A map of Michigan’s railway system lay on the desk with black lines scratched across the rail routes that were already dead and Clarence Magoon of the Michigan Public Service Commission scanned it.

One third of the track could be abandoned in the near future - if you count all the lines that were considered to have “low traffic” with those that have asked to be abandoned and the track that would go under with Penn-Central reorganization.

And virtually all abandonment would affect agriculture, either directly or indirectly,” Magoon said.

After outlining the potential dangers of rail closings, a mental picture of the Northern Lower Peninsula was left unusually barren of trackage.

This “sleeping” problem that confronts Michigan was brought to the forefront of many minds throughout the Northeastern United States when Penn Central Transportation Co. presented its plan of reorganization which nearly amounted to liquidation July 2 in Philadelphia. Five more smaller northeastern railroads filed bankruptcy to compound the danger and people began to yell.

New York Farm Bureau President Richard McGuire warned that food prices in the east could soar 15-20% if the vital Penn Central link to the Midwest were broken. Porter Barnett, transportation specialist of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, thought the problem was even more serious, locally, than the DOT. The DOT would confront Michigan was brought to attention to help branch lines and get them out of slow return railroad bonds.

The Adams approach was to offer government guarantees to monies used for railroad maintenance, thereby taking the risk out of slow return railroad bonds. Porter Barnett views these plans as well as the Shoup plan as attempts to answer the “hot tin roof” of a new plan. Both proposed Core routes that would prune from the system 5,000-10,000 miles of railroad line, much of which would lead to rural communities and agricultural areas.

Under the ICC plan, the government would subsidize the maintenance of the Core route and would match private investors or state and local governments money dollar for dollar, for supporting branch lines.

A one percent tax on all surface transportation would supply funds to the program.

The DOT would, on the other hand, only offer short-term financing to a Core route, no assistance to branch lines and would add no tax package.

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There was a time when a public relations program for agriculture was completely unnecessary. The relationship between farmer and consumer was an eyeglass-to-eyeglass basic, for agricultural transactions between two people. It was a time when nearly every consumer had originated from the farm himself and therefore had some knowledge of what it was like to farm — or at least some pleasant memories of country life. There was no need to build bridges of understanding between the two, they already understood each other's role in the scheme of things.

Times, people and needs have changed. The exchange of goods for money has no longer a one-to-one situation, when the consumer now are distance, processors and supermarkets. The consumer now can have a quality, better price and a brand name in his food products. Farming has become a profession to meet these demands and the farmer of today is a knowledgeable businessman who demands a fair return for his investment, in his business.

For a long time, because of agriculture's fantastic efficiency, consumer and producer were great friends, no one thought much to its source. Public relations for agriculture was on the scene, but it didn't have a tremendous impact. It kept consumers aware of their rural neighbors, but it didn't really "reach" them. Consumer, like television, had become an accepted part of their lives. Most of them are watching more now than ever before and they are speed reading. Their cars cost more, so did their housing, clothing, medical expenses — and of course, the inevitable death and taxes. They grumb and pay.

Out on the farm, the same disease, inflation, struck the farmer — the same disease that's got great numbers of men going broke. If the farmer can produce the cheap food the consumer has become accustomed to — sprudled higher and higher. The farmer had a choice — go out of business or raise their food prices. Now the consumer can't afford the cheap food anymore and the consumer cried out in pain. Some rebelled with boycotts; others supported price freezers on food and a few demanded food price rollbacks. The result was disaster. Now they not only had to face the fact that there would be no cheap food — they also had to be concerned about food shortages.

In this environment of change, what are we as farmers to do? What are we to do about our crops and our livestock? How can we relieve all these pressures? How can we keep our farm business going? How can we keep our farms from being abandoned?

Perhaps if we can't close the highway, OSHA could see that the cars have the proper warning signs and have stations or rest stops where motorists could wait in air filtered rooms until all roads were posted and declared safe again. An alternative would be for the federal government to furnish suitable masks or respirators for those who are exposed to the highway gases. Perhaps if we can't close the highway, OSHA could see that the cars have the proper warning signs and have stations or rest stops where motorists could wait in air filtered rooms until all roads were posted and declared safe again. An alternative would be for the federal government to furnish suitable masks or respirators for those who are exposed to the highway gases.
Cattle rustling returned in a big way to Clinton County this year. 
With 12 livestock thefts since March 19, including 12 calves, hogs and sheep, the sheriff's department is finding it more difficult to make some arrests early last month and expected to make several more over the next few months.

Following up pick-up truck tracks from a home where six thefts, he reported, deputies arrived at a drop off point only a half mile away. The suspects that she knew of included a dirt road on the inside that would not be allowed to participate in the tour.

But it looks like they are trying to keep the small theater view to a minimum, and the job is not likely to be affected by the weather.

"We found" a group of cattle from five different counties dating back to November in the same size and weight, that they said they really a good time cattle legs and say they are looking for meat," he said.

The estimated current value of meat animals and poultry owned in Michigan, according to the Michigan Livestock Dealers License number. This license is issued by the Michigan Department of Agriculture to all livestock dealers in the state. The estimated current value of meat animals and poultry owned in Michigan was $200 million. Plants speculated that organized crime may enter the beef market field by November.

In order to help the meat producers in Michigan protect the value of the state's livestock, the Michigan Farm Bureau has developed the following list of suggestions for assisting meat producers in protecting their livestock.

