



Combines at work in the field on the Lyle Oesterle and Sons farm near Mason, Mich., was a typical scene throughout the state in early August. As combines cut through the state's

acres, early harvest estimates were being reported at nearly 37 million bushels. Record production is reported for all winter wheat producing states.

Photo By Marcia Ditchie

Lower National Production Will Benefit State's Farmers

Michigan farmers will benefit substantially from higher commodity prices this year, if USDA's recent crop production forecast holds true, says Farm Bureau commodity specialist Robert Craig.

The USDA has forecast that feed grain production, nationally, will be down 16 percent from last year's record high.

"I think there's no question that Michigan farmers are going to benefit substantially from higher commodity prices, especially for the various feed grains

and other crops. Corn, for example, is going to be down 14 percent, according to the USDA, and soybeans 17 percent smaller than the '79 crop," Craig said.

"This is going to help Michigan farmers because our corn and bean crops really look very good and our production is going to be high in those two specific crops."

Craig warned, however, that in terms of net farm income, farmers should continue to watch their production costs. "Simply because prices are going to be higher does not nec-

essarily mean that their net income is going to be higher, because production costs are going to continue to rise as fast, or faster, than the national rate of inflation," he predicted.

Soviets to Purchase U.S.-Offered Grain

Soviet trade officials gave U.S. agriculture aides a clear indication they will buy U.S. grain for the year starting Oct. 1. Despite the continuing grain embargo, the administration has said it will honor the last year of a five-year U.S.-Soviet agreement that calls for shipments of

between six million and eight million metric tons of corn and wheat a year.

The USDA has reported that the Soviets have bought another 700,000 metric tons of grain, bringing to 900,000 metric tons their purchases so far for delivery in the marketing year starting Oct. 1.

Soviet purchases in the year ending Sept. 30, 1980, total 7,940,000 metric tons of grain, just under the eight million ton maximum.

Wheat Production Up Nationwide

U.S. producers expect to

harvest a record high 2.32 billion bushels of all types of wheat in 1980, 9 percent more than last year, with increased acreage more than offset by lower yield prospects.

Production of winter wheat is forecast at a record high 1.87 billion bushels, 16 percent more than last year, resulting from larger acreages harvested.

In Michigan, 840,000 acres were planted in winter wheat and estimates are for a yield, statewide, of 36,960,000 bushels.

From the Desk of the President

Who Is Farm Bureau?

The governor of Michigan knows who the Saginaw County Farm Bureau is. He got a letter from them, eloquently presenting some of the key concerns of the agricultural community (see story on page 3). Their letter reflected, not only their own concerns, but those of voting delegates at our last annual meeting when they adopted policies on the need for agricultural representation on key boards and commissions, and for adequate funding for ag research, extension and MDA programs.

The Saginaw board took the words they had helped to draft into policies and put them into action! They made their voice heard and now the governor knows who they are.

The Sanborn Township officials in Alpena County know who the Four Seasons Farm Bureau Community Group is. Concerned about proposed zoning changes that would damage the township's natural resources, Community Group members formed a concerned citizens group and held meetings to inform taxpayers of the long-range effects of the proposals. They drew up some alternative zoning changes and presented those to the board. And they also campaigned for candidates in the primary election who they believed would be more responsive to the needs of the people.

The result: their township had the largest percentage of voters at the primary in the county, and because of their active information efforts, the voters were well-informed and made decisions that were in the best interest of the community.

This Community Group took a section of our Farm Bureau policy book: "We urge Farm Bureau members to take an active

part in land use planning at all levels of government. If local land use control is to be maintained, it is imperative that local people accept the responsibility to plan the use of their land resources," and turned those words into action!

This was one small group of Farm Bureau members, but they proved they could have a voice in local government. . . and now the township officials and the community know who they are!

It's often a local need or community concern that leads to the birth of a policy, but Farm Bureau members also look beyond their own fence rows to the needs of the agricultural industry, our state, the nation and even the world. That's because Farm Bureau members are citizens as well as farmers.

I'm proud that in this "Me Generation" we seem to be in, where so many people are involved only in their own special interests, farmers are different. Farmers believe every generation should be an "Us Generation" and, therefore, they address concerns and propose solutions that will contribute to the well-being of not just themselves, but all citizens.

Our annual policy development process is now underway and I urge YOUR active involvement. Remember, involvement in Farm Bureau's policy development process is not only an opportunity - it is a responsibility. It is an opportunity to make your voice heard on issues of concern to you. It is a responsibility because if Farm Bureau's policies are to remain representative of the true concerns and ideas of the grassroots membership, a broad base of member involvement in developing those policies is imperative.



To me, and to many county Farm Bureau leaders, I'm sure, one of the most frustrating experiences is to hear a member publicly complain about the organization's position on an issue and then be "too busy" to participate when policy development time rolls around.

This is a large organization, growing every day, but it will never be too big to hear the voice of any one of its farmer members. There are so many places, at the local level, where farmers can "plug in" to the policy development process: community groups, county committees, commodity committees, county and district policy development meetings and county annual meetings. So, even though it is a big organization, Farm Bureau has the structure for grassroots input to surface concerns, discuss ideas for solving problems and make recommendations for policies.

The first step in getting others to know who Farm Bureau is - at the local, county, state and national levels - is the development of clearly-defined policies on which to act. Get involved. Your contributions in charting the course for action in the year ahead are needed.

Elton R. Smith



It makes the *Farm News* editors happy when a theme weaves in and out of the yarns of the various Farm Bureau activities we report on, to form a pattern that sort of knits the whole thing together - like an afghan. Because Michigan agriculture and Farm Bureau are so diversified, that's not always easy, and the design that results sometimes looks like the editors purred when they should have knitted. Other times, it just seems to happen, like the threads that form the

total pattern didn't need any master hand to guide them into the proper place.

As we reviewed the contents that would make up this month's issue, there was no doubt that the pattern which emerged, on its own, was LEADERSHIP - farmers taking leadership in the political and legislative arenas, in developing and executing the policies of their organization, in solving problems in their own communities, and in supporting a new program to assure that the ag leadership well doesn't run dry.

In my opinion, the opportunity for leadership development is one of THE most important Farm Bureau membership benefits. I don't think I'll ever become immune to the thrill of watching a member take the leadership development ball and run with it! And

the great thing about it is that Farm Bureau not only provides the leadership skills it also provides so many opportunities to use them.

The recent Farm Bureau Women's Leader Conference was one example. It was our pleasure to be on the scene for this activity and I'm betting that from this group will emerge some high-powered individuals who will change the complexion of Farm Bureau's leadership.

Have you noticed that women ARE making progress? While I'm not in favor of changing "Fisherman's Wharf" to "Fisherperson's Wharf" or "mail-man" to "person-person," I do think giving equal opportunity status to hurricane names was a step in the right direction (especially since Hurricane Allen is much more de-

structive than Hurricane Donna).

But, despite the progress, there are some basic differences, dear sisters, that we're just going to have to live with. . . and a couple of these unchangeables came home to roost on my shoulders in the past few weeks.

Leadership, Wrinkles and Such

One was during the interview with "Friend of Agriculture" Dick Allen, which started out at his centennial farm and ended up at the Gratiot County Fair to get some pictures of his family. I had finished my interview at the farm, so left my pad and pen in the car while *Farm*

(continued on page 9)

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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Saginaw Farm Bureau Board Tells Governor

Michigan Agriculture 'Grossly Shortchanged'

"You just have to let someone know you are unhappy with their actions," explained Saginaw County Farm Bureau leader Dick Leach - and that's exactly why he and others from the county board of directors wrote a letter to Gov. Milliken recently.

Gubernatorial actions that made them unhappy and which they said "grossly shortchanged" Michigan's second largest industry were budget cuts in research, extension and Michigan Department of Agriculture programs, and appointment of non-farm people to key boards and commissions.

Pulling a quote from his 1980 State of the State address, "Agriculture is a vital industry in this state, uniquely stable and enduring," the Saginaw farm leaders reminded the governor that in order to keep it that way, adequate funding for research, extension and regulatory programs was vital.

"It should be an embarrassment to the leadership of this state to continuously delete the needed programs of a viable industry in favor of increased social service programs that are greatly misused and are so counterproductive," they said.

They listed three areas "which must not be compromised" if agriculture in Michigan is to move continuously forward to meet the challenges of each new decade:



Dick Leach, Saginaw County Farm Bureau board member, was author of the letter to Gov. Milliken protesting the cuts in agricultural programs and the lack of farm representation on key commissions and boards. "You just have to let someone know you are unhappy with their actions," Leach said. "If we are going to remain the viable industry we are now, these things cannot be cut."

"1. The agricultural interest must be represented on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. This is not true at this time.

"2. The Michigan Agricultural Commission should be made up of people who are actively engaged in some form of agriculture and not be eroded by appointees from outside the agricultural community.

"3. Funding must be adequate for research, extension

and regulatory programs to attract and retain talented personnel to keep Michigan's agriculture 'a uniquely stable and enduring industry.'

"The board of directors of the Saginaw County Farm Bureau, representing 3,260 member families, urge you, Governor Milliken, to justly weigh the benefits of a strong viable agriculture when you consider the state budget and any future appointments," they concluded.

While the governor's appointment of a non-farmer to fill a vacancy on the MSU Board of Trustees provided impetus to the Saginaw County Farm Bureau board's decision to take action, budget cuts were a major concern.

"We are losing agricultural agents, we are losing MDA programs, and it just looks like agriculture is getting cut and cut and cut," Leach said. "If we are going to remain the viable industry we are now, these things cannot be cut. We need the research money, we need the MDA programs and the talent that it takes to do these things. And that talent takes money."

Research: Like Money in Bank

Saginaw County Farm Bureau President Paul Vasold agrees, but wonders what it's going to take to bring about recognition of those needs.

"One of the problems is that we have enough food right now. Politicians believe we have plenty of food so why work to produce more," Vasold said. "But research is just like money in the bank - you

can't get interest unless you have some there. If we don't put something in the bank - some knowledge - we are not going to have any new certified seeds and new methods of handling crops down the road - and then we're going to be in trouble."

Will their letter to the governor have any impact? The Saginaw farm leaders have no illusions that the purse strings will suddenly be loosened for vital agricultural programs. But they have taken that first important step: *Let someone know when you are unhappy with their actions.*

They've spread the message by sharing their letter to the governor with their state representatives and the news media so the general public will be aware that ag research benefits consumers as well as producers. They hope, too, that other county Farm Bureaus will follow their lead.

As Dick Leach summed it up: "Farmers, through Farm Bureau, have traditionally done anything that's needed doing. We have the expertise, we have the structure - all we have to do is DO IT!"

Editor's Note:

Tom Reed, endorsed by Michigan Farm Bureau's AgriPac for the MSU Board of Trustees, won his party's nomination at the state Republican convention. At this writing, the Democratic convention has not been held, but farmers are hopeful that Bill Byrum, Ingham County farmer, will also be nominated by his party.

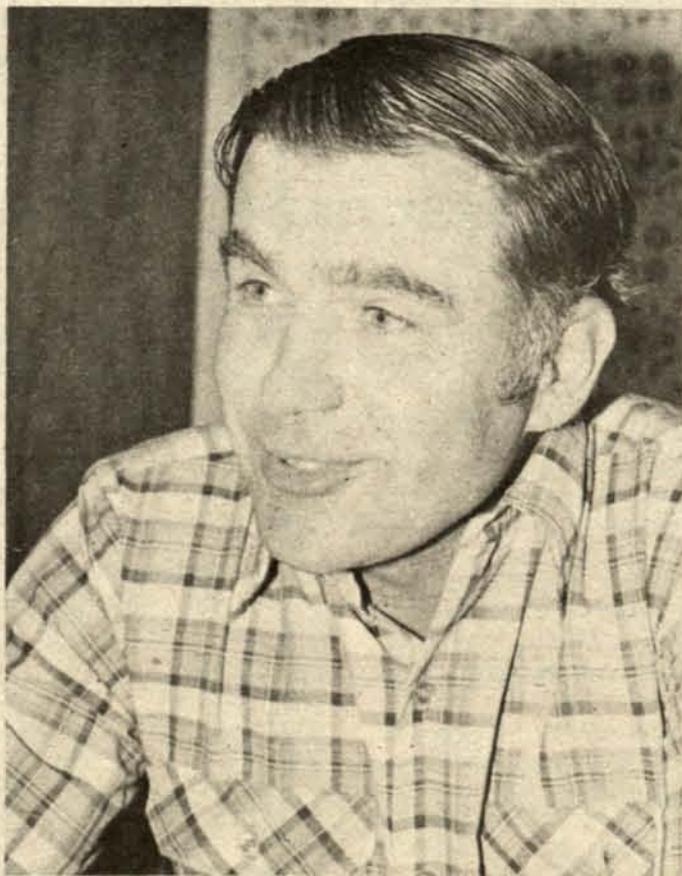
Safety Group Pays Dividend

Farm Bureau members participating in the Agricultural Workers' Compensation Safety Group received more than \$131,000 in dividends from Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co., based on the group's excellent safety record during the past year.

The dividend, which was paid to participating members in early August, equalled 5 percent of the policyholder's annual premium. The dividend was the result of the Safety Group's low workers' comp losses during the period of Jan. 1, 1979 to Dec. 31, 1979.

The Safety Group, which currently has more than 2,300 participating Farm Bureau members, is a workers' comp insurance plan available exclusively to Farm Bureau members who employ agricultural workers.

Started in 1971, the Safety Group program has paid out more than \$931,000 in dividends to Farm Bureau members.



Paul Vasold, president of the Saginaw County Farm Bureau, said: "Research is just like money in the bank - you can't get interest unless you have some there. If we don't put something in the bank - some knowledge - we are not going to have any new certified seeds and new methods of handling crops down the road - and then we're going to be in trouble."



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Production Credit Associations of Michigan

Meet Newton Allen

He Believes 'Profit' is Not a Four-Letter Word...

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., two Michigan Farm Bureau affiliates, which have a combined annual sales volume of over \$350 million, have a new executive vice president and chief executive officer.

The search for just the right kind of top management leadership was a long one for the board of directors. They felt that growth in service to members and in profitability was necessary and that aggressive, capable management could lead in that direction. Their efforts reaped rewards.

They found a highly-motivated, enthusiastic, positive-thinking individual who had made his mark in the agribusiness field and was ready to spend the rest of his life in a warm climate enjoying the freedom of running his own business.

What kind of a man would forsake that for the challenge of taking the management helm of two co-ops that have a lot of growing to do? It was a man who could look at problems and view them as opportunities - a man named Newton Allen.

You don't have to talk with Allen long before it's clear that he and Earl Butz share a lot of the same philosophy; specifically, the belief that profit is not "a four-letter word." He's also a believer in goals and objectives, with "strategic planning" to reach those goals.

