

Michigan Farm News

Michigan Farm Bureau's

ACTION

Publication

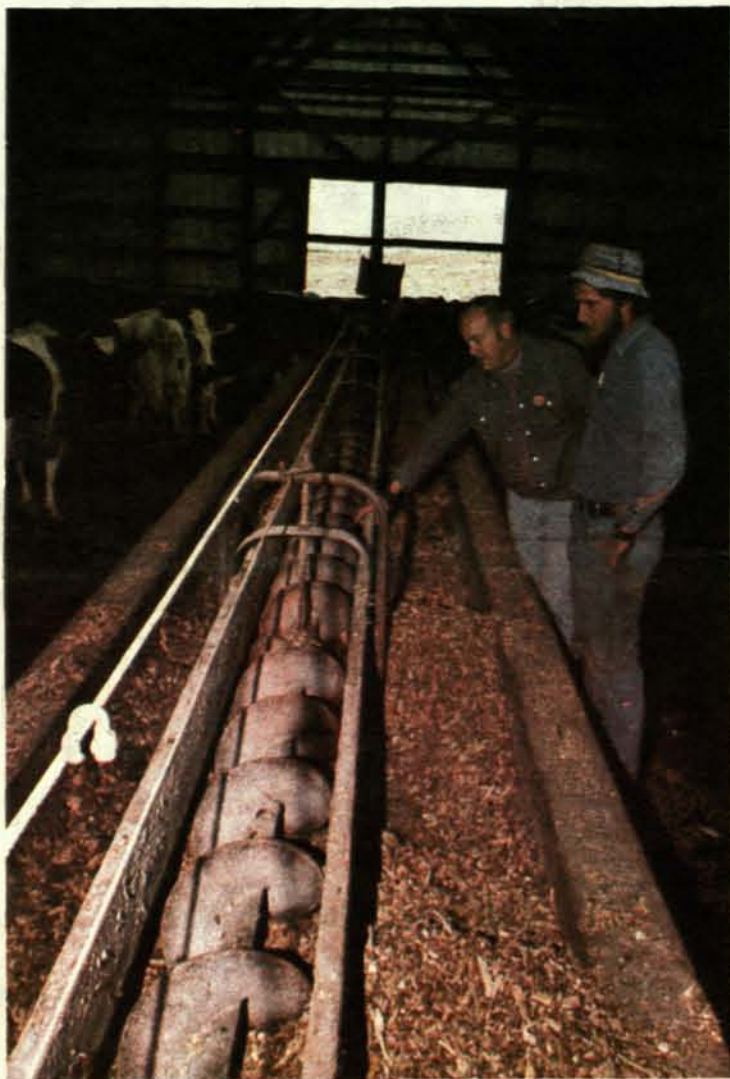
VOL. 56, NO. 7

**Farm
Bureau**

JULY, 1977

MI-OSHA Aim: Complete Regulation for Michigan Agriculture

PROPOSED REGULATIONS SET PRECEDENT FOR RETROFIT



MASA Operations Manager Don Shepard explains to Steve Chellis, Antrim County dairy farmer, that his auger silage feeder system would have to be totally enclosed, based upon his interpretation of the proposed standard.

"The Michigan Department of Labor has not yet given up its objective to bring Michigan agriculture under complete regulation at the earliest possible date," reports Donald Shepard, Operations Manager of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association (MASA).

"Faced with a resounding defeat last fall, when over 200 people testified against the proposed rollover protection and machinery guarding

standards -- a defeat which saved the state's agricultural industry an estimated 30 to 50 million dollars -- the Department has demanded that the Occupational Safety Standards Commission take action to create more standards for agriculture," says Shepard.

Upon this mandate, the Commission selected 10 general industry standards and directed them to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for review and

adaptation to agriculture. Included in these standards is a regulation on conveyers and conveying machiner, a near-duplication of the federal standard on machinery guarding -- except the MI-OSHA version would be retroactive and apply to all machinery currently on the farm.

Not only would such a regulation cost Michigan farmers millions of dollars to bring old equipment up to specifications, Shepard estimates, it would also set a precedent for retrofit in all agricultural standards.

Public hearings on the new proposed standards will probably be held sometime in July or August. All farmers are strongly urged to request the Department of Labor to add their names to the mailing list so they will be notified of the date, time and place of hearings. (See Page 2 for names and addresses.) Shepard hopes many farmers will testify in person or send written testimony expressing concerns regarding the proposed standards -- and also the manner in which standards are developed.

The way MI-OSHA operates now, Shepard maintains, "is a waste of taxpayer dollars with absolutely nothing accomplished to improve safety on the farm."



This feed trough auger on the Herbruck poultry operation in Saranac would come under the proposed MI-OSHA regulation. According to Steve Herbruck, it would be more economical to build a new facility rather than bring the current system up to standard.



This belt conveyer on the apple cider equipment at Don and Sandy Hill's farm in Genesee County would be affected by the proposed MI-OSHA conveyer standard, as would some of their sorting equipment for apples and blueberries.



On the Gratiot County hog farm of Larry and Joanne DeVuyst, Shepard tells Joanne that the tube auger would have to be guarded to meet the proposed standard.

COMMITTEE MAKE-UP

The Agricultural Advisory Committee is composed of seven people -- three representing agricultural employers, three representing agricultural employees, and an agricultural safety specialist. The agricultural employers include a cash crop farmer, a nurseryman, and a blueberry grower. On the employee side, although migrant workers make up a very small portion of the total work force in Michigan agriculture, most are representatives of the United Migrant Opportunities, Inc. (UMOI). The non-migrant, seasonal workers are not represented.

(Continued on Page 3)



*From
the Desk
of
The
President*

Accentuating the Positive

Farmers, and Farm Bureau, are sometimes described as "agin-ers," because we're often involved in aggressive efforts AGAINST something -- government over-regulation, labor monopoly, boycotts, foreign trade restrictions, government-held grain reserves -- whatever it may be that threatens our industry. We don't apologize for working effectively against legislation or philosophies or forces that would be detrimental to agriculture and our private enterprise system. On the contrary, we're proud of our "against" record.

However, there are times when we should concentrate on "accentuating the positive" so that others can better interpret our stand on issues. The current MI-OSHA situation, outlined in this publication, is a prime example. We must make it positively clear that farmers are FOR safety and that they would be FOR a regulatory agency that would help them, through education, to make their farms safer places to work. Farmers would be FOR a cooperative situation in which MI-OSHA was a partner in safety rather than a bureaucracy mainly interested in its regulatory and policing powers.

That's what farmers will be striving FOR when they appear at the public hearings and provide written testimony regarding not only the proposed regulations -- but the manner in which they are developed. I strongly urge an all-member effort on this important issue. It's a busy time of year for farmers; however, there are crucial times when the few hours spent away from farm work are a wise investment in the future. We proved that last September when our expressed concerns saved Michigan agriculture millions of dollars. Let's prove it again!

Our affiliate, MASA, is providing leadership in this vital effort, as it did last September. There has been some misconception that MASA is only for the benefit of fruit and vegetable growers. This is not so. The State Study Committee, in 1975, when it was charting the future course of our organization, recognized the value of MASA's activities to all of agriculture. Members of that committee said, and our voting delegates agreed, that the services and information provided by this affiliate have played, and will continue to play, a vital role in the economic well-being of ALL Michigan farmers.

MASA's programs will be further strengthened and broadened by a statewide Labor Committee whose members represent a cross-section of commodity interests and geographic areas. This committee will review agricultural labor issues and recommend policy for consideration by Farm Bureau members. It will also make recommendations for member programs that will make MASA even more valuable to Michigan agriculture.

I salute the farm leaders who have consented to serve on this committee and their recognition that labor issues will be one of the greatest challenges to agriculture in the days ahead. These issues will provide opportunities along with the challenges and I'm confident that with this group of progressive, constructive thinkers in a leadership role, Michigan farmers will, indeed, "accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative."

Elton R. Smith

**TIME TO START
THINKING ABOUT
POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

WHERE TO WRITE

Listed below are names and addresses of key people to whom you may direct your concerns regarding safety regulations for agriculture and MI-OSHA's method of developing them:

Keith Molin, Director
Department of Labor
Box 30015
Lansing, Mich. 48909

Dr. Dewey F. Barich, Chairman
OSSC of MI-OSHA
2727 Second Avenue
Detroit, Mich. 48201

D. C. Bangs, Co-Chairman
Agricultural Advisory Committee
Massey-Ferguson, Inc.
P.O. Box 322
Detroit, Mich. 48232

Richard R. Peters, Co-Chairman
Agricultural Advisory Committee
16280 Laketon Avenue
Cassovia, Mich. 49318

The Honorable Daisy Elliott
Chairperson, House Labor
Committee
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Lansing, Mich. 48901

The Honorable David Plawecki
Chairman, Senate Labor Com-
mittee
Senate Chamber
State Capitol
Lansing, Mich. 48902

The Honorable John Hertel
Chairman, Joint Committee on
Administrative Rules
Senate Chamber
State Capitol
Lansing, Mich. 48902

To have your name placed on the mailing list to receive notice of the date of the public hearing on MI-OSHA's proposed regulations, write:

Michigan Department of Labor
Reporting Unit
7150 Harris Drive
Box 30015
Lansing, Mich. 48926

You will also receive in-
structions regarding written
testimony.

**National
Farm Safety
Week
July 25-31**

Lions Vs. Christians

It's character-building to live in a world of deadlines, especially when the results of your efforts are so visible, so open to scrutiny. To illustrate, the typos we missed in last July's FARM NEWS are buried in a time capsule . . . which means our errors will live on, long after we are gone, to the great embarrassment of our grandchildren perhaps. When we make a boo-boo, it's right there in black and white (and sometimes living color) for the whole world to see.

When rigid deadlines dictate: "Write it right -- right now!" situations arise that either hinder or help us reach that goal. We have "normal" days when the telephone's ring shatters a thought before it can be translated into Pulitzer Prize material and the Typo Gremlins switch words into garble. We have "good" days when we hear

that a Detroit TV station is airing our "Michigan-Grown Food is Good and Good for You" public service announcements, and we get a note from a nice couple explaining that the mailman left the FARM NEWS in their mailbox by mistake and they'd like a year's subscription because they liked it!

Then we have "bad" days when we discover the title we so proudly selected for our consumer-confidence slide-tape production, "Behind the Green Door," is also the title of a porno flick. On these days, we are moved to keep a scorecard on our light table. One day the Lions were so far ahead of the Christians that we were tempted to change sides!

There are times for all of us, I'm sure, when it seems that the Lions are outscoring the Christians in our world. In the MI-



OSHA-farmer confrontation, farmers probably feel that the Lions are ahead by a substantial score.

But the answer, of course, isn't to switch sides. There's a multiple-choice answer: (a) kill the Lions before they eat you; (b) cage them, or (c) tame them. Since (a) is illegal and un-Christian and (b) the zoo-keeper would let them out again, we may have to settle for (c).

Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association
Direct Marketing Division Announces

SUMMER '77 FROZEN FRUIT SALES



The Direct Marketing Division of MACMA has rounded up the highest quality frozen fruit available for the summer sales event. Marketed under MACMA's own "MICHIGAN'S FARM BEST" label, these Michigan fruits are available:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Red Tart Pitted Cherries | Apple Slices |
| Dark Pitted Sweet Cherries | Peach Slices |
| Red Raspberries | Blueberries |
| Strawberries | |
| Apple Cider Concentrate | |

Corral the county committee chairperson or county Farm Bureau secretary for additional information!

Editorial

MI-OSHA COULD BE ASSET RATHER THAN "PAIN IN THE NECK"

By Donald Shepard, Operations Manager
Michigan Agricultural Services Association

The 1,000 agricultural employers that MASA represents are NOT opposed to safety regulations. Agricultural farm owners make up about 80 percent of the total work force on farms in Michigan and we are very concerned about a safe working environment. It is our health, our limbs, our bodies, that are exposed to any unsafe working area, so we have no opposition whatsoever to anything that will constructively improve the work environment for agriculture.

We welcome safety regulations developed by MI-OSHA that would correct hazards on the farm. We ask that this be done on the basis of:

- (1) Technically-competent people to evaluate if there is a hazard, then recommend procedures and regulations to correct the hazard;
- (2) In-depth research that will identify hazard areas on the farm today;
- (3) In-depth thought by qualified, professional people in the writing of regulations so they may be effectively interpreted and carried out;
- (4) When regulations are written - they must be feasible and enforceable, apply to an area where a hazard exists and correct that hazard.

Our immediate problem is dealing with five proposed new regulations for agriculture on which public hearings will be held soon. Names and addresses of key people in the Department of Labor are listed in this issue of the FARM NEWS. Be sure you write requesting that your name be added to the mailing list to receive notice of the hearing so you can express your concerns regarding the regulations and the manner in which they are developed.

It is of paramount importance that EVERY farmer in Michigan express his concerns regarding this issue. No part of Michigan agriculture can sit passively by and say, "Let the big farmer worry about that" or "Let the fruit and vegetable farmers worry about these labor issues because they don't affect me."

Today that may be correct - but tomorrow it will not be correct. These regulations which MI-OSHA is promoting are going to affect every farmer regardless of his type of enterprise. The manufacturing industry must manufacture equipment that complies with those regulations and you're going to pay for that whether you're a poultry farmer, a dairy farmer, or whatever type of farmer you are. And the day may come when agriculture loses its number exemption of 101.

We also seek your support in the legislative correction of the current Public Act 154 that sets up MI-OSHA. MASA has proposed an amendment to the Act which is being sponsored in the House of Representatives by Rep. Don Gilmer. This amendment would require agricultural representation on the Occupational Safety Standards Commission. It would spell out the make-up of the Agricultural Advisory Committee so that all portions of the work force are represented, and sets their terms at three years to insure uniformity to the approach of writing regulations. It clarifies the responsibilities of those on the committee so that when standards are written, they deal with an area where there really is a hazard and corrects that hazard.

The amendment further determines that when a standard is proposed by the State of Michigan that is more stringent than the federal standard, the Advisory Committee must show compelling reason for initiation of that regulation before it is implemented.

I believe if we all unite behind these efforts, the result will be sound safety regulations that improve the work environment on Michigan farms and help MI-OSHA become an asset to the industry rather than the "pain in the neck" it has been up to this point.

Precedent for Retrofit

(Continued from Page 1)

In the opinion of the Attorney General, advisory committees of this type are not public bodies and therefore, it is not necessary that they keep minutes or provide minutes of their meetings to the public. However, it is Shepard's belief that often official action on standards has been taken when only three of the seven committee members were present. He calls this "illegal, improper, and an injustice to both agricultural employers and employees."

"The Agricultural Advisory Committee could serve a very effective purpose in the development of safety standards if it were representative of Michigan agriculture and if the people who served on it would take a responsible look at their appointment and make an effort to attend every meeting so that standards get complete and total review before being recommended for Commission consideration," Shepard stated.

