

How do We Control Sprawl...

"A man and what he loves and builds have but a day and then disappear; nature cares not--and renews the annual round untired. It is the old law, sad but not bitter. Only when man destroys the life and beauty of nature, there is the outrage."--George Macaulay Trevelyan

Farmers want to stop the urban sprawl that has been steadily inching its way across the state, replacing the green and golden landscape with shopping centers and subdivisions.

Besides the personal loss to rural people there is a very real threat of a lack of productive farmland that concerns all consumers. The Michigan Department of Agriculture claims Michigan will need eight million acres of agricultural land for food production in the year 2000. Yet, with 50,000 acres of farmland annually converted to urban use already, it's almost certain that the land won't be there at the end of the century. The MDA calls their projection conservative not alarmist.

Society will continue to impose restrictions, their report states, that will limit per acre yields during the remainder of the 1900's. This situation contradicts the oft-quoted concept that technology will solve the shrinking land problem by leading us to greater production on fewer acres.

The MDA believes, rather, that constraints imposed on uses of pesticides, growth hormones, plant nutrients, water farm drainage and flood control, energy and disposition of wastes will limit production.

A National Problem

Land use planning is not a problem unique to Michigan. Other states and communities have come to grips with the challenge by adopting protective measures. But, the adoption of local zoning ordinances, no matter how well planned, can be challenged in court.

In Black Jack, Mo., outside St. Louis, an ordinance permits only single-family units and excluded a multi-family, low-income housing project. The American Civil Liberties Union and the Justice Department are challenging the ordinance as discriminatory.

In Ramapo, New York, the semi-rural life of its inhabitants came to

an abrupt end with the completion of two transportation links with New York City.

Citizens, in an effort to preserve the natural feature of the town, adopted a controversial, comprehensive plan controlling growth through phased development.

No property can be developed for residential purposes until the developer can show that certain capital improvements-- sewers, drainage, public parks, recreation facilities, major road facilities and fire houses -- are either available or will be by the time the project is completed.

Ramapo lost its first court battle, but in 1972, New York's highest court upheld the town's ordinance. Under the new ordinance, the building rate has been cut from about 1,000 new units per year to 350.

Since 1965, California has encouraged the preservation of farmland by enabling counties to grant tax abatements to farmers who agree to keep their lands in active agricultural use. Fourteen million acres are under such interim protection but still substantial acreages of farmland continues to be lost to urbanization.

Some heavily populated cities have tried to halt the great exodus to rural areas by making city living more attractive.

Wilmington, Del. offers old, in-city homes for \$1.00 to those who will agree to certain improvement stipulations and live in them for a pre-determined length of time.

Legislation Moving

The Michigan DNR has formed a State Prime and Unique Lands Advisory Committee to assist in developing the basis for designating prime agricultural land needing protection from competing land uses. Michigan Farm Bureau is represented on the committee.

But new action is in the works. In the Michigan Legislature, HR 5055, a 35-page bill on land use, has been introduced and public hearings held. The bill proposes rigid statewide guidelines that would have to be satisfied before development was allowed on prime farmland, certain soil types, critical wildlife habitats and historical sites.

• Special guidelines would apply



THE SPREADING CITY. This aerial view of Albion, Michigan shows how the fingers of the city reach into the surrounding countryside. The picture, taken at an altitude of 60,000 fts., shows the I-94 expressway running north of the city, and the Kalamazoo River in town.

Aerial photography is one of the new tools being used to appraise land use in Michigan.

Photo courtesy of Michigan State University Department of Urban Planning.

to major developments such as shopping centers.

• County commissioners or the State Land Use Commission would judge merits of developments when its effects were felt across governmental borders.

• Government trespass of land use plans would be adjudicated by a special Council on Differences.

In Washington, a bill has been passed by the Senate to assist states in such land use plans as that proposed in Michigan. This bill would provide \$1 billion in grants over eight years to such state plans, though Washington could pull the string on funds if state policy didn't jive with Federal standards.

A method of sanctioning states which didn't develop land use plans was dropped from the bill. This would have empowered the federal government to withhold grants for highways and airports.

Farm Bureau's Stand

Some thought leaders of land use reform think private ownership is obsolete and traditional land ownership concepts need to be updated to reflect the public consciousness.

Farm Bureau has objected to this assertion and insists that private ownership of the major portion of the nation's land resources is in the national interest.

Farm Bureau does, however, support the formation of a centralized state land use agency and a commission with agricultural representation.

The Bureau encourages guidelines and financial assistance from the state to localities for land use planning. The use of state land use programs, however, would only be acceptable to Farm Bureau if localities failed to meet guidelines.

Index

Classified ads	19
Discussion Topics	18
Legislative Notes	4
Marketing	8-11
Policy	14, 15
Possibilities	17
Present Issues	16
President's Column	2
Women	13
World	12



Land Use from all sides. Four families talk their case. Page 7



Environmental argument irrational. An FB member's answer to Georg Borgstrom. Page 14

Agricultural Exports Are Vital

PRESIDENTS' COLUMN



If you have a TV set, a radio, camera or razor, chances are parts or all of it came from Japan, our No. 1 foreign customer for US farm products. We send her our farm products; she sends us electronic equipment. We both benefit from this transaction.

Consumers, farmers, workers, investors and business all stand to gain from expanded trade between countries. When products are exchanged on a basis of each country producing the items it can produce most advantageously, consumers get the best product at the lowest price. No one country -- not even the United States -- can efficiently produce every product it needs.

Many economists believe that agricultural products are fast becoming, or already are, the only thing which the United States can produce as cheaply as it is produced elsewhere in the world. The US has a serious balance of trade problem now, but it would be much worse if it weren't for a highly productive, efficient, export-oriented agriculture.

From July 1, 1972 through June 30, 1973, \$12.9 billion worth of agricultural products were exported, a 60% increase over the previous year. In that same period, agricultural imports amounted to \$7.3 billion, an increase of 21%. The result was a favorable balance of trade for agriculture of \$5.6 billion -- a tremendous contribution to the entire economy, and the only bright spot in our total world trade picture. During the same period, nonagricultural trade resulted in an unfavorable trade balance of \$9.1 billion.

A favorable balance of trade is important because foreign currency obtained from world trade allows the US to buy products in short supply here such as petroleum products. And we have the potential in agriculture to help solve the overall balance of trade problem if we are not threatened with restrictions.

Since foreign trade is a two-way street, foreign markets cannot be treated as a dumping ground. Limitations on exports and imports can seriously affect our country's position in world trade. They already have. With the imposition of export restrictions last June 24 and again on July 5, hard-won foreign markets have lost faith in our dependability as a source of supplies.

Export controls on US farm commodities have been relaxed, but irreparable damage has been done to our reputation as a reliable supplier in world markets. And pressures for a restrictive trade policy are growing daily.

Flour millers and the baking industry associations are calling for export limitations as a means of bringing back the government farm surpluses that saved them the cost of maintaining grain inventories. They're gathering consumer support by threatening \$1.00 a loaf of bread.

Organized labor is supporting legislation that would limit imports as a means of protecting high cost union contracts. Free-spending politicians, in the hope of diverting attention away from their contribution to runaway inflation, are whipping up consumer support for

export controls under the banner of "Let's take care of our own first."

Advocates of cheap food for consumers even attempt to pit farmer against farmer as they seek export controls to pile up surpluses of cheap feed grains at home. Lowering domestic feed grain prices may have a special short-term appeal to some livestock, poultry and dairy producers. But a backup of US produced surpluses can also mean a return to dramatically lower dairy, livestock and poultry prices.

Current Farm Bureau policy, as established by the members through the policy development process and adopted by the elected voting delegates at the AFBF annual meeting in December, 1972, supports expanded agricultural exports in the interest of our national economy and the American farmer. However, Farm Bureau does not seek free and unrestrained trade.

Policy states: "Imported agricultural commodities must meet sanitary and quality standards applied to domestic products. Enforcement of such regulations should be applied vigorously... Regulations requiring proper labeling of important agricultural products as to country of origin should be enforced."

Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act provides for the imposition of fees or quantity limitations on imports of agricultural commodities when and where necessary to protect domestic farm markets. This authority has been used to limit imports of dairy products. The dairy industry recently filed a federal lawsuit to stop the US government from increasing import quotas on dry milk.

Farm Bureau is against "protectionism" policies and believes that some concessions may be necessary with regard to permitting imported dairy products of satisfactory quality to compete on the US market on the basis of actual costs.

Liberalization of international trade in agricultural commodities would probably result in some increase in competition for the US dairy market. However, if foreign export subsidies were eliminated or offset, few foreign producers could compete effectively, in terms of price or quality, on our domestic market. Our dairy industry would not be injured materially by such competition.

If we in America adopt protectionist policies, we can expect retaliation from our overseas customers. We will not be able to expect the countries who are members of the European Common Market to seriously consider our requests for eliminating their variable import levies. We cannot build a fence around America.

The patterns of international trade developed in the mid-1970's will shape the market opportunities and incomes of American farmers for years to come. Policy decisions made by our government and those of other nations will mold a trade environment that will either foster or restrict international trade. Farm Bureau families have much to gain or much to lose, depending on whether the world moves forward toward mutually advantageous international trade or backward toward protected pockets of national self-sufficiency.

underlines: TERRY CANUP

A Dry Look

Farmers in the state are scowling at the urban sprawl that seems to be approaching their properties like an unstoppable ocean wave. Agriculturalists grit their teeth and wish their new suburban neighbors back to the cities or somewhere worse.

But what have farmers done to stop the wave before it overcame them? They praise their life as being the best on earth then wonder why suburbanites should reach to the outer limits of the metropolises to be a part of it.

Just think about the urban generation that has just grown to adulthood. They started life sitting Indian-style on their living room floors, sucking on their popicles while watching Davey Crockett on the TV.

The trail-blazing and frontier-fighting praised in film and song took their hearts. The entire generation would have jumped into the TV set and followed Fess Parker to the death at the Alamo if they could have.

Going outside, the children found, instead of deep green mysterious forests, rows of houses and concrete streets. So they could do little but make believe that the city was the green forest that they saw on TV. But with more and more urbanization this became too great of a task.

So they spurned any reminders of the restraints of culture and as they grew, their wet heads up and died and became more woolly like their heroes of the pioneer days. They defended themselves from their mothers who approached them with yet another aerosol can.

Yard guard, right guard, it didn't matter, they weren't going to defile their natural underarms. They would walk the streets in their natural goodness with lumberjack

shirts and denim trousers as if they were in the forest that their romantic spirits longed to be in.

Later they took to the roads. Standing, sitting, lying on the shoulders of the highways with thumbs outstretched to the horizon, they scowled at the soft, former generation that passed by in their Winnebagoes.

But they were all headed the same way. Out... away from the city and back to nature. It was reflected in the products of their culture.

Organic foods were popular and even the most modern products were described as having natural freshness, herbal essence, etc.

The last two adult generations learned to spurn the sight of concrete, cars and any sight of people. Consequently, they have flown to the suburbs to get as close as they can to their frontier ideals. They've stretched farther and farther burning more fuel commuting from their homes on former farmland to the cities centers they left to rot.

People haven't really stopped to think about the good aspects of city living. I suppose it's hard for them to when they have heroes like Davey Crockett and Daniel Boone. But we must remove the American mind from the past and put it in the present if we're going to cope with the present.

Maybe we should stop and consider encouraging city-cousins to make the most of a city instead of deserting and escaping it for some TV induced dream.

An influx of people with initiative into the downtown areas of our metropolises may be the best answer to urban sprawl and to many of the land use problems that face the farmers.

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Farm Bureau

DONNA

You Have Two Cows

Have you noticed how some people pronounce the word, "Capitalism," as if they'd just gargled with Listerine? With the idealistic and allicaring attitudes of many of our younger generation today, it's easy to see how some of the Robin Hood concepts of socialism and communism can sound dangerously appealing to them.

It's not often that you can beat the trusty Webster, but I found some definitions of the various "isms" the other day which I wish I'd had to supplement my teen's diet of high school Government classes.

Socialism: You have two cows. The government takes one and gives it to your neighbor.

Communism: You have two cows. The government takes both and gives you the milk.

Fasism: You have two cows. The government takes both and sells you the milk.

Nazism: You have two cows. The government takes both and shoots you.

New Dealism: You have two cows. The government buys both, shoots one, milks the other and throws the milk away.

Capitalism: You have two cows. You sell one cow and buy a bull.

THE "RUPTURED TUMOR"

Speaking of young people, I consider it both a challenge and a pleasure to work with them. It's a challenge because they're way ahead of us in the middle-age bracket in applied imagination and creativity; and it's a pleasure because trying to keep up with them is like a shot of Rustoleum in the aging brain mechanism.

Example: In my office at Farm Bureau Center is about 30 feet of exposed film draped over a coat hanger. Early each Monday

morning, before the clock strikes 8, one of these particularly creative young people drapes, tucks, pulls and twirls this length of film into a piece of abstract art. It's our job then to title the week's creation.

Now, what could one possibly see in a twisted pile of film draped over a coat hanger? The members of the now-generation gaze deeply into the "art" and into themselves, and promptly christen it "Man in Society" or "Fall from Grace." The older generation? "Ruptured Tumor."

There's a lesson there somewhere...

IN DEFENSE OF FORTY...

If you're in the ruptured tumor class, and especially if you're a woman, you'll appreciate the sentiments of this poet:

My friends have oftentimes confessed that forty makes them feel depressed. They fear they've said farewell to youth; I can't deny this holds some truth. Yet, looking back at every stage, I know I'd rather be this age than fifteen, fumbling through a date, or twenty, shopping for a mate, or twenty-five with babes to raise, or thirty, dread den-mother phase. Ah, forty as an age is fine; but I, of course, am thirty-nine.

THE FINAL WORD...

Many beautiful and wise phrases have been written about age, and due to the slight prejudice of this column's author, they get the final word.

Does not old wood burn the brightest, old linen wash the whitest, and old wine taste the best? Are not old shoes most comfortable, old friends the truest, old soldiers the surest, and old lovers the soundest?

Runoff Standards Threaten Feedlots

The public will have until Oct. 9 to comment on proposed standards to control runoff from livestock feedlots before they are implemented Oct. 18, 1973.

The proposed EPA standards apply to all livestock and poultry feedlots regardless of size that have discharges of pollutants into navigable waters.

EPA is proposing that available technology will allow a 1977 and 1983 "no discharge" standard for feedlots.

Specifically, the 1977 standard for existing feedlots is no discharge of wastewater from the operation and no runoff from the feedlot itself except that which occurs due to excessive rainfall. The determination of "excessive" is set on a regional basis by US Weather Bureau statistics.

It was reported by FB Legislative Counsel Albert Almy that the availability of technical personnel to assist farmers in designing no discharge facilities and the construction of such facilities by 1977 is critical.

He added that it appeared that smaller operations will be affected more by the regulations than the large ones.

On Sept. 4, members of the Michigan Farm Bureau State Dairy, Poultry, Livestock and Natural Resources Advisory Committees met at Farm Bureau Center to discuss the proposed no discharge regulations. The economic impact of such a standard was considered by the group to be major.

Members of the Advisory Committees made several

recommendations to be included in a Michigan Farm Bureau response to EPA on the proposed no discharge standards, and the MFB Board of Directors approved the recommendations Sept. 6.

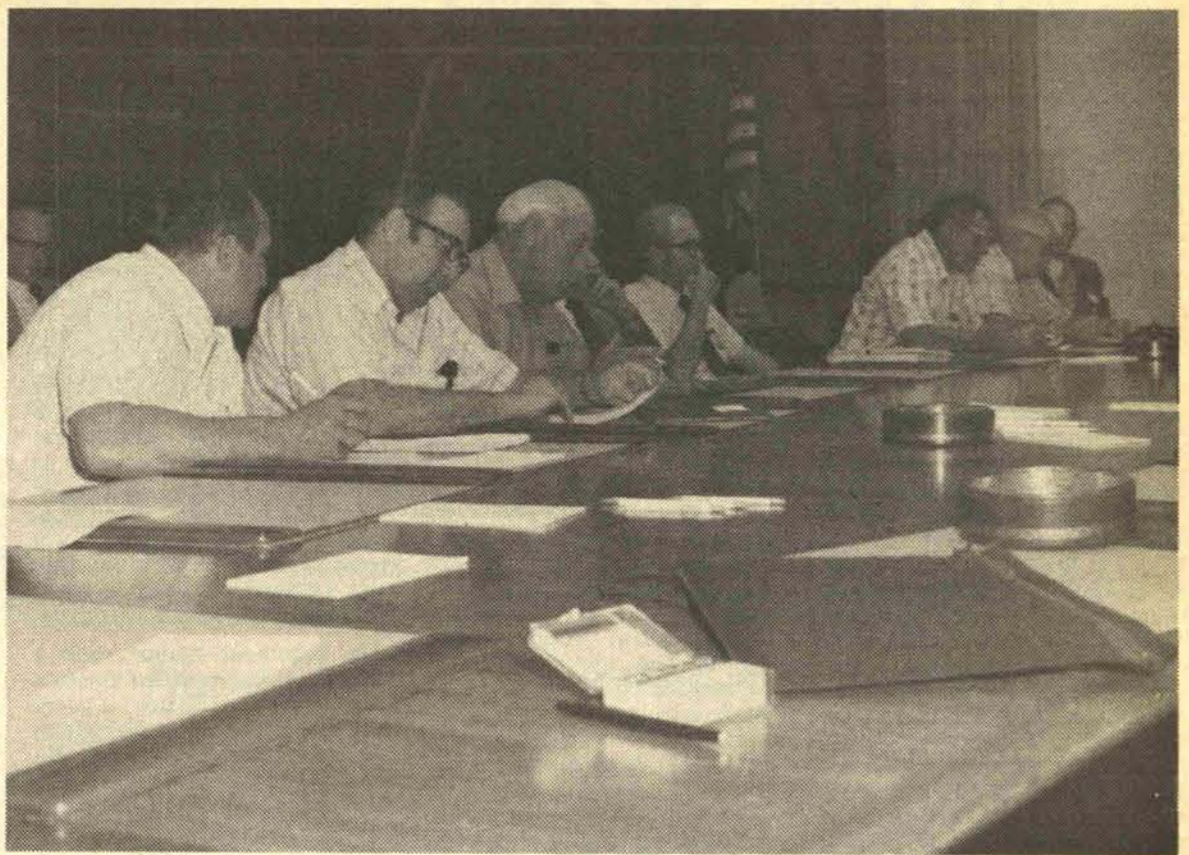
The Board also called for an aggressive effort to bring about changes in the regulation that will not interfere with the production of food from feedlot operations.

The proposed standards are required by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972. This Act establishes a goal of no discharge of pollutants into the navigable waters of this nation by 1985.