1. Keep livestock out of sight from a public road when possible.
2. Disinfect and remove livestock chutes where possible, since it is almost impossible to load livestock on a truck without a chute.
3. Install outdoor lights and a round pen for livestock at all times.
4. Place unique markings on your livestock to assist in identification of the animals in a state of emergency. Such markings can be readily identified. Also, police agencies can more readily identify stock to support an arrest and bring evidence to court. Ear tag equipment is presently available for $25.
5. Check the many associations of which he is a member for advice on how to save money on your local area.
School Bill: a New Step

The new school aid law signed by Governor Milliken has been called "the most significant school aid bill ever passed in Michigan." Several changes are made that, over a period of time, change the course of financing Michigan schools. As signed, the bill totals $22 billion, which is about $14 million more than last year. One quite surprising fact is that nearly 20% of this total amount ($4.5 billion) will be used to fund the state's reforming system. The law also provides the largest percentage per pupil state aid increase in Michigan's history - 14.3%.

This legislation, known as the Burley bill, is a significant change of direction that had strong bipartisan support. However, many supporters also recognize if there is a desire to shift more property taxes to local school finance, it may be necessary to amend the Constitution.

Equilization

Under the new act, money will be distributed to schools through a millage equalizing program. This should help improve the quality of education, regardless of the district's wealth. In other words, mill of tax will be worth as much state aid and money in a poor district as it would be in a wealthy district.

Each school district will be guaranteed 84% per pupil in millage taxation for the first 22 mills levied for this year. The legislation is supposed to last for three years. In the second year, the guarantee will be 88%, and in the third year, 92%. These guarantees will persist with limited exceptions.

For the first time, in the first year a district with 16,000 or more of valuation of each child would receive $11 for each mill of local property tax. The state, in this case, would add $22 per pupil to bring the district up to the guaranteed level.

In the case of a fairly wealthy district with $8,000 per pupil in valuation of $8,000 per pupil, each mill of local taxation would bring in $20 of state aid. If the state aid were $2, the district would be as well off as if it were in a wealthy district.

Certain price-increase provisions are provided for schools that are levying less than 20 mills of property tax for school purposes. For purposes of distributing the increased millage higher than the 22 mills, each district will receive only the local revenue above that mark. In the first year, it is expected that the median levy will be under 22 mills. Within three years, districts making full use of the legislation, however, will have nearly 22 mills.

In addition to the "equal yield" provisions, a "degree" of change is also included in several features. Major changes in the funding for special education, the management of grants and development of local education have been made. The legislation also includes $10 million for the state grant-in-aid, an increase of $13 million.

DNR Commissioners Appointed

Governor Milliken has filled the two newly created positions of the important Department of Natural Resources Commission pending Senate confirmation. The Governor announced last month that he has named Robert E. Smith, chairman of the Mason County Farm Bureau, to fill the position of the West Michigan district. Smith, a member of the Democratic party, is a member of the Mason County Farm Bureau after 30 years of service.

More For The Millage

The Mason County Farm Bureau has been invited to participate in the program to improve the quality of education, regardless of the district's wealth. It will be able to provide its members with a greater understanding of the legislation and its implications. The program is expected to last for at least 27 years, starting in 1974-75 school year.

Elmer Fredericks, who recently retired as Mason County Farm Bureau president, explains the duties to the new secretary, Mrs. Ann Conrad.

When Elmer Fredericks recently retired as Mason County Farm Bureau president after 30 years of service, he had a memory bank full of experiences accumulated during his long association with the organization. As a young farmer, he had joined Farm Bureau in 1910. For seven years, he served on the local Farm Bureau's ASC program, and in 1941 became a delegate to the Mason County Farm Bureau Oil Company in Scottville. When Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., was formed in 1967 and took over the oil company, Elmer stayed on as bookkeeper. In 1963 he hung up his FPC bookkeeper's hat, but continued to serve as the county board secretary until this year.

Mr. Fredericks also contributed his time and talents to community service. He was both secretary and chairman of the Mason County Democratic party and a member of the Mason County Central School Board. He served for many years for the Township board as an elected officer, and was the Scottville City Clerk for two years. He has been a member of the Mason County Farm Bureau for 30 years and the Danish Brotherhood for 50 years.

Elmer, his wife Lilu, and daughter Cathy, live on a farm near Plainwell. The Mason County Farm Bureau has been invited to participate in the program to improve the quality of education, regardless of the district's wealth. It will be able to provide its members with a greater understanding of the legislation and its implications. The program is expected to last for at least 27 years, starting in 1974-75 school year.
Special Dividends
for Charter Members

Albert A. Albany '73 Farm Bill Enacted

Another increased, special dividend of 5% was announced as annual premium - for Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan. The dividend becomes effective Sept. 20.

Employers Should
Report Injuries

State law requires that initial payment of Workmen's Com-

pensation be made within 15 days of an injury. Failure to do so could result in a fine or im-

prisonment of a farm employer if Group executive vice president,

Policyholders. Which tells the ways dividends, now 55%, are based on

Bureau Life Charter policyholders

annual premium - for Farm

of insuring prompt benefit the greater, original premiums, an

Workmen's Compensation issue. However, the special

State University's Agriculture Protection Agency. This project

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sorship. Regular dividends are paid to

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Farm Bureau Life Insur-

Employers Should

sights was the small tin can that said, "We just speed up the process

demonstrating the development of the most efficient use of poultry

One of the most zealous plans at

Milk price support will be

TARGET PRICES

One of the most zealous plans at

Standing before rows of plexiglass

do this through predatory insects.

Standing before rows of plexiglass

The new farm Act also creates a

When Farm Bureau Life In-

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You may have guessed he would

Researchers at the Pesticide

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Agriculture certifies that supplies

When open market prices

If your area is not

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The target rates will be adjusted in

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The Michigan Farm Bureau

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Fighting Plant Disease:

Researchers at the Pesticide

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Multi-Fruit Prices Set

Low inventories, higher production costs, and increased demand will mean higher prices for Michigan-certified grower-members. MACMA is recommending that processors increase their processing plan price, as compared with 46 last year; 28 for peaches, and is offering double the usual rate for pears in the 1973 crop season at 8.5¢ per pound.

