

Embargo Action Ineffective

End Embargo Now FB Says

The American Farm Bureau Federation has called for an immediate end to the U.S. embargo of grain sales to the Soviet Union on the grounds that it is "ineffective and damaging both to American agriculture and to the nation's economy."

In a telegram to President Jimmy Carter on Friday, March 28, Robert Delano, AFBF president, said that lifting the embargo will allow farmers to again participate in expanding international markets and prevent the long-run loss of comparative advantage through markets shifting away from U.S. producers.

"Farm Bureau gave reluctant support to the boycott on the basis of national security and the promise that farmers would be fully protected against market loss and resultant lower prices," Delano told the president. "We have since seen very little support of security action, and farmers are hardest hit among citizens making economic sacrifices at a time when soaring inflation and near-impossible credit conditions have caused a cash flow crisis in rural America."

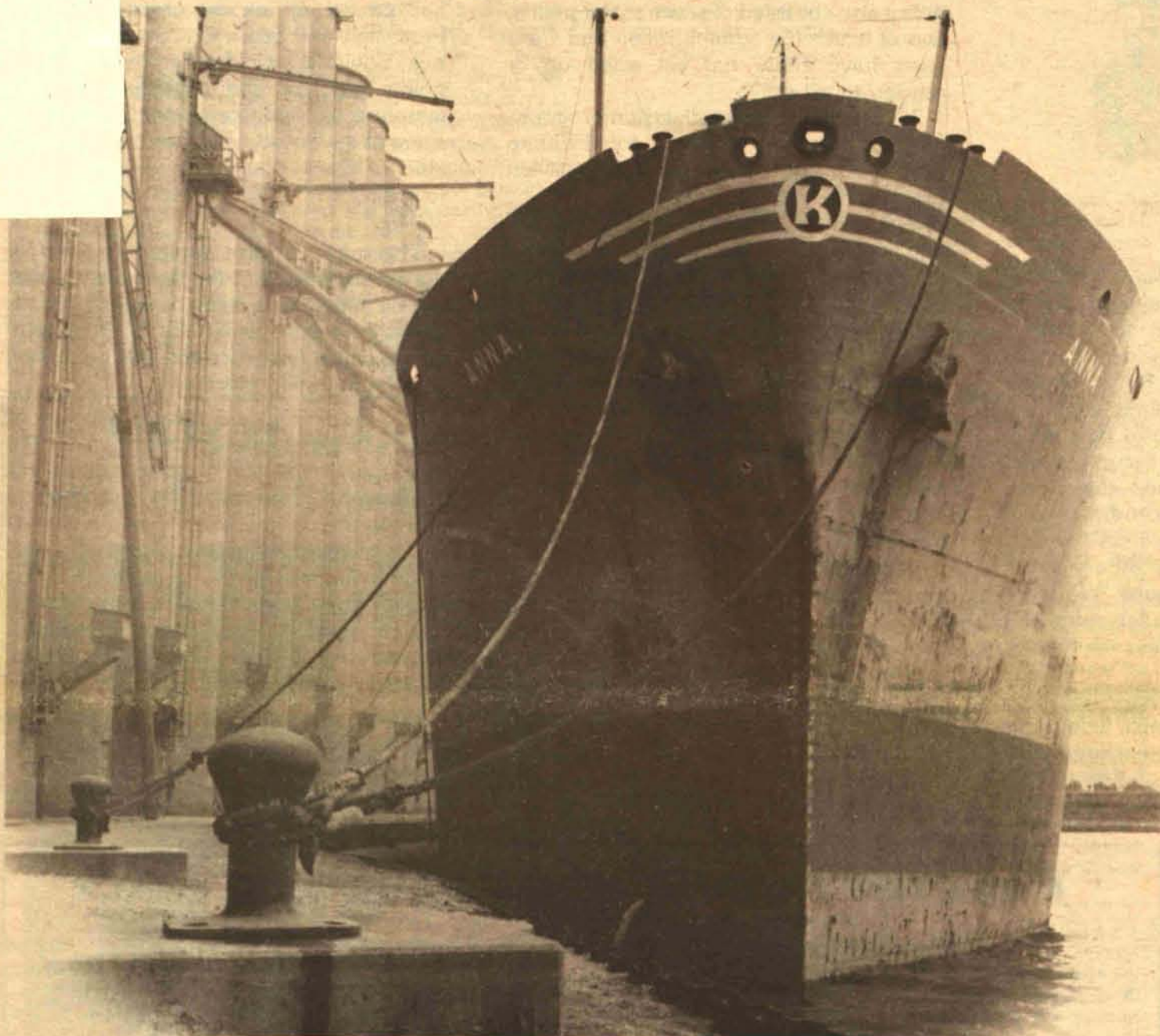
He told Carter that prices for corn, wheat and soybeans have fallen in this country and will remain depressed as long as large tonnage of these commodities is held by the government.

"Support of security actions should have included the severing of all business and cultural contacts and ties with the Soviet Union, other than those diplomatic contacts necessary to resolve the current situation," Delano said.

In mid-January, Delano said, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland promised farmers, "If you wait, we will make sure that you don't take a loss."

"We have waited for three months," Delano said. "It is past the best time for the administration to act in keeping this promise. A paid land diversion has been refused and crop prices can be expected to decline further this fall when new grain is added to unsold carryover."

"We feel the administration has broken faith with farmers. We repudiate the embargo and insist that this unwise and ineffective action be called off immediately," he concluded.



One of the adverse effects of the Soviet grain embargo, Farm Bureau leaders believe, is that it warns other importing nations that future

shipments might be stopped if it serves our foreign policy interests.

(Photo Courtesy of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources)

Smith Challenges Ag Undersecretary:

"What Do We Tell Our Foreign Customers?"

MFB President Elton R. Smith has challenged the U.S. Department of Agriculture to come up with some answers for farmers on the direction of future food policies.

In a recent Food and Agricultural Policy Conference at Michigan State University, Smith asked Undersecretary of Agriculture Dale Hathaway, "Is it the policy of the United States to use food as a political weapon? What do we tell our foreign customers on the likelihood of future grain embargoes? Why has the Carter administration failed to keep faith with farmers in protecting

them, as promised, against price drops caused by the market intervention?"

Smith told Hathaway that Farm Bureau has called for an immediate end to the U.S. embargo of grain to the Soviet Union.

"If one looks at the expected U.S. shipments of 25 million metric tons to the Russians less the embargoed 17 million metric tons, what the USSR stock drawdowns might be, what the leakages probably will be from Argentina, Canada and other grain exporting countries, the impact on the Soviet Union from the U.S.

embargo appears to be negligible," Smith said. "But in a way, we have added one other customer — the U.S. government to the general overview. Let me make it very clear that farmers want to produce for the market — not for the government."

Smith explained that although it goes against what most farm people believe, "We find ourselves supporting paid acreage diversion programs we would normally avoid."

The government's refusal to trade with the USSR will be more than offset by the encouragement it gives to other nations to expand grain pro-

duction, Smith told the undersecretary.

"The Brazilian's expansion of soybean production during and after our embargo in the last decade is a prime example," he said. "Our current embargo gives Brazil, Argentina and others the impetus to expand their coarse grain exports as well. Furthermore, it warns all importing nations that their shipments may be curtailed or stopped altogether if it serves our foreign policy interests. Our credibility has again been damaged. Foreign consumers are asking 'Will the United States be a reliable supplier of food in the future?'"



Farmers "Volunteered" in Economic War

At our American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting last January, voting delegates, through "emergency" policy, gave qualified support to President Carter's grain embargo against the Soviet Union. We had little choice at that time; when the president of the United States personally assured us that our national security was at stake, the delegates showed they were patriots first and farmers second.

In other words, farmers found themselves "volunteered" in an economic war, pitting grain against guns. We were drafted without notice, under rules not published in advance, rules we neither understood nor liked.

We were assured at that time that steps would be taken so that farmers would not bear the full burden of the embargo. We were told by the secretary of Agriculture: "If you wait, we will protect you from

From the Desk of the President

Grain Against Guns

loss. . . ." But the Carter administration failed to keep faith with farmers.

In the emergency policy, we asked the president to tell us how a grain embargo would protect our national security. That policy also consisted of seven major points, two of which the administration and Congress have either not yet acted on or refused to act on:

1. Establish acreage diversion programs for feed grains and wheat for 1980 to reduce the 1980 crop size by 17 million metric tons, and

2. Legislate requirements for gradual addition of alcohol to fuels and provide long-term incentives to build needed processing facilities.

Our organization has now called for an immediate end to the embargo on the grounds that it is ineffective and damaging to both American agriculture and to the nation's economy. We believe it will become even more ineffective as time passes. This has been confirmed by several sources.

A recent reputable study indicates that by increasing purchases from grain producing countries other than the United States and by drawing down their own stocks, the Soviets will shave their grain use by only two million metric tons this year.

Even more disturbing is the conclusion that other grain exporters will be more willing to sell additional grain to the USSR next year by diverting sales from other countries and that a rearrangement of grain trade patterns is occurring.

The *London Economist Magazine* reports that the Soviets are paying premium prices for grain from non-U.S. sources and that grain is being filtered to Russia at those premium prices. Argentina has passed up export orders to Chile, Peru, Italy and Spain to accommodate the new Soviet sales. The *Economist* further points out that the Argentines are attempting to gain, permanently, a larger share of the Soviet grain trade as Brazil was able to do in the world soybean trade following the U.S. soybean embargo in 1976.

This supports Farm Bureau's concern for the heavy costs that the American farmer will be paying as a result of the president's embargo action, especially the long-term effects which have received little discussion by administration officials.

Our credibility as a reliable supplier of food has been severely damaged by the embargo. It has given other nations encouragement to expand their production and capture our markets. It has put our nation in the position of shutting down part of the plant instead of expanding and building markets for our agricultural products. It has put a tremendous economic burden, squarely and unfairly, on the shoulders of farmers.

What a price to pay — especially when it had no effect whatsoever in halting Soviet aggression!

Elton R. Smith

Pass the Sassafras and Juniper Juice

sassafras tea, that proverbial cure-all for middle age and pre-spring blahs! Having neither sassafras nor juniper juice in stock here at Farm Bureau Center, I will substitute these herbal tea bags I picked up recently in Washington, D.C. I have just sucked up my fourth cup. . . it is not working.

Traditionally, I use my birthdays as second New Year's Days. All the resolutions I made on January 1 and have broken in the ensuing 3½ months are reviewed and revamped; that is, my lofty ideals are brought down to attainable goals.

For example, on January 1, I vowed to lose 15 pounds. Reviewing that resolution, I find it to be impossibly unrealistic. First, there are all those Farm Bureau meetings and, being in public relations, I simply could not offend anyone by refusing to try the banana cream pie and the German chocolate cake and the cream puffs. Second, at my age, a 15-pound weight loss might cause drooping skin. Therefore that resolution is changed to: maintain my current weight.

That, in itself, will be sufficient challenge.

According to reliable sources, there is a fellow out there in Farm Bureau land who is also in need of a shot of sassafras tea. Again, we'll have to use a substitute, but it's much better than this herbal stuff I'm gulping. With this special birthday tribute written by his daughter, Tamara, Tom Wieland, president of the Charlevoix County Farm Bureau, should learn that the grass "over the hill" is even greener than that through which he has already traveled.

My Father is a Farmer

It takes a special kind of man to be a farmer, and my father is one of those special men.

Some men make a living in a world of man's inventions, but my father has the courage to work with seeds and soil and sunshine; plowing and planting, trusting God for the good weather and rain that will bring a good harvest.

Some boys' fathers work with computers or machines but

mine was given the special understanding that enables him to deliver calves and to let my brother's puppy help him with the chores.

My dad is one of those special men who doesn't become discouraged when it doesn't rain for weeks on end, or it does rain, but on three fields of freshly mown hay.

He doesn't lose patience when people gripe about the price of milk, or when all the cows decide that the grass is greener on the other side of the fence.

My father once said that if you gave him a million dollars, he would farm until it was all gone. Although he meant it to be a joke, that statement is true to the kind of determination he has.

Everyday, my father practices his trust, compassion, patience, perseverance and determination, and provides for us an example to live up to of hard work well done.

An example of not only a special father, but of a special man, because my father is a farmer.



*Fill me with sassafras, nurse,
And juniper juice!
Let me see if I'm still any use.
For I want to be young
and to sing again,
Sing again, sing again!
Middle age is a curse!*

Spring Ode by
Donald Marquis

Today is National IRS Day, Michigan Farm News Deadline Day and My Birthday. I owe the government money. The pump on my creative well needs priming. Because I celebrated my birthday last night, I am not of any use today. I do not want to be any age except four, so I can go splash through the April puddles without fear of being carted off to the Funny Farm. I do not feel like singing. Boy, do I need a shot of

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EDITORIAL: Donna Wilber, Editor; Marcia Ditchie, Connie Lawson, Associate Editors.

OFFICERS: Michigan Farm Bureau, President, Elton R. Smith, Caledonia, R-1; Vice President, Jack Laurie, Cass City; Administrative Director, Robert Braden, Lansing; Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, Max D. Dean; Secretary, William S. Wilkinson.

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FARM BUREAU YOUNG FARMERS: L.C. Scramlin, Holly.
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Decision-Time

Farmers Struggle to Survive Current Economic Crunch

If fixed costs can be covered with some of the variable costs, and if profitable prospects appear in the near future, Michigan farmers should be able to weather the current economic storm. That's the opinion of Robert Craig, manager of Michigan Farm Bureau's Commodity Activities and Research Department.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has estimated that net farm income will plummet 20 percent from last year. Add to that gloomy prediction the high cost of borrowing money and the result is a number of farmers faced with the decision of whether to remain in the business.

"It is estimated that the cost of producing a bushel of corn in mid-Michigan is between \$2.65 and \$2.70. When corn is selling for \$2.30 a bushel, that doesn't leave much to pay off debts," Craig said. "When there's a chance that prices won't cover the costs of production, the choice is producing a crop and perhaps getting ahead a bit — or just a little further behind, or not growing a crop and falling a lot further behind. No crop, of course, means no income and no headway made on mortgages, property taxes, payments on equipment and debts from previous years.

