

## 30 COUNTY BUREAUS TO DINE TOGETHER IN NEXT TWO WEEKS

### This Is the Story of an Ice Gorge and a Disastrous Flood

#### 5 FEET OF WATER HURLED INTO TOWN IN TEN MINUTES

Editor of News Familiar With  
Flooded Pennsylvania  
Region

#### GORGE 25 MILES LONG

Nature Unfolds Mighty But  
Expensive Spectacle on  
Allegheny River

This is the story of an ice gorge that has dammed up a big river for more than a month for a distance of more than 25 miles, also of flood conditions that have persisted a great deal of that time, several business sections of two good sized towns under one to five feet of water, shutting off light and power supply, water supply and rail and highway communication with the outside world.

Readers of the Farm Bureau News have undoubtedly noticed articles in the daily papers the past month concerning the ice gorge situation on the Allegheny river in northwestern Pennsylvania and the disastrous floods which have poured into Oil City and Franklin, Pa., eight miles below on the Allegheny, when high water brought on by rains and additional gorges backed the water into those cities of 22,000 and 14,000 inhabitants, respectively.

Oil City and Franklin, Pa., were once the home diggings of the editor of the Farm Bureau News. He was brought up there and knows the Allegheny river, Oil Creek, French creek and the territory like a book. He has seen the river which ranges up to 600 and 800 feet wide come up 16 and 20 feet with the spring floods, but 25 feet and ice gorges to back it up for miles are another story. These conditions have persisted since the ice first gorged, Feb. 26 last. The condition has been most serious at Oil City, the world's first petroleum oil market and within 17 miles of the world's first oil well, drilled in 1857. Here is the lay of the land at Oil City and what has happened:

**The Flood District**  
The lay of the land: Lay your right hand, palm upwards, fingers pointing to the left, thumb extended, on your chair arm or table. Raise the second, third and fourth fingers a little. We have a miniature diagram of Oil City, as follows: Consider the index finger and the thumb as the Allegheny river, flowing through the city and making a bend at the thumb. Hills, some gently sloping and others very steep rise from its banks for 100 miles north to Olean, N. Y., and 78 miles south to Pittsburgh. North of Oil City the Allegheny has many tributaries and drains an enormous area of country. Through the palm of the hand, about two-thirds of the distance from the base of the index finger to the base of the thumb, comes Oil Creek, which is about 90 feet across and empties into the Allegheny, making the junction in the heart of the city.

In the palm of the hand, on the valley floor, is the business section of a city of 22,000. The three raised fingers represent the slopes on the north side of the river where half the city lives. On the other side, or south side of the river, is the south-side hill, also covered with homes. Both these slopes are immune to flood danger as they are high and steep. Two to four blocks out of the business district and the householders can look over the top of the entire business district, wherein are buildings up to six stories high. Many folks living along Oil Creek get the full benefit of very high water.

**25 Miles of Gorge**  
This winter the Allegheny was frozen to a depth of 14 inches in places. Feb. 26 some 20 miles of ice at a point far up the river let go and floated to a point 16 miles below Oil City where it ground in the shallows and gorged. The ice piled high and piled up for miles back. Weight forced it to the bottom. Between the shallows the river is from 10 to 30 feet deep. Plenty of zero weather followed Feb. 26 and the gorge froze into place. Additional ice came down and piled up until the gorge was 25 miles long and extended far above Oil City. Water rose to the second stories of homes close to the river. Warmer weather, rain and more ice from the Allegheny and Oil Creek tributaries brought on two disastrous floods within 10 days, the sec-

LUCIUS E. WILSON



Mr. Wilson, noted authority on community organizations, will speak at many of the County Farm Bureau meetings to be held during the next two weeks.

#### 1,000 FARM PEOPLE ATTEND SERIES OF TUSCOLA MEETINGS

Delegates Chosen For Great  
Farm Bureau Rally at  
Caro, April 7

Caro, March 19.—Successful Farm Bureau rallies held at Mayville and Kingston today brought to an end a series of 17 Farm Bureau community meetings, which have been held in Tuscola county during the past eleven days. A final check-up on the attendance figures showed that 1,000 farm men and women attended these Tuscola Farm Bureau rallies.

Speakers at these meetings were Mrs. Edith M. Wagar, member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, S. M. Powell, ass't sec'y of that organization, and John W. Sims, Tuscola County Agent, who discussed the corn borer situation. The local Farm Bureau officers had charge of the meetings and at several places programs of music and recitations supplemented the regular addresses.

Tuscola county members are looking forward to the annual meeting at Caro on April 7. At the 17 meetings just completed delegates were elected to transact the business at this convention during the forenoon session. During the afternoon the meeting will be thrown open to all farmers of the county. Lucius E. Wilson of Chicago and M. B. McPherson of Lowell, president of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, will be the principal speakers.

#### Visit State Office

T. A. Nichol of Filion, G. A. Rapson of Bad Axe, and Lawrence Notter of Pigeon, Huron county Farm Bureau members, visited State headquarters recently and inspected all departments and services.

March 23, Mrs. Eugene Ladner of Big Rapids, and Mrs. E. Huntton of Mecosta, Mecosta County Farm Bureau members, visited all departments at State headquarters. They were accompanied by Mr. R. A. Hindman of Lansing.

#### TIP ON TACKS

Tacks are elusive and hammers in the inept hand bruise the fingers easily. Try this: Stick the tack through stiff paper or light cardboard, then hold the paper in the desired position. Thus you bang away at Mr. Tack until he is subdued.

Of the 667 professions listed in the United States, women are engaged in 632.

#### To The Reader

Many Farm Bureau members are sending the Farm Bureau News to some of their friends, paying the subscription to this office. We believe those folks will enjoy the paper.

The News is a paid in advance newspaper and is not continued after the expiration date. The subscription must be renewed. Please report mistakes in address or any failure in delivery of the News to the Farm Bureau News for prompt attention.

#### 17 MILLION LBS. OF FRENCH SEED HERE; WHO WILL GET IT?

More Than Half is Reported  
For Middle West  
Points

#### IMPORTS DROPPING OFF

Little Over One Million Lbs.  
Came in the Past  
Two Weeks

Since the last of October the Michigan Farm Bureau News, by watching the imports records at the ports of New York and Philadelphia, has been reporting the week to week arrival of French and Italian red clover seed for sale to American farmers. Also the reported American destinations of that seed.

On March 6 the News reported total imports of 16,000,000 lbs. of French red clover, enough to sow 1,500,000 acres solid to French seed of doubtful value for this climate.

Imports dropped off a little in the two weeks period from March 6 to March 20. A total of 1,063,440 lbs. of French red clover seed was brought in by two steamships from Havre, France. This brings the total since October to 17,366,430 lbs., enough to plant 1,736,642 acres solid to French seed.

Reported shipments for middle-west points dropped off. For once, Toledo failed to get any. Middle west shipments were reported as follows:

Chicago ..... 97,650 lbs.  
Crawfordsville, Ind. .... 147,000 lbs.  
Buffalo ..... 42,000 lbs.

In the March 12 issue of the News we said that on March 26 we would show the total volume of French red clover seed imported since last October for various middle western points, as set forth by the imports records for the ports of New York and Philadelphia. Here they are:

Toledo ..... 3,358,820 lbs.  
Chicago ..... 2,755,200 lbs.  
Crawfordsville, Ind. .... 871,000 lbs.  
St. Wayne, Ind. .... 84,000 lbs.  
Ligonier, Ind. .... 436,000 lbs.  
Richmond, Ind. .... 165,900 lbs.  
Milwaukee ..... 777,000 lbs.  
St. Louis, Mo. .... 31,500 lbs.  
Lincoln, Neb. .... 31,500 lbs.  
Buffalo, N. Y. .... 420,000 lbs.  
Detroit, Mich. .... 26,400 lbs.  
Total ..... 8,957,320 lbs.