Also necessary for the Committee to be effective, Shepard says, would be a move by the Department of Labor "away from its bull-headed approach of simply

handing these people a standard and telling them to adapt it to agriculture without providing them with any resource people, any technical information, or making any effort to sort out the parts of the standard that does not apply to agriculture."

THE COMMISSION

The Occupational Safety Standards Commission is supposed to be made up of people representing the various industries of the state that are controlled by the Occupational Safety Standards Act. Even though agriculture is Michigan's No. 2 industry, it is not represented on the Commission. Commission members are appointed by the Governor and Shepard calls his failure to name an agricultural representative "wrong and narrow-sighted."

"Agriculture provides employment for a great number of people in this state and plays a very crucial role in stabilizing a sensitive economy," Shepard says. "I do not believe that agriculture should be governed entirely by people who are not a part of it."

Michigan Farm Bureau

and MASA recommended that Nick Smith, Hillsdale County dairy farmer, represent agriculture on the Commission. "This was a highly-qualified individual with an excellent background in both education and experience to serve in such a position," Shepard said. "Yet, the Governor chose to ignore our recommendation."

WHAT ABOUT EDUCATION?

Shepard also accuses the Department of Labor with being in violation of the law which calls for a certain percentage of workmen's compensation premiums to be used for educational purposes.

"Those funds have been provided to the Department," he said. "Yet, they have done absolutely zero in the area of providing education to the agricultural workers or to employers. The educational portion of their responsibilities should be more important than their regulatory responsibilities. It is obvious that these people are concerned only with the numbers of standards they can impose and nothing else."



Somebody has to tell urban people how important agriculture really is.

All of the forces tugging and pulling on agriculture affect urban people, too. And that's why we're telling the world. "Farming is everybody's bread & butter." □ The share of the consumer dollar going back to farmers and ranchers goes down year after year. And when you compare paychecks and food prices with 10 or 20 years ago, food continues to be one of the best bargains around. □ So help your PCA spread the word, wherever you go. Stop in and pick up a bread & butter bumper sticker. Tell the world!



Production Credit Associations
of Michigan



We're spreading the word

Farming is everybody's bread & butter

MI-OSHA Must Reflect On-the-Farm Realities

"...compliance will be difficult to achieve if the regulations do not react to the real health and safety problems unique to the industry." -- Dr. Pfister

resulting in the adoption of two federal OSHA standards.

In a recent interview at the state's capitol, Gilmer stressed the importance of a vocal and informed agriculture to insure standards which will realistically correct farm safety hazards. Although he believes MI-OSHA will continue to be criticized for insensitivity to agricultural operations - notably for the lack of agricultural representation on the Occupational Safety Standards Commission, Gilmer believes that a vigilant agricultural community must actively seek the defeat of inappropriate or ineffectual standards by taking full advantage of the public hearings and legislative committee channels. Especially important are regulations which would set Michigan agriculture apart in interstate commerce. Where equipment specifications differ from those promulgated under the federal OSHA standards, Michigan farmers would find the "tools of their trade" pricing them out of the market.

There is no question that a safe work environment is a desirable objective, says MSU safety specialist, Dr. Richard Pfister. Pfister is well known to Michigan agribusiness as an advocate of agricultural safety practices and safety education on

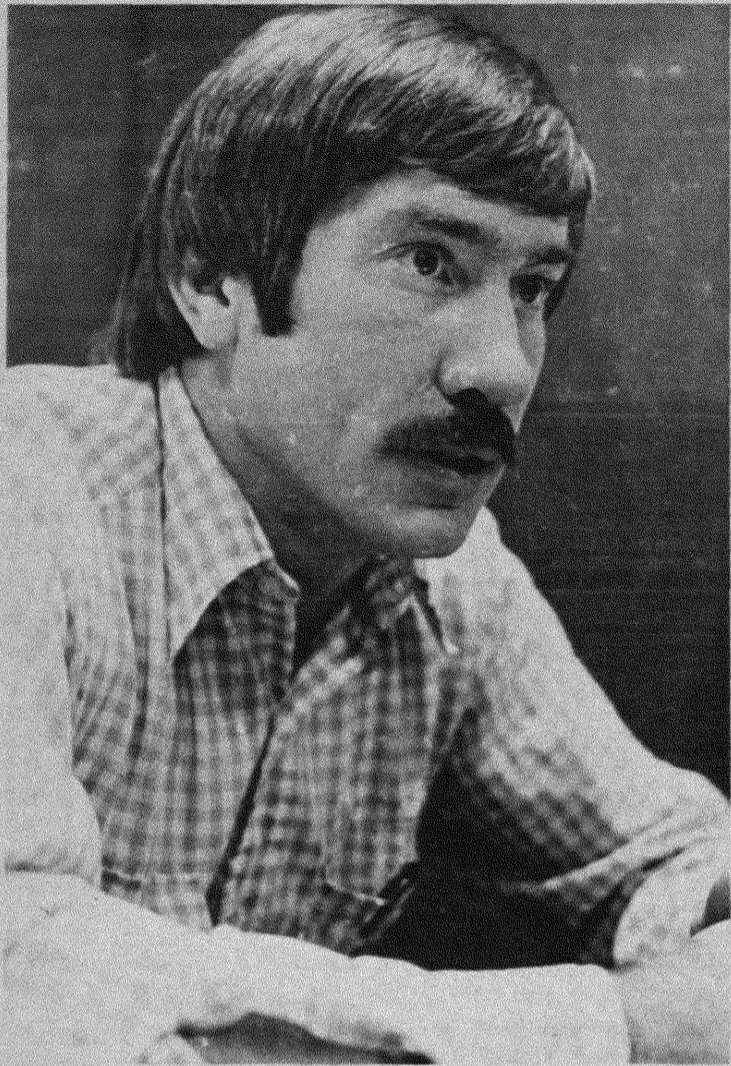
Michigan farms. Referring to the work of the OSSC, Pfister commented, "The question is whether MI-OSHA intends to promulgate standards which will cover every contingency which may constitute a potential hazard to the farm laborer or develop regulatory standards from a problem solving approach". Pfister would prefer to see the standards address target areas where a documented hazard exists. "I'm concerned that compliance will be difficult to achieve if the regulations do not react to the real health and safety problems unique to the industry."

At the present time, says Pfister, the Agricultural Advisory Committee is charged with review of MI-OSHA standards which are most appropriate to general industry. Without an accurate data base, other than their own agricultural experience, the committee is required to determine which standards apply to agriculture and recommend "modifications" to the proposed regulations. The result, according to Pfister, will be "patchwork regulations" which do not address the critical areas of farm safety.

Pfister pointed out that the members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee are hard-working, well-intentioned appointees. Their efforts to develop reasonable rules and regulations for the agricultural industry are hampered by the highly technical language of the forty-plus standards, encompassing many rules and regulations. As an example, Pfister estimated that over 60 hours of committee time would be the minimum for wading through the product specifications

and regulations regarding portable ladders in order to make an informed recommendation to the OSSC.

"Of the forty-plus MI-OSHA standards, possibly half would be applicable to agriculture", commented Allen W. Harvie, Deputy Director, Bureau of Safety Standards, Michigan Department of Labor. On that basis, he argues that the OSSC and the Agricultural Advisory Committee has had sufficient time and information to give the standards practical consideration. Allen concedes that the Department's limited experience with the agricultural industry was a handicap originally. "But through the hearings process we have learned more about the concerns of farm operators and are determined to be sensitive to agriculture as best we can", promised Harvie. He praised the agricultural sector of Michigan as "informed, vocal and well-organized".



Rep. Don Gilmer believes a vigilant agricultural community must seek defeat of inappropriate standards.

In 1974, the Michigan Department of Labor urged legislative approval of the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act as a vehicle which would be more sensitive to Michigan industries than the federal OSHA standards. To date, says Representative Donald Gilmer, there has been no

evidence that the MI-OSHA state plan will develop standards which respond to the uniqueness of the state's second largest industry. Several years of grappling with the implementation of MI-OSHA regulations for agriculture have seen four advisory committees and three public hearings



Allen Harvie, Department of Labor, says the department is determined to be sensitive to agriculture.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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Lutz Named by MDA



Calvin (Pete) Lutz, long-time Farm Bureau member and former member of the MFB board of directors, has been appointed to the position of executive assistant to Director B. Dale Ball of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

The department legislative liaison position was previously held by Roy Spencer, who resigned early this year to take a

position on the state tax tribunal.

Lutz, 44, served as Michigan director of the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) from 1972 until prior to joining MDA. He studied agricultural engineering at Michigan State University, and was owner-operator of a fruit farm and fruit nursery in Manistee County before becoming FHA director.

"Fog Index" Measures Standards Readability

The "Fog Index" is a system used by professional writers to measure the educational level readers must have to understand their compositions. The level of education needed is determined by counting every 100 words, dividing this by the number of sentences, then counting the number of words in each sentence. Add the number of words to the number of three-syllable words. Multiply this by .04 and the answer will be the educational level needed for understanding.

Using the "fog index," farmers will need a PhD. to understand the five

regulations currently proposed by MI-OSHA.

Part 54 deals with Abrasive Wheels -- 16 years of education needed to understand this regulation.

Part 56 -- Conveyors -- 22 years of education needed.

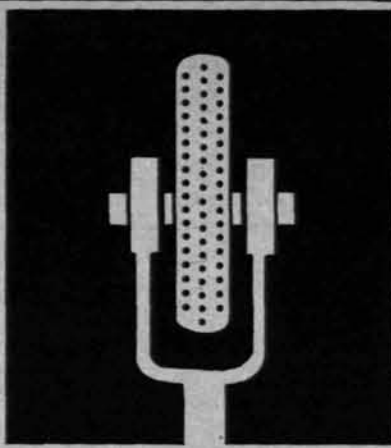
Part 62 -- Face and Eye Protection -- 20 years.

Part 63 -- Personal Protective Equipment -- educational level needed -- 18 years.

Part 72 -- Labeling of Hazardous Substances -- 20 years needed according to the "fog index."

A public hearing on these proposed standards will be held in July or August.

INTERVIEW



Meet MSU's New Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources

(Editor's Note: Michigan State University has a new Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources, J. A. Anderson. To introduce him to Michigan Farm

Bureau members, Larry R. Ewing, Director of the MFB Information and Public Relations Division, recently interviewed Dean Anderson.)

Ewing: Welcome to Michigan, Dean Anderson. Members of Farm Bureau and farmers throughout the state are anxious to meet you and know about your background. Where did you come from? What has been your professional experience?

Anderson: I'm delighted to be here and look forward to working with the agricultural community. I am an agricultural engineer by training and most of my experience has been in southern agriculture. I have been involved in both teaching and research in several states and have served as Director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station for the past several years. As director of the station, I was concerned with a wide array of problems in both plant and animal agriculture.

Ewing: What are some of the responsibilities of a Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University?

Anderson: First, I will be the representative of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources to a variety of publics. The groups include the University community, the agricultural leadership across the state, commodity groups and farm organizations. In addition, I hope to have contact with state legislators as they consider program needs and evaluate present programs being conducted by the College.

Secondly, I will be concerned with coordination of the various programs within the College. This is a multi-dimensional university and we have comprehensive programs in research, teaching and extension. The College is responsible for the expenditure of funds in those areas. We must make sure the public dollars given to us are invested wisely.

Third, I will be working with the staff to keep all our programs up to date and to make sure we are being responsive to the needs of the people we serve. We have a highly trained and competent professional staff and I hope we can keep them adequately funded so they can effectively pursue their activities.

Ewing: What were some of the factors in your decision to come to Michigan?

Anderson: When the Search Committee contacted me, I had little interest in changing positions; however, I was aware of the tremendous contributions

Michigan State University was making to both national and international agriculture. This university has been a leader in both undergraduate and graduate education. After considering the invitation of the committee for a few days, I came to the conclusion that I would like to visit the institution and learn more about the programs of the College. During the visit, I was impressed with the people who interacted with me. I found a very friendly group of people I could relate to even though most of my experience had been in southern agriculture. The problems they were concerned with were not too different from those of the faculty at Mississippi State University.

As I became more acquainted with the total program of the College, I felt like the position would be a challenging one and that I would enjoy working here. Furthermore, Michigan State is a large and comprehensive university and could provide some educational opportunities for my children which were not available in Mississippi. When the family considered all these factors, we decided that we would make the move, if the invitation was extended to us. We think we have made the right decision and we are happy to be part of the Michigan State family.

Ewing: Tell us a little about your family.

Anderson: We have five children. The oldest daughter is enrolled in graduate school at Purdue University. The second daughter is enrolled at Michigan State University in theater. Our 16-year-old son will stay in Mississippi and finish the high school year. He was completely involved in the high school programs and we felt it was best for him to complete high school there. A daughter, 11 years old, and a 7-year-old son will be enrolled in the Okemos Public Schools. My wife, Dot, is a musician and she is looking forward to taking part in community and church activities.

Ewing: Perhaps it's too early for you to judge Michigan agriculture, but I'm sure there are some issues that you see facing agriculture on a national basis. What are some of these issues?

Anderson: The key to feeding the world is in the hands of the scientific community. We must find better ways to do what we have already been doing well. The scientific community is

presently facing a crisis because of inadequate funding during the last 10 years. We need to increase funding in teaching, research and extension. Unfortunately, we have actually lost ground during the last several years and we are faced with a whole array of environmental concerns and associated problems. In addition, the problems facing agriculture are much more complex than they were 10 years ago. Furthermore, because of inadequate support, we have been forced to shift scarce dollars from fundamental research to short-range mission-oriented research which needed immediate attention. In other words, with a shortage of dollars, the fundamental research effort is dangerously low and we must increase the effort.

This is a challenge for all of us and I look forward to working with the agricultural leadership across the state in trying to obtain adequate funds. We have some of the leading scientists in the nation at Michigan State University and I am confident they will get the job done, if we can provide them with adequate support.

Ewing: Do you see the area of efficient use and conservation of energy as one of the largest challenges?

Anderson: Yes, I do. The energy problem is real. We can pretend it isn't. We can try to blame it on the oil companies or the political leaders, but the problem will not go away. In my opinion, we must make some adjustment and conserve as much energy as possible in all of our activities. The food system utilizes about 16 percent of the nation's energy resources, including production, processing, distribution and consumption. Obviously, we need to be concerned with conservation and the development of energy-saving techniques. Perhaps we

can develop effective ways to use solar energy for crop drying and heating buildings, convert waste material into useful energy, capture some of the energy in the winds and reduce the energy being expended for tillage. The fundamental areas of research such as biological nitrogen and improved photosynthetic efficiency have tremendous possibilities. We must remember that these are difficult problems and it will take time to solve them.

Ewing: The farmers in Michigan agree with you and are proud of the research conducted at Michigan State. I'm sure that many recognize, too, that it takes an Extension Service to get the information out to farmers. On the national level, there is much discussion on the direction in which the Extension Service is moving. How do you view Extension Service?

