- Farm News

ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

MARCH 1981 VOL. 60, NO. 3

Answer to Michigan's Economic Woes



FINANCES FOCUS OF COMMODITY CONFERENCE

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE: GROWTH OPPORTUNITY FOR MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE: IT'S YOUR HEARTBEAT AMERICA! FARM BUREAU PROMOTES MAR. 19 AGRICULTURE DAY

MICHIGAN YOUTH EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS WITHDRAWN

MASA CALLS ANNUAL MEETING

Photo by Marcia Ditchie taken during the 1980 fall harvest at the Eaton Farm Bureau Co-op, Inc.

Governor Calls Conference on Agriculture April 1 & 2

"Because of the potential for increasing agriculture's contribution to our economy, I will convene an agriculture conference this year to assess the current status of agriculture and evaluate its potential for expansion. The conference goal will be to design a plan to develop our food and fiber

capabilities to their fullest."

Recognizing that agriculture has been the one bright ray in Michigan's dark economic picture, Gov. William Milliken has called a conference, April 1-2 in Lansing, to formulate a plan to develop the state's food and fiber capabilities to their fullest.

Leaders from agriculture, agribusiness, forest industries, Michigan State University and state agencies will convene at Long's Convention Center to explore opportunities for the expansion of agriculture and related industries in Michigan.

The conference will focus on

eight different agricultural categories: cash crops, dairy, horticulture-ornamentals-turf, livestock and poultry, horses, forestry, agricultural technology and processing and food distribution.

Dean M. Pridgeon, director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, and James H. Anderson, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Michigan State University, will chair the sessions.

(See President's Column, page 2, and registration information on page 3.)



- State of the State Message, January 1981

Featured speaker at the twoday conference will be USDA secretary John Block.

From the Desk of the President

Responsibility Brings Opportunity; Opportunity Brings Responsibility

For years, we've talked about the need for public recognition of the importance of agriculture. I believe we now have that recognition . . .

In his State of the State address, Gov. Milliken recognized that agriculture is now the number one industry in Michigan and has called a conference to develop plans to keep it growing.

Lt. Gov. Brickley recently stated that Michigan's economic picture would be much bleaker without the contributions of agriculture, and Speaker of the House Bobby Crim has also talked about the importance of our industry.

These influential people, and others, have indicated a willingness to work with agricultural leaders to assure that our in-dustry has the kind of "climate" it needs for growth and expansion.

So - what are we going to do with this recognition we have been seeking?

This recognition offers agricultural producers not just an opportunity, but a responsibility. It offers us an opportunity to operate in what may become known as "The Decade of Agriculture," to be involved in broadening our horizons and reaching out for new and better ways to produce food and fiber and distribute it to our consumers.

The responsibility that is on the other side of the opportunity coin is something we need to recognize and accept, because if we do not, we will have no right to complain if others are eager to be our surrogate in the decision-making process.

There is no other industry that is more impacted by the decisions of others than agriculture. In recent years, especially, people outside our industry have demanded, and received, opportunities for input into decisions that effect agriculture. We saw that illustrated in the "Structure of Agriculture" hearings conducted by the past secretary of agriculture. We saw it in the trend of the USDA, under the past administration, moving toward consumerism and away from being a service agency for farmers.

We see it now, as the presidential campaign promises to end the Soviet grain embargo are put "on hold" on the advice of the secretary of state, despite the efforts of the one cabinet member charged with knowing what is best for American farmers.

I'm sure the president was sincere when he made that campaign promise, but there's always a danger of such promises becoming political rhetoric. Here in Michigan, we have a responsibility to make sure the recognition we're enjoying now does not also become political rhetoric, even if unintentionally.

We have a responsibility to keep encouraging and supporting those lawmakers who have recognized the need for such legislation as right to farm and bankruptcy protection. We have a responsibility to be actively involved in the execution of all the policies we developed to assure a viable, growing Michigan agriculture. We have a responsibility to keep sharing the story of



agriculture with the nonfarm public to gain the understanding and support we need.

And we have the responsibility to contribute our time, knowledge, and experience to such important meetings as the Governor's Conference on Agriculture at Long's Convention Center, Lansing, on April 1-2. You can be sure that all of agriculture's support systems will be well represented. Let's make sure that those actually involved in food production are also well represented, providing input that no others can. Important, far-reaching decisions will be made at this conference; be a part of those decisions.

Remember, you are not just a farmer, as we're sometimes inclined to think of ourselves. You are a recognized, key contributor to the state's number one industry. That role calls for your commitment to contribute your leadership, expertise and influence to assure the continual growth of YOUR industry.

Elton R. Smith



A body could get fat being a judge for the MMPA Outstanding Young Dairy Couple contest. One could also freeze to death. It could get smarter about such important things as artificial insemination, herbicides, farm credit, and the personalities and idiosyncrasies of cows. For sure, it could rest assured that the future is in good hands.

I was a bit overwhelmed with my responsibilities as a judge. Removed from the dairy farm by a whole bunch of years, and now a city-dwelling career woman, there was no way I could bluff anyone into thinking I was a dairy expert, so I didn't try.

Here Come 'de Judge.

With a dairy farmer and a dairy professor as my fellowjudges, I left the average production per cow type conclusions in their hands and focused my attention on the image factor. The winners, after all, would be the standardbearers for MMPA and the dairy industry during the coming year. To handle that responsibility, their knowledge of their organization and current issues, their ability to articulate, their interest in and ability to convince Cokedrinkers that "Milk's the One," were also vitally important.

The 11 district winners were quests of MMPA in Detroit for two days and it was interesting to watch these young farmers in that environment. While they all appreciated the luxury of a morning when they didn't have to crawl out of their warm beds and take a cold walk to the barn, still, being away from their herds seemed to cause some withdrawal symptoms and separation anxieties. The conclusion about the big city (especially after a hair-raising bus ride in heavy traffic) seemed to be "nice place to visit but wouldn't want to live there.'

We got well-acquainted with the couples in Detroit, listening to their priorities, their concerns, their hopes for the future. Picking four finalist couples was a challenge and we labored over our decisions.

The next step was to visit the farms of the four finalists to turn those cold statistics on their entry forms into warm, breathing animals and actually view the farm operations first-hand. I have to admit it was a temptation to stay in my warm office and leave that responsibility to the real experts. But Mom taught me never to accept a responsibility unless I was determined to see it through from start to finish. (But, gee, Mom, it's cold out there!)

Listening to a discussion about cropping practices and plans for a new barn while sipping hot coffee in a delightful farm home kitchen was a nice experience. Add to that some fresh-from-the-oven, calorieladen coffee cake spread with a thick slab of butter, and I wouldn't have minded spending the day. But that's not where the cows were and it was not the site of the future barn.

The wind chill index that day had to be about 40 below and it was only after an hour with my feet stuck up the car heater that I dared wiggle my toes for fear they would surely drop off.

Even though I'm five pounds heavier (all settled in one spot from many miles of riding), have chilblains and a runny nose, it was a gratifying and humbling experience.

If you're been doing some negative "tut-tutting" over the younger generation, set your minds at ease. The future IS in good hands. As long as we (continued on page 14)

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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Farmer Protection Legislation Introduced by Sen. Hertel

"I am convinced that Michigan cannot continue to rely on the auto industry for prosperity. We must do everything possible to enhance and expand our other resources."

- Senator John Hertel

Michigan farmers can look forward to an even break on payments for the sale of agricultural products to processors if legislation introduced by the Senate Agriculture Committee chairman gains legislative approval.

Governor's Conference on Agriculture

April 1 and 2, 1981 Long's Convention Center 6810 South Cedar Street Lansing, Michigan

YOU'RE INVITED to join other leaders of Michigan farm organizations, agri-business and forest industries, representatives of Michigan State University, and other state agency resource people in exploring and discussing opportunities for expansion of agriculture and related industries in Michigan.

YOU'LL HEAR outstanding speakers, such as: William G. Milliken, Governor of Michigan. His Wednesday welcome and keynote address will set the tone for the conference.

John Block, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. This will be one of his first public speaking engagements since being named secretary of agriculture.

Dr. Russell Mawby, President, Kellogg Foundation. Dr. S. Leon Whitney, Vice Chairman, Michigan Commission on Agriculture.

THE CONFERENCE will focus on eight different agricultural categories: cash crops, horticultureornamentals-turf, dairy, livestock and poultry, horses, forestry, agricultural technology, and processing and food distribution.

CONFERENCE AGENDA Thursday, April 2

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11-1:00 1:00	Registration Governor's Address	9:00 10:30	Reconvene Reports and Recommendations
1:30-2:30 3-5:30 6:00	Featured Speakers Committee Discussions Dinner - John Block Speaker	12 noon	Adjourn

MAIL BEFORE MARCH 20

Please register the following individual for the Governor's Conference on Agriculture to be held April 1 and 2 at Long's Convention Center, Lansing. The \$15 registration fee per person includes dinner April 1. For additional registrations, use separate sheet. Make checks payable to: "Governor's Conference on Agriculture." Mail to: Governor's Conference on Agriculture, Michigan Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 30017, Lans-ing, MI 48909 ing, MI 48909.

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DIRECTLY WITH THE MOTEL OF YOUR CHOICE

The proposal, sponsored by Sen. John Hertel (D-Harper Woods), would establish processor licensing criteria and payment protections, and would make certain that even in the case of bankruptcy, a farmer would receive payment for delivered products.

According to Hertel, a processor would have to choose one of the three following alternatives before a license would be granted:

•A certified audit by a CPA would be performed to establish the sound financial condition of the processor, or

 A bond or some other security must be posted by the processor in order to guarantee payment in sufficient amount in case of bankruptcy, or

•All receipts be placed in the hands of a bank trustee and that sufficient funds be maintained for the collection and payment of bills by the trustee.

The licensing requirement would apply to all processors and some haulers of fruits, vegetables, dairy products, grains and forage crops.

The auditing requirement would be the easiest to meet, Hertel said, and he expects it will be the one used by most processors

The legislation would also give farmers the same status as employees of a business that goes bankrupt. Like employees, agricultural producers would be assured of payment.

Hertel emphasized that the guaranteed payment protections and licensing criteria are not intended to be punitive to Michigan processors.

"It is important not to overregulate any industry in this state right now and that includes processors. The options offered in this proposal do not bring undue pressure on processors," he said.

Hertel said the legislation was developed in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Agriculture, agricultural groups and individual producers. He suggested that other legislation may follow which would address the problem of processors' slow payment practices.

"I am convinced that Michigan cannot continue to rely on the automotive industry for prosperity," Hertel said. "We must do everything possible to enhance and expand our other resources. Agriculture is Michigan's number one healthy industry and this legislation will offer farmers the necessary protection and encouragement that they so desperately need."

Marketing, Bargaining **Rights Upheld by Court**

The constitutionality of P.A. 344, Michigan's Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining Act, has been upheld. In an opinion issued Feb. 5, Ingham County Circuit Judge Thomas L. Brown said that without the act, farmer growers, individually, were at the mercy of the processor.

P.A. 344

The decision ended court battles that began in 1974, when the act was challenged by the Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Inc. The case was before Judge Brown on remand from the Michigan Supreme Court.

"I'm absolutely delighted," said Noel Stuckman, general manager of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, which pursued the case. "This vindicates years of effort on behalf of Michigan's fruit and vegetable growers."

In declaring the act constitutional, Judge Brown said, "The farmer was producing a perishable commodity without adequate knowledge of the expenses to put into its production (i.e., gasoline, fertilizer) in relationship to the price to be received on harvest day. The farmer grower came 'hat in hand' to the processors and took whatever price he could get.

"Many times, the farmer did not even obtain a price adequate to repay all of his expenses and fixed costs. He was a 'price taker,' receiving whatever sum he could obtain for a commodity he could not store, freeze or transport elsewhere. The farmer grower was, individually, at the mercy of the processor," he concluded. On the national level, the

American Farm Bureau Federation has targeted April as the month when a new farm marketing and bargaining measure will be ready for congressional action.

