

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

VOL. 52, NO. 1

MAKE IT HAPPEN

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HAPPEN



Leaders in promoting marketing rights for agriculture. (Left to right) Senator Zollar (R-Benton Harbor) introduced the legislation (S.1225), in the Senate last February; Rep. Bradley (D-Detroit) Chairman of the House Labor Committee that considered the bill after passage by the Senate; Rep. Cawthorne (R-Manistee) introduced similar legislation in the House and provided the floor leadership for passage of S.1225; Senator Ballenger (R-Dimondale) Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. This landmark legislation will provide marketing and bargaining rights to qualifying associations of producers of perishable fruits and vegetables. It is a tool that provides legal procedures for effective marketing of the commodities affected. To become law, the legislation now requires Governor Milliken's signature.

GOAL COUNTIES

1. Mackinac - Luce
2. Montmorency
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.



Otto Flatt, roll-call manager (left) and Jas Gribell, county president, beam proudly as Esther Flatt, county secretary, reports Mac-Luce County being the first county Farm Bureau to reach their 1973 membership goal.

IN THIS ISSUE

Capitol Report
Page 3

Golden Eagle Award
Page 4

Farm Program
Page 5

Discussion Topic
Page 10

EDITORIAL . . .

**Labeling**

Man has a strong tendency to label each age through which we pass. Today's age could well be called "shove the blame on someone."

In our age, we have some of the best chemists, scientists and research people the world has ever known. We also have new and amazing research equipment and computers that can be used to find answers to many problems.

We truly live in a fact-finding era, but the information is not always used in the best way to benefit mankind.

Almost everyone quotes, misquotes, interprets or misinterprets "data" to make their point before the courts, the media or the public. Unfortunately, many of those utilizing scientific data are incapable, or unequipped, to interpret the information at hand.

Each group promoting or defending an issue gathers facts as they see them and then attempt to make a case for or against the idea or product as it fits their purpose.

We have only to observe the vast catalog of information, or misinformation, that was brought forth on the DDT issue around the world and the confusion that resulted.

The current anti-pesticide fad has caused a much too rapid acceptance of data that bad effects and evidence of residue are present without critically examining the methods used in reaching these conclusions or balancing the degree of danger against benefits gained.

An interesting study conducted recently by a group of Wisconsin scientists proves very graphically why results from instrumental analysis should be studied much more carefully. In their studies of soil samples collected between 1909 and 1911 and stored in sealed jars since that time, what was thought to be residues of lindane, heptachlor and aldrin, were actually other compounds. Instead of using a single test as is commonly done, they used a more time-consuming procedure that involved three tests.

Another issue in the limelight is the use of nitrates/nitrites in preservation of certain meat products. The chemicals protect meat from growth of the deadly botulism spores, enhances flavor and gives color to processed meat. So far no other known safe substance produces these effects. A complicating factor, however, is the discovery in recent years that nitrites may act with other chemical compounds to form nitrosamines. Nitrosamines have been found to cause cancer in experimental animals.

According to the National Livestock and Meat Board, there's no direct evidence, as yet, that formation of nitrosamines in the human stomach causes cancer.

The cholesterol kick is also getting a big play these days.

A story in the December 10 issue of the National Enquirer quotes a Dr. Walter W. Sackett, Jr. of Miami, Florida, as saying "Milk is more deadly than cigarettes because the cholesterol it contains contributes to a million deaths a year in the United States. The milk-drinking habits of this country amount to national suicide. The federal government should do something about it, instead of letting people think milk is good food."

If we were to believe everything we hear or read about what we should or should not eat or use, we just might starve.

The American public needs to analyze more closely the many statistics, warnings and admonishments being beamed at them before making decisions. It is also time for researchers and analysts to come out of the shadows of their laboratories and insist the results of their work be used for the purpose it was intended rather than for selfish and distorted propaganda.

Carl P. Kentner

MFB Receives Awards

Shown holding the awards received by Michigan Farm Bureau at the AFBF annual meeting are: (left to right) Robert Braden, administrative director, with the AAMA award for vegetables, grapes, cherries and asparagus marketing programs; Elton R. Smith, president, MFB, with the Golden Eagle Award; Dean Pridgeon, vice-president, MFB, with the three-star award for membership, young farmer and marketing activities.

Regional Membership Report

as of December 21, 1972

Region	New	Total	% of Goal
Northeast	72	1950	69.66
Northwest	60	2121	67.18
West Central	64	2340	60.71
Saginaw Valley	166	4188	60.41
Southwest	111	4884	59.72
Upper Peninsula	29	579	58.60
Central	257	5250	58.37
West	127	4301	58.06
Thumb	155	5701	57.76
Southeast	160	4210	56.20
STATE	1201	35524	59.60

New AFBF Membership Record

A new membership record of 2,175,780 member families was announced as the 54th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation opened in Los Angeles on December 11.

Roger Fleming, secretary-treasurer of the world's largest general farm organization, reported an increase of 118,115 member families over last year's membership. "This is the largest increase in membership in any year since 1947, and the twelfth consecutive year the organization has recorded an increase in membership," he said.

All four Farm Bureau regions had a gain in membership in 1972. The Southern, Midwestern, Western and Northeastern Regions exceeded 1972 goals, and the Southern and Midwestern Regions reached new all-time highs in membership.

The Southern Region is the first region in the history of Farm Bureau to reach and exceed one million member families.

A total of forty-three state Farm Bureaus achieved 1972 membership goals. Twenty-one states established new all-time membership highs in 1972. Fifteen states reported a membership gain over 1971 in 100 percent of their organized county Farm Bureaus in 1972.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN . . .

**"Collective Action"**

"Today's agricultural producer must become involved in the forces that influence his net returns. If he doesn't, he will find himself at the end of a long chain of decisions which can be so costly that he simply can't stay in business. Changes that may require vast new investments in machinery and equipment, changes that may make it impossible to continue to operate his production plant; change isn't hard to deal with if you know it's coming and you have made plans to deal with it. And believe me, change is coming, whether you are producing meat, fruit, vegetables, grains or fiber. And, I'm not proposing that you fight it, but rather that you accept it and influence it in such a manner that you can maintain net returns on your operations commensurate with your costs and investments."

"Here's a partial checklist. Ask yourself if you are adequately prepared to deal with these changes: changes in the food market; changes in living habits of consumers; changes in technology and processing and formulating; increased concentration in your market; environmental problems which may move processing to your farm or change it altogether; sanitation regulations imposed on the farmer, the processor and the formulators; new nutritional requirements placed on your products; changes in the availability of energy. These are but a few that come to mind."

"I suppose someone could observe, and correctly so, that all I have said has been going on for years. Farmers have always had to deal with change and some have been rather enormous in their day, like shifting from animal power to motor power. However, today's changes come at a time when the farmers' political influence is limited, when so many of the changes are subject to inputs over which he has very little control."

"Can he impose his political influence? Yes, but I believe it highly unlikely in comparison with the disciplines and money-raising systems now being used by big labor and big business."

"How does the farmer then influence the forces of change that impact on his net income? By collective action. And what does that mean?"

"It means discipline, you give up something to get something else. You give up growing what you want, when you want, where you want to a system of producing for the market at a profit, just like your conglomerate customer does."

"Collective Action -- bargaining for price and terms of sale is entering a second stage. It is on the threshold of what I would call a period of maturing. We all know of the problems of recognition of the almost paranoid fear that the executives of some large food companies have over the prospects of having to deal with organized producers."

"The maturing period will be characterized by an acceptance by the food industry of the idea of bargaining with organized producers. With this acceptance will come a new period of sophistication where organized farmers, working with their customer, will deal with the problems brought on by change, farmers and handlers working together to improve net income for both. Working together doesn't mean one big happy family, but it does mean a period of profitable coexistence."

These words, spoken by Ralph B. Bunje, General Manager, California Canning Peach Association, at the AAMA conference held during the 54th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation, exemplifies the policies adopted at our annual meeting when the delegates called for enabling legislation for state marketing programs, central sales and marketing.

Elton R. Smith



CAPITOL REPORT

Robert E. Smith

Michigan becomes the first state in the nation to pass comprehensive "marketing rights" legislation allowing farmers, through qualifying organizations, to bargain with processors for price and other terms of sale. Traditional family-operated farms will at last have strength through their organizations to match the buying power of the few large processing firms, many of which are controlled by conglomerates. The fight for "marketing rights" led by Farm Bureau and supported by many other organizations, results from a policy of nearly four years standing.

This landmark legislation has received a great deal of attention and support from many people and organizations, including marketing experts from Michigan State University and other marketing experts from throughout the nation have had input in helping to draft the bill.

The final House vote on S.1225, the agricultural marketing and bargaining rights bill, came on December 13 in the House of Representatives. The vote was a strong bipartisan 66-32. The vote was nearly even between Democrats and Republicans. Fifty-six votes are needed in the House to pass a bill.

The strong vote may indicate ease of passage. Quite the contrary was true. Opposition to the bill was extremely strong; many parliamentary procedures were used to attempt to further delay or amend the bill and, thereby, defeat it in the closing days of the session.

Representative Cawthorne led the floor fight to pass the bill, along with the strong support in the debate from Representatives Bradley, Powell, Kennedy, Gast and Mastin. Major opposition in the floor debate came from Representatives DeStigter, Friske, Hasper, Spencer and Wierzbicki.

The House-passed bill was a substitute version which resulted from at least three public hearings held by Representative Bradley's committee, along with numerous committee meetings, many of which were, in effect, additional public hearings.

