

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE **ACTION** PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

Vol. 49, No. 4

Focused On The Future

April



Salute!

For 35 years, Michigan farmers have worked to organize effective units of soil-saving activity throughout the state. There are now 84 Soil Conservation Districts in Michigan, covering 82 counties of the state. Only Oceana is without a Soil Conservation District.

Fifty-five thousand landowners are now cooperators with Soil Conservation Districts, and over 30,000 have complete soil and water conservation plans developed for their land. Over 50 districts are co-sponsoring watershed projects for flood prevention and control and water management.

Hundreds of thousands of man hours of time and effort have been

contributed, without reimbursement, by the directors and officers of these districts in the development of good resource management.

It is encouraging to see the growing interest in problems involving our environment. There have been times during the past 35 years when it seemed as though the public interest was in destroying our resources, not in maintaining and building them.

Little wonder that this dedicated group welcomes the evidence of public concern. We hope the April 22, 1970 Environmental Teach-In now planned for the campuses of universities, colleges and schools across the nation, will not be a flash-in-the-pan but can be the forerunner of a solid effort to provide for the best of our resources.

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EDITORIAL . . .

Big Government

"So this is where my tax dollars come. Now I understand why it costs so much to run big government with all these big buildings and people here working at the taxpayers expense. This is where they siphon off part of my money before using it for programs." These were but a few comments of the Michigan farmers who recently spent three days in our nation's capital.

This special group of forty Michigan farmers was part of the 10th annual air-trip to Washington, D. C. sponsored by the Farm Bureau Women.

These full time farmers (and farm wives) were selected by their county Farm Bureaus as persons who understand the problems and opportunities of agriculture and who support Farm Bureau policies as outlined by the voting delegates at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting. This select group was officially designated as "Legislative Leaders" — spokesmen for Michigan agriculture. In this capacity they had the opportunity to meet with Michigan Congressmen — first at a breakfast with the Republican members and at a luncheon for the Democrats, and later in their offices as individuals from their own districts.

These rural statesmen did not go to Washington to protest, but rather to gain understanding and to communicate with their senators and representatives on issues facing agriculture. Both houses of Congress were visited as well as hearings that were in session.

The hustle and bustle of the nation's capital was taken in stride as the farmers visited the many government offices, but the complexity of our central government with its many departments and agencies left many heads in a fog from trying to sort out what each does.

Included as part of the three day trip was a press conference and luncheon held in the National Press Club where Washington representatives for Michigan's news media were present.

In an air of free discussion farmers spoke of such complex issues as the Agriculture Adjustment Act of 1969, farm labor legislation and marketing and bargaining.

A total of 90 people were involved in this year's combined "Legislative Leaders" and American Heritage trip. The group was divided almost evenly between men and women.

One day of the trip the entire group of ninety people were taken on a guided tour of the Washington, D. C. area, so they could more fully appreciate some of the early American history and to view sights of interest. Such outstanding places of interest as the Washington Cathedral, the White House, United States Mint and Mt. Vernon, the home of our first President, were visited.

A special meeting with officials of the Department of Agriculture was a highlight of the tour.

The trip by chartered plane from Lansing to Washington was a first time experience for many of the capitol city visitors. On previous trips, the Legislative Leaders made the trip on one commercial plane, while the American Heritage visitors were on another flight. This time, the entire group left at one time, allowing for closer briefings by those arranging the tour.

It was rewarding to have heard how much our Michigan Farm Bureau members are held in esteem by Washington legislators.

The men we elect to serve our needs in the Nation's Capitol are very important to everyone—especially those congressmen who understand the problems of the farmer.

Farm Bureau Women are to be congratulated for sponsoring this type of activity. It is a very effective way for Farm Bureau leaders to personally discuss and gain understanding of Farm Bureau policies with their congressmen.

It also offers the member an opportunity to better understand his government, how it works and what it is doing for or against him. As one of the farmers on the trip put it, "It is no longer fiction or a fairy tale to me now. I have been there and experienced it first hand. I now understand what they mean when they say BIG GOVERNMENT."

Carl Kentner



THERMAL POLLUTION

Heat that results from the many activities of man and is added to water and to the atmosphere is regarded as a pollutant. Considerable heat is produced during the generation of electricity. Electrical generating plants dispose of heat by using large bodies of water such as rivers and lakes for cooling.

Addition of heat to natural bodies of water increases water temperature and causes major changes in the aquatic ecosystem. Fish populations are affected both in the numbers of fish that can live in warmer water and in changing the species of fish in the population. Cold water species are replaced by warm water species. Game fish may disappear and trash fish become plentiful.

Heat affects aquatic life other than fish. The solubility of oxygen decreases as temperature increases. Certain slimes and fungi flourish. Life cycles of aquatic insects are altered. Some aquatic plants will become plentiful and others die.

As more electricity is generated to meet the increasing needs

of a growing population and expanding industry in Michigan, more heat will be added to our lakes and rivers. This may become a major threat to our fruit industry.

Michigan has a fruit industry primarily because of climate. The major element in our climatic environment is the moderating effect of large bodies of water, especially Lake Michigan. The lake moderates the prevailing westerly winds and makes fruit production along the western edge of the state feasible.

The air temperature in the orchard is the primary determinant of whether or not there will be a crop of fruit produced. A change of one degree in temperature at a critical level and time can cause a crop failure instead of having a full crop. Recognizing the tremendous influence that the temperature of a body of water has on the surrounding air temperature, we are concerned about the possible affect on fruit production that a very small change in water temperature could cause.

Noel Stuckman

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Congratulations Goal Busters

Well done, and congratulations to all of you who worked so hard to make the membership campaign a great success. This is one of the earliest times ever that the membership goal has been accomplished. Farm Bureau County Presidents, Roll Call managers and all the workers who put aside other work to go out and talk with neighbors about Farm Bureau deserve a round of congratulations. We salute all of you. Farm Bureau as we know is a people organization and because of your efforts Farm Bureau continues to grow.

Yes, Michigan continues to be a leader. In fact, we're ahead of neighboring Ohio in our membership contest to decide the home of the "horse's tail" trophy for another year. The award is presented each year at a special Michigan-Ohio breakfast meeting at the American Farm Bureau Federation's annual meeting. Last year the trophy found a "stable" at the Ohio Farm Bureau residence. Through our members' good work here in Michigan, and (while we continue to receive new members who are joining to work to improve our industry), maybe we'll just keep that piece of equipment there in Ohio for a second consecutive year.

It's with this good spirit of Farm Bureau that goes to prove to all of us that a winning attitude goes a long way in making success.

How one looks at a situation can make the difference. It reminds me of the fellow that once said words to the effect, "Our membership will never increase in our county. It just can't be done. I know because I've been around this county a long time."

Well you know he was an awfully stubborn person, and true to his word, membership never did increase much in that county until positive, aggressive leadership stepped in. The results are amazing, that county today in membership alone is one of the leading counties of the state.

Positive constructive thinking does make the difference and really, it doesn't take any magic formula to see how it is done. The secret is within ourselves. For example, some people will look at a certain situation as one that bears misfortune, become discouraged and give up, while another individual will look at the same situation as an opportunity to meet a challenge and to work harder for success.

So really a person can be positive by just choosing to be. It is our choice to make. Like the workers in our successful membership drive, it was their decision whether to join and work for the betterment of all farmers in this campaign, or to choose to sit on the fence to watch the passing parade. The fact that we chose to take a positive attitude to move ahead bears out the reason Michigan continues to be a leader for agriculture.

Make no mistake about it. New members are vitally important. Growing numbers of farmers joining Farm Bureau contribute to making, improving and controlling Farm Bureau programs. It is hoped new members will share with all of us the responsibilities that need to be assumed to work for the progress of the man on the land and his community. With this involvement we hope new members will truly enjoy to work together, let us make it a labor of dedication, enjoyment and positive thinking. Among all farmers there are differences, much like the crop is to the earth, but if the two are cultivated, progress grows. This is the foundation from which stands our greatest strength.

It behooves all of us then to offer our hand to welcome new members, and to introduce them to the opportunities and benefits that fifty years of progressive Farm Bureau organization offers, while we all continue to work for progress with a positive method that is best described as a job being well done.

Elton Smith

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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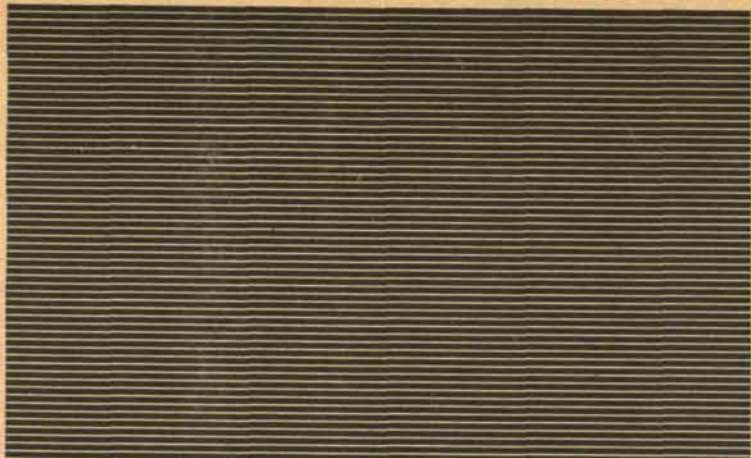
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capitol report

AT LEGISLATIVE SEMINARS

By Robert E. Smith



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE WILLIAM RYAN . . . (D-Detroit) (left) and Rep. James Folks (R-Horton) attended one of the Farm Bureau Legislative Seminars and discussed taxation issues pending before the Legislature.

April 22 is the day of "teach-ins" throughout the state, whether it be in the colleges, community colleges, high schools, elementary schools or kindergarten. Pollution problems as they affect our environment will be the order of the day. Words like "ecology" will be used by those who, until recently, had never heard of the term. Much of the day's activities will be on purely an emotional level.

It is good, however, that the general public is becoming aware of some of the facts of nature and that humanity is well on its way to reaching the end of the road. It is not good unless wisdom and judgment prevail and recognition is given to the fact that upgrading of the environment is a continuous thing and is plain hard work on the part of everyone.

This general movement seems to coincide with efforts presently in the Legislature to pass numerous bills claimed to be necessary to protect the environment. H.B. 3055 is the bill presently receiving a great deal of attention. A similar bill is in the Senate — S. 1269.

H. 3055, as introduced, would, in short, permit any citizen to go to court in the name of the state, against any person or governmental agency, and through "prima facie" showing, claim that a "defendant has or is reasonably likely to pollute." The defendant has the burden of proving there is no "alternative."

Farmers could well be the target of such actions, as could anybody else. Under present laws, several farmers in the state are already facing court action due to odors arising from livestock.

Farm Bureau, in testimony before the committee, indicated that passage of the bill, as introduced, could result in a "chaotic situation" and pointed out that in the view of many lawyers the bill reverses the basic concept of law and assumes a person is guilty until he proves himself innocent instead of being innocent until proven guilty.

It was pointed out that such legislation could well be used as an instrument of harassment by any citizen or group of citizens who in most cases could find it relatively easy to develop "prima facie" evidence that another person "has or is reasonably likely to pollute. . . ." It was further stated that the bill appeared to represent an "abnegation" of legislative responsibility and that while the rights of some citizens may be broadened, the rights of other citizens could be trampled.

Farm Bureau testimony further stated that presently the Water Resources Commission and Air Pollution Commission have broad powers to cope with pollution of the environment and that such commissions have established procedures for the right of appeal and also have expert knowledge on such issues. Other agencies of government also have certain powers.

In addition, the Attorney General has ruled that the abatement of unlawful water pollution may be brought about not only by the state, but by local units of government and private citizens. Present statutes provide ample means for local governmental units or citizens to file complaints with state agencies to initiate correction of pollution problems.

It is estimated that about 50

new bills have been introduced involving pesticides, environment, fertilizer, etc. For instance, H. 4206 would make it a misdemeanor to deal in or transport fertilizers mixed with insecticides.

It has been said that as the public becomes more knowledgeable in environment problems a dilemma becomes apparent—that everyone wants what nature gave us, but also wants what industry provides and few would surrender the comforts and conveniences of our modern life in order to regain the "natural life of the past."

The meat inspection issue is now becoming more critical. As this is written, two hearings have been held by the House Appropriations Committee on H. 2190. This bill would bring Michigan's meat inspection program to the level required by the Federal Wholesome Meat Act.

