With one amendment

State study report approved

Voting delegates to the 1975 MFB Special Delegate Session exercised their authority on June 28 in Lansing. The delegates approved the State Study Committee recommendations changing only the dues structure proposal.

Young people learn at Citizenship Seminar

It was five days of concentrated study on what it means to be an American citizen for 256 junior and senior high school students from across Michigan last week at the 1975 Michigan Farm Bureau Young People's Citizenship Seminar. Meeting at Albion College, the participants spent much of the seminar learning the political process first hand. Political parties were organized, platforms were developed, candidates nominated, rallies were held and voting took place.

In addition to the political activities the students listened to top resource speakers talk on the American way of life, the free enterprise economic system, and our heritage. One senior counselor noted that, "these students not only listened but asked questions - informed questions of all the speakers."

Near the end of the week-long event several of the students were asked to react to the seminar. One young man felt he gained a greater appreciation for what we have in this country. According to another, "I learned a lot about elections and really enjoyed helping the candidates run and getting people to vote."

A young lady felt she had become less critical of others by learning to listen to their views. "This week has really changed my life because my attitudes have changed," she said.

With major goals of developing better citizens, developing leadership abilities and greater understanding of the American system it seemed, in the eyes of the students at least, that the seminar was a success.

Michigan Farm Bureau delegates at MFB's June 28 Special Delegate Session voted to accept the recommendations of the State Study Committee (see May 1975 Farm News for full text of recommendations) with an amendment to the section on dues increase.

After over a half hour of debate the delegates voted to amend the Study Committee's dues recommendation increasing the dues increase for each of the next three years to a single $10 increase beginning with the 1976 membership year.

The $10 increase will make 1976 dues $30 for a member family, $4 of the $10 will go to the Counties. Although there was considerable debate on several other areas of the Study Committee recommendations, all other motions to amend the report were rejected by the delegate body.

MFB President Elton Smith, who presided over the session, praised the delegates for their action and thanked the Study Committee for their 18 month effort in developing the recommendations.

Key recommendations accepted in the Study Committee report were a change in the structure of the MFB Women's Committee, the establishment of an expanded local affairs program, expansion of the regional representative staff, establishment of a group purchasing program, and development of a county newsletter service.

It was recommended that the Women's Committee consist of 15 women, one elected from each county. The MFB Women's Committee was then expanded to include four at-large representatives appointed by the MFB president and approved by the board. The chairman and vice-chairman will be elected by the committee from among its membership. The committee, this recommendation will require a by-law change at the 1975 annual meeting.

In local affairs, the delegates approved the addition of a local affairs staff person who will be a local government specialist. This person will direct Farm Bureau groups through government red tape so that they may be more effective in dealing with local government problems.

In approving expansion of the regional representative staff by four, the delegates accepted a recommendation which noted that the current staff of regional members are spread too thin and must waste many valuable hours on the road. Noting in their recommendation that as a benefit to members only, group purchasing programs have brought many members into other state Farm Bureaus and have saved them members many dollars on many purchases, the committe noted that the current Farm Bureau staff examine group purchasing programs such as Sailemark, and give them top priority consideration. The delegates approved this recommendation.

By approving a new county newsletter service recommended by the Study Committee, the delegates opened the way for counties without publications of their own to have their own newsletters.

MFB bicentennial theme praised

A special bicentennial kick-off program was held at Farm Bureau Center June 28 in the morning before the special delegate session got underway. Illinois Farm Bureau President Harold B. Steele was keynote speaker.

Steele touched on MFB's bicentennial theme, "Building Horizons on our Heritage."

"The theme of this gathering is a good one," he said. "We can, indeed, look back in pride on a heritage upon which we can build with confidence. By the same token, we can look forward to the new horizons that stretch as far as our imagination and our determination are willing to project them."

Following his talk Steele was presented the first official MFB bicentennial theme plate by MFB President Elton Smith. The plates, in red, white and blue, commemorated the American bicentennial and are produced through County Farm Bureau secretaries.