The remainder of the 17,366,430 lbs. of French red clover seed was for eastern and far western points. Michigan State College test plots on French red clover show that disease and winter killing leave an average of about 30 to 40% of a stand to start the second season, as against 80 to 90% of a stand for Michigan grown or domestic, northern grown clover.

That's why the Farm Bureau News is fighting imported clover and alfalfa seeds and is backing the Gooding-Ketcham seed staining bill now in Congress to provide for staining all such seeds distinctive colors at U. S. ports of entry. These colors would indicate the country of origin and their adaptability. Farmers have a right to know the origin and worth of the seed they buy.

#### COST OF RAISING A CHILD \$5,000?

Ever consider what the average child means as an investment in dollars and cents?

An insurance company, trying to calculate the monetary value of life, takes up the item of food alone and finds that at the age of 18 years the average youngster has consumed \$2,500 worth. Another recent investigation found the cost of successful birth to range from \$130 to \$400. Let's say \$250 is the average.

The statisticians also find it will cost \$1,200 to dress a boy neatly and comfortably for the first 18 years—until he has reached the theoretical self-supporting age. Home care, education, medical attention and so on will bring the total to \$5,000. That's the figure of a California mother who has kept records on three sons.

And what are the returns? Maybe an Edison, Wilson, a great humanitarian or educator. Maybe a liability to society. All depending upon how wisely the investment is handled.—Grand Rapids Press.

### A Letter From Italy

From time to time, in connection with the enormous imports of red clover seed from France, the Farm Bureau News has voiced the opinion that Italian red clover (everywhere acknowledged as worthless for this climate) is undoubtedly being shipped into France and reshipped to the United States as French seed. A middle western seed man sends the News the following general sales letter from an Italian exporter to importers in this country, which substantiates our opinion, is self-explanatory and is another good argument for staining imported seeds at our ports of entry. The letter from Italy:

Ancona, Via Saffi, 5.  
Ancona Italy, Feb. 16, 1926.

Gentlemen:

Since writing my last report there has been many more inquiries and business done with foreign countries, with the result that the price of dodder free Red Clover and Alfalfa has steadily risen. The foreign demand has been more particularly for Alfalfa in the proportion of three to one. Hungary has been absorbing very large quantities of Red.

France during the last few weeks has been buying several thousand bags of Red Clover, no doubt to meet the Foreign demand. A fair business has been done and is done at present with Great Britain, and more than twice as much with Germany, including Poland and other countries of that region.

In the United States of America there is not enough Red Clover to meet the normal requirements, so much so that the States have been importing from France, Germany, England, and even from Canada. The ruling prices in the States are about 25 to 34 cents per lb., and alfalfa about 25 cents per lb., while Grimm Alfalfa has been sold at over 60 cents per lb.

In Great Britain the home grown Red Clover is dealt in just now at over 72 shillings per cwt., and I even today, can offer warranted dodder free Red Clover at 70 shillings per cwt., and even 68 shillings, 8 pence per cwt. Cf. U. K. for large quantities.

It is quite useless to give prices for the States as, apart from some small sales effected about six weeks ago, they have entirely tabooed Italian seeds by direct purchase; while they take them in just the same from Foreign countries, who mix the Italian with their own.

If it were any use I would say that my price would be about 16½ to 17 cents per lb. Cf. Atlantic ports. From what I hear from my correspondents, it seems that we may expect a much larger preference over other ones. Needless to say I would be only too glad to get an order, however small, from each reader of this report. Lowest quantity

Yours very truly,  
A. V. Y.

### SHOWS WHAT LOSS PREVENTION WORK CAN ACCOMPLISH

Michigan Shippers to Work  
With Railroads In  
The Matter

The possibilities of what can be accomplished in Michigan in the way of reducing the losses of livestock in transit were vividly presented by Dr. W. J. Embree of the Western Weighing & Inspection Bureau at a meeting of representatives of the various agencies interested in the livestock industry held at the State Farm Bureau at Lansing March 23.

Dr. Embree pointed out that the losses in livestock had been reduced on the eleven large markets in the west by over 40% in seven years. In 1919 these eleven markets averaged receipts of one dead hog in 486 while in 1925 this was cut down to one dead hog in 850, representing a net gain of over \$460,000 for the producer.

This meeting was called by Mr. J. H. O'Meara, secretary of the Michigan Livestock Exchange, to consider the advisability of organizing a Michigan Livestock Loss Association. By laws and a program were submitted and met with the approval of representatives of the Farm Bureau, the Michigan State College, the State Department of Agriculture, claim agents co-operative association managers, etc. It is planned to effect the final organization at an early meeting.

### Paw Paw Kiwanians Hear About Bureau

Paw Paw, March 22.—Speaking before the Paw Paw Kiwanis club here tonight on the topic "The Relation of the Farm Bureau Program to the Business Men of a Rural Town" Stanley M. Powell, ass't sec'y of the State Farm Bureau, told the members that the Farm Bureau program is such that it increases the prosperity of the entire community and stimulates all legitimate business.

In addressing the Kiwanians, Mr. Powell stressed the political, social and moral value of the farm home and showed how a high type of rural citizenship is dependent upon the maintenance of agriculture upon a plane of equality with other industries.

President R. G. Oas, Smith-Hughes teacher of agriculture in the Paw Paw High School, presided at the meeting. Mr. Powell was introduced by Wm. F. Johnston, Van Buren county agricultural agent.

Use your county agricultural agent and attend the local demonstrations and meetings which he arranges. It may mean more to you in dollars and cents than the hardest day's work you ever did on your farm.

### PRES. M'PHERSON



President McPherson of the State Farm Bureau is to address a number of the County Farm Bureau meetings to be held during the next two weeks.

### GOODING-KETCHAM BILL PROGRESSES

Washington, March 25.—The status of the Gooding-Ketcham bill which provides that the Department of Agriculture shall stain ten per cent of all imported alfalfa and clover seeds with distinctive colors to indicate the country of origin (unadapted seed to be stained red) is as follows:

Hearings have been completed in both Senate and House Committees. The bill is about ready for a vote in the Senate. The House sub-committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce is expected to report the bill to the full committee sometime this week. If the full committee reports favorably, the bill is ready to be voted on in the House. So far the bill has made good progress through the welter of legislation which fills the Congressional hoppers.

**SOME USES OF SALT**  
Common salt, sodium chloride, is a household chemical of varying uses. Here are some, suggested by a domestic science expert:

Gargle salt and water for sore throat.  
Keep cut flowers fresh by adding salt to the water in which they stand.

Rub salt on a rag wet with kerosene, with this wipe the bathtub, then wash it with soapy water. The luster will surprise you.

To be a good farmer you must feed your mind, your body, your soil and your soul. They are merely engines that will run if you give them the right kind of fuel and will stop and rust if you don't.—Farm and Fire side.