Presently, Michigan has full "ante mortem" and "post mortem" inspection and licensing of slaughterhouses. The major amendment needed to the present Act is to require that processing plants and the processed meats produced by them be under full-time inspection. Unless this is accomplished by December 15, 1970, it is probable that the entire inspection program would be taken over by the federal government. This could well be detrimental to the meat industry of Michigan due to the unbending regulations of federal agencies and the fact that the chief administration would be in Washington, D. C.

A meeting of representatives of the entire meat industry was held at Farm Bureau Center on March 18. An official from USDA, Washington, D. C. was on hand to answer questions. Members of the Michigan Department of Agriculture were also invited to answer questions. Nearly 50 leaders in the meat industry were present and were in unanimous agreement that the Michigan meat industry, beginning with the producers on through to the consumer, cannot afford to lose control of meat inspection to the federal government. The federal government is in the process of taking over one state—North Dakota. It is estimated in that state nearly 25% of the plants will be forced to close.

Some Legislators appear to want to let the federal government take over, believing that some state money could be saved. It is unlikely that this would be the case to any degree.

One of the side benefits of meat inspection is the fact that blood samples for disease control are now taken as part of the total inspection process. It is very possible that without control of the program blood samples would

have to, once again, be taken on the farm. Many farmers can remember when the cattle had to be rounded up and held for the state inspector to take such samples. This was an expensive process both for the state and for the farmer.

In testimony before the committee, Farm Bureau pointed out that the meat industry is fearful that federal inspection would cause many plants in Michigan to close. This, in turn, could be of serious consequence to farmers depending on those plants for outlets for their livestock. It also would mean a reduction in the number of buyers of livestock. It was further pointed out that if the federal takeover is permitted, state control could never be regained.

Another serious sidelight is the loss of jobs and tax base that could result from closing of plants that could not meet the strict federal enforcement. For instance, one plant that operates under the Michigan enforcement, but would likely be unable to meet some of the minor facility requirements of the federal authority, pays about \$48,000 in taxes per year, plus considerable payroll. Such an amount of taxes means the education of a good many children in that particular school district. In another outstate county, it is estimated that four plants might be required to close. These plants have a total of more than \$35,000 payroll.

It should be easy to see the far-ranging effects that could result from a legislative mistake.

Rep. Powell in the House, and Senator DeGrow in the Senate, have now introduced bills to carry out one of Farm Bureau's policies on livestock. It is an upgrading of the general livestock disease law, but will include a new section creating "approved feedlots" for the sole purpose of feeding female cattle over 18 months of age for slaughter. Any farmer wishing to feed out this type of livestock may do so by voluntarily registering with the Department of Agriculture and operating in the manner prescribed by law.

Prior to this, such cattle were not permitted to be fed and were required to go to immediate slaughter. The previous law permitted the returning to the farm of cattle under 12 months of age without permit, but cattle between 12 and 18 months of age required a permit: anything over 18 months of age was prohibited. This proposed legislation does not affect in any way the regular cattle feeding operation.

Legislation further changes the vaccination ages from the present 4-8 months to 3-7 months. This

change results from new research and better methods.

Two bills of particular importance to the farmland drainage and water have been introduced. One is S. 1150, which would require that all drainage projects must be approved by the "Department of Public Health and the Department of Natural Resources as to location and design." Agricultural drainage projects are presently within the Department of Agriculture and there are ample provisions for the protection of natural resources, etc.

Another bill of this nature S. 1236, is a maze of contradictory statements. It makes major changes in the "Inland Lakes and Water Streams Act". It declares all waters of the state as a public resource, including any body of water, stream, creek, etc., "Whether serving as legally established drains or not." It purports to exempt agricultural drain projects except "where the drains connect or are intended to connect with an inland lake or stream." Of course, every drain must connect at some point with a lake or a stream. Previously, a lake or stream was determined as to whether it was "navigable." The bill is full of such contradictions. It is obvious that the supervision of drains in the state would be removed from the Department of Agriculture and given to the Department of Natural Resources.

For the first time, Legislative tax committees appear to be seriously considering needed changes in the taxation of mobile homes. For many years, the tax has been \$3 per month, with 50¢ going to the county, 50¢ to the township and \$2 to the school district. This is totally unrealistic in light of the taxation of other property. Farm Bureau policies strongly support making changes in order to gain some equity.

There are four bills presently under consideration. One would assess them the same as any real estate; two others would assess them as personal property; a fourth one would collect a tax of 2¢ per square foot per month, with a minimum of \$3; and other proposals would increase the \$3 fee to \$5 or so.

Rep. Hoffman (R-Applegate), together with seven others, has introduced H. B. 4246, which would carry out a Farm Bureau policy on littering. The owner of an auto vehicle would be presumed to be responsible for any litter that is thrown from the vehicle on public or private properties. This would eliminate a major problem in enforcement of the anti-litter laws. At least three other states use this method effectively.



SHIAWASSEE COUNTY F. B. HAS FLAG



Members of the Shiawassee County Farm Bureau Women's Committee displayed their new Farm Bureau flag at the Rural-Urban dinner meeting in mid-March. Mrs. Marian Sutton, county women's chairman and Shiawassee County Farm Bureau Queen Mrs. Ruth Shepherd told of the many projects undertaken to raise the necessary money to purchase the flag.

Trends in School Curriculum" led by Peggy Miller and Robert Trezise of the Michigan Department of Education. In the afternoon Mrs. Steketee of Grand Rapids will give an interesting book report.

WOMEN'S DIST. SPRING MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Michigan Farm Bureau women have scheduled their District Spring meetings.

DISTRICT 1 — April 14, coffee hour at 9:30—meeting to start at 10 a.m. Van Buren County Farm Bureau building, Paw Paw. Luncheon, \$1.50. Reservations to be in to Mrs. Harry Webb, Paw Paw, by April 9. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Dick Anderle and Leverne South of the Michigan Department of Education, and in the afternoon, Miss Grace Woodman, IFYE student to Costa Rica, will speak. David Stratton, marimba player, will also entertain.

DISTRICT 3 — April 9, coffee hour at 9:30—meeting to start at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew Church of Christ, Dexter. Luncheon reservations to be in to Mrs. Lawrence Boettner by April 2. Dinner will be served by the church women for \$1.75. There will be a 25¢ registration fee. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Bob Sternberg and Dwight Smith of the Michigan Department of Education. Workshops

(two for each attending) in china painting, corn husk dolls, needlepoint, paper flowers, decoupage, cake decorating and nutrition and Weight Watchers will be the afternoon program.

DISTRICT 6 — Tuesday, April 21. Coffee hour at 9:30—meeting 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lapeer County Center Bldg., Lapeer. Luncheon \$1.25—at the Center Bldg. Reservations are due by April 17 to Mrs. Horace Davis, Davis Lake Road, Lapeer. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Wanda Jubb and Robert Trezise of the Michigan Department of Education. There will be a decoupage demonstration.

DISTRICT 7 — April 22, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fremont Community Building, Fremont. Luncheon, \$1.50. Reservations due by April 18 to Edna Edbrooke, Rt. 2, Fremont, phone 924-4867. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Mel Van Farowe and Dwight Smith of the Michigan Department of Education. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hall will show slides or films. Mr.

Hall is a botanist. A local musical group will entertain. The essay-winner on "How to Elect a President" will read the winning essay.

DISTRICT 8 — April 8, 9:30 coffee hour, at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Gladwin. Luncheon, \$1.50. Reservations by April 1 to Mrs. Harriet Schendler, Gladwin, Rt. 5. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Mel Van Farowe and Ben Hamilton of the Michigan Department of Education. There will be style review and musical selections by a girls' trio.

DISTRICT 9 — April 16, coffee and registration at 9:30 a.m.—meeting at 10 a.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Onkama. Ladies of the church will serve luncheon for \$1.50. Reservations to be to Mrs. Ray Anderson, 7750 Chief Rd., Chief, Mich. 49624 by April 10. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by John Osborne and Barbara Ort of the Michigan Department of Education. Calvin Lutz, MFB board member, will show slides of his work in Guatemala.

There will be modern music by a class from Manistee county.

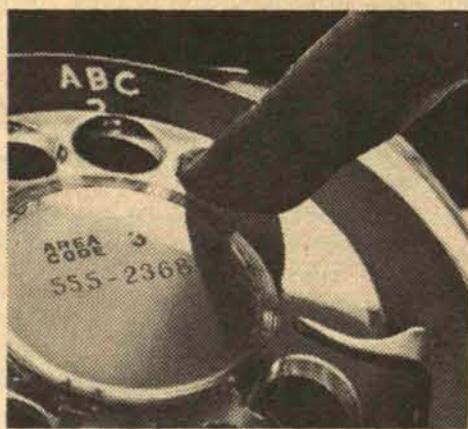
DISTRICT 10-E—April 23, 10:30 at Wilson Township Hall, King Settlement Rd. off M32. Potluck luncheon. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Ben Hamilton and Dwight Smith of the Michigan Department of Education. There will be a wig demonstration including care, cutting, advantages etc. Music will be furnished by Alpena Farm Bureau Men's Chorus.

DISTRICT 2 — April 28, coffee hour at 9:30—meeting to start at 10 a.m., Coldwater Grange Hall. Potluck luncheon. In the morning, there will be a discussion on "New Trends in School Curriculum" led by Bob Stout and Barbara Ort of the Michigan Department of Education. In the afternoon Marion Brown of Branch County will show slides and tell of her recent trip to the Holy Land. Donna Albright, Branch County Queen, will entertain.

DISTRICT 4—meeting to start at 10 a.m. at Marne United Methodist Church. Luncheon \$1.50. In the morning there will be a discussion on "New

DISTRICT 5—April 20, coffee hour at 9:30—meeting to start at 10 a.m. at the Mundy Township Hall in Rankin. In the afternoon Doug Chapman, Genesee County Extension Specialist, will talk on "Gardening and Landscaping". Luncheon, \$1.50. Reservations to be sent by April 13 to Mrs. Donald Hill, 10253 Farrand Road, Montrose 48457.

DISTRICT 10-W—April 24, coffee hour at 9:30—meeting to start at 10 a.m., to be at 4-H Center in Petoskey. Lunch will be served at noon. An interesting afternoon is also planned.



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Michigan Bell

In The Spring . . .

April showers bring the May flowers—and also the spring drivers.

I received a letter the other day that I want to share with all of you—it is an open letter to Michigan Farm Bureau Women and is from Mrs. Leota Westfall, secretary of the recently organized Michigan Women for Highway Safety.

"WOMANPOWER COMES FROM THE HEART" is the slogan for MICHIGAN WOMEN FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY which was organized during the 7th annual Highway Safety Conference for Michigan Women's Organizations conducted at Michigan State University in October, 1969.

"We commend your organization for becoming a Sponsor for MWFHS, and all of your local groups who have requested traffic safety programs or material assistance this year.

"MWFHS is now being organized at the county level in each of the 83 counties in Michigan. Regional Coordinating Committees will be established in twelve regions of the state and regional officers will be elected during one-day regional conferences which are planned for this Spring.

"We are very pleased to have your organization among the 25 Michigan Women's organizations who are sponsoring MWFHS, and invite all local club leaders and members to watch for an early announcement in their local or county press to learn the name of their recently appointed County Committee Chairman.

"We hope that each member of your organization will contact their County Committee Chairman and express her willingness to become an active member of her county committee for MWFHS, joining other interested and concerned women leaders in a crusade to halt the violence and the rising toll of death and destruction on the streets and highways of Michigan."

I'm very proud to be a part of this new venture and I'm sure that if we all work together our streets and highways will be less hazardous and we can begin to be our Brothers Keeper—as we are supposed to be.

This is just one of our projects for the year—but it is one that can involve each and every one of us.

Mrs. Jerold (Maxine) Topliff

Notes From All Over

Michigan foods were displayed and sampled during the International Food Fair held February 16 through the 20th at Utrecht, The Netherlands. An estimated 40,000 potential buyers from the Common Market countries of Europe and the United Kingdom attended the Fair.

B. Dale Ball, Michigan Department of Agriculture Director, said the project was designed to develop additional world markets to boost the state's agricultural economy. Participation by Michigan growers and processors was coordinated by the Marketing Division, Michigan Department of Agriculture.

"The Thar Sled" . . . an inexpensive wooden sled to cut asparagus invented by James Thar, Decatur asparagus grower, was Van Buren county's Agricultural Development of the Year Entry in the Michigan Week contest. Mr. Thar is a former Michigan Farm Bureau Board member and has invented many labor saving pieces of equipment.

