

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF STATE FARM BUREAU FEB. 2-3

BIG SHORTAGE OF ADAPTED ALFALFA SEED DISCOVERED

Ontario Var. Drops From 8
Million Pounds to
500,000 lbs.

WEATHER UNFAVORABLE

About Half as Much Adapted
Seed For 1928 as We
Had For 1927

By T. C. MAURER
Of the Michigan Farm Bureau Seed
Service

Michigan farmers have been large
users of adapted alfalfa seed. It is
to be expected that they will be
wanting at least as much if not more
of the same adapted seed for spring
planting in 1928.

The Farm Crops Department and
the Experiment Station of the Michi-
gan State College have conducted
extensive tests in order to determine
the value of seed from various sec-
tions of the United States and for-
eign countries, when sown in Michi-
gan soil and exposed to Michigan
winters. These tests have proven be-
yond doubt that seed from Utah,
Montana, Idaho, South Dakota and
Ontario will give better results than
that coming from New Mexico, Ari-
zona, Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma.

With the recommendation of our
own Experiment Station and Farm
Crops Department in mind, we
should look around and see just
what amount of seed is available
from the adapted sections this year.
Utah had 12,000,000 lbs.; Idaho 6,-
000,000 lbs.; South Dakota, 750,000
lbs.; Montana, 750,000 lbs.; Ontario,
500,000 lbs. This gives us a grand
total of 20,000,000 lbs. of adapted
seed from which Michigan is to get
her requirements. Last year (1926)
these same producing areas had a
total of 36,000,000 lbs.

The principal cause for the de-
crease in total production is the fail-
ure of the crop in Ontario. In 1926
Ontario produced 8,000,000 lbs., five
million of which were imported into
United States. Compare that to the
500,000 lbs. produced in 1927. South
Dakota and Montana produced 4,-
000,000 pounds each in 1926 against
750,000 lbs. each in 1927. In addi-
tion to these reduced totals, we must
add a 4,000,000-pound shortage in
the Utah crop. We see from this that
the total production of seed adapted
to our Michigan conditions is around
16,000,000 to 18,000,000 pounds
less than in 1926.

These figures do not take into con-
sideration any surplus of the 1926
crop which has been carried over
and will be available for seeding this
spring (1928). No accurate estimates
of this carry-over are available at
this time but we would be exceeding-
ly optimistic if we placed it high
enough to take care of the reduced
production here in the United States
about 10,000,000 pounds.

The story is not complete by just
showing that the production of adapted
seed is less this year than last.
All these surplus seed-producing
areas—Canada, Kansas, Montana
and South Dakota are in the market
for seed to make new seedlings and
replace the old which were destroyed
by exceedingly unfavorable weather
conditions.

Still another factor is the flooded
area in the lower Mississippi Valley.
Large acreages of alfalfa were killed
during the flood and it is certain
that they will be buying seed to re-
place these former fields at an early
date.

To sum it all up in a few words,
we might say there is a short crop
of adapted seed this year with more
people to buy it.

MONTCALM HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Stanton, Dec. 20.—The Montcalm
Co. Farm Bureau held its annual
meeting December 15, and elected
Geo. B. King, Geo. Herman, Fred O.
Olesen, Jay Carey, Wm. C. Jamieson,
Nora Mussen and Lena Hunt to serve
on the board of directors for the next
year.

C. L. Nash of the State Farm Bureau
gave a very fine address. Other
speakers were Sen. C. R. Herrick, on
text-books; Rep. T. W. Mussen on
supporting your Senator and Representa-
tive at Lansing; E. H. Gale on
American Farm Bureau Federation
meeting at Chicago, and E. B. Stebbins
on farm relief.

The meeting was such a success
that it was decided to hold another
meeting some time in January.

PROFANE SANTA
"Who taught you to use such aw-
ful words, Tommy?"
"Santa Claus, Mamma."
"I heard him say 'em when he fell
over a chair on Christmas Eve."

Advance Program

Tenth Annual Meeting
of the
MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU
(Room 402, Agricultural Building)
M. S. C., East Lansing, Mich.
Thursday, Feb. 2, 9:30 A. M., Eastern Time
BUSINESS SESSION
Call to order—President M. L. Noon
Seating of Delegates
Appointment of Committees
President's Address—M. L. Noon
Reading of Minutes of Last Annual Meeting
Secretary's and Treasurer's Report

2:00 P. M.
Address—M. S. Winder, Sec'y-Treas. of the American Farm
Bureau Federation

2:45 P. M.
Reports of Credentials & Rules Committees
Recommendations from Board of Directors
Consideration of Resolutions

5:40 P. M.
MICHIGAN STATE FARM BUREAU ANNUAL BANQUET

(Ball Room—Union Memorial Building)
(Admission by ticket only)

President M. L. Noon, Chairman
Program to date

Community Singing—
Banquet Music—Brody Farm Bureau Orchestra
Address—"Shall American Farmers Become Peasants?"—Prof.
William E. Dodds of the University of Chicago.
Old Time Dancing Party

Friday, February 3, 9:30 A. M.

BUSINESS SESSION
Adoption of Resolutions
Election of Directors
Adjournment

HURON, SANILAC URGE PLAN FOR BUREAU, CO-OPS

Believe Co-ops and Bureau
Have Opportunity to
Build Up

Bad Axe, Dec. 12.—A conference
meeting of co-operative elevator
managers and directors and Farm
Bureau directors of Sanilac and Hu-
ron counties was held here today,
for the purpose of discussing ways
and means to bring about a closer
relationship between the Farm Bu-
reau and co-operative organizations;
51 attended this meeting, who rep-
resented nine co-operative elevators
and two Farm Bureau boards of di-
rectors.

The sense of the meeting was that
it would be rather difficult for ei-
ther the co-operative institutions or
the Farm Bureau to serve farmers to
the fullest extent without the as-
sistance of the other, and it was also
agreed that some action to bring
about this condition should be got
underway without delay. C. L.
Nash, organization manager of the
Michigan State Farm Bureau,
brought out the many ways in which
the co-operatives and the Farm Bu-
reau can be of greater service to
each other. The points considered
were:

What can the County Farm Bu-
reau do? It seemed to be the gen-
eral opinion that the average Farm
Bureau member, as well as the co-
operative member is lacking in in-
formation and it was felt that the
County Farm Bureau could render
some service to the co-ops in this
connection. First it was thought that
the County Farm Bureau could as-
sist the co-ops in getting the Farm
Bureau News before non-Farm Bu-
reau members.

Second: That the Farm Bureau
News could broaden its field suffi-
ciently to take in more news and
more activities of interest to the co-
operative movement.

Third: The County Farm Bureau
can promote group conferences of
elevator managers and directors and
Farm Bureau officials.

Fourth: The County Farm Bureau
can assist the local co-operatives in
endeavoring to concentrate business
around the various local co-ops.

Fifth: The County Farm Bureau
can encourage local organizations in
their efforts to establish fair selling
price. Price cutting wars were not
approved.

Sixth: The County Farm Bureau,
through conferences with co-opera-
tive people, can assist in bringing
about a uniform price on commodi-
ties throughout a certain district.

Seventh: The State Farm Bureau
can assist the County Farm Bureau
in bringing about special privileges
to members and also in building up
the local co-operative elevator's busi-
ness, when signing new members in
that co-op's territory. This, of course,
makes it necessary for the local co-
op to meet this increased demand by
handling commodities such as the
local member will want. Patronage
dividend, if any, should be mailed di-
rect to the Farm Bureau member
buying Farm Bureau supplies of the
local co-op, rather than to have such
dividends paid by the local eleva-
tor.

Local co-operative elevator man-
agers and directors, who were non-

(Continued on page four)

Pres. Noon to Address New Hampshire Bureau



President M. L. Noon of the State
Farm Bureau has accepted an invita-
tion to address the New Hampshire
Farm Bureau annual meeting Janu-
ary 18. Mr. Noon will bring a mes-
sage as a director of the American
Farm Bureau Federation and from
the Michigan State Farm Bureau.

OCEANA HAS GOOD ANNUAL MEETING

100 Brave Stormy Weather
For A Profitable
Session

Shelby, Dec. 16.—Over 100 Farm
Bureau members came out to a
meeting of Oceana County today, one
of the stormiest days of the season.

The program was started off by
Mr. O. R. Gregg of Michigan State
College with an illustrated lecture on
landscape gardening. Several local
people also took part, including mu-
sical numbers by Mr. and Mrs. Nel-
son and the Shelby Girls Glee Club
of 30 voices. A discussion of farm
relief measures was made by Mr.
Jesse Davis who presented an accurate
discussion of several measures, to-
gether with his conclusions.

A discussion of the results of the
American Farm Bureau Federation
meeting at Chicago, together with
some suggestions for County Farm
Bureau programs was given by Mr.
C. L. Nash.

The following directors were elec-
ted: Clayton Kelley, Golden Town-
ship, for a period of two years; Hen-
ry Hendrickson, Benona Township;
Fred Bunnell, Leavitt Township; and
Mrs. William Wenk, Ferry Township,
all for a period of three years each.

The retiring officers were: Fred
Bunnell, Thomas Kennedy, Alfred
Hendrickson and Charles Pett. Other
directors now on the Board are: O.
R. Gale, secretary; Roger Southwick,
acting president; Henry Meyers,
Fred Kerr and Thad Vaughn.

Delegates to attend the annual
State Farm Bureau meeting are: O.
R. Gale, O. E. Hawley and Milan
Bender, all of Shelby.

Last Minute News

Lansing, Dec. 30.—The Michigan
State Farm Bureau is reliably in-
formed that the bovine tuberculosis
eradication campaign, with the usual
indemnities, will be continued in
Michigan.

HOG PRODUCERS BLAME PACKERS FOR LOW PRICES

Say Direct Buying System
Wrecks Competitive
Market

ONE THIRD SETS PRICE

Drovers Telegram Explains
Direct Hog Buying
And Results

Direct buying of hogs by the
packers is responsible for the pres-
ent unsatisfactory price of hogs, says
the Kansas City Daily Drovers Tele-
gram, which says that prices are
nearly \$5 lower than a year ago,
with market receipts for 1927 prac-
tically the same as they were in 1926.
The Farm Bureau News is quoting
the Daily Drovers Telegram state-
ment and analysis of the situation
herewith.—The Telegram said, Dec.
20:

Farmers are aroused over the un-
favorable condition of the hog mar-
ket. They are up in arms because
the prices for hogs are at such ridi-
culously low levels as compared with
the prices for other classes of meat
animals.

"Why should the prices for hogs
be from \$4.50 to \$5 lower than they
were a year ago, when the prices of
cattle are between \$8 and \$4 a hun-
dred higher?" they are asking.

"We have fed high priced corn to
the hogs we have been fattening and
now, when they are ready for mar-
ket, we can't get enough for them to
pay for the first cost of the hogs, to
say nothing of the corn they have
consumed," they add. "There must
be something radically wrong."