President Elton Smith. The plates, in red, white and blue, commemorate the American bicentennial and are produced through County Farm Bureau secretaries.
The delegate session

Voting delegates, at the Special Delegate Session on June 28, took Farm Bureau’s new bicentennial emblem and presented it to him. They gave him a warm ovation. Building Horizons on Our Heritage. They exemplified the Minuteman who, 200 years ago, left his plows in the fields to act, to speak up, to become involved — when issues arise which affect their chosen profession, their way of life, and the future of their children. The Special Delegate Session and so was proved that the Minuteman spirit is still very much alive in the hearts of farmers.

These delegates were busy farmers, but they willingly left their farms for the day because they had some important business to transact — deciding the future of their organization, and the future of Michigan agriculture.

The “Building Horizons on Our Heritage” was more than just a motto to them; it was a charge! Just as their forefathers did when they drafted the Declaration of Independence, they used foresight and wisdom as they built new horizons for the future. They did not aim for limited horizons. Instead, they looked far ahead, to their own immediate and individual needs. They looked beyond the force rows of their own farms and beyond the boundaries of existing, established patterns and methods of their organization.

There’s an old Chinese proverb: “One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.” That’s what happened at the special session. The State Farm Bureau members and the voting delegates looked to the future, with confidence.

In Michigan, the Fann Bureau is an organization that represents farmers at the state, national, and international levels. It provides a platform for farmers to advocate for their rights and interests. The Fann Bureau was founded in 1920 as a response to the economic and political challenges faced by farmers during that time. It has continued to grow and become a vital part of the agricultural community, providing resources, support, and representation to its members.

The special session mentioned the bicentennial emblem, which was a significant symbol of the Farm Bureau’s commitment to celebrating its 200th anniversary. This emblem was designed to reflect the spirit of the Minutemen, who were known for their patriotic dedication and willingness to take action to protect their freedoms. The emblem symbolizes the ongoing commitment of farmers to building a better future for agriculture and rural communities.

TheFarm Bureau has been involved in various initiatives and campaigns, such as supporting agriculture, promoting educational outreach, and advocating for fair agricultural policies. Its influence extends beyond the agricultural sector, impacting various aspects of rural and urban life. By providing a platform for farmers to come together and work towards common goals, the Farm Bureau has played a crucial role in shaping the agricultural landscape in Michigan and beyond.

Lobbyists supported by taxes?

You’ve heard and read a lot about those lobbyists that work for selfish clients in the state capitol and on Capitol Hill in Washington. You probably think very few people know that their taxes are paying for a small army of lobbyists in Washington, costing you about 11 million dollars per year.

One of the leading syndicated columnists has estimated that at least 600 persons are employed full time in Washington by companies and agencies of the federal government to influence members of Congress. This lobby is at the job of convincing Congress that their agencies should get more of your money.

The Defense Department alone has 30 full time lobbyists working on congressional business. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has hired 34 lobbyists, with 41 people paid to impress it’s needs upon Congress.

Even the White House has a team of 12 lobbyists working out of a branch office on Capitol Hill. This force of about 55 lobbyists, trying to get Congress to act on things that are good for their group but are harmful to your pocketbook.

It is one of the reasons why its so difficult to get an increase to any program or agency, regardless of how long ago it becomes outdated or useles.

This is a positive for any organized group in the private sector to come anywhere near the influence these tax supported lobbyists who work day-in and day-out extracting money from your pocketbook.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

Lobbyists supported by taxes?

The Golden Anniversary Institute of the American Institute of Cooperation (AIC) is being held July 29-31, 1975, at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. The AIC holds an annual educational organization for its members and has held an annual Institute on a university campus each year since its founding three years during World War II when transportation problems prevented holding them.

Theme of this 1975 National Institute is cooperative Education is “Cooperation — Catalyst for Development” of the leader for the first general session on July 29, Lieutenant Governor James D. Hailberg, AIC, president, said this Institute will provide opportunities for an Intense training and exchange ideas and picking up helpful tips. He also fielded a host of hearing outstanding speakers discuss topics of great impact for cooperatives and agriculture in today’s climate.

