

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU NEWS

Published by the Michigan State Farm Bureau for its Membership

MARCH 9, 1923

Issued Semi-Monthly

Your Neighbors in
Farm Bureau
through the NEWS

Issued Semi-Monthly

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HOPE IN CO-OPERATION

Farm Bureau Leader Explains Our
Marketing Needs At
Conference

St. Paul, Minn., March 8.—"Agriculture is unstable today because an important half of it is carried on in a haphazard, unscientific manner," said Walton Peteet, American Farm Bureau co-operative marketing director, in his key-note address delivered before the Northwest Agricultural Price Stabilization Conference at St. Paul, the week of Feb. 26.

About 1,000 farm leaders from middle west states discussed the 66 cent farm dollar with which the farmer is trying to run his business today and the 100 cents on a dollar he pays for the things he has to buy. Michigan was represented at the meeting. Continuing Mr. Peteet said:

"Like all other manufacturing industries, agriculture consists of two main divisions—one of production and the other of distribution. As producers, American farmers are the most efficient in the world, producing more per man than any others. As distributors, or marketers, they are far behind the farmers of many so-called backward nations of Europe.

Sales Department Needed.
"As an industry, American agriculture is in exactly the position of a great manufacturing enterprise without an organized sales force.

"Let us consider Irish potatoes as an illustration. It is a national industry. Its output is so many bushels annually, just as the output of our flour mills is so many barrels of flour annually. But what a difference when it comes to marketing these two commodities! Each stockholder in our national potato industry tries to market his own small share of the whole. He doesn't know how to grade his product, so most of it goes on the market in ungraded bulk. He doesn't know where the markets are or how to reach them, so he either sells to a speculator or ships to a few big markets about the same time several thousand other producers do the same thing. Result, these few markets are glutted and prices take a downward plunge. He knows that the consumer wants potatoes every day in the year, but somebody tells him there is going to be a surplus of a few million bushels, and each resolves not to let his crop get into the unsold part of that surplus, so each rushes his product to market soon after harvest. Presto, the price drops below the cost of production, and the business of potato farming becomes very unstable and soon this

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

SEAMER IS PRESIDENT OF LIVE STOCK EXCH.

The Board of Directors of the Michigan Livestock Exchange organized Feb. 23rd by re-electing E. A. Beamer of Blissfield, President; W. J. Perry of Grand Blanc, Vice-President; J. H. O'Meara of Pittsford, secretary; P. M. Granger of Charlotte, treasurer; E. E. Compson of Lansing, was re-engaged as manager.

MARKETS RHUBARB

The Farm Bureau Exchange Department is marketing hothouse rhubarb for Wayne County growers in Detroit, Cincinnati, New York, Philadelphia, and many other cities. The rhubarb is marketed under a special Farm Bureau brand which emphasizes that the rhubarb came from Michigan. It is put up in a standard, attractive pack and is bringing top prices.

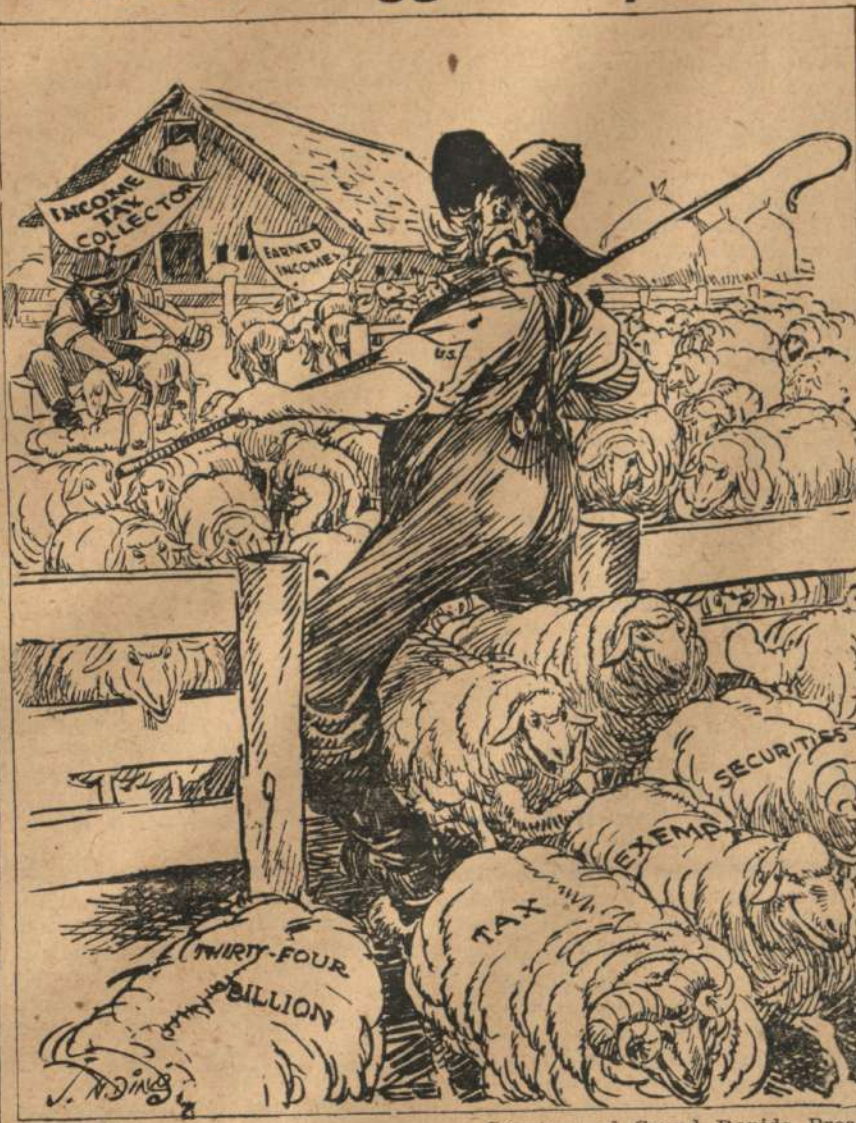
WHY THEY YELP

Mark Twain said once, "If you throw a rock into a gang of dogs and one howls, you know which one is hit."

Just now a firm of bean jobbers at Lansing, in a circular letter to the bean trade is belaboring the Michigan Elevator Exchange for selling beans at New Orleans and hustling the returns back to our farmers underneath the very nose of other Michigan competition, some of which has a considerable quantity of beans on hand, a quantity that is giving them considerable worry.

Some wild and hostile propaganda is going the rounds, showing that two years of strenuous effort by the Michigan Elevator Exchange have made it a factor in selling beans for Michigan farmers.

A Bow-Legged Shepherd



Courtesy of Grand Rapids Press.

SELESKY KNOWS WHY THEY DO IT

Sellers Use the Office That Brings Home the Bacon

"Why do Elevator Exchange members continue to market their stuff through the Michigan Elevator Exchange?" asked Louis Selesky, Genesee County Farm Bureau member, of Grand Blanc, R. 2.

"Do you suppose that it is just because they are Farm Bureau members and it is a Farm Bureau institution and they feel that they ought to patronize it for that reason?"

"Not on your life! The Elevator Exchange is after the high dollar for their products and returns it with such regularity that the Exchange has built itself into a great selling organization. That's the reason why."

Mr. Selesky answered his own question from his own experience.

