

## More Than a Symbol

For many Americans, there is no more stirring sight than that of the Statue of Liberty silhouetted against the sky—a tall, proud embodiment of freedom's spirit. As another Independence Day, July 4, approaches, she stands as a silent reminder of the freedoms so many have fought and died for.

Celebrations, commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, will take several forms—under the vigilant eye of that symbol of freedom—parades, picnics, colorful fireworks and flags festooning millions of offices and homes. However, the most important part will be hidden from her view. That is the quiet determination which every American should carry in his heart to perpetuate the ideals of liberty, justice and freedom which were built so painstakingly years ago. Those ideals are the best secret weapon against tyranny and, indeed, are the very basis for the might of the United States.

Farm Bureau members are aware of their responsibilities in perpetuating these ideals. According to Michigan Farm Bureau policy, "Good citizenship means more than voting, oratory and displaying patriotic symbols. It includes being informed on issues, willingness to defend and to explain our system of government, and courage to act within our political system..."

Farm Bureau conducts many activities to equip persons to meet their citizenship responsibilities. One of these is the Young People's Citizenship Seminar, held at Ferris State College just two weeks ago. Over 200 high school juniors and seniors attended this tenth annual seminar to learn about our American Way of Life, our political and economic systems, and people and governments around the world. County Farm Bureaus, Farm Bureau Insurance agencies, Farm Bureau co-ops, and civic groups throughout the state who sponsored the students' attendance are to be commended for giving this opportunity to young citizens.

Our community, our state, our nation, and even the world, will hopefully benefit because Farm Bureau members and their urban friends cared about the future and the leaders of tomorrow.



## ON THE INSIDE:

**NIXON'S "CONSUMER FIRST" POLICY** puts farmers last, says President Elton Smith on Page 2.

**THE "HOT DOG WAR"** -- Michigan fights to maintain its high comminuted meat standards. Read about Michigan Farm Bureau's testimony on Page 3.

**OSHA RE-ENTRY STANDARD DELAYED** -- The original effective date for the "emergency" standard was June 18. The effective date has now been delayed. Check Page 4 for details.

**MICHIGAN CERTIFIED FARM MARKETS REORGANIZES** and becomes a division of MACMA. Read about their plans for expanded services on Page 7.

## BULLETIN

On June 14, the Secretary of Harbor on June 18, Michigan Labor announced a decision to Farm Bureau president, Elton R. Smith, said: "Whatever the the original OSHA emergency modification or revision may standard establishing re-entry be, Michigan farmers will time in fields and orchards oppose the imposition of an where certain pesticides were emergency pesticide standard. used. This same an- Farm Bureau will continue to nouncement said a new press its legal action in op- amended standard would be position to any emergency issued. temporary standard if it includes a field re-entry provision." (See Page 4.)

At a meeting in Benton

# Be Where the Action Is!

## President's Column



**P.D.  
and  
P.X.**

It has been said that even when opportunity knocks, one still has to get up off his seat and open the door. Right now, opportunity is knocking at the doors of all Farm Bureau members and I hope they will answer.

When something has been around for a long time, we tend to take it for granted. This happens in Farm Bureau with our policy development process. We have a unique organizational structure that enables all members to let their views be known on local, state and national issues. It gives farmers an opportunity to make their voices heard in the state legislature and in the nation's capitol. It offers members a chance to say what they want their organization to be and what services and programs they need. In short, Farm Bureau provides the opportunity for members to get involved -- to **MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

The policies of your Farm Bureau, which guide your organization, are determined by you, the members. Last year you told your organization the stand to take on such issues as tax reform, land use, educational finance, and marketing and bargaining. Every county Farm Bureau has a copy of these policies and now is the time for members to look them over critically to see if they should be reaffirmed or changed. It is the time to look at the future to see what challenges farmers are likely to face, and establish policy to help solve these problems. Let's take a look at some of these challenges . . . .

Farm labor--how can Michigan farmers protect themselves in the event of a unionized farm labor movement? This issue has been delayed because of problems in California--but labor leaders say Michigan is next on the list.

The Marketing and Bargaining Board--what action will be needed to strengthen the program as the Marketing and Bargaining Act gets into operation?

Transportation--while Michigan enjoys some of the finest expressways in the nation, the "roads to market" are inadequate. What about financing these improvements? What stand should we take on the gas tax?

School financing--always an issue! What about vocational training centers and community colleges? How should they be financed?

Environment and Land Use--a real challenge--how do we solve this many-faceted problem? How much control should local governments retain in determining land use?

There are many other areas of concern--foreign trade, health care--where Farm Bureau must have policy. Sometimes farmers feel isolated from national issues, such as foreign trade, but these problems often directly affect their farming operations.

Although our horizons must be broad, we should not ignore local issues. County Farm Bureaus, because of their structure, can be a strong force--a leader--in tackling and solving local problems. This type of local action can help solve problems and result in good public relations for agriculture and Farm Bureau.

Every county Farm Bureau has a Policy Development Committee. If you have views on any issue--whether it be local, state or national--voice your opinion. Be honest--not what you think others want to hear, but what you feel is right. Stand up and be counted at your county annual meeting when resolutions are discussed, debated and decided upon. Remember, silence means approval and satisfaction with the way things are now.

A member's responsibility doesn't stop with policy development. Next comes the vital policy execution. What good is a policy without action? Once a policy has been established, get behind it and **MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

Policy development and policy execution can be a challenging, exciting experience for members. Satisfaction comes from being a participant, not a spectator. Be where the action is!

The future of agriculture, the future of your Farm Bureau, YOUR future, depends upon you and your willingness to get involved.

Opportunity is knocking. Won't you get up and answer the door?

### from the Mail Bag

#### "Grammer"?

Re: The spelling of "grammer" in the June issue's "The Mail Bag" --

I'm willing that you should edit the letters, but who is going to edit your spelling?

Dorothy E. Mason  
Lapeer County

#### "Mail Bag" Good Platform

Dear Editors:

Congratulations on your new baby. All indications are that it will thrive and grow healthy. I hope all your members realize, however, what an important role they must play in the care and nurturing of this baby.

It is obviously their publication. The value they get out of it will depend on what they put into it.

I can think of no better way for them to serve themselves than by using the "Mail Bag" column regularly to express their views, share them with their neighbors and other Farm Bureau members, and stay up-to-date on the thoughts and issues which are important to their peers.

I'm certain that--given such a fine platform for airing their views as the new Michigan Farm News--they will make the most of the opportunity. Best of luck for the future.

Jim Sterling  
Director of Press Relations  
Ohio Farm Bureau Federation



## Nixon's "Consumer First" Policy Puts Farmer Last Says President Smith

Michigan Farm Bureau president Elton R. Smith expressed disappointment regarding Nixon's order for a freeze on prices, and said that the President's decision to place the consumer first, in effect, places the American farmer last.

In a statement to the public news media following Nixon's economic action announcement, Smith said that farmers are not second-class citizens, to be offered a government farm program to maintain their existence.

He called the absence of a price freeze on raw agricultural products a fallacy. Very little raw food is purchased by consumers, he said. Retailers and processors are faced, on the one hand, with rising labor costs and taxes, and on the other hand, the prices they charge are frozen. Experience has shown, Smith said, that they will attempt to recoup this by paying lower prices to farmers.

"Food must be paid for -- either by consumers at the retail level -- or by consumers through taxes. Between the Farm Bill recently passed by the Senate, and the action taken by the President, we are moving toward a continuation of the 'cheap food' policy --

with consumers subsidizing food prices through taxes," he told the news media.

He also expressed concern regarding the proposed controls on exports. "Agriculture in the United States has competed effectively on the world trade scene. We cannot treat foreign markets as a dumping ground -- supply must be constant. It seems inconsistent that, with our high standard of living, consumers are willing to be outbid by foreign markets. Food and fiber have been too plentiful, too long, and too inexpensive for Americans."

"Farmers believe you can't have it both ways," Smith said, "either you have a free economy or a controlled socialistic economy. We do not believe in a system of government administered controls of food and agricultural prices.

"Rising prices are the result of inflation and the cause of inflation is excessive government spending. The President's action treats the symptoms -- not the cause -- of inflation. What farmers and consumers really need is responsible controls on irresponsible government spending -- not controls on retail prices," he concluded.

### MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

The MICHIGAN FARM NEWS is published monthly, on the first day, by the Michigan Farm Bureau, at its publication office at 109 N. Lafayette Street, Greenville, Michigan.

Editorial and general offices at 7373 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Michigan 48904. Post Office Box 960. Telephone, Lansing 485-8121. Extension 228. Subscription price, 50¢ per year. Established January 13, 1923. Second Class Postage paid at Greenville, Michigan.

EDITORIAL: Editors: Kenneth P. Wiles and Donna Wilber

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POSTMASTER: In using form 3579, mail to: Michigan Farm News, 7373 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, Michigan 48904

Second class postage paid at Greenville, Michigan





THE FAMOUS BOARDWALK at Atlantic City, New Jersey, was "rolled up" and stored away for the winter in the 1800's. Although it may not look exactly like this in January when Farm Bureau members attend the AFBF national convention, it will be there, along with many other interesting sights. A tour to the American Farm Bureau Federation convention, scheduled for January 13-17, 1974--plus two days and nights in New York City--is currently in the planning stages. More details will be announced in the next issue of the Farm News.

## AFBF TOUR PLANNED

## N. E. Region has New Representative

Robert Lee of Spruce, Alpena County, is the new Michigan Farm Bureau regional representative for the Northeast region, according to Charles Burkett, director of the Field Operations Division. Lee replaces LeRoy Brady, who resigned to go into private business.

A 1967 graduate of Michigan State University, with a degree in Agri-Business, Lee has been employed with the Central Soya Company, selling livestock feed in northern Illinois. He participated in sports in high school and college, was active in 4-H, and has worked with his local FFA Chapter. Lee is married and has two young daughters.

As regional representative, he will serve the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Emmet, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Otsego and Presque Isle.

Brady has been regional representative for the Northeast region since 1966. Prior



ROBERT LEE

to his employment with Michigan Farm Bureau, he had served in various capacities for the county Farm Bureau, including county president.

His retail business is located in Onaway.



LEE BRADY

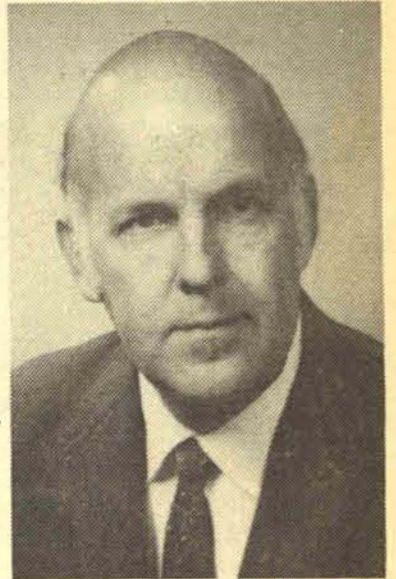
## Dr. Guyer Named Extension Director

Dr. Gordon E. Guyer, professor and chairman of the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University since 1962, has been named director of M.S.U. Cooperative Extension Service, effective July 1. He succeeds George S. McIntyre who retired on that date.

In recommending the appointment, Dean L. L. Boger of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources pointed out that Dr. Guyer is committed to Michigan State University and the educational philosophy of the Cooperative Extension Service. "He is a proven administrator with the capacity to provide the leadership required for the service at this particular stage in its history," Boger said.

As director of the Cooperative Extension Service, Dr. Guyer will also serve as assistant dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He will be responsible for the staff of campus specialists and field agents with offices in 80 Michigan counties.

Dr. Guyer was born in Kalamazoo in 1926 and received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University. He began his MSU career as an instructor in



DR. GORDON GUYER

entomology in 1953. He recently returned from his fourth tour of Africa under United Nations' sponsorship to develop education and research in plant protection in eight countries.

Known for his interdisciplinary approach to the scientific study of insects, Dr. Guyer received the MSU Distinguished Faculty Award in 1965. He played a leading role in establishing the Pesticide Research Center on the East Lansing campus and served as its director since its establishment in 1964.

## MFB PRESIDENT TESTIFIES FOR MICHIGAN MEAT LAW

President Elton R. Smith appeared before the subcommittee on Agriculture Research and General Legislation of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry in Washington, D.C. on June 14. In his testimony, he voiced Michigan Farm Bureau's strong support of S. 991, which would allow states to determine whether their meat inspection, labeling, ingredient and other requirements may be more stringent than minimum Federal requirements.

In his statement, President Smith said: "The maintenance of strong, independent and responsible state and local government is vital to the preservation of self-government and individual freedom. Destruction of responsible states' rights through coercion by units of higher government and the Courts warrants corrective action.