The Special Delegate Session was the last paragraph of a very interesting chapter in my book of life. I have a restaurant without any customers and 1 have to be satisfied with the results because I had to work. Badly, saddest because the close association with a very close friend of mine who has been a true friend of mine. It was a difficult decision.

Serving as recording secretary for the State Study Committee was a privilege but it would be a "class." Class is something you either have or don’t have. No matter how badly you want it you can’t buy it, borrow or steal it, develop it or inherit it. In fact, you can hardly define it.

It’s more than a aura of a characteristic, a magic combination of appearance, manners, and attitude. Class should not be confused with chic or sharp because a man with chaps and jeans can have it; an old man feeding pigeons in the park can have it.

The nation is sending farmer directors and key employees to the Institute this year. The program will contain an attendance of about 200 Young Farmer Couples, 750 Youth Homemakers, and 635 new employees and graduate students with their families in their areas. These groups will attend special sessions of their own as well as the main convention.

Over 500 women will be atttending; the theme of the convention is "You're Involved; and the other Institute sessions"

WHAT IS CLASS?

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DONNA

Moving? Planning to move? Let us know 8 weeks in advance so you won’t have to pack a single issue of the Michigan Farm News. Attach old label and print new address in space provided. Mail to: Michigan Farm News, P.O. Box 980, Lansing, Michigan 48904.
JULY 1, 1975

Heim is new FBS feed sales head

John Heim has been appointed Sales Manager for the Feed Department of Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

The announcement was made by Feed Department Manager Donald Shepard, who noted that Heim started with Farm Bureau Services 11 years ago as a Feed Department Foreman for the Traverse City Branch of Farm Bureau Services. He was soon promoted to assistant manager of that branch store, and in 1966 he accepted a position as Feed Field Representative for the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketings, Inc., one of the Farm Bureau affiliates.

In 1971, Heim returned to Farm Bureau Services' Feed Field, and was asked to come to the Lansing office in June, 1974 to handle special problems connected with the feed contamination tragedy.

"We are proud to announce this appointment," said Shepard. "because John Heim brings into his new position a great deal of experience and knowledge. He has had a lot of contact with feed processors, and he is familiar with their needs. We are confident that John Heim will continue to uphold the best traditions of cooperative service to Michigan farmers."

Heim, his wife Charlene and three children presently live in Traverse City, plan to move to Lansing in the near future.

FBS joins feed co-op

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. is one of fourteen charter members of a new cooperative organization to supply animal feed ingredients.

The new interregional co-op, known as CF Feeds, Inc., will help members procure and distribute animal feed ingredients for members. CF Feed is managed by the cooperative-owned company CF Industries, which will be responsible for the distribution of feed phosphates to members. Farm Bureau will operate the company to distribute and possibly manufacture various animal feed ingredients.

Other charter members of CF Feeds, Inc. include: CENEX, FDX, Inc.; Indiana Farm Bureau Cooperative Association, Inc.; Intermountain Farmers Cooperative Association, Landmark, Inc.; Midland Cooperatives, Inc.; Missouri Farmers Association; Southern States Cooperative, Inc.; Ohio Farmers and Grain Supply Association; Western Farmers Association; Land O'Lakes, Inc.; Agway, Inc.; and Tennessee Farmers Cooperative.

50 Years Ago In The Farm News

July 1925

There has been given out all over the country a libel that the Farm Bureau is organized for the purpose of combining in a way to hold up the people or prices. This is the farthest possible thing away from our present thoughts, but there is somewhere a tremendous leak between producer and consumer. It is our purpose to eliminate this excessive cost of distribution by marketing our products in an orderly, sane, businesslike manner.

Philadelphia, July 21 - Secretary Jardine placed the support of the Department of Agriculture behind the principle of cooperation in agriculture, before the Long Beach Convention of the United States Department of Agriculture.

"It must be constantly kept in mind," he said, "that the problems confronting agriculture cannot be solved from the outside, but by the farmers themselves who know the problems. The principle of cooperation I consider to be so important, not only to agriculture, but to the national life as a whole, that I am happy to place the United States Department of Agriculture at the service of this great movement.