Allen will take over his responsibilities as executive vice president and chief executive officer of FBS and FPC on Sept. 2. He is a former corporate vice president and general manager of a consumer and agriproducts division of a major agribusiness company - one of the "Fortune 500" companies. He lists an impressive summary of experience in all functions of the feed industry, poultry and livestock production, grain merchandising and retail distribution.

Many Farm Bureau members will have the opportunity to meet the new FBS-FPC executive vice president and chief executive officer in the days ahead because he has some strong feelings about looking to the grassroots membership for input into setting some goals.

In the meantime, *Farm News* editors are pleased to introduce Newton Allen to their readers by sharing their visit with him. Following are Allen's quotes on a number of topics:

ON MANAGEMENT

"When I get 'on board,' I'll get acquainted with the people



Newton Allen, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of FBS and FPC

first and the other resources second. Then we'll be setting some quantified goals... short-range and long-range, that we will all be hitching our carts to go after.

"We're going to develop a real team approach within this organization. By that I mean we're going to develop a team of people who are professional, each with their own contribution of strength, who know how to think and implement plans that will make a lot of money - and make this organization grow at probably a faster rate than the normal agribusiness firm is growing at today.

"I like a decentralized style of management because I like to have people who are capable of accepting responsibility, then let them take that responsibility and set some objectives that tie in with the overall corporate objectives. They are then responsible and accountable for those objectives.

"My method of operating, other than the decentralized type of management, is that I will spend most of my time in three areas: first, people - I spend a lot of time with people and people programs and people philosophy; second, planning; and third, implementation.

"I expect to spend a great deal of time, initially, in the field, meeting some of our key accounts, and also talking to those people who could be key accounts but are not today. I started out in sales, many years ago, then transferred to production management and finally general management. Having started out in sales, I am very much aware that we all must be good salesmen."

ON GROWTH

"We will be striving for 'leap-frog-type' growth. We'll pick out 10 of the most profitable

agribusiness firms in the United States and we're going to be in that top 10. And the kind of growth I'm talking about is growth for profits and not just growth for the sake of sales.

"Many times, co-ops have been efficient and have caused farmers to pay exorbitant prices in order for them to break even. You have to be efficient. There's no reason why Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative can't produce as efficiently as the top 10 percent in the industry.

"If we can do that, and turn around and sell those products back to the farmer at the same kind of prices that the publicly-held companies are doing - then the farmers are truly building themselves real equity in Farm Bureau Services and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative. And that's what we will do.

"I know that's not new - but maybe the new thing is that we're really going to take those words and make them come true, instead of just remaining themes in a magazine or brochure."

ON MARKETING

"I find in agribusiness, people produce and then get rid of, rather than determining what market they should be producing for. In this organization, we're going to determine what markets we want to participate in with what products and services - and then we're going to provide those products and services. And they're only going to be those products and services that are required and that will produce a profit.

"We've got to think about research and development of products and programs, and then present those products and programs so they will be acceptable to the buying community.

"Marketing is a weakness in the total agribusiness industry. Consumer-oriented businesses go out and determine what it is that somebody needs that they know they need, and also what they don't know they need, that can be produced and sold at a profit. That's what the agribusiness industry needs to do and that's what we need to teach farmers to do. I think we can not only be a marketing organization from the standpoint of marketing TO the farmer; I think we can market FROM the farmer."

ON IMAGE

"We don't have the greatest image in the world going for us right now because of our lack of aggressiveness. I want to communicate to the farming

community that we are going to be aggressive.

"We will want to build an image in the community of an organization that is going to be a leader. We are going to be creative in developing programs and products that the agribusiness industry needs that we can supply at a profit to this organization.

"This organization is no different than a publicly-held

company except in our own minds and the way we characterize it and think about it. We have stockholders, too, and they are the farmer-patrons and members of this organization. What I want to do is to make those people wealthy from the standpoint of equity they can gain in this organization, from the results we produce on a day-by-day, week-by-week, year-by-year basis."

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An Editorial View of the Candidates

'Good Laws Begin Where Good Lawmakers Are Elected'

*By Donna Wilber
Photos By Marcia Ditchie*

"The candidates elected in the 1980 November elections will be making daily decisions that will vitally effect agriculture. Good laws begin where good lawmakers are elected...."

So reads the policy on Michigan Farm Bureau's political action program (AgriPac) adopted by voting delegates to the 60th annual meeting in November 1979.

In making those daily decisions that will vitally effect agriculture, a working knowledge of the industry will cer-

tainly be conducive to developing "good laws." There are two key congressional races in the upcoming elections - in the 3rd and 10th districts - where AgriPac-designated "Friends of Agriculture" do have that working knowledge of the industry.

Since neither are incum-

bents, *Farm News* editors visited the two "Friends" and now share some personal observations about the candidates: Jim Gilmore, 3rd District (Barry, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent and St. Joseph counties), and Dick Allen,

10th District (Antrim, Arenac, Bay, Benzie, Clare, Clinton, Crawford, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Gratiot, Ingham, Isabella, Kalkaska, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Montcalm, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon, Saginaw, Shiawassee and Wexford counties).

Jim Gilmore: A Practicing Believer in Productivity

I had never, in my relatively sheltered life, met a real, live, big business tycoon before and judging from his impressive bio sheet, that's what Jim Gilmore is - owner and president of several radio and television stations, an auto dealership, an advertising agency, a real estate corporation and a farm, to mention just a few.

But I was determined not to stand in muted awe of this American-dream-come-true giant. I would be, after all, acting as a representative for all the farmers who would not have the opportunity to meet this relative stranger to the political scene, a man AgriPac, in its wisdom, had deemed worthy of the coveted "Friend of Agriculture" title.

I would be strong, I vowed, like a farmer, asking tough questions that would unveil any motives for personal gratification involved in his running for Congress. I would ask him, for example, whether he had just added the 2,000-acre Jim Gilmore Enterprises Farm to his string of holdings to gain the farm vote, an important faction in his district.

I would find out whether he was just a "gentleman farmer"

who used his other enterprises to subsidize his hobby. And I would challenge him to say (with world-famous people like four-time Indy 500 winner A. J. Foyt campaigning for him) that the "Friend of Agriculture" designation meant something special to him.

My vow to "be tough" lasted all the way from Farm Bureau Center in Lansing to the Gilmore for Congress headquarters in Kalamazoo...

...Until he shook my hand (you can tell a lot about a man by the way he shakes hands with a woman) and said, "I'm glad you came," and I believed that he really was.

...Until he explained, with pride, how the farm had started 20 years ago with about 600 acres, bought "on time," paid off from the farm profits and expanded as adjoining land became available. "Wait 'til you see our corn," he glowed, "It's over 7 feet tall!" (it was) ... "A good many years ago, when we started buying the land, the motivation was - we believed in farming. We still do."

...Until he said (without benefit of this reporter's tape recorder) to the MFN photographer as we toured the hog

operation, "This is where I really like to be...."

...Until he explained, "I understand what farmers go through... the lack of profits, the 7-day work week, the costs of production, the gambles involved, the dedication it requires, the good years and the lean ones, how the grain embargo has hurt us. I've worked all my life. I know how to meet a payroll, I know what it means to lose money. I know what it means to borrow money and what it means to be in the red. I'm a businessman - a businessman farmer."

...Until he listed some pretty down-to-earth reasons for wanting to be a congressman: "Because I think our country is in such a mess. I've only been in politics once and that was a 2-year term as mayor of Kalamazoo. I never thought I'd be doing this, but I think that business people, people in farming, people who really understand what it's all about, better get involved. We need to get back to some of the good basics, the sound practices (like a balanced budget) that we know will work."

"If I can bring anything to Washington, I think it will be



Jim Gilmore (R-Kalamazoo) has been designated a "Friend of Agriculture" by AgriPac and will be supported in his race against incumbent Congressman Howard Wolpe for the 3rd Congressional District seat. Gilmore (left) and his farm manager, Jim Kneller, check over one of the young residents of the Gilmore Enterprises Farm at Richland, which specializes in hogs and corn.

because I've worked like heck all my life. I'm not afraid of work and I know what it is to be down at the bottom and what is to be on top. I've got a great feeling for this country and a great belief in productivity."

...And until he related what the "Friend of Agriculture" designation meant to

him: "I think if I hadn't been endorsed, it would mean they didn't think we had a good farming operation or that I didn't understand agriculture. It meant a lot to me and I hope it will to other farmers, that they'll know I'm kind of part of what they're doing, that I can relate

(continued on page 15)

Dick Allen: Champion for Michigan Agriculture



"Friend of Agriculture" State Senator Richard Allen (R-Alma), endorsed by AgriPac for the 10th Congressional District race, is shown at the Gratiot County Fair receiving congratulations from his family (wife JoAnn, daughter Carri and son Lester) for winning the primary election. He, in turn, congratulates Lester for winning four ribbons, including Grand Champion, for his horse.

My first remembrance of the name Dick Allen still makes me blush with embarrassment, even though the intervening years have erased some of the red. I was editor and publisher of a low profit, high-visibility country newspaper and came on strong about citizens not only voting on election day - but voting knowledgeably.

We practiced what we preached in our house. With our daughter, local Teenage Republican president, actively campaigning for Bill Ballenger for 87th District representative, I knew when I cast my vote for him, I would be doing so knowledgeably... except that, being new in the community, I overlooked the fact that although our office was in the 87th District, our home was in the 89th. Therefore, it happened that in my voting booth line-up was this stranger named "Dick

Allen." Who's he? What now, my great crusading editor?

I don't know whether my one unknowledgeable vote had any impact, but Dick Allen became my representative. We got to know him well, even committing the unpardonable sin (for country editors) of editing down the "met, set and et" neighborhood news items to run a regular column authored by Rep. Allen. I liked his philosophy and he gained even more points than he already had earned by being our guest, rather than the more powerful neighboring daily newspaper, at the Michigan Press Association's annual legislative luncheon.

His support and editorial contributions didn't keep us from going bankrupt, but our paths continued to cross as he went on to become a Michigan senator and I returned to Farm

Bureau. He gained a reputation of being a champion for Michigan agriculture and I was always proud to say, "I knew him when...."

The reason Allen has been such an effective promoter of Michigan agriculture is because he is, himself, an active farmer and veterinarian. The family farm, located in Gratiot County, has been in the Allen family since 1854, and he and his wife and children live in the farm house that was originally built in 1867.

"Up until I decided to run for Congress, we had a pretty active farm operation, feeding about 500 head of cattle and farming the whole 500 acres under my general supervision," Allen explained. "We've phased down somewhat now and some of our cropland is rented this year."

(continued on page 15)

CAPITOL REPORT

By
Robert E. Smith

Petition Challenges Possible for Tisch and Smith-Bullard

The August issue of the *Michigan Farm News* Capitol Report Page outlined the four tax proposals that will be on the November ballot and the position of the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors. These are complex proposals and new interpretations and questions emerged after additional study.

The proposals have been certified by the state Board of Canvassers and each has been given a letter for designation on the November ballot. Proposal "A" has been assigned to the Smith-Bullard Plan; "C" to the Legislative-Executive Plan; "D" to the Tisch Proposal and "E" to the Tax Proposal for Prison Construction.

It is possible that the Tisch Proposal will be challenged in court as not meeting some of

the technical requirements for a petition.

The Smith-Bullard Plan may also be challenged as to whether enough ballot signatures were obtained on the petition. Certification is based on a statistical sample of 500 signatures. The result in this case was an 83.6 percent likelihood that there would be sufficient ballot signatures.

However, normally a second sample is drawn if that figure is less than 90 percent. The Board of Canvassers decided not to order the second sample because of the \$45,000 cost. In 1978 the State Police Bargaining Proposal was certified with only 60.6 percent chance of being accurate but it was not challenged.

Lower Drinking Age Proposal on Fall Ballot

Michigan voters will have another opportunity in November to make a decision on teen-age drinking. Known as Proposal B, it would lower the legal drinking age from 21 to 19 if passed.

This results from a petition that was started by Rep. Fitzpatrick, D-Battle Creek, to get the 19-year-old drinking question on the ballot. It was backed by a group known as Citizens for a Fair Drinking Age. The petition drive was dropped when the Legislature passed a resolution to put the issue before the voters.

Michigan lowered the drinking age to 18 in 1972 during the Vietnam War. In 1978 the voters put the drinking age at 21. Since that time the arguments continue that if a person becomes a voter at 18 and assumes all the other responsibilities of an adult, he should also have the opportunity to drink.

However, it has been shown by statistics from the Michigan State Police that while the 18 to 20 year olds may still be drinking, they seem to hesitate to drive because they know they can be in serious trouble.

Recent data indicates that drunken driving arrests among teens dropped more than 10 percent since the increase in the legal drinking age. At the

same time, while teen-age arrests were dropping, drunken driving arrests for other age groups rose 8 percent. Teen-age involvement in alcohol related accidents also dropped 11.5 percent for fatal accidents, nearly 18 percent for injuries and nearly 25 percent for property damage accidents. Drinking drivers in other age groups showed an increase in all these areas. It is not known whether the greatest decrease has been among the 18 year olds or among the 19 and 20 year olds.

The last time Michigan Farm Bureau voting delegates adopted a policy on this issue, it was decided that perhaps the best age for legal drinking would be 20 years, rather than 19, 18 or 21. The thinking seemed to be that at 20, young people cease to associate with those in high school so that there is not a "trickle down" effect into the lower age groups.

Traffic Safety Association leaders are urging that the current age of 21 be kept in effect for at least two more years in order to determine whether the dramatic drop of 21.5 percent in traffic accidents involving drinking drivers age 18 to 20 will continue, despite a nearly two percent increase in accidents in the same age group of non-drinking drivers.

Caution: Tisch Tax Prescription Hazardous to Economic Health

This proposal has been correctly described as a "meat axe" approach and a "prescription for fiscal disaster." There is no question that it is a tax cut for most people. However, upon thorough study, the MFB board strongly opposed the proposal as going too far, even to the point of total irresponsibility. The proposal also does not do what the general public has been led to believe. Some of the chief concerns are:

- Rolls back property assessments (SEV) to 1978. This may sound good but the effect on local government (county and township) revenues could be serious. Contrary to the impression most people and local officials have, the state would NOT be required to replace the revenue on the difference between the 1978 and 1980 valuations. One county checked showed that over 30 percent of its budget would not be reimbursed. Another county would lose over 20 percent. This kind of loss would also be true of townships. This means that sooner or later people would vote to raise the millage in order to replace the portion of property tax revenues that would not be refunded by the state. Many rural areas could raise considerable more millage before reaching the 50 mill constitutional limit.

- The assessment rollback apparently does not apply to farms enrolled in P.A. 116. This can cause serious problems as time goes on.

- The tax cut does not apply to taxes for paying bonded debts, therefore, millage rates for debt would have to be doubled or perhaps tripled depending on the local effect of the SEV rollback and reducing the 1978 SEV to 25 percent of true cash value.

