- Farm News-

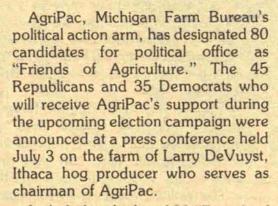
THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

VOL. 59, NO. 8, AUGUST 1980

Board of Trustees

gricultural Representation 'Imperative'

AgriPac Endorses Bill Byrum, Tom Reed



Included in the list of 80 "Friends of Agriculture (see center-page spread for listing and voting records) are two persons seeking their parties' nominations for the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton R. Smith applauded AgriPac for its endorsement of Bill Byrum (D-Onondaga) and Tom Reed (R-DeWitt).

"Michigan State University is the oldest land grant institution in the nation and it is imperative to have persons with an understanding of our industry on the board of trustees. At this point, MSU is the only land grant institution in the country that does not have one or more agricultural persons on its governing body," Smith said.

"Michigan's entire agricultural community was disappointed when Gov. Milliken did not use his recent opportunity to correct that problem, even though several qualified individuals with agricultural backgrounds were nominated. Now, we have the opportunity, as voters, to correct this shocking situation," he concluded.

Bill Byrum operates a cash crop farm in Ingham County and also has a cow-calf herd and swine operation. He is the immediate past executive vice president of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association. In 1978 he was appointed by Secretary of Agriculture Bergland to serve on the Minimum Wage Study Commission established by the 95th Congress.

Tom Reed was born and raised on a centennial dairy farm in Jackson County. He was an MSU Agricultural Extension agent for 5½ years, worked as a crops and livestock specialist for the Michigan Farm Bureau, owned and managed a beef operation in Gratiot County, and is now assistant manager of the Michigan Live Stock Exchange.

In addition to chairman Larry De Vuyst, AgriPac members include Bob Lamoreaux, vice chairman, Belding; Myra Hand, Afton; Gordon Porter, Quincy; Al Prillwitz, Berrien Springs; and Ronald Wood, Scottville. Serving as ex-officio members are Albert Almy, secretary, and Robert E. Braden, treasurer, both of Michigan Farm Bureau.



TOM REED



BILL BYRUM

From the Desk of the President

Now...It's OUR Turn

First, a word of appreciation to the members of AgriPac for their commitment and dedication to the task of selecting the 1980 "Friends of Agriculture." There were long hours of study and discussion involved in that decision-making process, hours spent away from their farming businesses. These personal sacrifices made by our volunteers who assume leadership roles are never taken for granted. Rather, they are recognized as THE key to our organization's effectiveness.

The phrase, "Friends of Agriculture," is not a meaningless title; it is an appropriate description. The candidates who have been given that designation by AgriPac have proven that they are, actually, friends of agriculture. They have helped us; now, it is our turn to help them - through financial contributions to their campaigns, by educating others about their qualifications, by using our power in the voting booth.

Among the 80 AgriPac-endorsed candidates are two people deeply involved in agriculture, Tom Reed and Bill Byrum, seeking their parties' nominations for the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. Michigan's entire agricultural community must make a united effort to correct the absolutely insupportable situation of not having a single person with an agricultural background on the governing body of our nation's first land grant institution!

Even though MSU is the only land grant institution in the nation that does not have one or more agricultural persons on its governing board...even though it has made significant contributions to this state's economy through agricultural education and research... we failed in our efforts to convince the governor to fill a recent vacancy with one of several, highlyqualified nominees from our industry. We have the opportunity now to solve that problem and, this time, we must not fail! Through united effort, we can have a powerful impact on having both of our "Friends of Agriculture" on the MSU Board of Trustees.

The first step in making this happen is to assure that they receive their parties' nominations at the state political conventions in August. YOU can have an influence on the decision to nominate them.

The political process in Michigan provides opportunities for the average citizen to be involved in decisions about party platforms and nominees for many elected officials. While that process is already underway, there is still need for citizens especially farmers - to participate.

County political conventions are held in August. At those conventions, delegates will be elected to attend the state conventions to be held at Cobo Hall in Detroit (Democratic, August 23 and 24; Republican, August 15 and 16).



Farm Bureau members can have a real influence at these county and state party conventions. They can help select delegates or be seated as delegates themselves; they can provide the leadership to obtain policy stands and nominate officials favorable to agriculture.

This is no time to sit back and "let George do it" because "George" may not be a farmer or a person who understands and appreciates agriculture's importance and needs. The very fact that there are so many citizens who aren't willing to "get involved in politics" opens up opportunities for caring farmers who believe there's more to good citizenship than voting.

Take advantage of these opportunities NOW. Be a friend to our friends.

Elton R. Smith



Being of Dutch and Finnish descent, it's always been easy for me to relate to the admonition: "Take me as I mean - not as I say."

My grandmother used to warn me, "In the neighbor's fish pond, don't put your feet, or the flower bed, too, and popsickle sticks they don't like floating, or pick petunias either.

Why would I want to put the flower bed in the fish pond? .I thought the fish liked my popsickle boats....Whoever heard of fish picking petunias?

She always started out with the where and by the time she got to the whats (there was seldom just one), I wasn't sure what it was I wasn't supposed to do, but I knew where not to do it. When she chastised me for bringing her a bouquet of

Take Me As I Mean - Not As I Say

petunias, I defended my action with the simple logic: "But I thought you said the fish weren't supposed to pick petunias!"

Now, my grandmother didn't swear, but I bet those were a few Dutch expletives that preceded - "You must take me as I mean - not as I

With my mother, it was more of an interpretation problem than a language barrier. She used the phrase often to clarify the bounds of my teen-age liberties. For example, learned that her instructions not to take the car out of the yard did not mean I could use up a half-tank of gas going back and forth in the driveway. Or that "Don't stay out all night" did not mean getting in just before dawn; it meant before midnight. That, to her, was the end of night, and I learned that "but you said" was a poor defense against getting grounded.

Now, it's the third generation and I find myself using "Take me as I mean - not as I say" with my 4-year-old grandson. He couldn't understand my anger when he turned the outside faucet on full blast, when what I told him was not to play with the water hose, which he removed before turning the faucet on.

This "take me as I mean, not as I say" reasoning might be acceptable within family life, but it just doesn't make it in business and organization communica-You darn well better know what you mean and say it in a manner that your audience knows, too.

That doesn't always happen, of course, and it's always worse in print. While bloopers on radio and TV fade away, those in print are captured in black and white (and sometimes color)

forevermore to be the subject of pointing fingers and snickers. One of the journalism magazines has a special section highlighting some of the printed headline fluffs: Panda mating fails; veterinarian takes over...Jesse Owens Dies; His Feats Live On . . . Sharks stop search for span collapse victims....and a few others that can't be reprinted in a family publication.

What brought all this to mind was the result of a recent communications study, requested by our voting delegates, that showed that the Michigan Farm News did not rate as high as it

should as a source of Farm Bureau information. With that analysis, if your editors had a security blanket, we'd probably be sucking our thumbs behind it. But that wouldn't solve the problem..

At this point, we're not even sure what the problem is writing style, topic content, format, or just too much competition. What we do know is that, for the amount of resources invested in this publication, it ought to be scoring better with its intended audience.

We're going to be trying, in the next few months, to find out why it isn't, how it could, and even if it should.

You can help. It is, after all, your publication. We'll be doing some personal interviews at several county fairs throughout the state and also running some questionnaires in the Farm News. These will provide you with an opportunity to let us know what you'd like your publication to be. Take advantage of these opportunities: be honest, constructively critical, tough, even.

And if you have any old, spare pieces of security blankets, send those along, too.

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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White House Family Conference 'a Political Plot' Says Delegate

(Editor's Note: St. Clair County Farm Bureau member Janice Rinke was one of 31 people appointed by Gov. Milliken as delegates to the regional White House Conference on Families held in Minneapolis June 19 and 20. Recently, she and Bernadette Rasch, Kent County Farm Bureau member, shared their experiences with the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Executive Committee. Here, Rinke shares her concerns regarding the possible outcome of the conference with all Farm Bureau members.)

I recently had the opportunity to participate in a fiasco inappropriately labeled a "White House Conference on Families."

In my opinion, it was a political plot held during an election year, designed to paint government bureaucratic family programs as "grassroots" oriented - at a \$3 million expense to the American taxpayers.

I believe the administration wanted the conferences to result in demand for more government services and intervention in our private lives. Then they will tell the public: "We are responding to your concerns and genuine needs.

If the final report (a compilation of the three national conferences - Baltimore, Minneapolis and Los Angeles) is accepted as the true concerns and needs of today's American families, we'll wind up with programs designed by government professional family sociologists and their associates.

The delegation from Michigan was "packed and stacked."

At the April 19 Michigan White House Conference on Families meeting, 25 of the 32 elected persons were grassroots families. Then, on May 27, under pressures from pro-ERA and pro-abortion groups, our governor appointed 31 delegates to "round off and balance the Michigan delegation to insure representation of the diversities of Michigan." Of the 31 appointed, only I was a true homemaker. All the rest were professional people, social service or civil servants coming from a heavy concentration of the Detroit and Lan-

In addition to those 30, another 10 were added to the list as "national at large delegates," also stemming from bureau-

The conference's plan was simple: appoint scores of government employees and social workers to identify the problems, quide and control the conference and come up with solutions of hiring more government employees to cope with "our" problems.

Several times as I sat in my workshop, "Income Securities for Families," and our topic sessions, "Families and Economic Well Being," I became nauseous over the recommendations being passed.

The recommendation I feel was the most warped and erroneous was No. 24. It received 293 yes votes and 280 no votes. It read: "Parents should assume the primary responsibility for teaching their children basic moral values and responsible conduct. However, we recognize the rights of all children to equal protection of the law under the Constitution of the United States, and their right may supersede the right of parents to notification about a minor child's participation in private or governmental social service programs."

I attended the conference because upon receiving the appointment and seeing the "titles" of the others on the list, I felt I had a mission to carry out. I feel it is my God given right and responsibility as a mother to raise our daughters the way I feel is right, whether it be moral values, religion, education, work ethics, responsibility or accountability and free enterprise. I refuse to let anyone claim they can do a better job.

More bureaucratic intervention into our family or the countless other traditional American families that were unable to be represented at this conference can only destroy what it has taken generations to accomplish. If the historicclassical family is weakened or corrupted, then our hope for a stable future is extinguished.

Janice Rinke, St. Clair County

FB Supports Energy Advocacy



Serving as personal representative of MFB President Elton R. Smith, Claudine Jackson confers with Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO. Also pictured is Scott R. Kingan, executive director of the Michigan Committee for Jobs and Energy

and currently a member of the

MFB Consumer Affairs Com-

Jackson attended the meet-

ing at the invitation of the

Over 800 people gathered in Chicago June 26 through 29 for the Second Annual Conference on Energy Advocacy, Energy for the 80s.

The diverse group from all across the nation included leaders from labor, energy production, government, education, agriculture and other sectors of the economy.

Michigan Farm Bureau was represented by Claudine Jackson of Howell, former member of the MFB Board of Directors Michigan Committee for Jobs and Energy, a labor, business,

energy and agriculture coalition formed to promote public awareness of the state's energy situation. MFB President Elton R. Smith is a member of the MCJE board.

Among the basic purposes of the meeting were the training of citizen energy volunteers of U.S. energy must be utilized, including conservation, coal, nuclear and solar.

Through workshops, panel discussions, exhibits and personal contacts, conference participants increased their understanding of the impact of an energy shortfall on the nation's economic health, standard of living, employment and national security.