If any member association of the Exchange finds that today it can get a better price outside of the Exchange than the Exchange can offer, it is at liberty to take the opportunity upon giving the Elevator Exchange an opportunity to bid on the stuff. However, the records of the Exchange show very few sales made outside, while the Exchange business has climbed from \$84,000 monthly to more than \$325,000 in less than three years. Mr. Selesky's association at Grand Blanc sells practically everything that it has through the Exchange. Selesky knows what he is talking about.

FILLED-MILK BILL SENT TO HARDING

Washington, March 3.—During the closing hours of Congress the Voigt Anti-Filled-Milk bill was passed and sent to President Harding for his signature.

The Voigt bill prohibits the shipment in interstate commerce of filled-milk—milk from which the butter fat has been removed and replaced with some vegetable oil.

The Town bill now before the Michigan Legislature would prohibit the manufacture and sale of filled-milk in Michigan. The State Farm Bureau has endorsed both the national and state measures.

PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY ENGAGES AGR'L AGENT

The Presque Isle County Farm Bureau has employed Ivan Sours as County Agricultural Agent to succeed Colton C. McCrary who has gone to Alpena County. Presque Isle County Farm Bureau members believe that they can best accomplish the things they have set out to do by keeping a County Agricultural Agent at the helm.

Was Worth \$180

Frank Kinch, of Grindstone City, pooled his 1922 clip of wool. His net gain over best local bid will pay his Farm Bureau membership dues for 18 years. The net gain to Mr. Kinch resulting from his sticking to his organization was \$180.00.

Ass'ns. Buy 3,000 Barrels of Cement

During the week of Feb. 26 the State Farm Bureau Purchasing Dept. bought 3,000 barrels of cement from the Aetna Portland Cement Company for members of local co-operative associations. The Farm Bureau is also buying a big volume of spray materials, coal, and feeds for its membership. Farm Bureau Milkmen continues to stand at the head of all dairy rations in Michigan for satisfaction given and high production at low cost.

FREIGHT ZONES COST SHIPPERS TWO MILLIONS

TRAFFIC LEAGUE—FARM BUREAU CASE PROTESTS THE DISCRIMINATION

The zone system of freight rates in Michigan has long been an irritant. It is said to cost our shippers \$2,000,000 extra each year.

Repeal of the zone system has been agitating the State Public Utilities Commission ever since the system was established in 1917 and 1918. Shippers' opposition came to a head last April when the Michigan Traffic League petitioned for abolition of the zones and reduction in Michigan rates in a joint hearing before the State and Federal Railroad Commissions at Lansing.

The Michigan State Farm Bureau intervened in behalf of Michigan farmers, and through E. L. Ewing, counsel for the shippers, built up a very strong case for the farmer shippers. Recently the Public Utilities Commission came out for repeal of the zoning system and will urge that before the I. C. C. at Washington, February 28.

In 1917 railways operating in Michigan petitioned the old railway commission and I. C. C. for higher rates in Michigan, which is a part of Central Freight Association territory, extending from the Alleghenies to the Rocky Mountains. The New England States had a zone system and that idea was sold to the Michigan railway commission, which divided a lower Peninsula into two zones, with the rates in the upper zone about 5 cents per hundred higher than in the lower zone. The Upper Peninsula, in another freight classification, was not affected.

In 1918 the I. C. C. for interstate rate-making, divided Michigan into four zones. The first, Zone A, being territory south of the main line of the Michigan Central from Detroit to Jackson, Kalamazoo, through Niles. Zone B, being territory north to a line across the State at Bay City. Zone C and D being about equal parts of the rest of the northern half of the Lower Peninsula. The rates in each zone are higher than in the zone below and have been increased twice. The first increase was 25 per cent and in August, 1920, another 40 per cent was added. This last was reduced 10 per cent in July, 1922.

At Washington the Traffic League and State Farm Bureau and State Public Utilities Commission will attempt to have the rates which now apply in Zone A made applicable in all parts of the Lower Peninsula. Those rates were not attacked by the Traffic League in its general complaint of all freight rates in the state.

Statistics presented at the hearing last April show that the cost of handling freight in Michigan is no greater in the territory south of the main line of the Michigan Central than it is north of that line, at least not enough to justify anything like the present zoning system.

COUNSEL

Mr. Ewing of the Michigan Traffic League discussed the Michigan rate situation with the Board of Directors and the work that the Michigan Traffic League has accomplished in preparing its complaint for presentation to the Interstate Commerce Commission and to the Michigan Public Utilities Commission, with the view of obtaining a general reduction in Michigan rates and elimination of both the Michigan zoning system and present inflated mileages for the basing of rates.—Meeting of Nov. 8, 1921, Lansing, Mich. Bureau Enters Fight.

"Mr. Ewing explained in full to the Board of Directors all actions to date in the Michigan Traffic League—State Farm Bureau rate case.

"Upon motion by Mr. McCarty of Bad Axe, seconded by Mr. Noon of Jackson, the Board of Directors endorsed the Michigan State Farm Bureau's intervention in the Michigan Traffic League rate case for a reduction in rates for Michigan farmers and for abolishment of the Michigan zoning system.—Meeting of Feb. 14, 1922, Lansing, Michigan.

"Secretary Brody read letters from Mr. Ewing stating that the Michigan Traffic League—State Farm Bureau rate case would be heard by the State Public Utilities Commission and I. C. C. at Lansing, beginning about April 15. He reported a strong array of Farm Bureau witnesses.—Meeting of April 12, 1922, Lansing, Mich.

E. L. Ewing
Traffic Counsel of the Michigan Traffic League and Michigan State Farm Bureau who argued merits of Michigan rate case before I. C. C. at Washington, February 28, and demanded abolishment of Michigan's freight rate zoning system.

FARM BUREAU CALLS UPON I. C. C. TO RELIEVE FARMER SHIPPERS BY ABOLISHING THE ZONING SYSTEM

Long Fight by Michigan Shippers for Rate Justice is Taken to Federal Railroad Body for Decision

The Michigan State Farm Bureau appeared before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington February 28 and argued for elimination of Michigan's step ladder system of freight rate zones, which costs Michigan shippers about \$2,000,000 annually in extra freight bills.

Michigan Farm Bureau members pay much of the above extra freight bill, an extra charge that puts them at a disadvantage in competition with farmer shippers in other states for the same markets. It also penalizes them on the goods they buy and which are shipped in.

E. L. Ewing Represented the Shippers

Ernest L. Ewing of Grand Rapids, traffic attorney for the Michigan Traffic League and the Michigan State Farm Bureau, made the argument for the shippers. He has directed the fight which the two organizations have been making for more than a year to abolish the unfair zoning system and to secure other reforms in Michigan freight rates. The story of this struggle in behalf of Michigan Farm Bureau shippers and others is told in this edition of the Michigan Farm Bureau News.

May Have A Decision Soon

The Interstate Commerce Commission is now deliberating upon the Michigan rate case and may be expected to hand down a decision shortly. The shippers presented convincing arguments to prove their need of relief from the zoning system and for a reduction in rates.

If farmer shippers win relief it will be because Michigan farmers had a Farm Bureau organization through which they could present their situation and seek relief.

Story of the Rate Case

Farm Bur. Witnesses In Rate Case Meet

Lansing, Mich., May 1.—One of the most important preliminary meetings with reference to the present hearing of the Michigan Traffic League before the Public Utilities Commission and representatives of the Interstate Commerce Commission was held at the offices of the State Farm Bureau today.

E. L. Ewing, attorney for the Michigan Traffic League, Mr. E. C. Nettles of Battle Creek and others met with Secretary Brody and a number of the County Agricultural Agents who are to testify at this hearing.