Anderson: Research is of little value unless it is applied and we need a strong extension effort to make sure the information gets into the hands of those who can put it to use. The Extension Service has done a tremendous job in production agriculture. In recent years, they have been called upon to utilize their expertise in many areas outside of production agriculture. In some cases, this has caused a misunderstanding and a feeling that Extension was abandoning its traditional role of working in production agriculture. I don't think this is justified. I view our Extension Service as a tremendous resource capable of carrying out its traditional obligations and also many other useful programs which benefit society. It has a well-established delivery system, experts in information transfer and a group of highly-dedicated people. It has a proven record of being responsive to society's needs. I am confident it will continue to respond.

Ewing: How do you feel that we can get Congressmen or

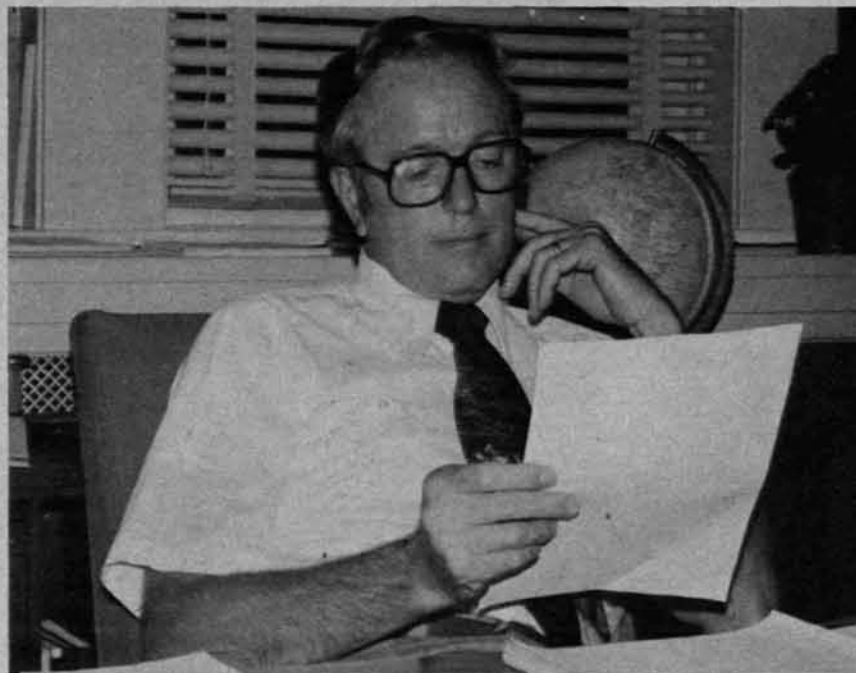
legislators to recognize who benefits from research and extension?

Anderson: Generally speaking, Congressmen and legislators do understand the payoff of research and extension; however, many people in society do not. They visualize the farmer as being the only beneficiary of research and extension. True, the farmer does benefit, but so does the consumer. We spend 16½ to 17 percent of our income for food. No place in the world even approaches this. This has been made possible because of an efficient research and extension effort, coupled with the ingenuity of the American farmer. I believe we need to do a better job of educating the consumer and acquainting him with the payoff of agricultural research and extension.

A recent national study by the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges indicated that there had been a 28 percent annual return for investments made in research and extension during the period between 1939 and 1972. All of us need to work together in setting the record straight.

Ewing: What do you see as the role of farmer organizations and commodity groups in working with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources?

Anderson: Farm organizations provide an excellent vehicle for us to communicate with the agricultural community. Furthermore, farm organizations provide leadership and can speak for the farmers they represent. They can give us guidance as we try to invest wisely the dollars made available to us. Also, farm organizations can represent their clientele to state legislators as well as to the United States Congress. We appreciate you and look forward to working with you.



Michigan State University's new Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources is J. A. Anderson, who looks forward to working with Michigan farmers.

Safemark Dealership is Family Affair

The Safemark dealership for Antrim and Charlevoix County Farm Bureaus is a family affair. There's Bud Pardee, who operates a welding service, which puts him in contact with many local farmers, and also sells snowmobiles and garden tractors. Bud owned a steel fabricating company in Lansing before moving to East Jordan, and he's been around long enough to talk like a proud native who wouldn't trade the north country for big-city living.

Then there's daughter, Sherry, an attractive, liberated young woman who keeps the books straight and knows more about Safemark tires and batteries than her Dad does — a fact he does not dispute. Some hard-to-convince customers ask to speak to the "boss" when Sherry tries to sell them a tire. They get what they ask for, only to discover that the "boss" must turn to Sherry for the answers to their questions!

Son Bill, a top-notch mechanic, who can mount those Safemark tires with speedy efficiency, rounds out the team.

The Pardees are a new Safemark dealership, enthusiastic about the product and service they have to offer members, a bit disappointed that customers aren't lining up outside their door, but optimistic about the future.

"If the members are aware of the service — not just the high quality and low prices of the tires and batteries — but if they're aware that there's somebody here to take care of them, to mount their tires, etc. — I think there is great potential," says Sherry. "I feel it is a true benefit to members and the challenge is just to get the word out that it's available."

Helping to spread the word is the Antrim County Farm Bureau Newsletter, Charlevoix County, which has just started publishing a Newsletter, will follow suit.

Some of the reasons for the slow start of the program, according to Charlevoix County Farm Bureau president, Tom Wieland, are timing — Safemark Committee members have been too busy with farm responsibilities to give the Pardees the support and guidance they should — and the weather. "There hasn't been a rainy day up here when farmers can leave the farm to go buy tires."

Another problem with tractor tires, Tom explains, is that "there's 25 different sizes, and when a farmer wants a tractor tire, he doesn't want it 10 minutes from now — he wants it 5 minutes ago!" Bud agrees, "That's happened three times already this spring."

"We can't ask Bud to stock \$20,000 worth of tractor tires



Skeptics who don't believe pretty girls know about such things as tires and batteries soon learn that Sherry Pardee is a Safemark specialist.

to solve this problem," says Tom, "so what I would like to see is for the farmers who are planning to buy tires to come in here and say, get me a pair and have them in a week or two."

Tom and the Pardees related how one farmer who had just purchased a tractor tire for \$800 found that he

could have gotten one through Safemark for \$625. "If we can just get facts like this out to farmers, the program just has to go," Tom believes.

The word is spreading, Bud reports, and they are getting more calls every day. Every customer who comes into Bud's welding shop also gets the news personally that



Bud Pardee, Safemark dealer for Antrim and Charlevoix County Farm Bureau members, tells every customer who comes into his welding shop that the new member service is available.

Safemark tires are now available here.

Sherry has hopes for a new market, too — the younger set who like the sports tire line and raised lettering types. "It's a fad," she says, "so let's take advantage of it."

The Pardees are looking forward to adding Safemark's steel products,

such as plow points and disk blades, to their line. Tom Wieland, who purchased the products at last year's Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting, reports that they saved the price of 9½ memberships on their farm.

With a testimonial like that, the Pardees can't help but be optimistic about the future.



Bill Pardee is the top-notch mechanic who mounts Safemark tires for their customers. Here he gets set to give Charlevoix County Farm Bureau president, Tom Wieland, some speedy service.

SAFEMARK DEALERS

COUNTY	DEALER	LOCATION
Saginaw	Hemlock Farmers Co-op, Inc.	Hemlock
Chippewa	Rike Equipment Company	Dafter
Oceana (Muskegon)	West Michigan Power & Equipment, Inc.	New Era
Osceola (Missaukee)	Steve's Tire Service Steven VanHouten	Marion
Osceola	Evart Milling Company	Evart
Calhoun	Marshall Farm Bureau Oil	Marshall
Hiawathaland	Fred's Service Fred Woimanen	Chatham
Mac-Luce	Clifford McMichael	Engadine
Iron Range	Lori Feed Mill	Norway
Iosco	C & W Equipment Co., Inc.	Tawas City
Montcalm	Quisenberry Farms	Six Lakes
Isabella	Wiltse Safemark	Shepherd
Newaygo	Grant Safemark Tire Service Harold Portell	Grant
Gratiot	Gilbert Farm Service	Alma
St. Clair	Markwart Oil Co., Inc.	Capac
Sanilac	Marlette Oil & Gas Co.	Marlette
Shiawassee	Steven's Tire Company Jim Fraley	Owosso
Presque Isle	Kranzo Feed & Farm Supply	Rogers City
Copper Country	Leonard Ollila	Houghton
Copper Country	Daniel Linna	Bruce Crossing
Hiawathaland	Farmers Supply Company R.S. VanDyke	Escanaba
Eaton	Maurer Farm Center	Charlotte
Huron	Pigeon Cooperative Oil Co.	Pigeon
Washtenaw	Feldkamp Tire Co.	Saline
Clinton	Fowler Gas & Oil Company Kenneth Hungerford	Fowler
Ionia	Harder and Sons	Ionia
Lenawee	Lenawee Fuels', Inc. Don Purkey	Tecumseh
Genesee	B & L Enterprises Robert Taylor	Clio
Huron	Elkton Petroleum Co-op, Inc.	Elkton
Branch	Stephen Shook	Quincy
Benzie	Russell Mix	Elberta
Cheboygan	Ormsbee Implement Co.	Afton
Tuscola	Reinbold's Sales & Service	Richville
Charlevoix	East Jordan Welding Service	East Jordan
Huron	Farmers Cooperative Grain Company	Kinde
Ogemaw	Stan Kartes	West Branch
Kalkaska	D & M Industries, Inc.	Kalkaska
Van Buren	Kellogg Farm Supply	Mattawan

State Farm Management Tour Features Member Farms

The 29th annual State Farm Management Tour sponsored by Michigan State University's Extension Service and agricultural economics department will be held July 27 in Bay and Arenac counties. The tour will feature eight selected farms, all Michigan Farm Bureau members, and will focus on the total family involvement in farm operations.

"It takes genuine teamwork on the part of everyone in the family to make today's large farming operations function successfully," says Dr. Ralph Hepp, tour co-chairman. Coordinating the event with Hepp is Harold Rougett, Bay County agricultural agent, and Russell Howes, Arenac County Extension director.

"Each of the stops will illustrate the investment and planning required for animal and crop production. The tour will also provide the non-farmers a good insight into what really comprises farm life," Hepp said.

Congressman Bob Traxler (D-Bay City) will be the featured speaker during the

noon program at the Standish fairgrounds, speaking on "The Current Washington Farm Outlook."

The eight farms to be visited and a brief overview of each are:

(1) Ed and Catheryn Osier, Standish. This is a swine farrow-to-finish enterprise, marketing 750 to 1,000 hogs annually. They also produce 193 acres of corn.

(2) Tom Schindler, Kawkawlin, operates 470 acres producing corn, navy beans and sugar beets. Major emphasis is on planting and harvesting efficiency using heavy equipment to reduce labor costs. He participates heavily in variety trial plots to take advantage of hybrid performance.

(3) Erwin and Brian Wieland, Kawkawlin. This farm has a purebred registered Holstein herd of 30 cows averaging 17,947 pounds of milk and 645 pounds of butterfat with a 3.6 test. They operate on 275 acres, producing corn, wheat, sugar beets, oats and hay.

(4) Lester Hugo, Linwood, has 125 acres of irrigated potatoes, most of the crop

going to fresh markets. Companion crops include 100 acres of irrigated sugar beets and 225 acres of corn.

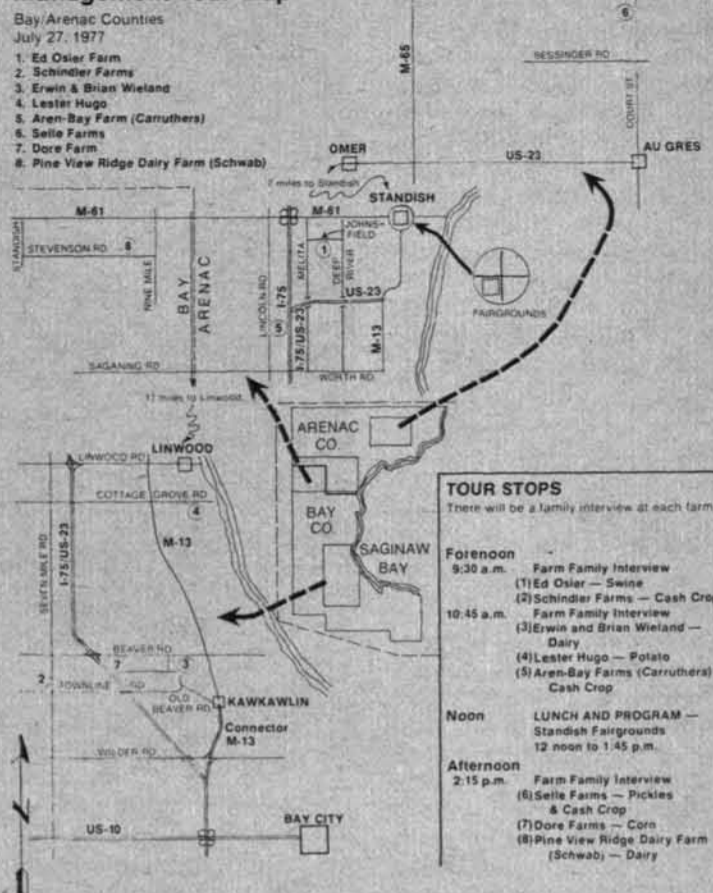
(5) Wayne and Maxine Carruthers (Aren-Bay Farms), Standish, operate 1,015 acres, producing 550 acres of corn, 125 acres of sugar beets, 100 acres of alfalfa, 120 acres of white beans, 40 acres of cranberry beans and 40 acres of oats. They are in partnership with their sons Kim and Scott.

(6) Alvin and Clinton Selle (Selle Farms), Turner, is a partnership on 901 acres producing sugar beets, certified navy beans, light red beans, cucumbers, certified oats, and rye.

(7) Fred and Elaine Dore (Dore Farms), Kawkawlin. This cash crop farm produces 1,250 acres of corn annually, averaging between 110 to 140 bushels per acre. Dore believes that marketing is as important, or more so, than production.

(8) Hugo and Mike Schwab (Pine View Ridge Dairy Farm), Standish. This 122 head milking operation has an annual rolling herd average of 15,577 pounds of

29th State Farm Management Tour Map



milk and 602 pounds of butterfat. The farm has 510 tillable acres producing corn, hay, oats and wheat.

On this page is a tour map of the locations and time schedule for each of the stops on the tour.

Macomb County Farm Tour Set for July 31



The Werner Clasen Farm, Richmond Township, is one of 11 farms which will be open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m., Sunday, July 31. Jack Prescott, Macomb County Cooperative Extension

Service, discusses the swine operation with Clasen (right) and his assistant manager, Jim Kammer.

By Betty Brodacki
Macomb County
Farm Bureau
Information Chairman

As Macomb County becomes increasingly urbanized, much of its rich farm heritage is lost. Sunday, July 31, city dwellers will again spend the day touring several farms in the county representing various types of operations from fruit, dairy cows, hogs to potatoes and vegetables. The farms are scattered throughout the northern part of the county.