Not all the carryover of all processed stocks of canned and frozen fruit are at a very low level this year. The crop indicates that pears alone have the potential to double a larger stock position than last year; grapes, tart cherries, and tart apples.

Certified Farms, Broader Selection

The Michigan Certified Farm Marketing Association is looking forward to an increased selection of produce in their member roadside markets by making a growing number of products available to them this Fall.

Peach and cherry growers will be transported to markets across Michigan from growing areas where they will sell their products, and grower-members will be purchased from other areas. The Michigan produce market for the 1973 crop season is expected to be larger than last year's.

The quality of the products is assured, and it is emphasized by marketing officials that member markets must work together, despite these products. In August, PCFM shipments of various types of peaches will be shipped from the west side of Michigan to the east side of the state.

The peaches were tree-ripened, made into a variety of products, MCFM manager James Schaffer, chairman of the board said rules were now being reviewed by a legislative committee concerning farm aid, and amending rules, Schaffer said he didn't anticipate any major changes.

Even after approval of board rules, bargaining associations will be limited to a 20% increase that represent over 50% of a commodity's volume. For con-

Apple Reps Chosen

At the Processing Apple Marketing meeting at Spring Lake, Aug. 20, state committees gathered with representatives to the AAMA committee, they are (bottom, left to right) Howard Gilner, state committee chairman and AAMA committee chairman; Larry Leamon, state chairman; and Ray Anderson, manager, Michigan. (Top left) Perry De Kryger, state committee secretary, and Al Mandigo, AAMA representative from Michigan.

Market Picure

State Farmers Son on Nixon Staff

Leonard Seevers, a Hillsdale County Farm Bureau member, has become a VIP in his rural community. The son of a U.S. senator, he has been appointed to President Nixon's Council of Economic Advisors, Gary Leonard Seevers, 36, who has been a staff assistant on the council since 1972, will be the three-member council's expert on trade and international economic affairs. The oldest of five brothers, he graduated from Michigan State University in 1965, has a master's degree and a doctorate in economics. After graduation, Seevers worked for the Office of Management and Budget, the Senate Committee of Appropriations, and the Ford Foundation. He is married to the former Anne Murphy of Chicago. Seevers is the son of the late Senator John J. Seevers and the former Joyce Murphy. He is the grandson of Michigan's first congressman, Senator John J. Seevers, who was appointed to the Senate in 1913. Seevers' brother John J. Seevers, Jr., a former member of the Cabinet, was named to Nixon's cabinet as Assistant Attorney General in 1969. Seevers' younger brother, John J. Seevers, III, is a first-term congressman from Michigan's Sixth District. Seevers' other brother, Charles C. Seevers, Jr., is a professor of economics at the University of Michigan.

On Your Brutto

A new Michigan champagne, developed by the traditional French method, won the 1973 Michigan Bicentennial State Fair's Wine Department Award, the Year Award, Judging was held during Michigan Wine Week in Grand Rapids.

Warner Vineyards, of Paw Paw, took top honors for their limited edition "Michigan King," which is marketed as Warner's Michigan best wine. As the first and only fermented in-the-bottle champagne released, produced the result of over 200 hand operations in two years of age. The winning wine represented Van Buren County in Michigan Week Region 9 in the state contest.
The USDA has been adding up estimates for record-breaking harvests of wheat, grains and soybeans. They are counting on even more than they did in 1973. Harvests of wheat, feed grains and estimates for record-breaking which would be over 11 bushel. This cannot help but stir wheat was recently selling for $5 a year's crop of wheat, and perhaps corn, could dampen prices, but export restrictions can give farmers to greater wheat export. Such as the Soviet Union had seen to remain above $2 per bushel to a new high of 1.25 billion bu. The USDA looks for corn prices to remain above $2 per bushel through next year's planting season and soybeans in early August. Moisture supplies were adequate to surplus in most of the state except for the west central, north central, and southwestern counties. By the beginning of August, 90% of the wheat was harvested with rains delaying the combining of oats, rye and barley on many farms. At the beginning of August, only 10% of the oats were harvested; the corn, however, was developing well with about 30% of the corn acreage silked or in more advanced development by early August. Sugar beets and soybeans were doing well, and about 50% of the soybean acreage was setting pods. The condition of those dry beans, not hurt by flooding, was improved in some areas.

**SUPPLIES**

The fall fertilizer situation looks good with movement expected throughout the planting season and sufficient fertilizers available. Some transportation difficulties are anticipated because of the continued railroad shortage, which would worsen as wheat harvesting progresses. A rising market in seed wheat has been caused by scarcity in supplies of certified seed wheat and quality non-certified. Steel is in limited supply; both steel roofing and wire products must be ordered well in advance as delivery times are extended between 8 and 12 weeks. Imported wire products may not be available at all until late next spring.

All supplies continue to have about an eight-week lead time. Farm Bureau Services has sold and erected the new type Quonset steel buildings with many inquiries to follow up. While the removal of some aspects of the price freeze will be encouraging farmer production and purchase of supplies, Farm Bureau Services is committed to holding the line on prices to farmers to help curb inflation. Allocations to local dealers are on a 90% basis of prior year's usage which will be insufficient to meet the increased demand. Animal health products, and most pesticides have not been seriously affected as yet by shortages.

**DEMAND PULLS**

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U.S. Can Deal for Farmer

Many would like to see the EEC's adjustable levy system supplanted by fixed tariffs, but Don Konz, manager of the Grain Department of the Michigan Elevator Exchange, doesn't feel we're any closer to considerations from the EEC on those talks began in the Kennedy era.