"The decision to remain in

farming in the 1980s will be based on the prospect of profit," says Craig. "Farming is the means of livelihood — not just a way of life. Profit is necessary to farmers, just as in any other business."

Cash Crop Farmers Hardest Hit

Basically, to make that decision, the farmer evaluates the expected income relative to the expected cost of production, Craig explained.

Farmers feeling the current financial crunch the most, he said, are cash crop producers with low equity in owned acreage and/or all the debt they can possibly carry. These are the farmers least likely to be able to borrow money to keep going.

Along with cash crop farmers, swine and beef producers have been hardest hit by the economic crunch. "The dark prospects for cattlemen in 1980 are caused by high costs and low returns," Craig explained. "It's compounded by high interest rates, rising prices of labor, equipment, energy, feed, seed and fertilizer, and farm prices that many fear won't pay the farmer back for producing his herd. This comes on the heels of several years of disappointing prices that have left some farmers hanging on by the skin of their teeth."

In general, dairy farmers and ewe flock operators are in the best economic shape, Craig said, and with the exception of potato growers, fruit and vegetable producers are in relatively good shape to weather the hard times ahead.

No Miracle Solution

There are no easy answers or miracle solutions to the current economic squeeze, according to Craig, however, enrollment in P.A. 116, the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act, will provide property tax relief.

"Farmers should also perform careful cash flow analyses to find out just where they stand, how much money they need to borrow and when and how long they'll need it. The availability of money for farm loans varies around the state," he explained. "Money is generally available from local creditors, including commercial banks, if farmers are willing and able to pay 18 to 20 percent interest. Other options are the Production Credit Association and Farmers Home Administration."



Economic prospects for farmers in 1981 look better for those who can ride out the storm this year, Craig predicts, with anticipated higher commodity prices and lower interest expense.

U.S. Policies Also Key

Casting a shadow of gloom on those brighter future prospects is the possible impact of U.S. food and agricultural policies on the economics of farming in the 80s. Pointing to the embargo of U.S. grain shipped to the Soviet Union and its likely destruction of a long-term market for American farmers, Craig said the overriding concern of farmers has been the effect on prices by the removal of the Soviet-destined grain from trade.

"Commodity prices fluctuate daily, but on the day before American Farm Bureau Federation President Robert Delano called for an end to the embargo (see front page article),

grain prices closed at the Michigan Elevator Exchange as follows: wheat down 32 cents per bushel from the pre-embargo price; corn down 12 3/4 cents per bushel from the pre-embargo level, and soybeans 47 cents lower than before the embargo was imposed." He also noted that the Carter administration has not taken all the steps called for by AFBF to aid farmers.

"Agriculture is the second largest and most stable industry in Michigan. The average Michigan farm at the beginning of 1980 was valued at almost \$250,000, including both real and personal property assets, with many commercial farms worth much more. The average capital per farm in Michigan is over \$360,000. It is this large investment that Michigan farmers have in our economy, and it is this agricultural economy which is vitally concerned with future U.S. food and agricultural policy," he concluded.

MFB Reaches Membership Goal



AFBF President Robert Delano (left) helps MFB President Elton R. Smith (right) put on his jacket symbolizing state membership quota.

13th Consecutive Year of Membership Growth

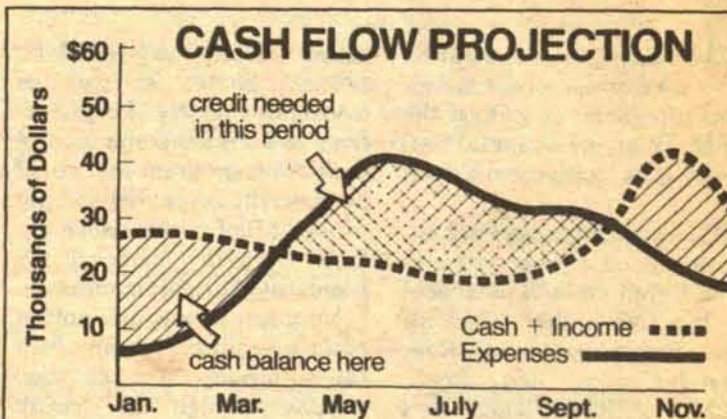
Michigan Farm Bureau has succeeded in attaining membership goal for the 13th consecutive year. State goal of 65,947 member-families was reached on April 2.

MFB now joins 13 other state Farm Bureaus that have surpassed 1980 membership goal.

"Membership growth is tangible evidence the Farm Bureau and its affiliate companies are providing meaningful programs and services for members," stated Chuck Burkett, director of the MFB Field Operations Division, in thanking all the volunteers, agents and employees who contributed to the organization's growth.

Since March 20, five more counties have reported 1980 membership goal. They are Wexford (1-350 members), Richard Siddall, membership chairman; Eaton and Wayne (651-1200 members), Earl Marquardt and Walter Rochowiak, membership chairmen, respectively; Macomb (1201-1500 members), Betty Brodacki, membership chairman; and Lenawee County (1501 and over), Daniel Van Valkenburg, membership chairman.

So far this year 42 county Farm Bureaus have reached their membership goals.



Cash Flow: the pulse of your farm



Every farm has its pulse — its regular tide of income and expenses, easily seen on a cash-flow chart.

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Knowing your cash flow can help you be a better financial manager. It helps you take advantage of discounts. See us, and we'll help you start your cash-flow planning today.

Production Credit Associations of Michigan



CAPITOL REPORT

By
Robert E. Smith

Restrictions Reduced on Crop Loans Under P.A.53

Under the new Uniform Commercial Code farmers who borrow money for crop loans, especially on rented land, will no longer be subject to the unrealistic restrictions that they were last year.

A Farm Bureau written and supported bill, S.B. 782, introduced by Sen. Robert Young, is now law (P.A. 53).

It amends the law to eliminate the requirement that an application for a crop loan must contain a legal description of each piece of property where a crop is to be grown

and also eliminates the requirement that the lender must file the loan "on the property record," which included an entry on the abstract.

These requirements added a lot of red tape and unnecessary fees and costs. They also resulted in concerns on the part of land owners who rent out land, that their land had a lien or mortgage placed against it, which was not the case. In any event, Sen. Young's introduction of the bill and its passage into law eliminates those concerns and problems.

Michigan voters will face a decision on several tax reform proposals in the November election. The article below discusses some of the proposals now being considered.

Workers Comp Confusion

Farmer employers, as well as other employers, are asking the question "Why does it take so long to reform the workers comp program when it is well known that the premium cost in Michigan is well above most other states, and the benefits to injured workers are well below most other states?"

There is no real answer except that for nearly 10 years, there have been real efforts to reform workers comp in Michigan. Unfortunately, it is a political issue. The present situation is much the same as it has been in the previous several years — complete confusion.

However, there was no confusion in the minds of the more than 1200 business employers, including farmers, who attended the workers compensation rally held in Lansing on April 2. Their purpose was to insist on total reform of the law this year.

Presently, there are three sets of bills in the Senate. Thirteen of those bills, S.B. 1023 through S.B. 1035, are known as the Plawecki proposals. They are presently on the Senate floor for action. It has been estimated by those who have analyzed them that these bills, rather than reforming workers comp in order to cut costs, would actually increase the cost of workers comp by about 22 percent and would

add \$219 million to the billion-dollar system.

They would help the farm employer somewhat by cutting the cost of minimums to an injured worker, but because they fail to reform other parts of the law, they actually would become more costly. These bills are single section bills each "tied barred" to the others. This makes it extremely difficult to amend them.

A second set of proposals introduced by Sen. Mowat and known as the governor's proposals, are S.B. 1075 through S.B. 1094, 19 bills in all. These go much further than the Plawecki proposals in actual reform, but still are not complete reform and would add an estimated overall cost of approximately 12 percent to present costs. This would vary depending on the type of business and the type of employment.

A third proposal is known as the coalition proposal, S.B. 1098. This has been introduced by Senators VanderLaan and Bishop. It is estimated that this bill would be a near complete reform of Michigan's workers comp law. With the reforms necessary to eliminate the many abuses, it is estimated there would be no actual increase in the cost and yet the benefit level for injured workers would be raised the

same as the benefit levels recommended in the other bills before the Senate.

It is estimated, however, that this bill, while it is well-written and does do the job, is not likely to see the light of day or have any chance of passage, primarily because of the political pressures involved.

All of the proposals increase the benefit level to 80 percent of spendable weekly income. This means that an injured person would receive 80 percent of his weekly income after taxes, not to exceed the amount of the average weekly wage. It is essential that other important reforms, such as a definition of what a work related injury is, as well as a statute of limitations, be included. Lack of such clear cut guidelines in the present system are two of the many problems that have led to the costly and shocking abuses of the system.

It is not clear at this time whether there will be any meaningful reform of the workers comp system. Without reform, there obviously cannot be any cut in its cost. S.B. 1098, however, does meet all of Farm Bureau's recommendations in the policy adopted by the voting delegates at the 1979 annual meeting.

Tax Reform and Property Tax Cuts

The voters this year are likely to be confused if all the tax reform programs are put on the ballot. There are about 20 proposals now under consideration.

At least six proposals are being circulated among voters in order to put them on the ballot in the November election. These include petitions by Rep. Siljander, Rep. Roy Smith, TRIM, STRIDE, Tisch and Sen. Fredericks.

Other proposals are being promoted in the Legislature by various legislators, including Rep. Montgomery, Rep. Roy Smith, Rep. Mathieu, Rep. Buth (MCFEE proposal), Rep. Sietsema, Rep. Fitzpatrick and the Republican Task Force.

Senate proposals are promoted by Sen. Faxon, Sen. Kammer, Sen. Monsma, Sen. Corbin and Sen. Arthurholtz. Still others are in the drafting stage.

A Democratic Task Force is also in the process of looking at its ideas on tax reform or tax shifts.

Gov. Milliken also has a proposal. The governor has also

called together leaders of both political parties as well as leaders of a variety of organizations to consider some type of tax reform program that could be generally supported and put on the ballot by legislative action. Farm Bureau is represented on that committee.

Very few people are looking at the present tax system which bases property taxes on ability to pay through the "circuit breaker" or homestead tax relief program. It is often not recognized that in many cases, low income elderly people pay no property tax because it is returned to them in the form of the "circuit breaker" or homestead rebate.

Many other homeowners, including farmers, presently receive as much as one half their property taxes back in the form of a refund. Farmers in the P.A. 116 program receive much more along with other protections. More than one third of a billion dollars is now refunded to homestead and farm owners.

Renters are also eligible for a refund on the tax portion of

their rent. The tax credit is based on 60 percent of the difference between 3½ percent of household income and the amount of the tax. The refund is limited to a maximum of \$1,200.

Farmers who have chosen to join P.A. 116 are refunded all of their property taxes above 7 percent of their household income with no maximum limit. They are also exempt from certain special assessments.

It may be worthwhile to look at the effect of some of the proposals that are being considered. For example, cutting the property tax rate means a loss of \$51 million per mill.

The proposal that has received the most publicity is the Tisch petition. It appears to be simple to most people because it requires that assessments be cut in half from the present 50 percent constitutional requirement to 25 percent. This would not necessarily cut the property tax in half. That would depend on the level of assessment.

The assessment cut would not apply to land currently enrolled in P.A. 116. It would

also limit assessment increases in the future for residential and agricultural land to 2 percent per year. Other property could increase according to inflation.

Most of all, tax exemptions (personal and real) would be abolished. This means that many presently exempted properties, such as government buildings, 4-H, FFA, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts properties, agricultural trees, shrubs and vines, automobiles, trucks, commercial forest reserve lands, beet sugar, inventories, etc., could be assessed and taxed.

It does, however, tie into the constitution certain other exemptions such as the present exemption on farm personal property (livestock and farm machinery and equipment), mechanic's tools, etc. It also exempts taxes for those persons with incomes under \$5,000 and those with incomes of \$5,000 to \$10,500 an additional 50 percent. Those over 62 years of age would be exempt from educational property taxes. There are provisions to give similar relief to renters.

It requires that the state must reimburse local governments and education 100 percent of all revenues that are lost. However, it prohibits the state from increasing any existing tax or imposing any new tax or fees without a 60 percent voter approval.

It transfers, in effect, responsibility for funding programs from local government to the state. It is estimated that revenue lost would amount to \$2 billion. The question is, "Where would the money come from to replace that revenue?" especially in light of the fact that the state budget is being slashed drastically due to Michigan's recession.

The governor's budget announced in January contained severe cuts, many of which are important to farmers. Since then new budget cuts have been announced almost weekly that have added up to over \$400 million. The latest is a cut of \$50 million in state aid for schools. This year Michigan's "rainy day" fund, which amounts to about \$200 million,

(continued on page 13)

Proposal Could Hurt Dairy Income, Co-op Bargaining and Milk Quality

A letter from Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton R. Smith, opposing a public hearing on the regulatory treatment of reconstituted milk under federal marketing orders, was one of over 7,000 received by the USDA. Consumers, dairy farmers, farm organizations and congressmen made comments on the proposal, petitioned by the Community Nutrition Institute, a consumer food advocacy organization, before the Feb. 29 deadline.

The issue is not restricted to the addition of water to powdered milk or the exclusion of reconstituted milk from the pricing provisions of federal orders. The CNI petition would permit a processor to blend reconstituted milk with fresh fluid milk and give license to the sale of imitation milk in direct competition with fresh fluid products.

The stated objective of the CNI is lower cost alternatives to fluid milk and its petition proposes that reconstituted milk products be exempted from the pricing provisions of federal orders. Smith told the USDA that the institute's charges that lower-cost alternatives to fluid milk are being eliminated from commerce by federal milk marketing orders could not be substantiated and that a hearing was neither required nor necessary.

Although no decision has been announced by USDA, Robert Craig, manager of MFB's Commodity Activities and Research Department, predicts there will be a hearing.

If the proposal were adopted, he warns, the result would be lower income for dairy farmers and possible disruption in some markets.

"The effect on dairymen would be largely contingent upon the demand for reconstituted milk," he explained. "There is no question that if sales of reconstituted, blend and filled milks were to capture a sizeable share of the fresh fluid milk market, producer prices for fluid milk would drop to the manufacturing level in order to be competitive.