- It appears that non-residents, big business, speculators and land developers would be the big winners. In many counties more than half of all property is owned by non-residents, many of them outside the state or country. It appears that renters would not receive relief under this provision.

- The additional tax reduction on principal homesteads by one-half for those with taxable incomes between \$5,000 and \$10,500; elimination of property tax for those with taxable income of less than \$5,000; and exemption of homeowners over the age of 62 from paying property taxes for school operation. The Legislature must provide "comparable relief" for renters for these three provisions. However, the word "taxable" could result in evasion of taxes by those with large incomes from

tax shelters, tax free securities, or even transferring the homestead to a non-working spouse.

- While no new tax can be imposed on the principal homestead, new taxes could be imposed on all other properties which could include farmland because new tax is defined as "any tax not devised, specified, identified, or titled, and which was not in effect when the amendment is adopted."

- Some of the above provisions also mean that the individual would have to prove to the assessor his income and age by income tax forms, birth certificates, etc., and whether they have lived in the homestead for at least 183 days. Separate assessments would have to be made for principal homesteads when the land around the homestead exceeds on acre. Therefore, farmland would have to be assessed separately from the homestead portion of the farm.

- While the proposal does put into the constitution certain agricultural exemptions for personal property such as those used for production, it also abolishes other exemptions. Such previously exempt property would become taxable under Tisch and would include inventories, such as crops stored for sale, which were just recently exempted for businesses; motor vehicles, which includes farm pick-ups and trucks; agricultural trees; shrubs; vines; and crops. This possibility is extremely important to cash crop and fruit farmers because until Farm Bureau got that exemption, fruit trees were being assessed for as much as \$9 each with similar assessments on bushes, vines, etc. Grain in elevators would be taxable again. Private and commercial forest lands, beet sugar, properties of various kinds of non-profit organizations such as 4-H, Girl Scouts and similar groups. The courts will probably have to make numerous decisions.

The proposal requires the state to reimburse local governments for lost property taxes, except for those amounts required to pay for debt and lost revenue resulting from the difference between the 1980 and 1978 SEV rollback. It also requires the state to match all property taxes, dollar for dollar, with no control when the people decide to raise the property tax rate by vote.

This means that the people might raise their property tax rates because of the opportunity to get more state money. In those areas where rates were not raised, the people would in effect, be paying for those who do. Of the total \$2.7 billion or

more that would be lost, the state reimbursement would amount to about \$2 billion to begin with. The other \$700 million plus would be lost for local government. In addition, it is estimated that at least another \$600 million would go to Washington as increased federal income taxes, and some federal matching monies would also be lost.

The fact is that presently with the restrictions in the proposal, the state would not be able to refund the \$2 billion to local units of government. The total state budget gross is about \$10.3 billion. From this amount must be subtracted transfers, federal aid and other non-state financing along with budget stabilization fund financing. This cuts the total state budget to a little over \$7.8 billion.

The Headlee Amendment to the constitution already requires 41.6 percent minimum to go back to local governments for a variety of purposes which costs over \$3.3 billion. School employee retirement, state employee retirement, civil service commission, transportation and general obligation debt services would all have to be paid under constitutional requirement. This cuts the real state budget to about \$3.5 billion.

The more than \$2 billion necessary to pay for the Tisch proposal would cut the state budget for all state programs such as the Department of Agriculture and higher education, to \$1.5 billion. These are the latest and most accurate figures available.

Section 3c of Tisch appears to mandate that all existing benefits, including those for social welfare, cannot be "reduced or diminished" unless by four-fifths legislative vote. This means that these programs, rather than being cut, would have top priority and a large percentage of the \$1.5 billion available for all state government would go to welfare.

It would not be possible to make up the necessary monies because the Tisch proposal requires that the "Legislature shall not impose any new tax... or increase the rate or broaden the base of any tax in effect in 1978 including fees, licenses, permits, special assessments, etc., without a 60 percent approval of the voters in a general election which is held every two years. In other words, 41 percent of the voters could thwart the will of 59 percent of the voters. It does not appear, however, that local government could increase taxes by the imposition of fees,

(continued on page 11)

For New Generation of Ag Leaders -

Kellogg 'Sequel' Starts This Fall

The Kellogg Farmers Study Program, which operated from 1965 through 1973, and provided Michigan agriculture with a "bank" of effective leaders and articulate spokesmen, now has a sequel scheduled to premiere this fall.

Called the Michigan Agricultural Leadership Program, the two-year study and travel activity will be developed and coordinated by Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service and Department of Agricultural Economics.

A select group will participate in this leadership training program, which will include seminars on political science, economics, sociology, communications, philosophy, history and education, as well as national and international travel experiences.

From nominations received from Extension field personnel, agribusiness firms, farm organizations, Kellogg farmers and civic groups, 30 persons will be selected to receive fellowship awards that will cover the major portion of the program travel cost.



DR. GORDON GUYER

written through private contributions from organizations, businesses and individuals interested in agriculture and rural Michigan.

Each participant in the program will pay \$3,000 tuition (\$1,000 the first year, \$2,000 the second) for an \$8,000 fellowship. The remaining two-thirds will come from private contributions. Although Kelsey reports that contributions aren't coming in at the same pace as nominations, both he and Dr. Gordon Guyer, director of the Cooperative Extension Service, are confident they will.

"Basically, a fellowship would be \$5,000," explained Dr. Guyer. "There are certain organizations in Michigan, we're sure, that have the capacity to provide at least one or more fellowships, and the funding can be spread out over 1980-81-82, so it's not a one-shot deal. We believe they will look at their contributions as the 'blood in Michigan's agricultural veins' that is going to have a positive impact on the future of this state."

Who Will Speak for Farmers?

To insure the continuation of the agricultural leadership development program, smaller contributions from individuals and organizations are also being encouraged in addition to funding of full fellowships. Contributions in support of the program are eligible for immediate state and federal income tax benefits. Those wishing to make a contribution should contact the Department of Agricultural Economics, MSU, Agriculture Hall, East Lansing, Mich. 48824.

"We're operating on the assumption right now that the program is going to go," said Dr. Guyer, "and that one way or another, we're going to get the funds to do it. If Michigan agriculture is going to maintain its leadership role in the next decade, we've got to find a new generation of leaders.

"We feel this program is the best way to make that happen because we've seen what the young Kellogg scholars did - making contributions to their industry and communities, their involvement in key organizations like Farm Bureau, their involvement in key pieces of legislation and on key committees," he said.

"Either we're going to surface this new generation of leaders and get them involved so we can have talented young people speaking out for Michigan agriculture - or we're going to see coalitions and groups of people, who don't necessarily share our priorities and values, speaking for us. It's just that pure and simple!" he concluded.

Surfacing and training this new generation of leadership for agriculture, helping rural people make decisions on public issues - decisions that will shape the future of Michigan's agriculture and rural communities - is the objective of the Michigan Agricultural Leadership Program, just as it was with the Kellogg Farmers Study Program.

According to Kelsey and Guyer, much of the support and encouragement for the new leadership program has come not only from organizations that have benefited from the leadership of former Kellogg program participants, but from the Kellogg farmers themselves.

Farm Bureau leaders who were involved in the Kellogg program attest to that:

David C. Farley, Albion - My involvement on community, state and national levels... can be attributed directly to my being a participant in the Kellogg program. Having been selected for the program, I was identified as a person with potential. Having participated in the program, my abilities were developed to a greater extent. Furthermore, I still feel an indebtedness that can be repaid only through service... I am enthused about the resumption

of agricultural leadership development programs at Michigan State University.

Michael Pridgeon, Montgomery - I strongly support the concept of the new MSU Michigan Agricultural Leadership Program... The Kellogg Farmers Study Program was the greatest educational experience of my life. I am sure that it broadened my viewpoint on many issues, and also gave me a greater appreciation of our American socioeconomic and political systems. More than ever, I am convinced that our system of government is the greatest in the world, but people need to be involved, such as in organizations like Farm Bureau, in order for our government to be effective in serving people.

Richard Leach, Saginaw - If we are going to have leadership from the agricultural and rural communities, people who are aware of what's going on in our world and will have a positive impact, we must have leadership training programs such as this. When you talk about leadership - that puts you in a class with every other industry and it puts you in politics, in situations where you make things happen. We are no longer "the guy down on the farm with bib overalls who spouts off to his neighbor." We need the expertise to know how to communicate effectively.

Jack Laurie, Cass City - I fully support the development of MSU's new leadership development program. You simply can't operate a successful industry without a continuing supply of good leadership. And agriculture can't assume a leadership role in our world today if farm people hide their talents under a bushel, isolated from the rest of society. The Kellogg program exposed people, like myself, to other areas of our society, to different interest groups, and helped

make me understand why other people don't always understand or agree with our position. That's an important part of leadership development.



MIKE KELSEY

According to Mike Kelsey of the MSU Agricultural Economics Department, over 100 nominations have already been received.

To be eligible, nominees (male or female) must be successful farm operators committed to farming as a chief means of livelihood, or be agribusiness persons committed to continued involvement in Michigan agriculture. Participants should be in the range of approximately 25 to 35 years of age and have demonstrated some leadership potential.

Other than the addition of women and agribusiness people as participants, the major difference between the Kellogg Farmers Study Program and its sequel is the funding. This time there is no substantial grant from the Kellogg Foundation and the program will be under-

MSU Receives Research Grant From USDA

Michigan State University received a \$70,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for research on biological stresses on plants.

The ultimate goal of the research supported by this program is to reduce losses in plant productivity from damages caused by biologically generated stresses, which arise from interaction with other plants or

with other biological agents such as weeds, insects, nematodes, fungi, bacteria, viruses and mycoplasma-like organisms.

Twenty-two competitive research grants for over \$1.2 million were awarded to support basic plant research and five grants will fund research into genetic mechanisms for crop improvement.

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- St. Johns
- Traverse City



Between You and Me

By Judy Kissane
1980 Michigan Farm Bureau
Outstanding Young
Farm Woman



August is Kids' Month

Some of the unwritten laws governing the conduct of children are the most generous. Take, for instance, the time honored rule that August is kids' month.

Picnics, 4-H fairs, slumber parties, swimming, sleep outs and late morning sleep ins - all are generously mandated in the closing days of summer.

Sometimes though, the strain of meeting even those lax demands can make children cross and restless. Instead of chasing butterflies or pursuing other idyllic summer pastimes, they resort to pestering one another or, at the peak of restlessness, their parents.

"We're bored... There's nothing to do," they complain. Those are the times I fervently wish to change places. Nothing, it seems, could be more attractive than having "nothing to

do for an afternoon or two."

It is, I think, another unwritten rule that moms and dads must take a full share of the anxiety before a first 4-H fair showing and, of course, some of the excitement of bringing home a blue ribbon.

Although it took a lot of talking to convince our son, Kevin, that everyone would be looking at his pigs, not him, we were all nervous about his first 4-H show. Proud and excited, he brought home three blue ribbons for his market hogs and photo exhibit.

As Kevin begins his involvement with 4-H, I am looking forward to the personal growth he will achieve through leadership training and developing qualities that will help him as an adult. I'm sure that many of today's farm leaders started as 4-H members.

There are also the more practical reminders of how quickly children grow. As I plan school purchases, I realize that they are all growing through the toes of their shoes and their legs are two inches longer than their favorite pair of Levis.

But somehow everyone will be brushed, scrubbed and ready for the first day of school in new shoes and stiff new denim jeans.

The new school year signals a return of schedules and blessed routine. After three months of unorganized living, we will have to develop a workable routine quickly or we'll never survive September.

September also signals the beginning of an important time in our Farm Bureau activities. In the weeks prior to county and state annual meetings, the policies for the coming year will be developed by Farm Bureau members throughout the state.

Now is the time to be thinking of suggestions you would like to submit as policy recommendations and as the official policy of your county, state or national Farm Bureau organization.

Let your voice be heard in your farm organization. Contact your county Policy Development Committee to share your ideas and recommendations.

What's Happening

SEPTEMBER

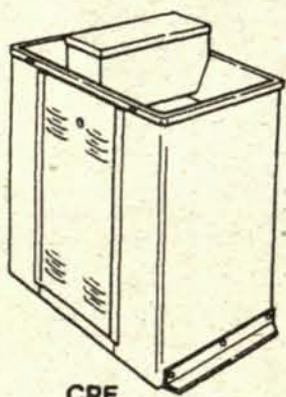
Sept. 9	District 5 Policy Development Meeting	Steffen Room, Farm Bureau Center, 8 p.m.
Sept. 9	District 7 Policy Development Meeting	4-H Bldg., fairgrounds Fremont, 8 p.m.
Sept. 9	District 8 Policy Development Meeting	Mirror Room, Midland Community Ctr., 8 p.m.
Sept. 9	Monroe County Annual Meeting	Monroe County Fairgrounds
Sept. 10	District 1 Policy Development Meeting	Van Buren Co. Farm Bureau Office, 8 p.m.
Sept. 10	District 10 Policy Development Meeting	Holiday Inn, Graying 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 11	District 4 Policy Development Meeting	Kent Co. Farm Bureau Office, 8 p.m.
Sept. 15	District 11W Policy Development Meeting	North Crystal Falls Township Hall 7:30 p.m. Central Time 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time
Sept. 16	District 11E Policy Development Meeting	Garfield Twp. Hall Engadine, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	Lenawee County Annual Meeting	Adrian College, 7 p.m.
Sept. 25	District 9 Policy Development Meeting	Cadillac State Bank Buckley Branch, 8 p.m.
Sept. 25	Bay County Annual Meeting	Charbonneau's Restaurant Pinconning, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 25	Tuscola County Annual Meeting	Caro High School Caro, 7 p.m.
Sept. 30	St. Clair County Annual Meeting	Community Building Goodells, 7 p.m.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1	Charlevoix County Annual Meeting	Whiting Park, Boyne City, 8 p.m.
Oct. 1	Gratiot County Annual Meeting	Contact county secretary for location and time
Oct. 1	Sanilac County Annual Meeting	Sandusky High School Sandusky, 7 p.m.
Oct. 2	Clare County Annual Meeting	Church of the Brethren Brown Corners, 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 2	Kalkaska County Annual Meeting	Carol's Restaurant (2 miles south of M-72 on M-66), 7 p.m.
Oct. 2	Washtenaw County Annual Meeting	Farm Council Grounds Saline
Oct. 3-4	Mall Display	Woodland Mall Grand Rapids

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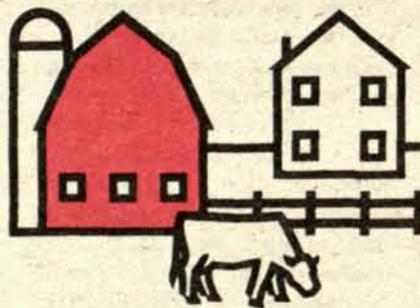
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Remus	517-967-8358	Petoskey	616-347-3260
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Scottville	616-757-2594	Scottville	616-757-3359
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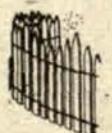
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1980 State P.D. Committee Appointed

The 1980 Michigan Farm Bureau Policy Development Committee has been appointed. The committee is charged with compiling and analyzing policy recommendations adopted by members at county annual meetings and will present its recommendations to voting delegates at the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in Kalamazoo in December.

