MI-OSHA Aim:
Complete Regulation for Michigan Agriculture

PROPOSED REGULATIONS SET PRECEDENT FOR RETROFIT

"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 conveyors and conveying machinery, 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."

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. (UMO). 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 "agonizers" 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 policies that would be detrimental to farm 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 1973, 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

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. Barkhill, Chairman OSSC of MI-OSHA 2737 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 Lakeview Avenue Cassopolis, Mich. 49018

The Honorable Daisy Elliott Chairperson, House Labor Committee House of Representatives State Capitol Lansing, Mich. 48901
The Honorable David Pieswecki Chairman, Senate Labor Committee 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 instructions regarding written testimony.

National Farm Safety Week July 25-31

Donna 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!

TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT POLICY DEVELOPMENT

FARM NEWS JULY, 1977
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 danger and 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 and then recommend procedures and regulations to correct the hazard. It would spell out what the work environment for agriculture.

2. In-depth research that will identify hazard areas on the farm today.

3. In-depth thought by qualified, professional people in the formulation 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 proposing 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 bulb-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. Committee 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 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.

"These 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."
MI-OSHA Must Reflect On-the-Farm Realities

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 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 inequitable 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 MI-OSHA specialist, Richard Pfister. Pfister is well known to Michigan agriculturists 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 are not realistic 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 agriculture. Without an accurate data base, other than their own agricultural experience, the committee is required to determine which standards apply to agriculture and recommend adaptations or 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 regulations, possibly half through the hearings process, we have learned more about the concerns of farm operators are determined to be sensitive to agriculture. As best we can", promised Harvie. He praised the Agricultural Advisory Committee for its work as "informed, vocal and well-organized."

Lutz Named by MDA

Representative Donald Gilmer believes a vigilant agricultural community must seek defeat of inappropriate standards.

**"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 product of sentences. Multiply this by .4 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.
Meet MSU’s New Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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

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 agricultural education. 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 that provides many educational opportunities for my children which were not available in Mississippi. When I considered all of the 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: What are some of the responsibilities of a Dean of Extension and Agricultural Education?

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 administration, the agricultural leadership across the state, commodity groups and farmer organizations. I also hope to have contact with state legislators as they consider programs that are affecting present programs being conducted by the College.

Secondly, I will be concerned with the fiscal as well as the educational aspects of our 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 these 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 Bureau members, Larry R. Ewing, Director of the MPS Information and Public Relations Division, 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. It was 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 is the role of a Dean of Extension and Agricultural Education?

Anderson: The role is one of leadership and service. A Dean is responsible for providing the leadership and direction for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He is also responsible for the expenditure of funds in those areas. We must make sure the information gets to the consumer and that it is used effectively.

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 other useful programs which benefit society. It has a well-established delivery system and it can develop effective ways to use solar energy for crop drying and has a building to convert waste material into useful energy. Capture some of the energy in the winds and reduce the energy being expended for tillage. The fundamental area of research such as biological nitrates and improved photosynthetic efficiency have tremendous possibilities. We must remember that these are difficult problems and it will take time to solve them.

Ewing: How 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, but we can’t blame it on the oil companies or pretend it isn’t. We can try to conserve energy, capture some of the energy in the winds and reduce the energy being expended for tillage. The fundamental area of research such as biological nitrates and improved photosynthetic efficiency have tremendous possibilities. We must remember that these are difficult problems and it will take time to solve them.

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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 the United States Congress. We appreciate you and look forward to working with you.
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 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 $80 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 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 9% memberships on their farm.

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

### SAFEMARK DEALERS

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### Safemark Dealers

- 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.
- Skeptics who don't believe pretty girls know about such things as tires and batteries soon learn that Sherry Pardee is a Safemark specialist.
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 chairman. Coordinating the event with Hepp is Harold Bouquet, Bay County agricultural agent, and Russell Howes, Arenac County Extension director.

"Each of the stops will illustrate the integration 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. This farm has 472 acres producing corn, soybeans and sugar beets. Major emphasis is on planting and harvesting equipment, which are used 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 50 cows averaging 17,947 pounds of milk and 645 pounds of butterfat per cow. 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. This 1,015 acres, producing 530 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 beans. 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 420-acre 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 Valley Ridge Dairy Farm), Standish. This 122 head milking operation has an annual rolling herd average of 15,577 pounds of 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.

