

Manchester Township Library
P.O. Box 340
Manchester, MI 48158

JAN 05 1990

Trade Talks Will Impact Producers

Nothing will effect farm income more than the current General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) negotiations, the president of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) told producers attending the 28th annual meeting of Michigan Farm Bureau's marketing affiliate. Jack Laurie, Tuscola County farmer who heads the Michigan Farm Bureau and its family of companies, said that the prices MACMA negotiates are influenced by the world market.

"We have followed the progress on the U.S./Canada free trade agreement and the new omnibus trade law, but I believe the GATT multilateral trade negotiations are by far the most important," Laurie said. "In my opinion, long term, nothing will effect the farmers' incomes more than the current GATT negotiations. What results from the negotiations will be more important than the federal farm program, new labor laws and regulations, or probably any of the other major issues that concern us. We currently export 40% of the agricultural commodities grown in this country. We must expand our export sales through competition. But the competition must be fair, not with foods priced below cost because of government subsidization."

ment guidelines will only result in more problems and litigation," he said.

"Our ability to produce and harvest crops by having a sufficient labor force may be a limiting factor in future years. The need to reduce labor through research on new varieties and the development of mechanization is important," Laurie said. "Where we can't mechanize, we will have to become more competitive through improved housing and worker benefits. Possibly we should be considering an H2A program for Michigan to bring in foreign workers to replace the dwindling number of aliens caused by the Immigration Reform Act."

Laurie said this year's drought was a major concern for MACMA. "Our fruit crops, already reduced by spring frosts, were further curtailed by small size fruit. The asparagus crop was reduced by the dry weather at the end of harvest. Possibly the major effect on these perennial crops will be next year and in the future because of the damage that occurred this year. Our feeder pig members had an immediate reduction of income because of the quick rise in feed costs which dramatically reduced the demand

for feeder pigs. Prices fell from nearly \$50 per pig to \$24 and prices have not recovered much to date.

"Drought assistance is now available to the producers of crops not included in the federal farm programs. Michigan Farm Bureau led the development of assistance programs for non-program crops. The rules used by the ASCS will not be fair and equitable to everyone. If we choose to keep on with government weather damage relief programs, there will always be inequities. Consequently, we should look for other alternatives like crop insurance," he said.



Ballots made of broken pottery were used by the citizens of Ancient Athens to get rid of unpopular politicians. Whenever 6000 or more were cast, the official was sent into exile for 10 years.

Wishing you the happiest of holidays and good health throughout the new year.

DR. STANLEY E. GILBERT
232 E. Main St.
P.O. Box 321
Manchester, MI 48158

THE MANCHESTER ENTERPRISE

122nd YEAR VOLUME NUMBER TWELVE USPS 327-480 THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1989

30¢ COPY

When The Year Begins

Manchester Enterprise
December 26, 1907

One of the queerest features of the first day of the year is the fact that it has been celebrated on many different dates. With us the year begins on January 1, according to the calendar prepared by order of Julius Caesar, and later revised from time to time as necessity seemed to require. Hardly a month in the year but what has been regarded at some time, by some people, as the first of the 12, and consequently the beginning of the new year. Sometimes the date was logical, determined by the position of the sun in the heavens.

while in India the annual flood of the Ganges furnished a date for popular chronology, and the Mexicans, although they had a complicated system of calculating time, popularly reckoned their year to begin with the spring planting.

The Jewish rabbis had four beginnings of the year, the first of the month Nisan, supposed to be the date of the Exodus; the first of Tishri, which began the agricultural year; the first of Elul, the day on which the cattle were numbered, and the first of Shebat, which was called the new year for trees. Christmas day, Easter, the beginning of each seistice and many other dates have been observed at different times by various nations; even now in Russia the day of the new year is 12 days behind that of our calendar, the Russians having never adopted the Gregorian calendar, which, indeed, did not come into general use until about the middle of the eighteenth century.

Sometimes it was fixed by agricultural or industrial conditions, sometimes by a great historical event, and occasionally it was merely arbitrary, determined without any special reason being assigned. At one time the Greeks began their year September 1; at another on the first day of July, the beginning of the Olympian games. In what is called the Alexandrian era the year began on August 20. One Jewish chronology assigns October 1 as the date on which the creation of the world began, and consequently adopts that New Year's day. At one time the Romans began their year on April 24, at another on March 1, and finally as we do now.

According to the meteoric cycle, the year began on July 15. During the period of Alexander's empire the commencement of the year was on September 1; the era of the Maccabees was dated from November 24. The people of Tyre began their year on October 19, while the so-called Sidonian era commenced on October 1, and the Augustan era made February 14 the first day of the new year. The ancient Egyptians began their year with the overflow of the Nile, whenever that might occur.

Women's Night Out

"Food: Friend or Foe" will be the topic of the Women's Night Out for the Health of It lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, January 19, at Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson, Ann Arbor.