"The issue we are concerned with is whether my state, Michigan, will be permitted to continue its high ingredient standards for comminuted meats. Since 1952, Michigan's Comminuted Meat Law has permitted the use of only skeletal meat in comminuted meat products such as hot dogs and Grade 1 sausage. During the 21 years this law has been in force, Michigan consumers have developed a strong confidence in the high quality comminuted meats sold in the state."

Smith pointed out that Michigan Farm Bureau's livestock producer members support the Comminuted Meat Law even though it may not afford the maximum market within the state for by-products from the livestock they market. He told the subcommittee that producer members believe the image and public confidence the Michigan Comminuted Meat Law provides for the industry more than offsets the prohibited use of by-products.

"We do not quarrel with federal measures when there is an absolute need to establish minimum standards to protect the public," Smith said, "but federal action should not force a state with standards higher than the required federal minimums to downgrade those standards to the detriment of its residents."

Smith said that many federal laws have been passed or proposed to establish minimum requirements for state programs, but do not deny states the right to have higher requirements. He pointed to minimum wage and no-fault insurance laws as examples.

"We do not agree with the Court doctrine that the enactment of federal legislation pre-empts the field. Pre-emption of superior state laws will only serve as a barrier against the enactment of sound and responsible laws desired by those closest to the problem," he concluded.

## Canadians Visit Michigan Co-ops

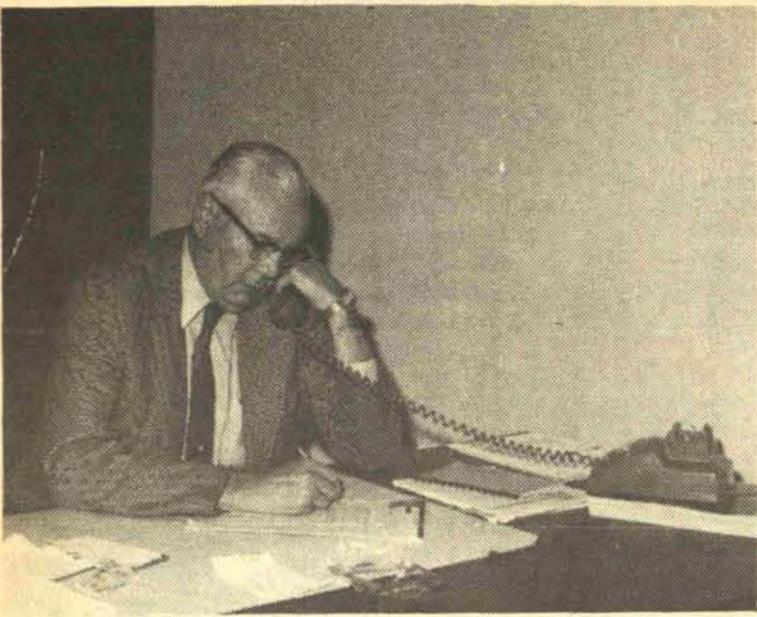
Approximately 30 managers from the United Cooperatives of Ontario, Canada, visited three outstanding Michigan cooperatives on June 20. The co-ops visited were Lapeer County Cooperative, manager Joe O'Henley; Eaton County Farm Bureau Cooperative, manager Harry Stanton, and Buchanan Co-op, Inc., manager Otto Jury.

According to LA Cheney, secretary-manager of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives, the Canadian visitors toured the cooperatives to review operations, grain handling, farm building and farm supplies, to get new ideas to improve their organizations back home.

In addition to visiting cooperatives in Michigan, their tour also took them to Indiana and Illinois. The tours in Michigan were arranged by MAFC and Farm Bureau Services.



# OSHA Re-Entry Rule Delayed



M.J. Buschlen, MASA operations manager, gets the latest scoop on the status of the OSHA re-entry standard, which has first ordered to go into effect June 18.

such an order. Agricultural producers were not advised in advance, consulted, allowed to comment, or present their views before the emergency standard was issued. On behalf of all agricultural producers, Michigan Farm Bureau took the lead and entered the thick of the battle to help obtain relief from this threatening problem, both administratively through OSHA, by appealing to congressmen for their assistance and legally through the American Farm Bureau Federation in the courts.

Through the AFBF, a petition was filed requesting OSHA to issue a stay of the effective date of the order. When no response was given by OSHA, the AFBF filed a petition for review in the United States Court of Appeals.

Space does not permit the inclusion of the full details of the standard. However, penalties for noncompliance can be as high as a \$10,000 fine.

As of this writing, an announcement has been made that the effective date of the order had been delayed. There

is an inference in the announcement that the order will be re-established at some future date and that during this period of delay, agricultural producers will be permitted to comment concerning any field re-entry standard.

M.J. Buschlen, operations manager of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association (MASA) urges agricultural producers to take advantage of this period and state their case because the new order may become permanent.

On June 18, 30 grower leaders met in Benton Harbor for a "strategy meeting" in anticipation of the new amended OSHA standard which the Secretary of Labor has announced will be issued. The meeting was called by the Berrien and Van Buren County Farm Bureaus.

Following the session, President Elton R. Smith issued a statement that Michigan farmers will oppose the imposition of an emergency pesticide standard and that Farm Bureau will continue to press its legal action in opposition to any emergency temporary standard if it includes a field re-entry provision.

Smith said that the advisory committee to the U.S. Department of Labor, consisting of knowledgeable producers, farm workers, and competent scientists, after extensive investigation, concluded that no evidence existed to support the issuance of an emergency standard. Contrary to this expert advice, the Secretary of Labor issued the emergency standard.

"It is evident that growers have been concerned and will continue to show concern for the health and safety of their employees, without the imposition of costly, unnecessary standards which have only the effect of reducing the efficiency of agricultural production. An emergency standard is unnecessary. It will impose undue hardship on growers and their employees and food prices will be increased, without justification," Smith said.

Agricultural producers, particularly fruit and vegetable growers, were alarmed when the United States Department of Labor issued an emergency standard establishing re-entry for employees in fields and orchards where certain insecticides and pesticides were used. The original effective date for the standards was June 18. Agricultural producers did not believe that there was substantial justification for

## Speakers' Bureau Teams Tell "Bread and Milk" Story to Urban Groups Throughout the State

Several of the Farm Bureau Women's Speakers' Bureau teams are "on the road" telling their story of agriculture to non-farm groups. Such a team is Mary (Mrs. Robert) Hiscock of Battle Creek, and her partner, Sue (Mrs. Paul) Wing of Bellevue. Their presentation, "Bread and Milk," has been well received by several urban groups, including the Bellevue Lions Club, where they appeared on June 5.

Approximately 40 business and professional men took an avid interest in the visual-aids and the facts and figures regarding food production. An exercise which involved various food items, such as cereal, apples and a cut of steak, brought out enlightening information on the local retail cost, the national average retail cost -- and the price the farmer gets for these products. Using actual samples for this demonstration, the team then awarded the products to whichever audience participant had them in their hands at a certain point.

Sue and Mary are enjoying their public speaking appearances and the opportunity of sharing their story with urban people. Both busy farm wives, they believe that telling this story is vital to the maintenance of good rural-urban relations, especially with current public concern regarding food prices.

Mary and her husband, Robert, who is president of the



Sue Wing and Mary Hiscock, Farm Bureau Women's Speakers' Bureau team, make an attractive pair as they present their "Bread and Milk" story to urban groups.

Calhoun County Farm Bureau, operate a 355-acre dairy and crop farm. Mary is chairman of the Calhoun County Farm Bureau membership committee and vice chairman of the Farm Bureau Women. She is also active in her Farm Bureau community group and is involved in many church activities. The Hiscocks have two children.

Sue and her husband, Paul, operate a 400-acre dairy farm and also raise beef cattle. Paul is president of the Barry County Farm Bureau, and Sue is active in the Young Farmer

Committee and serves as secretary of her community group. A registered nurse, she is also active in her church and 4-H, and serves as a Red Cross volunteer and Campfire youth counselor. The Wings have four young children.

Sue and Mary are one of eight teams in various parts of Michigan who have been designated "Spokesmen for Agriculture." The goal of the Farm Bureau Women's speakers' bureau is to gain a better understanding by urban people of food production and food prices.



Charles Otto (right), president of the Bellevue Lions Club; Burrell Bradley (center) and Leonard Evans, both past presidents, compare the price they pay for a can of peaches with the price the farmer gets.



Sue Wing passes out items from the market basket as part of the "Bread and Milk" presentation at the Bellevue Lions Club meeting.

### FARM FACTS

#### Farm Efficiency Climbs

An hour of farm labor today produces seven times as much food and other crops as it did 50 years ago. This enables the average farmer to produce enough food and fiber for himself and 51 others. A top farmer can produce enough for 200 others.

#### Inflation Hits Farm

Inflation has increased agricultural production costs by 33 1/2 per cent in the past six years, estimates a University of Minnesota economist.

# State's First Oil Co-op Opens New Facilities

## Branch County Oil Company Has Wide Range of Services

When the Branch County Farm Bureau Oil Company held open house at their new modern facilities recently, members who had been around for a while indulged in a few "remember when's"--memories which took them back to the early 1930's. As they toured the impressive, multi-service operation with its attractive offices and its 125,000 gallon underground storage tanks for liquid fuel, they decided their "baby" had come a long way.

It was back in 1931 that a group of Branch County Farm Bureau members pooled their resources--\$3900 and a lot of muscle and sweat--to get the state's first oil co-op into operation. Work bees and picnic dinners made it a real cooperative effort. Warren Dobson was the first manager. In 1938, the co-op became a branch of Farm Bureau Services. Earl Huntley was the manager then, and later he became the general manager of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., which was organized in 1949.

Kerosene was the big seller back in those early days of the co-op. It was used in kitchen stoves, lamps and lanterns, heaters, the engine in the "well house," and quite a few tractors. Two 600-gallon tank-wagon trucks serviced the local farmers then. One of the drivers was Bert Rasey, father of Claude Rasey who is now a district sales manager for Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. The other driver was Bill Armstrong, who later became manager of the Branch County Oil Company, and is now an FPC district sales manager. Bill, who started out dispensing his fuels with a five-gallon tin measuring bucket and a funnel, had the first measuring meters in Michigan installed on his truck.

The Branch County Oil Co-op outgrew its facilities in Batavia and purchased a 40-acre site with frontage on U.S. 12 in December, 1971. Construction of the new facilities started in September of 1972 and opened for business on March 13, 1973. The 120 by 40 foot structure, in eye-catching Farm Bureau colors, contains 1600 square feet of service area, a 1200 square foot office and display area, plus a 3200 square foot warehouse.

The manager of these modern new facilities is Clarence King, who has been with the Branch County Oil Company since 1964. No stranger to the organization, Clarence began his Farm Bureau career as a capable young president of the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau. In 1955 he became a

regional representative and served in various capacities for Michigan Farm Bureau, Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. Clarence is proud of the many services the co-op offers to farmers and members of Branch County, and of his employees who help make this possible.

Two of his drivers, Bob AcMoody and Dale Rubley, will exceed one-million gallons of liquid fuel for their third year. Bob has also been the top motor oil salesman in the state for several years, with Dale being runner-up on several occasions. The third driver is Richard Swift.

Serviceman for the co-op's furnace installation and fuel oil burner service is Jim Buehrer. Handling the complete "on the farm" tire service is John Pelmeur; and Lois Green, who has been with the company for six years, handles the office functions.

With the opening of the new station, Roger Smith, an experienced mechanic and service man, was hired as manager.

Members of the board of directors for the Branch County Oil Company are: Merle Donbrock, president; Maurice Arendt, vice-president; Marvin Wade, secretary; Gordon Albright, Donald Luxenburger, Marshall Fair, and Alton Wattles.



Proud manager Clarence King (right) and district sales manager Bill Armstrong decide these are better than "the good old days" when the oil co-op first began its operation.



Service is the key word here and the new facilities help provide local farmers with a wide variety of services.

## Farmers Come First for Limited Fuel Supply

Clarence King, manager of the Branch County Oil Company, always thought that the proverbial silver lining was supposed to be behind the dark cloud. Now, he's wondering if the inclement weather reversed the process. His silver lining -- the opening of the new facilities in Coldwater. The dark cloud -- an announcement from Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, that, in order to divert every possible gallon of fuel to agriculture, he would either have to close his station to the public or receive only a percentage of his allotted fuel.

The picture isn't all dark for Clarence, however -- he'll be able to continue most of his services, such as on-the-farm tire repair, furnace installation and fuel oil burner service, and hopefully, fill the fuel needs of his farmer-customers to plant and harvest their crops.

The Branch County Oil Company is not the only oil co-op to feel the effects of the fuel crisis. All locally-owned and controlled co-ops throughout the state were given the same choice, and all Farmers Petroleum Cooperative stations were closed to the public as of Thursday evening, June 14.