The Act further requires that by July 1, 1977 discharges of pollutants be controlled by use of the "best practicable control technology currently available." By July 1, 1983, the Act requires that discharges of pollutants be further controlled by use of the "best available technology economically achievable."

By 1983, existing feedlots must meet a no discharge standard that will prevent the discharge of any wastewater used in the operation and rainfall runoff that does not exceed the 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event as established by the US Weather Bureau in which the feedlot is located. The 1983 standard will apply immediately for new feedlots.

The standards as proposed by EPA closely follow the recommendations of the Hamilton Standard Division of United Aircraft Corporation, which was contracted by EPA to study the livestock industry.



SO TIRED. Members of MFB committees start to give in to fatigue after a lengthy session last

month at the Farm Bureau Center in which runoff regulations were scrutinized.

Penn Central Plan Up in Air

Plans for reorganization of the Penn Central Railroad are still up in the air as the Oct. 1 deadline approaches. Federal judge John P. Fullam said in July that if no federal aid was forthcoming by the deadline, he would allow the Penn Central to liquidate its holdings.

However, both Senator Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) and Federal Railway Administrator John Ingram think the Penn Central has enough cash flow to keep running until the end of the year.

Porter Barnett, Transportation Specialist of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, doesn't think there will be a stoppage right away.

"If they do pass the deadline without a recommendation," he said "the ICC will just say 'hold on a minute; give us a few more days.' I don't think Congress is going to let the Penn Central stop running."

It seems clear that the ICC will have no Congressional legislation to report to Judge Fullam on Oct. 1 since Sen. Hartke is allowing his bill to lie dormant as he waits for House action.

Hartke admitted that he didn't believe he had sufficient support for his bill which would form an emergency railroad authority.

With the Senate bill broiling through possible amendments to Hartke's Bill, a House subcommittee is looking for a compromise to the Shoup and Adams Bills. Both would depend on federally guaranteed loans to salvage railways.

But the battles in Congress are mild compared to the struggle the Department of Transportation is putting up against all other authority. John Ingram, Administrator of the Federal Railway Authority, under DOT, insists that the ICC doesn't have authority to handle the Penn Central situation while DOT head Claude Brinegar has been uncompromising concerning others' proposals. He wants an abbreviated core rail system that relies heavily on private funds and has stated repeatedly that he would recommend a Presidential veto of the Hartke Bill.

A complete shutdown is not the major concern now, but there is a fear that if no concrete solution or

compromise is arrived at, large stop-gap measures without amounts of money could be spent just keeping the railways open with answer to the situation.

Rail Car Shortage Costs

The results of Michigan Department of Agriculture survey released last month revealed that Michigan grain elevator operators last year had to pay \$10.5 million in penalty costs resulting from lack of railcars.

Transportation specialist for the Department, Porter Barnett, said he considered the \$10.5 million figure a conservative estimate.

"I think it's going to be much better this year," Barnett said, "If it's not, we're going to have a lot of people out of business."

The specialist said it was a

matter of getting the railcars to elevators before things get plugged up, by speeding up the turn around time of cars.

"I'm quite sure we're going to have some problems," Barnett said, but he added that ICC inspectors would remember last year's problems and check bottlenecks out thoroughly.

Congressman Marvin Esch expressed his concern for the railcar situation by conducting an open forum on the subject in Monroe, Sept. 20.

Ray Price to be at FB Annual Meeting

Ray Price, the man who is said to have brought sophistication to country music, will be on hand to entertain at the MFB annual meeting in Grand Rapids this December.

Price, who is scheduled to appear on Tuesday, December 11 in the Civic Auditorium, gained new fame for this recording of "For the Good Times" but has been a country favorite for years.

He served as a regular with the Grand Ole Opry in the '50's but has since joined such performers as Glen Campbell and Lyn Anderson, in popularity among the non-country audience.

His hit album "For the Good Times" included other new popular recordings like "Help Me Make It Through the Night" and some of his remembered recordings of the past such as "Heartaches by the Number."

Price's recordings of the '70's launched him to new TV notoriety as he became a regular on "Music Country" this summer.

Tickets will be on sale to members through their county Farm Bureau secretaries.



Ray Price



THE BIG PAYOFF. Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative show where the money went as they mail out record dividends in late August.

FBS, FPC Dividends Mailed

Payment checks totaling over \$835,000 were mailed recently to all stock and debenture holders of FBS and FPC.

"This is the largest amount ever paid," reports Max Dean, treasurer of both companies, and reflects not only higher interest rates, but the largest number of recipients ever." In all, over 14,000 checks were mailed.

Farm Bureau Services investors have received \$675,000 of this

amount and Farmers Petroleum stock and debenture holders have received over \$159,000 after the late-August mailing.

The two regional farmer-owned cooperatives serve farmers in the state of Michigan through sales of products and services to local farmer-owned cooperatives, many of which own stock in both Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum.

Farmers Receive Insurance Relief

Many farmers with diversified operations will have lower bills for workmen's compensation since a recent ruling by the Michigan Workmen's Compensation Rating Bureau (MWCRB).

It ruled in July that these farm employers no longer must pay the same premium rate for all of their workers.

Premiums are set according to the classification of farming the workers are actually employed in. But until this ruling many farmers were forced to pay the highest rates that applied to their farm operations for all workers regardless of actual duties. Now all insurance companies are directed

to rate workers individually according to their occupation.

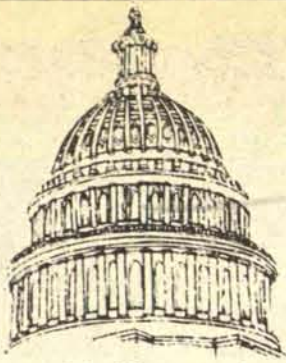
This division of payroll directive will not affect those covered under Farm Bureau Mutual, however, since they have operated under this system since 1970. FB Insurance spokesmen claim that the approval and operation of the Farm Bureau "division of payroll" system prodded the July directive by the MWCRB.

In another decision by the Compensation Rating Bureau, potato and sugar beet operations now qualify for lower premium rates due to reclassification as "farm-market or truck" operations.

CAPITOL REPORT

Robert E. Smith

Legislation Preview



The Michigan Legislature returns to session on Oct. 16. Each house has a large calendar of work left over from the previous session. It is expected to be a very busy period with new legislation being introduced.

Farm Land Assessment. It is hoped that an acceptable substitute for H 4244 will be ready for consideration by the Senate Taxation Committee and by the whole Senate. Substitutes that are being considered are more comprehensive than the House-passed bill and would also apply to open space land in addition to agricultural land. An extension of the idea of limiting property tax to a percentage of income which was passed earlier in the session is under consideration as one of the major changes in H 4244.

Many non-farm people now recognize the need for farm land assessment and taxation reform due to the accelerating loss of good agricultural land to urbanization and other non-agricultural uses. The food shortage has brought a change of thinking on the part of many. However, some of these supporters want to make the restrictions so tight that they may not be acceptable to farmers.

A great deal of work remains to be done on this issue.

Land Use Legislation. This will be a major area of consideration. Representative Mastin, introducer of H 5055, has completed a series of hearings throughout the state. The bill this year seems to be more acceptable than the bill that he introduced last year in as much as local units of government will have more to say in the land use plans.

The bill, however, is rather complicated and sets up a Land Use Commission along with advisory committees, adjudicatory committees, and other bodies. The authority in the bill would come about by a system of determining critical environmental areas. Such critical areas could include prime agricultural land. The bill will undoubtedly be heavily amended before it receives serious consideration.

Court Reform

This will include proposals to pay the cost of a portion of the court system throughout the state. There has been an effort for some time to pay the entire cost of all courts from state funds. This would be far too expensive. However, the new proposal is expected to start with the payment of district court costs. This is considered by some as another form of revenue sharing with local government and would be especially helpful to some of the city areas.

Nearly everyone agrees that another area of court reform that is badly needed is a different system of selecting the Supreme Court justices. No one, however, agrees to a specific proposal. There may be constitutional amendments placed on the 1974 ballot by both parties.

The Supreme Court justices are presently nominated at party conventions and then are expected to run on a so-called non-partisan ballot.

Present Farm Bureau policy supports the appointment of Supreme Court justices and Court of Appeals judges, however, at the same time preserving the right of the people to have a voice in the selection of judges.

By requiring the judge to run solely on his record and not against other opponents in a general election, people would therefore decide whether the judge would be retained in office. This is a variation of the Missouri Non-Partisan Court Plan.

More than 21 other states have adopted various versions of the Missouri Plan in an effort to take the courts out of politics.

Election Reforms

Leaders of the Republican and Democratic parties have been meeting and have proposed several election reforms. These will be an issue in the coming legislative session.

One of these issues is a constitutional amendment to allow the Governor to appoint the State Board of Education with consent of the Senate. The size of the Board would be increased from eight to nine members and the term reduced from eight to six years. Appointments would be made from a list of five names submitted by the State Central committee of each political party.

Present Farm Bureau policy supports the appointment of a bipartisan, odd-numbered State Board of Education.

A second probably controversial reform that will be proposed is whether Michigan should return to the "closed primary" in which voters are required to declare a party preference in order to vote for party candidates in primaries. This means that the voter would have to register either as a Democrat or Republican in order to vote in the primary election. These are the only two parties to be on the primary ballot next year.

In order for minor parties to qualify, they must receive a certain number of votes at the previous election. Their candidates are usually determined at a convention or caucus.

Forty-one of the fifty states have a "closed primary". Michigan abandoned such a system in 1937.

A primary is a process by which a party selects its candidates for the general election. With a "closed primary" only party members would have a choice in the selection process. This would eliminate the present practice of members of one political party "crossing over" to vote in the other party's primary in order to try to nominate the weakest candidate.

The argument against such a restricted primary is that unless a voter is willing to register his party preference, he is denied the right to vote in the primary election. He could, however, continue to vote on other issues that might be on the ballot. Farm Bureau has no position on this proposal. It is expected that the voting delegates at the state annual meeting will take a position.

One election reform that is expected to pass this fall is contained in SB 538 which updates Michigan's registration procedure. Under the provisions of SB 538, citizens would make application for registration to vote at the same time they apply for their driver's license.

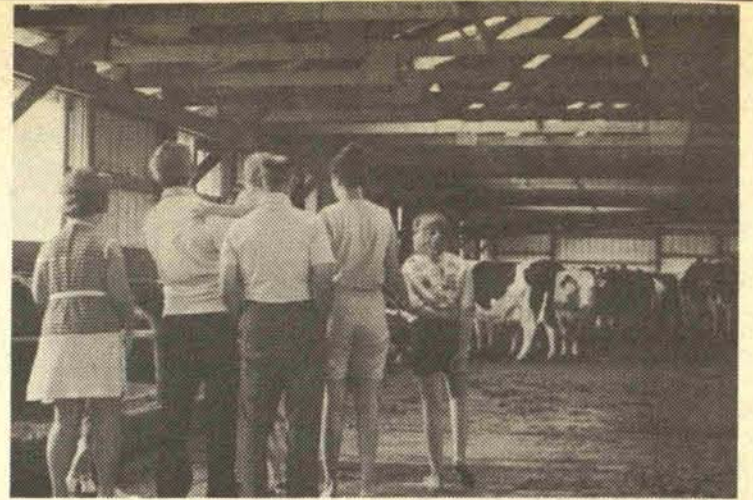
Such applications would go through the Department of State's computer system and would be sent to the proper county clerk, who in turn would send the application to the township or city where qualifications to register would be verified. This proposal is strongly supported by both political parties, the Governor, and others. Michigan Farm Bureau testified before the Municipalities and Elections Committee in support of the bill.

This system has many advantages. Michigan is fortunate that its elections division and driver's license division are in the same department where the computer system can be used for both purposes with a minimum cost. This system would also keep local officials notified of deaths, persons moving from the area, and other information.

Other election reforms that will be considered include a new formula for determining the number of voting machines required, permitting political parties to help train workers for election days, and changing the registration for voters from the fifth Friday to the fifth Sunday prior to the election. Each county board would be in an individual precinct in order to facilitate recounts.

One of the major issues will be the whole question on campaign funds and how they are procured.

(continued next page)



Show it Like it is

An innovation in Rural-Urban activities was born when the Clinton County Board of Directors invited urban guests and their families to visit three farms in the county. Over 90 persons visited the beef operation of Dick and Marie Woodhams, the dairy farm of Ray and Gladys Mayers and saw a sheep operation at the farm of Bob and Minerva Exelby. After a chicken barbecue, the group heard about "the cost of food" from Larry A. Ewing, MFB Information Director.

Busloads to Come to Annual Meet

Farm Bureau members attending the MFB annual meeting Dec. 11-14 in Grand Rapids will be treated to exciting innovations in the program. Already, county Farm Bureaus are planning bus excursions for the big event.

The accent will be on county Farm Bureaus at the Tuesday evening program where they will be recognized for their achievements during the "Farm Bureau ACT." "We'll make sure delegates from award winning counties can be spotted at all times, too," Information Director Larry Ewing says.

Sharing the spotlight with award-winning counties will be the popular recording artist, Ray Price. Price is well-known for his recordings, including "For the Good Times," television appearances, and association with the "Grand Ole Opry."

Seats for the awards program and Ray Price show are limited and should be ordered at an early date through county Farm Bureau secretaries.

Another "first" on the annual meeting agenda will be a dance on Wednesday evening.

Nationally known speakers, including world traveler and lecturer, Dr. John Furbay, and US Under-Secretary of Agriculture Phil Campbell, are scheduled to

appear during the Wednesday and Thursday activities.

A crowd-pleasing "bigger and better" Product Show is planned by Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative.

The latest technical information on products will be combined with glamor, humor and door prizes to attract convention-goers on Wednesday. The FBS-FPC annual meetings are also scheduled for Wednesday.

Other highlights will be the Young Farmers' Discussion Meet, Queen contest, Women's annual meeting, commodity sessions, President's banquet, Young Farmer banquet, and Distinguished Service to Agriculture awards.

Following a state-wide county leadership rally on Dec. 11, the MFB annual meeting will begin with President Elton R. Smith's address at 3:00 p.m., and end with the completion of the resolutions session on Friday, Dec. 14.

The Farm Bureau Women will hold elections during their annual meeting Wednesday morning. Elections of directors in the odd-numbered districts are scheduled for Thursday.

Watch the November issue of the Michigan Farm News for further details.

Members Invited to Sound Off

Final arrangements have been made for 10 public hearings throughout the state with the Governor's Task Force on the Future of Agriculture. The Task Force was established in 1970 and reported more than 70 recommendations to the Governor at that time. These recommendations involved many issues facing agriculture in rural areas.

The Task Force continues to be headed by Dan Reed, retired

Secretary Manager of Michigan Farm Bureau. Others on the committee are B. Dale Ball, Director of Agriculture; Mrs. Rebecca Tompkins and Joa Penzien, members of the Commission on Agriculture; and Dr. Al House, MSU.

The meetings will begin at 8 p.m. and will be held at the following locations:

- Sept. 26 — Engadine Township Hall
- Sept. 27 — Crystal Falls Township Hall
- Oct. 3 — Jackson, Commission Chambers, City Hall
- Oct. 4 — Sandusky, Cafeteria High School
- Oct. 10 — Grand Rapids Alpine Township Hall Comstock Park
- Oct. 11 — Traverse City Holiday Inn
- Oct. 17 — Blissfield, Study Hall, High School
- Oct. 18 — Mount Pleasant Rm. 124, County Bldg.
- Oct. 24 — Benton Harbor, Ind. & Mich. Electric Co. Service Center
- Oct. 25 — Alpena, Little Theatre, Thunder Bay Jr. High School



The Great Helicopter Hotel Heist?

No, the helicopter isn't trying to haul off the new Lansing Hilton Hotel next to the Farm Bureau Center. As the second picture shows the copter is being used to situate building materials on the roof. The new hotel is one of Farm Bureau Insurance's new investments.

MFB Board Statement:

OSHA Can Work for Farm

Unfortunately, OSHA has become a dirty word to farmers. We say unfortunately because OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, was passed by Congress with the good intentions of protecting workers by preventing injury. Farm employers know better than any others how accidents to workers not only brings grief to the injured, but to the management and business.

Michigan farm employers lose hundreds of productive workers to injury every year and consequently, pay relatively high workmen's compensation premiums. The OSHA legislation, if effective in cutting the frequency of farm related accidents, couldn't help but be a great help to farmers.

The Congress did indeed show that they wanted to help in a constructive manner when they included Section 21 of the Act which reads as follows:

"The Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. . . shall conduct directly or by grants or contracts, education programs to provide an adequate supply of qualified personnel to carry out the purposes of this act, and informational programs on the importance of and proper use of adequate safety and health equipment; short-term training of personnel engaged in work-related to his responsibilities under this act. . . (the secretary) shall provide for the establishment and supervision of programs for the education and training of employers and employees. . . and consult with and advise employers and employees and organizations representing employers and employees as to effective means of preventing occupational injuries and illnesses."

It's no wonder that most farmers aren't aware that there are such provisions in the act. In the application of the act, administrators have favored the heavy hand over the helping hand.

The farmer's contact with OSHA has been what amounts to a series of ultimatums, e.g., pesticide standards. Consequently, the farmer hardly feels helped, but pushed by OSHA administrators who lean so heavily on enforcement features of the act.

The answer isn't for farm employers to insist on repealing an act that could well be of great benefit to them, but to insist that the spirit and intent of the law be carried out.

We are confident that our Congressmen would be willing and able to respond to constituents that would contact them and insist that OSHA be used to assist the farm employer in reducing accidents instead of being used to cajole him.

Contact your Congressman to get OSHA to work with, not against, you.



Apple Buffet

After feeding 290 people at the Apple Smorgasbord, the officers of the Peach Ridge Fruit Growers Association take their turn. The annual event provides urban people an opportunity to visit fruit farms and enjoy apple dishes. The officers of the association shown here at the A.J. Schaffer Orchards are Joe Klein, treasurer; Fred Schwetzer, secretary; Luke Arends, vice-president, and Robert Reister, president.

Florida Produce is Ready for Counties

County Farm Bureaus are invited to take part in the Florida orange and grapefruit member to member program, and are asked to notify Michigan Certified Farm Markets by Oct. 5 if they plan to

participate. The program offers superior quality fruit and other products from the Florida Farm Bureau that county Farm Bureaus can sell for profit. This year, for the first

time, pre-Thanksgiving Day sales are offered to counties. A new high-density orange concentrate that doesn't require freezing is also available as well as pecan halves and salt roasted peanuts.

Capitol Report Continued

Farm Energy Crisis Told

Michigan Farm Bureau has been active at all levels -- local, state and national -- in the energy crisis as it affects agriculture. Generally speaking, all over the state as a whole during the summer period farmers have had sufficient fuel to meet their production needs. However, in some areas the lack of fuel has caused delays in planting time.