After passage by the House, the bill was sent back to the Senate for concurrence on the substitute bill. Here again, the support for the legislation was led by Senators Zollar and Ballenger. Strong efforts were made by the opposition to amend the legislation in any

way possible, as they recognized that any amendment would create a delay and would, in effect, kill the bill due to lack of time for further legislative consideration. One such crippling amendment was defeated by virtue of a tie vote. After such maneuvers were effectively defeated, the final vote in the Senate on December 14 was 23 to 8. Twenty votes are required in the Senate to pass a bill.

The final version, which is expected to be signed by the Governor into law, is restricted in its use to "perishable fruits and vegetables." It also has an expiration date of September, 1976. It will permit producers of those commodities to be represented by a cooperative association that must be accredited by a marketing and bargaining board that is created in the legislation. Once the association is accredited, it can bargain with buyers of the commodity on behalf of the producers of the commodity.

The legislation defines unfair practices on the part of both the producer association and the processor or buyer of the commodity. It assures equitable treatment for all producers, as well as equitable treatment for the buyers of the commodity.

The original bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Zollar and others on February 21, 1972. Representative Cawthorne and others introduced similar legislation to the House about the same time. The Senate Agriculture Committee held two public hearings, plus several committee meetings. The original bill then passed the Senate on April 18 by a vote of 21 to 12.

The bill was then sent to the House, where three more public hearings were held around the state, along with numerous committee meetings. It was reported out of committee on June 28 and then further consideration was delayed until the September session.

During the September session, efforts were made to kill the bill; these efforts failed. The bill was then delayed further until November 27. Again, opponents delayed action on the legislation until the last week of the legislative session.

Farm Bureau has led the fight for this landmark legislation, along with strong support from many other organizations from the state. Those supporting the legislation, in addition to Farm Bureau, were: Michigan State Horticultural Society;

Michigan Democratic Agriculture Committee; Michigan Milk Producers Association; Women for the Survival of Agriculture in Michigan (W.S.A.M.) -- five chapters; Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, Inc. (MACMA) and its various commodity divisions, including asparagus, vegetables, processing apples, red tart cherries, grapes and multi-fruit (peaches, pears and plums); Michigan Celery Promotion Association; several Pomster clubs; the grower section of the Farmers & Manufacturers Beet Sugar Association; Michigan Commission on Agriculture; Michigan Blueberry Growers Association; Michigan Cattle Feeders Association; Farm Bureau Young Farmer Committees; and Farm Bureau Women's Committees.

Strong support also came from other sources, especially from financial institutions which lend money to farmers. Bankers and Production Credit Association executives know first-hand the financial situation facing the fruit and vegetable growers. Contrary to some newspaper and radio reports, the Michigan AFL-CIO did not support nor oppose S.1225. They took a neutral position.

Other support for the legislation came from recommendations by the Special Task Force on the Future of Agriculture, appointed by Governor Milliken a year or two ago. The Task Force held hearings throughout the state on all types of agricultural issues and found strong support by farmers for bargaining legislation.

Another study was made by the Subcommittee on Agricultural Sales and Marketing to the Rural Affairs Council. This subcommittee was chaired by Mrs. Laura Heuser. Others on the subcommittee included Robert Smith, representing Farm Bureau; representatives of processors, retailers; Michigan State University and the Michigan Department of Agriculture. One of the legislative recommendations of this group was "Marketing legislation should be adopted which will allow producers to organize and bargain as a group..."

As could be expected, the opposition came from a coalition of middlemen, including sugar beet processors, Michigan Bean Shippers, Michigan Cannery and Freezers Association, Chain Store Council, Michigan Food Dealers Association, processors, etc.

It should be recognized that the law created by S.1225 is "enabling" legislation. Nothing happens unless producers of "perishable fruits and vegetables" desire to organize and use its provisions to set up legal procedures for bargaining for the terms of sale. It requires processors and producers to bargain in good faith and provides legal protection to both. It is a marketing tool that can ef-

fectively determine the proper price and other terms of sale, and most importantly, can help lead to a stable and healthy agriculture and can help maintain the family-operated farm.

The final vote in both House and Senate is printed elsewhere on this page.

Anyone desiring a summary of the marketing rights bill as passed may receive a copy by writing the Public Affairs Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

SCHOOL FINANCE

The major issue facing the 77th Legislature when it convenes January 5 will be the whole controversial area of school finance. The defeat of Proposal C at the polls assures that property tax will continue to be a major source of school revenue. Court cases will require equity within the property tax structure, but will not eliminate or even provide property tax relief.

One new school finance proposal is already under consideration. It was introduced by Senator Bursley, Chairman of the Senate Education Committee. It is a complicated bill, but in short would guarantee equal revenue per mill of tax regardless of per pupil valuation.

The first year that amount would be \$38 per pupil per mill for the first 22 mills levied. Every school district would be

expected to maintain 20 mills of local property tax plus an additional mill if the district has a deficit and must pay off past obligations. In addition, up to two more mills of local property tax would be expected to finance special education.

An interesting twist to the bill is that if the voters fail to authorize the required millage the local school board would be permitted to levy a local income tax sufficient to bring the district up to the required minimum standards. For example, a poor district with \$5,000 valuation per pupil presently levying ten mills receives \$615 of state aid and, with local tax, this totals \$665 per pupil. Under the new proposal state aid for that district would drop by nearly half to \$330. In order to receive as much or a little more the district would have to increase its property tax to 20 mills or impose an income tax. A \$15,000 district, for example, presently receives \$415 state aid if they levy ten mills. This would drop to \$230 - and again the district would have to go to the 20-mill levy or a district income tax in order to bring the state aid back up to \$460 per pupil.

Senator DeMaso has indicated that in his view school district budgets should be state supervised, along with state auditing of school district spending. He suggests that centralized purchasing could also cut costs.

STATE MARKETING RIGHTS LEGISLATION

The Michigan House of Representatives passed the House Substitute for S. 1225 on Wednesday, December 13 by a vote of 66 yes and 32 no. Fifty-six yes votes were needed for passage.

YEAS

Allen	Ford	Mastin	Smith, J. F.
Anderson, L. D.	Gast	McCollough	Smith, R.
Bradley	Geerlings	McNeely	Snyder
Brodhead	Hellman	Mittan	Stackable
Buth	Hoffman	Montgomery	Stallworth
Cawthorne	Holmes	Mowat	Strang
Copeland	Hood, M.	Ogonowski	Swallow
Cramton	Hood, R.	O'Neill	Symons
Del Rio	Jacobetti	Payant	Traxler
Edwards, G. H.	Kehres	Powell	Treize
Elliott	Kelsey	Prescott	Varnum
Engler	Kennedy	Ryan	Vaughn
Farnsworth	Kildee	Saunders	Weber
Ferguson	Kok	Scrotkin	Young, R. D.
Folks	Law	Sietsema	Ziegler
Forbes	Mahalak	Smit	Davis
	Mahoney		

NAYS

Anderson, T. J.	Defebaugh	Heinze	Sheridan
Baker	DeStigter	Huffman	Smart
Bennett	Edwards, F. R.	Hunsinger	Smeekens
Brown, J.	Friske	Jowett	Spencer
Brown, T.	Groat	Mansour	Stopczynski
Bryant	Guastello	Nelson	Walton
Clark	Hasper	O'Brien	Warner
Damman	Hayward	Pilch	Wierzbicki

The Michigan Senate adopted the House Substitute for S. 1225 on Thursday, December 14 by a vote of 23 yes and 8 no. Twenty votes were required for passage.

YEAS

Ballenger	DeMaso	Lodge	Stamm
Bouwma	Faust	Mack	Toepp
Bowman	Faxon	McCauley	VanderLaan
Brown	Fitzgerald	Pittenger	Young
Cartwright	Lane	Plawewski	Youngblood
Davis		Pursell	Zollar

NAYS

Byker	Fleming	McCollough	Rockwell
Cooper	Gray	Richardson	Rozycki

Washington Seminar Planned

March 12-15 are the dates selected for this year's Washington Legislative Seminar, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women.

The project has become an annual event to provide Farm Bureau leaders an opportunity to go to the nation's capital and personally talk with their congressmen about issues of importance to farmers. These "Legislative Leaders" are selected by their county Farm Bureaus on the basis of their ability to discuss these issues effectively. Each county Farm Bureau is entitled to nominate one individual as Legislative Leader. Nominations must be submitted to the Michigan Farm Bureau office in Lansing by February 8, 1973. All county nominations will be reviewed by a panel of judges for final approval of all Legislative Leaders.

An "American Heritage" tour is also available and is open to any Farm Bureau member.

This plan offers an opportunity for spouses of Legislative Leaders and other interested persons to take part in this activity.

Tentative plans for the Legislative Seminar include a dinner and workshop session with legislative leaders on Monday evening; breakfast with Republican Congressmen Tuesday morning, followed by visits with congressmen in their offices or attendance at committee hearings. Also scheduled is a noon luncheon with Democratic Congressmen, followed by visits with the Michigan Congressmen. On Tuesday afternoon, the Legislative Leaders join the American Heritage group for a tour of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a free evening together. All day Wednesday,

the two groups will have a day of sight-seeing, including visits to historical monuments, the Washington Cathedral, Arlington Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, and the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. On Thursday, Legislative Leaders will again visit their congressmen and attend hearings.

American Heritage tour participants will be on their own for Monday evening dinner and Tuesday breakfast. On Tuesday they may visit congress, Michigan Congressmen, or attend committee hearings. In the afternoon they will join the Legislative Leaders for the remainder of their stay in Washington.

Estimated cost of the seminar, for either the Legislative Leaders or American Heritage group, is \$140 per person. Those planning to participate in the American Heritage group should send their checks for that amount to the Michigan Farm Bureau not later than February 8. County Farm Bureaus will be billed for their selected Legislative Leaders. The Michigan Farm Bureau and the State Women's Committee will give \$25 in financial assistance to each county which sends a Legislative Leader to the seminar. The \$140 cost covers air transportation, hotel accommodations, sight-seeing tour, lunch on the plane and lunch on Wednesday.