Voting delegates at the AFBF annual meeting in New Orleans in January reaffirmed policy urging a high priority to enactment of a comprehensive federal farm marketing and bargaining act. Policy ap-proved by the delegates would establish procedures for defining bargaining units; accrediting associations to bargain as exclusive agents for all producer-members of bargaining units; good faith bargaining between accredited associations, handlers and processors; establishing minimum requirements and rights in the operation of accredited associations; and resolving bargaining impasses by mediation and arbitration by a joint settlement committee.

Farm Bureau is planning to maintain a careful evaluation and a close step-by-step process of the measure in an effort to build congressional support.



Producers Focus on Financial Issues

What the new Farm Credit Act Amendments mean to Michigan farmers, bankruptcy protection for farmers, and agricultural budget cuts at Michigan State University were just some of the topics addressed at the annual MFB Spring Commodity Advisory Conference held at the Harley Hotel in Lansing Feb. 16 and 17.

Focusing on agricultural finance issues, the twoday session attracted agricultural producers from throughout the state who serve on commodity advisory committees.

"Farmers alone should not bear the burden of disciplining the Soviet Union for its actions in the affairs of other countries The president should either lift the grain embargo or expand it to all exports to the Soviet Union."

> - Elton R. Smith, President Michigan Farm Bureau

In his State of Farm Bureau address, President Elton R. Smith expressed concern regarding Ronald Reagan's position on the embargo of grain sales to the Soviet Union.

"During his campaign, the president promised to lift the grain embargo if elected. The Republican platform promised the same action. At this time, the president has not acted and states that his action now depends on Russia's involvement in the internal affairs of Poland," he said.

"Farmers alone should not bear the burden of disciplining the Soviet Union for its actions in the affairs of other countries. Grain shipments should not be halted while petroleum drilling and other industrial equipment are exported to the Soviet Union.

"The president should either lift the grain embargo or expand it to all exports to the Soviet Union," he concluded.

"... anytime you get an offer of 10 cents a bushel more than the market and you can sell it when you want to with free storage - then you should be suspicious." - Dean Pridgeon, Director Michigan Department of Agriculture

Michigan Department of Agriculture Director Dean Pridgeon said that although the MDA has some responsibilities in protecting farmers when grain elevators go bankrupt, farmers also have a responsibility to protect themselves.



Discussing some of MDA's responsibilities for protecting farmers are Lester Langeland of Coopersville (left) and MDA Director Dean Pridgeon.



Barbara Keating-Edh, Consumer Alert president, explains some of the issues her organization is involved in with some members of the commodity advisory committees. In her remarks, Keating-Edh accused the consumer movement of "ripping-off" consumers.

"Our responsibility is to license anyone who buys grain from farmers, whether it's an elevator or a trucker. It is also our responsibility to make sure that there is grain in his place of business for the warehouse receipts he issues the farmer and that he carries a bond sufficient to cover that grain," Pridgeon said.

"It's the responsibility of the farmer to make sure that the man he is dealing with is a legitimate businessman. Farmers should be wary of the person who's offering more than his competitor because that's a sign that the place is in trouble. I'd say that anytime you get an offer of 10 cents a bushel more than the market and you can sell it when you want to with free storage, then you should be suspicious," Pridgeon said.

"We will strive to maintain the family farm concept, with the single small farm units that can compete economically."

> - John Craig Farmers Home Administration

"The Farmers Home Administration and the USDA are trying a four-fold approach to encourage young farmers to remain in production agriculture," said John Craig, agricultural management specialist for the Farmers Home Administration.

"First, we have made loans available for acquisition of farms at the rate of 5 percent interest and production loans at the rate of 7 percent interest. Second, we will strive to maintain the family farm concept, with the single small farm units that can compete economically," Craig said.

"Additionally, there will be continued development of government-backed loan programs to increase incentives to other creditors to get involved in agriculture loans, and finally, the introduction of management services to provide guidance and supervision for farmers needing this additional assistance," he said.

"Bank of Cooperatives has been given authority to enter into export and import marketing, which will allow them to follow the farmers' product from Michigan to Japan...and finance this product all the way...."

> William Henquinet Production Credit Association

Amendments to the Farm Credit Act were signed into law by the president on Dec. 24, 1980. Though it will probably be this summer or fall before the changes are in effect, William Henquinet, manager of the Production Credit Association of Lansing, explained what some of the amendments will mean to Michigan farmers.

"In the marketing and processing area, in the past, PCAs and Federal Land Banks could finance marketing and processing for farmers for on-thefarm business if they had 51 percent of their product going through it. Now we can drop that down to 20 percent, which will allow that farmer to bring in outside products to run through his facilities and we can finance it," Henquinet said.

"Other areas which affect farmers indirectly are in the Bank of Cooperatives area, that finance local elevators. Bank of Cooperatives have now been given authority to enter into export and import marketing, which will allow them to follow the farmers' product from Michigan to, say Japan or Germany, and finance this product all the way so a farmer could get immediate financing or immediate funds to run his farming operation," Henquinet said.

"We have been so busy redistributing the wealth in this country that we have practically stopped producing it."

> - Barbara Keating-Edh President, Consumer Alert



BARBARA KEATING-EDH

Spring Commodity Advisory Conference

Many Factors Influence Economic Growth

No growth advocates, working through the consumer movement, prey on the public paranoia to achieve their political objective, said Barbara Keating-Edh, president of Consumer Alert. The objective of these groups, she said, "is not safety, but to estructure the U.S. economic system.

"Land, water use, chemicals, auto production, electrical production - no industry has been excluded from the conflict of the non-producers vs the producers.

Keating-Edh challenged the group to join in a coalition of producers to expose the consumer movement and to raise the public ire over the biggest consumer rip-off, the consumer movement itself

Consumers, she said, are paying heavily for the consumer movement directly or indirectly through increased taxes and increased prices which result rom the regulations imposed by government on industry. The annual cost for overregulation is \$100 billion

"We have been so busy redistributing the wealth in this country that we have practically stopped producing it," she said.

Singling out well known "consumer advocate" Ralph Nader, Keating-Edh said, "I don't like what he's done to my car and I'm not going to turn over my health and food to him as well.'

"I really believe that when all the dust settles, agriculture is going to come out better than it has in many years."

> Tom Reed, Member **MSU Board of Trustees**

Agriculture's lone representative on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, Tom Reed, closed the conference on a positive note, predicting that agriculture may not fare too badly in the current economic crunch MSU is experiencing.

Reed, assistant manager of the Michigan Live Stock Exchange, who was endorsed by AgriPac in the election last year, told conference participants,

"The time has come to rearrange our priorities and put back some of the funding that we've lost in the areas that are just essential that we fund. Research is one area we can't take out of and expect to step back into the same program five years from now. We just have to continue funding it properly.

"I really believe that when all the dust settles, agriculture is going to come out better than it has in many years," he said.



MSU Board of Trustees member Tom Reed (left) discusses the university's current financial crisis with Mark Chaffin of Gratiot County (center), a member of the Dry Bean Advisory Committee, and Don Fedewa of the Michigan Agricultural Reporting Service (right).



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Budget Woes Continue

In state government, everything begins with the budget process.

While the governor's budget contains more dollars than the previous year, it is actually a further cut in state spending because it does not reflect higher costs due to inflation. The 1980-81 budget was cut 20 percent (more than \$1.1 billion). It is estimated that another \$80 million may need to be cut before the year ends.

The governor's recommendation for the 1981-82 budget is \$10.537 billion. The General Fund portion of this amount is \$4.85 billion. The General Fund budget is all that is controlled by the Legislature. The rest (about \$5.7 billion) is earmarked by law or the constitution. This includes highway and other revenues that automatically go back to local government and schools.

Twenty-five percent of the total state budget comes from federal funds (about \$2.7 billion). With the present effort to cut federal spending, it is possible that much of this will be cut and create more problems.

One major budget item is social services at \$3.44 billion, \$1.7 billion of which comes from state monies, most of the rest from federal money.

Education is another large budget item. The recommendation is \$1.8 billion, but more than \$556 million of that amount is for teacher's retirement, etc. The formula for education is recommended at \$325 per student (down from \$357) plus \$53.33 per operating mill (up from last year's \$46.24).

Sixty percent of the sales tax plus cigarette taxes, liquor taxes, etc., automatically go to support schools. Other state aid is in "categoricals" (school transportation, special education, vocational education, etc.) which is expected to be cut further.

The governor's budget does, however, recommend some restoration of funds that were cut from the Department of Agriculture, especially in the area of promoting Michigan agriculture and sales to foreign countries. Gov. Milliken also recommends a higher appropriation for agricultural research at Michigan State University in, the amount of \$1.1 million. This, even though an increase, still does not begin to bring agriculture research back to the status it once had.

Michigan is under a greater recession than any other state in the nation. The unemployment rate is far higher than most other states and therefore, the welfare cost continues to climb. The budget message does recommend cutting welfare aid in an attempt to eliminate some 35,000 possible "employables."

Members Meet With Legislators



House Agriculture Committee chairman Lewis Dodak (left), talks with Donald Abraham from Saginaw County during the Saginaw Valley Regional Legislative Seminar in Lansing. The annual project provides members with the opportunity to be updated on legislative issues, discuss concerns with their state representatives and senators and visit the Michigan Legislature in session.

Farm Bureau Leaders and Staff Discuss FB Policy With Governor



During an hour-long conference with Gov. William Milliken, at which time copies of the 1981 MFB Policy Book were presented to him, MFB President Elton Smith and the governor discussed some of the major policy issues adopted by voting delegates at the MFB annual meeting in December.

Some Farm Bureau leaders met recently with Gov. William Milliken to discuss FB policies adopted by delegates at the state annual meeting in Kalamazoo in December.

The governor was interested to know that FB membership has increased every year for the past 14 years and now numbers 67,828 member-families in Michigan. He was also told that nationally membership has increased for 16 consecutive years to over 3.25 million member-families.

MFB President Elton Smith outlined some of the major policy issues. Others attending the conference included Vice President Jack Laurie and staff members Al Almy, Bob Smith and Ron Nelson. Also there was the governor's agricultural advisor, Tom Drake.

The budget was one of the major issues discussed. The governor indicated the seriousness of Michigan's recession but recognized that agriculture is only a small part of the total state budget. The discussion pointed to the need to support funding for the Grain Dealers Act, meat inspection, Crop Reporting Service, third-party inspection of fruits and vegetables, laboratory services such as animal health and toxic substances.

Gov. Milliken pointed out that he had restored some of the lost funding in his budget recommendations and agreed that agricultural research funding at Michigan State University should be increased along with maintenance of the Extension Services, FFA and 4-H.

President Smith pointed out that two serious issues this year for farmers include the bankruptcy of agricultural handlers and grain elevators and the need for some guarantee of prompt payment to farmers for their products, a serious problem for fruit and vegetable producers. It was pointed out that funding was withdrawn at the time that the Grain Dealers Act could have been most helpful. "Right to Farm" legislation, which the governor supported in his State of the State address, was discussed.

The FB representatives expressed appreciation to the governor for the importance given to the agricultural economy in his State of the State address and the numerous legislative issues that he supported, including a proposal to permit the Job Development Authority to issue agricultural bonds, which can be used to help finance any project that might help the agricultural economy, such as processing plants and loans to young farmers trying to get started.

President Smith told the governor that FB especially appreciated his compliment in his State of the State address giving Farm Bureau the credit for a Task Force Report on Water Rights.

It was pointed out that FB supports agricultural land preservation and continues to strongly believe that P.A. 116 is an effective program with thousands of new applications coming in from farm owners. FB agreed that legislation is necessary to change the present subdivision control act and pointed out that it is important to recognize Northern Michigan for the role it plays in forestry and wood products.

It was pointed out that FB policy supports the Task Force Report on Drains and the legislation necessary to carry out the recodification of the drainage law. FB was represented on that task force.

In the area of labor legislation, Gov. Milliken's attention was called to FB's policy on Youth Employment Standards for Michigan agriculture. It expresses the frustrations and anger of farmers and others with the whole bureaucratic and regulatory process. This is equally true with some of the activities of the bureaucracy within MI-OSHA regarding elevator regulations. It was pointed out that Michigan seems to have a mania for going beyond federal regulations without considering the effect of the more stringent regulations on the state's economy, thus putting Michigan into a non-competitive position with other states.

