New Rail Classification System Could Cause More Line Abandonments

Michigan's railroads are still in trouble, in spite of efforts by Federal and state agencies to provide funds and reorganization plans to rehabilitate them. Consequently, some lines serving major agricultural areas in the state may be abandoned.

Ironically, the very tools designed to rejuvenate rail service throughout the country may lead to the demise of some Michigan routes.

"The Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 was passed to "rehabilitate and maintain the physical facilities, improve the operations and structure and restore the financial stability of the railroad system in the United States," says Porter Barnett, marketing specialist for the Michigan Department of Agriculture. "The Act called for studies to be made so that the Federal Railway Administration could advise Congress on how to spend billions of dollars to supply the capital requirements of the nation's railroads."

Porter emphasized, "If this false information is accepted, it will drastically influence the appropriation of federal funds for the line."

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and the Michigan State Highways and Transportation Department both provided testimony. The Department of Agriculture considers as the state's primary rail route, the old Ann Arbor route from Toledo, Ohio to Frankfort, Michigan and crossing Lake Michigan to Manitowoc and Laingsburg's permanently closed rail station and paved-over tracks stand as reminders to the impact of rail line abandonment. The grain storage facilities in the background are a part of Old Roller Mills, which formerly shipped grain on the now defunct Penn Central's line from Lansing to Owosso. The State of Michigan subsidized this line for awhile, but soon found that allotted funds had to be diverted to keep other, more heavily traveled sections of track open. After the State withdrew its support, the mill was forced to ship grain by truck at additional expense.

To make sure that the most important lines receive the proper funds to keep them in top operating order, the FRA compiled and issued a preliminary report listing the country's Class I lines. These lines are to receive primary consideration for federal funds.

Not one Michigan line was considered Class I in the preliminary report listing the state's primary rail route, the old Ann Arbor route from Toledo, Ohio to Frankfort, Michigan and across Lake Michigan to Manitowoc and Kewaunee, Wisconsin. Instead, the FRA listed this route as a Class B branch line.

The State of Michigan now owns and operates this line, including the rail car ferry service across Lake Michigan.

"The state rail line map in the FRA report is also in error," Porter continues. "It shows the route running from Toledo to Manistee."

VOL. 55 NO. 10 SERVING OVER 61,000 FARM BUREAU FAMILIES OCTOBER, 1976

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

Victory for Estate Tax Reform

On September 16, the House of Representatives voted 405 to 2 to incorporate estate tax reform provisions in the House-Senate Conference report on the Omnibus Tax Reform Bill (H.R. 10612). These provisions are ones previously agreed upon by the House-Senate conferees.

The House also voted 383 to 26 to accept the entire conference report and send it to the Senate for action. However, it will contain a provision amending the income tax law changing the basis for the capital gains tax on inherited property. The American Farm Bureau Federation had supported Representative Conable's (R-New York) efforts to strike this provision from the report, but his attempts to make a motion to eliminate the provision were voted down 181 to 229.

None of the estate tax reform provisions will result in any increased taxes on heirs who inherit farms unless they sell their inheritances.

The Senate is expected to act on the Conference report promptly. When it does, we shall have achieved a major goal of Farm Bureau policy since 1974. The action of this Congress is further evidence of the effectiveness of Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau members when they work in support of their policies. See the National Notes section of this edition for further clarification.

MFB Makes Goal

On Wednesday, August 25, the Michigan Farm Bureau surpassed its 1976 membership goal of 61,586 member families. This year marks the ninth straight that memberships have been increased. In honor of the event, Michigan FB President Elton R. Smith donned the traditional "membership blazer," Charles Burkett, director of MFB Field Operations Division, assisted Smith while Robert Braden, MFB Administrative Director, looks on approvingly.

(Cont. on page 3)
Co-ops -- Islands of Economic Democracy

Every October farmers make a token effort to focus public attention on cooperatives so that consumers will realize the importance of this unique system to their food supply. Mostly, they have depended upon their state and national co-op associations to do the job for them.

This year, farmers need to make more than a token effort. They need to get personally involved in spreading the good word during Co-op Month and in the days following. The cooperative system, which has helped farmers feed our nation and much of the rest of the world, is under attack and we cannot afford to complacently sit back and allow it to be destroyed.

Why should a system which has allowed America to become the best-fed and best-clothed nation in the world come under attack? There are a number of factors. With the rise in food prices, the entire industry is under scrutiny. Cooperatives have grown in size to meet increased member needs and citizens have become suspicious of "bigness." A few co-ops made headlines because of improper political activities.

Whatever the reason, people have come to believe, mistakenly, that farmers and their co-ops are getting special treatment through the Capper-Volstead Act. They believe the Act gives co-ops the right to engage in activities as when families like yours people "out back" and vice versa. One common denominator finally surfaced: the farmer customers - the ones who stuck with them through the tragedy. Whether it was pimpls, crooked teeth, skinny legs, unrequited puppy love or failure to get the lead in the Junior play (the latter two the result, I was sure, of the first three), my mother had a couple of standard reassurances for all of my early tragedies. It was either "it builds character" or "something good will come of it."

As I grew older and the "tragedies" had more substance, I found that, as usual, she was right. Indeed, I learned to have pity on all those character-less people whose lives had been nothing but smooth sailing with easily earned successes.

The PBB tragedy was one that effected us all and I don't think it was an exception to my mother's philosophy. It built character - no doubt about it! And I also think some good things have come from it. One of the good things that resulted was that it brought the Farm Bureau Family closer together. Just as when families like your's and mine get older and bigger, they don't always keep in touch as they once did, and sometimes it takes a tragedy to make them realize how much they mean to each other - so it was with the Farm Bureau Family. With PBB, Farm Bureau was Farm Bureau, no matter where you lived, personally, fit into the complex structure. I discovered I was not the only one to believe that something as negative as the PBB tragedy could be turned into a positive when I visited the Fremont Co-op and I was impressed with the experience with you seems a fitting tribute to Co-ops during their special month.

Despite the PBB tragedy, with many of their customers effected, the Fremont Co-op showed a steady gain in food sales, a sign that somebody there was doing something right. Finding out who that "somebody" was turned out to be a tough assignment.

When asked who was responsible, the manager credited the sales rep, the one who stuck with them through the tragedy. "Our quality - control program, a sales rep who's out there doing his job, contributed to the fact that the plant - put all these things together - no one element would have done it. It took the whole crew," he said. Howard said, "and all of our people were behind us 100 percent.