Sandusky, July 4 - The Sanilac County Farm Bureau picnic held at the county park at Forester today broke all attendance records for farmers' gatherings in this section of the state. About 16,000 people and 2,000 autos crowded the 38 acre county park to capacity and nearly 2000 more cars had to be parked outside the park.

The caliber of the speakers and the quality of the addresses which they delivered were fully up to this epoch-making event. Headline attractions on the program included Rev. A. H. Marsha, of Sandusky M. E. Church, Mrs. Frank Kinch of Grindstone City, and Dr. W. W. Doeb of Albion. Mrs. Kinch stressed the need for farm welfare, and Dr. Doeb graphically compared the opportunities for youth in the past and the present day. Mrs. Kinch declared, "If we cannot maintain an intelligent class of people on the farms, our beloved democracy will end in ruins. Our present day civilization depends on perpetuating a good, strong, aggressive class in the farm community."

One of the big attractions of the afternoon at the Sanilac picnic was the baseball game between McGregor and Sanilac. The latter team won 5-4.

Dissatisfaction with the present postal law is registered in a large number of letters received from farmers by the Washington office of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Among the objections to the present law is the arbitrary ruling by the Post Office Department that all packages carrying baby chicks must pay a 25 cent service charge.
H.B. 5310 has been introduced by Reps. Kennedy, Anderson, Hoffman, Gass, Porter, Hellman and McCracken as House Bill H.B. 5505, also known as the "Pesticide Control Act."

Action on this bill is extremely important in light of the efforts of various states to justify their results from mandatory federal requirements. In 1947, Congress passed the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act establishing a federal program of marketing of pesticides which were then known as "economic poisons." The federal law applies to those shipments crossing state lines.

In 1972, Congress amended the act giving it broader control and coverage under federal regulations covering all pesticides instead of just those that were considered "economic poisons." It provided that EPA must classify all pesticides as either "general" or "restricted." It also required that "restricted" pesticides be sold only to "licensed applicators." This applies to anyone using "restricted" pesticides. Farmers applying "restricted" pesticides are using them on their own land or on their neighbors' land even though their neighbors may not use them.

The new federal requirements must be fully implemented by mid-1976. The new legislation makes it compulsory to fumigate or otherwise sanitize all trucks used in the transportation of "general use" and "restricted use" pesticide applicators, regulating the sale of "general use" and "restricted use" pesticide dealers, regulating the sale of "general use" and "restricted use" pesticides, including person's exempted from the registration of pesticides, labeling, registration procedures. The applying "general use" pesticides to the "restricted use" pesticides which are also under the new bill than they would under the old method. For example, those who inherit large estates in excess of $250,000 would have to pay an estate tax of 25% of the value over $250,000. However, for the first time, jointly-owned farms would no longer escape taxation. There are also other changes that would affect dairy farmers by bringing agriculture under the minimum wage law and removing overtime provisions from the Act on this bill further requires that every person who would receive at least the minimum wage and that piece there would be permitted to be paid in addition to the minimum wage. In this effect of the new legislation there would be a good piece rate system that has been developed in Michigan over a period of years. Presently, piece rates are raised in relation to the minimum wage. The Wage Board, Michigan's minimum piece rate this year are not a good piece rate system. It is a fact that piece rate workers make more than those paid a minimum wage and by having the minimum wage people to work who could not "agree to increasing the property tax under the Homestead Exemption Act, P.A. 20 of 1972. If H.B. 5310 becomes law, the Homestead Exemption would be deleted and replaced by a Homestead Exemption Act, P.A. 20 of 1972. с the Act giving it broader control and coverage under federal regulations covering all pesticides instead of just those that were considered "economic poisons." The federal law applies to those shipments crossing state lines.

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Caution needed to prevent crashes

Extra caution by motorists and Michigan Farm Bureau members can prevent many of the collisions occurring between farm vehicles and high-speed motor vehicles.

"As farm production accelerates and more heavy equipment is needed in the fields, roads may become more crowded," says Dr. Mel Pfister, Michigan State University safety specialist.

"Farmers and motorists need to be aware of the differing speeds and equipment and to be extra careful in ensuring both safety and the successful completion of the tasks at hand."