### GREAT SERIES OF COUNTY MEETINGS HAS BEEN CALLED; MEMBERS INVITING GUESTS TO SHARE GOOD PROGRAMS

Lucius Wilson, Pres. McPherson, Vice-Pres. Noon  
Head List of State Speakers; Counties  
Are Planning on 300 to 500 or  
More at Each Meeting

Beginning March 29 and continuing through April 16, a great series of afternoon and evening meetings of County Farm Bureaus will be held in 30 counties. Dinner will be served at 12:30 noon for the afternoon meetings; supper at 7:00 or 7:30 o'clock at the various evening meetings. Those attending will be guests of the County Farm Bureaus.

In some of the counties as many as 250 acceptances of the general invitation to attend have been received from Farm Bureau families, which means, husband and wife, that around 500 folks will attend the meeting in those counties. Invitations will be mailed in other counties a little later. Members are invited to bring some of their neighbors.

The State Farm Bureau will take part in each meeting and will furnish very good speakers for each program. The speakers include Mr. Lucius E. Wilson of Chicago, well known to thousands of Michigan Farm Bureau members who heard him at county meetings last summer and at the 8th annual State Farm Bureau meeting this February; Mr. William Barbre, an associate of Mr. Wilson and a gifted speaker; Pres. M. B. McPherson, Vice-Pres. M. L. Noon, Sec'y C. L. Brody and S. M. Powell, Mrs. Edith M. Wagar of the State Farm Bureau, Mrs. Isabell Kinch, prominent member of the Huron County Farm Bureau, and Mrs. Oscar Finkbeiner, formerly with the Allegan County Farm Bureau.

Dinner or supper will be served at each of the following meetings according to the time which is in use in that community. At some places the exact place of meeting has not been fixed, but will be announced later. Every Farm Bureau member is invited to attend his county meeting. Following is an alphabetical list of the counties holding these meetings, the time and the place, and the speakers:

**BERRIEN COUNTY, March 29**  
At Berrien Springs, 12:30 noon. Place to be announced locally. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Wagar.

**BRANCH COUNTY, April 8**  
At Coldwater, Grange Hall, 7:30 p. m. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Wagar.

**CASS COUNTY, March 29**  
At Cassopolis, 7:00 p. m. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**CLINTON COUNTY, March 31**  
At St. Johns, Steele Hotel, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Wagar.

**GRATIOT COUNTY, April 7**  
At Ithaca M. E. Church Parlor, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Wagar.

**HILLSDALE COUNTY, April 3**  
At Hillsdale, (Pinkham & Wright Hall), 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Wagar.

**HURON COUNTY, April 10**  
At Bad Axe, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Kinch.

**ISABELLA COUNTY, April 1**  
At Mt. Pleasant, 7:00 p. m. Normal Cafeteria. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Kinch.

**JACKSON COUNTY, April 1**  
At Jackson, at the Episcopal Parish House, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Noon, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**KENT COUNTY, March 30**  
At Grand Rapids, Fountain St. Baptist Church, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. McPherson.

**LAPEER COUNTY, April 15**  
At Lapeer, 12:30. Speaker.—Mr. Barbre.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY, March 31**  
At Howell, Masonic Room, 7:00 p. m. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**MANISTEE COUNTY, April 8**  
Place to be announced locally, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Wagar.

**MECOSTA COUNTY, April 6**  
At Big Rapids, 7:00. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**MIDLAND COUNTY, April 1**  
At Midland, Community Bldg., 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Kinch.

**MONROE COUNTY, April 1**  
At Monroe, Masonic Temple, 7:00. Speakers.—Mr. Brody, Mr. Wilson.

**MONTCALM COUNTY, April 16**  
At Stanton, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Kinch.

**MASON COUNTY, April 8**  
At Scottville, 7:00 p. m. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Wagar.

**NEWAYGO COUNTY, April 6**  
At Fremont, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**OCEANA COUNTY, April 9**  
Place to be announced locally, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mrs. Wagar.

**OTTAWA COUNTY, March 30**  
At Grand Haven M. E. Church, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**OAKLAND COUNTY, April 10**  
Pontiac, place to be announced locally, 12:30. Speaker.—Mr. Barbre.

**OSCEOLA COUNTY, April 14**  
Place to be announced locally, 12:30.

**SAGINAW COUNTY, April 9**  
At Saginaw, Masonic Temple, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Billings, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Kinch.

**SANILAC COUNTY, April 8**  
At Sandusky, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Kinch.

**ST. CLAIR COUNTY, April 6**  
At Port Huron, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Wagar.

**ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, March 29**  
At Centerville, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Barbre, Mr. Brody, Mrs. Finkbeiner.

**TUSCOLA COUNTY, April 7**  
At Caro, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Mr. McPherson.

**WASHTENAW COUNTY, April 13**  
At Ann Arbor, Masonic Temple, 12:30. Speakers.—Mr. Wilson, Dr. Little.

**WAYNE COUNTY, April 2**  
At Wayne, 7:00. Speaker.—Mr. Wilson.



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## THE STATE FARM BUREAU'S PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

### TAXATION—

Relief for sorely burdened farm property by enactment of:  
(a) Two cent gasoline tax for highway funds.

(ENACTED, Jan. 29, 1924)

(b) State Income Tax in place of State's general property levy.  
(c) Law forbidding any more tax exempt securities.  
(d) Equalization of assessment of farm and city property in accordance with sales values of same.

(Farm Bureau investigations brought equalization in Calhoun, Ingham, Washtenaw, Monroe and Kalamazoo counties, saving farmers taxpayers \$67,950 excess taxes annually.)

### TRANSPORTATION—

Immediate application of Michigan Zone Rate decision to save farmer shippers in 69 counties \$500,000 annually.  
(EFFECTIVE Sept. 10, 1925)

### MARKETING—

Extension of sound co-operative marketing program now well under way in Michigan.

### LEGISLATION—

Passage of the Capper-French Truth-in-Fabric bill, completion and operation of the U. S. Muscle Shoals Nitrates plant and manufacture of fertilizer; opposition to any form of sales tax or of consumption tax, retention of federal income tax,

## Story of An Ice Gorge And Disastrous Flood

(Continued from page 1)  
and of which has just receded with the breaking of the gorge, the middle of this week.

The first flood  
The first time the rush of water from the hills with the first thaw brought the river and creek to highest levels ever known, a rise of some 25 feet. The gorge piled higher, up to 30 feet in some places. An enormous wall of water was flung back onto the two towns. Bridges were weighted down with loaded railroad cars to hold them down. Bridge understructures 30 feet above the surface of low water were scraped by the moving ice, and were torn away by the flood and ice of a week later. The river poured 16 feet of water into the power

house supplying three cities and left them without light or power for several days. Street cars stopped where they were. Water rolled into the city water works at Oil City despite dams, etc., and put it out of business for several days. During that time the reservoirs went dry. Pittsburgh, Cleveland and other cities sent pumps and other fire apparatus into the city to meet possible fire emergency. Fire mains were useless. Highways and railroads coming into the city parallel the river and were under eight to 10 feet of water. Later they were left piled high with thick ice that defied the efforts of locomotive driven ice breakers for several days. Industrial plant managers went down to their works and observed everything under water, here and there a high point or the top of a large flywheel showing above the

## water.

**Cold Snap Gives Relief**  
Finally came another cold snap and the water receded so that electric light and power service and water service could be resumed, and something like normal business operations attempted. But the two cities sized up the condition of the river and considered what they might expect and prepared for five more feet of water on the next rise.