And so the discussion runs when-
ever farmers meet farmer, business
man or banker, for they are all vi-
tally interested in the hog producer's
predicament and concerned over the
low prices for hogs as compared with
the prices for other meat animals.
Your correspondent met farmer after
farmer, singly and in groups, and to
the query, "What's the matter with
the hog market?" got the unvarying
response: "Direct marketing; the
hog market is suffering from the
system the packers have adopted of
going to the country for their hogs
instead of buying them on the open
market."

Farmers have studied the situation
carefully and they can find no other
legitimate reason why hogs should
be selling at nearly \$5 a hundred less
than a year ago. The law of supply
and demand does not justify the low
prices, for the records show that
there are no more hogs available
now than there were last year. The
farmers are waking up to the fact
that direct buying is destroying the
hog market and that the principle of
the system is wrong and works an
injustice to the hog producers.

The A B C of Direct Hog Buying

Question—What is meant by di-
rect hog buying?

Answer—It is a system whereby
the packers purchase hogs through
country concentration points or have
them consigned direct to their pri-
vate yards or plants, thus reducing
the number they are required to pur-
chase on the open competitive pub-
lic markets. The price is determined
by them without competition, on
what is supposed to be a figure based
upon the price paid on the open com-
petitive market, for the particular
zone in which the hogs originate.

Question—Who originated this
system?

Answer—One of the big packers
started it and it evidently was so
profitable to that company, that the
other big packers adopted the plan.
Question—What is the object?

Answer—Originally it was claim-
ed that the territory in which the
first direct buying was done did not
supply the proper kind and required
number of hogs to keep the packing
plants operating. Later the advan-
tage from a packer's standpoint
whereby the packer can get one-
third of his requirements under his
own grading, weighing and pricing,
caused other packers either from
choice or necessity, to adopt the same
plan in order that they might buy
their hogs cheap enough to sell the
product in competition.

Question—When did it start?

Answer—The plan has been in op-
eration by some of the packers for
years, but did not become a menace
to the producers' welfare until adopt-
ed by some of the big packers with
in the last five or six years.

Question—Has direct buying in-
creased?

Answer—It has more than tri-
pled in the last three years.

Question—What per cent of their
hogs are the big packers getting now
direct?

Answer—The United States bu-
reau of agricultural economics of the
(Continued on page three)

AT WASHINGTON



(C) Harris and Ewing
Chester H. Gray, Washington rep-
resentative of the American Farm
Bureau Federation.

EXPECT MUSCLE SHOALS MATTER SETTLED SOON

Farm Bureau Expects Con-
gress to Accept Cyanamid
Company Offer

Washington, Dec. 27.—"We expect
the Muscle Shoals question to be set-
tled, and settled right, during the
coming session of congress," says
Chester H. Gray, legislative rep-
resentative of the American Farm Bu-
reau Federation.

"The situation has reduced itself
to one inescapable conclusion which
is becoming perfectly plain to all.
Muscle Shoals must be used for the
purpose for which the money was
appropriated and spent; namely, for
the production of explosives in time
of war and fertilizers in time of
peace. The present huge nitrate
plant is valuable and thoroughly us-
able, and it is mere nonsense and
camouflage to talk of scrapping it
and making nitrates by some other
process."

"Farmers' friends in congress now
see that they could not secure ade-
quate government operation of these
plants, even if they desired it. They
haven't the votes. These facts leave
but one alternative. If a private
company, experienced in fertilizer pro-
duction, could be induced to lease
and operate the Muscle Shoals prop-
erties on a basis that would guaran-
tee cheap fertilizer production and
yet pay the Government a reasonable
return on its investment—that
would be generally recognized as an
ideal solution."

"With exactly this kind of offer
worked out and embodied in a bill
to be introduced by Congressman
Martin B. Madden, of Illinois, and
with President Coolidge urging early
settlement of this question, farmers
and many congressional leaders
feel that there is no adequate ex-
cuse for much more delay on the
part of congress in accepting the of-
fer of the American Cyanamid Com-
pany as set forth in the Madden bill."

MICH. ELEV. EXCH. MARKET OPINION

By Michigan Elevator Exch., Lansing,
Under Date of Dec. 30, 1927

WHEAT—Usually deliveries by
farmers are quite liberal during the
month of January and it is seldom
the wheat market advances much, if
any, during January, one year with
another. We do believe that later in
the spring, wheat will firm up per-
haps 5c to 10c per bushel.

CORN—Corn is the cheapest feed
a farmer can buy. So far as prices
are concerned, the same applies to
corn as to wheat, in that January
usually is a cheap month.

OATS—Oats seem plenty high and
we suggest farmers cashing in at 50
cents or better, particularly remem-
bering that oats today cost \$5.00 per
ton more than corn delivered.

BEANS—Beans are in a very
strong position. Considerably higher
prices are expected next spring and
summer months.

FARM-BUREAU-O-GRAM

"A hen is the only living creature
that can set still and produce
dividends."

BIG PROGRAM PLANNED FOR LEADING FARM BUREAU MEETING OF YEAR; MAY HAVE THOUSAND AT BANQUET

Convention Speakers Include Sec'y Winder of
American Farm Bureau, Prof. Wm. Dodds
Of the University of Chicago; Old
Time Dance Scheduled

The next big event for Farm Bureau members will be the
10th annual meeting of the Michigan State Farm Bureau
which will be held Thursday and Friday, Feb. 2 and 3 at
Michigan State College, during the closing days of Farmers
Week.

At that time the State Farm Bureau will report on the work
done in 1927 and what is now under way; it will report on the
progress and changes that have occurred in Michigan agricul-
ture during the past year and will make recommendations to
the Farm Bureau Board of Delegates for the organization's
1928 program. At this time, it can be said that the organiza-
tion will have a very interesting report, that it is in sound con-
dition and enjoys an even stronger position in Michigan af-
fairs than it has in previous years.

An advance program of the 10th annual meeting is publish-
ed elsewhere in the News. Two prominent men are coming
to address the Michigan Farm Bureau on Thursday, Mr. M.
S. Winder, Sec'y of the American Farm Bureau Federation,
who speaks at the afternoon session, and Professor William
Dodds of the Department of History, University of Chicago,
who speaks at the banquet Thursday evening.

The third annual banquet of the State Farm Bureau dele-
gates and visiting members will be held Thursday evening at
the Union Memorial building. Three years ago some 700 at-
tended; last year it ran over 900 and probably will again this
year; 1,000 is about the limit of the hall's seating capacity.

Tickets may be reserved now for the banquet at \$1.25 per
plate. Address the Secretary's office, Michigan State Farm
Bureau. If you send your check, tickets will be mailed to
your address up to January 25. You may make reservations
and call for your tickets at the State Farm Bureau during
Farmers Week or get them at the ticket desk at the annual
meeting.

Headliners for the evening of Feb. 2 are Professor Dodds
and the Farm Bureau's old time dancing party which will be
held in the Union building ballroom after the banquet. The
old time dances have been a great hit. A good orchestra and
40 sets of square dances is a treat for both eyes and ears.

Professor Dodd's address, "Shall
American Farmers Become Peas-
ants?" is a marvelous thing. Mr.
Dodd makes a living picture out of
150 years of American agricultural
experience. He shows when and why
American agriculture has been pros-
perous at certain periods and poor
at other times. He endeavored to
show and prove the trend of the
present American policy on agricul-
ture. Professor Dodd delivered this
address before the American Farm
Bureau Federation, where it was
considered one of the outstanding
events of the National convention.

Important questions that undoubt-
edly will come before this annual
meeting will include farm relief leg-
islation, which is now in Congress.
In recent months Michigan County
Farm Bureaus have given strong
support to the McNary-Haugen plan.
The Michigan State Farm Bureau or-
ganization has again taken the lead
for a four cent gasoline tax and per-
manent license plates at a nominal
cost. The convention is quite certain
to make strong recommendations
along this line.

The State Farm Bureau has look-
ed into the housing proposition at
State College for Farmers Week and
for Thursday and Friday of that
week. We are advised by Mr. John
G. Biery, sec'y of the College Y. M.
C. A., at the Peoples church, East
Lansing, that he can provide lodg-
ings for all comers at homes in East
Lansing at \$1 per person per night.
It is not necessary to write Mr. Biery
in advance. Go to his office at the
People's church and he will take
care of you. State College hopes to
secure the usual railroad rate reduc-
tions for Farmers Week. There's
plenty of parking space for those
who drive.

The tenth annual meeting of the
State Farm Bureau is going to be
well worth attending. The State
Farm Bureau invites every member
to come. Make it a point to visit your
State headquarters in Lansing. Fur-
ther annual meeting news will be
published in the January editions of
the Farm Bureau News. Make your
Farm Bureau banquet reservations
early.

Editor Is Ill
Readers of the Michigan Farm Bu-
reau News will regret to learn that
Lee Chilson, editor of the News, has
been quite seriously ill for the past
two months. At this date he is con-
siderably improved. E. E. Ungren,
former editor of the paper, is in
charge again.

The World's Fair at Chicago in
1893 celebrated the 40th year since
Columbus discovered America.

VAN BUREN FACES EXTENSION WORK FINANCE PROBLEM

Sec'y Says Co. Farm Bureau
Can't Continue Present
Financial Aid

Paw Paw, Dec. 23.—The annual
meeting of the Van Buren County
Farm Bureau held at the Coterie
Hall in Paw Paw on the 22nd, did
not draw a large representation of
the membership, but the county was
well represented, leading members
of the institution from all parts of
the county being present, according
to Wm. F. Johnston, Van Buren
County Ag'l Agent, who reported
the meeting as follows:

The report of Sec'y-Treas. Carl E.
Buskirk showed that during the past
year the County Farm Bureau had
contributed over \$2,600 toward the
support of extension work in agri-
culture and home economics. Com-
menting on this fact, Mr. Buskirk
warned those in attendance that un-
less the people interested in exten-
sion work in the county come for-
ward and join the Farm Bureau, that
this is the last year that this institu-
tion could hope to finance such a
large part of the program and that it
would seem there would be only two
things left to do: Either that the
Board of Supervisors take over the
work as has been done by various
counties in the state, or that exten-
sion work in the county be discon-
tinued.

Pres. Pugsley, in taking up this
phase of the matter, called for re-
marks which resulted in a vigorous
and spirited discussion of the whole
problem by those in attendance. The
burden of comment seemed to be that
there should be no thought of dis-
continuing extension work in the
county. Also the doubt was expressed
as to whether making the extension
work part of the political government
of the county, even though the su-
pervisors were agreeable, is the best
way to carry on this class of work.
The consensus of opinion seemed to
be that there are 400 or 500 people
not members in the county, who are
getting benefits enough and should
belong to the Farm Bureau and that
they would belong to the Farm Bu-
reau if the proper effort was made to
bring it to their attention in the
right way. The whole matter was fi-
nally left up to the executive com-
mittee to devise ways and means of
(Continued from page one)

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LEE CHILSON Editor



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STATE FARM BUREAU'S PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

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; Passage of Gooding-Ketchum Seed Staining bill.