The Farm Bureau Women's Committee stresses the vital importance of counties selecting capable legislative leaders who will be valuable to the organization in discussing major issues and Farm Bureau policies. Guidelines for selecting these leaders have been sent to county Farm Bureaus, along with nomination forms.

New OSHA Presentation Available

Farm Bureau Women, along with Young Farmer and other groups, will be using the new OSHA information slide-presentation to educate members regarding the requirements of the Act. The highly effective visual aid, which identifies hazards on the farm and relates them to the law, will be available through each Farm Bureau regional representative for showings to groups. The presentation will be kept updated as new standards go into effect.

To make this information program an "action project," a check list will be used in conjunction with the slide tape to further emphasize the standards of OSHA and attempt to gain a commitment from members to meet these standards. The presentation was developed to be informative to all farmers, regardless of whether or not they employ outside labor, with the accent on the importance of safety for farm family members as well as employees.

M.J. Buschlen, operations manager of Michigan Agricultural Services Association and author of the presentation, explains that just as highway signs inform of potential hazards and safety regulations, and police issue citations for the violation of these rules -- OSHA outlines hazards on the farm, and Labor Department officials can issue citations for violation of the Act's requirements.

Farm Bureau Women, or other groups wishing to promote this information project, should contact their regional representative for scheduling the new OSHA slide presentation.

Citizenship Seminar Announced

Michigan Farm Bureau's 1973 Young People's Citizenship Seminar will be held June 18-22 at Ferris State College, Big Rapids.

This will be the tenth annual Citizenship Seminar for high school students. The program, as in previous years, will be presented by outstanding educators and will include such subject matter as Americanism, economic systems, participation in political parties and people and governments around the world.

Each county Farm Bureau has been encouraged to sponsor four students who will be juniors or seniors during the 1973-74 school year. Additional students will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. Selection of students will be made at the county level by individuals assigned this responsibility by county Farm Bureau boards.

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

Golden Eagle Award to MFB

Michigan Farm Bureau received the coveted Golden Eagle Award during the 54th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation held December 10-14 in Los Angeles, California.

The award is presented by the American Farm Bureau Federation to state Farm Bureaus that make outstanding progress in building and programming their organization so as to place primary emphasis on serving farm and ranch families.

The award is based on five criteria -- statewide classification of members as to farmer or non-farmer, voting or non-voting; special activities or procedures for recruiting farm families as new members; percentage gain in farmer members in both total membership and new members; implementation of a program for identifying agricultural commodity interest of members; and development and implementation of programs designed specifically for members who are agricultural producers.

The purpose of this award program is to recognize those state Farm Bureaus which are effectively programming to serve the needs of their farmer members.

Programs conducted by MFB to serve their farmer members are:

Blue Cross-Blue Shield prepaid hospital and medical insurance; Soybean Division;

hay listing-hay marketing; meat promotion; dairy promotion; farm safety campaign; farm labor information and recruitment; OSHA information program; farm records program; Young Farmers Leadership Conference; Young Farmers Information Conference and program; outstanding young farmer contest; commodity news reports on radio, specifically Navy beans, fruits and vegetables.

Members are also provided many services by affiliate companies.

MACMA provides: apple marketing, multi-fruit marketing; grape marketing; vegetable marketing; feeder pig marketing; feeder cattle marketing; feeder cattle order buying.

Farm Bureau Services provides: volume refunds on sales and purchases to FB members only; egg marketing; fowl marketing; wheat marketing.

Farmers Petroleum Cooperative gives new farmer member discounts on purchases.

Farm Bureau Insurance Group provides: special farmer member rates and annual dividends to MFB member Mutual Auto policyholders; dividends on Farmowners insurance; new environmental liability protection; and Workmen's Compensation for farmer members at group rates and dividends.

Farm Bureau Women Promote Safety



What can one woman do to promote such an important and broad project as safety?

That was the challenge facing Karen Weidmayer of Washtenaw County, who had recently been named second vice chairman of her county's Women's Committee, and who took her new responsibilities very seriously.

What better way, she decided, than at the county fair parade. She borrowed the "biggest and best" John Deere tractor, equipped with all the latest safety devices, from a local dealer for her parade vehicle.

Mrs. Weidmayer donned a hard hat, decorated the tractor with signs proclaiming that "Farm Bureau Women are behind their men in O.S.A. (farm safety)," and climbed aboard. The appearance of a woman driving this huge tractor down Main Street, waving and smiling at the

people, created much interest and was an effective way to promote both farm safety and Farm Bureau.

This is just one of the ways in which Farm Bureau Women throughout the state are promoting their top-priority project of the year. In addition to promoting farm safety and meeting the standards of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the women are sponsoring first-aid training and first-aid kits. Their goal is the development of first-aid emergency training courses so that at least one person in each farm family in Michigan can handle an emergency on their farm, and a first-aid kit on every farm and in every farm home in the state. Many counties are currently in the process of planning first-aid courses in cooperation with the State Police or local Red Cross Chapter.

Marge Karker - Farm Bureau Scholarships Available

The deadline for applications for the Marge Karker-Farm Bureau Scholarship has been set for March 1. Michigan State University students interested in the \$400 scholarship should fill out the attached form requesting an application. The Farm Bureau Women may award the scholarship to one or two students this year.

Students applying for the scholarship, which is a gift, not a loan, must be a member of a Farm Bureau family, show financial need and be enrolled at Michigan State University in the field of agriculture or related fields. These related fields may be food science, food marketing, food packaging, leadership training in agriculture, journalism related to agriculture, horticulture, agricultural technical course, veterinary medicine, human medicine, or teaching (vocational agriculture and human ecology).

The scholarship is available to students at MSU after three terms at college or one year in the Agricultural Technical Course. Students should have at least a 2.6 rating. Scholarships, which are to be applied toward the tuition of one year at Michigan State University, can be renewed, but must be reviewed each year by the Farm Bureau Women's Scholarship Committee.

Return to: Women's Department, Michigan Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904

Please send me an application for the Marge Karker-Farm Bureau Scholarship.

Name _____ County _____

Address _____

Asparagus Acreage Reported Up

The Michigan Crop Reporting Service has just released an asparagus acreage survey report. The acreage survey was conducted last summer at the request of the Michigan Asparagus Research Committee, according to Harry Foster, committee secretary-treasurer.

The survey reveals that there is a total of 18,493 acres of asparagus in Michigan. Nearly 11 percent of the acreage was planted in 1972, which is a sharp increase in asparagus plantings from a few years ago. If this nearly 2,000 acres per year pace continues, Michigan will soon be second-only to California in asparagus acreage.

Oceana County has the most asparagus acreage, with 6,788 acres, or 36.7 percent of the state's total. Van Buren, Berrien and Cass Counties are next with 5,135 acres (27.8%), 2,823 acres (15.3%) and 1,529 acres (8.3%) respectively.

Foster also reported that the survey indicates that asparagus farms are getting larger. Presently 24 percent of the growers operate 69 percent of the farms with 20 acres or more, which represents over two-thirds of the state's acreage.

Approximately 94 percent of Michigan's crop goes to the canners and freezers. With the remaining six percent to the fresh market.

Foster said, "This survey has revealed significant acreage and yield information about which all persons interested in the asparagus industry were speculating prior to the survey."

The Michigan Asparagus Research Committee supports projects to improve asparagus yields. Several research projects at Michigan State University are being funded by the committee, through the American Farm Bureau Research Foundation.

Member-To-Member Sales

The member-to-member sale of "Florida's Best" citrus has been a very successful project again this year. Over fifty county Farm Bureau units have participated in the project. Navel oranges, pink seedless grapefruit and tangelos are being enjoyed by members and their friends, according to Harry A. Foster, MACMA.

The quality has been very good so far this year. Counties have reported that "Florida's Best" couldn't be better.

Foster reports that several counties are already making plans for additional orders of this fine citrus later in the winter. February and March will be a prime time to carry out this operation again. Counties should band their orders together for a truckload. Order information will be sent to counties in early January.

The five regions which ordered and received the greatest number of cartons of citrus per Farm Bureau member were as follows: Upper Peninsula, 130 percent participation; Northwest Michigan, 65 percent; Northeast Michigan, 35 percent; West Central Michigan, 30 percent; and Southeast Michigan, 25%. The regional representatives from these regions were recognized for their efforts at a recent meeting in Lansing.

Foster said, "Members will appreciate knowing that apples have been shipped to Florida. And, we expect this project to be expanded."

The MACMA staff appreciates the fine cooperation of all county citrus chairmen, county secretaries and other county leaders who made this program a great success again.

Bailey Joins AFBF



Charles H. Bailey, former associate editor of "The Farm Quarterly," Cincinnati, Ohio, has been named assistant director, information division, of the American Farm Bureau Federation, according to an announcement by William J. Kuhfuss, AFBF president.

Bailey will be located in AFBF's Park Ridge offices and his duties will include serving as assistant editor of the AFBF official weekly newsletter, "Farm Bureau News," contributing articles to the AFBF

official magazine, "The American Farmer," and production of visuals.

Prior to joining the staff of "The Farm Quarterly," Bailey was director of communications and research for Michigan Farm Bureau from December, 1964 to December, 1968. Before joining the MFB staff, he worked as director of communications for the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, after serving as assistant director of organization for the same organization.