Clear display of the Slow Moving Vehicle (SMV) emblem. Make sure it is mounted three to five feet above the pavement and no more than 40 feet from the center of the vehicle as possible where it can be easily seen by traffic coming from either direction.

"Wash the emblem frequently and when it fades, replace it. Buy top-quality emblems to assure maximum brightness and durability," Pfister says.

All lights and reflectors should be clean and operative before entering the roadway. Burned out bulbs or broken lenses should be replaced as soon as possible. Reflecting lights should be activated any time a cow is cycling but not observed in heat, or if the cow seems to be cycling, but not observed in heat, or if the cow is not observed in heat late in the evening or early in the morning.

The rule of thumb is to leave the cow alone if she is cycling but not observed in heat late in the evening or early in the morning.

"This leaves only 33 percent of all heat activity to be seen between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., the period when most cows are cycling," Meadows says.

A cow with a short heat period could easily be escaped if the herd is not observed between the evening milking and the next morning.

"While video tape monitoring during recent dairy research at Michigan State University is not very practical on most dairy farms, video tape monitoring of heat detection observation may catch more cows in heat," Meadows says.

A cow with a short heat period could easily be escaped if the herd is not observed between the evening milking and the next morning.
Co-op hunting clubs help control trespassing

Michigan has had cooperative hunting clubs for many years. The basic objectives of such clubs are (1) to control trespass on farm-lands and (2) to allow for an orderly harvest of the annual game crop. They were most abundant in the late 30's and early 40's at a time when ring-necked pheasant populations were the highest in the history of Michigan and when farm game hunters were abundant.

The first cooperative hunting club was organized as a private venture by a group of neighboring farmers in Williamston Township, Ingham County in 1929. The club was highly successful in attaining its objectives and as a result the "Williamston Controlled Hunting Plan" became the basis for formation of other similar organizations. The clubs have received the support of the Michigan Farm Bureau, the Michigan Grange, the Cooperative Extension Service of Michigan State University, the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Now the Program Works

Under the "cooperative hunting plan," farmers in a neighborhood take the initiative to form an organization which controls at least 60 acres of solidly blocked land and not more than 10,000 acres. The Department of Natural Resources cooperates with such groups by supplying boundary signs, "yard" signs, and guest tickets to each cooperating farmer. Boundary signs read "No Hunting Without Permission."

The entire area owned or controlled by the farmers' group is posted as a unit with uniform signs. Under the provisions of this plan, a responsible person may hunt on at least a square mile or an entire unit after obtaining a guest permit from a farmer member of the group. The farmer is under no obligation to give this permission if, for some reason, he wishes to refuse a hunter the right to hunt. The number of permits allowed to each cooperating farmer member is decided upon by the group at their annual meeting. Usually each farmer is issued four tickets, since "gang hunting" of hunters may result on certain farms if a larger number is made available to each club member. After the farmer has given out all his permits, he does not allow additional hunters to hunt the area through his farm until some of the permits have been returned.

After a hunter has obtained a permit, he must leave his car parked in the yard of the farmer who issued the permit. He must hunt on foot from that point, and must return the permit before removing his car from the yard. He must show his "bag" to the farmer if requested to do so. Some farmers jot down the car license number, name and address, and the license number of the hunter who receives the permit so that they have some means of identification in case any difficulty should arise.

The regulation that a hunter's car must remain parked in the farmer's yard for the permit is in possession of the hunter has proved to be the keystone upon which the success of the Williamston Plan depends.

With this rule strictly enforced, both "gang hunting" and road side parking are eliminated. The hunter knows that he will be held responsible for his conduct while his car is "in lock" to the farmer and the farmer knows that he has control over hunters on his property.

Independent Clubs Encouraged

Farmers' groups wishing to participate in a cooperative hunting program are handled entirely by local farmer management. They do not depend on the Department to supply free boundary signs and guest tickets. Such independent management is desirable, and the Department will give freely of its expertise in helping to set up this type of organization.

Horton Trespass Law Involved

The legal background for these organizations is, of course, the Horton Trespass Act, which is a civil act enforceable by any and all civil officers including state police, sheriffs and their deputies, constables, and conservation officers. The act prohibits one from hunting on the lands of another without written consent.