"Unfortunately our strong market position coincides with a weak dollar," he said.

He said the French are in a controlling position in the international money market and don't intend to see their internal protection of prices tampered with.

On foreign interests, in fact, could press the European Wheat Agreement, which would set minimum prices of wheat according to world demand. This would be against US interests, he said, because of the predominant supplies of wheat.

"But it's been US policy in the past not to go for the price," Korn said.

Economist Schaffer with PD Committee: "If we don't negotiate for free trade now, I don't know when we'll get it."

Ag Exports Reduce '75 Deficit

Exports of soybeans and soybean products, at $3.1 billion, were $1 billion higher than in fiscal '73 and accounted for a fourth of the overall increase in US agricultural exports. Volume of bean exports jumped to a record $56 billion in fiscal '74 versus $46 billion in fiscal '72. Value jumped two-thirds to $2.3 billion because of higher prices.

Soybean meal shipments rose to 1.9 million short tons valued at $800 million. Soybean oil exports totaled about 1.1 billion lbs. - $40 million less than a year earlier.

Exports of animals and animal products were up one-third to a record $1.4 billion. Cattle hides rose to $275 million, more than double the fiscal '72 level. Meat and meat product shipments were valued at $307 million, up 29%.

Substantial increases occurred in pork exports to Japan and in beef shipments to Canada, Japan, and the Caribbean. Exports of poultry declined, but rose in the United States and to Japan.

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End of Rural Lines

(continued from page 1)
input from agriculture," Barnett said, apparently favoring the slower approach to solution.

A Bigger Problem
The Penn Central crisis is only the tip of the iceberg of a long-standing problem. A variety of transportation companies in Michigan filed to the ICC for abandonment of routes, and quite often those routes are the first to suffer.

"It's just good business to have an ongoing review of lines to see if they're profitable," Magoon said. "But Barnett feels that many of the abandonments are a result of poor management, rather than lack of business potential. "We've made studies that show that branch lines into agricultural areas can be profitable," he added. Pointing to Penn Central, he said the company had been run under a divided management since it was formed in a 1967 merger. Barnett also blamed the conglomerate system of management.

"The people who make the decisions for Penn Central aren't the railroads people," he said. "He added that the potential for inefficient business decisions causing profits to be drained from a transportation company into another business unit in the conglomerate were obvious.

"If you want pure and simple transportation," he said, "you must divorce the railroads from the conglomerate." The agriculture spokesman also feels railroads put the cart before the horse by expecting business input from agriculture," Barnett said, apparently favoring the slower approach to solution. The agriculture spokesman also

seminars

half of September to acquaint

during late August and the first

Bureau members around the state.

contacted but interested in at-

(517) 371-2200.

Today!

Now available at Kroger stores
throughout Michigan . . . "Florida's
Best" frozen concentrated orange juice
in 6 and 12 ounce sizes. You have
enjoyed "Florida's Best" citrus through out
farmer-to-farmer marketing program, now that some great flavor is available frozen from your friends at Florida Farm Bureau - packers of "The Good Stuff."
Women are currently developing plans for their district Fall meetings which begin in late September and continue through October. Designed to attract women who are interested in becoming involved in action programs, most district meeting agendas will follow the same pattern, with the accent on their “Answer Challenge Today” program of work.

Proposed plans call for reports from county Women’s Committees on their successes during the past year and plans for the future as well as a general overview of state and national objectives and activities. The meeting will wind up with the film, “Strangest Secret,” by Earl Nightingale.

Women are urged to mark their fall district meeting date on their calendars now and should contact their Women’s Committee for times and places.

Ottawa County Farm Bureau Women effectively illustrated that food is a Bargain during a commodity promotion at the Berlin Fair recently

Young Poles told the agriculture story to urbanites by showing farmers’ investments, a cost comparison of food and other products, production cost figures, farm efficiency and farm problems, farm landscaping, and adverse weather.

A miniature farm with price tags attached to the equipment was a revelation to the adults, and a live hen and her baby chicks were a delight to the children, reported Ottawa County Women’s Chair- man Alyce Heft. Recipes featuring pork, dairy products, vegetables and apples were also well-received.

TALKING COW
A walking-talking cow, passing out half-pints of milk in miniature barns, created much interest among the fair crowds. Furnished by Grocer’s Dairy of Grand Rapids, 1200 of the milk-filled barns were distributed by the friendly cow, who every hour drew big crowds to the Farm Bureau booth. Using the “you must be present to win” method, in the hope that people would return and read together, the women awarded celery, sacks of onions, blueberries, apple sauce, apples, juice, cherries, fresh eggs, canned ham, and coupons for ice cream. A clock showed fairgoers when the next drawing would be held.

City People Reached
The Berlin Fair draws heavy crowds from Grand Rapids and the processing plants. Following with the number of people reached with their project, “We wanted to create a friendly but informative atmosphere and I think we did. Many of us had conversations with consumers. Being able to promote our own commodities and reaching the public to tell our story was a satisfying experience,” Mrs. Heft said.

The promotion was also termed a great success from the standpoint of member involvement. “We had from two to six workers manning the booth at all times, both men and women—some who had never belonged to a Community Group or attended a Women’s Committee meeting,” Mrs. Heft reported. “They were willing to work and did it on their own. Some expressed a desire to do it again next year.”

Chairmen
Chairman of the various commodity committees were: Mrs. Ben Bosgraaf and Mrs. Gerrit Bolt, vegetables; Mrs. Robert Reister and Mrs.

