Members Honored for ’77 Programs

Bring Back “Load of Stars” from Houston

It was a night filled with pride for the nearly 200 Michigan Farm Bureau members who attended the AFBF annual meeting in Houston when their organization was recognized as the top state Farm Bureau in the nation at a special awards program January 10. Michigan was awarded seven “gold stars,” three “silver stars,” and the Golden Eagle Award.

Forty-seven state and the Puerto Rico Farm Bureaus were eligible for competition in the awards program by making their membership goals. Michigan Farm Bureau received gold stars for Membership, Commodity Activities, Young Farmers, Information, Marketing AAMA, Marketing Non-AAMA and Political Education, and silver stars for Women, National Affairs, and Natural and Environmental Resources.

“Although it was our state organization that was nationally-recognized for serving its farmer-members, it is our progressive county Farm Bureaus and their effective leaders who are responsible for these awards,” said President Elton R. Smith. “It is their work in surfacing and meeting the needs of members that make successful programs. I congratulate all of our dedicated membership workers who made this recognition possible, and all the hard-working county leaders whose involvement created our award-winning programs.”
From the Desk of

The President

Texas-Tall Michiganders

Michiganders who attended the AFBF annual meeting stood "Texas-tall" in the Sam Houston Coliseum when their state Farm Bureau was nationally-recognized for its excellence in serving members.

They had every reason to be proud. Not only did they bring home seven gold stars, three silver stars and the Golden Eagle, they also saw their Young Farmer, Art Currey of Livingston County, capably represent Michigan in the discussion meet finals. And they were proud, too, of Michigan's Distinguished Young Farm Couple, Ron and Neva Wood, who also received recognition during the Young Farmer and Rancher program.

These awards belong to all of YOU because this national recognition was the result of year-long activities involving Farm Bureau members in every Michigan county. Meeting the challenges of agriculture at the grassroots level is the foundation of all Farm Bureau programs, and I congratulate you for using your organization to serve the needs of your members.

When you carried out those successful programs, I'm sure that national recognition was not your motivation. You invested your time, your efforts, and your God-given talents to benefit agriculture and those who are involved in this great industry of our state. Turn the words, "Farm Bureau — United to Serve Agriculture" into ACTION and that's what made those programs award winners. It was your dedication and willingness to accept the challenges facing agriculture that made our organization tops in the nation.

I'm confident that our Farm Bureau will remain a strong, progressive, respected force in every county in our state. To do so, we must maintain our membership strength. That membership strength is vital if we are to have an influence on the many critical issues which affect us as farmers and as citizens of this state and nation.

Many of you are currently working toward that goal of providing your Farm Bureau with its life-blood — membership. I urge you to offer every farmer the opportunity to be associated with the best farm organization in the entire nation.

"Tomorrow is filled with challenges for farmers and we cannot spend too much precious time gazing at the stars we cannot spend too much precious time gazing at the stars we cannot spend too much precious time gazing at the stars we cannot spend too much precious time gazing at the stars we cannot spend too much precious time gazing at the stars we cannot spend too much precious time gazing at the stars."

So I urge you to do it today so that we can turn our attention and efforts toward carrying out the programs farmers have said they need and want.

Since this is my first article for the MICHIGAN FARM NEWS, I'd like to introduce myself. I'm Bonnie Carpenter from Branch County. My husband, Arthur, my two sons, Chad and Jason, and I farm 300 acres of cash crops near the Indiana line.

Because we cash crop, February is a little slower for us than many of the livestock producers. However, some of our most valuable management time takes place now. It's a time to really sum up '77's expenses and production and to plan for '78's crop.

We believe the key to a successful farm business is the word: WE. Both of us know where we are coming from and what our short term and long term goals are. We look toward the future production and expansion of our business.

February is, of course, Income Tax time on our farm. This is another place where the word "WE" is important. Ask yourselves these questions: "Do BOTH of you have knowledge of the records needed to prepare the taxes?" "Could either one of you handle the responsibility if illness or death affects the other?" Most of you could answer "yes" to these questions, but I'd be willing to wager that there are more than a handful out there who would answer "no."

I know one farm couple — the husband does not even know the combination to his own safe! While I am sure that this is a good place for his wife to hide his Christmas presents, it surely would be expensive and time-consuming to have to cut the door off in case of an emergency.

However, there is another reason for our use of the word "WE." When both of us understand the operation of the business, there are not any quarrels (well, hardly any) about buying that piece of equipment that is needed or taking the time to maintain equipment and remodel or build barns to meet current standards.

When you come right down to it, the word "WE" means communication. That word, "Communication", is the key to a smoothly-run business and personal life. This can pertain to only wife and husband partnerships, but to other types of farms such as corporations. Communication between the people involved can solve a lot of problems before they happen.

Communication is important to an organization, too. Have you ever noticed that the meetings you're glad you took the time to participate in, are not the ones where "they told us" or "we told them" — but the ones where "WE communicated." The State Women's Committee meeting and the County Presidents' Conference in January were two outstanding examples of this, and there are many others coming up in the days ahead.

It could be a local committee meeting, a community group get-together, or a one-to-one visit with a prospective member. Whatever the situation, the results are certain to be more positive if we remember those key words.
Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3

Legislators Honored by Michigan Ag Conference

State's Agricultural Products
Spotlighted at Annual Dinner

Rep. Jackie Vaughn (D-Detroit) was the lucky winner of the basketful of Michigan food products, contributed by the Michigan Farm Bureau. William Brook (right), president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, presented the door prize to Rep. Vaughn.

A line of credit
is almost as good
as money in the pocket.

A line of credit. It’s like having many pre-arranged loans, just waiting for you. Then you can take advantage of tax planning purchases...or unexpected price breaks on feeders...or big discounts on large-volume purchases. We can help you determine how much borrowed capital your operation needs and can support. You can borrow that much...but you will have a better idea of how far you can go, if necessary, in your financial planning. So come in soon! Talk with us about establishing your own line of credit.

Michigan Farm News

FEBRUARY, 1978

FARM NEWS

PAGE 3
MFB Helps Form New Jobs-Energy Organization

Michigan Farm Bureau, representing Michigan agriculture, has joined together with leaders of labor, business and industry, education, and energy-producers to speak up for an energy supply abundant enough for the State of Michigan. Believing that an economy that is short on energy is also short on jobs, representatives of these groups have formed a new organization - the Michigan Committee for Jobs and Energy. With input from leaders of virtually every sector of Michigan life, the group hopes to formulate "realistic solutions" to energy problems facing the state and nation.

Elton R. Smith, MFB president, serves as a director of the Committee. He appeared at a press conference on December 21 in Lansing, with James Barrett, president of the Michigan State Chamber of Commerce, and John Selby, president of Consumers Power Company, to announce the formation of the organization. Stanford Arnold, secretary-treasurer of the Michigan State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, is chairman of the committee. Other directors are Rev. Malcolm Carron, president of the University of Detroit; John R. Hamann, president of Detroit Edison, and Jack Wood, secretary-treasurer of the Greater Detroit Building Trades Council, AFL-CIO.

"Our goal is to encourage and bring about balanced consideration of economic, social and environmental factors in arriving at wise energy decisions which best meet the needs of all our citizens," said Barrett, who serves as vice chairman of the Committee's board of directors. "Among the most basic of these needs is a job, which provides not only economic security, but also a sense of achievement as a productive member of our society."

Barrett said that in solving any problem, there are cost-benefit decisions to be made and that energy problems are no exception. "Cost may take many forms," he said. "We believe it is unrealistic to create jobs at the cost of an unacceptably foul environment. It is equally unrealistic to sacrifice jobs to reach an unnecessary level of environmental purity. Certainly those who lost their jobs would consider the cost too great." He said the Committee's central theme is to curtail energy waste harmful to the environment, but also insure sufficient energy to provide needed jobs.

In order to achieve such an energy program, the Michigan Committee for Jobs and Energy made specific recommendations based on realities. These recommendations include:

1. Conserve energy through programs which will trim wasteful fat without cutting the productive muscle of Michigan's economy.
2. Encourage exploration and development of domestic oil and natural gas reserves, both onshore and offshore.
3. Use our most abundant and economical domestic fuels - coal and uranium - to generate most of our electric power and convert industry, where feasible, from indiscriminate use of oil and natural gas to coal, under safeguards which are environmentally and economically sound.
4. Produce more synthetic oil and gas substitutes from coal and other sources.
5. Accelerate research and development of alternate energy sources - biomass, solar, wind, geothermal and nuclear fusion.
6. Require local and state governments to evaluate and consider the economic impact as well as the environmental impact of energy proposals and projects.
7. Oppose "no growth" policies because of their disastrous effect on jobs, the economy and our society.

"Whatever our decisions, in Michigan and the nation, there will be a price to pay and all of us will share in the cost," said Barrett. "The cost may be in dollars, jobs, the environment, or our standard of living. The decisions will be difficult. They deserve our thinking and the broadest possible participation."
Blue Cross-Blue Shield
Important Member Benefit

The new year 1978 is well under way. We all hope for a year with a more settled economy and, of course, good health and happiness. But, 1978 will be no year to be caught without adequate prepaid health care protection. There still are no signs that inflation will abate. Health care bills for a serious accident or illness could easily be a catastrophe for the average family’s savings.

Farm Bureau members are fortunate because their Farm Bureau membership includes the opportunity to sign-up for Blue Cross and Blue Shield group health care coverage. And group coverage means truly comprehensive coverage with special group subscription rates.

The comprehensive plan includes basic hospital, surgical and medical care without deductibles or co-payments. In addition the Master Medical plan supplements your basic comprehensive coverage. The Master Medical plan provides benefits for hospital inpatient care beyond the limits of your basic program and, after a small deductible and co-payment the plan helps pay for such things as prescription drugs, doctor’s home and office calls, visiting nurse services, ambulance and other emergency needs.

Farm Bureau members can also choose a lower-cost Blue Cross and Blue Shield Econo-Plan which provides good basic hospital, surgical and medical coverage with share-the-cost features.

There will be a group open enrollment period for eligible Farm Bureau members March 1 through March 15. So, if you’ve been a Farm Bureau member and never enrolled for Blue Cross and Blue Shield coverage, now is your opportunity.