This action is part of the all-out effort by Farmers Petroleum to supply farmers with the necessary fuel to produce agricultural products. The company has also halted their sales to long-time non-agricultural accounts, even though they had been large-volume customers for many years.

According to Arlo Wasson, vice president of the FPC Marketing Division, things may get worse before they get better. July and August are the peak season for agriculture and for public travel. Agriculture's fuel needs will continue, but after Labor Day, less public consumption may ease the situation, Wasson said.

He also predicts fuel prices will go even higher. The availability of foreign crude oil and gas won't be much of a factor in Michigan, Wasson explains. "Michigan is at the 'end of the pipeline' and getting crude to refineries here or the finished product from the coasts is not economically feasible," he said. Regardless of what the future brings in regard to the fuel situation, Wasson believes the days of "cheap energy" are over.

He suggests that farmers, who have traditionally bought their farm fuels off the tank-wagons and used this gasoline for their cars, can ease the current situation by filling these needs at local service stations. "Every little bit helps," said Wasson, who is spending much of his time these days answering phone calls from concerned co-op managers throughout the state, seeking assurance that they will be able to meet the need of their farmer-customers.

Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz, at a meeting on fuel and transportation in Des Moines, Iowa, on May 31, explained why agriculture is the number one customer of the petroleum industry.

"One of the major reasons American agriculture is so competitively productive is mechanization. Huge diesel tractors, gasoline-fueled combines, grain dryers operating on natural gas, irrigation systems and farm trucks powered by liquid petroleum gas are just a few examples. Farmers also use about 2-1/2 percent of the nation's total electricity output, much of which depends on petroleum fuel as

the generating power," Butz said.

"Every American has a vital stake in helping farmers obtain the fuel they need to produce food for our tables; feed grains and oilseeds that are essential for production of more beef, pork and chicken; and cotton for our textile mills," he said. "Farmers, for their part, have an obligation not to take undue advantage of a situation where others are tightening their belts and making adjustments in order that agriculture will not be without adequate fuel supplies."

He encouraged farmers to adopt these fuel-conserving practices in their normal farming operations:

--Reduce tillage practices; don't plow if not necessary; couple machines together where possible to make one trip over the field do the work of several, such as disk-plant-apply herbicide all in one operation; don't cultivate unnecessarily.

--Keep tractor and equipment properly tuned for maximum fuel efficiency.

--Postpone operations such as ditch clearing and land leveling when possible, even for just a few weeks, until the

fuel situation improves from the present peak-use period.

--Work the field the long way of the field when possible, to cut down on the number of turns that result in inefficient use of fuel.

The USDA urges farmers to report any fuel shortages to local ASCS offices. Since February, the United States Department of Agriculture has been monitoring the farm fuel supply situation through its more than 2,800 ASCS county offices. Any shortages are reported immediately through state ASCS offices to Washington. A regular farm fuel situation report is prepared for Secretary of Agriculture Butz every week. Any problems that arise are forwarded immediately to the Office of Oil and Gas, U.S. Department of the Interior, for solution under the voluntary allocation program.

The voluntary allocation system, set by the U.S. government, has placed top priority on agriculture. Farmers Petroleum Cooperative has always placed farmers first. It will continue to do so, and diverting every possible gallon of fuel to agriculture is just one example of their efforts to accomplish this goal.



# CAPITOL REPORT

Robert E. Smith

## Special Environmental Study Committees

Early in the session, three special House resolutions were introduced continuing special House of Representatives environmental committees originally created a year or so ago.

H. R. 11 creates a special committee on air pollution, composed of five members to be appointed by the Speaker to function during the period between sessions for the study of the problems and control of air pollution.

H. R. 13 creates another special five-member committee to study the problems of noise "in all forms."

H. R. 14 creates a five-member committee to study

concern with respect to water resources which is "reflected in substantial increases in present and anticipated federal, state and local programs," and to study methods of conserving, developing and protecting water resources "for the most effective and equitable use among all segments of the economy and the citizens of the state . . ."

In each case, these issues could affect agriculture. Each committee is expected to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature for whatever action they might feel is necessary.

## Meat Standards Resolution

S.C.R. 128, introduced by Senators Davis and Pittenger, has passed the Senate and is now before the House. It relates to the recent Supreme Court decision refusing to hear the case as appealed from the Court of Appeals which strikes down Michigan's comminuted meat law.

The Senate resolution states that they believe "the high court over-stepped its authority in its decision striking down Michigan's 29-year old comminuted meat law . . ." It said further that the decision "takes away the right of states to have better standards, thus striking out at the heart of states' rights . . ."

It states further that the intent of the Federal Wholesome Meat act is "to up-grade requirements for those states having little or no standards . . . not to downgrade states like Michigan that have higher ingredient standards . . ."

The resolution commends Michigan packers for high-quality meats and urges citizens to read the list of ingredients. It also supports bills in Congress (H.R. 1752 or S.B. 991) which would amend the Federal Wholesome Meat Act to permit Michigan to maintain its strict ingredient standard for hot dogs, sausages and luncheon meats.

## Marketing and Bargaining Board Activity

Since the passage of S. 1225 (P.A. 344) last year, there has been a great deal of activity in the effort to implement the legislation. Implementation of such legislation can be very time-consuming, creating a tremendous amount of work in the development of procedures, administrative rules, etc.

There has also been legislative activity on this issue. Early in the session it was necessary to pass a Senate resolution to permit the Department of Agriculture to transfer certain funds in order to have money to begin the implementation work. This resolution, introduced by Senator Zollar, passed both Houses very quickly.

The selection of the five-member Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Board required a great deal of time. The Board was finally appointed by Governor

Milliken in early April and must be confirmed by the Senate. (Names, pictures and background information can be found in the June issue of the MICHIGAN FARM NEWS.)

Up to this time the Board has had at least three meetings and has drafted and re-drafted proposed rules dealing with such questions as the minimum quota of production of an agricultural commodity that will determine who is considered a producer for the purpose of this Act.

The Board also has the job of defining "perishable fruits and vegetables." In one draft of the proposed rules, 42 fruits and vegetables have been listed that could be produced in commercial quantities in Michigan. This number could be increased or decreased before the rules are completed.

The recent announcement of administrative and executive decisions at the national level deal with subjects which have received considerable attention by Farm Bureau during the last month. The administrative decision comes from the Department of Labor to delay its implementation of standards governing the time when farm employees may re-enter orchards treated with certain pesticides. Farm Bureau efforts were a major factor in bringing about this decision.

The executive decision was announced by President Nixon on June 13 and places price ceiling on all processed food products. While the price ceilings do not apply directly to raw agricultural products, they do represent indirect controls. Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton Smith wrote President Nixon before the ceilings were imposed urging him to resist price controls as a means to control inflation. Similar letters were also sent to all Michigan Congressmen. Both the President and members of our Congressional delegation were urged to attack the real cause of inflation, which is deficit federal spending.

Further details on the re-entry standards and price ceilings may be found in separate articles in this issue of MICHIGAN FARM NEWS.

### MINIMUM WAGE BILL

The House passed on June 6 a minimum wage bill (H.R. 7935) which increases both the general and farm wage rates. The bill passed by a vote of 287-130.

H.R. 7935 would increase the Federal minimum wage for agriculture to \$1.60 per hour the first year after enactment, \$1.80 the second year, \$2.00 the third year, and \$2.20 per hour on July 1, 1976. When the

wage rate reaches \$2.20 in 1976, it would mean that the farm and general minimum wage would be the same. The present Michigan farm minimum wage is \$1.60 per hour.

An important substitute bill for H.R. 7935 was narrowly defeated by a vote of 199-218. Supported by Farm Bureau, this substitute would have increased the farm minimum wage to \$1.80 per hour the third year after enactment. It would also have provided a lower minimum wage for workers under 18 years of age to provide them with employment opportunities.

H.R. 7935 is now before the Senate Labor Committee awaiting consideration.

### FARM PROGRAM

The proposed Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (S. 1888) has passed the Senate. This bill would replace the current Agriculture Act of 1970, which expires at the end of this year.

S. 1888 would establish a five-year program and require USDA to establish target prices for wheat, feed grains and cotton each year starting with 1974. For 1974, it is estimated that the target price would be \$2.28 per bushel for wheat and \$1.53 per bushel for corn. After 1974, the target prices would be adjusted to reflect farm costs.

Upon completion of harvest, the target price would be compared with the open market price during the first five months of the marketing year for the crop. If the market price exceeded the target price the government would pay no income supplement to farmers. However, if the target price exceeded the market price the government would pay farmers an income supplement to make up the difference.

The bill also provides for an increase in the milk price

support level to 80% parity, dairy import quota, extension of Class I Base plan authority, dairy and beekeepers indemnities, expansion of the Food Stamp Program, international grains agreement conference, a R E A P program limited to permanent-type practices and a requirement that OSHA hold public hearings prior to implementing any pesticide regulations. It would also limit payments to \$20,000 per farm, terminate the Wheat Certificate Program and require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide Congress with an annual report of the status of family farms. In addition to those listed, there are many other provisions which indicate S. 1888 is a very diverse bill.

Farm Bureau does not support the target price concept, international commodity agreements, and the inclusion of programs not already in the Agricultural Act of 1970. S. 1888 represents little progress in moving agriculture nearer to the open market.

The House Agriculture Committee is now studying the Senate bill and is expected to report a bill soon. There will undoubtedly be some changes made to S. 1888 by the House Agriculture Committee, but it is expected to be similar to the Senate version.

### MEAT STANDARDS

The recent refusal by the U.S. Supreme Court to hear an earlier Court of Appeals ruling which would force Michigan to lower its high comminuted meat standards has now focused the issue on Congress. Michigan's Comminuted Meat Law prohibits the use of animal by-products in most comminuted meats. However, Federal law permits the use of by-products and the Courts have decided the Federal law pre-empts our State law.

Legislation to amend the Federal Meat Act and give States the right to have higher ingredient, packaging, labeling and other requirements has been introduced. Senator Griffin (R - Traverse City) has introduced S. 991 and Congressman William Ford (D - Taylor), along with 15 other Michigan Congressmen, has introduced H.R. 1752.

On June 14, the Senate Subcommittee on Agriculture Research and General Legislation held a public hearing on S. 991. MFB President Elton Smith appeared before the Subcommittee in support of the bill. He strongly defended States' rights to have higher standards than minimum standards required by Federal law. He argued that Federal action forcing States such as Michigan to downgrade high meat standards is an infringement of States' rights.

The House Agriculture Committee has scheduled hearings on H.R. 1752 on July 10.

## National Legislative Notes

by  
Albert A. Almy

# Certified Farm Markets Reorganizes

At a meeting in Lansing June 4, Michigan Certified Farm Markets members reorganized their association and acquired their first full-time manager, James E. Lincoln of Drayton Plains.



JAMES LINCOLN

He and his wife and their three children will be moving to Lansing in the near future.

Offices of the Michigan Certified Farm Markets, a division of Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, will be located at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing.

A 10-member operations committee is exploring ways to improve and expand the organization and its services. Members of this committee are: Don Hill of Montrose, chairman; Pete Wiard of Ypsilanti, vice-chairman; Paul Friday, Coloma; J. W. Erwin, South Lyon; Mrs. Calvin (Lorraine) Lutz, Kaleva; Keith Moore, Grant; Jack Mowat, Adrian; Henry Nelson, Ionia; James Sayre, Belleville, and James Shelton, Niles.

Services available to Michigan Certified Farm Markets members will include an official emblem of high standards to identify MCFM markets, promotion and advertising, cooperative purchasing of supplies, and procurement of produce and other items to supplement the members' own products. Also offered will be market employee job training, management courses, assistance in design and layout of markets, and in accounting and records. Regular newsletters will keep members up to date on weights and measures, employment laws, zoning, taxes, and legislation which affects their operations.

Lincoln, who has been with Cooperative Extension Service since 1955, was born and raised on a farm near Greenville. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in Horticulture from Michigan State University. From 1955 to 1962, he served as a 4-H agent in Genesee County, and in 1963 was named horticulture agent in the same county. Since 1965 he has been the Eastern Michigan horticulture agent for Cooperative Extension Service. Lincoln has also operated a "pick-your-own" fruit farm on a part-time basis for the past four years.



Members of the Michigan Certified Farm Markets operations committee are (seated, left to right): Paul Friday, Coloma; James Sayre, Belleville; Don Hill, Montrose, chairman; Henry Nelson, Ionia; (standing) Pete Wiard, Ypsilanti, vice-chairman; Lorraine Lutz, Kaleva; J. W. Erwin, South Lyon; Jim Shelton, Niles; Keith Moore, Grant. Not present when photo was taken: Jack Mowat, Adrian.