As the fall harvest season begins, shortages are becoming more numerous. The need for fuel to process sugar beets is a major area of shortage. Some 63,000 acres of sugar beets are at stake. Farm Bureau has been among those working to solve this issue, having met with officials of the gas companies, the Governor's Task Force on Energy, the Public Service Commission, and others concerned with the fuel shortage. Fuel has been found to permit processing until at least mid-November.

In testimony before the Public Service Commission, Farm Bureau pointed out what a lack of fuel for grain drying can mean to the 1973 Michigan corn crop. Since it is expected to yield 132 million bu. or an average of 80 bu. per acre it can be projected that 1/80 of the corn crop can be lost every day after the optimum harvest stage is reached.

In total, this could result in the loss of 1.65 million bu. per day. At \$2/bu. this could mean up to a \$3.3 million loss per day due to corn harvest delays. This loss is not only to producers but to the total economy and can result in the continuing food shortage.

In other testimony before the Special Joint Legislative Committee studying the Energy Crisis, Farm Bureau pointed out the extent to which the needs of petroleum fuels in agriculture are expanding.

For example, in 1939 US farmers used 1.6 billion gal. of petroleum fuel. By 1972 this had increased to more than 6.2 billion gal., and it is projected that the farmers will need 9 billion gal. or more by 1980.

In spite of this spectacular increase in need, US farmers still only use 3% of all of the petroleum fuels consumed. Similar data were provided to the Committee on electrical energy used by farmers. Here again it is only 2.7% of the national use.

Unlike other industry, agricultural needs change rapidly due to various factors, especially weather. A wet harvest means unusually large needs for drying. Wet planting conditions, as experienced last spring, also mean a greater need of petroleum products due to increased tillage requirements.

Time is critical in planting. For example, in the planting of corn each day of delay after May 15 through June 15 means a loss of one bushel per acre per day.

Farm Bureau testimony before the Committee pointed out the distributive problems that cooperatives have had trying to provide sufficient fuel for farmers. Allocations have been only about 87% of last year when in reality the needs were at least 110-120% of last year.

In order to serve farmers, at least 18 co-op stations throughout the state closed their gas pumps to the public. Still other service stations operated at only a 40% allocation.

Farm Bureau testimony pointed out to the Committee that according to the Detroit AAA, Michigan motorists travelled 650 million car miles over the Labor Day weekend.

At 12 miles per gallon, this equaled 54 million gal. of gasoline. This is more than 2/3 of the total estimated gasoline needs of Michigan farmers for the entire year!

The amount of gasoline consumed over the Labor Day weekend would require 5,400 ten-thousand gallon capacity transport trucks. It is also more gasoline than is produced from Michigan crude oil in over two months.

The Farm Bureau Board of Directors at their meeting on Sept. 6 went on record as favoring a mandatory allocation program for fuel, provided that agriculture is given top priority in order to meet the current unprecedented demand for food and fiber and to have adequate fuel to harvest and dry crops this fall.

A telegram of this action was sent to the Honorable John A. Love, Director of the Energy Policy Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

Governor Milliken has recognized the serious problem

facing farmers and has recently communicated with federal officials saying in part that "Mandatory federal allocation standards for petroleum are needed to assure that there are no shortages in the food-producing industries . . ."

Many governmental agencies, gas companies, and other non-farmer leaders fail to understand that allocation of fuel to farmers cannot be the same as it may be for other types of industry due to the highly changeable conditions.

No farmer uses more fuel than he needs for planting and harvesting. He is, of course, pleased when the weather conditions are such that fuel needs and cost go down.

The point that nonfarmers must understand is that if farmers are to expand production to meet the increasing food needs of an increasing population, they must have the energy sources necessary in the right quantity, at the right place, and at the right time.

Livestock Rustling

This is not a legislative issue. However, it is a growing problem throughout the state. Farm Bureau is printing and distributing brochures indicating how the average citizen can help to prevent this criminal activity.

Organized crime is beginning to become involved. In most areas, however, rustling has been done by amateurs.

In one county three have been caught and sentenced. In the case of two of the rustlers they were fined in excess of \$2,000, required to repay some \$3,500 in damages, and also were sentenced for a short period in jail. The other rustler was sentenced in excess of four years in jail. Such action by the courts should serve as a deterrent.

Local people must be alert to strange vehicles on their roads.

Neighborhoods can do a great deal to prevent rustling by keeping one another informed and calling the police whenever it is thought necessary.

Last month's Michigan Farm News carried extensive instructions on how to help prevent rustling.

Michigan Farm Bureau has been cooperating very closely with the Michigan State Police on this issue.



No Meat Shortage Here

Over 200 members enjoyed a pig barbecue prepared by Ray Linsmeier and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Cappaert at the Menominee Co. Farm Bureau picnic held recently in Shaky Lakes Park.



GREASY PIG STUFF. There were also three additional pigs that were yours for the catching if you were game enough to tackle a greased pig on a baseball field. One of the hog-catchers was Roger Grinsteiner, demonstrating his winning technique.

Get Tour Requests In

Don't be the ones left behind when your Farm Bureau friends and neighbors board the plane Jan. 13 for Atlantic City, New Jersey, and New York City. A few seats are still available for the tour to the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting and a post-convention trip to New York. Cost of the AFBF-New York City tour is \$149.39 from Detroit, \$179.17 from Lansing, and \$183.53 from Grand Rapids. This includes transportation, hotel accommodations for two nights in New York City, sightseeing admissions and tips. It does not include your hotel room in Atlantic City.

Complete details of the five-day tour are available upon request. To make sure you have a seat on the Farm Bureau flight, get your reservations in early.

Seats are still available for another member tour in January to sunny Puerto Rico. Travelers will leave Detroit on Sunday, Jan. 27 by chartered jet and go directly to the Flamboyant Hotel in San Juan, their headquarters for the next four days.

Tour members will be able to see agriculture in action when they visit pineapple, sugar cane, garden vegetable and other farms. Other optional tours are available, including a visit to the Island of St. Thomas.

Cost of the Puerto Rican tour is \$286.00 (based on 166 person group). Included are transportation, hotel accommodations, transfers, tips, tours of old and new San Juan, and the farm tours. Not included are meals, optional tours, telephone, room service and other items.

FARM BUREAU TOUR INFORMATION REQUEST

Return to: Ken Wiles, Information Division
Michigan Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan 48904

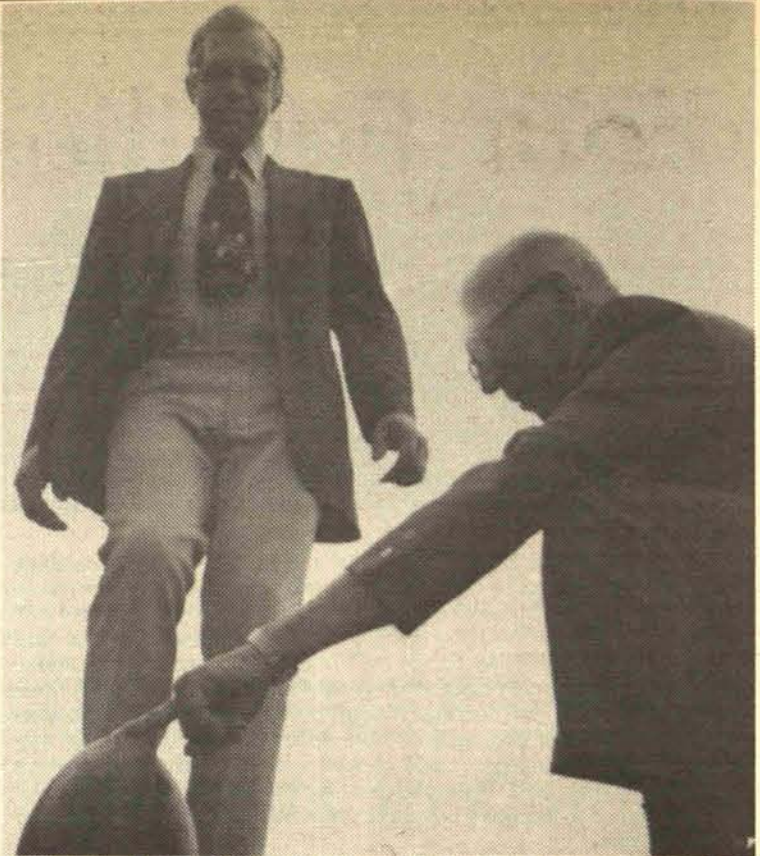
Please send information brochures on the following tours:

_____ AFBF Convention, Atlantic City and Post-Convention New York City

_____ Puerto Rico

Name _____

Address _____



"Watch the fingers," operations man Marlie Drew tells Chuck Burkett.

FBI Pays Dividends

The seventh consecutive Farm Bureau Mutual auto dividend will be mailed during October to 40,000 Farm Bureau members throughout Michigan. Those members insuring their cars or trucks with FB Mutual as of August 31, 1973 will receive the premium refund.

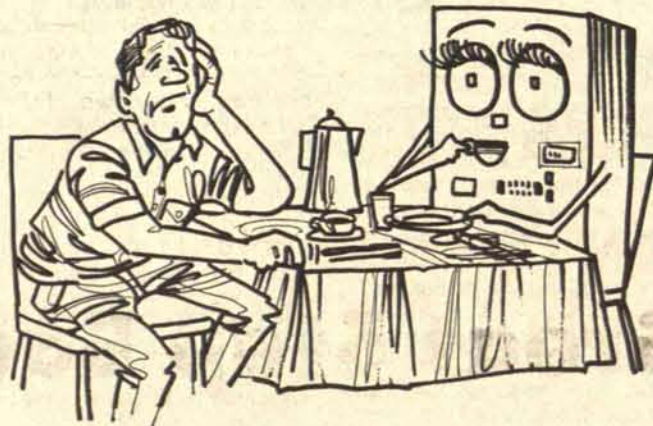
The '73 dividends total 5% of the individual semi-annual premiums or, \$271,000. Over \$2.2 million will now have been returned to auto policyholders since 1967.

"This is the last of a long line of dividends earned under the tort auto system," FB Insurance vice president Nile Vermillion said.

"And the dividends were earned ... by thousands of Farm Bureau members driving safely. The working-together cooperation of Farm Bureau members will be more necessary than ever under the new rules of No-Fault auto insurance," he said.

This year's dividend, which was the 17th in the firm's 24 years, was

declared by the FB Mutuals Board despite increased auto claim costs. In the last year the average auto accident claim rose from \$241 to \$306.



How do you talk to a computer? See page 17.

Membership Kickoff

A group of membership-strategy experts met at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing in September. Following the closed session, a spokesman for the group Chuck Burkett, Director of Field Operations, announced the formation of a football league within the Farm Bureau family.

Competing for the 1974 membership pennant will be ten

teams, each coached by a regional representative and served by state staff waterboys.

Kick-off is scheduled for December 29. All players are expected to be in top shape for the game, due to their rigid training sessions and inspired by their county Farm Bureau membership kick-off meetings.

Teams competing for the 1974 membership title are:

Region	Team	Coach	Waterboys
Saginaw Valley	COLTS	Rudy Reinbold	Ken Wiles and David Altmeyer
Northeast	BEARS	Robert Lee	Robert Shepard and Raymond Thayer
West	VIKINGS	Don Atkinson	Robert Driscoll
U.P.	PACKERS	Hugo Kivi	Helen Atwood
Thumb	DOLPHINS	Kenn Wimmer	David Cook and Terry Canup
Northwest	OILERS	David Mead	Dan Hall
West Central	COWBOYS	Bernie Bishop	Ron Nelson
Central	PATRIOTS	Winston Ingalls	Marlie Drew and David Wolfe
Southeast	CHIEFS	Donald Ruhlig	Robert Smith and Donna Wilber
Southwest	JETS	Gene Greenawalt	Al Almy

(Editor's Note: October 1, 1973; birthdate of Michigan's No-Fault insurance law. This last in a series of three No-Fault articles, summarizes No-Fault coverages, with examples of when you can collect benefits.)

It's here! Michigan is now, officially, a No-Fault auto insurance state. Now, Michigan drivers must learn to live with it.

Any owner of a car, bus, truck or trailer refusing to own the required No-Fault coverages could wind up with a \$500 fine, a year in jail (or both), loss of driver's license and loss of license plates.

So we can better understand the new law, let's review what auto insurance was and what it is now.

Fringe or optional coverages have remained essentially the same. Comprehensive Coverage pays for all losses to your car except those caused by collision with another car, object or by upset. Theft, falling objects, windstorm, explosion are some of the risks covered.

Emergency Road Service remains essentially the same under No-Fault as does Innocent Victim Coverage. This pays bodily injury costs for you and your family when caused by a financially irresponsible driver or uninsured motorist.

The changes have come in the main body of auto insurance. No-Fault Personal Injury Protection has replaced old Medical Payments coverage. No-Fault Property Protection Insurance covers most of the risk areas covered under Property Damage coverage. The old system coverage called Bodily Injury has given way

to No-Fault's Residual Liability Coverage.

Personal Injury Protection, Property Protection Insurance and Residual Liability are mandatory.

Under No-Fault, drivers cannot expect to recover collision damage costs from the other driver's insurance company. Payment must come from your own insurance company. If you currently have a Collision coverage deductible, or are not carrying Collision coverage, you'll have to pay for all or a portion of your own loss regardless of "fault."

So ... what do these sweeping changes mean to you? When can you collect benefits? Here are a few examples of when and how No-Fault benefits are collectable from your insurance company.

Effective October 1, if you are injured in a traffic accident, you are paid by your own insurance company whether or not you caused the accident.

If you fall asleep at the wheel and

run off the road without hitting another car or object, you'd collect benefits. If you are hit by another driver -- even an out-of-state driver or a hit and run driver -- you're eligible for benefits.

If you are a passenger in someone else's car, in a taxi, bus or airport limousine, you receive benefits from either your own company or the company insuring the owner of the vehicle you were riding in. If you're injured as a pedestrian, you collect from your own company or the insurer of the car involved.

If you're a pedestrian who doesn't own a car (so, you don't have auto insurance) and you're hit by a hit and run driver or an uninsured motorist, you receive benefits from a special fund set up to cover just such a situation. This is the Assigned Claims Fund. It's operated by the Secretary of State's office and is financed by all auto insurance companies that do business in Michigan.

A Michigan non-resident who has an accident in this state will receive No-Fault benefits if his insurer has extended his policy to include them.

Finally, your No-Fault policy covers you, your spouse and any relatives on either side, provided that they are living in your household and not merely visiting.

Here's what you get in terms of No-Fault protection.

You're paid for all your reasonable medical and hospital expenses resulting from an auto accident, for life if necessary, and both physical and occupational rehabilitation if needed.

If you can't work, you get 85% of your income loss up to \$1,000 a month for up to three years. Because insurance benefits are tax-free, the 85% approximates your take-home pay. This can include payment (up to \$20 a day for up to three years) for someone else to perform services normally done by the injured person. Maximum payment for the combined income loss and substitute services is \$36,000.

As a special benefit to farm operators, Farm Bureau's Substitute Service Benefits include the expense of replacement labor. This labor must perform services that would normally have been handled by the injured farmer. The \$20 a day benefit must also be included in the \$1,000 per month lost income limit.

Dependents of the deceased will receive survivors' benefits for as much as \$1,000 a month up to three years (maximum \$36,000). Funeral and burial expenses are covered up to \$1,000.

The new law broadens coverages tremendously and pays more people. This costs the insurance company more, but the law is also designed to create savings in certain areas, by prohibiting many suits for pain and suffering.

Lawsuit protection is included in your policy. You can sue another driver or he can sue you, but only if there is "serious impairment of body function, permanent serious disfigurement or death" or if losses due to injury are more than No-Fault coverage pays.

Theoretically, costs are balanced by savings; and drivers will pay according to what kind of coverage they desire, based upon what they stand to lose in an accident.

Low income, single and retired drivers, for example, represent less potential risk of financial loss. High income drivers, especially those with a family, represent greater potential loss.

That's No-Fault ... basically. As a Farm Bureau Insurance Group policy-holder, you have No-Fault coverages and have already sent in your premium payment (if necessary) for the October 1 deadline or you've exercised your option rights (if you wanted to).

Whether or not you have Farm Bureau auto insurance, we're trying to tell the No-Fault story to all Michiganders. A 20-minute slide/tape production explaining No-Fault is available for your school, church, social or community group. Just call your local Farm Bureau Insurance agent or write to: Communications Division, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, 7373 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

Four Families Sing Land Use Blues

There are approximately 18 miles between St. Johns, the Clinton County seat, and Owosso, Shiawassee County's largest city. Motorists who have traveled on M-21 between the two towns have witnessed a changing scene.

Just a few years ago scattered farms stood like lonely sentries along that stretch of concrete ribbon and served as landmarks to those who frequently traveled the road that links the two counties.

Today, sprouting up between the farms, as if eager to fill up the open spaces along a parade route, are hundreds of residential dwellings.

That the population of these two counties has grown is evident; from 44,000 to 49,200 in Clinton County and from 59,000 to 64,800 in Shiawassee in four years' time. Simultaneously, the number of farms in Clinton decreased from 2,076 to 1,981 and in Shiawassee from 2,033 to 1,710.

The proximity of this rural area to industrial Flint and Lansing is a major factor in this changing scene. People who work in these cities are willing to drive a few extra miles in order to provide for their families what they believe are the many advantages of living in the country.

Tom Semans, dedicated young farmer from Middlebury Township in Shiawassee County, is concerned about this urbanization of rural areas. He has some strong opinions on land use and what he calls "usurpers of the land" (see page 14).

Semans believes that residential development is one of the problems that must be faced head-on, and that farmers who sell their land to developers ought to be kicked in the posterior.

The Freedom of Choice

Just a few miles from Tom's farm, in the same township, is a rapidly-growing subdivision that was, just a few years ago, farmland. One of the first homes in this subdivision is owned by Tony Sinicropi, a local businessman and part-time real estate salesman.

Before the Sinicropi family built their home in the subdivision, they lived in the village of Ovid where their business is located. They moved to the country to "get away from it all" but there are now 18 other homes as close neighbors.

"I'm closed in," Sinicropi said, "but I can't say to my neighbor across the street—why did you come here? It's part of the American way of life to be able to choose where you live. I am now paying double the taxes I did in town with the same amount of living space. But it's my choice to live here. It would be unAmerican to take that choice away from people."

Involved in the food business, Sinicropi feels land use planning is important. "We do have a problem in that we're losing farmland that we need to grow food. But let's solve that problem without taking the opportunity away from people who are looking for a better way of life."

According to Sinicropi, that's why people move to the country—in search of a better life. People who are "pushed out" of the cities by expressway construction and urban renewal, people who believe the country is a better place to raise children, and retirees looking for the quiet life, he said, are the ones involved in the great exodus to the country. And, of course, with this exodus of people, also come the sprawling shopping centers.