"There are some markets in the upper Midwest where dairymen ship to fluid milk, where whole milk and low-fat milk sales in these markets would be subject to a lot of disruptions by this reconstituted milk. Dairymen shipping to markets with over-order prices would be at a disadvantage. The more an over-order price exceeded the minimum federal order price, the greater would be the incentive for the lower cost reconstituted products.

"We feel the proposal has the potential of reducing effective bargaining for dairy cooperatives — which has been one of the original goals of the CNI," said Craig. "Apparently, it is kosher for some other segments of the economy to bargain, but not dairymen.

"Also, a lot of the industry's promotion programs could be jeopardized where deductions are incorporated into an over-order price that is generally run in the various retail markets."

Craig feels it is important for dairy farmers to explain to consumers that what the CNI is proposing is a lower quality product. "I think there are many consumers who do not realize that we're talking about a different product that is not comparable to the fresh milk they can buy now in their grocery stores."

Reconstituted skim milk is blending non-fat dry milk with water and some fresh milk, and would contain lower solids-not-fat content. The solids-not-fat component of milk contains the protein, calcium and other valuable nutrients of milk, and under the proposal would be reduced from 8.5 or 8.6 percent for fresh fluid milk to 8.25 percent for reconstituted milk, Craig explained.

"There is no question in my mind that lowering the solids-not-fat content of milk translates into a less palatable and less nutritious product," Craig said. "This aspect of the CNI proposal has not been told to the American consumer.

"Finally, one of the reasons CNI wants to change our milk marketing system is to lower consumer prices for milk. Yet, if the CNI proposal were adopted, store purchased non-fat dry milk would continue to be the most economical buy," Craig said. "For years, educational programs aimed at consumers and low income people have emphasized the use of non-fat dry milk in the diet for those who wanted a lower-cost alternative."

Farm Bureau on the NATIONAL SCENE

Grain Reserve Reopened: Corn farmers who did not participate in the 1979 feed grain program will be allowed to place a limited quantity of corn in the farmer-owned grain reserve. The action follows the signing of authorizing legislation by President Carter and will help farmers isolate additional corn stocks from the marketplace and strengthen market prices.

This option for previously ineligible corn farmers will be available on a first-come, first-served basis until approximately 295 million bushels of previously ineligible corn have been placed in the reserve, or May 15, whichever comes first.

Farmers who did not participate in the 1979 feed grains program and who currently have corn under a regular nine-month price support loan will continue to be eligible to enter their grain into the reserve regardless of how many bushels of previously ineligible corn goes into the reserve.

House Ag Committee Raises Price Support Loans: The House Agriculture Committee has approved a bill (H.R. 6245) which would raise price support loan rates for commodities affected by export embargoes. In addition, the committee approved several other bills which offer Congress a choice between two alternative plans for increasing 1980 and 1981 crop support loans without regard to whether export embargoes are in effect.

Farm Bureau Files Statement on Aerial Application of Pesticides: A petition signed by 73 persons under the auspices of "Friends of the Earth" to restrict the application of pesticides on agricultural crops is "without factual or scientific support," the American Farm Bureau Federation has told the Environmental Protection Agency. In a statement filed in mid-April with the EPA and the Federal Aviation Administration, the AFBF said the proposed policy changes in aerial application of pesticides would create adverse economic implications for agriculture, the balance of payments and the economy.

The proposal would require mandatory approval of adjoining landowners, as well as occupants of non-farmland adjacent to the spray treated area, before pesticides could be applied.

Interest Rates on 1980 Crop Loans: The USDA has announced the interest rate on all 1980 crop loans made by the Commodity Credit Corporation will be 13 percent. The rate will also apply to any new 1979 crop loans and new farm storage facility loans made after April 18. The new rates are based on the cost of borrowing money from the U.S. Treasury.

Farmers who already have CCC commodity or facility loans would not be affected by the new interest rates.

Farmers Urged to Place Land in Public Access Stamp Program

Landowners in southern Lower Michigan have until July 1 to sign up for the state's Public Access Stamp Program.

Under the program, the Department of Natural Resources leases land for hunter use. The state pays from 50 cents to \$6 per acre to landowners, depending on the land available — woodlots, marshland, brushland, idle fields not cropped, grain lands left for wildlife, etc. This is an increase over last year's rates.

During 1979, almost 120,000 acres were leased with an average payment of \$279.55 paid to each landowner, says John Urbain, DNR wildlife executive. During 1977-78, the first year of the program, the average payment per landowner was \$249.00, he said.

Funding for the program comes from hunters who purchase a \$1 Public Access Stamp if they wish to hunt in

41 participating counties in southern Lower Michigan (Zone 3 — approximately that part of the state extending from Muskegon to Bay City).

Land-leasing applications are available at all DNR field offices, county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service offices, county Farm Bureau offices and Michigan State University Extension offices. Leases cover the period from September 15 to March 1 of each year. Public Act 373, the legislation authorizing the leasing, ensures continuation of the program through December 1982.

Urbain says DNR wildlife specialists will inspect each piece of property before it is approved for leasing. He emphasizes that **landowners are free from liability under the law for injuries to anyone hunting on their leased lands, unless there was gross negligence or willful**

and wanton misconduct of the owner.

The DNR will provide landowners with signs that will indicate that hunting is permitted there under the Public Access Stamp Program and that hunters must obtain permission from the landowner to hunt on the land. Landowners may limit the number of hunters using their land at any one time.

Urbain adds that a landowner may terminate his lease at any time.

"We hope to have lists of leased land available for hunters at DNR district offices and ASCS offices before September 15," he says.

About 350,000 hunters are expected to hunt in southern Lower Michigan this year. The public access stamp program should open over 150,000 acres of privately owned land to hunters, the DNR says.

Feds Make Money Available for Farm Loans

The Federal Reserve Board recently said that it is making up to \$3 billion available to member banks exclusively for loans to farmers and small businessmen.

"Farm Bureau is very pleased that the Federal Reserve Board has taken action to help relieve the credit crunch in rural areas," said Robert B. Delano, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

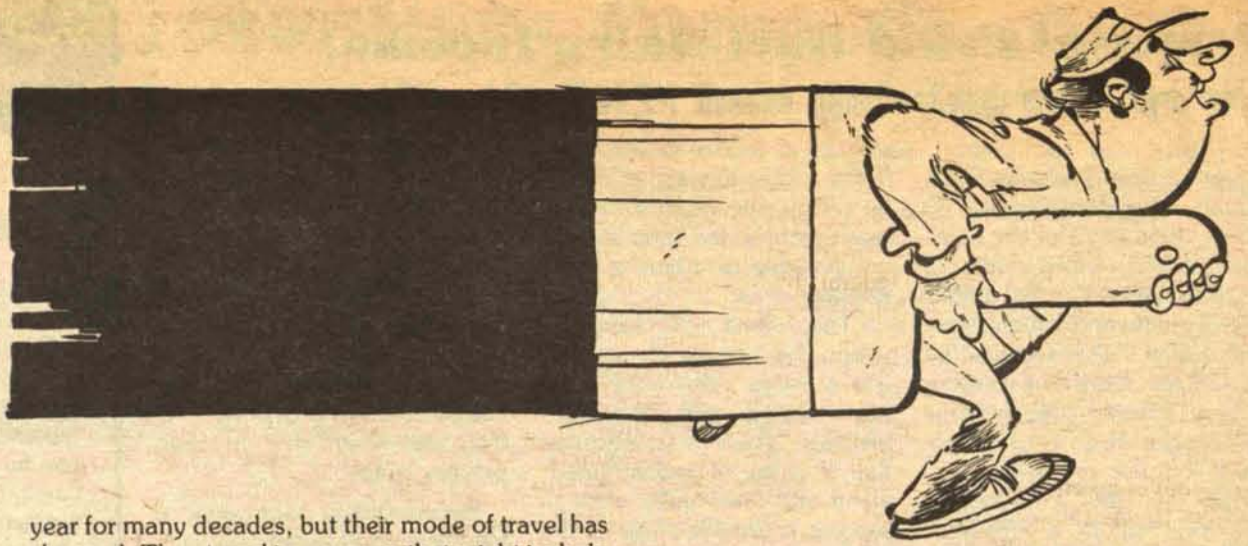
The action makes the funds available to banks at a rate of 13 percent. Delano said that would result in loans to farmers in the range of 15 to 18 percent, which is about two points below the present federal discount rate.

In announcing the plan, Federal Reserve Board Vice Chairman Frederick H. Schultz said the board had determined that farmers and small businessmen were particularly hard-hit by high interest rates.

Delano said the action was a direct result of a meeting he and other farm leaders had recently with Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker where they outlined the credit problems being faced by farmers and ranchers.

To qualify for the newly-available funds, banks must have total assets of less than \$100 million and show a loan-to-deposit ratio of at least 68 percent.

Time for the Annual Rip-Off



The farmer stands in the aftermath of a rain-storm, gazing in bewilderment at the streaked roof and the sticky rivelets that trace an ugly pattern down the sides of the barn to the red puddles around its foundation. Just the night before, when he went in for supper, he had turned around to look with satisfaction at the freshly-painted barn roof. It had looked so good. . . .

Down the road a few miles, another farmer stares despondently at the new eavestrouthing that had been hung the day before. Part of it is drooping, most is laying on the ground. A closer inspection shows why — the eavestrouthing is constructed of cardboard.

These two farmers were victims of the kind of swindle committed by members of the same "band" of roving rip-off artists and thieves that invade Michigan this time of year. The reason they were victims may also have been the same — the three "G's" — *greed*, or eagerness to take advantage of a too-good-to-be-true offer; *gullibility*, the traditional willingness of a farmer to take people at their word; and *goodness*, that basic belief that his fellow man follows the Golden Rule like he does.

If these farmers who hired the roof painting and eavestrouthing jobs done had left their farm homes while these "services" were being performed, an inventory of livestock, gasoline, equipment and even money from the house itself, might show they were also victims of theft.

These roving bands are nothing new to Michigan. They've been coming around this time of

year for many decades, but their mode of travel has changed. They travel in caravans that might include Cadillacs, Lincolns and big Airstream trailers. (The license plates on their cars and those on their trailers might be from different states.) They frequently use a trailer park as a base of operation. Structured, well-disciplined, well-organized, they will "work" the cities, towns and countryside in areas within driving distance of their base.

Painting, eavestrouthing and driveway repair services are the most common approach to farmer-victims. The elderly, who frequently keep jewelry and money in their homes, are a favorite target too. In jewelry, variety and grocery stores in towns and cities, women, and sometimes children, are used to create a commotion or otherwise distract owners' and employees' attention away from the money or goods they intend to steal.

According to Detective Lt. Darrell Pope and Detective Sgt. Bill Bradway of the Michigan State Police, there were \$500,000 in reported losses as a result of the thieves' annual visit to Michigan last year. This is a modest figure, they claim, compared to actual losses because so many of the crimes remain unreported.

These losses can be reduced significantly, say the detectives, through the cooperation of citizens. Especially helpful to law enforcement officials is information on the location of the bands. Simply letting the thieves know they are under surveillance is an effective crime prevention measure, they say.

Pope has some suggestions for citizen involvement in attacking this annual problem:

1. If you see what you believe might be a caravan of these operators, alert local authorities of their location.

2. If you are approached by people offering various services, such as painting, driveway repair or eavestrouthing, and the price is about one-third of what a legitimate concern would charge, be suspicious!

3. Do not let them in your home. If they become aggressive, tell them to leave and call your local police. Make the report, even if you are not victimized.

4. If you are victimized, report it to your local police. It may be too late to recoup your losses, but by making the report, you are protecting your neighbor from becoming the next victim.

5. Alert your local business people that they may be targets of these roving bands so they can take precautionary measures.

If you prefer not to contact your local law enforcement agencies or the State Police yourself, call the Michigan Farm Bureau and ask for Ron Nelson, who is in charge of the Rural Crime Prevention Program (517-323-7000, Ext. 559). Provide him with the details of your suspicions and/or encounter.

By making citizens a part of the crime prevention information network, the State Police hope the roving bands of thieves and rip-off artists will look for "greener pastures" than Michigan next spring.

New Member-Only Discount Program

Michigan Farm Bureau members in northern Michigan can now take advantage of MFB's new car and truck discount program without having to drive long distances.

Ben Hodges Chevrolet-Oldsmobile, Inc., located in West Branch, has agreed to sell members new model Chevrolet and Oldsmobile cars and Chevrolet trucks at a substantial savings.

Hodges will sell the cars out of stock or ordered by members for \$150 over dealer cost, except Corvettes which will be sold for \$1,000 over cost. The \$150 mark-up includes dealer servicing. Special orders for cars will require a \$100 deposit at the time the order is placed.

Members may also purchase trucks at a discount according to the following schedule: light trucks and vans (4x2) and Suburbans (4x2) - \$150 over dealer cost; Blazers - light trucks, Suburbans (4x4) - \$150 over dealer cost from March 1 to September 30 and \$300 over dealer cost from October 1 to February 29; and medium size trucks (50-60-70) - \$500 over dealer costs.

All truck and van mark-ups include dealer servicing. Orders for light trucks, vans, Suburbans and Blazers - light truck and Suburban models, will require a \$100 deposit at the time the order is placed. Orders for medium size trucks will require a \$300 deposit.

Farm Bureau members must contact Terry Hodges in order to obtain a price quotation on any of the above vehicles. His phone number is 517-345-1022. Members must present a current Farm Bureau membership card when ordering in person or provide their membership card number on phone orders.

Ben Hodges Chevrolet is located at 2265 S. M-76 in West Branch.

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Farm Bureau Leaders Sow Seeds Of Fiscal Responsibility

Farm Bureau leaders who participated in the 20th annual Michigan Farm Bureau Legislative Seminar, March 24 to 27, in Washington, D.C., recognize that the fiscal policies they support are more conservative than what has been popular in the nation's capitol in recent years.

"We have taken the same message to Washington year

after year — less government intervention in the marketplace, demands for a balanced federal budget, less government spending," says Vivian Lott, Michigan Farm Bureau Women's chairman and organizer of this year's activities. "But in 1980, the Congress is listening. The whole country has been feeling the effects of irresponsible federal

fiscal policies and our congressmen are under tremendous pressure to curb inflation, restore productivity and improve real incomes."