Before joining the Alabama FBF staff, Bailey was agricultural representative for the Merchants and Planters Bank, Uniontown, Alabama, handling farm loans. During the time Bailey was in Alabama, he was also engaged in farming, operating a beef cattle herd. He also farmed in partnership with his father near Montevallo, Alabama, and for four years operated a 2,000-acre dairy farm with a 125-cow dairy herd, before he entered army service the second time.

Milk Cooling

May Need

Updating

Many milk producers have outgrown the refrigeration capacity of their present bulk tank. Many tanks were designed to cool one quarter of their volume capacity per milking. This was adequate for producers six to eight years ago. Through gradual increase in the herd size, about one-fourth of all Grade A producers in Michigan now fill their tank daily. This results in slow cooling to the required 50°F., especially during the summer months. Slow cooling quite often results in higher bacteria counts and the production of odors and off flavors in milk. Mixing this milk with other milk on the tank truck and at the dairy plant lowers the overall quality of the whole milk.

Milk may be held two or three days at a plant before processing, so good quality to start with is essential for it to remain that way until processed.

It's a well established fact that raw milk stored at 40°F. or below, will not increase in bacteria counts for a long period of time. A second reason for checking efficiency of cooling tanks relates to butterfat. Butterfat in milk at approximately 50-55°F. under constant agitation will churn. Churning of butterfat in milk makes it impossible to obtain a representative sample for butterfat testing. This always results in a lower fat test for the producer, which means a loss of money. Any producer who has small chunks of butter floating around on the surface of the milk in the bulk tank is losing money.

Michigan's original Farm Bulk Tank Milk Law passed in 1957, was repealed in 1965 (by adoption of Act 233 P.A. 1965). The original law specified a 40°F. cooling temperature which most producers met with very little difficulty. From 1965 to the present, herd sizes have grown, and production per cow has increased resulting in more milk to cool in a shorter period of time. Average daily milk production per producer in 1965 was 879 pounds compared to 1,289 pounds today.

Large volume milk producers may want to consider plate or tubular coolers if their present system is inadequate. These coolers lower the temperature of milk from the cow to below 40°F. in a few seconds. The bulk tank serves as a storage tank only in this situation.

The Department of Agriculture suggests dairymen review their cooling facilities. It might also be helpful to consider all changes and expansion made in the last five years. Many may find their operation has changed considerably over the past five years, but the same cooling facilities are being used.

Farm Program Policy Approved

Farm Bureau voting delegates have mapped out farm program policy to replace the current farm program when it expires December 31, 1973.

Michigan Farm Bureau's policy recommendation, adopted this past November, had the following to say about the farm program: "The Agricultural Act of 1970 for feed grains and wheat will expire at the end of 1973. The current farm program provides producers with more freedom and flexibility to plant and is an improvement over previous legislation which provided for marketing quotas for wheat and acreage allotments for corn. Any new farm program enacted by Congress should retain these desirable provisions. However, we support a return to a market-oriented agriculture and the elimination of compensatory payments as soon as practical."

This state policy recommendation dealt with a national issue. It was but one of many state policies on government farm programs considered by voting delegates at the December American Farm Bureau convention in Los Angeles.

At Los Angeles, the voting delegates approved policy on the farm program to be considered by the 93rd Congress. Excerpts follow: "The Agricultural Act of 1970 permits increased freedom and flexibility to plant and is an improvement over previous legislation for wheat, cotton and feed grains. We support a temporary extension of the Act of 1970 with modifications. We favor

continuation of the set-aside program with no further expansion of grazing and no harvesting of any commodities on set-aside acres.

"Our objective is to create a climate which will enable agriculture to return to the market price system. Continuing use of direct commodity payments will not permit agriculture to reach this objective. Therefore, new programs should be designed and administered so that market opportunities will be enhanced, to the end that farmers ultimately will not be dependent on government payments but will earn their income in the marketplace. We oppose per farm payment limitations. We favor a land retirement program to assist in the adjustment to a market-oriented agriculture."

This national policy concerning the set-aside program agrees with our state policy. Michigan's policy recommendation had this to say about the set-aside program: "Set aside acreage should be released only in case of disaster. We urge the enactment of legislation to prevent set-aside acreage from being used to produce a grain or oil crop."

The question of "set-aside" acreage not being planted to harvestable commodities (excluding grazing) will be an issue when the new farm program is drafted later this year. Meanwhile, the current farm program will govern the harvesting of commodities on set-aside acreage through 1973. It allows the planting and harvesting of crops such as rapeseed and sunflowers on set-aside acreage.



Melanie Eberbach, willowy 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Eberbach of Ludington was crowned 1973 Michigan State Apple Queen during the Michigan State Horticultural Society's 102nd annual convention held in Grand Rapids.

The Women's Auxiliary of the Horticultural Society co-sponsors the Queen Contest with the Michigan Apple Committee. Co-chairmen of the contest were Mrs. John Nyes, St. Joseph, and Mrs. Donald Stover, Berrien Springs.

The new Apple Queen will spend a major portion of 1973 touring the country, making public appearances to promote Michigan's Flavorbest Apples. She will also be a contestant in the United States Apple Queen Contest to be held in Pennsylvania in the fall of 1973.

Queen Melanie was chosen above her competitors on the basis of "Apple Knowledge" 25%, beauty 50%, and personality and poise 25%. Each contestant is required to have a connection with Michigan's apple industry and each was previously selected Apple Queen of her particular county in earlier contests this year.

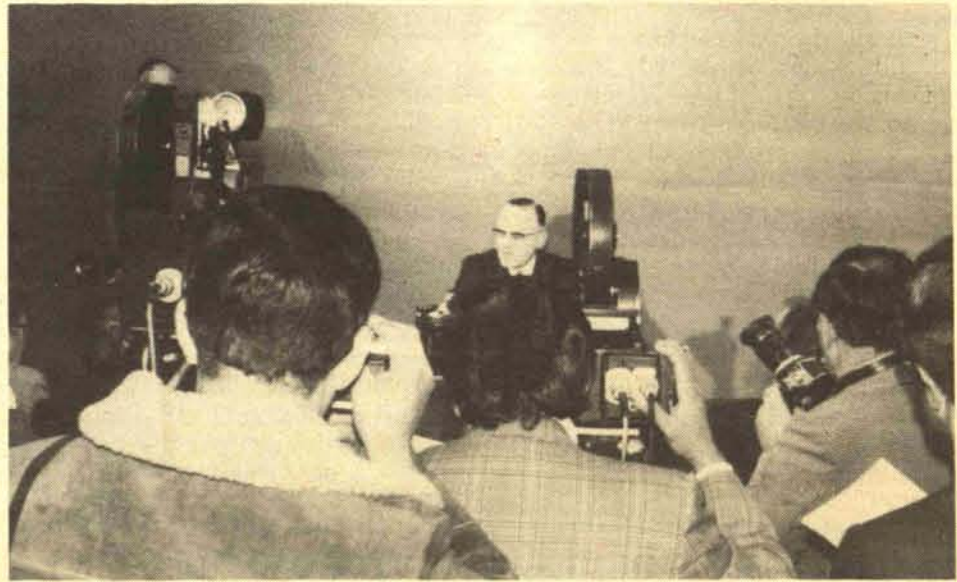
Pictorial Report For December



Ten thousand people at the opening session of the American Farm-Bureau Federation's 54th annual meeting in Los Angeles.



Even the planes had to be deiced before leaving Michigan for the AFBF convention in Los Angeles.



Flanked by TV cameras and newsmen, Earl L. Butz, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, during a news conference at the AFBF convention.



Part of the over 600 Michigan Farm Bureau members on their way to sunny California and the AFBF convention.



UFWOC pickets supporting the lettuce boycott were 200 strong at the AFBF convention when Frank E. Fitzsimmons, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters spoke.



Erma Angevine, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America, speaking at the MAFC annual meeting, said the "farmers want and need a higher price for the products they sell and consumers want lower food prices."



Howard Heath, farm director, radio station WPAG, and president of Michigan Farm Radio Network, accepts the Radio Award from Eugene Erskine, MMPA, during MAFC's annual meeting for his work with Michigan farmers and cooperatives.



Frank E. Fitzsimmons, president, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, as he spoke to Farm Bureau members at the AFBF convention.

— NOTES —

Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative again will sponsor a series of "Open Line" meetings in February, providing a renewed opportunity for local cooperatives and farmer patrons to exchange ideas on market prospects, supply information and the latest in agri-business developments.

Donald R. Armstrong, executive vice president of both state-wide farmer-owned cooperatives, said the schedule of meetings will be: February 19, McGuire's Restaurant, Cadillac; February 20, Zehnder's Restaurant, Frankenmuth and February 21, Holiday Inn, Battle Creek.

Program details will be announced later, but the format will provide for an open discussion of farm supply developments and re-evaluation of farmer needs for the coming year.

All of the meetings will include reports to farmer patrons of the market outlook by Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum executives.

* * * * *

A new agreement between Michigan Elevator Exchange Division of Farm Bureau Services and the Grand Trunk Railroad providing for direct containerized shipment of Michigan-grown beans to ocean ports for overseas delivery is expected to improve export markets for Michigan bean producers.

The agreement permits loading of 8'x8'x20' containers on railway flatcars at the Exchange's Saginaw Terminal for shipment to ocean ports. Previously, rail rates allowed only for bean shipments in bags.

Edward R. Powell, vice president of the Elevator Exchange Division, said the new shipping rules will reduce handling costs and speed shipment to European markets.

Michigan produces 42 percent of all beans grown in the U.S. and approximately \$15 million worth of beans are shipped abroad each year, Powell said.

Each container contains 40,000 pounds of beans.

* * * * *

The Farm Bureau Services' Feeds Department recently has added an additional service to Michigan livestock growers by preparing a series of informative publications titled "The Veterinary Consultant."

