





# ELEVEN MEN SELECTED AS MICHIGAN'S MASTER FARMERS



They take pleasure in presenting above the pictures of the 11 who were honored by being named as the charter members of the Michigan Master Farmers Club in a contest conducted by the Michigan Farmer, the well-known agricultural weekly published at Detroit.

These eleven men were picked by a committee of three judges from a list of nominations sent in since the first announcement of this contest was made, early last spring. According to the rules of the contest one-sided or narrow-gauge farming would get very far. To rank high in this contest, a man had to be a well-rounded rural citizen. The contestants were scored on 11 points grouped under five headings as follows: operation of farm, 200 points; business methods and general farm appearance and up-keep, 90 points; life points; citizenship, 140 points; and ability to show a searching analysis of his ability as a farmer, business man and his standing as a citizen and head of the family.

The 11 men who survived the exacting scrutiny of the judges' appraisal and were awarded the honor of charter membership in the Master Farmers Club, were presented badges of award at a banquet held in their honor at the Union Building at the Michigan State College on the evening of September 22.

At the banquet program, I. Roy Waterbury, Managing Editor of the Michigan Farmer, presided as toastmaster. The first speaker was Bert Wermuth, Associate Editor of the Michigan Farmer, who outlined the history of the Master Farmers movement and sketched briefly his conception as to its possibilities. He said that farmers, like other people, have more need of models than critics and that people seldom improve when they have no other models than themselves. By selecting especially successful farmers and designating them as Master Farmers, they immediately become examples whose methods will be imitated by farmers in the surrounding territory.

Mr. Wermuth declared, "Farming in Michigan ought to be going somewhere. Our goal ought to be a per-

manent agriculture."

Short speeches in commendation of the Master Farmers movement were made by Dr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, President of the Michigan State College, and by Congressman John C. Ketcham.

**Senator Capper Speaks**

The principal address of the evening was made by Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, President of the Lawrence Publishing Company. Senator Capper commented favorably upon the diversity of Michigan agriculture. He told of the present inequality between farming and other lines of business, stating that the farm dollar today has a purchasing power of but 85 cents. Senator Capper made a strong presentation of the need for constructive legislation to place agriculture upon a basis with other business. He declared, "Much could be accomplished for agriculture by more active farm organizations. Every farmer ought to get into one or more of the great national farm movements. He never will get his rightful returns otherwise."

A short sketch of the honored

charter members of the Master Farmers movement whose pictures appear above is as follows:

Ralph Arbogast, Union City, sells quality cream, certified grains, pork, registered Guernsey calves, eggs and broilers from his well equipped 600-acre farm. He uses electricity extensively in the home and about the barns. Mr. Arbogast has been prominent in Farm Bureau affairs.

Floyd M. Barden, South Haven, is noted as one of the leading fruit growers of the state. Seventy acres of his 182-acre farm are devoted to fruit, mostly peaches. He has a fine herd of Jersey cattle. Mr. Barden is president of the Allegan County Farm Bureau.

Paul C. Clement, Britton, is noted as Michigan's outstanding producer of good seed corn. He has one of the best seed corn houses in the state. Corn that falls to measure up to his high seed standards goes into a fine herd of Duroc hogs. Mr. Clement is an active member of the Monroe County Farm Bureau.

A. B. Cook, Owosso, has made a success as a general farmer, maintaining the fertility of his 160-acre

farm over a long period of years without the aid of live stock, through a unique system of green manuring which he has worked out to meet his conditions.

Garfield and M. E. Farley, Albion, are two brothers who in partnership operate 390 acres. They have been very successful in raising fruit, feeding cattle, raising sheep and hogs and producing certified grains. Both are prominent in the Calhoun County Farm Bureau.

Frank Kinch, Grindstone City, has over a thousand head of sheep on his thousand acre farm up on the thumb-nail of Michigan, at the very tip of Huron County. In his pure-bred flocks are found Rambouillet, Oxford, Shropshires, Southdowns and other breeds. Mr. Kinch is a member of the Board of Directors of the Huron County Farm Bureau.

C. S. Langdon, Hubbardston, owns 40 acres and rents 240 acres more. He keeps Holsteins and Poland Chinas and maintains his farm in a high state of cultivation and does so at considerable profit. Mr. Langdon has been an active worker in the Clifton County Farm Bureau.