Mr. Ewing and Mr. Brody outlined the unfairness of the present zoning system, and the great relief the farmers of Michigan will enjoy if the League is successful in its efforts to do away with the zoning system of making rates in Michigan.

Several of the County Agents presented some very interesting data as to how the zoning system is forcing Michigan farmers to pay more for all commodities shipped in and how they are being penalized when shipping their grain. When shipping their grain to ports for export they must sell in competition with farmers of other states who enjoy lower rates from their elevators to eastern ports.

Mr. Ewing was very much impressed with the statements given by the witnesses of the Farm Bureau and stated he expected their testimony to have a great bearing on the case.—Michigan Farm Bureau News Service.

Farm Bureau Seeks Michigan Rate Cut

Lansing, Mich., June 16.—The State Farm Bureau is fighting three major Michigan railroad cases in behalf of its membership.

In the Michigan rate case, which is now before the State Public Utilities Commission and the I. C. C., the Bureau put up the strongest agricultural case ever presented in a Michigan hearing. The bureau demands, with the Michigan Traffic League, a general reduction in Michigan rates and wiping out of the zoning system. The first result was a proposal from the railroads to settle the inter-penninsula phases of the case out of court by a reduction of all class rates in and out of the U. P. to a basis considered fair by the shippers. This proposal was accepted and is subject to the Utilities Commission's approval. It has been published and averages ten to 15 per cent on all class commodities.

The Farm Bureau has intervened in the abandonment cases of the Pere Marquette against Farm Bureau shippers and others on the Big Rapids-White Cloud, the Remus-Weidman, the Mecosta-Barryton and the Buchanan branches. The railroad proposes to tear up these tracks and has applied to the I. C. C. for permission to do so.—Michigan Farm Bureau News Service.

Farmers Get Busy On Rail Problems

Lansing, Mich.—The Michigan State Farm Bureau will take an increasingly active interest in the solution of Michigan's agricultural transportation problems. The State Board of Directors has retained Mr. E. L. Ewing of Grand Rapids, one of the leading freight rate zoning system.

(Continued on page 4)

Freight Zones Cut Farm Value, Claim

(Special to the Free Press.)

Lansing, Mich., April 26.—Under existing freight rates a farm in Michigan is worth \$20 less an acre than a farm of similar productive value in Wisconsin, Samuel Odell, of the State Public Utilities Commission declared, Wednesday, after listening to the day's testimony in the freight rate hearing, now on before the Commission.

Odell's statement was based on the comparative cost of getting farm products to market, according to testimony of C. E. Elerick, freight rate expert from Grand Rapids.

Elerick submitted tables to show what it cost to ship berries, fruit, hay, grain, vegetables and other farm products in Michigan under the zone system and what the rate was in neighboring states.—From Detroit Free Press, April 27, 1922.

Roads And League Reach Rate Terms

Lansing, May 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Shortly before the statewide freight rate case was concluded before the State Public Utilities Commission, Saturday, an agreement was reached between counsel for the Michigan Traffic League and the railroads, practically disposing of the controversy over inter-penninsula rates.

A tentative schedule was filed with the Commission which will be adopted by the railroads if approved, which provides for material reductions in all class rates to and from points in the upper peninsula.

The zoning system and the general state rate proposition went into the hands of the Commission Saturday noon. The testimony will be considered and recommendations will probably be made to the Interstate Commerce Commission.—From The Grand Rapids Press, May 27, 1922.

ATTACK ON ZONING SYSTEM NEARS END

(By Fred Grimes, Staff Correspondent.)

Lansing, May 25.—There was little cheer to the Michigan farmer, who has been hit harder than probably any other shipper in the entire country by the high rates since 1920, in the announcement from Washington, Wednesday of an average 14 per cent reduction in freight rates.

The reduction announced does not cover farm products and it leaves the Michigan farmer in the same place he has been for the last six months. Hearings Unaffected.

The reduction announced by the national commission will have no effect on the freight rate hearing which has been in progress before the Michigan Public Utilities Commission for more than six weeks. This hearing is scheduled to close this week, if the railroads complete their case.

The zoning system, as well as intrastate rates are at issue in the Michigan case. The reduction on the general freight tariffs, however, will leave open the way for a reduction on intrastate rates, as it will give the Michigan commission a wider range, should a reduction be decided upon in fixing a rate which will not be "unduly discriminatory" with interstate rates.

(Continued on page 4)

MARKET

As Reported
March

SEED

By Farm Bureau Seed

RED CLOVER. Markets continue inactive as yet to form an opinion as to the volume of it is to come for spring sowing, all indications point eastern trade which has been supplied to a considerable extent with foreign clover continue to be reported from more and New York in a way. Shipments from mid the east are practically cut up by embargoes laid down heavy snow fall in eastern Toledo market closed Feb. at \$13.30.

ALSIKE. Last week passed in Toledo any trade reported, according to a reliable source there states there does not seem to be any demand for alfalfa at \$3.00 under. Stocks in the country must be large although no term seems to have any great volume.

TIMOTHY. Stock in terminal market much less than in recent years some timothy has gone for a amount has not reached proportion. Holders are expecting demand to be good, work higher when the crop. However, it is a question of the situation on alfalfa, clover, etc., is unchanged since report in these columns.

GRAIN-MARK

By Mich. Elevator Exch

OATS. We still believe oats are although the demand is it should do better within thirty or sixty days.

WHEAT. Still in an uncertain position have more wheat in the States than we will consume.

Farm Accounts

County Agent Wm. F. Ston of Westford County boys and girls thinking farm problems. Under his leadership nine consolidated have been giving county practical farm accounting students kept records on operations and problem their home farms.

We submit herewith a report made by M. Smith of Manti kept the accounts on a there. Miss Smith's victory titled her to a free Farmers' Week at M. A. STORY OF MY ACCOUNT

By Dorothy M. Smith
"The benefits to be derived from farm accounting are many, business farmer in the United States could testify that his business out a strict method of a would be no business."

"I will point out a few from my book.
Number of hens 50.
Monthly averages for are as follows:

Jan., 1.54 eggs; Feb., 2.1 6.12; April, 14; May, 16; July, 12.5; Aug., 11; Sept. 4; Nov., 1; Dec., .6.

"During the months of Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., March the egg production low. During the above period the 50 hens produced 986 eggs, average of 19.7 eggs per hen in other words each hen one egg every 12.2 days. During this period are worth \$0.04. Therefore, each hen low average for the 240 days in about \$0.50. Her cost keep averages approximately the same time. This profit of \$0.20 for each hen this period of high prices egg production."

Recommendations

It is quite evident that the flock was getting rid, while a few hens were the work. This flock has been culled and I believe the elimination would not affect production and lower the cost 50% which would be a net profit of \$0.50 instead for each hen. This is a high price and I feel this also the time that egg production should be given a great consideration."

In commenting on the her dairy operations, M. writes, "The cows show a though a decreased inventory gives a misconception regarding true worth of the cows. It brings out the fact that is radically wrong with the of this farm. It could be many things. It might be take a milk test of each should be done before start for another year."

Better Ration Needed. For instance in the Jan. 1922, the three cows calf received 1200 lbs. hay; 100 lbs. of fodder and of grain (corn). Supposing all fed to three cows, the would be the daily ration cow:

Mixed hay 13.5
Grain 2.1
Corn Fodder 1.5

"This would be a first for a two-year-old cow for a cow that is supposed to be it is far from satisfactory nutritive ratio of this ration one part of protein to 9.5 one carbohydrates and 1.5

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU NEWS

Published twice a month by the Michigan State Farm Bureau at Charlotte, Michigan. Editorial and general offices at State Farm Bureau headquarters, Lansing, Michigan.