**High Explosives Fail**  
In the meantime many attempts were made to break up the worst places and key places in the gorge with tons of dynamite. The world's best authority on ice gorges, Dr. Barnes of Toronto University at Montreal, was called in. He tried several tons of thermite, an "ice-burning" chemical, acting only in contact with ice and developing steel melting temperatures, but the local progress made meant but little in the face of 25 miles of ice hummocks resembling pictures of the Arctic regions. Zero weather locked the gorge more securely than ever. The power house built an emergency line connecting with another company's cross country lines, which crossed the river. The water works built a great dike around its plant and installed additional pumps to keep the water below the fire boxes.

**Up 5 Feet in 10 Minutes**  
A few days ago came the big thaw. The temperature went up to 63 one day. It rained lightly but steadily. Up came the river. Part of the ice jam let go at a point above Oil City and piled up on a smaller gorge below the city. A stream of water 600 feet wide, 25 feet above low water stage and moving fast, had met an obstruction. Five feet of water backed up into Oil City's business section in TEN MINUTES. Main streets that had never been flooded were deep with water. Clerks in offices and stores suddenly found water at their ankles and before they could get out it was to their knees. Men, firemen and police carried women and children to points of safety. Oil Creek rose 6 feet in an hour. Hundreds of people were made homeless. The power house filled up again. A switch was made to the other company's lines and things were all right until ice crashed a steel tower carrying the second company's lines across the river, and once more the city was in darkness. Later this situation was repaired somewhat. The water works was managing to keep going by pumping water out of its fire room.

The understructure of a steel bridge across the Allegheny was cut off by the ice and dropped several long spans into the river. Ice carried one 800 feet down stream.

**Workers Are Marooned**  
Nearly all business houses of the city are on the flooded valley floor on the north side of the city. Stores, restaurants and other accommodations were under water. Telephone operators were ferried to work. Newspapers suspended. Trains and autos were helpless. Food supplies were limited. Telegraph was the only means of outside communication, and the operators had moved temporary instruments to top floors and worked by candlelight. Police and firemen patrolled the business section in motor boats. The fire department discovered that an oil line crossing the creek had burst. Lights and fires were forbidden in the business section. The region is one of a dozen large oil refineries. Scores of great steel tanks containing hundreds and thousands of barrels of gasoline, benzene and other highly inflammables stand near the river and the creek.

In 1892, under almost similar flood conditions, a couple of big tanks of gasoline were undermined by water and emptied themselves into the flood. Gasoline vapor covered the water. It caught fire and the town burned for three days. A great many people lost their lives.

**Artificial Relief Impossible**  
These were the flood conditions in two Pennsylvania towns, which were relieved the middle of the week when the sun or the force of the water carried most of the gorge out and the water receded. Financial loss at Oil City has been estimated at \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000.

As a youngster the editor of the News when fishing for chubs used to wade across the shallows of the Allegheny at summer low water stage at a point where it passes through Oil City. There the river is probably 800 feet wide. Today there is probably 20 feet of water and ice passing over that spot, possibly more. The whole show was an awe-inspiring sight, as well as an expensive and discomforting one to those who had to go through with it, and clean up afterwards. The region has never known such a flood before. High water occurs every spring when the ice goes out, but this is the one time when it started and forgot to keep on going.

**A Bit of Philosophy**  
To live, to love, to have your own, when Health stands guarding o'er your home is happiness, a perfect bliss. But mortals never think of this, until the hand of Time has thrown a yawning grave, a dear one's tomb. And then, in accents loud and long, they eulogize in prose and song. But all too late, alas, too late, the hand of God, the will of Fate has winged the spirit on a breeze, and all that's left are memories.—James I. D. Straus.

Social and welfare work in Czechoslovakia is ruled by a woman, Miss Alice Masaryk, daughter of that country's president. Miss Masaryk, a graduate of the University of Chicago, is remarkably able in organization, for which her American training is largely credited.

## More from J. P. Callahan of Arkansas About Arkansas

### Climate Booster and Writes Letter to The News

Once again, here's our old friend, J. P. Callahan of Cove, Arkansas. Capon enthusiast, climate and real estate booster par excellence for the sovereign State of Arkansas, whence he repaired to after exhausting the possibilities of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, South Dakota, the Rio Grande Valley and Missouri. And last, but not least, a droll soul with a keen wit.

Farm Bureau News readers will remember the article we published last April from O. A. Thacher, Jackson County member of Brooklyn, Mich., telling of the odd performance of his capons in mothering baby chicks—actually improving on the technique of the mother hen. How the capons pined and grieved as their little charges eventually grew away from them.

The story was widely copied. In due course, a copy of the Kansas City Packer arrived at the Callahan home at Cove, Ark. Mr. Callahan, a capon enthusiast, lost no time in tuning in Brooklyn, Mich. He told about Arkansas, too. To defeat his wanderlust, Mr. Thacher sent the letter to the News and we printed it.

You remember: Never too hot at Cove, Ark; never too cold. Everything just right. Darned if we didn't want to pull up stakes ourselves. We sent a copy of the News to Mr. Callahan. However, Mr. Callahan, whom we understand is on the young side of sixty, is of a forgiving nature, and he has written us, thusly:

Cove, Arkansas,  
Mr. E. E. Ungren, Editor,  
Michigan Farm Bureau News,  
Lansing, Michigan.  
Dear Sir:

Accept my thanks for the copy of "News" sent to me.  
Also allow me to congratulate you and the members of Michigan Farm Bureau in having so valuable a paper or publication in circulation. The Bureau is undoubtedly a great asset to your State and the "News" is a great asset to Bureau members, but I am glad it does not circulate in our community. I have written many articles for the Press and when doing so I am usually on my guard with a dictionary, farm bulletins, encyclopedia and a high regard for my personal safety. This letter I wrote Mr. Thacher was just a little boiling over enthusiasm and Mr. Thacher was the victim.

## OHIO WOOL POOL EXPECTS BIG YEAR

Michigan Growers Are in Pool With 3,000,000 Pounds Under Contract

Columbus, Ohio, March 24.—With approximately 3,000,000 pounds of wool already under contract for cooperative sale in the state this year the Ohio Wool Growers Co-operative Association is expecting one of its most successful years. Leaders in all parts of the state are expecting to start soon to secure additional contracts for co-operative consignment of this year's clip.

The Ohio pool, by virtue of serving 10,000 growers last year, is the largest in the country from the standpoint of individual members. It is entering its eighth year of operation. "Workers in every Ohio county have a goal of double the volume co-operatively handled last year," says J. F. Walker, secretary of the Association and wool marketing director of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. "Local prices so far reported are at a low level and, most wool growers believe, do not represent the possibilities of return under present market conditions."

Agreements with co-operative organizations in Indiana and Michigan have been made for handling wool clips from those states. Mr. Walker reports. More than a half million pounds from this adjoining territory went through the Ohio pool last year and the Ohio association handled smaller amounts from Pennsylvania and from Illinois, Iowa and other western states.

Preparations for handling the 1926 wool clip in the field and warehouse were made at meetings of the association directors and warehouse company stockholders at Columbus last week. The majority of the wools in the pool are graded and stored at a warehouse in Columbus owned by about a thousand growers in Ohio.

W. W. Billings of Davison, Genesee county, is a member of the board of directors of the Ohio Wool Growers' Ass'n, representing Michigan growers. Mr. Billings is also a member of the State Farm Bureau board of directors.

**Perfect Use for Them**  
The teacher in the Franklin (N. H.) kindergarten asked one of her pupils what the eyes were for and was promptly answered, "To see with." Another was asked what the nose was for and the answer was correctly given. Then she asked the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Watts, "What are your ears for?" The child replied, "To keep clean." She got a 100 mark.