C. R. Oviatt, Bay City, has all of his 135-acre farm under cultivation. He produces certified grains and seeds a large acreage of sugar beets and keeps Belgian horses and grade Oxford sheep. While Bay County does not have any County Farm Bureau today, Mr. Oviatt is interested in the organization and has attended several of our State Farm Bureau meetings.

M. E. Parmelee, Hilliards, is probably Michigan's champion potato grower, having averaged over 400 bushels per acre for the past three years. He has a fine herd of Holstein cows and a high-producing flock of Leghorn chickens. Mr. Parmelee is treasurer of the Allegan County Farm Bureau.

H. F. Probert, Jackson, is recognized as one of the leading Jersey breeders of the country. He has used for many years a liquid manure system on his 180-acre farm which is in a high state of cultivation.

**An Example and Inspiration**

Not only are most of these Master Farmers members of the Farm Bureau, but many of them are active in their local co-operative associations,

Grange work, etc. Several of them are Sunday School superintendents and prominent in all movements for the betterment of their communities and their craft.

The 1928 class of Master Farmers was selected by the following three judges: A. M. Brown of Schoolcraft, Mrs. Edith M. Wagar of Carleton, and H. E. Powell of Ionia. As all readers of the NEWS know, Mrs. Wagar is chairman of the Farm Bureau Home and Community Work. Mr. Powell is president of the Ionia County Farm Bureau.

It is the plan of the Michigan Farmer to have a similar class of Master Farmers selected each year. The growing group of Master Farmers will be organized into a permanent fraternity to which the ambitious and progressive farmers of the state will aspire for membership.

The practices followed by these Master Farmers will quite naturally be imitated by their neighbors and thus there will gradually develop a successful agricultural program and policy for Michigan agriculture. At least this is the hope of the sponsors of the movement.

## JUDGING TEAMS OF 22 STATES ATTEND F. BUREAU BANQUET

### Champion High School Teams Compete in Contest At Dairy Show

### FACTORS RECEIVE PRIZES

### Boys, Coaches and Teachers Are Banquet Guests of St. Farm Bureau

The principal address of the evening was given by C. F. McIntosh, Agricultural Representative on the Federal Board for Vocational Education. Mr. McIntosh emphasized the importance of the dairy industry saying that it equaled in returns the four major farm products exclusive of corn. Speaking of the perplexities involved in modern agriculture, Mr. McIntosh said that farming puts one to his wits' extremities to make a success. He declared that mere development of one's talents was not enough and illustrated his point by stating that the paths from schools and colleges are strewn with human wreckage. He urged boys to develop tact, common sense, judgment and a practical outlook upon life. He said, "Don't take the second or third step on the ladder until you have taken the first." Although admitting that marvelous progress has been made in agricultural matters, Mr. McIntosh inspired his audience with a prophecy that there is still more to be learned along these lines than has yet been discovered.

**California Took First Honors**

Although the California team took first honors in judging all four breeds of dairy cattle, they did not rank first in judging any of the individual breeds. The New York team was first in judging Ayrshires; Tennessee in the Holstein class; Illinois, Guernseys; and Georgia, Jerseys. The Holstein Friesian Association of America, the American Jersey Cattle Club and the DeLaval Cream Separator Company presented the scholarships of \$400.00 each to three boys picked for these special honors. The J. B. Ford Company presented a gold watch and chain to the high ranking man on the victorious team from California. Each boy on the first five teams, judging each breed and the ten individuals ranking highest in each class, will receive a certificate which will be a permanent reminder of his splendid achievement.

The following states were represented by teams which had previously won honors in competition with teams from other Vocational Agricultural Schools in their respective states: California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

**PROGRAM HELP**

The Home and Community Department of the A. F. B. F., upon request, will supply the following program helps:

1. Simple parliamentary rules.
2. Lists of songs; how to get them.
3. Suggestions and material for debates.
4. Lists of suitable motion pictures.
5. Mock trial material.
6. Ideas for games and contests.
7. Lists of plays, pageants, readings.
8. Recipes for refreshments.