Relatively new consumer products manufactured in Michigan are eligible for the Michigan Week (May 16-23) Product Of The Year competition. County contests are open for entries until April 6 and regional contests until Monday, April 20. The State Product of the Year Award will be presented during Michigan Week.

Notice received March 24 that THE THAR SLED had been awarded the State Agricultural Development of the Year Award. Award presentation and story in May Farm News.

Michigan Rendezvous at Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan, is sponsored by the Greater Michigan Foundation. The Economic Club of Detroit, in cooperation with the Foundation, is planning receptions at Toyko, Osaka, Hong Kong and Anchorage. The Rendezvous is planned to further develop the sister-state relationship between Michigan and Shiga . . . a prefecture of Japan and sister-city relationships between 19 Michigan cities.

"Wonderland or Wasteland," The Litter Problem, A Challenge to Action" and "The Litter Problem, How Can Young People Help?" are visual aids and speech offerings of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce to help in the Keep Michigan Beautiful program. Details may be obtained from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

David D. Diehl, prominent Dansville farmer and active Farm Bureau member, has been appointed to the State Agriculture Commission, succeeding Blague C. Knirk, Quincy, for a term expiring December 31, 1973. The appointment was announced by Governor William G. Milliken. Diehl, who has operated a farm since 1939, has been a member of the Dansville Village council for eight years, is a past president of the Dansville Agricultural School Board and for four years has been a member of the County Board of Directors of Farm Bureau. Senate confirmation of the appointment is required.

Michigan Farm Bureau is well represented on the Michigan Livestock Exchange Board of Directors. Eight of the nine-member board are F.B. members. At the organizational meeting held by the Board following their annual meeting early in March, Milton Brown, Mt. Pleasant farmer, Isabella County, was elected president of the board. David Morris, Clinton County beef farmer, Grand Ledge, was elected to the vice presidency. Mr. Brown succeeded Allen Ruth of Lake Orion and Mr. Morris succeeded Ed Oeschger of Bay Port in Huron County. Archie Cowan, North Street, St. Clair County, remains as secretary-treasurer. Other board members in addition to Mr. Cowan and Mr. Oeschger are Carl Vanderbeek, Alma, Gratiot County; Blague Knirk, Quincy, Branch County and Ernie Gerbach, Saline, Washtenaw County.

Plans are being completed for the 1970 Michigan Farm Bureau Young People's Citizenship Seminars to be held in June and July. The Upper Peninsula Seminar will be held in June (final details to be announced later) according to David Cook, Citizenship Committee chairman. The Lower Peninsula Seminar will be held July 20-24 at Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant. Discussion leaders for both seminars will be announced later. County Citizenship Committees and County Farm Bureaus are receiving current information regarding selection of students, etc.

Prices paid by farmers rose one and one-half percent during January as reported by the United States Department of Agriculture. This was the largest month-to-month increase in 19 years. The major part of the current increase resulted from increasing annual tax and interest rates and seasonally adjusted farm wage rates, although commodities and services were also higher.

While costs to the farmers were soaring, the proportion of the consumer's dollar spent for food declined to 16½% in 1969 according to a USDA's economic research service.

MMPA Honors Two Young Farm Bureau Couples

Two young couples, both active Farm Bureau families, have been honored by Michigan Milk Producers Association 'for their outstanding leadership and farming practices.'



Mr. and Mrs. Earl Horning



Mr. and Mrs. Remus Riggs

Mr. and Mrs. Earl (Diane) Horning, Manchester, Washtenaw county, were named the Outstanding Young Dairy Couple of 1970 by MMPA in a search in their 12 districts in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Remus (Ruth) Riggs, Coldwater, Branch county, were named runners-up.

The Hornings operate a 300 acre dairy farm in partnership with his father, Alton. They milk approximately 55 cows of a 110 cow-herd and also have about 100 sheep.

Mr. and Mrs. Horning both have degrees from Michigan State University . . . Mr. Horning's in animal husbandry and Mrs. Horning's in education. Earl Horning is active in the Michigan Milk Producers Saline Local, (he has served in many official capacities), in Farm Bureau and Michigan Animal Breeders Cooperative. Diane Horning has taught school and has been active in county extension work. They have two children.

Remus and Ruth Riggs have a 700 acre dairy farm operation and a 104 cow herd. They have three children.

Earl and Diane Horning will represent the MMPA in Las Vegas, Nevada, this fall. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon (Fay) Philibeck, Menominee, were the 1969 MMPA Outstanding Young Dairy couple.

Research Center Dedicated

Michigan residents can point with pride to the Pesticide Research Center at Michigan State University. The \$2 million Center was formally dedicated in impressive ceremonies February 26 and was attended by dedicated scientists from many parts of the world. The Center is unique and is one of its kind in the nation.

Included in the center are a 38,000 sq. ft., two-story laboratory building; 18,000 sq. ft. of greenhouses; a large headhouse, and a 6,000 sq. ft. controlled environment chamber room.

The idea of a Pesticide Research Center, dedicated to a better understanding of the interrelationships of pesticides and the environment through interdisciplinary research, emerged at Michigan State University in 1962. Proposals for funding a facility were started in 1964, and money to build the Center came from the National Institutes of Health, the United States Department of Agriculture and the State of Michigan, in co-operation with the University of Michigan and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station.

Prof. Gordon Guyer is chairman of the Department of Entomology and Director of the Center.

Young Farmer Conference Generates Enthusiasm

Seventy-nine Young Farmer representatives attended the Michigan Farm Bureau Young Farmer Leaders Conference late in February when it was held in Midland.

Young Farmer Director David Cook reports "they were all very enthusiastic and possessed a great deal of leadership ability. Their evaluations and comments indicated that the conference was a success."

The Young Farmers . . . husbands and wives . . . attended three leadership classes—one session on The Farm Bureau Organization, one on Understanding Policy Development and Young Farmers in Action; four general sessions with speakers on Farm Labor, The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1969, Educational Reform and Public Relations; an information program by representatives of the Dow Chemical Company; addresses by Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton Smith, Kenneth Cheatham, of the American Farm Bureau Federation and a talk by Farm Bureau Queen Jane Ross. Entertainment and recreation was also enjoyed by the group.



ANIMATED CONVERSATIONS . . . were the natural rule whenever Young Farmers got together for any period of time at the Y. F. Conference. Talking . . . with gestures . . . were (L to R) Jerry Grabbell, Donald Wellman, YF Chairman Karl Howard, Karen Wellman, Dale and Mary Weidmayer and Bob and Betty Anderson.



AUCTIONEER JIM SYKORA . . . sang out the bids at the Saginaw Valley Victory Party held March 5. All six counties — Gladwin, Arenac, Midland, Bay, Gratiot and Saginaw made goal and — 'some to spare' — according to Regional Representative Rudy Reinbold.

A Matter Of Survival

Everybody's tomorrow depends on our taking enough time to perpetuate the good natural things of the world that are worth perpetuating.

The 'good natural things' are the soil—the forests—vegetation—the fish and animals—clean air—all the things that Mother Nature spent a million years stocking her pantry with for us to enjoy. But look at Mother Nature's pantry now. The shelves are nearly bare. The doors of the cupboards have been torn from the hinges where outdoor enthusiasts have clamored to use up her store room of fish, furs, water, air, trees, soil and vegetation.

Finding the cupboards nearly bare, they've moved in with substitutes. Eventually the substitutes—metals, plastic, glass, synthetics—have to be disposed of because they are pushing us off the face of the earth, a situation that has turned into the survival of the fittest.

The fittest? What hasn't been destroyed, inhabitants of countries all over the world are fighting for. They are clamoring for the polluted rivers, lakes, oceans and air. They are maiming and killing each other for the right to call this debris-strewn land 'theirs' and for the right to fly their super-jets through already traffic heavy air waves. Jets also contribute heavily to the air pollution—while carrying the hundreds of passengers to another spot on the earth that is just as polluted—but only of a different type.

An obligation (man made, true) to take care of natural resources has not been met, the soils are washing away in the rivers—wildlife populations are much reduced and even in the most remote part of the earth, one can walk the road or shore and find a non-disposable can advertising a favorite beverage or a leading sun tan lotion.

Obviously, an overlooked part of the resource crisis we face regarding land, parks, wilderness, farm land and water is a breakdown of parts of our moral fabric. Lack of concern for resources is a symptom of something even bigger. We just don't care. We didn't throw that bag of trash in the ditch—it's not my fault. If India has thousands of people starving—so what? We can still grow potatoes and corn and beef cattle and chickens. Why—the majority of folks in the United States (Michigan included) die of being over-weight—not starving to death.

But sooner or later will come the realization that will touch every area of society—it is absolutely necessary that we have good pure water—absolutely imperative that we have clean air to breathe—absolutely good that we preserve our parks from the comfort cravers.

America is calling. The America that we sung about "Oh Beautiful For Spacious Skies—For Amber Waves of Grain—For Purple Mountains Majesty—Above the Fruited Plain—these are the great possessions that must be preserved for future generations. Our age must do what no age has done yet. It must live within the limits of its resource base and preserve that base for the generations not yet upon this earth.

J. H. Bradley said it. "The earth, however, never forgets. While men are sleeping, she is awake, silently strengthening the cords of her influence. When men make boast of their conquests, she is not concerned, for she knows that the limits of human attainment are the limits she chooses to set. When they strut through the kingdom they think they have conquered, she tightens the strings that hold them to her hand . . . Every volcano that fumes to the sky, every erosive power that romps over the prostrate body of the earth, is a mill for the production of soil. Because both the grist and the grinding may vary from place to place, agriculture must vary in accordance, and with it the fate of civilized man. For agriculture is the inescapable first concern of civilized man . . ." (Autobiography of Earth—J. H. Bradley)

Maybe "Old Chief Running Water" (a mythical Indian chief) knew what it was all about saying when he dolefully shook his head and said of his white brothers, "Him turn land wrong side up. Rains come; rain wash land away, grass die, cows starve, children hungry, wife go away, house empty, man go away. Indian smart, Indian leave soil right side up, rain come, soak in ground, grow grass, fat deer feed Indian—Indian have best way yet!"

MMPA-MFB BOARD MEETING



THE MICHIGAN MILK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION . . . and Michigan Farm Bureau Boards of Directors held a joint meeting in the Farm Bureau Board room early in March. Seated (left to right) are Harold Blaylock, MMPA; Glenn Lake, MMPA president; MFB President Elton Smith; Dave Morris, MFB; Eugene Erskine and Marvin Lott, both of MMPA. Standing are (l to r) Bernard Doll, Frederick Halbert, Mike Renn Jr., John Gilbert, Robert Lamoreaux, all MMPA board members; Harvey Leuenberger, MFB; Ervin Haskill and Thad Holmes, MMPA; Andrew Jackson, MFB; Wilmar Green, MMPA; Walter Frahm, MFB; Max Graybill, MMPA; Karl Howard, Eugene Roberts, Maxine Topliff, Jack Laurie, Richard Wieland, Frank Schwiderson, MFB; Harold Wood, MMPA and Arthur Bailey, MFB.

On the Way! Farm Bureau Insurance Group Receives Second Honor Award

When you mention 'a volunteer organization'—be sure that members of Michigan Farm Bureau are at the top of the list.

As of March 20, 57 counties had made goal—with the remaining 14 to be added to the list within the next few days, (74 counties make up 71 county Farm Bureaus.)

Added to the previously announced list of "Buckeye Roasters" are the following counties: Wayne, Bay, Sanilac, Kent, St. Clair, Oakland, Lenawee, New-ago, Ingham, Lapeer, Ogemaw, Iosco and Barry.

Regions making goal are the Saginaw Valley, Upper Peninsula, West, Thumb, Central, Southeast, Northeast and Northwest.

There was a 55,560-member goal and to date we can proudly say we have 56,108 members.

Volunteers? Michigan Farm Bureau members work voluntarily toward mutual goals. Volunteers go out to reach new and renewal members and carry on volunteer programs across the state.



THE 1968 GEORGE WASHINGTON HONOR MEDAL AWARD . . . won by Farm Bureau Insurance Group, will soon be joined by the 1969 award. . . . Nile Vermillion Executive Vice-President, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, and Duane Hay, a representative with the Duane Marlan Ins Agency, welcome the addition.

The George Washington Honor Medal Award was conferred on Farm Bureau Insurance Group for the second consecutive year by Freedoms Foundation. The announcement was made February 22 at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

The regional award was given for the conducting of a state-wide essay contest . . . "What the U. S. Flag Means To Me" . . . for eighth-grade students in 1969.