Unlike Tom Semans, he believes that farmers who are farming only 100 of their 120 acres, should sell their 20 untillable acres for development. He does, however,

favor assessment of farmland at its agricultural value rather than its potential use value.

Much of the problem, Sinicropi thinks, is within agriculture's own ranks—the so-called "shop farmers" who couldn't make it on the farm and have gone to work in the factories. "They're the ones who are letting go of their productive farmland to the highest bidder, which is usually the developer," he said.

"I wonder if we won't see the pendulum swing the other way. The ones who really liked farming, but couldn't make it financially—they see soybeans selling at unheard of prices and they're thinking maybe they should leave the shop and go back to the farm.

"For the first time, farmers are finally getting a decent living wage and I think it's going to attract some of the shop-farmers back to the farm. No real earthman likes to work in a factory."

As a businessman, Sinicropi is not sold on complete local control in zoning and land use planning. He's not sure that every local planning commission can distinguish between healthy growth and dangerous urban sprawl.

"We've proved in this village that local control does not always stimulate growth and progress. When you're in an outlying area like this—a protected community, you might say—you tend to be too conservative; apathy takes over

and you're inclined to bury your head in the sand. If we have a problem—instead of knocking down and solving it, we have a tendency to take a 'wait and see' attitude and the community ends up lying dormant or even dying."

"Land use is everybody's problem and everybody is going to have to work together to solve that problem—our scientists, the businessman, the farmer, industries, governments—we've got to make it work because it's not working now," he said.

A Battle Lost

Just a few miles west of Semans and Sinicropi, in Clinton County, is the site of the Sleepy Hollow State Park. The 10-year, \$10 million park expansion program was approved in 1965 and the state began the acquisition of about 2,700 acres of private land.

There were 39 original property owners involved, many of whom did not want to move. Some of their farm homes had been in the family for many years.

Don and Phyllis Saxton were one of these farm families who did not want to give up their land and way of life. In fact, according to Phyllis, there were only about two of the 39 landowners who were willing to move. The Saxtons and two other families were the last "hold-outs," but were finally shifted three years ago.

They seem adjusted to living in town, today, but given a choice,

Phyllis says, they'd still be "back home."

A Better Place for Kids

A new home is forming near that Sleepy Hollow Park site, on a gravel road in Clinton County. The Clare Carroll family is in the process of making the great American dream come true.

They lived for 13 years in Lansing where Clare still works in an auto factory. Several years ago they determined that when their oldest daughter reached junior high age, they would move to the country.

"It's the only place for kids," said Mrs. Carroll. "They need room to romp and roam. But our most important concern was the school situation in the city."

"I'd be unrealistic to think I could isolate our children from the drug problem no matter how small the school. But we don't have to worry about the racial fighting here that does go on in the city schools at the junior high level."

The search for a home in the country with a few acres of land was a long and frustrating one.

It had to be near enough for Clare to commute to his job in Lansing, and with four youngsters it was vitally important for it to be located in a good school district.

They found their "dream home," an old turn-of-the-century dwelling, run-down, but with potential, they thought; a barn and 10 acres of land (a parcel of a 120-

acre farm). It is room enough for four active kids, a dog, two kittens, and maybe later, a horse or two.

They left their modern, attractively decorated city home with all its conveniences, and moved into their "new" home. Old wallpaper must be removed, woodwork stripped, the kitchen expanded, and some rewiring done. Doing all the work himself, after up to 60 hours in the shop, Clare has occasion to ask himself if they made the right decision.

"I'm pretty tired right now," Clare said, "but still glad we made this choice. I was brought up on a farm and I want my children to have that experience. That will make it worth all the hard work."

Common Bond

Though each of these four families seemed to be in opposition to each other—the Semans, dedicated to the preservation of agricultural land; Sinicropi, proponent of the individual's freedom of choice; Carrolls, a city family transplanted by choice in the country; and the Saxtons, ex-farmers who unwillingly left their land—they all share the sentiments of the author of this phrase:

"Private property is a natural fruit of labor, a product of intense activity of man, acquired through his energetic determination to ensure and develop with his own strength, his own existence and that of his family."

Migrant Housing Funds Must be Fully Restored

A Great Step Backward

Government bodies at several different levels have vowed to fight the food storage. Yet, a combination of an under-estimation of the importance of manual labor to this fight and a tight budget caused the Michigan Legislature to cut appropriations for migrant housing in half for the last two years.

Not only has this slowed progress in improvement of housing conditions, but it has forced some farmers to quit employing migrants and restrict their operations.

With effects like this, the Legislature should be prepared to expect declines in certain types of food. A certain amount of human effort will probably always be needed to produce the full range of food that we need for a balanced diet.

With high protein foods barely meeting demand and inventories of processed fruits at their lowest in 20 years, it is no time to impede the availability of labor.

The decline of the amount of labor has been a continuing problem that the Legislature finally faced in 1970 when it provided \$500,000 for improvement of migrant housing. They had reacted to a sharp decline in the number of shelters available to migrant workers since the 1966 regulations of housing were passed.

The number of camps dwindled from 2,610 which accommodated 90,000 workers in 1966 to 1,331 in 1971, that served only 35,000 occupants. Obviously, the expense of revamping the short-term housing was more than producers could bear.

State appropriation for housing did stem the tide of camp closings, however in 1972. Farmers responded with fine rebuilding efforts. Instead of matching each

government dollar as they were required to, farmers put up \$2.50 for every government dollar. The result was a leveling off of the number of camps.

The Legislature reacted by cutting the appropriations in half

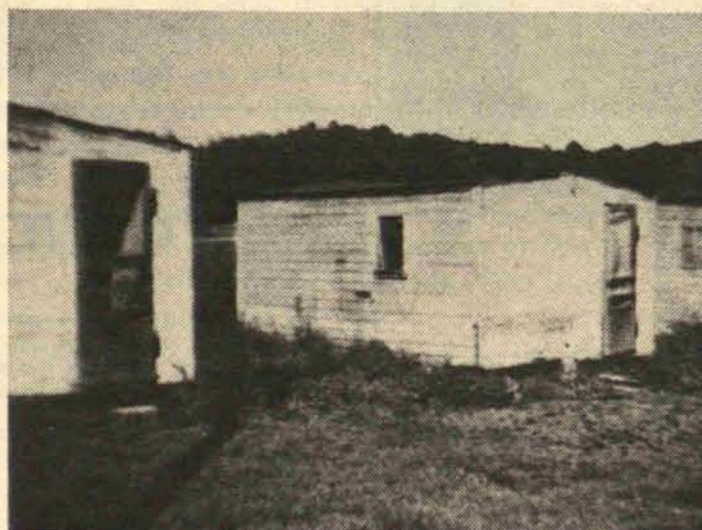
for both the '72-'73 year and the '73-'74 fiscal years. Consequently, 44 applications for camp improvements could not be funded under the new appropriations in 1973.

Mechanization tends to be over-emphasized. Unless we want to

promote only the diets of the mechanized commodities, we must reassert the need for manual labor and therefore the need for funds to build housing that meets state requirements.

—M.J. Buschler, Manager, MASA

with funds. . .



. . .and without



Photos Courtesy of Michigan Health Dept.

Dairy Stays Behind for Awhile -

A Michigan State University economist predicts the picture will be better for dairymen in a couple of years. Left behind in the wake of success of fellow farmers, dairymen have found this year to be the year of the squeeze.

High input costs for dairy operations without corresponding price increases for milk products has put a number of dairymen on the brink of leaving the industry.

"And when you're out of dairy, you're out," says agricultural economist Glynn McBride. The dairy specialist from MSU explains that the inability to re-enter dairy operations easily might contribute to the industry reaching a new equilibrium with higher prices. This new equilibrium won't come before a couple of hard years, though, McBride says.

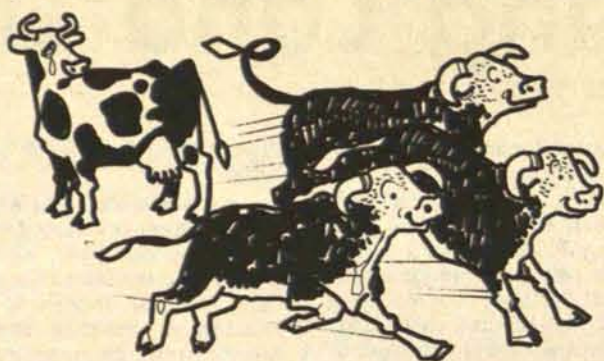
"Next year and part of '75 will be rough for dairymen, but by then America will know that it can't go back to cheap food," he said.

"I think adjustments will be made," McBride said, "such as many dairymen finally leaving the business after having thought about it for a long time."

McBride thinks this will eventually reduce the number of producers which will help bring supply down to a level that would bring higher prices.

Another factor McBride thinks is contributing to a reduction of the number of producers is the new outlook of young dairymen.

"It used to be that farming was considered to be worth it as a way



of life. But now we've got a new breed of cat," he said. "Young men feel if they're going to produce resources, they're going to have to be paid for it, now."

For those who do decide to stay in dairy, McBride predicts sound business in the future.

"I suspect there will be an increase in demand for dairy products as time goes on," McBride says.

"The demand for cheese is way up and the demand for butter has stabilized. I think this is due, largely, to the willingness of the industry to promote itself."

McBride also shared an optimistic point of view about the restrictions of environmental regulations on livestock handlers.

"I think we tend to over react to situations in a democracy and I believe relaxed regulations will be part of the new equilibrium," he says.

Until then, Raymond Hoglund, a colleague of McBride, advises

dairymen to cull poor producers.

"Milking and cull cows are selling at record prices and costs have skyrocketed, especially for feed," he said. Hoglund believes feed prices will remain high for about a year though they may descend somewhat during the fall and winter. He suggests that good weather in '74 could increase supplies enough to lower feed costs.

Action was taken Sept. 4 to give dairymen relief from these costs after evidence of rising costs was presented at a public hearing in Clayton, Mo. The USDA said Class I price to producers would be related to the basic formula price of the preceding month rather than that of two months earlier.

The attempt to keep pace with input costs, said the USDA, came after production had dropped from the previous year. Officials said the emergency action was to help assure an adequate milk supply.

Marketing Picture



Fruit Growers Pleased with "Realistic" Prices

The MACMA Grape Marketing Committee's recommended prices of \$200 per ton for Niagara and Blue Concord grapes have been met by a number of companies.

Companies agreeing to the \$200 per ton price for Niagaras were: Bronte Champagne & Wine, Frontenac Wine, A.F. Murch, St. Julian Wine, Warner Vineyards-Paw Paw Grape Juice, and Ray Schultz Trucking.

Cooperating at the \$200 per ton price for Blue ConCORDS are those listed above, plus the Coloma Cooperative Canning Company and Dean Foster & Sons. All but one company paid the MACMA negotiating fee.

The MACMA Plum Committee reports that two processors in West Central Michigan have announced 5¢/lb. for prune type plums: Stokley-VanCamp of Hart, and the Oceana Canning Company, Shelby.

Also, Burnette Farms Packing, Hartford; Elk Rapids Packing, Elk Rapids; Silver Mill Frozen Foods, Hart; and Traverse City Canning, Traverse City offered the 5¢ price.

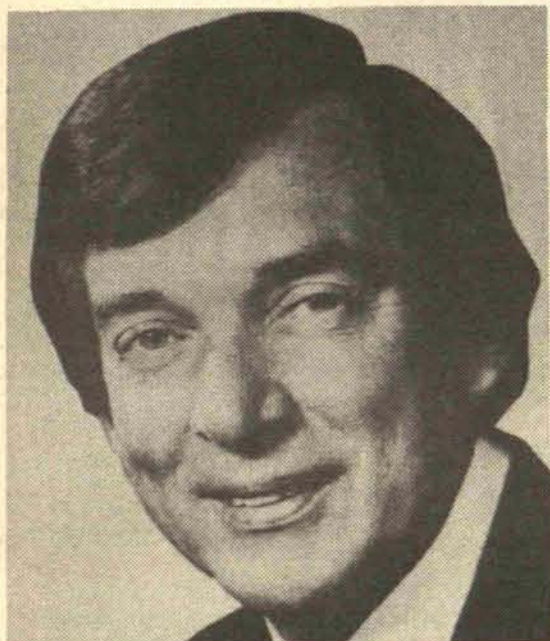
Other processors have announced a 4-1/2¢ price for early deliveries of processing prune plums. Some processors and buyers have announced 11¢/lb. for Damson plums.

The committee believes that such factors as all-time low carryover and high demand should result in a strong price for this year's crops. The estimate for the crop plum in Michigan this year is 15,000 tons, compared to 14,000 tons last year.

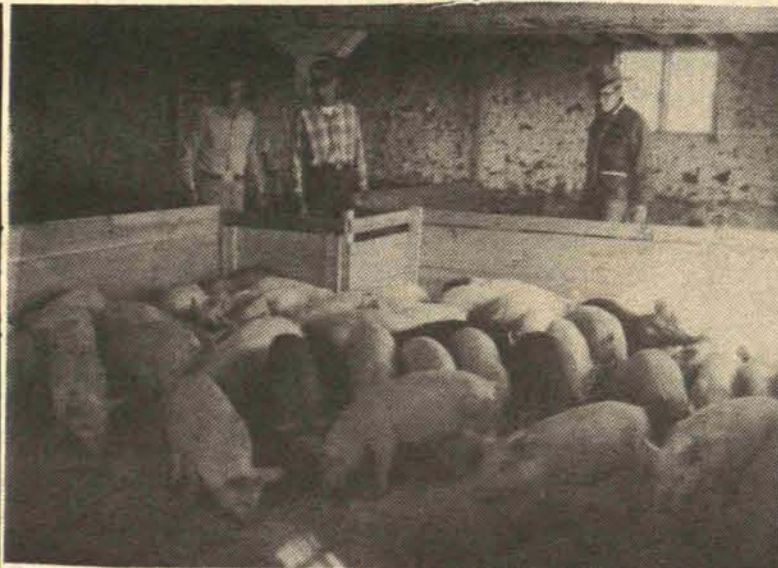
The Processing Apple Committee reports that all price announcements, made by a number of Michigan peeler processors, have been in line with the "realistic" prices recommended by MACMA.

Members were pleased with the "positive attitude" of the processors and their early announcement of prices.

The committee has directed their members to deliver and commit apples only to those processors who have made price announcements.



Ray Price



V.I.P.'s Gather

Take a look at some V.I.P.'s. Very important pigs, that is. They were the first to arrive at the new Mt. Pleasant pig assembly point on Sept. 18. The new point expects to assemble 1,000 feeder pigs every two weeks in the near future. Looking at the new arrivals are (left to right) Ken Warner, member of the feeder pig marketing committee; Dick Cramer, Vice Chairman of the Feeder Pig Marketing Committee; and Bill Haas, Manager of MACMA Feeder Pig Division.

Calf Sales Scheduled

The Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) has

scheduled four graded calf assemblies. Sales of calves and yearlings will be held in Rudyard

on October 10, and in Atlanta on October 12. Calf sales are also scheduled for November 7 in

Rudyard and November 9 in Atlanta.

Producers having a small number of yearlings should deliver them on the first graded assembly in their area.

All calves will be assembled in uniform lots.

Any interested buyers should contact MACMA offices in Lansing for more details.



OFFICE CALLS

QUESTION: I am under 65 now and have coverage through another group plan. How do I transfer my Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage into the Farm Bureau Group Program?

ANSWER: If you have a current paid contract and are in an eligible membership category, you can apply for transfer through your local county secretary. She will complete the necessary forms and submit your request for transfer according to the quarterly billing schedule for Farm bureau subscribers.

Supply



Report

Farm Bureau Services will again support farmers with a feed contracting program. This program pulled through many Michigan farmers last year and was another example of the benefits of cooperation.

Farmers had savings of \$70 per ton or more over what they would have to pay had they not signed.

This year, to meet current conditions, a new concept of feed merchandising called "feed forward contracting" has been developed. Farmers will again be asked to sign as early as possible so their feed requirements will be known. Then their purchases can be combined cooperatively to (continued next page)

They're looking forward to the

MFB Annual Meeting

How about you?



FB Queen Peggy Kingsbury

Contact your county secretary about bus excursions and show tickets.

MFB Annual Meeting
Dec. 11 - 14

Michigan Marketing Outlook

**By Greg Sheffield
Manager Marketing
Services**

Wheat

Although this year's wheat production will be a record, it will only cover current needs. About the middle of August the average price received nationally by farmers went to \$4.45 bu. up from \$2.47 the month before. This was three times that of a year ago.

With no limitations on acreage planted in 1974, the government estimates that acreage will increase from 53.7 million bu. harvested in 1973 to at least 55 million under guaranteed target prices.

The USDA is shooting for higher market prices and removal of restrictions to encourage expansion to 60 million harvested acres above our recent national peak of 58.4 million in 1967. The record high was 75.9 million in 1949.

But, remember, yield then was only 14.5 bu. versus an estimated 32 bu. per acre this year. USDA's crop report for Sept. 1 for all wheat showed about 1.727 billion bu.

Corn

In the first part of September, dry, hot weather forced corn toward maturity at a fast pace, and corn planted on dry soil is doing poorly. About the middle of September, cold rains broke the dry spell. The major portion of corn was dented or advanced to maturity by the end of September.

MSU economists feel that the 1973 corn crop will be only 2% more than in 1972. This, combined with an expected small 400 million bu. carryover from 1972, would mean a total supply of about 9% less than a year ago.

With domestic and export demands expected to remain the same as in 1972-73, this season's corn prices could be higher than for the 1972 crop. The average 1972 price was \$1.60 bu.

Supplies

(continued from page 8)

insure farmers against being whipsawed by erratic feed prices.

Shortages of nitrogen and phosphate materials have again appeared. Inventories are at their lowest ever. Increased demand for wheat and a continued selling of fertilizer materials overseas has contributed to this latest shortage.

Non-co-op manufacturers sell overseas without price controls and realize \$40 more per ton for phosphate fertilizer than if they sold to domestic users.

Hardware items are in strong demand and short supply. Plenty of lead time is suggested to farmers ordering fencing, twine, lumber, and all building supplies.

Fuel for drying crops during the harvest season will be short, and there is much apprehension that requirements in the state will not be filled. Should we have wet grains as experienced in the past, the situation will be critical.

Seeds are unusually tight with seed wheat in great demand. Farm Bureau has been able to secure some seed wheat grown from some certified stock, and it will be available through Farm Bureau dealers. Turf grass seed is generally high in price with strong demand. Some local production of June clover, mammoth clover, and timothy seed may be available.

Eggs and Poultry. Farm Bureau Services Egg Marketing Division reports started pullets are available for the strong demand with ordering lead times 6 to 7 months for preferred delivery dates. Baby chicks, Shaver Starcross and H & H Nickchicks, available day-old for delivery December 1973.