## Three More Michigan Men Appointed to Cherry Board

With the recent addition of three new Michigan cherry industry representatives and their alternates to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cherry Administrative Board, the state now has a membership of eight on the 12-man board. Five of Michigan's eight representatives are Michigan Farm Bureau members.

The new members and their alternates are: Donald Nugent, Frankfort, a director on the Michigan Farm Bureau board, and alternate Norman Veliquette of Kewadin; Rodney Bull, Bailey, and alternate James Dittmer, Ludington; Vivian E. Dorman, Hart, and alternate Howard McDonald, Shelby.

These members' and alternates' terms will be effective through April 30, 1976. During their term of office, all cherry board members investigate cherry supply and demand conditions so they may recommend to the Secretary of Agriculture the total quantity of cherries which may be marketed during each season.

The board, which is made up of six representing producers and six representing handlers and their alternates, also deals with other matters involved in the administration of the Federal marketing order for tart cherries grown in Michigan, New York, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland.

Other Michigan producers and handlers now on the Cherry Administrative Board are: P.C. Morrison, Williamsburg, and alternate Dale E. Sequist, Sister Bay, Wisconsin; Paul S. Wicks, Dowagiac, and alternate Stephen Schafer, Bangor; John McCool,

Traverse City and alternate L. Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin; E. Walton, Traverse City; Robert Hutchinson, Benton Joseph R. Roth, Detroit, and Harbor and alternate Hugh alternate W.J. Wilson, Bengtsson, St. Joseph.

## Congressmen Brown, Vander Jagt Introduce Marketing Bills



GARRY BROWN



GUY VANDER JAGT

Congressman Garry Brown (R-Schoolcraft) has sponsored H.R. 1798, the National Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act. The bill would provide standards for the qualification of producer associations and define the mutual obligation of handlers and producer associations to negotiate in good faith regarding agricultural products.

Congressman Brown was elected to Congress in 1966 and has served continuously since that time. He serves on the House Banking and Currency Committee and the House Government Operations Committee.

Congressman Guy Vander Jagt (R-Luther) has introduced H.R. 6535, which would amend the Agricultural Fair Practices Act. H.R. 6535 would require that handlers of agricultural products bargain in good faith with producer associations for agricultural products produced under contract.

Congressman Vander Jagt has served as a member of Congress continuously since 1966. He serves on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the House Committee on Government Operations.

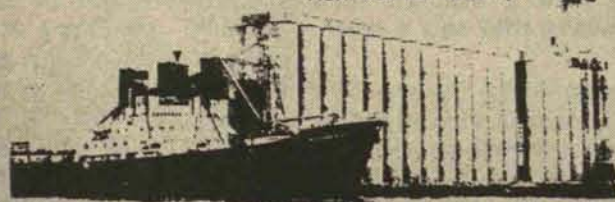
Other Michigan Congressmen who have introduced or are sponsoring national marketing and bargaining legislation include Gerald Ford (R-Grand Rapids), Elford Cederberg (R-Midland), Marvin Esch (R-Ann Arbor) and Phil Ruppe (R-Houghton). All of the marketing bills have been referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

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# Telling the Story of Agriculture. . . . .



"Have you had your milk yet today?" the cow asks this curious youngster at the Sanilac Women's product promotion, held at a Flint shopping mall during Michigan Week.

## Talking "Cow" Helps Genesee Hosts Urbanites

### Sanilac F.B. Women Promote Farm Products

A walking-talking cow paraded through Flint's Eastland Mall on May 24, inviting shoppers to visit the Sanilac County Farm Bureau Women's product promotion display, and asking young and old alike: "Have you had your milk yet today?"

The cow's friendly invitation was accepted by large crowds of urban people who took home samples of cheese, Michigan pea (navy) beans, and sugar, along with recipes using dairy products, beef, pork, navy beans, apples, cherries and blueberries. They also were "educated" by the toy machinery display with price tags representing the farmer's investment, and by brochures on the Sugar Story, "A Steer is Not All Steak," and "A Hog is Not All Chops."

"Our goal was to promote products grown in Sanilac County and improve the farmer's image by telling our story in a friendly, but positive, manner. This, I'm sure, was accomplished," reports Mrs. Wayne (Faye) Adam, chairman of the Sanilac County Women's Committee.

About 20 Farm Bureau Women were involved in the project under the leadership of a committee consisting of Mrs. Frank (Marge) Mezo, chairman; Mrs. Richard (Donna) Hodge, Mrs. William (Shirley) Stempel, and Mrs. Art (Laurine) Hooper.

The Michigan Week activity was "time well spent", according to the Sanilac Women, who are considering a similar activity for fall. "The expressions on the children's faces when the cow asked, 'Have you had your milk today?' was worth a million," Faye concluded.

The Genesee County Farm Bureau Women sponsored a rural-urban meeting on May 24 with 125 people enjoying an all-Michigan dinner. Attractively-decorated tables, with each promoting a different Michigan product, greeted the guests. Beef, navy beans, grapes, apples, cherries, peaches and other commodities were awarded to two guests at each table who were fortunate to select the lucky seats.



Donald Hill served as Master of Ceremonies and introduced the special guests at the Genesee Rural-Urban dinner.

## School Children Tour Wexford Farms

By Lennie Luther

The smell of grass silage, the touch of a new-born calf, the feel of power in a huge tractor, and the sight of life on a farm were a few of the many experiences realized by nearly 40 students of the McKinley School sixth grades in Cadillac recently as they toured nearby farms.

The tour was sponsored by the Wexford County Farm Bureau Women's Committee for their annual rural-urban activity. The day began with a movie entitled, "Food from Farm to You," after which Mrs. Leon Cooper, chairman of the event, and Richard Siddall, president of the Wexford County Farm Bureau, answered questions from the students.

The students then boarded a bus and headed for the farm of Mr. and Mrs. James Kohler of rural Cadillac. Farm Bureau members and parents of eight children. Mrs. Kohler toured half of the children, while her husband took the other half. She explained the parlor-type milking set-up and took the eager students to the "maternity ward" of the farm where the new calves were penned. The children were also allowed to swing on the

big rope in the barn into the hay mow.

The next stop was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Benson. Mrs. Benson is District 9 Women's chairman and Bob is a member of the Board of Directors for Wexford County Farm Bureau. A comfort stall type milking operation was explained and each of the children were actually able to pull the udder of a cow to see first-hand where that good milk comes from.

A demonstration was given by Mrs. Benson as to how the cows are milked and how the automatic cleaning system works after the milking is done. The Bensons milk about 75 head of cows. One of the highlights of the Benson farm was the new 4430 John Deere tractor with cab, which Bob Benson showed with pride, as each youngster was given an opportunity to sit in the cab and operate the levers. Bob's son, Bill, also assisted in the demonstration of the equipment.

The lunch, which was furnished by the Women's Committee, consisted of sloppy joes, potato chips, milk, ice cream, cookies and cupcakes. The milk was donated by Dean's Liberty Dairy in Big Rapids and the ice cream was



City school children were thrilled with a visit to the "maternity ward" at the Kohler farm, where they saw a new-born calf and baby kittens.

donated by McDonald Dairy of Flint. Lunch was served outside and the children ate on a flat-top wagon. Following lunch, Bill Benson gave the children a ride on a wagon, pulled by the tractor.

The next stop was at Grant Farms in the northwest corner of Wexford County, where beef-black angus-cattle are raised. The children walked back into the pasture with the cattle and calves and noted the difference between the dairy cows and the beefs. Dave Youker, manager of Grant Farms, answered questions.

The last farm to tour was that of Farm Bureau member Leonard Clous, who has a cash crop farm, raising corn and many acres of green beans. He

demonstrated the use of a disc and planter, and showed many other types of farm equipment. He also raises a few head of cattle and let the group take a peek at a calf born that morning.

The sixth graders were accompanied on the trip by their teachers, Mrs. Danny McSwane and Mr. Pat Bourassa, as well as Mrs. Larry Luther, county Farm Bureau secretary; Mrs. Milton Guernsey, county Women's chairman; Mrs. Ruth Cooper and Richard Siddall.

For many of the students, it was the first time on a farm, as most of them live in Cadillac, and all of them seemed delighted with the whole event.

Master of ceremonies for the event was Donald Hill, who also introduced special guests, including Senator Gordon Rockwell, Representative Loren Armbruster, and Representative and Mrs. F. Robert Edwards.

Speakers' Bureau team, Sandra Hill and Linda Jennings, created much interest among the urban guests with their presentation of "Bread and Milk," the story of food production and food prices. M.J. Buschlen, operations manager of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association, discussed some of the problems faced by farmers, including farm labor. He stressed the need for mutual understanding between rural and urban people, in a talk entitled, "Tell It Like It Is."

Invited guests included home economists from area schools, clergymen, and officers of local service clubs, such as Rotary and Lions.

Heading the various committees for the event were Sandy Hill, chairman; Helen Rhoades, Gladys Ames, and Edna Mitchell.



# ... Promoting Understanding and Support

## Eaton County Women Sponsor Farm "Tours"

Settle back in your seat and we'll take you on a tour of farms in Eaton County. You'll see cows being milked, how maple syrup is made, watch apples pressed for cider and a lot more.

With this kind of introduction, Mrs. Robert Harms, introduced the Eaton County Rural-Urban evening recently. Then with the help of eight other ladies, the 87 guests were taken on a photographic journey around the county.

Each lady came prepared with about 12 slides of her farming operation. She commented on the type of

operation, some personal observations, some of the pluses of being a farmer and a few of the trials such as milk inspectors, rain and costs. Because it was her life, each woman reached the audience with her sincerity and shared the joys and "non-joys."

Program participants were Joan Letson and Arlene Weaver telling about dairy farming; Joyce Haigh and Mary Stankey, maple syrup production; Rose Gardner, egg production; Sharon Murphy, hog production; Phylis Wells, sheep production; Ann Tennes, apples; and Nancy Harms covered beef production.



"This is a list of Eaton County farms you 'visit' tonight," is what Nancy Harms is telling urban guest Diane Brand, left, and Extension Home Economist Ora Cook, center.

## Benzie County Presents Award



One of the highlights of the Benzie County Farm Bureau Michigan Week rural-urban banquet was the presentation of an award for "Outstanding contribution to the field of agriculture." The award was presented to Fred Bradford (right) of Beulah by county president Owen Wright. Wright welcomed 114 people to the event, which was held at the Benzie County Central High School. About 80 per cent of the crowd were Benzie County businessmen and other area urbanites. Mrs. Elaine Putney was chairman of the successful event.

Larry R. Ewing, director of information and public relations for the Michigan Farm Bureau, gave the main address. He told the audience that with today's high efficiency in agriculture, one farmer is able to feed 52 persons in addition to himself. He stated that "food is still a good buy compared to other commodities, but it will never be as cheap as it was several years ago." Don Nugent, Michigan Farm Bureau director, pointed out the contributions of agriculture to the area, noting that fruit harvested in Benzie adds some \$15,000,000 to the economy of the county each year.

## Isabella Women Hold Smorgasbord

Isabella County Farm Bureau Women served their third annual Smorgasbord on Heritage Day of Michigan Week at the West Intermediate School in Mt. Pleasant.

Among the 300 people who passed through the serving line was special guest, Robert Willemin, state general chairman of Michigan Week, who commended the Isabella Women for their "outstanding contribution to the Michigan Week program."

Other special guests included Mrs. Leona Weeks, executive director of Greater Michigan Foundation; James Gleason, Michigan Department of Agriculture; Larry DeVuyst, Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors, and Mrs. DeVuyst, and Michael Simkins, Isabella County Michigan Week chairman, and his family.

Highlight of the evening was the presentation of a bevy of Michigan product queens by National Trout King, James Hughes, news director of radio station WCEN. Queens included Mrs. Peggy Kingsbury, Michigan Farm Bureau Queen, Alpena; Mrs. Sue Walton, Isabella County Farm Bureau Queen, Rosebush; Miss Barbara Christensen, Michigan Potato Queen, Edmore; Miss Janeen Shaw, Gratiot County Bean Queen, Ashley; Miss Mary Collins, Maple Syrup Queen, Shepherd; Miss Melanie Eberbach, Michigan Apple Queen, Ludington; and Miss



Pretty product queens were in attendance at the Isabella County Smorgasbord, including Michigan Farm Bureau Queen Peggy Kingsbury (right) and Isabella Farm Bureau Queen Sue Walton.

Roberta Centilli, National County Dairy Boosters Club, Trout Queen, Houghton Lake. State Highway Department, Department of Agriculture, Michigan Department of State, and local news media.