VOL. 1 MARCH 9, 1923 No. 5

Entered at the post office at Charlotte, Mich., as second class matter. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized Jan. 12, 1923.

Subscription Price, 50c Per Year, Included in dues of Farm Bureau Members.

E. E. UNGREN Editor

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HOW THE FREIGHT RATE ZONING SYSTEM GETS US

On Feb. 28th E. L. Ewing, traffic counsel for the Michigan Traffic League and the Michigan State Farm Bureau, delivered final arguments before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington in the case against Michigan railroads for abolishment of the Michigan freight rate zoning system and reduction of rates.

It was a final action in a long, hard fight by the two organizations of Michigan shippers to abolish a system of rates that is unfair to Michigan shippers. The system is especially unfair when the rates between two points in Michigan are compared with rates of interstate shipments.

To give Michigan Farm Bureau members a good idea of what this zoning system means to us every day, the rate on grain from Richmond, Ind., to Petoskey, Mich., is 19 cents per hundred, while the rate on grain from Laingsburg, Mich., to Petoskey, Mich., is 24 cents. The rate on grain from South Bend, Ind., to Big Rapids, Mich., is 13 cents, while the grain rate from Owosso, Mich., to Big Rapids, Mich., is 18 cents. This shows how the Michigan farmer is penalized when he sells his grain in competition with Indiana farmers, who have commodity rates on grain and no zoning system.

Recently the Michigan Elevator Exchange sold a car of oats for shipment from St. Johns, Mich., to Mancelona, Mich., and found the rate to be 23 1/2 cents, while the rate from St. Johns, Mich., to Buffalo, N. Y., is only 24 cents. The difference in mileage is 101 miles. Compare the rates.

Michigan potato shippers are at the same disadvantage when they ship to Cincinnati, Louisville and Indianapolis is competition with the potatoes grown in Wisconsin.

About a year ago the Michigan Elevator Exchange had several cars of beans to ship to Florida. In checking the rates from points in Michigan to Florida in connection with the boat line from New York to Jacksonville and Tampa, the Exchange found that owing to the Michigan zoning system the all rail rate via Cincinnati was, in some cases cheaper than the ocean and rail rate, instead of the ocean and rail rate being two cents cheaper, as thought. The Exchange had the boat lines file a new tariff covering the rates from New York to Jacksonville and Tampa and the two cents differential was restored.

Michigan livestock shippers are up against the same conditions. The shipper from the northern zone is forced to pay a much higher rate than his neighbor who may ship a greater distance but is in a southern zone.

One of the arguments of the railroads in favor of the zoning system is that as you go north in Michigan you reach poorer agricultural conditions and smaller population; also that the cost of operating a railroad increases. The evidence given by the County Agricultural Agents from some of the northern counties last May at the Lansing hearing in answer to Mr. Ewing's questions about their counties must have been a disappointment to the railroads.

The elimination of the zoning system will not only relieve the farmers of the state, but will assist every shipper in the state with the exception of those in Detroit. They have always had the benefit of lower rates, as they are in position to make use of the boat lines between Detroit and Buffalo and Cleveland.

Much credit for the strong case presented by the Traffic League is due to State Farm Bureau officials' interest and the County Agricultural Agents. These men spared neither time nor effort in helping to strengthen Mr. Ewing's case. The County Agents and business department heads of the Farm Bureau and Michigan Elevator Exchange were all placed on the stand by Mr. Ewing and testified how the zoning system discriminates against Michigan shippers and how it hurt their business when they are forced to compete with shippers from other states.

The generally admitted strength of the Traffic League's and State Farm Bureau's evidence and action of the Michigan State Public Utilities Commission in not only urging abolition of the zoning system, but going to Washington in a body to urge such action upon the Interstate Commerce Commission is a most encouraging prospect. Farm Bureau organization has enabled Michigan farmers to make themselves heard in demanding the transportation relief they have so sorely needed, and to get the attention they have gotten.

AUTO WEIGHT TAX OBSCURES THE ISSUE

We hear considerable about a weight tax on automobiles in place of a gasoline tax. This is a smoke screen to obscure and confuse the merits of the gasoline tax. Would not a gasoline tax automatically take care of the increased weight of the heavier cars?

What about the heavy cars that hordes of tourists drive into

Michigan every summer? It is admitted that they rip up the roads considerable. A weight tax would let them scot free. A straight gas tax would make them pay their share for the privilege of using our roads.

The Weight tax also falls short in that it taxes all cars alike without regard to the use they make of the roads. The gas tax will cause the person who makes very large use of the roads to pay his share of the upkeep in that proportion. A straight gasoline tax is the fairest means for paying the interest on our highway bonds and making provision for retiring that \$50,000,000 highway bond issue, of which \$30,000,000 has already been expended. Let all who use the roads contribute directly for their upkeep and let us not continue to pass the buck to farm and town real estate.

TIME TO PROHIBIT TAX EXEMPT SECURITIES

A great wave of popular opposition to further issuance of tax exempt securities is sweeping the country. Leaders of organized agriculture long have been pointing out the economic injustice of the system and have been decrying the public funds extravagance which it invites.

Today there is a tremendous public sentiment in favor of halting absolutely all tax exemption for state and municipal securities. Congress has been giving careful consideration to a constitutional amendment to limit the power of the several states to issue tax exempt bonds. President Harding and Secretary of the Treasury Mellon have given their endorsement to the proposal. Many states are considering legislation to put a stop to this economic menace.

Not only does the issuance of state and municipal tax exempt bonds remove a large portion of public wealth from the tax rolls and deflect funds from tax-paying industries, but it has resulted in widespread extravagance and a tremendous increase in public indebtedness. According to figures presented by Garet Garrett in "The Public Debt Mania," an article appearing in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post, the total bonded indebtedness of states and municipalities in the United States has doubled during the last ten years because tax exempt bonds have been so easy to sell. This indebtedness has now reached a staggering total of nine billion dollars and is increasing annually at the rate of more than one and one-quarter billion dollars, which, by the way, is more than one-quarter of all the available capital there is.

Even more alarming are the figures for Michigan. The total bonded indebtedness of the cities of the state increased more than five and one-half times from 1911 to 1921 while, during the same ten year period, the total bonding debt of the several counties increased eight times, according to official figures on file at Lansing.

Folk want tax exempt securities. Each issue is eagerly consumed by the investing public. Charles M. Schwab, the great steel king, said recently, "I could retire from active business, re-invest my money in tax exempt securities and treble my income."

The Michigan State Farm Bureau's legislative program pledges the Bureau to use its best efforts to secure passage by the present session of the Legislature of a bill putting a stop to further issues of any sort of tax exempt securities in Michigan.

FARMERS MUST ACT IF T. B. WORK IS TO BE CONTINUED

Present indications are that if the bill providing for the continuation of tuberculosis eradication work in Michigan passes, the farmers of the state will have to become active immediately in support of the measure. This bill was introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives and is known as House Bill No. 98. It has passed the House and is now in the hands of the agricultural committee of the Senate. This committee is George Leland, William L. Case, Horatio S. Karcher, Norman B. Horton, Godfried Gettel.

The leading livestock farmers and breeders of the state initiated this bill and it was drawn almost exactly as they suggested. The livestock interests of the state have made a rather extended study of the matter and it is believed that the development of the work will be best promoted by passing it in its present form.