The first conference, held last February in Washington, D.C., drew nearly 900 participants interested in energy ad-

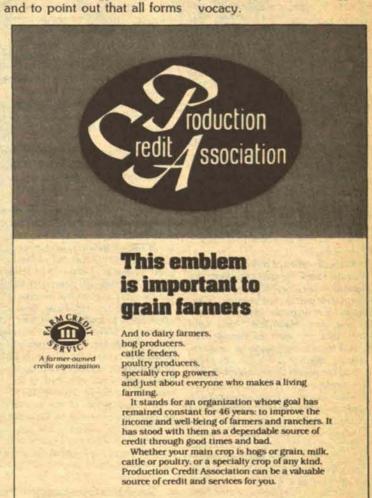
Synfuels Bill **Passes Congress**

Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton R. Smith has congratulated President Carter and Congress for passage of a synthetic fuels bill which will provide \$20 billion in loans, grants and price guarantees to companies that manufacture synthetic fuels.

"Production agriculture can meet the alcohol fuel goals set forth in the synthetic fuels bill, without impairing food supplies for the American people or feed supplies for livestock," he

The bill sets a goal for synfuel production equal to 500,000 barrels a day by 1987 and 2 million barrels a day by 1992. It calls for promotion of alcohol output of 60,000 barrels per day by 1982, ultimately reaching a replacement of 10 percent of the nation's gasoline consumption by 1990.

"The legislation provides the incentives and research long needed to direct America toward energy independence," Smith said.



Production Credit Associations of Michigan



CAPITOL

By Robert E. Smith

MFB Board Reviews Ballot Tax Proposals

In the past few months, Michigan citizens have been bombarded with publicity on about two dozen so-called tax reform proposals. Some of them were petition proposals, others were legislative proposals. Most of them required amending the constitution. All were very complicated with many ramifications.

Deadlines are now past; there will be three constitutional tax amendments and one legislative tax proposal on the November ballot. They are the Tisch Amendment, the Smith-Bullard Amendment, the Legislative-Executive Amendment and a legislative proposal to finance prison construction.

The Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors carefully considered all four tax proposals at the July 7 and 8 meeting. Following is a brief summary of each proposal and the board's position.

Smith-Bullard:

Less Local Control, Higher Future Taxes

The Michigan Education Association was the main circulator of this petition. Official reports state that they spent \$59,000 in this effort. (Each MEA local and member was allocated so many petition signatures.) MEA has announced plans to spend \$250,000 to gain passage. Provisions include:

•Cut the present 50 mill constitutional limit to 24½ mills only on homesteads and resident family owned and operated farms. Thirteen mills would be allocated and 11½ mills could be voted.

•The allocated mills are as follows: county - 7, townships - 2, community colleges - 1, vocational education - 1, special education - 1½, intermediate school districts - .5; total - 13 mills.

•The voters could increase the millage by one mill for the county, two for the township, seven for K-12 school programs, and one and a half for community colleges; total - 11½ voted mills. Total for allocated and voted - 24½ mills.

This allocation of mills would mean a windfall for some units of government because they presently spend much less. Other units would be hurt. For example, townships are limited to a total of four mills. Many levy much more than that. In order to survive they would have to become a charter township or organize as a city. In those cases, the people determine the limit in the charter.

 Provides more property tax relief to urban areas than to rural areas because of higher millage in urban areas.

•K-12 school costs, except for seven mills voted taxes, would be paid entirely by the state. This would be phased-in over a five-year period. The seven mills would not be equalized as at present. Wealthy areas would have a considerable advantage.

Voters could approve a local income tax of up to 1 percent in lieu of any portion of the seven mills voted tax for school enrichment.

•Provides for a statewide property tax on industrial, developmental and commercial property not to exceed 30½ additional mills. Total tax rate for these properties could be 55 mills. It could be that the Single Business Tax would also be increased.

•Exempts the first \$25,000 (annually adjusted for inflation) of homesteads of retired persons 65 years of age or older. The state must reimburse local units for losses. An interesting inequity arises; e.g., a 65-year-old with a \$5,000 home and high income could get the exemption but a 64-year-old with a \$50,000 home and low income would have to pay. This is a costly provision.

 Contains a provision designed to assure local control of schools, but strings are usually attached to state

•Tax rollback under the Headlee Amendment by class of property (agricultural residential, commercial, etc.). This could create the problem of numerous tax rates.

•This shift in taxes will increase the personal income tax by at least 1.5 percent. As time goes on, this undoubtedly will have to be increased further. It is estimated that by the end of the five-year phase-in period for schools (1987), the state will need over \$4 billion per year to meet the requirement. The income tax could rise from the present 4.6 percent up to at least 6.6 percent in 1986-87. The special state-wide property tax on businesses would probably also reach the 30½ mills additional property tax limit to the constitutional total of 55 mills and/or an increase in the Single Business Tax.

•Implementation of the school finance provisions could be exceedingly complex. One reason is the requirement for "equal per pupil state financial support for all local school districts for general operational purposes."

The Farm Bureau board opposes this proposal. It would undoubtedly result in additional taxes income in the future with less local control.

Legislative Executive: More Taxes for Farmers

The Legislature has given final approval to put a proposal on the ballot. It consists of a constitutional amendment, SJR "X," and nine bills that are "tiebarred." Together, they would provide:

•\$7,100 assessment exemption (SEV) from property taxes on each residential and agricultural homestead. Cost will be about \$776 million. This will apply only to operational taxes and not debt retirement. Another way of figuring it is \$7.10 for each operating mill.

 The amount of the SEV exemption would increase each year in relation to inflation pressures.

 Property taxpayers would continue to be eligible for the present circuit breaker property tax rebate program.
 The present \$1,200 limit would increase with inflation.

•Renters would receive a \$140 credit on their income taxes. This, too, would increase with inflation. The initial cost is approximately \$106 million. Unlike other taxpayers, renters receive the same tax break regardless of where they live.

•Farm Bureau was successful in adding an amendment to the constitution-

al proposal that would permit the assessment of agricultural and forest property on its use rather than market value. This is an important breakthrough as such assessment systems have not been able to be used in the past due to the uniformity clause in the constitution.

 Sales taxes on residential electricity and gas use would be eliminated over a five-year period.

•The present \$1,500 personal income tax exemption would be adjusted annually according to inflation.

Lottery revenues would be earmarked for the school aid fund. This means nothing and is only cosmetic, but it should eliminate some confusion.

•Revenue to pay for the property tax cuts would come from an increase in the sales and use tax rate from 4 percent to 5.5 percent (a 35.7 percent increase) and would be earmarked for property tax relief. The state would reimburse local government for all or most of the revenue lost due to the property tax cuts. Farmers pay more sales tax than others because building materials, tile, fences, trucks and pickups are taxable.

•The additional sales tax will generate more than \$800 million. Of that amount, \$200 million will be paid by

tourists and out-of-state or non-Michigan businesses.

•It is estimated that the average homeowner would have a property tax reduction of nearly 40 percent (about \$350). This is including the use of the present circuit breaker. However, because it is based on a \$7,100 assessment exemption, properties in those urban areas with high millage (some over 70 mills) tax rates would have a larger property tax savings than would properties in rural areas with low millage rates. In the case of a farm, the dollar amount would be the same but the percentage would be much lower due to higher total valuations (SEV).

The Farm Bureau board opposed this proposal even though it contains a Farm Bureau promoted and supported provision to permit the assessment of agricultural and forestry property on its use rather than market value. It would increase taxes for most farmers because of the 1.5 percent increase in the sales tax rate.

Tisch: Tax Cut But 'Totally Irresponsible'

The Tisch proposal will cost the state nearly \$2 billion and local government will lose about \$600 million. The current state general fund budget is about \$4.6 billion. It would be impossible for the state to absorb the 'additional expense without additional taxes which are limited by the proposal.

The nearly \$2.5 billion of tax cuts would be taxable income for federal income tax. Over \$55 million would go to Washington as increased federal income taxes. Some federal matching monies would also be lost. The implications and ramifications of the Tisch Amendment are enormous. The big questions are: Where will the money come from? Would there really be local control?

•Rollback property tax assessments (SEV) to the 1978 level which becomes the value base. This would be less than 19 percent of current market value.

•Reduces all property taxes by cutting assessments (SEV) from the present 50 percent of value to a maximum of 25 percent. Would not apply to farm property enrolled under P.A. 116 of 1974 - the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act - and certain other property under P.A. 198 of 1974 and P.A. 255 of 1978 - Industrial and Commercial Facilities Tax Abatement Acts - which would continue to be valued the same as at present.

•Non-residents and big business would be the big winners. In many counties, more than half of all property is owned by non-residents. It appears that renters would not receive relief under this provision.

•Prohibit assessments on residential and agricultural property from increasing more than 2 percent per year. Other property increases would be based on the general price level.

•Further reduce taxes on "principal homesteads" by one half for those with taxable incomes between \$5,000 and \$10,500, eliminates property tax for those with taxable incomes of less than \$5,000 and exempts homeowners over the age of 62 from paying property taxes for school operations. The

Legislature must provide "comparable relief" for renters for these three provisions.

•No new tax can be imposed on the "principal homestead" of any household. "Principal homestead" is defined as a home occupied at least 183 days a year and situated on land "not exceeding one acre in size." New taxes could be imposed on other properties.

The effect of the above provisions would be that the individual would have to prove to the assessor his income and age by income tax forms, birth certificates, etc., also whether they have lived in the home for at least 183 days. Separate assessments would have to be made for the "principal homestead" and additional land over the one acre limit.

Suggests that all property not specifically exempt in the proposal be assessed and taxed. Exemptions that would continue include personal property used in agricultural operations or farm implements held for resale; household personal; farm products in warehouses designated in transit; mechanics tools; and four others.

•Abolish all other exemptions. Present exempt property that could be taxable include inventories, motor vehicles; agricultural trees, shrubs, vines, crops; grain in elevators; private and commercial forest reserve lands; beet sugar; properties of 4-H or Girl Scouts and similar groups; and several others. This provision is unclear and may take a court case to clarify.

Schools and churches with constitutional exemptions would not be affected.

Cuts revenues by \$2.5 billion in local property taxes.
 Requires the state to annually ap-

Requires the state to annually appropriate "state matching money" to reimburse local government for lost property taxes excepting those amounts required to fund bonded indebtedness.

•It should be noted that taxes to pay debts would not be affected. If assessment limits are cut in half then tax rates for debt payments would have to almost be doubled and perhaps tripled or more, depending on the local effect of the valuation rollback to 1978 SEV.

•All local units of government are limited by law as to how much debt can be incurred. Counties are limited by the constitution to 10 percent of the valuation. The proposal would cut that in half and probably create problems for local government. Uniformity of property taxation is eliminated between classifications of property. This can lead to a variety of assessment ratios and tax rates. Minnesota, for example, has 54 different tax rates.

Local governments could raise millage rates by a vote of the people up to the present constitutional limitation (15 to 18 allocated mills and 50 total mills). The state would have to match all property taxes dollar for dollar with no control. This means that all the people in the state would pay for the additional taxes that some areas might vote.

 Requires Legislature to reimburse local government for revenues lost from low income and senior citizen exemptions.

•The state reimbursement would amount to about \$2 billion of the \$2.5 billion as local government would lose about \$600 million as a result of the rollback to 1978 valuation (SEV) levels.

•The Legislature could not impose any new tax or increase the rate or base of any existing tax unless approved by 60 percent of the voters at a general election which is held once every two years. In other words, 41 percent could thwart the will of 59 percent of the voters. The question is how the state could reimburse local government for lost property tax renewal if the voters turn down a revenue proposal.

Prohibits the state from increasing any existing fee or imposing any new fee without statewide voter approval. However, it appears that local government could impose fees, licenses, charges, etc.