The enthusiasm and confidence and positive attitude of the Fremont team was infectious. My visit with them made me proud to be a "relative."
Branch Lines in Trouble

This state agency feels that action should be taken in behalf of the agricultural shippers on the lines pending abandonment. The department sentiment is especially strong regarding the Imlay City to Caseville line. "Our agency considers this route to be absolutely essential to Michigan agriculture," Porter emphasizes. "We feel that it is unthinkable to let this line be abandoned."

Huron, Tuscola and Saginaw counties in the Thumb are the state's primary producers of dry edible beans. The first two counties are also among Michigan's heaviest fields of corn, wheat, oats, rye and barley producers.

"These products lend themselves well to being shipped by rail," Porter notes.

There is also only one Class I highway, M35, that grain trucks can legally travel on to serve the area that could be left without rail service.

Riel also notes that two cities on the Imlay City to Caseville line are not near all-weather truck routes.

To abandon a line, a railroad must file several

(Cont'd. from page 14)
The State Board of Canvassers has completed its work on certifying the November 2 ballot proposals. This includes the 100 word description of three Constitutional amendments and one initiative proposal.

A “Constitutional amendment” changes the Constitution and cannot be changed except by another vote of the people.

An “initiative” proposal results from the Constitutional power of the people to “propose laws and to enact and reject laws...” They result from petitions signed by not less than 8 percent of the registered voters. If passed they cannot be vetoed by the Governor. They cannot be amended or repealed except by the voters or by 3/4 vote of the Legislature.

The following are the four proposals together with the exact wording that will appear on the ballot on November 2. The short analysis of each is intended to provide important information to the voter.

### PROPOSAL A
**PROPOSED LAW TO PROHIBIT THE USE OF NONRETURNABLE BOTTLES AND CANS FOR SOFT DRINKS AND BEER; TO REQUIRE REFUNDABLE CASH DEPOSITS FOR SOFT DRINK AND BEER CONTAINERS; AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE LAW.**

The proposed law would:
- (a) Prohibit the use of nonreturnable bottles and cans for the sale of soft drinks and beer for off-premises consumption;
- (b) Set up a requirement for cash deposits and repayment of deposits for soft drink and beer containers;
- (c) Prohibit the use of metal soft drink and beer containers with detachable openers;
- (d) Establish fines for violation of the law by dealers, distributors and manufacturers.

Should this proposed law be approved?

### PROPOSAL B
**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE OFFICES OF STATE SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE**

The proposed law would:
- (a) Reduce the age requirement to be eligible for the offices of state senator and state representative from 21 to 18.
- (b) Require that to be eligible for the offices of state senator and state representative a person must be a registered elector of that legislative district.
- (c) Change the time a person must have these qualifications from the date of assuming office to the date of qualifying as a candidate.

Should this amendment be adopted?

### PROPOSAL C
**PROPOSAL TO LIMIT ALL STATE TAXES AND SPENDING TO 8.3 PERCENT OF THE COMBINED PERSONAL INCOME OF MICHIGAN**

The proposed amendment would:
- (a) Limit all state taxes and spending to 8.3 percent of combined personal income of Michigan, except taxes for repayment of bonds. State taxes means all state revenues, excluding federal aid;
- (b) Provide for refund of excess revenue to individual taxpayers;
- (c) Limit 8.3 percent limitation to be exceeded only if Governor declares specific emergency approved by 2/3s vote of the Legislature;
- (d) Prohibit state adopting or expanding local programs without full state funding;
- (e) Prohibit state from reducing existing level of aid to local governments;
- (f) Prohibit local governments from increasing existing taxes without voter approval;
- (g) Provide for implementation by the Legislature.

Should this amendment be adopted?

### PROPOSAL D
**PROPOSAL TO REPLACE THE PRESENT FLAT RATE STATE INCOME TAX WITH A GRADUATED STATE INCOME TAX FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1977, THEREAFTER RATES AND BASES OF STATE INCOME TAXES TO BE DETERMINED BY THE LEGISLATURE.**

The proposed amendment would:
- (a) Remove constitutional ban on graduated income tax;
- (b) Reduce to 3.9 percent maximum, the income tax rate on taxable personal income of an individual, or individuals filing a joint return, on the first $20,000 of taxable personal income, adjusted upwards by $1,500 for taxpayer and each dependent;
- (c) Raise tax rate of individual taxpayers on income over that amount to replace the loss of revenue caused by above tax reductions;
- (d) Establish a constitutional minimum $1,500 exemption for taxpayer and each dependent;
- (e) Permit January 1, 1978, permit the Legislature to establish bases and rates of personal income taxes.

Should this amendment be adopted?

### Vote Yes on Proposal A
This is the “ban the bottle” proposal. A YES vote will pass into law controls on nonreturnable bottles and cans. Farm Bureau has supported such bills in the Legislature for several years. Farm Bureau members throughout the state collected a sizeable percentage of the petition signatures needed to force the issue on the ballot. Farm Bureau’s 1976 policy as passed by the voting delegates states in part, “We will support action to place the question of nonreturnable beverage containers on the ballot for voters to decide...” Farmers have been plagued with cans and bottles on their roadsides, yards, and fields. Large dollar losses have resulted with damage to tractors and implement tires, injured livestock and even liability due to bottles blowing through choppers. The legislature has failed to pass legislation to solve this problem. Two other states, Oregon and Vermont have similar legislation. If Michigan is ever to have a law, the voters will have to do it.

### Proposal B Comments
This is on the ballot by action of the Michigan Legislature. It would amend the Constitution to allow 18 year olds to be elected to the state Legislature. Eighteen year olds were given the right to vote by a vote of the people in 1973. Numerous laws have been changing giving them all the rights and responsibilities of adulthood. This includes the right to drink, contract, etc. The question now is whether they should be permitted to be elected to the Legislature.

### Proposal C Comments
This proposal to amend the Constitution was placed on the ballot by petition. The Michigan Farm Bureau Board considered the proposal and took a “no position” stance.

### Vote No on Proposal D
This was put on the ballot through a petition drive by the “Citizens Lobby” in the same group that promoted the removal of the sales tax of farm products. They promised that no new taxes would be needed to make up the nearly $200 million revenue loss. This was a major factor in Michigan’s $200 million budget cut in 1973.

The Citizens Lobby is using the same tactics on this issue—great promises with no guarantee. It is really a backdoor effort to establish a graduated income tax which has been rejected by the voters in previous elections.

The key to the proposal is the provision that the amendment would last for only one year. After that, the Legislature could do anything it wanted, with no limitation, to legislate any kind of graduated income tax with no limit on rates. If Michigan is to change its income tax from a flat rate tax to a graduated tax, it should be through an honest and forthright proposal that is understandable to the voters. It should not be through Proposal D that promises a tax rollback for some for the first year with a doubling of taxes on others (nearly 10 percent) and then letting the Legislature do as it pleases with no limits after the first year.
Tax Reform, Export Controls

After several months of writing on federal estate tax reform, the House of Representatives voted unanimously to incorporate estate tax reform provisions into the Omnibus Tax Reform Bill (H.R. 10610). These provisions are controversial and have been opposed by several groups.