## Samples of Stained Seeds On Display at Farm Bureau

### Gooding-Ketcham Act Affords Protection If Farmers Understand It

Samples of red clover and alfalfa seed showing the various colors of staining required by the Gooding-Ketcham Bill have been received by the Michigan State Farm Bureau, from the Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and are on display for the information of members and others interested.

Similar samples were sent to each State Farm Bureau at the request of the Washington representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation. It is hoped that this will better acquaint farmers and agricultural leaders throughout the country with the actual operation of this important act and enable them to know more certainly when they are purchasing adapted red clover seed and alfalfa seed.

The Bureau is supplying county agents and other agricultural leaders with these sets. Accompanying each set is a copy of the regulations of the Department of Agriculture concerning the administration of the law so that its operation and meaning of the staining may be generally understood.

It is hoped by this method to acquaint agricultural leaders throughout the nation with the significance of the different colored seed and through them acquaint the farmers generally, it being recognized that the law will be of full value to the farmers as individuals only when they understand clearly and fully just what each color signifies when they are offered seed stained that color.

The farmer who knows that any red clover seed or alfalfa seed that is stained red has been imported into this country and is not adapted for seeding in this country, will be able to protect himself from an unscrupulous dealer who may tell him that it is domestic seed or who may have mixed this seed with domestic seed in an attempt to sell the whole lot as domestic seed. The law requires that at least 10 per cent of unadapted seed be stained red.

The farmer who desires Canadian seed can be sure when he is getting it if he is familiar with the regulations issued by the Department of Agriculture, as these provide that one per cent of Canadian red clover and alfalfa seed be stained violet. If the farmer is not desirous of securing Canadian seed but wants to be sure that the imported seed he is buying is supposed to be adapted to this country, he merely needs to look for the seed that is stained green, as the regulations provide that one per cent of imported seed other than Canadian seed and which has not been officially declared unadapted for seeding in this country, shall be stained green.

The sets of samples being sent out by the Bureau of Plant Industry consists of six small round tin containers put up in a neat fibre-board box which can be carried conveniently from place to place by county agents or others desiring to demonstrate them. Three of the cans contain alfalfa seed stained in the three colors authorized, namely, red, green and violet. The other three cans contain red clover seed similarly stained.

A study of these samples will enable the farmer or the purchasing agent of a co-operative organization to recognize similarly stained seed when it appears on the market or to detect it when mixed with other seed.

## TELLS THE VALUE OF NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

### President Sam Thompson of A. F. B. F. Says Fire Tax Is \$30 Per Farm

### FARM LOSSES MOUNTING

### Annual Rural Fire Loss Totals \$150,000,000—Enough to Build 75,000 Barns

In calling attention to the designation of October 3 to 9 as Fire Prevention Week, Sam H. Thompson, President of the A. F. B. F., addressed to all Farm Bureau officials a general statement which urged the participation of the organization to the fullest extent to the end that the annual fire loss on American farms might be curtailed. In his message to Farm Bureau officials President Thompson said in part:

"Fire Prevention Week—October 3 to 9 inclusive—calls attention to every farmer of the gigantic waste wrought by fire on farms, \$150,000,000 annually, and should bring home to individual farmers everywhere the necessity for more adequate protection of their property and the lives of their family. Unfortunately, farm fires in the Mid-west have been increasing, and this is an additional reason for checking up this week on fire hazards.

"Give the lightning rods a thorough inspection at all joints and connections and see that they are well grounded; clean the old chimney and look for cracks which should be filled. If very old the whole chimney may require rebuilding or it may stand upon brackets instead of a firm foundation. Check up on the roofing and see if it is in a condition inviting a fire if sparks fall upon it; put a wire netting over the chimney to keep down sparks; give the stoves and furnaces a thorough overhauling; remove the old oil soaked rags from the garage and tractor shed; see that the oil and gas are stored where a match is not likely to find them; check up on the lanterns and where you hang them; look to the electric wiring, especially

## EXHIBIT SHOWS THE RELATION BETWEEN COWS AND HOMES

### In a Farm Women's Booth which had been arranged at the National Dairy Show by Mrs. Edith M. Wagar, chairman of the State Farm Bureau's Home and Community Work, was one large poster which attracted special attention.