The papers are authored by Dr. James D. McKean, staff veterinarian for Farm Bureau Services, covering many current topics of importance to livestock producers.

The publications contain useful information on a wide range of animal health problems and feeding practices for maximum livestock growth.

While farmers are urged to consult their own local veterinarian on specific problems, the Farm Bureau Services papers contain general advice helpful to producers. They may be obtained by writing directly to: Farm Bureau Services, Feeds Department, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

Subject titles of the publications include: Vol. 1, No. 1, Vaccination of Dairy Animals for IBR & BVD; Vol. 1, No. 2, Agalactia in Swine; Vol. 1, No. 3, Grubicides; Vol. 1, No. 4, Mastitis; Vol. 1, No. 5, Swine Reproductive Problems; Vol. 1, No. 6, Urea Toxicity; Vol. 1, No. 7, Calfhood Vaccination Program; Vol. 1, No. 8, Shipping Fever; Vol. 1, No. 9, Problems with Corn Silage Feeding in Dairy Cows; Vol. 1, No. 10, DES Implants; Vol. 1, No. 11, Handling of Newly Arrived Feeder Pigs; Vol. 1, No. 12, Nitrate Toxicity in Ruminants; Vol. 1, No. 13, Status of Feed Additives; Vol. 1, No. 14, Magnesium Supplementation of Dairy Ration; Vol. 1, No. 15, Gibberella and Swine Feeding Problems; and Vol. 1, No. 16, Feeding Gibberella-Infected Corn to Swine.

* * * * *

Four bean producers were nominated to represent District 1 and 3 on the Michigan Bean Commission, and their names have been sent to Governor William Milliken, who will select one for each of the districts.

Chosen by a growers' meeting in Mt. Pleasant, for District 1 were Dirk Maxwell, 32, of Hope, and Tom Schindler, 40, of Kawkawlin. Selected at a similar meeting in Maple Grove Township Hall for District 3, were Richard E. Leach, Jr., 33, of Saginaw, and Don Wegner, 40, of Freeland.

The Governor's appointee in District 1 will succeed Commission member Warner Meylan of Auburn, and the District 3 appointee will replace Wilford Root of Saginaw. Both men are original members of the Commission since it was organized in 1965. Each was named by then-Governor George Romney to serve a one-year term, after which they were permitted two full terms of three years each.

At the two grower meetings, held in Mt. Pleasant and Maple Grove, the two retiring Commission members were presented with plaques in recognition of their service to the bean industry. Glen Harrington of Akron, chairman of the Commission, made the presentations. Also attending both meetings was Orville Gremel of Sebawaing, Commission vice-chairman.

The Commission consists of nine members -- six growers from the six districts of the bean-producing areas, and three members representing bean processors.

MFB Receives CROP Award

Michigan CROP Chairman, Elmer A. Lightfoot, presented Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton R. Smith, with a CROP 25-Year Service Award at Michigan Farm Bureau headquarters on November 17. Also present for the presentation were Robert Braden, Helen Atwood and David C. Bower, Michigan CROP Director. CROP is the Community Hunger Appeal of Church World Service, and was formerly the Christian Rural Overseas Program.

The Service Award presented to President Smith reads: "CROP commends MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU for outstanding leadership and dedicated service in the campaign to help stop hunger around the world."

In presenting the Service Award, Chairman Lightfoot reiterated the dynamic leadership MFB has provided over 25 years to help CROP become a viable means of sharing. In the first year of CROP (1947-48), Ben Hennink, then Director of the Farm Bureau Youth Program, was loaned to CROP part-time to coordinate the grain collections by farmers all across Michigan. Later in 1948, Russell Hartzler was appointed Director of CROP. The MFB office and county Farm Bureau offices were the key to



President Elton R. Smith (center) accepts the CROP Award from Elmer A. Lightfoot, Michigan CROP Chairman, on behalf of Michigan Farm Bureau members as Helen Atwood, coordinator, Women's Activities, MFB, looks on.

the community grain collections for CROP as they coordinated the collections with local church people in each rural county. Carl Buskirk was the first MFB representative on the Michigan CROP Board of Directors. Dan Reed served on the CROP board from 1953-1971, providing outstanding leadership as the CROP program changed and developed, including his role as chairman from 1958-1963. Helen Atwood is currently the MFB representative to the CROP board.

The Michigan Legislature on October 4 adopted House Concurrent Resolution #630 (offered by Representative Stanley Powell) commending CROP sharing during the past 25 years. MFB was one of the organizations mentioned in the Resolution for dynamic community participation in CROP.

Several leaders of Farm Bureau Women are involved in developing a CROP coin folder

program, "SHARE-A-LOAF," which has been promoted through local Farm Bureau Women and Farm Bureau study groups. Farm Bureau Women who have served on the CROP board in addition to Helen Atwood are: Mrs. Carlton Ball, Mrs. Carl Topliff, Mrs. Glen Hombaker and Mrs. Herman Speirling. MFB has also promoted CROP through radio programs, FARM NEWS, ad sponsorship, displays and mailings.

The Michigan CROP goals for 1972 (their 25th year) are: \$110,000 of hunger funds, \$15,000 to purchase blankets and 160,000 pounds of new and used clothing.

Some of CROP's community fund-raising activities are: door-to-door community canvassing, FFA canvassing, youth hunger walks, milk producers letters, coin folders for women's groups and service clubs and Union Thanksgiving Service offerings.

Service To Farmer Prime Concern of MEE

Through special research and preplanning, the Michigan Elevator Exchange Division of Farm Bureau Services was able to continue accepting farmers' grain even at the peak of harvest.

Aware that a possible shortage of rail cars could prevent movement of grain to buyers, MEE faced the prospect of over-filling its facilities and having to close down.

Realizing the great hardship this situation would create for farmers, MEE elected to sell grain through the use of forward contracts.

This proved to be a wise decision which worked to the advantage of all those involved. Farmers found it especially beneficial, since facilities remained open to readily accept their grain throughout the harvest season with a minimum of unloading time at the terminal.

Michigan Elevator Exchange's foresight, coupled with its capability of moving a 100-car train load of grain from its terminals each week during the peak harvesting season, has again demonstrated that service to farmer patrons is a prime concern of the Exchange.

Special Trip to Spain



There was no snow shoveling for the Farm Bureau members shown above. They were enjoying themselves in sunny Hawaii. The tour took place in November and December.

But what about you? Will you be tired of Michigan snow and storms by March 19? If so, why not join other Farm Bureau members as Farm Bureau leaves Michigan on March 19. That is the date a group of 175 Farm Bureau members can board a TWA jetliner in Grand Rapids for Costa del Sol, Spain, which is the Spanish answer to the French Riviera. The return will be on March 27.

While in Spain you will have luxurious accommodations at a fabulous new resort in Torremolinos in a beautiful suite with a terrace, a view of the sea, spacious living room and dining area, wood burning fireplace, built-in bar, and a bathroom with every bedroom.

But the real allure of the Costa del Sol is outdoors.

Under the soft Spanish sun you can soak up a tan on a private beach. Special agricultural tours will also be available.

You can join a fishing party and bring in a fresh catch from the clear waters of the Mediterranean. Then have a cook-out on the beach.

In the evening, have your own fiesta under the stars to the sound of gentle surf, or listen to international entertainers go on and on into the night at a beach-side cabaret.

A short trip takes you to the flowered plazas of Malaga. A little longer one to the Alhambra Palace in Granada, or a ferry can take you to the fabled Casbah in Tangier.

The cost is \$240 per person, including airfare, hotel and taxes. For more information, please write the Program Development Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

Crop and Supply Report

By Greg Sheffield
Manager, Marketing Services
Farm Bureau Services

November USDA Feed Situation reports indicated a five percent increase in corn feeding in 1972-73 going to a record 4,080 million bushels, an increase of 20 percent over the past five years, nearly 30 percent over ten years ago.

A continuation of liberal feeding for animals is expected although corn prices were up this fall by 20 percent from a year earlier and 10-20 percent higher than they have been during the fall in the past ten years.

A strong foreign demand along with speculation that China may be in the market for U.S. corn also have contributed to price strength in the recent weeks.

Delays in harvesting the big corn crop resulted in much lower marketings than in 1971 and contributed to the unusual price strength this fall. The quality as well as the quantity of corn has been hurt by bad weather.

Soybean meal strength reached cash highs on December 14 of \$197 per ton with future prices scaling down throughout the balance of the year.

As of December 9, only 55 percent of Michigan's grain corn acreage and 56 percent of the soybean acreage was harvested. The delay in harvesting was more serious in the south central and south eastern counties than in other areas of the state. Less than one-half of the grain corn and soybeans were harvested in Central and East Central Michigan. The Michigan Crop Reporting Service reported the condition of both corn and soybeans left in the fields steadily deteriorated. Considerable mold developed in unharvested ears of corn. Some corn in cribs also became moldy. In northern counties, the snow cover was so deep that corn harvesting was impossible.

Damage to soybeans varied with some fields standing up well and others flattened by snow and strong winds. Growers anticipated a very high loss in unharvested fields, with some total losses.

About 95 percent of the dry bean acreage was harvested. It's estimated that approximately 5,000 acres of Navys and several acres of Kidneys remained in the fields and are of extremely doubtful quality for harvest. Acreage of Navys harvested was sufficient to create approximately 2.5 million hundredweight of surplus for export, making it difficult for markets to increase enough to offset storage interest costs.