Apply Before September

Interested landowners can get additional information on cooperative hunting clubs and application blanks by contacting their local conservation officers, district wildlife biologists, regional wildlife biologists, or by writing to the Wildlife Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Lansing, Michigan 48901.

Farmers' groups wishing to participate in the hunting program should apply to the Department of Natural Resources by September 1, since some time is required to print and distribute boundary signs and guest tickets.

The author is a biologist affiliated with the Wildlife Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
Bagley said he was proud of the progress the new unit has made since taking office April 21. Among the most notable of the changes are a study to redraft the reports of registration of futures commission merchants and floor brokers; professional designation of 41 contract markets on 11 futures contracts; issuance of regulations on registration of associated persons, commodity trading advisors, and commodity pool operators; issuance of proposed antifraud regulations covering options; language contact for foreign exchange transactions; extension of large trade reporting.

Collisions (continued from page 5)

hazards associated with highway traffic," Pfister says. "Most anything can be hauled with a farm tractor," the rider, particularly a child. Many young riders are sometimes killed or maimed in falls from farm machinery each year. Youngsters should be made to see that equipment, both in the field and on the road," Pfister says. Realizing the danger, the road,.check tractor tires to see that they are properly inflated. Inspect tires of heavily loaded wagons for soundness. Make sure hitch pins are screwed and locked in place. Be sure loads are properly distributed and balanced to minimize swaying, whipping and other handling problems.

All loads should be secure so nothing can fall off. Do not overload wagons. It is better to make two trips than to have the load fall off on the highway or end up in the ditch because the load was unsecured.

Lock tractor pedals together. The last thing you want to be is if the tractor is equipped with a protective frame or crush resistant cab.

"Farmers should be aware of the time it takes to get fully onto a road or highway from a dead stop. A tractor and wagon require about 10 seconds while an auto takes only four m.p.h. travels about 800 feet during this time.

So it is safer to stop at the end of the driveway and watch for oncoming traffic if the roadway is closer than a fifth of a mile," Pfister says. Realizing the width of the farm tractor and equipment being towed is important. Keep it within the lane being traveled or at least to the right of the center line. Pull over to let vehicles pass when possible, but watch out for soft shoulders, ditches, culverts, posts and other roadside hazards such as earth mounded by road graders. Keep a safe distance of at least 100 feet behind other vehicles.

Match the tractor with the size of load being hauled. Do not use a light tractor for heavy grain, forage or other types of loads. Large tractors afford greater handling stability and braking power. Large tractors are often more stable and can weigh much more than the tractor should have their own brake and safety hitch pin that can’t jump out and release trailing equipment.

"Shift to a lower gear when going downhill. Never coast. Don’t have too much wind behind you. If you pull your tractor to stop or control — it could over whirl the tractor on a downhill grade. Keep your speed down. Heavy wagons with brakes if heavy loads are often hauled, especially in hilly country."

Another problem with trailing equipment or a high load, is happening behind while at the same time watching the road ahead. Extendable rear-view mirrors can help monitor following traffic and the behavior of equipment being hauled. Mirrors can also provide a rear view of traffic otherwise blocked by trailing equipment or a high load, requiring a release of that report was not required under the Freedom of Information Act," noted Bagley, who has been honored by the Michigan Society of Professional Journalists for furthering freedom of information while a member of the California State Legislature. "But we wanted to set the stage for growing openness and responsibility.

Mr. Bagley says he learned from reporting on registration of associated California State Legislature. "But provisions of the Society of Professional Journalists, operators; issuance of proposed antifraud regulations covering options; language contact for foreign exchange transactions; extension of large trade reporting.