•Income tax credits and exemptions could not be reduced without approval of 4/5 of the Legislature. The school aid formula could not be altered except by 4/5 vote of the Legislature.

Would damage P.A. 116 as reduced incentive to go into program would lose farmland.

It was the unanimous opinion of the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors to strongly oppose the Tisch proposal. While it is obviously a tax cut, it is also totally irresponsible!

(continued on page 5)

Cooperative Patronage Pays Off for 4,700 FPC Members

Gasoline at 20 cents a gallon is an almost forgotten bargain compared to today's average pump price of \$1.25 and up, but member patrons of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., received a pleasant reminder recently when approximately 4,700 patronage checks totaling \$245,888.88 were mailed to the cooperative's member patrons.

The payments represented ments range from a high of

patronage deferred in 1963 and 1964 and earned from business done with FPC.

Representatives of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative are attending county Farm Bureau board of directors' summer meetings to present an enlarged check showing the total dollar amount returned to member patrons in the county.

County total patronage payments range from a high of \$14,999.23 in Saginaw County to a low of \$245.89 in Alcona County.

"The excellent participation of all members made this distribution possible, and is sincerely appreciated by the management and staff of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc.," said Max D. Dean, treasurer and chief financial officer and interim coordinator of FPC.



Checks totaling nearly a quarter of a million dollars were recently mailed to 4,700 Farmers Petroleum Cooperative members in 60 Michigan counties. The checks represent patronage disbursements for business done with the cooperative in 1963 and 1964.

Max Dean, treasurer and chief financial officer and interim coordinator of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. President Elton R. Smith and Vice President John Laurie display an enlarged check representing the total patronage returned to cooperative members.

Capitol Report Continued

Board Reviews Ballot Tax Proposals

Present System

The board pointed out that Michigan's present tax system is considered among the best in the nation especially with its "ability to pay" provisions including the "circuit breaker" that provides tax rebates if property tax exceeds 3½ percent of household income with a rebate limit of \$1,200.

Farmers can also voluntarily contract with the state under P.A. 116 to assure preservation of farmland for the contract period and in return receive tax rebates of all property taxes in excess of 7 percent of the household income. The average farmer enrolled in P.A. 116 receives more properfy tax relief now than under any of the proposals, including Tisch, and there is no loss of local control.

Local units of government are presently guaranteed that 42 percent of state revenue will come to local government and the limitations and millage rollbacks of the Headlee Amendment passed just two years ago

are just beginning to take affect.

These and other major tax system changes are just beginning to be understood. For these reasons and others, the Farm Bureau board feels that the present system should be allowed to work and that farmers should take advantage of the popular P.A. 116 program.

It may be time for a rational study of the present tax system with all the changes made during the last few years. (The last study was more than 20 years ago in 1958-59.) The voter should not be subjected to a hodge-podge of constitutional tax amendments every election that are extremely complicated and far reaching. It is not possible to understand all of the ramifications of these proposals in relation to the rest of the constitution, especially if more than one is approved.

Income Tax Increase for Prison Construction

The Legislature has passed a bill to increase the present state

income tax of 4.6 percent by one tenth of 1 percent, bringing it up to 4.7 percent, the revenue to be earmarked for the construction of four prisons in the state and the renovation of others. The tax increase would expire in five years. This will also be placed on the ballot in November for voter decision.

In 1978, the voters passed a proposal demanding that felons convicted of certain violent crimes serve the minimum sentence and prohibit early releases. This has created a serious problem that now requires the building of at least four new prisons. If the voters were sincere in 1978, they should vote for this proposal in order to pay for their own demands.

The Farm Bureau board voted to support this proposal as being a responsible position, as Farm Bureau members strongly supported the 1978 proposal

Additional information and examples will appear in the September issue of Michigan Farm News.

200 Students Attend Citizenship Seminar

The 17th annual Michigan Farm Bureau Young People's Citizenship Seminar held at Albion College June 16 through 20 was "one of the best seminars we've had," said seminar coordinator Don Currey.

Over 200 Michigan high school juniors and seniors participated in the five-day seminar sponsored by county Farm Bureaus and the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Activities included student involvement in a mock election process. While some students ran for political offices, others worked as campaign managers and authored catchy campaign slogans and posters. The results of the general election were announced by Lt. Gov. James Brickley.

Elected to political offices were Mark Landis of Ottawa Lake, Monroe County, state senator; Dennis Wood of Marlette, Sanilac County, state representative; Jana Armstead of Hale, Iosco County, sheriff; Jackie Johnson of St. Louis, Gratiot County, prosecuting attorney; Denise Geiger of South Lyon, Washtenaw County, clerk; Martha Goodchild of Caro, Tuscola County, trea-



Several principles of economics were explained through presentations by Dr. Charles Van Eaton, head of the division of economics and business administration at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Mich.

surer; Paul Dziedzic of Carney, Menominee County, register of deeds; and Chris Powell of Lowell, Ionia County, drain commissioner.

Two justices to the state Supreme Court were also elected: Dan Lauwers of Capac in St. Clair County and Bill Schwallier of Conklin in Ottawa County.

In addition to the political activities, the students also heard from a variety of speakers.



Storm Damage Reduces Michigan's Tart Cherry Harvest by 10 Percent

No Till Pays Off in

Southern Michigan

Fruit areas in southwest Michigan were among the hardest hit by a series of violent thunderstorms and high winds that cut across Michigan's southern tier of counties on July 16.

Residents in Berrien, Van Buren, Cass, Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties suffered damage to buildings, utility service, livestock and crops as a result of the storm. For many residents, it was the second major destructive storm to strike the

area this year and the second time that the counties had been declared a disaster area by the state's governor.

Gov. William G. Milliken announced July 17 that he would seek appropriate federal disaster assistance for Michigan citizens who had experienced property damage in the series of severe thunderstorms.

"It is obvious that thousands of Michigan citizens suffered economic loss in the storms that swept the southern part of the state

"It appears that the damage was severe enough to warrant federal assistance for individuals, businesses and farms," Milliken said.

Substantial Losses in Tart Cherry Crop

According to Steve Psconda, assistant statistician at the Michigan Agricultural Reporting Service, who surveyed the storm damage on July 18, the red tart cherry crop suffered the brunt of the fruit losses.

Loss estimates released by the service indicate that 10 percent of the state's predicted 175 million pound harvest was destroyed. In addition, 5 percent to 10 percent of the bearing surface of cherry tree limbs were damaged.

"We figure the red tart cherry crop (in southern Michigan) was probably about 40 percent harvested when the storm hit. There is at least 30 percent of the remaining crop in the orchards that won't be harvested because of wind whip and limb rub," he said.

Growers estimated that the quality of the cherries would start to deteriorate within 48 to 72 hours and wouldn't be harvested.

Herb Teichman, orchard grower near Eau Claire, recorded gale force winds of 83 miles an hour as the storm whipped through the farm's orchard blocks.

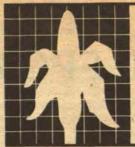
"We were within eight hours of completing the cherry harvest. Most of the cherries that were blown off the trees were at the edge of the orchard blocks. The real loss for our farm will be in production potential of those trees that were blown over or lost limbs," Teichman said.

Power outages were suffered by several packers and freezers in the area, but no serious losses in fruit processing were

Supply/Price Situation

"With a 10 percent storm loss in the crop and the existing market order to set aside 24 percent of the Great Lakes area crop into a reserve pool storage, growers can expect some upward pressure in bidding for the best quality red tart cherries," said Harry A. Foster, manager, Red Tart Growers' Division, Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association, Inc.

Foster said that this combination of supply factors means there is no longer a surplus in the market. "This alteration in the supply/price situation re-



AGRINOMIC UPDATE '80

Report of the Commodity Activities & Research Department



Gale force winds ripping through fruit areas in southwest Michigan resulted in substantial damage to the red tart cherry crop. Forty percent of the crop had been harvested prior to the storm, but early estimates of the damage predicted that 30 percent of the crop remaining in the orchards would not be harvested.

(Photo by Benton Harbor Herald-Palladium)

lates to best quality cherries only. Wind whip cherries, still flavorful, but bearing marks or bruises, are not as desirable to the consumer and will bring the lower bid," he said.

Uncertainty in the supply/price situation following the storm damage in southwest Michigan meant contacting Farm Bureaus in five states, who participate in Michigan's Direct Marketing Program and who had been mailed price quotes for red tart cherry sales to their members this fall.

"We contacted the state Farm Bureaus and told them we would have to wait a few days until the supply/price situation could be determined," said Bob Eppelheimer, manager of MACMA's Direct Marketing Division.

"Fortunately for Direct Marketing sales in Michigan's participating counties, supplies of frozen cherries for the upcoming member to member sale were already in inventory and will not be affected by the storm," Eppelheimer said.

Your Membership In The MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU Now Makes Available

Institutional Liquid Assets

Designed to provide daily money market income with **Two Portfolios**:

PRIME OBLIGATIONS
*9.10%

GOVERNMENT *9.34%

• Investment Adviser:

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO

Administrator and
 Distributor:

SALOMON BROTHERS

For more complete information including management fees and expenses please see the opposite page for the form needed to request the prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money.

*Seven day annualized net investment income yield, computed by dividing the Portfolio's average daily net investment income per unit for the period ended July 11, 1980 by \$1.00 and multiplying the result by 365. On that date the average portfolio maturities in Prime and Government were 52 and 77 days respectively. The yields change in response to fluctuations in interest rates on portfolio investments and operating expenses. For current yield information contact the Michigan National Bank, Trust Department, at 77 Monroe Center, P.O. Box 2804, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501. Principal is not insured.

Salomon Brothers



Hard rains in southern Michigan earlier this year demonstrated the erosion control benefits of crop residues left on the land after planting, according to Soil Conservation Service officials, strong proponents of the "no-till" form of conservation tillage. Where the fields had been clean-tilled before planting, erosion problems were

easy to locate, they said. Even on short, moderately sloping fields, there were deep rills or small gullies and, at the bottom of the slopes,

plants were buried or nearly buried with mud.

Evidence of erosion was non-existent in nearby fields with adequate residue protection. SCS agronomist Dwight L. Quisenberry (left) and state conservationist Arthur H. Cratty, study the erosion control provided by crop residues left on the land when the "no-till" conservation tillage technique is used. Conservation tillage is a soil conservation practice that is gaining acceptance among farmers in Michigan and throughout the nation. More and more farmers are parking their mold board plows in favor of chisel plows, field cultivators and "no-till" planters.