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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.

The Wem'r Clasen Farm, Richmond Township has a large dairy operation raising sugar beets. Established in the late 1890’s, this farm is probably the oldest farm in Macomb county raising sugar beets.

Nevell Rawlings of 22155 - 33 Mile road in Armada Township has a large dairy operation raising sugar beets. This farm can be located just north of the 200 acres of fruit are grown, also corn and vegetables. 100 Polled Herefords, and beef. 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.

West View Orchards on Van Dyke, south of Romeo, is the oldest Centennial Farm in Michigan (186 years old). Armand Bowerman and Katherine Roy (brother and sister) are the fourth generation on this fruit farm. On the 200 acres, 50 acres of fruit are grown, also corn and vegetables. 100 Polled Herefords, and beef. 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 good-will 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.

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.

Post-convention 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 39940, Lansing, MI 48909.
City "Transplants" Live in Harmony with Nature

Modern-Day Pioneers Trade Detroit for Peaceful Antrim County Valley

(Edward's Note: Last February, the Antrim County Farm Bureau Newsletter contained a tribute to one of the member families: "As we move along in the competitive 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 with the pure purpose of 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 has owned it, has planted 30,000 trees, built new trout ponds, and has accomplished an array of 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."

By Donna Wilber & Marcia Ditchie

The road that may be traveled toward fulfillment of a dream has not been smooth and straight for the Pecker family. There have been setbacks, traipsing, chuck-holes of disappointment, and some jolting bumps of hard learning. But there has been satisfaction in climbing the steep hills of challenges and joy in the peaceful valleys of accomplishments.

The dream is yet a distance from fulfillment. But Pecar believes that the dream of making a dream come true are in the efforts to attain it. Those efforts are shared by all members of their 10 children. Pursuit of the dream took the city-bred family from Detroit to a farm in Echo Township in Antrim County. It meant leaving a thriving 30-year-old electronic plant, a home and 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. Community gardening is a reasonable use of chemicals with organic gardening principles, reading, observing, and advise 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.

"I city-dwelling parents, teenagers and youngsters would get involved in the backyard gardens, we could go a long way towards solving energy, health and social problems," Pecar said.

Friendship with a biology professor resulted in numerous family field trips and the sons have learned much about wildlife in nature. When the 115-acre tree farm in Echo Township was purchased, the dream of living the family dream will "sometime in the future."

But, then, their oldest son, Ed, graduated from Lake Superior State University with a degree in Earth Science, and a rebuilt farm house with 10 acres and numerous outbuildings, a few miles from their tree farm became available.

So the family packed 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, tragic struck. Ed was in a serious motorcycle accident, resulting in a six months’ hospitalization, 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 Searsh bought laying hens and a rooster, and the breakfast bacon came from one of the 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 city 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 young 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, snowmobiles crashing 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.

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: (1) 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 posted 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.

(c) A person shall not enter upon farmlands or connected farm wood lots for any of the purposes cited in subsection (1) without the written consent of the owner, his lessee or agent, whether or not the farm lands or connected woodland are fenced, enclosed, or posted.

Several additional points in the Act should also be noted in Section 2, subsection (1) the law reads: In proceeding for a violation of this act the presence of a person on the enclosed, fenced or posted premises is 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 (d) of the Act 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 reasonable 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."
### NATIONAL NOTES