...
If you don’t dump waste in the waters, you have to dump it on the land. County Farm Bureau policy-makers got to see last month just how you do that when the Corps proposed .78 - southeastern Michigan counties as dumping sites for Detroit waste water.

The passage of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act in 1972 adopted a goal of zero discharge of pollutants into water systems by 1978. It made the search for land disposal inevitable. Caught without a policy on the issue, county Farm Bureaus formed special committees on the subject in Buron, Tuscola, Sanilac, Lenawee, Macomb, St. Clair, Monroe and Washtenaw Counties.

The members of these committees, the MFB State Advisory Committee on Natural Resources and others met at Bailey to see what was being done and what disposal would mean to farmers.

The Farm Operations Manager at the site, Pat Lubischer, told the visitors he hoped to crop 6,000 acres or more in five years. He pointed out the system's future by irrigating the sandy soil with effluent.

Though current wasn’t flowing through the piping rigs at the time of the visit, Lubischer said it was planned that 71.4 in. of effluent would be sprayed on the land plus rain.

"If disposal land is going to be privately owned," Lubischer said, "it's important that the disposal system be designed from an agricultural standpoint." This reinforced his argument by showing the visitors the stink-pile land he was supposed to plant on. This was only one instance, he said, of the difficulty of fitting within a system that put agricultural considerations second to waste disposal.

Lubischer said farmers would be subject to rigid spray schedules and that existing systems would have to be completely redesigned to accommodate the volumes of effluent.

When asked about the Detroit proposal, the manager said that the system was feasible if more land was used than was presently suggested.

"Those areas they're talking about can't take 79 in. of effluent a year," Lubischer said. "Nobody would refuse another 20 in. a year and if the government installs proper draining systems it could take maybe 30 or 35 in."

He warned property owners to protect themselves. "Farmers should sign contracts and get guarantees from the government in case a crop is ruined under the system," he said. "Then an arbitrator should be obtained right away to settle disputes. Possibly an agricultural consulting firm will do it.

Lubischer admits that the effect of the chlorine that is required to be in the sprayed material under Michigan law is yet unknown.

Ron Nelson, Farm Bureau marketing specialist, raised the question of what market could handle high volumes of corn (the best crop for land disposal systems) if crop choices were available on large amounts of disposal land.

MFB President Elton Smith raised several more questions concerning policy.

Young Farmers Discuss Issues

Young Farmers throughout the state are testing thinking into gear in anticipation of the 1973 annual meeting. They will study four major areas of concern to farmers, seeking factual answers and arriving at personal opinions on issues. Entries in the state contest at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting in Grand Rapids in December must be submitted on an official entry form by November 15.

The four discussion topics are:
(1) What are the transportation needs of a modern agriculture?
(2) How can we improve and strengthen our export markets?
(3) How should agricultural land be preserved while maintaining traditional property rights?
(4) Land Use planning - can agriculture thrive in the future by irrigating the sandy soil with effluent.

The president urged committee members that they discuss who will control these challenges. For example, as they discuss who will control agriculture in 1980 and who will control government's possible role, what methods farmers will use and consider the market place including who develops and promotes it, commodity influence, the effect of domestic and world markets, they'll also explore the influence, need and desire of the consumer; take a look at agribusiness-the processor, handler and retailer, and measure the influence of the news media.

Manager Lubischer near waste lagoon: "The Detroit proposal could work if...

- Should we allow land disposal systems if the effects aren't known?
- Are there potential benefits to farmers with such systems?
- Should land used for land disposal be kept in private ownership?

The president urged committee members to resolve these questions and forward recommendations to their county policy development committees.

He added, "I'm almost sure we'll have a policy at the end of the annual meeting in Grand Rapids."

(See "Waste" page 13)

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**City Brought to Farm**

Progressive FB - Montcalm County - Due to the increasing number of highway accidents involving farm equipment and vehicles after consuming alcoholic beverages, all drivers of registered farm vehicles are given special chances to prepare themselves for decisions they will have to make over the next two months.

The Eighth annual MFB Policy Development Conference was held in Lansing Aug. 30, with representatives from various county committees attending. MFB President Elton H. Smith opened the conference by defining its purpose in his talk "Improving Our Policy Department."

William Moss, president of the Detroit Edison Co., made a special presentation on the energy crisis, following a talk about energy conservation by Karl Bosford of the Department of Natural Resources. Representatives from every county took part in a round table on State Policy Development Committee met for the first time at the Farm Bureau Center in Lansing. There they met with three members of the MFB State Policy Development Committee.

One of the major questions before the committee is the need for a State Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University for a briefing on state and international economic situations.

The questions not only asked the participation of farmers concerning possible legislation, but what their reactions would be to situations caused by legislation, such as that concerning unemployment insurance.

August was a big month for state and local Farm Bureau policy-makers. They were given special chances to prepare themselves for decisions they will have to make over the next two months.

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**PD Committee Heers Experts**

**Community Pulse**

Mt. Joy FB - Alcona County - Widows and widowers' Farm Bureau dues should be reduced by half, the following reasons: only half the benefits of Farm Bureau services were denied this year (petroleum); and household costs for food, fuel, taxes, insurance, utilities, etc. are as much for an individual as a large family.

Mill-Ar FB - Tuscola County - Truck lines should have proper markings for parking and driving. Only property owners should vote on matters concerning taxes.
**Dear OSHA: No Emergency Exists**

**Lecturer and Author, Borgstrom: We have not really addressed ourselves to providing cheap food because there is no money in it.** Photo by Dick Wesley

The following is a synopsis of the testimony given on behalf of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association (MASA), a group of farm employers, at a Department of Labor hearing in Washington, D.C., Aug. 28.