ENACTED APR. 26, 1927

TAXATION

Relief for sorely burdened farm property by enactment of:

- Two cent gasoline tax for highway funds.
- State income tax in place of State's general property levy.
- Law forbidding any more tax exempt securities.
- 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 \$67,350 excess taxes annually.)

TRANSPORTATION

Immediate application of Michigan Zone Rate decision to save farmer shippers in 69 counties \$500,000 annually.

MARKETING

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

AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE

Adequate protection for farmers against loss by fire, theft, collision, property damage and public liability furnished at reasonable rates.

EFFECTIVE SEPT. 10, 1925

EFFECTIVE OCT. 20, 1925

STOP, GET OUT, LOOK AND LISTEN

We have one question settled, at all events—at a railroad crossing it is exclusively up to us to see that we are not run over. We are to remember that we must stop for the train, not the train for us. If necessary, we must get out and look, or else take the consequences.

The Supreme Court settles the matter, after about 100 years of railroad, which is not any too soon, one would think.

As far as the decision relieves the courts of fraudulent damage suits, it is all right. If it also retards the removal of dangerous grade-crossings, we are not so sure.—Farm Journal.

TO CUT OR NOT TO CUT

"Slash federal taxes \$250,000,000," so scream the metropolitan newspaper headlines. And immediately vote seekers take up the chorus and there is much loud talk of tax reduction.

In answer to this talk the Washington representative of the American Farm Bureau a few weeks ago appeared before the Ways and Means Committee on Federal Taxation. The Farm Bureau representative simply submitted figures showing that the maximum proposed tax reduction of \$250,000,000 actually equalled about \$2.00 per capita. It was pointed out that such a slight reduction was ridiculous in face of our huge national debt, and the American Farm Bureau Federation went on record in the demand for a one billion dollar annual reduction in our national debt.

It would seem quite evident that the present federal tax schedules are not throttling business nor largely increasing the cost of living. Not over 25 per cent of the federal tax is derived from necessities to consumers. The greater portion of the 75 per cent comes from those with ability to pay.

This action of the Farm Bureau in opposing the tax reduction program is the logical carrying out of the Farm Bureau tax policy as declared at the Ninth Annual Meeting December 5-6-7.

January Nature Calendar

(Prepared for Michigan Farm Bureau News by The Cleveland Museum of Natural History)

The beech is bare and bare the ash,
The thickets white below.
The fir-tree scowls with hoar moustache
He cannot sing for snow.

The body-guard of veteran pines,
A grim battalion, stands;
They ground their arms, in ordered lines,
For winter so commands.

Bayard Taylor.

After the big snow the forest trees along the path are weighted with heavy crystal draperies which glitter in the sun as if set with myriads of sequins.

Sides of the bluffs are coated with thick cascades of heavy glistening icicles which drip into the stream below.

Where the ice cover of the stream has melted, little ice bells attached to low willow shoots bob on the surface of the running water.

Early morning winds and sun make long swaying tree shadows on the snow. Showers of powdery flakes descending from the branches wreath the shadows like a dancer's flowing scarf.

Woodland trails are strewn with twigs and branches. Winter winds are pruning the trees.

Rich green foliage makes the hemlock grove an attractive place on a sunny day. The small brown cones bring the squirrels who like to eat the seeds.

Squirrel and rabbit tracks cross and wind through the woods. They frequently lead to a water hole where perhaps the tracks of mice, shrews, skunks, raccoons and birds may also be found.

Where the stream is broad and too deep to freeze solid, a snow-capped mound of reeds and sticks may mark the site of a muskrat home.

Mink tracks along the bank nearby may mean a tragedy in the muskrat house. A winter luncheon of muskrat meat is greatly relished by the mink.

A winter menu of frozen buds is much enjoyed by quails and partridges.

Sparrows and juncos seek their meals in the tall weed patch. Here curious arrays of tiny morsels are spread upon the snow.

Tree cleaners remain on the job. To appease their hearty appetites the kinglets, creepers, nuthatches, titmice, chickadees, and woodpeckers, particularly the downy, give the trees a careful grooming.

Tree cleaners are hunting insect eggs. Many insects, however, winter as adults and are lying, half frozen and white with frost, in the rotten wood of stumps and fallen logs.

Dried sumac fruits upon the trees also provide winter tenants for semi-frozen insects existing until spring.

Beneath loose bark on old dead trees, angle wings and mourning cloak butterflies lie dormant. Only a few hours of warm sun, however, are needed to restore their activity and send them forth to fly about.

Butterflies seen in January usually mean a thaw. Fresh green patches of winter wheat appear amid the melting snows in the meadow.

Melting snows reveal rosettes of green leaves near the site of old dead weed stalks. These are ready to grow with the first hint of spring.

Pussy willow shoots may be gathered by the end of the month. Their buds will swell and unfold their leaves in a week's time if placed in water and kept in a warm room.

Leo, the lion, one of the first spring constellations to appear can now be seen in the eastern sky. About nine thirty in the evening look for Regulus, bright star in the handle of the sickle which comprises the lion's head.

Near the last of the month see how the big bear now risen high upon her tail, tilts slightly backward towards her spring position in which she lays upon her back.

Branch Bureau Says "Yes" On Farm Relief, Weight Tax

Commends Supervisors For Financing Co. Agr'l Agent Work

Coldwater, Dec. 22.—The annual meeting of the Branch County Farm Bureau was held at the Coldwater Grange Hall Saturday, December 10, 1927, with 100 members and their wives present. The business meeting was held in the forenoon, and the following officers elected for the coming year: M. E. Echlinaw of Kinderhook, president; Walter C. Kempster of Coldwater, vice-president; N. P. Baker of Batavia; Frank Burbank, Butler; and David Kinyon, Sherwood, members of the Board of Directors.

Dinner was served at noon by the ladies of the Coldwater Grange. The afternoon session consisted in various talks and discussion by local members, and an address by Dr. R. W. McLain of Quincy.

The following resolutions were adopted:

It is hereby resolved that this organization is heartily in accord with the favorable action of the County Board of Supervisors in retaining and financing the office of the county agricultural agent.

Resolved, that this organization is in favor of the enactment by the State Legislature of a four cent gasoline tax with the adoption of the permanent license plate at a nominal fee, instead of the present three cent tax, and that a portion of the revenue so obtained shall be returned to the county and townships from which it was collected.

Resolved, that the Branch County Farm Bureau recognizes the vital importance of checking the advance of

the European Corn Borer, and hereby goes on record as being in favor of all reasonable and effective measures to check that menace.

It is hereby further resolved that the Branch County Farm Bureau disclaims all responsibility for the administration of the Federal and State control regulations used this past year in the corn borer clean-up campaign.

Resolved, that the Branch County Farm Bureau is in favor of and will support the McNary-Haugen Bill for farm relief.

Resolved, that this organization, collectively and individually, pledge our active support to the law enforcement officers of our County and State.

Resolutions Committee: G. A. Himebaugh, Wm. Smith and Fred Knirk.

They Were There!

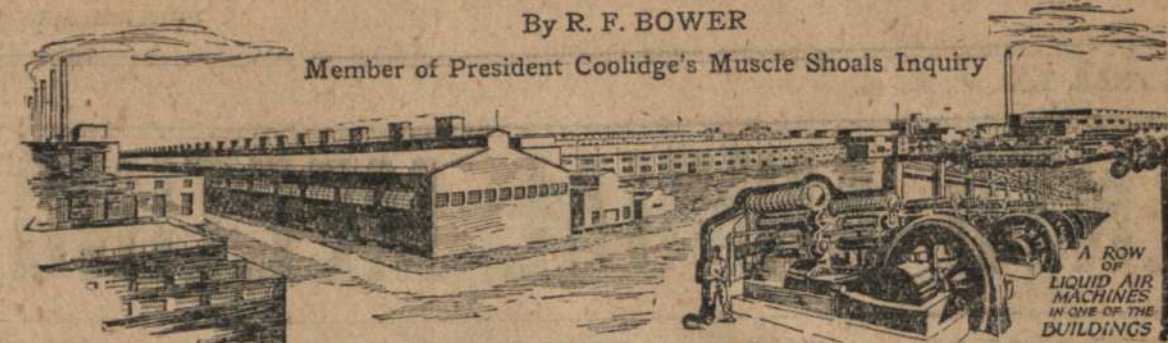
In the December 9th edition of the Farm Bureau News we published the names of Michigan folks who attended the 9th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation at Chicago, but missed several. They were W. J. Thomas and M. B. McPherson of Kent county; Alvin R. Richards of Marquette, John C. Near of Wayne county, and Dr. and Mrs. W. C. McKinney of Oakland county. The 74 names were taken up at the Michigan breakfast, and the joke is that the acting editor, E. E. Ungren, got the names from all other tables but his own.

"He fell over 50 feet."
"And he wasn't hurt?"
"No, he was only getting off a street car."—Lonia Co. News.

FARMERS DEMAND EARLY OPERATION OF MUSCLE SHOALS NITRATE FERTILIZER PLANT

By R. F. BOWER

Member of President Coolidge's Muscle Shoals Inquiry



Part of the Nitrate Plant At Muscle Shoals. It Cost More Than the Power Dam.

The biggest cyanamid plant in the world—and the only one of any size not operating—still stands idle at Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

At a conservative estimate this cyanamid plant—nitrate plant Numbers 2—is worth today \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000. The buildings and machinery are in excellent condition and only a moderate amount of remodeling would be necessary to install the latest improvements in this air-nitrogen fixation process. By the addition of a phosphate unit an extremely high grade ammonium-phosphate fertilizer could be turned out at low cost.

Farm leaders and engineers who visit the Muscle Shoals works are amazed to think that anyone would suggest the scrapping of this magnificent plant, yet that is virtually what the electric power interests propose in case they get possession. Their interest is in power production, while farmers insist that the original purpose of this undertaking be carried out—namely, production of explosives in time of war and of fertilizers in time of peace.

Fortunately for the farmers' viewpoint, the company that built this plant for the government—The American Cyanamid Company—is willing to enter into a contract to operate it on a profit limitation basis that will insure cheap fertilizers. This offer is embodied in the bill urged by Congressman Martin B. Madden, of Illinois.

Despite the attempts of interested parties to make it appear that the cyanamid process of producing air-fixed nitrogen is obsolete, the fact remains that new cyanamid plants are constantly being built and the capacity of old plants enlarged.

The big cyanamid plant at Trostberg, Germany, was enlarged last year from a capacity of 35,000 metric tons to a capacity of 55,000 metric tons of nitrogen and is operating at full capacity. A new German cyanamid plant was started at Hirschfelde last year and plans for its enlargement are already under way. Still another large German plant in Upper Silesia is at present under construction. The United States Department of Commerce also reports new

cyanamid plants either under construction or projected in Russia, Poland, Egypt, and Japan. The French and Swiss cyanamid plants are operating either at full capacity or to the limit of power available. These facts are unanswerable by those who claim that the cyanamid process of securing cheap air nitrogen is out-of-date.