In fertilizer, shortages of phosphate are anticipated since private manufacturers are sending phosphates and

other fertilizers overseas to get around the U.S.A.'s price freeze. But Farm Bureau Services cooperative purchases from its CF Industries fertilizer company, the farmer-owned and controlled supply cooperative, holding the price line for its farmer patrons. But farmers must order early to take advantage of the best prices in all fertilizers and also to avoid expected railroad tieups due to foreign shipments of grain and other commodities.

Treated lumber is extremely short, but other hardware items have been secured and a good selection is available for farmers who shop early.

Special Extension Meetings

The major concerns of today's farmer have been packaged into 11 one-day programs to be presented this winter throughout the state by the Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service.

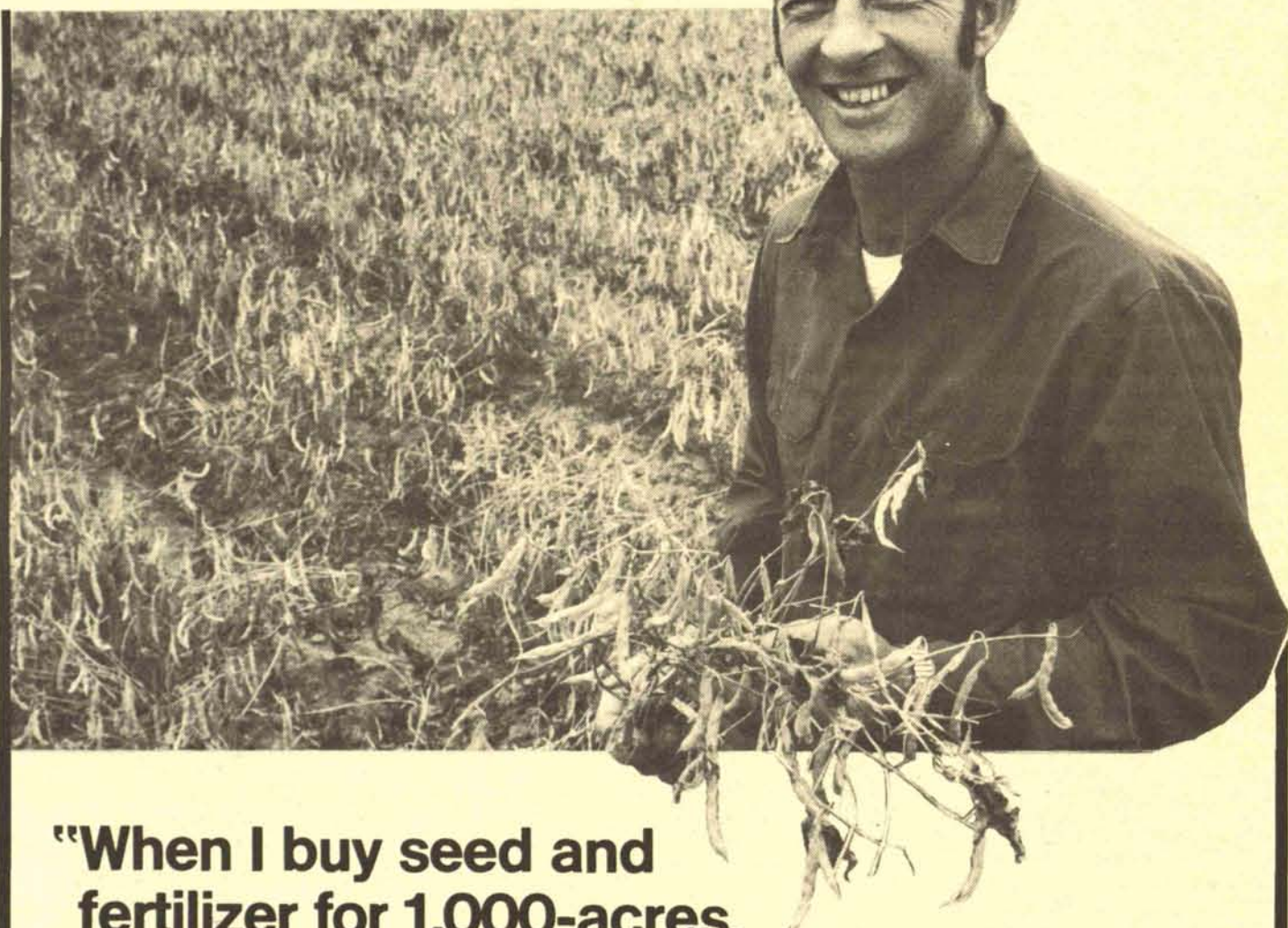
Environmental quality, farm labor legislation, encroaching urbanization, purchasing the right size machinery, livestock trends and planning for retirement are just some of the issues slated for consideration at the January-February "Agriculture in Action" meetings.

The first session is January 6 at the high school in Cass City and is designed for residents of the Thumb. The Civic Center at Saginaw will be the site of the January 16 meeting, serving the Saginaw Valley. Other meetings will be held January 22, Ionia High School; January 23, Doo Drop Inn, Muskegon; January 25, County Center Building, Lapeer; January 31, Dickerson Inn, Iron Mountain; February 6, 4-H Community Building, Hillsdale; February 13, Tecumseh Product Union Hall, Tecumseh; February 20,

Chalet Motor Lodge and Inn, Gaylord; February 21, Michigan National Bank, Gladwin; and February 22, Shiawassee County Fair Grounds, Corunna.

According to Dr. Leonard Kyle, MSU agricultural economist and program coordinator, no two programs are alike.

Each program will run from about 9:30 a.m. to around 3 p.m. Participant cost, if any, will be limited to lunch. Interested persons should contact their county agent for meeting location and program details.



"When I buy seed and fertilizer for 1,000-acres, I get more than just a bill," says Gerry Elenbaum.

In 1955, Gerry Elenbaum started farming on 80 rented acres with borrowed tools. He was quick to realize that he needed more than just seed and fertilizer to grow. His Farm Bureau affiliated co-op was there with the kind of help he needed.

Gerry still turns to his co-op for advice on operating his 1000-acre Huron country farm. On his co-op's recommendation, he uses Farm Bureau's Hurryup Bean Starter to improve crop yields. This year Gerry accidentally omitted Hurryup Bean Starter on one row of navy beans. The row is only half as high and has been hardest hit by blight and water damage, proving Hurryup's performance. Farm Bureau's feed specialist has helped Gerry improve his overweight dairy herd. The herd is now on Farm Bureau LPS free choice, along with Dairy 55% Premix and haylage. Both calving and milk production have improved.

Gerry agrees that he gets more than a bill from his co-op. Call your nearest Farm Bureau co-op. Find out about the services, technical help and marketing assistance that can make your farm more profitable.

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm Bureau
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

Farm Bureau "On The Air"

Since its beginning over 12 years ago, Farm Bureau's radio programming has been gaining popularity across the state. The Farm Bureau variety feature, Accent Agriculture, a 15-minute program on current issues and events, is being aired on 36 Michigan radio stations on a weekly basis and the farm news feature, "Farm News in Depth," is featured on a daily basis by 35 Michigan stations.

In addition to the regular weekly features, two commodity-oriented farm programs, the Michigan Fruit and Vegetable Report and Navy Bean Up-Date, are produced by Michigan Farm Bureau. The special reports are aired over the Michigan Farm Radio Network in the commodities' major producing areas on a seasonal basis. The reports include up-to-date information on crop conditions, market factors, labor supply and regulations, and technological trends.

Another new broadcast service is scheduled to begin in late January. The program, "Farm News Today," will be aired on an estimated 25 Michigan radio stations. "Farm News Today" will be produced on a daily basis at Farm Bureau Center, and will feature the number one farm news story of that day. The new program will be aired over the Michigan Farm Radio Network.

All broadcasts are produced by Bob Driscoll, director of broadcast services for the Michigan Farm Bureau, using high quality professional recording equipment and modern production techniques. The broadcasts are designed to keep both consumers and farmers informed on the issues facing agriculture and their ultimate effect.

Following is a list of radio stations that carry the regular Farm Bureau programs.

ADRIAN	WABJ	1490 AM
ALBION	WALM	1260 AM
ALMA	WFYC	1280 AM
ANN ARBOR	WPAG	1050 AM
BAD AXE	WLEW	1340 AM
BATTLE CREEK	WKNR	1400 AM
BAY CITY	WBCM	1440 AM
BAY CITY	WXOX	1250 AM
BENTON HARBOR	WHFB	1060 AM
BIG RAPIDS	WBRN	1460 AM
CADILLAC	WWAM	1370 AM
CARO	WKYO	1360 AM
CHARLOTTE	WCER	1390 AM
CHEBOYGAN	WCBY	1240 AM
CHICAGO, ILL.	WGN	720 AM
COLDWATER	WTVB	1590 AM
DETROIT	WWJ	950 AM
DOWAGIAC	WDOW	1440 AM
EAST LANSING	WKAR	870 AM
ELKHART, IND.	WCMR	1270 AM
ESCANABA	WDBC	680 AM
FREMONT	WHSN	1550 AM
GAYLORD	WATC	900 AM
GRAND HAVEN	WGHN	1370 AM
GRAND RAPIDS	WFUR	1570 AM
GREENVILLE	WPLB	1380 AM
HASTINGS	WBCH	1220 AM
HILLSDALE	WCSR	1340 AM
HOLLAND	WJBL	1260 AM
HOUGHTON LAKE	WHGR	1290 AM
IONIA	WION	1430 AM
IRON RIVER	WIKB	1230 AM
KALAMAZOO	WKPR	1420 AM
LAPEER	WMPC	1230 AM
LAPEER	WTHM	1530 AM
LUDINGTON	WKLA	1450 AM
MANISTEE	WMTE	1340 AM
MARINE CITY	WSMA	1590 AM
MARINETTE, WISC.	WMAM	570 AM
MARQUETTE	WDMJ	1320 AM
MENOMINEE	WAGN	1340 AM
MT. PLEASANT	WCEN	1150 AM
MUNISING	WGON	1400 AM
NILES	WNIL	1290 AM
OTSEGO	WAOP	980 AM
OWOSSO	WOAP	1080 AM
PETOSKEY	WJML	1110 AM
ROCKFORD	WJPW	810 AM
ROGERS CITY	WHAK	960 AM
SAGINAW	WKNX	1210 AM
ST. JOHNS	WRBJ	1580 AM
SANDUSKY	WMIC	1560 AM
SAULT ST. MARIE	WSOO	1230 AM
SOUTH HAVEN	WJOR	940 AM
STURGIS	WSTR	1230 AM
THREE RIVERS	WLKM	1510 AM
TRAVERSE CITY	WCCW	1310 AM
TRAVERSE CITY	WLDR	101.9 FM
WEST BRANCH	WBMB	1060 AM
WHITEHALL	WLRC	1490 AM

Two Receive AFBF Award

Two men who have made outstanding contributions to American agriculture were recipients of the American Farm Bureau Federation's Distinguished Service Award. The awards were presented at the general sessions of the 54th annual convention of the Federation held in Los Angeles by William J. Kuhfuss, AFBF president.