The Average Michigan Dairy Cow Yields About 4,000 lbs. of Milk and 140 lbs. of Butterfat.

The Average Dairy Cow in Michigan Cow Testing Associations Yields 7,560 lbs. Milk and 292 lbs. of Butterfat.

The Better Cow Gives Better Milk—More Profit. The Cost of Upkeep Is Less Than The Poor Cow—Less Labor.

The Farm Home Where Better Cows Are Kept Can Enjoy More Comforts, Such As In This Exhibit, Out Of The Increased Profit.

**MIDWEST PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES TO MEET**

A notice was issued last week by E. L. Corbin, director of organization of the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation, that the next meeting of the Midwest State Farm Bureau presidents and secretaries will be held in the offices of the American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago, on October 21 and 22. The theme of this conference will be "Organization and Publicity," and will be a follow-up meeting of the work that was done at the Midwest Farm Bureau Training School held at Camp Gray, Saugatuck, Michigan, in August.

Write for blank circular, prices, F. B. Fabrics Dept., Lansing, Mich., adv.

## FARM BUREAU AND CITIZENS PROTEST R. R. ABANDONMENT

### Effort Being Made to Retain Service in Four North-Eastern Counties

On September 22 the Michigan Public Utilities Commission heard the application of the Detroit and Mackinac Railway for permission to abandon its Lincoln, Au Sable River and Rose City branches in Ogemaw, Oscoda, Iosco and Alcona counties.

The railroad claims that the operation of these branches is unprofitable and that they are in such physical condition that immediate large expenditures should be made for improvements, but that such expenditures would not be justified by the earnings from the branches.

Considerable opposition to the abandonment is developing. The protest of Alcona and Oscoda counties will be led by Herman Dehnke of Harrisville and George Bennett of Mio, while Wm. T. Yeo of West Branch will lead the protestants on the Rose City branch. George J. Bolender of Kalamazoo and Arthur O'Connor of Detroit are fighting the abandonment on behalf of other protestants.

The Michigan State Farm Bureau is represented in this case by D. F. Murphy of Alma, special traffic counsel, and A. P. Mills, the Farm Bureau's Traffic Manager.

When the railroad rested its case on September 24 the hearing was adjourned to October 25 at Bay City when shippers and other protestants, including the Michigan State Farm Bureau, will show why the branches should not be abandoned.

Farm Bureau blankets make splendid Xmas gifts.

## CORN KING SEED RACKS

### Seed Corn dried in these racks grows better, and yields more per acre than by any other method of drying. Write for catalogue and prices.

Seed Corn dried in these racks grows better, and yields more per acre than by any other method of drying. Write for catalogue and prices.

Ross V. Richards & Sons, N. Manchester, Ind.

# THE King of Optimists is the Man Who Expects a Crop from Seed of Unknown Origin!

**MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU SEED SERVICE**  
Lansing, Michigan

GEORGE LORD, CH'M STATE TAX DEPT' URGES ALL FARMERS TO ORGANIZE TO IMPROVE THEIR FINANCIAL CONDITION

State Tax Official Agrees Present Economic Condition of Farmers Is Bad, But Says Whole Trouble With Our Industry Is Lack of Organization

No man in Michigan has as much power and influence in State tax matters and probably no one else has as broad and comprehensive a knowledge and grasp of these affairs as George Lord, Chairman of the State Tax Department and by virtue of that office also chairman of the State Board of Equalization.

At the conclusion of the recent annual meeting of the State Board of Equalization, after listening to the pleas of the representatives of the various counties and to a strong presentation of the distressed condition of Michigan agriculture made by M. B. McPherson, president of the State Farm Bureau, Mr. Lord voiced the following opinions and observations:

"It is always expected, of course, that the Chairman of the State Board of Equalization make a few remarks relative to taxation.

"I just had handed to me by Mr. McPherson a statistical table taken from the reports of the Census Department at Washington, showing a material reduction in the value of farm lands, and while I do not approve of some of the conclusions of the Census Department, I do not hesitate to say that from my observations throughout the State, farm lands have a much less value today than they had a few years ago.