Red Tart Cherry group meets in Michigan

Meeting recently in Grand Rapids, the Red Tart Cherry Advisory Committee of the American Agricultural Marketing Association (AAMA) examined market conditions for the upcoming crop. Data developed at this meeting and a subsequent meeting will be used by the committee in making recommendations to the AAMA for marketing the 1975 crop. Attending (left to right) Harry Foster, MACMA-AAMA; Ray Hackert, Chairman, M.S. Bicentennial flag is the one emblem that has stood for our Order now. Start celebrating our one and only centennial. And all the Bicentennial flag. $9.95 each. A2. Flag without Accessories • 3 x 5 ft. flag described above, ready to fly on your house, on your car window and bumper. If you have a flag, fly proudly. But do not use this convenient order form. Our publication has been authorized by the U. S. Bicentennial Society to make this hard to find, high-quality flag materials available at prices lower than you would expect to pay (made possible by the large quantity involved with this national program). Order now. Start celebrating our one and only Bicentennial today!

Just how do you celebrate a Bicentennial? You’ve had lots of practice celebrating Christmas, New Year and Thanksgiving. But there has never been a Bicentennial... and there will never be another... Just as regular holidays depend on people to celebrate them, so does the Bicentennial. And all the Bicentennial commissions and administrations combined can’t celebrate it for you or without you. Trying to celebrate the Bicentennial without a flag is like Christmas without a tree. It’s the one emblem that has stood for our country for the past 200 years. So start now. Fly a
WHERE WILL YOU MARKET YOUR GRAIN AND BEANS THIS YEAR?

Fluctuations in today's market make this question more important than ever to farmers. The Michigan Elevator Exchange (MEE), a division of Farm Bureau Services, provides marketing services to over 100 country elevators. When you market your crops at a MEE member elevator, you'll benefit from the resources that provide marketing knowledge and locate the most advantageous prices anywhere in the world.

The country elevators that we represent are in the best position to help the farmer gain fair market prices. MEE can reduce marketing cost, since we are owned by and for Michigan Farmers. The larger the percentage of production that farmers control, the more respect they will have. This gains better prices in both the domestic and foreign markets. Stop in and see your local MEE member elevator today. He is working for you.

ASK THE FARM BUREAU PEOPLE
MICHIGAN MARKETING OUTLOOK

DAIRY
On the national scene, milk cows-on-farms during May were down an estimated 26,000 from the previous month. This is the largest monthly-to-month drop since early 1974. The slaughter of dairy cattle for meat and cull purposes was also strong for the month. U.S. milk production in May was down 0.9% from a year ago. May is a month in which both supply and consumption holds steady, milk prices tend to continue to decrease. During the month of May in Federal Order 40, production was up 1.0% from the year ago level. At the same time, utilization of Class I milk continued to increase, while demand for whole milk continues to decrease. Class I utilization for May in Federal Order 40 was just under 60%.

SOYBEANS
The soybean prices have held near the $0.00 level this past year due to the orderly marketing by farmers. A slow decline is predicted by analysts of IC Ltd. and Grain Company due to a large supply of soybeans available to large speculators caught in short position.

CATTLE
Prices for choice cattle will remain strong during the summer months. The spread between choice and Good grade beef has reached $10.00. If choice beef prices hold, the spread will widen. Good grade beef will come under additional pressure with the increased movement of grass cattle slaughter. The number of cattle being slaughtered is running 6-8% more than one year ago. However, total tonnage of beef is not larger and cattle weights are down 6-8% from this time last year. Feeder steer prices will advance beyond the $40.00 mark if a six billion mark is being achieved.

HOGS
Slaughter hog prices are on the move up as of June 1st. Hog prices continue to lower than one year ago. However, total hog slaughter is running 6-8% more than last year. Most of this increase has resulted from a shorter market decline in hog operators. Supplies and demand for hog operators are expected to remain strong.

WHEAT
As we move nearer to wheat harvest, prices continue to sag. Factors point to low harvest time prices and possibly some strengthening later on. There appears, at this point in time, to be an abundant harvest, should the current protein levels be maintained. It is still possible that protein levels could decline with a large late season harvest. Good, new crop prospects for corn and soybeans low point to a stable, moderately-priced feed supply for livestock. This situation should encourage farmers to decide on the feeding of more concentrated feeds for faster gains.

FRUIT PROSPECTS
The bloom and set of the major fruits this season is the best in years. California is good to excellent. The one exception seems to be plums, which is only fair.