Named to receive the highest honor conferred by AFBF were Dr. Earl L. Butz, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, and Boswell Stevens, longtime president of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation and member of the board of directors and executive committee of the AFBF. Stevens retired from both positions in November of 1972.

The Distinguished Service Award has been made annually since 1928. Nominations for the Award are made by member State Farm Bureaus.

Dr. Butz who was named Secretary of Agriculture by President Nixon, November 11, 1971, was cited for his vigorous support of farmers and ranchers in the public debate on food prices and labor union practices jeopardizing farm marketings and for his successful efforts to expand farm exports. The citation noted that Secretary Butz has served agriculture all of his adult life and has been a constructive force in agriculture.

Dr. Butz served for eight years as head of the agricultural economics department of Purdue University and for ten years as Purdue's dean of agriculture. At the time of his appointment to the Nixon cabinet post, Dr. Butz was dean of continuing education and vice president of the Purdue Research Foundation. He also served as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture under President Eisenhower. In this position, he was in charge of marketing activities and was a member of the board of directors of the Commodity Credit Corporation. During this period, he chaired the U.S. delegation to the Food and Agricultural Organization three times.

Mr. Stevens of Macon, Mississippi, has served agriculture for 50 years as a leader in farm organizations. He has served in practically every capacity in Farm Bureau, beginning as a charter member of his county Farm Bureau. He served on the board of directors of the Mississippi Farm Bureau for 12 years and during part of this time as vice-president.

He was elected president of the state organization in 1950, and retired in November, 1972. He was elected to the board of directors of the American Farm Bureau Federation in 1954 and served until his 1972 retirement.

600 Members Attend AFBF Meeting in Los Angeles

Over 600 Michigan Farm Bureau members flew by charter plane to the 54th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation held December 10-14 in Los Angeles, California.

The national meeting of the world's largest general farm organization attracted over 10,000 farmers and ranchers from all parts of the country.

William J. Kuhfuss, president of the AFBF, opened the general session telling the delegates, "The best farm program is one that encourages expanded outlets for trade. The 62 million acres of production that we are now exporting are practically equal to the 61 million acres that were held out of production by government programs in the U.S. this past year."

The farm leaders also reported to the membership, "One of the major committee studies carried on this year by Farm Bureau leaders involved an examination of the direction of our marketing programs."

"How far we go in marketing in the future will depend to a large extent on the effort, responsibility, cooperation and financing Farm Bureau members will commit to a common interest."

"Commodity interests affect each individual farmer because it is through commodities that farmers have been able to improve their status in life. Someone said many years ago that a man's pocketbook is real close to his nervous system. Commodity activities need to be a better defined activity in Farm Bureau. This we can do and we must do."

The Honorable Ronald

Reagan, Governor of California, also spoke to farmers assembled in Los Angeles. He talked of the problems facing farmers and what should be done to solve them. Some solutions, he said, include an end to deficit spending by the federal government, lower tariff barriers in world trade to increase sales of U.S. farm products and maintenance of our competitive market system.

Also appearing on the five-day program was Frank E. Fitzsimmons, general president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America. He told the delegates present that those promoting the national lettuce boycott have perpetuated a fraud on the American public.

"As many of you know, 90 percent of all lettuce grown and harvested in California and Arizona is handled by union workers. Eighty-one percent of all union lettuce shipped from California and Arizona is done so at the hands of Teamster members. Only nine percent is handled by members of the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee," he said.

Fitzsimmons also added that the clergy, the liberals, the do-gooders, those who promote boycotts at the drop of the hat, regardless of the facts involved, "Are doing the American farm worker a real disservice."

"You," he said, "impede his bid for economic justice and job dignity, and have already undone much of what has been achieved for farm workers."

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

6% to 7½%

INTEREST ON DEBENTURES

\$100.00 OR MORE

6% - 5 Year Maturity
6½% - 10 Year Maturity
7% - 15 Year Maturity

\$1,000.00 OR MORE

6¾% - 10 Year Maturity

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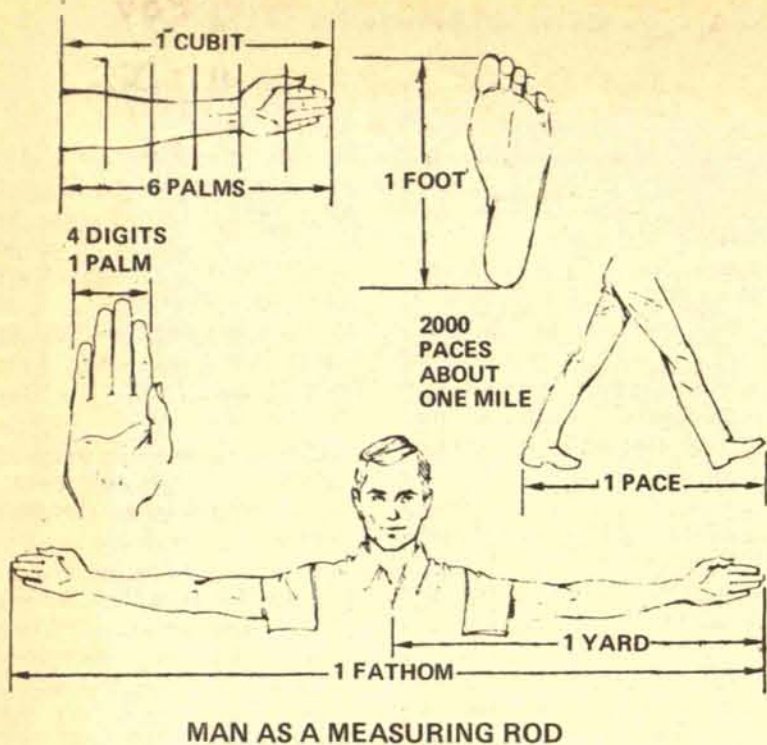
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MAN AS A MEASURING ROD

"METRIC SYSTEM"

Discussion Topic

by KEN WILES

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

The United States is the only industrial country in the world still using the English system of weights and measures -- ounces and pounds; inches, feet, yards and miles; pints and quarts.

Other countries where the metric system is not used are Barbados, Burma, Gambia, Ghana, Jamaica, Liberia, Muscat and Oman, Nauru, Sierra Leone, Southern Yemen, Tonga and Trinidad.

Many measurements in the United States are already metrical -- photographic, pharmaceutical, optometric and roller bearing industries, for instance. Some automobiles and foreign made farm machinery have metric parts.

For international competition, swimming pools are built in metric lengths. Food, particularly that prepared for sale abroad as well as domestic use, has the weight on labels in ounces and pounds and in grams.

By act of Congress, the metric system has been legal in the U.S. since 1866, however, the English measures have continued to predominate. One advocate of the metric system has estimated the U.S. loses \$10-25 billion annually in foreign trade because the nation's measurements are out of line with predominant world standards.

The metric system, based on ratios of the earth's circumference, is a decimal system based on units of ten. It is logical and simplifies mathematics. School children, and perhaps adults too, might be glad to dispense with fractions to be multiplied, divided, added and subtracted.

The customary English system is not a logical one. The units are arbitrary and of varying values. For example,

there are 12 inches in a foot and three feet in a yard. A mile is 5,280 feet. There are 16 ounces to a pound and 2,000 pounds to a ton. We measure by horsepower, hands, rods, acres, pints, quarts, gallons, pecks, bushels, cubits and fathoms.

These standards grew into existence in a haphazard manner. Three barleycorns, round and dry, when laid together equal an inch. The distance between the tip of a long-forgotten king's nose and the tip of his fingers was determined to be a yard.

The metric system progresses logically in units of ten, and prefixes have the same meaning, whether measuring length, area, liquid volume or mass (weight as it is now known).

The basic units are meters, grams and liters. Deci, as a prefix, means tenth; centi, hundredth; milli, thousandth. Dekka means ten times the base; hecto -- a hundred times; and kilo -- a thousand times, for example. Kilometer, which would replace the mile, is a thousand meters and the milligram is one thousandth of a gram. We already measure electricity in metric measurements -- amperes, and time would still be measured in seconds.

But, the weatherman and the doctor will be giving their respective temperature readings in Celsius, formerly called centigrade, instead of Fahrenheit. A patient with a temperature of 36.9 degrees would not be dead. That is the Celsius equivalent of a normal 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

Pluses for Agriculture

What will the change to metric measure mean to farmers, when it comes?