**FARM PROGRAM PROPOSALS COMPARED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment-limitation</td>
<td>$3,600 per person total, increased 10 percent annually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Same as Senate (except farmers would receive payment on not less than 80 percent of actual plantings).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set-aside</td>
<td>Same as Senate. Also may limit uniformly, acreage planted to percentage of acreage harvested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target levels</td>
<td>$2.45 per bushel for 1977-- $3 for 1978, thereafter escalated to reflect any change in the adjusted cost of production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escalator provisions</td>
<td>Cost of production escalator includes (a) variable, (b) machinery ownership, (c) overhead costs allocated to crops involved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan levels</td>
<td>$2.25 for 1977 -- $2.35 for 1978, thereafter adjusted at Secretary's discretion, as in present law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster provisions</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed grains</td>
<td>Same as for wheat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans</td>
<td>Same as for wheat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Storage</td>
<td>Establishes mandatory loan to be set by Secretary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>Not less than 75 percent for construction loans for dry and high moisture storage, silos, or grain facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest rate</td>
<td>7 percent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of loan</td>
<td>Up to 10 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain reserves</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>Extended provisions in '73 Act. Expands indemnity program to include wheat fallow. Raised minimum price support to 80 percent of parity with mandatory semi-annual adjustment with authority for quarterly review and adjustments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of CCC stocks</td>
<td>If CCC acquires stocks, they could not be sold at less than 150 percent of the current loan rate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International reserve</td>
<td>Not considered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>$2.90 per bushel for 1977 -- $3.30 for 1978, thereafter escalated to 100 percent of the cost of production (minimum of $3.10).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>Cost of production escalator includes same (a-c) items as House, plus (d) composite land costs, and (e) return for management -- adjusted for yield.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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 price if the yield is below 75 percent of normal yield, if preventive planting payment is made, cannot participate in any other program on that acreage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sets mandatory loan at minimum of $4. up to 80 percent for construction loans for silos and storage facilities to store previous 3-year average crop. Cost of money to government. Up to 10 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secretary may enter into 3-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 $2.10 per bushel, he must repay principally, interest, and storage charges. When the average price reaches 200 percent of the loan, it will be recalled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Same as House except minimum support of 80 percent for 3 years only, then Reynolds to 35 percent. Also extends indemnities to include toxic chemicals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**AFBF: House Bill “Closer”**

The American Farm Bureau Federation has urged Congress to include a purchase requirement as part of the final version of pending farm 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. **

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**Washington, D.C.**

President Warns Veto

On May 24, the Senate passed a new farm program bill to replace the current Agriculture and Consumer 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 debated 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 Consumer Protection Act.

At right is a comparison of key provisions of the bill approved by the Senate and the pending House bill. pew.

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**Embargo determent**

Requires Secretary to raise loan to 100 percent of parity if any existing embargo is imposed on a commodity with a government loan.

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**Albert A. Almy**

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The Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee has reported another substitute for the House-passed PBB Bill. The Senate floor has passed the substitute. A vote on the bill is expected soon.

The substitute is modelled on the Agriculture bill, which also applies to large, highly specialized farms. It would require the owner of any farm in the state, once it has been determined by a fence viewer, to test for PBB. If any animal is found to be free of PBB, the fence viewer's report would be required to be kept on file with the county clerk. If any animal is found to be contaminated with PBB, the owner would be required to remove the animal from the farm. The cost of removal would be borne by the owner.

The substitute also includes a provision that would allow the farmer to test his own fence. The farmer would be required to test the fence annually and to provide the results of the test to the county clerk. The results would be kept on file with the county clerk.

The substitute also includes a provision that would allow the farmer to test the fence of any other farm in the state. The farmer would be required to test the fence of any other farm in the state at least once every two years and to provide the results of the test to the county clerk. The results would be kept on file with the county clerk.

The substitute also includes a provision that would allow the farmer to test the fence of any other farm in the state at any time. The farmer would be required to test the fence of any other farm in the state at any time and to provide the results of the test to the county clerk. The results would be kept on file with the county clerk.

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Dairy Survey Shows Consumer Attitudes Favorable

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 determine beforehand which side of the bread to butter the cake."

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 the face of a rapidly-rising 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 effectiveness 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 had 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 PBB response to the increased milk's safety and with regard to Michigan mothers encouraging their children to reduce consumption relative to the chemical contamination publicity were discussed with the survey participants.

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Less favorable attitudes in Michigan had to do with the PBB response to the increased milk's safety and with regard to Michigan mothers encouraging their children to reduce consumption relative to the chemical contamination publicity were discussed with the survey participants.

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

Accordingly, it may be suggested that the survey results contradict another little known law. The Law of Selective Gravity, sometimes known as "The Laws of the Good Down Law," postulates "An object will fall so as to do the most damage." Clearly the effects of the PBB chemical contamination has not lived up to the fears that the consumer confidence in Michigan's dairy industry -- SPREAD THE GOOD WORD!