Text of the announcement, made by Freedoms Foundation President Kenneth D. Wells, read, "The trustees and officers of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge announce with pleasure the selection of Farm Bureau Insurance Group by the distinguished National and School Awards Jury, to receive the George Washington Honor Medal Award for its 1969 Citizenship Program . . . an outstanding accomplishment in helping to achieve a better understanding of the American Way of Life."

The essay contest began as a Farm Bureau Insurance Group community project for Lansing in 1968. The concept of encouraging youth to seriously consider their role in America's future received such wide acclaim that it was expanded to a statewide competition in 1969. In last year's contest 68 schools and 900 students participated.

For the last two years, the State's top essayist and teacher received an all-expense-paid three-day, two-night trip to Fort Mackinac with accommodations at historic Grand Hotel.

Farm Bureau Insurance Group is currently conducting a similar essay contest for eighth grade classes throughout Michigan in which 180 schools are participating. The month-long contest, which began February 22, now offers a four-day, three-night free trip to Washington, D. C. for the State's first place essayist, essayist's parents and teacher. The top three essays will be forwarded to Freedoms Foundation for entry in national competition.

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is a nonprofit, non-political, nonsectarian, educational organization created to achieve a better understanding of the basic principles underlying the Republic and to encourage Americans to be more articulate about freedoms in today's America.

Freedoms Foundation presentation ceremonies for Michigan individuals and organizations, including the Farm Bureau Insurance Group Award, will be conducted later this year.

Legislative Leaders Fly To Washington

The more than 90 Farm Bureau Legislative Leaders and American Heritage tour participants flew out of Lansing's Capital City Airport, March 16—the first step towards their four-day visit to Washington, D. C. The group and their Farm Bureau guides gathered in front of the plane that had them in Washington in time for dinner. The next major planned air tour is scheduled for December and the AFBF convention in Houston, Texas.



It Pays To Pool Your Wool

According to information from the Agricultural Economics Department of Ohio State University, and 52 years of marketing experience of the Ohio Wool Growers Association, it does pay to pool your wool. Many of our consignors market their wool consistently, year after year, because they know it pays. More and more Michigan sheepmen are taking advantage of the Ohio pool, since the Wool Growers marketing service has been made available to them. According to actual records, pooled wool netted greater returns on an average of about 9 years out of 10. These are pretty good odds in favor of this method of marketing. To be honest and realistic, there have been a few years in our 52 year history when the pool price didn't equal the local purchase price, but these times have been rare. We promote pooling but it is not the only method we offer. We also purchase wool at a flat price, direct from the growers. However, Ohio Wool Growers is owned and operated by sheepmen and the primary purpose of the Association is to market the wool in the best way for its members.

Now, may we point out a few reasons why pooling generally is best. First, when a local buyer offers you a flat price, he doesn't know just how your clip will grade out, and he must set a price which is conservative enough to safely cover him on all kinds of wool. If you have a good clip, you will be helping to pay for the poor clip down the road. If your wool is pooled, you get the advantage of having it graded and being paid on the basis of quality. Most sheepmen produce good enough quality wool that it would pay to have it graded and take the guess work out of the pricing. When the quality is "guessed" and a flat price is determined, the grower generally gets the "short end of the stick."

One of the principles of economics is that prices for a commodity generally tend to be lower when there is the largest amount of that commodity available. Most sheep are sheared during the spring, and the greatest quantity of wool is marketed this time of year. Consequently, wool prices are generally lower in the spring.

Instead of trying to sell all our wool when the market is saturated, we follow an orderly method of marketing throughout the year. We also have the advantage of shipping direct to the mills, and selling in carload lots. Since most mills use just certain types of wool, they prefer buying graded wool. Another advantage is our large volume. We cooperate with several other wool marketing associations in funneling all our total tonnage through one sales office in Boston, which we own and operate. This gives more bargaining power.

Another place where our consignors benefit is in relation to the government incentive payment. Any additional payment growers get on their market price directly affect the amount of incentive payment. This past year, for each extra cent received on the market price, the grower got an additional $\frac{2}{3}$ ¢ in government payment.

The following is an example of a sheepman in north-central Ohio who has consigned his wool to the pool for many years. The figures represent his actual consignment in 1969. He has a flock of around 200 head of ewes and the quality of his clip could be duplicated by many other growers.

	Lbs.	Per Lb.
$\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ staple (premium)	1736	\$.45
Low $\frac{1}{4}$ (premium)	612	.44
Medium clothing	42	.39
Tags withheld	128	.45
Extra tags (over 5%)	32	.13
TOTAL	2550	
Net Proceeds —	\$1128.62	
Average net market price per pound	\$.4426	
$$.4426 \times 65\% =$	$$.2877$	estimated government pm't.
$$.4426 + $.2877 =$	$$.73$	total per pound of wool.

Figuring conservatively, the above clip in our 1969 pool netted the owner over \$250.00 more. This is about the same as marketing ten extra lambs.

If you are interested in marketing your wool through the Ohio Wool Growers Association, and getting paid for the actual worth of your wool, you may contact one of the following handlers:

*Roger Brooks
Rt. 2, 14600 Ely Rd.
Manchester, Mich. 48158

Malcolm Cuddie
Route 4
Gladwin, Mich. 48624

Floyd Esch
Rt. 1, Box 208
Mio, Mich. 48647

*Walter Gnepper
5985 Dryden Rd.
Dryden, Mich. 48428

Gene Mater
Route 2
Nashville, Mich. 49073

Fern Payne
6267 Mills Hwy.
Eaton Rapids, Mich. 48827

George M. Strauer
1800 West Alabaster Road
National City, Mich. 48748

Carl Wiggins
3820 Parmenter Rd.
Durand, Mich. 48429

Farm Bureau Coop
Robert Whaley, Mgr.
Climax, Mich. 49034

West Branch Farm Bureau Coop
Eugene A. Noble, Mgr.
West Branch, Mich. 48661

*Harold F. Brunner
15840 Crosswell Rd.
West Olive, Mich. 49460

*Wendell H. Douglas
R.R. 1, Box 13
Rudyard, Mich. 49780

*Aaron L. Gilmore
R.R. 2, 490 W. Territorial
Camden, Mich. 49232

Raymond Hutchins
Route 3
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

Frank Myers
Route 1
Clare, Mich. 48617

Ben Seely
Route 2, 745 Frank Rd.
Reading, Mich. 49274

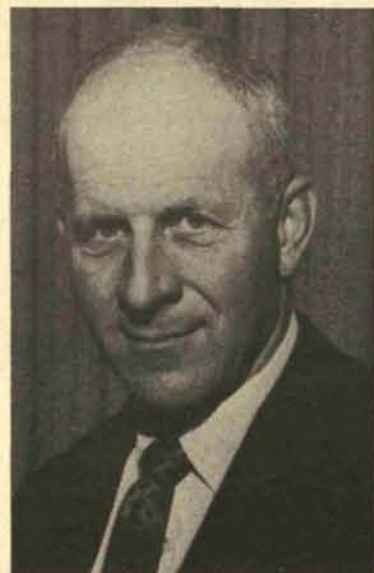
*Omar Tacía
2666 E. Swede Road
Spruce, Mich. 48762

John Willford
4205 Willford Road, Rt. 3
Gladwin, Mich. 48624

St. Johns Coop. Co.
John Williamson, Mgr.
P.O. Box 259
St. Johns, Mich. 48879

*Denotes sheep shearer

MSU Honors Farm Bureau Members



DEAN PRIDGEON

Two Michigan Farm Bureau members were honored March 25 by Michigan State University for "Distinguished Service to Agriculture."

Receiving citations during a special Farmer's Week ceremony on the MSU campus were Dean Pridgeon, Montgomery and Charles E. Donaldson, Jr., Draggett.

Dean Pridgeon is vice-president of Michigan Farm Bureau and a member of the board of directors for Farm Bureau Insurance, Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Farmers Petroleum Cooperative and Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association. Mr. Pridgeon is a life-long Branch county farmer, operating 1100 acres on which he raises 2500 head of hogs and 700 acres of corn annually.

Mr. and Mrs. Pridgeon were named "Farm Bureau Cooperators of the Year" by the MFB and affiliated Farm Bureau Services.



CHARLES DONALDSON JR.

Dean Pridgeon was named Michigan's Outstanding Young Farmer in 1956.

Charles E. Donaldson, Jr. operates a 300 acre dairy farm in Menominee county in the Upper Peninsula. He has provided leadership in all phases of dairying, both locally and at the state level. He has held a number of important offices in the Michigan Milk Producers Association, Michigan Farm Bureau and State Agricultural Commission. He represents the Upper Peninsula on the State Extension Advisory Council. He has also served on the Stephenson board of Education and was a member of the state resolutions committee of Michigan Farm Bureau.

The awards were presented in the University Auditorium by Lawrence L. Boger, Dean of MSU's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



AGRICULTURE IS NO JOHNNY-COME-LATELY . . . to the pollution battle. The more than 35 years of soil and water conservation work by farmers has been an outstanding contribution to pollution control. Representatives of Great Lakes Farm Bureaus met in Chicago recently to discuss current developments in pollution activities affecting land, water and air. Pictured, left to right, are: William KasaKaitas, Wisconsin Farm Bureau — Clifford McIntire, Director of the Natural Resources Department, AFBF — Eugene Roberts, Michigan Farm Bureau — Morris Allton, Ohio Farm Bureau — Franklin Schwiderson and Dan E. Reed, Michigan Farm Bureau.



GOING ONCE — GOING TWICE — GOING THREE TIMES . . . was a familiar call at all the Region Bogus Buck auctions held recently. Glenn Casey, auctioneer, called the sale for the West Central Region.

Auto-Ins. Rates Adjusted April 1

Some Michigan farmers will experience lower auto and pickup truck insurance rates as part of Farm Bureau Insurance Group's statewide adjustment of all new and renewal premium, effective April 1. Rates for all non-farm vehicles will be subject to an increase, but some farm vehicles, principally those used near metropolitan areas, will qualify for premium decreases.

For example, rates for farm vehicles used near Flint, Saginaw, Pontiac or Detroit, will be reduced by 1% to 28%. These decreases result from a new group classification concept for farmers. All farm-use autos or pickup trucks insured with Farm Bureau Mutual will be eligible for a uniform rating system.

Rates for other farm vehicles will be increased, but substantially less than premium hikes for non-farm autos and pickup trucks.

Farm truck owners will also reap benefits from the rate adjustment that are unique in the insurance industry. Farm-use trucks may now be utilized for commercial purposes also, up to 25% of annual mileage at no extra premium cost. But to make these new concepts work, increased safe-driving habits are a necessity.

Farm Bureau Head Says "We Are Concerned"

"Farmers have decided it is time for some legislation for labor activity," President Elton Smith said in an address to Michigan Farm Bureau leaders and newsmen at a meeting in Washington, D. C. recently.

President Smith and 90 Farm Bureau members were in Washington March 16-20 on the annual Legislative Seminar air-tour.

"Regarding legislation for labor activity," Smith said, "we farmers are strongly in favor of Senator George Murphy's (R-Calif.) bill which would set up a separate organization similar to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to handle farm labor-management problems."

Eugene Roberts, a MFB director, Lake City, said the NLRB rules should not apply to farming because industry can resume production after a strike, whereas agriculture faces crop losses at harvest and a wait of a year before production can be resumed.

"We in no way oppose their (working force) right to organize," Roberts said, "but we must have different ground rules."

"We know we're not going fast enough in our dealings with the environmental crisis, but we hope we don't have hysteria," Smith said.

He said farmers are concerned about the environmental crisis but it will take time.

Asked how the MFB could claim "time" was available in the face of calls for immediate action by President Nixon and Democratic leaders, including Sen. Edmund Muskie, (D-Main), Smith replied, "They're politicians and we're constituents."

POLLUTION

THE ISSUE OF THE 70'S...



Hugh H. Bennett

Pioneer Conservationist

A pioneer — the father of soil conservation — a man a generation ahead of his time — HUGH H. BENNETT.

"Big Hugh" came from North Carolina in 1903 and joined the Bureau of Soils in the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C. He had seen sheet erosion strip off six to nine inches of topsoil from bare, heavily-cropped fields and knew that the best part of the land was being swept away to become a pollutant in the streams and lakes. He successfully combined science with showmanship to get an urgent job under way.

Under his guidance, 35 years ago this month (in April of 1935), the U. S. Soil Conservation Service was created. More than any other man, he was responsible for our national soil and water conservation and watershed protection programs.