During their four-day visit in the nation's capitol, Lott and other county Farm Bureau leaders, were assured that the Congress and administration are working toward a balanced budget plan for 1981. Talk of a balanced budget encouraged the Michigan farmers, but they emphasize that restraint in government spending must be the watchword for several years to come.

In meetings with USDA officials, Michigan's congressional delegation and the press, Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton R. Smith explained that the Michigan farmers do not expect to see a turnaround in the economy in a single year of fiscal restraint. But, he told

organization's 1980 annual convention in Phoenix, Ariz., the Farm Bureau leaders told congressmen, "As Farm Bureau members, we agreed to bend our policy against using food as an economic weapon when President Carter assured us that a threat to our national security did exist, but we cannot stand by and watch our industry buckle under the administration's mismanagement of the national economy and U.S. foreign policy."

Farmers, they said, have been short changed by administration promises to curb the adverse effects of the embargo on American agriculture.

"We asked for broader sanctions against the Soviets including a halt in cultural and technological exchanges; our request has been ignored. We asked for diversion payments to reduce the loss impact for

R. Smith, led the delegation of farmers.

More than 2,500 Farm Bureau members nationwide visit Capitol Hill each year during the grassroots lobbying effort which is scheduled during the months of February through April.



Harold Sikkenga, Muskegon County legislative leader (left) and Congressman Guy VanderJagt (right) talked about the effects of the Soviet grain embargo on farmers at the congressional breakfast.



Northwest Michigan legislative leader Kenneth Engle (left) and Congressman Don Albosta (right) discussed issues of concern to farmers.



Congressman William Broomfield (left) and L. C. Scramlin (right), MFB Young Farmer chairman, talked about balancing the 1980 federal budget.



USDA Undersecretary Jim Williams told the group that the USDA is concerned with the preservation of the family farm.

the Washington leaders, "we do expect to see our government launch the battle against inflation nationwide — starting with the balanced federal budget promised by the administration and Congress."

Farm Bureau leaders also met in individual sessions with congressional leaders where they talked about the economic outlook for farmers in 1980. Farmers, in particular, they told the congressmen, have felt the crippling effects of higher interest rates and double digit inflation. Cost of credit and production supplies will take their toll on the nation's farmers in 1980, they said.

Economic problems for agriculture have been further complicated by the effects of the Soviet grain embargo imposed by President Carter earlier this year.

Recalling the action of American Farm Bureau Federation delegates at the

our nation's grain farmers and have been denied."

In their visits with Michigan congressmen, the county Farm Bureau leaders stressed agriculture's contribution to the nation's balance of payments through sales in the international market.

By cutting off or clogging farmers' access to international markets, the administration action threatens to reduce the important trade dollars coming to the United States from those markets, they said.

According to 1979 trade figures, agricultural products netted \$20 billion for the U.S. economy, offsetting an estimated \$45 billion paid for foreign oil imports.

The 1980 Michigan Farm Bureau Washington Legislative Seminar involved 125 Michigan farmers representing diversified agricultural interests throughout the state. Michigan Farm Bureau president, Elton

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MI-OSHA: Negative Impact for Youth Employment

If Michigan's farm employers aren't alert to their opportunity for public comment on MI-OSHA's new youth employment standards, then the state bureaucracy will certainly add another chapter to the regulatory rule books, warns Harold Scharp, operations manager of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association.

A series of five public hearings are scheduled around the state in May and Scharp hopes that a significant number of agricultural employers will make an effort to express their opinions to the Department of Labor, either in person or through written comment.

"It is not MASA's position to discontinue the regulation of youth employment. Our position is that no evidence has been offered which requires standards more strict than the existing federal standards. We believe that the federal standards are entirely appropriate and more than adequate," says Scharp.

He says 11 of the 17 rules in the Michigan proposal are near duplicates of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards which have regulated youth employment in agriculture since 1970.

"Farmers have lived with these federal regulations for ten years and have responded positively," Scharp says.

Why then does the agricultural sector oppose the adoption of a similar Michigan standard?

"Specifically, differences in the state and federal definition of a minor mean that Michigan youth under the age of 18 would be brought under the provisions of the state standard; the federal cut-off point is 16 years of age.

"We are also very concerned about the use of such inexact terms as 'close adult supervision.' There is the very real possibility that this term will ultimately be defined through the judicial process and at the cost of a farm operator's livelihood.

"I am convinced that if the state standards are approved, they will have a wide ranging negative impact on the hiring of minors for agricultural work," Scharp says.

The Michigan requirements also expand certification and training requirements to 16 and 17 year olds. The federal standards prevent youth under the age of 16 from operating tractors with more than 20 PTO horsepower or certain types of farm machinery unless they have been issued a certificate of training. The Michigan standard would require a certificate of training or a valid driver's license to allow 16 and 17 year olds to operate such equipment. Despite such certification, the Michigan standard would still require "close adult supervision" for all youth between the ages of 14 and 17.

A requirement related to "equipment and machinery safeguards" in the Michigan standard, would add a stan-

dard not found in the OSHA regulations. This standard prohibits a minor from working "under equipment or machinery which has been elevated by a hoist, jack, blocks or hydraulic power system." There are no exemptions to this regulation.

Scharp also expresses dissatisfaction with the composition of the advisory committee appointed to help the Department of Labor draft the new standards.

The advisory committee included representatives of the

state departments of Public Health and Social Services, Michigan State University, the Migrant Legal Assistance Project and Michigan Farm Bureau.

"There were no young people on the committee and there were no actively producing farmers on the committee," Scharp says. "The people who are to be regulated were excluded from the drafting process."

He stresses the importance of participating in the public

hearing process for agricultural employers. "In the hearings process, the farm employers' viewpoint can be heard. Without the response and comment of the agricultural sector, we will find ourselves operating under this new set of standards, which could threaten youth employment in agriculture or a producer's farming operation. At the same time, these rules would offer no more effective protection for young people than what is provided under federal standards."

Scharp cites statistics from the Michigan Department of Labor which show compensable injuries to Michigan youth under the age of 18 who were employed in agriculture in 1977 and 1978 totalled 126; fatalities for the years 1977 through 1980 (to date) were reported at three persons.

Copies of the proposed Department of Labor Youth Employment Standards have been mailed to all members of MASA. MASA members who have not yet received a copy can do so by writing to MASA, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909, or by calling Harold Scharp at 517-323-7000, Ext. 553.

Other interested persons can obtain copies of the proposed rules by writing to the Wage Hour Division, Michigan Department of Labor, State Secondary Complex, Second Floor, B-Wing, 7150 Harris Drive, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

Public hearings on the Youth Employment Standard Act will be held at the following locations:

May 19, 1980

Caro Regional Mental Health Center
Administration Building - Ground Level
Caro, Michigan 48723

May 20, 1980

Department of Public Health
Olin Baker West Building - Room 1-B
Lansing, Michigan 48909

May 22, 1980

Van Buren County Farm Bureau Office
Route 5, P.O. Box 172
Paw Paw, Michigan 49879

May 27, 1980

Central Michigan University
University Center, Preston Road
Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48851

May 28, 1980

Northwestern Michigan College
Health Education Building - Room 207
1701 E. Front Street
Traverse City, Michigan 49649

The hearings will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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Incentives to Boost Membership Totals

At their April meeting, the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors approved several changes in the County Farm Bureau Relationship Agreement that had been recommended by a 12-member committee.

The major changes approved by the board dealt with financing of county Farm

\$40 membership dues approved by voting delegates at the 1979 MFB annual meeting, to become effective Sept. 1, 1980.

As an incentive for continuous membership growth and encouragement for county Farm Bureaus to complete their membership drives by an

equal not less than 90.1 percent or less of quota, no incentive dollars will be paid to the county Farm Bureau. (Quota is defined in the agreement as the county's previous year's membership total.)

"The county Farm Bureau will receive \$5 for each of those memberships processed by

equal not less than 90.1 percent nor more than 100 percent of the county Farm Bureau's quota.

"The county Farm Bureau will receive \$14 for each of those memberships processed by MFB that cause the county Farm Bureau's membership to equal more than 100 percent of the county Farm Bureau's quota.

"In the event the county Farm Bureau achieves 105 percent of its quota by January 31, it will receive an additional bonus payment in an amount to equal 20 percent of all incentive dollars earned by January 31. To qualify for such bonus payment, memberships must be in the home office by the end of the third working day following January 31."

During May and June, the 12 committee members will be going to the boards of directors of each county Farm Bureau in their districts to explain the changes in the agreement and ask for their ratification. In order for the agreement to become effective Sept. 1, it will be necessary for two-thirds of the counties to approve the new agreement.



Wayne Wood, chairman of the County Farm Bureau Relationship Agreement Committee, reported on the committee's recommendations at the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors at their April meeting.

Bureaus. Under the new agreement, which becomes effective Sept. 1 if it is approved by two-thirds of the counties, \$11 of each paid membership within a specific county would be retained by the county Farm Bureau and \$29 would be remitted to Michigan Farm Bureau.

The new distribution of membership funds is based on

early date, an incentive dollar program has been included in the new agreement.

According to Wayne Wood, chairman of the committee, county Farm Bureaus will be paid incentive dollars by MFB using the following criteria:

"For that portion of the county Farm Bureau's mem-

MFB that cause the county Farm Bureau's membership to equal not less than 80.1 percent nor more than 90 percent of the county Farm Bureau's quota.

"The county Farm Bureau will receive \$9 for each of those memberships processed by MFB that cause the county Farm Bureau's membership to

Communicating: It Can Save More Than Your Marriage

Last month, when I was down with the flu, I wasn't feeling up to communicating with anyone, so I was very grateful to Bill for coming to my rescue with a guest column. He really did a fine job and I'm sure that more than a few farm wives appreciated the recognition for their many roles in the farming operation.

I guess that's why I feel so bad about the creek rising.

You may remember Bill promised I'd be back this month, "the good Lord willing and the creek don't rise." Well, I was back on my feet soon enough and the way I felt I was sure the good Lord had a hand in making that possible. So I didn't complain when the rain fell for several days swelling the creek and soaking the fields. Given good health and shelter, I even managed to hum a tune or two while I hung the laundry in the basement.

And then IT happened.

Bill had been muttering about the rain in varying attitudes for a couple of days. First, it was, "Well, we really need this rain." Then discontent, "It's too wet to do anything. I hope we don't have

a late spring," and the next thing I knew he was headed for the field with the Massey Ferguson 1135. I suspected, but didn't know for sure, that he was going to plant that thing so deep it would take four men and a boy to yank it out of that mudhole.

Of course, help in those numbers and gender aren't plentiful around our place, so guess who got drafted. All I can say is that it's a good farm wife who can figure out what all those hand signals and arm wavings mean when you're trying to pull a tractor out of the mud. Unfortunately, your best efforts are never quite good enough. But I tried, remembering how Bill helped me when I was stuck in bed with the flu.

It was no use... and I concluded that it was a miracle that the tractor ever got free and a miracle that the divorce courts aren't full of farm couples threatening to end it all because "she doesn't know how to pull a tractor out of the mud." We're lucky though, we decided to stay together "Good Lord willing and the creek don't rise."

Between You and Me

By Judy Kissane

1980 Michigan Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farm Woman



Frustrations with the weather and machinery are those a farm couple can conquer by cooperating and communicating with one another. The frustrations that farmers feel with government regulation, inflation and political tampering with the market system, can be conquered too, by working together as Farm Bureau members through activities such as the Washington Legislative Seminar.

Bill and I were a part of this year's seminar and though we could only stay for the planned legislative activities, we found Washington, D.C., to be a fascinating and frustrating city.

Fascinating when you realize the great and not so great decisions that are made there; frustrating when you see some of the decisions that are made, the red tape and bureaucracy involved.

Fascinating when you realize that your voice can be heard and counted in our nation's capitol; frustrating when you

realize that this is an election year and the politicians outnumber the statesmen.

The Washington Legislative Seminar is a worthwhile activity and it was rewarding to see our legislative leaders working hard to present our farm viewpoint to the congressmen. As legislative leaders, we visited with Michigan congressmen both at the scheduled breakfast meeting and in personal visits to their offices. We found these meetings valuable and encouraging.

I would like to see more people participate in the Legislative Seminar. I feel it is one of the most worthwhile of all of the Farm Bureau Women's activities. Any Farm Bureau member can join the Heritage Tour; legislative leaders are selected by county Farm Bureau boards.

In whatever capacity you can participate, this is a valuable experience. So next year, plan to let your voice be heard and take part in the Washington Legislative Seminar.

Dates Set for AFBF Grape Conference

The American Farm Bureau Federation will be sponsoring a national grape conference in Sacramento, Calif., June 16 to 17.

For further information on the conference, contact the Commodity Activities and Research Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

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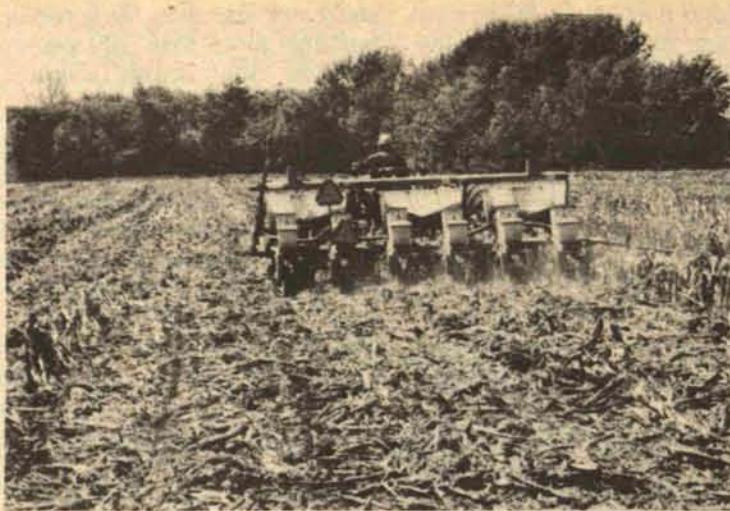
To meet the challenge of soaring fuel prices and to protect their land from soil erosion, more and more Michigan farmers are turning to conservation tillage practices. Conservation tillage is any field preparation method that reduces the number of tillage operations and leaves all or part of the previous crop residue on the soil surface.