Internist Deborah L. Peery, M.D., will lead women through the jungle of conflicting reports about what you should and should not eat. She'll talk about how food can work for you and how you can increase your energy level, control your weight and protect your health through the foods you eat. There will be information about fiber, fat, cholesterol, sugar, calcium, vitamins and so-called "diet" foods.

There will be a social hour at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. The cost of \$19.50 per person includes dinner.

Women's Night Out for the Health of It is sponsored by the Milrose Women's Health Center, a unit of Saline Community Hospital, in Saline.

Reservations are required by Friday, January 13. For more information, call Gwen at 429-1526.



Free Skiing Offered By State Resorts

Novices and skiers over age 55 will be hitting the slopes for free again this year as part of the Michigan Travel Bureau's "Let's Go Skiing, Michigan" promotion. Participating Michigan Ski facilities will offer free beginner ski lessons and free beginner-area lift and trail tickets to anyone who signs up in advance for the special Learn To Ski Free Day on January 20.

In addition to free beginner lessons, lift tickets and cross-country trail passes, many facilities will also provide free use of rental equipment.

Prospective skiers must call the facility of their choice before January 20 to make reservations. Because many facilities will be making reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis, reservations should be made as early as possible.

Winter Walk In Woods January 8

A winter walk in the woods is invigorating and pleasant; a quiet pastime after the whirlwind of the holidays. The Docents of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens invite all interested persons to join them for the Sunday Trail Walk at 2 p.m., January 8, 1989.

The Docents will be emphasizing winter tree identification, pointing out the many clues woody plants have, even though the leaves are gone. Also, they will be searching for color. The woods look grey this time of year; are they really?

If weather and temperatures permit, the walk will be along the "Blue Trail" which stretches to the far reaches of the Gardens, through a Scots Pine Grove, old fields, and the woods along Fleming Creek. This walk is expected to last about two hours. In the case of severe cold or unpleasant weather, the walk will be shorter and closer to the buildings. In any case warm dress and footwear is advised.

Meet in the lobby of the Gardens Conservatory. The Matthaei Botanical Gardens is located at 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, approximately 1/4 mile south of the Plymouth Road intersection on the east side of the road.

Contact person is Margaret Vergith, Promotional Coordinator, 763-7061.

911 Emergency Plan Not Yet Ready For County

Washtenaw County Government in cooperation with local units of government are well underway in development of a finalized Enhanced 9-1-1 plan. The finalized plan will allow County government to begin an implementation schedule to put in place for residents of Washtenaw County the ability to dial 9-1-1 for emergency services. The targeted date for presenting the final plan to the Board of Commissioners is February, 1989.

It is extremely important for Washtenaw County residents to understand and remember that until Washtenaw County implements the 9-1-1 plan, they should not dial 9-1-1 for emergency services. Washtenaw County residents, until announcement of the implementation completion, should continue to dial the 7-digit emergency number for their local emergency services (fire, police, emergency medical services).

Cooperative arrangements have been made with surrounding jurisdictions that are implementing 9-1-1 service prior to our implementation schedule being completed. If a Washtenaw County resident in error dials 9-1-1, the call will be forwarded back to a predetermined public safety agency in Washtenaw County. Please understand that this contingency is for error calls only. There is the possibility of a slight delay if a Washtenaw County resident currently dials 9-1-1 in error.

Recreation Task Force

Manchester Recreation Task Force will meet Wednesday, January 11, 1989, 7:30 at the John Schneider Blacksmith Shop.

Do you have ideas for community recreational activities? What would you like included in the planning for a Manchester Community Recreation Center? The MRTF meetings are open to anyone in the community.

New officers for the year 1989 are: Jim Linebaugh, President; Mike Briggs, Vice-President; Bill Schwab, Treasurer; and, Lucille Bruner, Secretary.

We invite you to come in and see the largest selection of invitations and announcements for your wedding. Many elegant styles, accessory items, and personalized stationery to reflect your personal taste.

The Manchester Enterprise
150 East Main Street
Manchester, Michigan
Phone 428-8173

Wacker's General Store



PEPSI, DIET PEPSI
MOUNTAIN DEW
PEPSI FREE
SUGAR FREE PEPSI FREE
A & W ROOT BEER
VERNORS
SUGAR FREE A & W
SUGAR FREE VERNORS
SLICE & DIET SLICE
\$2.29
1/2 LITER 8 PACK
plus deposit

2 Liter \$1.49
plus deposit

6 Pack Cans \$1.89
plus deposit

G.E. Wacker Inc
Gasoline-Fuel Oil-Grease
Motor Oil-Diesel Fuel
9050 Chelsea-Manchester Road
Manchester, Mich. 48158

Winter Hours:
Monday-Thursday 7 am-8 pm
Friday 7 am-5 pm
Saturday 8 am-5 pm
Sunday 9 am-8 pm