Developed under his guidance, these programs extend into virtually every corner of the United States. They have provided the pattern for development of similar programs in at least 18 other countries. What a legacy to leave to the people of the United States and the people of the world!

Big Hugh's vision led to the organization of Soil Conservation Districts in most counties of the United States, and gave impetus to the growing concern for total conservation of our natural resources. He recognized the need for environmental improvement before many of today's conservationists were born.

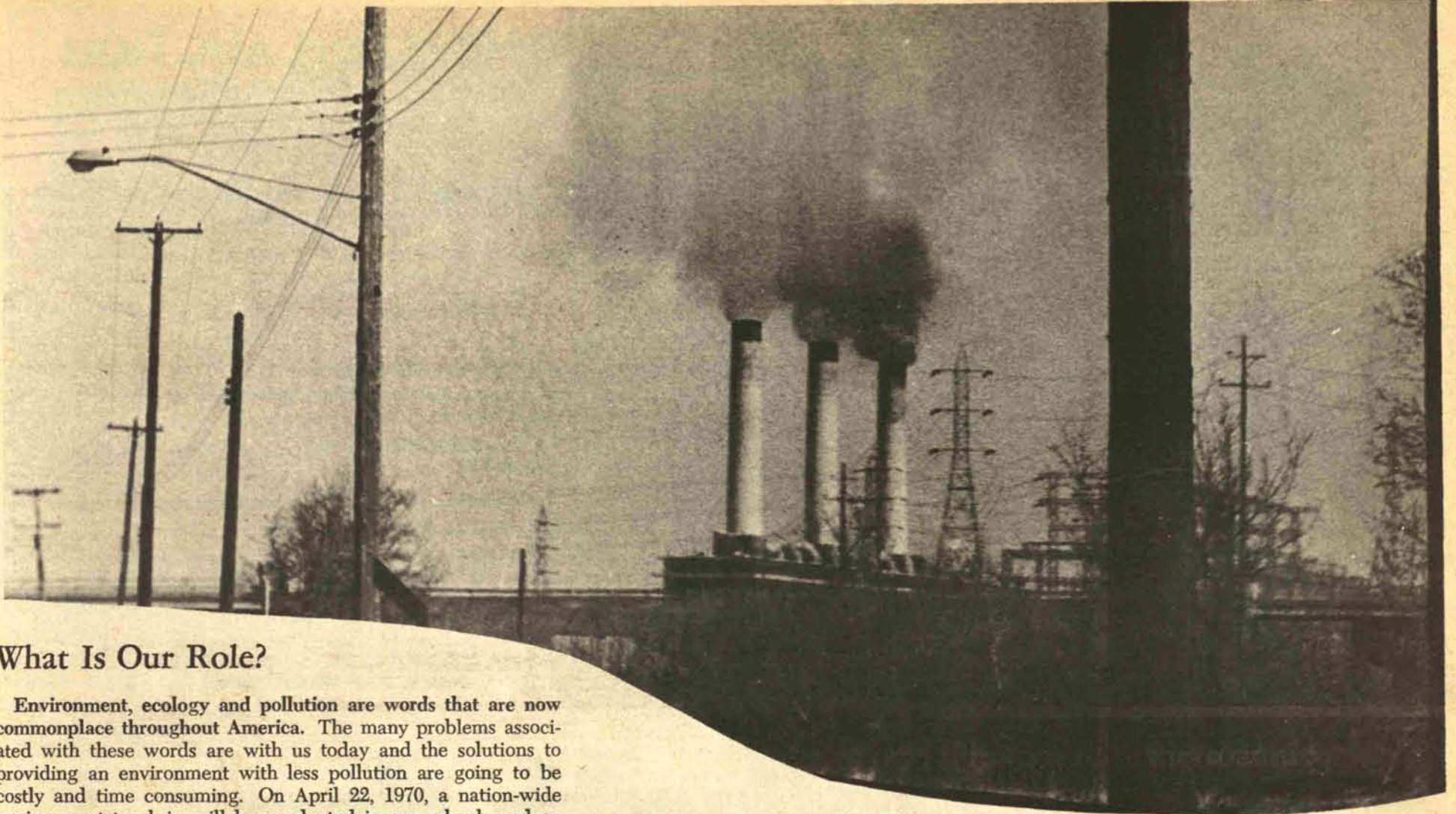
"Hugh Bennett, the man of the soil, has returned to the soil," wrote Donald A. Williams, Administrator, U. S. Soil Conservation Service. "He lies under a great oak on a hillside in beautiful Arlington National Cemetery. His monuments are many and they will continue to increase." Big Hugh died July 7, 1960.

Many Michigan Soil Conservation District Directors and friends of our soil and water resources knew him personally. To them April, 1970 means the 35th anniversary of a great man's achievement — the formal organization of the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

*"If I were king of the forest,
With power befitting a czar,*

*Oh, if I could remodel the woods
I would leave them just as they are."*

This short verse was written by former Director of Extension of Michigan State University, Clint Ballard.



What Is Our Role?

Environment, ecology and pollution are words that are now commonplace throughout America. The many problems associated with these words are with us today and the solutions to providing an environment with less pollution are going to be costly and time consuming. On April 22, 1970, a nation-wide environment teach-in will be conducted in our schools and on the campuses of our colleges and universities. The object of the teach-in will be to inform people about pollution, to promote investigations as to the causes of pollution in local communities and to organize groups to clean up the environment through political action, legislation and community programs.

Agriculture must play a role in its own behalf during these sessions to help inform the entire population. Agriculture is often sighted as one of the irresponsible polluters of our environment. What are the circumstances relative to environmental pollution and agriculture state in it? Environmental management is not a new problem to human beings and to their survival. Simply by existing, man unavoidably contaminates the environment. Each individual in miniature is an energy-producing power plant. He consumes fuel-carbohydrates, fats and oils, proteins and other materials he chooses to regard as food—which is turned into energy required for muscular and mental activities. He radiates waste heat to the environment and he eliminates other wastes that can cause pollution.

Counting only the effects of his bodily functions he is a major polluter of ground and surface waters. While people are free to select the water they will drink, they have a reduced choice in the air which they will breathe. The United States Public Health Service estimated that 188 million tons of pollution were pumped into the air in the United States in 1968, or approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a ton of pollution for each man, woman and child. The principle sources of air pollution, according to the Health Department are: 64% automobile and diesel engines (crankcase exhaust from internal combustion engines), 17% from industry, 11% power plants, 6% from heating of homes and buildings, 2% burning of trash and disposal of wastes. There is no reported measure of the volume of pollution from agriculture.

Physical losses caused by all insects in the U. S. alone, add up to the staggering amount of at least \$4 billion dollars for a average year. If agricultural chemicals were not used to control insects in crop and livestock production, it is estimated it could decrease agriculture production by 25 to 30% in a single year. With such losses many food and fiber items would be in short supply and the prices of these products would rise greatly. There are conflicting opinions within the agriculture family relative to the use of persistent chemicals. All discussions of the environment carry a single theme. Something must be done immediately to purify the air, water and other diminishing natural resources. If man is to continue to live on this planet, he must become more concerned about his environment by the same token he must become more concerned with ways to utilize every technological breakthrough that will help to produce the things he needs with as little contamination of the environment as possible. Mechanical pollutants of the environment earn the wrath of all good citizens. A trace of smoke from the factory chimney brings condemnation of the factory as a cause of air pollution. A foul odor from some waste dumping spot also causes great concern and a cry or a plea for clean air. A fisherman yells about a stream being polluted by those up stream because of water run-off and being used as a waste disposal unit.

In short it is universally agreed that something must be done about the environment. We as agriculturists must help to accomplish this goal.

Give Earth a Chance

Governor William G. Milliken has called the preservation of our environment "THE critical issue of the Seventies."

National Congressmen term the making of our environment (at least livable), "a leading national priority" while college campus youth are forming ENACT (Environmental Action for Survival), elementary and secondary students are pitching in to clean up the land, sea and air; teach-ins are being held across the nation—all working together to "Give Earth a Chance."

Looking back over the 60's, there were many firsts. We put the first men on the moon; the first human heart transplants were accomplished; and for the first time the populace became vocal about the polluted condition of the hemisphere.

In mid-March, the University of Michigan hosted the first Environmental Teach-In with a second major one scheduled for Michigan State University April 22nd.

Rep. Stanley M. Powell (R-Ionia) has said in "A Realistic Approach to the Pollution Problem"—"Since public opinion, when properly focused, is the most potent force that can exist in a democracy, I hope very much that this sudden surge of citizen concern will be constructively channeled. With the pollution problem, as with any problem of such magnitude and intensity, there are no simplistic solutions."

Rep. Powell commented on House Bill No. 3055 which proposes that any citizen, group or local government be permitted to take action, in the name of the State of Michigan, against any other individual, firm or government agency that is believed to be causing or to be reasonably likely to cause water or air pollution or any other adverse effect on the environment.

"There is strong reason to believe this plan would actually hurt anti-pollution efforts," Rep. Powell said. Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley also opposes the measure.

"The largest single source of air pollution—an estimated 50% of the total—lies not in factory smokestacks, but in the exhaust of the automobiles we drive. Each year we drop an average of 16,000 pounds of litter on each mile of our highways and continue to send wastes through our sewers into lakes and streams," Powell concluded.

Governor Milliken stated in a special message, "It is the entire climate of carelessness that must be changed. We must convince every one of our citizens that the environmental legacy that we have inherited is just as precious as our legacy of freedom, and just as easily lost."

Earlier in March, several Michigan citizens were invited to take part in a workshop on "Shaping our Environment for Quality Living" at the Lansing Civic Center.

As farm people—and members of Michigan Farm Bureau—pollution and the care of the environment is a direct responsibility of the farmer.

Mrs. Andrew Jackson of Howell, wife of a Farm Bureau Board of Directors member, was spokesman for the farm people. Claudine Jackson's voice was that of the humanitarian. She expressed the desire to help educate the people that there is a universal need to have an adequate supply of wholesome and nutritious food for all mankind.

"This is a heavy responsibility. The problem of furnishing food for a nation rests in the hands and on the backs of 5% of the population.

"In order to maintain a quality environment, those of us in agriculture must be allowed to control insects, disease and weeds. We need the means to combat the cereal leaf beetle and the most serious pest to Michigan agriculture—the Alfalfa weevil. We must be allowed to spray to keep these, and many other insects, from ruining the crops that are essential to the food production.

"Concern must be shown by subdividers and road builders. Each time they remove an inch

of top soil, they've taken away what it has taken nature 100 years or more to build.

"Let's look at the state's natural rivers. A study conducted on the Red Cedar River that flows through the Michigan State University campus showed—that the largest amount of pesticide contamination entering the Red Cedar comes from the waste water treatment plants." An out-state paper (The Flint Journal) reported on Tread Creek—"Organic and industrial wastes, domestic refuse and flood plane filling have combined to destroy the recreational and aesthetic value of Tread Creek to area residents. Residents reported that odors from the creek are at times so offensive that they can not keep windows open."

Twenty three tons of phosphates are sent down the Detroit River daily, to feed the algae of Lake Erie, according to a January 1970 Detroit Free Press article. Another source claimed two pounds of phosphate per person leaves sewage treatment plants each year.

Let's go across the Atlantic Ocean to England. They are years ahead of us in their environmental program. London has found that by increasing the 'green belts' around the city, people living in these belts were found to be much healthier.

Again—as so often in the past—Michigan farmers, soil conservation district representatives, the urban dwellers—all must join into a single force with the ultimate purpose of once again having a healthy atmosphere in which to live.

The farmers have proven that they are willing to go their mile in their offer to change spraying techniques. Industry is making every effort to curb their smoke-stack pollution and car manufacturers will be selling future cars equipped with special filtering systems.

This time, it's not just a community effort—it's a worldwide effort, to save our nation—yes, in fact, to save our very lives.

Late Fred Harger Honored by Resolutions



Fred Harger

The late Fred Harger, former Farm Bureau Board member and esteemed friend of all farmers through his years of service in Farm Bureau Services, Inc., was honored posthumously with the passing of the following resolution by both boards:

Fred Harger served farmers of Michigan and Farm Bureau Services, Inc. for many years in a most able manner. He served on the Board of Directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Later he managed successfully the retail store and elevator owned by Farm Bureau Services, Inc. located in Saginaw. This was followed by serving as manager and supervisor of all retail branches for the company. He was assigned the responsibility for building the fertilizer plant located at Saginaw and was its first manager. This undertaking brought high analysis fertilizer into Michigan and established Farm Bureau Services, Inc. as the leader in the manufacture of better farm fertilizer. Fred was also an incorporator of Central Farmers Fertilizer Company of Chicago. This company has become a powerful force on the side of the farmer in the fertilizer manufacturing field. Fred was a man of vision and a faithful friend and servant of agriculture. Scrupulously honest, he exacted the same from his employees. That which he believed to be right was not to be compromised. A rugged task master, he was respected by employees, farmers and business men.