**Growers Testimony**

Ken Bull testified that he had lived all of his 64 years in an orchard, raised four children in the same orchard, and that none of his family had ever been affected by any spray drift or residue.

"Granted, we took ordinary precautions before re-entering an orchard, but there was no hysterics about spray materials."

Bull employed seven regular and up to 150 seasonal workers each year and said that to his knowledge "no one of his seasonal workers or any member of their families has ever been ill or harmed in any way by working in the orchards immediately after spraying applications."

I know that pesticides are poisonous and therefore I use them accordingly and instruct anyone who is using them to follow the manufacturer's recommendations which have been approved by USDA, FDA, and EPA," Bull testified. "It is necessary for our regular labor to be in the orchards every day during the growing season—pruning the trees, removing the brush, cutting the grass and tending the fruit so that the consumer can be assured of getting the kind of clean, worm-free fruit of the size and quality that they can use. Our employees could not keep up with this work if they were kept out of the orchards for three days following each spray period.

"Furthermore, they would lose wages during these periods of non-work which would create an extreme financial hardship on these employees. My employees would quit if I did not give them continuous employment. It is ridiculous to assume that you can hire a man to work every third day."

"I could not be in compliance with this proposed standard and continue my operation," he said. "It is quite evident that whoever formulated this OSHA standard must have done so without any practical or scientific knowledge of how fruit is produced in Michigan, or anywhere else for that matter."

Bull also testified that his employees would refuse to wear the protective clothing and respirator as outlined by OSHA because "they learn from experience that no danger exists and protective clothing is extremely unnecessary, and such protective clothing would be too hot, constrictive and uncomfortable in normal summer weather."

"This is a further barrassment of agriculture that can only be reflected in the cost of living," Bull said. "Not only are we confronted with the extremely provocative ravages of the elements, dry weather, wet weather, extremely hot and cold weather, hail, floods, but the added discouragement of food boycotts, strikes and highest property taxes that have ever been known."

"Already, millions of farmers have given up the struggle to go into almost anything that has less headaches and more profit. Any more regulations than we already have to live with would be just too much for many orchardists who are struggling to keep their heads above water now," he concluded.

**Workers Speak**

Bull also submitted testimony from three agricultural employees, including Frank Veale, a crew leader for farm labor for 18 years. Veale said, "The farmers and orchardists use the orchards the day after spraying operations and in 18 years, none of my crew has ever become sick or showed any ill effects from any of the pesticides used in the orchards."

"As a crew leader, I have acquired in 80 to 90 degree weather with this additional burden. It would be unbearable."

"If OSHA regulates became effective pertaining to re-entry, I would have to fire my crew leader. This would deprive 25 to 30 families of year-round employment and livelihood. Many of these people could not find work any other way as they have not been trained, and many would not like to be confined to indoor work."

Arthur Dowd, who operates Dowd Orchard Inc., with his three sons and son-in-law, on the original land which his great grandfather acquired in 1844, pointed to the good health and longevity of the generations who have been his family. The Dowds have nine full-time employees and live-in family members who have been employed in the orchards the day after spraying operations, and "as far as I know from experience that no one in my crew who would wear the hot, restrictive rubber clothes as demanded by OSHA because they could not stand to work in the fields and orchards and under these weather conditions and competitive edge. And this is why large areas now cannot be grown without addition defoliants. We threw this all overboard and put it all in artificial fertilizers. This is another of these fundamental mistakes we've made in agriculture."

"Here we think we're so damn clever that we are putting in all of the energy in our farm employers, at a Department of Labor hearing in Washington, D.C."

"Many ancient civilizations have grown rice for hundreds of years without any added nitrogen, higher than the sun and man's. But they worked together with nature nitrogen-fixing soil organisms. We've tried to adhere to artificial fertilizers and we think we're so damn clever. In many instances we've knocked out the nitrogen of nature."

"Artificial fertilizers are costly in terms of energy. It takes five tons of coal to make one ton of nitric acid for fertilizer. And how much does it take to make one ton of nitric acid? Nine-tenths of our corn is used for animal feed in America."

"China has three times more farms than the United States and it is easy to discover the whole reason why hogs in China are not consuming as much as in the United States. The farmers in China feed on human sewage, kitchen waste and food and water. People there are tremendous machinery for producing and much more efficient than our own sewage systems."

"If you go to an Indian vegetable market in India, you don't need swimming. The cows and other animals turn it into milk and dung."

**Workers Speak**

"Furthermore, there will be a tremendous increase in the production of wine and other beverages because of the increased demand for grapes growing on the same tract of land."

"If it is necessary to remove all our small blocks that are inter-planted with fruit trees for pollination and are greatly reduced and it is difficult to be made from them, it is a costly and profitable manner. Certainly our cost of production will be greatly increased. No artificial fertilizers available for the market will be greatly reduced. We cannot believe that at this time anyone wants to either decrease the nation's food supply or increase its cost," he said.

**Lecturer and Author, Borgstrom: We have not really addressed ourselves to providing cheap food because there is no money in it.** Photo by Dick Wesley
Painless Purchase

If you ever watch TV you may see the monthly food bill com­ comparisons where the price of a bag of groceries for the previous month is flashed on the screen while viewers wait in suspense as this month's bill is tallied on the cash register. The homemakers moan and the farmers cry, "Why pick on us? Why not the cost of Aluminum siding or rayon sweaters or rubber cement?"

The problem is that consumers spend residual dollars on food," says Dr. John Allen, a food systems management professor at Michigan State University. "These are dollars left over after other committed payments are made. Handling over that money is an emotional and sometimes difficult experience for the homemaker going through this wringer at least once a week."