The estate tax provisions include the following:

1. A credit equal to $120,000 standard exemption in 1977 and increasing to the equivalent of $750,000 standard exemption in five years.
2. A marital deduction of $265,000 or 50 percent of the adjusted value of the estate, whichever is greater.
3. Appraisal of farmland for estate tax purposes on the basis of its use, rather than potential use value.
4. Extension of time to pay estate taxes up to 15 years. Payment of estate taxes could be deferred during the estates to future generations maintain reasonable price ments, the amount paid has companying the bill

P.A. 344 Asparagus Suit Sent Back to Circuit Court

Opponents of the State Farm Bureau, who so far failed to convince the Michigan Supreme Court that P.A. 344 is unconstitutional, will have another chance. The law, which took effect on December 31, 1976, will be subject to income tax.

The Circuit Court has ruled that the need for estate tax reform has been established by the need for estate tax reform. The expected enactment of H.R. 50, which would provide for the transfer of family farms estates to future generations without the need for heirs to sell property to pay estate taxes.

EXPORT CONTROLS

The importance of free access to world markets is understood by the Department of Commerce. Michigan's exports are not adequately covered by the Department's budget. The Department of Commerce has been instructed to work closely with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Transportation to ensure that Michigan's exports are not threatened because federal land holdings are threatened. The federal government owns in excess of 3 million acres, much of which is in Michigan counties. A report on land use and development would be an additional resource to the Department of Commerce.

In five years, the Michigan legislature in the interest of free access to world markets is understood. The Department of Commerce has been instructed to work closely with the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Transportation to ensure that Michigan's exports are not threatened because federal land holdings are threatened. The federal government owns in excess of 3 million acres, much of which is in Michigan counties. A report on land use and development would be an additional resource to the Department of Commerce.
Governor Declares October as Co-op Month

In Michigan October will be "Cooperative Month". The Governor in signing the proclamation indicated the contribution of farmer cooperatives to the economy and to rural areas of the state. Our farmer cooperatives provide Michigan farmers with more than one-third of their inputs and markets. Many farmers belong or use four or five different cooperatives.

The national theme for this year's program is "Cooperatives - People Working Together". Most cooperatives throughout the U.S. will sponsor some activity in promoting the cooperative ways of doing business.

Proclamation

The dictionary defines a "cooperative spirit" as one found in persons "given to or marked by a willingness and ability to work with others in a common effort."

Certainly this concept has been the vital element in founding and developing a country that is second to none. It really could be the "Spirit of '76" that has been extolled all through this Bicentennial year.

In ensuing times of strife and good fortune, let us hope that the cooperative spirit is never lost. And why should it be? Hopes and dreams are insignificant unless they can be shared with others. To transpose such dreams into advanced technology benefitting all has been one of our citizenry's strongest motivating forces.

Right along with the pooling of ideas and efforts to build Mars landers and to provide better educational techniques go new ways to produce more and better food crops and superior ways of getting this food to consumers with the least delay.

Therefore it is fitting that we honor the institution that magnifies and serves as a base for the cooperative spirit, the cooperative. This unit of society will go on serving this state and this nation to the best of its many members' abilities all through this country's third century and well beyond.

I, William G. Milliken, Governor of the State of Michigan, urge all citizens of this state to give fitting recognition to the importance of cooperatives to Michigan and the two million families they serve.

Given under my hand this twenty-first day of September in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-six and of the Commonwealth one hundred Thirty-Eighth.
MIOSHA Hears Unified Voice Against New Machine Safety Proposals

Testimony provided at the September 13 Michigan Department of Labor Commission Public Hearing on proposed state machinery safety regulations was overwhelmingly in favor of rejecting the state legislation and accepting the federal OSHA standards scheduled to go into effect October 25, 1976.

Most agreed that the federal regulations will be more effective than the state proposals.

More than 160 persons attended the hearing, which was highlighted by an all-day testimony against the state rules.

The most telling was provided by Farm Bureau's Representative Harry Gast, Jr. (R-St. Joseph). He stated he will introduce House Bill 6226, legislation designed to prevent the Michigan Department of Labor from enforcing part 81 and part 53. These regulations for more stringent laws concerning safe tractor operation and care, along with rollover protection, the placement of guards on nearly all farm equipment.

Two other state representatives, Ernest Nash (R-Iden), and Stanley Powell (R-Clinton), also testified against the state proposals.

Merrill J. Buschlen, operations manager for the Michigan Agricultural Services Association, testified that most of the problems with the state proposals started when the state Department of Labor gave their Agricultural Advisory Committee only a short time to submit their suggestions for state additions to the federal OSHA rules, and then rejected their ideas.

“This committee was given less than eight hours to make a judgment on rules that it took the federal OSHA three years to put together,” Buschlen pointed out. “The federal rules were written with the recommendations of many agricultural engineers from universities, agricultural associations, and many implement manufacturers. Because of this help, the federal rules were put together in such a way that they are understandable by the farmer. Because the state rejected the advice of the implementation manufacturers, the state proposals are confusing, unintelligible, and in contradiction with themselves.”

The federal OSHA agrees with it’s advisors that the most effective method of reducing the injuries to agricultural tractor operators would be to require that the tractors they operate over 20 horsepower equipped with a seat belt and rollover protection structure. Buschlen added. The Michigan Department of Labor standards include this standard and many other rules concern the care and operation of a tractor.

“The engineers who designed and produce the tractor are the best qualified persons to determine the most efficient and safe use of the tractor. It is the best source of information for the tractor.”

Yet the Michigan OSHA proposals declare that the director of labor is the only one who can approve hitching points other than the drawbar.

“I doubt if the equipment manufacturers would appreciate anyone else deciding where and under what circumstances operators could hitch to their tractor at a point other than the hitch points designated by engineering design.” Buschlen noted.

He noted that there are at least eleven additions to or deletions from the federal standards, many fewer new rules in the Michigan proposals in the tractor section alone.


“The farm equipment manufacturers certainly are not opposed to safety equipment. If the manufacturer instruction manuals are properly used with them. They first introduced the rollover protection structure in 1966. Since then, they have incorporated many other protective devices into the design of our equipment.”

Because of this experience, Deere strongly objects to the section of Michigan proposals that call for an additional seat to be provided for supervisors. This seat is provided so that they can ride along while instructing persons as to how to operate the tractor.