The tour is sponsored by the Macomb County Farm Bureau and the Cooperative

Extension Service. At each location visitors will receive literature or samples of food products from their exhibits.

Werner Clasen's hog farm on 34 Mile road, Richmond, will be featured on the tour. He also grows wheat, oats, soybeans and corn on his 600 acres. Mr. and Mrs. Clasen have lived on the farm since 1957 when it was a part-time operation. Mr. Clasen did his farm work after returning home from his job at Chrysler Corporation. Around Richmond, Clasen was known as the "midnight farmer." About five years ago, Clasen gave up his outside em-

ployment to manage the farm full-time. He and his assistant, Jim Kammer, breed 130 sows. The litters are a cross-breed of three types of hogs, the Yorkshire, Hampshire and Duroc varieties.

The feed is automatically dispensed and the hogs are ready for market in six months at about 220 pounds. Clasen ships 2000 hogs to market each year. Visitors will be able to tour the hog barns and Mrs. Clasen will be on hand to distribute pork recipes and other information.

Among the other farms

already scheduled for touring is the Grobbel Brothers truck farm on Memphis Ridge road in Richmond township. This is a 200 acre vegetable farm with a roadside market. They deliver to the Detroit area supermarkets and to Eastern Market in Detroit. Pickles, cabbage, cucumbers, cauliflower are the chief crops. Seasonal help is used in this operation.

Arthur Rowley and Sons dairy farm is located near the Grobbel farm on Memphis Ridge. Mr. Rowley and his sons, Bill, Bob and John, have 610 acres in corn, wheat, hay and sugar beets and milk 80 Holsteins. Established in the late 1890's, this farm is probably the only farm in Macomb county raising sugar beets.

Newell Rawlings of 22155 - 33 Mile road in Armada Township has a large dairy operation with 170 head of Holstein, producing 18,000 pounds per cow. He farms 600 acres raising all of his feed, buying only his protein. He sells breeding stock to other states and foreign countries. This is a second generation farm. On the Rawlings farm, visitors will see his award-winning cow which was listed among the Michigan Dairy Herd Improvement's exclusive "Top Twenty" high producers. In just 305 days, the cow produced 27,661 pounds of milk including 874 pounds of butterfat. The State

average is 14,014 with 513 pounds of butterfat. For the last three years, his herd has been the top milk producing cows in Macomb County.

Several thousand people are expected to tour these farms as they did last year. There will be a potato farm included on the tour which is located on 25 Mile road in Macomb township not far from a new golf course that attracts hundreds of people each day this time of the year. This is the Joa Penzien potato farm. On the 400 acre farm, 230 acres are planted in potatoes with the remaining acreage into corn, soybeans and wheat. These crops feed 20 beef cattle. This farm has been owned by only two families. Penzien is a board member on the Potato Board representing this area's potato growers.

West View Orchards on Van Dyke, south of Romeo, is the oldest Centennial Farm in Michigan (163 years old). Armand Bowerman and Katherine Roy (brother and sister) are the fifth generation on this fruit farm. On the 200 acres, 80 acres of fruit are grown, also corn and vegetables, 100 Polled Herefords, and bees. Natural fertilizer is used on the farm. There is a farm market which is a popular stop for city people on their way out of the city.

There will be several other types of farms on the tour.

Farmers Visit Israel on Goodwill Mission

Elton R. Smith, Caledonia dairy farmer and president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, was among a group of 14 prominent agricultural leaders from the United States who visited Israel in May on a trade and goodwill mission. The farm delegation was headed by Allan Grant, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. The 10-day tour included calls on Israeli officials and visits to various agricultural enterprises and important holy sites throughout the country.

Members of the group, most of whom were state Farm Bureau presidents, were most interested in the utilization of water in Israel, a country currently using 95 percent of its practical water supply.

The farmers toured the rich agricultural area of Lachish in the south of the country and visited Kibbutz Sa'ad, a wealthy communal farm where they saw a computerized irrigation system. There, they visited the control room, equipped with electronic remote sensing devices and a computer, all of which operate the irrigation system for several thousand acres producing a wide variety of crops. Mathematical models for scheduling have been created which allow the tailor-made irrigation schemes to push crop yields to their maximum.

The farm leaders also learned of Israel's new system of disposable hoses making drip irrigation possible for field row crops such as cotton, sugar and potatoes resulting in considerably higher yields and substantial water savings.

The group visited agricultural experiment stations and met with Arab as well as Jewish farmers throughout the country, stopping in their busy schedule to visit holy sites in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and the Galilee. They also paid an official visit to A. Uzan, Israel's Minister of Agriculture.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the "Good Fence," a point in the closed Israeli-Lebanese border where civilians and soldiers from Lebanon freely cross over and receive emergency medical treatment and supplies from Israel.



ISRAEL'S PRESIDENT Ephraim Katzir greets Elton R. Smith, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, during his recent goodwill visit to Israel along with other U.S. farm leaders. Participants in the tour were guests of the Israeli government and the farm organizations there. The delegation was headed by AFBF President Allan Grant.



NEW LIFE IN THE DESERT -- Desalinated water will make possible the conversion of the Israel's Negev Desert into arable land. In Israel, water is the subterranean treasure -- not oil -- and scientists have become experts at making every drop count. Farming and water storage methods used over 2,000 years ago are being rediscovered and scientists are learning how cotton, potatoes and cucumbers can thrive on centuries-old brackish water which has been discovered in vast quantities in reservoirs under the desert.

LABOR COMMITTEE NAMED

A 15-member statewide Labor Committee, representing a cross-section of commodity interests and geographic areas, has been named by the Michigan Agricultural Services Association board of directors.

The committee's responsibilities will include reviewing agricultural labor issues and recommending policy for consideration by Michigan Farm Bureau voting delegates. It will also consider member needs regarding programs and services, and make recommendations to the MASA board.

Members of the committee are: Gordon Nye, Berrien County; Don Barden, Allegan; Ruth Rigg, Branch; Louis Smith, Monroe; Tom Spike, Shiawassee; Sandy Hill, Genesee; Dale Stoneman, Gratiot, and Herman DeRuiter, Oceana.

Also serving on the committee are Robert Underwood, Northwest Michigan; Norm Veliquette, Antrim; Jim Hersey, Chippewa; Don Nugent, Benzie, Chairman; John Young, Tuscola; Allan Awalt, Ingham, and Earl Sorensen, Allegan.

YF TOPICS SELECTED

The American Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Advisory Committee has selected five official topics for the 1977 Discussion Meet contests.

The topics selected are: 1. What should be the role of Farm Bureau in the protection of personal property rights? 2. What kind of organization do farmers want Farm Bureau to be in the future? 3. What kind of financial assistance is needed for beginning farmers? 4. What should Farm Bureau's role be in energy research and development? 5. What should be the role of Farm Bureau in preventing the erosion of local government and local control of government activities?

The five topics will be used during District Young Farmer discussion meets in the fall and at the state discussion meet in November at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The state winners will compete at the national level during the AFBF annual meeting in Houston, Texas in January, 1978.

AFBF Annual Meeting Tours Planned

The 1978 AFBF annual meeting will be held in Houston, Texas January 8-11. Michigan Farm Bureau is offering three different tours to those who wish to attend the convention.

The first tour will be via chartered aircraft departing

from Lansing on January 7 and returning January 11. No sightseeing is included. This tour is limited to 200 persons.

Postconvention tours to Texas-Rio Grande Valley or Mexico are also being offered. Flight arrangements

will be made for participants to depart from the commercial airport closest to their home on January 8. They will attend AFBF convention activities in Houston on January 9, 10 and 11, departing January 12 on their respective tours. They

will arrive home on January 19.

See the August issue of the Michigan Farm News for more details or write Kenneth Wiles, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mi 48909.

City "Transplants" Live in Harmony with Nature

Modern-Day Pioneers Trade Detroit for Peaceful Antrim County Valley

(Editor's Note: Last February, the Antrim County Farm Bureau Newsletter contained a tribute to one of the member families: "As so many people from metropolitan Michigan have, in recent years, moved to this area and purchased property, only to subdivide it -- it is good to learn of someone who has purchased property with the intent of keeping it as is, or improving it as a wildlife sanctuary, with nature trails. One such family is one of our members, Allen Pecar of Mancelona, who purchased 115 acres a few years ago, and in the short time he had owned it, has planted 20,000 trees, built new trout ponds, also planted various specimens of shrubs and wild flowers. Mr. Pecar says he is no expert, but enjoys taking many visitors on his nature trails. Future plans include some fruit trees, small scale farming." The FARM NEWS recently followed up on this story and found a very special family.)

By Donna Wilber & Marcia Ditchie

The road that must be travelled toward fulfillment of a dream has not been smooth and straight for the Allen Pecar family. There have been detours of tragedy, chuck-holes of disappointment, and some jolting bumps of hard learning. But there has also been satisfaction in climbing the steep hills of challenges and joy in the peaceful valleys of accomplishment.

The dream is yet a distance from fulfillment. But Pecar realizes that the real joys of making a dream come true are in the efforts to attain it. Those efforts are shared by Pecar's wife, Rose, and six of their 10 children. Pursuit of the dream took the city-bred family from their Detroit suburb home to a farm in Echo Township in Antrim County. It meant leaving a thriving 30-year-old electronics business, an established home, friends and some of the family behind and embarking on a totally new lifestyle.

The family's interest in the land began with a vegetable garden on their city lot. Combining what he felt was a reasonable use of chemicals with organic gardening principles, reading, observation, and considerable advice from experts, Pecar had excellent results. "The fact that so much food can be raised in a relatively small space made a strong impression on me," Pecar said. "If city-dwelling parents, teenagers and youngsters would get involved in backyard gardens, we could go a long way towards solving energy, health and social problems."

Friendship with a biology professor resulted in numerous family field trips and a keener interest in nature. When the 115-acre tree farm in Echo Township was purchased, the dream of living there was still "sometime in the future." But, then, their oldest son, Ed, graduated from Lake Superior State College with a degree in Earth Science, and a rebuilt farm house with 10 acres and numerous out-buildings, a few miles from their tree farm, became

available.

So the family pulled up their Detroit roots earlier than they had originally planned, and transplanted them in a valley north of Mancelona. Pecar and his son made some long-range goals for tree farming, trout ponds, experimental ideas in solar and wind energy, extending the growing season, and the establishment of hiking trails for educational purposes.

A few days after the move, tragedy struck. Ed was in a serious motorcycle accident, resulting in a six months' hospital stay, a long recovery period, and brain damage. This has meant that the long-range goals they had set will take a little longer to reach. But much progress has been made, in spite of the setbacks.

In the three years they have been on the farm, they have built a greenhouse, planted 20,000 trees, dug three ponds, stocked one, and cleaned up "a lot of trash."

They've built a second "barn" to house Pecar's workshop on the first floor and a combination recreation room and dormitory for the children on the second floor. While a root cellar is being built, an old cistern is utilized for storing the potatoes from their huge garden. A chicken coop is occupied by 25 Sears-bought laying hens and a

rooster, and the breakfast bacon came from one of the two pigs that were their first livestock venture.

Rulers of the barnyard are the "Fearless Five," also of Detroit. A former class project, this unique, close-knit group of two roosters, two ducks and a hen, seem to have adjusted well to country living (except that the roosters crow at night instead of in the morning!).

Visitors are warmly welcomed to the Pecar farm and hundreds have already enjoyed nature hikes through the wooded hills. The younger children are eager to help their father identify trees, plants, birds and occasionally, a furry animal, for the hikers.

Despite the challenges -- Ed's accident, a tough winter, a dry spring, the tractor falling off the trailer while transporting it from one farm to the other, snowmobilers crushing newly-planted trees, etc. -- the Pecars would "do it all over again." Now, when they visit the city, they can hardly wait to get "back home." Pecar sums up the reasons: "I have real concerns with our problems in energy, food and fibre production, nature and education. I hope my varied background will enable me to make some contributions in these areas."

At the entrance to his tree farm, which he hopes one day will be a "first-class nature center," a sign proclaims: "Farm Bureau Member." Why did the Pecars join Farm Bureau? A man of deep conviction, Pecar explains, "I felt it was the thing to do. The organization supports many of the things I believe in and I feel I should support it."

It's easy to see why the Antrim County Farm Bureau is proud to have the Pecars as members of their "family."



Allen Pecar, former Detroit businessman, feels "at home" in the greenhouse he built on their Antrim County farm.

50 COUNTIES AT GOAL

During the last month, three more counties have reported 1977 Michigan Farm Bureau membership goal, bringing the total to 50 counties over quota.

With Mac-Luce reporting goal in the 1-350 member category, all counties in the Upper Peninsula are now over goal. Membership

chairman for Mac-Luce is Fred Pershinske.

Two counties in the Southwest Region reporting goal are St. Joseph County - Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Bohm and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Timm, co-chairmen in the 651-1200 member category; and Van Buren County, 1201-1500 members, Don Thornton - membership chairman.

Q and A

Q. I have been told the new trespass law. What are some of the key points addressed in the law?

A. Probably the best and most accurate way to address the question is to cite several sections as contained in Public Act 232 of 1976 known as the Recreational Trespass Act. Section 2 of the law states; a person shall not enter in or remain upon the lands of another, other than farm lands or connected farm wood lots, for the purpose of hunting; fishing in a private lake, pond, or stream; operating a snowmobile, off road recreational vehicle, or other motorized vehicle without the written consent of the owner, his lessee or agent, under any of the following conditions.

- (a). The lands are fenced or enclosed and maintained in a manner to exclude intruders.
- (b). The lands are posted in a conspicuous manner against entry. The minimum letter height on the posting signs shall be 2 inches and signs should be so spaced as will enable a person to observe not less than 1 sign at any point of entry upon lands.
- (2). A person shall not enter upon farmlands or connected farm wood lots for any of the purposes cited in sub-section (1) without the written consent of the owner, his lessee or agent, whether or not the farm lands or connected woodlots are fenced, enclosed, or posted.

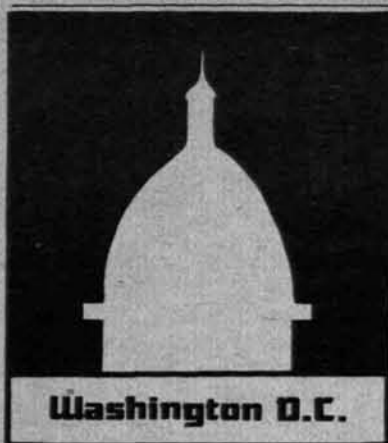
Several additional points in the Act should also be cited in Section 5, sub-section (2) the law reads; In a proceeding for a violation of this act the presence of a person on the enclosed, fenced, or conspicuously posted premises of another, or upon any farm lands or farm wood lots connected therewith without the written consent of the owner, his lessee or agent shall constitute prima facie evidence of unlawful entry.