"There's no doubt about it," says Dwight Quisenberry, agronomist for the USDA's Soil Conservation Service in East Lansing, "conservation tillage not only reduces oil consumption to about one-sixth of that required for ordinary tillage operations, it also reduces soil erosion 50 to 90 percent."

According to Quisenberry, "clean" tillage methods, which farmers have traditionally used, require an average of 7.4 gallons of fuel for each acre cultivated. The "no-till" system, in which the soil is not touched until planting time and this year's crop is planted through the residue of last year's crop, requires only about 1.25 gallons of gasoline per acre.

A strong proponent of no-till, Quisenberry says this method not only saves fuel, it also requires less labor. "Maximum tillage and planting takes about 4½ hours per acre. With no-till, the crop can be planted in an hour or less," he said.

"No-till also helps conserve soil moisture," said the agronomist. "More rain water soaks into the soil when the surface is



Ed Kahres, Ingham County Farm Bureau member, is one of many Michigan farmers who use the "no till" method of planting.

covered with a mulch from last year's crop residues. The residue mulch slows 'soil to air' evaporation losses of soil moisture. It also improves soil aeration and structure because there is less field traffic to pack the soil and the soil is mixed less."

The method also protects the land from loss of soil and plant nutrients to wind and water erosion, said Quisenberry, resulting in less sediment and nutrient pollution of lakes and streams.

Because no-till is a different way of planting and growing crops, different management techniques are required. Quisenberry has several suggestions for farmers who are considering no-till planting techniques:

1. Select a good no-till planter made for or modified for no-till planting.
2. Apply needed lime and fertilizer.
3. Wait until the soil temperature is 50 degrees Fahrenheit and the soil is dry enough to plow before planting.
4. Check planting depth (1½ to 2½ inches) and press wheel adjustment frequently to get good soil-to-seed contact.
5. Keep tractor speed below 3½ miles per hour when planting.
6. Control weeds and insects with approved pesticides applied according to label directions and the latest state and federal regulations.

"No-till is simple, easy and fast," concludes Quisenberry. "It will produce good crops

with less fuel, labor and machinery while conserving soil and water resources. Other

conservation tillage systems have most of the same advantages, but to a lesser degree."

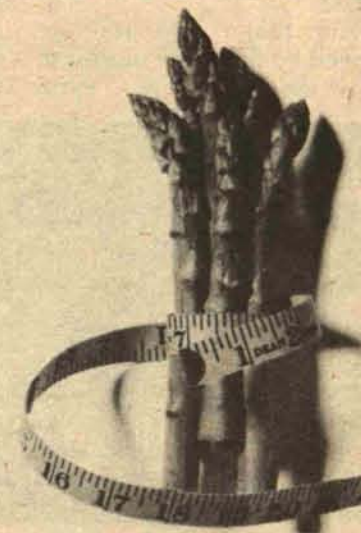
Asparagus Growers Expect Good Harvest This Year

With unseasonably warm weather in the last two weeks, asparagus growers are anticipating a healthy production year.

According to Harry Foster of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association's Michigan Asparagus Growers Committee, a more stringent grade for processed asparagus has been established this year.

"The grade essentially shortens the length of the spear the grower can bring to the processor for top dollar. By shortening the spear, a 100 percent usable product should be the result. A higher quality finished pack is what we are after," said Foster.

The Direct Marketing Division of MACMA is again selling fresh hydro-cooled asparagus in its Member-to-Member Asparagus Sale.



The Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board has developed a new sales centerpiece promoting fresh, frozen and canned asparagus markets. The display piece, to be used in banners, price cards and other promotional materials, visually depicts the merits of Michigan asparagus, as a nutritive, low calorie and readily available product. Sales-aid kits will be available to growers, packers and shippers.

June 12-15

Asparagus Festival Set

The Seventh Annual National Asparagus Festival will be held in Oceana County June 12-15. The three-day festival will include farm tours, the Asparagus Royale Parade and the Asparagus Smorgasbord.

One of the highlights of the festival will be the tractor pull on Friday, June 13 at 7 p.m. at the Winston Speedway in Rothbury.

Brenda Parker of New Era will reign over the festivities as the 1980 Mrs. Asparagus. The Parker family raises asparagus and registered Appaloosa horses.

Entry blanks and more information on the tractor pull along with general information on the festival may be obtained by writing the National Asparagus Festival, Box 117, Shelby, Mich. 49455.

Prior to the official opening of the festival, the Asparagus Bakeoff will be held on Saturday, May 17. Anyone who has a unique dish made with asparagus may enter the bakeoff. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners. For details on the bakeoff, contact Sally Richards, New Era, Mich. 49446.

Many asparagus recipes from previous bakeoffs are contained in a cookbook, entitled "A Festival of Good Eating...from Asparagus Country." The National Asparagus Festival is selling these cookbooks. Below is an order blank for their purchase.

Asparagus Cookbook Order Form

National Asparagus Festival
P.O. Box 117C
Shelby, Michigan 49455

Please send me _____ cookbooks entitled "A Festival of Good Eating...from Asparagus Country," at \$3.95 plus \$1.80 postage and handling for each.

Enclosed is \$5.75 for _____ cookbooks = \$ _____

(Prices are subject to change without notice.)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____

Spread the Good Word!

It's Time for
MACMA's
Member-to-Member
Asparagus Sale



- Fresh Pack Asparagus, 20 lbs.
- Fresh Pack Asparagus, 10 lbs.
- High Density Orange Juice, 24/12 oz. cans
- High Density Grapefruit Juice, 24/12 oz. cans
- Lemonade Concentrate, 24/12 oz. cans
- Apple Cider Concentrate, 12/15 oz. jugs

Contact your county Farm Bureau secretary or member-to-member chairman for price information and order deadline.

Forestry Committee Looks at Industry Challenges



Recommendations of the MFB Forestry Industry Study Committee to assist timbering operations in the state were approved by the MFB Board of Directors at their April meeting.

Forestry Industry Study Committee members are (left to right) Adrian Hendriksma, Allegan; Herb Reiley, Antrim; Ken Nye, MFB staff; Don Shirley, Copper Country; Art Bailey, MFB Board of Directors; Paul Bradley, Eaton; Hardy Elowsky, Montmorency; and Paul Huber, Clare.

Despite a resurgence of interest in Michigan's timbering industry as a potential renewable energy resource for home heating and raw materials in the production of gasohol, forest industry leaders aren't optimistic.

In fact, say representatives of the industry, with workers compensation premiums set at \$49 per \$100 of payroll, the economic future of logging in Michigan could face even further decline.

"It is unfortunate, but we can assume that there are harvesters in the state who are operating without workers compensation insurance. They are taking a chance, but the costs of coverage are forcing them to take these risks," says Ken Nye, secretary of the Michigan Farm Bureau Forestry Industry Study Committee, which is examining the issues and problems of the industry.

"Through our discussions with members of the committee

who have an interest in timbering, we have learned that many mill buyers are refusing to accept timber unless the seller has workers compensation coverage. Nonetheless, the economic burden of these rates is oppressive to future expansion of this industry in the state."

"The problem doesn't stop with commercial harvesters though," says Nye. "Farmers who do some 'incidental' harvesting from their woodlots may have adequate workers compensation coverage through their existing agricultural policies, but the definition of what constitutes incidental harvesting is not clear. Farmers may find themselves without adequate coverage in case of an injury or without a mill buyer for the cut lumber."

Liability of forest landowners, whatever their status, is another problem, says Nye. "Even if you allow a neighbor or friend to take timber from your woodlot at no cost, you

could be held liable if he were injured. Why? Because the law could be interpreted to show that you were gaining economic value by having the individual clean up your woodlot."

According to Nye, this question of liability is particularly important now when many homeowners are interested in obtaining wood for fireplaces and woodburning stoves.

The Forestry Industry Study Committee met April 8 and 9 in Lansing to discuss the problems of workers compensation, liability, woodlot management, education and financing of both conservation and production forestry activities in the state.

As a result of their discussion and consultation with experts from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Forestry Department of Michigan State University, USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and representatives of Michi-

gan Farm Bureau and affiliate companies, the committee made the following recommendations:

1. Liaison With County Farm Bureaus: We recommend that the members of the MFB Forestry Industry Study Committee serve as liaison contacts to the county Farm Bureaus of which they are members. This should include the development of county Farm Bureau forestry committees in those respective counties.

2. Education of Forest Landowners: MFB should strive to educate members and other private forest landowners on assistance and educational programs available through various agencies and educational institutions. This should be accomplished by using existing informational channels within Farm Bureau.

3. Workers Compensation: MFB and Farm Bureau Insurance Group should cooperate with the Michigan Timbermen's Association and other interested parties to examine pending workers compensation legislation and its effect on the forestry industry, and in providing workers compensation insurance for Farm Bureau members or others who have a need for this insurance in their forestry operation.

4. Liability for Forest Landowners: FBIG should educate members and policyholders as to their liability responsibility in allowing the harvest and removal of firewood or other wood products on their property.

5. Member Identification: MFB should increase efforts to identify members who have a commodity interest in forestry.

The recommendations of the Forestry Industry Study Committee were adopted by the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors at their April meeting.

BETTER FUEL ECONOMY WITH CUSTOM DIESEL



Buy Farmers Petroleum Custom Diesel Fuel and buy a premium diesel fuel. It'll run better and longer in all your farm vehicles. It's a smart way to conserve. Just another product from Farmers Petroleum to help you get More Acres per Gallon.

See These Participating Dealers:

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Falmouth Co-op Co. (McBain & Merritt Branches)
Marshall Farm Bureau Oil Co.
Ruth Farmers Elevator
Saginaw Farm Bureau Oil Co.
Sebewaing Farmers Co-op
Thunder Bay Farmers Co-op, Inc.

Farmers Petroleum Branches:
Breckenridge
Caro
Cassopolis
Comstock Park
Emmett
Hart
Jonesville
Linwood
Petoskey
Sandusky
Scottville
St. Johns
Traverse City

Where Your Farm Comes First
Farmers Bureau
FARMERS PETROLEUM

Search on for Energy Saving, Producing Ideas

In last month's *Farm News*, the Farm Bureau Energy Idea Search program was introduced. So far, response has been good.

The program is intended to surface innovative ideas and technology which have saved energy on the farm or which produce energy needed for agriculture.

There are two categories in the Energy Idea Search program, "Energy Saved" and "Germ of an Idea."

Energy Saved

Farm Bureau members who have **already done** something to conserve or produce energy in farming operations, farm buildings and livestock operations or around the house, who would like to share their ideas with others, are encouraged to submit the information to the *Michigan Farm News*. Members whose materials are published will receive \$10. Ideas may also be published in members' county newsletters.

Ideas published in the *Farm News* will be submitted to AFBF's *Farm Bureau News*. Members whose ideas are published will receive \$25 from AFBF.

Germ of an Idea

This category is designed to surface ideas that have not been fully constructed or implemented, and which have not yet been tested but have the potential to save or produce energy and could be used or adapted to some part of a farming operation. Entries will be forwarded to AFBF. Ten national winners will be invited to present their ideas at the Farm Bureau Energy Idea Symposium, Nov. 18 to 19, 1980, in Chicago. They will receive travel expenses and a \$500 cash award from AFBF.

AFBF may also award a maximum of 10 research grants of up to \$5,000 each to members whose ideas and applications have been forwarded to AFBF from state Farm Bureaus.

The Idea Search is designed to stimulate Farm Bureau members to share their energy saving ideas and to encourage members to participate in further research and development of ideas that could benefit agriculture.

Any Farm Bureau member, except those who are employees, who would like to submit an entry in either category, should complete the coupon below to receive appropriate entry forms and information.

Farm Bureau Energy Idea Search

Please send entry forms and information on **FARM BUREAU ENERGY SEARCH**.

- Energy Saved Category
 Germ of an Idea Category

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Return to Energy Idea Search, Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909

Farm Bureau Insurance, Michigan Farm Radio Network Recognize "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 agricultural industry and the community. In addition to recognition from the news media, award winners receive a plaque and award buckle and belt from their local FBIG agent.

The Farmer of the Week Award recipients for March 1980 were:



GARY BEST

Week of March 3 — Gary Best, 31, a dairy farmer from Snover who farms 500 acres and milks 105 cows in partnership with his father-in-law. Their herd consists of purebred registered Holstein livestock. Best serves as a delegate for the Sandusky Local of the Michigan Milk Producers Association; is a member of the Sanilac County Farm Bureau board; is past chairman of the county Young Farmers, past chairman of the Sanilac County Dairy Banquet Commission and past state finalist in the Michigan Farm Bureau Discussion Meet; and he was named Outstanding Young Farmer of Sanilac County in 1978. Best and his wife, Cynthia, have three children.



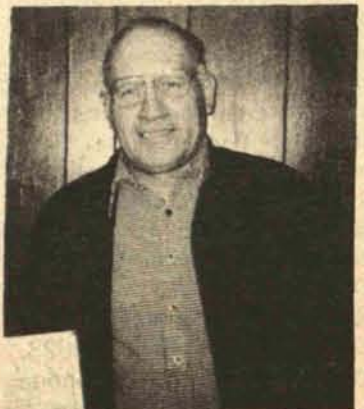
RONALD REISTER

Week of March 10 — Ronald Reister, 28, who operates a 320-acre fruit farm near Conklin in partnership with his brother. They raise apples, cherries and purple plums, and also store and pack area growers' fruit. Reister serves as a member of the Board of Education of Trinity Lutheran School in Conklin; is a member of the board of directors and treasurer of the Peach Ridge Fruit Growers Association; and is a member of the Ottawa County Farm Bureau. He and his wife, Linda, have three children.



