAWL

Farm Bureau policy on this month's topic reads:

"Urban sprawl is moving steadily across much of our most productive farmland. Each year, over 50,000 acres of farmland is converted to urban use. Without intelligently planned growth, the fertile land in no less than 20 counties could virtually disappear within 30 years. This sprawl creates a number of conflicts to agriculture, such as permanent removal of prime farmland from production, unrealistic and confiscatory tax assessment of farmland, and a number of social and environmental problems. Current land use programs within our state foster the continuation of such conflicts."

1. Do you think the state of Michigan should retard additional development in non-metropolitan areas until a comprehensive land use plan has been developed? Yes _____ No _____
2. Do you think that governmental efforts to redirect the population distribution to areas where it is not likely to occur would be beneficial? Yes _____ No _____
3. Are you in favor of planning and controlling the use of land space to minimize competing demands? _____
4. In your opinion, has urban sprawl helped or hindered the economic situation in your local community (where you live)? Helped _____ Hindered _____
5. Do you think "urban sprawl" has helped to increase the living standards of those engaged in agriculture? Yes _____ No _____
6. How serious do you feel the problem of urban sprawl is? _____
7. Comments _____

Elected to Special Post

Nile L. Vermillion, executive vice president of Farm Bureau Insurance Group, has been elected to the Advisory Board of Directors of Michigan National Bank in Lansing. The announcement was made recently by Robert Fisher, the bank's senior vice president.

The 12-member board of directors convenes monthly to advise Michigan National management on policy establishment and general operations of the Lansing office.

Vermillion has served as Farm Bureau Insurance Group's chief executive officer since he came to Michigan in 1949. He was instrumental in organizing Michigan Farm Bureau's first insurance affiliate, Farm Bureau Mutual, which began operations on March 7, 1949.

Under his leadership, Farm Bureau Insurance Group has grown to a four-company organization which ranks as one of the state's larger and most innovative insurers.

Before coming to Michigan, Vermillion was employed by Central Surety and Insurance Corporation, Kansas City, Missouri, and Farm Bureau Insurance of Nebraska.

After graduating from Missouri University Law School in 1932, he practiced law in St. Joseph, Missouri, for nine years and later joined the legal staff of Missouri's Department of Insurance.

During World War II, he served with the U.S. Navy aboard an attack-cargo ship assigned to the Pacific theater.

Vermillion is a member of the Ingham County, State and American Bar Associations; and is presently serving on the State Bar's Public Relations and Corporation and Securities Committees.

A past president of the Life Association of Michigan, he is a member of the Advisory Council for the American Agricultural Mutual Insurance Company.

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

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

8 FARM EQUIPMENT

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CALF CREEP FEEDERS: 30 bushel capacity \$119.50. Dealerships available. Free literature. Dolly Enterprises, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62356. (8-1t-18b)

SLIDE IN STOCK RACKS: All steel construction \$159.50. Dealerships available. Free literature. Dolly Enterprises, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62356. (8-1t-19b)

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14 FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Asparagus Plants for the 1972 planting season; also Holland Transplanter, Model 1900. Green Tip Farm, Paw Paw, Mich. 49079. Call evenings 616-657-5003. (4-6t-20p)

20 LIVESTOCK

HEREFORD BULLS—pure bred herd sires. Ready for service. Also, registered heifers and calves. Egypt Valley Hereford Farm, 6611 Knapp St., Ada, Michigan. Phone OR 6-1090. (Kent County) (11-tf-25b)

MILKING SHORTHORNS: Young Bulls, yearlings and calves for sale. Write for tabulated pedigrees or better yet, pay us a visit. Stanley M. Powell and Family, Ingleside Farm, Route #1, Box 238, Ionia, Michigan 48846. (7-4t-33b)

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ARROWHEAD FARM Registered Angus Cattle sired by Freestate of Wye. Collaboration of Wye, MSU Spartan Jingo. Eight MSU Spartan Quester bred yearling heifers and 1972 heifer and bull calves for sale. E. E. Ullrey, Niles, Michigan. Phone: 616-683-2583. (8-2t-40p)

ANGUS YEARLING BULLS by Biffles Emulous 790 has sired calves that gained 4 lbs. per day on 140 day official test. Son of T N 70, Sire of the Year for 1970 and 1971, full brother to Grand Champion bull at American Angus Futurity, 1971. Big, modern, growth. Clarence Klahn, 9896 Cascade Road, Lowell. Phone: 616-868-4701. (8-1t-p)

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26 POULTRY

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36 MISCELLANEOUS

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36 MISCELLANEOUS

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