(3) A peace officer or conservation officer may enforce this act upon complaint of a landowner, his lessee or agent.

Section (6) talks about liability of an owner and reads as follows; No cause of action shall arise for injuries to any person who is on the lands of another, including farm lands and connected wood lots, without paying to such other person a valuable consideration for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, hiking, sightseeing, motorcycling, snowmobiling or any other outdoor recreational use, with or without permission, against the owner, his lessee or agent of the premises unless the injuries were caused by gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct of the owner, his lessee or agent.



Pecar walks down one of the trails he hopes one day will be part of a "first-class nature center."



President Warns Veto

On May 24, the Senate passed a new farm program bill to replace the current Agriculture and Consumers Protection Act which will expire at the end of 1977. The Senate vote was 69-18. The cost of the program as approved by the Senate is estimated to be \$4 billion per year.

In the House, the Agriculture Committee has reported a farm bill which is expected to reach the floor for consideration by the full House around July 1. The House version is estimated to cost slightly over \$2 billion per year.

Congress has received a warning from President Carter that any farm bill costing more than \$2 billion per year would be vetoed. Since it can be expected that any farm program bill passed by the House will differ substantially from the Senate version, the eventual final version of a new farm program will be decided in a Conference Committee. Whether or not that final version will be acceptable to President Carter from a cost standpoint remains to be seen. Some Washington observers believe the Congress will end up passing a simple one-year extension of the present Agriculture and Consumers Protection Act.

At right is a comparison of key provisions of the bill approved by the Senate and the pending House bill pertaining to wheat, feed grains, soybeans, dairy and other provisions of interest to Michigan farmers.

AFBF: House Bill "Closer"

The American Farm Bureau Federation has urged Congress to include a purchase requirement in the final version of pending food stamp legislation. The Senate version of the Farm Bill contains provisions that would eliminate the purchase requirement.

"Farm Bureau also objects to the higher support levels reported out in the Senate version of a proposed new Farm Bill," Allan Grant, AFBF president, said. "The House bill is more in line with Farm Bureau policy on loan levels and target prices."

NATIONAL NOTES

FARM PROGRAM PROPOSALS COMPARED

Albert A. Almy

	HOUSE	SENATE
Item	H.R. 7171 reported out of committee 5-15-77.	S. 275 passed Senate 5-24-77.
Duration	4 years.	5 years.
Payment-limitation	\$35,000 per person total, increased 10 percent annually.	\$50,000 per person total.
Wheat		
Allotments	Same as Senate (except farmers would receive payment on not less than 80 percent of actual plantings).	Based on current year plantings if payments are necessary. (Farmers would receive payment on not less than 90 percent of actual plantings.)
Set-aside	Same as Senate. Also may limit uniformly, acreage planted to percentage of acreage harvested previous year. Placing 55 percent of tillable acres in a summer fallow program precludes any other set-aside.	May require to set-aside and devote to conservation uses a specified percentage of the previous year's or current year's planted acreage. For wheat only -- when the carryover exceeds 175 percent of domestic use, set-aside is mandatory.
Target levels	\$2.65 per bushel for 1977 -- \$3 for 1978, thereafter escalated to reflect any change in the adjusted cost of production.	\$2.90 per bushel for 1977 -- \$3.10 for 1978, thereafter escalated to 100 percent of the cost of production (minimum of \$3.10).
Escalator provisions	Cost of production escalator includes (a) variable, (b) machinery ownership, (c) overhead costs allocated to crops involved -- adjusted for yield.	Cost of production escalator includes same (a-c) items as House, plus (d) composite land costs, and (e) return for management -- adjusted for yield.
Loan levels	\$2.25 for 1977 -- \$2.35 for 1978, thereafter adjusted at Secretary's discretion, as in present law.	\$2.25 for 1977 -- \$2.47 for 1978; thereafter adjusted to 85 percent of the cost of production. Storage costs not be deducted as done in present law.
Disaster provisions	If production is less than 50 percent of established yield, payments will be made at a rate of 80 percent of the target price on the deficiency below 50 percent of the projected yield on acreage planted for harvest. If prevented from planting, payment will be made on the smaller of acreage intended to be planted or average acreage planted for harvest in 3 preceding years multiplied by 75 percent of the projected yield at a payment rate equal to 20 percent of the target price.	Extended for 2 years present provisions for prevented planting and new provisions for low yield payments to be equal to 1.3 of the target if production is below 75 percent normal yield. If preventive planting payment is made, cannot participate in any other program on that acreage.
Feed grains		
Allotments	Same as for wheat.	Same as for wheat.
Set-aside	Same as for wheat.	Same as for wheat.
Target levels	\$1.85 for 1977 -- \$2.10 for 1978, thereafter escalated to reflect any change in adjusted cost of production.	100 percent of cost of production formula. \$2.28 projected for corn in 1978. Escalated annually.
Escalator provisions	Same as for wheat.	Same as for wheat.
Loan levels	\$1.75 for 1977 -- \$2 for 1978; thereafter adjusted at Secretary's discretion.	\$2 for corn in 1978, thereafter adjusted to 85 percent of cost of production.
Disaster provisions	Same as for wheat.	Same as for wheat.
Soybeans		
Loans	Establishes mandatory loan to be set by Secretary.	Sets mandatory loan at minimum of \$4.
Farm Storage		
Availability	Not less than 75 percent for construction loans for dry and high moisture forage, silage, or grain facilities.	Up to 80 percent for construction loans for silos and storage facilities to store previous 2-year average crop.
Interest rate	7 percent.	Cost of money to government.
Length of loan	Up to 10 years.	Up to 10 years.
Grain reserves	Secretary shall provide a 12-month loan extension with storage paid by the Secretary at 1 cent per bushel per month with no interest charged. At the end of 12 months, loan may be extended another 12 months unless the market price is more than 75 percent of parity and with the Secretary's consent. One cent per bushel per month for storage shall be paid on any extension with no interest charged.	Secretary may enter into 3-5-year agreements with wheat and feed grain producers. Total wheat -- not less than 300 million bushels and not more than 700 million bushels. (No specifics for feed grains.) If the producer sells before the average price reaches 140 percent to 160 percent (to be set by Secretary) of the loan, he must repay principal, interest, and storage charges. When the average price reaches 200 percent of the loan, it will be recalled.
Dairy	Extended provisions in '73 Act. Expands indemnity program to include nuclear fallout. Raised minimum price support to 80 percent of parity with mandatory semi-annual adjustment with authority for quarterly review and adjustments.	Same as House except minimum support of 80 percent for 2 years only, then reverts to 75 percent. Also extends indemnities to include toxic chemicals.
Sale of CCC stocks	If CCC acquires stocks, they could not be sold at less than 150 percent of the current loan rate.	
International reserve	Not considered.	Authorizes immediate food reserves of 2 million tons for emergencies abroad. Authorizes CCC to acquire stocks through defaults on loans or direct purchases at a price not over 175 percent of the relevant loan rate. Provides increases up to 6 million tons pursuant to an international reserve agreement. Amended to "isolate" stocks from impacting on markets.
International commodity agreements	Not considered.	Provision encouraging Administration to continue negotiations on an international wheat agreement with cost of production as minimum price goal.
Ag research	Advisory Board structure similar to Senate bill. Authorizes increased funding for agricultural research, teaching, and extension which would approximately double present funding levels by 1982.	Establishes an advisory board of ag research users and panel of federal, state, and private research groups to aid in developing and coordinating programs. Expresses sense of Congress that research should be funded annually at 1/2 of 1 percent of food expenditures and agricultural exports.
Animal health research	Adopted provisions similar to Senate bill with addition of authorization of funds for construction grants for new and existing veterinary medicine school.	Authorizes appropriations up to \$25 million a year for increased research to be allocated to states in proportion to their share of the total domestic livestock production and to institutions according to their research capacities.
Food stamps	Committee, May 20, began consideration of major provisions. Once markup is finished, it is expected that food stamps will be made part of the omnibus farm bill for floor consideration.	Extended authorization for 2 years. Eliminated purchase requirement and made numerous other changes. Total cost for 1978 would be about \$5.7 billion, an increase of \$250 million over old program.
Embargo deterrent	Requires Secretary to raise loan to 100 percent of parity if any export embargo is imposed on a commodity with a government loan.	Not considered.

CAPITOL REPORT

Robert E. Smith

Substitute PBB Bill in Committee

The Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee has reported another substitute for the House-passed Spaniola Bill (H.B. 4109) to the Senate floor. This substitute bill has been sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee. Several significant changes were made in the second substitute. Major provisions are as follows:

1. Applies to "dairy cattle" born before January 1, 1976, and which have lactated.

2. Lowers the PBB tolerance to .02 ppm (20 parts per billion).

3. Provides for testing, by biopsy, of all dairy cattle "culled for slaughter".

4. Provides for testing of milk through bulk tanks on each dairy farm. (The MDA has been doing this for some time). If a trace of PBB is found in the bulk tank test, the milk from each animal in the herd will be tested to find the animal or animals causing the contamination. Milk cannot contain more than 5 parts per billion based on a test of the whole milk. This is important because it is much less restrictive than testing milk on its fat content. Cows producing contaminated milk will not have to be destroyed, but may be kept on the farm as long as the milk is not sold.

5. Only dairy cattle which are contaminated will be branded.

6. The only animals that will be required to be destroyed under the new bill are those that contain more than 300 ppb (.3 ppm); or one or more of time of culling. They will be indemnified at fair market value.

7. Dairy cattle that are to be culled and are tested and

found to be free of PBB will be certified so that they may be sold through the regular market channels.

8. One section of the legislation applies specifically to "quarantined farms", which are defined as a farm which had five or more cattle which were contaminated with more than 300 ppb (.3 ppm); or a farm which had, beginning January 1, 1975, or presently has, one or more cattle contaminated with more than 300 ppm (.3 ppm); or one or more cattle contaminated with more than 50 ppb. Such farms will not be required to destroy any animals except those testing above 20 ppb when culled for slaughter; however, these particular farms will be monitored much more closely and the expiration date of the bill does not apply to that section. These farms could be removed from the testing requirement by a concurrent resolution of the Legislature. It is extremely important that dairy farmers who have had the misfortune to have had PBB will not be required to destroy their animals as long as contaminated meat or milk products do not reach the market. The Spaniola Bill, as passed by the House, would have required many farmers to go through the wholesale slaughter nightmare again.

9. The bill permits exemption from further testing whenever the Department of Agriculture finds that less than one-half of one percent of the cattle tested in an area contain more than 20 ppb of PBB and the Legislature gives its approval by con-

current resolution. For example, the Upper Peninsula or other large sections of the State could be eliminated from the testing requirements rather quickly. This provision also applies to various categories of dairy cattle such as age or other grouping.

10. Provision is made for emergency situations in the event a cow has to be culled because of injury or other types of emergency.

11. Other provisions include procedures for indemnification, quarantining of farms, testing, releasing farms once they are found to be clear, seizing of any contaminated feed if found, and other responsibilities of the Department of Agriculture, along with responsibilities given to the Department of Natural Resources including the pick-up of contaminated milk and disposal of contaminated animals.

12. \$15.2 million is appropriated for the first year of operation. One million dollars would go to the MSU Experiment Station for research on food contamination problems, and two million dollars to the Department of Health for a human health fund for the treatment and study of health problems associated with PBB. The legislation would expire on September 30, 1982, with the exception of the section that relates to "quarantined farms", as mentioned above. If passed, the bill would take effect 60 days after enactment.

The Senate Committee, after a great deal of work, has come up with a substitute bill that is far better than the Spaniola Bill that passed the

House. It will permit farmers who have had contaminated herds to continue in business and keep their cattle. It simplifies a testing program by using milk tests from bulk tanks. It only destroys animals when they are being culled for slaughter purposes. It is a "test-at-slaughter" type of bill. However, it will create some problems for all dairy farmers inasmuch as any animal that is culled from the herd must be tested before it goes to market.

As far as protecting the public health and maintaining an image of pure food is concerned, the Senate substitute will absolutely assure the consumer that there is no possibility of any milk containing more than 5 ppb or meat containing more than 20 ppb of PBB being on the market.

There will be further efforts to amend the bill in the Appropriations Committee. For example, expert testimony unanimously agreed that a .02 (20 parts per billion) PBB tolerance is unrealistic and cannot be accurately tested. Efforts will be made to raise this tolerance to .05 (50 parts per billion). Other amendments to be attempted include payment to farmers for any contaminated milk that must be destroyed while the testing of individual animals is being conducted to clean up the herd.

Testimony has indicated there is less than two ounces of PBB left in livestock. That's about the weight of three tablespoons of table salt. It is estimated that the legislation would remove 1.2 ounces of the remaining PBB.



Lansing

INHERITANCE TAX

The Senate Finance Committee has begun consideration of two bills to amend Michigan inheritance taxes. One is S.B. 78, (Senators Corbin, McCollough, Welborn and O'Brien). The other is S.B. 134, (Senators Toepp and Davis). S.B. 78 applies only to husbands and wives by increasing the present \$30,000 exemption to "50 percent of the estate plus \$30,000." S.B. 134 would exempt all transfer of property between spouses.

Farm Bureau testified before the Committee and pointed out the problems of transfer of farmland to members of the family. The inheritance tax is presently based on the value of the property and has no relation to the value of the farm for agricultural production. Farm Bureau policy proposes an exemption of at least \$250,000, consistent with inflationary pressures for farms used for agricultural production, and that farmland should be appraised only at its value for agricultural production. The policy further states that the wife should not have to prove a monetary contribution in order to qualify for such exemptions. The Inheritance Tax Law also needs to be amended to make it possible for farms to be transferred from one generation to another such as to the children who intend to continue the farm business. Under present law, inheritance taxes are sometimes such a burden that there is no alternative but to sell the land for development, even though the son or other members of the family desire to continue farming. Exemptions in the present law have not been changed for many many years in spite of the inflationary pressures.

ELECTRICAL UTILITY RATES

Farm Bureau delegates last December passed a policy, expressing concern with the fact that some utility companies have been ordered by the Public Service Commission, to adopt an "inverted rate" structure whereby the cost per unit of electrical power used increased as the usage increased. Only two companies in the State, the Detroit Edison Company and the Consumer Powers Company,

(Continued on Page 19)

Bill Would Repeal Present Fence Laws

The Senate Agriculture and Consumers Committee is now considering S.B. 46 introduced by Senators Young, DeGrow, Hertel, Allen and DeSana. The bill would repeal the present fence laws in Michigan and enact a new law applying to lands which are zoned for agriculture or which are not zoned other than agricultural. It would not apply within corporate limits of a city, village, etc.

A landowner who constructs a fence to hold his animals or for any other purpose, would be required to pay for the construction and maintenance of the fence. If an adjoining property owner uses or begins to use the fence, he would be required to compensate the builder of the fence for 1/2 of the current value of the fence. If he does not wish to do that, he would

then be required to construct his own fence.