If you are now enrolled, this open enrollment period is also your opportunity to make changes in your coverage. For instance, if you have any dependents 19 to 25 years old, this open enrollment is the time to add them to your coverage at special rider rates.

Safemark
Winner!

Nineteen state Farm Bureaus were honored at the Safemark Conference during the AFBF annual meeting in Houston for reaching or surpassing their state goal for dollar volume of sales. State goals were based upon a minimum of 7.7 percent increase in sales over the previous year.

Michigan was honored by having a 314.8 percent increase in sales over the previous year, the highest percentage of the nineteen states honored.

In citing state achievements in five award areas, American Farm Bureau Service Company General Manager Jim Wickizer said Farm Bureau members saved an estimated $15 million through Safemark purchases in 1977.

Coach Tells How to be a Winner; AFBF Aims for 3 Million

Grant Teaff, head football coach at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, listed five criteria for being a winner at the organization conference of the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

"This great organization that you are a part of cannot be a total winner unless you, individually, can develop a winning attitude and be a total part of Farm Bureau," Teaff told his audience of mostly state Farm Bureau field service staff workers.

"The youthful coach took over at Baylor in 1971 after its teams had won only three games in three years. In his third year there, Baylor won the southwest conference for the first time in 50 years, and Teaff was named national "Coach of the Year."

In his talk, coach Teaff listed these five criteria as essential to winning in life:

1. "Establish yourself as a loyal individual. Loyalty is the foundation upon which we build a winning attitude. I believe that you will not see any group, any team, or individual, become successful until they learn the importance of loyalty."

2. "Try. Never give up. Never quit." He related the story of how Abraham Lincoln ran for office eight times before he was finally elected.

3. "Be able to visualize that which can be. Too many fail to see the potential, not only in those around them, but in themselves, too."

4. "Develop a positive attitude. There are few things in life that we have control over, and one of them is attitude."

5. "Put God in proper relationship. There is a correlation between our relationship to God and our performance as human beings."

In concluding, Teaff said, "If we want to be a winner in this life, we can be the most loyal person that ever came down the Pike; We can continue to try and try and try; We can visualize and then do the work that it takes to attain; but, unless we remember to keep God in the center of our lives, we will never know total, ultimate victory as individual winners."

The 48 State Farm Bureau which gained members and achieved their 1977 goals were recognized. In an "Auction" which concluded the conference, State Farm Bureaus pledged enough members to give the AFBF a gain of 129,660 for 1978. This would put the national organization over its goal of three million members by some 25,000.

While the Director’s Away...

Grant Teaff, head football coach at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, listed five criteria for being a winner at the organization conference of the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Teaff told his audience of mostly state Farm Bureau field service staff workers that they must establish themselves as loyal individuals to be winners.

Safemark Winner!

Nineteen state Farm Bureaus were honored at the Safemark Conference during the AFBF annual meeting in Houston for reaching or surpassing their state goal for dollar volume of sales. State goals were based upon a minimum of 7.7 percent increase in sales over the previous year.

Michigan was honored by having a 314.8 percent increase in sales over the previous year, the highest percentage of the nineteen states honored.

In citing state achievements in five award areas, American Farm Bureau Service Company General Manager Jim Wickizer said Farm Bureau members saved an estimated $15 million through Safemark purchases in 1977.

Coach Tells How to be a Winner; AFBF Aims for 3 Million

Grant Teaff, head football coach at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, listed five criteria for being a winner at the organization conference of the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

"This great organization that you are a part of cannot be a total winner unless you, individually, can develop a winning attitude and be a total part of Farm Bureau," Teaff told his audience of mostly state Farm Bureau field service staff workers.

"The youthful coach took over at Baylor in 1971 after its teams had won only three games in three years. In his third year there, Baylor won the southwest conference for the first time in 50 years, and Teaff was named national "Coach of the Year."

In his talk, coach Teaff listed these five criteria as essential to winning in life:

1. "Establish yourself as a loyal individual. Loyalty is the foundation upon which we build a winning attitude. I believe that you will not see any group, any team, or individual, become successful until they learn the importance of loyalty."

2. "Try. Never give up. Never quit." He related the story of how Abraham Lincoln ran for office eight times before he was finally elected.

3. "Be able to visualize that which can be. Too many fail to see the potential, not only in those around them, but in themselves, too."

4. "Develop a positive attitude. There are few things in life that we have control over, and one of them is attitude."

5. "Put God in proper relationship. There is a correlation between our relationship to God and our performance as human beings."

In concluding, Teaff said, "If we want to be a winner in this life, we can be the most loyal person that ever came down the Pike; We can continue to try and try and try; We can visualize and then do the work that it takes to attain; but, unless we remember to keep God in the center of our lives, we will never know total, ultimate victory as individual winners."

The 48 State Farm Bureau which gained members and achieved their 1977 goals were recognized. In an "Auction" which concluded the conference, State Farm Bureaus pledged enough members to give the AFBF a gain of 129,660 for 1978. This would put the national organization over its goal of three million members by some 25,000.

While the Director’s Away...

Grant Teaff, head football coach at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, listed five criteria for being a winner at the organization conference of the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Teaff told his audience of mostly state Farm Bureau field service staff workers that they must establish themselves as loyal individuals to be winners.

Safemark Winner!

Nineteen state Farm Bureaus were honored at the Safemark Conference during the AFBF annual meeting in Houston for reaching or surpassing their state goal for dollar volume of sales. State goals were based upon a minimum of 7.7 percent increase in sales over the previous year.

Michigan was honored by having a 314.8 percent increase in sales over the previous year, the highest percentage of the nineteen states honored.

In citing state achievements in five award areas, American Farm Bureau Service Company General Manager Jim Wickizer said Farm Bureau members saved an estimated $15 million through Safemark purchases in 1977.

Coach Tells How to be a Winner; AFBF Aims for 3 Million

Grant Teaff, head football coach at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, listed five criteria for being a winner at the organization conference of the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

"This great organization that you are a part of cannot be a total winner unless you, individually, can develop a winning attitude and be a total part of Farm Bureau," Teaff told his audience of mostly state Farm Bureau field service staff workers.

"The youthful coach took over at Baylor in 1971 after its teams had won only three games in three years. In his third year there, Baylor won the southwest conference for the first time in 50 years, and Teaff was named national "Coach of the Year."

In his talk, coach Teaff listed these five criteria as essential to winning in life:

1. "Establish yourself as a loyal individual. Loyalty is the foundation upon which we build a winning attitude. I believe that you will not see any group, any team, or individual, become successful until they learn the importance of loyalty."

2. "Try. Never give up. Never quit." He related the story of how Abraham Lincoln ran for office eight times before he was finally elected.

3. "Be able to visualize that which can be. Too many fail to see the potential, not only in those around them, but in themselves, too."

4. "Develop a positive attitude. There are few things in life that we have control over, and one of them is attitude."

5. "Put God in proper relationship. There is a correlation between our relationship to God and our performance as human beings."

In concluding, Teaff said, "If we want to be a winner in this life, we can be the most loyal person that ever came down the Pike; We can continue to try and try and try; We can visualize and then do the work that it takes to attain; but, unless we remember to keep God in the center of our lives, we will never know total, ultimate victory as individual winners."

The 48 State Farm Bureau which gained members and achieved their 1977 goals were recognized. In an "Auction" which concluded the conference, State Farm Bureaus pledged enough members to give the AFBF a gain of 129,660 for 1978. This would put the national organization over its goal of three million members by some 25,000.
County Farm Bureau boards are currently in the process of making an important decision -- the selection of the best qualified person to serve as a "Legislative Leader" for the Washington Legislative Seminar. Sponsored annually by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committee, the Seminar provides an opportunity for farm leaders to meet personally with Congressmen in Washington and discuss with them the organization's policies and key issues that affect Michigan farmers.

This year's Legislative Seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4, through Friday, April 7. To allow husbands and wives of selected Legislative Leaders, and other interested members, the opportunity to take part in this annual activity, an American Heritage tour will again be held in conjunction with the Seminar.

Cost of the Seminar and Heritage Group is $221 per person, based on double room occupancy. A deposit of $25.00 per person (non-refundable) is due no later than March 1. A balance reservation, which must be made by February 28. Reservations should be sent to the office of the bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing 48809, before that date.

The Michigan Farm Bureau and the state Women's Committee have a financial assistance to county Farm Bureaus that send a Legislative Leader and get their reservations in by the deadline date: $25 plus an additional $5 if the county has met its membership goal by February 1.

Participants in the Washington Legislative Seminar and Heritage Tour will leave Lansing Airport by charter plane at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 4. A group luncheon, in an acquainted session, and briefing by American Farm Bureau Federation, are scheduled after arrival in Washington, D.C. at the Capitol Hill Quality Inn, headquarters for the Michigan delegation. Legislative Leaders will meet that afternoon to review their responsibilities and discuss current issues.

Wednesday will be "Legislative Day" with organized activities for Legislative Leaders to meet with their Congressmen. In the afternoon, the combined group will meet with the Department of Agriculture officials.

On Thursday, following a breakfast with Democratic Congressmen, Legislative Leaders will join the American Heritage Group for a day of guided siteseeing. Included. On the tour will be visits to the Washington Cathedral, Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Mt. Vernon and other historic sites.

Friday morning, the entire group will leave the Quality Inn for the USDA Agricultural Experimental Station at Beltsville, Maryland. From there, they will go directly to Dulles Airport, leaving Washington at 5 p.m. and arriving back in Lansing at 6:15 p.m.

"1978 will be a very important year for us to take Farm Bureau members from rural-urban Washington to meet with our Congressmen," said Helen Wood, Manager, MFB Women's Department. "We hope every county Farm Bureau will be participating in the Seminar."

---

**Women's Subcommittees Are Appointed**

Appointments to a number of subcommittees of the Michigan Farm Bureau State Women's committee have recently been made.