In his death which occurred on February 8, 1970, we have lost a great servant and friend.

Mr. Harger served on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors in 1926-28 and was given the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award in 1957 at their annual meeting. The Award read "given for his work in Farm Bureau as a builder of men." Mr. Harger retired in August 1952 as Director of Fertilizer Manufacturing. He was 88 at the time of his death.

STATE PEACH, PEAR, PLUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACTIVATED

Farm Bureau's newest marketing program, a multi-fruit approach through MACMA, is taking form under the direction of a committee of fruit grower leaders from throughout the state. Leading growers of peaches, pears, and purple plums have been appointed by Michigan Farm Bureau president, Elton R. Smith, to serve in an interim capacity in the new program.

Spending five hours in concentrated discussion on the marketing of peaches, pears and plums, the committee ironed out a Fruit Crops Membership and Marketing Agreement. The agreement can also serve as a membership contract for other fruit marketing programs in the future.

The committee favored a two-phase marketing program in which growers would receive market analyses and information through newsletters in Phase I. Phase II would be an optional bargaining and sales service to be implemented only through a referendum by the members. The two-phase approach parallels the membership agreements in several other MACMA divisions, notably the Red Tart Cherry membership agreement.

Committee members accepted the challenge to work on signing up fellow fruit growers to develop a membership for the coming fruit season. In addition, they accepted the responsibility to serve as the marketing committee for the three fruits until such time as adequate membership is established so that members are able to elect a marketing committee for each fruit.

Serving on the committee is Roy Peachey, Berrien; Bob Buskirk and Dick Krogel, Van Buren; Karl Barden, Allegan; Leo Rasch, Ottawa; Harold Fox, Oceana; and George Houk, Mason County. Others are David Sweet, Leelanau and Frank Hoopfer, Antrim. Representing growers at-large are Ray Schultz, Coloma, in southwest Michigan; Bob Rider, Hart, in west central Michigan; and Bill Schaub, Lake Leelanau, in the northwest. Eugene Roberts, Lake City, representing the MACMA Board of Directors, is acting as chairman of the committee.

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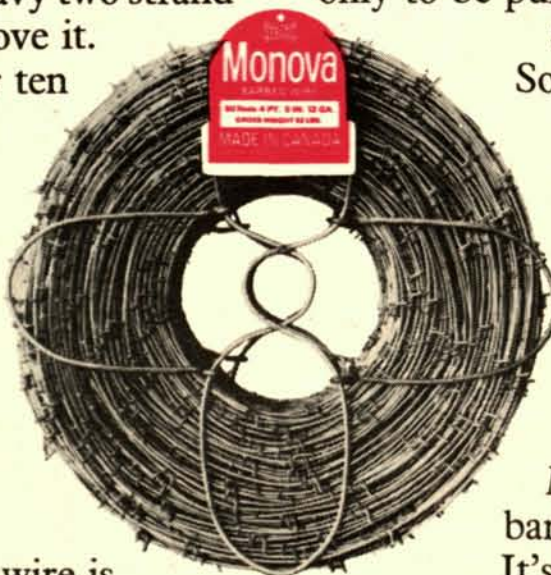
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MARKETING AND COMMODITIES

Asparagus Growers Plan For 1970

The MACMA Asparagus Division Marketing Committee re-elected Alton Wendzel, Watervliet as Chairman and Tom Greiner, Hart as Vice-Chairman, according to Harry A. Foster, Lansing, who was elected Secretary. They have held these positions since 1967, when the MACMA Asparagus Division was organized. The Committee is elected by the member asparagus growers.

Three new committeemen were recently elected to the Committee. They are: Ronald Baiers, Watervliet; Wayne Fleming and Gary Lewis, Shelby. Other committeemen include: Southwest Michigan Area—Roy Bisnett, Benton Harbor; Ernest Frohlich, Decatur; Alan Mandigo, Paw Paw; Dan Schultz, Buchanan; Alton Wendzel, Watervliet; Paul Wicks, Dowagiac. West-Central Michigan Area—Tom Greiner and Mathew Kokx, Hart. Northwest Michigan Area—John Brock, East Jordan.

A delegation of Asparagus Division members recently attended an Asparagus Conference in Chicago sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation. Production and market information was reported by conference participants from New Jersey, Indiana, Maryland, Delaware, Illinois, California, and Washington. Also reports from Ontario and British Columbia, Canada were given.

The MACMA Asparagus Marketing Committee will meet early in April to analyze crop and market information and recommend price and sales arrangements for the sale of MACMA members' asparagus in 1970. The MACMA Newsletter will provide further details.

The MACMA Asparagus Division now represents over 350 of the leading asparagus producers in Michigan. MACMA members produce over one-half of the commercial asparagus production in the state. Asparagus growers who are not now MACMA members and who are interested in joining MACMA should contact one of the MACMA Committeemen in their area, their County Farm Bureau office, or the MACMA office.

MACMA Red Tart Cherry Marketing Committee Meets Scheduled

The MACMA Red Tart Cherry Division Marketing Committee recently re-elected Rodney Bull, Bailey as Committee Chairman and P. C. Morrison, Jr., Williamsburg as Committee 1st Vice-Chairman. Elected to a new position of 2nd Vice-Chairman was Arthur Dowd, Hartford. Harry A. Foster, Lansing was named Committee Secretary.

Other Committeemen include: Northwest Michigan Area—John Boals, Kewadin; John Minnema, Traverse City; Thomas Runge, Lake Leelanau; James Evens, Frankfort; Hugh Bowling, Bear Lake. West-Central Michigan Area—James Fitch, Scottville; John Hawley, Hart; Keith Moore, Grant. Southwest Michigan Area—Vernon Sill, South Haven; Lawrence Stover, Berrien Springs.

The Red Tart Cherry Marketing Committee and MACMA Staff have scheduled meetings in each county or production area to discuss with the membership several items of interest, including: cherry stocks situation, crop outlook, raw fruit grades and inspection procedures, sale of cherries by volume measurement, member services, the proposed Federal Marketing Order, and new member sign-up. This line-up of topics for discussion will provide an adequate agenda at each meeting.

According to Harry A. Foster, Division Manager, the Red Tart Cherry Marketing Committee has taken action to support a Michigan Department of Agriculture regulation which permits the sale of cherries suspended in water in accordance with the Department's

weights and measures Division. The regulation provides, among other things, that cherry tanks will be calibrated by volume measure, and all tanks can be used which will meet the calibration test. Some tanks may need angle iron added to the sides of the tank to meet the calibration test. Cherries may be sold by weight, along with the volume measure.

An industry group of producers and processors have been meeting for several months to develop program for the orderly marketing of tart cherries. The major feature of the proposed Marketing Order is the storage of surplus cherries in excessive production years to the years of light production. Expanded markets for cherries will be the result of this program as well as improved income to producers and processors. The Secretary of Agriculture will be requested by the Red Tart Cherry Industry in early April to hold public hearings for the establishment of the proposed Federal Marketing Order, reports Manager Foster.

The MACMA Red Tart Cherry Division represents over 600 of the leading tart cherry producers in Michigan, and nearly one-half of the commercial production. The Committee expects to increase the Division's membership strength substantially during the months ahead. Tart cherry producers who are not now members of MACMA should contact the MACMA Committeemen or Staff in their area, their County Farm Bureau or MACMA office.

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU FEEDER CATTLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU FEEDER CATTLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE . . . (left to right) Bill Byrum, Michigan Farm Bureau; Gil VanWagner, Alpena County; Don Marsh, Osceola County; Gordon Andrews, Chippewa County; Frank Schwiderson, Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Chairman; Al Keating, American Agricultural Marketing Association; Ron Clark, Mac-Luce County, Vice Chairman; Lyle Cunningham, Jackson County; Robert Burie, Menominee; David Morris, Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors; Dale Broemer, Houghton County.

A year ago the Michigan Farm Bureau Livestock Advisory Committee recommended to the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors that a special feeder cattle advisory committee be appointed to review problems and opportunities for a more organized approach to marketing Michigan produced feeder cattle. Approximately 10% of the feeder cattle produced in Michigan are marketed cooperatively and the other 90% find other common means of collection and distribution. Preliminary discussions with

feeder cattle producers and cattle feeders revealed interest in more coordinated efforts for the purpose of expanding the marketing of feeder cattle. In January of 1970, President Elton Smith appointed the special feeder advisory committee, which represents major feeder cattle producing areas of Michigan.

The first project was to survey their counties to determine interest in increased services for feeder cattle producers. They also discussed with prominent cattle feed-

ers their needs and sources for feeder cattle. The American Agricultural Marketing Association presented its findings and proposed program to the committee. Group meetings will be held in the Upper Peninsula with feeder cattle producers to further study the needs identified in the questionnaires.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors is looking enthusiastically to the findings of the feeder cattle advisory committee.

Cherry Industry Seeks Federal Marketing Order Aid

A Red Tart Cherry Industry group of producers and processors have been meeting for several months to develop a program for the orderly marketing of tart cherries. Michigan produces nearly seventy-five percent of the national tart cherry production.

The primary feature of the proposed Federal Marketing Order is the storage of surplus cherries in excessive production years to the years of light production. The weather element has been the major factor in the wide fluctuating supply situation from year to year. Orderly marketing of tart cherries will aid in the development and expansion of cherry markets, as well as improve the income of producers and processors. The markets consuming tart cherries demand an orderly flow of product from year to year.

During April the Tart Cherry Industry leaders will petition the Secretary of Agriculture, requesting that public hearings be held, that procedures be worked out for presenting the proposed Order to the Industry, and that a referendum be held. The Industry recognizes that the proposed Order cannot be effected for the 1970 crop.

A Cherry Administrative Board will be elected by the producers and handlers in an eight-state

area including Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Board will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to administer the Marketing Order.

Producer participation in the storage program is optional; however, all processors and producers in the eight-state area will be included under the provisions of the proposed Order.

The Industry group which developed the proposed Federal Market Order were Producers—Rodney Bull, P. C. Morrison, Jr., Gerald Stanek, and Everett Wiles from Michigan; Francis Kirby, New York; John Peters, Pennsylvania. Processors—Robert Hutchinson, J. Parnell Dwan, Hugh Bengsston, James Brian, Win Klatzbach, and John McCool. Assisting this group was Norm Healy, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Harry A. Foster, MACMA, Robert Frohling, National Red Cherry Institute, Don Ricks and George McManus, Michigan State University.

Meetings are being scheduled in all counties or production areas to explain the operation of the proposed Market Order, and how it will affect producers. MACMA will keep its members informed by newsletter and meetings.

"PROJECT MRS."

Farm Bureau women all over Michigan have taken action in a market research service, Project MRS, being developed by the Market Development Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Responding to a need for greater market knowledge, the women surveyed their local grocery stores for the brands and labels of various foods being offered and the net weights of containers.

"The women who have returned survey forms to date have been very conscientious," says Norman Veliquette, MFB Marketing Specialist who is heading the development of Project MRS. He reports that many women have turned the form over to write additional information on the reverse side about certain foods.

Veliquette describes the project as being an unwieldy one in its developmental stages. The mountain of information gathered will have to be manually sorted and compiled. Mr. Veliquette feels that once it is known which trademarks are most widely available in Michigan, it will be much easier to survey the food shelves.

During April, it is felt that a follow-up survey can be made to determine the generally acceptable price levels on the various foods. Once the mailing list for PTW's has been mechanized, occasional newsletters relating to the retail food market will also be mailed to PTW's.

New Crop Director



DAVID C. BOWER

David C. Bower, a Mennonite layman and former Church World Service Representative in Pakistan, has been named Christian Rural Overseas Program (CROP) Director for Michigan. The appointment was announced by Rev. Carl Staser, Michigan CROP Board chairman.

Since September 1966, Mr. Bower has served on the National CROP staff in Elkhart, Indiana, and recently, office manager.

Mr. Bower is a native of Pennsylvania and was Acting Director of Church World Service in East Pakistan from 1963-65. He also served in a similar position in West Pakistan and assisted in India in 1966.

Mr. Bower succeeds Russell M. Hartzler, who retired in January after 21 years of service as Michigan CROP Director.