Farmers' Life Blood Being Squeezed Out

"The economic condition of the farmers is far from good. There seems to be some unseen force that is squeezing the life-blood almost out of the man that tills the soil. Now, I think the blame for this economic condition can be laid at the doors of the farmers. In other words, they lack a proper organization and system for handling their own products.

"A few years ago I happened to be in one of the large cities of the Central West, and I went to a fruit stand to buy some fruit. I said 'Where did this fruit come from?' 'Those are Michigan peaches,' was the answer. I made some inquiries and found that fruit from the Western part of this state would be shipped to Chicago, and then a considerable part of it would be shipped back into Michigan to the wholesalers. That system is wrong. The commission merchant in Chicago or Illinois gets his profit; the wholesaler gets his; the retailer gets his; and the farmer gets practically none.

Self-Help Imperative

"What I would like to see in Michigan would be one organization that would promote and protect the agricultural industry. The whole trouble with the farming industry in the United States today is that proper organization is lacking. And then you go to the Federal or State Government and ask for aid. If you had a proper system of marketing your products, you would not need aid from the government. The State, maybe not fully, but to a large extent, has recognized the condition of the agricultural counties of this state, and for several years the valuations placed upon your farms in Michigan have been such that the state tax has been materially reduced each year.

"I am inclined to think that maybe we are a little high on some agricultural counties, and we intend to find out and make sure about it. Because of all the industries in Michigan we should see that the agricultural counties get fair play. When the farms are prosperous all our industries are prosperous. You may think it strange that a man from the largest city in Michigan will talk to you in this way. I do it because I have always endeavored to be fair in matters of taxation, and when conditions are such that I cannot be fair I will retire from public life.

"I want to say a word about this matter of public debt—I hope you will take it home with you. Michigan today, in all its political subdivisions, is in debt over \$500,000,000. In 1911, when I made a survey of public debt in Michigan, we had a debt of approximately \$38,000,000 so that the debt since that time has increased nearly one-half billion dollars. That means not less than \$20,000,000 in interest charges the taxpayers of Michigan must pay every year. And then you people wonder why government costs keep mounting upwards.

"The trouble with the average man and woman in Michigan is that when a bond issue comes before the people for approval, they go and vote for it without considering as to whether they can afford it. These promises of beautiful improvements and wonderful things they swallow whole. Then when they are called upon to pay their share of the cost of these things they howl their heads off, and blame the administrative officers of government. It is a peculiar thing. This debt is incurred by the people of Michigan, and not by the officers of government. These interest charges must be met, and the only way you can meet them is by levying a tax upon property. That is one of the reasons why the cost of government is constantly increasing.

"In our own state government, we have only to look at the increase in the population of our State Institutions alone for one of the prime reasons for the increase in cost of government. As a matter of fact, we have 5000 more inmates in our public institutions today than we had five or six years ago. Figuring at one dollar per day, we are paying for the support of these inmates approximately \$2,000,000 more annually than we were paying in 1920.

"There isn't a thing bought by the State today that goes into government that doesn't cost almost twice as much as it did ten years ago. You have to pay more for labor and everything, just the same as in your private business. Then again, people are not satisfied with the same kind of government that we had ten years ago. They are demanding better roads and more of them.



HON. GEORGE LORD

"Another reason for the increased cost of government is the necessity for additional buildings in our State Institutions in order to accommodate the large increase in their population. "So I say, there is not much hope, in my opinion, of lessening to any degree the cost of government. We are up against this condition. We must face it and pay the bill.

"I am very glad the gentlemen from Genesee County spoke of the relation of the state tax burden to the local tax burden. The state tax burden is very small compared with the levy for local government purposes. Last year we levied \$191,000,000 upon general properties in Michigan. Of that amount, \$17,800,000 went to the state government. In other words, 9.3% went to the state and the rest to local governments.

"That does not mean, and I don't want you to misunderstand me, that local governments have been wasteful or extravagant. At the same time, it behooves local governments, particularly in the agricultural districts, to practice the strictest economy. I speak of the agricultural districts in particular because I have seen hundreds of instances where the farmer, after working all year tilling his land harvesting his crops, has been obliged to borrow money with which to pay his taxes. So that I say, don't spend any money in the conduct of government that you ought not to spend, and which is not in the interest or welfare of your people. Many of the departments of the state government did reduce expenses. I don't say that they could not be reduced more. But they are trying hard to keep expenses down to a minimum, and this is what we all should do.