State Policy Development Committee members and the districts they represent are:

District 1 (Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties) - Roger Carr, a hog and cash crop farmer from Burr Oak in St. Joseph County, who is serving his second year on the committee.

District 2 (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee counties) - Jay Landis, a dairy and cash crop farmer from Homer in Calhoun County.

District 3 (Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties) - Ralph Setzler, a poultry farmer from LaSalle in Monroe County, who is serving his second year on the committee.

District 4 (Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent and Ottawa counties) - Tom Guthrie, a dairy farmer from Delton in Barry County.

District 5 (Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham and Shiawassee counties) - Donald Hill, a fruit grower from Montrose in Genesee County who is serving his second year on the committee.

District 6 (Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola counties) - Gene Rinke, a cash crop farmer from Capac in St. Clair County who is serving his second year on the committee.

District 7 (Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana and Osceola counties) - Daryl Peterson, a fruit grower from Ludington in Mason County who will serve as committee vice chairman.

District 8 (Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw counties) - Lyle LeCronier, a cash crop farmer from Freeland in Bay County.

District 9 (Benzie, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee, Northwest Michigan and Wexford counties) - Donald Mitchell, a fruit grower from Lake Leelenau in Leelanau County.

District 10 (Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Otsego and Presque Isle counties) - Margaret Kartes, who operates a dairy farm with her husband near West Branch in Ogemaw County.

District 11 (Upper Peninsula) - Edward Johnson, a dairy farmer from Daggett in Menominee County who is serving his second year on the committee.

Representing the MFB Young Farmers are Glenn Preston of Quincy, Boyd Beyersdorf of Hemlock and L. C. Scramlin of Holly.

MFB Women will be represented on the committee by Jan Stoner of Jones, Polly Diehl of Dansville and Edna Edbrooke of Fremont.

At-large committee members from the MFB Board of Directors are committee chairman John Laurie of Cass City, Donald Nugent of Frankfort and Bill Spike of Owosso.

Johnson Named to National Live Stock Board

Earl Johnson, president of the Michigan Live Stock Exchange, vice chairman of the Michigan Beef Industry and member of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association executive board, has been named to the board of directors of the National Live Stock and Meat Board for a three-year term.

The National Live Stock and Meat Board represents every

link in the marketing chain that moves beef, veal, pork and lamb from farm and ranch to the American consumer.

Funds from the industry support Meat Board consumer marketing, research, education and promotion programs.

Johnson operates a cattle feeding and farming operation near Otisville in Genesee County.

Leadership, Wrinkles and Such

(continued from page 2)

News award-winning photographer Marcia Ditchie did her thing.

This was a mistake - leaving my pad and pen in the car, I mean. When it came time to note the names of Dick's family members, the only thing I could come up with out of my purse to handle that job were an eyebrow pencil and the notice for my paps test. Now really, that would never happen to Dan Rather! Viva la difference, you say? Thanks for that.

There's a certain plateau that women reach where some of the differences are magnified. It's that plateau when men get distinguished-looking and women get grey. And it's that time between youthful "laugh

lines" and old "character sketches" when those things have to be recognized for what they are - wrinkles. It's difficult to say that word, let alone look in the mirror and find them multiplying!

But, the indispensable ding-dong lady has come to the rescue with a new product called Time Control, a temporary, 8-hour wrinkle-remover. Well, I bought a bottle, but the word "temporary" has me scared, I haven't tried it yet. There aren't too many 8-hour days around here and I have visions of my wrinkle-free face suddenly disintegrating in the middle of an interview. Can you imagine the look on the interviewee's face if that happened? Makes me laugh just to think about it!

Which reminds me - wish I

hadn't laughed so much in my younger days. Now I have all these laugh-lines and they keep slipping. Laughing knees - who needs 'em? (Sigh) Hey, now I know where to do a patch-test with Time Control!

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Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Michigan Farm Radio Network Honor 'Farmers of the Week'

Eaton County Woman Selected for Recognition As First Female Farmer of the Week



BETTY LETSON

Betty Letson of Charlotte was selected Farmer of the Week for the week of July 21 in recognition of her contributions to her community and Michigan agriculture. Letson, a widow, is the first woman to receive the award in the five and one-half year history of the Farmer of the Week program.

The weekly award, which honors farmers in Michigan, is sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group.

The weekly award, which honors farmers in Michigan, is sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group.

Letson, who has been farming for nearly 30 years, is a cash crop farmer. She currently farms 400 acres with her son-in-law, Mark Smuts.

"I've always loved farming," said Letson, the mother of five children. "I love the independence, the decision making and working out in the fields."

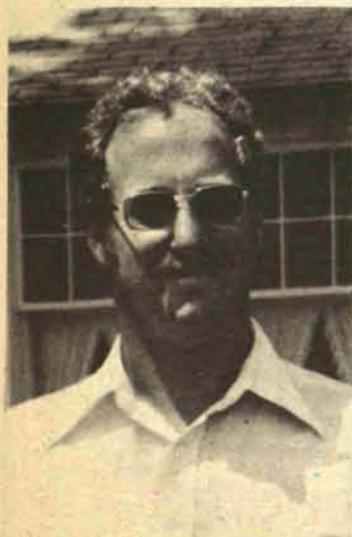
Despite her busy schedule with the farm, Letson serves as treasurer of Benton Township, treasurer of the United Brethren Church of Christ in Charlotte and serves as a trustee on the church board. A member of the Eaton County Farm Bureau, Letson also served as a Sunday School teacher in her church.

She and her late husband were named Outstanding Young Dairy Couple in 1965 by the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

Recipients of the Farmer of the Week award, who are selected by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and FBIG, are chosen for the quality of their farming operations and for their contributions to the community and Michigan agriculture.

In addition to Letson, the Farmer of the Week award recipients for July 1980 were:

Week of July 7 - David Dirkse, 36, a blueberry farmer from Nunica. He farms 100 acres, 33 of which are devoted to growing blueberries. Dirkse is a current member and past president, secretary and director of the Michigan Blueberry Association; member of the Second Christian Reformed Church of Grand Haven; past elder and deacon of the Fruitport Christian Reformed Church; member of the Ottawa County Farm Bureau; and recipient of production awards from the Michigan Blueberry Association in 1974 and 1975, based on the quality and volume of his blueberry crop. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children.



DAVID DIRKSE



RICHARD LAUWERS

Week of July 14 - Richard Lauwers, 45, a dairy farmer from Capac who farms over 400 acres and milks 90 cows. He is president of the Church Council of St. Nicholas Catholic Church; serves as president of the St. Clair County Farm Bureau; serves as local market committeeman for the Michigan Milk Producers Association; served on the local MMPA board for several years; is a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association; served on the local school board for 12 years, including three years as board president; and was named Soil Conservation Farmer of the Year in 1968. Lauwers and his wife, Carol, have five children.

Week of July 28 - Fred Jousma, 39, a dairy farmer who milks 40 cows and farms 450 acres near Bruce Crossing. He serves as president of the local Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative and vice president of the Copper Country Farm Bureau; is a member of

the local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Committee; serves on the board of directors of the Copper Country Dairy; serves as a volunteer fireman; and is active in the foreign student exchange program and in the child foster care program. He is also a past president of the Copper Country Farm Bureau. His wife, Ann, is active as a spokesperson of the Copper Country Dairy, is involved in Farm Bureau legislative action programs and is a regional representative for the Michigan Farm Bureau. The Jousmas have three children.



FRED JOUSMA

Windish Appointed to FBIG Position

Deborah Windish, an employee of Farm Bureau Insurance Group since 1969, has been appointed the company's director of Personnel and Administrative Services.

In her new position, Windish will direct the activities of several departments, including personnel services, purchasing, mailing and supply, word processing and human resources development. She will also be a member of the FBIG corporate staff.

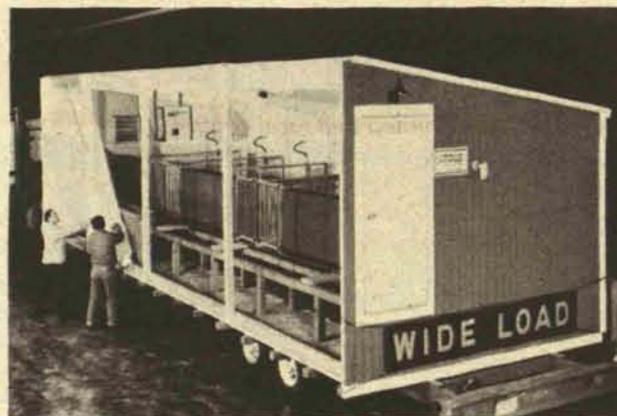
Prior to her recent appointment, Windish was manager of the Property-Casualty Operations Department. She has also served FBIG as a computer programmer and analyst and manager of procedures and methods.

Windish graduated from Michigan State University in 1974 with a degree in psychology and has achieved a designation in administrative man-



agement from the Life Office Management Association. She is currently enrolled in a comprehensive course of study leading to the CPCU (Chartered Property-Casualty Underwriter) designation, the most prestigious designation in the property-casualty insurance industry.

Residents of Lansing, Windish and her husband, Michael, have two children.



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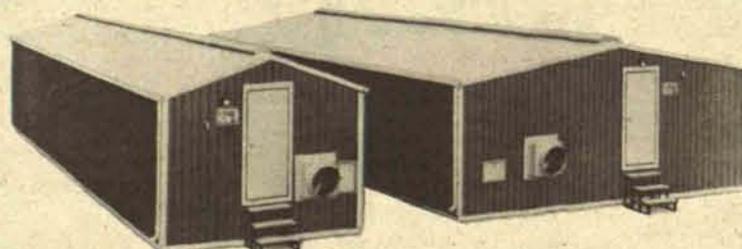
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More Capitol Report

(continued from page 6)

licenses, various charges, etc.

Income tax credits and exemptions could not be reduced, nor could the school aid formula be changed except by a four-fifths vote of the Legislature. In the case of the school aid formula, the Legislature is presently delaying the approval for 1980-81 because of this provision and budget problems.

State government is also slashing expenditures because of the present recession. The cuts have been nearly one-half billion dollars. Many of the cuts affect farmers, school districts and other important public services. The state will have a deficit of \$180 million for the 1979-80 budget year. All the money put aside for a "rainy day" has been used.

Many questions will arise if Proposal D passes. Would the state be able to return part of the lost revenue to local units of government or would the courts determine a priority for state spending? What happens to local control? How would programs for farmers and rural areas fare?

Smith Bullard - Proposal A

This proposal would cut the present 50 mill tax limit to 24.5 mills, 13 mills of which would be allocated in the constitution, thus eliminating the present local control on the allocation of local property tax. The other 11.5 mills could be voted on as allocated in the proposal.

It creates a statewide property tax of up to an additional 30.5 mills for all property except homestead and "family-owned and operated farms." According to MSU data, 30 percent of all farmland is operated by renters, 90 percent of which is owned by retired farmers and widows. This means that the farmland could be subjected to the statewide property tax.

Total taxes for the statewide property tax could total 55 mills.

The revenue from the statewide property tax would be used for schools.

The state income tax would also be raised at least 2 percent from the present 4.6 percent to 6.6 percent.

The state could also increase the Single Business Tax.

K-12 school costs, except for seven mills voted tax, would be paid entirely by the state. This would be phased in over a five-year period. The seven mills would not be equalized as at present. Wealthy areas would have a considerable advantage.

Voters could approve a local income tax of up to 1 percent in lieu of any portion of the seven mills voted tax for school

enrichment.

The proposal mandates a "program of general state taxation and a method of distributing funds to ensure equal per pupil state financial support..." for general operations less the seven mills of local tax. At the same time, the higher cost school districts are assured no less than they were spending!

At a meeting in Lansing on Aug. 18, fiscal experts said that in order to meet the requirement of "equal per pupil" funding it would be necessary to have equal teacher salaries throughout the state which would lead to statewide bargaining.

A spokesman for the MEA was at the meeting and said that statewide bargaining is their goal. He also said that this would result in "portability of teachers." This means that teachers with seniority could bump other teachers with less seniority from their jobs anywhere in the state.

MEA spent \$59,000 or more to get the Smith-Bullard Proposal on the ballot. They have also announced that they intend to spend at least \$250,000 to get it passed.

It is claimed that local control is protected in the proposal. All it says is that the Legislature shall provide for "...the election of boards of education of local school districts. Each board shall be responsible for the employment of personnel and the educational programs and services for the pupils of its district." Can there be local control with state control of funds and statewide teacher bargaining?

The Michigan Association of School Boards is opposing the Smith-Bullard Proposal as is the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Japanese Farmer Cooperative Joins North American Plant Breeding Co-op

The Farmers Forage Research Cooperative, a plant-breeding organization owned by regional farm cooperatives in the United States and Canada, has accepted a Japanese cooperative, Zen-Noh, as its 17th member.

Zen-Noh serves five million Japanese farmers through 5,000 local cooperatives and markets 95 percent of the country's rice crop and provides 65 percent of Japan's fertilizer.

FFR, headquartered in West Lafayette, Ind., has five research stations located throughout the United States. It maintains 14 professional plant breeders whose goal is to develop improved varieties of forage crops, corn and soybeans.

Farm Bureau Services, Inc., is a member of FFR, and at the cooperative's West Lafayette facilities, testing of new seed

varieties specially adapted to Michigan conditions are continuously researched. John Saxon, sales manager of the FBS Supply Division, is a member of the cooperative's board of directors.

The goal of FFR is to develop improved varieties of farm crops. Because of the diverse geographic locations of FFR members, testing is accomplished under a wide variety of geographic and environmental conditions. Research is also conducted on factors such as fertilizer, weed chemicals, insecticides, planting methods and cropping sequences.

In commenting on Zen-Noh's decision to apply for FFR membership, H. Takamatsu, the firm's New York representative, said his company is looking for "technical excellence on a continuing basis in the breeding of improved varieties."

FFR seed varieties are grown and distributed only by the farmer-owned regional cooperatives who operate in 37 states and in Ontario, Canada. In Michigan, Farm Bureau Services distributes forage and soybean seeds.

Robert Smith Elected President of MAR

Robert E. Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau senior legislative counsel, has been elected president of the Michigan Association of Regions.

Smith, who also serves as vice chairman of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and as president of the Livingston Intermediate School District, was elected to the executive position at the annual conference of the statewide association in July.