“A second seat would reduce the rollover protection provided by the tractor design ROPS,” Bellinger said. “There are no such compelling needs in Michigan for this device over any other areas in the country. The federal OSHA rules say that states may implement regulations that are more stringent than the federal, if there is a compelling need in a certain area for them.

Dr. Richard Pfister, Michigan State University, agricultural safety engineer, also questioned the practicality of a second seat.

“Years ago, agricultural safety advisors have stressed ‘no riders’ on tractors,” the safety expert pointed out. “Now we have a proposed law that totally contradicts this common sense safety rule.”

Pfister is noted throughout the country for his research on the prevention of farm accidents. He has served on the committee that established the federal OSHA farm equipment safety regulations that go into effect this year.

(Con't. on page 10)
**Michigan Marketing Outlook**

### Special Sugar Report

The AFBF Sugar Advisory Committee met with officials of the U.S. Embassy in the U.K. recently to urge that prompt action be taken to lift the burden of large U.S. sugar surpluses being sold below domestic prices. Committee members, from major sugar producing states, asked Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Richard Bell, and other U.S.D.A. officials to give serious consideration to lowering present import quotas to more reasonable levels. The import quotas are currently set at approximately 7 million tons annually. Quotas would have to be lowered to the 4 million ton area before they actually become meaningful.

Another cloud hanging over the sugar industry is the import duty on sugar from underdeveloped nations. This duty free sugar is available under the U.K.'s generalized system of preferences. Closing this gap could provide some relief for U.S. sugar producers, particularly a sore spot some U.S.D.A. officials.

A further consideration during the meeting between the AFBF Sugar Advisory Committee and U.S.D.A. was the possibility of raising the duty free sugar import quota. Presently, the duty is set at 62½ cents per pound. One proposal calls for raising the duty to $1.87 per hundred.

Assistant Secretary Bell assured committee members that something would be done. However, any combination of alternatives will be applied to the problem. He added that studies are now under way to determine whether or not certain countries are dumping sugar into U.S. markets. It has been discovered and can be proven, countervailing duties will be applied to correct this condition.

### CORN AND SOYBEANS

In another move designed to assist U.S. sugar producers, Congressmen from Wisconsin and Minnesota have introduced a Bill which would, in effect, put a lid on duty free sugar imports. The Bill would use a formula, geared partly to the cost of producing beet sugar, to determine a “base price.” Any sugar imported below the base price, which would include the total cost of foreign sugar to within 2½ percent of the base. No action was taken on this Bill during the current congressional session. Even Mr. Bergland, who incidentally is the Vice Chairman of the Jimmy Carter Administration’s Agricultural Campaign Committee, sees little hope for action this year. He does however believe that this Bill can serve to prevent growers from abandoning sugar beets as a cash crop. However, the impact and ramifications behind Congressman Bergland’s Bill of a variable levy on imports has very serious implications among U.S.D.A. officials.

The implication is especially serious when considered with the possibility that the entire sugar industry is being governed by the sugar market. If the political atmosphere changes, it may be necessary to monitor sugar prices closely.

The situation in the sugar industry brings to mind several important points for policy discussion in the commodity areas:

1. How much government do we want in agriculture?
2. What kind of posture should the U.S. maintain with regard to international trade in agricultural commodities?
3. To what extent do we really support the free market economy?

Dr. Paul E. Kindinger, Market Development Division

### CORN AND SOYBEANS

No matter which estimate of production you have been following, the same result holds true - the same - down. Both the U.S.D.A. and private forecasters have reduced their corn and soybean production estimates for corn and soybeans in the U.S. The corn is hot, dry weather ever since late July has taken a toll on both crops. As a result of the unusual weather, corn yields remain in many areas are below normal producing areas. Soybean harvest has been delayed and hampered by soybean pod development being behind normal. The reduction in corn production in the U.S. is now at set at 5.8 to 5.9 billion bushels (depending on who you listen to). The corn price, down from the 6.6 billion bushels forecast earlier this year. Similarly, soybean estimates have slipped from the August 1st figure of 1.34 billion bushels to the U.S.D.A.’s September 1st forecast of 1.29 billion bushels. The price continues hot and dry much longer the October estimates will most likely show a further decline.

Prices for corn and soybeans however, have continued to be sporic, trading mostly on the downside. Even if the new higher predictions of grain production in the U.S.S.R. can reduce their buying activity, this should be partially offset by increased domestic consumption and exports to western Europe. Some brokerage houses are still recommending trading soybean meal from corn from a long position.

They have taken a wait and see attitude with the soybean commodity. One factor is the 3 percent for rails up to harvest. Dr. Paul E. Kindinger, Director Market Development Division

### BEEF

The controversy involving beef movement from Australia and New Zealand is not going away and looks like action will be taken. A letter from Michigan Beef Bureau supporting the closing of the Beef Zone has been sent. The loophole involves beef moving from Australia and New Zealand to a processing plant in a U.S. Free Trade Zone in Puerto Rico. This beef, because it’s processed before leaving the Trade Zone, until this week had escaped beef quotas from Australia and New Zealand. That loophole had been closed.

The beef situation has improved slightly from last month but not as fast as was anticipated. The situation has been complicated by the severe drought in the western U.S. The continuation of the liquidation of herds previously thought to be sound. Although this slow down in the demand for meat in the beef industry is probably a healthy situation. It is not, however, the development that many thought it would be for meat continuing its upswing.

The Beef Research and Information Act hearings will be held in six places across the country this next 60 days with a referendum scheduled next spring. Michigan’s representative will be testifying in Des Moines, Iowa on October 12th.

I remain optimistic and am convinced that the entire beef industry will be in a much healthier situation by the next winter. Tom Reed, Market Development Division

### FRUIT

**Cherries**

The F.D.A. is all poised to delist Red No. 4. Food coloring only a few months away after one delisting. Red No. 4 is used to give Marichino Cherries their bright, red color. If Red No. 4 is delisted, consumers may be faced with a pale pink or whitish looking cherry for decorating their dishes. As like producers, packers and processors, the cherry industry will be left without an acceptable substitute for Red No. 4 at the present time.

**Apples**

The juice price in Michigan for 1976-77 has been established at 4 cents per pound. Several processors have also agreed to the $8.00 per hundred pound agreement. For soft varieties, $8.75 cents per pound, for Northern and a processing plant in the 1973 Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act in December 31, 1977. The original Sugar Act had been allowed to expire in 1974. Some producers would have thought the sugar market had disappeared in 1977. The chance for passage of a sugar measure does not appear very likely at this time. The political atmosphere however, may change before these discussions take place.