Taxation was discussed, especially the governor's proposal to cut property tax some 35 percent along with an increase in the sales tax and other provisions. The governor made it clear that there will be bipartisan discussion and that everyone interested will have the opportunity to have input into the final proposal. Attention was called to the FB policy indicating that assessing by many local assessors and the State Tax Commission does not follow the law. Farmland assessment should be based on its value for farming purposes rather than being assessed on potential value.

In discussing FB's policies on education, the need for funding of the MSU Extension Service and Experiment Station was again emphasized along with the need for a serious study of ways of funding K-12 education in schools.

The group discussed highway revenues which are declining despite the increase of gas tax and registration fees two years ago. Less gasoline and lighter cars are being used while, at the same time, costs for road repair and construction are skyrocketing. It was pointed out that FB has been among those strongly opposing the routing of I-69 because it would destroy many thousands of acres of farmland. In the past, government at all levels has ignored the agricultural impact of such projects, with much prime farmland loss resulting from governmental activity in the construction of roads, airports, schools, hospitals and other projects at the (continued on page 17)

Michigan Ranks 23rd in Nation in Tax Revenues

Results of a new study show that Michigan rates 23rd in the nation in terms of revenues imposed by state and local governments. The report titled "A Comparison of Selected State Tax Rates," is based on data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and other sources. Taxes included fees and other charges such as tuition, park fees, hunting licenses, etc.

Michigan's tax burden, measured as a percentage of total personal income, is about average for the nation. It shows local property tax and income tax levels in Michigan to be slightly above average, while the sales tax is below average.

Total revenue for both state and local government amounts to about 16.3 percent of total personal income in Michigan. The national average is about 15.69 percent.

Michigan state revenues have actually declined as a percentage of personal income in recent years, dropping from 8.2 percent in 1979 to about 7.5 percent in 1981.

Among the 44 states which have an income tax, Michigan's income tax ranks 14th. Our sales tax ranks 29th among the 45 states which have a sales tax. In other tax comparisons reported by the Census Bureau, Michigan's property tax rank 18th; the cigarette tax, 11 cents a pack, is lower than in 32 other states.

Taxes will be a major issue in the Legislature in the next few weeks, focusing on the governor's recommendation for a tax reform. Gov. Milliken's recommendation includes:

•A 35 percent cut in property tax for homesteads and farms with a limit of \$1,400; this totals \$1.2 billion.

•A \$250 million reduction in state and local revenues; \$125 million of that will be a cut in local revenues.

•Increase the sales tax from the present 4 percent to 5 percent to replace lost property tax revenues; this will require a vote of the people.

•Eliminate approximately 90 percent of senior citizen property taxes.

•Maintain the present circuit breaker feature for the Michigan income tax.

One unusual feature of the plan is known as "truth in taxes." As all property taxes are used by local government, schools, townships, counties, etc., the governor's plan would require that local governmental units could not collect a single dollar more than they did the previous year, even though assessments may have risen, unless the public is informed. A public hearing would be required and the local elected board, such as school board, township board, or county board of commissioners, would have to vote to collect whatever additional revenues might be necessary.

It's interesting to note that most people think a high percentage of property tax revenues go to the state. This is not true. Every single dollar of property taxes is spent at the local level and has been approved by local voters. As a matter of fact, local units of government don't really begin to pay their own way, but depend heavily on various state revenues. The constitution presently requires that at least 42.6 percent of state revenues must be returned to local governments.

Gov. Milliken and the leadership of the House and Senate have agreed to begin bipartisan negotiations on a tax reform proposal that could be put on a special election ballot on May 19. This means that any such proposal must be completed by the Legislature by March 19. Farm Bureau will be working with those leaders in an effort to be sure that farmers are protected and represented.



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All

Newton Allen

Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. 7373 West Saginaw Highway Lansing, MI 48917 PAGE 8

growth rate in the cattle herd

cannot be sustained very many

years without the potential of a

price bust," Grimes warned. A

growth rate of 2 percent or less

would be more favorable for

cattle prices, he said.



Fed cattle and feeder cattle prices are expected to move higher through the second quarter of 1981 and then taper off in the last half of the year. Meanwhile, the nation's beef herd has expanded more rapidly than expected, which could lead to an oversupply of beef as early as 1984 or 1985.

This is the consensus of four of the nation's top livestock economists who met Feb. 10 in the second of a series of "cattle cycle forums" sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Participants 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. Reierson, agricultural economics consultant and former corporate economist for Monfort of Colorado; and Dr. Edward Uvacek Jr., livestock marketing economist and associate professor at Texas A & M Univer-

sity. "The January 1, 1981 U.S. Department of Agriculture cattle inventory figures confirm that the beef industry is well into a new cattle cycle," Uvacek said, adding that the data show that 1979 truly did represent the end of the last cycle and the beginning of a new one, which means that 1981 is the second year of herd expansion.

The inventory showed a 3 percent increase in the cattle herd during 1980, which is larger than most observers expected.

With the expanded cow herd and a 1980 calf crop 6 percent larger than a year earlier, slaughter will have to be up quite sharply or the calving rate down substantially to avoid a total cattle herd increase of 2 to 3 percent during 1981, Grimes said.

"Unless demand for heef is stronger than we now believe most likely, a 3 percent annual

Uvacek said that income for cow-calf producers during the expected herd buildup years should be greatly helped by higher calf prices and better prices for salvage cows as fewer cows are marketed for slaughter. He foresees substantially improved incomes at the ranch level during the 1981-84 period.

"The real key to profits for the cow-calf producer may lie in the costs of production, Uvacek cautioned. "While higher returns seem quite certain, profits can only materialize if the rancher is able to keep his production costs down."

Fed cattle prices during the past two or three months have been substantially depressed because of the excessive supply of overweight and overfinished cattle in yield grades four and five.

Reierson said the excessive supply of heavy beef was the result of feeders and finishers holding cattle on feed in anticipation of higher prices for the finished product. He predicted

15 years ago," said Korte.

"Every other row is destined for

that price improvement for fed cattle will come only after those excessive supplies of heavy beef have been absorbed into the market stream.

AFBF Forums Monitor Livestock Cycles

Prices for beef should be helped substantially by an anticipated smaller supply of hogs for the remainder of 1981, Grimes said, predicting that hog production for this year will be down by 5 percent.

While broiler production for 1981 is expected to increase moderately, Grimes does not anticipate that this will have much impact on beef prices.

The economists agreed that the long run demand for beef continues relatively strong.

Purcell said that although demand for beef is not increasing as rapidly as it did in the 1960s, there is little evidence to suggest that demand for beef is declining.

"The recent declines in percent of income spent on beef can be largely explained by the reduction in per capita supplies and the elastic demand for beef at retail," Purcell said, pointing out that the "percent of income spend on beef" is a poor and misleading measure of retail demand.

While reasonably optimistic about the favorable prospects for a healthy beef industry in the near future, the economists cautioned that uncertainties such as prospective drought in many areas of the nation could change the whole picture.

The key to a successful and prosperous beef cattle industry remains in the hands of the producers themselves, whose responsibility it is to keep the supply of beef in balance with demand to insure the long range profitability of the industry, the economists concluded.

The third session in the series of "forums" to take another look at the beef industry will be scheduled for early in August.

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Soybean Growers Set to Conduct Vote

A referendum to decide whether the farmer-funded soybean promotion and development program, now in its fifth year of operation, should be continued has been scheduled for March 2-16, according to Michigan Department of Agriculture Director Dean Pridgeon.

Soybean growers will also vote on amendments to increase the grower assessment and to decrease the program's administrative costs.

The MDA received a petition, signed by 218 growers, to put on the referendum an amendment to change the assessment from one-half cent per bushel to one cent, and to decrease allowable administrative costs from 15 percent to 10 percent of the program's income if the maximum assessment rate is raised to one cent. In the petition growers cited

the decline in university research dollars and proposed that a portion of the one-half cent assessment increase be used to sponsor soybean research in the state. It was also proposed that additional monies be allocated to market development activities to maintain product demand, particularly in Michigan's overseas markets.

The marketing act which established the grower investment program requires that it

be submitted for grower approval every fifth year. According to Don Korte, soybean grower from Canton who serves as chairman of the Michigan Soybean Committee, since approving the soybean grower investment checkoff in 1976, Michigan farmers have more than doubled their production of soubeans and their grower investment program has helped soybean exports reach record levels.

producers are now exporting more soybeans than they grew export. Nearly 60 cents of every export dollar goes to the soybean grower. The potential for new and increased markets is tremendous. A few years ago, the experts said we could not consume a one-billionbushel crop. But last year we produced - and consumed - a two-billion bushel crop." Referendum ballots will be

mailed to MDA to eligible soybean growers and will also be available from county Extension offices

5-Year Continuance Vote Before Cherry Industry

Red tart cherry growers and handlers in eight major producing states will participate in a referendum vote during March to determine whether to continue the USDA Federal Marketing Order for the national red tart cherry crop.

The marketing order has been in effect since 1971 when growers and handlers agreed to establish the federal marketing program and place it under the administration of the USDA. Through the federal marketing order, product supply available to the wholesale and retail market is managed to maintain price stability and supply.

keting order, a percentage of crop years. In years of "short" supply, the surplus is released to maintain product supply in the market. The federal marketing order has been used three times since its inception.

30. The USDA is expected to release results of the continuance referendum on April 7.

'Across the nation, soybean

Under provisions of the mar-

the crop is set aside in "long"

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible growers and handlers in Michigan, New York, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland during the first week of March. The official voting period is March 20 through March

MARCH 1981

FARM NEWS

Farm Market Operators Get Set for 1981 Season



An industry trade show sponsored by Michigan Certified Farm Markets during the organization's annual meeting, featured the products and supplies over 25 exhibitors. Members also met in general session to conduct board elections

and participated in workshops during the two day annual meeting of the Michigan Certified Farm Markets and Farm Markets Cooperative, Inc.

Members of Michigan Certi-fied Farm Markets and stockholders in the Farm Markets Cooperative, Inc., met in Lansing Feb. 16 and 17 for the eighth annual meeting of the organizations.

During the two-day meeting, the membership conducted board elections, swapped merchandising and operations methods and attended an industry trade show

Seven incumbent board members were unanimously re-elected to serve until 1983. Re-elected were J W Erwin, South Lyon; Alan Spicer, Fenton; Leslie Dowd, Lawrence; David Near, Shelby; Janice Kapnick, Britten; Curtis Howell, Stanton; and Don Hill, Montrose. The seven serve on both the Farm Markets Cooperative Operating Committee and the Michigan Certified Farm Markets board of directors. Terms are concurrent.

General session topics during the two-day annual meeting included discussions of wage and employment practices, market outlook in 1981, management techniques and theft prevention practices.

Michigan Commodity **Representatives Named** to AFBF Committeess

Several Michigan farmers have been appointed to serve as members and alternates of American Farm Bureau Federation advisory committees.

Advisory Committee	Member	Alternate
Dairy	Robert Rottier Fremont	Robert Thuemmel Jr. Port Austin
Fruits & Berries	Donald Nugent Frankfort	Norm Veliquette Kewadin
Eggs	Wayne Schipper Holland	Al Cook Mason
Environmental Horticultural Crops	David Farley Albion	Gerald Zywicki Belleville
Feed Grains	Bill Spike Owosso	Ivan Sparks Saginaw
Forestry	Don Shirley Baraga	Hardy Elowsky Hillman
Soybeans	Lyle LeCronier Freeland	Arlie Pickles Sand Creek
Sugar	Walter Frahm Frankenmuth	John Knoerr Sandusky
Swine	Roger Carr Burr Oak	Arthur Bailey Schoolcraft
Vegetable & Potato	James Sayre Belleville	Martin Ruhlig Jr. Dexter
Wheat	John Laurie Cass City	Robert Kissane St. Johns
Natural Environ- mental Resources	Michael Pridgeon Montgomery	

Safemark's **Spring Savings**

It is time to start checking your tires for spring plowing. Safemark offers a complete line of farm tires and batteries. For more information, check the list for the dealer nearest you or contact your county Farm Bureau.

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16.9-28	6 ply	249.26
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18.4-38	6 ply	413.67

Radial Rear Tractor Tire (now in stock) 18.4R-34 6 ply \$513.27 18.4R-38 6 ply 603.84



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William Coeing, Emmet County FB president, reviewed the local affairs/ community action group interaction plan which was presented to the presidents.