The Scholarship Committee is responsible for interviewing applicants for the Marge Karker-Farm Bureau Scholarship and selecting one or two students as recipients. This committee also reviews the qualifications of applicants and considers whether any changes should be made in the way the scholarship is decided. Appointed to this committee for 1978 are: Leona Chapin, Reems, chairman; Nancy Geiger, South Lyon; Mary Hiscock, Rock Creek, and Myrtle Rasner, Wallace.

The responsibilities of the Consumer Understanding Committee are following up on projects in the women's state program of work, such as commodity promotions, rural-urban positive image of agriculture through the public media, and promoting an understanding of the Farm Bureau organization.

Appointed to the Health and Safety Committee, which follows up on present projects in this area, and develops health and safety recommendations for action next year, are: Ethel Fulton, Oakley, chairman; Bea Axford, Gaylord; Judy Gordon, Saline; Ruth Rigg, Coldwater, and Jan Stomer Jones.

These subcommittees are appointed by the Farm Bureau Women's state executive committee. Other subcommittees will be appointed at a later date.

---

**Washington Legislative Seminar Set for April 4-7**

**Roger Lerg**

"I have been a member of Farm Bureau for five years and have had ample opportunities to be selected Legislative leaders during that time. As chairman of the State and National Affairs Committee for the Clinton County Farm Bureau, I was asked if I would take a three-day 'vacation' from our dairy farm operation (I'm in farming) in order to attend the 1977 Farmer-to-Farmer Seminar. This event is effective on at least three levels."

"I accepted the opportunity and found the Seminar very rewarding in that I was able to discuss the problems of my county, state, and community with my U.S. Representatives and Senators."

"I also had the chance to listen to and question Secretary of Agriculture Robert Rollins, Agriculture Secretary in Congress in session, attend committee hearings, and see some of the historical sights in Washington, D.C."

"In analyzing the trip upon returning home, I felt fortunate to have been able to convey the wishes of Farm Bureau members in Clinton County to the legislative people in Washington, D.C. -- and also to have had the opportunity to meet and have fellowship with so many fine Farm Bureau members from the state."

Clint County

Roger Lerg

"We joined Farm Bureau at the urging of our neighbors for the social aspect of the organization. As we became involved, we realized that Farm Bureau is the strongest voice in the country today representing the individual. We feel our membership dues are a sound investment -- buying as a competent, well-organized staff to lobby at the state and national levels."

"During the past years, we have attended two Washington Legislative Seminars. This event is effective on at least three levels."

"1. We gained a personal knowledge of Washington -- the foggy morning on the Capitol lawn with all the street noise muffled, leaving only the sound of our footsteps on the fountain; the single, very slow employee during lunch hour at the House Document Room to handle our requests for the efficiency and courtesy of the Senate Document Room staff; the busy schedules of our Congressmen and the lack of time they have for reading the thousands of bills they must vote on each year; the federal buildings that don't turn off the heat until mid-June; and the excellent, low-cost cafeteria in the Rayburn Building."

"2. At the second level, we were able to go to Congressmen and speak with strength and authority for the over 62,000 Michigan Farm Bureau families. Because of our backing, the issues are heard. This relationship with Farm Bureau is extremely rewarding. They speak for us and we speak for them."

"3. At the third level is the growing conviction that the overwhelming 'bigness' is made up of individuals. If the individuals who go to Washington for Farm Bureau talk to those in Washington as individuals -- we can make a difference."

Marcia Korwin

Manistee County

**FBJG Offers New Policies**

The Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company has announced the introduction of two new Mortgage Cancellation policies designed to cover outstanding balances on 8 percent and 9 percent mortgage balances. The policies are designed to cancel the outstanding balance of a mortgage in the event of the death of the insured person.

Both the 8 percent and 9 percent policies are offered for 20, 25 and 30-year mortgages.

For more information on this new individual policy, contact your Farm Bureau Insurance Group agent.

Afton, and Judy Kissane, St. Johns.

The Legislative Committee's responsibilities are to review activities in the current women's program of work such as "adopt a legislator" to activate them, and make recommendations for legislative activities for Farm Bureau Women to present to the state program planning committee. Fay Adams of Snaver is chairperson, with Carol Axford, Gaylord, as vice-chair. New committee members are: Polly Diehl, Dansville; Olis Hudson, Fowlerville; Marsha Kennedy, Carsonville; Julie Kronemeny, Pickford, and Doris Wieland, Ellsworth.

The Public Relations Committee is responsible for reviewing current projects in the state program of work, such as commodity promotions, activities, promoting a positive image of agriculture through the public media, and promoting an understanding of the Farm Bureau organization.

Appointed to the Health and Safety Committee, which follows up on present projects in this area, and develops health and safety recommendations for action next year, are: Ethel Fulton, Oakley, chairman; Bea Axford, Gaylord; Judy Gordon, Saline; Ruth Rigg, Coldwater, and Jan Stomer Jones.

These subcommittees are appointed by the Farm Bureau Women's state executive committee. Other subcommittees will be appointed at a later date.
Baker Re-Elected to Credit Board

Hillsdale County Farm Bureau member Ralph Baker was re-elected to a three-year term on the Farm Credit Board of St. Paul, beginning January 1, 1978.

Baker was elected to represent the Federal Land Bank Association (FLBA) on the Board. A dairy and corn farmer in Jonesville, Baker operates a 769-acre farm with 120 milk cows and 150 head of young stock. He has served as a director of the Hillsdale FLBA since 1955.

Currently Vice Chairman of the Seventh District Farm Credit Board, Baker has been a member of the FLBA Advisory Committee and has served as the president and vice president of the National Federation of FLBAs.

Baker has also served as director of the American Artificial Breeders Association and is a member of the Michigan Professional Dairy Farmers Association, Michigan Artificial Breeders Association and numerous other organizations.

Laura Heuser Appointed to Food Advisory Committee

Laura Heuser of Hartfort, Van Buren County member, has been appointed to the 17-member Food Advisory Committee of the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), which is responsible to Congress.

The Food Advisory Committee advises Congress on the OTA Board and offers technology alternatives to the plans and programs being considered.

Iren Raisler Passes Away

Iren Raisler, Assistant Professor of Russian at Michigan State University, died suddenly on December 30 of an apparent heart attack. She was 64.

Raisler was born in Czechoslovakia of Russian parents. The family escaped to West Germany in 1945 and emigrated to the United States in 1959. She was a group leader for a summer study program in the Soviet Union in 1975.

Chaffin Heads Ag Commission

Robert H. Chaffin of Ithaca was elected chairman of the Michigan Commission on Agriculture at the January meeting of the commission today. He succeeds David Diehl of Dansville, who has just completed a one-year term as chairman.

Other officers elected are:

- Robert Hill of Traverse City, vice chairman.
- Charles E. Donaldson, Jr., of Big Rapids, secretary.
- Mrs. Rebecca (Seth) Tompkins of Traverse City and Mr. Diehl are the other members of the five-member bipartisan policy-making body for the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Chaffin owns and operates a cash crop farm in Gratiot County. He is a potato farmer and general crops farmer in Macomb county and has been active in the National Potato Council. Donaldson is a retired dairy farmer from the upper peninsula.

Laura Heuser Appointed to Food Advisory Committee

Laura Heuser of Hartfort, Van Buren County member, has been appointed to the 17-member Food Advisory Committee of the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), which is responsible to Congress.

DEAN PRIDGEON

DEAN PRIDGEON

SPECIAL HUGE SAVINGS!

CO-OP LOW SUDS DETERGENT

20 lbs. only $5.99

Comparison to about $8.25 for other brands.

During the month of February at participating Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative dealers.

NOT EVERY DEALER MAY BE PARTICIPATING IN EVERY SPECIAL.
No Simple Solution to "Farm Problem"

By Dr. Paul Kindinger
Director, Market Development and Research Division

Farmers are seeking alternatives to the depressing, frustrating situation that they face. Most of them realize that there are no simple solutions to the "farm problem." The answer lies in bringing the complex forces of supply and demand, both in the short run and long run, into balance. Here are some of the actions which Farm Bureau supports as plausible and reasonable alternatives:

1. Meaningful Set-Aside

Under the provisions of the 1977 Food and Agriculture Act, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to establish limitations on production. Set-asides of 20 percent for wheat and proposed 10 percent for feed grains have already been announced for 1978. But most farmers, and rightfully so, are skeptical that these set-asides will have any major impact on farm prices and incomes. This is a perfect opportunity for farmers to work with their organizations and congressmen to bring pressure to bear on the Secretary of Agriculture for increased set-asides in 1978.

2. Farmer Held Reserves

Government commodity storage programs and the subsequent dumping of stored commodities on the open market when prices start to rise have proven detrimental to farmers throughout recent history. Farmers must work together to avoid government-controlled reserves. Uncle Sam should encourage and assist farmers to increase on-farm storage. Such programs include loans at favorable interest rates for the construction of new storage capacity, longer term CCC commodity loans, and storage payments for grain that is kept in storage by the producer for more than one year. These actions could provide the opportunity for more orderly marketing by farmers, not the government.

3. Increased Direct Exports by Farmer-Owned Cooperatives

The U.S. annually exports approximately two-thirds of its wheat crop, 50 percent of its feed grains and one-third of its soybeans. This amounts to several million bushels of products. Farmers owned and controlled cooperatives, however, are only responsible for directly exporting commodities, not crops. The majority of the grain is exported by large privately owned grain companies.

Cooperatives are responsible for gathering a much larger share of the grain that is eventually exported. The track record of cooperatives in direct export sales is not impressive when compared to measures by sheebers. Again, a hidden opportunity is available to farmers. They should encourage their cooperatives to become more active and aggressive in direct sales of agricultural products overseas. It will not be easy because the move will be fiercely opposed by private grain companies.

4. Strict Scrutiny of Agricultural Imports

Most businessmen recognize that international trade is essential to a nation's well being for a host of reasons. There is no reason to stand idly by while others take advantage of us. If an imported agricultural commodity is being subsidized, the Treasury Department should make a quick determination to that effect and impose countervailing duties. Existing import quotas should be strictly enforced. Special attention is given to insuring that imports meet the same sanitary and quality standards as are required for U.S. products. Furthermore, imported products should be properly labeled as to contents and country of origin. These measures would help control the number and type of products which American products must compete with. There are also certain economic conditions domestically which may require further limitations of certain imported products. These situations should be constantly assessed.