Dr. Paul E. Kindinger, Director Market Development Division

### DAIRY

**Milk production in August was up nearly 6 percent above year to date number. Dairymen are looking for rally in the price of milk. For the first eight months of 1976 U.S. milk production was up nearly 3 percent from the same period a year ago. Even though milk cow numbers continue to drop the increases in production have more than offset the reduction in numbers. Lower quality feed in several states has caused milk yields to decrease in output thus, the total milk production should not reach the point of a desirable amount and prices will continue ample in the next six months.**

The strong consumer demand for milk products has only begun to show up in the dairyman’s milk check. More advance in farm prices can be expected in coming months as sales of milk and dairy products continue to grow. Dr. Paul E. Kindinger, Director Market Development Division

### PORK

Due to unusually favorable weather, hog producers increased this year’s spring pig crop by 16 percent. Heavier slaughter and the increased curtailment of current hog growing, resulting in a potential 14 percent to 16 percent increase in hog slaughtering could assure a supply increase of around 3 percent.

The one bright spot in the pork industry in the next six months is the possibility of substantial increase in overseas sales. U.S. pork exports in the 1976 fiscal year were more than double that of a year earlier, with pork exports to Japan tripling during the year and accounting for more than one half of the total. Exports of livestock and meat products amounted to $1.7 billion in 1976 and over $250 million over fiscal year 1975 ($263,000,000,000 of that total was pork).

The potential for sharply increasing our exports of livestock and meat products in the years ahead, paralleling pork, will be testifying in Des Moines, Iowa on October 12th.

Tom Reed, Marketing Specialist Market Development Division

### Appendix

**CORN AND SOYBEANS**

As the new growing season approaches, the production outlook for corn and soybeans in Michigan is expected to be much higher than last year. Corn yields are expected to be near 150 bushels per acre, up from 140 bushels last year. Soybean yields are expected to be near 40 bushels per acre, up from 37 bushels last year. The increase in production is due to a combination of favorable weather and improved crop conditions. Corn prices are expected to be around $3.50 per bushel, up from $2.75 last year. Soybean prices are expected to be around $6.50 per bushel, up from $5.25 last year. The increase in prices is due to a strong demand for both crops, as well as a tight supply of both commodities. The overall outlook for the corn and soybean industry in Michigan is expected to be strong, with both crops expected to be in high demand due to the good crop conditions and strong prices.
FERTILIZER - Unlike CF Industries, the co-operative fertilizer manufacturing company partly owned by Farm Bureau Services, other non-co-op fertilizer manufacturers are again shipping fertilizers overseas in large enough quantities to seriously affect domestic prices. The export demand for phosphates swung into a later planting season seems to avoid the major spring use period and planting demands.

As in the past, where chances of price increases are indicated, prudent farmers with the capacity to order and take supplies during the winter have come out ahead. In addition, they can avoid the rush that always occurs when the planting season breaks. Farm Bureau dealers should be consulted, and specific arrangements made for your needs, taking advantage of the co-operative system which mandates that our farmers come first.

SEEDS - There is plenty of the Tecumseh seed available from Farm Bureau outlets. It has been shown to be a high yielding seed wheat especially suited to later planting. The Michigan State University has been advocating planting two weeks past the fly - free dates because of smut which has been an ever increasing problem in Michigan. The later planting seems to avoid some of the conditions which encourage smut.

FEEDS - Cooperative Research Farms, owned by Farm Bureau Services and other regional supply co-operatives, has a new, scientific breakthrough of great importance to dairymen. This patented scientific advance can increase the yearly milk production of quality, high-producing herds by hundreds of pounds. Our scientists have discovered how to increase the effectiveness of the "protein factories" inside of cows by allowing protozoa and bacteria to better utilize soluble and insoluble protein. A meeting explaining this important breakthrough was held for Farm Bureau dealers at the end of September. Dairy farmers will be able to get this innovation in feed from Farm Bureau dealers as an exclusive, not available from other manufacturers. You must find out about NU PRO Dairy Feed, trademarked by Farm Bureau Services, from your dealer as soon as possible.

Excellent feed buys are on right now at Farm Bureau dealers. The Star Spangled Dairy deals program is available too for good measure. In this program free Bovadine Teat Dip is offered with feed purchases through December 31.

INTEREST in LPS, liquid protein supplement, has been increasing greatly. To enhance your operation consider taking on some for a try.

HARDWARE - Farmers should order or reserve their storage bin needs at once. Prices have not increased as expected even though rises in steel did take place. A special mailing is going out from the Steelco steel people offering coupons with dollars off on single strand barbed wire. Since every farmer will not receive the coupons be sure to ask your Farm Bureau dealer for yours.

Paint supplies are good and increasing all over the state. This may be your last chance to paint before bad weather.

A nostalgic trip to yesteryear as modern machinery - and price tags - of modern machinery.

A MIGHTY BIG MACHINE - with a mighty big price tag to match. Representative Charles Varnum climbs aboard for a ride while the crowd hears a lecture on the origination of their breakfast oatmeal.

INTEREST ON DEBENTURES 5-10-15 year maturity

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<th>Maturity</th>
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<tr>
<td>5% 5 Year Maturity</td>
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Interest paid annually on September 1. The purchaser to be offered the option to receive their interest in quarterly payments on September 1, December 1, March 1 and June 1. Interest would start the date of purchase.

This is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation to buy these securities made only by the prospectus.
October Planting Means Better Wheat Yields

You'll have better yields if you plant wheat after Oct. 1, concludes a five-year study at Michigan State University.

The findings, by Dr. Alvin Ravenscroft and Dr. Maurice Wiese, show that winter wheat planted in early fall was heavily infested with aphids carrying barley yellow dwarf virus. Yields were as low as 20 bushels per acre in severely infected fields. Early planting also subjects the crop to epidemic levels of leaf rust and powdery mildew in some years.

All of the recommended varieties except Gensieve and Yorkstar, are resistant to most prevalent races of Hessian fly in Michigan. However, these resistances often fail when field temperatures exceed 80 degrees F in the fall. Records indicate a sharp break in fall temperatures between Oct. 4-10 in Michigan, the period when continental air masses begin to predominate over the warmer gulf air masses.

Wheat plantings made just prior to or during this period are more insect and disease free and, therefore, more vigorous. Optimum yields were obtained when wheat was planted during the first week of October.

Be sure and soil test fields for lime, phosphorus and potassium requirements before planting. Nitrogen levels should be modest in the fall, but have adequate phosphorus and potassium. Top dressing nitrogen in early spring gives the highest yields. It is best to plant wheat after navy beans, soybeans, corn (where herbicide use has been minimal), oats or barley.

WHO'S GOT A SPECIAL FEED PROGRAM FOR MICHIGAN?