Recognition...



Charles Cary, representing Iron Range FB, was honored at the conference for his county having achieved 1981 membership goal. Cary was presented with a gift by MFB Administrative Director Robert Braden. Ten counties were recognized for achieving their county goals.

Study...



Mecosta County FB President Frank Wentland reviews a portion of the material presented at the conference. During the two-day meeting, material was presented on the Safemark program, the local affairs/community action group interaction plan, county financial operations and county organizational matters.



Keynote speaker at the President's Conference was John Datt, AFBF secretary and chief administrator. Datt said that regarding the cuts proposed by the Reagan administration in the farm budget, farmers will have to accept some changes in some of the federal farm programs that they have gotten used to. "What's at stake is really the question of whether we as a country and we as a people can do things without the assistance of government and to what extent we have to have the assistance of government in our lives and our own businesses to succeed. That's the issue before us today," Datt said. Talking with Datt after his remarks is Clare County FB President Charles Kleinhardt.

1981 PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 12-13

MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN

New Program Ideas



In order to stimulate community action group members to become more involved in local affairs activities, an interaction plan was presented to the county presidents. Northwest Michigan FB President Robert Gregory (standing) shared some of his county's activities. Also discussing the interaction plan were Ron Gaskill (center,) MFB local affairs specialist, and Ken Wiles, manager of the the MFB Member Relations Department.

The National Scene

Success Stories



Sanilac County Safemark dealer Gerald Keinath spoke to the presidents on the Safemark program, "As a Dealer Sees It." Keinath, one of the top Safemark dealers in the state, shared his experiences from the time he was asked to be come a dealer and the future plans he has for his dealership.

Farmers' Week Set for March 23-27

"This, the 20th Century, may well be the last one in which we still have the option between progress and disaster, of bringing chaos or order to man's home."

The forward to the printed program for Farmers' Week, March 23-27, at Michigan State University, sets a serious tone for this year's activities, as does its theme: "Meeting Human Needs: A challenge to agriculture and natural resources."

That challenge, simply stated, is that by the year 2,000, when the population is expected to soar to 6.5 billion people, gross food production will have to be doubled to merely provide as much food per person as is now available. To meet this need, world agricultural production will have to expand at 4.3 percent per year. Since expansion of harvested acres is unlikely to exceed 1.3 percent per year, the food that is needed will have to come from higher yields.

The question of whether this is possible will be addressed during the week-long activities, which include a World Hunger Symposium, scheduled for Monday. Participants in the symposium will discuss the causes and consequences of world hunger and how it affects people in Michigan.

Other special activities include breakfast with Gov. William Milliken on Thursday morning, and luncheon with MSU President Cecil Mackey, also on Thursday, where distinguished service awards will be presented.

Special sessions are scheduled for beekeeping, crops and soils, dairy, farm management, farm mechanization, livestock, natural resources, poultry, rabbits and other progams of interest.

Detailed printed programs, listing dates, times and locations of the various sessions are available now from county Extension offices.

MMPA Annual March 21

Michigan Milk Producers Association will hold its annual meeting on March 21, the Saturday before Farmers' Week, at Fairchild Auditorium, MSU.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with call to order at 10. The meeting will include recognition of MMPA's Outstanding Young Dairy Couples, consideration of policy resolutions and election of directors at large.

This will be the last MMPA annual meeting chaired by Glenn Lake, who has announced that he will not seek re-election. Lake has served as president of MMPA since 1955.

FFA Annual March 25-27

The Michigan Association of Future Farmers of America, the organization of, by and for students enrolled in vocational agriculture, will hold its annual convention March 25-27 in conjunction with Farmers' Week. All sessions will be conducted in the MSU auditorium. Main items of business will include amendments to FFA's state constitution, selection of new state officers, and recognition of members and chapters for outstanding achievements during the past year.

All persons attending Farmers' Week activities are invited to the FFA convention.



Vegetable Council Honors Members



Edwin (center) and Stanley (right) Radewald, operators of a 600-acre vegetable farm near Niles, received the Master Farmer Award from William Bolthouse, MVC president, during the recent Great Lakes Vegetable Growers Convention in Lansing.



Evelyn Cooper of Kent City received the MVC Master Farmer Associate Award from William Bolthouse, MVC president, during the Great Lakes Vegetables Growers Convention in Lansing. Cooper and her husband, Russell, produce celery, carrots and bedding plants. The convention, a three-day series of management programs for farmers, drew more than 2,500 growers from the Midwest. Three Farm Bureau members were honored during the Great Lakes Vegetable Convention, Jan. 27-29 in Lansing, for their contributions to the agricultural industry.

The Michigan Vegetable Council gave its highest recognition, the Master Farmer Award, to Edwin and Stanley Radewald of Niles, Berrien County FB members, and the Master Farmer Associate Award to Evelyn Cooper of Kent City, a member of Kent County FB.

The Radewalds currently manage 600 acres for the production of tomatoes and strawberries. Their farm was begun by their grandfather in 1883 and was passed on to the brothers' parents, Edwin and Florence.

The Radewalds are credited with the design of a rollover water dumper for tomatoes that has been manufactured by the Midwestern Machine Co. in Belding.

Cooper and her husband, Russell, produce celery, carrots and bedding plants.

She has testified at EPA hearings in Washington and Chicago on chemical and pesticide regulations. She has also been interviewed by the news media about pesticide safety. Because of her expertise, she was asked to participate in an intensive seminar on medical training sponsored by the national Agricultural Chemical Association.



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

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

The Farmer of the Week Award, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group, recognizes Michigan farmers for their contributions to the agriculture industry and the community.

In addition to recognition from the local news media, award winners receive a plaque and award buckle and belt from the local FBIG agent.

The Farmer of the Week Award recipients for January 1981 were:



JOHN SMALL

Week of Jan. 5 - John Small, 56, a livestock farmer who farms 900 acres and runs a large cow-calf operation near Curran in Alcona County. Small serves as a trustee of Mitchell Town-ship; a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association; a charter member of the Alcona County Farm Bureau; president of the West Branch Feeder Cattle Sale; and a member of the board of directors of the Bay City Production Credit Association. He and his wife, Maxine, have four children.



DANNY HART

Week of Jan. 19 - Danny Hart, 30, a dairy farmer from Grass Lake. He farms a large operation that includes 50 milk cows. In 1979, his was the second most improved herd in Jackson County, as rated by the Dairy Herd Improv ment Association. Hart serves as a 4-H leader; member of the national and state holstein associations; member of the board of the Jackson County Farm Bureau; member of the board of directors of the local DHIA; member of the Michigan Milk Producers Association He and his wife, Sandra, have two children



PAUL STECKER

Week of Jan. 12 - Paul Stecker, 21, a cash crop farmer from Sebeaing. He farms 265 acres in partnership with his brother. Stecker is a member of the Huron County Young Farmers Committee; is active in Immanuel Lutheran Church in Sebewaing where he sings in the men's choir and serves in the Ushers Club; is a member of the Unionville-Sebewaing Chapter of the Future Farmers of America and recip-ient of FFA's Proficiency in Agriculture Award and the State Farmer Degree. He recently received the nation's highest FFA honor, the American Farmer Degree, during the national FFA convention in Kansas City.



ROBERT WANGELIN

Week of Jan. 26 - Robert Wangelin, 44, a dairy farmer from Utica who farms 300 acres and milks 40 cows. A lifelong farmer, Wangelin serves as an elder in St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Mt. Clemens; a member of the church building committee; chairman of the St. Peter's ushers; a member of the Macomb County Farm Bureau; and a past member of the board of education of St. Peter's Lutheran School. He and his wife, Louise, have two children.

Help prevent birth defects SUPPORT MARCH **OF DIMES** THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY THE PUBLISHER

Albion College to Host 1981 Young People's Citizenship Seminar

Albion College will host the 1981 Young People's Citizenship Seminar, June 15-19. Over 200 high school juniors and seniors will gather on the Albion College campus in Albion to participate in a five-day 'summit meeting for youth."

The 1981 Citizenship Seminar will center on four critical topics: the American way of life, people and governments around the world, the main keys in the American free enterprise market system and the American democratic political system and its function as the basis of the American system of government, society and economics.

"I believe that the Farm Bureau-sponsored Citizenship Seminar is a wonderful program. It is good for seminar students, but more importantly, it is good for our state and country as the students learn about our political system," said Lt. Gov. James Brickley, who spoke at last year's seminar

The young people will be introduced to the social, economic and political viewpoints expressed by this year's speakers: Dr. Clifton Ganus, president, Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas; Dr. John Furbay, noted lecturer and author; Dr. Charles Van Eaton, head of the Division of Economics and Business Administration, Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan; and Maria Schultz, Ukrainian refugee and naturalized U.S. citizen.

The students selected for the seminar must be high school juniors or seniors in the 1981-82 school year and should be interested in seminar topics. In addition, they must have leadership potential, be

motivated to learn and discuss principles and issues, have demonstrated scholastic ability and be willing to speak with groups after the seminar.

The cost of this year's seminar is \$110 per student for room, meals, enrollment and furnished materials. Students will be required to provide their own transportation to and from the seminar. Bus transportation will be available to seminar students from northern Michigan for \$25 per student, round trip. The enrollment deadline is April 20, 1981.

Reservations will be taken for the first 230 students, with each county Farm Bureau being guaranteed four places. If vacancies exist after the April 20 deadline, additional students will be accepted in the order that reservations are received at the state office.

March 19 Designated 'Agriculture Day'

A national, united, coordinated effort of farmers and agribusiness representatives on March 19 will focus on the message, "Agriculture: It's Your Heartbeat, America!" The target for that message on Agriculture Day 1981, according to Vivian Lott, chairman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women, will be key decision makers in Congress, state legislatures, government agencies and urban citizens.

There isn't another industry which is more impacted by the decisions of others than agricul-ture," said Lott. "Often those decisions are made or influenced by people who have little or no understanding of agriculture. We realize we can't give them an agricultural short course in one day, but at least we can remind them of the importance of our industry and hope they will contact us when they're called upon to make a decision that affects the farm community.

Lott believes that understanding and support of agriculture by the non-farm public is especially important in Michigan, where citizens are suffering from current economic problems. "Our agricultural industry is certainly the state's most stable industry, contributing 50 billion dollars to the economy last year," she said. "It's vitally important to all Michigan citizens that their state's agriculture remains stable and growing.

In Michigan, the agricultural community will be sharing its story at shopping malls, in restaurants and supermarkets, in schools and special rural urban events.

This year will be the first time that Agriculture Day has been officially proclaimed a national observance by the U.S. Congress and it is expected that Gov. Milliken will also issue a proclamation encouraging Michigan citizens to salute agriculture



America's consumers may get no closer to agriculture than the supermarket. They don't realize that the food they buy is an incredible bargain. That it costs 35% of disposable income to feed a family in the Soviet Union. 37% in Brazil. A staggering 50% in India. They don't know that agriculture is

this nation's leading employer, exporter, and our nation's No. 1 industry. They don't understand agriculture. They don't understand you. That's why supporting Agriculture Day is so important. Agriculture Day is your chance to speak out. To tell American consumers

'81 Mexican Bean Contract

Second Year Sales **Expected to Top** \$65 Million

For the second consecutive year, Michigan bean producers and Mexican government officials have struck a bargain for a multi-million-dollar dry bean contract that is expected to bring about \$65 million to Michigan growers and another \$35 million to farmers in other parts of the United States.

According to Dale Kuenzli, president of A and B Corp. in St. Johns, U.S. producers have agreed to sell Mexico about 400,000 metric tons of beans. Michigan producers will provide about 180,000 metric tons of pinto and black turtle beans. The contract is likely to involve 16 counties and some 2,000 growers who helped fill the 1980 contract.

That contract called for the Mexican government to purchase 112,000 metric tons of beans from Michigan growers. Paid \$25 per hundredweight, growers in the state grossed nearly \$40 million. Beans purchased from other areas accounted for about \$20 million.

Under the terms of the new contract that was finalized in late January, the price of the

beans remains the same, but the Mexican government is buying almost 100,000 metric tons more than last year, when drought and a poor winter harvest forced the country to look for beans beyond its own borders.