Agricultural economists suggest corn prices for the 1973 crop could range from \$1.80 to as high as \$2.50. The Sept. 11 USDA crop reports forecast 132 million bu. of corn for Michigan, and 5.768 billion bu. for the US crop.

Soybeans

The dry weather appeared to hurt soybeans in Michigan during August and the first part of September. But beans advanced rapidly toward maturity and general rain alleviated some of the moisture problem about the middle of September.

USDA crop report for soybeans in Michigan as of Sept. 11 showed 16.2 million bu. The futures market

toward the end of August and the first half of September experienced huge drops, falling from over \$9.30 in November, 1973, futures, to \$6.40 bu. by Sept. 9.

At the end of the 1972-73 crop year, our export total was 477 million bu., an increase of 64 million bu. over last season's 413 million bu. exported. This figure was below USDA's estimate of 490 million bu. and a result of export controls. The Commerce Department did not alter its policies against export controls on the new crop.

Eggs and Poultry

Member producer paying prices are by size, periods indicated, f.o.b. farm, unwashed, material

furnished, cents per dozen, AA Quality:

Period	Large and Above		Under- Small grades	
	Medium	Small	Small	Small
Aug. 24-30	64.6	55.4	41.0	30.0
Aug. 31	63.0	52.5	35.0	28.0
Sept. 6	62.2	51.5	34.0	27.0
Sept. 7-13	61.0	50.3	33.0	26.0
Sept. 14-20				

Quotations based on average market as quoted by Urner Barry Company of the preceding five market days, Friday through Thursday.

Prices were paid to member producers as reported by the Michigan Fowl Marketing Exchange for live fowl producers farm, no condemnations on the range of 24-1/2¢ to 25¢, mostly 25¢.

Prices Received By Michigan Farmers

Large advances in prices were received by farmers for corn, chickens, eggs, hogs, lambs, soybeans, and wheat during the month of August. Potatoes did not advance in price.

New record highs were hit. Wheat advanced from \$2 bu. to \$4.66. Dry beans rose \$1.80 to \$17.60/cwt. to \$58.50.

Calves jumped \$12.20/cwt. to \$78.20. Lambs rose \$9.40/cwt. to \$45.80. The price of corn rose by 56¢/bu. to \$2.56, the highest price since January 1948.

Prices on Aug. 15 for soybeans were \$8.50/bu., potatoes \$6.05/bu., hay \$30/ton, milk \$6.70/cwt., wool 59¢/lb., and turkeys 41¢/lb.



"When I buy farm supplies 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, fertilizer, and feed 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. One year Gerry accidentally omitted Hurryup Bean Starter on one row of navy beans. The row was only half as high and was 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% 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



**NO-FAULT
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IS HERE**

*and you
have the
RIGHT protection*

If you're insured with Farm Bureau, you now have the *right* No-Fault coverages. Automatically. And, as always, you can expect the right service. At the right price.

For example, here are a few of the ways your new No-Fault insurance protects you:

- 1** Effective October 1, if you are injured in a traffic accident, you are paid by your own insurance company.
- 2** If you are hit by another driver . . . even an out-of-state driver or a hit and run driver, you're eligible for benefits.
- 3** If you're a passenger in someone else's car, in a taxi, bus or airport limousine; you receive your benefits either from your own company or from the company insuring the owner of the vehicle in which you were riding.
- 4** If you're injured as a pedestrian, you collect from your own company or the insurer of the car involved.
- 5** If you're a pedestrian who doesn't own a car (so, you don't have auto insurance) and you're struck by a hit and run driver or uninsured motorist, you receive benefits from a special fund set up to cover just such situations. This is the Assigned Claims Fund. It's operated by the Secretary of State's office and is financed by all auto insurance companies that do business in Michigan.
- 6** A Michigan non-resident who has an accident in this state will receive No-Fault benefits *if* his insurer has extended his policy to include them.
- 7** Finally, your No-Fault policy covers you, your spouse and any relatives on either side, provided that they are living in your household and not merely visiting.

No-Fault auto insurance is law . . . enacted by the State Legislature and signed by Governor Milliken. Now Michigan drivers must live with it, understand it. We're trying to help. If your church, social, community or school group would like to schedule a special No-Fault slide presentation, just ask your local Farm Bureau Insurance agent.

**FARM BUREAU
INSURANCE
GROUP**



Farm Bureau Mutual • Farm Bureau Life • Community Service Insurance • Community Service Acceptance

Futures Market Transfers Risk

Who makes out on contract selling? A lot of people are asking that question in this year of climbing prices for agricultural goods. Contract sales can be disappointing as soybean growers found out this year. At the advice of experts, many contracted crops in January at \$3.75/bu. only to see the prices soar even further.

But marketing specialist, Dan Hall says the futures market can be a useful tool for those who want to insure a locked-in price for crops or livestock. He feels a farmer

can't be too sorry if he is careful not to commit an entire crop.

"A rule of thumb," he says, "is to contract no more than half to two-thirds of an expected crop. This allows room for unexpected partial crop failures; it also allows you to take advantage of higher possible prices at harvest or later."

Chicago futures markets now quote prices for some of the 1974 crops that farmers could use as insurance to guarantee a profit at harvest.

As of Sept. 21, the price of wheat for July '74 delivery was \$4.24/bu. Sept. '74 oats were \$1.21/bu. while corn for the same period was \$2.40/bu. and soybeans were \$6.33/bu.

When considering futures, farmers may want to think about the USDA's '74 harvest projections. They believe reactions to good prices and the relaxation of planting restrictions could mean a 10% increase in the supply of wheat and corn.

Yet, USDA officials were un-

certain about soybean prospects since they thought there might be a switch to corn or cotton by many producers.

Carryover of wheat on July 1, 1975 is expected to be 405 million bu. or about 100 more than that expected in '74. The Oct. 1, 1975 carryover for corn is expected to be a billion bushels while the soybean carryover for that year is expected to be down somewhat from '74 levels of 200 million bu.

If you should miss the big price, when selling a future contract, a

spectator who has bought the contract in the market place may be getting big profits. But remember that speculators do play a legitimate role in the market system.

When they hit the big money they are getting paid for taking risks. And sometimes farmers end up paying for the security of a set price that makes a profit.

This is why experts always advise farmers to sell futures contracts whenever they can make a fair profit from them.

Clouds Ahead for Meat Producers

Clouds on the horizon for meat producers is what MSU agricultural economist George Dike sees when looking over the price and supply situation.

As a record cow herd produces a record number of calves, there could be much larger beef supplies, and therefore lower prices," Dike says.

This situation could be coupled with decreased buying power next year with increases in consumer incomes expected to slow down, Dike explains. On top of it all, Dike thinks more competitive meat supplies could appear on the world market.

Economists also believe that the price of replacement cattle will also go down when large volumes become available late this fall.

Hog producers could also be adversely affected by market conditions plus a further drop in demand could result from plentiful beef supplies. Dike foresees hog prices dipping well into the 40's in 1974 though he predicts a healthy first three quarters for producers.

MACMA Securities Offered by Prospectus

The Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) is offering a new investment security to members, Class A common stock with a par value of \$10 per share.

According to Noel Stuckman, MACMA manager, the proceeds from the stock will provide a financial base to build "stronger, larger and more profitable programs for producer-members."

The stock provides an annual dividend of up to 7% at the discretion of the MACMA Board of Directors and is transferrable to others.

Those interested in further information on this investment opportunity and a copy of the prospectus may write to MACMA, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

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State Grain Exports Jeopardized



DAYS NUMBERED? The Michigan Elevator Exchange grain terminal on the Saginaw River is threatened with receding waters and rising river bed deposits.

When Larry DeVuyst travelled 9,000 miles to Japan last year to represent the Michigan bean industry, he learned what a small world it was.

While trying to describe the shipping facilities at the Saginaw grain terminal, DeVuyst found the Japanese had more to teach him about the Saginaw port than he had to tell them.

The only question left in their minds was why didn't Americans dredge the 15-mile Bay channel and the lower Saginaw River so their deep-hulled ships could reach the grain terminal at Zilwaukee.

Many Michigan grain producers had been asking the same question, realizing that huge profits on exports could be lost because of shallow water.

"It is obvious," Bay City Port Coordinator James McGowan said, "that the viability of the entire Saginaw River Port is seriously threatened unless maintenance dredging is resumed, and soon."

McGowan's fears involve not only a loss of foreign traffic but all traffic up the Saginaw. More than half the ships entering the Port require a depth of 20 ft. As lake waters recede from peak levels, even some lake freighters will be unable to reach the Zilwaukee terminal.

Currently, grain shippers rely on lake freighters to transport grain because ocean-going vessels cannot readily reach the Zilwaukee terminal. If lake levels become too low for lake freighters, shippers may have to turn to the railway. In any case, transfer costs mean a less competitive product and less profits to farmers.

What is holding up maintenance of the waterway isn't the ability to dredge, but the lack of a place to put the dredged materials known as spoils. The Army Corps of Engineers needs a dumping area for 9.6 million cu. yds. of spoils. That's equivalent to 1,920 acres, 3 ft. deep. No public land adjoins the river banks and no holders of large parcels of private land show any interest in receiving spoils.

The prospects of a landowner receiving spoils on his land are poor since, according to Corps rules, he must bear full cost of dikes to hold the dredgings and responsibility for any resulting runoff.

Why not dump the spoils in the Bay?

A 1971 directive from Governor Milliken prohibited the dumping of spoils from polluted waterways, like the Saginaw River, into offshore waters. Consequently, shippers have found themselves running out of alternatives and running out of time.

Many experts feel the lakes are beginning the downward level trend in their cycle. The Saginaw Bay navigation channel has a low water depth of only 21 ft. and the Bay City Port is fast becoming unreachable.

Port Coordinator McGowan has come up with three alternatives for action: 1) extend the mouth of the Saginaw River; 2) build a series of man-made islands along the navigation channel to alleviate ice break-up problems in the spring; or 3) ask the Governor to relax the ban on dumping spoils in the Bay.

Farm Bureau feels it is most important now to make government officials and businessmen aware of impending losses due to a shallow port. Don Kunz of the Michigan Elevator Exchange and FB legislative counsels Albert Almy and Robert Smith have been meeting with government heads and business leaders to explain the seriousness of the situation.

Kunz has been compiling figures that could spell out financial losses to Michigan resulting from inaction. If only the grain terminal is unreachable, the effects could be deadly.

"When we ship to Toledo terminals, it means Michigan loses the economy of the traffic," Kunz says. "There are no tax benefits to Michigan; no jobs created. Then we can have shipping back-ups which result in losses in the field."

Farm Bureau hopes the message gets across before the Bay City Port is left high and dry.



Adversaries Take Sides in GATT Negotiations

The major trading nations of the world took up sides on the important trading issues as they convened last month for the GATT (General Agreement on Trade and Tariff) negotiations in Tokyo that promised to be something special.

The secretive talks have brought the United States, Japan and the European Community together for the first comprehensive negotiations since the Kennedy Round which concluded in 1967. With most meetings held behind closed doors, progress can only be speculated on.

The stands countries are taking can be predicted, however. An Agriculture Committee that was formed at the Kennedy Round clearly portrayed the two major factions that develop in such agricultural trade bargaining.

Efficient agricultural producers hope to use negotiations to lead to a more commercial world trade, the committee revealed, while the less efficient want to stabilize trade through regulated markets with set minimum prices and commodity agreements.

The first view represents the stand of the United States, Canada and Australia, while the latter reveals the view of the European Community (EC) and somewhat, Japan. EC Commissioner Lardinois insists commodity agreements are needed for cereals, sugar and dairy products, while French agricultural Minister M. Chiriac says France is opposed to any form of extreme trade liberalization that would infringe

on the Common Agricultural Policy of the EC.

Such a strong stand in the negotiations is particularly troubling to Americans since the expansion of the EC to include the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark jeopardizes over \$250 million in agricultural exports to those countries in the form of grains, fruit, tobacco and lard.

Danish Minister H.J. Kristensen, however, has expressed a desire to see efficient producers survive and not to see inefficient production preserved.

Meanwhile, the Japanese have entered the talks noticeably

concerned over agricultural shortages and high world prices. Japan imports 10% of the world's total agricultural exports and wants to be sure it will get all it needs at all times.

When Vice Minister Kamenga expressed hopes of developing a mix of agricultural and industrial population in rural areas of Japan to relieve the press of the cities, he obviously showed no plans of increasing domestic production.

Though many of the specifics aren't known about the US stand in the talks, it can be counted on that the contingent will hope to stifle discrimination in agricultural trade.

World Wheat Situation Critical After Bad Year

Wheat reserves are down to half of the 1972 stocks or approximately 25 million tons, which is the lowest since the '50s. Most analysts feel that there is no hope of recovering reserve stocks this season with the annual rate of increase in world population close to 3%. Advanced nations seem to be keeping up, but food expansion in developing nations is about 2% behind.

The reasons for deficits include Argentina's lowest acreage of the century, flooding of 13 million acres of cropland in India and the worst floods in Pakistani history. Far more than the usual 40 million bu. of wheat will be needed

in Pakistani. Though the Russian harvest looks good rains have made transportation and storage difficult.

The International Wheat Council points out that Argentina, Australia, and the common market are not contributing while Canada nurses a very cautious selling attitude.

The United Nations Agricultural Organization had a September 20 meeting of major exporting countries to improve the cereal supply situation. They show a 9 million ton wheat deficit for the 1973-74 period.

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Preserving Heritage Takes Time, Talent

for FB Women

For too many people the Michigan countryside is merely a pathway between towns and homesteads. But the careful observer can make a ride in the country a journey that reveals the history of the settlers and land-owners of Michigan.

North of St. John's off US 27 Mrs. Necia Beck's country home catches the eye.

The home and outbuildings are barn red, trimmed with white; the huge, rolling lawn informal and inviting with swings and a playhouse as evidence that grandchildren are nearby and welcome. Even the neat orchards with red apples hanging from the green boughs which flank one side of the yard, look like part of a carefully planned color scheme and the trees and shrubs help provide a Currier and Ives setting.

Inside the Beck home, which was built around the turn of the century, Mrs. Beck has worked to preserve the family history through every lovingly restored piece of furniture and every tastefully displayed accessory. Although the home already represents 36 years of hard work since Mr. and Mrs. Beck bought the home, Mrs. Beck maintains she's only started.

Just retired this year after 26 years of teaching, she now has more time to devote to restoring the family heirlooms. A chicken coop will be converted into a workshop for Mrs. Beck, so her creativity and talent will not interfere with her orderly home.

One of her major projects will be to replace the Early American couch and chairs in the red, white and blue living room with her mother's settee and chair.

This furniture will feel at home in the Beck living room, especially with the striking pink lamp which draws the eye of every visitor.

When Mrs. Beck's parents came to Michigan from Missouri, her mother was disappointed that she hadn't saved enough coupons for a kerosene lamp with pink base and chimney displayed at the local grocery store.

Knowing how important the lamp was to his wife, Mrs. Beck's Father, after the family had packed their belongings for their long trek to Michigan, went to the store, made a deal with the grocer, and presented her with the lamp. Now wired for electricity, it enjoys a place of honor in the living room.

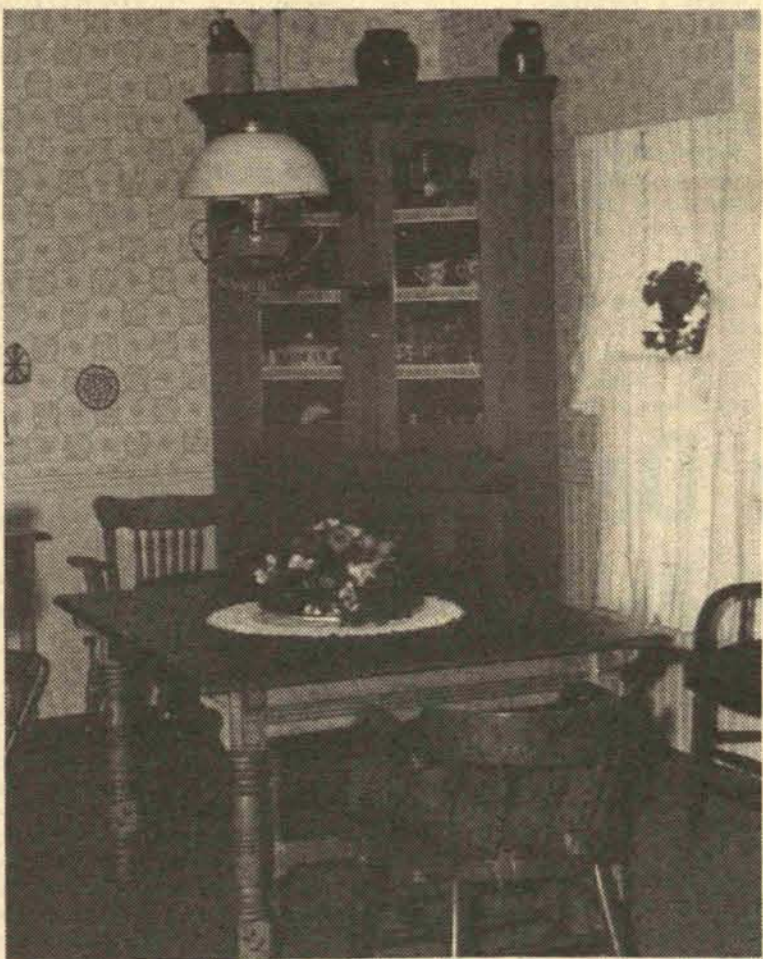
Other kerosene lamps have also been converted to electricity in the the Beck home, including one which hangs over the dining room table. Here, too, family history abounds and blends well with the wainscoting and blue & white provincial print wallpaper. A huge corner cabinet, built by the original owner, makes an ideal showcase for antique dishes and glassware. A handmade chest of drawers, also made by the homebuilder, now serves as a buffet.

Captains' chairs, salvaged from the Muir Motel lobby, once owned by the grandfather of Mrs. Beck's daughter-in-law, are cushioned in bright red. So is the "teacher's chair" which Mrs. Beck used when she taught in a nearby country school, and from which she removed "15 coats of paint" to restore it to its natural beauty. She uses it often at the roll-top desk and telephone stand in one corner of the dining room.

Each of the dishes hanging in the dining room has special significance to Mrs. Beck. One is the plate her mother always served strawberry shortcake on, and another was won by an aunt at a long-ago 4th of July celebration.



PRIDE IN PAST. The pink kerosene lamp which has been converted to electricity was brought to Michigan by Mrs. Beck's mother



SHOWCASE FOR ANTIQUES. The huge corner cupboard, built by the home's original owner, provides a fitting showcase for the family heirlooms. The hanging light fixture was once a kerosene lamp and the chairs came from a hotel lobby owned by the grandfather of Mrs. Beck's daughter-in-law.