At Farm Bureau Services we offer a total feed service able to assist Michigan farmers in determining proper and profitable feeding programs, as well as solving individual problems.

The Farm Bureau feed team, backed by a staff veterinarian and nutritionist, provides you with the most up-to-date feed information. In cooperation with other farm co-ops, Farm Bureau Services operates 10 research farms where new feeds, feeding techniques and health practices are tested. Recently we installed a Scidata mini-computer, to assist our feed nutritionist in determining the most effective feed formulations for desired production goals.

In addition to these services, Farm Bureau offers a wide variety of excellent feeds, including Liquid Protein Supplement (LPS) which has been widely accepted as a versatile liquid supplement for all types of feeding operations.

Talk to your Farm Bureau feedman now. He'll work up a feed program to fit your particular needs. It's service you can depend on... from the Farm Bureau people.

ASK THE FARM BUREAU PEOPLE
Beef Farmers Promote What they Produce

Farmers today have a vested interest in their products. They've come to realize in recent years that they can no longer just sell a product at the market place and expect it to move. To make sure that it does move and that demand for it increases, they've gotten involved in the promotion of their products - and in the education of consumers regarding the benefits and uses of their product.

"It's a little bit like General Motors or Ford Motor Company, says Dick Posthumus, executive vice president of the Michigan Beef Industry Commission. "Once they produce a car, they don't just send it to a dealer and let him do all the promotion. They promote the product they have produced. It's the same way with farmers. They can't leave all the promotion to the retailers and packers."

Beef farmers, through the Beef Commission this past year and time-consuming, behind-the-scenes work was done with retailers who were succumbing to consumer pressures for out-of-state beef. Consumers were confused and worried about the PBB problem and retailers had no answers.

"Nobody had told the retailer anything about it and so they were beginning to say, 'Maybe there is reason for concern,'" Dick said. "We had quite a few ready to switch and some did."

To fill this communications void, the Commission began sending out a weekly letter to about 1200 major retail meat managers in the state, telling them what PBB was, how it was being taken care of, how much was really in the food system, and generally answering their question of whether there was a need for concern.

"This was probably the most important single thing that had been done since the Commission was established," Dick feels. "Our basic concern was to make sure that consumer and retailer confidence in Michigan beef was maintained so that when the problem was over, we'd still have a beef industry." He believes this information campaign was well worth the effort.

The Beef Commission has just recently added a Director of Home Economics and Food Service Industry to its staff, Retha Hankey, who will work with food editors, home economists, and schools. Retha, who has an extension service and 4H work background, looks forward to helping homemakers provide well balanced meals for their families while stretching food dollars.

(Cont'd on page 12)
Hemlock Co-op's Expansion
A Tribute to Members

The August 28 grand opening of the Hemlock Farmers' Cooperative's new elevator facilities, was really a 'hat's off' celebration for the co-op's dedicated members. They voted to have the facility built as part of an expansion program and contributed 44 percent of the cost of the nearly $1.5 million dollar elevator.

The project all began when Robert Reeves was appointed as the co-op's General Manager in 1973. "We realized then that the facilities we had could not serve the needs of our members," Reeves explains. "Our first step was to get the existing elevator up to code. That facility now handles 20,000 bushels of navy beans, red wheat and ear corn. Then we expanded the retail store by 25 percent, increasing sales from $237,000 to $309,000 annually."

Then came a near unanimous member vote to support and contribute to the building of the new elevator. "It's impossible to say that any one group of members was the most instrumental in the channeling of funds for the new project," says Lowell Nelson, fund drive coordinator. His firm, Nelson Marketing, initiated this successful campaign to secure the necessary capital through investments. It also made the study that spelled out the need and practicality of building the elevator.

The funding drive was spearheaded by an aggressive board of directors and management, but farmers with every size farm worked just as hard to contribute time and money to the project.

Then Nelson notes, "they worked with the same spirit that more than doubled Hemlock Co-op's business in two and a half years, from $1.7 million to $4 million. I don't know of any other co-op in the state that has made such achievement in so short a time, especially in a recession."

In addition to the new 570,000 bushel elevator, Hemlock Co-op has added a 100,000 gallon raw petroleum storage facility and a 240 ton fertilizer storage building to round out its expansion program.

Elton Smith, President of the Michigan Farm Bureau, spoke at the opening ceremony in praise of the co-op's spirit. "Local involvement is what really makes co-operators work." Smith stressed. "The facilities themselves are the envy of many Michigan farmers, but the spirit that lead to 44 percent of the elevator cost to be defrayed by the community, really shows the best assets of the community."

Ben Schrader, Saginaw County Commissioner, was also impressed with the tremendous involvement on the part of the Hemlock community.

"A community will die without growth," Schrader pointed out. "The Hemlock Farmer's Cooperative and all it's members, have contributed a major asset to the community. Their expansion project shows that they are doing their best to promote and protect the best interests of the community."

Don Armstrong, Vice President of Michigan Farm Bureau Services, said that the new elevator will help the Hemlock Cooperative on community play a stronger role in the grain shipments for export. "A community has to have facilities like this to be able to enter it's farm products into the export trade market," Armstrong pointed out.

The first 63 unit train was scheduled to be loaded on September 20. Shipping activities will continue throughout the year as corn harvest starts coming in during the first week of October, Reeves added.

With its 168-foot high headhouse towering over the surrounding landscape, the new Hemlock Cooperative grain elevator adds more than just a landmark to the area. Its capacity of 570,000 bushels more than doubles the grain-building facilities of the organization. The original 230,000 bushel capacity elevator can be seen in the left background.

BEEF
(Con't from page 11)

And she hopes to teach them how to effectively purchase beef and use it in a variety of ways "instead of always having hamburgers."

In addition to financing activities within the state, a portion of the Commission's budget goes to the National Livestock and Meat Board for research, education and promotion. One example is publication of America's first metric beef cookbook to help consumers through the transitional period of the move to this new system.

Members of the Commission, who are appointed by the Governor, represent every segment of the industry from producers to retailers. Currently serving on the Commission are: Milton J. Brown, chairman, a cattle feeder from Mt. Pleasant; Lowell Eisenmann, vice-chairman, Blissfield cattle feeder who also serves on the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors; and Joan Higby, secretary, of Romeo, also a cattle feeder. Lester Hennessey, a retailer from Grand Ledge, serves as treasurer.

Other members are Harvey Hansen, Posen; and Gordon Andrews, Sault Ste. Marie, both feeder cattle producers; Harold Lein, St. Louis, of the Michigan Livestock Exchange; Robert Zeeb, dairyman from Bath, and Charles Hazekamp, a packer from Muskegon.