The fact is that food purchases may be the last great action of cash buying in this country. Other goods and services have become more attractive and easier to get through the painless purchase of credit buying. A flash of the credit card and an item is yours with payments spread thinly or com­ pletely delayed leaving the buyer comfortable, for the time being.

Food buying is a different scene. Shoppers have one eye on the cash register and one on their wallet counting every dollar. The way out of the problem of scarce dollars on food prices seems to suggest itself. Make food buying just as painless as buying anything else. Let people cash in on credit so that they can carry the food and ignore the problem of paying for it at that time. With such a system food buyers would possibly take less notice of the rising prices of food.

In a situation where under credit buying, the pressure on retailers, farmers and government could be scaled down. If we were under a credit system today maybe there would be no need to worry about rising food prices. Family nutrition might improve. Dear Dr. Allen pointed out his distress at the thought that people may be skimping on nutrition to buy food. He has an answer, and it is cash at the checkout. "We know now," he said, "that the state of one's nutrition affects the state of one's education and the development of children to learn and develop their minds."

However, Allen fears that applying credit to food may cause serious harm to the nutrition-conscious consumer due to additional costs of credit and the resulting pressure of repaying behind in the payment of bills. Store managers readily admit that the use of bank cards in these stores costs them money and since the mark up of food is so small they cannot absorb this expense without raising prices significantly.

Another suggestion of families charging 20-35% of their income on food could be frightening when considering that the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland stated that losses on bank cards typically occur on the average between $3.18 and $11.73 per account in the third quarter of 1972.

One Stop Buying

Forces may yet lead to credit in food stores, however. The advent of general automation, new food with hardware and nearly everything else a person needs under one roof; plastic credit and cash purchases side by side.

The factor that makes credit cards in high paying food purchases a big win is the new computerized checkout system. The system is designed to keep developers constantly on their toes. On checkout mistakes and speed up service by having food items and their prices scanned and recorded on tape, allowing the price to a buyers credit card number.

Retailers have already arrived at the check out line with the Universal Product Code that will be a requirement for all stores and the code may start appearing on food by late summer. How popular will the food price under this system depend on the payments will be allowed to be deferred or will be withdrawn from checking accounts overnight by electronic transfer of funds.

More Productivity

The biggest advantage to the computerization of buying food. A pilot program using the com­ puterization of food in one state found a great increase in ef­ ficiency. The possibility arises that the efficiency of uses of the computer could offset the costs of a credit plan in food stores.

The success of a computer system is "fly" as a working model. Of 10,000 families surveyed, 95% would use it. The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland stated that losses on bank cards typically occur on the average between $3.18 and $11.73 per account in the third quarter of 1972.

The raw wastewater at the Muskegon wastewater management site is churned to allow bacteria to break it down biologically before it is piped to a storage lagoon.

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Waste at Work

Dr. Reddy also pointed out that bacteria cells in the Bactolac can be used as protein supplement for humans.

The whey product may be in production in 12 months. Hopefully it will mean a dairy industry that remains strong and gains even more income, lower costs for cattle feeders, more food for humans and lots of friends for Drs. Reddy and Henderson.

The effluent is sprayed while electric motors send the rigs around the pivot point, making a huge swath for irrigation.
October 1, 1973 is the effective date for sweeping legislation that will touch every Michigan driver—No-Fault auto insurance. Enacted by the State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Reagan, it will win No-Fault for you or us! Let's reach the starting point—1886 when selective options were first taken seriously enough to introduce auto insurance.

A lot of peripheral auto insurance changes have occurred since 1886. But, the insurance industry, rooted in British law, remains the same: Victims of accidents involving two or more people must prove who was at fault before they can recover any money from the "at fault" person's insurance company. This burden of proof often resulted in court litigation lasting months, even years.

In 1966, Robert Keeton (Harvard Law School) and Jeffrey O'Connell (University of Illinois Law School) published "Basic Protection for the Traffic Victim," which catapulted them, and the concept of No-Fault auto insurance, into national prominence. Keeton and O'Connell's "Keeotan O'Connell Plan" was dubbed a winner by many lawmakers, reformers, and consumers. Strong opposition, however, was lodged by trial lawyers who, estimates reveal, earn up to $1 million annually from auto-insurance litigation.

Massachusetts Experience

After years of being caused and discussed, Massachusetts became the first state to adopt a mandatory No-Fault auto insurance law on January 1, 1968. After two years' experience, Massachusetts has produced some interesting auto-insurance results.

Generally, Bodily injury coverage rate reductions have been offset by increases in liability coverage rates. In Massachusetts, the No-Fault law is credited with effecting a large number of bodily injury claims reduced by the average of all the other states combined. We had a disproportionate amount of insurance cases that were greatly eliminated through our No-Fault law.

No National Standard

And here arises another aspect of No-Fault: no two states have precisely the same law. One major factor is the time element—states have adopted laws at different times. In 1973, Florida, Delaware, Illinois, Oregon and South Dakota enacted No-Fault laws. But, the Illinois law was deemed unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court. South Dakota amended its law on November 30th.

Although already in Massachusetts, the No-Fault law is only as optional coverage. By January 1, 1973 Connecticut, Maryland and New York have now, and how coverages will change come October 1, 1973. Connecticut adopted mandatory No-Fault coverage with significant restrictions on the right to sue. New York and Arkansas have approved No-Fault laws with effective dates of 1974.

Your Coverage

Now, what are you getting? People owning a car, truck, bus or trailer (two-wheel motorcycles not included) are required to have No-Fault auto insurance beginning October 1, 1973. Failure to comply can result in a $500 fine, jail for one year (or both), and loss of driver's license and car plate.