**Appearance counts.** Any two-for-a-nickle apple will fetch a dime after a Greek has polished it lovingly.

Sure, Mr. Editor, if I was in Michigan I would be a "Farm Bureau" man, as you state in your comment geying me and my letter, but you certainly never heard of the Michigan preacher who preached a sermon here in Arkansas on "Hell and Heaven." At the close of the sermon he invited all who wanted to go to hell to stand. None stood. Then he invited all who wanted to go to heaven to stand. None arose. "Brethren, it is possible no one of you want to go to heaven?" he asked in amazement. At that an old man in the amen corner arose and said, "Brother, you do not understand these people, they would like to be in heaven but they do not want to leave Arkansas."

We had Farm Bureau unit in our county, but it seems that the Christian religion, the Free School system and the Democratic party are the only institutions here to stay, but if the inquiries I have had from Michigan Farm Bureau people are any criterion we will soon have a branch of the Michigan Bureau in our County.

It is strange what results can come from such an insignificant thing as a capon, not even having sense enough to know that he is the end of creation, and at the same time putting in his time caring for a lot of orphan chicks. Oh well, what is time to a capon anyway?

Now in closing, Mr. Editor, I want to thank you for the free advertising you gave our grand state. If I would have condensed and abbreviated it until it only occupied one inch of space and paid magazine prices it could not have had better results. I have had inquiries from people who had "cold feet" where they were and from others who were afflicted in other ways making the cold climate injurious to them and from others who just wanted a milder climate. They all were sent a cordial invitation to our State, but there was one who seems to have had trouble with his neighbors "houn' dawg"; will advise him not to come here as we do not think he would be a success here either. We will allow a man to tramp on our little chickens here, but leave our dog alone!

I sincerely hope we, too, some day may have the profit and pleasure of belonging to so good an organization as your Farm Bureau.

I thank you again for your favors and wish you success in your efforts in co-operative work.

Yours sincerely,  
J. P. CALLAHAN.

## THE STYLE MAKERS START SOMETHING THEY CAN'T STOP

Makers of Large Hats For Women Are Very Unhappy

Every now and then the style makers start something they can't stop. Latest on the list is the simple little felt hat for the ladies. Bobbed hair and the sport clothes vogue brought it into being. Then Michael Arlen glorified it in his story. Soon it burst into popularity in its pinks, blues, green, browns and what not.

And the doleful part of the hat makers' story is that it sells for only a third of what the average hat cost not long ago.

Meantime big sums are invested in hat frames and expensive trimmings, in velvets and silks and feathers. Craftsmen whose torts is to fashion hats in incredible sweeps and twists and curves are idle. So the big millinery manufacturers have met to do something about the situation. They've raised \$85,000 to re-awaken what they call feminine "hat consciousness"—to make the ladies demand more distinctive and incidentally more profitable hats.

Even more men will be interested to learn how such a style campaign is waged. Move one is to establish a Paris publicity bureau to rush to American style magazines the news of each new millinery variation. Move two is to give trimmed and elaborate hats free to film stars and other actresses so that Sally Jones will see, desire and copy. Move three to send free prepared advertisements to department stores—and so on.

Of course the big, flowing, plumed hat will not come back—even the milliners admit that. Like the dinosaur it has passed on because it doesn't fit into the modern scheme. It would be jostled in city street crowds, bumped in street cars and elevators, mashed against the tops and backs of automobiles, it would look out of place in today's tiny apartment rooms.

Many factors that don't appear on the surface really dictate what we wear and eat and do.—Grand Rapids Press.

**Marriage Sequence Broken**  
Miss Margaret Boehm, of San Francisco, is the youngest of four sisters. The other three are married to three brothers. The three brothers have a fourth brother. And it was taken for granted that in due time the fourth of the four sisters would be married to the fourth of the four brothers. Then came along Herbert Trautner, a reporter, and wrecked a perfect story by marrying Miss Margaret.

## Liked Sewell Article

St. Johns, Mich., R. 11  
March 1, 1926

Editor, Farm Bureau News:

The excellent article, "Why I Am Glad I Married a Farmer," by Mrs. Sewell, I have read to my wife and we recognize the logic which Mrs. Sewell has presented therein. My own life of 85 years has been spent on two Michigan farms, the last 68 years on the farm where I am now living, and the freedom of farm life I much enjoy, (especially when my good wife lets me have my own way, as she usually does).

The motto and sentiment adopted by the Michigan State Ass'n of Farm-

ers' clubs is expressive, as follows: "The motto, 'The skilled hand with cultured mind is the farmers' most valuable asset.' The sentiment—'The Farmer: He garners from the soil the primal wealth of the nations.'"

Very sincerely yours,

J. T. DANIELLS,

(Born on Christmas Day, 1840)

Editor's note—Mr. Daniels is the author of several published songs, among them "The Tiller of the Soil" and "The Good Citizen."

Is your son or daughter a member of a boys' or girls' club? If not, perhaps neither you nor your youngster is getting the most out of life.

## CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES

There is a general shortage of seed potatoes this year, not only in Michigan but throughout the country. Potato growers will save money by ordering their seed early. Whenever possible, orders should be pooled to take advantage of lower freight rates and prices on carload shipments. We have Russet Rural (late Potoksky), and White Rural, varieties for late crop and Irish Cobbler for early crop. Write a postal for prices.

MICHIGAN POTATO GROWERS EXCHANGE, Cadillac, Michigan

## ORDER YOUR BINDER TWINE NOW

The demand for Michigan State Industries binder twine, made at Jackson, is always heavy. Sometimes the supply becomes limited. Therefore, we suggest that you see your co-operative ass'n manager at once and order your 1926 needs.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Supply Service handles Jackson twine because it is the best. It is one of the few standard Yucatan Sisal twines containing long fibre.

We are offering Jackson twine in two sizes—the old five pound ball and the new 8 pound ball, illustrated here. The 8 pound ball fits and works nicely in any can that holds a 5 pound ball. We recommend it.

Michigan Farm Bureau Supply Service  
Lansing, Michigan

## Attention! Wool Growers

The Michigan Farm Bureau Wool Pool will market wool co-operatively in 1926 with the Ohio Wool Growers Ass'n, under the same plan that was so successful in 1924 and 1925.

1. Wool will be accepted for the pool on contract only.
2. Now is the time to write for your contract and make your pooling arrangements.
3. Ohio has had eight successful wool pools.
4. For eight years they have averaged more than prices paid by local dealers. Michigan poolers were well satisfied with 1924 and 1925 results. Final settlements were made in September and October.
5. The wool pool sales charge, which includes grading, marketing, insurance and warehousing, is guaranteed at 2 1/2 cents per pound. Freight is extra.
6. An additional handling charge of 1/4 cent per pound will be made Farm Bureau members and 1 cent per pound to non-Farm Bureau members to reimburse the Michigan Farm Bureau for expenses incurred in organizing the pool and assembling the wool.
7. Liberal cash advances will be made as before if requested on the arrival of wools at the Columbus warehouse. The pool will charge the same rate of interest it has to pay for money.
8. Wool will be loaded at points where it can be assembled most conveniently. Instructions will be furnished from the state office. Sacks will be furnished marketing members. Don't ship any wool without instructions.
9. Contract blank and full information may be obtained by writing the Michigan Farm Bureau Wool Pool, Lansing, Mich.