The bean contracts with Mexico have opened a new and continuing market for Michigan beans. Almost onethird of the state's total bean crop already is being sold to Mexico, and sales are expected to hold steady. Improved trade relations between the United States and Mexico, a growing Mexican population, and economic benefits from oil and gas are signs that Mexico will have

both the need to import beans and the money to pay for them. "We feel this project simply contributed millions of dollars to crop farmers in Michigan, Michigan Farm Bureau and particularly to bean growers,' Kuenzli says. Domestic prices climbed substantially, rising to \$24.50 per hundredweight. "We would have been hustling to get \$18 without the contract," Kuenzli adds. adopt the less restrictive federal

Michigan Agricultural Services Association members and staff had their efforts opposing proposed MIOSHA youth employment standards rewarded when Department of Labor Director Patrick Babcock announced that Michigan would

standards. In response to the announcement, Harold Scharp, MASA manager, who had earlier accused the DOL of "bureaucratic arrogance" for ignoring the overwhelming testimony in favor of adopting the federal standards, called the decision a "major victory" for agriculture.

Scharp expressed gratitude that Babcock, who has announced his resignation from the DOL post, did not leave the decision to a successor.

"Michigan agriculture owes thanks to Mr. Babcock for carrying out this decisionmaking responsibility himself rather than taking the easy way out by leaving the decision to someone else," said Scharp. "His decision to stay with the federal youth employment standards, instead of subjecting Michigan farmers to more stringent regulations, kept this issue of concern from dragging on even longer than it already has.

"Naturally, we're very happy that the DOL has responded to the legitimate concerns of the agricultural community by accepting the fact, in the absence of any sound evidence to the contrary, that the federal standards are adequate government regulation," Scharp said. "Personally, I'm gratified

that, after nearly three years of

Farm Labor Issues to be Discussed at MASA Annual Meeting March 18

The Michigan Agricultural Services Association annual meeting and farm labor conference will be held March 18 at the Pick Motor Inn in Grand Rapids.

The day-long meeting will address numerous farm labor issues including minimum wage, unemployment insurance and agricultural employment sanctions.

Perry Ellsworth, executive vice president of the National Council of Agricultural Employers, a long-time Washington resident who monitors the Washington scene, will speak on farm labor issues. Ellsworth feels that there will be major changes affecting agricultural employment laws, including unemployment insurance, minimum wage and overtime requirements. Ellsworth says that agricultural employers who employ undocumented workers can expect some type of new sanctions.

Minimum wage for agricultural workers will be addressed by Bill Byrum, a member of the National Study Commission on Minimum Wage and an agricultural candidate for the Michigan State University board of trustees last fall. The National Study Commission on Minimum Wage is finalizing its three-year study and will report numerous legislative recommendations, which will probably be the foundation for changes in minimum wage laws, to Congress.

George Warren, an attorney with Sinas, Dramis, Brake, Boughton, McIntyre and Reisig law firm, which administers MASA's Legal Services program, will speak on saving tax dollars. Warren has extensive

background and experience in state and national tax laws and can help many farmers save their tax dollars.

The annual meeting program will also include an update on legislative reforms in the state's workers' compensation and unemployment insurance programs, as well as information concerning a legal service program for farmers and an activity report on MASA's statewide Legal Defense Fund.

"Labor laws no longer affect just traditional labor intensive farming operations," said Harold Scharp, MASA opera-tions manager. "All farmers hiring any labor, even on a infrequent basis, are invited to attend this farm labor conference and learn what labor laws affect them."

The conference begins with registration at 9 a.m.

Youth Employment Standards Decision Considered Victory by MASA and MFB

meetings, public hearings, and written testimony, the agricultural community has, at last, been granted this reprieve from further restrictive state regula-tions," he concluded.

AgriPac 'Friends' Honored



Three urban legislators were honored at the February MFB board meeting for their consistent support of agriculture. Pictured with MFB President Elton Smith are (left to right) Rep. James Defebaugh (R-Birmingham), Thaddeus Stopczynski (D-Detroit) and Stanley Stopczynski (D-Detroit). The awards were in conjunction with AgriPac's "Friends of Agriculture." Rep. Mark Siljander (R-Three Rivers) had previously been recognized at the MFB annual meeting.

Saginaw Mall Display Draws Large Urban Audience



Young visitors at the Fashion Square Mall in Saginaw were at tracted to the small animal displays and were especially fond of the small lambs. The four-day agricultural display was sponsored by the Saginaw, Midland, Huron, Bay and Tuscola county Farm Bureaus.



Ask how you can help. After all, if you don't care about Agriculture Day...they may never learn about agriculture.

how important agriculture is to them. To tell the entire nation that we have a stake in keeping our country a leader in agricul-ture. A leader free from unnecessary regulation and interference. Make your commitment now to sup-port Agriculture Day on March 19, 1981. Write the Agriculture Day Foundation:

FARM NEWS

PAGE 14

OPEN LETTERS

Andrea Hofmeister Michigan Farm Bureau 1980 Outstanding Young Farm Woman

Dear Dick,

How is sunny Florida? We've been slightly envious of your move to a warmer climate this winter. Do you miss Michigan's blizzards? Probably not. I have recently read a couple of articles of direct interest to you and Linda. As your sister-in-law, I feel I should keep you abreast of current events.

The Detroit Free Press has carried several articles about a report published by the President's Commission for a National Agenda for the Eighties. It stated that the cities of the North were beyond help and that the cost of heating homes and businesses during the winter was going to drive everyone to the South. They recommended that federal spending be designed to aid a gradual migration south instead of revitalizing the northern cities. That means that sunny Florida may become a bit crowded in the years to come.

I was just fantasizing about life as a Michigan farmer should everyone abandon us by the year 2025. I assume the country would still need Michigan's agricultural production, but if there was no fuel....

It's March, 2025, and Ken and I have just finished our rounds. We inspect all the farms in our township on a regular basis while the owners are gone for the winter. On December 1, all farmers board up their homes, padlock their sheds and catch the semiannual train south.

It's been our job for the last 25 years to guard our neighbors' property during the winter. This year our government allotment of fuel is running low. It's been a long, exceptionally cold winter and even at 60° our house is drafty. We can't keep the place at 55° as requested by the authorities because at 75 years of age, our arthritis makes life miserable.

It seems much colder now that all the trees are gone. Back in 2000, we needed that wood for stoves and the last tree disappeared about 2010. Now the wind is fierce and the snow drifts to awesome heights.

There are bands of wild dogs everywhere and on our electric snowmobile runs to the surrounding farms, we carry a shotgun at all times. You'd think with all the corn left unharvested last year that the deer would be plentiful enough for the dogs to eat. (All corn unharvested by December 1 must be abandoned.) But they still chase us, perhaps for sport. They're descendants of the pets people left behind when they went south.

This will be our last year as township caretakers. We'll leave the job to some younger couple who hates the crowds, pollution and confusion of the Sunbelt. We'll miss seeing the crops grow. There aren't any crops south of the Mason-Dixon line. They've all been paved over or subdivided for the 300 million Americans jammed together down there.

By April 1, the farmers will be streaming in on rail cars, ready to start another season. Their families arrive later when the nights are warm enough for the little ones. Meanwhile, the men stay at the township hall, sleeping on cots and huddling around a trash fire in the evenings. It's a lonely time for them and their families. It's a lonely time for us all....

Just a passing fantasy, Dick. Not altogether logical, but kind of eerie just the same. I don't believe a word of it, of course, but how expensive would a one-acre homesite down there be right now? Just curious.

Love Andi



Ogemaw County Couple Wins MMPA Outstanding Young Dairy Couple Title

A young Ogemaw County couple, who four years ago faced the challenge of PBB in their herd, now holds the title of "Outstanding Young Dairy Couple."

Richard and Shirley Nelson of rural West Branch vied against 10 other couples - all district winners - in the annual contest sponsored by the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

The Nelsons operate a 382acre farm and have a 46-cow herd. Both are active in MMPA and Farm Bureau, in addition to community service activities. They have provided leadership in projects aimed at promoting understanding and support of agriculture by the non-farm public, including speakers' bureau, rural-urban activities, city youth exchange day, agriculture understanding day and agricultural skits for first and second graders. They are also "dairy communicators" for MMPA.

As winners of the title, the Nelsons will represent MMPA



(continued from page 2) have the quality of young farmers that the 11 couples in this annual contest represented, we can look foward to an exciting, productive, progressive era for agriculture and its beneficiaries.

Not only are these young



RICHARD AND SHIRLEY NELSON

at the National Milk Producers Federation annual meeting this fall in Las Vegas. During 1981, they will represent MMPA and Michigan's dairy industry through appearances at various events.

The Nelsons have two children, Brian, 5, and Lori, 3.

Runners-up in this year's contest were Sam and Brenda

Gingell of Brown City, who operate a 350-acre farm and have a 45-cow herd. They have had the highest herd average in Lapeer County for 10 years and highest herd average in the state for three years.

The Nelsons and the Gingells will be recognized at MMPA's annual meeting on March 21 at Michigan State University.

Here Come 'de Judge

couples top-notch farmers, they are also, without exception, making a positive impact on their communities (their lists of activities made me ashamed that I am so often "too busy" for community service), their organizations, and the agricultural industry. The comfort of that conclusion is the knowledge that they are raising yet another generation in their image. While not all from that generation may be tomorrow's farmers, they'll inherit a work ethic and value system that our world needs so badly.

Member-to-Member Early Spring Sale Order Deadline: March 20, 1981 Delivery: Week of April 6

1.	Florida Valencia Oranges, 4/5 bushel	\$10	90	
The start	Florida Pink Seedless Grapefuit, 4/5 bushel	\$10	.60	
2000	Hi-D Orange Concentrate, 24/12 ounce can3/case	\$30	50	Land C.
	Hi-D Grapefruit Concentrate, 24/12 ounce cans/case	\$25	.50	2
and the second	Skinless Peanuts, 20 ounce can (Vac Pak)	\$2	.95	Barlin Ma
	Sharp Cheddar Cheese, 4/1 lb. pkg./case	\$10	50	1
-	Medium Cheddar Cheese, 4/1 lb. pkg/case	510	00	
	Colby Cheese, 4/1 lb. pkg/case	\$9	70	Sant 1
1000	Monterey Jack Cheese, 4/1 lb. pkg/case	59	70	
	Vintage Ham, 4/4 lb. halves/case (\$2.29/lb.)	Approx \$36	.64	
- Marina	Thick-cut bacon, 8/11/1 lb. pkg/case	\$17	.50	
1	Hot Dogs, 5 lb. box	\$7	.70	
	Hickory Stick, 4 lb. average	\$9	.95	
2000	Apple Cider Concentrate, 12/15 ounce jugs/case	\$18	.70	
		To	tal	
	Address		1	

Michigan Farm Bureau members... Don't let this date fly by!

FARM NEWS



Sign up now for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan health care coverage.

Your coverage will become effective Wednesday, May 20. Farm Bureau families who want the best health care coverage available choose Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan.

- Get the I.D. card that's recognized all over Michigan and the nation.
- Pick your own doctor from thousands of participating physicians.
- Choose your own hospital from hundreds of participating hospitals.
- A statewide network of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan service centers.
- · Get the best value for your health care dollar.

Don't wait for tomorrow...enroll with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan NOW! See your Farm Bureau secretary today. Enrollment period runs through Sunday, March 15, 1981.



Don't get sick without it.

Should Agriculture be Exempt From Construction Code?

When the state Construction Code (P.A. 230 of 1972) was enacted, Farm Bureau was instrumental in having agriculture exempted. The exemption for agricultural buildings was granted because the number of inspections and inspection fees required by the code during the after construction would have been burdensome to farmers. Farmers were also excluded from the requirement that agricultural buildings be designed by an architect, a requirement which would have also added to the farm operator's costs.

As a result, the act defines a building as meaning "A combination of materials, whether portable or fixed, forming a structure, affording a facility of shelter for use or occupancy by persons, animals or property. The term does not include a building incidental to... use for agricultural purposes of the land on which the building is located if it is not used in the business of retail trade."