Ex-officio members of the Commission are Ronald Nelson of the Animal Husbandry Department, Michigan State University, and Jim Gleason of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

MMPA is Number One

Michigan Milk Producers Association is proud to have earned it's position as Michigan's leading dairy farmer organization. MMPA has reached the top by having a readiness to tackle problems facing dairy farmers, the ability to get things done in milk marketing and to provide important services to dairy farmers, and the willingness to stand up and be counted when the chips are down. Meeting these challenges has never been, and never will be easy. The 'top man on the totem pole' is a target for everyone else. Still, when all things are considered, it's a winning proposition to belong to an organization that's no. 1, especially with MMPA.

With MMPA Out in Front, Dairy Farmers Come Out Ahead
-473 ACRE - GRADE A - DAIRY FARM -
700 HD. - REG. & GRADe HOLSTEINS - 700 HD.
25' x 65'/20' x 70' HARVESTORES - 2000 GAL. MUELLER.
500 GAL. DARI-KOOL BULK TANKS - DELAVAL D-6
PIPELINE MILKER & DELAVAL 33 STANCHION
PIPELINE MILKER - SEMEN TANKS, ETC.
7 - TRACTORS - 3 BOBCATS - COMPLETE LINE FIELD &
FORAGE EQUIP.
600 ACRES - 24,000 to 26,000 POE. DEKALB CORN

on Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday
- OCTOBER - 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st - 10:00 A.M.
- DAILY

This exceptionally fine herd-owner-raised over last 25 years - and from Top Sires - Breeder, Arlinda Chief, All Star Pilot, Black Knight, West Side AB Seamon, Maple, Needle and their top predecessors. 100 percent closed T.B. - Banas - P.B.B. - Calf Vac. & Preg. Checked. - Also -

SELLING TUESDAY - OCT. 19TH -

- All Major Motel Chains - Battle Creek, Kalakazoo, Grand Rapids, Hastings - or Call Auctioneer - Brokers for Reservations. Your Pre-Sale inspection welcomed!!! Three days here will be worth 5 years time in building your herd!!!

SELLING WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20TH - 10:00 A.M.
- 65 HD. - Close Up Reg. & Grade Holstein Heifers - Heavy Springers - 65 HD. Heifers - Bred for March thru June 1977. 100 HD. Heifers - 8-15 Mo. - Approx. 125 HD. - 3 days to 3 months.


- THURSDAY - OCT. 21ST - 10:00 A.M. - SHARP -


- 473 ACRE - GRADE A - DAIRY FARM -
This very well located farm will sell as 160 Acres - Excellent Modern Homes and 14' x 60' 2 BR Marlette Home on Basement. All Building Improvements. 1400 Ton Cement Bunker Silo. Blacktop Road - Complete Dairy or Beef Feed Lot Facilities for 150 up cows & heifer replacements. Highly productive, we well cared for, undulating to level loam land. No. 2 - 157 acres with 33 stanchion barn - pole barn. Excellent, level, very productive 145 acres tillable land W-M-37 frontage - No Home, but Ideal Home Site - Very fine Grade A Dairy Set up for single family dairy farm. No. 3 - 160 acres - W-blacktop & gravel road frontage will sell as 4 vacant 40's - 2 wooded, 2 tillable, and then will sell as 473 acres - Highest bid price to determine way it sells. It will fit any or all!!!

- Selling After & Separately from Farm - 25' x 65' Harv.
estore W.-(Goliath unloader, Completely Rebuilt.) 20' x 70' Harvester W-Herc unloader, rebuilt w-new warranty in 1971. 600 acres of 24 to 26,000 plant population DeKalb corn - Selling by the acre - on per field - acreage basis!! Buy 20 acres or 600! Harvestor roller mill. Harvestor protein mixer. Grain Storage bins, etc.

-Terms: Personal - Cash or Check W-Bank Letter of Credit - Real Estate - 10 percent Bid Price - On Sale Date - Balance on or before days - Possession of land & hogs - Immediate - Homes - 30 days from date of closure. Open House Inspections. All Real Estate - Saturday, Sunday - Oct. 9th & 10th - 16th & 17th - from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. - for full Real Estate Terms W-Sales Representative on Ground.

- Lunch Wagons on Grounds - All 4 Days -

- GERALD & KENNETH CASE, Owners -
Ph. 616-721-8332, Dowling, Mich. 
Edward L. Belcher & Brent Belcher
Ph. 616-781-8341
Marshall, MI 49068 

The word "FIRE" shouted in the night and the sound of sirens has a paralyzing effect on all of us. We sit in silent horror as we read a newspaper account of fellow human beings whom we have read about in a home fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association, fires were the cause of death for 11,500 Americans in 1974. The scars and terrifying memories live for months or years with those who have been injured. Many of the injured lie in hospitals for weeks, months, or years. Many of them must return over and over again for plastic and reconstructive surgery. Many never resume normal lives.

We know that more people die from fires in dwellings than all other types of buildings combined. And yet, only a few of us take even the slightest advance preparation to save ourselves in case of fires.

**Discussion Question:** What are the two most important things you can do to save yourself and your family if fire strikes your home at night?

**DEADLY SMOKE**

Fire in dwelling occupants kills. Most major fires occur at night when people are asleep and nearly 75 percent of the deaths are caused by smoke rather than burn injuries. The simple fact is that a large majority of the occupants are unaware of fire laying in their beds, dead or unconscious from smoke inhalation long before the fire reaches them.

**HOW ABOUT INSURANCE?**

Adequate insurance on a home and building is an absolute necessity. It is purpose is to replace property in case of fire or other calamity and should be reviewed and updated periodically. Most of us would not get a good night's rest without the security of a paid-up fire insurance policy. If we even suspect that our policy has lapsed, or might be inadequate, we would call our insurance agent in the middle of the night to confirm coverage.

But, while insurance replaces property, there is no insurance which will replace life lost in a fire. Insurance against loss of life does not come in the form of an insurance policy.

**WHAT TO DO**

Insurance against loss of life in a fire comes in the form of a "early warning device" and an escape plan.

For you are your family to survive a night fire, you must awaken before smoke and heat becomes intolerable. You should have two alternate exits from each bedroom. Your entire family should practice using these escape routes. Once outside, you should meet at a pre-determined place and stay out of the house until fire fighters arrive.

The fire department can be summoned from the neighbor's telephone.

To help insure that you are awakened in time, Mike Patrick, a graduate student who prepared the evacuation plans, you should install an early warning device system in your home.