Door prizes, consisting of Michigan produced foods donated mostly by local merchants, were given at regular intervals during the serving time. Women from 16 Isabella County community Farm Bureau groups, contributed food and their time and efforts to make it a successful event. Other contributors included the Isabella

Mrs. Carl Buetler, Weidman, and Mrs. Edmund O'Brien, Mt. Pleasant, were co-chairmen of the Michigan Week Smorgasbord. Entertainment was furnished by the "Sweet Adelines," a group of 20 area women specializing in harmony singing.

## Gladwin Rural-Urban Attracts Large Crowd



A huge crowd showed great interest in the panel discussion on county and community planning at the Gladwin Rural-Urban dinner.

A panel discussion on Commissioners, and John "County and Community Planning" was the highlight of a Michigan Week rural-urban dinner, sponsored by the Gladwin County Farm Bureau. Nearly 300 people, Farm Bureau members and their urban friends, were welcomed to the Gladwin Intermediate School by Dolliver Block, president of the Gladwin County Farm Bureau. Ray Neville, mayor of the city of Beaverton, gave the response. Master of ceremonies for the event was Thomas McKimmy, Gladwin County Young Farmer.

Moderating the panel discussion was Arthur Whisler, chairman of the Farm Bureau Information committee. Also on the panel were David Mapes, chairman of the Gladwin County Board of

representative from Michigan State University. Hodge, who is a district leader in resource development for 30 northern Michigan counties, showed slides of the various large developments throughout the area, and also of areas where "urban sprawl" was taking place. He stressed the urgent need for townships and counties to begin making plans for their area that will adequately solve the problems created by these situations. In an effort to create a wholesome relationship and share in a common cause--the building of better community living-- the Gladwin County Farm Bureau sponsors this event annually, bringing together farmers, business and professional people.

## FBS OBSERVES MICHIGAN WEEK



Farm Bureau Services participated in Michigan Week observances May 19-26 by sponsoring a display of its agri-business activities at the Lansing Mall, a huge shopping center serving the capital city metropolitan area. The FBS exhibit was erected along with several other business and industrial displays as part of "Livelihood Day" ceremonies during the week-long state event. Viewed by thousands of shopping center visitors, the display showed how Farm Bureau Services supplies the needs of Michigan farmers in the production of food and fiber.

## New Manager for Stanwood

Steve Carr, former assistant manager of the Howell Highland Producers Cooperative Company, Association in 1967 and assumed the management of the Stanwood branch of Farm Bureau Services on June 18. Carr, his wife Rita, and their two daughters will move to the Stanwood area in the near future.

Howell Cooperative Company, under the direction of LaVerne Nelson.

Carr, his wife Rita, and their two daughters will move to the Stanwood area in the near future.

## MAFC MEMBERS STUDY FINANCES



The Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives (MAFC) held their "Financial Comparison Program" at Farm Bureau Center in Lansing on June 12, with 22 cooperatives participating. Three of the cooperative representatives are shown above studying the data from each cooperative's year end audit for the years 1968-1972. They are: Russell Lutton (left), Ypsilanti; Dick Labadie (center), Hudsonville, and Lyle Vogt (right), Coopersville.

The data enabled the managers to view changes taken place with their respective organizations for a period of time. The figures included volume, net margin, accounts receivable, current ratio, earnings on net worth, taxes and other areas which would indicate strong and weak points of the business.

Also on the program were Don Armstrong, executive vice president, Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, and Bill Callum, vice president, FBS Farm Supply Division, who presented the current outlook for farm supplies. Dr. Leonard Kyle, Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University, was present to discuss the "Changing Dimensions of Agriculture," which will assist managers in planning future changes and new services for their members.

## President Sets Safety Week

WASHINGTON, D.C.—President Richard M. Nixon has declared the week beginning July 25 as National Farm Safety Week.

In his proclamation setting the observance, the President said: "The dollar cost of rural accidents is high, but there is no higher price than the human suffering. This waste of precious human and economic resources must be reduced and can be reduced. The same energies and talents which have made agriculture so highly productive should also be turned to the task of making it safer.

"The unfailing supply of food and fiber provided by the Nation's largest industry, agriculture, has been the foundation of American prosperity since our country's beginnings," President Nixon observed. "The abundance on the farm, in turn, has been stimulated by constant technological progress. But the blessings of technology have sometimes been mixed, as each advance has also brought a new potential for injury."

The largest single source of income for Michigan farmers is milk. The average Michigan cow yielded over 10,000 pounds of milk — that's a year's supply for 18 people. Latest figures show milk production was worth \$283.4 million and we rank sixth in the U. S.

## Shepard to Head Feed Department

William Callum, Jr., vice president of Farm Bureau Services Farm Supply Division, has announced the promotion of Donald Shepard to the newly-established position of manager of the Feed Department. He assumed his new responsibilities on June 1.

Shepard has been with Farm Bureau Services and the Feed Department for nine years, with eight of those years as sales manager. He received both his B.S. and M.A. degrees in Agriculture Education from Michigan State University, and spent five years in teaching assignments at Byron and Allegan. Reporting to Shepard in his new position will be George M. Watson, nutritionist; Paul Mullineaux, production manager; Dr. James D. McKean, technical department manager, and Leon Everett, sales manager.

Watson has been with Farm Bureau Services for nine years and has a total of 22 years experience in the feed industry. His responsibilities will be expanded to include closer contact with dealer organizations in the area of local formulation and feed mixing operations.

Mullineaux has completed his fourth year with the company as plant manager of the feed mill located near Battle Creek. He has over 20 years experience in the feed industry with emphasis in production management.



DON SHEPARD

Dr. McKean's responsibility as staff veterinarian will also include the sales, promotion and distribution of animal health products. In addition to coordinating research activities for the Feed Department, he will also be responsible for quality control functions to emphasize Farm Bureau Services' commitment to the marketing of high-quality and top-performance feed products.

Everett has seven years experience with Farm Bureau Services, first as a branch manager at Centreville, then as a feed salesman and LPS specialist. He assumes responsibility for the direction of a nine-man sales force, as well as for the sales programs and objectives.

## Young Farmers Plan Fall District Meets

Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmer committees throughout the state are currently planning their fall district meetings. Highlight of the meetings will be the Discussion Meets, and district chairmen are expecting good participation.

Dates set for the various meetings are: District 1, November 8; District 2, September 18; District 3, October 22; District 4, October 29; District 5, October 1; District 6, September 12; District 7, September 13; District 8, September 25; District 9, September 10; District 10, September 11.

The District 2 Young Farmer meeting, which will involve the counties of Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee, is scheduled for September 18. According to general chairman, Jay Landis, the meeting will be held in the Science Commons Building at Albion College. The session will begin with registration at 7:30 p.m.

In District 3, general chairman Mary Weidmayer announces that the October 22nd fall meeting will be held at the Flaming Pit Restaurant, 3750 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor. Young Farmers in the

counties of Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne will attend the session, which begins with dinner at 7:45 p.m.

District 4 Young Farmers will hold their fall meeting October 29 at the Kent County Farm Bureau office. General chairman Dwight Nash hopes for good attendance from Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent and Ottawa counties. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. and refreshments will be served.

District 6 Young Farmer chairman, Robert Lutz, announces that their meeting will be held September 12 at Wildwood Farms, beginning at 7:30 p.m. This fall district meeting will involve Young Farmers in Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola.

The District 8 Young Farmer fall meeting will be held September 25 at Superior Dining in Alma, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Young Farmers from Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw will attend.

Further plans will be announced as they are made. In the meantime, district chairmen urge Young Farmers to circle the dates of the fall district meetings in their areas.

**Winter Wheat**

In Michigan in the middle of June the Michigan Crop Reporting Service reported the winter wheat harvest should include about 540,000 acres compared to 535,000 acres last year. The Michigan winter wheat yield in 1972 was 40 bushels per acre; the yield in 1973 is expected to be 39 bushels. Total production in 1973 is expected at 21,060,000 bushels compared to 21,400,000 bushels in 1972. The total winter wheat harvest expectation for the whole United States is expected at 1,315,672 million bushels. This compares to 1,184,890 million bushels in 1972. If realized, this 11% increase will be a new record well above the previous high of 1,218,000 bushels produced in 1968. The increase from a year earlier is attributed to more acreage for harvesting and a slightly higher than the December 1, 1972, estimate of 1973 winter wheat production. There appears to be a closely balanced wheat supply-and-demand outlook. The total wheat supply for the United States for the 1973-74 season starting July 1, 1973, is expected to be about 200 million bushels less than a year earlier. The total crop promises to be a record one, but wheat stocks have been down sharply due to unprecedented high exports this season. The total supply available for the 1973-74 season could run as low as 250 million bushels below the current season's supply. World wheat stocks have worked down to the lowest level in 20 years, and the population of the world has expanded sharply. World stocks of rice have also been sharply reduced. However, there appears to be a favorable winter wheat crop outlook in this country and in Europe, as well as Canada and Australia.

**Corn**

Wet weather during the months of May and early June seriously delayed planting in the corn belt and pushed cash and future prices up as much as 30 to 40 cents a bushel over May 17 prices; but later in the month good progress was made throughout the corn belt in planting. But a short crop this year could mean tight supplies and high prices for corn. This is balanced by adequate soil moisture and the high prices that curtail domestic use and discourage exports. As of now foreign demand for United States corn remains active and a one billion bushel export goal for 1972-73 should be attained without too much trouble.

**Feedstuff Prices**

The Government index of feedstuff prices, which account for 75% of the cost of producing meat, milk and eggs rose 30% in the first part of June and was nearly four times higher than it was a year ago. The index of feed-grain prices including corn also jumped 20% and was nearly double that of a year ago. The price of wheat in Kansas City

climbed 25% from May 1 to June and was about 85% higher than in June. The impetus for the booming prices came from overseas, where droughts and other calamities reduced grain and food production last year. Some foreigners think the United States might impose export controls so they're buying as much as they can, according to a grain industry executive.

**MARKET REPORT**

By Greg Sheffield  
Manager Marketing  
Services

**Beef Production**

Beef production nationally is still running about 3% below a year ago. Although cattlemen are expanding the nation's beef herds, the gains expected have not materialized. One beef official said beef output may only match last year, and feedlot operators are saying they may feed cattle to lighter weights because of high costs.

**Pork Production**

Predictions were that pork production would rise 6 to 8% this year, but now a 2 to 3% gain is more likely according to some experts. Actually, pork production is 5% lower than a year ago. The reason is some farmers are trying to battle rising feed costs by sending pregnant sows to market.

**Egg Production**

The national egg output is down about 6% from a year ago, and some egg farmers are said to be cutting back in the number of layers they feed. Higher egg prices are expected.

**Milk Production**

Last year there was talk of a possible milk surplus, but now milk production is running 2% below a year ago nationally and some experts think shortages could develop in the southern part of the country. Milk prices have gone up an average of 8% so far this year, but feed costs have risen more, causing some dairy farmers to sell their cows for beef and quit according to a Wall Street Journal report. In Michigan, 2,025,000 pounds of butter were produced through March, which was 34% below a year earlier and 2% below (Continued on Page 13)

**Farm Bureau Backs Feed Booking Guarantee**

**Feedstuffs**

**Michigan Co-op to Uphold Bookings**

LANSING, MICH. — Farm Bureau Services in Michigan has decided to hold firm on livestock feed prices established during its 45-day advance booking period despite recent sharp increases in market prices of high protein-type feeds and feed grains. Farm Bureau Services officials said a significant increase in the number of feeders participating in the booking program has been experienced each year it has been offered. Over the years in which the program has been in effect, feeders have saved an average of \$5 per ton in costs, but due to the higher ingredient prices currently in effect, and the volatile market conditions, the savings realized by farmer customers this year are as high as \$50 per ton, a cooperative spokesman said. "We feel that Farm Bureau Services decision to maintain the feed booking prices despite current market fluctuations represents a major advantage to our patrons," Donald R. Armstrong, executive vice president of the cooperative said. "This action is fully in support of Farm Bureau Services' goal of promoting profitable farm operations for all of our patron members." #

Hillsdale, Mi. Daily News

**Feed Program Protects Farmers**

Area livestock and poultry producers who placed feed orders last fall during the 45-day booking period sponsored by Farm Bureau Services will remain fully protected against current soaring prices. Janice Stuck, manager of the Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Hillsdale which supplies Farm Bureau Services feeds locally, announced that the cooperative will hold firm on livestock feed prices in spite of recent cost hikes for high protein type feeds and feed grains.

Jan said action by the cooperative assures farmers who took advantage of the booking program a savings of from \$50 to \$75 per ton on feeds. Farm Bureau Services may be the only major feed supplier which is holding its price line. Several others have discontinued the advance booking plan or shortened the coverage period. Under the Farm Bureau

Services program, livestock men who placed orders during the 45-day period starting in mid-September are guaranteed delivery of feeds at the lowest price during that period. The guaranteed price holds for a one-year period.