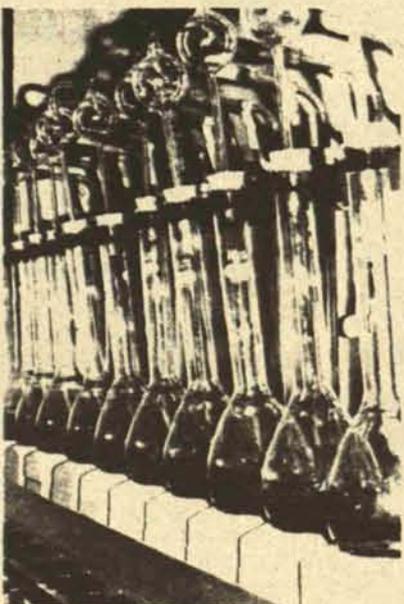
The Michigan Association of Regions serves regional planning agencies throughout the state. The association fosters regional planning and cooperation and deals with legislative

issues concerning regional matters.

"In the past year, the Michigan Association of Regions has made progress in maintaining local home rule. Regional agencies like the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and the other MAR members keep control close to the people.

"We need this kind of local cooperation between neighboring governmental units. It does not matter if you are as big as the city of Detroit or as small as Fowlerville - my years of experience have proven to me that there are some things you just cannot do alone," Smith said.

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David Woods Named First Member of The 65 Club™

Lenawee County Member Honored By American Cyanamid Co.

David Woods, a corn and soybean producer from Britton and a member of the Lenawee County Farm Bureau, has been selected as the first member of a new club that honors American farmers as the most efficient in the world.

The 65 Club™ sponsored by American Cyanamid Co., derives its name from the fact that the average U.S. farmer now produces food and fiber for 65 persons at home and abroad.

One farmer will be recognized each month during the next year for his record of achievement as an agricultural producer, his leadership in agricultural and community affairs and his successful practice of sound farm management principles, including the safe, proper and judicious use of chemicals and other modern production tools and techniques.

Woods and his wife, Rita, farm 1,200 acres in Lenawee County, specializing in corn, soybeans and wheat. For the past two seasons he was the top corn producer among members of the Michigan Corn Growers Association, with average yields of 175.43 bushels

per acre in 1979 and 196.1 bushels in 1978.

Robert Bergland, secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, congratulated Wood on being the first to receive the award. "Since the farmer 65 Club has been established to recognize the fact that the American farmer is the most productive in the world, Mr. Woods is to be commended for achieving this recognition.

"The American farmer has reached a point where he now feeds 65 people through his or her efforts and through his high level of productivity has become a major factor in the agricultural export trade picture. This is a great tribute to the farmer and to the agricultural industry working together with government to set new records for achievement."

Woods received a certificate of membership in The 65 Club™ at ceremonies in Gov. Milliken's office in July. He will also receive a year's membership in the Agriculture Council of America.

All major farm producing areas in the United States will be represented among the members of The 65 Club™



Michigan Gov. William G. Milliken, left, presented a certificate to David Woods of Britton, as the first member of The 65 Club™ honoring outstanding American farmers for their individual contributions in producing food and fiber for 65 persons at home and abroad. Mrs. Woods is at right. The recognition program is sponsored by the American Cyanamid Co.

Emphasis will be placed on the major field crops, such as corn, soybeans, cotton, wheat, sugarbeets, potatoes and tobacco.

American Cyanamid and the Agriculture Council plan to further honor the first twelve members of The 65 Club™ and

their spouses at the 1981 Ag Day Celebration in Washington, D.C.

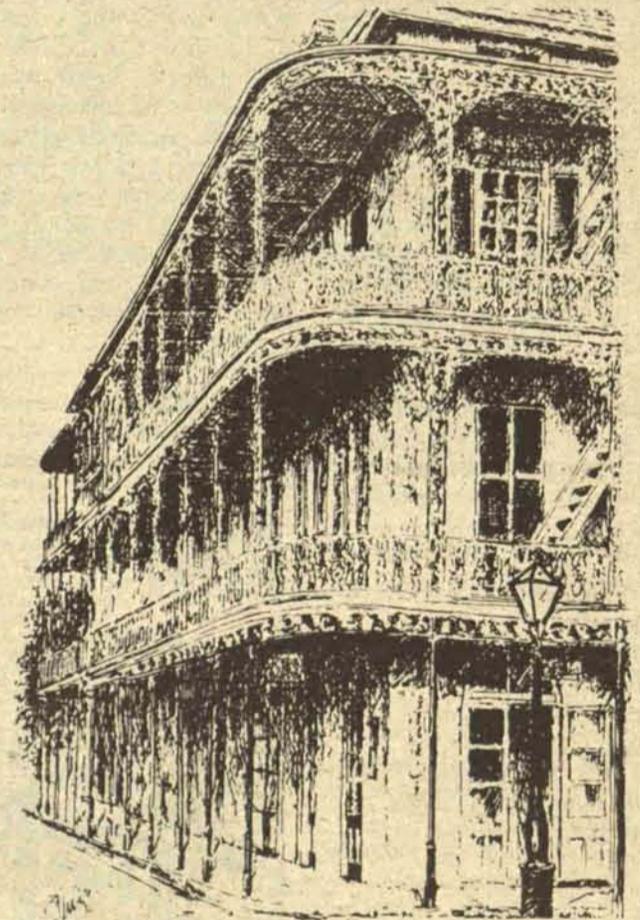
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Member Leadership: Combination of Gumption and Dedication

It takes more than dedication if members are to establish themselves as thoroughly involved leaders in their cooperatives.

There are other important considerations - things like commitment and confidence and just plain gumption and guts.

That was one of the messages coming through loud and clear in a wide variety of sessions at the American Institute of Cooperation's National Institute on Cooperative Education held in August at Pennsylvania State University.

Member leadership emerged as one of the most widely discussed topics at this year's institute held under the theme "Cooperatives - Keystone of Agriculture."

Bill Turner set the tone for the institute in his keynote address, drawing on the theme to declare that "cooperatives are people; cooperatives are the keystone of agriculture; so, it follows that people are the keystone of agriculture."

"Dare to be a builder," challenged Turner, a professional speaker and lecturer who, until recently, was director of public relations with Land O'Lakes, Minneapolis, Minn.

"Leadership and farmer involvement can mean the difference between a good cooperative and a bad cooperative," he said. "Cooperatives have been built on dreams."

Members themselves identified what they consider to be major stumbling blocks to progress of their cooperatives. Near the top of the list was the failure of members to get involved in cooperative affairs.

That's where the gumption and guts qualities come into

play, said Susan J. Ellis, director of Energize, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.

Ellis, conducting a workshop on volunteerism, urged that members become involved to help remove easily identifiable obstacles to cooperative growth, such as lack of clarity

in communications, skepticism, insufficient motivation and stagnation.

Gerald R. Pepper, a self-proclaimed "co-opaholic," identified the member as the most important keystone in the cooperative.

"We need cooperative mem-

bers who know the climate. We need cooperative employees with the knowledge of the members' needs and the talent to satisfy them," said Pepper, executive director of the Iowa Institute of Cooperation in Ames.

"We need cooperative lead-

ers with the vision to see a bigger picture," he said.

He stressed that cooperatives should be working together "because it is in the best interest of their members to do so." He said reasons for working together range from common sense to survival.

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Farm Bureau Services, Michigan's largest farm supply and marketing cooperative, has members throughout Michigan. Farmers have recognized their cooperative's progressive growth and potential over the past 50 years.

During the past 30 years, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative has grown to become Michigan's largest farm petroleum supply co-op. FPC pioneered such items as Agrihol and custom diesel fuel. FPC's partial ownership of crude oil properties and refinery operations has ensured a more dependable flow of petroleum products to the farm.

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Thunder Bay Co-op Wins Tire Trophy

Employees of Thunder Bay Co-op won the Top Tire Team Trophy award for their outstanding sales in a contest sponsored by Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.

The three-month contest was open to FPC dealers within the state. The Top Tire Team Trophy is awarded to the co-op with the largest increase in tire sales over the previous year during the same three months.

This was the second statewide tire sales contest; another contest is scheduled for this fall.

Thunder Bay Farmers Co-op was organized in 1952 as a petroleum cooperative to serve Alpena County farmers. The cooperative offers a full line of petroleum products and complete service station facilities in Lachine.

Ethanol Energy Balance Studied by MSU Researcher

By Bob Ofoli

(Editor's Note: This article is based on a master of science thesis study researched by the author.)

Because of the shortage of petroleum fuels, ethanol has assumed a new importance as a potential liquid fuel replacement for gasoline in the United States.

Its suitability for automotive fuel has long been established, however, a popular indictment against it is that its production consumes more energy than the product contains. This study examined that claim.

The study focused on three areas: a survey of biomass as an energy feedstock and the conversion process that can be employed; the production of ethanol, which examines the various processes of distillation, fermentation and saccharification; and an energy balance analysis of ethanol production, the central focus of the study and this article.

The study was designed to establish an energy accounting method to portray the input and output energy relationships of fuel ethanol and its by-products, to derive the energy balance of ethanol production, to discuss methods of improving the energy balance and to provide a reference on ethanol production processes.

The Production Process

Figure 1 illustrates the production process for corn. The grain is ground and mixed with water to form a slurry. The slurry is cooked, and appropriate enzymes are added to convert the starch to sugar. The resulting mash is fermented, using suitable yeast strains, to produce a beer. The beer (usually 8 to 12 percent alcohol concentration) is then distilled to the desired proof and denatured if necessary.

Distillers grains, a by-product of alcohol production, may be removed from the system after saccharification (the conversion of starch to sugar), after fermentation, or after distillation. The point of withdrawal will depend on the equipment used, and the completeness of the preceding process.

Carbon dioxide is released during fermentation. This is a result of the chemical reaction of fermentation.

Boundary and Method of Analysis

A net energy analysis procedure was used to analyze all processes in a boundary that encloses the corn production farm, transportation from the farm to an alcohol plant and the alcohol plant (Figure 2).

Inside the boundary, the items analyzed include: for the farm - field operations, on-farm transportation, machin-

ery, labor fertilizers, energy for drying the corn crop and energy for repairs; off-farm transportation - trucks, equipment and fuel; and for the alcohol plant - process energy, energy for drying distillers grains, yeasts, enzymes, chemicals (for pH control), electrical energy, machinery and equipment. Outputs analyzed from the alcohol plant are ethanol, carbon dioxide and distillers dried grains.

Characteristics of the Model

Corn is used as the feedstock and is grown specifically for ethanol production. It is assumed that the distillers grains are the only valuable by-product of the process; i.e., no commercial use is made of the carbon dioxide resulting from the fermentation process.

Solar energy which drives the plant's photosynthetic processes is taken as a free source of energy. Also the energy content of the corn (known as its heat combustion) is neglected in this study because no one currently burns corn to produce energy; for the same reason, the heat of combustion of the distillers grains by-product is neglected.

The study is based on an industrial scale alcohol plant producing anhydrous (200 proof) alcohol and dried distillers grains. It is assumed that the plant produces at least one million gallons of alcohol per year. A further assumption is that 2.5 gallons of ethanol is produced per bushel of corn and that the process also yields 16.8 pounds of distillers grains and

14.8 pounds of carbon dioxide.

Results and Analysis

To determine the energy value of the distillers dried grains and solubles (DDGS) by-product, the following process was used.

DDGS contains 28 percent protein while soybean meal (SBM) contains 45 percent. The resulting ratio of the two protein contents is 0.54 (28%/45%). However, according to ruminant feeding trials at the University of Nebraska, the protein in DDGS is 1.37 times better utilized by ruminants than that from SBM. This is because DDGS provides a naturally protected protein source for ruminants.

When this use efficiency ratio is multiplied by the protein ratio of 0.54, a new ratio of .85 is obtained.

In other words, for ruminant feed, one pound of DDGS will replace 0.85 pounds of SBM in terms of protein value and utilization. The energy of one pound of DDGS is, therefore, the energy it would take to cultivate and process enough soybeans to provide 0.85 pounds of SBM.

The results of the study are summarized in Table 1. The net result is that by using irrigated corn, alcohol provides 8,700 Btu/gal more energy than was used to produce it; while using dry land corn provides 16,600 Btu/gal more energy than was needed to produce the alcohol.

This latter result is more typical of what commercial plants using Michigan corn can

Table 1
Total Energy Analysis (Btu/gal)

Inputs	Irrigated Corn	Dry Land Corn
Farm sector	37,600	29,700
Off-farm transportation	4,100	4,100
Alcohol plant	68,300	68,300
TOTAL (A)	110,000	102,100
Outputs		
Ethanol	84,600	84,600
Distillers dried grains (10% moisture)	34,100	34,100
Carbon dioxide	-	-
TOTAL (B)	118,700	118,700
ENERGY BALANCE (B-A)	+ 8,700	+ 16,600

Table 2
Premium Fuel Analysis for Ethanol Production (Btu/gal)

Inputs	Irrigated Corn	Dry Land Corn
Farm sector	37,600	29,700
Off-farm transportation	4,100	4,100
Alcohol plant	68,300	68,300
TOTAL (A)	110,000	102,100
Outputs		
Ethanol	84,600	84,600
Distillers dried grains	-	-
Carbon dioxide	-	-
TOTAL (B)	84,600	84,600
ENERGY BALANCE (B-A)	- 25,400	- 17,500

expect.

Perhaps a more important question to address is whether producing ethanol depletes our premium fuel resources. The term premium fuel, as used here, describes any fuel that is very versatile in the ways it can be used, and its ease of transportation in its original state. Fuels that qualify under this definition include petroleum, natural gas, propane, methanol and ethanol, but do not include coal or biomass prior to processing.

Table 2 provides the results of a premium fuel analysis for ethanol production. As can be seen the ethanol production process uses up more premium fuel than it yields: a loss of 25,400 Btu/gal for irrigated corn, and 17,500 Btu/gal for dry land corn.

The situation need not cause too much alarm, however, since it can be corrected by using such non-premium fuel sources as coal and biomass to produce ethanol.

(continued on page 17)

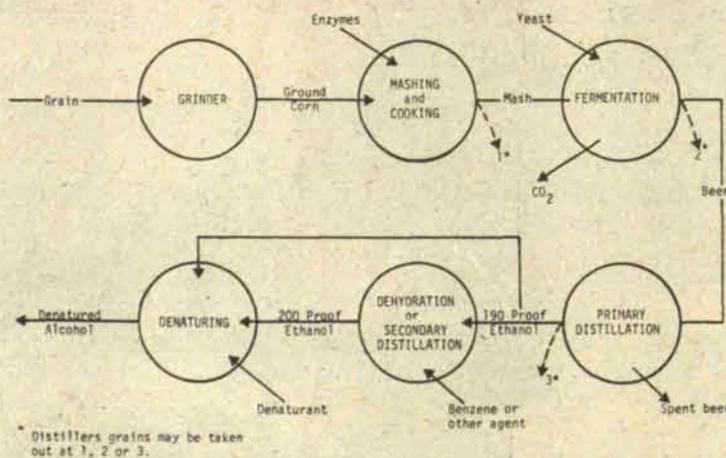


Figure 1 - A flow diagram for ethanol production.