In addition, it should be pointed out that the Niagara Ammonia Company, owned by the Electric Bond and Share Company, after searching Europe for the best synthetic method of producing air nitrogen, purchased the American rights to the Casale synthetic process and after building and operating a plant at Niagara Falls at a cost of millions of dollars, that company has recently been compelled to admit that it cannot compete with the cyanamid process. Production has been discontinued and the plant offered for sale.

In view of these facts it is not difficult to understand why organized agriculture insists that the big plant at Muscle Shoals be put to work without further delay.

PRES. NOON AND MRS. WAGAR AT BIG IONIA MEET

300 Attend County Bureau's Rousing Annual Banquet

HAVE SPLENDID TIME 4 Cent Gas Tax Predicted; Mrs. Wagar Shows Need Of Organization

Ionía, Dec. 15.—The Ionía County Farm Bureau did itself proud in the big banquet-meeting which it staged here tonight in the dining room of the Elks' Temple attended by 300 men and women representing the rural leadership of the county. Musical entertainment, splendid speakers and a substantial, well-served meal contributed to the success of the occasion.

Following the invocation by Rev. C. E. Thies of the LeValley church, the banquet was served by the boys in the agricultural class of the Ionía High School, under the leadership of their instructor, A. B. Cook, Jr. (While the farmers and their wives were enjoying the food they were appreciative listeners to the fine music furnished by the Brody Family Orchestra, which is composed of the wife and six children of C. L. Brody, secretary-manager of the Michigan State Farm Bureau. Later in the evening Miss Marjorie Brody, one of the orchestra, rendered two very pleasing cello solos.

William Toan of Portland, president of the Ionía County Farm Bureau, called the meeting to order, extended greetings to the group and then introduced his two one-man committees which he said were largely responsible for the success of the event. These were Charles Mattison of Ionía township who had charge of the banquet and ticket sale and Stanley M. Powell of Ronald township who arranged the program.

The following was the program of the evening, with Mr. Powell acting as toastmaster:

Solo, Master Leslie Stedman of Ronald, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. John Stedman.

Reading of a letter which he had just received from Chester H. Gray, Washington Representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation, by President Toan.

Address, "The Goal of the Farm Woman" by Mrs. Edith M. Wagar of Carleton, Michigan.

A group of vocal selections by Lucinda Monroe Burhans of Philadelphia, Pa., accompanied by Miss Buck of Portland.

Address, "Equality for Agriculture" by M. L. Noon of Jackson, president of the State Farm Bureau.

Adoption of a four-cent gas tax and universal license plates for automobiles largely through the demand from organized farmers was predicted by President Noon.

The assertion that such action will come was brought about by his analysis of the situation in which the farmer now finds himself. He expressed his belief that the farmer is bearing more than his share of the tax burden and that he is entitled to a larger share of the income of the country.

"Today," he said, "farmers of the country have an investment much higher than their share of the nation's income justifies and this investment must be made to yield its fair share of return if the agricultural interests of the country are to be put on a sound economical basis."

Mrs. Edith Wagar, woman member

of the State Farm Bureau board of directors, spoke on the "Goal of the Farm Woman," pointing out the importance of the part women play in the agricultural life of the country.

She also cited many statistics regarding Ionía county as proof of the importance of a Farm Bureau and an organized agriculture to the community. She stated there are 3,085 farms in the county, ranging in size from a few acres to one of 5,000, all averaging 107 acres apiece. She said the investment in these farms reaches a total in excess of \$28,000,000, including \$12,132,000 for lands; \$10,940,000 for buildings, \$2,135,000 for tools and equipment, and \$3,160,000 for livestock.

Announcement was made that the annual meeting of the Ionía County Farm Bureau would be held at Ionía, January 26.

MONROE CO. BUR. WOULD MARK ITS HISTORICAL LAND

Urges County Library, Backs 4c Gas Tax and Corn Borer Control

Monroe, Dec. 15.—Recommendation of an effort to acquire a parcel of land including that on either side of the River Raisin bridge at Grape for a state park and to have it maintained as such, was contained in a resolution adopted by members of the Monroe County Farm Bureau in annual session Wednesday afternoon. They met at Raisinville Grange hall, about nine miles west of Monroe.

Territory along the River Raisin from Monroe several miles west is historical ground, the resolution recalled, and it urged that it be marked in some way. Monroe county has no state park or any other public park, the statement said.

Other resolutions adopted reiterated the bureau's support of the four-cent gas tax with the added suggestion that one cent of the tax revert back to the counties from which it was collected to be used there for road maintenance. The Co. Farm Bureau recommended a thorough investigation of the county library proposal by those in authority and recognized the advantages of the plan. Monroe county has tied up \$125,000 in fines which may be used locally for library purposes and no other. In time, if not so used, these funds revert to the state. The County Farm Bureau is urging the county to act before it is too late.

Farm Bureau cooperation with all the agencies in the corn borer control campaign was approved.

Land Rich in History

Several events in the French and Indian war took place in the territory west of Monroe along the River Raisin. It was recalled in discussion of the proposed state park resolution adopted by the bureau. The Indians used the land along the river as their camping and burying grounds for many years prior to and after the first settlement by white men.

The survey of all lands in Monroe county was first begun in 1809 in Raisinville township and proceeded quite slowly, because of the territory then being largely a wilderness and because of the hostility of the Indians.

Seven directors of the Monroe County Farm Bureau were elected to office for the coming year at the meeting Wednesday. Six were re-elected: R. G. Vivian of Monroe, R. D. nominated from Frenchtown township; Fred T. Conser of Whitford Center, nominated from Whitford township; Everett Van Riper of Ida, Ida Township; Ed. Reaume of Dun-

des, Dundee township; Mrs. A. C. Rau of Monroe, Monroetown; Mrs. Edith Wagar of Carleton, Ash township. The new member of the board of directors is John Welti of Erie, named from Bedford township. Mr. Welti was vice-president of the Monroe County Farm Bureau in 1926 and has been active for a number of years in its work. He takes the place on the board of Harry Bordine of Maybee.

Three delegates to the Michigan State Farm Bureau convention to be held early in February at Lansing, were chosen. They are Mrs. R. G. Vivian, Fred T. Conser and Henry Hartman.

A standing vote of thanks was given Mrs. Wagar, on motion of Irving Knapp.

The resolutions adopted Saturday also thanked the officers of the bureau for their services during the past year, especially the president, R. V. Vivian and thanked County Agricultural Agent Ralph W. Kidder for organizing boys' and girls' club work in the county for the first year on a general scale. It recommended furtherance of the club work.

CAN BUREAU AID IMPROVEMENT OF RURAL DELIVERY?

Van Buren Member Thinks House Delivery Should Come Next

Mich. State Farm Bureau News: Dear Editor:

I have been wondering if the Farm Bureau could help us farmers in getting free rural mail delivery. There are some of us that only have a part way delivery. Our mail is left on the corner, any where from a few rods to three fourths mile from the house.

In all other business the mail is delivered at the door, and if the farmer makes a go his hours are just as important as a man's in any other business.

In my case I find it impossible for me to wait on the corner for the mail man to bring my parcel post.

With my farm equipments and threshing rigs I have a large amount of C. O. D. parcel post, and I have to go to the post office after my mail.

Our roads have been improved at our expense (and a big one too) until a mail carrier has only a few days a year that he is not back at the office at a few minutes after eleven or sooner, and is drawing pay for the long day. If he was paid by the hour he would have time to deliver the mail to all rural patrons.

And the country has changed since the routes were established; they are delivering on routes where they travel two miles on an unimproved road. (This road is situated so it will be one of the last in the county to be improved) to deliver mail to one family. The farmer's expenses are so large and his income so uncertain that he needs free delivery as much as any one, and if it is too expensive for a part of us, should be for all. Decatur village has free delivery.

Yours In Hopes,
George Goodrich,
Decatur, Mich. Nov. 21, 1927.

W. S. Gilbert once said of a certain man: "No one can have a higher opinion of X that I have—and I think he's a dirty little beast."—Outlook.

"Do the children understand the bedtime stories?"
"I dunno. Last night my little girl went to sleep very nicely on a hash recipe."—Louisville Courier.

Shiawassee Farmer Explains Three Farm Relief Measures

M'NARY-HAUGEN IS MUCH BETTER THAN DEBENTURE

McNary-Haugen Aids Whole
Crops; Debenture on
Surpluses Only

EXAMPLES INTERESTING

James McBride Gives a Good
Picture of McNary-
Haugen Bill

By JAMES MCBRIDE
(In the Owosso Argus-Press)

Several have asked me to visualize the workings of the McNary-Haugen farm measure in the farm section of your paper. Having spent several weeks in Washington in connection therewith and getting the viewpoints of many people we may view its action in a general way as follows:

There is a normal production of wheat in the United States of 800,000,000 bushels of which 200,000,000 are exported. Since European wages are lower and wheat produced all over the world under cheap labor conditions meets our exported stocks, this makes the 75 per cent domestic consumed portion take the foreign price base.

The manufactured products in the United States, by reason of a tariff estimated at 45 per cent ad valorem and labor legislation, are enjoying a range nearly 50 per cent above that of farm products. The binder that cut the wheat, the twine that bound it together, with the railroad rates, have all advanced out of proportion to the farmers' price. The pound of wheat which the farmer got two cents for reappears in the pound loaf of bread at 10 cents.

The problem then is to make the American farm price on an equality with what the farmer pays when he buys. It saves much of irrelevant arguments about what and how the farmer should do to turn the question around and say his complaint is against what he has to pay when he buys. This puts the burden of proof on the other side as to why their prices have advanced.

Plan Explained

The McNary-Haugen plan would be for a National Farm Board to supervise and regulate Surplus Commodity Corporations just as does the Interstate Commerce Commission the railroads and the Reserve Bank Board does for banks. The Wheat Corporation made up of producers would set a minimum price on wheat, say \$1.75 f. o. b. Chicago for a base grade. This would necessitate the exportation of the 200,000,000 bushels at probably a loss of 40 cents per bushel, or 80 million dollars. A levy of 10 cents per bushel on the whole 800,000,000 bushels would make up this loss and the next price would be \$1.65 per bushel.

This is the equalization fee which President Coolidge calls unconstitutional, and Senator Reed of Missouri calls a tax. A tax is a direct deduction before any addition is made. In the case cited above an addition of 75 cents is made and for this service a charge is made. This advance in a bushel of wheat would have no appreciable effect on the loaf of bread at retail. This would mean \$12 to \$15 more to the average Michigan acre of wheat.