There seems to be objection on the part of some to reducing the indemnity paid for condemned cattle. The new bill provides that the indemnity shall be one-third of the difference between the appraised value of the animal and the amount the carcass actually brings the owner for beef or other salvage purposes. This reduction of indemnities was advocated by the livestock breeders at a conference held in Lansing in December, and resolutions favoring this change have been passed by all the cattle breed associations of the state.

The Michigan State Farm Bureau at its annual meeting also went on record as favoring the enactment of adequate measures for the expansion of the work of bovine tuberculosis eradication as recommended by the livestock breeders at the conference mentioned above.

On account of the strong demand for the expansion of the work, the livestock men feel that the reduction in indemnities is necessary. They believe that the herd owner might better afford to have his herd tested immediately and get rid of the diseased animals than to leave a single reactor in the herd for a period of years and take chances of losing half his animals when the test was finally applied.

The livestock breeders' program, even on the basis of the reduced indemnity, requires the appropriation of at least \$400,000 per year for indemnities and \$120,000 for operating expense for the next biennial period. In case the indemnity is not reduced as now provided in the bill, it would require the appropriation of upwards of \$650,000 per year instead of \$400,000 to accomplish the same amount of work. Livestock men in close touch with the situation do not think it probable that the legislature will appropriate the larger amount, and consider it by all means best to work for the passage of the bill as originally introduced, so that this important work may be completed over the state at the earliest possible date without interruption.

Thirty-six counties in the state are now demanding that the tuberculosis eradication work be carried out.

It is very important that the officers of your County Farm Bureau and local organizations immediately write or wire the members of the agricultural committee also the Senators and Representatives from your district urging that they support the measure.

Quick action is imperative.

BOARD OF TRADE HAS
A CHANGE OF HEART

From a policy of long standing hostility to any farmers' co-operative grain marketing body, refusing them memberships, etc., the Chicago Board of Trade, under a new administration, is beginning to show something that looks like co-operation with the organized producers. Note the following item from the Chicago Tribune:

BOARD'S POLICY BROADENS; CO-OP'S PRESS IS FAVORED

The farmers and the co-operative press is to be favored by the Chicago Board of Trade, as all are to be given full annual admission tickets to the exchange floor. This will enable them to get information first hand and put them on the basis with the regular daily and weekly papers and study the grain business.

A movement is also under way to bring the co-operative associations

into closer touch with the regular grain men. It is said by President John J. Stream of the Board of Trade that closer working regulations between the various interests can be established and the co-operatives shown that the grain business is being handled on the exchanges at the lowest cost.

There is to be a meeting held here on March 12 with representatives of the Farm Bureau federation, E. H. Cunningham of the United States Grain Growers' Sales Co., Inc., with the Chicago Board of Trade directors to discuss all phases of the grain business and relationship of the exchange to the grain growers' interests.

President Stream is working to have a representative of the grain exchanges on the government's board of agriculture and the department of commerce so that their work can be more easily understood and improved. This is to be taken up at a gathering of grain and other interests in New York on March 15, at which Secretary of Commerce Hoover will address the gathering. —Chicago Tribune, March 8, 1923.

FARM BUREAU WINS
TEST CASE FOR DUESSt. Joseph Co. Circuit Judge Gives
Verdict in Open Court

Centerville, Mich., March 2.—Judge Johnson of the 15th judicial circuit court at Centerville Thursday granted a judgment in open court for the Michigan State Farm Bureau in its suit to collect \$20 delinquent Farm Bureau membership dues from John Davis, a farmer of Constantine. Mr. Davis had refused payment charging that he had not received any benefits. He lost the case in justice court and appealed to the circuit court.

The State Farm Bureau proved that it had developed marketing services for grain, hay, beans, seed, wool, and live stock and such other services as transportation service, all of which were available to Mr. Davis or any other Farm Bureau member. The Bureau proved the validity of its contract to the satisfaction of a jury in the justice court case.

The Centerville case is the first time that a Farm Bureau delinquent membership dues case has been taken to circuit court and the verdict for the Farm Bureau is regarded as important. This was a test case and will have far-reaching results.

MICH. NEEDS STANDARD
GRADES FOR GRAPES

Not many people realize that half the value of all Michigan's fruit crops are represented by our grape crop. This crop is without a standard grade. The bill just introduced into Michigan's legislature to provide standard grades for grapes should have the earnest support of every Michigan legislator and every grape grower in Michigan.

The proposed act would place the inspection under direction of the State Department of Agriculture and should provide the department with adequate provisions to carry on this work. Grape growers should write for copies of the bill, study it; then write your representative and tell him what you want.

NITRATES RING
THREATENS USHOOVER TELLS CONGRESS FOR-
EIGN COMBINE WOULD
FIX OUR PRICES

Do American farmers need a cheap source of nitrates for fertilizer? Does the United States need its own source of nitrates as a matter of commercial and military protection?

Let us see what is going on in the nitrates industry throughout the world. Secretary Hoover testified recently before the House Appropriation Committee in Congress in favor of Henry Ford's offer to take over the U. S. Government Nitrates plant at Muscle Shoals, Alabama, and to manufacture there cheap power and cheap nitrates for fertilizers.

Mr. Hoover is not in favor of government operation of the project. He told the Congressional Committee that we are faced with a foreign combination in nitrates. In London there is a sales committee representing all the different nitrate producers of any importance, including the Chileans, Germans, British and some others. This ring controls the prices and nitrate output. We are among the buyers.

Until recently a German element stood out and undersold the other members of the combination. Now some sort of a plan has been made with the Germans whereby they were brought into the combination and were paid about \$1,700,000. Germany controls about 4.32 per cent of the Chilean output and England about 40 per cent. The great nitrate beds of the world are in Chile.

From the first the American and State Farm Bureaus have favored completion and operation of the Muscle Shoals nitrate project. Mr. Ford's offer is the best that has been made and has been approved by the American Farm Bureau. Every means has been employed by hostile interests to prevent a vote on the Ford proposal, but prospects are improving steadily for a favorable vote when the opportunity comes. Write your Congressman about it. If you don't tell him what you want, he won't know.

HOW ABOUT YOUR
WOOL IN 1923?

The fellows who pooled their wool in 1922 got six to nine cents more per pound than they were offered locally. WHY? Because the wool pool sold by grade and in accordance with the demand. Have you been reading in the News the letters 1922 wool poolers have written?

The State Farm Bureau will pool wool again in 1923. It will assemble wool locally and grade at Lansing to further reduce costs. You will get the regular 40 per cent cash advance as usual when you bring your wool in. Balance when wool is all sold. Last wool was sold Nov. 28 in 1922. Every grower had his final check by Dec. 10, 1922.

1922 WOOL POOL RETURNS

Average net price paid to farmers by

1922 Wool Pool on the five better grades of wool 39.14c per lb.

Average net price paid to farmers by

the 1922 Wool Pool on all 13 grades, including discounts, tags and bucks. . . 34 1/2c per lb.

Average price paid to farmers by Mich-

igan local dealers as reported by them to V. H. Church, U. S. Crop Estimator 31 1/2c per lb.

IT PAID TO POOL IN 1922!

Hold your wool for the 1923 Farm Bureau Wool Pool. Assembling dates for your section will soon be published in the Michigan Farm Bureau News. Watch for them.

If you want to pool early, write for wool sacks and ship to Farm Bureau Wool Dept., Central Warehouse, Lansing. We pay the freight and remit cash advance on receipt of wool.

Michigan State Farm Bureau
Wool Dept LANSING

NOTE—The 1923 wool pool, like the successful 1922 pool, is strictly Farm Bureau managed and financed. Manager is a salaried man. No Commissions paid. Wool is bonded and insured to full value. Squire Robinson will grade again.