5. Promotion Programs

The food industry, especially at the retail level, has already taken advantage of opportunities to promote its own products. Traditionally, these are programs sponsored by the government to help control the number and type of products which American products must compete with. There are also certain economic conditions domestically which may require further limitations of certain imported products. These situations should be constantly assessed.

6. Access to Markets

Agriculture has suffered during the past two or three years due to the embargoes and strikes which have held its products hostage. Governmental restrictions and refusal by large, powerful labor unions to load ships, etc. has lost agriculture millions of dollars in lost sales to other countries. Several top buyers have sought quotas and alternatives to sources of supply because they do not feel that they can count on this country to supply their agricultural needs. Farmers must continually work to eliminate these restrictions. They must build the faith of our customers overseas.

7. Removal of Unnecessary Regulations

Farmers are overrun by unnecessary and costly regulations affecting their individual operations and their industry. The end result is higher production costs and added difficulty in obtaining a decent living. Such regulations are imposed by FSA, FIFTH, FNSA, and the list goes on. Transportation regulations regarding backhauls, cargo preference and interstate licensing add all up to higher production costs for farmers and ultimately higher food costs to consumers.

8. Better Understanding of Traditional Markets

Opportunities exist for farmers to increase their understanding and use of certain "traditional" markets. Mention the word "futures" to some farmers and they begin coming up with excuses as to why they would never use them. The excuses run the gambit from nobody wants to win to it's too expensive to speculate use them. Such biases and fears can be overcome with proper training in the use of such markets, more understanding and commitments from bankers and eventually becoming involved in the use of these markets. The new pricing alternatives which can be opened up are almost overwhelming. There are other marketing mechanisms which are not widely used nor understood at present.

Such things as marketing orders, marketing and bargaining, new style auction techniques, direct marketing payments, etc. There are also new markets to be tapped by farmers who are willing to invest some time and thought, but inordinous and develop those markets. The rise of U-pick in the fruit and vegetable is an example of what can be done.

9. Research and Information

The Land Grant University system is one of the finest mechanisms in the world for research and agriculture. It can provide production and marketing research to help cut costs, improve efficiency and ultimately lead to better net income for farmers. To get this information out to the public, we have a good extension service staff whose primary responsibility is to work with agriculture. USE THEM! If you have a problem or concern contact the experiment station or extension personnel. They are there to help. The results for farm income and prices may not be as immediate as some would like, but they are there to help none the less.

10. Support Legislators Favorable to Agriculture

Probably all farmers realize by now that much of their destiny is controlled by someone other than themselves. This can be linked to their representative or senator in the state or national legislature. Almost daily, some new piece of legislation is introduced somewhere which will have an impact on a farm operation on the agricultural industry. It is the farmers' responsibility to find out who his friends in the legislature are and make sure they stay there. Labor does it and with good results. It's time we did the same thing in agriculture on a broader scale.

This is only a partial listing of the many possibilities which are available for farmers. Some more plausible or more feasible than others. Some are more immediate in the shorter range. But they are alternatives just the same. Some will say they don't go far enough. But that was said in the beginning, that there are no simple solutions to the farm problem. The answer will lie in using several alternatives. Some of those alternatives may be listed here!
"Farmers of the Week" are Recognized

The Farmer of the Week Award, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group, recognizes Michigan farmers for their contributions to the agriculture industry and community. Recipients are selected for the quality of their farming operation and for their community involvement. The Farmer of the Week Award winners for December were:

JAMES HERMAN CAMPBELL

Week of December 19 - Herman Campbell, 51, who operates a dairy and sheep farm on 780 acres in Chippewa County. He raises registered Suffolk sheep and has a dairy herd of 80 cows. Campbell serves as a member of the Saginaw Farm Bureau board of directors, is a local Soil Conservation director, and serves as a volunteer ambulance technician for the area and is a past president of the Saginaw County Farm Bureau. He is also a select sire technician. Campbell, a widower, has two sons and two daughters ranging in age from 28 to 39, all of whom are partners in the farming operation.

ARThUR WIRTZ

Week of December 26 - Arthur Wirtz, 48, a cash crop farmer from Carroll County, Wirtz farms more than 1,200 acres and raises navy beans, beets, corn and soybeans in partnership with his brother and son. Wirtz is a member of the Saginaw County Farm Bureau and serves on the Tibshavassee Township Planning Commission and the Tibshavassee Township Zoning Study Committee. Wirtz has been farming for more than 30 years. He and his wife, Doris, have four children.

THEODORE HUHTA

Week of December 5 - Theodore Huhta, 45, who raises 1,456-acre strawberry farm near Chassell in Houghton County. Huhta's farm, known for its neatness, is considered a showcase and model farm in the area. Huhta has received numerous strawberry industry awards, the Soil and Water Conservationist, Caspar Award, and the Leo H. Geismar Community Award. Huhta is a member of the Copper Country Farm Bureau Board. He runs the farm with the help of his wife, Mary Anne.

Our Cover... (Continued from page 2)

ELVIS PRESLEY - 1935 - 1977 A Legend in His Time

Records and Tapes Listed Below are Special as Priced. This is a limited Offer.

Mail orders Only - No C.O.D.'s. Add $1.00 to Total Amount for Handling and we pay postage - FREE CATALOG INCLUDED. Uncle Jim O'Neal, Box AME, Arcadia, California 91006

Things You Must Do!

Records and Tapes Listed Below are Special as Priced. This is a limited Offer.

Mail orders Only - No C.O.D.'s. Add $1.00 to Total Amount for Handling and we pay postage - FREE CATALOG INCLUDED. Uncle Jim O'Neal, Box AME, Arcadia, California 91006

THINGS YOU MUST DO!

Order with Confidence, No Money Down, No Interest, No Payments"
Expanded world trade for U.S. agricultural products is a goal of the Farm Bureau Federation, Secretary Bob Bergland, at the 59th Annual Convention of the Michigan Farm Bureau Federation.

"Food, the 'weapon' that has been produced on the farms of the U.S., will not make greater contribution to peace than anything else in our arsenal, and we therefore need to expand this trade," Bergland said.

The secretary praised Farm Bureau for being among the most influential and commodity organization to play an effective leadership role in developing export markets.

Bergland predicted that exports in 1978 will exceed the record $2.6 billion overseas sales of last year.

"We've developed some exciting new initiatives, and we've expanded our existing programs to promote agricultural sales overseas."

Speaking about the current farm depression, Bergland said a group demanding government guaranteed 100 percent parity for farm products, the farmers' strike movement by the secretary said:

"Prices, provide farmers with market and strengthen economy and society."

However, he added, it is not possible and not the role of the Federal Government to control commodity.

"We deeply sympathize with those farmers who are in deep trouble—and there are many of them. We recognize their constitutional right to protest. They have, by their actions, been very successful in focusing public attention on their problems and the importance of farmers in our economy and society."

However, he added, it is not possible and not the role of the Federal Government to guarantee farmers a profit year after year.

"While the nation, in its own self-interest, has a responsibility to keep agriculture productive and strong, the nation does not have the responsibility of assuming all the risks in farming and to guarantee full parity income," Bergland said.

"However much we wish full parity prices, most farmers and farm organizations realize that full parity prices coupled with more effective marketing methods, would be a mistake," he continued. "It would mean a government established market system that would defeat competition, would be an administrative and bureaucratic monster. Farmers would lose all semblance of independence and be deprived of all decision making."

Bergland strongly endorsed a farmers' right to be a protected commodity reserved program, which, he said, would relieve some of the surplus pressure on the market and strengthen prices, provide farmers with a badly needed economic cushion in periods of excessively low prices and provide producers with new marketing muscle, something that Farm Bureau has long been asking for.

In a question period following his formal address, Bergland was asked by Allan Grant, AFBF president, had never been invited to the White House for a visit with the President.

Citing the busy schedule of the President, the secretary in effect apologized and predicted that "before the year is out," Grant will be invited to the White House for a discussion on farm problems.
Nutritionist Challenges Food Critics

The American food supply is far safer than any of its critics would have you believe, Michigan nutritionist told delegates to the AFBF convention in Houston, January 9.

"Most of the claims to the contrary are based on inadequate, unproven and all too often fanciful information," said Dr. Gilbert Leveille, chairman of Michigan State University's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition.

Dr. Leveille pointed out that the diet of Americans has so improved that life expectancy in the U.S. has increased remarkably.

He was highly critical of the U.S. Senate's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs report on dietary goals, saying it contains errors or omissions great enough to cause serious concern if they were taken seriously and applied to any current feeding problems.

Dr. Leveille said the Senate's dietary goal calling for a reduction of the intake of beef totally ignores the possible consequence of a corresponding loss of iron. It is recognized that a significant proportion of the total iron consumption by the U.S. population is derived from meats and meat products, he said.

"If the recommendations of the Select Committee were followed, the likely effect would be a significant reduction in total iron intake and a decreased availability of that iron which was consumed. If this were to occur the effect on the problem of anemia, which already appears to be widespread, would be disastrous," he said.

The Michigan educator also addressed the issue of food safety and asked, "Are we really endangering our lives by the various additives which we expose ourselves to through foods? How many people are known to die every year or even get sick from the use of nitrite cured meat, from saccharin as a low calorie sweetener, from BHA and BHT used to keep food from going rancid, from sulfite used to control bacterial growth during processing, and from antibiotics used to stimulate growth of domestic animals? The answer, of course, is none."

"I remain convinced of the need for dietary goals," Leveille said. "However, a new effort at developing goals should be undertaken which would involve a broad cross-section of expertise from the nutrition, food and medical communities knowledgeable about the application of nutrition and food in- formation. "American agriculture, and the total agribusiness system which surrounds it, is healthy and effective and will continue to ensure that American consumers receive the best and safest diet the world has known," he concluded.

Delegates Take Action on Farm Price and Income Problems

(Editor's Note: The following resolution, outlining a four-point course of action aimed at improving farm prices to cover production costs and a fair profit, was passed by voting delegates at the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting in Houston, Texas, on January 12.)