At this point one can determine for himself that the government is not in business, nor does it fix prices. The Federal Board does regulate and supervise the various commodity corporations and approve or disapprove of their equalization rate. The Federal government advances money in the start and reimburses itself from the collections it makes on the equalization fee. The necessity of the equalization fee is that it serves to regulate production. If the acreage was increased so that the surplus was 300,000,000 bushels, the equalization would have to be doubled. The effect of the corporation noted would be to stabilize the wheat market so that board of trade fluctuations would always be above this minimum price.

Surplus does not always mean that portion for export, but would involve taking off the heavy seasonal sales that depress the market, and a portion of which would be the nation's guarantee against food shortage.

This plan is what agriculture has long wanted; viz: some price making body of their own charged with getting an equality price for its products. United States Steel does this for the trade, not legally, but by its power responsive to trade demands. The farmer's plight is for the lack of this power. He has so long been used to someone else setting prices on his products that he has grown indifferent. How absurd it would have been for the dealers and users of Ford cars to have set the prices instead of this natural right exercised by the Ford Motor Company as the climax of their plans for putting the new car on the market.

The Ohio Plan

The Ohio plan, or Fees bill, provides for loaning Federal money to co-operative bodies to store products during the periods of seasonable sur-

pluses. No security on repayment is provided for beyond the warehoused product. In case of loss the United States pockets it on the theory that over a period of years with different products the break would be even. This plan has a very limited application to products wholly consumed within the U. S. It has a limited application to a crop like Michigan beans, but lacks the price making feature of the McNary-Haugen plan. It also lacks the effect of the equalization fee in penalizing overplanting. For example, if there was a heavy carry over of beans in storage, it would be noticed that an increase in acreage the following season must call for a heavy equalization fee. The Ohio plan would call for more government money. The mathematics of any corporation carrying a surplus is that it must have a major portion of that product in control and not have the menace of another holding company "getting out from under" by a quick sale. A surplus corporation must have a monopoly to protect the producer and the control of the National Board to see that the consumer gets a square deal. The Ohio plan has this objection: viz, divided responsibility and no price making power.

The Debenture Plan

The debenture plan provides for issuance of certificates to exporters of farm products equivalent to the duty thereon. For example, the duty on wheat is 42 cents per bushel. On the exported quantity of 200 millions, 84 million dollars worth of certificates saleable to importers to pay duties on their imports, the theory of this being that this would reflect itself in the home price.

The arithmetic of this as applied to wheat would be 10.4 cents per bushel increase if it all got back to the grower. That is, 800,000,000 bushels would be increased by \$84,000,000 as compared to the McNary-Haugen plan of over \$500,000,000, and to the Michigan acre about \$2.50 as compared to \$12 to \$15. The debenture idea is not taken seriously by students of international laws. Practically every civilized country in the world provides for collecting duties of equal or greater amount to the bounty or subsidy given by the consigning country. The United States has such a law, and to proceed to deal with other countries in violation of our own rule invites retaliation. The consignee nations have it in their laws and power to collect this bounty by an added duty and the exporting country is helpless.

The debenture plan received no attention in Congress except good natured reference as a case of thoughtlessness.

The McNary-Haugen idea if applied to Shiawassee county farmers would be equivalent to the payment of all farm taxes, state, county, school, and township, in the increased annual values to farm products. It would add \$50 per acre to the value of every cultivated acre in the county. It would allow the women who now toil on the farms to care for their household duties. It would call for over a regiment of men on the farms now depressing the labor market in Owosso. It would mean a nine hour day for the farm, with added leisure time for all who produce farm crops.

COOLIDGE OPPOSED TO CUTTING TARIFF

Attributes America's Amazing
Prosperity to Benefits
of System

Philadelphia.—President Coolidge in a speech here November 17, opposed the threat of western political leaders to make a general onslaught on the protective tariff system at the next session of Congress, asserting that the income of the people of the United States had reached the amazing total of \$90,000,000,000 under benefits of the system.

Presumably endorsing the \$225,000,000 tax slash proposed by Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, the President promised the people a moderate tax cut.

President Coolidge did not touch directly upon the problem of farm relief, nor did he mention the "I do not choose" statement, issued in South Dakota last summer.

Farm Bureau Produces 6 Reel Motion Picture

The American Farm Bureau has produced a six-reel motion picture, "The Romance of Sleepy Valley," which is available to County Farm Bureaus and other community groups free of charge. If interested, write the Dept. of Information, American Farm Bureau, 58 E. Washington St., Chicago, now, as the 50 prints are in heavy demand. Showings are being booked for next September by some who want to be sure.

Visitor — "How do, doctor! I've just dropped in to tell you how greatly I've benefited by your treatment."
Doctor — "But—er—I don't remember you as a patient of mine."
Visitor — "I'm not, but my uncle was, and I'm his heir."—Station CORN.

So Say We All, Bro. Hunt

Watervliet, Michigan
December 21, 1927
Michigan State Farm Bureau,
Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Sir:
Find enclosed check for \$10 dues for 1928.
I would like to make one wish for this \$10.00 and that is, that something could be done to do away with the annual nuisance of buying new license plates for my car (and yours). That is one of the most expensive ways of collecting revenue we have. Let's have a 4c gas tax and be done with it.
Yours very truly,
M. W. HUNT,
Watervliet, Mich.

OYSTER SHELL FOR POULTRY PROFITS

Expert poultry raisers and breeders are no longer satisfied with average egg production, resulting in a small profit, "breaking even" or loss. They have found that the means used to obtain this end usually need but the addition of one practice to change the final reckoning from minus to plus. This practice is the use of crushed oyster shell, a mineral food which is the backbone of poultry profits. It builds the bones of the chickens, assuring a sturdy flock. It improves the general health of the fowls. Its most important function, however, is the supplying of egg shell material. This function is performed by the calcium carbonate contained in the oyster shell.

Oyster shell is, indeed, as it has been so aptly put, "Eggshell in the Rough."

In order to obtain ideal results, absolutely pure crushed oyster shell must be used. A more than 98 per cent calcium carbonate content and scientific treatment are also essential.

The scientific treatment necessary to make crushed oyster shell is as follows: First the raw shell is passed through the crushers. Then after three washings it is conveyed through big rotary dryers where intense heat destroys all foreign and putrid matter, making it sanitary and clean. This ensures freedom from odor and poisonous matter.

The shell should then be triple screened into two sizes, for hens and chicks respectively. All oversize and dust should be discarded. Then after careful packing in heavy new bur-lap bags we have the finished product which, if kept before your chickens all the time, will certainly make them pay.

ST. CLAIR BUREAU TALKS LEGISLATION

A legislative meeting of the St. Clair County Farm Bureau was held at the Port Huron Public Library December 16th. Clarence J. Reid, of Avoca, president of the County Farm Bureau, presided.

Senator Chas. Green spoke on "Where Our Tax Dollars Go." The discussion was led by Mr. Roy Pearce of Columbus; State Senator Philip O'Connell of Sanilac county spoke on the McNary-Haugen bill, and Mr. Louis Weil, editor of the Times Herald of Port Huron, spoke on "Muscle Shoals."

The meeting was well attended, every section of the county being well represented. The general discussions were lively and much interest was shown.

It was decided that programs of the same nature would be put on at least quarterly during the coming year.

Eaton County Bureau Elects 1928 Officers

Charlotte, Dec. 20.—At the annual meeting of the Eaton County Farm Bureau December 14, the following officers were elected for 1928:

President—J. B. Strange, Grand Ledge, Mich.
Vice-President—Fred Terrill, Charlotte, Mich.

Directors as follows:
Fred Jackson, Sunfield, Sunfield and Roxand twps.

John Leptien, Pottsville, Benton and Windsor twps.

Chester H. Smith, Eaton Rapids, Hamlin and E. Rapids twps.

L. P. Smith, Charlotte, Chester and Carmel twps.

Mrs. L. C. Kline, Charlotte, at large.

Directors whose terms did not expire: S. R. Cook, Grand Ledge, Oneida and Delta.

E. G. Stevens, Vermontville and Kalama twps.

T. T. Williams, E. Rapids, Eaton and Brookfield twps.

Delegates to state Farm Bureau meeting January 1928: J. B. Strange, F. O. Johnson and L. C. Kline.

Alternates, F. E. Terrill, Charlotte, and P. A. Smith, Mulliken.

CASS CO. BUREAU HAS STRONG SET OF RESOLUTIONS

Criticize the Assessment of
Land and Buildings
Separately

FOR M'NARY-HAUGEN

Urge Co-op Ass'n's to Send
Mgrs. to State Farm
Bureau Meetings

Cassopolis, Dec. 22.—The annual meeting of the Cass County Farm Bureau at the Court House Tuesday proved exceedingly successful in point of attendance, interest, and accomplishments. Delegates were present from all parts of the county.

The forenoon session was largely given over to election of delegates, directors, and officers. Four delegates will be sent to the annual meeting of the State Farm Bureau, Fred Wells, Samuel Bolton, Frank Reum, and Don M. Beam.

M. R. Phillips of Silver Creek and Frank B. Burtis of Volinia were elected to succeed themselves as directors for a three year term. President Carl Burgener and Secy-Treas. P. H. Savage were unanimously re-elected. The report of Mr. Savage showed the organization to be in a strong financial condition.

C. L. Nash of the State Farm Bureau, gave the main address of the day speaking of the new hopefulness and stimulation given the cause of organized agriculture by the recent meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation where over 4,000 farmers from 41 states assembled in one of the largest and most harmonious sessions ever held. He also dwelt on certain developments within the State Farm Bureau looking forward to granting members preferences and privileges which will not be accorded to non-members.

The following resolutions were discussed and adopted:
RESOLVED, That we extend to our officers of the past year our deep appreciation of their painstaking and sacrificial service.

And we feel that we are fortunate in having as our leaders men of their caliber and sterling worth. Much is due them for the maintenance of our membership and the interest that is manifest in the present and future welfare of the organization in Cass County.

RESOLVED, That we severely criticize the present State Tax Commission for their adoption of their latest plan of assessing real property of the state, viz: That of assessing land and buildings separately. It is illegal, unconstitutional, unjust and may be in some cases ridiculous. It is eminently unfair to assess farm property in this way.

RESOLVED, That we deplore the fact that it seems necessary for the Federal government to levy an Inheritance Tax for the purpose of making it an inducement for the States to pass uniform Inheritance Tax laws, which condition is greatly to be desired. Inasmuch as this condition does exist, we believe that the State should so adjust its Inheritance Tax laws so that we shall get the full benefit of the 80 per cent allowed us under the Federal Statute.

RESOLVED, That it is our judgment that present system of collecting revenue for highways is as satisfactory as it is possible to get it. That is, the weight tax in lieu of a property tax, as it has in an element of value. And the gas tax as a method of compelling everyone to pay in proportion to his use of the road.

RESOLVED, That in our judgment, in the interests of economy and good roads, that the law should be so amended that the Township Board be empowered to appoint the Highway Commissioners instead of their being elected, as at present.