DONALD K. STECKER

Week of March 17 — Donald K. Stecker, a 22-year-old cash crop farmer who took over operation of the family farm near Sebewaing five years ago. He farms 263 acres and raises beets, navy beans, kidney beans, corn and wheat. Stecker serves on the board of Emanuel Lutheran Church in Sebewaing; is a member of the church men's choir, Ushers Club and other church committees; is a member of the Huron County Farm Bureau and is active in the county Young Farmers. He was very active in Future Farmers of America in the Unionville-Sebewaing Schools and earned the FFA State Proficiency Award in field crops, the FFA Silver State Award, and the FFA Gold State Award. He also serves as co-chairman of the local FFA Alumni Group and has earned both the Silver State Farmer Degree and the American Farmer Degree. Stecker has served as a 4-H leader for five years and as vice president of the area 4-H Council.



J. W. HOFFMAN

Week of March 24 — J. W. Hoffman, 57, a dairy and crop farmer from Marshall who farms 1,000 acres and milks 65 cows in partnership with his two sons. Hoffman, a lifelong farmer, serves as chairman of the Calhoun County ASCS Committee; vice president of the Calhoun County Farmers Petroleum Board; director at large of the Calhoun County Farm Bureau; is a member of the United Methodist Church in Marshall; and is a past member of the Mar-Lee School Board. He and his wife, Virginia, have five children.



ALBERT RUGGLES

Week of March 31 — Albert Ruggles, 43, a Kingston dairy farmer who farms 720 acres and milks 80 cows in partnership with his brother. Ruggles serves as a member of the Kingston Community Schools Board of Education; director of the Tuscola County Soil Conservation Board; is a member of the Kingston Methodist Church and the Tuscola County Farm Bureau; and is a past member of the Farmers Home Administration Board. Ruggles spent two years in the Navy before starting to farm. He and his wife, Glennadine, have three children.

Member Life Coverages Doubled

Insurance benefits for Farm Bureau members who renew their Member Life policies will increase 100 percent at no additional cost, effective throughout the policy year of April 1, 1980 to March 31, 1981.

This means benefits for renewing members are now double the amounts listed in the original policy, while the premium cost remains at just \$25 a year. This low cost provides protection for the member, spouse and children.

"In the face of inflation, the Member Life policy is an excellent value," said Walter Lander, vice president of Farm Bureau Life. "Because of the substantial increase in benefits, inflation doesn't erode the value of Member Life."

Here is an example of what the increase would mean for a 34-year-old Farm Bureau member and spouse. If the coverage applies to the member and spouse only, the original policy schedule shows a \$4,057 benefit for the member and a \$1,000 benefit for the spouse. With the 100 percent increase, these benefits jump to \$8,114 on the member and \$2,000 on the spouse.

And, if the coverage is for the named member only, the amount of life insurance protection on a 34-year-old member jumps from \$5,057 on the original schedule to \$10,114 with the increase. Coverages on members vary, depending on the member's age and family situation, but the cost is the same for all Farm Bureau members — just \$25 a year.

Members enrolling for the first time will receive benefits as listed in the original policy schedule, although they will be eligible for any benefit increases when they renew their policies. Benefits to renewing members have increased six times since the Member Life program, available only to Farm Bureau members, was introduced six years ago.

By the end of 1979, the Member Life program had paid out nearly half a million dollars in benefits on 475 claims. About 7,000 member families are insured through Member Life.

Farm Bureau members who would like to enroll or find out more about the program should contact their Farm Bureau Insurance agent.

Money Market Funds

By Paul R. Schlaack
Vice President, Investments
Farm Bureau Insurance Group

The nation's money market funds, born in the tight money days of 1974 to take advantage of the high interest rates, have definitely arrived.

Money market funds began unexcitingly enough. In 1974 two former money managers started the first money fund, the Reserve Fund. They hoped to attract corporate accounts and wealthy individuals who would pool idle funds for investment in highly liquid money market instruments — Treasury bills, certificates of deposits, commercial paper, etc.

The Reserve Fund led the way and soon there were a number of imitators, but the going for all was slow. Moreover, the funds came not from originally anticipated sources, but largely from individuals with a few thousand dollars who did not have the money needed to buy Treasury bills or other instruments that sell in large denominations.

Not until early 1978 did the money market industry assets reach the \$4 billion mark.

Lately, however, money market funds have become the beanstalks of consumer investing and the bane of the savings bankers.

In the year and a half since interest rates began their march toward the 19-percent-plus prime rate, the number of accounts has increased almost tenfold to 2.7 million. The funds' assets, meanwhile, have gone from \$6.8 billion in June 1978 to just over \$60 billion. Their holdings now surpass those of stock and bond funds.

The lure of money funds could fade if the inflation that accounts for their growth should subside. The record high yields they now collect from their investments in short term money market securities would subside as well. Vigorous competition from banks and thrift institutions could also develop.

For the moment, though, the funds are one of the few widely available defenses against ever-rising consumer prices.

Unlike the flamboyant mutual funds of the 1960s, money market funds are actually a sober-looking group and are managed by a very different crowd from the storied stock fund stars of the past, often referred to metaphorically as gunslingers.

The attraction, then, of money market funds for investors, is easy to understand. They are highly liquid —

(continued on page 13)

SAY "GOODBYE" TO MICE, RATS, GOPHERS

St. Paul, MN (Special) A renowned engineer has invented an incredible Low-Frequency Electronic Unit that guarantees rodent-ridding power.

Remarkably, it powers its rodent death-dealing signal over a broad range, propelling its effect 10,000 square feet and up to 15 acres.

Safe For Humans, Farm Animals

Called X-PEL Rodent Control, the unit is absolutely harmless to dogs, cats, chickens, cattle, horses, etc. It's been field tested in apple orchards, turkey ranches, feed storage areas, and animal barns.

It's ecology safe—no effect on the environment. No poisons, no odors, no fogging, no spraying, no mess, no baiting, no ultra-sonics. It does not electrocute rodents, but destroys rats, mice, and gophers in a unique way.

The Chinese Water Torture

X-PEL, like the Chinese Water Torture, imperils the nervous system and scrambles the rodent's life. The result — they are too "panicked" to eat, nor do they drink, they just starve away.

Have you ever tried to sleep when a water-faucet has been dripping every 10 to 20 seconds? It's a nerve-racking tension! Well, that's exactly how X-PEL explodes incessantly on mice, rats and gophers.

No Rest For The Wicked!

X-PEL emits a terrifying beat, like a Jack Hammer, constantly drilling every 10 seconds around the clock. These rodents get no rest from this everlasting rat-a-tat-tat!

Good News For Farmers

The X-PEL Unit is now available to farmers who suffer extensive money damage to crops, orchards, alfalfa fields, and "spoilage" of stored grain and feed.

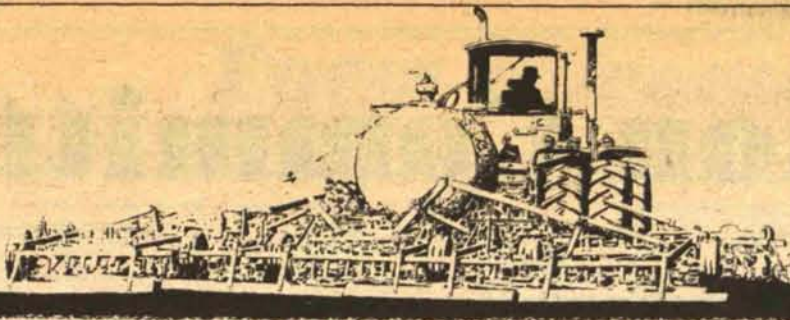
No other rodent-riddance program you have ever tried can work for you the way it can with X-PEL Rodent Control Unit. Gopher mounds will vanish and even dead pests will appear.

45 Day FREE Trial Offer

The makers are so sure that you will rout rodents within 3-4 weeks, they'll lend you a new X-PEL Rodent Infestation Control Unit for 45 days. There is absolutely no risk on your part — it's just to prove to you that you have everything to gain, and you'll welcome the loss of the pests.

This spectacular breakthrough and FREE 45 Day Trial Offer are described in an interesting brochure which will be mailed FREE to persons requesting it.

Just send your name, address, zip code in letter or postcard for this FREE Brochure to: X-PEL, Dept. C, 2453 University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114. Or phone 612-646-1848, ask for Operator 192.



Proper Disposal of Chemicals, Containers, Vital to Farmers

By Ken Nye
Commodity Specialist

Farmers are not generally classified as generators of hazardous waste under regulations of the Environmental Protection Agency, unless the waste pesticides and waste containers are not disposed of by proper methods.

Some 40,000 individual pesticide products are presently registered with the EPA, which is responsible for the regulation and safe use of these chemicals. Of particular concern to the EPA is the disposal of unwanted, surplus or unused pesticides and their containers.

The agency is currently striving to develop standardized disposal instructions on labels for products with similar characteristics. Such labeling standards are expected to improve the present product labeling situation in which little or no instruction is provided for the storage or disposal of the product and container.

Disposal statements on labels more frequently advise the user of what to avoid rather than what to do. Users may be warned, for instance, to "dispose of properly" or "do not contaminate water." However, farmers and other conscientious users of any quantity of the product may have considerable difficulty in determining what constitutes a safe, nonpolluting method of disposal.

For this reason, farmers should be aware of following guidelines, compiled by the EPA, which suggest proper

methods for the disposal of unwanted pesticides and their containers.

Suggested Guidelines

1. It is important, when selecting pesticides, to minimize disposal situations by buying only what is needed.

2. It is also important to mix and use only the amount of pesticide needed for a particular application. Application equipment can be cleaned by spraying down with water in a specifically designated area that minimizes the potential for harmful environmental effects.

3. If you have overmixed a pesticide solution, call your county extension agent, pesticide manufacturer or your state's pesticide disposal authority for disposal suggestions that comply with local practices.

4. With non-combustible (glass and metal) containers, empty the contents of the container into the spray tank. Fill and rinse the container three times, then add the rinse to the spray tank. Empty glass and metal containers that have been triple rinsed are recognized as nonhazardous waste under federal law. They can be sold to recycling establishments as scrap or to firms that recondition such containers. The triple rinse procedure also prepares empty containers for acceptance at most existing landfills. Check with landfill operators before disposal. Empty metal pesticide containers should be punctured at top and bottom and crushed.

5. In small quantities, combustible containers, such as paper, may be burned in the field. Be certain that the wind is blowing away from you, other persons, livestock and sensitive vegetation. Empty paper containers can also be disposed of at most existing landfills if the bags have been opened at both top and bottom.

6. In most farming areas, small amounts of noncombustible containers that have been triple rinsed and empty combustible containers may be buried in the field. These materials should only be buried in areas away from surface and subsurface water. Make sure you keep a record of the specific place you have buried pesticide containers.

7. Even small amounts of pesticides should never be emptied into municipal sewer systems, outdoor drains or sewers. Instead, return unused portions of the pesticide to the manufacturer, save for another application, sell or give to another user of the pesticide, or call a licensed pesticide hauler to pick up the material.

8. Empty pesticide containers should **never** be reused for any purpose.

Pesticides are recognized as essential to the production of food and fiber and for the control of insects, rodents and disease. Due to the inherent toxicity of pesticides and the potential for environmental harm, proper use of the products, and the disposal of their containers, is of paramount importance. Pesticides are chemicals and they are intended to kill or repel pest species. If improperly handled, mixed, applied or disposed of, pesticides can be hazardous to both the user and the environment.

Who to Contact

For more information on the disposal of empty pesticide containers and disposing of small amounts of pesticides, contact your local cooperative extension office, the pesticide manufacturer or the state environment agency expert. The Michigan agency responsible for administration of EPA regulations on pesticide use and disposal is the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Resource Recovery Division, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, Mich. 48909, phone 517-322-1315.

(This information was provided at the request of the Michigan Farm Bureau Feed Grains and Oilcrops Advisory Committee.)

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Marshall Farm Bureau Oil Co.
Ruth Farmers Elevator
Saginaw Farm Bureau Oil Co.
Sebewaing Farmers Co-op
Thunder Bay Farmers Co-op, Inc.

Farmers Petroleum Branches:
Breckenridge
Caro
Cassopolis
Comstock Park
Emmett
Hart
Jonesville
Linwood
Petoskey
Sandusky
Scottville
St. Johns
Traverse City

Where Your Farm Comes First
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Money Market Funds

(continued from page 12)

holdings can be cashed in within short periods of time; they offer handsome returns — yields at or near money market rates; and they are convenient — some funds offer checking privileges against balances with minimums ranging from \$250 to \$500.

And they cost nothing — there's no fee going in or coming out. Hence, for anyone willing to forego the comfort of government deposit insurance, who is willing to put up with modest risk, the funds add up to a good deal.

Last March, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, acting under authority from the president, adopted a number of new rules in an attempt to curb inflationary pressures.

One of the rules imposes special reserve requirements on money market funds. The effect of this action will be to reduce the yield money market funds will be able to pay. The money market industry is currently challenging this provision.

Capitol Report

(continued from page 4)

is being used in an effort to balance the budget. There is no surplus to be used to make up for lost revenues.

With so many tax plans being offered, citizens have a responsibility to study all the plans and determine what is in the best interest of the state and local governments. While most proposals appear to be simple, they actually have far reaching consequences.

One comment from the chairman of the House Taxation Committee is interesting

and prophetic. At a recent meeting he said that he could not understand why everybody seems to want to shift the cost of local government to the state. Because, he said, he can assure the public that the state, in one way or another, will certainly control the programs it pays for because the Legislature is responsible for how all state tax money is used.

Farm Bureau will analyze the various proposals and provide members with information on them.

Attention Landowners

Join the Public Access Stamp Program

P.A. 373 authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to lease lands for hunter use. The state will pay from 50 cents up to \$6.00 per acre to landowners, depending upon the land available. Applications to sign up for the program are available from county ASCS offices, county Farm Bureau offices or the DNR district offices listed below:

Grand Rapids District Office
6th Floor, State Office Bldg.
350 Ottawa Street, NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Phone: 616-456-5071

Imlay City District Office
715 S. Cedar Street
P.O. Box 218
Imlay City, MI 48444

Pontiac District Office
2455 N. Williams Lake Road
Pontiac, Michigan 48054
Phone: 313-666-1500

Deadline for Filing Applications is July 1

Plainwell District Office
621 N. 10th Street
P.O. Box 355
Plainwell, Michigan 49080
Phone: 616-685-6851

Jackson District Office
3335 Lansing Avenue
Jackson, Michigan 49202
Phone: 517-784-3188

Political Action Committee

History

Farm Bureau members have long realized that political decisions which affect agriculture are made daily. Serving their information needs regarding candidates and issues, which play a significant part in these decisions, has been the Farm Bureau Political Education Program.