MARKET

As Reported By State Farm Bureau Marketing Departments

SEED

By Farm Bureau Seed

RED CLOVER.

Markets continue inactive as yet to form an opinion as to the volume of seed to come for spring sowings, all indications point to eastern trade which has been supplied to a considerable extent with foreign clover continue to be reported from more and New York in a way. Shipments from mid the east are practically up by embargo laid down heavy snow fall in eastern Toledo market closed Feb. at \$13.30.

ALSIKE.

Last week Alsike in Toledo trade reported, according to a reliable source there states there does not seem to be any demand, although the price is \$3.00 under 100 lbs. Stocks in the country much less than in recent years some timothy has gone for a amount has not reached proportion. Holders are expecting demand to be good work higher when the trade opens. However, it is a question of the situation on alfalfa, clover, etc., is unchanged since report in these columns.

GRAIN MARK

By Mich. Elevator Exe

OATS

We still believe oats are although the demand is a little better within thirty or sixty days.

WHEAT.

Still in an uncertain position have more wheat in the States than we will consume.

Farm Acco

County Agent Wm. F. Ston of Wexford County boys and girls thinking farm problems. Under leadership nine consolidated have been giving practical farm accountants kept records a mitted reports on the operations and probe their home farms.

We submit herewith a report made by M. O. Smith of Mant. kept the accounts on there. Miss Smith's victim told her to a free Farmers' Week at M. A. STORY OF MY ACCOUNT

By Dorothy M. Smith
"The benefits to be derived from farm accounting are man business farmer in the United States could testify that his business out a strict method of accounting would be no business."

"I will point out a few from my book.

Number of hens 50.
Monthly averages for are as follows:

Jan. 1.54 eggs; Feb. 2.1 6.12; April, 14; May, 16; July, 12.5; Aug., 11; Sept 4; Nov., 1; Dec., .6.
"During the months of Oct., Nov., Dec., Jan., I March the egg production low. During the above period the 50 hens produced 986 eggs average of 19.7 eggs per hen in other words each hen one egg every 12.2 days. During this period are worth \$0.04. Therefore, each hen low average for the 240 days in about \$0.89. Her cost keep averages approximately for the same time. This profit of \$0.20 for each hen this period of high prices egg production.

Recommend Culling
It is quite evident that the flock was getting old, while a few hens were the work. This flock has been culled and I believe the elimination would not affect production and lower the cost 50% which would be a net profit of \$0.50 instead for each hen. This is a high price and I feel that also the time that egg production should be given a great consideration."

In commenting on the her dairy operations, M writes, "The cows show a though a decreased inventory gives a misconception regarding the true worth of the cows. brings out the fact that is radically wrong with the of this farm. It could take a milk test of each should be done before status for another year.

Better Ration Need
"For instance in the Jan. 1922, the three cows calf received 1200 lbs. hay; 100 lbs. of fodder and of grain (corn). Suppose all fed to three cows, the would be the daily ration cow:

Mixed hay 13.
Grain 2.
Corn Fodder 1.

"This would be a first ration for a two-year-old cow for a cow that is supposed way it is far from satisfactory nutritive ratio of this ration one part of protein to 9.2 carbohydrates and 1.2

MARKET CONDITIONS

As Reported By State Farm Bureau Marketing Departments

SEED

Continued cold weather and snow is still delaying the demand for seed. There is a good inquiry from the eastern states where the main demand should come from but they are backward about laying in additional large supplies until the farmer demand becomes more active.

More seed is being offered from the country and prices have ruled lower. Apparently the dealers are willing only to buy country lots of seed at a bargain until they sell more of their present supplies.

The market on Alsike, Timothy, Alfalfa, Sweet Clover, etc. is controlled by the same conditions.

GRAIN MARKETS

WHEAT

Wheat market still remains a puzzle. It has stayed within a very narrow range for three months. Visible supplies increasing daily. Millers complaining about the slow flour

flow. Business should do some better.

RYE

There is no rye business for export. Russia selling rye to Continental Europe at a cheaper price than we can. Rye is too cheap.

CORN

Corn markets if anything look weaker. Some feeders say it looks like, with hog prices going down, they had better sell the corn and not feed it.

OATS

Still the cheapest grain. With a good spot demand for them they should do better.

BEANS

The market on beans for the past two weeks remains unchanged with the trade buying in very small quantities. On the other hand elevators in the state continue to hold their beans, refusing to sell under \$8.00 which is about 15 cents under today's market. It is going to be difficult to advance the market unless the demand materially increases.

Attack on Zoning

System Nears End

(Continued from page 1)

Hit Zone System.
The big point at issue in the Michigan case will be the attempt to abolish the zoning system, and give Michigan one rate, instead of four different rates, depending upon the zone in which the rate is applied.

As the hearing about to be concluded is being held in connection with an examiner from the Interstate Commerce Commission it may be some time before a decision in the points at issue is reached.—Kalamazoo Gazette, May 25, 1923.

State Would Cut

Out Freight Zones

By Ray B. Johnson

(Free Press Staff Correspondent.)
Lansing, Mich., June 7.—The State Public Utilities Commission, Wednesday, directed a communication to the Interstate Commerce Commission, asking for a conference to working out a plan by which freight rate zones now in effect in Michigan can be eliminated. The Interstate Commission is asked to set a date for the conference before July 1.—Detroit Free Press, June 8, 1922.

WHY ZONES HURT

Because of Michigan's freight rate zoning system, it costs Farm Bureau members at Reed City \$14 more for each carload of stock feed shipped in from Peoria, Ill., than it does for shipment from the same point to Bay City, Mich., although the mileage to Bay City is 30 miles less. Farmers pay this extra cost and that is one way that they feel the zoning system.

Start Testing Ass'n.

Hillsdale, March 8.—Hillsdale County organized a cow testing association at Pittsford, March 8. There is a strong demand for the work and other associations will probably be organized. The association was organized by County Agricultural Agent Weinberg of the Hillsdale County Farm Bureau and Mr. Wells, dairy extension specialist from M. A. C.

Co-op. Mgr.

Grain man of considerable experience available as Mgr. of Farmers Co-op. Elevator—Can furnish best of references. Box P. D. Mich. Farm Bureau News, 221 N. Cedar St., Lansing, Mich.

Farmers Get Busy

On Rail Problems

(Continued from page one)

traffic attorneys in the state, to represent the bureau at all State and Federal railroad commission hearings in which the Farm Bureau is interested.

Mr. Ewing recently conducted the Michigan Traffic League's case before the Michigan Public Utilities Commission and representatives of the Interstate Commerce Commission. The State Farm Bureau intervened in this case and through Mr. Ewing presented the most powerful and complete agricultural testimony that has ever been presented in behalf of agriculture at a Michigan hearing. Forty able farmer witnesses and their representatives testified. Twenty-seven out of 50 sets of traffic statistics presented by the manufacturers, city shippers and farmers were agricultural statistics.—From Michigan County Farm Bureau Bulletins for June, 1922.

Farm Bureau Helps

Keep Trains Running

Lansing, Mich., Aug. 7.—Work of the State Farm Bureau in the shippers' fight to prevent the Pere Marquette from abandoning its Big Rapids-White Cloud and Freport branches and the sending of a Farm Bureau attorney to Washington to fight the case before the Interstate Commerce Commission were features of a battle won by the shippers. The railroad has been denied permission to abandon the branches. The Farm Bureau and local shippers proved to the satisfaction of the I. C. C. that the railroads were necessary in that region, that the agricultural country was increasingly prosperous and that too much operation costs had been charged up to the local lines.—Michigan Weekly Newspapers, week of Aug. 7, 1922.