Where Your Farm Comes First

**Farm Bureau**  
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

Michigan Farm News  
**Feed Prices Reaffirmed by FBS**

Farm Bureau Services has announced a policy decision to hold firm on livestock feed prices established during its 45-day advance booking period despite recent sharp increases in market prices of high protein type feeds and feed grains. By reaffirming its firm pricing position on feeds, the statewide farmer-owned cooperative virtually guarantees lower feed costs for many livestock feeders participating in the booking program. Farm Bureau Services officials said a significant increase in the number of feeders participating in the booking program has been experienced each year it has been offered. Over the years in which the program has been in effect, feeders have saved an average of \$5 per ton in costs, but due to the higher ingredient prices currently in effect, and the volatile market conditions, the savings realized by farmer customers this year are as high as \$50.00 per ton. Many livestock feeders not participating in the Farm Bureau Services feed booking program now are facing substantial cost increases. At Chicago, corn prices have topped \$1.50 and wheat is above \$2.50 while soybeans reached \$5.00. Market sources say the higher feed cost prices reflect a late harvest and development of new foreign markets and extremely high domestic demand. "We feel that Farm Bureau Services' decision to maintain the feed booking prices despite current market fluctuations represents a major advantage to our patrons," declares Donald R. Armstrong, executive vice president of the cooperative. "This action is fully in support of Farm Bureau Services' goal of promoting profitable farm operations for all of our patron members." The Farm Bureau Services price-holding policy is in marked contrast with recent action by other non-cooperative feed supply firms which in many cases have chosen to raise prices and have refused to enter into guaranteed price agreements with customers. Along with the price stabilization, Farm Bureau Services also has pledged to maintain quality in all feeds. Michigan livestock feeders who have participated in this program, have given Farm Bureau Services a tremendous purchasing power in the marketplace and the cooperative action is thus able to achieve cost controls for patrons which otherwise would be difficult to achieve as an individual.

Michigan Farmer

**Advance feed booking assures year's price**

FARM BUREAU Services is offering again this year its advance feed booking program, a plan FBS officials say has saved livestock feeders an average of \$7 a ton in feed costs since they began the program three years ago. The booking period started September 11 and runs through October 31.

The program provides that FBS will guarantee future feed prices to November 30, 1973, at the lowest price level reached during the 70-day period from September 11 through November 10.

In effect, the booking program protects the feeder against any future price swings upward. The firm

price allows feeders to plan ahead in their own operations, and puts them in position to improve their banking position when they seek credit.

The program works because FBS, by knowing its feed ingredient needs for a year ahead, can buy these ingredients during the lowest-price period of the year—harvest. Soybean oil meal is the ingredient that alters feed cost most.

Besides offering the farmer a firm price known in advance, it also gets it to him when he needs it. Deliveries can be set up as needed.

Feeds available under the feed booking plan include 9 swine feeds, 13 dairy feeds, 13 beef feeds, 5 poultry feeds, 3 feeds for horses and 1 for rabbits.

Bay City Valley Tribune

**Farm Bureau Service Holds Price Line On Feed Booking**

FARM BUREAU SERVICES has announced a policy decision to hold firm on livestock feed prices established during its 45-day advance booking period despite recent sharp increases in market prices of high protein type feeds and feed grains. By reaffirming its firm pricing position on feeds, the statewide farmer-owned cooperative virtually guarantees lower feed costs for many livestock feeders participating in the booking program. Farm Bureau Services officials said a significant increase in the number of feeders participating in the booking program has been experienced each year it has been offered. Over the years in which the program has been in effect, feeders have saved an average of \$5 per ton in costs, but due to the higher ingredient prices currently in effect, and the volatile market conditions, the savings realized by our farmer customers this year are as high as \$50 per ton.

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# St. Joe County Site of Annual Farm Tour

## “A Family Approach to Quality Living”

Visitors will have the opportunity to view several of Michigan's most efficient farms during the 25th annual Michigan State Farm Management tour July 26 in St. Joseph County.

The tour includes a luncheon speaker who will illuminate this year's tour theme: "A Family Approach to Quality Living--In the Home, On the Farm and In the Community."

Nine farms will be featured - two dairy, two cash crop, two swine farms, a fruit farm, a rural resort and a horse training operation. Most farm hosts are Farm Bureau members.

Five farms are scheduled for morning viewing, with farm family interviews at 10:30 at each site. The remainder will

be visited in the afternoon, with interviews at 2:45.

Luncheon is slated for 11:30 at the fairgrounds in Centreville. The speaker is James E. Forster, DeKalb, Illinois bank president who is past vice president of DeKalb Ag Research, Inc. and a prominent community leader.

Morning stops include: Elwood and Ben Russell Farm, Inc., a family farm corporation. Elwood and his son Ben, plus two full and two part time men, feed out 3,000 pigs a year. In addition to traditional round bin and silo storage, they built a versatile 50,000 bushel steel building for grain storage in 1972. Their crop raising program boasts four pivotal irrigation systems on the 1,400 acre operation.

The morning dairy stop is Gleason Meadows farm operated by Henry Gleason and son, Jim. Their herd of 150 cows averages a little over 16,000 pounds of milk, 632 pounds of fat. A double-six herringbone milking parlor with automatic fly booth to spray cows at each milking should interest visitors. The Gleasons also sell breeding stock for export. Visitors may tour the farm home.

Grain farmers should appreciate Colombia (South America) born Emo Barney's one-man cash grain farm. Barney's yield aim is 200 bushels of corn per acre. Irrigating with one center pivot and two gun-type irrigation systems, he has already won awards for high yields.

At another morning stop, most of R. Dayton Hubbard's 415 acres of fruits and vegetables are sold through

his roadside market or by pick-your-own. He markets about 10,000 gallons of cider from mid-September through Halloween at his own cider mill. The Hubbard farm also boasts a packing area, 9,000 bushel cold storage and well equipped farm shop.

Also on the morning agenda is Mr. and Mrs. Mike Havens' horse training and showing operation. The young couple developed a 4-H project into a full-time career. They house and train 12 to 20 horses at a time and travel more than 30,000 miles each year to about 65 shows. Note also the Havens' lovely, old brick home.

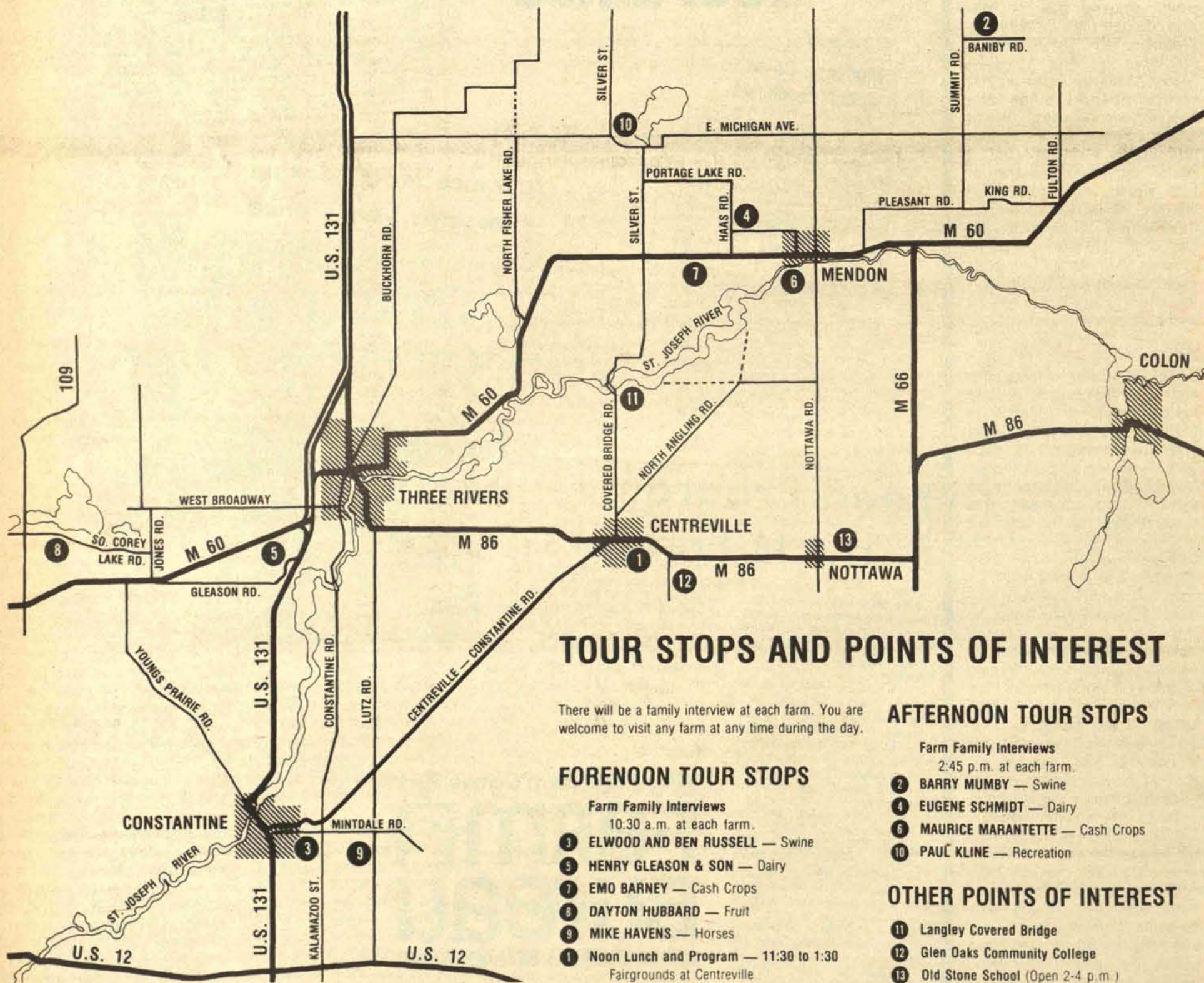
Wakeshma Farms, an 875 acre swine operation owned by Barry Mumby and his retired father, Robert, is one of the afternoon stops. Through Telplan management planning and evaluation, Barry has set an annual output goal of 1,920 hogs. He reached an output of more than 800 hogs in 1972.

Recently constructed or remodeled buildings and a lovely home highlight the afternoon dairy stop at Eugene

and Bethel Schmidt's. Free stall housing, cold enclosed housing, and a bunker silo are part of the 676 acre Schmidt operation. Visitors are invited to tour the Schmidt's nicely remodeled house. Bethel is St. Joseph County's extension home economicist.

Also on the p.m. tour is Maurice (Bud) Marantette's combination cash grain farm and seed and corn brokerage. Bud and Roger Gentry raise 240 acres of corn, irrigating with two gun-type systems. They also raise demonstration plots of various corn varieties. Bud handles Michigan Certified Seed (serving on the Board of Directors) and Trojan Seed corn. Visitors can view the outside of the stately 131 year old centennial farmhouse.

Paul Kline's Maple Shade Farm and Resort rounds out the afternoon tour. Thirteen family members help manage the farm, camping and mobile home sites. They provide a community building, laundry, bathrooms, storm basement and recreation area.



### TOUR STOPS AND POINTS OF INTEREST

There will be a family interview at each farm. You are welcome to visit any farm at any time during the day.

#### FORENOON TOUR STOPS

- Farm Family Interviews**  
10:30 a.m. at each farm.
- 3 ELWOOD AND BEN RUSSELL — Swine
  - 5 HENRY GLEASON & SON — Dairy
  - 7 EMO BARNEY — Cash Crops
  - 8 DAYTON HUBBARD — Fruit
  - 9 MIKE HAVENS — Horses
  - 1 Noon Lunch and Program — 11:30 to 1:30  
Fairgrounds at Centreville

#### AFTERNOON TOUR STOPS

- Farm Family Interviews**  
2:45 p.m. at each farm.
- 2 BARRY MUMBY — Swine
  - 4 EUGENE SCHMIDT — Dairy
  - 6 MAURICE MARANTETTE — Cash Crops
  - 10 PAUL KLINE — Recreation

#### OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

- 11 Langley Covered Bridge
- 12 Glen Oaks Community College
- 13 Old Stone School (Open 2-4 p.m.)