Although the program proved to be relatively effective, changes in the state and federal election campaign laws in the mid 70s provided authority for Farm Bureau to become more actively involved in the political process through a Political Action Program.

Delegates to the 1977 Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting adopted a policy to develop an aggressive and effective political action program, which would include the formation of an MFB Political Action Committee (AgriPac). The policy-developed program also included analysis of voting records and legislative efforts of elected officials and designations of the "Friends of Agriculture" for those incumbents who had established a satisfactory record of supporting Farm Bureau policy, regardless of party affiliation.

In 1978 (the first year AgriPac endorsed and supported candidates in the election), 73 candidates were designated as "Friends of Agriculture." Of these 73 candidates, 66 were elected. This gave AgriPac a 90 percent average for its first efforts.

Current Policy

The voting delegates at the 1979 Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting adopted a policy on the Political Action Program. The policy reads, in part:



Bernadette Budde, director of Political Education for the Business and Industry Political Action Program in Washington, D.C., told the nearly 200 women attending the District 6 Farm Bureau Women's Spring Rally that the secret to being effective in politics in the 1980s is to have a political action program, to support it and to continue to support it. "Though agricultural PACs are late in getting started compared to other interest groups, such as educational and automotive, if the agricultural community were to get organized nationally in politics, it would terrify labor," stated Budde.

DISCUSSION TOPIC

by **KEN WILES**
Manager, Member Relations

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

"We urge each County Farm Bureau Board of Directors to become active in the Political Action Program. This activity should include promotion of AgriPac among the county members, providing AgriPac with input on incumbent legislators, and analysis of the candidates in various cases where no incumbent 'Friend of Agriculture' is running.

"We urge every Farm Bureau member to support AgriPac with a contribution."

AgriPac

Farm Bureau members currently serving on AgriPac are Larry DeVuyst of Ithaca, Bob Lamoreaux of Belding, Myra Hand of Afton, Gordon Porter of Quincy, Al Prillwitz of Berrien Springs and Ronald Wood of Scottville.

Albert Almy serves as secretary to the committee and Robert Braden is treasurer. Both of these individuals are ex officio members without vote.

County Involvement

Several very close "swing" elections are expected in 1980. In many instances, these closely contested campaigns will involve "Friends of Agriculture."

AgriPac has expressed the opinion that it will be necessary to not only maintain, but also increase, the number of legislators elected in 1980 who will support Farm Bureau policy. A goal of \$30,000 and a program to achieve this goal has been developed. This goal can only be realized with the cooperation of every county Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau member.

County Farm Bureaus are in the process of appointing county political coordinators. These people are responsible for the fundraising efforts in their counties. Their goal is to achieve voluntary contributions from members in the counties equalling 50 cents per member.

County Farm Bureaus cannot, and are not asked, to contribute member dues to AgriPac, because such contributions are prohibited by law.

Your Role

Farm Bureau members have long expressed the belief that individuals have a moral responsibility to help preserve freedom for future generations, by participating in public affairs and by helping elect candidates, who share the same fundamental beliefs and principles.

Most Farm Bureau members do not have a great deal of money for political contributions. However, through AgriPac, even a modest contribution can have far reaching, positive effects. Make your contributions today and become a participant rather than an observer.

Discussion Questions

1. Should Farm Bureau make a strong effort in 1980 to have every member register and vote?
2. Would you find comprehensive voting records of your state and U.S. representatives and senators helpful?
3. Do you feel you have sufficient information about candidates when entering the voting booth?
4. How do you rate the importance of political activities by Farm Bureau?

Saginaw County
Young Farmers Committee
and the
Michigan Farm Bureau
Political Action Committee

PIG ROAST

Saturday, June 14, 1980
Mike Wicke Farm, Hemlock
Roast Pig Served 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Music by "MoonDance" at 9 p.m.

\$10.00 per person
\$5.00 children under 12

Farm Bureau Market Place

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

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FARM EQUIPMENT

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LIVESTOCK

MISCELLANEOUS

NURSERY STOCK

FOR SALE: USED STORAGE TANKS, 6000 to 20,000 gallon capacity. Vertical or horizontal. Phone 616-798-1805. (4-6t-15b)

FOR SALE: BADGER FIELD CHOPPER with hay head, two row Oliver cultivator, \$100.00 each. Also nearly new two row Lilliston rolling cultivator, \$750.00. Glenn McNeill, Route 1, St. Johns, Michigan 48879. (4-2t-25f)

FOR SALE: JOHN DEERE A.R. late model very good condition. Phone Frankenmuth, 517-652-9473. (4-2t-13f)

NEW EDITION! "FARM TRACTORS IN COLOR" 80 years tractor history, 118 full color photos, 183 pages, \$10.95. "STEAM POWER IN AGRICULTURE," 100 years steam power, 103 full color photos, 184 pages, \$10.95. "STEAM TRACTION ENGINES, WAGONS, AND ROLLERS," 180 pages, 158 colored photos, \$10.95. SPECIAL! Complete collectors library 3-above hardcover books, \$29.95, postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (3-3t-65p)

COMBINE FOR SALE: 1977 MASSEY FERGUSON 300 DIESEL, 13' grain head, 2-40" corn head, loaded with extras. For information, call 616-381-8450 after 5:00 p.m. Kalamazoo, Michigan. (4-3t-25f)

370 USED SCHEU JUMBO CONE ORCHARD & VINEYARD HEATERS. Will sell all or part, price negotiable, some oil. 616-429-3748, 616-429-4260. Berrien Springs. (4-2t-22f)

PROVEN CHICKEN CATCHER. Catch any bird in your coop. If you're tired of grabbing and missing, or crawling under roosts — you need our catcher. Send only \$4.00 to C. Smith, P.O. Box F-83, Beaverton, Michigan 48612. (4-2t-37p)

FARROWING STALLS — Complete \$104.75, 1" tubular steel construction, **ROUND BALE FEEDERS FOR 1500** — round bales. Heavy duty 1" square tubing, only \$99.95. Rectangular feeders also available. STARR NATIONAL, 219 Main, Colchester, IL 62326. (5-1t-36p)

NEW ALL WIRE RABBIT CAGES and equipment now available. We can build cages to meet your needs. Dettmers Bunny Patch, Carson City, MI 48811. 517-584-3765. (5-1t-25b)

WANTED: New Idea single row compicker. Phone 517-523-2803 evenings. Pittsford, Michigan. (1-4t-11f)

FOR SALE: Stormor grain bins. Farm Fans dryers, G.T. Tox-o-walk dryers, Stormor Ezee-dry systems. Hamilton Distributing Company, Hamilton, MI 49419, phone 616-751-5161. (4-1t-25b)

MANURE PUMPS: pump direct from lagoon to field, utilize traveler or movable guns. Plummer Supply, Bradley and U.S. 131 Exit, P.O. Box 177, Bradley, MI 49311. 616-792-2215. (10-1t-26b)

WANTED: DUMP HAY RAKES, OR TEETH. Also pipe 1 inch O.D. 8 ft. long or better and 2 Indian Runner Ducks for sale. Phone 313-727-1431. (12-1t-25f)

FOR SALE: TRANSPLANTER 2-row self propelled. Suitable for onions, strawberry plants, etc., \$200.00. Phone Plymouth, 313-453-6439. (5-1t-16f)

FOR SALE: 4400 J.D. COMBINE, 4 row head, 12 ft. Hume reel grain head, 8 row Cyclo corn planter with Crossauger, 4 row J.D. cultivator (new), 6 bottom Melroe plow, 18" shares, trailer type. Phone 517-761-7302. (5-1t-25f-14p)

FOR SALE: BESTLAND ROCK PICKER, 8 ft. like new. Lysle Calkins, Rosebush, Michigan 48878. Phone 517-433-2289. (5-1t-16f)

CAT. D6 new pins and bushings Hyd. blade, \$7,500. 72-31 Terex loader 3 1/2 yd. bucket, \$17,500. 1975 Int. backhoe 1200 hr. diesel like new, \$8,500. 1971 Ford LTS-9000 Tandem 12 yard dump, new gas engine, \$6,800. Georgi/John Farms, 313-629-9376. (5-2t-16p-25f)

D.C. CASE TRACTOR; Case hay baler; John Deere rake; Wood Brothers corn picker; and 13 hole John Deere grain drill, 14431 Horning, Brooklyn. Phone Manchester, 428-7952. (5-1t-25f)

FOR SALE: 14 ft. — 210 John Deere disc, New Holland 890 chopper, 3-row narrow & pickup, 16 ft. chisel plow — 3 point. Loyd Arends, 2190 Squire Rd., Bailey, MI 49303. (5-1t-25f)

FOR SALE: 1972 IH656 GAS TRACTOR with No. 450, 3-16 bottom plow. Phone Vassar, 517-823-2397, before 2:00. (5-1t-17f)

FOR SALE: JD 6 row planter 694 AN. Rubber Presser wheels. Asking \$1050. Phone 517-465-1402. (5-1t-15f)

FOR SALE: 27" WIDE CEMENT FILLED LAWN ROLLER; J. Deere 12' drag; 4 sections spike tooth each 5' wide; 4' J. Deere drag. Call after 6:00 p.m. 517-652-2320. (5-1t-25f)

FOR SALE: COMMERCIAL WOOD JOINTER, 16" cut with 7' long bed, \$375.00. Also commercial Delta 10" table saw, \$500.00. Flint, Michigan. Phone 313-787-8822. (5-1t-23f)

FOR SALE: INTERNATIONAL CYCLONE-400, corn planter, six row, dry fertilizer, Secticide boxes, P.T.O. for air. Alto, Mich. Phone 616-868-6102. (5-1t-19f)

FOR SALE: MODEL 12A John Deere combine, 6' cut with auxiliary motor. Carl Schmidt, Route 1, Rothbury, Mich. Phone 616-861-2522. (5-1t-19f)

FOR SALE: PATZ GUTTER CLEANER with 170' of chain. Roger Schmidt, Route 1, Rothbury, Mich. Phone 616-861-4957. (5-1t-16f)

FOR SALE: 12 cubic yard Letourneau scraper cable control, pull type. Good, \$1200, J. Deere #115 chuck wagon with heavy J. Deere duty undergear #963 — \$850.00, good, 313-659-6535. (5-1t-25f)

FOR SALE: JD 4010 tractor, like new; JD 494A planter, JD 127 Gyromor 5' Satlk chopper, Flo Jet 28' grain auger. Phone 313-721-9093. (5-1t-23f)

FOR SALE: Jamesbury silo unloader, roto feeder 14' silo, Jamesbury bulk tank, 400 gallon, real good shape. Lee Hobson, 4165 Van Dyke, Marlette, Mich. Phone 517-635-7720. (5-1t-25f)

FOR SALE: Ford Jubilee and Ford 8N tractors, extra nice condition, low hours, same equipment with each. Reasonable, 517-674-2311. (5-2t-19f)

NEW FORD STATIONARY or replacement motor, 5000 series. Complete with generator and starter. Phone 313-229-2277. Brighton, Mich. (5-1t-17f)

LIVESTOCK

NEW EDITION! "PIG FARMERS VETERINARY BOOK," ON-THE-FARM PREVENTION, SYMPTOMS, TREATMENTS, 180 pages, diagnosis chart, \$13.95. "THE SOW-IMPROVING HER EFFICIENCY," Covers breeding, nutrition, farrowing, management, etc., 311 pages, 80 illustrations, \$15.95. "PIG HOUSING," 220 pages, 32 page "BLUEPRINT" section, HOUSING EQUIPMENT, \$14.95. SPECIAL! Complete above pig library, 3 hardcover books, \$38.95, postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (3-3t-59p)

"HORSE POWER" Comprehensive book on Draft Horses, 255 pages, 300 beautiful photos, \$12.95. "THE DRAFT HORSE PRIMER" covers breeds, machinery, feeding, shoeing, hitching, etc., 386 pages, hardcover, \$12.95. "KNOW YOUR HORSE" covers symptoms, treatments, management, mares and foals, etc. "DIAGNOSIS CHART" invaluable, 220 pages, hardcover, \$12.95. SPECIAL! Complete draft horse library above 3 books, \$39.95, postpaid, Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (3-3t-66p)

WANTED: Show quality bantam chicks. John VanderMolen, 2178 Brookmead Way, Charlotte, Michigan 48813. (5-1t-13f)

NEW! "INTENSIVE SHEEP MANAGEMENT" covers breeds, breeding, feeding, housing, handling, marketing, disease, etc., 248 pages, illustrated. Invaluable, \$15.95. "VET SHEEP BOOK" recognition, treatments. Excellent lambing section, 178 pages, 300 photos, \$13.95. SPECIAL! Both above hardcover books, \$28.90, postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (3-3t-50p)

SHEEP FOR SALE: Ewes with lambs — and a few lambs — also one Finn Cross ram. No papers — some fine Suffolk. Phone 616-637-2929. (5-1t-22f)

FOR SALE: PUREBRED REGISTERED Hereford polled breeding bull. Excellent stock — write Vincent Rappette, Route 1, Box 610, Gladstone, Mich. 49837 or phone 906-786-2989. (5-1t-24f)

FOR SALE: REGISTERED POLLED Hereford BULLS. Excellent performance. Victor, Lamplighter bloodlines. Samuel Catey, 3602 Strange Hwy., Grand Ledge, Mich. 48837. Phone 517-627-6248. (5-2t-22f)

CATTLE BREEDERS: Percentage polled Simmental bull — mature, proven, Petunia son, 80-90% calves, no assists, virgin heifers. Phone evenings 517-871-9606. (5-1t-19f)

REGISTERED HOLSTEIN YEARLING BULLS, one 16 mos. Beau son from dam with 22,322M, 4.1% 906F. Other Astronauts, Bootmaker, Conductor. Also 12 reg. & grade heifers due August. George Robb, Fowlerville, Phone 517-223-9462. (5-1t-25f)