Joins Live Stock Exch.

The Middleville Co-operative Association voted to join the Michigan Live Stock Exchange at its fifth annual meeting at Middleville, March 1. The reports showed the association in good financial condition and gaining membership and business. Henry Finkbeiner, A. Wierlinga, F. D. Pratt, Howard Smith, Steven Carter, John Sensiba and W. H. Johnson were re-elected directors.

BABY CHICKS

Remarkable for SIZE and STRENGTH. Reasonably Priced.
LEGHORN, ANCONAS, ROCKS, REDS, WYANDOTTES, ORPINGTONS, MINORCAS, SPANISH and BRAHMAS.
TYRONSE POULTRY FARM
Fenton, Michigan

FERTILIZER

Get Farm Bureau Goods This Spring

The Farm Bureau is handling International Brand Fertilizers, the best on the market. These goods have been mixed for several months. This gives them plenty of time to cure and assures first class mechanical condition.

Shipped from Buffalo. Our past experience assures us prompt service.
We guarantee mechanical condition and chemical analysis.

Ask your co-op for Farm Bureau fertilizer. Place your order early.

MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU

Purchasing Dept.
Lansing, Mich.

COUNTY LEADERS ENDORSE WORK

OF STATE FARM BUREAU WHEN VISITING DELEGATES REPORT

The Southern Michigan County Farm Bureau Presidents and Secretaries Ass'n. of Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Jackson, Lenawee, Hillsdale, and Branch counties held their February meeting at Jackson, Feb. 21. They discussed the work of the State Farm Bureau and their county bureaus and the problems confronting Farm Bureau work, especially the second membership campaign. President Ralph Arbogast of the Branch County Farm Bureau invited the association to hold its May meeting at Coldwater. The invitation was accepted. The following resolution was adopted, with instructions that it be published in the Michigan Farm Bureau News:

The Resolution.

Whereas, At a meeting of the Presidents and Secretaries of the counties of Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Jackson, Lenawee, Hillsdale and Branch, and a committee of two consisting of Ralph Arbogast, of Branch county and Dr. Nichols of Hillsdale county were elected to ascertain conditions at the State Farm Bureau in Lansing; and

Whereas, This committee after carefully going into details of each department as far as possible in the period allowed, found most of them to be well managed, and apparently being conducted on a profitable basis, having in mind always the interests of the members of the Farm Bureau;

Therefore Be It Resolved, That the above-mentioned Presidents and Secretaries, and those of the counties of Barry, Van Buren and St. Joseph at their meeting in Kalamazoo, Mich., held on January 3rd, 1923, do hereby reiterate their faith in the present management of the State Farm Bureau, and pledge their whole-hearted co-operative support;

Be It Further Resolved, That the recommendation of the committee as to the Publicity Department, and Elevator Exchange be adopted, and a copy of these resolutions be sent to C. L. Brody.

(Signed)
RALPH ARBOGAST,
DR. A. Z. NICHOLS.

THREE COUNTIES HAVE CAMPAIGN

HUNDREDS OF FARM BUREAU MEN HELP IN REORGANIZATION WORK

Wayne, Monroe and Washtenaw counties are now engaged in second Farm Bureau membership campaigns. Work has been going on in Washtenaw County since the 12th of February and Monroe County is just finishing up a county-wide campaign. March 13th Wayne County opens its campaign. March 12th Wayne County's committee of volunteer workers and their wives had an all day meeting at the Wayne Methodist Church gymnasium at Dearborn where Secretary Brody and Mr. W. W. Billings, who is in charge of the membership men, spoke to the Wayne workers, who will serve as drivers during the Wayne campaign.

Membership work in the above counties will continue until the first of April. About the first week in April the Kent County Farm Bureau will start its second membership campaign. Kent County is planning a committee of 200 drivers and workers to carry on its campaign on the plan originated by Eaton County and since used by Washtenaw, Monroe and Wayne counties.

WAYNE COUNTY HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Wayne County Farm Bureau was held at Romulus, March 3rd with 125 present. A board of directors of 12 members was elected for one year. These directors were nominated by the people in their respective townships and were voted in by the delegates in the same manner that the commodity representatives on the State Farm Bureau Board are elected. The directors are as follows: Nelson Rogers, Van Buren Twp.; George Smith, Canton; W. E. Van Vliet, Nankin; A. F. Klages, Romulus; John Galloway, Taylor; James H. McKenney, Sumpter; John Ferstle, Jr., Brownstown; George J. Wolf, Huron; Levi Clemens, Livonia; Sylvester Shear, Redford; Mrs. Maud Bennett, Plymouth, and Floyd Northrup, Northville Twp.

The speakers were Dr. Eben Mumford; Mr. M. L. Noon, Vice-President, Michigan State Farm Bureau; Miss Muriel Hopkins, Nutrition Specialist, M. A. C. and Miss Barbara Van Heulen, Ass't. State Leader, Boys' and Girls' Clubs.

GOOD PRICES PAID FOR BRED EWES AND SOWS

Clyde Godfrey of Jonesville, Mich., realized an average of \$44.90 on 30 Duroc bred sows at his sale February 21st. The offering was Colonel and Orion Cherry King and was a very creditable lot of sows. The top sow of the sale was by Jackson's Colonel Walt out of Fancy Orion King dam. Albert LeFever of Jonesville got her for \$30.00.

In addition to the hogs, Mr. Godfrey sold 33 bred Shropshire ewes which averaged \$21.50 each. Rogers Brothers of Addison had a consignment of 10 ewes.

The gasoline tax and the state highway policy continue to be leading issues.

While all sorts of reduced gasoline tax and increased license fee compromises were brewing, the General Taxation Committee of the House took the bit in its teeth and, reported out the Warner two-cent gas tax bill after changing somewhat the manner of collecting the tax.

Highway Program Big Issue.
Meanwhile, the Senate Highway Committee has reported out a husky highway appropriation bill. Decks are being cleared for action on these two important measures.

Rep. Robert Wardell, of Detroit, appears slightly suspicious of the State Highway Department. In fact, Rep. Wardell declares that he has some facts to back up his demand for a legislative investigation of the State's road building activities.

Investigations Popular
Another legislative investigation is proposed by Rep. Patrick O'Brien of Iron River in the House and Sen. James M. Wilcox of Calumet in the Senate. These upper peninsula lawmakers suggest that the Legislature look into the advisability of erecting another state prison in Keweenaw county on the peninsula which runs way out into Lake Superior. Not only would the erection of a prison on this point prevent escape, it is pointed out by those who are advocating the erection of a new prison at that place, but it is also declared that prisoners could crush rocks that would make the best material to be secured for highway construction.

Rep. Oscar Braman of Kent County has presented a bill to abolish the State Department of Public Safety, which includes the State Police.

Extension of the powers of the State Department of Agriculture is provided in three bills introduced by Senator George Leland of Fennville, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

His first measure is a comprehensive and detailed seed law, providing

for proper labeling of seed as to purity and germination and giving officials of the State Department of Agriculture authority to seize and hold seed not complying with the law.

The bill under consideration would set up standard specifications and require labeling to show degree of purity, per cent of germination and the source or origin of the seed. The bill, if enacted, would control those who are dumping unadapted, impure, or dead seed upon Michigan markets.