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 foods. Supermarket foods are enjoying more and more business, and major food manufacturers are cashing in on the craze to market "natural" cereals and ice creams.

When it comes to buying food for your family, isn't health, natural and organic foods really a good buy in terms of nutrition and cost? It's difficult to pinpoint 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 look at an organically-grown apple and put it on a table next to a regular farm-grown apple, you would 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. 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 that shows that the 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 nutrient label must show how much of each of the 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 do the research for yourself, that the chemicals have been removed and are 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 or none at all. Some people feel that many chemicals used in food production are dangerous and unnecessary.

Actually, all chemicals that are used in the marketplace 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 a food problem simply because of the food and we would find shortages of many foods that are fairly common in the marketplace."

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

DOWNS AND SENSE

BY MIKE ROGERS

Festivals Open Summer Commodity Celebrations

Michigan growers are working hard and having a good time, too, as evidenced by the old-fashioned fun and frolic that highlight the National Asparagus Festival in Oceana County. Michigan's summertime recreational opportunities, boost the state's national commodity festivals.

The Asparagus Festival in Oceana County on June 10 and it was the first of the Summer 1977 celebrations.

The two-day 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 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 Extension Program, met with Michigan legislators, writes "Asparagus Tips" a breezy, Brombeek-style comic strip. However, she 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!"
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 Heddons, 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 be gone."

The fury of the tornado ripped the dwelling apart and carried parts of it three miles away. The Heddon 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, but it wasn't that bad. I can honestly say that everyone in the family survived," Norm Heddon said. "We're going to pick up from where we are 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 Heddons 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 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 here to make sure the insureds have the help they need."

Despite the destruction, the Heddons' property-casualty operations for the Farm Bureau Insurance Group continued. "I heard many compliments praising Farm Bureau service," said Don Bradshaw, who lost two barns in the tornado, was so impressed by the service that he 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.

Average losses for insureds in the tornado zone have reached $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, 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 Bob Coombs started to work on arrangements for a contractor to begin emergency repairs at the school. Today the roof is back in top condition.

"I'm extremely grateful for the service and attention we received," said Dr. David Johnson, Suppl. 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 area on Sunday morning, just hours after the tornado hit.

"I made the rounds with Ted, my claims 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."

"I was impressed by the speed of our people," added Dr. Johnson. "They worked fast, but they were very fair."

Heddon's plans to rebuild his home are not just dreams. He is insured with Farm Bureau Insurance Group. "Our claims personnel are there to make sure the insureds have the help they need."

"I heard many compliments praising Farm Bureau service," said Don Bradshaw, who lost two barns in the tornado, was so impressed by the service that he 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, who has worked with Farm Bureau affiliated insurance companies in Kansas, Colorado and Illinois for 20 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, Minn., 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.

"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 10 largest life insurance writers in the state and is the 14th largest property-casualty writer in Michigan."

**FBIG Names Property-Casualty V.P.**

Don Bradshaw (right) is welcomed to the Farm Bureau family by FBIG executive vice president Robert Wiese.
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 of 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 replacement 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 FBSS 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.
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 26.4 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 soy. Michigan growers are also chipping 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 record 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.

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. Lower yields could put prices in the $8.00 range this fall. Current crop usage has continued to out-pace production. Winter wheat usage may 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 concern for this fall. Assuming plant development was slowed, harvest could be delayed up to two weeks. This world 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 some time in the summer or fall of 1978. A lot will depend on the December farrowings. A large pig crop this fall would 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

"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. 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.

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 30600, Lansing, MI 48909 or phone (517) 321-5661, ext. 223.

Ken Nye, Horticultural Marketing Specialist
Market Development Division

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-ops. 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 Stots, Monroe; Gerald Kayser, Kent; Robert Kissane, Chairman, Clinton; Marvin Koibb, Huron; Henry Roder, Montcalm; Lorna Dershem, Gratiot; Ruvert VanderMeulen, Missaukee; James Gleason, St. Joseph; James Rubingh, Antrim; Jack Lodge, Tuscola; Larry DeVoyst, Gratiot, and Walter Frahm, Saginaw.

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 normal production for sweet cherries and cling peaches.

CELYR

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 776,500 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 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-July.