RESOLVED, We realize that nothing will be accomplished in the matter of the lakes to ocean deep waterway, unless the deep water-way commission is continued. Therefore, we favor an appropriation by the legislature to promote this project.

RESOLVED, We think it should be unlawful for book agents to attempt to sell their goods to teachers at school houses during school sessions without the permission of the County Commissioner of Schools.

RESOLVED, That we strongly urge the several Farmers Cooperative Associations in the county to send, with expenses paid, their local managers to the State Farm Bureau meetings.

RESOLVED, That it is the best judgment of the Cass County Farm Bureau, that the government should foster, encourage and facilitate in every way possible the formation and operation of co-operative farm organizations. Also to prevent transportation companies from charging excessive rates. Also to enact such tariff laws as will foster and encourage the production at home of the commodities that are now being imported into this country, thus creating a surplus that is demoralizing the markets for our products. We have been exhorted by college professors, congressmen, newspaper writers, bankers and market experts, to slow up production, when all the time it is our imports that are directly responsible for our surplus.

If these deserved rights be granted to us, we believe that all will be done that can be done through governmental agencies.

The assembly also went on record as favoring the McNary-Haugen type of legislation.

Mrs. Wagar Suggests A Personal Inventory

How Can We Know When
We Are Truly Happy
And Prosperous?

By Mrs. EDITH M. WAGAR

We are each approaching the New Year with a hope of happiness and prosperity.

How many of us will have our hopes fulfilled? How many will really know when they are truly happy or can consider themselves really prosperous?

As a class, we farmers have not had an easy time of it of late; we feel that we have not had a fair chance with our vocations. Many times we've felt blue and discouraged and even rebellious, but still we have been blest in many ways. In all cases, things might have been worse. We can all look about us and see so many people undergoing greater hardships and handicapped in ways that could put us to shame for complaining.

Nevertheless, it's out job to help right the wrongs, to assist in getting the farming business on its feet, and if we can go at the job with some semblance of a smile coupled with a firm determination to win, the job will be accomplished all the quicker and will lose some of its bitterness, too.

But let's know where we really are today; let's take an inventory of just how we stand with the world. You've just paid your taxes and how did they strike you? Analyze your tax receipt; pick it to pieces.

In the first place, was your description right? Was your name spelled right? Did you have that many acres or that amount of personal property? Are you in that section or that range? Are you assessed in the right school district? Are you paying special road taxes on the right road or ditch taxes on the right drain or highway taxes in the right district?

These are all important questions for each taxpayer to ask himself and to make certain about for there's many a name written wrong on a tax receipt, although every person has but one correct name and that is the only legal name; and there's many a tax payer paying taxes today and accepting a tax receipt on property not his own because the description is wrong and he neglected to report it so. We cannot be too particular concerning these matters if we wish to avoid future trouble. Some day we may want to sell, or mortgage or even will to our heirs, and we should know we are right from the beginning.

And then it might be interesting for one to know just how our taxes compared with those of last year's and then five years ago or ten years ago or even twenty-five years back. And it is interesting to know what particular things cost us most in taxes. Then let's do some earnest thinking. Are we getting our money's worth? Would we like to go back to other days? Do we make our own high taxes or are they put upon us?

Then there's no better time to take a farm inventory than around the beginning of the new year, and I know of no better way to spend an evening than to sit down with the better half and check up one's resources.

None of us will find ourselves getting in the wealthy class I'm sure, but all will find a satisfaction of having something to show that's representative of our strength and labor to call our own.

And then, there's no better time to check up on one's own ambition. Do we want farming to look more rosy? Do we want to feel that the American farmer is looked after just as honestly as any other citizen of our country? Do we want to keep farming so attractive and pleasant that more of the boys and girls will choose to stay farmers?

Are we as farm men and women doing all that we can to help the mass of farmers get on that level that we want to be on?

There's no use complaining if we do nothing to help ourselves get right. We must do our part first and then see to it that the other fellow does right by us.

Let's ask ourselves a few questions. Are we absolutely loyal to ourselves or to our families or to our farm? Are we absolutely loyal to even our Farm Bureau? Do we expect the Farm Bureau to bring things our way—to get us prices—to bring the other fellow to time—to speak for us in legislation—to protect us—to plan new things for us? And then are we paying our dues on time? Are we always treating our organization right? Are we asking our neighbor to join hands with us and help us do things? Are we attending meetings and serving as officers or on committees as we should, or rather, are we simply standing back waiting for somebody else to do something and to keep it alive and moving?

When we once check up on ourselves we can always find so many ways that we can help and when once we unite our efforts with those of others, we find we enjoy working together and that we can accomplish so much more than we dared to expect.

When we look about us we find so many who are deserving of praise. I feel that as a vocation, and even as a nation, we cannot say too much in praise for that army of faithful old farmers who have stuck to their

posts through the past few years of depression, all of them working beyond their strength; hoping beyond all that some day things will come out right and be more inviting for the younger man. And I sometimes wonder if the young man who left Dad to fight the agricultural battle alone, has always felt justified in doing as he has? Was city opportunity and city wage more important to a red blooded American boy (or girl) than a disappointed father or mother with a life's hope all knocked in to a cocked hat?

Is that boy or girl helping to convince a disinterested world, even while living in city environment, that the farmer should have greater consideration by all classes?

There's a great opportunity for those farmer-reared folks to help us to get on our feet, if they would but be sympathetic to the ills of the farmer, even though they are consumers now, rather than producers. Their interest is an essential factor in getting us on our feet.

Among our New Year resolutions this year let's give thought to some of these details that really affect our calling in an indirect way. Let's resolve to keep patient but at the same time alert to every chance for self improvement as individuals and as a class.

Hog Producers Blame Packers For Low Prices

(Continued from page one)
Department of agriculture states that the big packers get 34 per cent (over one-third) of their hogs by direct purchases.

Question—Wherein is this an advantage to the packers?

Answer—It enables them to have in advance of other probable buyers, more than one-third of the hogs they require, at their disposal before the market opens.

Question—Is one-third sufficient to influence competition?

Answer—It is; the third that the packers secure in the country, is the best quality and most desirable weights from all sections, so they do not have to compete for good hogs on the open, public market, but fill out their numbers from the plainer kinds left there, by the other buyers.

Question—How is the price on direct hogs arrived at?

Answer—Principally at the discretion of the packer buyer and supposedly at a price allowed by the packers, based on the price for such hogs as they do buy at the public stock yards market, designated for that particular zone.

Question—Is this fair to the producer?

Answer—It is not, because the packer gets the good to choice hogs that he receives direct from the country, at a price based on what the plainer hogs sell for at the public stock yards.

Question—What effect has it had on the general price level?

Answer—December 19, 1927, the average price of hogs was \$4.50 a hundred pounds lower than in December, 1926. The average price per hog in 1926 was \$30 a head at the public stock yards. For 1927, the average price per head will fall short of \$20, a reduction of \$10 a head from the 1926 level. On the basis of the 45,000,000 hogs marketed in the United States for the year 1927, this

will mean \$450,000,000 out of the producers' pockets.

Question—Who lost this vast sum?
Answer—The packers did not. Their financial statement shows that they made more money in 1926 than in any year since 1919. They paid the producers \$450,000,000 less for their hogs this year than was paid for them last year.

Question—Whose problem is this?
Answer—The producers.

Question—Why?

Answer—Because the producer is not getting the benefit of the high prices that result from the free, open competition that prevails at the public market when the full buying power is centered there.

Question—Can the producers stop direct buying?

Answer—Yes. Stop selling direct to the packers.

According to the Institute of American Meat Packers, there are over 1,300 packing establishments in the United States. Competition is the life of trade and if the producers shipped all their hogs to the open, competitive public markets, making it necessary for packers to buy their requirements in competition with packers and others desiring the same quality of hogs, this competition would give the producers, the benefit of higher prices and a more stable market. Direct buying has reduced competition 50 per cent. It has reduced prices 34 per cent. Low price of hogs means low price of corn and makes both unprofitable. It is a producer's problem and it is up to him to apply the remedy.

In Michigan the best answer to this problem, wherever it may exist, is to use your local live stock shipping association and insist that the shipments be made to the Michigan Live Stock Exchange Co-operative Commission Merchants at Detroit yards or to the Producers Co-operative Commission Ass'n at East Buffalo. In the corn belt, hog producers are banding together and pledging themselves not to sell to any local buyer who sells to the packers under the direct buying system.

Van Buren Co. Faces Ext. Work Problem

(Continued on page three)

Carrying on.

Outgoing officers and directors were all re-elected, as follows:

President, M. H. Pugsley, Paw Paw; Vice-President, A. J. Dowd, Hartford; Sec'y-Treas., C. E. Buskirk, Paw Paw. Members of the executive committee: C. E. Robinson, Lawrence; Miller Overton, Bangor.

Judge—"What gave you the impression that the prisoner was drunk?"
Cop—"He was engaged in a heated argument with a bus driver."

Judge—"But that does not prove anything."
Cop—"Well, sir, there was no bus driver there at all."—Indian Trail.

The Farm Bureau Poultry Exchange

which formerly operated at 2610
Riopelle Street, Detroit, has dis-
continued business. This business
has been taken over by the

Garlock-Williams Co.
2614 Orleans St.
Detroit

Your shipments of poultry, eggs
and veal are solicited. Tolls and
market information sent on request.

Whites are the Limiting Factor in Egg Production

ONE hundred pounds ordinary grain ration produces 45% more yolks than whites. Hens need protein to produce whites. Michigan Egg Mash with Buttermilk supplies the protein ingredients for whites in the proper proportion to balance the yolks for maximum egg production. The public formula for Michigan Egg Mash with Buttermilk is your assurance of constant high quality feed and production records.

Send for pamphlet of our Poultry Feeds containing valuable feeding suggestions.
Distribution all over the State.

FOR SALE BY
Co-op Associations and Farm Bureau
Distributors



"More Milk with More Cow Left at the End of the Year"

Milk Maker, a Public Formula Ration,
Builds for the Future

THE important part that Milk Maker plays in Michigan dairying is probably best set forth in the claims made by hundreds of Michigan's leading dairymen who have used Milk Maker continuously for one or more years.

These dairymen tell us that they have secured the following results by the use of Milk Maker, viz:

1. Cows have kept up in better flesh and better physical condition.
2. Cows have maintained a larger and more even flow of milk.
3. Calves better developed and stronger at birth.
4. Freedom from trouble with cows at calving time; no retained afterbirth and no udder trouble.

The strongest advocates of course are those dairymen who have used Milk Maker continuously since it came on the market in 1922.

Buying a Better Herd

These men have realized that in buying and using Milk Maker they are assuring themselves of a better herd of cows two or three years hence.

In buying a bag of dairy feed you do not buy the feed for the feed itself, but for the ultimate results obtained. The results to be obtained are not necessarily determined by the price of the feed. The real value of the feed is determined by the per cent of digestible protein and digestible nutrients, both of which determine results.