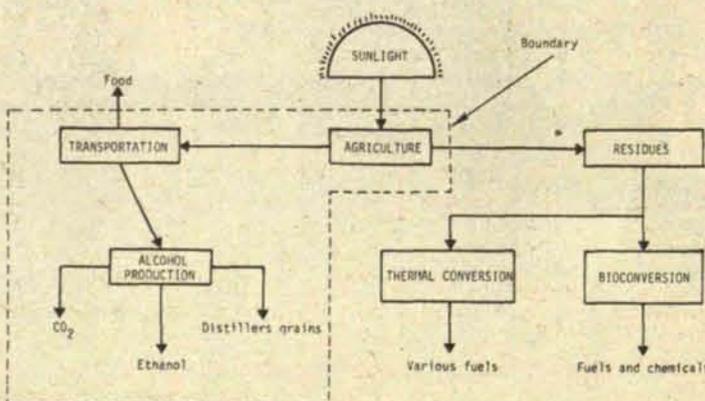


Figure 2 - Boundary of analysis.

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Dick Allen

(continued from page 5)

Why is he running for Congress? Directly put (which is his style), he thinks he can do a better job than the incumbent. "I just really feel that the district could be better represented and that I have the background and experience to do that."

His accomplishments in the Michigan House and Senate give credence to that statement. He has, for example, led the fight on the Senate Appropriations Committee for adequate funding of all agricultural research, Extension, disease control and the MSU College of Agriculture. He helped develop the state agricultural export program and has been a prime mover of local land use planning to preserve essential farmland.

He recognized the threat of pseudorabies to Michigan's pork industry and secured appropriate control legislation. He worked for property tax relief and farm exemption from the Single Business Tax and he's recognized as the legislative leader for gasohol.

This support of agriculture during his four years in the House and five years in the Senate made him well-qualified for the title of "Friend of Agriculture," but there was also another factor that AgriPac members considered when they made their selection.

They believe that if Dick Allen is elected, he will be appointed to the Agriculture Committee in the U.S. Congress; that would be a real plus for Michigan agriculture.

Dick Allen thinks so, too, and has been working toward that goal. "I've been talking to Michigan Republican congressmen and others from the Midwest and telling them - look, I'm a veterinarian and a farmer; I've had 10 years experience on the House and Senate agriculture committees and the Appropriations Committee on Agriculture in the Michigan Legislature. I think my farm background and experience are going to land me in that vital position," he predicted.

(Congressman Allen, member of the Agriculture Committee. . . . It will be hard not to turn into a name-dropper. . . . "Sure I know Dick. He used to write for my paper.")

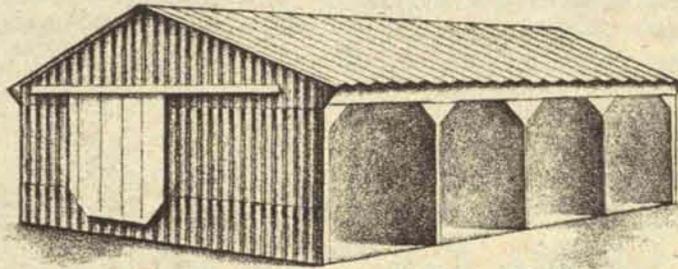
Jim Gilmore

(continued from page 5)

to them and I hope they can relate to me."

Well, that completely disintegrated any remaining traces of my "tough." Although Jim Gilmore isn't in my district, he still gets my vote as a first-class gentleman and a great American. Too few are talking about, and practicing, productivity these days.

Fixing The Hole In Your Roof Doesn't Have To Put A Hole In Your Pocket.

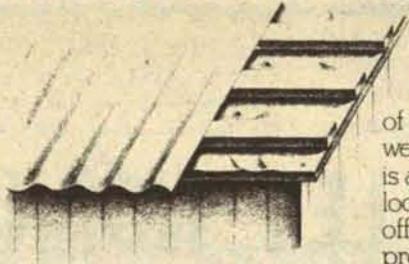


With all the expenses farmers have to worry about these days, excessive roofing costs need not be a problem. Because now there's Easy-Cover™ the new roof designed especially by Onduline™ for farmers who want to save money by doing the job themselves. And even if you've never put up a roof before in your life, Easy-Cover can quickly put you right on top of the job.

EASY-COVER GOES UP AGAINST JUST ABOUT ANYTHING. EASILY.

Easy-Cover was designed to meet a variety of building needs on the farm. It's the perfect roofing material for barns and sheds, for stables and poultry houses, for tool sheds and fertilizer storage. In fact, Easy-Cover can handle any job from a beautiful roof for the finest home to siding for a backyard shed. And whatever use you make of it, Easy-Cover makes the job easy. Just like the name says.

If you can hang a door or run a fence, you can install Easy-Cover. First off, it's lightweight, easy to handle, easy to work with. And the free Easy-Cover estimator takes the guesswork out of getting started. Then the free



Easy-Cover installation guide shows you how to start. Your dealer has copies of both. But don't let the ease of the job fool you. What we're talking about here is a beautiful, professional looking roof. A roof that offers all the traditional protection of high quality

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WHATEVER BUILDING MATERIAL YOU'VE USED IN THE PAST, EASY-COVER CAN TOP IT.

Another thing that makes Easy-Cover special is that in a lot of cases, it can be installed right over the old roof. Think what that means in terms of time and energy saved, as well as in increased insulation value for your farm buildings. And Easy-Cover won't crack, peel, chip, rot, or rust, all of which makes it perfect for stock and crops, machinery, and other farm applications.



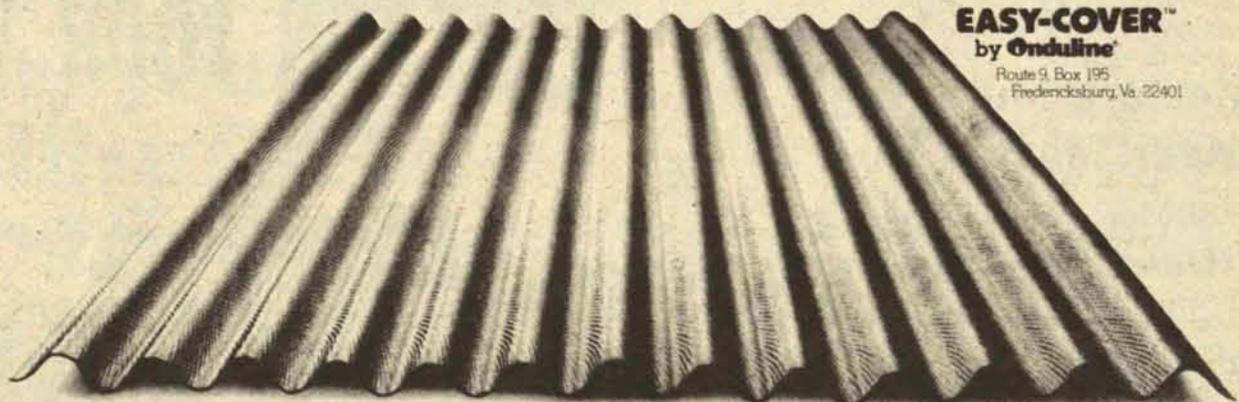
ALL OF A SUDDEN THE DO-IT-YOURSELF PROJECT HAS STARTED TO LOOK UP.

Because doing-it-yourself is so much easier with Easy-Cover, you will always save yourself a tidy sum on whatever job you undertake. Even for little projects like planter beds and woodpile sheds and mini-barns. And especially on big jobs like houses and stables. In fact, you'll end up saving in labor costs just about what you end up spending for material. And that's been the standard in roofing for years.



When you use new Easy-Cover™ and do it yourself, you can finish an entire roof for half the cost of a professional roofing job.

All of which makes Easy-Cover the perfect roofing and siding material for times like these. Times when money is tight, and busy farmers have neither the help nor the extra hours that used to be required for doing this kind of work yourself. Now, with Easy-Cover, it just got a whole lot simpler. For the name of your nearest local dealer or farm cooperative, call toll free 800/447-2882 (in Illinois 800/322-4400). He'll show you a great way to use your head while putting a roof over it.



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Chesaning	Chesaning Farmers Co-op	517-845-3042
Conway	Drayton Farm & Garden Supply	616-347-8360
Elkton	Elkton Co-op Farm Produce Co.	517-375-2281
Fowlerville	Fowlerville Co-op	517-223-9115
Gladwin	Gladwin Pro Farmers Supply	517-426-4540
Harrisville	Alcona Seed Producers Assn.	517-724-6702
Herron	Wolf Creek Farm Bureau	517-727-2391
Kalamazoo	Farm Bureau Services, Inc.	616-381-0596
Kent City	Kent City Farm Bureau	616-678-5021
McBain	Falmouth Co-op Company	616-825-2483
Mt. Pleasant	Farm Bureau Services, Inc.	517-773-3670

Rothbury	Rothbury Hardware & Farm Supply, Inc.	616-894-8590
St. Johns	St. Johns Co-op	517-224-2381
Traverse City	Farm Bureau Services, Inc.	616-946-5836
Williamston	Producers Co-op Elevator Co.	517-655-2161

(Some items may not be stocked at all participating dealers, but are available and may be ordered.)

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

Small But Mighty Toy Tractors Fun for All Ages

The furious buzzing of model airplane engines drew spectators to an exhibit tent at the Kalamazoo County Fair, Aug. 20, where members of the Michigan Mini Pullers Association made final adjustments on 1/16 scale models of farm tractors.

Mini tractor pulls, using scaled down models of farm tractors that have been modified and equipped with gear train and model airplane engines, are a new enthusiasm among a growing number of Michigan hobbyists.

Toy or mini tractors are built

using the basic toy farm tractor, but once it leaves the shelves of the local department store or hardware, the hobbyist goes to work. The toy tractor will be cut, adjusted and tested until the model is ready for a "pull through" performance in competition.

Rear construction and the axle of the original toy tractor are cut away in the first stage of the modification leaving only the seat platform. Tires are remounted with a gear train which has been assembled using rectangular aluminum tubing, gear shafts and plastic gears.

Ahead of the gear box a .049 - .051 cubic inch displacement model airplane engine is mounted to the underside of the tractor body. "Original equipment" tires are pared down and smoothed on a lathe to gain better traction on the smooth surface of the competition track.

Most modifications can be done using equipment available in a home or farm machine shop. Tools for building and adjusting engines are not difficult to find or expensive. Ordinary small scale hand tools can be used.

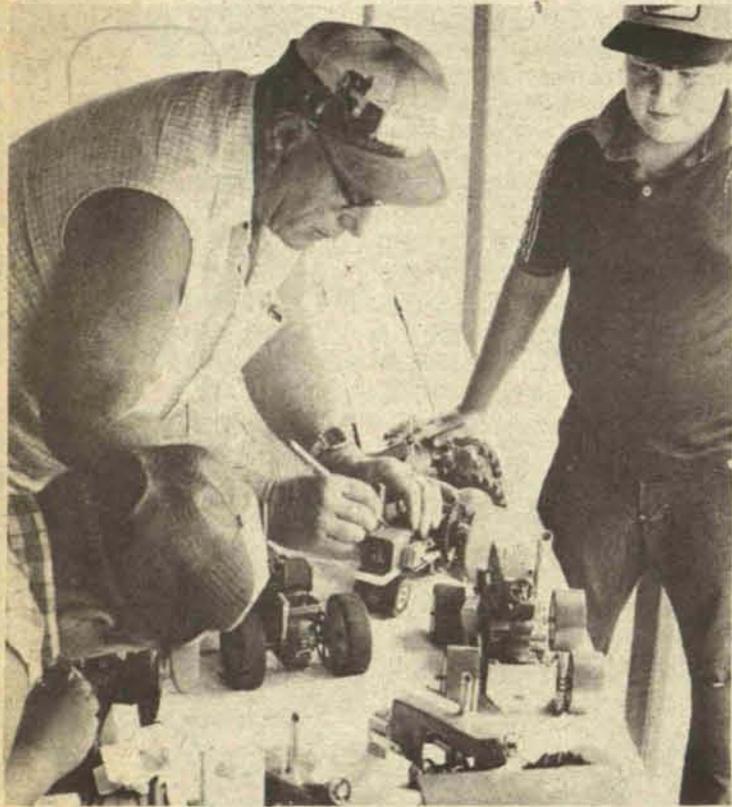
Kits or ready made modified toy tractors can also be pur-

chased. Although they are dubbed "factory tractors" by the hobbyists, these modifieds are constructed in the same way as the "do it yourself" modifieds. A beginning investment of \$200 will get the novice puller into competition with a purchased "factory tractor."

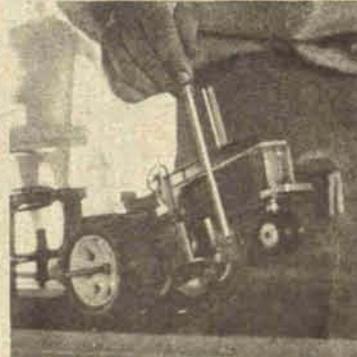
There is interest in having more official pulls during the year, said association member Steve Gazdag of Kalamazoo. But since most pullers are farmers, busy schedules make regular meetings difficult to attend, particularly during summer months, he said. Through the association, however, members are notified of scheduled pulls and they share information about suppliers, engine performance tips and new modification ideas.

Dues for membership in the Michigan Mini Pullers Association are attractively priced: simply show up at an official association mini pull competition, pay the entry fee for the pull and you're in! There are no other fees for membership. Names and addresses of competitors are kept on record to be notified of the next toy tractor pull or meeting.

Since fascination with motorized toys has no age limit, none has been imposed on membership or competition. It's not uncommon to see a three generation pit crew at work consulting, advising and tinkering with the pins, gears and motors of those fabulous mini pulling machines.



There's no generation gap for mini pull hobbyists. This pit crew - grandfather and grandson - work together to build and fine tune mini tractors for competition.



Modified toys pull many times their weight in competition.

Despite the small size of the models, toy tractors pull surprising weights in competition. Tractors are classed for competition in four weights: 3 lbs., 4 lbs., 5 lbs. and 6 lbs. and over. Pull weights vary by class from 40 lb. to 72 lb. loads.

Official pulls are organized by the Michigan Mini Pullers Association twice a year and are conducted under an established set of rules for equipment and competition.