Money Market Fund Program for Farm Bureau Members

- 1. This Money Market Fund Program is available to Members of Michigan Farm Bureau (hereinafter referred to as "Members") on the special terms described below. [These special terms have been established by Farm Bureau.] The Program utilizes Institutional Liquid Assets, a Money Market Fund with two separate Portfolios, the Prime Obligation Portfolio and the Government Portfolio.
- Michigan National Bank, Trust Department, Grand Rapids (hereinafter referred to as the "Bank") will act as agent and custodian for Members purchasing and selling ILA units.
- 3. Any Member who is interested in ILA should request an ILA prospectus from the Bank. The request must be in writing and the prospectus will be mailed directly to the Member by ILA without cost or obligation to the Member.
- 4. All purchases of ILA units must be in increments of at least \$1,000.00, and sales of ILA units must be in increments of at least \$100.00. However, a Member may at any time sell all of his ILA units, regardless of the balance in his account.
- 5. A Member who desires to invest his funds in ILA shall complete the application which appears below and shall mail the application, along with a check or money order, to the Bank.
 - a. Names must appear on the application just as they appear on membership records.
 - b. Where the membership is in the name of a corporation or partnership, the Employer I.D. number must be used on the application instead of a Social Security number.
- 6. Upon receipt of the Member's application and check or money order, the Bank shall:
 - a. Confirm that the applicant is a Member;
 - b. Mail to the Member a book of buy/sell coupons, which must be used in making future purchases and sales of ILA units; and
 - c. Invest the funds in the ILA Portfolio which the Member has indicated on the application.
 - •If the Member has not selected a specific ILA Portfolio, the funds will be invested in the Government Portfolio;
 - d. Investments in ILA become effective only after ILA has received Federal Funds. Since Members will be sending checks and money orders to the Bank, which the Bank is to first collect in Federal Funds before transmitting such Funds to ILA, the following special rules shall apply:
 - •All investments which the Bank receives before noon on any business day will be wired to ILA on the morning of the third business day following the day of receipt and shall begin earning interest on that third day;
 - All investments which the Bank receives after noon on any business day will be wired to ILA on the morning of the fourth business day following the day of receipt and shall begin earning interest on that fourth day;
 - •ILA shall mail a purchase confirmation to the Member.
- 7. A Member who desires to invest additional funds through ILA must complete one of the buy coupons furnished by the Bank and mail it, along with a check or money order, to the Bank.

- 8. Upon receipt of the Member's buy coupon and check or money order, the Bank shall invest the funds in the ILA portfolio which the Member has indicated on the coupon. The same conditions outlined in points 6.c. and d. apply to these additional investments.
- 9. A Member who desires to sell all or any portion of his ILA units must complete one of the sell coupons furnished by the Bank, clearly indicating the amount to sell, and mail it to the Bank. This is the only method by which the Bank will sell a Member's units.
- 10. Upon receipt of the Member's sell coupon, the Bank shall notify ILA of the sale.
- 11. As soon as the Member's order to sell has been processed, ILA shall send the sale proceeds directly to the Member by check.
- 12. ILA shall mail monthly statements to each Member who has invested funds in ILA.
- 13. If the Member terminates his membership in Michigan Farm Bureau, the Member must sell all of his ILA units. By participating in the Program the Member irrevocably appoints the Bank and its successor as the Member's agent to sell the Member's ILA units if and when the Member terminates his Membership in Farm Bureau. The Bank will effect such sale upon notice to it by Farm Bureau of such termination.
- 14. Michigan Farm Bureau reserves the right to terminate this Program upon notice to the Members. If Farm Bureau terminates this Program, the Member must sell all of his ILA units. By participating in the Program the Member irrevocably appoints the Bank and its successor as the Member's agent to sell the Member's ILA units if and when Farm Bureau terminates this Program. The Bank will effect such sale upon notice to it by Farm Bureau of such termination.
- 15. Farm Bureau will receive no compensation or remuneration from anyone in connection with a Member's purchase or sale of ILA units and Farm Bureau will render no advice concerning ILA or the purchase or sale of ILA units. If a Member has any questions or seeks any information concerning ILA, he should contact the Michigan National Bank, Trust Department, at 77 Monroe Center, P.O. Box 2804, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501. Such Bank is compensated for its services by Farm Bureau.

APPLICATION Money Market Fund Program for Michigan Farm Bureau Members (Please complete and mail to Michigan National Bank at address listed in point 15 above) Name (as it appears on membership records)_ State Zip Membership no.____ Soc. Security no.___ Employer ID Number (if applicable)__ Please check the appropriate boxes below indicating the actions you want taken on your behalf. of Prime Obligation Portfolio (include a check or money order) Purchase \$___ __ of Government Portfolio (include a check or money order) Please send prospectus NOTE: Neither this application nor the announcement set forth above constitute a prospectus and should not be considered a substitute for a prospectus. I have carefully read and I fully understand this application and the announcement set forth

Health Care Premiums for Members Rise

Last year, Blue Cross-Blue Shield rates were reduced for most Farm Bureau members. However, the inflationary trend which has affected most consumer goods and services during the past year is now also being reflected in the cost of health care services.

The result, according to Robert E. Braden, Michigan Farm Bureau administrative director and member of the BC-BS board, will be an increase in all BC-BS contracts.

For those members under the Comprehensive Plan, the increase averages about 30 percent for non-Medicare subscribers and 27 percent for Medicare Complementary subscribers. Econo Plan rates were also raised, averaging 16 percent for regular members and 32 percent for Medicare Complementary coverage.

Several factors were involved in the rate change, Braden said, including: the admission to facilities ratio per 1,000 members is higher for Farm Bureau members than the average; use of benefits went up while anticipated income from premiums went down; and there was a 34 percent increase in the cost of hospital care.

The average hospital charge per day for Farm Bureau members, Braden said, is now \$285.94, and surgery represented over 30 percent of the total cost for doctor's charges.

"These figures illustrate the effect on rates, but they also point out the need for comprehensive health care protection," Braden said. "Coverage costs money, but it could be even more expensive if you have no coverage at all.

"We recognize that these higher costs will pose a financial hardship for Farm Bureau members, and some may choose to transfer to the lower cost Econo Plan. To accommodate these changes, a special open period will be held, from Sept. 1 to Sept. 15," Braden explained.

"The Econo Plan offers good protection but costs less because you pay part of the cost when you use it," he said. For example, the quarterly rate for Econo-semi, full family coverage, effective Aug. 20, 1980, will be \$179.55, while the high option Comprehensive-semi, full family coverage will be \$420.12.

Members who wish to change from high option to low option should contact their county Farm Bureau secretary.

"To make this change, you must have an active contract," said Braden, "so don't forget to pay your August 20 billing."

New Issue of Debentures Available From FPC

Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc. is offering Selection Maturity Debentures from 8½ percent to 9½ percent interest per annum.

Debenture advantages include interest starts the day of purchase; the debentures can be registered in as many as three names; interest is paid annually on Sept. 1 (quarterly interest payments are also available); they can be transferred to new owners at any time without charge; there is no brokerage fee – no commission cost to the purchaser; the entire investment draws interest; they are backed by Farm Bureau's organizational know-how; and you will help build more cooperative production and service centers for Michigan farmers

More information and a copy of the prospectus can be obtained by writing Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., Securities Sales Department, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

INVEST \$1.00 NOW... So you profit, when we profit!

Invest just \$1 in Farm Bureau Services and/or Farmers Petroleum Cooperative common stock*. As a voting member, you become eligible to share in the cooperative's earnings on a patronage basis.

Your membership in Farm Bureau Services and/or Farmers Petroleum Cooperative entitles you to take an active role in making decisions and forming policies of that co-op. As a voting member, you actually help shape the future. Farm Bureau Services, Michigan's largest farm supply and marketing cooperative, has members throughout Michigan. Farmers have recognized their cooperative's progressive growth and potential over the past 50 years.

During the past 30 years, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative has grown to become Michigan's largest farm petroleum supply co-op. FPC pioneered such items as Agrihol and custom diesel fuel. FPC's partial ownership of crude oil properties and refinery operations has ensured a more dependable flow of petroleum products to the farm.

Isn't it time you shared in the benefits of the cooperative movement? See your Farm Bureau Services or Farmers Petroleum Cooperative branch manager now. He can sign you up as a member today.

Remember...it takes only one dollar.

*limited to producers



AgriPac Announces 'Friends' Endorsements

Do you know how your congressional representative voted on such key agricultural issues as the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, gasoline rationing, milk price supports and Federal Trade Commission authorization amendments? Or how your state representative cast his or her vote for wetlands legislation, MI-OSHA standards for agriculture, land preservation and inventory measures?

These and other issues which have come before state and federal lawmaking bodies affect your farming operation and the quality of life for farm and rural families in Michigan. They are important factors to consider before casting your vote in the August primary or November general elections.

Michigan Farm Bureau's Political Action Committee, AgriPac, has identified 15 issues at the state and federal levels as representative of Farm Bureau's political philosophy and major political aims in 1979-80. Using these issues as a guide for evaluation, AgriPac has compiled and reviewed the voting records of Michigan's incumbent legislators and congressmen. Analysis and interviews were also used in evaluating candidates for special categories such as the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, challengers in three U.S. congressional districts and in two Michigan House districts.

Candidates who demonstrated support for agriculture and Farm Bureau policies through their voting records, regular communications with Farm Bureau leaders and attendance at Farm Bureau meetings were selected "Friends of Agriculture" by the members of AgriPac.

The 45 Republicans and 35 Democrats who will receive AgriPac's support during the upcoming election campaign were announced in early July.

Among the 80 "Friends of Agriculture" were four state legislators who, by AgriPac's criteria, had perfect voting records, said Larry DeVuyst, chairman of the Political Action Committee.

"Two of these were Republicans; two were Democrats, and three of the four were from metropolitan areas...which proves that you don't have to be a 'country boy' to be a friend of agriculture," DeVuyst said. "They illustrated through their votes that they support our industry and realize a viable agriculture is vital to the state's economy."

The four legislators with "perfect" voting records were Reps. James Defebaugh (R-Birmingham), Stanley Stopczynski (D-Detroit), Thaddeus Stopczynski (D-Detroit) and Mark Siljander (R-Three Rivers).

When AgriPac was formed in 1978, it was the first time in the organization's history that Farm Bureau actively supported candidates for political office. In the 1978 elections, AgriPac selected 73 candidates as "Friends of Agriculture." Of the 73, 66 were successful in their campaigns.

A list of the 1980 "Friends of Agriculture" by U.S. and Michigan House district numbers follows:



MFB President Elton R. Smith was interviewed by Larry Morse, WNEM-TV, Bay City, following the AgriPac press



AgriPac's "Friends of Agriculture" were announced on July 3 at a press conference held on Larry DeVuyst's farm near Ithaca. Answering questions from the media were (left to right) Al Almy, AgriPac secretary; Larry DeVuyst, AgriPac chairman; MFB President Elton R. Smith; and Robert Braden, committee treasurer.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District	Candidate
2nd	Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth)
3rd	James Gilmore (R-Kalamazoo)
4th	David Stockman (R-St. Joseph)
5th	Harold Sawyer (R-Rockford)
8th	Robert Traxler (D-Bay City)
9th	Guy VanderJagt (R-Luther)
10th	Richard Allen (R-Alma)
11th	Robert Davis (R-Marquette)
14th	Dennis Hertel (D-Detroit)
19th	William Broomfield (R-Birmingham)