The Michigan Marketing Outlook is written by the Marketing Development Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau. The outlook is produced weekly and is mailed to Farm Bureau members. While the outlook contains information that is useful to all farmers, it is designed to provide information to help farm businesses make decisions that are most relevant to their operations. The outlook includes information on market conditions, crop production, crop prices, crop forecasts, and crop management. The outlook is published weekly and is available free of charge to Farm Bureau members.
Solar energy: Is it in our future?

The inadequacy of U.S. energy sources and plans to meet the increasing demands have become a priority item—often considered, often delayed—"energy crisis," as it has become to be called, is complicated by the fact that many people have lost faith in technology. No longer are they as eager to adopt new technology—nuclear fusion, for example—as they were a short decade ago. Up to the present time, people have been waiting for the development of some earthly material (the fuel) into another material (the waste). Now people are rediscovering an energy source which does not require an earthly fuel and does not generate wastes: the sun.

The energy supplied by the sun to the earth is equal to about 2,373 trillion horsepower per minute. As a form of comparison, the U.S. energy consumption during all of 1973 was about 93 gigawatts.

It has been estimated that by 1980, energy consumed in heating and cooling buildings will amount to 21% of the total energy used in the United States. Experts report that by 1990 at least five percent of the nation's homes and buildings will obtain 80 percent of their energy for heating and air conditioning from solar sources.

So energy from the rays of the sun is no longer a pipe dream. It can be an important source of energy as fossil fuels become more scarce and expensive.

There is a substantial technical base for the development of solar energy heating and cooling. Solar hot water heaters are used in Japan, Australia, Israel, and U.S.S.R. These heaters could be equipped with auxiliary electric heaters to provide hot water on cloudy days. Studies have shown that solar heating when used in combination with an auxiliary heat source fueled by oil, gas, or electricity, can approach and in some cases, surpass in economy, the performance of conventional fuel heating systems.

Another bill, H.B. 4598, was introduced by Rep. David E. Bonior (D.-Mt. Clemens). The bill, as originally introduced, would require that the state, over the next 5 years, undertake a gradual program of incorporating solar heating and cooling systems into state building projects.

The bill would require that the legislature include in the appropriations made each year for the construction of state buildings an appropriation for the construction of solar heating and cooling systems. The amount of the appropriations would be set at a predetermined amount, and in the fifth year and each year thereafter, the appropriations would include an amount sufficient for the incorporation of a solar heating or solar cooling and cooling system into at least 50% of new state buildings.

If by chance you don't believe that advocates of solar energy is serious, you should take a look at the goals in education, legislation, research and development, technical development, and market penetration outlined in pending legislation in other states.

In one state a sunlight rights ordinance for all agricultural use. They are concerned, as the price of fuel increases, whether solar energy will make good economic sense and how it can be used in farming operations.

These are valid concerns, but unfortunately not all of the questions can be answered at this time. A start to obtain the answers was made in March when the USD a announced a $98,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to access the application of solar energy in agricultural uses.

Agricultural engineers and economists of the University of Maryland will gather information which can be used to direct an overall research program on farm applications in substituting solar energy for fossil fuels. The feasibility of solar energy for grain drying, greenhouse heating, and poultry and livestock shelter heating and cooling will be studied.

Another NSF research grant of $120,000 will allow agricultural engineers in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Ohio, and South Dakota land-grant universities to study the feasibility of using solar energy to supplement or replace other fuels in drying corn.

Use of solar energy in the cities and homes would directly help agriculture. It should become economically feasible to substitute solar energy for fuels which are necessary for agriculture, the demand pressure on those fuels would be released. For example, a decrease in the demand for natural gas in the urban areas would free suppliers for fertilizer production and grain drying on the farm.

The Future

One of President Truman's commissions predicted in 1952 that 13 million solar-heated homes would dot the U.S. by 1973. This we know is not the case. But things have changed considerably since 1952 and the proponents of solar energy believe that this time has arrived.

Slowly, like the dawn of a new day, the sun's rays are emerging as one of the only-unlimited reservoir of clean, safe energy on the globe. And that could well be the issue which will decide where and how we get our future energy supplies.
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