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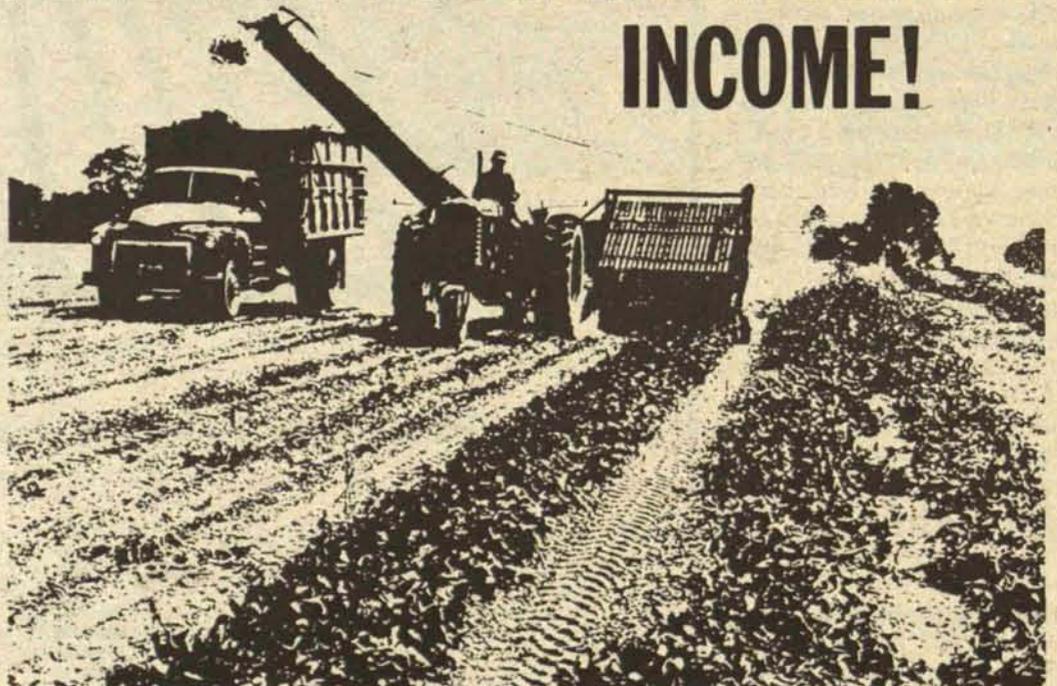
The tire that carries the most weight with farmers - literally - to get them in and out of the fields in a hurry!

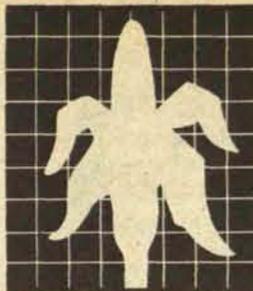
	Weight	Member Price With FET
15.5-38/6	189	\$262.06
16.9-26/6	172	\$228.81
16.9-38/6	224	\$361.11
18.4-26/6	179	\$264.37
18.4-34/6	221	\$337.89
18.4-38/6	249	\$398.29
20.8-38/8	316	\$608.58

Rice & Cane Combine Tires

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**AGRINOMIC
UPDATE '80**

Report of the Commodity
Activities & Research Department

Economists Forecast 1980-81 Beef Outlook

"For the rest of 1980 and into the first quarter of 1981, things are looking profitable for cow-calf cattle producers, but for stockers, feeders and packers, the short-term outlook is a bit shaky," said Robert Craig, manager of Commodity Activities and Research at Michigan Farm Bureau.

That was also the consensus of four top livestock economists at a "cattle cycle forum," sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation in August.

Participating in the forum were Glenn Grimes, professor of agricultural economics at the University of Missouri; Dr. Wayne D. Purcell, professor of agricultural economics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Dr. Robert J. Reiersen, agricultural economic consultant and former corporate economist for Monfort of Colorado; and Dr. Edward Uvacek Jr., livestock marketing economist and associate professor at Texas A & M University.

For the next three or four years, the cow-calf operator should be in a profitable position, but cattle feeders will face slim profits due to excess finishing capacity, Craig said.

Cattle feeders will probably bid profits from higher finished cattle prices into feeder prices, according to the economists.

Craig said that the July 1 cattle inventory report issued by the USDA on July 28 showed that the 1980 calf crop is up 6 percent over last year. While the national livestock economists questioned the accuracy of the increase, they agreed that the 1980 calf crop is larger.

"The latest cattle inventory figures confirm that indeed producers have begun a new cattle cycle," Uvacek said. "The inventory showed 4 percent more cattle, 6 percent more beef cows and 2 percent more heifers being held for beef cow replacement than a year ago."

While the expansion phase of the cattle cycle is normally a profitable time for cow-calf producers, Purcell stressed that financial management is the key to profitability in the future.

Producers must become more knowledgeable of industry trends to their particular cattle enterprise, Craig said.

While a cow-calf operator may wish to expand his herd, he must avoid letting his cash-

flow deteriorate by maintaining too many heifers in his herd that will not produce income for two years, Purcell said.

Profits will be limited by the time the retained heifers produce calves for sale because the national herd will have expanded, Purcell said.

Grimes concurred and suggested that the best way to increase a herd at this time is to buy cows and bred heifers.

The economists agreed that the current rate of growth in the national herd is large, based on the July 1 report, and the industry will be in trouble if this rate of growth continues for several years.

They said that a less than 2 percent rate of growth in beef cow numbers for a period of several years could be tolerated but that a rate of growth in excess of 2 percent for several years would mean trouble, given the outlook for beef demand.

In reviewing beef prices for 1980, the economists agreed that the excessively large supplies of pork had a marked ef-

fect on beef prices. The current year's supply of red meat and poultry is at an all-time record high.

The consumers preference for beef in 1980 did not change, but the excessive supplies of pork and poultry caused the consumers to switch to the lower priced items, the economists said.

The outlook for 1981 is for pork supplies to be down about 10 to 15 percent and poultry supplies down about 2 to 3 percent, they said.

It is expected that higher consumer income in 1981 will provide substantial support for beef prices.

Reiersen said that the expected level of consumer income will be conducive to expanded beef sales in 1981.

The indications are that in 1984 or 1985, there could be an excessive oversupply of red meat if the beef and pork cycles peak at the same time, similar to the situation that occurred in late 1973 and early 1974.

Beef and pork producers must do a better job of managing herd expansion to avoid glutting the market with price depressing supplies of red meat, the economists said.

They reported that the cattle cycles peaked in 1945, 1955, 1965, 1975, and based on current conditions, the next cycle peak is likely to come in 1985 or 1986.

While Grimes does not expect the demand for beef to grow rapidly as it did in the 1960s, he expects a slow, steady growth in demand in the

1980s because of increasing consumer disposable income and a slow rate of growth in population.

Uvacek indicated that government nutrition education programs, changes in beef grading standards, increased government regulations and continued expansion of government transfer payments (Social Security, food stamps, etc.) will also effect the demand for beef.

Reiersen said the retail price spread was relatively narrow during recent months. He expects this spread to widen in the coming year, which will temper increases in beef prices at the farm level.

Purcell said that the cattle cycle is caused by the management decisions of cow-calf producers. For the producer to be profitable in his operation, he must be an innovator in his decision making rather than a follower.

The decision of a single producer will not have any great impact on the industry, but when most producers make the same decision at the same time, the end result is overproduction, the economists said.

"The economist livestock forum approach to monitoring the cattle cycle is a pilot project and could be expanded to include other commodities, such as hogs, if it proves helpful to producers.

"The forum will meet again in early 1981 to review the cattle situation and track the developments of the cattle cycle," Craig said.

Ethanol Energy Balance Studied

(continued from page 14)

Solar energy can be used for some of these processes, whenever it is available, to reduce the premium fuel demand. However, its uncertain availability makes it a dubious source of energy for alcohol production on a commercial basis in the near future without a lot of expense on storage mechanisms.

Conclusions

An analysis of total energy inputs and outputs shows that the production of ethanol yields more energy than it requires.

A premium fuel analysis shows that ethanol requires more premium fuel to produce it than the fuel contains. However this situation can be corrected by using sources of energy other than premium fuels for the alcohol plant processes. For example, using coal for producing ethanol allows the fuel to yield 3 and 2.5 times more premium energy than it requires for dry land corn and irrigated corn, respectively.

Because of its uncertain availability, solar energy has promise only in terms of complementing other process energies like biomass and coal which can be used to replace all scarce fossil fuel inputs, except possibly in some parts of the farm sector.

ARTHRITIS

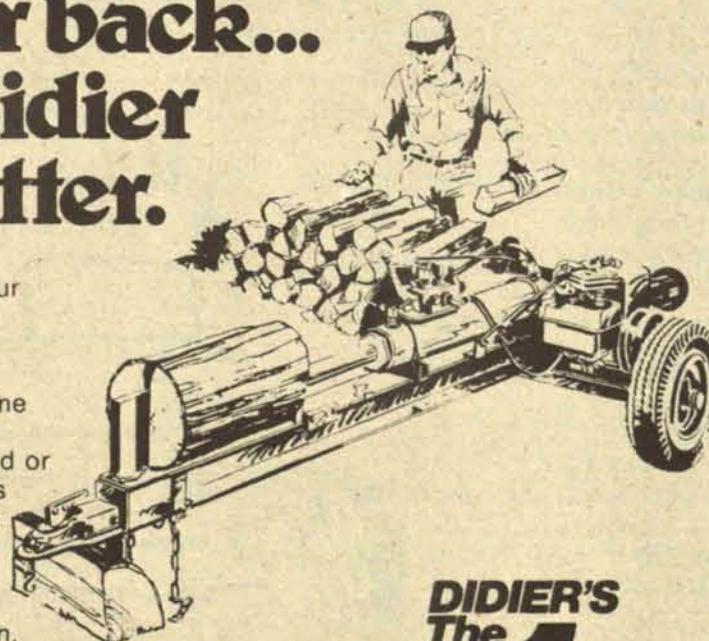
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Where Your Farm Comes First
**Farm
Bureau**
FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC

Do You Really Want George To?

DISCUSSION TOPIC

by **KEN WILES**
Manager, Member Relations



(Editor's Note: We have all heard the expression, "Let George do it." It was with that expression in mind that this article was written. Any similarity between the George mentioned in this article and an actual George, living or dead, is accidental.)

Meet George

George doesn't really need an introduction... everybody knows him. But you have probably never met him. The reason for this is that George is always where you are not - at meetings of the school board, the county board of commissioners, the township board meeting, Farm Bureau meetings, at important hearings, political conventions, etc. He is there every time you decide to stay home and "let George do it."

George Speaks Up

One thing about George is he is very vocal. And when George speaks, people listen. Why? Because all too often he is the only person there to speak up.

His views, his interests, his philosophies might be just the opposite of yours, but you can't really find fault with that. After all, this is a free country and we do have freedom of speech.

George gets things done. He gets them done his way because he gets involved. He has learned that action makes things happen.

Confused

If George has one fault, it is that he doesn't always do his homework. He has trouble with overview, long-range effects and the total impact of any proposed action.

Those things are all a bit beyond George's limitations. So whatever serves his own immediate self-interests is the best, regardless of how it will affect his community, his state or his nation.

He is Tired

George is tired and it's no wonder. He's on the go constantly because so many people decide to "let George do it."

George is so tired he often forgets what you told him when you asked him to speak on your behalf. He is so tired he fell asleep during the last meeting.

If you depend upon letting George "do it" for farmers, you will be disappointed. He's more apt to do it to farmers.

Do It Yourself

Every Farm Bureau member has become a member through choice. However, just being a member is not sufficient. Every Farm Bureau member should express himself, make his wishes known and take an active part in determining the direction of the organization - county, state and national.

The structure of Farm Bureau embodies the concept and purpose of the organization - betterment of farm families, community, state and nation by

free individuals working voluntarily together. This structure enables every policy to be a decision of the majority of the members, either by their own vote or by a vote of their elected representative.

When a member lets George do the talking and voting for him, he has given up rights - the right to make his voice heard, the right to make his vote count, the right to complain because the decision was not to his liking.

Majority Vote

A fundamental principle of Farm Bureau's strength is an adherence to decision by majority vote. Up to the time that a decision by vote is made, every member has the right to oppose a motion or a proposed policy, to work against it as vigorously and vocally as he wishes and to seek to convert others to his point of view.

Once a proposal has been decided by a vote of the majority, however, it becomes a decision of every member of the organization. Each organization must speak with one united voice if it is to be heard and be effective in carrying out its policies. No one listens very long to a babble of conflicting voices.

What Are Policies?

Farm Bureau operates through policies developed and carried out by its members. A policy is simply a statement of an idea, a belief, a method or



a plan. Added together, these policies become Farm Bureau's goal for the coming year.

Policies may be philosophical statements, or ideas or they may be concrete blueprints for action. They may be problems of farmers or problems of all citizens; they may be community problems or international problems; or they may be goals and methods of reaching them.

Policies express Farm Bureau members' fundamental ideas on community, state or national issues. Policies state the philosophies of Farm Bureau - the principles of the Christian faith, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution of the United States. These are the yardstick by which lesser proposed policies are measured. But, George has no such yardstick.

Don't Let George Do It

Don't let George do it for you. If you do, he may do it to you. Remember, you can never really depend on which way he may hop on an issue.

No one can speak more effectively for Farm Bureau members than the members themselves. This is because they know the course they want to chart for their farm organization - Farm Bureau. Unlike George, they have analyzed the issues and they are knowledgeable in how the issues affect agriculture.

Within the next few weeks, county Farm Bureaus will be holding their annual meetings. It will be at these meetings that official county policies are adopted. It will be at these meetings that recommendations are adopted which concern state, national and international issues. It is at these meetings where every member can, instead of letting George do it, have a voice and a vote in determining Farm Bureau policies.

The process of developing Farm Bureau policy charts a clear course of well defined goals for the coming year. It assures members that Farm Bureau will march forward toward well considered, carefully chosen objectives outlined by policies which they, the members, have initiated, studied and decided on.

But remember, the route of the march will be determined only by those who speak and vote for themselves. Don't let George be your spokesman or cast your vote.

Items For Discussion

County Farm Bureaus have the resources and structure to be leaders in solving local issues of concern to members. Farm Bureau members should be actively involved in advising county boards of local issues and recommending solutions. For discussion purposes, name local issues or problems of concern. Limit your list to only county or township issues, do not include state or national issues.

Farm Bureau Market Place

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: One free non-commercial 25-word ad per month per membership, additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12x16 or \$12.50 count as one word. **NON-MEMBER and ALL COMMERCIAL advertisers:** 15

cents per word one edition, two or more editions, 10 cents per word. Copy deadline: 13th of month. Mail classified ads to Michigan Farm News, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, MI 48909. Publisher reserves right to reject any advertising copy submitted.