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Diet	rint	Can	didate

2nd

4th

11th

13th

16th

17th

19th

22nd

23rd

28th

31st

33rd

34th

35th

37th

38th

40th

41st

42nd

43rd

44th

45th

47th

49th

50th

51st

52nd

54th

55th

56th

58th

59th

60th

63rd

64th

65th 67th

70th

74th

78th

82nd

83rd

84th 85th

86th

87th

88th

89th

90th

Jack E. Legel (D-Detroit)
George Cushingberry Jr. (D-Detroit)
Thaddeus C. Stopczynski (D-Detroit)
William Bryant Jr. (R-Grosse Pointe)
Matthew McNeely (D-Detroit)
Frank V. Wierzbicki (D-Detroit)
Stanley Stopczynski (D-Detroit)
Gary M. Owen (D-Ypsilanti)
Mary Keith Ballantine (R-Jackson)
Thomas J. Anderson (D-Southgate)
Lucille H. McCollough (D-Dearborn)
William R. Keith (D-Garden City)
John Bennett (D-Redford)
Jack E. Kirksey (R-Livonia)
Thomas H. Brown (D-Westland)
Edward E. Mahalak (D-Romulus)
James E. Hadden (R-Adrian)
Nick Smith (R-Addison)
Mark Siljander (R-Three Rivers)
Carl F. Gnodtke (R-Sawyer)
Lad S. Stacey (R-Berrien Springs)
Bela E. Kennedy (R-Bangor)
Robert A. Welborn (R-Kalamazoo)
Everitt F. Lincoln (R-Albion)
Michael J. Griffin (D-Jackson)
Frederick Dillingham (R-Fowlerville)
Roy Smith (R-Ypsilanti)
Paul Hillegonds (R-Holland)
Donald H. Gilmer (R-Augusta)
Ernest W. Nash (R-Dimondale)
Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing)
H. Lynn Jondahl (D-East Lansing)
Claude A. Trim (D-Davisburg)
Ruth B. McNamee (R-Birmingham)
Wilbur V. Brotherton (R-Farmington)
James E. Defebaugh (R-Birmingham)
Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park)
John T. Kelsey (D-Warren)
John M. Maynard (D-St. Clair Shores)
Larry E. Burkhalter (D-Lapeer)
Bobby D. Crim (D-Davison)
Charles L. Mueller (R-Linden)
Loren S. Armbruster (R-Caro
James E. O'Neill Jr. (D-Saginaw)
Lawie N. Dodak (D. Mantrasa)
Lewis N. Dodak (D-Montrose)
Francis R. Spaniola (D-Corunna)
Alan L. Cropsey (R-DeWitt)
Gary L. Randall (R-Elwell)
DA AL DO DATE

Martin D. Buth (R-Rockford)

Paul B. Henry (R-Grand Rapids) 92nd Thomas C. Mathieu (D-Grand Rapids) Drew Allbritten (R-Grand Rapids) 93rd Jelt Sietsema (D-Grand Rapids) 94th 95th James K. Dressel (R-Holland) 96th Mickey Knight (R-Muskegon) 97th Edgar Geerlings (R-Norton Shores) 98th Jeff Dongvillo (D-Scottville) Donald Van Singel (R-Grant) 99th 100th J. Michael Busch (R-Saginaw) 101st James A. Barcia (D-Bay City) 102nd Michael Hayes (R-Midland) 103rd Ralph Ostling (R-Roscommon) Connie Binsfeld (R-Maple City) 104th Tom Alley (D-West Branch) 105th 106th Steve Andrews (R-Wolverine) Charles H. Varnum (R-Manistique) 107th 108th Dominic J. Jacobetti (D-Negaunee) Jack L. Gingrass (D-Iron Mountain) 109th

MSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bill Byrum (D-Onondaga) Tom Reed (R-DeWitt)

SPECIAL CATEGORY

The following candidates are designated as "Friends of Agriculture" but due to special circumstances explained below have been placed in this category.

- James Gilmore (R-Kalamazoo) is challenging incumbent Congressman Howard Wolpe (D-Lansing) for the 3rd Congressional District seat.
- •State Senator Richard Allen (R-Alma) is challenging incumbent Congressman Don Albosta (D-St. Charles) for the 10th Congressional District seat.
- State Rep. Dennis Hertel (D-Detroit) is seeking election to the 14th Congressional District seat being vacated by incumbent Lucien N. Nedzi (D-Detroit).
- •Mickey Knight (R-Muskegon) is seeking election to the 96th District state representative seat being vacated by incumbent Barney Hasper (D-Muskegon). Based upon the philosophy and stand on issues expressed by Knight, he is designated a "Friend of Agriculture."
- Michael Hayes (R-Midland) is seeking election to the 102nd District state representative seat being vacated by incumbent Louis Cramton (R-Midland).
 Based upon the philosophy and stand on issues expressed by Hayes, he is designated a "Friend of Agriculture."
- •Bill Byrum (D-Onondaga) is seeking nomination by the Democratic Party as one of its two nominees for the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. Based upon his knowledge of and involvement in agriculture, he is designated a "Friend of Agriculture."
- •Tom Reed (R-DeWitt) is seeking nomination by the Republican Party as one of its two nominees for the Michigan State University Board of Trustees. Based upon his knowledge of and involvement in agriculture, he is designated a "Friend of Agriculture."

AgriPac Looks at the Issues in Agriculture

KEY VOTES IN U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

In the 1980 elections Michigan voters will elect 19 U.S. representatives for 2-year terms. Following are the voting records on selected issues for incumbent Michigan U.S. representatives who have been designated by the MFB AgriPac as "Friends of Agriculture."

The specific issues were selected on the basis of degree of major controversy and/or potential impact on agriculture and the nation.

1. H. Res. 212 and 266 Standby Gas Rationing - Adoption of resolutions to approve the standby gasoline rationing plan. Agricultural needs were not fully met. The resolutions were rejected May 10, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.

2. H.R. 4537 Trade Agreements Act - Passage of bill to make changes in U.S. law to carry out multilateral trade negotiations limiting non-tariff barriers to trade. Opens export markets for U.S. agriculture. The bill passed July 11, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

3. H.R. 2444 Education Department - Passage of bill to establish a separate federal Department of Education. Adds to the federal bureaucracy. The bill passed July 11, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.

4. H.R. 3920 Unemployment Compensation For Alien Farmworkers - Vote on passage of amendment to delete language extending exemption to employers from paying unemployment insurance tax for certain temporary alien farmworkers. Would have increased farm labor costs. The amendment was defeated July 25, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.

5. H.R. 4034 Hide Exports - Vote on amend-

5. H.R. 4034 Hide Exports - Vote on amendment to limit exports of cattle hides. Approval would have meant a legislated export control. The amendment was defeated Sept. 18, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.

Bureau favored a "N" vote.

6. H.R. 4167 Milk Price Supports - Passage of bill to extend the requirement that the price of milk be supported at not less than 80 percent of parity. The bill passed Nov. 8, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

7. H.R. 2727 Meat Import Act - Passage of bill to revise the formula for determining annual meat import quotas. Replaces procyclical formula with countercyclical formula. The bill passed Nov. 14, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

8. H.R. 2626 Hospital Cost Control - Vote on substitute amendment to establish a national study commission on hospital costs and to authorize funds for state hospital cost control programs. Adoption of the substitute killed mandatory federal controls on hospital revenues. The substitute amendment passed Nov. 15, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

9. H.R. 2313 Federal Trade Commission Authorization – Vote on amendment to prohibit the Federal Trade Commission from investigating or prosecuting antitrust cases against agricultural cooperatives or investigating agricultural marketing orders. Retains USDA authority over cooperatives and marketing orders. The amendment passed Nov. 27, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

10. H.R. 3546 FIFRA - Vote on amendment to allow a one-house congressional veto of any EPA regulation regarding pesticides. Provides means to make EPA regulation of pesticides more responsible. The amendment passed Nov. 28, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

11. H.R. 3919 Carry-over Basis - Vote on motion to instruct House conferees to concur in the Senate amendment repealing the carry-over basis rule governing the taxation of inherited property. Provides for capital gains tax on appreciation of inherited property only while held by the heir. The motion passed Dec. 18, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

12. H.R. 2551 Agricultural Land Protection – Passage of bill to establish federal policy concerning protection of agricultural land from being used for non-agricultural purposes. Did not require federal projects to observe state or local protection of agricultural land. The bill was defeated Feb. 7, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.

13. H.R. 4119 Federal Crop Insurance – Passage of bill to expand operations of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation into a nationwide, comprehensive all-risk crop insurance program with government subsidized premiums. Puts government in direct competition with private insurance companies providing crop insurance. The bill passed Feb. 13, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.

14. S. 2269 Economic Emergency Agricultural Credit Extension – Adoption of the conference report on the bill to extend through fiscal year 1981 the economic emergency agricultural loan program and to authorize an additional \$2 billion per year for the loans. Provides additional credit source to farmers. The bill passed March 27, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

15. H.R. 7428 Debt Limit Extension - Vote on motion to refer to the House Rules Committee the rule providing for House floor consideration of the bill to extend the public debt limit. Pressured the Rules Committee to permit floor consideration of a proposal to disapprove President Carter's oil import fee in advance of an appeals court ruling on the fee. The motion passed May 29, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

VOTING RECORD VOTES AGAINST FB POSITION U.S. HOUSE 96th Congress KEY: Y or y = YesMilk Price Supports VOTES FOR FB N or n = NoMeat Import Act Carry-over Basis Federal Trade A = absent or not voting (Capital, bold letter is FIFRA consistent with Farm Bureau position.) 9 10 12 13 14 15 11 NAME AND DISTRICT 8 Y Y N Y Broomfield (R-Birmingham) 12 3 Davis (R-Marquette) 3 12 Pursell (R-Plymouth) 3 11 Y Sawver (R-Rockford) 1 Y Stockman (R-St. Joseph) Traxler (D-Bay City) VanderJagt (R-Luther)

KEY VOTES IN MICHIGAN HOUSE ON ISSUES IMPORTANT TO AGRICULTURE

Voters participating in the 1980 elections will elect 110 state representatives to serve 2-year terms. Following are the voting records on specific issues for incumbent state representatives during 1979-80 who have been designated as "Friends of Agriculture."

The specific issues were selected on the basis of potential impact on Michigan agriculture.

1. H.B. 4532 MI-OSHA - Vote on amend ment to prohibit MI-OSHA from promulgating agricultural standards that exceed agricultural standards promulgated by the federal OSHA. Would have kept Michigan agriculture on equal competitive basis with farmers in other states. The amendment was defeated June 22, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

2. H.B. 4807 Grain Dealers - Passage of bill to strengthen Grain Dealers Act. Would provide greater protection to farmers against potential losses from elevator bankruptcy. The bill passed Oct. 4, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.

3. H.B. 4878 License Endorsement - Passage of bill exempting drivers of certain vehicles us ed in agricultural operations from obtaining a special driver's license endorsement. Would facilitate agricultural operations by maintaining the ability of

VOTING RECORD MICHIGAN HOUSE 80th Legislative Session	MI-OSHA	o Grain Dealers	Ucense Endorsom	Oil and Gas Some	or Land Inventor	O Cleaning Agents
Allbritten (R-Grand Rapids)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y
Alley (D-West Branch)	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Ý
Anderson (D-Southgate)	n	A	Y	y	Y	Υ.
Andrews (R-Wolverine)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Armbruster (R-Caro)	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y
Ballantine (R-Jackson)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	n
Barcia (D-Bay City)	n	Y	A	y	Y	Y
Bennett (D-Redford)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y
Binsfeld (R-Maple City)	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y
Brotherton (R-Farmington)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y
Brown, Thomas (D-Westland)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y
Bryant (R-Grosse Pointe)	A	A	Y	N	Y	Υ.
Burkhalter (D-Lapeer)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y
Busch (R-Saginaw)	n	A	Y	N	A	Α
Buth (R-Rockford)	A	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Crim (D-Davison)	n	Y	Y	у	Y	Y
Cropsey (R-DeWitt)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Cushingberry (D-Detroit)	Α	Y	Y	У	Y	Y
Defebaugh (R-Birmingham)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Dillingham (R-Fowlerville)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Dodak (D-Montrose)	Y	Y	Α	У	Y	¥-
Dongvillo (D-Scottville)	Y	Y	Y	У	Y	Y
Dressel (R-Holland)	Y	Y	A	N	Y	Y
Forbes (D-Oak Park)	n	Y	Y	A	Y	Ý
Geerlings (R-Norton Shores)	Α	Y	Y	N	Y	ay 4
Gilmer (R-Augusta)	Y	Y	Y	Α	Y	У
Gingrass (D-Iron Mountain)	Y	Y	Y	У	Y	Y
Gnodtke (R-Sawyer)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Griffin (D-Jackson)	Α	Y	A	N	Y	Y
Hadden (R-Adrian)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	ZY .
Henry (R-Grand Rapids)	Y	A	Y	N	Y	n
Hillegonds (R-Holland)	Y	Α	Y	N	Y	Y
Jacobetti (D-Negaunee)	Α	Y	A	у	Y	Y

certain persons to operate farm vehicles. The bill passed Oct. 17, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y"