Because P.A. 230 states, "this act and code are applicable throughout the state...," it has been suggested that exempting agriculture is a discriminatory practice. Concern has also been expressed about the safety and health of livestock housed in farm buildings and the individuals who work in them.

Snowload Capacities

Those in favor of rescinding the agriculture exemption from the state's Construction Code point to the number of farm buildings which have collapsed during recent heavy snowstorms. According to Henry Green, chief of the Building Division of the Michigan Department of Labor, most farm buildings in use today are constructed with roofs which will withstand a weight of 17 pounds per square foot. Knowledgeable builders and building inspectors consider this far inadequate. They point out that in addition to protecting the contents of the building from weather, many roofs of farm buildings have heavy equipment attached to rafters or supports. The Bureau of Construction Codes has suggested that to prevent roof failures because of heavy snows, the minimum snowload capacity for agricultural buildings should be approximately 30 pounds per square foot, plus the dead load weight.

• The snowload for a roof may be computed by multiplying the maximum snow depth on the ground (in inches) by .8. For example, 48 inches of snow would weigh approximately 38 pounds per square foot (48 × .8 equals 38.4). Add ice and rain and the actual roof load could top 60 pounds per square foot.

In recent years, snowfall has exceeded the average in some localities in the state. This has caused several roofs to collapse resulting in damage to expensive equipment as well as livestock losses.

The optimum roof load capacity varies according to local climatic conditions. Based upon average regional snowfall, the Bureau of Construction Codes recommends that roof structures be able to withstand weights varying from 20 pounds per square foot in some southern Michigan counties to 30 pounds per square foot in Central Michigan and up to 40 pounds per square foot, or more, along the Lake Michigan shoreline and in the Upper Peninsula. Of course, machinery attached to the roof increases the amount of weight the roof structure must withstand.

Electrical Systems

The use of electricity on farms has spiraled to unprecedented levels in the past decade. Along with the increased usage, the capacity of these electrical systems on farms has increased in size and potential. The 400-600-800 ampere, single phase system has become commonplace. The number of 480 volt, 200 to 600 ampere, three phase systems is growing dramatically. If not properly installed, the potential for shock injury or loss of life and property

from these systems knows no boundary. "Stray voltages" in dairy facilities and other confined animal housing units have resulted in production losses for many farmers.

An analysis of electrical systems, conducted by MSU's Agricultural Engineering Department on more than 100 farms, revealed that almost 40 percent had a voltage problem. The source of stray voltages on the surveyed farmsteads have been categorized into three areas:

•Improper or inadequate system grounding.

Lack of equipment grounding and overloading.
A general disregard of the National Electrical Code when installing an electrical system because of lack of knowledge or because electricians installed electrical equipment unapproved for the application. These practices create unsafe conditions, but will allow the installer to cheapen the job bid to beat out a competitor.

The presence of moisture and corrosive conditions makes the typical farm a likely candidate for electrical problems associated with stray voltages. Stray voltages, which often have disastrous consequences on the dairy farm, are not new. Nearly 20 years of research and testing have revealed definite evidence that stray voltages from milking frames to the ground will cause animal stress and reduce milk production.

Researchers have determined that AC voltages of three volts or higher will definitely cause animal aggravation and voltages as low as one volt will cause problems in cows that have teat end problems and will reduce milk production by an average of 12 percent.

Dairymen are not the only farmers experiencing stray voltages on their farms. Some swine farrowing units have also experienced serious production losses due to stray voltages.

Under normal conditions, most farm electrical systems will produce approximately .5 volts of stray voltage; most livestock are affected by voltages in the .5 to 1.0 volt range.

One reason the problem of stray voltages is so critical on farms is that animals have a much lower body resistance than humans. The body resistance of a typical cow is in the range of 350 ohms. By comparison, the human body resistance is approximately 1000 ohms. A farmer, especially one who is wearing rubber boots, might never become aware of the small voltages which are affecting his livestock.

Small, stray voltages in milking parlors have caused cows to refuse to enter the parlor, act exremely nervous while in the parlor, be reluctant to drink and eat in the parlor. Uneven milk out, lower milk production and an increase in mastitis have also resulted. In swine farrowing units with stray voltages, mastitis was common as was scours; baby pigs had a lower than normal growth rate and higher death rate.

Trouble Shooting Electrical Problems

The engineers of the USDA's Science and Education Administrative, Agricultural Research, say that detecting and correcting stray voltage problems should not be left to a novice using a volt meter and checklist. A thorough knowledge of electrical theory, instrumentation, electrical equipment, wiring practices and wiring codes, as well as experience in trouble-shooting and testing, are necessary to detect, analyze and correct stray voltage problems.

When the state's Construction Code was developed farmers were concerned that contracted services of an electrician would add significant costs to installing an electrical system. In addition, there would be the need for inspections by persons untrained in agricultural building technology.

Farm buildings today are subject to inspection by the owner's insurance company. These inspectors have training and make comprehensive inspections.

This might be a more practical alternative to having a local inspector, without proper training or background, make the inspection.

We have briefly discussed some of the pros and cons of whether farm buildings should or should not be exempt from the state's Construction Code. What's your opinion?

QUESTIONS

1. Do you feel building contractors in your area are capable of constructing farm buildings to withstand the average snow fall?

🗆 Yes 🗆 No

2. Do you feel electrical contractors in your area are capable of installing electrical systems in farm buildings which do not have voltage problems?

🗆 Yes 🗆 No

3. Do you think farmers should be protected by requiring compliance with the state Construction Code?

🗆 Yes 🗆 No

4. Do you think there should be a requirement for agricultural buildings to be designed by an architect even though fees would be involved?

🗆 Yes 🗆 No

5. Suggested policy on Construction Code:



Midwest Dairy Leaders to Confer on Future of Industry

Midwestern dairy leaders will meet March 10-12 in Detroit to take a look at the future of the U.S. milk industry.

"There are substantial challenges ahead for dairy producers, ranging from coping with rising energy costs to assuring quality milk and milk products for the consumer," said Glynn McBride, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service agricultural economist.

One of the most important factors in the future health of the industry is the assurance of a good market for dairy products.

"To help assure that the proper steps are taken for tomorrow's market, we will examine production practices from the farm through the retail counter," McBride said. Conference topics range from tailoring milk production at the farm to fit market demand to research developments in whey drying.

"We will also be taking a look at regulations, the status of the cheese manufacturing industry, milk demand in the fast-food market, and how the consumer feels about the current quality of dairy products," McBride said.

"The most significant aspect of the dairy industry's future is the consumer. Our product is directly dependent on market needs, and to help assure a healthy market, the product must be of the quality and quantity the consumer expects. In this respect, we'll examine the good and bad things we are doing now and try to determine how to gear our production to meet demand 5 and 10 years from now."

The three-day conference will be held, at the Host International Hotel in Detroit.

Glenn Lake, who is retiring as the Michigan Milk Producers Association president, is the honorary conference chairman and will give the keynote address.

Capitol Report

(continued from page 6)

local and state levels.

Several other policy areas were discussed, including water surveillance fees; land disposal of waste, water and sludge; agricultural chemicals and drugs; and solid waste disposal.

Gov. Milliken requested that FB keep him informed on individual issues as they arise.



Here's How . . . As a livestock feeder or cash crop operator, you know it takes a lot of money to get off to a good start each spring. For example, if you're a dairy producer with an average size herd and 200 acres of corn, your investment during spring planting is likely to be \$10,000 or more.

Let the Farm Bureau people help you cut expenses. Make your Farm Bureau feed and fertilizer purchases between March 2 and April 30, 1981 . . . now at pre-spring prices! When your receipts total \$10,000, you'll qualify for a FREE Homelite[®] Chain Saw — a \$239.90 value, including carrying case.*

Just bring the receipts to your participating Farm Bureau Dealer, along with the certificate below. Once your qualification is verified by Farm Bureau Services, you will receive your FREE Homelite Chain Saw as our way of saying "thanks" for your business.

Attached are my receipts for Farm Bureau feed and fertilizer purchases between March

2 and April 30, 1981, totaling \$10,000 or

more. I understand this qualifies me to re-

ing case valued at \$239.90

ceive a free Homelite Chain Saw and carry-

13

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City _____ State ___ Zip ____

Telephone _____

Dealer Signature_

Farm Bureau Services Validation ____

Limit one free chain saw per farm enterprise.

Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

PAGE 18

DeVuyst Chosen Farm Credit **Board Chairman**

Larry L. DeVuyst of Ithaca has been re-elected chairman of the Farm Credit Board of St. Paul. DeVuyst, a cash crop farmer, will serve a one-year term

DeVuyst was first appointed to a three-year term as directorat-large in January 1977. He was reappointed to a second term beginning in January 1980.

DeVuyst is a member and has served as director of the Federal Land Bank Association of St. Johns and is a member of the Production Credit Association of Alma. He served as District 8 director on the MFB board from 1972 to 1980.

The Farm Credit Banks of St. Paul are composed of three banks, the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank and the Bank for Cooperatives. The three banks serve farmers and their cooperatives in the Seventh Farm District -Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin.



furnace add-on the only change In your heating method is the fuel ... and fremendous savings on your energy bills. • Connects to existing furnace

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Dale A. Dean 1946

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222 N. MICHIGAN AVE. COLDWATER, MI 49036 At Coldwater's east city limits to stop light then 1 mile north to his farm and office.

AUCTION CALENDAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 14 – 1:00 P.M. – Farm machinery in Include White #7300G. Combine w/A.C. 704 N. Corn Head, 15' Kwik Cut Grain Head and less than 400 hours: 1969 Chev. C/50 w/14' Bed and Hoist: 2 – J & M #250 Gravity Boxes on 10 Ton Gears: I.H.M. Tractor; Melroe 4×16 Spring. Reset Semi Mtd. Plow and much, much more. Located 5 miles south of Coldwater on U.S. 27 to Central Rd., then 2½ miles west to corner of Central & Block. Rds. MR. & MRS. NEVIN CLAAR, OWNERS (BRANCH CO.)

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 - 2:00 P.M. - 39.5 Acre Horse or Crop Farm with a very good modern farm home and good set of barns. Will sell as parcels - #1 - modern farm home w/4.5 acres - #2 - 35 acres vacant land, then as 1 unit - with highest bid price determining manner of sale - see through and over all at OPEN HOUSE PREVIEWS - Feb. 28, March 1-7-8-14 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Located south of thaca, Mich. 2½ miles on U.S. 27 to Buchanan Rd., then west 1 mile. GARY & CONNIE LITTLE. OWNERS (GRATIOT CO.)

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 - 4:00 P.M. SHARP - 134½ acres - with excellent - St. Johns prosperous Cen-tral Michigan area location. Will sell in 5 parcets - and then offered as an entirety with highest bid total -determining the manner of sale. 15% deposit of bid price - day of sale. Balance - cash at closure within 30 days. So see all at OPEN HOUSE PREVIEWS - See your favorite lender - BE THERE - to BID and BUY your choice - SUNDAY, MARCH 15. Selling individually and then offered as the entirety!!! 1½ miles north of M-21 on Scott Road (at east city limits of St. Johns) - then ¾ mile east to 1769 E Avery Road. - GEORGE E. & FRANCIS M. JORAE, OWNERS (CLINTON CO.)