"The big cost in the conduct of local governments, particularly in the rural districts, is the cost of schools. The cost of our schools to the property owners of Michigan constitutes approximately 35% of the total cost of local governments. And with the

VOICES FROM THE RUINS!



60-DAY LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED STANLEY POWELL

A two-months leave of absence, beginning October 15, has been granted Stanley M. Powell, assistant secretary of the Michigan State Farm Bureau. Mr. Powell will attend to personal affairs, especially the large purebred livestock and general farm near Ionia, known as Ingleside Farm, which he and his father, H. E. Powell, operate.

Stanley Powell has served as Legislative Representative for the State Farm Bureau during the regular sessions of the Legislature in 1921, 1923 and 1925 and the several Special Sessions which have been held during this period. He has been Associate Editor of the Michigan Farm Bureau News for several years and two and a half years ago he was advanced to the position of Assistant Secretary of the state organization. Since July 1 of this year, Mr. Powell has been Acting Editor of the NEWS.

GAS TAX BRING IN \$85,000,000 IN 6 MONTHS PERIOD

All But Four States in U. S. Now Raises Road Funds By Gas Levies

Taxes on gasoline used in motor vehicles amounted to \$84,939,372 in the first six months of 1926, according to the Bureau of Public Roads of the United States Department of Agriculture. This amount was made available as follows: \$54,981,677 to State highway departments, \$19,338,876 for county and local roads, \$6,329,413 for State and county road bonds, and \$4,140,998 for miscellaneous purposes.

A total of 3,560,987,586 gallons of gasoline were taxed and it is estimated that an additional 856,450,000 gallons were consumed in the four States in which taxes are not collected. All of the States except Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York imposed a gasoline tax, the rate ranging from one to five cents with an average of 2.39 cents per gallon. Since 19,697,332 motor vehicles were registered in the six months period, the gasoline consumption per vehicle averaged 225 gallons.

Gasoline taxes were first imposed in 1919 when four States adopted the tax and derived a revenue of a little more than one million dollars. The practice is now general and the large revenue derived is one of the most important sources of highway income.

The revenue derived by Michigan from the gasoline tax in the first six months of 1926 was \$4,373,598.

MOTION PICTURES

Complete lists of available motion pictures suitable for Farm Bureau meetings are obtainable through the Department of Information of the A. F. B. F.

cities in the state it constitutes about 65%. I am not going to say that the money is not needed to educate your children; I am not going to say that it is not a good investment to spend that money to educate your children, but I am placing these facts before you so that you can consider the matter and see if there is any place you can save or conserve the public funds in your conduct of local governments."

GRAY ATTENDS OHIO LEGISLATIVE RALLIES

Following the example of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation has secured the services of Chester H. Gray, of the Washington office of the A. F. B. F., to take an active part in ten legislative rallies to be held in Ohio in November.

These ten conferences have been so scheduled as to give opportunity for a large percentage of the Ohio Farm Bureau membership to attend. All Ohio County Farm Bureaus have been asked to name legislative committees to be responsible for securing attendance from their respective counties.

Members of the Ohio General Assembly as well as Ohio Congressmen have been invited to attend one or more of these rallies. The Ohio Grange officers and legislative committees have also been invited.

A discussion of national legislation will be led by Mr. Gray and will include the topics of tariff, Muscle Shoals, inland waterways, long and short railroad hauls, farm relief, ship subsidy, and farm finance.

At these rallies will also be discussed state legislative matters. This discussion will be led by C. A. Dyer, of the Ohio Farm Bureau.

Mr. Gray recently addressed a series of twenty legislative rallies in Michigan, sponsored by the State Farm Bureau.

Corn Borer Control Measures Announced

(Continued from page 1) CULTIVATION after plowing that drags debris to the surface, or the discing of stalks or high stubble does not meet the requirements of the regulations.