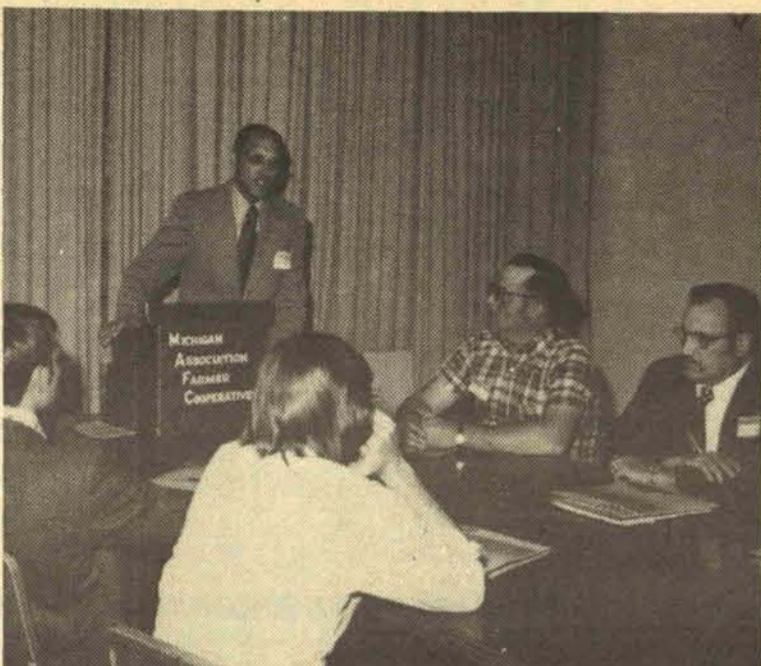
# F. B. Employees "Oriented"

Voting delegates, at the 1972 annual meeting of Michigan Farm Bureau, passed a resolution encouraging the organization to hold employee orientation sessions on a regular basis to create an understanding of the objectives and philosophies of the "Farm Bureau Family."

"The employed representatives of the Michigan Farm Bureau and all of its affiliated companies represent Farm Bureau in general when contacting members around the state and the public at large. Uninformed or misinformed employees or agents may contribute to a poor or weak image of Farm Bureau, either in answers given to questions or statements made to other people when the information involves companies other than their own," they said.

On the basis of this resolution, another "All in the Farm Bureau Family" employee orientation meeting was held at Farm Bureau Center on June 13. The largest group of employees participating since the project began was given "mini-courses" on all companies of the Farm Bureau Family. Eighty-four employees were welcomed to the meeting by President Elton R. Smith, who told them that Farm Bureau wants their employees to be involved, knowledgeable and aware of the important part they play in the effectiveness of the organization. Bill Spike, chairman of the state Young Farmer Committee, spoke to the group on behalf of the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors, and stressed the importance of being well-informed employees.

One new employee summed up the day this way: "I felt this was time well spent, and now I have a broader knowledge of Farm Bureau."



LA Cheney, secretary-manager of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives, tells the employees about MAFC.



Bill Spike, chairman of the state Young Farmer Committee, spoke to the Farm Bureau employees on behalf of the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors.

## GERMANS VISIT MICHIGAN



German businessmen visited Michigan as guests of Rotary International recently, for the purpose of studying American life. Here they learn about agriculture and Michigan Farm Bureau from Robert Braden (center, seated), MFB administrative director. The group's host for the day was Larry R. Ewing (right, standing), director of the Information and Public Relations Division. The Germans also visited the Grand Ledge beef farm of David Morris, MFB director.

# Wheat Marketing in 1973

By Dan Hall  
Manager  
Market Development Division

Wheat harvest is upon us again in Michigan, with the producer facing his usual decision of how best to market his wheat. Judging from what happened to the wheat market last year and what experts think will happen this year, those producers who store their wheat in '73 may be "way on top." In fact, in each of the last five years, prices producers received at harvest time were less than they would have received had they stored their wheat for later sale.

Some wheat producers are equipped with the necessary

on-the-farm storage facilities for their wheat crop. They hold their wheat hoping to out-guess the market as to when to sell for the best price. Of course, storage and interest costs are involved here, as is the risk of losing the grain due to moisture, rodents or other malady.

Starting in 1967, and each year since then, Michigan wheat producers have had a new alternative for marketing their wheat--the Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing program. In this program, all the producer does is: (1) Deliver wheat at harvest to a local cooperative elevator that is participating with the Michigan Elevator Exchange in the Farm Bureau Marketing program; (2) Tell the elevator employee that the wheat is to be in the program; (3) Sign a wheat program agreement and a delivery settlement form prepared by the elevator; (4) Receive a check for the advance payment after delivery; (5) Receive a check for the final payment at the end of the marketing year.

By marketing his wheat through the Farm Bureau program, the producer has several things "going for him." First, he doesn't have to worry about "out-guessing" the market. Rather, he has professional grain merchandisers who are in the market every day selling the program wheat in an orderly fashion. Second, storage worries are eliminated while the cost of storage and interest are held to a minimum. Third, bargaining for price is improved because a large volume of wheat is marketed by a single market agency--Michigan Elevator Exchange.

Last year, the program conducted its most successful marketing year. For 1972 crop wheat, the advance payment was mostly \$1.10 per bushel and the final payment was 77.5¢ per bushel. The total net return per bushel of participating members was substantially above harvest time market prices. Also, many producers who stored their wheat sold when the price increased the normal 30 to 40 cents after harvest. Program cooperators, on the average, received 50 cents per bushel over harvest time prices.

No one can foretell what the wheat market will do this coming year. However, the Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing program has established an enviable record during these past six years. It may well be that you could increase your wheat income during this coming marketing year by participating in the wheat program.

## MARKET REPORT

(Continued from Page 11)

February. American cheese production was 30% below March a year ago, and April milk cows on farms were down 30% below March a year ago, and April milk cows on farms were down 2% from a year earlier according to the Michigan Crop Reporting Service.

### Fruits and Vegetables

At the beginning of June the asparagus harvest was at a slow pace because of the cold, wet weather and was over one half harvested in the southwest. Onions and early celery were generally growing well in the west-central area. The planting of onions was finished in Jackson County, but lettuce planting was proceeding slowly because of cold weather. Early cabbage and tomatoes were developing well in Monroe County. Planting of other vegetables was slowed or halted by wet fields. The set of tart cherries and other fruits was highly erratic because of frost damage in the poor locations and unfavorable weather for pollination in some areas, according to the Michigan Crop Reporting Service.

### Supplies

Huge demand for supplies

has been keynote in all areas. At this writing, the full effects of the new price freeze are not known. Farm Bureau Services has been doing record-breaking business with farmers. During the spring season fertilizers were in critical supply, but Farm Bureau Services customers generally had the fertilizer they needed. Intermittent rainy weather slowed down some of the rush. With the rainy weather, calls for herbicides remained strong through June with a bumper crop of weeds. Farmers who booked feed with Farm Bureau are still taking advantage of what turns out to be immense savings in prices. Again, the tremendous value of booking with Farm Bureau cooperatively has been proved. The pressure for lumber supplies is somewhat easing, but many items still run short rather suddenly and should be ordered well in advance. Buildings are in strong demand, and all building crews are working to capacity from the Company's fifteen building centers. Shortages, apparent hoarding, and high prices continue to plague the farm supply situation.



All important civilizations were founded on the cultivation and use of one or another of the cereal grains. The early civilizations of Babylonia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome were based on the growing of wheat, barley and the millets. The ancient cultures of India, China and Japan were based on the rice crop. The Inca, Maya and Aztec civilizations in the New World depended on their crops of corn.

Cultivation of cereal grains began so long ago that their earliest history cannot be pinpointed exactly. However, they have been man's most important food plants since the dawn of history. The grains serve as food not only for man but for animals. Their unparalleled importance as food and feed, as well as industrial use, imports great economic value to the cereal grain crops.

Climate determines where each of the cereal grains can be grown. The major grain produced in Michigan is corn. Despite the adverse harvesting season, the State Department of Agriculture reports a 1972 field corn harvest of 142.9 million bushels. A husky twenty percent jump from 1971 which placed Michigan tenth among the states in field corn production.

While Michigan can't compete with the huge grain fields of the West, practically all the soft white winter wheat in the United States is raised in our state. Michigan ranks 18th among the states in the production of all varieties of wheat, with 535,000 acres producing 21,400,000 bushels in 1972.

Rising production costs, boycotts, shortages, price ceilings, transportation difficulties, weather, pests, and the ups-and-downs of the market all have a bearing, to some degree, on how grain is disposed of by producers. Among the concerns of farmers producing wheat and corn as well as other grains in Michigan, and about which there is much confusion, no complete explanations and certainly no easy solutions, is how to realize the most return on the money invested in the crops.

How to dispose of the grain for the most profitable price is a question grain producers have had to cope with for years. There are, as was previously mentioned, numerous considerations which, directly or indirectly, influence a producer's decision of how and when to market his grain to realize the best price. This article will only briefly discuss some of the alternatives.

#### Wheat Marketing

Some wheat producers are equipped with the necessary on-the-farm storage facilities for their wheat crop. They have the capability of drying it should the moisture content be too high at harvest time and they hold their grain hoping to out-guess the market and sell for the best price. There is also the possibility with on-the-farm storage of damage by rodents which can make the grain unsaleable for human consumption.

Growers who elect to sell at harvest time forfeit the opportunity to take advantage of any increase in price during the marketing year. Yet, many growers need to convert their wheat crop to immediate cash. Storing wheat for later sale provides maximum returns if growers can determine in advance the best time to sell. A wrong guess could mean a loss instead of a gain.

Since 1967, Michigan Farm Bureau members have had the opportunity to market their wheat through Farm Bureau Wheat Marketing Program

Members have the option of consigning all or part of their wheat crop to the program when their wheat crosses the scales at the local participating cooperative elevator. Participating producers receive an advance payment shortly after delivery and a final payment at the close of the marketing year.

Marketing of the program wheat is done by the Michigan Elevator Exchange Division of Farm Bureau Services, Inc. The Michigan Farm Bureau Wheat Advisory Committee, composed of twelve wheat producers advises on the marketing of the wheat. (Wheat producers interested in additional details of the program should contact their local cooperative elevator or county Farm Bureau secretary.)

#### Boxcar Shortages

There is a story which relates that Gordius, King of Phrygia, tied a knot which was incapable of being untied by anyone except the future ruler of Asia. The knot stayed that way until cut by Alexander the Great.

The nation's rail network has been similarly tied in a very tight knot and there are no indications that it can be untied or cut in the near future.

The shortage of freight cars has eased a bit with the opening of the shipping season on the Great

Lakes, but the fact remains there aren't sufficient railcars to meet the demand.

The Wall Street Journal recently reported that railroads ordered 14,006 new freight cars in April and as of May 1, the order backlog for new cars was 36,527. Regardless of what the contributing factors to the railcar shortages may be, the result of the devastating problem is that there are likely to be changes in the grain marketing pattern in future years.

Possible changes which have been discussed in some grain producing areas and reported by the Farmland News are:

(a) Refusal of elevators to accept grain from farmers unless the producer is willing to absorb possible losses should the elevator be unable to move the grain in a reasonable time.

(b) More stringent contracts with both grower and buyer. This would probably include a "boxcar available" clause which would free the elevator of having to pay a penalty for failure to meet contract deadlines if the problem is lack of boxcars.

(c) More use of unit, or split-unit trains for shipping grain. Using this method, smaller elevators could pool shipments providing they had a uniform quality of grain going to a common destination.

Last harvest season, farmers in many areas of the country were not able to deliver grain to their local elevators because the elevators were full. The elevators had the grain sold, but couldn't get it to terminals or ports because of a lack of railcars. Exporters have grain sold, but have had difficulty meeting shipping commitments due to lack of cars.

Unhappy as many people may be with the transportation situation, it is realized that the conditions have been caused by what might be termed an almost emergency situation. Relatively speaking, railroads are doing an exceptional job. There are still many inefficiencies in car utilization, but it must be recognized that railroads have problems, too, in union contracts and many other areas which tend to make maximum efficiency difficult.

#### The "Fourth Coast"

Michigan farmers shouldn't refute the value of the St. Lawrence Seaway for it is a direct route to foreign markets. Opening the Great Lakes in April resulted in an improved utilization of boxcars as the shorter distance reduced turn around time.

The Saginaw River, where Michigan's only two riverfront grain elevators are located, is not as deep as the rest of the St. Lawrence Seaway and other grain ports of call. Larger ships, those that sit deeper in the water, are not able to load a full cargo of grain and remain sailable.

The result is that more and more shippers, especially direct exporters, do not call at the Port of Saginaw. It's a matter of economics -- a two-thirds load just isn't as feasible as a full cargo. The entire state loses -- in sales and exchanges and in tax dollars which end up in out-of-state ports.

The shift toward direct overseas grain shipment as opposed to grain transfer from smaller lake vessels, has heightened the problem on the Saginaw River. So, while Michigan is a major shipper of agricultural produce, less than ten percent of our

# GRAIN HANDLING



## Discussion Topic

by KEN WILES

Manager Member Relations

exports are shipped via the Seaway because the Saginaw River is not deep enough for ocean-going vessels.