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WANTED: New Idea single row cornpicker. Phone 517-523-2803 evenings. Pittsford, Michigan. (1-f-11f)

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WHITE 1755 diesel 1975 cab. Low hours, \$7,000. IH 101 combine bean special cab, chopper, extra nice. IH 5x16 plow. Phone 313-629-6481. (8-2-22f)

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FOR SALE: MF-300 Diesel Combine, 13' grain head, 2x38 corn head, loaded with extras, almost new. Just over 300 hours - \$18,000. Case 830 Diesel Tractor, wide front 3 pt. hitch, live hydr., P.T.O., and 18.5x38 tires - \$4,000. Oliver 6x30" dry fertilizer planter, excellent condition - \$1,200. 2,500 bu. grain bin, partially assembled - \$1,100. For more information call Kalamazoo after 5:30 p.m., 616-381-8450. (9-3-25f-33p)

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REGISTERED ANGUS - Yearling bulls & heifers, club calves. Write or call Neona Farm, Neal Fetkema, Ewart, Michigan 49631. Phone 616-734-2579. (2-f-19f)

GRADE HORSES are real scarce. Buy a purebred Arabian from the Lannens at Fife Lake, MI 49633. Phone 616-369-2271. (6-f-19f)

PERFORMANCE TESTED ANGUS, quality registered Angus breeding stock and club calves. Contact Bordner Angus Farms, 68730 County Farm Rd., Sturgis, Michigan 49091. Phone 616-651-3456. (12-f-24f)

MILKING SHORTHORNS - Young bulls, yearlings and calves for sale. Write or visit Stanley M. Powell and Family, Ingleside Farm, R.R. 2, 3248 Powell Hwy., Ionia, Michigan 48846. (12-f-28f)

REGISTERED & GRADE HOLSTEIN BULLS for sale. Complete records, Clarkstead Holstein Farm, 819 Tamarack Road, Pittsford, Michigan. Phone 517-567-8626. (2-f-19f)

FINNISH LANDRACE SHEEP - purebreds and crosses with either Suffolk-Columbian-Targhees-Rambollett-Montadale. Lee Breasbois, 9780 Garfield, Freeland, Mich. 48623. Phone 1-517-695-5692. (7-12-18f)

DUROC BOARS & GILTS and bred gilts. Aggressive and productive. Bred gilts are bred to \$2500. Magic brand, everyday sale day. Jim Preuch, 517-467-2874, Route 1, Orsted, Mich. 49265. (8-f-25f)

FOUR REGISTERED MORGANS top blood lines 7211 South Stony Creek Road, Monroe, Mich. 48161. Phone 313-242-3983. (8-f-16f)

FOR SALE: 6 Registered Suffolk Ewes, good breeding stock, will sell open or bred. John and Becky Osterle, phone 517-655-3388. (9-1-20f)

FOR SALE: Grade and Registered Draft Horses. Phone 616-924-4518. (9-1-11f)

DUROC AND YORK BOARS & DUROC GILTS FOR SALE: Durocs sired by Michigan Premier Sire. Half brothers to Res. Champion boar at Michigan 1980 Duroc Show. Mark Palmreuter, Vassar, Michigan. Phone 517-823-3745. (9-1-25f-6p)

CORRIEDALE SHEEP - Registration available. Craig R. Adams, 14368 Jackson Road, Tekonsha, Michigan 49092. Phone 517-767-4250. (9-6-15f)

REGISTERED ANGUS BULL, 14 months old, Black Revolution breeding, \$800 or will exchange for calves. Roland Cook, 1315 Stillman Road, Mason, Mich. Phone 517-349-2007. (9-1-24f)

STAMP'S DUROCS - Big, sound, aggressive confinement raised boars and gilts. PRV free. Guaranteed. Group rates. Visit or call Tom Stamp, Decatur, 616-423-7508. Delivery available. (9-1-24f)

FOR SALE: Tennessee walker, gelding, gentle, experienced rider. 4-year-old roan. Phone 517-626-6365, Eagle. Ask for Nadene. (9-f-18f)

FOR SALE: 6 Fancy Registered Holsteins, due first of Sept. All breeding, records up to 18,742M. Bred to son of Al sire. Also, 10 grades due Oct., some ID grades with records to 19,579M. Also reg. yearling bulls: Rockman 21,419M 4.6% 982F. Virginian 4.1%, Bootmaker 4.5%. George Robb, Fowlerville, Michigan. Phone 517-223-9462. (9-1-25f-27b)

REAL ESTATE

ALL FARMS - need farms for Midwest and international buyers. Top dollar. Details: John Peck, Four Seasons Realty of Lansing. 517-349-4260. (4-12-20p)

PEACH FARM - 35 acres in Waterlief Township. First class site, north slope. Write: Solid M. Spread, Hartford 49057, or phone Solid-M-Chateau 616-424-3752. \$152,000.00 firm. (4-f-25f)

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 80 acres, 60 tillable, house and barn. North Isabella County. Phone 517-588-2124. Ward Fritzell/Farwell, Mich. 48622. (9-1-21f)

FOR SALE: 25 acres, Lennox Township, north of Mt. Clemens, 31 Mile Road, 2 miles east of North Avenue. Must sacrifice. \$58,000. Phone 313-781-6980. (9-1-24f)

FOR SALE: Isabella County, 111 acres - east of Winn, Mich., 3 bedroom house, pole barn. Terms. 200 acres - tiled - large home - silo, large pole barn. Terms: Ron Stolz, New Horizons Realty, Alma, Mich. 517-463-3929. (9-25-34p)

FOR HOMEMAKERS

PECANS: QUART EACH, HALVES, PIECES, MEAL. Three-quart sampler, \$9.75, postpaid! Hermitage Farms, Box 143-MF, Hermitage, Tenn. 37076. (1-12-17p)

NOW! FROZEN TOMATO SLICES! Enjoy garden fresh flavor, year around! Complete, easy instructions. \$1.00. Hamiltons. Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073. (9-1-20p)

COLDWATER DILLPICKLES! Can in minutes! No hot brine. Delicious, crisp, factory secrets! Recipe \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073. (9-1-20p)

SEWING SUPPLIES, PEARL SNAP FASTENERS, 145 colors and styles. Free catalog. Bee Lee Company, Box 20558-MF, Dallas, Texas 75220. (3-10-19p)

INTERNATIONAL RECIPE BONANZA! Best from 11 nations. \$3.00. Ten fruit and nut breads, \$2.00. Free bonuses! Fountain Valley, Dept. 6211, Box 5608, Security, CO 80931. (7-3-25p)

AFRICAN VIOLETS: Leaf cuttings and starter plants. Descriptive price list, 35 cents. Gail's Violets, 1299 W. Taft Road, St. Johns, Mich. 48879. Phone 517-224-8141 or 224-7697. (8-2-26p)

12 EASY AND DELICIOUS RECIPES for busy days. Send \$1.00 and self-addressed stamped envelope to Kay Plunhoff, Route 1, Arthur Road, New Era, Mich. 49446. (9-1-25f)

CAN SAUERKRAUT by the jar. Easy method. \$1.00. Box 27, Dept. B, Lowell, Mich. 49331. (9-1-16p)

GREAT SAUSAGE RECIPES, illustrated book with over 100 recipes explaining sausage making, curing, smoking. Free equipment and supply catalog: SAUSAGEMAKER, 177-70 Military, Buffalo, N.Y. 14207. (9-9-25p)

TWO FRENCH DRESSING RECIPES - Delicious. Money Savers. \$1.00, Box 27, Dept. A, Lowell, Mich. 49331. (9-1-15p)

SPARE TIME!! Make 2-3 Times Your Cost On Hundreds of Products. \$200 or more possible in just a few hours per week. Details, Write to: Wholesale Distributors, Box 399-F, Miamisburg, OH 45342. (9-1-31p)

APPLES: Wholesale and Retail. Gift packages shipped U.P.S. Blossom Orchards, The Wardowski's, two miles north of Leslie, 3589 Hull Road, phone 517-589-8251. (9-5-22f)

LIGHT SYSTEM FOR HUNTING CAMP, 24 volt, bulbs, 1/3 hp motor, generator, Wisconsin engine, eight batteries. \$900.00. W. Sherman, Curtis, Mich. 49820. 906-586-9479. (9-1-22f)

FOR SALE: Horse Collar and Hame \$100.00; Kodak Box Camera \$50.00; Outside Manual Hand Pump \$75.00; Dinette Set \$50.00. Call anytime. 313-678-2743. (9-1-22f)

FOR SALE: Grapes and pressed juice for home winemaking, canning. Nine grape varieties; barrels and supplies. Taylor Ridge Vineyards, Route 6, Allegan, Mich. 49010. 616-521-4047. (9-3-25f)

WANTED: Feather ticks and pillows, all wood churn, oak commode, depot desk stool, Laura Miller, 10411 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton, Mich. 48430. Phone 313-629-4327. (9-1-24f)

SICK AND TIRED OF BEING SICK AND TIRED? For information on individualized "renewed living" programs building health the drugless, natural way. Send \$2.00 (postage/handling) with name and address to J. M. Vroman, Nutritional Consultant, P.O. Box 423, Mayville, Mich. 48744. (9-2-40p)

BORDER COLLIE, COLLIE, SHELTYE (Miniature Collies) - Beautiful puppies, excellent quality studs. Vaccinated, wormed. Baird Farm, Route 1, Lowell, Mich. 49331; phone 616-897-9462. (9-1-20p)

FISH FOR POND STOCKING - Hybrid Sun fish, Catfish, also Rainbow Trout. Spring Valley Trout Farm, Dexter, Michigan. Phone 313-426-4772. (4-f-19f)

CHRISTMAS TREES WANTED: We need Scotch Pine, Douglas Fir, Blue Spruce and White Spruce up to 10 feet. We also need Christmas tree plantations to manage and market. Fruthaven Nursery, Inc., Route 1, Kaleva, Michigan 49645. 517-349-1918. (4-6-37p)

1000 GUNS IN STOCK. Buy, sell, trade. Long guns, pistols, black powder, bows. 500 GUNS. Duane Buckner, 11155 Sherman Blvd., Ravenna, MI 49451. Phone 616-853-2527. (12-10-25p)

DON'T DIE WITHOUT A WILL! Legal forms, instructions: \$2.00 (2 for \$3.50) \$5.95 with 150-page lawyer written manual! MARCON; Box #10101-Z, Dallas, Texas 75207. (5-6-25p)

J-E-E-P-S - \$19.30! - C-A-R-S - \$13.50! - 650,000 ITEMS! - GOVERNMENT SURPLUS - MOST COMPREHENSIVE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE TELLS HOW, WHERE TO BUY - YOUR AREA - \$2 - MONEYBACK GUARANTEE - "GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES," DEPARTMENT EG-8, BOX 99249, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109. (7-6-31p)

FOR SALE: New 29 1/2 ft. Shasta trailer, all deluxe model, including 20' awning, t.v. antenna, Reese hitch & brake control. Call after 5 p.m., 517-223-9205. (7-f-25f)

FEED ONE ADULT for \$7.06 weekly. Includes one pound meat daily, choice of eight fresh vegetables and grains. Free details. Write - D.Y., P.O. Box 144-E, Jenison, Mich. 49428. (8-2-27p)

DOGS FOR SALE: Sheltie (miniature collie) pups AKC. Good watch dogs, good with children. Shots and wormed. Ardyth Schroeder, 7080 Billmeyer Hwy., Tecumseh, Mich. 49286. 517-423-3069. (8-2-25f)

WANTED: Farm Bureau members interested in and willing to work with consumer groups. Contact Larry R. Ewing, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909; phone 517-323-7000, extension 507. (9-f-30f)

WHY DIE WITHOUT A WILL? Two blank "Will Forms." Only \$2.00. Guaranteed! Order Today! TYCO, Box 752, Dept. W, Pryor, OK 74361. (9-1-21p)

FOR SALE: Rye, 400 bushels, potato washer and grader-bagger, power sprayer, miscellaneous items. Eggle Farms, Tustin, Mich. Phone 616-775-6857. (9-1-20f)

FOR SALE: Kaiser/Army Trucks, 1968 Jeep, 1 1/4 ton, low mileage, good condition. Also 2 1/2 ton GMC 6x6. Phone 313-659-6535. (9-1-20f)

FINANCES - An accurate accounting of your farm's financial status is a must. Get monthly financial reports, complete tax information with depreciation schedules, and more with Farm Bureau's Farm Record Service. Easy to use and understand. For more information, write or call Michigan Farm Bureau, Commodity Activities and Research Dept., P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909; phone 517-323-7000, extension 547. (9-4-59f)

GAIN A GROWING SEASON: Plant this fall and save on spring dug plants. Red Raspberry plants: Latham, Heritage, Meeker. Black Raspberry plants: Black Hawk, Logan, Cumberland. Blackberry plants: Darrow, Ebony King, Eldorado. 10 - \$7.50, 25 - \$14.00, 50 - \$25.00, 100 - \$40.00. Strawberry plants: Guardian, Midway, Sparkle, Dunlap. Surecrop, Ozark Beauty (everbearing). 25 - \$4.85, 50 - \$7.25, 100 - \$10.90, 1,000 - \$48.50. Mary Washington Asparagus - 3 year old crowns: 25 - \$6.00, 100 - \$16.00, 1,000 - \$80.00. Canada Red Rhubarb Roots: 3 - \$4.50, 10 - \$12.00, 25 - \$20.50. Add 15% for postage. Can Ship Immediately. Offer good till December 15, 1980. Write for free catalog. DEAN FOSTER NURSERIES, Dept. MFNS, Hartford, Mich. 49057. Phone 616-621-2419. (9-4-107b)

HAY & SILAGE

Michigan Farm Bureau is making this Hay and Silage listing available as a service to Farm Bureau members. Buyers and sellers can list their needs and offerings in the classified section of the Michigan Farm News. The service is free to Farm Bureau members. If you have hay for sale or want to purchase hay, simply mail your request to Hay & Silage Listing, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909. Your ad, 25 words or less, should include the amount and quality of hay or silage you want to buy or sell plus your name, address and phone number.

FOR SALE: 1979 grass hay, 50 cents per bale. No rain. Wayne Saunders, East Jordan, Mich., phone 616-547-2187. (7-3-17f)

ALFALFA-BROME HAY, approximately 12,000 square bales. Load from barn storage, 450 per hour. Also mulch hay. Richardson: Charlevoix, phone 616-547-9061. (8-3-20f)

THE DROUGHT IN MISSOURI IS CAUSING A HAY SHORTAGE, AND FARMERS WILL BE LOOKING TO BUY HAY FROM OTHER STATES. The Missouri Department of Agriculture is coordinating efforts to let Missouri-farmers know the names of outstate farmers with hay to sell. Farmers wanting to be included in the list of those with hay available for sale should call 314-751-4762, or write to Hay Information, Box 630, Jefferson City, MO 65102. (9-f-71f)

FACT:

Corn, America's gift to the food world, is a vegetable, a cereal, a grass. In Michigan more farmland, 11,500 acres, is devoted to sweet corn than any other fresh market vegetable crop. Butter up some now.



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