Deep red glassware on window sills catches the sunlight, but they are more than a decorative accent to the room; each means a special past event, a treasured gift, or a remembrance of a family member.

One of Mrs. Beck's biggest planned projects for the near future includes converting her present kitchen into a bedroom, and the addition of a family kitchen. She thinks the new kitchen with its huge solid walnut oval table and fireplace will be a popular gathering place for her four sons and 12 grandchildren.

The energetic "retiree," between golfing, snowmobiling,

rooting for the Detroit Tigers, and working at the family business, also finds time for "little" projects, such as needlepoint to be set in antique frames. And a display case (for family mementos) made from a printer's type drawer and lined in velvet.

An outside "room" that's a busy place in summer is a large covered patio with a big double grill and plenty of comfortable furniture. Here, too, Mrs. Beck has maintained the home's heritage, and brought old posts (from a wrecking concern at Elk Rapids,) to frame the patio.

As Mrs. Beck explains, "It's hard work to keep a home looking old."

Participation Sessions Highlight of Women's District Meetings

Farm Bureau Women throughout the state will be gathering this month for their Fall district meetings. The accent will be on action and involvement during the day-long sessions, most of which begin with 9:30 coffee and registration and call to order at 10:00.

Progress reports from the various counties will be presented, as will a review of issues currently faced by farmers. Displays of handicrafts and wearing apparel will also be featured.

A highlight of the district meetings will be "participation sessions" during which the women will break into discussion groups to review the various projects from their program of work for the coming year.

Using the theme, ACT -- "Accept Challenges Today," they will discuss health and safety projects, commodity promotions and public relations, legislative activities and other projects.

Commodity promotions will be the top priority topic during one session, with "how-to's" on promotions and exhibits in shopping malls, stores, and fairs. Other subjects covered will be "human relations" projects, "This is Farm Bureau" kits for new members,

farm tours and other public relations projects.

In the legislative activities session, the Farm Bureau Women will learn how and why they should get involved in politics. At many of the district meetings, a legislator or local government official will be present to discuss the women's role in legislative activities.

During the safety and health session, the women will discuss first-aid kits, first-aid training, and the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

Many counties will undertake a drive to place first-aid kits on every farm home in their areas. Contained in a sturdy plastic holder, the kit will include Curad pads, Sting-Kill swabs, 2 and 4-inch off-set bandages, triangular bandages, Iodine, gauze compresses and burn sprays. It is also planned to have an American Medical Association first aid manual in the kits.

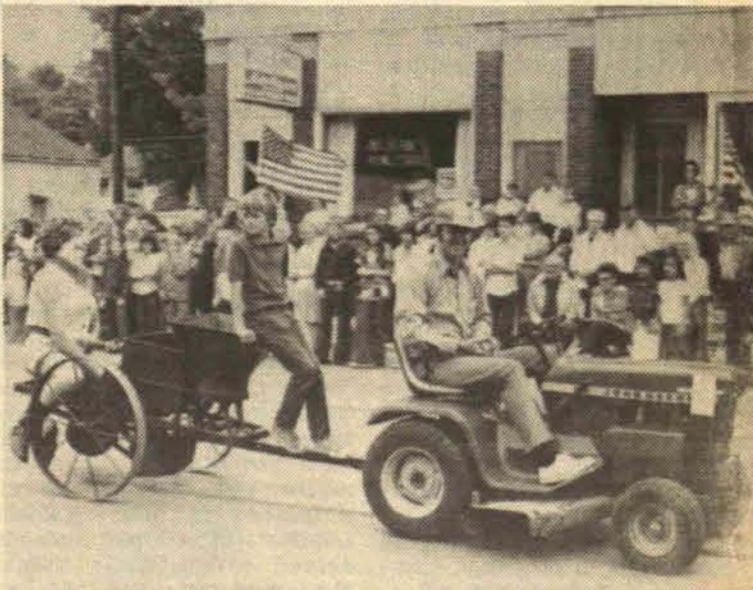
Members interested in purchasing the farm first-aid kit should contact their county Farm Bureau Women's chairmen for availability and cost.

For details on date and place of the Fall district meetings, Farm Bureau Women should contact their county Women's Committee chairman.



Potato Promo

The Montcalm County Farm Bureau Women sold candy made from potatoes during the Michigan State Potato Festival. The annual event was held in Edmore on September 15.



Thousands of people lined the streets of Edmore to watch the Potato Festival parade. This old potato planter created much interest and brought back memories to some of the parade-watchers.

POLICY IN PROCESS

Energy, Land Use Discussed

Nearly 200 people representing 44 county Farm Bureaus gathered at the Holiday Inn, Lansing, on August 30 for the eighth annual MFB policy development conference.

Dean Pridgeon, vice president of the Michigan Farm Bureau and chairman of the state policy development committee, introduced his committee members and noted that it was one of the youngest of its kind in MFB history. Pridgeon challenged the county PD committees to use Farm Bureau's unique structure and stimulate policy recommendations.

AFBF Secretary-Treasurer Roger Fleming reminded the crowd that policy development is the process of "reconciling inevitable differences between commodities, religions and politics to do a better job together than can be done individually." He explained that although FB policies are reviewed every year, the organization's "attitudes" seldom change. "We are for capitalism, the free market system, sound money, and free choice—with Washington as the last resort."

Fleming urged the county leaders not to avoid controversy but to "jump right in the middle of it." "We must know what we are for, so we know what we are against—so we can recognize what is inconsistent with what we're for," Fleming said.

He summarized six issues for which the organization should have policies—environment, land use, international trade, inflation, farm labor and the farm program.

William Meese, president of the Detroit Edison Company, listed areas in which utilities and agriculture have much in common. "We both must sell our products and services at a price over which we have little control; government interference and environmental regulations have created shortages



SERIOUS DISCUSSION. Macomb County Farm bureau president, Henry Brodacki (left) asks AFBF Secretary-Treasurer Roger Fleming for clarification on one of the topics discussed at the state P.D. meeting.

and increased prices, and we both provide essential services and products, and are immediately criticized if something goes wrong." Meese said that there is no shortage of primary energy, but that the great concern for protecting the environment, plus increased demand, had caused the current crisis. "We have regulated and legislated ourselves into an artificial shortage, with little chance for quick recovery," he said.

Meese said that utilities also face a financial crisis in their efforts to build plants to meet increased demand. "How many businesses would continue to borrow money at a higher percentage than they can realize on their return?" he asked. "It's a political problem that has a political solution," he concluded.

The director of the new Office of Land Use, Department of Natural Resources, Karl Hosford, reported

that his office would avoid "intellectual incest" by involving all interested groups, including agriculture, in land use planning. He urged the FB leaders to "act like Michiganders instead of a special interest group" and warned that fighting over marginal lands only plays into the hands of developers.

Hosford stressed the importance of implementing programs at the lowest possible level and preserving private property rights. However, he stated, "Private property rights do not include the right to desecrate the land at the expense of your neighbors."

Reports were also given to the county PD committees by MFB staff members. Al Almy spoke on environment and waste disposal; M. J. Buschlen on farm labor, unemployment insurance and OSHA regulations; and Noel Stuckman on marketing.

Community Pulse

Needham FB — Bay Co. — Keep highways and county road corners free of weeds and brush.

Lively Forty — Huron Co. — Use lottery money that is coming in to help pay school expenses. We are in favor of legalized gambling. It would save a lot of money.

We are in favor of stopping big campaign funds being paid to candidates. If they want to run for office they should foot their own bills.

South Line FB — Huron Co. — Why can nontaxpayers vote on millage proposals? Let's do away with our commissioners and go back to supervisors of the various townships.

Stoney Corners FB — Missaukee Co. — First aid kits and fire extinguishers should be standard equipment on all tractors.

Chief FB — Manistee Co. — Supervisors should be paid enough

to do the job right. Revenue sharing should be based on need rather than tax history.

Green Acres FB — Chippewa Co. — 1) Farm Bureau should work towards more satisfactory regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency for agriculture (Editor's Note: See "Livestock" page 5). 2) Work to keep agriculture from coming under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources. 3) Work to get child labor laws changed so young people can work on farms with less restrictions. 4) FB should oppose flat rate for electricity. 5) Work to get enough energy for agriculture and residential heating (Editor's Note: See "Energy" page 5). 6) Try to get daylight savings time changed to June 1-Sept. 1 (Editor's Note: AFBF is working on it). 7) Oppose moves to stop full-capacity electricity production at the Soo water canal.

County Annual Meetings Set

COUNTY	DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Alcona	Oct. 8	Harrisville Twp. Hall	8:00 PM
Allegan	Oct. 18	Griswold Auditorium, Allegan	8:00 PM
Alpena	Oct. 18	Wilson School (Harrow)	
Antrim	Oct. 15	Bellaire	8:00 PM
Arenca	Oct. 9	4-H Bldg. Standish Fairgrounds	7:00 PM
Barry	Oct. 11	Methodist Church-Hastings	7:30 PM
Bay	Oct. 30	Monitor Town Hall	Dinner 6:30 PM
Benzie	Oct. 1	Benzie Sports Club, Benzonia	7:30 PM
Berrien	Oct. 11	Youth Memorial Bld., Berrien Springs	Dinner 7:00 PM
Branch	Oct. 8	Legg Jr. High, Coldwater	Dinner 7:00 PM
Calhoun	Oct. 9	B.E. Henry Bld., Marshall	Dinner 6:30 PM
Cass	Oct. 13	Agnes Gregic Bld., Casopolis	Dinner 7:30 PM
Charlevoix	Oct. 3	Whiting Park	Potluck 8:00 PM
Cheboygan	Oct. 9	Black River School	
Chippewa	Oct. 2	Kinross 4-H Bldg., Kinross	8:00 PM Lunch to follow Mtg.

(continued on page 19)

1973 MFB Policy Development Committee

The following individuals make up the committee which will appraise county recommendations before the State Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids this December.

DISTRICT 1 (Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren Counties)

Jan Vosburg, owner-operator of a crops and beef cattle farm near Climax, Kalamazoo Co. He has served on the county Farm Bureau board of directors as president and vice president, and also was chairman of the county Resolutions Committee. He has been active in his local community group, serving as president and discussion leader. A 4-H leader, Vosburg has been involved in community affairs, including service as a trustee on the township board and as vice president of the county township association. He was chairman of the county beef association and a director on the state Beef Feeder Association board.

DISTRICT 2 (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee Counties)

Remus Rigg of Coldwater specializes in dairy with 200 milkers and also raises corn on his Branch Co. farm. His service to Farm Bureau includes the county presidency, county membership chairman, and the state Dairy Committee. He also served on Farm Bureau's State Study Committee in 1968 and 1969. He has been active in the Michigan Milk Producers Association Market Committee, the Advisory Council

of Branch and the Vocational-Education Center.

DISTRICT 3 (Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties)

Edwin A. Erwin is a fruit grower from Oakland Co. He specializes in Apples on his South Lyon farm, for fresh sales at this fruit market and also wholesale. A member of the State Fruit Advisory Committee, he served on the county Farm Bureau board for 10 years and has a long record of service as a discussion leader for his local community group. Erwin was a director for the Michigan State Horticultural Society for six years and president of the Eastern Michigan Horticultural Society. He has also served on his local school board and is a member of the township board of review.

DISTRICT 4 (Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent and Ottawa Counties)

Robert Bender of Middleville. The Barry Co. dairy farmer served as president of the county Farm Bureau for three years and on the state and national affairs committees for six years. He participated in the National Legislative Seminar and also served on the State Natural Resources Committee. His community activities include serving as vice president of the county Planning Commission. Bender is

the vice chairman of the 1973 MFB Policy Development Committee.

DISTRICT 5 (Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham and Shiawassee Counties)

Mrs. Harold (Janice) McMichael of Mason is an active partner on their 455-acre dairy and beef farm in Ingham Co. She has held many offices and served on several committees for the county Farm Bureau. Currently the district vice chairman of Farm Bureau Women, she served on the Executive Committee of the county Farm Bureau board in 1971-72, and was a member of the State Study Committee in 1969. She is also on the Farm Bureau Women's Speakers' Bureau team. A long-time 4-H leader, she is also a member of a local group to help education people on school issues.

DISTRICT 6 (Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola Counties)

Gerald Elenbaum of Huron is owner-operator of a dairy and cash crops farm near Owendale. He currently serves as president of the Huron County Farm Bureau, and has been active on various county committees and the State Wheat Committee. Elenbaum is also active in the Pigeon Co-op Elevator board, the Michigan Artificial Breeders Cooperative and Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

He was also a member of the Kellogg Study Program.

DISTRICT 7 (Lake, Mason, Muskegon, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Oceana Counties)

Myron Kokx, Jr., of Fremont is in a family partnership with his father and brother. They specialize in dairy and beef but also raise asparagus, pickles, corn and hay on their Newaygo County farm. Kokx serves as president of the Newaygo Farm Bureau and has been active in his local community group. He is a member of the township planning commission and also serves on the Vocational-Agriculture Education Advisory Board for the Newaygo County vocational school.

DISTRICT 8 (Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw Counties)

John Van Page of Breckenridge specializes in corn and beef on his Gratiot Co. farm. He has been a member and director of Michigan Cattle Feeders.

DISTRICT 9 (Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford)

Thomas R. Kalchik, dairy and fruit farmer from Northport in Leelanau Co. Active on the county Young Farmer Committee, he has

served as a director on the county board, as secretary of his local community group, and was a delegate to the 1972 state convention. Kalchik has also been chairman of the Leelanau ASC Committee, a director of the Leelanau Horticultural Society, and chairman of the Michigan Association of Cherry Producers.

DISTRICT 10 (Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego and Presque Isle Counties)

Larry Foster of Ocqueoc is in partnership with his father on a dairy farm in Presque Isle. Foster has served on the county Farm Bureau board for three years and has been chairman of the county Young Farmer Committee. He is also a member of the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

DISTRICT 11 (Upper Peninsula)

Robert Burie of Wallace in the Upper Peninsula raises beef cattle and hogs on his Menominee Co. farm. Burie has served his community Farm Bureau group as chairman, vice chairman, minuteman and discussion leader. He has also been on the county PEP Committee and the Resolutions Committee and has served on the State Livestock Advisory and Feeder Cattle Ad-

(continued next page)

(continued from page 14)

visory Committees. A member of the Kellogg Farmer Study Group, he is on the county board of commissioners and serves as chairman of the Agricultural and Natural Resources Committee. He was a member of the Stephenson High School Agricultural Advisory Committee and on the Stephenson Marketing Association board. He is also active in the Jaycees and the Lutheran Church Council.

Representing the Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmers are Wayne Wood of Marlette, Mrs Dale (Mary) Weidmayer of Ann Arbor, and William Spike of Owosso.

Wayne Wood specializes in dairy and cash crops on his Sanilac Co. farm. He is a member of the county and state Young Farmer Committees, the Policy Development Committee on both the county and state levels, and is active in his community group.

Mrs. Weidmayer and her husband have a dairy farm in Washtenaw Co. and also raise sheep and chickens. She serves on the State Young Farmer Committee and is a liaison to the State Women's Committee. A past

county Farm Bureau Queen and finalist in the State Discussion Meet, she is also active in the county Young Farmer, Women's, Citizenship and Community Group Committees. She has been active in 4-H and she and her husband were named the "Outstanding Dairy Couple" by Michigan Milk Producers Association.

William Spike specializes in dairy, crops and vegetables on his Shiawassee Co. farm. Chairman of the State Young Farmer Committee, he serves on the Michigan Farm Bureau board and on the county board. He has served as president of the county Dairy Herd Improvement Association, on the board of the county Holstein Association, and on the Youth Committee of the Michigan Jersey Cattle Club. A 4-H leader and member of the Kellogg Farmer Study Program, he serves as a dairy judging coach and on the Vocational Education Advisory Committee in Chesaning.

Representing the Farm Bureau Women are Mrs. Paul (Nancy) Geiger of South Lyon, Mrs. Karl (Barbara) Kimerer of Britton, and Mrs. Fred (Carolynne) Wegmeyer of Herron.

Mrs. Geiger and her husband

specialize in dairy and general farming in Washtenaw Co. Currently the district chairman of Farm Bureau Women, she has been active in her county Farm Bureau on Women's, National Affairs, Legislative, Policy Development Community Group and Information Committees. She has also held every office in her local community group. A Home Economics graduate and former teacher, she is presently a 4-H leader in the areas of natural resources and home economics. She and her husband were recently named district winners in the MMPA "Outstanding Dairy Couple" competition.

Karl and Barbara Kimerer operate an 800-acre grain farm in Lenawee Co. and also farrow and fatten 500 hogs. Currently the district vice chairman of Farm Bureau Women, Mrs. Kimerer has served as secretary of her local community group, as secretary and chairman of the county Women's Committee, and as secretary of the district Farm Bureau Women. She has a special interest in the marketing of farm products and has been instrumental in successful commodity promotions in her county.

Mrs. Wegmeyer and her husband operate a dairy farm in Alpena Co. She has served on the county Young Farmer, Policy Development, and Nominating Committees, and was secretary, discussion leader, minuteman and package reporter for her local community group. She is a corporation member of the Northwest Michigan Mental Health Center and also serves on the Community Service Committee, covering three counties. Mrs. Wegmeyer is a sponsor for the Luther Leaguers and is active in the League of Women Voters.

At-large members on the committee are James Sayre of Belleville, Jack Laurie of Cass City, and Dean Pridgeon of Montgomery.

Sayre specializes in vegetables, small fruits and cash crops on his Wayne Co. farm. A director on the Michigan Farm Bureau board, he has served as a county president and roll call chairman, and was also on the state Study Committee. He is the treasurer of his local school board, a member of the Michigan Vegetable Council board, and the Methodist Church board. He has served on the county planning commission, the water

and sewer commission and was a member of the Kellogg Farmers Study Group.

Laurie's major farming interest lies with his dairy herd and producing feed for it, and he also raises navy beans and wheat on his 400-acre Tuscola Co. farm. He serves on the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors and on the board's executive committee. He is also the third member of the executive committees for all four insurance companies. He is active in local Farm Bureau and community activities, and was a member of the Kellogg Farmers Study Group.

Pridgeon, chairman of the State Policy Development Committee, farms 1500 acres in Branch Co., specializing in hogs and corn. He is vice president of the Michigan Farm Bureau and also serves on the boards of Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Farm Bureau Services, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, and MACMA. He is a former county Farm Bureau president and membership chairman. In addition to his Farm Bureau activities, Pridgeon served 12 years as a township supervisor and was Republican county chairman for eight years.