- 4. H.B. 4730 Oil and Gas Severance Tax Passage of bill to increase oil and gas severance tax from 2 percent to 8 percent and earmarking the increased revenue to fund the home heating assistance program. Provides negative incentive for producers of oil and gas. The bill passed Nov. 7, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "N" vote.
- 5. S.B. 443 Land Inventory Passage of bill to provide for a land resource and current land use inventory of all Michigan lands. Would provide current land use data for use in making land use decisions. The bill passed Nov. 27, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 6. H.B. 4903 Cleaning Agents Passage of bill to redefine a "cleaning agent" and allow a high phosphate content for cleaning agents used in the dairy industry, restaurants, hospitals, etc. Would help the dairy industry meet strict sanitary standards. The bill passed Nov. 28, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 7. House Substitute for S.B. 3 Wetlands Passage of substitute bill to establish program for protection of certain wetlands. Exempts agricultural use of most wetlands. The bill passed Dec. 12, 1979. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 8. H.B. 5409 Grain Tax Passage of bill to repeal tax collected from elevators for ownership

- and possession of grain. Where collected it was an overhead expense to the elevator reflected in prices paid to farmers. The bill passed Feb. 4, 1980: Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 9. H.B. 5236 Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act Passage of bill to provide that if a farmer executed a P.A. 116 agreement by Nov. 1, he could apply for a tax credit for the current tax year and to entitle a farmer to automatic renewal of a P.A. 116 agreement if he had complied with the requirements of the original agreement. Would provide assurances to farmers in making P.A. 116 decisions. The bill passed Feb. 5, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 10. S.B. 782 Uniform Commercial Code Passage of bill to eliminate requirement that a loan obtained to produce crops be recorded on the deed of the property used to grow the crops. Would reduce paperwork and remove what many persons renting their land to others considered a lien against their property. The bill passed March 25, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 11. H.B. 4968 Pseudorabies Passage of bill to strengthen prevention and suppression of pseudorabies. Would provide protection to the Michigan swine industry. The bill passed March 25, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 12. H.B. 5274 Vehicle Repair Facilities Passage of bill to exempt mechanics working on
 motor vehicles not required to be registered from

- being licensed under the Motor Vehicle and Service Repair Act. Would exempt persons repairing and servicing farm equipment thus reducing overhead costs that are passed on to customers. The bill passed April 22, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y"
- 13. S.B. 376 P.A. 116 Credits Passage of bill to require state to pay interest on P.A. 116 credits not paid to the farmer within 45 days of submitting their state income tax returns. Would help solve problem of farmers having to wait several weeks to receive their P.A. 116 credit. The bill passed May 7, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y"
- 14. Substitute H.B. 4706 Forest Districts Passage of bill to authorize the creation of forest improvement districts to improve forest management. Would provide for loans and cost sharing agreements to participating owners of forest land. The bill passed May 7, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y" vote.
- 15. S.B. 29 Electric Utilities Passage of bill to require the Public Service Commission to restructure rates for electrical utilities by establishing a reasonable rate for basic needs and higher rates for additional amounts of electricity consumed. Would not apply to electricity measured by a single meter for both residential and agricultural purposes unless such a customer chose to be included. The bill passed May 15, 1980. Farm Bureau favored a "Y"

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- Agente	2 Wetlands	Grain Ta	Farmland		Pseudoraki		P.A. 116 C.	Forest Di		VOTES FOR FIRE	VOTES ACATE	ABSENT OF	OR NOT VOTING
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-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
	n Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1	
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-	n	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	A	A		2	2	
	n Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	2	2	2
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	1	0	100
-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	13	0	2	13
-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1	
	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1	
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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
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KEY: Y or y = Yes N or n = No ? = Did not vote or otherwise make a position known. (Capital, bold letter is consistent with Farm Bureau position.)	MI-OSHA			Oil and Gas Comments	Land Inventor	Cleaning Agent	Wetlands	Grain Tay	Farmland	Uniform C	Pseudoration Code	Vehicle p	P.A. 116.	Forest Di	Florts	VOTES FOR THE	VOTES AS	ABSENT OF	ABSENT OR NOT VOTING
NAME AND DISTRICT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	-		-	1
Jondahl (D-East Lansing)	n	Y	Y	У	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	12	2	1	
Keith (D-Garden City)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Α	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	11	2	2	
Kelsey (D-Warren)	n	Y	Y	У	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0	
Kennedy (R-Bangor)	Α	Y	Y	N	n	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Α	Y	Y	n	10	3	3	
Kirksey (R-Livonia)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Α	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	0	2	
Legel (D-Detroit)	A	Α	Y	У	A	Α	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	9	1	5	1
Lincoln (R-Albion)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
Mahalak (D-Romulus)	n	Y	Y	у	A	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	2	2	1
Mathieu (D-Grand Rapids)	n	Y	Y	у	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0	1
Maynard (D-St. Clair)	Y	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
McCollough (D-Dearborn)	n	Y	Y	У	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0	10
McNamee (R-Birmingham)	Α	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	0	1	
McNeely (D-Detroit)	A	Y	Y	у	A	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	11	1	3	
Mueller (R-Linden)	Y	Α	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	0	1	
Nash (R-Dimondale)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
O'Neill (D-Saginaw)	n	Y	Y	у	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	2	0	13
Ostling (R-Roscommon)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
Owen (D-Ypsilanti)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	12	2	1	-
Randall (R-Elwell)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
Sietsema (D-Grand Rapids)	A	Y	Y	v	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	13	1	1	
Siljander (R-Three Rivers)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	v	v	v	15	0	0	
Smith, Nick (R-Addison)	Y	A	Y	N·	Y	Y	n	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	1	2	
Smith, Roy (R-Ypsilanti)	Y	Y	Y	v	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
Spaniola (D-Corunna)	Y	Y	Y	v	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	10
Stabenow (D-Lansing)	n	Y	Y	y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	12	2	1	
Stacey (R-Berrien Springs)	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		-	_	-	130
Stopczynski, S. (D-Detroit)	Y	Y	Y	_	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	_	_	n	14	1	0	1
Stopczynski, T. (D-Detroit)	Y	Y	Y	200	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	15	0	0	113
Trim (D-Davisburg)	Y	Y	Y	-	_	-	Y	-		_	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	15	0	0	
Van Singel (R-Grant)	Y	A	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	14	1	0	
Varnum (R-Manistique)	Y	THE STATE OF THE S	6.4	-	-	-	-	-	Y	A	A	Y	Y	Y	A	11	0	4	1
	-	A	A		Y	Y	n	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	10	2	3	1
Welborn (R-Kalamazoo)	Y	Y	A	N	A	A	A	Y	Y	A	A	A	Y	Y	Y	8	0	7	
Wierzbicki (D-Detroit)	n	Y	Y	N	A	A	n	Y	Y	Y	n	A	A	A	Y	8	2	5	100

Crime Prevention: A New Challenge for Farmers

Until recently, criminal activity in Michigan was viewed as a problem particular to the state's metropolitan areas. Farm and rural families in Michigan's outstate communities felt insulated from the losses and threat of theft and vandalism.

But the statistical reports of crime in Michigan reveal quite a different pattern...a pattern that should change attitudes and crime prevention practices for farm and rural families throughout Michigan.

According to 1979 figures released by the Michigan State Police, crime in Michigan's rural areas has increased at a rate of 16 percent compared to a reported 8 percent crime increase in urban areas during the same period.

Comparisons to the national average increase in reported crime of 8 percent, and a 7 percent increase in the north central region of the United States, reveal crime prevention as a challenge for Michigan's rural communities that must be met immediately and effectively.

Reported incidents of theft, vandalism and other crimes in 1978 resulted in over \$54 million in losses for rural residents: \$21 million due to larceny, \$250,000 in livestock, \$18 million through auto theft and \$15 million in burglaries.

Future concern is raised by the fact that budget cuts for the Michigan State Police and local government law enforcement agencies may result in cutbacks in law enforcement personnel, travel miles and car maintenance. These budget factors indicate a decrease in surveillance in rural areas.

Increases in rural crime activity may also be due to increased unemployment, economic recession, inflation and population shifts to rural areas.

In these times, farmers must assume more responsibility for practices which will prevent loss of property or equipment and make it harder for crime to be committed.

Common Sense Crime Prevention

Family members and employees should be particularly careful not to leave any equipment, supplies or tools out in the open where they can easily be stolen. Whenever possible, even during busy times, equipment should be returned to locked storage areas at night. Equipment dealers, too, should make provisions to lock machinery in a fenced or other-

wise secured area.

Outside lighting and properly installed locks on storage buildings should be considered as another deterrent to theft. Keep in mind that many ignition locks in tractors are not adequate and can be easily bypassed. Of course, keys should not be left overnight in trucks, tractors or automobiles.

Identification and Reporting

Report the theft of any equipment immediately to county or state police officers.

Law enforcement officials will request the following essential information: vehicle identification number or chassis number, engine number, transmission number and if available, the driver's license number stamped in permanent ink in various locations on the equipment.

Property owners who have participated in the rural crime prevention identification program or similar property identification marking programs will be able to provide this additional information to police.

Unless the owner has some positive means of identifying the equipment, there is little chance that the stolen property will be located or recovered, state police officials say.

However, properly identified equipment can be traced within minutes of discovery using a national computerized network listing of stolen equipment.

A booklet made available through the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council entitled, "Michigan Identification System Manual," shows the property owner and state police personnel the proper placement for stamped, personal identification number on over 80 types of tools, equipment and supplies.

The booklet is available at county and state Farm Bureau offices and at Michigan State Police posts.

Through the Michigan Farm Bureau Rural Crime Prevention program, farmers can obtain property identification kits, including rubber marking stamps, ink pads and warning decals for marking equipment and personal property.

Good Records a Must

Farmers are encouraged to keep a record book of all equipment serial numbers and a description of locations where equipment has been marked with a personal identification number

The state police stress the importance of recording the engine and transmission number as well as the chassis number. Chassis numbers, they warn, can be easily removed and other means of identification are essential if stolen equipment is to be properly identified.

Photographs of large equipment kept as part of the record may be helpful to police in recovering stolen equipment.

Petty Crimes -Substantial Losses

Losses from theft are not confined to farm machinery. Gasoline, fuel oil, gasohol, alcohol and pesticides should also be secured or locked in storage areas. Fuel and chemical storage tanks should be locked at the tank rather than at the nozzle. Hose lines can be cut and a few gallons carried away leaving the rest of the tank to drain.

Farm and rural properties are also the target for acts of vandalism and petty thievery. Crimes classified as misdemeanors include trespassing; petty thievery of fruit or vegetables from fields, orchards and

(continued on page 13)

"We think they're a fantastic tire. I believe in the Safemark member-only program. The products are superior and it saves us money."

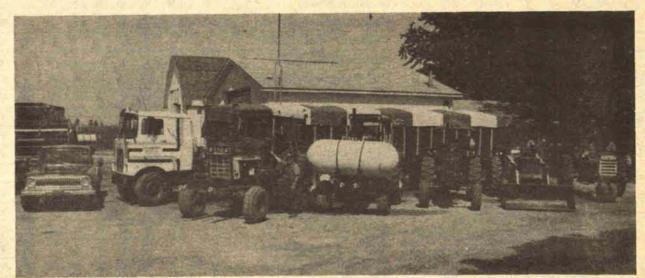
Lowell Eisenmann, Lenawee County Farmer

Lowell Eisenmann is a cash crop and beef farmer operating 1,100 acres near Blissfield. Here is what he says about the Safemark program:

"Six of our eight farm tractors, our tractor semi, our cars and trucks, are all equipped with Safemark tires, and as soon as the others need tires, they'll be Safemark, too. We're just that happy with them.