Dan Reed, Secretary-Manager, Michigan Farm Bureau and Mrs. Clayton (Mary Edith) Anderson, Howell, active Farm Bureau Women's Committee member, are both members on the state CROP Board.

MMPA's "Michigan Dairyman of the Year"

A 1968 recipient of Michigan Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service Award — Harold F. Blaylock, has been named "Michigan's Dairyman of the Year" by the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

Blaylock, an active leader and spokesman for the MMPA, Michigan Farm Bureau and for all dairymen throughout the nation, operates a 240 acre Tuscola County farm in partnership with his wife and son-in-law, Marvin Rupprecht.

Mr. Blaylock has long been active in the Michigan Farm Bureau, serving as an official in the Tuscola County group and as a member of the state dairy committee. Last December he was elected president of the Michigan Agricultural Conference, a co-ordinating organization of more than 50 Michigan farm groups.

Blaylock has been an MMPA member for 32 years, has served as president and secretary of his local organization before heading several state committees and be-



HAROLD F. BLAYLOCK

ing elected to the state board in 1957. He has been vice-president of the state association since 1964.

The award is awarded annually during Michigan State University's Farmers' Week to the man selected by the MSU dairy department staff as "most deserving of the honor."

TEXAS IN DECEMBER?

Would you like to go to Houston?

The site of the 1970 American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting will be Houston, Texas. The date will be December 6-10.

Two jets have been chartered to take Michigan people to this convention. The cost will be very reasonable. Air transportation will be about \$112 round trip. Hotels should cost about \$10 per day.

The planes will leave Lansing on Saturday, December 5. They

will arrive in Houston about noon. Arrangements are being made for doing some sight-seeing that afternoon with additional sight-seeing on Sunday before the convention starts. Hopefully, the Astrodome and the NASA Space Center will be toured.

If you would like further information on this coming trip, please send in your name requesting this information. Send your name and address to Larry Ewing, Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904.

MFB Board Member Heard On S-2203

Michigan Farm Bureau has filed a statement in support of the Consumer Agricultural Food Production Act of 1970, known generally as S-2203 — a bill introduced by Senator Murphy, (R-California) and others. The bill, as written, would provide general legislation to cover the relationships between farmers and their workers and the special problems of agriculture.

Senator Everett Jordan, (D-North Carolina) has been holding hearings. Recently MFB Board Member Kenneth Bull, a fruit grower from Muskegon county, presented testimony before the senate committee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation.

Mr. Bull testified "I believe that whatever type of labor legislation is found to be desirable, it should be on a federal basis applying uniformly in all areas and states. I would strongly oppose the adoption of S-8 because the original Wagner Act of 1935 and the amendments thereto has been designed to govern labor management relations in industrial and commercial concerns and no consideration was given to its possible application to agriculture.

"I would favor the enactment of S-2203 — I believe it would, among other things, protect consumers by providing for the orderly marketing of farm products and reduce the potential loss of farm crops on the farm due to irresponsible work stoppages.

"I believe workers should be guaranteed the right to organize and bargain collectively, providing they can do so through a secret ballot, on a voluntary basis, without being subject to fear or coercion by either the employer or a union."

Kenneth Bull and his two brothers produce sweet cherries, tart cherries, peaches, plums and apples on Moon Lake orchard in Bailey. For the cherry harvest, the Bull orchards employ about 200 or more seasonal workers per year to help with the harvest.

MACMA FEEDER PIG COMMITTEE



One of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association's newest projects — the feeder pig division — held its first annual meeting in early March in Lake City. About 60 feeder pig producers and their wives, extension and Farm Bureau personnel and area businessmen attended the dinner meeting at the Missaukee Lodge.

The Feeder Pig Marketing Committee and staff are (left to right, in above picture) seated, Murray Turnipseed, Duane Hershberger, vice chairman and Donald Hower, committee chairman. Standing — John Heim, MACMA fieldman; Robert Braden, MACMA manager; Robert Kartes; Duane Stevens, committee men; and Larry DeVuyst, division manager.

PRES. SMITH IN CALIFORNIA



A FIVE DAY TRIP TO CALIFORNIA . . . sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service offered Michigan Farm Bureau president Elton Smith an opportunity to visit dairy and poultry farmers in the Fresno and Los Angeles area. About 40 farm leaders were invited to make the trip "to look at large scale dairy and poultry farms relative to the financing, labor procurement and management, feed procurement and contracts, heifer and calf raising systems, cooperative purchases of services and the marketing of milk." The Michigan farmers were encouraged to hold discussions and to observe the trends in thinking and in action regarding broad agriculture problems in the dairy and poultry field.

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Walking up the flight of stairs to the office of Mr. Barry Brown, director of the State Department of Labor, the only thing that appeared to be out of order was the elevator.

The Michigan labor head, appointed to the position a year ago by Governor William Milliken, offers his viewpoints on the Farm Labor scene for this month's discussion topic.

The three-man session included, along with Mr. Brown, M. J. Buschlen, manager of the Michigan Agriculture Services Association (MASA) — a Michigan Farm Bureau affiliate — and Gary Kleinhenn, Director of Education and Research, Michigan Farm Bureau.

The questions were directed specifically to Mr. Brown for the purpose of informing farmers first hand of the state labor department viewpoints on some of the issues. Mr. Brown's answers take in the areas of: the future of agriculture, migrant labor, minimum wage, workmen's compensation and legislation.

Question: What do you see in the future for the agriculture industry?

Brown: It appears that within the next 10 years there will be a broadening of legislation both at the federal level with the Murphy bill or one of those which may pass, and at the state level there will be involvement for some farmers with some type of greater union activity. I also feel there will be pressures to broaden the workmen's compensation coverage in the agricultural field.

Personally, I have held off in the Department of Labor any broadening of it until we could take a look at a base period to see what the farmers experience had been under the existing law. I think we made a commitment, in effect, to farm groups when they were very apprehensive as to what the cost would be two or three years ago when the initial legislation was passed.

I don't know how formal the agreement was, but we felt here, within the Department of Labor, that any substantial movement into this field wouldn't be appropriate until 1971. Then we could take a look at a base period and see what the experience has been, and draw a bead on where we can go from there — so we won't draw food costs and operation costs to the farmer out of sight. *I think we have to always measure between what's good for the workman, which I think has to be one of my prime goals, but also what is feasible and economical that the employer can handle.*

Question: Mr. Brown, what are some of the things you believe farmers will have to face this coming season?

Brown: Well, first of all I want to comment in the area of the migrant. There was a great deal of publicity in this area and yet taking the long run view I feel legislation dealing with the resident farm worker is really going to be more important before the 1970's are over than legislation that affects the migrant. My reasons for saying this is simply that the migrant stream is drying up. Labor costs and other costs have caused the farmer to turn more and more to mechanization and to types of fruit and vegetables that can be machine harvested. If the present trend continues at the rapid rate it has in the last two or three years, we will have a mere trickle of migrants coming into the state by 1974-75.

Question: If the migrant stream is drying up, where will the attention be directed?

Brown: I think we should turn our attention to the rural worker and to the rural poor. So much attention of late has gone to the urban problems in the ghettos. There are substantial numbers of people who live in rural settings or in small communities out-state that have economic problems which are as disastrous to them as to the people of big cities. There should be an equality of access to governmental services and benefits to rural and urban people.

I'm not minimizing the migrant situation, I think they have some problems. There are difficulties with any group of people who come for a few weeks stay in the state, have a different social-economic background and speak a different language, by and large. But I do believe that Governor Milliken's task force took a hard look at this problem. I was one of the members of that task force. They made a number of recommendations some of which have



LABOR HEAD VIEWS FARM ISSUES

By Gary A. Kleinhenn
Director, Education and Research

been put into effect already. They didn't require new laws and many times they didn't require new money. *What they did was to dramatize to the many state officials, including myself, that there were programs and there were monies and there were facilities available to the migrants that maybe we hadn't done the best job of making accessible to them.*

I think we have improved services to the migrant and that they will feel it substantially when they arrive next year.

Question: The question comes inevitably then — does society recognize this problem? What is society going to do with these people who only know how to use a hoe? Many people are saying, "Why can't we ease up on these regulations and let them at least earn part of their living? Are we going to have to pay more taxes in the form of welfare?"

Brown: Well, the difficulty is that there are, of course, some people who have a very contrary view and they say that it's better for a man not to work at all than to work at what they call poverty levels. Of course it (poverty level) is difficult to assess, if a man lives in a rural community where rent is substantially less than in an urban area (although I don't find food prices are necessarily much different) it might mean the poverty level would be lower in this rural locality.

(Mr. Brown suggested that mechanization could be part of the answer.) The theory that many economists use is that mechanization creates new demands. The fellow that was once the handyman around the farm now may be the machine operator at the local food processing plant.

Yet there isn't a sufficient number of new jobs created to really fill all the gaps created by the elimination of hand labor. I would imagine the same trend we've seen going on in the state of Michigan for some time (a movement away from the farm to the cities) will continue.

Question: In this transition of farm workers needing to adjust to different working situations, and in turn the farmer adjusting to the times — are we going to fast in your opinion? Are we regulating it properly?

Brown: I don't know if we are going too fast really. The changes in legislation as it affects the farmer hasn't been at too fast a pace. There has been, of course, pressures every year, but the farmer is still a persuasive force in the legislature. Other than the inroads of workmen's compensation and the minimum wage there have been many things talked about but even when one party controlled both houses, really workmen's compensation and the minimum wage was the only labor legislation that was passed that was detrimental.

Question: What type of legislation can be looked for in the future?

Brown: I think the things that you may see happening might be an extension of some of the safety laws to the farm. Right now, the safety laws that we have in the state, one is Public Act 282, covers almost every employment within the state of Michigan excluding farms.

This doesn't have a great monetary impact immediately. It does in a way though. If a farm tractor must have a roll-bar because the safety laws require it, right now many farmers get them as a matter of course, but it's an extra twenty, thirty, fifty dollars to buy a tractor with this equipment on it — if there was a law that required a farmer to do it, he could say that to the extent of this purchase, the safety factor was an expense to him. Yet on the other hand, as long as he has workmen's compensation on that farm, and as long as tractor accidents continue at the rate they have, especially roll-overs, then a roll-bar might save time and money in the long run.

Question: Does this mean the farmer is going to be faced with still higher costs to remain in business?

Brown: The public is going to have to be willing to share some of the cost in their food prices, just as they've indicated they're willing to share in the price of some of these labor costs in the products they buy from manufacturers. A farmer can't be caught between the, you know, "hard spot on the rock," if his labor costs go up then he's going to have to protect his margin and share it with the public. But I don't think he (the farmer) can be harassed for an increase in food prices and at the same time be asked to increase the labor benefits and fringes that are required of him — this is just my reaction in this particular area.

Question: What about minimum wage?

Brown: It appears there will be an increase this year. I think the bill that passed the Republican Senate was a reasonable one — it would go to \$1.45 this year and to \$1.55, I believe, next year.

Question: Are you familiar with our policy position which says that we want to be competitive with competing areas, therefore, the only way we know to do this is to keep even with a federal minimum wage. Is this a realistic approach?

Brown: Yes it is.

In the area of wage, right now, the federal legislation is ahead of state legislation by a nickel. I think right now it's \$1.30. I would imagine, looking at federal proposals, that we will probably see the federal legislation move ahead this year. There is some talk of \$2.00 an hour, but I would imagine just as I've discussed with you, a measured approach, and would probably go to \$1.75 and move in that direction on a federal basis.

I think you're right. I would hate to think of Michigan as being progressive to the point that it makes Wisconsin cherries or Oregon apples or Indiana celery more attractive to the big buyers because we've cast ourselves into a poor competitive position.

Question: From your reports from throughout the state, what do your examiners run into in the way of problem areas? What help does the farmer need to keep up with what now exists?