The consensus is that, in the long run, agriculture probably

has as much, or more, to gain from a nationwide conversion to the metric system than many other sectors of the economy. Cited is the benefit it would give agriculture in world trade and the opportunity it would offer for improvement in marketing efficiency.

At present, with our English system, numerous conversions from one unit of measurement to another are a matter of everyday practice. Agricultural products leaving the farm are sold by pound, gallon, bushel and containers of innumerable shapes and sizes. Even a given measurement unit has many meanings within a commodity, as well as among commodities.

Consider, for example, the bushel which is, perhaps, the best known agricultural measure. It is commonly agreed to be 2150.42 cubic inches in volume, equal in capacity to a cylinder eight inches deep and 18-1/2 inches in diameter, interior measure. But its weight ranges from 60pounds for wheat to 56 for corn and 32 for oats.

The present English system of measurement could be simplified, but the disruption would be almost as much as the shift to metric measures and the U.S. would still be the "odd man" in international trade.

In the dairy industry where output is consumed within days, the conversion from quarts to liters and pounds to kilos will simply require a change in package sizes according to a recent article in the "Dairyman." The gable top cartons are already made in liters for dairy distributors in Mexico, Japan and Europe. The spindles on most farm machines are adjustable to metric sizes; manufacturers build them with foreign customers in mind, and fillage is adjustable.

The difference between a quart and a liter carton is 3/8 inch more height for the liter. Major case manufacturers allow this much or more clearance on both top and bottom stackers. The two-liter is also 3/8 inch taller than a half-gallon, so cases already in use will accommodate these also.

A quart contains 32 ounces, and a liter at 33.8 ounces, is five percent more, a trifling amount, but this will technically enable a distributor to charge more for the liter packages. The cost for cartons should be about the same, but fillage for the same volume would be five percent less time, which will be a saving on labor.

Going metric can accomplish two things for the distributor, increase fluid sales five percent each transaction and lower packaging time five percent, both desirable.

Cost of Changeover

The cost and inconvenience of a change to metric will be substantial, even if it is done by plan. Based on experience of the drug industry, costs of converting might not be as large as expected. When major U.S. drug manufacturers voluntarily changed their

Comparing the Commonest Measurement Units

Approximate conversions from Customary to metric and vice versa.			
	When you know:	You can find:	If you multiply by:
LENGTH	inches	millimeters	25
	feet	centimeters	30
	yards	meters	0.9
	miles	kilometers	1.6
	millimeters	inches	0.04
	centimeters	inches	0.4
	meters	yards	1.1
	kilometers	miles	0.6
AREA	square inches	square centimeters	6.5
	square feet	square meters	0.09
	square yards	square meters	0.8
	square miles	square kilometers	2.6
	acres	square hectometers (hectares)	0.4
	square centimeters	square inches	0.16
	square meters	square yards	1.2
	square kilometers	square miles	0.4
	square hectometers (hectares)	acres	2.5
MASS	ounces	grams	28
	pounds	kilograms	0.45
	short tons	megagrams (metric tons)	0.9
	grams	ounces	0.035
	kilograms	pounds	2.2
	megagrams (metric tons)	short tons	1.1
LIQUID VOLUME	ounces	milliliters	30
	pints	liters	0.47
	quarts	liters	0.95
	gallons	liters	3.8
	milliliters	ounces	0.034
	liters	pints	2.1
	liters	quarts	1.06
	liters	gallons	0.26
TEMPERATURE	degrees Fahrenheit	degrees Celsius	5/9 (after subtracting 32)
	degrees Celsius	degrees Fahrenheit	9/5 (then add 32)

internal operations and most of their products to metric, they found costs were actually less than anticipated. One company believes it easily recovered the costs through such advantages as easier training of personnel; reduction in errors; simplified specifications, catalogs and records; and improved intracompany communications.

Dr. John L. Feirer, head of the Department of Industrial Education at Western Michigan University, says it has been estimated it will cost between \$15 billion and \$65 billion to convert America's industry to the metric system. But judging from the experience in England, which converted recently, Dr. Feirer believes the lower figure will be more accurate.

The Center for Metric Education at WMU is in its first year of a federally funded, three-year program to prepare educational tools to help change this country to the metric system.

Can It Be Done?

Can the United States really go metric -- mentally as well as technologically? Yes, it is just a matter of becoming as familiar with meters and grams as we are with inches and ounces. The hardest part of the conversion is likely to be the abandonment of time honored phrases such as "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and "A miss is as good as a mile." Converted into metric measure, these phrases become such a mouthful that we "wouldn't touch them with a 3.049-meter pole."

While there are six basic units in the International Metric System, only three would be used in day-to-day living. These are: meter, the unit of length; kilogram, the unit of mass; and kelvin, the unit of temperature (in common use, translated into the degree Celsius).

The remaining three

measurement units are: the second which is precisely the same unit of time now used; the ampere or unit of electric current which is also in current use; and the candela, the unit of luminous intensity.

All other weights and measures in the International Metric System derive from these six basics.

The easy part of the metric system comes when you connect the basics to larger or smaller measures. Every metric unit is related to another by multiples or submultiples of ten. For example, there are ten millimeters in one centimeter; 100 centimeters in one meter; and 1,000 meters in one kilometer.

If you want to calculate the number of meters in 3,794 kilometers, all you have to do is multiply that figure by 1,000 (or move the decimal point three places to the right). The answer is 3,794,000. In our present system, to find the number of inches in 3,794 miles, it is necessary to multiply by 5,280 (feet in a mile) and then by 12 (inches in a foot).

The real key to the public acceptance of the "Metric U.S." is education. Surveys conducted by the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan show that the more people know about the metric system, the more they favor it. Rather consistently, those with more formal education or more experience using metric units, seemed the most confident that they could master it with little difficulty. This demonstrates a need for public education to help all citizens to cope with the trend to metric, and poses a challenge for the development of a coordinated program of change which provides for flexibility and encourages the various sectors of society to deal voluntarily with their particular problems of change to the metric system.

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 meetings. 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 February 1, 1973.

COMMUNITY FARM BUREAU Discussion Exercise and Report Sheet January, 1973

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

TOPIC: Metric System

1. In your opinion, which system, the metric or the customary, makes calculations easier? Metric _____ Customary _____
2. In your opinion, is increased metric usage in the best interest of the United States? Yes _____ No _____
3. Do you think it is feasible for the United States to completely convert to the metric system? Yes _____ No _____
4. Since conversion to the metric system is legal, should it be made mandatory? Yes _____ No _____
5. If conversion to the metric system becomes mandatory, what time span should be allowed for the complete conversion? _____
6. Do you think the general public is almost forgotten in the proposed change to the metric system? Yes _____ No _____
7. Comments: _____

Topic Summary

The replies to the November Discussion Topic on Agriculture Related Careers generally indicated concern that the opportunities available were not being made known to high school students. Arrangements for a knowledgeable person to speak on agriculture related careers at high schools' career opportunity days may be scheduled by contacting Mr. Robert Rosenow, Coordinator of Student Programs, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

1. How many teenage children are represented in your group who have not yet embarked on a career? Responses on this question ranged from a high of 21 to a low of one, with the average of 5.38.
2. Is there a junior college in your area which offers agriculture or agriculture related courses? Yes: 41% No: 59%
3. To your knowledge, is agriculture represented during Career Opportunity Days at your local high school? Yes: 64% No: 36%
4. If the answer to the above question is in the negative, do you know why not? Lack of interest; local counseling program; school board and administration consider agriculture very low in order of occupations.
5. Based upon your knowledge, are agricultural related careers normally considered by career counselors when talking to farm youth? Yes: 59% No: 41%
6. Do you think there is equity for agriculture in the vocational education program in your local high school? Yes: 63% No: 37%
7. Comments: Vo-ag has been regarded as a dumping ground for students disinterested in school; 4-H offers a good opportunity to pursue this interest.

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Dues

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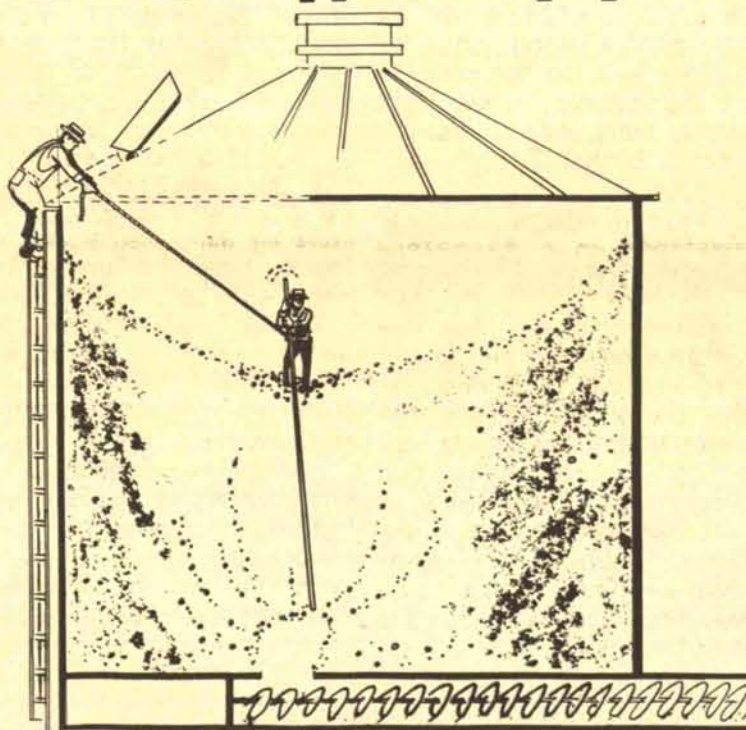
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