The bill provides for fence viewers appointed by the township board and whose duties would be, when asked, to determine whether the adjoining property owner is in fact using a fence constructed by the neighboring landowner, and to assess damages that might be caused by the animals of a landowner to the adjoining property due to negligence of the landowner in building or maintaining his fences.

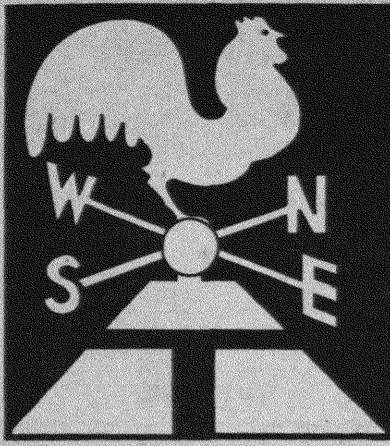
Provisions are made for appeals to be made to courts of competent jurisdiction. Further provision is made that if the owners of property have an agreement for the divisions or cost or maintaining a fence either determined by a fence viewer or through mutual written agreement recorded in the

Office of the Clerk of the township, the agreement would bind the heirs and assigns of the parties until terminated by mutual written agreement recorded in a similar manner.

Farm Bureau policy points out that the current fence law was adopted in 1846 with only minor revisions since that time. Larger and highly specialized farm operations have changed the need for line fences between farms in many counties. The policy supports amendments requiring owners of livestock to be responsible for the cost of fences separating livestock from adjacent farms where livestock is not kept. But, to require the owner of the other land to pay for an equal share of the fence should he begin to use it for livestock or for other reasons. The policy also

encourages owners of land to have a line fence division agreement included in the abstract or deed and properly recorded.

A new phenomenon has occurred in recent years in many areas of the state. Metropolitan people often move into an agricultural area and buy small acreages 10, 20 or more acres and then keep a cow, horse or some other livestock. Under present law, they can require the neighboring farmer to pay for half of the cost of the line fence even if it is of no use to him. This has created hardships in many areas for farmers who no longer have livestock and have no need for such fences. Under the new proposed law, such persons wishing a fence to maintain their livestock would be required to construct it and maintain it.



Agriculture, Consumers and YOU

By Connie Lawson

In light of the recent market research survey conducted by the United Dairy Industry Association, it appears that consumer-oriented advertising campaigns and dairy product information programs sponsored by the dairy industry have defied the Law of the Perversity of Nature, also known as Mrs. Murphy's Corollary. This relatively unknown tongue-in-cheek philosophy states, "You cannot successfully deter-

Dairy Survey Shows Consumer Attitudes Favorable

mine beforehand which side of the bread to butter".

Results of the survey show that the American Dairy Association and the Michigan Milk Producers Association have successfully "spread the good word" about milk and dairy products in Michigan. The random sampling was conducted in response to the concerns of the state's dairymen in the wake of the PBB crisis. A 3 percent reduction in dairy sales clearly called for an objective assessment of the effects of the PBB issue on consumer attitudes and buying practices.

In late April 1977, 813 women with children in the home were selected to be interviewed. The market survey was carefully designed to be a statistically representative sampling of consumers throughout Michigan. Awareness, attitudes and dairy product consumption relative to the chemical contamination publicity were discussed with the survey participants.

As was anticipated, awareness to PBB was high, with 96 percent claiming they have heard of it, although not all had related the livestock contamination to milk and dairy products.

In a series of attitude statements about the quality and nutritional value of milk,

it was learned that some of the attitudes were as favorable or more favorable than were found in some markets outside of Michigan compared to a national sample.

Less favorable attitudes in Michigan had to do with the precautions taken to assure milk's safety and with regard to Michigan mothers encouraging their children to drink milk. However, overall it was determined that the PBB issue has contributed only slightly to a less favorable product image.

On the average, 91 percent of those interviewed indicated that they were purchasing as much or more fluid milk compared to a few months ago. Changes in family composition largely contributed to the increases.

Further questioning of the consumers and analysis of the data indicated that the PBB issue has probably caused about a 1 percent decline in milk consumption in Michigan.

Representatives of Michigan dairy organizations, processors, shippers and retailers attending the reporting session at the MMPA offices in May were encouraged by the positive results of the survey.

Accordingly, it may be suggested that the survey results contradict another little known law. The Law of

Selective Gravity, sometimes called the "Buttered-Side Down Law", postulates "An object will fall so as to do the most damage". Clearly the effects of the PBB chemical

contamination has not severely damaged the consumer confidence in Michigan's dairy industry — SPREAD THE GOOD WORD!



DOLLARS and \$ENSE

BY MIKE ROGERS

Without Chemicals -- Yields Down, Prices Up

Many people, concerned about the safety and wholesomeness of our food supply, are turning away from conventional farm-grown food. So-called health food stores are enjoying more and more business, and major food manufacturers are cashing in on the craze by marketing "natural" cereals and ice creams.

When it comes to buying food for your family, are the health, natural and organic foods really a good buy in terms of nutrition and cost?

It's difficult to pin a label on health foods. Actually, they are anything found on the shelves of a health food store, anything that supposedly is better for you than ordinary food. Likewise, there is no scientific definition for an organic or natural food, although, in general, foods grown without chemicals are called "organic," and foods that have had no chemicals added during processing are called "natural."

If you took an organically-grown apple and put it on a table next to a regular farm-grown apple, would you be able to tell them apart? "Well, there isn't any way I know of that a consumer or a scientist is able to tell the difference," says Dr. Gilbert Leveille, chairman of the Michigan State University Food Science and Human Nutrition Department.

"As to the question of health, there isn't any evidence that I'm aware of to show that the nutritional content of an organic or natural food is any different from the nutritional content of a regularly processed food. And, consequently, there is no evidence that they are any healthier or less so," he said.

With many processed foods, though, you can tell how healthy they are for you because they have nutrition labels. A nutrition label, according to the Food and Drug Administration, must list the serving size, number of servings per container, calories, and the amounts of protein, fat and carbohydrates. In addition, the

nutrition label must show how much of seven other nutrients are present in the food: Vitamin A, Vitamin C, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, calcium and iron.

Most health foods, on the other hand, have no nutrition information. They ask you to accept their nutrition claims on faith alone.

"If consumers want to make the best use of their food dollars in terms of the nutrients they can purchase," says Dr. Leveille, "then the foods provided in the local supermarkets, the standard processed foods, in many cases, are the best buy in terms of nutrients per dollar spent."

Some consumers are still willing to spend the extra dollars for organic or natural foods because these items have been exposed to fewer chemicals than regular food. Some people feel that many chemicals used in food production are dangerous and unhealthy.

Actually, all chemicals that are used in the market place are thoroughly tested to ensure that they are safe. And when used properly, chemical fertilizers, insecticides and herbicides are not harmful. They are vitally needed to produce the food needed by a rapidly-growing world population.

"It's very clear," says Dr. Leveille, "that without the use of chemicals, yields decrease very significantly, and that's been demonstrated time and again."

If chemicals could not be used, he says, "the first thing we would see is that prices would rise very rapidly. Ultimately, as population continued to grow, we would have problems simply producing enough food and we would find shortages of many foods that are fairly common in the market place."

Your local supermarket, then, is still the best place to buy your family's groceries. It's full of wholesome Michigan farm-grown food that's good and good for you.

Festivals Open Summer Commodity Celebrations

Michigan growers are working hard and having a good time, too, as evidenced by the old-fashioned fun and events which took place at the National Asparagus Festival in Oceana County. Michigan's summertime recreational opportunities boast several national commodity festivals. The Asparagus Festival in Oceana County on June 10 and 11 was the first of the Summer 1977 celebrations.

The two-days of activity attracted over 15,000 visitors to the area communities of Hart, Shelby, Rothbury and New Era. Up and down the 13-mile stretch, growers, processors and townspeople welcomed the opportunity to share the fun. Activities included the Annual Asparagus Parade, an Asparagus Smorgasbord and ended on Saturday evening with the Asparagus Festival Ball. A ten-speed bicycle racing event and Championship Arm Wrestling Contest provided exciting moments for the spectators.

The Oceana County Farm Bureau, Jolly Community Group, "sweetened" the day's events by taking two awards in the Parade Float Judging. Cleverly disguised as Miss Honey Wagon, member Calvin Gowell of Shelby rode the group's entry, a tractor-pulled manure spreader. "Miss Honey



Members of the Jolly Farm Bureau Community Group prove it takes more than a pretty face to win the Grand Prize in Oceana County's Asparagus Parade.

Photo by Dick Lound, Oceana Herald

Wagon" and the "princesses" were awarded the Grand Prize in addition to receiving the County Extension Agent's Award for Best Agricultural Entry.

Attending and presiding over many of the weekend activities, Phyllis Slocum, 1977 Mrs. Asparagus, called this the "fun" of promoting the Michigan commodity. "It's been quite a busy job", says Mrs. Slocum, who recently appeared on the nationally televised game show, "To Tell the Truth". In addition to her New York City

visit, Phyllis has worked closely with the Asparagus Festival Committee, visited with Michigan legislators, writes "Asparagus Tips" a breezy, Brombeck-style newspaper column and has taken part in several radio and television broadcasts. "There's a lot of running and hectic activity involved, but I enjoy meeting new people and having new experiences. It has all been very exciting, but the National Asparagus Festival is the sort of hometown excitement I enjoy most."

Tornado Victims Rebuild After "Mind-Boggling" Destruction

FBIG ON THE SCENE

By Luke Schafer

It's been three months since a tornado wiped out the Norm Heddon farm near Olivet in Eaton County. And even though some terrifying memories remain, the Heddens, longtime Farm Bureau members, can now joke about the destruction of early April.

"We were planning to live in our house the rest of our lives and never leave it," Mae Heddon said with a smile. "We never dreamed the house would leave us."

The fury of the tornado ripped the dwelling apart and carried parts of it three miles away. The Heddens' farm buildings exploded into fragments and pieces of heavy farm equipment rolled more than half a mile, tossed along by the furious wind.

"Sure, there were some tears shed, but we thank God that everyone in the family survived," Norm Heddon said. "We're going to pick up from here and rebuild. I've lived on this land all my life; I'm not quitting now."

Heddon's plans to rebuild his home are not just dreams. He is insured with Farm Bureau Insurance Group and the claim settlement he received will be used to build a new dwelling and some outbuildings.

"I have only praise for the way Farm Bureau Insurance treated us," Heddon said. "The adjuster and my agent were out here the morning after the tornado hit." They treated us like we were the most important people in the county."

The Heddens are among dozens of FBIG insureds whose homes and property were damaged or destroyed in the April 2 tornado that swept through Eaton, Clinton and Livingston counties.

Within a few hours after the tornado struck, area agents and claims representatives from FBIG's Lansing Branch Claims Office began their tour through the storm area, making their initial contacts with affected insureds.

"Our insureds need us the most right after the catastrophe happens, not several days later," said Jerry Snay, Property Claims Manager for Farm Bureau Insurance Group. "Our claims personnel are there to make sure the insureds have housing and to see that other immediate needs are being met. We feel that we have one of the best and most well-organized catastrophe units of any insurance company in the state."

FBIG's total loss payments resulting from the tornado will run about \$700,000.

This includes more than 26 major losses (severely damaged or leveled houses, for example), with an

average loss of about \$22,000 each. In addition to the major losses, FBIG received about 56 claims averaging \$1,000 to \$1,500 each.

The largest single loss resulting from the tornado occurred at Howell High School in Howell, where the storm caused more than \$100,000 damage to the gym roof.

Within an hour after the tornado hit, FBIG claims representatives Harlan Dean and Don Richter had made arrangements for a contractor to begin emergency repairs at the school. Today the roof is back in top condition.

"I'm extremely gratified for the service and attention we received," said Dr. David Johnson, Supt. of Howell Schools. "From the very beginning, somebody from Farm Bureau Insurance was on the scene handling the situation. I'm pleased and impressed."

In Eaton County, claims representative Jerry Wilson started his work in the disaster zone on Sunday morning, just hours after the tornado hit.

"I made the rounds with Ted Dotts (Eaton County agent)," Jerry said. "On that first day we visited about 15 insureds whose places had been damaged by the tornado. The total destruction at some of these places was mind-boggling."

One of their stops was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Betts near Charlotte. The entire roof of their house had been ripped off by the tornado.

"The service was excellent, almost unbelievable," Mrs. Betts said. "Ted Dotts came over just half an hour after the tornado went through, and he came over again the next morning with the adjuster. There's a numbness you feel after living through a tornado, but knowing the damage is so well covered gives you a good feeling too."

Another of Wilson's and Dotts' stops that day was the devastated Heddon farm.

"Here it was, less than 20 hours after the tornado hit us and they were here standing next to me," Heddon said. "I know Ted had a lot of people to see, but he even apologized for being late."

"After the storm, a lot of people asked me about my insurance coverage," Heddon continued. "I just told them it couldn't be better. I almost cancelled some insurance with Farm Bureau a few years ago, but never again."

When natural disasters strike, the County Farm Bureau secretary is also a key person in the FBIG service chain.

"I was at the counter all



The April tornado left this complete devastation in its wake on the Heddon farm.

day the Monday after the tornado, taking claims reports from insureds," said Sharon Hickok, secretary for the Eaton County Farm Bureau. "The office was busy all week long, with people constantly coming in and out on business relating to the tornado damage."

"I heard many compliments praising Farm Bureau's service," she continued. "In fact, a lot of people have come in to the office asking to buy insurance because they heard so much about our good service after the tornado."

In the Bath area of Clinton County, where several homes and farm buildings insured

by FBIG were damaged or destroyed, claims representative Sharon Miller moved quickly through the storm area contacting insureds.

Russell Bauerle, who lost two barns in the tornado, was so pleased with his quick settlement and the service that he was preparing to write a letter of thanks to FBIG.

"But I guess I can say thanks now through your newspaper," Bauerle said. "My agent (Mike Kowatch) was out here right after the tornado hit and he was back again the next morning."

"I was impressed by your adjuster, too," he added.

"She worked fast, but she was fair. She seemed concerned that I get every nickel I had coming to me. After paying bills for insurance year after year, you sometimes wonder if maybe you're spending too much. Then something like this happens and you're mighty thankful to the insurance company."

The Claims Division of Farm Bureau Insurance Group prides itself on its efficiency and speed in time of disaster.

"We want to provide all the help we can as quickly as we can," Property Claims Manager Jerry Snay said. "The insured has the right to expect that."

FBIG Names Property-Casualty V.P.



Don Bradshaw (right) is welcomed to the Farm Bureau Family by FBIG executive vice president Robert Wiseman.

Don Bradshaw, who has worked with Farm Bureau affiliated insurance companies in Kansas, Colorado and Illinois for 30 years, is the new head of property-casualty operations for Farm Bureau Insurance Group (FBIG).

In his new capacity, Bradshaw will serve as vice president and general manager of Farm Bureau Mutual and Community Service Insurance, FBIG's two property-casualty companies.