**WHAT KIND OF SYSTEM?**

The highly expensive elaborate fire alarm system is no longer necessary to improve your chances of survival in a fire situation. When it comes to fire alarms for the home, what you want is a device that's fast and dependable, something that will alert you in time to get everyone out without unnecessary haste. Generally speaking, a smoke detector meets those requirements better than a heat detector. Smoke detectors can sound an alarm minutes, and even hours, before a heat sensing device because they are activated by the first sign of fire or smoke. This production of combustion often is the first to spread throughout a house; smoke and accompanying toxic gases are the cause of death more often than burns.

In general, smoke detector should be installed in the home so that smoke from any fire which originates outside the bedroom area passes over the detector and triggers the alarm before the deadly smoke reaches the bedroom. A smoke detector should be installed in the hallway outside the bedrooms. If bedroom entrances are all located in the same area, a dwelling can be protected just with one detector. In single story homes with more than one bedroom area, or in multi-story homes, more than one detector will be needed.

**TYPES AVAILABLE**

Smoke detectors are manufactured in two types. One is the "ionization" type, which generally operates on house current. The other is the "ionization" type which has a lower power consumption, thus lending itself to battery operation. Both have been found to be quite effective in dwelling type fires. A Photo-Electric detector sounds when smoke particulates reflect light from a tiny bulb or light emitting diode onto a photo-electric cell. Photo-Electric detectors generally respond faster to slowly smoldering fires. Most depend on a small light bulb, which eventually burns out, causing the alarm to sound.

An ionization chamber models a tiny source of radiation electrically charges a small amount of air. Entering smoke particulates disrupt the flow of electricity and the alarm goes off. Ionization Chamber detectors respond faster to fires in which flames are visible. They are also more sensitive to smoke from cooking, so they are more prone to false alarms if placed near the kitchen.

Most smoke detectors are self-contained units including the power supply, fusing device, and alarm in one unit. The battery operated units are designed to have a fail-safe mechanism which causes a "trouble signal" when the battery power begins to drop, thus aborting the possibility of the battery going dead without your knowledge. Batteries in Ionization Models last three years and because the system requires a special battery, the replacement cost is usually about $5.00.

Both batteries and house circuit system have advantages and disadvantages.

**Discussion Question:** What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of battery verses house circuit?

**WHERE TO BUY A SMOKE DETECTOR**

Smoke detectors are being available through any number of sources such as hardware stores, department stores, electronic suppliers, and house to house salesmen. When purchasing a smoke detector, you should be sure there's either the F.M. (Factory Mutual) or (Underwriter's laboratory) seal of approval. The retail price should range from $50.00 to no more than $150.00 per unit.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Federation has entered into a contract with Wolfe Safety and Security Systems, who have agreed to supply both battery operated and house circuit type smoke detectors to members of Farm Bureau Community Groups, and County Women's Committee at a cost of $30.00 per detector, providing each group or committee pools all orders on one order form and sends one check for the entire group or committee. These are the same detectors which are being sold retail for $50.00 to $100.00. Literature describing the detectors is enclosed in the discussion leader's packet.

After checking a number of smoke detectors over the last six months, we feel secure in offering this unit as the "best buy."

The Community Group secretary should use the order form on the recording sheet and simply send it to us in the usual manner. Your smoke detector will be sent to one person in your group for distribution. As soon as you receive your smoke detector, complete the card that is enclosed and return it to Wolfe Safety and Security Systems. This will enable them to provide you with direct service and battery replacement.

**RAILROADS**

(Con't. from page 3) 

reports with the ICC. One is an environmental impact statement showing how a shift of commodity movement by truck instead of rail would affect an area.

"This is a project which is concerned with air, water and sound pollution," Porter relates. "There are really no statistics that are established, except what the railroad reports as gross tonnage on the line." The Michigan Department of Agriculture has conducted comprehensive studies on how the shift from rail to truck would affect the economy of the Thumb area in question.

According to the report, about 782,000 tons of bulk agricultural commodities were produced in Huron, Tuscola and LaPiere counties. Of the tonnage produced, approximately 547,000 tons were shipped by rail. The bulk of this amount was shipped by rail.

"A single shipper who wanted to move his bulk corn from Cass City to Augusta, Maine would have to pay approximately $33.00 per ton," Porter adds. If the product were to move by rail, he would have to pay $18.15 per ton."

Such additional costs to the shipper can adversely affect that person's profits. Porter points out. "This profit loss is multiplied, it could affect the economy of the entire area."

The only way the shipper's side of the story can be recorded is for the shipper to appear at public hearings and provide testimony, Porter points out.

"A graduate student who is conducting extensive shipper surveys for Michigan State University's Department of Agricultural Economics, says that, since shippers do not realize how interdependent they are on rail service, Patrick said. "There is some information in the railroads are only submitting data that would be favorable to their own interests. If shippers paid for their rail shipping data, there might be enough information to balance out what the one-sided testimony that railroads have provided.""
FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: One free 25 word ad and 15 cents per additional word. For more information, contact: M. G. Howard, M.S. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48804. Publisher reserves right to reject any advertising copy submitted.

FARM BUILDING MAINTENANCE - We specialize in painting high quality garages, barns, roof sheds, and interior rooms. Certified painter, call for a free estimate today. CARRINO'S BLDG. MAINT. INC., 1701 E. Lakeview, Lapeer, MI 48446. (517) 687-2114.

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FOR SALE: Registered Holstein Bulls. service age, with records up to 180 miles, bred by Tims. Excellent condition. Phone 517-265-1871.


FOR SALE: Horse drawn woolen wagon seat with grain bin, 24" x 72". Exceptional condition. Phone 517-658-8233. U. S. 170, 5 miles west of Utica, Michigan.

FOR SALE: Sale for 1,200 bushel challenge plot. In a letter to the House Industry Relations Committee, which is marking up a bill, H.R. 7665, to extend the Act, Director of the American Farm Bureau Federation, sent a letter to the House Industry Relations Committee, which is marking up a bill, H.R. 7665, to extend the Act.


FOR SALE: Sirocco Sheep and lambs with 3 years experience. Registered. Sale now Crocks and Barrels and all sizes. King's Novelty Shop, corner of State St. and M-113. Michigan. Open 7 days.

FOR SALE: Sheep, lambs and ewes. Insured and proved. Please call. Phone 517-265-4544.


FOR SALE: Yorkshire serviceage boars and open gilts top bloodlines tested at MSU and SLU. Contact: Melvin Adams, Hardaker Rd., Tekonsha, Mich.

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Your Farm Bureau agent will be glad to answer all your questions and show you how Protection Plus can work for you. Contact your Farm Bureau agent today ... listed in the Yellow Pages.

*Dividends are based on current scale and are neither estimates or guarantees for the future. If dividends are reduced or not paid in the future it may cause a reduction or elimination of the supplemental coverage.