"We've got our main plow tractor equipped with Safemark radials, which have far superior traction than our previous brand-name deep treads. We plowed with both 20-inch bottom plows with single tires on it, which we couldn't do before.

"My son used the rear radials in a tractor pull, just to see what they would do, and he outpulled another contestant who had 30-inch tires and had been



pulling for many years. My son had no experience in tractor pulls. There's no question in my mind that it's a super tire!

"We've also used the Safemark batteries and have been very pleased with their performance - and they're about

\$25 to \$30 cheaper than some other tractor batteries.

"The Safemark program can save members money. We figure there's about a 10 to 15 percent price advantage to us."

You Can Save Money, Too -

Contact Your County Farm Bureau Office for Your Nearest Safemark Dealer

Rural Groups Cooperate in Self Help Programs

(continued from page 12) fruit stands; and dumping garbage or other rubbish without permission of the owner.

The classification of misdemeanor leads to misunderstanding of the impact of these crimes. Often these acts mean substantial losses or nuisance to the property owner.

Self-Help Crime Prevention

Property owners have the responsibility to post signs warning against trespass, theft or dumping. Local law enforcement officials and county prosecutors should be notified whenever these crimes occur and the property owner should insist on proper surveillance, enforcement and sentencing in criminal cases.

In Kent and Oceana counties, farmers are cooperating in a self-help crime prevention project with the Michigan Rural Crime Prevention Council, the county prosecutor's office, the county sheriff's department and the Michigan Farm Bureau. The Cooperative Extension Service and Michigan Agricultural Services Association are also involved in promotion and information efforts.

Dubbed Project Eyes, the program is designed to make the public more aware that it is a criminal offense to trespass on farm property and/or willfully take fruit, vegetables and livestock.



Notice Of Availability

The Bureau of Maps is again making available a free Index containing detailed lists of its Michigan Lake & Land Map Inventory.

This inventory lists over 3,000 hydrographic inland lake charts, 958 U.S. government topographic land maps, and all of the N.O.A.A. Great Lakes and connecting water nautical charts. This index is free by sending a self-addressed business (No. 10) envelope, with 30 cents postage affixed to: Bureau of Maps, D-30235, Lansing, MI 48909.

Project participants are encouraged to post specially designed "OPERATION EYES" no trespass signs and to report any criminal activity in the area to law enforcement agencies. Bumper stickers bearing the OPERATION EYES symbol, large watchful eyes, also have been distributed for display on vehicles and farm equipment.

Rural crime prevention is the responsibility of residents in the community. Farmers are en-

couraged to increase their own awareness of crime prevention practices, to know their legal rights and responsibilities and to work with local agencies and citizens' groups to develop a greater awareness of criminal activity in the community.

This awareness is essential in reducing equipment and supply loss on farms and businesses, reducing insurance costs and preventing loss of time in retrieving stolen equipment.

In addition, crime prevention and information projects similar to Operation Eyes or the Michigan Farm Bureau Rural Crime Prevention Program can be organized in cooperation with FFA, women's groups or other citizens'groups.

Such groups can pass out literature, aid in labeling equipment, inventory and record equipment, post signs and work to increase the public's awareness of crime prevention.

Farmers are encouraged to meet with local law enforcement officials to discuss concerns for rural crime prevention and the need for enforcement to curb local criminal problems.

Neighboring farm families can work together to watch each other's property and report any suspicious activity. No private citizen should ever attempt to apprehend criminals, but should leave enforcement procedures to police.



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Universal people get up mighty early to bring you the kind of livestock equipment and buildings you need to stay competitive.

And they bring it all together for you in one neat package — building, feeders, waterers, ventilation and heating systems. Even a built-in manure pit if you want it. Assembled. Ready to hook up and use.

Besides the obvious economic advantage of buying everything from one source, there are others to buying a Universal Sow, Pig, Hog, or Calf Lodge:

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Quality — Because our Lodge structures are factorybuilt, quality of engineering, materials, and construction are easier to maintain.

Economy — Quantity materials purchases, yeararound in-factory construction keep costs low.

Convenience — From loading at our factory to set-up on your farm generally takes a couple of days. You don't deal with contractors for weeks or months.

Portability — If you retire or relocate, a Lodge is easy to move to a different location.

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Farm Re	reau Services B	uilding Departme	unt
		ng, Michigan 4890	



Michigan's Soil and Water Resources to be Inventoried

Soil and water resources information for a three-year USDA Multi-Resource Inventory will be collected in 30 Michigan counties this summer according to the USDA Soil Conservation Service in East Lansing. Resource data will be gathered in the remaining 53 Michigan counties in 1981 and 1982

Michigan counties where soil and water resource data will be gathered in 1980 are Ottawa, Ionia, Clinton, Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, Macomb, Oakland, Livingston, Ingham, Eaton, Muskegon, Montcalm, Gratiot, Sanilac, Wayne, Washtenaw, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Mecosta, Midland, Bay, Huron, Lenawee, Berrien, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin and Arenac.

In the next few months, USDA Soil Conservation Service personnel for these counties will be visiting randomly selected primary sample units to gather resource data. They

will record information about three sample points in each sample unit. Based on their observation and conversations with landowners, they will record information on land use, land ownership, crop history, conservation treatment and factors affecting wind and water erosion.

Information about the soils will be taken from soil surveys. Counties studied this year have, or will soon have, up-todate soil surveys. Soil scientists with the Soil Conservation Service are now making up-todate soil surveys for the randomly selected 160-acre primary sample units in counties without published soil surveys or soil surveys in progress.

The Multi-Resource Inventory is part of the Inventory and Monitoring Program that has become a permanent function of the USDA Soil Conservation Service as a result of the Resources Conservation Act.

Facts about Michigan's soil, water and related resources will be combined with similar data collected in the other 49 states to determine the condition of

the nation's farms, forests and range or pasture lands.

This study follows the Conservation Needs Inventory completed in 1958 and up-

dated in 1967. It will contain resource data similar to that collected in 1958 and 1967, and new data that has never been collected before.



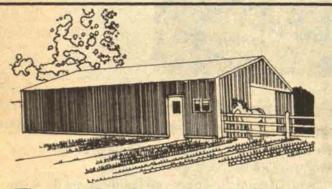
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Tests performed at Michigan State University prove that the Farm Bureau diaphragm panel

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Building Department, Farm Bureau Services, Inc., 7373 W. Saginaw, Lansing, MI 48909, Attn: Arliss Kraft

I would like information on:

- ☐ Machine Storage ☐ Grain Storage
- ☐ Fertilizer Storage
- ☐ Dairy Building ☐ Beef Building
- ☐ Hog Building
- ☐ Horse Building
- ☐ Garage
- Residential Storage ☐ Urban Storage
- □Commercial Building Other

Address Town Zip

St. Clair County Wins State Honors for Soil Conservation

awarded to the St. Clair County Soil Conservation District in the 33rd annual Goodyear conservation awards program.

Howard Radford of North Street, chosen as "outstanding cooperator" by the winning district, and Gilbert Parks of Capac, member of the SCS district board and St. Clair County Farm Bureau, will be representatives on an expense-paid vacation study tour in Arizona in December

They will be joined by representatives of 52 other firstplace districts from throughout the United States.

The Ionia Soil Conservation District is the runner-up in Michigan. Its outstanding cooperator is Gordon Walkington, Ionia County Farm Bureau

Leelanau and Tuscola counties were named "honor districts" in recognition of their continuing achievements in soil conservation

The competition is sponsored each year to encourage aggressive, well-rounded Soil Conservation District programs and recognize districts for their accomplishments.

In Memoriam - Margaret Boyne

Margaret Boyne, Tuscola County Farm Bureau president from 1978 to 1980, passed away Tuesday, July 15. She had been an active member of the county Farm Bureau organization since 1952.

In addition to Farm Bureau leadership responsibilities, Mrs. Boyne was active in the 4-H program. She served 26 years as a 4-H leader, six years on the county's 4-H Council, eight years as area camp director for Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola counties, and was a member of the state 4-H Coun-

Mrs. Boyne was a full partner in a family owned farrow to finish purebred hog operation. The family farm is located

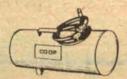
Tuscola County Farm Bureau vice president, LeRoy Schluckebier of Frankenmuth, will assume duties as president for the remainder of the 1979-80 term.

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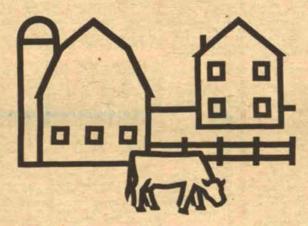


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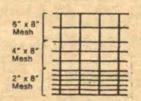
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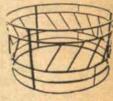
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Between You and Me

By Judy Kissane
1980 Michigan Farm Bureau
Outstanding Young
Farm Woman

3D+B+P+SI=PMA=SUCCESS

Does the above formula look

like something out of Albert

Einstein's laboratory? Well, it's

not. That impressive string of

numbers and letters represents

a formula for success that everyone can use. This formula

was shared by a friend in Al-

pena, who knows that we all want to be successful and re-

cognizes that success is many

My friend is a very successful

What are the steps to success? Let's take a look at how this formula can add up to suc-

The three D's in the formula stand for Desire, Determination and Discipline. If you are going to succeed in any project, in any area of your life, you must have the Desire to achieve and

man in all areas of his life and I

was impressed with his formula

things to many people.

cess in our own lives.

for success.



The fourth factor in our formula for success is SI - Self Image. To be successful you must remember that what other people think of you isn't as important as what you think of your-

3D+B+P+SI = PMA = Success

self. The realization that, "Hey, I'm really a good person and what I do is important," means that you can be successful whether you are the corporation president or an errand boy; whether you own and operate 800 acres of prime farmland or are the hired hand who cleans the barn. Discovering what is good about you and cultivating your strengths builds your Self Image and brings you closer to

If you've been working on this formula, you should have it: PMA - Positive Mental Attitude is the result of 3D (Desire, Determination, Discipline) + B (Belief) + P (Persistence) + SI (Self Image). If you're ever going to accomplish anything you must have a **Positive** Mental Attitude.

It is the quality that brings success whether it concerns your farm, your Farm Bureau organization or your own personal life.

3D+B+P+SI=PMA=SUCCESS Success; we all want it. While the above formula is not a shortcut to success and doesn't guarantee success, it can help!

We do know that applying these principles and ideas can improve your chances of success, whether it is in a Farm Bureau membership drive, your farming operation or your personal life.