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

Market News
SUPPLY REPORT

By Greg Sheffield

input prices and feed price ratios, 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 workshops have been completed. The liquid business is finding special favor with liquids as a regular balance for feeding both dairy and beef. The wheel lickers give animals a shot of protein, as well as helping them to gain. This helps during this period of high prices.

Bovadine teat dip is a McKenney product used by many dairy farmers who get their dip and sanitizers from their milk haulers. Outstanding facts are that Farm Bureau’s Bovadine teat dip deal attractive.

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 Luitent, 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.
FOR SALE: 18' Anderson Cattle and Grain head and turntable. $15.00 Helen Henne. Unit. good gears. no fans or blades. lust the
FOR SALE: One Aremotor Windmill Head
FOR SALE: Lockwood single row potato and
FOR SALE: 20' Reflg. Van Body $1.000.00 or
FOR SALE: 3589 Hull Rd. • Leslie. MI. Phone (517) 589.
FOR SALE: 3589 Hull Rd. • Leslie. MI. Phone (517) 589.
FOR SALE - YORKSHIRE serviceage boars & conformation. Discount to 4-H. Phone 517-
FOR SALE - New Zealand White Rabbit's. Stock for sale. Paper optional. Waldo F.
FOR SALE - 18' Anderson Cattle and Grain head and turntable. $15.00 Helen Henne. Unit. good gears. no fans or blades. lust the
FOR SALE: Give young cows and your average acreage here. Cross (511) 628-6730. Fenton.
FOR SALE: Coal iron Steam Boiler.
FOR SALE: Lincoln’s Broom Corn. 1800 feet. (313) 484-6825. (5-3t-23p)
FOR SALE: Massey Ferguson Manure Spencer. (313) 484-6825. (5-3t-23p)
FOR SALE: 30 Case Combine, very good condition. Price $10,500.00. (517) 589-8753 or (517) 589-8231.
FOR SALE: Out Armorot Windmill Head Unit. good parts, no tars, just the head and tareneel. $10.50 Hemen. phone (517) 589-8281.
FOR SALE: Sale Ford 1952 8N Tractor, New Belts. NH 4S6 Mowers. Engines with gear
FOR SALE: Old V-shape corncrib ratproof AI-Shape. (517) 734-4343.
FOR SALE: Ford 8N Tractor, New Belts. NH 4S6 Mowers. Engines with gear
FOR SALE: Perkins 1054.00. ideal for wrecker or beef feed lots. (517) 589-5786.
FOR SALE - POLLED CHINESE Yorkshire White Boars and Gilts for sale at all times. (810) 343-6822. 
FOR SALE - POLLED CHAROLAIS: For Sale Polled Bulls and Polled Bred Females. By LCR
FOR SALE - REGISTERED APPALOOSAS FOR SALE - New Zealand White Rabbit’s. Stock for sale. Paper optional. Waldo F.
FOR SALE: 691.8295. or wirte C.E. Hotchkiss. R 3, Allegan. MI 49001. Phone 517-652-6692.
FOR SALE: 20' Reflg. Van Body $1.000.00 or
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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 instead”. 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. 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. Rawls ends 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 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 we are all citizens of 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, you may 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 call for a “Just World Order” indicating that we, as other countries who 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 it is worth it to the rich countries 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 diet would indeed mean cutting our meat consumption, 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. Rawls ends as a way of deciding where food aid should go:

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 capitalist system has helped us exploit in the best sense of the world. 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 controls 80 percent of all of the natural resources being utilized worldwide on an annual basis. Is there a moral problem there?
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.

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 contributions 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 Lilaby; Ilene Dalton; county extension agent Marvin Preston; Ingham County Secretary Jean Scott; and Charles Wilcox, Ingham County Farm Bureau President.

Ingham FB Prepares County Ag Book

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NU PRO Dairy Feed

Now High Producing Herds Can Produce Even More Milk!

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.

*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.

Now, with Protection Plus, you can close the gap between the amount of life insurance you need and the amount you feel you can afford. Because, the Extra Protection Option makes the Protection Plus Policy different from most other types of whole life insurance. And that's a big plus ... for you and your family!

Your First Policy?
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.

Building an Estate?
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.