Bradshaw, 49, comes to FBIG from Country Mutual Insurance in Bloomington, Ill., where he

served as assistant vice president. Country Mutual is an affiliate of the Illinois Agricultural Association (same as a Farm Bureau).

During his 15 years with Country Mutual, Bradshaw also served as property-casualty controller and director of the company's crop hail operation. He also worked 15 years with insurance companies affiliated with the Kansas Farm Bureau and the Colorado Farm Bureau.

Bradshaw, who grew up on a farm in Kansas, is a member and leader in many insurance in-

dustry associations. He served on the executive board of the Crop Insurance Research Bureau, a division of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies.

Farm Bureau Insurance Group serves more than a quarter of a million policyholders in Michigan and is backed by a force of 340 agents and nearly 50 field claims adjusters. The firm is among the ten largest life insurance writers in the state and is the 14th largest property-casualty writer in Michigan.

Saginaw Terminal Ready for Wheat Harvest

Michigan Elevator Exchange, the Grain and Bean Marketing Division of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., announces the awarding of the construction bids to Stout Construction Company of Sylvania, Ohio at the Saginaw Terminal which was partially destroyed by an explosion in January, 1976.

"While the outline of the new construction will resemble the original one, there will be several improvements made that are not so visible," reported Edward R. Powell, Vice President and Manager of the Michigan Elevator Exchange Division. Construction will start mid-July and is expected to be completed one year later.

In the meantime, everything is in readiness for this year's wheat harvest. Farmers and country elevators with self unloading equipment will find the newly constructed unloading facilities can serve them swiftly and efficiently. Extra manpower and other innovations are planned to handle this year's harvest.

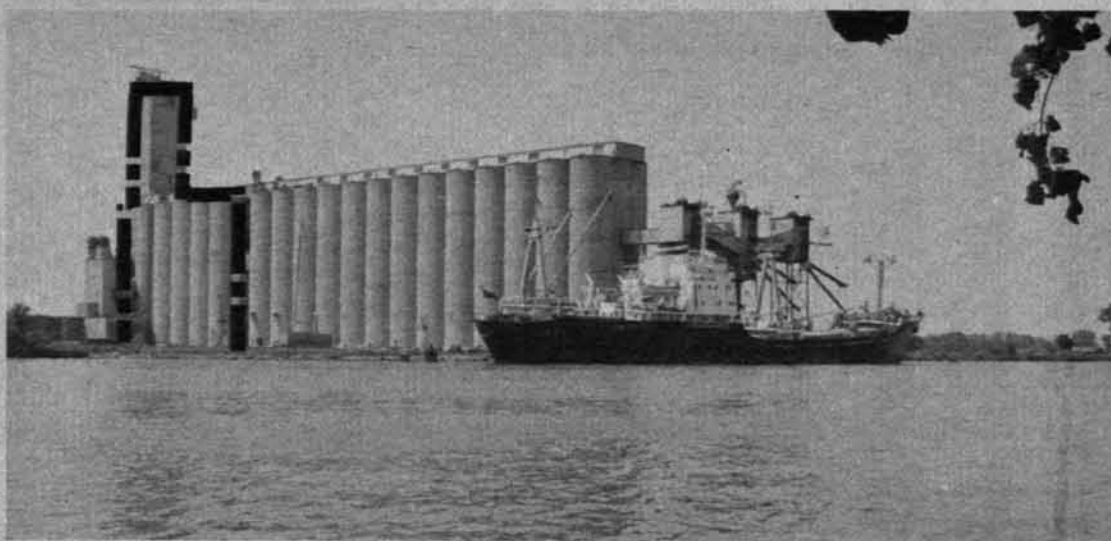
The new construction will replace the ten silos, headhouse, receiving and shipping facilities that were destroyed in the January, 1976 explosion. Many improvements are planned; such as larger and faster grain receiving capabilities; and for shipping, increased railroad car space with faster loading. The water shipping facilities were not damaged in the explosion and will continue to play a strong role in sending Michigan grown grain and beans to all parts of the world.

The storage capacity of the replaced silos will be 548,000 bushels. There will be a new workhouse and headhouse which will contain the latest in processing equipment. Manpower efficiency will be improved, also. When completed in July of 1978, the new facilities are expected to operate with only 10 to 12 people compared to the 20 needed before.

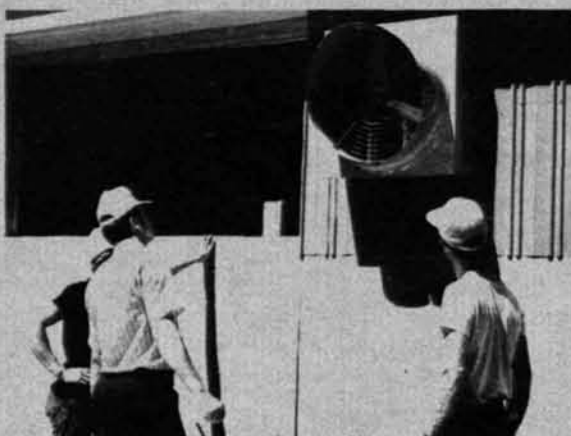
"Farmers of Michigan own this terminal," stressed Donald R. Armstrong, Executive Vice President of

Farm Bureau Services, Inc., "and even while the construction is going on for the new and modern replacement to that portion lost in the tragic explosion of 1976, the Michigan Elevator Exchange continues to serve those owners."

This, combined with the fact that the Saginaw Terminal has storage in excess of 2,000,000 bushels, its Ottawa Lake Terminal storage exceeding 6,000,000 bushels, and Marysville Plant with 300,000 bushels, makes Michigan Elevator Exchange, a Division of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., the largest grain handler in Michigan - a total capacity of 8,300,000 bushels.



"Farmers of Michigan own this terminal," says FBS executive vice president Don Armstrong, "and even while construction is going on for the new replacement to the portion lost in the 1976 explosion, MEE continues to serve those owners."



Where Do You Go For Quality Hardware?

Input costs for farming are high, and getting higher. That's why so many Michigan farmers have taken their hardware business to cooperative retail outlets. The Farm Bureau people sell only durable, dependable, long-lasting hardware. To you that means value!

As a member of Universal Cooperatives, Farm Bureau Services brings you outstanding products... CO-OP and Universal. From Axes to Zinc coated watering tanks... your Farm Bureau Services dealer has a

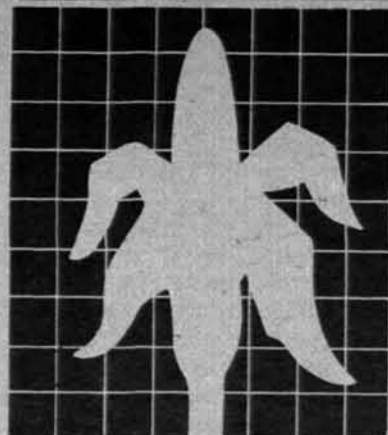
great selection of farm hardware.

And buildings? Strength, versatility and longer service life make Farm Bureau buildings a great investment for your farm. At Farm Bureau Services, we guarantee satisfaction. You can depend on the cooperative system. It works... for you. Ask the Farm Bureau People.

Where Your Farm Comes First
Farm Bureau
 FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.



"IS THIS A POLICY DEVELOPMENT MEETING, OR IS IT JUST ANOTHER SPANKING?"



Marketing Outlook

Wheat Marketing Forecast Bleak



Beef Referendum July 5-15

Any person or legal entity (corporation, partnership, etc.) that owned beef or dairy cattle from January 1, 1976, through December 31, 1976, and registered June 6-17 at local ASCS offices, is eligible to vote in the national beef referendum July 5-15.

The referendum will determine whether a national beef board will be set up to administer a beef research and information program. If authorized, the board would consist of 68 beef owners appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. Nominations for the board would come from producer organizations in various geographical areas and from cattle owners in areas not represented by such organizations.

The program would be paid for through assessments on the value added on all cattle sold. For the first three years, the board would collect up to three-tenths of one percent, and after that, the rate could be changed but could not exceed one-half of one percent. Cattle owners who did not want to take part in the program could get refunds.

The outlook is still bearish. A recent USDA forecast, which assumes normal or favorable growing conditions, summarizes the outlook this way:

- total stocks - 3,157 million bushels
- disappearance - 1,743 million bushels
- ending carryover - 1,414 million bushels

If these figures are on target, the USDA is also predicting a price range for the 1977-78 crop of 2.25 to 2.35 per bushel. There is little evidence so far to think that

these numbers are too far out of line!

In Michigan, recent crop reporting service estimates pegged the wheat crop at 29.4 million bushels, 22 percent below last year. This is based on 920,000 acres harvested and a 32 bushels per acre yield. Both of these figures are also well below last year's levels. Talking with farmers around the state I find that a lot of wheat was plowed down and the field planted to corn and soys. Michigan growers are also chopping their wheat for silage, particularly in

areas where hay is in short supply. Some areas also report very poor stands of wheat. They talk of thin stands, short heads, heads that aren't filled all the way down, etc.

Worldwide, only a very few countries at this time are reporting poor crop conditions. On the other hand, countries like the U.S.S.R. are forecasting record crops. This might mean the Russians would purchase only the minimum required under the recently signed long term U.S. - Soviet grain

agreement. Other prime wheat producing countries are also reporting good to excellent crops. Thus, export competition will be extremely keen this year.

All in all, the 1977-78 marketing year could be a disaster as far as wheat is concerned. The problems may start with harvest when farmers try to find storage space for their wheat. A lot of farmers are soon going to have two years worth of wheat with no place to put it. This can create some real problems right from the start.

FB Wheat Pool Available to Members



Michigan Farm Bureau's Wheat Committee met at Farm Bureau Center recently. Members of the committee urge members to put their wheat in the Farm Bureau Wheat Pool at local participating co-op elevators at harvest. Wheat is pooled and marketed throughout the year by marketing specialists. Farmers receive an advance payment check and final payment check in the spring when the pool is closed out. Details are available from

County Farm Bureau offices. Members of the Wheat Committee are: H. Fred Long, Lenawee; Wilmont Stotz, Monroe; Gerald Kayser, Kent; Robert Kissane, Chairman, Clinton; Marvin Kociba, Huron; Herman Rader, Montcalm; Lorna Dershem, Gratiot; Ruvert VanderMeulen, Missaukee; James Gleason, St. Joseph; James Rubingh, Antrim; Jack Laurie, Tuscola; Larry DeVuyt, Gratiot, and Walter Frahm, Saginaw.

SOYBEANS

So far the U.S.D.A. estimate of an 11 percent increase in acreage planted looks fairly accurate. The next question will be what's going to happen to yields. Most guesses now lean to a crop of 1.4 to 1.5 billion bushels. The lower figure could put prices in the \$8.00 range this fall. Current crop usage has continued to outpace expectations, leaving open the possibility of further price rationing before new crop harvest begins this fall. The recent wave of cold weather throughout the midwest may also be a pricing factor this fall. Assuming plant development was slowed, harvest could be delayed up to two weeks. This would further squeeze current supplies and jump prices. It looks like the soybean complex will remain volatile until more can be said with certainty about the new crop.

HOGS

Slaughter has slowed down a little and demand has remained fairly stable. Some forecasters are now calling for a price peak in the \$45 to \$50 per hundred range before the summer is over. However, they also are predicting a downturn next year. High hog prices and low corn prices will lead to the inevitable downturn. The downturn, if it occurs, probably would come sometime in the late summer or fall of 1978. A lot will depend on the December farrowings. A large pig crop at that time could be the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back and provide the forecasters with a self-fulfilling prophecy!

Dr. Paul E. Kindinger, Director Market Development & Research Division

USDA Proposes Maple Syrup Grade Revision

The USDA has proposed to revise the U.S. Grade Standards for table maple syrup and to eliminate grade standards for maple syrup for reprocessing.

Under this new proposal only U.S. Grade A and B would be named for maple syrup. The terms Grade AA and Fancy would be dropped.

We will be filing a statement on behalf of our member producers on this proposal. If you have any comments or questions please contact Ken Nye, Horticultural Specialist, Market Development Division, 7373 West Saginaw Hwy., Box 30960, Lansing, MI 48909 or phone (517) 321-5661, ext. 223.

Ken Nye, Horticultural Marketing Specialist Market Development Division

Fruit, Vegetable Situations

Below normal temperatures were recorded in all major fruit producing areas during May but precipitation was above normal. Cherry, apricot, freestone peaches and plum harvests were all started in May.

Production forecasts show slight increases for plums and prunes; average production in apricots, pears and freestone peaches; below average production for sweet cherries and cling peaches.

CELERY

Florida growers expect to harvest celery for this season through the end of June. Their acreage was up but volume is lower due to the freezing last winter and excess rain.

Our acreage is comparable to last year's 1900 acres and we should come on about the

first of July. Cold weather has caused damage but the full extent may not be noticed until closer to harvest.

FREESTONE PEACHES

The U.S. free peach crop is estimated at 767,500 tons, up 1 percent from last year. The largest increases are Michigan, up 75 percent; New Jersey, up 19 percent and South Carolina, up 18 percent. Georgia and Pennsylvania show decreases with drops of 30 percent and 14 percent respectively. Dry weather has lowered Georgia's crop and their production could be affected more if this condition continues.

BLUEBERRY CROP DOWN

The national cultured blueberry crop is estimated at 53.25 million pounds, 15.5 million less than last year. Severe winter weather,

particularly in New Jersey, and a series of frosts here in Michigan represent the drop in production. New Jersey is expected to harvest 18 million pounds compared with 26.3 million pounds last year. Production in our state is set at 19 million pounds versus 31 million pounds in 1976.

The first New Jersey blueberries came on the market on June 8 with fair volume expected by mid-June.

The wild blueberry crop is placed at 46.5 million pounds compared to 42 million last year. The wild crop is concentrated in Maine and the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

Ken Nye, Horticultural Marketing Specialist Market Development Division



SUPPLY REPORT By Greg Sheffield

input prices and feed price rations, milk to feed, egg to feed, and hog to feed ratios have remained stable.

LSA (Liquid Silage Additive) and LPS (Liquid Protein Supplement) dealer training meetings have just been completed. The liquid business is finding special favor with liquids as a regular balancer for feeding both dairy and beef. The wheel lickers give animals a shot of protein, as well as other valuable nutrients. This helps during this period of high prices.

Bovadine teat dip is available at participating dealers. Even those dairy farmers who get their dip and sanitizers from their milk hauler system will find Farm Bureau's Bovadine teat dip deal attractive.

Sales of NU PRO Dairy Feed have continued to grow and are displacing Farm Bureau's more conventional feeds.

HARDWARE

Steel price hikes have continued as predicted. However, it's thought some presidential authority may be forthcoming to scare back continued price increases. Hopefully, manufacturers will be able to modify their trend for increases and still avoid strikes.

Building demand is high and building materials are in good supply at Farm Bureau Building Centers.