MONDAY, MARCH 16 - 1:00 P.M. SHARP - Outstanding FULL LINE - TOP - READY FOR FIELD MACHINERY, Inc, J.D. Hydro-Stat, #7700-D Combine w/6-30 Corn & 16 Grain and 16 W Stälkwaker, Sunthower Header, AND w/MUDHOG rear wheel drive. 1978 Ford 9700-D w/under 300 hours, cab, air, direct axle dual weights & 18'4' x36's - Seite all on!!! 1978 - J.D. 2640-D w/under 500 hours, Hi-Lo-Trans., Dual Couplers, HD Axles, GPM Pumps; 1978 - 4336 J.D. Baler w/Hi-Floation Tires and #30 Thrower; 1977 #477 Haybine and #256 Hay Rack - 2 Custom Built 18' Bale Racks & Gear; 1977 #45 WATER WINCH and J.D. #615-D - Ag Rain Pump w/Berkley Pump, w/under 600 hours, 2400'6' Aluminum, Clamphood Pipe; 1980 NEW - Demo - Used only DRY-MOR - Red Bird - Single Phase, LP Dryer - (Totally qualified for A.S.C.S. financing - see your own county office) - and full, like line of allied tillage equipment! LOCATED 3 miles north of Scottville, Mich. - to Sugar Grove Rd., then ½ mile east. TOM & CHERYL CAMPBELL, Owners (MASON CO.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1981 - 10 a.m. - Sharp! TOTAL LIQUIDATION AUCTION - industrial real estate - totally modern, light manufacturing or assembly line - 80'x120', plus 16'x24' truck well loading dock - and 24'x80' - separate storage building, all in excellent ready-to-use condition. PLUS - 2 con-necting 2½ acre parcels of light industrially zoned land, selling after factory building and 5 acres. SEE MORE BELOW.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 – 10 a.m. – 172 acres of level, highly productive farmland, plus totally modern, residential brick family home. Will sell as parcels – No. 1 of exceptionally fine home and 15 acres and pole barn buildings. No. 2 – 25 acres vacant fand with Silver Lake Road home site frontage. No. 3 – 77 acres vacant farmland with total irrigation possible. No. 4 – 55 acres vacant farmland – 1 field! Will sell separately and offered as one unit – monthly, quarterly or semi-annual on land contract. All at 11% – 5 years – locked-in, interest rate.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 - 10 a.m. - Exceptionally good total line of late model farm machinery in-cluding 1978 Long 1310D, 18x38" duals, 130 h.p., low, low hours! 1978, purchased new in 1979. White 8900D combine with 6 row 30" corn and 15' grain, quick cut, bean head with low hours, heavy line of 2 and 3 year old J.D. farm equipment and allied lines to farm 1,000 acres. Will self after real tely 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21 - 10 a.m. - Total line of complete, modern, well kept home furnishin appliances. Will sell at 10 a.m. sharp! Watch for or mail for full auction brochures, sale bills for or substances. Will self at 10 a.m. sharpf Watch for or mail for full auction brochures, sale bills for order of sale and complete listings of real estate and personal which will sell. Located 2½ miles west of Men-don, Mich. on M-60 to Silver Lake Road, then ½ mile north to 902 Silver Lake Road, in beautiful free studded home site location. JAMES & DONNA EBERSTEIN, OWNERS: (ST. JOSEPH CO.)

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 - 2:30 p.m. sharp - 262 acres of vacant farmland in one chunck of 1981's prob-ably most outstanding, DIVERSIFIED use, vacant land purchasing opportunities – will sell as 2 acres with blacktop home site frontage and all less than 1½ miles from Marshail, Mich., city limits; and 2 equal 130-acre vacant land parcels, then as 1 unit – with highest bid price determining manner of salet FARMENS, INVESTORS, SPECULATORS, ATTENTION: DIVERSIFIED POSSIBILITIES UNLIMITED HEREIII Approximately 200 acres, or more, rolling but total row cropped – tillable – land – utilized as pasture land by owner for years – Fox & Hillsdale loarn – with year around live stream crossing entire parcel for total irrigation (not needed for 125 bu., 115 day maturity corn!!!) – OR – 18 hole golf course with Condo's or multi-complexes or residential, Stallion Station & Brood Mare Farm – with H69 total ex-posure at west end of property and 40 acres of beautiful 10°-15° clean, oak woods! See Full photo ads – and full sale bills – you must see it to believe its totally unlimited possibilities! So bring your skis, snowmobiles or 4-wheel drives!! Walk, drive, ski it Located 1 mile north of Marshail, Mich., city limits on Old U.S. 27 or (H44 oid U.S. 27 exit) then north ½ mile to G Drive North, then only ½ mile to farm sale site!!! RALPH & SHIRLEY SWAFFORD, OWNERS. (CALHOUN CO.)

sale site!!! RALPH & SHIRLEY SWAFFORD, OWNERS. (CALHOUN CO.) MONDAY, MARCH 30 & TUESDAY, MARCH 31 – 10:30 A.M. – 2203 acres – one of Michigan's tops in successful farm operations for over 40 years!!! Will sell as PARCEL #1 – 300 acres w/Grade A – D-8 total DeLaval dairy set-up. All dairy equipment inc. 2 bulk tanks (300 hd, have been milked here) will sell after land!! Includes \$100,000 brick ranch style 4-bedroom, 3 bath home!!! Total building com-plex – PL(35 – 40' x 150' x 10' concrete bunker silo, PLUS, 25' x 80', 24' x 70' Harvestores will sell after land! ARCEL #2 – 1030 acres, w/total grain drying & storage set-up, bed! teding pole barn set-up, equip. Storage, PLUS beautiful \$125,000 2-story colonial style home!!! Plus, full 2 family duplex!! PARCEL #3 – 670 acres – wooded lands w/totally private lake – A scenic cak, pine, maple, etc. tree studded master place w/over 2¼ miles of county road frontage!!! For 10 to 40 acre development or your privately owned over one section paradise!!! All of this less than 40 miles from Grand Bapids, 25 to Muskegon, Grand Haven, etc.!!! Parcels will sell separately and then as entirely with highest Gross Bid Total determining manner of sale!!! Buy 1 – your choice or all 3!!! PARCEL #5 – 115 acres, vacant lied land – 1 field connects to 300 acre Grade A dairy farm above. PARCEL #5 – 12 vacant acres, 1 field. NOTE – Parcels 4, 5 & 6 will sell after Grade A Dairy Farm – individually and will not be sold with or tied to Parcels 1, 2 & 3 above!!! So if you're looking for top producing level tiled land to add to yours, this is your opportunity – be there.

Then ask - exactly what does over 34 years - Michigan farm real estate sales experience mean when you put all you own - your life savings in farm real estate and personal property on the market and or - when you put your whole life and your lifetime savings into purchasing a farm and the personal property?

YES - ASK THE MAN ON THE RIGHT - He, too, has lifetime experience in farm real estate and personal property!! Whether it's SELLING OR BUYING - why not put his experience and farm specialized knowledge to work for you??? Located at Coldwater east city limits stop light - then one mile north - Dale is NOT ASSOCIATED with the "Better Homes & Gardens Office."

Dale A. Dean 1981

PLUS 6 HOMES - PARCELS # 6, 9, 10, 11 each 1 story homes - Plus 1% acres of land!! #12 & 13 each 2 story frame homes - one with good barn. NOTE: ALL HOMES WITH BLACKTOP FRONTAGEIII Homes will sell after farmland!! and TERMS - farmland - All sells with only 10% down of bid price sale date - 10% more down date of closure -balance on land contract with 30 year amortization of principal - plus interest - at only 10% - locked-In for 5 years!!! Then principal balance due in full or 5 more years with interest rate to be negotiated. NOTE: ALl farm real estate, bldgs & all homes will sell on Monday. March 30. Plus, the 2 Harvestores on farm #1 and a 20' X72 Harvestore - 2 w/Goliaths & 1 w/Herc. unloaders. PLUS all dairy parlor & teediol equipment - dairy misc. - haylage - corn silage & hi-moisture shelled & hi-moisture ground ear corn. A wagon load of clean misc. PLUS all liquid manure imgation equip. INC. Gorman-Rupp Chopper Pump w/25 hph 3 ph. motor. Gorman-Rupp high pressure - manure - irriga-tion pump - 1000 RPM 6-6" P.T. O. Water-Winch Quarter Mile Rainbird w/big gun - reel & hose. 5-row anhydrous applicator. DeLaval 3 pt. pit agitator, and #2100 Better Built Vacuum Spreader, tandem axie withotation tires, etc.!!

w/flotation tires, etc.II **TUESDAY, MARCH 31** 10:30 A.M. SHARP – All Farm Machinery – 10 tractors inc. Ford FW-30 w/603 Cummings – 270 hph. & complete accessories and under 1000 hrs.; White 4-150 CAB, all ex-tras = 20.8 x 38 tires – 3 pt. 1000 PTO low hours!I Ford 9700 cab, etc. 20.8 x 38 tires; Ford #6600 Gleaner M-2 Hyrdo Combine; 1978 Corn Soy Bean Special w/3-30 & 15' Grain Hds., 135 hph-D, 23-30 Rice Tires w/23-130 Rice Duals & Mud Hog Rear End w/14-9 Rice; New Holland #890 Chopper winew style controls, 3-30 corn w/hay p.u. (2-row Narrow-Snapper Hd. selling.separate) 8 thrucks-tractors w/dump 40' Possium Belly 42' Step Deck, etc., traifors, comb. racks, etc. Plus all in tillage, hay, forage equip. to farm 5000 acres, IN BRIEF – Approx. \$500,000 in personal property & 1 wagon small – clean – & shop tools, misc. So be on time, both days!II TERMS; Personal: Cash, personal check and or w/lendor's letter of credit!! OPEN HOUSE PREVIEWS: Saturdays & Sundays, March 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 & 29, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. LOCATED – Approx. 30 miles N.W. of Grand Rapids. Mich. on M-37 to Bailey, Michigan then 5 miles west on Bailey Road to Squires Road, then ½ mile south – LOYD & MARGARET, JIM & RUTH ANN, JACK AND MARY ARENDS, OWNERS (NEWAYGO & MUSKEGON COS.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 - Your April auction should be advertised here!!!!

SATURDAY, APRIL 11 – 1:30 p.m. – ABSOLUTELY UNBELIEVEABLE... in a 7,000 sq. ft. Ultimate In living splendor, comfort and luxurious serenity!! – 6½ BATHS, PLUS SAUNA!! 5 bedrooms, plus a studio apartment w/own full bath, bedroom, kitchen, living room – so cheerfully decorated and com-plete for your parents, guests, college students, weekends, summers, vacations or total use. Designed into this dream home as a totally functional part for homekeeper's use, but so discreetly their is total

Two fireplaces, 130' continuous elate tile exterior, entryway foyer. Master bedroom w/dressing room, bath w/roman tile heated floor, heated drying wall pad, gold fixtures, total vanity dressing area. Massive recreation room w/total kitchen and wet bar and fireplace. Utra large living room w/lireplace, formal dining room, also total kitchen and wet bar and fireplace. Utra large living room w/lireplace, tormal dining room, also total kitchen and wet bar and fireplace. Utra large living room w/lireplace, tormal dining room, also total kitchen nametrike recessed exterior walls, 14 Anderson double thermo pane siliding doors – opening onto overall 4/ exterior patio – totally lighted with brass fixtures – 3-car heated garage, heated blacktop drive, canopy car/home entry, lawn entirely underground spinkling and MORE, MORE, MORETI – Plus – beautiful pool w/cabana, 30'x100' polybe building structure w/blacktopped drive, parking area, finished drifice, shower bath, dock, etc. CONDITION??? Meticulous, immaculate and spotless are futile adjectives. We welcome the most discriminating at our Open House Previews: Saturdays and Sundays – March 14 & 15, 21 & 22, 28 & 29 and April 4 & 5, and Friday, April 10 from 1 to 5 p.m. OVER \$20,000 in Custom Built & Stock, spotless, will set at auction, too!!! Located 1½ miles east of Wayland, Mich to 7h Street, north to end

spotless, will set at auction, tool!! Located 1½ miles east of Wayland, Mich. to 7th Street, nort of road – on your left!!! #3560 7th Street. CHRIS & WILMA VAN NOLLER. (ALLEGAN CO.) rth to end

SATURDAY, APRIL 18 - 1:00 P.M. - In the central Upper Peninsula - 15 acre mini farm with updated 3-bedroom home, new 40' x 56' pole bidg., remodeled 38 stanchion barn, plus a 5 acre tree studded building site with creek, also trucks, trailers, and allied equipment for a hideaway, getaway, small business or working dairy farm. This one has many possibilities. Watch for further details. MR. & MRS HENRY FOOTE (MACKINAW CO.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 - 1:00 P.M. SHARP - Holstein Dairy Herd, mature cows, bred heifers, ope heifers, calves, Grade A dairy equipment, buik tank, milkers - gutter cleaner and full line clear medium size farm machinery inc. hay, forage & tilliate tools. Located 1½ miles north of SL John Mich. - on Scott Road (at M-21 - east city limits) - to Avery Road, then ¼ mile east. GEORGE E. FRANCIS JORAE, owners (CLINTON CO.) - and WATCH FOR MORE AUCTIONS to be announced next edit

A - Yes, Your 1981 - Farm Real Estate, Dairy Cattle and or Farm Machinery Auction should be booked NOW - with Dale A. Dean's AUCTION'S Unlimited® AND - in Our Advance Notice Calendar Ads, in Michigan and Ohio Farmer, Michigan Farm News, Farmer's Advance, etc. -AUCTIONS already booked through and into June 1981!!!! - Call Dale -Today!!