Brown: With all the publicity there was last summer there were allegations made about certain conditions especially in migrant camps and especially about violation of certain state laws. Frequently these allegations centered around the minimum wage. Our investigators followed up on as many of these as we could and frankly, *we rarely found a violation.* We did find a number of incidents where the posters that are connected with the minimum wage law were not up. That's a technical violation. We did find an instance where the farmer didn't use the most modern techniques of bookkeeping, and it was a bit more difficult for our investigators to search his records. *I think the investigators were not really interested in what style or technique was used as long as they could ferret out that the people that worked on that particular farm were paid in accordance with the minimum wage.* Now the difficulty here of course is that there was misunderstanding in the area where a man was being paid, for example, for picking cucumbers by the bushel. The farmer has certain requirements put upon him by the processor. The processor is only interested in pickles of a certain size and yet the message somehow didn't seem to get through to the pickers in that they would go out and grab the largest cucumbers available, of course, this fills up the bushel a bit quicker than the small sized ones, but the farmer would often just dump them out or wouldn't give credit to the man for having picked them. We'd get a complaint that they weren't paying people for the work that they had done. *I think it's a problem of communication. I think a farmer has a right to set the ground rules under which the people work.*

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Hardy Foot Rot Salt Medicated comes in bags or blocks. Mix or feed free choice.
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DISCUSSION GROUP TOPIC SUMMARY

FARM MANAGEMENT FOR PROFIT

More than 625 groups reported. From those questions which were completed an overwhelming 412 groups believe that the experiment showing aggressive management to be a method of success was valid while 88 groups didn't agree. With good aggressive management 565 groups out-voted 53 groups in agreeing that a small farm sometimes can do as well or better than a large farm. About 455 groups out-pollled 112 groups in seeing a need for farm management training programs. Other area discussion groups would like most to hear about were, 373 for "Wills and Estates" the highest vote getter; 183 for finance; 102 for machinery; 96 for livestock, and in descending order planting, harvesting, marketing, selling, taxes, and bookkeeping.

SANILAC SPRING SALE

April 17, 12 Noon

Sanilac County Fairgrounds, Sandusky, Michigan

There will be a clipping and fitting demonstration starting at 11:30 a.m.

60 HEAD REGISTERED HOLSTEINS

15 Junior and Senior heifer calves — 25 bred heifers (due from sale time thru July and August) — 20 young cows fresh or springing.

Records to 21,000# m., many with over 700# f.

This will be a good opportunity to buy some outstanding show and breeding prospects. Lunch on grounds — Sale under cover.

Terms — cash.

Everything Calfhod Vaccinated — TB and Bangs tested.

Sale sponsored by Sanilac County Holstein Association. Milton J. Osborn, Applegate, Michigan, President; Stewart Larson, Croswell, Michigan, Secretary.

Auctioneers: John Fenstermaker, Homerville, Ohio, and Charles Chestnut, Williamston, Michigan

For further information or catalog contact:
JOHN M. SMITH, Sale Manager
Box 63
Williamston, Michigan 48895
Phone: 517-655-1104
Box 63

Special — A calf will be given away **FREE** as a doorprize, to a 4-H or FFA boy or girl. You must be in 4-H or FFA and be at the sale to enter and win.

FARM BUREAU CENTER TAKING FORM



CONSTRUCTION . . . on the \$4 million Home Office Building on W. Saginaw in Lansing is progressing according to the schedule set up by the contractors for early 1971 completion.



A \$9,000 WATCH . . . THAT'S RIGHT! . . . Fred Johnson, Osceola county Farm Bureau member, paid that amount in Bogus Bucks for a watch for his wife at the West Central Region auction. Shor' and it was St. Patrick's Day and what better way to win a Colleen's heart.

3-BEDROOM, CONTEMPRI MODULAR HOMES



We believe in: A GOOD HOME FOR GOOD PEOPLE
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BAKER'S COMMUNITY HOMES 214 W. Pine Street
Phone (517) 862-5480 Elsie, Michigan 48831

STEWART'S HAMPSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE 4-H PIG SALE

Saturday, May 2, 1970 — 3 p.m. Indiana Time

60 Gilts and Barrows

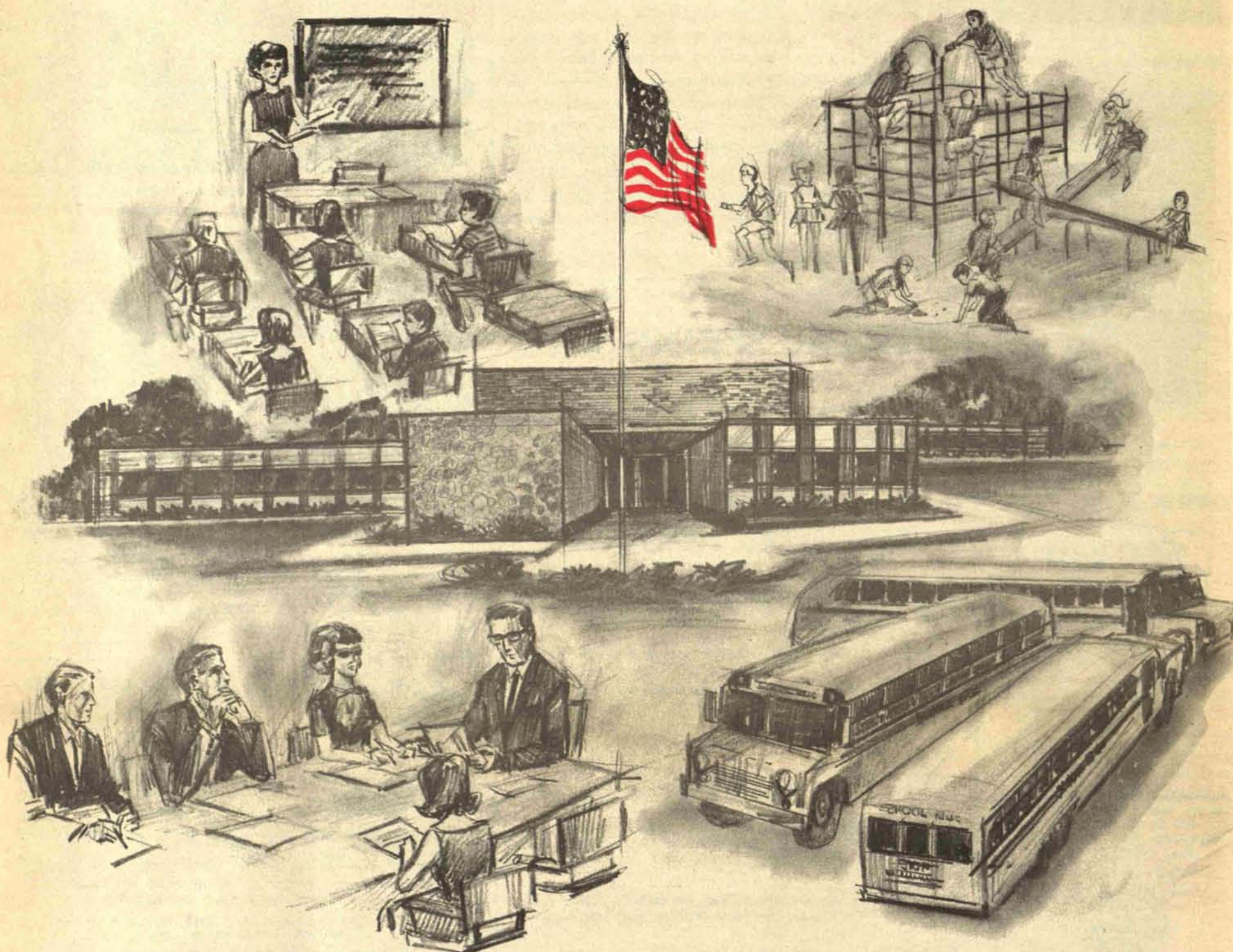
At the Farm — 4 Miles S. E. Route #4, Frankfort, Indiana 46041
Supper Available

Indiana Pork Producers All Breed 4-H Sale — Frankfort Fairgrounds 7:30 p.m.

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: 25 words for \$2.00 each edition. Additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12 or \$12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word one edition, two or more editions, 10 cents per word. Copy deadline: 20th of the month.

8 FARM EQUIPMENT WANTED: ALLIS ROUND BALERS. Any place, any condition. Price and description. Alfred Roeder, Seneca, Kansas. (1-2t-14p) 8 FARROWING STALLS — Complete \$26.75. Dealerships available. Free literature. DOLLY ENTERPRISES, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62326. CO-OP, COCKSHUTT, AND BLACK-HAWK parts for tractors, planters, disc and other farm equipment. Also some used parts for Co-op tractors and combines. New and used parts for Massey Harris tractors and combines. Heindl Implement Sales, Reese, Michigan 48757. Phone: 868-9808. (1-1t-40b) 8 PIPE — NEW AND USED . . . One inch through 36 inch, valves, fittings and tanks. Suitable for irrigation, dams and sluice. Midway Supply Company, Box 731, Jackson, Michigan. Phone: 517-782-0383. (1-12t-28b) 8	8 FARM EQUIPMENT WANTED: A-330 Cornhead for Gleaner A, also Scour-Kleen. Six 30" 4-row cultivator. Double disc fertilizer openers for JD 494A. Charles A. Moore, Route #1, Coleman, Michigan 48618. (4-1t-25p) 8 20 LIVESTOCK HEREFORD BULLS—pure bred herd sires. Ready for service. Also, registered heifers and calves. Egypt Valley Hereford Farm, 6611 Knapp St., Ada, Michigan. Phone OR 6-1090. (Kent County) (11-tf-25b) 20 MICHIGAN HEREFORD ASSOCIATION SALE: 42 Registered Bulls and Females, several with calf at side. 10 Grade Cows Bred to Angus Bull for April and May calving. Gaylord Stockyards, 1:00, April 18. Contact: Lyle Hanchett, Coopersville, Michigan 49404. (4-1t-36p) 20 REGISTERED DUROC'S. Top quality boars and gilts. Production data and carcass information available. Byrum & Sons, RFD #1, Onondaga, Michigan. Phone 517-528-3262. (2-tf-25b) 26	20 LIVESTOCK MILKING SHORTHORNS: Young Bulls, yearlings and calves for sale. Write for tabulated pedigrees or better yet, pay us a visit. Stanley M. Powell and Family, Ingleside Farm, Route #1, Box 238, Ionia, Michigan 48846. (2-3t-33b) 26 CALF CREEP FEEDERS — 30 bushel capacity. \$92.50. Dealerships available. Free literature. DOLLY ENTERPRISES, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62326. 26 POULTRY SHAVER STARCROSS 288 — Started pullets available most every month. Get wise and try these top profit makers as your next flock. MacPherson Hatchery, Route #3, Ionia, Michigan. Phone 527-0860. DAY OLD OR STARTED PULLETS — The DeKalb profit pullet. Accepted by the smart poultryman for high egg production, superior egg quality, greater feed efficiency. If you keep records, you'll keep DeKalbs. Write for prices and catalog. KLAGER HATCHERIES, Bridgewater, Michigan. Telephones: Saline HAZel 9-7087, Manchester GARDen 8-3034.	26 POULTRY KLAGER'S DEKALB PROFIT PULLETS — Order your started pullets that have been raised on a proven growing program. The growing birds are inspected weekly by trained staff, vaccinated, debeaked and delivered by us in clean crates. If you keep records, you will keep KLAGER DEKALBS. KLAGER HATCHERIES, Bridgewater, Michigan. Telephones: 313 429-7087 and 313 428-3034. BABY CHICKS. Heavy breeds our specialty. Hatching White Rocks, Cornish Rocks, R I Reds, California Barred. Also Ghostly Pearl Leghorns & California Grey-crowns. Send for price list. Brewer Poultry Farm, Dundee, Michigan 48131. Phone 313-529-3166. (2-6t-35b) 26 36 MISCELLANEOUS PICK-UP TRUCK STOCK RACKS — All steel construction. \$109.50. Dealerships available. Free literature. DOLLY ENTERPRISES, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62326. (11-1t-19p) 8	36 MISCELLANEOUS WANTED: BEES, supers, frames—Write: 2226 North Cedar, Holt, Michigan 48842. Phone: 517-694-9431. (4-2t-12b) 36 600 ASSORTED SWEET ONION PLANTS with free planting guide \$3.60 postpaid. TONCO, "home of the sweet onion," Farmersville, Texas 75031. WE CUSTOM BUTCHER everyday and pick-up. If you are in the 313 area, our phone number is: 727-1450. Also smoked ham, bacon . . . make your sausage. Richmond Meat Packers, 68104 Main St., Richmond, Mich. 48062 (7-12t-30b) 36 RARE 1909 VDB CENT \$1. Old Silver Dollar \$2.50. \$2 bill, crisp, new \$3.75. FREE small Date Cent with 50 different Lincolns 1909 thru 1939 \$4.98. Bargain price lists FREE. Edel's, Carlyle, Illinois 62231. (4-1t-30p) 36 "ZIPCODE DIRECTORY" — (All 35,000 Postoffices): \$1.00 MAILMART, Carrollton 72, Kentucky 41008. (3-tf-11b) 14
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