Michigan Farm Bureau  
1926 Wool Pool  
Lansing, Michigan

## Use This Coupon

Application for 1926 Wool Marketing Contract

Michigan Farm Bureau Wool Pool  
LANSING, MICHIGAN.

DATE

Gentlemen:  
Please send me a 1926 Wool Marketing Contract. You to furnish sacks for shipping wool at your direction.

I expect to have about.....lbs. of wool.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....R. F. D.

SHIPPING POINT.....  
Don't delay filling out and returning this application



# VAN BUREN WOMEN PIONEER IN NOVEL TYPE OF INSTITUTE

Learn How to Judge Fabrics;  
Hear Interesting Facts  
About Rayon

South Haven, Mar. 22.—A one-day institute in dress-goods and fabrics in general was held here today as a part of the Extension Service program being carried out for Van Buren county women. It was held in the Chamber of Commerce rooms and was attended by more than 100 women from all parts of the county. Talks by local merchants, Extension and Farm Bureau speakers and general discussions combined to make an interesting and very helpful meeting.

Miss Ermina Moore, who is the local leader in charge of the Home Demonstration Extension projects in South Haven, presided at the meeting. County Agricultural Agent Wm. F. Johnston opened the program by reviewing the history of women's extension work activities in Van Buren county. He explained that it is impossible for the County Agent to reach each farmer personally or be an authority on everything, so he works through groups and brings in specialists from The College. Mr. Johnston observed, "With the ordinary demonstrations conducted for the men, we usually get about 10 per cent efficiency, however, it seems that you women are getting about 90 per cent results. That is, 90 per cent of the women who have received this training can actually go out and do the things which they have been taught. You realize that your meetings are not primarily a social affair, but are for good hard study."

"Judging and Buying Clothing" was the topic discussed by Mr. Knutson of the firm of Hale & Co., local merchants. Mr. Knutson gave the women some up-to-the-minute information regarding the fabrics and colors which would be popular this summer.

## Tells of Four Main Fibres

Miss Carrie C. Williams, Extension specialist in Clothing of the Home Economics Department of M. S. C., concluded the morning's program with a very interesting discussion of various fabrics and the selection of dress-goods materials. Miss Williams told of the elementary differences between the four main fibres—wool, silk, cotton and linen, and showed some of the simple tests which could be applied to distinguish them.

One of the very interesting features of Miss Williams' morning talk was her discussion of "Rayon," which she termed the new fifth fibre. Rayon was formerly called artificial silk. It resembles silk in that it has high lustre and takes dyes well. However, these are about the only two points of resemblance to the genuine article. It is manufactured from wood pulp which is chemically treated to form a liquid mass and is then forced under pressure through capillary tubes. When it comes in contact with the air it hardens and forms the high lustre threads which resemble silk. It is stronger when dry than wet, and so care must be exercised in washing it. Only time will tell how this new fabric will prove out in actual use for various purposes. Miss Williams explained that metallic weighting is often added to silk, the silk fibres being capable of absorbing up to 300 per cent of their own weight in the salts.

After the noon recess, Miss Williams spoke on the topic, "Extension Methods in the Clothing Project." She observed that it is perfectly amazing how much latent leadership we have in the country which has never been put to work. Continuing education for rural people provides opportunities similar to those afforded city people by night schools.

The history of efforts to secure the enactment of a Federal truth in fabric law was discussed in detail by Stanley M. Powell, assistant secretary of the Michigan State Farm Bureau. Mr. Powell stated that bills on this subject had been before Congress for about a quarter of a century, but that their progress had in the past always been effectively blocked by the influential and powerfully organized opposition.

Prospects for the enactment of the Capper truth in fabric bill at this present session of Congress were regarded as being bright by Mr. Powell, who reported that this measure had within the past few days been reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce and would probably come up for final vote in the Senate within the next week. Mr. Powell summarized the important provisions of the Capper bill and told the reasons why its enactment was regarded as important by the Farm Bureau, both from the standpoint of the wool growers and the general public who now buy shoddy unwarens.

The closing talk on the day's program was by J. W. Johnson, local merchant, who spoke on "Judging and Buying Drygoods." Mr. Johnson declared that in his opinion 95 per cent of the merchants are trying to handle the public with absolute honesty. He said that the old policy of "let the buyer beware" is going out of style. Mr. Johnson discussed the different grades of woolen and cotton goods and told of his pleasure and satisfaction in selling genuine virgin wool fabrics.

Van Buren women are looking forward to and planning for May 19, when their annual Achievement Day will be held at Hartford.

# A Hero Worshiper But Maybe This Boy's Valor Outshines His Own Chosen Idols



TAYLOR CHURCHILL

From the Port Huron Times-Herald, Imlay City, March 15.—This is the story of Taylor Churchill, the boy who makes heroes of the men who have done great things in the sport world, but asks no man to make a hero out of him.

For Taylor, barred by disease, from active participation in the rough clashes of the diamond, the gridiron and the basketball court, lives in his imagination in the world of outdoor sport.

He enshrines on high pedestals in his boyish temple of worship the names of Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Harry Heilmann, "Red" Grange, and others whose names have flashed like meteors across the sport pages of the country.

This makes you wonder where the flame of heroism burns the brightest, in the breast of the man who has heard thousands cheer as he trotted around a baseball diamond after a mighty blow with his skilful ash, or in the breast of a little boy, whose mighty deeds of valor were wrought in darkened rooms and on hospital cots, looking through the shadow into a future dark with longings unfulfilled.

To Ty and Babe and Red, and all the rest, the deeds of the light, the living odors of the warm turf in spring, the sharp tang of fall winds across the sunlit gridiron, the happy surge of power that comes with deeds well done.

To Taylor, the gnawing of pain, the biting smell of ether, the long, long fight against bitterness, despair and darkness.

## Winning With a Smile

But Taylor Churchill has won his fight, and has won it smiling, with the same high courage called forth from the tackler who must hurl himself at the heels of a flying foe, with the same "nerve" with which a pitcher must steady himself, with the count "three and two," to whip the ball, bullet-like, squarely over the plate.

Please don't call this a "sob story" and please don't pity Taylor Churchill, for it isn't a sob story, and Taylor wants no pity. It is a story of victory, courage and brave deeds, just as Taylor Churchill is a happy optimist, smiling lad, who seems to forget that he needs crutches to "get around." He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Churchill of this place.

When Taylor was six years old, in the first grade in the schools here, he was stricken by that dread disease of childhood, infantile paralysis. It left him helpless, unable to move his legs or his right arm.

Then began the battle. First a battle to walk, now in its later stages, a fight to walk unaided. Hospitals in Detroit, Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, were his battlegrounds, nurses and physicians his allies, darkness and pain his foes.

## Six Years of Battle

After six years, during which time he worked hours each day, during his periods of strength, on exercises by which he hoped to develop his dead muscles, he became able to walk with braces and crutches. Now his arms are both strong and he is looking forward to the time when he can walk "all alone."

During this time of trial, his active mind was fed with the usual studies of the schoolroom, for although he has been out of school many, many months, he has been able to keep up with his classes, since he "skipped" the sixth grade and put himself back with the same classmates with whom he entered kindergarten. He is now 15 years

old and in the tenth grade in school. But Taylor, first and always, was and is a sport lover and promoter. When he was five years old, he told his parents he was going to be a great ball player.