There are two major components of the No-Fault insurance: Medical Payments will become No-Fault Personal Injury Protection Coverage. Personal Injury Protection benefits are paid to the accident victim by his own insurance company. Coverage includes payment for:

- Unlimited medical benefits for the injured person's current medical expenses, and
- Unlimited income benefits are paid for the injured person's lost income or income benefits received by the injured person's family. The limit is $1,000 per month lost income limit. Premium increases in collision and comprehensive coverages because of the new Personal Injury Protection Coverage are higher than expected. Michigan residents will be forced to pay the full cost of damages to their own vehicle. If the at fault person is not insured or unable to pay, the No-Fault driver will have coverage, he'll have to pay his own deductible, regardless of fault.

No-Fault restricts the right to sue. You can only sue the person who caused the accident. No-Fault will not pay all your damages, but it will pay your medical, income and funeral costs. You can only sue the person who caused the accident. No-Fault will not pay all your damages, but it will pay your medical, income and funeral costs. You can sue for the rest of the costs.
**Multiple-Use Washer**

The L & A 6033 is a self-powered, portable pressure washer and has been added to the L & A Products Line. The high-pressure unit is powered by a 3.5 hp, 4-cycle gasoline engine that operates up to three hours on a half gallon of fuel. The new model has a rated capacity of 3.5 gpm at 500 psi. Equipped with a "boost pump", it will operate from both pressurized and unpressurized water sources. This makes it an ideal cleaning machine for operations beyond power and water lines. It can be used to spray camps, parks, playgrounds and recreational areas, it will dislodge weed and insect control chemicals.

The pump requires greasing only every 90 days or 200 operating hours. A bronze pump is available for pumping acid solutions. The neat, trim 8 foot neoprene pressure hose, but can be fitted with 56, 79, or 105 ft. hoses.

A portable cart is optional. Additional information and prices can be obtained from L & A Products, Inc., 1993 West County Rd. #2, St. Paul, Minn. 55133.

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**Beats Energy Shortage**

To beat the weather and the energy shortage, too, the M-250 Model 250 grain dryer offers protection against losses due to high-moisture conditions and uses LP or natural gas efficiently. No "special" power is needed for the single phase, 5 mph fan motor. The "special" power is needed for the 6t-27p Schuler Bunk Feeding Boxes; Kasten Forage diameter, dirt free. Rock Windrowers: 10 and 20p) Blowers, and Gears. LAURSEN'S College Station, Texas 77840. 713-846-3749.

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**Handy Air Compressor**

The "Cracker," new, humane cattle and hog mover, is now distributed by the Fearing Manufacturing Company. Made of two plastic strips, the product gained its name from the sound it makes when applied to an animal. The manufacturer emphasizes that it will not bruise or injure the animal. It is supplied with a rawhide wrist thong and will not crack or clutter in the cold weather.

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**Space Heater Meets OSHA Rules**

Aerol Products Company, Inc. has introduced the 1973-74 Winter line of oil-fueled space heaters that meet the requirements of OSHA regulations. They range in size from 100,000 BTU to 550,000 BTU and are all equipped with burner safety controls that shut the units down in the event of flame failure. All heaters are also furnished with thermostats as standard equipment.

A free four-page brochure showing the specifications is available by writing Aerol Products Company, Inc., 68 Wesley Street, South Hackensack, N.J. 07606, and asking for Catalog No. WE-11.
what you’re getting

Enacted by the State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Milliken, No-Fault Auto Insurance becomes effective October 1, 1973. If you own a car, bus, truck or trailer, you must carry three new auto insurance coverages: Personal Injury Protection, Property Protection Insurance and Residual Liability.

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

If you can’t work, you get 85% of your income loss up to $1,000 a month for up to three years. Because insurance benefits are tax-free, the 85% approximates your take-home pay. This can include payment (up to $20 a day for up to 3 years) for someone else to perform services normally done by the injured person. Maximum payment for the combined income loss and substitute services is $36,000.

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

Dependents of the deceased will receive Survivors’ Benefits for as much as $1,000 a month up to three years (maximum $36,000).

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

Farm Bureau Insurance offers two options for Loss of Wages. By selecting not to receive wage loss payments for the first 7 days of any disability premiums for Loss of Wages, coverage can be reduced 20% ... an annual savings of $3 to $5. Premiums can be reduced 35% for Loss of Wages coverage by electing not to receive wage loss payments for the first 14 days of any disability. Yearly savings would range from about $3 to almost $9.

Collision coverage remains optional, but has changed substantially under No-Fault. Drivers cannot expect to recover Collision damage costs from the other driver’s insurance company. Payment must come from your own insurance company. If you currently have a Collision deductible, or are not carrying Collision coverage, you’ll have to pay all or a portion of your own loss regardless of “fault.”

New Collision options have been developed to pay all of your collision costs if the other driver is “at fault.”

Regular Collision Coverage (you will automatically have this if you carried Collision coverage with us before No-Fault). Regular Collision pays for damage to your car ... above your deductible ... regardless of “fault.” You pay the deductible ... regardless of “fault.”

Limited Collision Coverage. If the other driver is “at fault.” Farm Bureau Insurance Group pays your deductible. If you currently have a $50 deductible, Limited Collision coverage would cost you $10 more a year. With a $100 deductible, the coverage would cost you $20 more a year. With a $250 deductible, the coverage would cost you $50 more a year.

Naturally, this isn’t the whole story. These are No-Fault Auto Insurance basics. If you’re a Farm Bureau Insurance Group auto policyholder, you’ll be getting the whole story in your mailbox this month ... Declaration Pages, explanation brochures, policy endorsements, itemized coverage by coverage. Read the material carefully. If you have any questions call your Farm Bureau Insurance agent. He’s recently undergone special No-Fault training. He’s got the answers.