REGISTERED HOLSTEINS — bred heifer from 700* fat. Good plus cow. Bootmaker - 3 year old, 16,800 milk, 1st record. Dozen bulls, 1-14 months age. Wardin Brothers, 517-642-5575. (5-2t-25f)

PUREBRED RABBITS: Red Satins, White Rex, Californians, Black Dutch, Angoras. Electric Brooder, \$25. Denise Saykily, 3117 14th Avenue South, Escanaba, MI 49829. Phone 906-786-0997. (5-1t-24f)

NEW! "IS SHE GOING TO MAKE IT DOC?" (and 645 more livestock health questions and answers), 160 pages, invaluable paperback, \$5.75. "VET BOOK FOR STOCK FARMERS," on-the-farm prevention, symptoms, treatments, 176 pages, 300 photos, hardcover, \$13.95. "CALVING THE COW AND CARE OF THE CALF," 164 — pages, 300 illustrations, hardcover, \$13.95. SPECIAL! Complete above library three books, \$31.55, postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (3-3t-69p)

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

REGISTERED SHROPSHIRE SHEEP SINCE 1890. Breeding stock for sale at all times, Hewens Farm, 7400 Bemis Road, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197. Phone 313-482-2658. (5-tf-22f)

FOR SALE: YORKSHIRE & SPOTTED serviceage boars and open gilts top bloodlines tested at MSU test station. All registered stock. Richard Cook, 1/2 mile east Mulliken, M-43. Phone 517-649-8988. (11-tf-25f)

DUROC & LANDRACE BOARS & GILTS. Also crossbred gilts. John Sweatingen, 655 Prattville Road, Pittsford, MI 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 517-433-2925. (3-tf-24f)

FEEDER PIGS - Produced and sold by members of the MACMA Feeder Pig Division. Available biweekly in large uniform lots, weighing 40-60 lbs. Contact Bill Haas, 517-323-7000, Ext. 707. (4-tf-28b)

FOR SALE: Landrace boars and gilts, also Duroc boars and gilts. George Carpenter family, 6545 Cogswell Rd., Romulus, MI 48174. Phone evenings 313-721-0240. (9-tf-23f)

LICENSED, DEPENDABLE, LIVESTOCK HAULING, to Marlette, Cass City and Sandusky. Call Orvy Jelneck, 313-395-7296. Capac, Michigan. (5-tf-17f)

REGISTERED HAMPSHIRE BOARS & GILTS for sale. Validated herd. Dale Terry, Palmyra, Michigan. Phone 517-263-5854. (10-tf-15f)

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

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

OUR 1979 PUREBRED ARABIAN FOALS are ready to go. A Syntad grand Arabian and a Raffies bred colt. Lannens, File Lake, MI 49633. Phone 616-369-2271. (10-tf-24f)

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

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

AT STUD-AQHA-JAGUAR GO. JAGUAR -Racing bloodlines with halter conformation, excellent disposition, brown, 15 hands, \$200.00 reg., \$100.00 grade. Gloria Knight, Sterling, Phone 517-873-4390. (2-5t-25f)

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

DOGS

"THE FARMER'S DOG," best book training working dogs, illustrated, 162 pages, \$11.95. "GOOD DOG" basic training book for all breeds, \$10.95. "SHETLAND SHEEPDOGS," \$7.95. SPECIAL! Above 3-hardcover books, \$26.95, postpaid. Diamond Farm Book Publishers, Dept. MFN, Box 266, Alexandria Bay, NY 13607. (3-3t-42p)

AKC Irish Setter puppies, \$60. Phone 517-453-2316. Pigeon. (5-1t-8f)

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: TOY TRACTORS 1940-1965, John Deere, Farmall, Case, etc. w/ mounted corn pickers, pull type combines. Bernal Tolan, phone 517-287-5183. (2-5t-19f)

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

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

WANTED: BARN WOOD. Call or write to Barns, P.O. 7756, Ann Arbor, MI 48107, phone 313-428-7993. (4-2t-16f)

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

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

ANTIQUES: OAR LIBRARY TABLE, \$100.00; glass washboard, \$10.00; outside hand pumps, \$75.00; and Kodak camera, \$25.00. Call 313-678-2743, anytime. (5-1t-19f)

FOR SALE: MARK 900 portable mobile telephone, in genuine leather attache' case. Self contained, IMTS 11 channel Bell system automatic dial capability. Complete with blue vinyl carrying case, charger, antennas, power cords, FCC rules and regulations. Write for details, picture, licensing info, price. Don Gridley, Box 56, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. (5-1t-25t-22p)

TREATED POSTS: 7', \$2.65. Call for pick-up at our sawmill, 253 Jonesville St., Litchfield, Michigan 49252. 517-542-2989. (5-4t-19p)

FOR SALE: One horse wagon; one horse bob sleigh; fanning mill; 6 heavy harnesses; drag saw for cutting fire wood and other farm antiques. All for \$2300. To give away, asbestos silo, 12' x 35'. John Smith, 1994 Cedar Road, Manistee, Mich. 49660. Phone 616-723-5433. (5-1t-25t-20p)

BAKERY, CANDY, and craft supplies. Party goods — invitations, gifts, bulk beads. 4011 Huron Street, North Branch, MI 49461. (5-2t-18p)

FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: Call your Building Department of Farm Bureau Services Inc. at Lansing. Phone 517-323-7000, extension 680. (5-1t-18f)

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

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

NOW! FROZEN TOMATO SLICES! Enjoy garden fresh flavor, year around! Complete, easy instructions. \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073. (5-1t-20p)

COLDWATER DILL PICKLES! Can in minutes! No hot brine. Delicious, crisp, factory secrets! Recipe \$1.00. Hamiltons, Box 652-131, New Ulm, Minnesota 56073. (5-1t-20p)

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

"HOW TO SELECT GIFTS AND SOME GIFT IDEAS," \$3.00. River Valley Publications, Dept. F, 2095 River Road West, Traverse City, MI 49684. (5-3t-21p)

ASPARAGUS COOKBOOK — World's most versatile herb-vegetable. Over 275 recipes. Only \$5.75 including postage and handling. National Asparagus Festival, Box 117C, Shelby, Michigan 49455. (5-2t-24f)

GIFTS FOR MOTHERS DAY, Dry flower arrangement, 3"x5" basket with handle, \$7.50. Pastels or earthen tones. Leonard Sherman, 9436 Douglas Road, Temperance, Mich. 48182. (5-1t-25f)

FARM WIDOW attending AFBF annual meeting in New Orleans, needs woman roommate for Farm Bureau's Mississippi cruise, Phone 616-621-3093. (5-1t-19f)

NURSERY STOCK

FREE FRUIT CATALOG. Color catalog with 82 strawberry varieties, plus all other fruits. Write for free copy. Grower since 1837. DEAN FOSTER NURSERIES, Box MFN 804, Hartford, Michigan 49057. 616-621-2419. (4-2t-28b)

ASPARAGUS, beautiful two-year plants — \$8.00 fifty, \$15.00 hundred, all postpaid, guaranteed. Also select Mary Washington seed, \$4.25 lb. Fred Zaika, Route 2, Bear Lake, Michigan 49614. (4-3t-25f)

"VIRUS FREE" STRAWBERRY PLANTS. Midway, Sparkle, Earliglow, 25-\$4, 100-\$11, 500-\$41.50. Everbearing 25-\$6, 100-\$19, add 15% for shipping. I&J Wolvorton, 6197 Lake Road, Millington, Michigan 48746. 517-871-2325. (4-2t-29p)

"RED RASPBERRY PLANTS," comet, boyne, latham, viking and heritage, \$31.50 per 100, \$225 per 1000, 15% shipping. I&J Wolvorton Nursery, 6197 Lake Road, Millington, Michigan, 48746. 517-871-2325. (3-3t-26p)

CERTIFIED STRAWBERRY PLANTS. Earliglow, Midway, Surecrop, Red Chief, Scarlet, Guardian, Trumpeter, Cardinal and Delite. 25/\$4.90; 50/\$7.60; 75/\$9.40; 100/\$11.20; 250/\$22.00; 500/\$31.80; 100/\$49.00. Include 15% for handling and postage. Can ship immediately. Call or write William Krohne Plant Farms, Route 6, Box MFN805, Dowagiac, Michigan 49047. 616-424-3450 or 616-424-5423. (5-1t-47b)

SEED OATS MARINER from certified. Very good test, \$2.10 bushel. Elmer Kuck, Phone Frankenmuth, 517-652-6612. (5-1t-15f)

CERTIFIED SEAFARER NAVY BEANS, good germ, blight free. Hilbert Schulze, Hillman, Michigan. Phone 517-742-4048. (5-1t-14f)

REAL ESTATE

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

BY OWNER: 160 ACRES, 25 MILES SW ALPENA. 40 acres clear. Excellent deer and turkey hunting. Good timber. Creek and pond on property. \$62,000. Land contract terms. 9% interest. 517-379-2351. (4-3t-25f-5p)

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

MIDDLELAKE 10 acres, 10 acres covered 20 year pines. Four lots, paved road. Barry C., 3 miles. Hastings. Consider trade Vancouver Dodge or Ford. 616-267-5688. (2-6t-25f)

HOG FARM, 40 acres, St. Clair County, 3 bedroom house, 18,000 square feet in barns, mill with leg, crates, slats and lagoon, \$100,000 for all. Phone 313-329-9594. (5-1t-25f)

HOUSE FOR SALE: Rochester, Michigan area, close to Oakland University, 4-bedroom colonial, approximately one acre, country atmosphere, complete photographic darkroom, utility shed, \$81,900. Call 313-373-6875; if no answer, call 313-628-1187. (5-2t-25f)

HAY & SILAGE LISTING

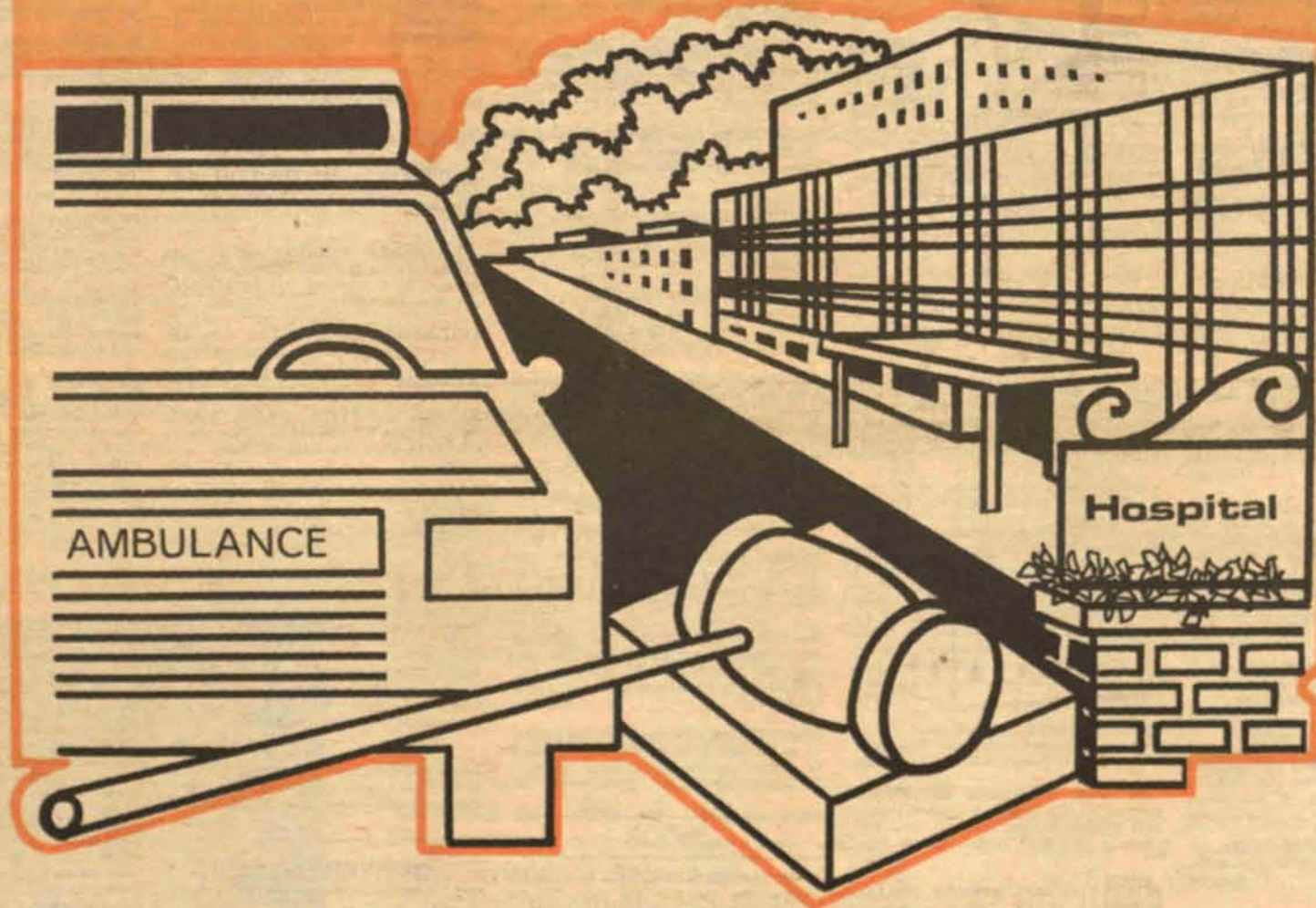
Michigan Farm Bureau is making this Hay & Silage Listing available as a service to Farm Bureau members. Buyers and sellers can list their needs and offerings in the classified section of the Michigan Farm News. The service is free to Farm Bureau members. If you have hay for sale or want to purchase hay,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

FOR SALE: FIRST AND SECOND CUTTING ALFALFA HAY; also straw. Will deliver, Charles Trinker and Sons, Dexter, Michigan. Phone 313-475-7798 evenings. (4-3t-21f)

FOR SALE: FIRST AND SECOND CUTTING ALFALFA HAY; one and two years old. Allen Broesamle, Grass Lake, Mich. Phone 313-475-9803 or 313-

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