11
Robert Burie

10
Larry Foster

9
Thomas Kalchik

8
John VanPage

7
Myron Kokx

6
Gerald Elenbaum

5
Mrs. Harold McMichael

4
Ed Erwin

3
Ed Erwin

2
Remus Rigg

1
Jan Vosburg

At Large
Dean Pridgeon

At Large
John Laurie

At Large
James Sayre

FB Women
Mrs. Karl Kimerer

FB Women
Mrs. Paul Geiger

FB Women
Mrs. Fred Wegmeyer

Young Farmers
Mrs. Dale Weidmayer

Young Farmers
Wayne Wood

Young Farmers
Bill Spikes

Photo not available

Photos not available

PRESENT ISSUES:

The following are not expressions of Farm Bureau policy

Reactions?

Send them to:

Farm News

P.O. Box 960

Lansing, 48904

After You Mr. Borgstrom

(Editor's Note: The following article is in answer to the article that appeared in last month's issue of Farm News entitled "US Agriculture's Not So Great". In that article, Georg Borgstrom indicts agricultural practices as not making sense in terms of cost of energy or cost to the environment.)

Gentlemen:

I read the Borgstrom review on page 12 of the September issue of the Michigan Farm News. One thing conveniently overlooked by Borgstrom is that the primitive

agriculturists that grew "rice for hundreds of years without any energy input, other than the sun's and man's," supported a world population of one-half million people. The present world population of six billion is made possible by the input of energy into food production, both physical energy from fossil fuels, and mental energy to discover the most efficient and most productive methods of producing food. The result is a population 12,000 times greater than the rice-and-night-soil agriculture could support. If we

wished to go back to the old, so-called "efficient" method, we would be required to eliminate 11,999 out of every 12,000 people. Hopefully, Mr. Borgstrom and his fans would be in the tare group.

Mr. Borgstrom made a considerable number of allegations, most of them logically insupportable. The caption statement, "We have not really addressed ourselves to providing cheap food because there is no money in it" is the biggest fallacy I have ever heard. In the primitive agriculture, the food

producer used 100% of his physical effort from dawn until dark to feed himself and his family, a worker today uses less than 20% of his income to buy food. The modern farmer does not have that kind of largesse, but he still eats better and has more leisure time than his rice-raising forbears. Food, in other words, is cheaper than ever.

The three-to-one oil parable is also full of contradictions. If men could live on Diesel fuel, coal, and nitrogen fertilizer, it would not be necessary to raise soybeans. Also, a human being consuming soybean oil is more than three times more efficient than a Diesel tractor. His further statements would lead one to believe that we should eliminate the 11,999 out of 12,000 humans in order to protect the work ethic of nitrogen-fixing bacteria.

Another extremely preposterous statement: "You know, when we have failed to adequately take care of more than a third of those now living, I think it is a dismal failure." Any logical person can check the figures. Modern food production has made life itself possible for 99.991% of the world's population. That is not failure, by any rational thinking.

The notion of feeding garbage and human waste to animals went out with the discovery of tapeworms and tricknosis. That anyone should consider it in a civilized society is more appalling than any of the paranoid delusions Borgstrom is worried about.

Sincerely,
Frederick G. Schantz

Farmer's Needs Vital to Consumer

by Claude Gifford

AFBF Information Director

Somehow, we have to make it important to the urban dweller that he has only six acres of farmland in the United States to sustain him. That's all. That's the average number of acres per person.

He needs to see that it is mighty important to him that his six acres get the 34 gallons of fuel—and the 192 kilowatts of electricity—that is needed per year to produce his food and fiber.

He needs to know that if someone is going to spend about 31 hours per year working on that six acres—to produce his food and fiber—that "someone" had better have an incentive to do it.

The typical urban dweller has a one-fifth interest in a beef cow, and a one-eighth interest in a dairy cow. Somebody out there is tending those animals. The urban consumer has a real stake in seeing that conditions are right so that the person who is tending those animals has an incentive to do it well; else the urban consumer will be the one who suffers through restricted food supplies.

A farmer has an investment of \$1,716 in that six acres. Not for an idle reason. The farmer has done that because he wants to make a profit taking care of that investment and the six acres. For this, the urban beneficiary paid the farmer \$301 last year—\$282 in direct cash, and \$19 in government payments.

The farmer took the \$301 and paid out \$227 in production expenses. That left \$84 cash for the farmer who took care of the six acres, and who took care of the

one-fifth interest in the beef cow, and the one-eighth interest in the dairy cow. How much is \$84 cash? Well, a 5% return on the \$1,716 investment made on the urban client's behalf is \$86. So the farmer out there looking after the urban client's interest in the six acres didn't even get back 5% cash on his investment—and he threw in his labor.

Isn't it high time that the urban beneficiary learns more about this situation?

With the urban dweller's livelihood depending on that farmer tending his six acres, hadn't he better see that the farmer has the freedom to do business within a reasonable set of rules?

Hadn't he better see that the fellow taking care of his six acres be awarded for his initiative, hard work and dedication?

Doesn't the consumer have an interest in seeing that the caretaker of those acres has

protection from sudden and drastic economic changes that affect how well the farmer can take care of the top six inches of topsoil where the food is grown? Doesn't the urban consumer have a vital interest in the farmer having enough return to keep his equipment in good shape to tend the land?

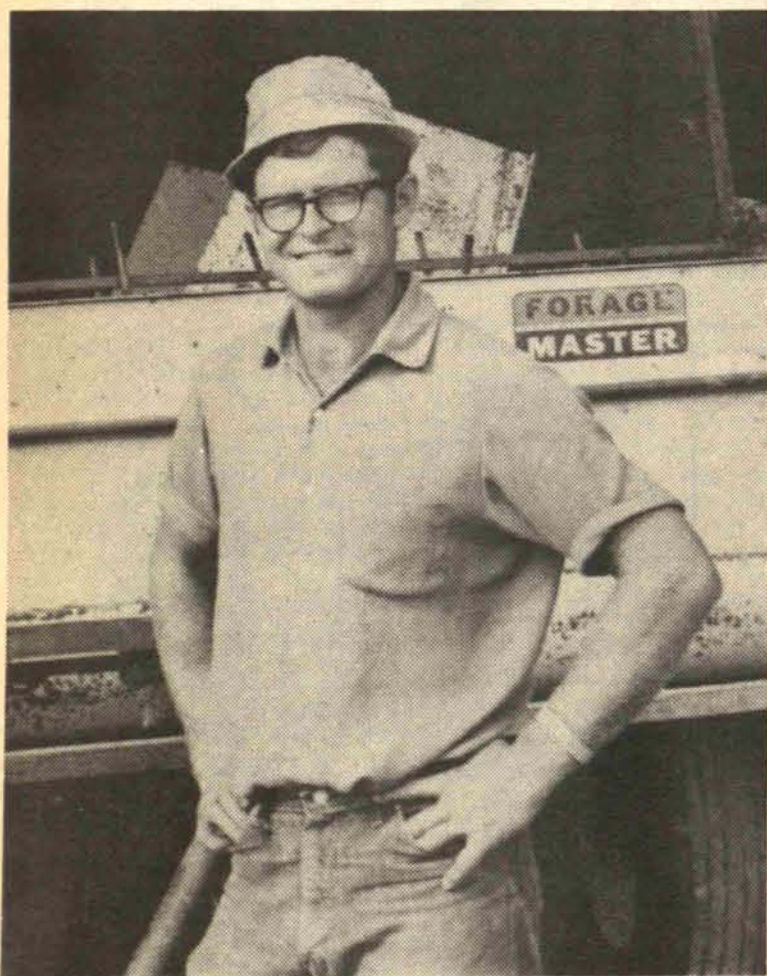
Wouldn't it be a great idea if that farmer has a generous flow of useful information to help him remain efficient and effective?

And isn't it important that there be transportation there at the six acres, unimpeded by costly strikes, especially at harvest time, to keep those farm food products moving in from those six acres?

And wouldn't it be simple justice that when the caretaker of the six acres has products to sell that he have reasonable equality at contract time to determine the price and terms of sale as an inducement to stay in the business and be efficient?

Good Farmers Don't Sell Out

by Tom Semans



Tom Semans is a dairy farmer from Shiawassee Co. in partnership with his parents. The 1968 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in Dairy Science represents the fifth generation of agricultural producers in Middlebury Township from his family. Semans left no doubt about his affection for his livelihood when he said, "I think production agriculture is the best life and business on earth."

I believe that wise land use planning policy and action on the part of individuals is perhaps the most important issue facing Michigan farmers over the next 20 to 30 years.

This is making the assumption that agriculture shall continue to exist in Michigan on a commercial basis. I make this assumption because I believe agriculture is of absolute importance to the future of our state and nation.

I define commercial agriculture as any farm where a farmer makes a life by using his personal and natural resources to their fullest potential in production of agricultural commodities.

I realize that many people who consider themselves to be farmers don't work at it full time. They are mainly a transitional stage in or out of agriculture, usually out. And I don't feel that anyone, but commercial farmers can be relied upon for a dependable supply of food and fiber for years to come.

Today, we see a disastrous trend throughout our state in regard to land use. It appears to me to be very similar to the way the virgin forests of Michigan were once ravaged. The people in the logging business seemed to think there was no limit to the forest resources and just cut on 'til the good lumber was all gone.

The parallel is that many individuals appear to think that agricultural land can continue to be transferred to other use at an accelerating pace with no thought to any possible consequences.

Today's trend seems to be this. Throughout our state, many people seem to want to live in the country.

If they go looking for a lot and talk to landowners, they will find one who will sell some acreage.

These people, the sellers, I regard as dumb. The sellers are usually nonfarm owners, part timers or generally the poorest farmers. They also tend to be along hardtop roads and near industrial employment.

After enough of these monkeyshines go on, land value in an area increases rapidly and consequently taxes. Soon land can no longer be purchased for agriculture because the price is too high. Next, larger subdivisions move in and send the price up more.

With the population that comes, taxes come and farmers can't pay for services to urban dwellers very long. So, the good farmers are eventually forced to sell out too.

In good agricultural practice, the best farmers lead the way to success but in this case the deeds lead the charge to disaster. The very people who wanted to get out in the country are upset to find the country has disappeared.

There are other usurpers of the land such as highways, airports, shopping centers and recreational facilities, but it is residential development that is the key, and it is the one we must face head on.

The catch is that many see it as an opportunity to sell at a big price and get amends for crops and poor returns. Most who get little from the farm put little into it.

For a solution to this mess on our farm, we can erect a sign with bold letters proclaiming, "This farm or any part thereof is NOT FOR SALE" we repeat "NOT FOR SALE."

This might keep the realtors away from our door, but what about the joker down the road who says, "Well, I won't sell now, but later I think I will divide the farm up and get more money than for farm land."

If it were up to me, I would kick his posterior, but it's not. So what do we do about this phenomenon?

First, it must be established to all people concerned that it is absolutely essential to have commercial agriculture in Michigan.

I don't see how anyone can argue with this. Secondly, we must revamp our planning and regulation procedures to reflect this precept.

Agriculture must no longer be the lowest classification in zoning as it appears to be today. We must realize that eating is the most essential privilege to every living person.

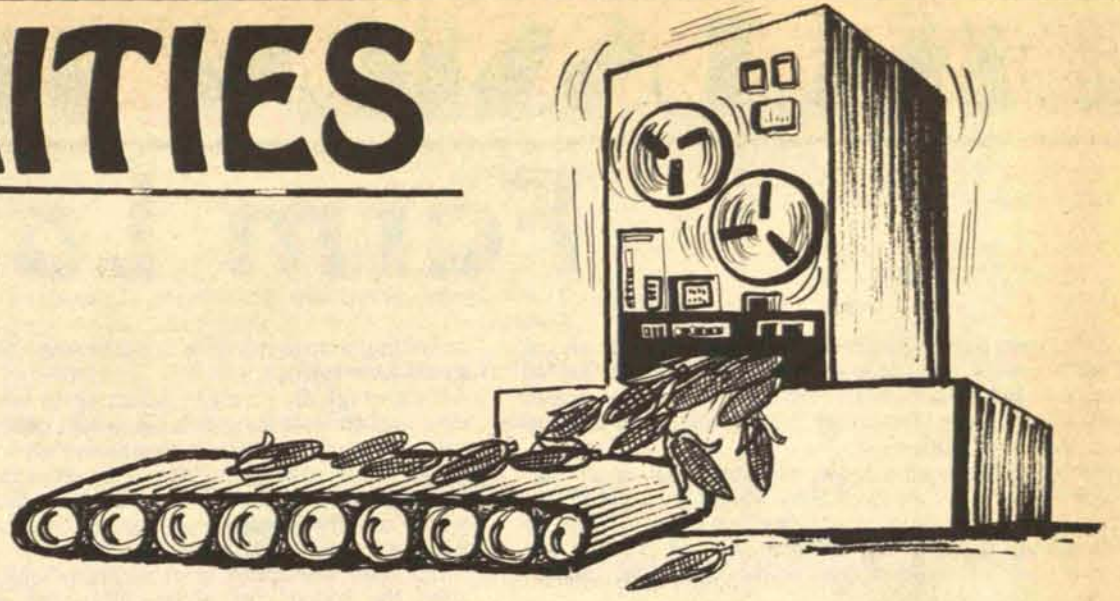
Land with potential for agriculture production must be preserved for such. Instead of allowing a mere request for rezoning land out of farm use.

We should remove this choice from the simple economic realm where a few dollars can change productive or potentially productive land into something which in the foreseeable future will never again convert sunlight, gases from the air and minerals in the soil into food for men and animals.

Thirdly, I believe that farmers ought to appreciate more their vital role to mankind. To a good farmer there just isn't anything else.

POSSIBILITIES

Computer Ag



Have you ever done the Bureaucracy Bounce? That's when you need some information, and you hop from one office to another trying to get it. You go from the Office of Administration, to the Director of Information, who refers to someone lower, who refers you to someone even lower, who refers back to the top.

Or, you can do the Bureaucracy Bounce by phone, as secretaries take messages or transfer you to another office, or put you through to the boss who sends you back to the secretary who puts you on hold...

It's after experiences like this that you know that information is one of the most precious commodities and probably the hardest to get.

Scientists and industrialists who had to handle huge amounts of information found a way through the mess of mass information. The computer.

The computer was found to be the best means of sorting out information or putting it together. In science, with the huge amounts of knowledge from thousands of specialists, only the computer

could put the loose ends together. Mathematical computations were speeded up a thousand times to increase the speed of scientific progress.

Industry knew a good thing when they saw it and applied the computer to make their operations more efficient and to allow them to take advantage of all existing knowledge.

The home computer was later proposed. A computer that could serve individuals as it had served industry.

A housewife would be able to check and compare food prices around town by computer then order them from home.

A man could check his travel route for motel reservations by home computer. Questions about money handling would be able to be answered by pushing the right buttons. The time searching for answers would be cut to a minimum.

If a husband and wife were having marital problems, they could sit down with their computer for counseling.

Much of this is not as far off as we might think, but the computer still is in the transitional stage

from business to home. And what better place to make the transition than with farmers.

Farmers are businessmen who work from the home. They handle large amounts of capital and have to be able to follow the cash flow in their operations as well as handle plant and/or animal disease.

The home life of a farmer is intimately tied to his business life, with home expenses as part of his business budget. It is because of this that farmers are becoming the first householders using computers.

Since it would be highly uneconomical to have a computer for each farm business, most programs to computerize farm business are on a shared-computer basis.

FB Farm Records Program

Farm Bureau offers a way to make the computer part of the machinery of a successful farm. With such high investments that must be made on a farm and continual cash flows, it is sometimes hard for a farmer to really know if he's making money. Often, at the end of the year, he hasn't enough information to make a wise income tax report.

The Farm Bureau Computer Service allows farmers to feed the complex information of farm business to a central computer that sorts out the information and computes it so each farm businessman can make sense of it.

All a subscriber to the system needs to do is send a record of all income and payment transactions each month; the computer does the rest. All records that are needed to prepare tax reports are available

at the end of the year.

Spokesmen for the service warn, however, that the computer service does not replace consultants, but only gives them the material they need to work with.

The computer can also provide monthly business reports that keep the farmer up-to-date on operations. The report consists of cash receipts and payments report, a journal listing and a ledger.

Farmers can also receive full credit summaries, inventories, and depreciation schedules if they choose.

Analysis

Farmers who have highly diversified operations have the added problem of not always knowing which parts of their operations are making money and which are costing money. The farm records program offers the option of enterprise summaries and analysis that will allow the farm operator to see his business clearly.

One thing farmers in a program such as this should remember is; "garbage in, garbage out." The results are only as accurate as the raw information that is given to the computer.

Computerized Cows

Wisdom does not come with age, but through experience. Take the experience of thousands of dairymen and put it to work for one man and you will have a wise operation.

This is what the Dairy Herd Improvement Association does through a computer program. The records of thousands of cows in DHIA programs are coordinated in

a computer to provide background that allows the computer to predict what individual cows will produce and tell what they need to produce.

In the program, dairymen put each of their cows on a production testing schedule and send the information to the central computer. The computer returns read-out sheets that informs dairymen when each individual cow should be bred, pregnancy checked, dried up or culled. The final goal is to make a profit on every animal.

DHIA officials feel such a program prevents dairymen from keeping non-productive cows too long, wasting breeding fees and putting feed through the wrong cows.

Talking to computers

An orchard grower spots something wrong with his trees, so he goes into the house and dials a number on his touch-tone phone. A voice answers and he describes what is on the trees. A few moments later an answer comes back telling him what the disease is and referring him to a spray calendar.

The man has just had the disease in his orchard diagnosed by a computer. The voice on the other end was that of Synthia the Computer in Ann Arbor.

This direct question and answer link with computers is part of Michigan State University's Telplan system.

Telplan is what is known as forward planning by computer. Rather than just having a computer coordinate information, a computer can actually fetch information when asked for it by phone.

This is the ultimate communication with computers that we see in the future American homes. But it is now available to farmers. Telplan now has over 40 programs dealing with everything from income tax management to least cost swine rations.

Telplan can help farmers make the right decision in specific circumstances; for instance; whether to buy a combine or custom hire one. The computer can figure by the number of acres, the number of years of use of a combine, labor and fuel costs which route is more economical.

Under the Telplan operation, a farmer can have personal budget questions answered. For instance: should I put my money in an account at 6-1/4% interest compounded yearly or in an account at 6% compounded weekly?

Telplan officials encourage farmers to have a good records program that can supply computers with accurate data that will help them answer specific questions.

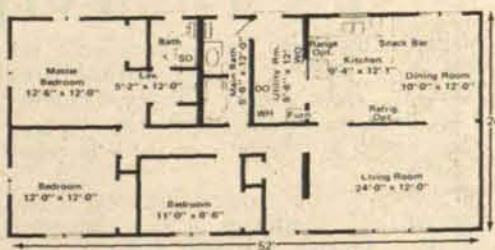
With computers answering personal questions for farmers, it will only be a short step for computers to serve all householders in the same way.