Depressed farm income has become a serious problem. Farm production costs are continually being driven upwards by government cost-inflation and bureaucracy.

Farmers should be receiving full cost of production and a profit for their products, and this objective should be pursued with vigor in domestic and export sales. An over-supply of products must be countered by reduced production and/or aggressive promotion and sales.

Grain and other agricultural prices have fallen sharply and total net agricultural income for 1978 is estimated to be at a level comparable to the mid-30's. Agriculture is under serious financial pressure. Foreclosures and a lack of net income in producers' operations are causing a real loss in the use of resources.

We support higher net income for agriculture. This has long been a major objective of Farm Bureau and much has been accomplished toward this goal. However, we believe that if improved net incomes are to be long-lasting they must be achieved through market prices obtained in the marketplace and must not be dictated by government or arbitrarily set by individuals or a group of individuals. History has clearly demonstrated that holding farm prices above market levels requires strict controls on the amount produced. Such controls must be imposed and enforced by the government if they are to be effective. Farmers have opposed such controls.

Farm Bureau as an organization cannot legally endorse any form of agreement or understanding which limits the marketing of commodities or controls the prices to be obtained for such commodities without violating the antitrust laws, and subjecting itself and its members to severe criminal and civil penalties.

We will:
(1) Intensify our efforts aimed at improving farm prices and net incomes. This will include, but not be limited to, the expansion of agricultural exports and domestic programs to expand market demand.
(2) Develop and strengthen marketing organizations, structures, and programs that will improve net incomes for farmers.
(3) Institute and support emergency agricultural credit programs which will assist deserving farmers in meeting their current financial crisis. This will include, but not be limited to, expansion of the Farmers Home Administration's lending authority to farmers who are unable to purchase and maintain their homes.
(4) Urge the Congress and the Administration to control inflation and to examine carefully and remove or appropriately modify those rules, regulations and programs which place added costs on agricultural producers and thus further intensify the cost-price income squeeze in agriculture.

Grant, Smith Re-Elected in AFBF Board Elections

Allan Grant of Visalia, California, was re-elected to a two-year term as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation at the 50th annual convention ended in Houston on January 12. Robert Delano of Virginia was re-elected vice president.

Elton R. Smith, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, was re-elected to serve on the AFBF board of directors. Mrs. Chester Smith of Oklahoma was named chairman of the Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee. As committee chairman, Mrs. Smith and Buck will serve on the AFBF board for one-year terms.

Grant, Smith Re-Elected in AFBF Board Elections

Allan Grant of Visalia, California, was re-elected to a two-year term as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation at the 50th annual convention ended in Houston on January 12. Robert Delano of Virginia was re-elected vice president.

Elton R. Smith, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, was re-elected to serve on the AFBF board of directors. Mrs. Chester Smith of Oklahoma was named chairman of the Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee. As committee chairman, Mrs. Smith and Buck will serve on the AFBF board for one-year terms.

Michigan is Well-Represented in Houston

FARM NEWS FEBRUARY, 1978 PAGE 11
Governor Milliken's annual State-of-the-State Address is in the hands of the Michigan Land in the next ten years. Several counties have complete modern soil surveys. He gave his support to a proposed agricultural policy and pointed out that there are two bills in the legislature at the present time. He reiterated his concerns about problems of agriculture and especially farmers' financial needs. He said that unusual weather, low farm prices, and rising production costs have threatened the livelihood of many Michigan farmers and that through his role as Chairman of the National Governors Association he is in a favorable position to raise the concerns of agriculture with national leaders. He said he will look to Michigan State University for additional agricultural advice in agricultural economics. He said that modern farming requires high levels of capital and would direct the Department of Agriculture to continue urging federal agencies and lending institutions to adopt an improved system of farm credit. He said that this year's weather was especially unfavorable in many areas of the state and that disaster payments and other aid to farm operators in many disaster areas resulted in more than $56 million of federal assistance to Michigan farmers and rural communities. Farm loans totaled $325 million, disaster payments $4.5 million, and loans and grants to communities totaled nearly $92 million. He called for reconsideration of the Department of Agriculture and said that the Director of the Department of Agriculture should be appointed by the Governor instead of the present method of a five member bipartisan commission as was done by the former Governor.

Lansing

Governor Milliken was able to tell the legislature that the state has a budget surplus of more than $68 million and that a smaller tax cut is possible. However in 1987 Governor Pingree said bluntly that "the Taxes are burdens which must be borne." In 1877 Governor Crowell talked about prison overcrowding and it is still a major problem with proposals for new prisons and expansion of other prisons. In 1851 Governor Bingham called for the "certainty of punishment" and "tougher sentences on drug dealers." In 1855 Governor Parsons wanted to close the saloons. In 1981 Governor Blish talked of the evils of cigarette smoking and in 1915 Governor Ferris warned of the increasing use of hallucinogens drugs which destroy the body, mind, and soul. In 1853 Governor Beagor lamed the need for the legislature to delay important business until the final days of the session. Today important business is often left until the last days of the session.

Governor Bliss (1901) said "There is not too much instead of not enough legislation." No truer words were ever spoken. In 1877 Governor Pingree urged the enactment of controls on lobbyists saying that "at least some steps should be taken to modify the nuisance." 1976 the new lobbyist bill will be a major issue. In 1859 Governor Washur urged the legislature to permit women to enter the University of Michigan. Today women's rights are still a major issue. In 1891 Governor Pingree urged labor legislation to limit the work day to eight hours. This year there is still legislation concerning the 40 hour work week. In 1857 Governor Bingham explained to the legislature his veto of a bill to allow women to serve as jurors. Governors are still veteing bills. In 1901 Governor Bliss urged that a Women's prison be constructed in Michigan. This year, 76 years later, a new women's prison was finally dedicated in Ypsilanti. Those who are familiar with government and history always point out that there is "reform by neglect." Governor Milliken obviously pleased with the fact that there is $68 million surplus in the state budget this year, said that he would propose that by the end of the 1976 "Budget Stabilization act" or "reform by neglect" should have a balance of more than $165 million this fund results from an act passed last year allowing only under certain conditions when the state runs into declining revenues and increasing expenditures.

One section of the 119 page address was concerned with agriculture and rural affairs. It stated that there is $68 million of agriculture in Michigan. Farm produce goods have a market value of almost two billion dollars. Governor Milliken said he was pleased to sign the bill exempting agriculture from the Single Business Tax. He mentioned the need to preserve farmland pointing out that more than 50,000 acres of good agricultural land are lost each year in Michigan to highways, subdivisions, shopping centers, and other non-farm uses. The pressure of expanding population and industry has caused a re-evaluation of the importance of the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act of 1974. There are more than 350,000 acres of farmland in the rapidly growing program.

He indicated his concern on the taking of farmlands for highways and said that he had asked for a review of the highway departments plan for the extension of the I-69 freeway. Farm Bureau has been successful in getting out that this highway is taking an unnecessary amount of farmland and has been working on this issue for the last year. The Governor said that farmland protection should be equal to that in the world's industrialized countries. He pointed out that a sub-committee of the Michigan Environmental Review Board is examining the laws and issues that relate to essential agricultural land. He pointed to the legislation passed last year which helped to speed up the development of modern soil surveys on an additional three million acres of Michigan land in the next five years. Several counties have complete modern soil surveys. He gave his support to a proposed agricultural policy and pointed out that there are two bills in the legislature at the present time. He reiterated his concerns about problems of agriculture and especially farmers' financial needs. He said that unusual weather, low farm prices, and rising production costs have threatened the livelihood of many Michigan farmers and that through his role as Chairman of the National Governors Association he is in a favorable position to raise the concerns of agriculture with national leaders. He said he will look to Michigan State University for additional agricultural advice in agricultural economics. He said that modern farming requires high levels of capital and that he would direct the Department of Agriculture to continue urging federal agencies and lending institutions to adopt an improved system of farm credit. He said that this year's weather was especially unfavorable in many areas of the state and that disaster payments and other aid to farm operators in many disaster areas resulted in more than $56 million of federal assistance to Michigan farmers and rural communities. Farm loans totaled $325 million, disaster payments $4.5 million, and loans and grants to communities totaled nearly $92 million. He called for reconsideration of the Department of Agriculture and said that the Director of the Department of Agriculture should be appointed by the Governor instead of the present method of a five member bipartisan commission as was done by the former Governor.

Robert E. Smith
NATIONAL NOTES

95th Congress -- 1st and 2nd Sessions

Albert A. Almy

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The 2nd Session of the 95th Congress convened on January 19, 1978. Perhaps a brief review about the 1st Session would be of interest.

The 1st Session convened January 4, 1977, and adjourned December 15. The 1st Session lasted 346 days which tied it with the 77th Congress of 1942 as the longest in history. However, Congress did not conduct business during each day of the Session. The Senate was in session 178 days and the House 174 days during 1977.

There were 15,386 bills and resolutions introduced during the 1st Session. Of this number the Senate accounted for 2,896 and the House 12,490.

As of the December 15 adjournment, the President had signed into law 210 public bills cleared by Congress and vetoed two bills. There was no attempt by Congress to override either veto.

The Senate took 635 recorded votes and the House 706. The House total set a new record; while the Senate total was slightly less than the 688 it cast in 1976. The total of 1,341 votes taken by both houses was the second highest ever.

The 2nd Session will undoubtedly be shorter than the 1st Session because of the 1978 elections. All 435 members of the House and 33 of the 100 Senate members will stand for re-election in 1978. The primary election will be August 8 and the general election will be November 7. Congress can be expected to recess to give members time to campaign for re-election. However, during the 2nd Session many issues important to agriculture will be considered. A brief review of these issues follows:

ENERGY - Legislation dealing with energy will receive priority attention. Both the House and Senate have passed energy legislation but in drastically different versions. The House and Senate conferences had reached compromise agreement on three of the five basic sections of the energy legislation when the 1st Session adjourned December 15. Agreement is still pending on the two remaining sections, natural gas pricing and energy taxes.