No one knows how that dream of the boy who had just closed the door on his babyhood, has sustained him through these years of pain. Perhaps in his dreams he has seen himself whipping a fast pitch over the plate, diving into second, with dust clouds rising high over a successful "steal," or hammering out the winning hit of a hard-fought day.

At any rate, he has studied baseball, football, basketball and the other sports and is conceded by his fellow fans in this little city to be as well grounded in the theory of the major sports as any of them.

## Two Great Days

Two days stand out for him as the high spots in his experience. The first, June 18, 1918. That day lives in his memory now, every detail of it, for he shook hands with Ty Cobb and the mighty Babe Ruth at the Detroit ball park, and was given an autographed baseball, signed by the Detroit manager himself. And more, after he had asked the Bambino to hit a home run, the great Babe smashed one far over the fence at Navin field.

Another day of great memories was the recent Father and Son banquet here, when Harry Heilmann, champion batsman of the American league, spoke and after the banquet, shook hands with Taylor.

Perhaps next to these great days stands the day he played football. No, sir, don't mean maybe, as the song writer has it. He came home one night looking rather tired, and when his mother was bathing him, she noticed black-and-blue bruises on his back. Questioning brought out the admission that he had taken part in a scrimmage on the football field that day. But stern parental admonitions cut that career short.

Another evening, home he came proudly sporting a black eye. "Yep, got it boxing," he said nonchalantly. He had inveigled another boy to put on the gloves with him in a friendly bout. Again a budding sport career was cut short by parental sternness.

## He "Knows His Stuff"

Taylor must "know his stuff." When he was in the upper grammar grades, he organized and coached Sunday school teams. They won games right and left, and when he and his Sunday school league teammates got into high school, the team took over at least one of Taylor's teams bodily, as the high school squad.

Of course, Taylor has his heroes. Every boy has them, and nearly always they're the men who have won fame in the field of sports. And the boy that lives in nearly every man, makes heroes of sportdom's great, too.

But the dream rises in the mind, like the dreams of greatness in sport that have probably swept through Taylor's boyish fancy, that if sometime a roll of heroes were called with Ty and Harry and Babe and Red and Willie Heston and the rest standing side by side, and beside them standing the figure of a little Imlay City boy, that all of them might step aside just a moment, with caps doffed, to honor the greatest hero of them all.

And that one wouldn't be Babe or Ty or Harry or Red or Willie.

Problems are not solved by guess, mean.

# ILLINOIS BUREAU'S TAX STUDIES BRING 10 PCT. REDUCTION

Mich. Bureau's Work Saves  
Five Counties \$67,350  
Annually

Reductions amounting to an average of 10 per cent are being made on the assessed land-tax valuations in Illinois counties, according to a report of the Illinois Agricultural Association, the organization which is the State Farm Bureau in Illinois. "During the past 12 months, reductions totalling \$8,905,887 have been made in six Illinois counties," states J. C. Watson, taxation specialist of the Ill. Agr'l Ass'n. "These reductions will save the land owners of the six counties approximately \$57,888.26 each year in state taxes alone."

"The assessed valuation of farm lands, for taxation purposes, in many Illinois counties continues to be based on the inflated values of the world war days and should be reduced to amounts corresponding to the present value of the land."

Similar assessment investigations put on by five Michigan County Farm Bureaus last year resulted in annual savings to rural taxpayers, amounting to \$67,350. The Michigan State Farm Bureau co-operated in this project in these five counties and stands ready to assist any other County Farm Bureau which desire to carry out similar investigations.

# PRAIRIE FARMER ANSWERS CRITICS

If Red Clover Is Doubtful, Put  
In Domestic Sweet  
Clover

Chicago, March 24.—The Prairie Farmer, well known farm weekly of Illinois, and a staunch advocate of farm interests, has been an active opponent of imported, unadapted seeds and has said a good bit about it in its news and editorial columns. The following editorial is taken from its March 6 edition:

A few seed companies have questioned our advice against buying foreign clover seed as being too inclusive. They agree that Italian seed is of comparatively little value, but say that French seed is all right. They also say that there is not nearly enough domestic clover seed to supply the demand, and that it is better to sow French clover seed than not to sow any.

There is another alternative, and that is to sow sweet clover. It is superior to red clover for soil improvement and pasture, and there seems to be plenty of seed available. There are other crops, too, that can be substituted for red clover. We would not discourage red clover growing, but there is no point in sowing seed that will not produce well in our climate.

Iowa experiments do not show that French clover seed is much better than Italian. In those experiments Italian seed yielded only 37 per cent as well as the average of United States seed; French seed 46 per cent as well.

An average of two years' tests at the University of Illinois gave a yield of 3.126 tons per acre from Illinois seed, and 2.466 tons as an average for United States seed. The yield from Italian seed was .346 tons and from French seed 1.476 tons. This showing made by French seed under our conditions is not good enough to cause us to change our recommendation to substitute other crops for red clover if home-grown seed cannot be obtained. — Editorial, PRAIRIE FARMER, March 6, 1926. Copyrighted.

# FARM BUREAU DIST. NO. 1 MEN MEET

Membership Work Going on  
In Shiawassee, Lapeer  
And Genesee

Lapeer, March 16.—Farm Bureau workers in Farm Bureau District No. 1, comprised of Lapeer, Shiawassee and Genesee counties, met here today and heard the report of Mr. Herman Ratering, manager of the district, and planned with him his future work.

Shiawassee is doing considerable membership work. In Genesee county several townships have doubled their membership through efforts of the members who joined last summer. Other township groups are proceeding likewise. Lapeer county is planning a membership campaign early this summer in connection with 29 other County Farm Bureaus.

Shiawassee county was represented at this meeting by Pres. C. M. Urch, Sec'y Floyd Walworth, J. H. Beardsley and Alex Van Horn. Genesee county by Sec'y Lewis Selesky, Joseph Selesky and W. J. Taylor.

Lapeer county by Sec'y Robert Taylor, O. L. Young, Robert Beattie, Ray Hallenbeck, R. L. Everts and Frank Myas.

Sec'y C. L. Brody and Alfred Bentall attended for the State Farm Bu-

# Poultry Management For Spring Months

Don't be in a hurry to turn the laying flock out to grass. Sudden changes in temperature, weather conditions or feed is liable to throw the flock off production.

Don't neglect the green feed for the laying flock nor the baby chicks. Skim milk and buttermilk are valuable feed for poultry. Milk fed hens lay more and larger eggs.

# RURAL LANDSCAPE TO BE BEAUTIFIED

Conference Plans Educational  
Program; Radio to be  
Big Feature

In an attempt to bring together all the agencies interested in the beautification of the rural landscape of Michigan, a conference was held at the Michigan State College, Wednesday, March 24.

After a discussion of all phases of the rural landscape situation in Michigan, a systematic program of publicity and educational work was adopted which will be carried out during the next few months by the several organizations. Improvements of school grounds, farm homesteads and road sides were discussed and ways and means of eliminating such undesirable features as forest fires and bill boards which cut off attractive vistas were considered. An effort will be made to crystallize public sentiment so that it will frown upon eyesores which destroy the beauty of otherwise attractive landscapes.

When the fact was brought out that the value of the tourist business to Michigan last year was \$200,000,000 according to the best available estimates, it was realized that landscape has economic as well as aesthetic value.

It was determined that one of the big features of the educational program which will be conducted in the effort to improve the attractiveness of Michigan rural landscape, will be a series of radio talks by prominent men and women representing the interested organizations to be broadcasted over WKAR, the College radio station. It was also decided to print a leaflet suggesting Arbor Day programs for rural schools and to prepare a series of studies for women's clubs.