RECOMMENDATIONS: EARLY AND LOW CUTTING is strongly urged and recommended, as by so doing the largest number of borers possible is removed from the field. All corn

\$150,000,000 FIRE COST EACH YEAR TO U. S. FARMERS

Proper Precautions Can Cut Fire Loss of Life and Rural Property

President Coolidge, in designating October 3 to 9 as Fire Prevention Week, called attention to the enormous losses suffered by this country from preventable fires. The fire waste for last year has been placed at \$570,000,000, and it is estimated that \$150,000,000 of this amount represents the losses from fires on farms. It appears that the losses from farm fires are increasing each year and little attention has been given to the problem.

In this day of competition the American farmer finds it necessary to employ business principles and guard against losses. He does all that he can to protect his crops and his livestock from disease. It is just as important to protect them from fire. It is even more important to protect dwellings. Of the people who lost their lives in fires last year it is estimated that one-fourth or 3,500 were residents of farming communities.

Every farmer should make a special effort to eliminate the fire hazards from his premises. A time should be set aside in which to make a careful survey of all the buildings and an inspection of all equipment. Any fire hazard found should be eliminated at once.

Detective chimneys, stoves, flues and furnaces, together with hot ashes and sparks from chimneys, were responsible for approximately one-third of the farm fire losses. It will be time well spent to see that the heating equipment is in good repair, the ashes properly cared for and the roofs protected from sparks. The use of open lights, the ignition of rubbish and litter, smoking and the careless use of matches are some of the other causes of fires which the farmer can prevent.

The farmer must rely largely upon his own efforts to protect his property from fire, and the greatest results can be obtained by directing these efforts toward fire prevention through the elimination of fire hazards and the maintenance of an adequate number of effective fire extinguishers. Fire protection, where it is possible to obtain it, is very desirable and in many cases farmers have organized to purchase community fire fighting equipment.

Jim Richards Has 22 Oz. Bunch of Grapes

An interesting exhibit at the Van Buren County County Fair was the twenty-two ounce bunch of Campbell's Early Grapes produced on a vine in Jim Richards' clay loam vineyard, just east of Eau Claire, on one of the plots of a pruning experiment conducted by Dr. N. L. Partridge, of the Horticultural Department of the Michigan State College.

Mr. Richards calls his farm "Just-amere Farm." He is secretary of the Berrien County Farm Bureau.

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU POULTRY FEEDS. Dependable and Economical. Michigan Chick Starter with Buttermilk, Michigan Growing Mash with Buttermilk, Michigan Laying Mash with Buttermilk. Make chicks grow and hens lay.

SALESMEN ATTENTION: Many of our salesmen are receiving weekly commission checks from \$50.00 to \$125.00 selling our high grade Nursery stock. We still have room for a number of zealous salesmen in Michigan territory.

growers are advised to equip themselves with corn binders and all owners of corn binders are advised to equip their machines with low cutting devices now available.

LOW CUTTING is especially necessary in fields which are to be SEED-ED TO GRAIN, as high stubble contains many borers and practically no suppression is accomplished.

HOGGING down corn and allowing stalks to remain in the fields over winter as a practice is condemned, as they make clean plowing difficult.

A Full Year to Pay. The wonderful skimming efficiency of Viking bowl adds dollars to your dairy profits. Easy monthly payments at prices within reach.

BUSINESS NEWS. Five cents a word for one insertion; 4 1/2 cents per word for each of two insertions; 4 cents a word per insertion for each of three insertions, and at the 4 cent rate for succeeding insertions.

MISCELLANEOUS. REGISTERED SILVER FOXES AT \$650.00 a pair for a limited number. If you want Foxes, don't let this opportunity pass.

REGISTERED JERSEY CATTLE SALE AT MILLER JERSEY FARM. EATON RAPIDS, OCTOBER 26, 1926. Eaton county's greatest herd. Over 70 head of Registered cattle, cows, open and bred heifers, heifer calves and herd bulls.

Spread lime! Sweeten soil!! GET BIG CROPS - BIG PROFITS. Solvay Pulverized Limestone is helping thousands of farmers to get more from their land. Solvay is produced in only one grade—there is no second best—every bag, every bulk ton is ground to the same fineness.

The Truth in Feeds. 24% Protein. Public Formula. Dairymen of Michigan!

Dairymen of Michigan! Do increased profits from your dairy herd interest you? Profits are governed by production. Production depends upon the working condition of the herd. This means that the cows must be kept in good physical condition.