FARM PRICES - As a result of the recent publicity surrounding farm prices, the House and Senate Agriculture Committees are likely to hold hearings on the situation. Legislation to raise support loans and target prices will be among the alternatives considered. With 1978 being an election year there is a chance that such legislation could be enacted. However, given the President's goal of balancing the budget by 1980, any such legislation sent to the White House for signing into law faces a strong possibility of being vetoed.

PESTICIDES - Both the House and Senate have passed separate legislation to amend FIFRA. The House bill contained significant provisions which correct many of the problems caused by EPA's administration of FIFRA. Farm Bureau strongly supports the House bill. The Senate bill does not solve the problems brought about by EPA and which have resulted in the loss of many pesticides for crop production. Conferences are scheduled to meet soon to reach a compromise agreement on the differences.

LABOR REFORM - The House has already passed legislation which would substantially modify the National Labor Relations Act and make it easier for labor unions to organize workers. The legislation - S. 1883 -- is now ready for consideration in the Senate. If enacted by Congress, President Carter is certain to sign the bill into law.

CONSUMER PROTECTION - Both the House Government Operations Committee and the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee have reported separate legislation establishing an independent federal agency to represent consumers. Despite support from President Carter, the legislation encountered strong opposition from agricultural and business groups and was not taken to the floor for a vote. Instead, consumer forces drafted a substitute House bill that was weaker. However, the substitute bill was withdrawn from the House Calendar when it became apparent that it did not have enough support to pass. Supporters have vowed to bring it up early in 1978.

VOTER REGISTRATION - Legislation is pending before both the House and Senate permitting any eligible voter or register at a polling place on election day, so long as he could present acceptable identification or find a preregistered voter who would vouch for him. Faced with stiff opposition to the bill from many groups, supporters made many concessions including one that would make the plan optional with the states. It is unlikely that Congress will take action on the bill in time for the 1978 elections. Farm Bureau strongly opposes election day voter registration.

Do You Pay Too Much INCOME TAX???

Of course you do! Your goal should be: "Pay what lowe, but pay NO MORE!!!"

That goal can be attained by practicing good, sound tax management on a year-around basis. Good farm records are part of good tax management.

That's where the FARM BUREAU RECORDS PROGRAM can help! If you are interested in learning more about this Farm Bureau service, use the coupon below or call (517) 321-5661, extension 222.

TO: Farm Bureau - FARM RECORDS PROGRAM
P.O. Box 30960
Lansing, Michigan 48909

I would like more information about saving tax dollars with Farm Bureau's FARM RECORDS PROGRAM

Name:

Address:

Farm Bureau Cooperative's Board selected William Brewer - Clare County, Third Member of the Executive Committee; Max D. Dean, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer; and William S. Wilkinson, Secretary and General Counsel to fill out their slate of officers.
Marketing Outlook

Bill Asked for Freedom to Market

WASHINGTON -- A bill designed to give the livestock marketing sector of the livestock industry the same basic freedom from regulatory constraints as other businesses was before the Congress when it reconvenes. Designated the "Freedom in Livestock Marketing Act," it was introduced in the Senate in November by Sen. James O. Eastland of Mississippi as a comprehensive package of marketing law reform.

The bill was put together by members of the Livestock Marketing Assn. after months of meetings and work. Eastland's introduction of it followed meetings in late September between his legislative assistants and representatives of the livestock marketing sector, an arm of the Livestock Laws Reform Commission supported by LMA.

Among other provisions, the proposed legislation would:

- Treat livestock marketing businesses as independent, competitive enterprises by allowing them to set their own charges for services and facilities.
- Recognize the growth and complexity of the industry by separating the provisions of the current Packers & Stockyards Act dealing with poultry and packers from those dealing with livestock.
- Bring broader experience and judgment to the administration of the Act through the appointment of a three-member Livestock Marketing Commission, rather than a single administrator.
- Clamp down on illegal marketing practices by making a broad number of illegal activities criminal offenses, punishable by stiff fines, imprisonment, or both.
- Bring the highest level of financial responsibility to the industry by demanding immediate payment on completion of marketing transactions.
- Recognize state authority in livestock marketing transactions where it is not inconsistent with the Act.
- Recognize the fact that livestock marketing transactions are not inconsistent with the Act. Of the bill, known as S. 2275, C.T. (Tad) Sanders, general manager of Livestock Marketing Assn., Kansas City, said: "The marketing sector of today's livestock industry wants and needs the same basic freedom to operate effectively and efficiently that businessmen have in any other industry. As it is, marketing people are totally frustrated by burdensome regulations and over-zealous regulators.

"While all of agriculture is reeling under the weight of regulations, it hits the livestock marketing sector particularly hard. It has it backed into a corner from which it is all but impossible to adequately serve its producers and feeder customers."

Sanders said that if marketmen, dealers and brokers are to respond to the livestock producer's need for more aggressive, more innovative marketing services, they must be free from burdening regulations.

He stressed that this proposed act goes beyond mere tinkering with the existing P & S Act. "Unlike several recent amendments to P & S Act, our bill doesn't attempt to build upon a shaky foundation," he said. "It recognizes that the livestock business has changed since 1921, when the P & S Act was signed, and that the current law is simply incapable of dealing with today's industry. We need a wholesale overhaul of the present law that will allow the livestock industry to control its own affairs."

Meetings were held across the country to acquaint industry members with S. 2275 and what it would provide.

(Reprinted with permission of "Drover's Journal").

Michigan Fruit Commission Studied

The Michigan agricultural cooperative marketing association (MACMA) will hold its Seventeenth Annual Meeting on Friday, February 24, 1978 at the Pantlind Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. MACMA President Elton Smith and General Manager Noel Stuckman will report to the members on the status of the statewide marketing and bargaining association which is affiliated with the Michigan Farm Bureau. Of major interest will be P.A. 344, the Michigan Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act. The act is the first comprehensive farm bargaining law in the United States. MACMA divisions accredited under the law processing apples, asparagus, kraut, cabbage, potatoes, and red tart cherries. A decision by the Michigan Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the act is expected sometime in 1978.

Registration for the day-long meeting is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. at the Pantlind. The meeting will include the election of directors for 1978. MACMA has eleven operating commodity and marketing services for members who produce processing fruits and vegetables, feeder livestock, and operate retail farm markets.

All MACMA members and interested Farm Bureau members are invited to attend.

Highlights of information to be presented at the MACMA Annual Meeting to be held Friday, February 24, 1978 at the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

1. The MACMA asparagus, processing apple and kraut cabbage divisions negotiated as accredited associations under the provisions of P.A. 344, the Michigan Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act. The Michigan Court of Appeals stays continued on the red tart cherry and potato divisions' accreditations.

2. MACMA attorneys have successfully defended P.A. 344 in the state courts. A trial to hold in September in the Ingham County Circuit Court. The Michigan Supreme Court has ordered, to review on the constitutionality of the act in 1978.

3. MACMA will participate in 1978 in a major effort of the Michigan Market, National Porkettes, National Wool Growers, the National Cattlemens Association, American Angus Association and the American Agriwomen. The group discussed problems common to agriculture, the expected activities to be presented at the MACMA Annual Meeting, the Michigan Court of Appeals stays continued on the red tart cherry and potato divisions' accreditations.

4. MACMA completed its 1977 fiscal year with a positive net margin, which was the fifth year in the past six years completed with a positive net margin. Class A common stockholders will receive a 7 percent dividend.

5. Sales of products handled by MACMA increased by approximately 4 percent over 1976.

6. A negative net margin. Class A common stockholders will receive a 7 percent dividend.

7. Sales of Michigan grown food products were expanded into other states through the Direct Marketing Division.
**What's Happening...**

OPEN LINE MEETINGS
An opportunity to review the current farm supply and marketing outlook with the experts. Meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 1:00 p.m. February 14 - Holiday Inn, U.S. 10, East of Ludington
February 15 - Zehnder's, Frankenmuth
February 16 - Country Side Inn, East of Battle Creek, I-94, Exit 104.

**FARM BUREAU COUNTY SECRETARIES STATEWIDE SEMINAR**
An educational seminar designed to increase the understanding of Michigan Farm Bureau's Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance Plan.
February 16-17 - Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan

**1978 LEGISLATIVE SEMINARS**
County Farm Bureau leaders will meet with legislative representatives in a series of meetings at two Lansing locations.
- February 7 - Southwest Region
- February 9 - Central Region
- February 14 - South Region
- February 15 - West Region
- February 16 - Thumb Region
- February 21 - Saginaw Region
Date to be announced - North, Northwest, Northeast, Upper Peninsula Regions

**MAGMA**
VI
4-7.

**FARM BUREAU WOMEN DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETINGS**
Scheduled to begin February 20 and will continue through March 14. Further information available through the District and county Farm Bureau Women Committees.
- February 20 - District 10
- March 1 - District 1
- February 21 - District 9
- March 6 - District 4
- February 23 - District 3
- March 8 - District 6
- February 28 - District 2
- March 9 - District 8
- March 13 - District 5
- March 14 - District 7

**MACMA ANNUAL MEETING**
The Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association will hold its seventeenth annual meeting on February 24 at the Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids. Commodity Committee meetings are scheduled for February 23.

**MASA ANNUAL MEETING AND FARM LABOR CONFERENCE**
These two important events for agricultural employers in Michigan have been announced by the Michigan Agricultural Services Association. Meeting dates are February 28 - March 1 at the Midway Motor Lodge in Grand Rapids.

**MACF MANAGEMENT CLINIC**
With the special concerns of cooperative directors and managers in mind, the Michigan Association of Farm Cooperatives plans three management clinics in March. Sessions will focus upon: Director and Board Responsibilities; the Manager-Director Relationship; and Financial Planning and Salary Studies. Meetings are scheduled for the following dates and locations:
- March 6 - Hoffman House at Midway Motor Lodge, Grand Rapids
- March 7 - Zehnder's, Frankenmuth
- March 28 - Chalet Motor Lodge, Gaylord

**YOUNG FARMER LEADER CONFERENCE**
"Tomorrow Belongs to Me" keynote the goal of the 1978 Young Farmer Leader Conference on March 7, 8 and 9 at Midland Valley Plaza Ramada Inn. The conference agency includes Young Farmer leadership and farm management workshops and will feature a special session for Young Farm Women.

**WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR**
One of Michigan Farm Bureau's most influential and effective legislative activities involving leaders from Farm Bureau communities throughout Michigan. Legislative Leaders, accompanied by key Farm Bureau staff, will meet with Michigan Democratic and Republican Congressmen in Washington, D.C., April 4-7.

**SOYBEAN DAY VI**
An all-day event held for soybean producers from throughout the state to be held on March 7 at the Sheraton Inn in Jackson. Speakers will be on hand to discuss various phases of soybean production and marketing.

**MICHIGAN DRY BEAN DAY**
A day-long meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on February 22 at the Saginaw Civic Center.

**President Explains FB Members' Freedom of Choice to Branch Farmers**

The president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Elton R. Smith, appearing at a meeting in Coldwater, January 17, explained that membership in Farm Bureau does not restrict a farmer's freedom of choice.

"Farm Bureau is a strong organization because it is a voluntary organization founded on the principles of individual rights and dedicated to promoting the economic well-being of farmers," Smith told the group of farmers. "While I have said that Farm Bureau, as an organization, cannot support the farmers strike, I have never advised farmers concerning their personal actions. A farmer cannot give up his personal freedom when he joins Farm Bureau. He will be signing an agreement. I would have no grounds to advise farmers to participate or not participate and have not done so."

Sponsored by the Branch County Farm Bureau, but open to all interest farmers, the meeting attracted both supporters and non-supporters of the farmers' strike. Smith told them that in dealing with a problem as large as farmers' current financial situation, there will be "honest differences of opinion."

"One of the things that concerns me is that some people believe that lack of complete agreement is the same as complete disagreement," Smith said. "That kind of thinking is unfair."

Smith placed part of the blame for farmers' financial problems on government's failure to curb inflation, "regulatory overkill" of agriculture, and the action of organized labor. Smith's executive strike which subsequently resulted in loss of markets for farmers. He also blasted the federal government for its failure to expand export markets for agricultural products.

"We were encouraged to plant 'fence row to fence row' and were assured that foreign markets could be kept open," Smith said. "You know and I know, as farmers, that we kept our part of the bargain. We did produce. But government has not done all it could to keep our export sales going. In fact, we shipped less corn and wheat last year than we did the year before. And with export out of three or four historically being sold abroad, we face a supply problem.

Smith, who had served on the Resolutions Committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation and was a voting delegate at the organization's annual meeting in Houston, Texas, last week, reported on action taken there regarding farm prices and income.

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**
FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN
The annual meeting of the policyholders of Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 7733 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 22, 1978, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:
1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: February 1, 1978
W.S. WILKINSON
Elton R. Smith
President

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
FARM BUREAU LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN
The annual meeting of the stockholders of Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 7733 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, on Thursday, February 21, 1978, beginning at 1:30 p.m., and for the following purposes:
1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: February 1, 1978
W.S. WILKINSON
Elton R. Smith
Secretary
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office at Lansing.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
COMMUNITY SERVICE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN
The annual meeting of the stockholders of Community Service Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its Home Office, 7733 West Saginaw, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 22, 1978, beginning at 1:30 p.m., for the following purposes:
1. To receive reports from officers and management.
2. To elect directors.
3. To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

Attest: February 1, 1978
W.S. WILKINSON
Elton R. Smith
Secretary
President

Policyholders may obtain a copy of the Annual Report from any County Farm Bureau Office or from the Home Office at Lansing.
DISCUSSION

by KEN WILES
Manager Member Relations

There is a new word which, unfortunately, is increasingly becoming familiar to farmers - agricrime. The agricriminal is fast finding that remote areas make easy prey, and the machinery used by farmers can bring top dollar on the resale market.

According to the uniform crime reports recently released, property crime has been on the increase. Your crime is increasing in Michigan as well as in many parts of the nation. It causes much loss of property, personal valuables, and in some instances, bodily harm.

The crime does not stop where it has the best opportunity to operate successfully; right now that is in the rural areas. If you are one of those unfortunate individuals who has suffered the fear and anguish of coming home to discover a burglarized house or to vandalized property, then you know that crime is a serious problem.

Two major factors exist which contribute to the growing crime problem in rural areas.

One is mobility. The accessibility of Michigan's excellent highway system contributes to a fast getaway. Markets for stolen machinery used by farmers can bring top dollar.

The second problem is actually two-fold. First is the lack of proper marking of articles both in homes and those used in day to day business. Also, many individuals do not have a complete inventory of the property they own. Is your tractor any different from the same make and model of tractor located on the adjacent farm or in the next county? Could you prove in a court of law that your television set is actually yours if it was recovered after being stolen?

Compounding the problem is the fact that many thefts are not reported to law enforcement officials, or at best are not discovered until days, weeks, or even months after they occur. All of these aspects limit the ability of law enforcement officers to investigate and solve crimes. One solution is marking.

Marking of an item so it can be later be positively identified and reported a theft immediately upon discovery are vital to successful recovery of stolen goods and address of the rightful owner.

The increase in rural crime has been a growing concern of Farm Bureau members. The council is an ad hoc organization comprised of representatives from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan State Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the Agricultural Engineering Department of Michigan State University, and the Michigan Farm and Power Equipment Association.

Statistics do point out the seriousness of the problem. They won't stop crime. It requires the combined efforts of law enforcement officers, the judicial system, and rural people themselves. With this in mind, the MRCPC has designed a program to combat rural crime. The program is modelled along the concept that to have an effective crime prevention program, you have to involve people.

The objective of the program is to assist county Farm Bureaus, in cooperation with the law enforcement offices, in developing rural crime prevention programs. The program is patterned after "Operation Identification" and involves the marking of farm equipment, tools, and personal items, with the owner's driver's license number.

In early 1976 Michigan Farm Bureau began contacting agencies and organizations which were also concerned with the increase in rural crime. As a result, the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council (MRCPC) was formed to develop a program which would help reduce the opportunity for expansion of crime in rural areas.

The council is an ad hoc organization comprised of representatives from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan State Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the Agricultural Engineering Department of Michigan State University, and the Michigan Farm and Power Equipment Association.

Statistics do point out the seriousness of the problem. They won't stop crime. It requires the combined efforts of law enforcement officers, the judicial system, and rural people themselves. With this in mind, the MRCPC has designed a program to combat rural crime. The program is modelled along the concept that to have an effective crime prevention program, you have to involve people.

The objective of the program is to assist county Farm Bureaus, in cooperation with the law enforcement offices, in developing rural crime prevention programs. The program is patterned after "Operation Identification" and involves the marking of farm equipment, tools, and personal items, with the owner's driver's license number.

In early 1976 Michigan Farm Bureau began contacting agencies and organizations which were also concerned with the increase in rural crime. As a result, the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council (MRCPC) was formed to develop a program which would help reduce the opportunity for expansion of crime in rural areas.

The council is an ad hoc organization comprised of representatives from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan State Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the Agricultural Engineering Department of Michigan State University, and the Michigan Farm and Power Equipment Association.

Statistics do point out the seriousness of the problem. They won't stop crime. It requires the combined efforts of law enforcement officers, the judicial system, and rural people themselves. With this in mind, the MRCPC has designed a program to combat rural crime. The program is modelled along the concept that to have an effective crime prevention program, you have to involve people.

The objective of the program is to assist county Farm Bureaus, in cooperation with the law enforcement offices, in developing rural crime prevention programs. The program is patterned after "Operation Identification" and involves the marking of farm equipment, tools, and personal items, with the owner's driver's license number.

In early 1976 Michigan Farm Bureau began contacting agencies and organizations which were also concerned with the increase in rural crime. As a result, the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council (MRCPC) was formed to develop a program which would help reduce the opportunity for expansion of crime in rural areas.

The council is an ad hoc organization comprised of representatives from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan State Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the Agricultural Engineering Department of Michigan State University, and the Michigan Farm and Power Equipment Association.

Statistics do point out the seriousness of the problem. They won't stop crime. It requires the combined efforts of law enforcement officers, the judicial system, and rural people themselves. With this in mind, the MRCPC has designed a program to combat rural crime. The program is modelled along the concept that to have an effective crime prevention program, you have to involve people.

The objective of the program is to assist county Farm Bureaus, in cooperation with the law enforcement offices, in developing rural crime prevention programs. The program is patterned after "Operation Identification" and involves the marking of farm equipment, tools, and personal items, with the owner's driver's license number.

In early 1976 Michigan Farm Bureau began contacting agencies and organizations which were also concerned with the increase in rural crime. As a result, the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council (MRCPC) was formed to develop a program which would help reduce the opportunity for expansion of crime in rural areas.

The council is an ad hoc organization comprised of representatives from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan State Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the Agricultural Engineering Department of Michigan State University, and the Michigan Farm and Power Equipment Association.

Statistics do point out the seriousness of the problem. They won't stop crime. It requires the combined efforts of law enforcement officers, the judicial system, and rural people themselves. With this in mind, the MRCPC has designed a program to combat rural crime. The program is modelled along the concept that to have an effective crime prevention program, you have to involve people.

The objective of the program is to assist county Farm Bureaus, in cooperation with the law enforcement offices, in developing rural crime prevention programs. The program is patterned after "Operation Identification" and involves the marking of farm equipment, tools, and personal items, with the owner's driver's license number.

In early 1976 Michigan Farm Bureau began contacting agencies and organizations which were also concerned with the increase in rural crime. As a result, the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council (MRCPC) was formed to develop a program which would help reduce the opportunity for expansion of crime in rural areas.

The council is an ad hoc organization comprised of representatives from the Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan State Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, the Agricultural Engineering Department of Michigan State University, and the Michigan Farm and Power Equipment Association.

Statistics do point out the seriousness of the problem. They won't stop crime. It requires the combined efforts of law enforcement officers, the judicial system, and rural people themselves. With this in mind, the MRCPC has designed a program to combat rural crime. The program is modelled along the concept that to have an effective crime prevention program, you have to involve people.
IN GENERAL
Corn pricing was weaker during the past month on selling as farmers started thinking about the coming spring, needing money for planting and paying off creditors. Both foreign and domestic interests have been buying soybean meal at a good rate for feeding. Interest in our grain by foreign buyers, including China, has been in evidence. With President Carter's new position on strengthening U.S. currency abroad, further gold and silver declines can be expected if his program becomes effective. Our falling dollar has made our products more attractive for foreigners. Should our dollar strengthen, our products will become more expensive to them in exchange for their money.