It was for these reasons that the delegates to Michigan Farm Bureau's last annual meeting passed a resolution which says that the Saginaw River should be used to its fullest and that Farm Bureau "supports deepening of the waterway to accommodate ocean-going ships."

With the growing international demand for grain, the importance of the Saginaw terminal to Michigan farmers is immense. The 1972 shipment mark was 34 percent greater than in 1971 and 67 percent over 1970. With a new record in sight for this year, the cost advantages of waterway transportation are a direct benefit to Michigan farmers.

#### Fuel Situation

The outlook for farm supplies of gasoline and diesel fuels is tied to the national situation faced by the petroleum industry.

While Farmers Petroleum Cooperative anticipates no crisis in supplying its farm patron needs this year, there is growing talk of possible gasoline shortages this summer. Even rationing is predicted in some areas. Several of the larger oil companies have put gas station operators on notice to expect cutbacks in deliveries. If this develops, it is likely to come during the summer months.

Whether or not shortages actually dry up some station pumps, gasoline prices seem certain to head up. However, farmers should be aware that due to the increasing fuel shortage, the Administration has used its authority to establish a voluntary fuel allocation program.

Under the allocation program, each refiner, marketer, jobber and distributor will agree to make available to its customers, the same percentage of its total supply of crude oil and products which it provided during the fourth-quarter of 1971 and the first three-quarters of 1972.

In distributing the fuel supplies under the allocation program, priorities have been established to supply certain activities. The highest priority has been assigned to farming, dairy and fishing activities and services directly related to the cultivation, production, and preservation of food.

#### Summary

Grain producers, like other farmers, face problems galore in the growing and harvesting season ahead. This article has only briefly touched on a few of the dilemmas which might throw the average businessman. It is fortunate that farmers have a special hardiness to help them overcome recurring adversity.

## Topic Summary

The Discussion Topic for May dealt with the subject of "Public Relations for Agriculture" and offered members an opportunity to express their views regarding the subject. As could be expected with such a broad subject, the suggestions varied on what should be done to increase non-farmer's awareness of agriculture's role. From the hundreds of responses received, only a few have been selected to indicate the general trend of the replies.

1. Please indicate what you think the current public image of the farmer is? Good: 36% Bad: 64%
2. List local projects or events of public interest which have involved farmers in your area? Meat boycott; Farm City Week; tours with school children; rural-urban dinners; service organizations; promoting farm products in local stores.
3. Have the projects or events listed above been helpful in producing a positive farm image? 97% of the groups replying thought they had.
4. What financial support should Farm Bureau members give to a program to create a favorable public attitude toward agriculture? Reasonable support; none; anything possible; raise Farm Bureau dues to promote farm image; use part of present dues; can we buy a favorable image?
5. How much use should farmers make of newspapers, radio and TV to acquaint the public with facts about agriculture? As much as they can; seems news media is doing better recently. How often should they be used? Often, daily, weekly; as much as possible. What sort of stories and facts should be emphasized? Human interest stories; cost of production; dependence on weather; try some sex appeal -- the consumer's need of our products.
6. Radio programs supplied by Farm Bureau are aired approximately 400 times a week. How many of your group's members hear them regularly? 33% of those replying stated they didn't hear or recognize the programs. 67% indicated they had listened to the programs on one or more stations. Surprisingly, more groups reported they heard the programs on WJR, Detroit, than on any other station.
7. COMMENTS: Farmer's image better than it was; surprised to know so many program by Farm Bureau; farmers should send farm magazines to urban friends.

## Medicare for All 65 and Over

People over age 65 who were previously ineligible for Medicare benefits can now enroll during a special enrollment period which will continue until August 31, 1973. The effective date of the coverage will be the first day of the second month after the month of enrollment.

The above persons wishing to enroll during this special enrollment must enroll in both Part A (Hospital) and Part B (Medical) of Medicare. The cost will be \$33.00 per month for Part A and \$6.30 per month for Part B. These rates will remain stable until at least July 1, 1974.

To enroll, the applicant must contact a Social Security Administration office. Second, they must be a resident of the United States and either a U.S. citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence who has continually resided in the country throughout the immediately preceding five years. Proof of age is also required.

Subsequent enrollment periods will be held January 1 through March 31 of each year beginning in 1975 for coverage to be effective July 1.

### Daisies Can't Tell

Growing plants don't know the difference between fertilizer elements derived from chemical fertilizers and those from organic substances.

And the American Medical Association says there is no basis for claims that organically grown foods are nutritionally superior to those grown by modern agricultural methods.

Dr. Ruth Leverton of the U.S. Department of Agriculture goes further in debunking such claims. She warns that foods produced with organic fertilizers can be the source of salmonella and other microorganisms that contaminate food.

Complementary Blue Cross County Farm Bureau and Blue Shield coverage will be available to those enrolling in this Medicare program. For additional information on the Medicare coverage, obtain this coverage, members contact the Social Security should contact their local Administration office.

## Discussion Topic Report Sheet

The Discussion Topic and Report Sheet for the discussion topic on the opposite page is furnished for use of community group members who may wish to review it prior to their group meeting. If used by a Community Group, in lieu of report sheet furnished the Discussion Leader, please forward answers with minutes to Information and Public Relations Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904 on or before August 1, 1973.

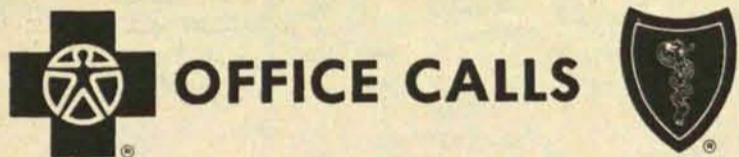
### COMMUNITY FARM BUREAU Discussion Exercise and Report Sheet July, 1973

Community Farm Bureau \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the number of people taking part in this discussion \_\_\_\_\_

### TOPIC: GRAIN HANDLING

1. Agriculture in the United States has competed effectively on the world trade scene. President Nixon has called on Congress to grant him new and flexible authority to impose export controls, particularly on food products whose prices might be pushed upward by foreign demand in this year of poor growing conditions in much of the world. Do you favor such action? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. Does your group favor import restrictions on (check those you favor):  
Wheat? \_\_\_\_\_ Feed Grains? \_\_\_\_\_ Fruits? \_\_\_\_\_  
Milk Products? \_\_\_\_\_ Meat Products? \_\_\_\_\_
3. It is important that agriculture obtain an adequate supply of fuel to produce necessary food and fibre for our nation. Have the farmers in your community group experienced difficulty in obtaining the needed farm fuel? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
4. The Michigan Farm Bureau Discussion Topic Committee will be meeting in August to select discussion topics for the coming six months. If your group has not already submitted their recommendations, list below the topics your group would like to have considered as future discussion topics.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## OFFICE CALLS

**QUESTION:** Now that eighteen year olds are considered adults, will my Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage no longer cover them at that age?  
**ANSWER:** Blue Cross and Blue Shield will continue to cover dependent children until the end of the calendar year in which they attain the age of nineteen.

# FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: 25 words for \$2.00 each edition. Additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12 or \$12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word one edition, two or more editions, 10 cents per word. Copy deadline: 20th of the month. Mail classified ads to: Michigan Farm News, P. O. Box 960, Lansing, MI 48904. Publisher reserves right to reject any advertising copy submitted.

### FARM EQUIPMENT

**NORTHLAND EQUIPMENT** — Dealer for New Idea, Gehl, New Holland, Jamesway, Kewanee, Killbros, and Bush-Hog equipment, Madison Silos. On M-72 West, Traverse City, Michigan. Phone (616) 946-9437. H. J. Witkop, owner. (3-71-37p)

**300' GOOD USED BARN CLEANER.** Chain fits Clay, Badger, Starline and others. 15 used Patz Barn Cleaner. 10 used Patz Silo Unloaders. Also new Patz Equipment. 5% simple interest 3 years. garden Equipment, Rt. 3, Fremont, Michigan 49412. (9-11-37p)

### LIVESTOCK

**FOR SALE:** 25 Hol Vac Heifers due Base Mon., 15 Hol open Heifers breeding age, 25 Hol Vac 400 lb. Ed W. Tanis, Jenison, Michigan. Phone: MO9-9226. (7-31-25b)

**HARLEY ROCK PICKERS.** Picks 1 to 16" diameter, dirt free. Rock Windrowers: 10 and 20 feet. Earl Reinelt, 4465 Reinelt Rd., Deckerville, Mich. Phone: 313-376-4791. (6-10-20p)

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

### LIVESTOCK

**FOR SALE:** Registered yearling ANGUS bull. Ready for service. Sired by MSU Freestate of Wye. 205 Day adj. wt. 567#, 365 Da. 900# actual. Michigan testing program. E.E. Ullrey, 1302 Chapel Rd., Niles, Michigan 49120. Phone: (616) 683-2583. (7-11-37p)

**MILKING SHORTHORNS:** Young Bulls, yearlings and calves for sale. Write for tabulated pedigrees or better yet, pay us a visit. Stanley M. Powell and Family, Ingleside Farm, Route #1, Box 238, Ionia, Michigan 48846. (7-11-33b)

### POULTRY

**SHAVER STARCROSS #288 LAYERS:** Available as day old and started pullets. This year, move up to the profit level with more marketable eggs. Call or write De Witt's Zeeland Hatchery, Box 199, Zeeland, Michigan 49464. Phone 616-772-4668. (9-8-36b)

**FOR SALE - POULTRY EQUIPMENT:** Kitson Feedliner Feeder; Kitson Pit Cleaner -- 10' blades; A-1 condition, Hart Water Cups; Hart saw Floor Slat; Standard Nests for 3000. Robert Schunemann, 15670 25 Mile, Washington, Mich. 48904. 313-781-4668. (5-11-35p)

**It Pays To Advertise in the Farm Bureau Market Place**

### MISCELLANEOUS

**"CHUCK WAGON GANG"** Records. Giant package. Five new collector's longplay stereo albums. 50 great old gospel songs sung by the original group. \$9.95 postpaid. Keepsakes, 202MF, Carlsbad, Texas 76934. (2-11-28b)

**STUFF ENVELOPES.** Average \$25.00 hundred. Immediate earnings. Beginner's Kit, \$1.00 (refundable). Lewcard, M392FN, Brea, CA. 92621. (2-12-15p)

**FOR SALE - USED RAILROAD TIES.** Fruit growers, lake shoring -- truck lots. Allen Waldvogel, Rt. 2, Manhattan, Illinois 60552. Phone: 815-487-3742. (4-51-19b)

**SPECIAL OFFER** — Kodacolor Film Developed and Printed. 12 exp. cartridge or roll. \$1.98. Send for free mailer. Cavalier Color, 1265 S. 11th Street, Niles, Michigan 49120. (9-121-25p)

**WANTED TO BUY:** Old catalog with farm implements, pictures of walking plows, or the oldest tractor plow. Please write to: Kass, Route 2, Brooklyn, Michigan. (7-11-22p)

### MISCELLANEOUS

**ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS** Ac and DC by Pincor. Tractor PTO. Portable and Stationary Engine Plants. Camper Units, Battery Chargers. Designed for Heavy Duty Motor startups. Also Electric Motors. Heavy Duty for Home, Farms or Industry. Discount priced. Decatur Electric Motor Service, Rt. 1, Box 281, Decatur, Michigan 49045. (5-41-48b)

**ANY MAKE WRIST WATCH** cleaned, repaired, parts included, total price \$6.95. Seven-day service. 21st year in mail order. Elgin trained experts. Send for free mailer. Hub's Service, 3855 Hopps Road, Elgin, Ill. 60120. (5-61-32p)

**AFRICAN VIOLET LEAVES** — Surprise collection freshly cut, 12 for \$3.00. Rooted leaves, 12 for \$4.80. Also plants. Mrs. Maxwell Jensen, 4090 West Barnes, Millington, Michigan 48736. (6-21-26p)

**COLDWATER DILLPICKLES!** Can in minutes! No hot brine. Delicious, Crisp. Factory secrets! Recipe \$1.00. Hamilton's Box 233-1317, New Ulm, Minn 56073. (7-11-20p)



**your farm  
environmental responsibilities.  
WE HELP!**

Broadening environmental responsibilities confront today's farmer . . . farm odors, dust, noise, hired hands, migrant workers, trespassers. We help you handle these responsibilities with a unique "Personal Injury Liability" endorsement to our Farmowners insurance policies.

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- Libel and slander
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You can't buy this encompassing protection package anywhere else. In fact, many insurance companies are intentionally restricting these coverages. As Michigan's largest farm insurer we think you deserve better. Your insurance needs are changing. So are we.

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