Farmers, who were the pioneers of the westward movement, can now become pioneers in the computer movement, and help their business while doing so.

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Get Some Today!



DISCUSSION TOPIC

by **KEN WILES**
Manager Member Relations

Farm Labor

Employers and employees, composing the farm sector of our economy, operate in a folklore which is ascribed to them by persons somewhat removed from farms where production occurs. Too many false impressions abound regarding this folklore.

Many citizens believe, for example, that most employers of farm laborers are large absentee corporations. This is not the general case. Agriculture today is made up of thousands of employers who hire only one or just a few workers as well as employers whose operations require large numbers of workers.

Likewise, misconceptions abound regarding the farm labor force. Too often it is believed the typical farm worker is a migrant from a minority group, unemployed most of the time, and workers who do little or no work other than on the farm. This is not an adequate generalization of agricultural labor.

Today, agricultural employment is not recognized as qualifying workers for unemployment benefits under most state unemployment acts. National legislation, beginning with the 1935 Social Security Act and continuing with the various related legislation since then, has excluded farm workers from unemployment insurance. One reason for the continued exclusion has been the lack of comprehensive data on the probable effects of extending coverage to agriculture labor -- on agricultural production, on agricultural workers, and on the unemployment insurance program.

In recent years, public attention has been crystallized on the migrant force labor by the news media and in 1966 and again in 1969 Congress considered legislation to extend unemployment insurance to agricultural workers. In the 1970 Employment Security Amendments, Congress mandated a study of the impact of extension of unemployment insurance to agriculture.

As a result of that mandate, studies were undertaken by the agricultural experiment stations in nine Northeastern states, Ohio, Florida and Texas jointly with the US Department of Labor to study the impact of extending unemployment insurance to agriculture. An analysis of the data collected as a result of the studies was presented at the Agricultural Unemployment Conference in April of this year and is the background material used in preparing this discussion material.

Objectives of UI

One of the most important objectives of unemployment insurance is to provide a measure of economic security to the labor force via payments to workers who become involuntarily unemployed. Workers who voluntarily leave their employment are not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits.

A second objective is to aid in dampening economic cycles by supporting the purchasing power of a large segment of the economy during recessions. Still another objective is to stabilize the employment levels of individual employers.

Additional objectives of unemployment insurance legislation are 1) retaining the employer's labor force during short layoffs; 2) a sharing of the costs among all or nearly all employers; 3) guaranteeing the rights of benefits to a large segment of the labor force; and 4) forcing employers as well as local governments to share in the cost of relief.

Cost of UI

One of the crucial questions which must be considered the extension of unemployment insurance to agriculture is the cost involved and the potential cost benefit rates. The Unemployment Insurance System is designed to allocate costs to the individual employer as much as possible, i.e., an employer is primarily responsible for his own employees and the spreading of costs among employers is minimized.

After the first year in the system, during which all new employers pay a standard tax rate on their taxable payrolls, an employers' payroll tax is determined by "his experience." In other words, he is given an experience rating. If none of his workers collected benefits in the previous year, he pays a reduced tax and may, over a period of time, have his tax reduced to the minimum. If many of his workers collected benefits, he may pay the maximum.

His maximum payment may still not cover the benefits his workers collect and payments must come from the pool of state unemployment insurance funds. Under such circumstances, some of the costs would be spread to all other employers in the state, including industrial employers.

In other words, if benefits paid are above the maximum employer charging rate, it places a burden upon those employers with lower cost rates due to favorable unemployment histories.

One of the most important questions in extending unemployment to agriculture is the effect the program might have upon migration of workers. It has generally been concluded that if unemployment insurance benefits were available to migratory agricultural workers, many would choose not to migrate, but instead collect unemployment benefits during the off-season.

Were this to happen, the increase in cost rates in some

states might be prohibitive, while in other states the rates would be reduced.

If coverage did result in damming-up labor in certain states, such unemployed labor would probably be concentrated in the small communities. This would have an important impact upon community services and welfare for such localities. On the other hand, the lack of mobility would affect the supply of agricultural labor in "importing" states such as Michigan.

Agricultural employers are naturally most interested in what the added cost of providing unemployment insurance would be to him. These costs are referred to in insurance language as the cost-benefit ratios and would obviously be affected by the weekly benefit amount paid, the qualifying factors to become beneficiaries and the amount of interstate combining of wages and division of payments between states.

Based upon the conclusion of the studies conducted, it would appear that if unemployment insurance were adopted for agricultural workers that less than half of the farmers in Michigan would qualify as covered employers. The added payroll costs would range from 3-6% of the recent payroll costs providing the present benefit schedule for unemployment insurance benefits is followed.

Agricultural Adjustments

Unemployment insurance contributions would be an added cost of production for agricultural employers. They could react by making adjustments in their personnel practices to reduce this cost. The extent of their flexibility to affect the cost would depend on the particular characteristics of their businesses. Among these important characteristics are type of farm, size of farm, and type of labor utilized.

Personnel decisions would also be influenced by personal responsibility felt toward workers. On many farms, a sense of mutual respect and responsibility has grown out of years of employer-employee relationships. Particularly on farms where the only hired labor is one or two regular workers, employees may become an integral part of the business.

Often times, the relationship goes well beyond what would normally be thought of as an employer-employee relationship. Even if such employers were covered by unemployment insurance, it is likely that these long standing relationships would not change much.

Likely, employer adjustments to unemployment insurance include: 1) reduced use of hired labor, 2) decreased employment of seasonal labor, 3) increased employment of people not likely to qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, and 4) increased use of contract labor.

The total amount of hired labor could be reduced by increased mechanization, change to less labor-intensive enterprises and laying off workers during slack periods. Of course, there is already substantial mechanization in agricultural production. Unemployment insurance is not likely to be a major factor in a farmer's decision to change enterprises, but it could be a contributing factor.

Some agricultural employers would likely lay off workers during the slack periods in productive work. Cash grain farms and other farms with relatively little livestock, employing primarily regular farm workers typically have some months with very little productive activity. Much of the hired workers' activity on farms of this type during slack periods is "make work" in nature. This is because the workers have normally been provided 12 months of employment, disregarding the actual distribution of productive work. This has prevented employers from losing high quality workers to other employers, particularly those with livestock enterprises who have a more even monthly distribution of "productive work." With unemployment insurance benefits as an alternative to an employer's paying full wages for these months, he could lay a worker off with the understanding that the worker would receive unemployment insurance benefits and then return to employment at a later date.

However, it would be surprising if this were to become a common practice. Employers following such a personnel practice would have the substantial risk of losing the worker to another employer willing to provide 12 months employment rather than nine months and three months of unemployment insurance benefits. To continue receiving unemployment insurance benefits, a worker would have to be willing to accept work similar to that he had before becoming unemployed.

In most farming communities, it is easy for a qualified farm worker to find employment, even during a general slack period of productive work. An additional factor which would discourage employers from this practice would be the relatively high tax rates associated with regularly laying off workers and having them receive benefits.

Reducing seasonal labor is the second likely employer adjustment to unemployment insurance. By decreasing the employment of seasonal labor and substituting year-round or regular workers, a farmer would be able to decrease his unemployment insurance contribution rate.

This is particularly true when the seasonal workers have sufficient covered employment during the base period to qualify for benefits. Many agricultural em-

ployers with only regular workers could reasonably expect to have a contribution rate near zero as they would seldom even lay a worker off.

Employing school age workers and local housewives is another means by which an agricultural employer could minimize his contribution rate. Such workers seldom qualify for unemployment insurance benefits. More generally speaking, identifying employee applicants with little possibility of benefit qualification could become a common personnel practice.

Finally, employers would have some inducement to increase their use of contract labor. This arrangement is already common for custom operation services such as painting buildings, farm building construction and service of specialized equipment.

Conclusion

Government planners just recently began to recognize that programs which limit the employment opportunities of agricultural employees increase the social costs far beyond the loss of jobs. A large segment of our consumer public is also beginning to recognize that adequate food production can only be assured if and when farmers are provided the proper monetary incentives, in the market place, to produce. Farm prices have gone up and must be maintained to pay the additional production costs, including increased farm labor costs.

Farmers who do not employ hired help benefit from these increased prices. The time the farmer and his family labor is worth more than during periods of low prices. Therefore, everyone who produces agricultural products is affected by the availability and the cost of farm labor.

It would appear that the failure to provide the benefits of unemployment insurance to the farm labor force can no longer be defended on moral or economic grounds. On moral grounds, farm workers have been excluded too long from enjoying the benefits of a modern society. Although the farm work some of them perform is required only at specific times during the year, it is as essential and as difficult as work performed in other segments of the economy.

On economic grounds, the principle reason for low costs of fiber purchased by industry and low costs of food enjoyed by the American consumer is due in part to the relatively low income produced from resources devoted to food production. The lack of worker security cannot be considered a farm employer problem only. It is a problem which must be solved by all who enjoy the benefits of a highly productive agricultural industry.

As we approach Farm Bureau Policy Development time, members should decide the position to be taken in regards to unemployment insurance for agricultural workers. The type of labor legislation Farm Bureau asks for, supports, or opposes, will determine to some degree the quantity and quality of farm labor in the future. Some questions which might be considered in determining Farm Bureau position on this subject are:

- 1) Is more or less hired help going to be needed on the farms of the future?
- 2) Will the type and quality of hired help we have used in the past be adequate for the future needs of agriculture?
- 3) Would unemployment insurance for farm workers cause Michigan farmers to reduce the number of workers they hire, decrease employment of seasonal workers, increase the employment of casual workers who are not likely to qualify for benefits, or increase the use of contract labor?
- 4) Would unemployment insurance help attract better qualified workers seeking agricultural employment?
- 5) Would a federal unemployment insurance law covering all states maintain the competitive position of Michigan agriculture better than individual state laws that would become effective at different times?

Topic Summary

August's Discussion Topic concerned a subject on which most members have strong feelings -- "Taxation." Even though many community groups did not meet during the month, the response to the questions and the comments indicate some lively discussions.

On the question of assessments, 36% of the groups reporting felt assessments in their community were fairly done; 32% felt they were mixed up; 24% thought they were usually right; and 8% indicated they were of the opinion that assessments are seldom right.

After deciding what they thought about assessments, groups reviewed taxing trends: About 64% expressed the opinion that taxes are too high and should be reduced, while 33% thought they are about right considering all of our needs. Only 3% felt taxes are too low to meet present needs.

Many suggestions were made on what government services could be reduced or eliminated entirely to reduce tax costs. Those items most often suggested were: welfare, number of government employees, food stamps, farm programs, and foreign aid.

County Annual Schedule

(Continued from page 14)

Clare	Oct. 13	Mid-Michigan College, Harrison
Clinton	Oct. 9	Smith Hall, St. Johns
Copper Country	Oct. 9	Venture Mountain Chalet, 8:00 PM Greenland Lunch to follow Mtg.
Eaton	Oct. 11	
Emmett	Oct. 15	Church or High School, Harbor Springs
Genesee	Oct. 16	1st Congregational Church, Gr. Blanc
Gladwin	Oct. 2	Grout Town Hall 8:00 PM
Graiot	Oct. 23	Breckenridge H.S. 6:30 PM Potluck
Hillsdale	Oct. 8	County Office Bldg., Hillsdale 7:30 Potluck
Hiawathaland	Oct. 4	Rapid River Sch., Rapid River 7:00 PM Din. before mtg.
Huron	Oct. 25	F.B. Bldg. Bad Axe 7:30 PM Dinner
Ingham	Oct. 11	
Ionia	Oct. 8	Rather Elementary, Ionia 7:00 PM Potluck
Iosco	Oct. 16	Legion Hall, Hale
Iron Range	Oct. 13	Mansfield Twp. Hall 7:30 PM Lunch following
Isabella	Oct. 11	Westside Intermediate H. S. 8:00 PM
Jackson	Oct. 1	Cascades Club House, Jackson 7:30 PM
Kalamazoo	Oct. 9	Co. Center Bldg. 7:00 PM (Fair Grounds) Kal. Dinner
Kalkaska	Oct. 8	Bank, Kalkaska 8:00 PM
Kent	Oct. 1	Schensul's Caf. - Eastbrook 7:00 PM Mall
Lapeer	Oct. 11	Center Bldg., Lapeer 7:30 PM Dinner
Lenawee	Oct. 11	Blissfield High School 7:00 PM
Livingston	Oct. 4	Fowlerville Junior High
Mac-Luce	Oct. 1	Garfield Twp. Hall, 7:00 PM Engadine Din. before mtg.
Macomb	Oct. 18	Immanuel Luther Church 7:30 (Washington) Dinner
Manistee	Oct. 4	Farr Center, Onkama 8:00 PM

Mason	Oct. 9	Savings Bank, Scottville
Mecosta	Oct. 15	Chippewa Hills High School
Menominee	Oct. 3	Hirsch's, Stephenson 7:30 Dinner before mtg.
Midland	Oct. 15	Homer Twp. Hall
Missaukee	Oct. 2	McBain 8:00 PM
Monroe	Sept. 26	4-H Bldg. Monroe Co. 7:00 PM Fair Grounds
Montcalm	Oct. 9	Stanton Commons H.S., Stanton Potluck 6:30 PM
Montmorency	Oct. 4	Atlanta H.S.
Muskegon	Oct. 4	Ravenna Elementary School 7:30 PM
Newaygo	Oct. 9	Fremont Christian School
N.W. Mich.	Oct. 10	Twin Lakes 4-H Camp 8:00 PM
Oakland	Nov. 1	
Oceana	Oct. 29	Hart High School
Ogemaw	Oct. 10	Masonic Temple, West Branch
Osceola	Oct. 16	Lincoln Twp. Hall
Otsego	Oct. 17	
Ottawa	Oct. 25	Allendale Christian Elementary Sch. 7:30 PM
Presque Isle	Oct. 11	Balknap Twp. Hall
Saginaw	Oct. 11	K.C. Hall, 2280 Williamson Rd. 7:00 PM Dinner
St. Clair	Oct. 2	Goodells 7:30 PM Potluck
St. Joseph	Oct. 8	Co. F.B. Bldg. 7:30 PM Potluck
Sanilac	Oct. 10	Sandusky H.S. 7:30 PM Dinner
Shiawassee	Oct. 8	Casino, Corunna
Tuscola	Oct. 6	Caro H.S. 7:00 PM Dinner
Van Buren	Oct. 27	Co. F.B. Bldg., Paw Paw 7:00 PM Dinner
Washtenaw	Oct. 10	Farm Council Bldg., A.A. 7:30 PM
Wayne	Oct. 9	4-H Fairgrounds Cafeteria, Bellville 7:00 PM
Wexford	Oct. 9	Cadillac 8:00 PM

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October 9	Rapid River	1250 Yearlings and calves
October 11	Gaylord	3850 Yearlings and calves
October 16	Alpena	1300 Yearlings and calves
October 17	West Branch	2000 Yearlings and calves
October 19	Baldwin	1200 Yearlings and calves

All sales start at 12:00 Noon.

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MISCELLANEOUS

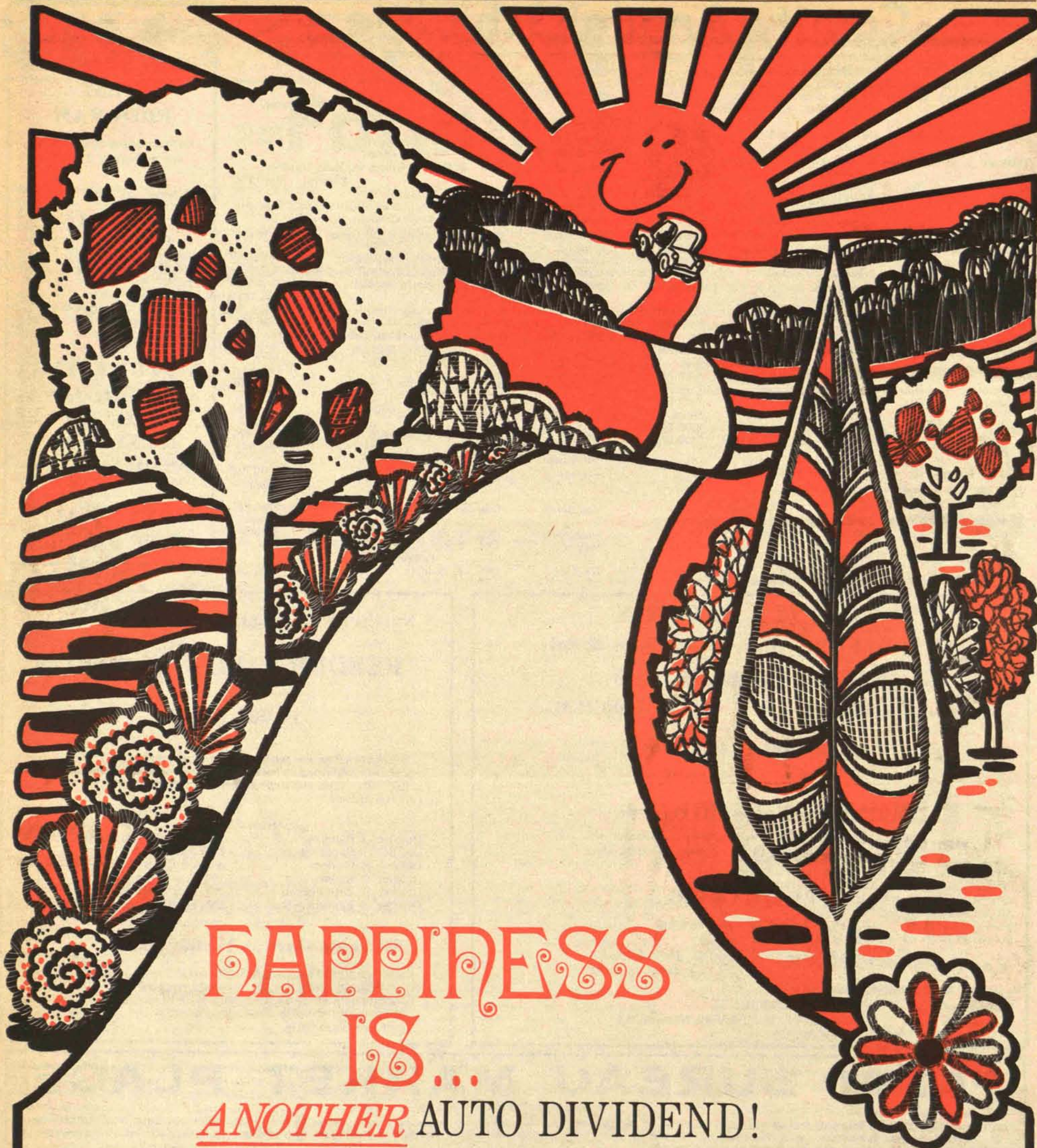
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