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-Truly - Where One Call - Will Do It ALL -Phone 517-279-9748 or Kalamazoo 616-385-5958 Located at Coldwater, Michigan – EAST – City Limits Sto then one mile north to his Farm and Office! ATTENTION: - Totally non-related with the "Better Homes and Garden Office!

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FARM NEWS

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LIVESTOCK

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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.

FARM EQUIPMENT

FARM EQUIPMENT

FOR SALE: USED STORAGE TANKS, 6000 to 20,000 gallon capacity. Vertical or horizontal. Phone 616-798-1805. (10-6t-15p)

NEW ALL WIRE RABBIT CAGES and equi when now available. We can build cages to meet your needs. Dettmers Bunny Patch, Carson City, Mich. 48811. 517-584-3765. (5-tf-25b)

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

HAMILTON DISTRIBUTING CO.: Stormor Grain Bins, Farm Fans Dryers, G.T. Tox-O-Wik Dryers, Stormor Ezee-Drys. Four locations in Michigan. Phone 616-751-5161. (2-tf-20b)

MANURE PUMPS: pump direct from lagoon to field, utilize traveler or movable guns. Plummer Sup-ply. Bradley and U.S. 131 Exit, P.O. Box 177, Bradley, Mich. 49311. 616-792-2215. (10-tf-26b)

FARROWING STALLS - All steel, \$124.20. In cludes feeder-waterer, top rail, rump rail. Weighs 204 lbs. Free literature. Starr National, 219 Main, Colchester, IL 62326. 309-776-3446. (3-11-24p)

DON'T BUY, SELL, TRADE WITHOUT Mat box r box, sell, trabe without mar-shal's Farm Equipment Guide. New 280 page 3rd edition now available. Latest used equipment prices, specifications, Nebraska tests, serial numbers, more. Tractors, combines, balers, forage harvesters, windrowers 1965-up. \$8.50 postpaid. Marshall Publications, 306M Foshay Tower, Minneapolis, MN 55402. (1-3t-43b)

FOR SALE: Jamesway liquamatic one-chain manure elevator, new, still in bundle. Albert Ter Haar, phone 616-896-8207. (2-2t-17f)

"THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN FARM TRACTORS," covers tractors from 1890s to 1979. 1,500 photos, full descriptions. Sections on components, ignitions, engines, etc. 352 large pages, hard leatherette cover, \$26.95. "FARM TRACTORS IN COLOR," 80 years tractor history. 118 full color photos, 183 pages, \$11.95. SPE-CIALI Both above collectors volumes \$36.95 postpaid. "ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN STEAM TRACTION ENGINES," also covers porpostpaid. "ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICARY STEAM TRACTION ENGINES," also covers por-table engines. 1.250 photos, 320 large pages, hard leatherette cover \$23,95 postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers. Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Book Publishers. Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria (2-31-83p) Bay, NY 13607.

FOR SALE: 68' Ford Semi Tractor, F 850, 477 gas engine, power steering, exceptional body tires. Phone 517-328-6314. [3-(3-11-180

FOR SALE: 1005 New Holland bales wagon Allis Chalmers chopping box, New Holland running gear, excellent condition. Sunset 310 bulk tank almost new compressor. Phone 517-224-2775. (3-11-250)

FOR SALE: Eversman "3212" Landleveler – GMC 2½-ton army truck 6×6 – J. Deere chisel plow 24' – 1962 Chevrolet and 1960 GMC school buses. All good. 313-659-6535. (3-1t-25f)

WANTED: Grinder-Mixer. State location, make size, price and condition. Phone 517-465-1402. Charles A. Moore, 6410 N. Wise Road, Coleman. Mich. 48618. (3-11-22f) (3-11-22f)

WANTED: John Deere Tractor 430 or 435 with 3 point hitch, must be in very good condition. 616-599-2817. James Van Houten, Ell (3-11-240)

FOR SALE: Surge Pipeline with surge compact milk pump receiver panel, has opening for 2 inch pipe electrobrain, vacuum pump two delaval units. Phone 517-224-2775. (3-11-25f)

FOR SALE: 257 used scheu jumbo cone orchard and vinyard heaters, 500 gallon supply tank on rub-ber, some oil. Price negotiable. Berrien Springs, Mich. 616-429-3748. (3-21-256)

WANTED: Good used 5-6 ton bulk feed bin com-plete. FOR SALE: ROL-OYL cattle ollers, guaran-teed 5 years, Malathion based backrubber oil. BREWER FARMS, Clare. 517-386-2773, (3-21-25f)

1975 - 5200 - J.D. SP. FORAGE CHOPPER 3-row-N.head, mint condition. Also hyd. dum wagon. Paul Vergote, Blissfield, Mich. Phone 517 486-3822 or 486-3449. (3-11-241 (3-11-240)

WANTED: Used large round hay baler 600# 800# bales prefer Vemeer, Hesston or New 800st bales prefer Vemeer, Hesston or new Holland Call 616-325-2311 after 5 p.m. Honor, (3-11-23f)

FOR SALE: 3 Stall Surge milking parlor, side opening. Fair condition. Reasonable: Also, wagon and rack for Bale Thrower Baler. Call 517-652-6445 after 8 p.m. (3-2t-256)

FOR SALE OR TRADE FOR TILE MACHINE 13' Lilliston Tillager, like new. Phone 517-453-2679 after 6 p.m. (3-11-18f)

FOR SALE: One 14' Massey Ferguson Di with dual wheels and one Heston Hay Bind. Pho 517-866-2452. (3-11-1 on Disk (3-11-171)

WANTED: 4-row front mounted cultivator to fit John Deere 3020 or Massey Ferguson 65. Pt 517-521-3188. Webberville, Mich. (3-2t-(3-21-190) FOR SALE: "323 One-Row New Idea Corn Picker. Good condition. \$3,250. Elmer Rueger, 7330 Mackinaw Road, Route 4, Bay City, Mich. 48706. Phone 517-686-0076. (3-11-25f)

FOR SALE: 2 row markers (12-180) for Ford 309 corn planter, will mark rows 28" to 44" -\$20.00. Phone 616-445-2967. (3-11-19f)

WANTED: John Deere Tractor 730 Gas - must be in perfect condition - Ben Malda, Box 790, Route 1, Rothbury, Mich. 49452 Phone 616-861-2530. (3-1t-22f)

GEHLBALE 1500 lb. Round Baler, 200 hrs. \$4700. Phone 616-264-8433 or 616-264-8410. (3-1t-11f)

1973 Dodge D-800 Truck 413 Gas, 5-2 speed, 36,000 miles, ideal for farm general purpose use, good 10.00-20 rubber, reasonable. 517-674-2311. (3-11-21f)

LIVESTOCK

ARABIANS ALL AGES, for breeding, pleasure or show. Special discounts for 4-H terms if desired, Dale Kirklin, phone 616-381-2774. (4-tf-19f)

REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP SINCE 1890. Breeding stock for sale at all times, Hewens Farm, 7400 Bernis Road, Ypsilanti, Mich. 48197 Phone 313-482-2658. (5-tf-22f) FOR SALE: YORKSHIRE & SPOTTED set

viceage boars and open gilts top bloodlines test MSU test station. All registered stock. Richard C 1/2 mile east Mulliken, M-43. Phone 517-649-8 red stock. Richard Cook (11-#-250

DUROC & LANDRACE BOARS & GILTS Also crossbred gilts. John Swearingen, 655 Prattville Road, Pittsford, Mich. 49271. Phone 517-567-8975. (3-tf-19f)

QUARTER HORSES: Disposition for 4-H, ability for cattle, conformation for show. Reasonable prices. Customer satisfaction a priority. Visitors welcome. Walton Farms, Rosebush. Phone 517-323-325 (3.4.24) 433-2925

FOR SALE: Landrace boars and gilts, also Duroc boars and gilts. George Carpenter family, 6545 Cogswell Rd., Romulus, Mich. 48174. Phone even-ings 313-721-0240. (9-tf-231)

CORRIEDALE SHEEP: Purebred breeding stock for sale. Paper optional. Waldo F. Dieterlie, 7285 Textile Road, Saline, Mich. 48176. Phone 313-429-7874. (1:ff-19f)

REGISTERED ANGUS: Yearling bulls & heifers, club calves. Write or call Neona Farm, Neal Feikema, Evart, Mich. 49631. Phone 616-734-2579. (2-tf-19f)

PERFORMANCE TESTED ANGUS, quality

registered Angus breeding stock and club calves. Contact Bordner Angus Farms, 68730 County Farm Rd., Sturgis, Mich. 49091. Phone 616-651-3456. (12-11-240 MILKING SHORTHORNS: Young bulls, year-lings and calves for sale. Write or visit Stanley M. Powell and Family. Ingleside Farm, Route 2, 3248 Powell Hwy., Ionia, Mich. 48846. (12-tf-288)

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

FINNISH LANDRACE SHEEP: purebreds and crosses with either Suffolk-Columbian-Targhees-Ramboliett-Montadale. Lee Breasbois, 9780 Gar-field, Freeland, Mich. 48623. Phone 517-695-5692. (7-12t-180)

DUROC BOARS & GILTS and bred gilts. Ag gressive and productive Bred gilts are bred to \$2500. Magic brand, everyday sale day Jim Preuich, 517-467-2874, Route 1, Onsted, Mich.

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

FOR SALE: Show quality quarter horses and paints. Visitors always welcome. J & H Stable. 616-695-3234. Home of Total Nine. (1-12t-20t)

DUROC BOARS - our program is built on feed ef-ficiency and daily gain. Our entire herd has been on concrete for four years. Steve Black, Lachine, Mich. 517-379-3206. (12-5t-25t-2p)

DAIRY GOATS FOR SALE: Registered grade French Alpine, Mubian and Saanan, Earl & Clo Barker, 7400 E, 14 Mile Road, Manton, Mich 49663, 616-824-3972. (3-11-250)

REGISTERED % Simmental Bull. One year old. Son of Toni II, grandson of Supreme. Phone 517.743-4619. No Sunday calls. (3-11-19f)

REGISTERED QUARTERHORSE AT STUD. Poco - Boston MAC Lines, 14.3 tall. Fee \$200. Phone 616-544-5341. Central Lake (south of Char-levoid). (3-2t-20p)

FOR SALE: Registered Holstein bulls from Astronaut, Provin Mt. Ivanhoe Jewel, Marshfield Elevation Tony and Glen Valley Star. Some from embryo transfer. Dams and Grand-dams are VG and excellent. Have 5-generation pedigree with over and excellent. Have 5-generation pedigree with 20.000 m. and 4% test. Albert Ter Haar Pt 616-896-8207.

FOR SALE: Hampshire boars, breeding age, validated herd. Jerry Bozsany, Coleman. 517-465-6072. (2-21-120) (2-21-12f)

PERCENTAGE CHIANINA BULLS and heifers for sale. Brooklyn Farm Chianina's, 5466 Road, Oliver, Mich. 49076. 517-543-0092 5466 Marshall (3-11-170

FOR SALE: Pair Matched White Mules. Mare and gekling, 46 inch. Also, harness and wagon. David N. Fish, Quincy, Mich. 49082. Phone 517-639-4428. (3-11-221)

SHEEP SALE: Over 100 Suffolk and Hampshire Club wethers. 20 Suffolk rams yearlings and lambs. 50 Suffolk ewe lambs, yearlings and mature. Some commercial ewe lambs. April 25. 1981. 12 noon. George Buckham Farm, 1920 North 9th Street, Kal-amazoo. 1 mile west and 1 mile north of the U.S. 131 and M-43 junction. Phone 516-679-5544 for further information. (2.2): 253. 3401 (2-2t-25f-34p)

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