Paint, both inside and out, manufactured by Universal Cooperatives, partly owned by Farm Bureau Services, is available in a variety of

colors. Stocks are good and painting conditions ideal.

PESTICIDES

Good supplies of all pesticides at dealers have satisfied farmers and insured fair prices. Farmers are advised to use weed killers both to preserve moisture for their crops in dry weather, as well as to avoid having to cultivate in too wet fields.

FERTILIZERS

Late summer and fall small grain fertilizer needs should be lined up now. After much drawing down of stocks due to ideal conditions for fertilizing this spring, fertilizers have again become available.

LIQUID FUELS

The liquid fuels business has been one of creeping inflation. Farmers Petroleum has been holding the line as much as possible, but like

others it, too, must yield. Our own Energy Refinery has been giving patrons the cooperative edge that makes it all worthwhile. Crude prices have their effect on everyone in the business. Our supplies for farmers are adequate and distribution by Farmers Petroleum drivers has kept pace with enormous planting activity being accomplished in the state in just a short time.

TIRES

Farm tires in all sizes have seen a sales boom. Farmers Petroleum dealers have been busy. Prices and supplies are good. Radial tractor tires boasting long wear and less fuel consumption, as well as other advantages, are being tried now. On-The-Farm-Tire-Service is winning new customers.

Looking at economics we see soybean prices in Michigan were running as high as \$4.64 a bushel higher than a year ago in the spring months. This, combined with cash prices of corn running about a dime higher than last year, helped account for higher feed costs.

Michigan State University shows that, in spite of higher feeding costs, comparing



Homefront

Notes from Community Groups

Ray Timm, a high school teacher, presented an interesting slide program to the Evergreen, Challengers and Pioneer Community Farm Bureau Groups of Alpena County. Timm told of his experience and showed equipment used in his successful climb of Mount McKinley.

"It takes more than corn planting, canoeing dates, square dances, 4-H achievements and camping to keep this group from meeting" reports Margaret Luttenton, Secretary of the In-Betweeners Community Farm Bureau Group.

Mr. Lehey, a minister and teacher from Ireland who is studying in Michigan, met with Deer Creek Community Farm Bureau Group of Ottawa County. He spoke about the history of his country and the present war. Lehey also told of agriculture in Ireland, mentioning that the main crop is potatoes.

Members of the Maple Grove Community Farm Bureau Group, Arenac County, saw a sight at Ruby Simmons' which many have never seen before. Mrs. Simmons has several bluebird houses which at this time of the year are full of eggs and baby bluebirds. It was a pleasant sight to see bluebirds in apple trees in full bloom.

We have all heard that the early bird gets the worm.

But, for the Early Risers of Washtenaw County, it was tacos with all the trimmings served by their host and hostesses, Ronnie and Asa Brown.

The Ouard County Farm Bureau Group, Sanilac County, undertook a project which other groups may wish to try. This is the way their secretary, Karen Nielson, reported it: "Our TV 2 reporter Murry Feldman came out to our farms. He brought along two other men - Gene Bring, sound man, and Larry Carn, cameraman. They visited the farms of Gerald Blatt, Roy Clark, Sr., Charles Eager and Mike Chisholm. At the Roy Clark farm, they saw a calf being delivered by Doc Kraft. The morning tour ended at the Flynn Community Park for a pot-luck dinner. We enjoyed having them here and hope they come out again. This was our one main project for May. The reason for them coming was to get the farmer's point of view on prices."

Ian Smith, an exchange student from England participating in the Future Farmers of America Program, addressed the Snover Community Farm Bureau Group, Sanilac County. His American hostess, Mrs. Dale Berden, accompanied him. He gave many interesting facts about the farming situation in England.

Rural Emergency Service -

YOU CAN HELP!



Clearly visible house numbers are important to salesmen, mail carriers, and emergency vehicles. Many houses in rural Michigan do not have the house number clearly visible to aid any of the above mentioned.

In emergency, the individual is often excited and without the use of adequate house numbers many find it very difficult to direct emergency vehicles. Also in responding, directions such as the "big house on the left side of the road" could fit many houses. **Response time is critical.** If a loved one, be it family, friend or neighbor is seriously ill or injured, minutes can make a difference.

You can help. Know how to reach the emergency services in your area and display clearly your house number to assist them to find and help you.

DISCUSSION TOPIC

by KEN WILES
Manager Member Relations

Right to Food -- A Moral Issue

Many underdeveloped nations need more food, are demanding more food, but cannot pay for it. Though some people feel guilty for having too much food available while others in the world have so little, no one really wants to pay on a personal basis for redistribution. The public reacts violently to higher prices at the grocery store, and even more violently if our supply is shortened due to sales to other countries. The recent grain embargos resulted from public pressure, not because the administration in Washington felt they were good ideas. If the public does not want to pay for feeding the world, and the United States government cannot pay, then it seems to solve everyone's problem if farmers are somehow able to produce great surpluses with resulting low prices. That would make everyone happy but the farmer.

Reserves

Since surpluses have disappeared, some political leaders are trying to recreate them in the form of grain reserves. A guaranteed price to the farmer, with grain reserves for United States consumers and some of the food-short nations of the world, is simplistic in concept and devastating in its economic impact on the farmer.

Another kind of reserve has been suggested -- why not create a monetary reserve wherein all nations could make financial contributions and then withdraw funds on the basis of real need? With funds withdrawn from monetary reserves, nations could buy the kind of grain they prefer and from the cheapest available sources. Thus, we would not be asking rice-eating people to "eat wheat and like it". Countries that have no grain to share can make valuable contributions. This would include nations like Russia, Japan, and most certainly the Arab nations, who now have plenty of dollars but very little grain.

Food Importance Ongoing

A generation ago the population of the "poor" countries was increasing at a rate of 16 million per year. The population of the poor countries today is increasing at a rate of 67 million per year. Since World War II, the United States has shipped over \$8 million of food to needy countries, much of it at a very low price. Even so, with the tremendous increase in population, the people of many needy countries are still malnourished and, in some cases, hungry. Most

knowledgeable people predict that we will do well to stay even in the race between food production and population by the year 1985. Beyond that, no one knows.

In the March 1976 issue of Smithsonian Magazine, an advertisement of the Environmental Fund, supported by some very noted people, concluded that food production would never win the race and we should begin now to decide who will be fed and who will not. Their moral premise was "there could be no moral obligation to do the impossible." Therefore, since it is impossible to feed the expected increased population -- begin to choose. Consider the "Lifeboat Theory" of moral choice: if there are 100 swimmers in the water and the lifeboat only holds 50, to let more than 50 in the boat would swamp it and all would be lost. Therefore, is it morally right to save half in order to avoid losing all?

"Right To Food" Basic

In March of 1976, 27 national religious leaders issued a statement that hunger is no longer morally acceptable. They asked Congress to make "the right to food" basic to United States policy and action. By their own interpretation, every man, woman and child in the world should have a nutritionally adequate diet. To help get that idea in mind, try to imagine a food stamp program operating worldwide. That would probably be the simplest way to handle such a program. At least the analogy will help to comprehend the magnitude of the proposal.

Moral Concepts To Consider

Peter Singer is one of those current philosophers giving us concepts to consider in the whole area of food and morality. One of his concepts is, "If you can prevent a bad thing from happening without sacrificing anything of comparable worth to you, you have a moral obligation to do so". The example usually given to explain this is that if you see a child drowning in 3 feet of water, you would have a moral obligation to wade into the water and rescue the child. Doing so might give you a wet suit, but it certainly is not a sacrifice compared to the loss of a life. On the other hand, seeing the child drowning in 20 feet of water when you cannot swim would mean that to try to make a rescue would be to lose your life as well as that of the

child's. Therefore, you have no moral obligation to lose your life as well as the child's in this situation.

The "Consequential View"

John Rawls gives us another way to think about the matter. Rawls has one concept called "consequential view," which goes, "We should improve the lot of the worst-off first." This means starting at the bottom. Whatever help we have to give should be given first to the people who are in most need, and then work backwards to those who have less need, but still a great need. This would give one indication of where our food aid should go from a moral point of view. However, it does not give consideration to any of the various factors that our State Department uses to decide about food aid.

The "Non-Consequential View"

Rawls also has a "non-consequential view" which says "give people who are meritorious your help and don't give to people who do not merit help; because if you do, giving the non-meritorious this help cuts the value of help that would be given to the meritorious." This is to say that you should separate deserving starving from the non-deserving starving and feed those who deserve it. Try that out on your friends as a way of deciding where food aid should go!

"Commons" Concept

Garret Harden put forth the concept of the "commons". Under the concept of the commons, the question is raised, "who owns the oil that is under the sands in the Arabian countries?" It is owned by those who have staked the claim of property rights upon it, or shall we eventually own those great natural resources in common, since they are so vital to everyone throughout the world? If you come to believe that perhaps we do have some moral right to the oil of the world or the uranium of the world or any other critical element, then you may also have to recognize that others can make a claim on the bread basket area of the world which happens to lie right here in the USA. The sword will surely cut both ways.

A National Ten Per Cent

Those who are promoting a "Just World Order" indicating that we, as other countries that have already developed a viable and strong economy, should set apart as much as 10 per cent of our gross national product for wealth redistribution. This passing along of 10 percent would be done out of self-interest because to do otherwise simply leads to a compounding of the problem between the haves and have-nots and leads to further trouble throughout the world.

An Unfruitful Diet

The moral question on the "right to food" is not an easy one. It is not clear who would do the sacrificing to achieve, and it isn't even clear whether or not such a sacrifice of food in the developed countries will result in food reaching those in need. To stop eating meat, as has been suggested, or dropping one meal per day or meat dish per day, will be totally ineffective unless the amount of money that would have been spent is sent to countries that are in need of food. To do otherwise would simply penalize the farmer who is producing food. It would do nothing for those in need.

Natural Resources Vital To Our Success

On searching our minds thoroughly, we would have to admit that in this country the earliest settlers found, either by luck or by insight, a great number of natural resources that our capitalistic system has helped us exploit in the best sense of the word. We found a great amount of land that was unoccupied and quite productive. It is well served by water and is in a climate favorable to the production of food. We further found, in this country, large deposits of coal, oil, timber, and many other important mineral and resources.

We coupled this discovery with people who had both the will to work and the free enterprise system that rewarded those who worked, with industry and with ingenuity. The result of all of this is an economic wonder of the world. Another result is that 6 percent of the world's population called US citizens utilize about 40 per-cent of the natural resources being utilized worldwide on an annual basis. Is there a moral problem there?



U.S. commodities are moved from ship to truck for transporting to the highlands of Ethiopia.

"Safety Always Pays"

July 25-31 has been proclaimed National Farm Safety Week, according to Ron Converse, president of the Michigan Rural Safety Council.

"We consider this to be an important week for farmers in Michigan," said Converse, an Eaton County farmer and an underwriting department manager for Farm Bureau Insurance Group. "Both the Michigan Rural Safety Council and Farm Bureau Insurance will promote the observance throughout July."

The theme of this year's Farm Safety Week is "Safety Is a Good Investment," as designated by the National Safety Council and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, joint sponsors of the event.

The week emphasizes farm safety as a means of reducing costly accidents that cut productivity and result in tragedy for thousands of farm families every year.

Accidents in 1976 claimed the lives of 5,400 farm residents in the United States and caused about 500,000 disabling injuries, according to preliminary estimates of the National Safety Council. About 1,900 deaths and 180,000 disabling injuries were classified as farm work accidents.

All this adds up to a dollar loss of \$3 billion annually, and results in untold human suffering and grief.

"Improved safety technology is of little value unless farmers make safety a part of their everyday work and living," Converse said.

CAPITOL REPORT

(Continued from Page 11)

were ordered to adopt the inverted rate. Farm Bureau has been involved with this issue, both directly and indirectly. Farm Bureau as a member and leader in the Michigan Agricultural Conference, supported intervening in the recent Detroit Edison rate case. The decision in late May by the Public Service Commission permits farmers to be put on a flat rate fee, if they desire. The rate that was approved for farmers is 4.15 cents per kilowatt hour regardless of the amount of power used. In order to qualify for this flat rate, farmers must certify in writing that they are full-time operators of a farm. The effect of this new rate is that anyone on a farm using more than 1,500 kwh's per month, would save money on his electric bill. Less than 1,500 kwh's per month will not be worthwhile. It is expected that a similar decision will be extended to Consumers Power Company at their next rate hearing. Other companies in the State were never put on the inverted rate system. Most of them are, and have been, on a flat rate system.

"Safety is an investment that always pays."

A study of farm accidents in Michigan, conducted by the Agricultural Engineering Dept. at Michigan State University, revealed that heavy farm equipment is involved in nearly one-fourth of all farm accidents in the state.

An investment in safety can help reduce the frequency of farm machinery mishaps.

As a county project, the Ingham County Farm Bureau is in the process of preparing an agricultural book with information and pictures concerning all phases of agriculture in the county, the activities of the county's farmers and proudly depicting the role of county farm families in today's society.

The publication will be financed through con-

tributions to cover the cost of publishing and current plans are to distribute the publication at the Ingham County Farm Bureau annual meeting in October. The publication will also be available at the county office in Mason at no charge.

The publication will proudly announce the importance of the agricultural industry in Ingham County and will also include a section

on the Farm Bureau Family and how it relates to Ingham County.

Members of the committee preparing the publication include Audrey Stofer, Chairman; Larry Lilsby; Ilene Dalton; county extension agent Marvin Preston; Ingham County Secretary Jean Scutt; and Charles Wilcox, Ingham County Farm Bureau President.

Ingham FB Prepares County Ag Book

NU PRO Dairy Feed

**Now High
Producing Herds Can
Produce Even More Milk!**

Farm Bureau Services' Cooperative Research Farms has discovered a new way to increase milk production. Nu Pro Dairy Feed helps regulate* soluble and insoluble proteins within the cows' rations. Field tests show that regulated protein aids in producing even more milk in good dairy herds! Make more milk production your goal.

Ask your Farm Bureau feeds man about Nu Pro Dairy Feed today. He'll tailor a program to your herd's needs.

Where Your Farm Comes First

Farm Bureau
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

*Patent pending





NOW YOU CAN AFFORD MORE LIFE INSURANCE THAN YOU THOUGHT!

Announcing new Whole Life Insurance with Extra Protection
Which We Call PROTECTION PLUS from Farm Bureau Life

The new Protection Plus Policy with the Extra Protection Option* . . . designed to provide you with a minimum of \$30,000 worth of life insurance protection. The kind of sound coverage you want for your family and your estate . . . the secure kind of protection you need these days.

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Consider Protection Plus. Even if you're just starting out, you may be able to afford much more life insurance than you thought. For example, if you're in your early twenties you could pay less than \$30 per month and have \$30,000 worth of protection.

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With Protection Plus you can create an immediate and guaranteed estate for your family . . . one which assures the kind of substantial protection you want for them if something should happen to you. You get more protection and cash value for estate planning with a Protection Plus Policy

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.

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