Steel prices went up, in spite of huge layoffs of people in the steel industry, as inflation continues to confuse and plague industry and agriculture.

FERTILIZER
Now it's almost a guaranteed certainty that fertilizer prices will be going up as we get going toward the spring season.

But Farm Bureau Services dealers are holding the price line as much as possible and still have adequate supplies. Now is the time to get fertilizers for the coming planting season. As we reported previously, transportation logistics are becoming more knotty. Hopper cars, later on, may simply not be available for everyone. Anhydrous ammonia production costs are going to be dependent on supplies of natural gas and will probably go higher. There's no long term storage of anhydrous in large amounts, so this supply is subject to the most current cost conditions at the time.

Supplies of fertilizer grade urea will be adequate for Farm Bureau, going by purchases of previous years. Right now dealers are in good shape on blending materials. You're best off if you can take delivery and store it.

PESTICIDES
Farm Bureau Services has good positions in all commonly used herbicides and insecticides for the coming spring season. There have been no problems with supply and selections are good. Prices are expected to firm as we get closer to the use period.

SEED
Farm Bureau has been able to achieve an adequate amount of the popular FFR Weevilechke grown by our own FFR, Farmers Forage Research cooperative. Other alfalfas and clover are in fair supply. Most corn seed has already been purchased by farmers, but we still have some in varieties and kernal sizes that are harder to get elsewhere. Where wheat did not get planted, oats may go in instead, so, check your Farm Bureau dealer for oat seed. The earlier the better.

INCREASES in steel prices are expected to hit our purchases about the middle of this month. These price increases could effect steel roofing and siding, fences and livestock feeding equipment. We still have some of the lower priced inventories in stories and warehouses, so buy before prices increase. For far-sighted farmers, an idea: bale twine is readily available, but prices have been gradually increasing through last December and January.

FEEDS
Dairy and livestock farmers can stock up on Animal Health products from the excellent selections Farm Bureau has at participating dealers. Your needs can be handled from the many kinds of animal health products at substantial savings. Talk over your complete program with him.

NU PRO Dairy Feeds are showing positive results across the state. Here's an excellent opportunity to get more milk from all your dairy (Continued on Page 18)
Supplies the Report
(Continued from Page 17) animals, even those that are
growing now. The ingredients in NU PRA Cattle Feed
are selected to provide an excellent source of nutrients
needed for normal feeding conditions.

New VIM & VIGOR Dog Food is making its debut at
distributor shows. The key to the Beef Broth in the Dog
food is the hard working, active dog that requires high protein,
26 essential amino acids, healthy fats, and vitamins. VIM &
VIGOR Dog Food is added to Farm Bureau’s other dog
foods for normal feeding conditions. Kennel dogs
made to meet the needs of the kennel dogs.

FARM BUREAU PETROLEUM COOPERATIVE, INC.
LIQUID FUELS

Fuels produced for Farm Bureau members. Liquid fuels
are available from family members supply
even though No. 1 Heating Oil is being
restricted to dealers by other suppliers.

TIRES

A new, price competitive, CO-OP Radial Tire with two
steel belts and nylon cord. This tire is designed for
this spring’s driving. It’s designed for the safety and other
advantages of steel radials, but at a lower price. Get the
former’s premium quality Mark 74 Steel radial.

OILS, GREASES, CHEMICALS

Warehouses and dealers are being stocked up with
a variety of approved motor oils and greases as part of
getting ready for spring. Check up services for all automotive
services is in full swing now with dealers keeping
new equipment and supply needs.

PAGE 18

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: One free 15 word ad per month
with membership; additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as $ or $12.50 count as one word. NON-
MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word per edition; two half page, 8 cents per word. Deadline: 13th of Month. Mail classified ads to: Michigan Farm News, P.O. Box 96, Lansing, Ml.
48904. Publisher reserves right to reject any advertising copy submitted.
Hort Show Happenings

Dr. Robert Carlson (left), Michigan State University horticulturist, and Harry Overheiser (right), South Haven grower, were the recipients of special service awards from the Michigan State Horticultural Society. Outgoing Society president, Ed Wasm (center), Milan, presented the awards at the Horticultural Society's annual banquet in Grand Rapids in December. Senator Charles Zollar, also a service award recipient, could not be present because of illness. (Photo courtesy of THE PACKER)

The three new Michigan State Horticultural Society officers who were recently elected are (left to right): Wallace Heuser, Hilltop Orchards and Nurseries, Inc., Hartford, first vice-president; John Nye, St. Joseph grower and president of Trick-Eze Drip Irrigation Co., president, and Donald Spencer, South Haven grower, second vice-president. (Photo courtesy of THE PACKER)

House Honors Allan Grant

Allan Grant, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, received a "Resolution of Tribute" from the Michigan House of Representatives when he came to Mr. Pleasant to address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3. Presented to Grant by Rep. Stanley Powell (Blissfield), the resolution read, in part:

Whereas, Mr. Grant's attendance at the Michigan Corn Symposium is deeply appreciated, for his high level of expertise in the field of agriculture will undoubtedly be of great assistance to Michigan farmers; now therefore be it resolved by the House of Representatives that, by all present, a hearty welcome be hereby accorded Mr. Allan Grant, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, who will address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3, 1978, and resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mr. Grant and his family as a token of the esteem in which he is held by this legislative body.


Foreign Students Visit

Seventeen of the seventy students who participated in Adventures in World Understanding at Michigan State University during the Christmas holiday visited Farm Bureau Center. Several Farm Bureau families helped make the students Christmas more enjoyable by having them as guests.

Governor's State of the State

(Continued from Page 12)

He recommended transfer of the State Fair Grounds from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Natural Resources, however the Department of Agriculture would continue to be involved in the conducting of the State Fair. He discussed the U.P. State Fair and urged the legislature to appropriate $30,000 in order that the U.P. gate admission could remain at a $1.50 rather than being increased to $2.00.

Allan Grant, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau Federation, received a "Resolution of Tribute" from the Michigan House of Representatives when he came to Mr. Pleasant to address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3. Presented to Grant by Rep. Stanley Powell (Blissfield), the resolution read, in part:

Whereas, Mr. Grant's attendance at the Michigan Corn Symposium is deeply appreciated, for his high level of expertise in the field of agriculture will undoubtedly be of great assistance to Michigan farmers; now therefore be it resolved by the House of Representatives that, by all present, a hearty welcome be hereby accorded Mr. Allan Grant, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, who will address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3, 1978, and resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mr. Grant and his family as a token of the esteem in which he is held by this legislative body.


Foreign Students Visit

Seventeen of the seventy students who participated in Adventures in World Understanding at Michigan State University during the Christmas holiday visited Farm Bureau Center. Several Farm Bureau families helped make the students Christmas more enjoyable by having them as guests.

Governor's State of the State

(Continued from Page 12)

He recommended transfer of the State Fair Grounds from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Natural Resources, however the Department of Agriculture would continue to be involved in the conducting of the State Fair. He discussed the U.P. State Fair and urged the legislature to appropriate $30,000 in order that the U.P. gate admission could remain at a $1.50 rather than being increased to $2.00.

Allan Grant, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau Federation, received a "Resolution of Tribute" from the Michigan House of Representatives when he came to Mr. Pleasant to address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3. Presented to Grant by Rep. Stanley Powell (Blissfield), the resolution read, in part:

Whereas, Mr. Grant's attendance at the Michigan Corn Symposium is deeply appreciated, for his high level of expertise in the field of agriculture will undoubtedly be of great assistance to Michigan farmers; now therefore be it resolved by the House of Representatives that, by all present, a hearty welcome be hereby accorded Mr. Allan Grant, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, who will address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3, 1978, and resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mr. Grant and his family as a token of the esteem in which he is held by this legislative body.


Foreign Students Visit

Seventeen of the seventy students who participated in Adventures in World Understanding at Michigan State University during the Christmas holiday visited Farm Bureau Center. Several Farm Bureau families helped make the students Christmas more enjoyable by having them as guests.

Governor's State of the State

(Continued from Page 12)

He recommended transfer of the State Fair Grounds from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Natural Resources, however the Department of Agriculture would continue to be involved in the conducting of the State Fair. He discussed the U.P. State Fair and urged the legislature to appropriate $30,000 in order that the U.P. gate admission could remain at a $1.50 rather than being increased to $2.00.

Allan Grant, president of the Michigan Farm Bureau Federation, received a "Resolution of Tribute" from the Michigan House of Representatives when he came to Mr. Pleasant to address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3. Presented to Grant by Rep. Stanley Powell (Blissfield), the resolution read, in part:

Whereas, Mr. Grant's attendance at the Michigan Corn Symposium is deeply appreciated, for his high level of expertise in the field of agriculture will undoubtedly be of great assistance to Michigan farmers; now therefore be it resolved by the House of Representatives that, by all present, a hearty welcome be hereby accorded Mr. Allan Grant, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, who will address the Michigan Corn Symposium on January 3, 1978, and resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mr. Grant and his family as a token of the esteem in which he is held by this legislative body.


Foreign Students Visit

Seventeen of the seventy students who participated in Adventures in World Understanding at Michigan State University during the Christmas holiday visited Farm Bureau Center. Several Farm Bureau families helped make the students Christmas more enjoyable by having them as guests.
you've got a lot of money under one roof

All the machinery you used for planting, cultivating and harvesting is stored out of the weather... probably all under one roof. Feed inventory, livestock or stored grain may also be protected under one roof or in a building complex. A real danger to all that personal property exists. Should disaster like fire or wind strike, much of your stored personal property could be damaged or destroyed. But you have a hedge against disaster... properly updated farm personal property insurance. Take a pencil and paper. Jot down the value of personal property you have stored or protected for the winter. Then call your Farm Bureau Insurance Agent to find out the reasonable cost for effectively insuring your farm personal property.

your greatest risk is now!

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE GROUP