At noon those attending the conference were guests of Kenyon L. Butterfield, President of the Michigan State College, at a luncheon in the Union Building.

The following people participated in the conference:

C. P. Halligan, professor of landscape architecture, Michigan State College; Mrs. Geo. Hunter of St. Johns, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs; E. J. Ford of the State Department of Public Instruction; T. F. Marston of Bay City, secretary-manager of the East Michigan Tourist Association; P. J. Hoffmaster, superintendent of the state parks; J. A. Doelle, executive secretary of the Michigan Real Estate Association; and S. M. Powell, assistant secretary of the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

# BOY AND GIRL DO WELL WITH SHEEP

Hillsdale, March 25.—Three years ago in March, Donald and Helen Crandall, children of V. J. Crandall, Farm Bureau member of Reading township, got into sheep club work and purchased four registered Shropshire ewes, for which they paid \$30 each. They borrowed the money from the First National Bank of Hillsdale, which has loaned several thousands of dollars to Hillsdale county Boys and Girls Club members.

The Crandall children got into the sheep business as club members. Wool and the offspring of their six ewes, in four years, paid the first investment of \$120, for feed and for insurance. Jan. 20, when the Crandalls moved from the farm, the youngsters sold their original four ewes and six offspring at auction for \$35 each, realizing \$350 on their investment.

Hillsdale county has many acres of land that could be utilized profitably in sheep raising. Co-operation of the First National Bank with the Hillsdale County Boys' and Girls' Club leader and with the boys and girls themselves is doing some very worth while things, as shown by the experience of the Crandall children.



We are making special prices on monuments and markers for Spring delivery. For full information and illustration of better monuments for less money, write,

R. W. CARR GRANITE CO.  
Charlotte Battle Creek

# JOINT MEET HELD BY HIGHLAND AND HARTLAND CLUBS

Consider How to Better the  
Condition of Agriculture  
And Farm Life

Hartland, March 20.—The annual joint meeting of the Hartland and Highland Farmers' clubs was held here today at the consolidated school. Despite the very bad condition of the roads, about 80 members were present. Following dinner, the audience was entertained by several numbers by the Hartland Consolidated School Orchestra. President DeGarmo was in charge of the afternoon program. W. D. White, superintendent of the Hartland school, gave the address of welcome. The speaker of the day was Stanley M. Powell, ass't sec'y of the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

"We farmers are not mere attachments to the soil, but citizens of a great republic, with responsibilities to our craft and our communities," declared Mr. Powell. "We are living in a great era of human progress, and we farmers dare not sit on the fence and let the procession pass by. If we did so, we would indeed become 'back numbers' and 'tail enders.' We farmers are learning to work together, not only in co-operative business organizations, but in other more general organizations like the Farm Bureau, which seek to make all the conditions surrounding the farmer's business and life such that agriculture will not be crowded down to the position of an inferior and despised industry."

"The enlarging program of the Farm Bureau today may be described as intended to make agriculture more permanent and more profitable and rural life more happy and worthwhile. We cannot build such a permanent and prosperous agriculture and such a self-respecting rural citizenship on discontent and self-pity. Nor can we logically expect other economic groups to take a very active or aggressive interest in the betterment of our condition. We do not

concern ourselves with the solution of their class problems. It is up to us to help ourselves and only through organized effort can the desired results be accomplished."

Following Mr. Powell's address, Mr. Sheldon Latourette, Genesee County Y. M. C. A. secretary and club leader, remarked, "Talk about your double barreled shotguns. That speech was a whole machine gun."

# FIDDLERS, AGED 80, PLAY ORANGEVILLE BUREAU'S DANCES

Old-Time Orchestra Can Play Four  
or Five Hours Without  
Duplication

Orangeville, Mar. 23.—The Orangeville Farm Bureau challenges the world to duplicate its "old time" dances. The orchestra which plays for these parties includes two fiddlers, each over eighty and each an artist, performers on the dulcimer, trap drums, cymbal, piano and cornet. These musicians are said to know enough reels and square dances to play four or five hours without duplicating a number.

At one of these dances held here recently, 200 people stood up in the hall until about two o'clock in the morning. The Orangeville Farm Bureau members believe that nothing to equal these dances can be found anywhere else in the State. Mr. John C. Killick, president of the Orangeville Township Farm Bureau and secretary-treasurer of the County Farm Bureau, deserves much of the credit for the success of these community-building Farm Bureau parties.

# Kansas Offers Horses And Mules to the East

Chicago, March 25.—Charles Hermes of Mount Hope, R. 1, Kansas, has written the American Farm Bureau asking where there would be a market for horses and mules in states east. Further information can be secured from Mr. Hermes.

The last squirts of milk test about six times as high as the first ones. Keep after them.



# THIS SALT NEVER CAKES

N-C (non-caking) pours—white and smooth from sack or barrel the year round and under all kinds of weather conditions. It never cakes because it is made from natural brine and not from rock salt. And N-C costs no more!

Ask your co-op or local dealer for N-C salt. Packed in 140, 100, 70, 50, 25 lb. sacks. Our BIG FOUR stock salt (medicated and iodized) is a wonderful tonic, conditioner and worm expeller for stock of all kinds.

SAGINAW SALT PRODUCTS COMPANY  
Saginaw, Michigan

# The Truth in Feeds



# Saw Butterfat Average Go Up 47 lbs.

A. D. Aildredge of Jones and Aildredge, dairymen and members of the Cass County Guernsey Breeders' Ass'n at Cassopolis, tells us their feeding practise and experience:

"We have been in the Cass County Cow Testing Ass'n three full years. The first year we had an average of 394 lbs. of butterfat. The second year we began feeding Milk-maker about the middle of the year and our average was 423 lbs. The third year our average was 441 lbs., and the cost of production was only 17 cents per pound of butterfat."

"We have been using Michigan Milkmaker for two years and we find it a very good supplement to home grown feeds. We use it in a ration made up of equal parts of corn and cob, oats and Milkmaker, fed to our Guernsey herd at the rate of one pound of grain to each four pounds of milk."

A great many Michigan farmers are having equally satisfactory experience with Michigan Milkmaker, 24% protein, public formula dairy feed. We believe its guarantee of 1,500 lbs. of digestible nutrients is higher than that of any other 24% feed and makes it a most economical feed for every dollar invested. Digestible nutrients make milk.

Your knowledge of good feeding stuffs will approve the Milkmaker public formula which is printed on every feed tag and tells you pound for pound exactly what is in the feed and explains its high quality, as follows:

MILKMAKER'S PUBLIC FORMULA			
Protein (min).....	24%	Carbohydrates (min).....	45%
Fat (min).....	5%	Fibre (max).....	9%
INGREDIENTS			
500 lb. Corn Gluten Feed	100 lb. Peant Meal-Prime		
200 " Cottonseed Meal-Prime	100 " Ground Oats		
200 " Corn Distillers' Grains	100 " Molasses (Cane)		
240 " Linsed Oil Meal-O. P.	20 " Bone Meal—Steamed		
200 " Wheat Standard Bran	20 " Salt		
140 " Yellow Hominy Feed	20 " Calcium Carbonate		
100 " Wheat Standard Middlings	2,000 lbs. Mich. Milkmaker		

Some 260 co-operative ass'ns stock Milkmaker for you. Try a ton and watch your cows respond.

Michigan Farm Bureau Supply Service  
Lansing, Michigan

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