Present Law Lax.
State officials say that the present seed law is bunglesome. It provides no means for quick handling of bad seed. Under the present law such cases have been drawn out over six months before settlement. The proposed law would include a "seizure clause," such as provided in the Pure Food law, so that the seed which is much below standard could be seized, pending settlement of the case, and not be distributed and planted as at present.

More State Control Asked.
Other bills by Sen. Leland would give the State control over slaughterhouses and cider and vinegar factories. The abattoir bill requires the licensing of all slaughterhouses in the state and provides sanitary regulations for their operation. The vinegar bill fixes standards for the production of cider vinegar for commercial purposes, and provides for the licensing of cider mills and vinegar factories.

The resolution providing for re-submitting to the voters the "port district" constitution amendment, defeated at the polls last fall, has finally passed both branches of the Legislature. Another old friend, the "excess condemnation" constitutional amendment, which was also defeated at the last general election, and which Rep. Culver of Detroit is seeking to revive, lacked six of the required 67 votes necessary for the two-thirds majority required to pass a constitutional amendment in the House. The proposition is not quite dead, however, for the fatal vote was later reconsidered

and the defeated resolution placed on the table.

Buck Law Not Changed.
Rep. Henze's bill to declare a close season on deer every alternate year was defeated on final passage in the House by a vote of 19 yeas and 10 nays.

Local option for townships terminating liability for livestock trespass when lands are unfenced was provided in a bill introduced by Lloyd S. Little of Tawas City.

Sen. George M. Condon of Detroit introduced a bill to make Eastern standard time the legal time in Michigan. The Michigan State Farm Bureau opposes this bill.

Dead Logs To Be Revived.
Sen. Orville E. Atwood of Newburg wants a law enacted which will clear all dead logs in the rivers and streams of the state public property. Years ago when the upper part of Michigan was being logged off, the sands of big logs sunk in streams and lakes and it is known that there is some valuable timber to be raised by someone if legal right to do so is granted, as provided in this bill.

Rep. Dennis Dawe, of Monroe, one of the five Democratic members of the House, introduced a bill to extend the aid given dependent children under the mother's pension act, to cases where the father is afflicted with tuberculosis.

A bill by Sen. Walter J. Hayes, of Detroit, would appropriate \$100,000 each for two years to be used by the state agriculture department, of the State fair. Of this amount \$25,000 is for operating expenses and \$75,000 for premiums.

While various proposals looking toward an early adjournment of the Legislature have been suggested, there is little probability that the lawmakers can wind up their activities before the middle of April or the first of May. Most of the important issues are yet to be settled. No bills appear daily and work is piling up.

FARMER SHOULD HAVE ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

Records of Farm Business End Guess Work and Guard Future

The fundamental truths of farm production are brought out by accounts and records, which provide a systematic history of the farm business. Only in this way can the farmer be sure of his ground in planning for the future—in determining upon the amount and kind of livestock to be raised, the class of crops to be grown, etc. A system of records eliminates guess work in farming and provides the only safe basis for figuring on the general operations.

Farm account books are generally accepted as the best method for keeping farm records, and are being used by increasing hundreds of Michigan's most successful farmers. Such books can be obtained from county agricultural agents or from the M. A. C. Extension Division at East Lansing at cost, fifteen cents for one and twenty-five cents for another.

SEEK TON LITTER IN SIX MONTHS

East Lansing, March 8.—A ton for a single litter of pigs within six months of the time the pigs are born, is the aim of Michigan swine raisers in the "Michigan Ton Litter Club" contest, which started March 1.

The contest is being handled by Michigan swine breeders associations and the animal husbandry department at the Michigan Agricultural College. It is open to every farmer in the state, provided he follows out the prescribed rules of enrollment, marking, inspection, etc., required in the competition.

Owners of all litters which reach a ton weight at six months of age will be awarded certificates in the contest, while prizes will be given in different weight classes that reach 1,600 pounds or more.

"Large litters are essential for economical production," says V. A. Freeman, extension specialist at M. A. C. and state leader of the ton-litter clubs. "Good feeding mixtures and the use of minerals and good pasture, along with feeding for rapid gains, make for economy of production. Parasites and insanitary conditions work against economy. These are the things which the ton-litter contest will bring out and emphasize."

Enrollments should be sent in at once to Mr. Freeman at the College. They cannot be received after April 1. Detailed instructions and information on the contest will be sent out by the college extension division on request.

CLASSIFIED ADS.

Pure Bred Duroc Jersey Hogs
Fall born and sows sired by grandson of Pathfinder.—O. E. Harrington, Martha, Mich. 2t

FOR SALE
Fair Chestnut Percheron mares, 7 years old. Weight 2000 lbs. Sound. This is a well matched and first class team. Price \$400. A. J. Hefferan, Ada, Mich.

DUROC JERSEY FALL BOARS
Ready for service. \$30 each. One sow bred for June 21 farrow, at \$40. Good breeding and satisfaction guaranteed. Rush Bros., Oakwood Farm, Romeo, Mich.

What the Legislature is Doing

As Reported by the State Farm Bureau's Observer

CARRIES FORD OFFER IN POCKET

ACTION OF CONGRESSMAN BLOCKS VOTE ON MUSCLE SHOALS.

Washington, March 8.—Henry Ford's offer to lease the government nitrate plant at Muscle Shoals, Ala., complete the dam and operate the nitrate plants in the manufacture of fertilizer, is in the pocket of Philip P. Campbell of Kansas, chairman of the House Rules Committee.

Mr. Campbell has been accused of wilfully holding up the Ford offer and not permitting the Committee on Rules, of which he is chairman, to vote out the offer so that the House could take action upon it. When asked by Representative Bankhead, of Alabama, why he had not presented the resolution, Mr. Campbell said he would answer that at the proper time and that he was representing "the responsible majority of the House."

Believing, with the majority of the House, that Mr. Campbell's action in pocketing Ford's offer was against the wishes of the House, Representative Fish of New York, offered a resolution proposing the appointment of a committee "to revise, clarify and liberalize the rules of the House so as to enable a majority of the House to consider proposed legislation and to establish a system of rules by which the House will again be placed in control of its own procedure."

Later the committee refused by a vote of 9 to 6 to permit the House to vote on Ford's offer.

Binder Twine Sales Near 2,000,000 Lbs

Michigan State Farm Bureau sale of binder twine to local co-operative associations for our membership is now close to 2,000,000 lbs. Members should get their orders in early the best service. The Farm Bureau handling Michigan twine, the best Michigan conditions.

GARDEN SEEDS

Our Association is co-operative. We market the products of our members, who are market gardeners, greenhouse men, and fruit men, and furnish their seeds, and other supplies. We also distribute grass and field seeds for the Michigan State Farm Bureau in Western Michigan.

Our only excuse for existence is the service we give. Can we serve you? We want your garden seed orders. Market gardeners demand the best seeds. So should you. Our catalog gives much valuable information. It cost us two bits, but costs you nothing. Write for it.

THE GRAND RAPIDS GROWERS ASS'N.

L. F. JONES,
Mgr. Seed Department
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.
Cor. Wealthy Street and Iowa Avenue, S. W.

MR. FARMER!
Mr. Dealer Mr. Jobber

Are you remembering in purchasing your binder twine that you have a factory of your own at Jackson?

It is making the best twine that can be placed on the market and has a mixture of fiber this year. Manila is added to the sisal to give extra strength.

The State Farm Bureau and other organizations and dealers of the state are in position to handle your twine. If they do not, write direct for prices as we want you to use your own twine as we make 14,000,000 lbs. more than Michigan can use.

Michigan State Prison

HARRY L. HULBERT, Warden