A common phrase among users of Milk Maker is "More milk with more cow left at the end of the year."

Ask for booklet on "How to Feed for Economical Milk Production."

FOR SALE BY
Co-op Associations and Farm Bureau
Distributors

Farm Bureau Leaders Deny Agriculture Is Prosperous

TELL MICHIGAN OF SHORT CROPS AND HEAVY EXPENSES

Associated Press Publishes Reply to City Painters Of Prosperity

FARMER WANTS CHANGE

His Demand For Farm Relief Legislation Indicates The Trend

The Michigan State Farm Bureau does not find itself in agreement with those who would paint a rosy picture of present farming conditions in the state and nation. Clark L. Brody, secretary-manager of the organization declared Thursday, December 8, in the following statement to the Associated Press which was published throughout Michigan in daily newspapers carrying Associated Press dispatches.

M. L. Nbon, president of the Michigan bureau, and several directors expressed themselves in agreement with the statement issued by Mr. Brody.

"In my opinion, only by stronger and complete organization of his craft can the farmer bring about more satisfactory conditions," Mr. Brody said. "Our experience in the Michigan State Farm Bureau shows that only by organization to protect his craft can the farmer prevent any added income he may receive from better crops and more efficient marketing from being absorbed by unfair methods of taxation and other disadvantages in relationships to other groups."

M. B. McPherson, a director of the State Farm Bureau, and president of the Kent County Bureau, who recently made a survey of a large portion of the state, described agricultural conditions as "very spotted."

"While the livestock and dairy interests in Michigan are about equal to those of last year, the very small bean and potato crops and the entire failure of the fruit in some sections have created very hard conditions indeed for some farmers in the localities where these are major crops," Mr. McPherson declared. "The tax problem is more burdensome than ever for the farmer. The real estate tax generally equals the rental value of the land."

Thumb Conditions Bad
General conditions in the Thumb are 10 per cent below those of a year ago, according to John W. Goodwine of Marquette, a State Farm Bureau director and secretary of the Sanilac Bureau.

"Owing to the heavy delinquent tax of last year an additional tax of \$30,000 had to be spread on the rolls to meet necessary expenses and shortage of county funds," Mr. Goodwine said. "This is the first time such action has been necessary. I would estimate that the delinquent tax of Sanilac county would exceed \$100,000 this year. Loan companies are experiencing difficulties in collecting interest. The delinquent tax on lands covered by loans is very large; the total of interest and tax on these farms' unpaid is the largest ever."

Farmers are in the "worst financial condition they have been for years," according to George Herman, a State Farm Bureau director and manager of the co-operative association at Remus, Mecosta county.

"I am thoroughly convinced that due to the failure of cash crops, beans and potatoes, and extremely high taxes and low prices of farm products, the farmers are in bad condition," Mr. Herman said. "Reports for the whole United States are so conflicting that with what information I have, I would hardly venture an opinion, but there seems to be a spirit of unrest and dissatisfaction over the agricultural area."

Urges Farm Tax Relief

Mrs. Edith Wagar, of Carleton, Monroe county, a director of the Michigan State Farm Bureau and regional leader of home and community work of the American Farm Bureau federation, advocated more consideration for the farmer in taxation matters.

"There are too many people enjoying public improvements, public education and public protection without contributing any responsibility or support," Mrs. Wagar declared. "The farmer never escapes. He must have an effective tariff, one that will stabilize the market for our product during droughts, during floods, during good seasons as well as poor. Our domestic price should be determined in accordance with the general conditions in our own country rather than by the world's production and demands."

"I feel that the farmer appreciates the benefits coming through co-operation more and more every day. The idea is growing rapidly. I believe he is fast getting where he thinks for his farm interests before party adherence," said Mrs. Wagar.

"The farm home and farm family demand more these days than formerly. We have outlived the soft soap, kerosene and salt pork days and de-

mand an equal return on our investment to that of other groups. The farmer has outlived any inferiority complex that he may have had in former days and now feels that he should mingle with the world on the same social basis.

Farm organizations in general are working on a constructive program," according to Mrs. Wagar. "They want progressive improvements; they want law observance and respect; they want clean living, and proper labeling of all products that the real may be distinguished from the imitation. We are many rounds behind from a few years ago but we have not acquired our goal of equality for all."

According to M. D. Buskirk, of Paw Paw, Van Buren county, who is a State Farm Bureau director and president of the Michigan Fruit Growers, incorporated, the farmer is adjusting himself to his income and is gradually trying to "make the books balance," but he is frequently "in the red."

"The A-1 farmer," says Mr. Buskirk, "is just about keeping abreast of things if the elements and politicians let him have a fair deal. A few are making a small percentage on their investment, but the farms and buildings grow a little shabbier each year. So many look as if they had lost their ginger and pep of pre-war days."

"To say that most of them are discouraged is putting it mildly. The masses are slipping, not as fast as a few years ago, but slipping still."

Views of the State Farm Bureau field men covering all sections of the lower peninsula were also sought, according to Secretary Brody, and these men reported conditions in agreement with the views as expressed by the directors.

Fruits Below Normal
The 1927 Michigan crop report, according to Mr. Brody, shows that apples were 32 per cent of normal crop; grapes 55 per cent; peaches 29 per cent; corn 64 per cent; of which 57 per cent is merchantable as compared with the 10-year average of 74 per cent; potatoes 62 per cent, which is the smallest since 1916; oats 81 per cent; rye 86 per cent; wheat average 22 bushels per acre, this yield being the highest in 20 years, except in 1924; beans 55 per cent of a normal crop, which is 19 points below the 10-year average.

"These figures," Mr. Brody stated, "would further substantiate the statements of our directors and field men. It is true that reports from some of our grain, dairy and livestock sections indicate that the farmer is paying his loans and bills a little more promptly than in recent years, and that more farm machinery has been purchased. This, in our opinion, is due in considerable measure to the particularly good wheat crop this year, and is a seasonal result rather than an indication of a permanent or lasting improvement in farming conditions."

"On the other hand, the farmers in the Thumb district and northern and western Michigan have been severely penalized by the very low crop yields. The Thumb district has been particularly affected by the small bean yields and the general demoralized condition of the hay market. Northern Michigan is not only experiencing one of the smallest crops of potatoes, but coupled with this is a very unsatisfactory price due to large crops in other potato-growing states."

Western Michigan Hit

"Western Michigan, particularly in the cherry and berry districts from Muskegon to Traverse City has experienced practically a total crop failure, and is under the most trying conditions."

Concerning national farm aid, Brody declared that the growing intensity in demand from the agricultural industry for farm relief in congress would seem to be an indication of the general situation.

"We have generally found other organizations ready to co-operate with the Farm Bureau to bring about better agricultural conditions," he said. "The matter of farm organization is of extreme importance for in the highly organized world of today it is practically impossible for the unorganized farmer either to help himself or to benefit from the assistance which other groups are willing to give."

The farmer is making progress in organization, Mr. Brody said, as shown by the development in the past few years in the Farm Bureau movement on a state and national scale, and the improvement in transportation, taxation, and marketing matters.

An encouraging feature, according to Mr. Brody, is the growing interest on the part of the constantly increasing number of farmers who realize the importance of constructive farm organization.

The increased activity of the farm woman in agricultural affairs was also credited with being one of the most helpful and encouraging factors in the progress of the organization.

"The purchasing power of the farmer is still below that of other groups," Mr. Brody declared, in closing, "but with a constant strengthening of the farm organization movement in general, I think we can look for a gradual improvement in agricultural conditions in years to come."

AIRPLANES, DOG TEAMS, TAXIS IN THIS GOLD RUSH

Twentieth Century Mining Town Is On Edge Of Civilization

Toronto, Ontario, Nov. 28.—Only 190 miles from James Bay, where Eskimos still spear seals and gorge blubber, lies the "New North," which Canada's two biggest sister provinces, Ontario and Quebec, have been developing to the amazement of the mining world.

Here is a booming hinterland of contrasts, where miners ride in taxis, airplanes hum over dog teams, the wolf's howl echoes the flivver's honk, tired mine workmen relax in luxurious conservatories, civic sewers are blasted through gold-flecked quartz and a Broadway-size electric sign flashes the name of a famous mine over a pine girl lake.

Here is a twentieth century Yukon in plus fours, as strange and wonderful a development as may be found anywhere in mining annals. Forty-niners might turn over in their graves and sneer if they knew about it—"hothouses, huh? hot water bottles next!"

There is Timmins, for instance, the biggest mining town in Ontario's gold country, with 12,000 population, asphalt pavements, schools, churches, electric lights, hotels, theatres and a flower shop. Shades of the mad, bad days of '96.

Motorists reel off the few hundred miles from Toronto over a brand new highway, and may have trouble in finding parking space in Timmins's streets.

They may eat in the Empire hotel with cut flowers on the table, a French chef and Turkish carpets. The soft strains of a symphony orchestra are punctuated by the roar of blasting at Hollinger, Dome or McIntyre, three of the Aladdin-like mines fringing the town.

Timmins has a dozen big distributing houses and more than 400 stores. There are three public and three parochial schools, a high school and technical schools. Assessment figures total \$1,600,000. Buildings alone are valued at \$4,453,000 and the income tax assessment reaches the modest total of \$1,060,000.

Down at the end of one of the streets they've built a golf course, where the brassie dug digs showers of workable mineral out of bunkers. The miner with a slice usually hunts his ball out of bounds in the forest primeval.

Timmins is only one instance of this new transfiguration in what was stark wilderness until recently. There are plenty of others.

Just over the border line, in Quebec, 300 miles northwest of Montreal, is perhaps the most striking example of all—Rouyn, the "baby" mining center of the new North. Baby Rouyn already has cast aside its swaddling clothes and it has not "just grown!" Even before the infant metropolis began to sprawl, wise town-planners made sure it wouldn't reach manhood civalically bow-legged. Engineers and architects advised and town fathers devised.

Hardy pioneers smashed their way into the timber clad vastness of Quebec four years ago. A few weeks ago the fathers of Rouyn decided their coming metropolis needed sewers. So they are now being carved out of solid rock at a cost of \$300,000 to the town's 5,000 rate payers.

Planes make hops from Detroit, Toronto or Montreal with regularity, finding lakes natural landing places in summer and in winter when skis replace pontoons on their landing gears.—Kansas City Star.

Huron, Sanilac Urge Plan For Bureau, Co-ops

(Continued from page one)
members of the Farm Bureau, took a very active interest in this meeting. Almost without exception they agreed that something of this nature could be worked out, whereby a closer relationship can be brought about that will very materially benefit all farm groups, and they seemed to be anxious to have such a plan put into action as quickly as possible. Even the most conservative elevator men stated they appreciated the value of the Farm Bureau to their organization, and knew that their organization would materially suffer if the Farm Bureau should cease to function in that community.

C. L. Brody, secretary-manager of the Michigan State Farm Bureau, gave a brief summary of the conference. He said that he believed members of different farm groups had arrived at the point where they realized there must be more unity of action and that regardless of slight differences, the ultimate goal of all groups engaged in agricultural pursuits was the same. Mr. Brody also said that these groups must unite and work for a common cause.

Every real American has two burning ambitions: First, the desire to own his home; and second, the desire to own an automobile to get away from it.

SHIAWASSEE FOR FARM RELIEF AND WEIGHT TAX CUT

McNary-Haugen Endorsed at Annual Meeting at Owosso

UPHOLD HUNTING LAW

Sec'y Brody Gives Views on Progress of Farm Relief

Owosso, Dec. 20.—The Shiawassee County Farm Bureau, in its annual session, held in the auditorium of the city hall here, December 10, voted unanimously to support the McNary-Haugen bill, as the particular kind of legislation desired for farm relief; also, for permanent automobile license plates, with a cut in the weight tax and establishment of the necessary gas tax to bring about the change.

Resolutions were also passed urging that no modification be made in the present chicken thief law, which provides for a minimum penalty of one year's imprisonment upon conviction, nor in the trespassing law, which makes it a misdemeanor to hunt on farm property without consent of the owner.

Action on the farm relief and gas tax matters and the resolution in regard to the chicken thief law followed an address by Sec'y Clark L. Brody, of the State Farm Bureau, when he briefly outlined the propositions to the members. The action on gas tax and farm relief matters is part of the state organization's referendum being conducted throughout the state, to obtain the views of the entire membership.

Mr. Brody pointed out that the American Farm Bureau Federation, at its convention in Chicago had gone on record as favoring the McNary-Haugen plan of farm relief. This and the gas tax matter were quickly supported, the members voting unanimously in favor of them, when they were put to a vote, separately, in Saturday's session. The two matters were discussed at the quarterly meeting of the local bureau held some time ago, action being deferred until the annual meeting in order to give the members sufficient time to weigh in their own minds the various phases of proposed legislation. Three different kinds of legislation had been considered, namely: the McNary-Haugen bill, passed by the last congress, but vetoed by President Coolidge; the debenture plan; and the credit or loan to co-operatives plan.

West's Demands Heard
Mr. Brody declared that the fact that the American Farm Bureau Federation had voted to support the McNary-Haugen plan was due to the insistent demands of the western farmers. The McNary-Haugen bill, with its equalization fee, taking care of excess production in order to stabilize the price. Mr. Brody said, best fits the needs of the West and Midwest, where the greatest producing regions of the country are located. The bill now has the support of the eastern Farm Bureaus. Mr. Brody declared himself in favor of the McNary-Haugen bill, as the plan, in his opinion, offered greater prospects of and better machinery for stabilized prices of farm commodities.

The debenture plan lost favor when it was argued by members that in effect it was a move to provide a direct subsidy. It was pointed out that the debenture plan proposes the issuance of certificates to exporters on goods shipped out of the United States, the certificates in turn to be used in paying duties on exports. It would act to raise prices, but would not effectively regulate in regard to surpluses.

Trespass Law Praised
The members placed the local organization on record as being in disfavor of any move to modify the trespass law, which concerns public hunting on private lands, after Mr. Brody had warned that "influences are at work to remove some of the teeth from the present law."

Mr. Brody intimated that sentiment was growing in various groups of sportsmen for a repeal of some "unreasonable features."

Perhaps the farmer is unreasonable in desiring to have the law remain as it is, said Mr. Brody. Perhaps he is unreasonable because he does not want to go away from home in morning and return at night to find his gates open, and the stock out, Mr. Brody remarked. Just the same, he said, it is a good law. It has changed what formerly was a civil offense to a misdemeanor and that is where it proves effective, he said.

Mr. Brody declared in regard to farm relief measures that he hardly expected the passage of the McNary-Haugen bill under the present administration. He said that while he believed that President Coolidge would veto the measure as he did before, there were great hopes for its becoming enacted into a law later. He pleaded for continued co-operation by Farm Bureau members, for only by everlastingly driving on would they accomplish the result desired.

The hue and cry of those who raise the argument of "economically unsound" should not scare the organized farmers away from sticking to their objective, which must finally be reckoned with, he asserted.

Old-fashioned individualism has disappeared in farm organizations, said Mr. Brody, which is a wonderful transformation from conditions as they existed a few years ago, when farmers were quite generally loathe to tie up with their neighbors in organized effort. It is one of the greatest miracles ever witnessed in agricultural circles, said Mr. Brody.

Michigan Livestock Exchange
Detroit, Mich.

Producers Co-Op Com. Ass'n
East Buffalo, N. Y.

transformation from conditions as they existed a few years ago, when farmers were quite generally loathe to tie up with their neighbors in organized effort. It is one of the greatest miracles ever witnessed in agricultural circles, said Mr. Brody.

Name Directors
A board of directors was also elected, including two new and five re-elected members to serve during the coming year. The new board will meet on January 15, at which time it will elect a president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer. The new members of the board, which will be in control of the county bureau after January 15, are: Mrs. Clayton Cook, of Shiawassee township, and Ray Byington, of Venice township. The re-elected ones are: Mrs. C. W. Arnold, of Perry township; Floyd F. Walworth of Hazelton; C. B. Cook, of Shiawassee township; John Beardslee, of Bedlington township; and E. L. Selb, of Venice township. The present officers who will serve until their successors are named, are: president, E. L. Selb; vice-president, Mrs. C. B. Cook; and secretary-treasurer, Floyd F. Walworth.

The by-laws of the organization provide that the board of directors shall be composed of five men and two women, this policy having been adopted at the annual meeting a year ago.

BE SURE TO TAG SEED SHIPMENTS

Each year the Farm Bureau Seed Service receives a number of shipments of seed from individual growers and shippers that have no identification whatever on them. These orphans must be set aside until we can get straightened out on their ownership, variety, and the disposition to be made of them. Needless to say, this takes time. Meanwhile, the parties shipping the seed wonder why they do not hear from their shipments.

All of this can be eliminated by using one or two tags on each bag of seed in the shipment. On the tags should be given—owner's name, kind of seed (Medium Clover, etc.), number of bags and the total weight of the lot. With this information on each lot received, we can handle your crop to greater advantage to you.

First Assistant Vice-President—"What sort of a position would your son like?"

Second Assistant Vice-President—"As nearly horizontal as he can get."—Cornell Widow.

She—"And what did papa say when you told him you couldn't sleep for thinking of me?"

Jack—"He offered me a job as night watchman in his factory."—Boston Transcript.

Julia—"What is the cure for love at first sight?"

Amelia—"Second sight."—London Opinion.

CLASSIFIED ADS. POULTRY

500,000 HIGH GRADE HOLLYWOOD Bred White Leghorn Accredited Chickens. Males and females passed and banded by state poultry association. Sturdy and vigorous heavy producing breeders assure chicks of quality and ability. Special discount now. Catalog free. Wynn's Hatchery & Farms, Zeeland, Mich. 2-25-b

REGISTERED DAIRY SHORTHORN bred cows, open heifers, serviceable age bulls from heavy producing ancestry. Write Joe Moriarty, Hudson, Mich. 12-25-27

BABY CHICKS—PURE BRED TANGRED White Leghorn Chickens. Breeders Tested and culled by experts. Sturdy Selected Chicks. Discount. Circular Free. Walts' Poultry Farm, Byron, Mich. 1-12-28

Why Your Stock Should Go the Co-op Way

Your own experienced and conscientious salesmen sell your stock to the best advantage and you benefit. More than that—the co-ops are saving money on low operating costs and they pro-rate it back to your local association!

Drovers and old-line commission men can't live on nothing. They figure a good living out of their shipping profits.

You can realize that profit yourself, and why not? Your co-op organization carries your stuff clear to the packer's hands and you get all it brings. Our salesmen are the best in the business. Ship your stock to the—

The farmers' own co-op commission houses at Detroit and East Buffalo are getting farmers better returns.

Michigan Livestock Exchange
Detroit, Mich.

Producers Co-Op Com. Ass'n
East Buffalo, N. Y.

SERVICE SATISFACTION

SAFETY



ECONOMY

Insure Your Car In A 4 SQUARE COMPANY

Here is an automobile insurance company that serves farmers only. It has farmer agents and adjusters everywhere, affording genuine protection to those who can qualify.

Comparative Statement 1922 to 1927

| Year | Income | Assets |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1922 | 29,222.10 | 27,444.87 |
| 1923 | 69,832.65 | 64,353.62 |
| 1924 | 115,700.38 | 136,883.54 |
| 1925 | 281,917.17 | 298,123.22 |
| 1926 | 552,127.93 | 570,212.31 |
| May 31, 1927 | 1,350,880.42 | 1,059,481.53 |

STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTO INS. CO.
OF BLOOMINGTON, ILL.

Michigan State Farm Bureau
MICHIGAN AGENT

LANSING

MICHIGAN

Farmer—"Thought you said you had plowed the ten-acre field?"
Plowman—"No; I only said I was thinking about plowing it."
"Oh, I see, you've merely turned it over in your mind."—Christian Evangelist.

Put the children on the pay-roll with rewards for good work well done.
To bake apples so they are tender all the way through but are not too brown on top, cover them during the first half of the period of baking.

Sow Clean Seed!

Until Dec. 15th we will do custom cleaning at the following rates. (Note—no cleaning charge on seed you wish returned for your own use if we buy your crop):

All charges are based on the weight of seed when received. You pay transportation both ways.

Cleaning seed which is free of buckhorn.....30c per bushel

Cleaning seed for buckhorn.....\$1.00 per bushel

Cleaning over centrifugal mill for removal

of thistle, pigeon grass or mustard.....\$1.00 per bushel

Cleaning, scarifying and recleaning

alfalfa and hulled sweet clover.....50c per bushel

Cleaning and scarifying unhulled

sweet clover.....50c per bushel

Plus actual time required for hulling at \$1.25 per hour.

Mich. Farm Bureau Seed Service
LANSING, MICH.

A 5% Discount

IS GIVEN TO ALL

"Paid Up" Farm Bureau Members

On purchases made in this Department. Use your Department and get merchandise which you know is right in every respect.

Special Sample Overcoats

At the beginning of Overcoat Season a few Sample overcoats are made up to show the appearance of materials after being tailored and to show styles. These coats have served our purpose and we are now offering them at very attractive prices.

\$20.00, \$22.50, \$25.00

If it is impossible for you to call, all information possible regarding them will gladly be given by mail upon request.

100% Wool Underwear

A very special price is now being given to Members and others interested in ALL WOOL UNDERWEAR. A circular will gladly be sent upon request.

You will also find a very wide range of patterns in

Suitings and Overcoatings

which we make to your individual measure. You will never buy more in quality, value and price. Write for samples and prices.

FARMERS WEEK is close at hand. Plan now to visit your Clothing Department and inspect the values which are being offered.

State Farm Bureau CLOTHING DEPARTMENT

221-227 N. CEDAR STREET

LANSING, MICH.