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Walking After Midnight; Sweet Dreams;
Crazy; I Fall To Pieces; So Wrong; Strange;
Back In Baby's Arms; She's Got You; Faded
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Than Me; Leavin' On Your Mind.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-12 \$4.98

JERRY CLOWER - MCA-486 ALBUM \$2.98
Live In Picayune; Physical Examination;
The Plumber; Bird Huntin' At Uncle Versie's;
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For Clovis; Marcel Ledbetter Moving Company; The Coon Huntin' Monkey; Marcel's
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Marcel's Hair Growing Secret; Hot Apple Pie;
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His Number; Conterfeiters; You're Fixin'
To Mess Up.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-486 \$4.98

JIMMY DAVIS - MCA-1-480 \$4.98
Supper Time: My God Is Real: I'd Rather
Have Jesus; Long Long Journey; Oh, Why
Not Tonight; Where He Leads Me I Will
Follow; When The Master Speaks; Battle
Hymn Of The Republic; There Is A Fountain;
When I Move To The Sky; Someday There'll
Be No Tomorrow; What A Friend.
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Cross; His Marvelous Grace.
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Closer Walk With Thee; Our Lady Of Fatima;
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The Rosary; Will The Circle Be Unbroken;
Old Pappy's New Banjo; I Hear A Choir;
When God Dips His Love In My Heart.
B TRACK TAPE - MCAT-147 \$4.98

RED FOLEY - MCA-86 ALBUM \$2.98
I'll Fly Away: The Last Mile Of The Way:
No Tears In Heaven; Were You There?; This
World Is Not My Home; My Soul Walked
Through The Darkness; I Just Can't Keep
From Cryin'; Lord I'm Coming Home; Only
One Step More; Stand By Me; Farther Along;
Life's Railway To Heaven.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-86 \$4.98

LORETTA LYNN - MCA-444 ALBUM \$2.98
They Don't Make 'Em Like My Daddy; Behind Closed Doors; If You Love Me; I've
Never Been This Far Before; We've Aiready
Tasted Love; Out Of Consideration; Trouble
In Paradise; I Love; Don't Leave Me Where
You Found Me; Ain't Love A Good Thing;
Nothin'.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-444 \$4.98

LORETTA LYNN - MCA-471 ALBUM \$2.98
The Pill; Will You Be There; It's Time To Pay
The Fiddler; Paper Roses; You Love Everybody But You; Mad Mrs. Jesse Brown; Back
To The Country; The Hands Of Yesterday;
I Can Help; Another You; Linda On My
Mind; Jimmy.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-471 \$4.98

LORETTA LYNN - MCA-113 ALBUM \$2.98
Don't Come Home A Drinkin' With Lovin'
On Your Mind; I Really Don't Want You To
Know; Tomorrow Never Comes; There Goes
My Everything; The Shoe Goes On The Other
Foot Tonight; Saint To A Sinner; The Devil
Gets His Dues; I Can't Keep Away From
You; I'm Living In Two Worlds; Get What
'Cha Got And Go; Making Plans; I Got Caught.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-113 \$4.98

LORETTA LYNN - HWNNS
MCA-5 ALBUM \$2.98
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No One Stands Alone; When They Ring Those
Golden Bells; Peace in The Valley; If I Could
Hear My Mother Pray Again; The Thind Man;
How Great Thou Art; Old Camp Meetin'
When I Hear My Children Pray; In The Sweet
Bye And Bye; Where I Learned To Pray;
I'd Rather Have Jesus,
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LORETTA LYNN - MCA-6 ALBUM \$2.98
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Tomorrow; These Boots Are Made For
Walkin'; God Gave Me A Heart To Forgive;
Keep Your Change; Someone Before Me;
The Darkest Day; Tippy Toeing; Talking
To The Wall; A Man I Hardly Know; Is It
Wrong; It's Another World.
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Eyes To Shame; I'm So Used To Loving You;
Will You Visit Me On Sunday; After The Fire
Is Gone; Don't Tell Me You're Sorry; Pickin'
Wild Mountain Berries; Take Me; The One t
Can't Live Without; Hangin' On; Working Girl.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-8 \$4.98

LORETTA LYNN - MCA-7 ALBUM \$2.98
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Room Only; The Old Rugged Cross; Harp
With Golden Strings; If You Miss Heaven;
I'm A 'Gettin' Ready To Go; In The Garden;
Ten Thousand Angels; He's Got The Whole
World In His Hands; Mama, Why.
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Now Is The Hour; Near You; Dancing With
Tears in My Eyes; Lonesome; That's All;
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The Gold Of The Day; Together; True Love;
Deep Purple; Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland.
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When I Get Thru With You; Blue Moon Of
Kentucky; Someday You'II Want Me To Want
You; Who Can I Count On; You Took Him
Off My Hands; Your Kinda Love; Does Your
Heart Beat For Me.
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Memories; Let The Rest Of The World Go By;

My Secret Love; Love Nest; Love Is The

Sweetest Thing; Something To Remember

You By; The Very Thought Of You; You're

My Everything; Kiss Me Again; A Kiss In The

Dark; I'll See You Again; By The Light Of

The Silvery Moon; Shine On Harvest Moon;

Moonlight Bar; As Time Goes By; Bidin'

My Time; Breezin' Along With The Breeze; I

Want To Be Happy; I'm Looking Over A Four

Leaf Clover; Happy Days Are Here Again;

April Showers; September in The Rain; I

Only Have Eyes For You; If I Could Be With

You; It Had To Be You; In A Shanty In Old

Shanty Town; Three Little Words; Baby Face;

Somebody Loves Me; Don't Take Your Love

From Me; What Is This Thing Called Love.

8 TRACT TAPE - MCAT-103 \$4.98

PATSY CLINE - MCA-90 ALBUM \$2.98 She's Got You; Heartaches; That's My Desire; Your Cheatin' Heart; Anytime; You Made Me Love You; Strange; You Belong To Me; You Were Only Fooling; Half As Much; I Can't Help It; Lonely Street. 8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-90 \$4.98

JIMMY MARTIN - MCA-137 ALBUM \$2.98
Singing All Day And Dinner On The Ground;
Lift Your Eyes To Jesus; My Lord Keeps A
Record; God Is Always The Same; When The
Savior Reached Down For Me; Shake Hands
With Mother Again; Help Thy Brother; A
Beautiful Life; Stormy Waters; Hold To
God's Unchanging Hand; Little Angels In
Heaven.
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Darlin'; Missing You.
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Dreams, I'll Tell You Mine; Till Then; You
Always Hurt The One You Love; Don't Be A
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Worm; Queen Of The Senior Prom; Smack
Dab In The Middle; Opus One.
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He Will Set Your Fields Afire; Get Down On
Your Knees And Pray; Boat Of Love; Walking
In Jerusalem Just Like John; River Of Death.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-131 \$4.98

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Does You Heart Beat For Me; The Object Of
My Affection; Do You Ever Think Of Me;
Cruising Down The River; Linger Awhile;
Stumbling; The Wang Wang Blues; So Tired;
Josephine; You're Nobody Till Somebody
Loves You; Wabash Blues; Johnson Rag;
Dogface Soldier.
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PATSY CLINE - MCA-87 ALBUM \$2.98
I Fall To Pieces; Foolin' 'Round; The Wayward Wind; South Of The Border; I Love You So Much It Hurts; Seven Lonely Days; Crazy; San Antonio Rose; True Love; Walking After Midnight; A Poor Man's Roses; Have You Ever Been Lonely.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-87 \$4.98

ERNEST TUBB - MCA-16 ALBUM \$2.98
Walking The Floor Over You; Rainbow At
Midnight; Let's Say Goodbye Like We Said
Hello; Another Story; Thanks A Lot; Half
A Mind; I'll Get Along Somehow; Waltz
Across Texas; It's Been So Long Darling;
Mr. Juke Box; I Wonder Why You Said
Goodbye.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-16 \$4.98

ERNEST TUBB - MCA-84 ALBUM \$2.98
I'll Get Along Somehow; Slipping Around;
Filipino Baby; When The World Has Turned
You Down; Have You Ever Been Lonely;
There's A Little Bit Of Everything In Texas;
Walking The Floor Over You; Driftwood On
The River; There's Nothing More To Say;
Rainbow At Midnight; I'll Always Be Glad
To Take You Back; Let's Say Goodbye Like
We Said Hello.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-84 \$4.98

KITTY WELLS - DUST ON THE BIBLE
MCA-149 ALBUM \$2.98
Dust On The Bible: I Dreamed I Searched
Heaven For You; Lonesome Valley; My
Loved Ones Are Waiting For Me; I Heard
My Savior Call; The Great Speckled Bird;
We Will Set Your Fields On Fire; We Burled
Her Beneath The Willows; One Way Ticket
To The Sky; I Need The Prayers; Matthew
Twenty-Four; Lord I'm Coming Home.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-149 \$4.98

KITTY WELLS - MCA-121 ALBUM \$2.98
It Wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk
Angels; This White Circle; Mommy For A
Day; Release Me; I Gave My Wedding Dress
Away; Amigo's Guitar; Heartbreak U.S.A.;
I'll Reposess My Heart; Password; Searching;
Making Believe.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-121 \$4.98

KITTY WELLS AND RED FOLEY
MCA-83 ALBUM \$2.98
One By One; Just Call Me Lonesome; As
Long As I Live; A Wedding Ring Ago; Make
Believe; Candy Kisses; You And Me; Memory
Of A Love; I'm A Stranger In My Home; I'm
Throwing Rice; No One But You; I'm Counting On You.
8 TRACK TAPE - MCAT-83 \$4.98

stacles or difficulties come your way. Discipline is the tough one, but once you achieve self discipline, it can smooth the path to success.

the Determination to pursue

your goal no matter what ob-

Add Belief to the formula. B stands for Belief in yourself and what you are doing. If you don't believe in yourself and your goal, no one else will.

So far, our formula looks like this 3D+B. Now we'll add Persistence. P can also stand for Patience. Most of us are short on Persistence. We tend to be impatient and want things to HAPPEN - NOW. Rome was not built in a day and your goals and life dreams won't happen overnight. It is through Persistence that the routine, boring or uninteresting tasks are accomplished and it is Persistence that pays off when you finally reach that far off goal.

Notice Of Availability

The Bureau of Maps is again prepared to accept orders for the complete set of 83 Michigan County Maps. These maps are printed in two colors on high quality paper and are bound by a durable, hard finish cover. The book is 128 pages, 11x16 and is the only bound set of Michigan County Maps which clearly delineates public and private property. The book is \$8.00 postpaid and is available while quantities last from Bureau of Maps, Drawer 30235, Lansing, MI 48909.

Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Michigan Farm Radio Network Honor 'Farmers of the Week'

The Farmer of the Week Award, sponsored by the Michigan Farm Radio Network and Farm Bureau Insurance Group, recognizes Michigan farmers for their contributions to the agriculture industry and the community.

In addition to recognition from the local news media, award winners receive a plaque and award buckle and belt from the local

The Farmer of the Week Award recipients for June 1980 were:



Week of June 2 - Bill Buchner, 36, a dairy farmer from Harrisville who farms 600 acres in partnership with his brother. They manage a herd of 270 head of registered and grade Holstein cattle. Buchner, a lifelong farmer, is vice president of the Alcona County Soil Conservation District; a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lincoln and serves as vice president of the church board; a member of the Alcona County Farm Bureau; and a member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association. He and his wife, Gale, have one child



GEORGE ERICKSON

Week of June 9 - George Erickson, 50, who runs a 640-acre dairy operation near Whittemore. He is vice president of the losco County Intermediate School District; vice president of the Bay City Local of the Michigan Milk Producers Association; and a member of the Ogemaw County Farm Bureau, the Iosco County Fair Board and the Iosco County 4-H Advisory Council. He is past president of the State 4-H Youth Council, past 4-H leader, past chairman of the Area 15 Horse Council, past vice president of the Ogemaw Soil Conservation District, and past vice president of the Whittemore-Prescott School Board on which he served over 20 years as a member. Erickson and his wife, Betty, have five



WILSON C. LAUER

Week of June 16 - Wilson C. Lauer, 31, a cash crop farmer from lthaca. He farms 1,100 acres in partnership with his father and brother. Lauer is a board member and Sunday School teacher for his church; a member of the executive board of the Gratiot County Farm Bureau; a member of the Michigan Farm Bureau Policy Development Committee; treasurer of Michigan Agri Fuels; a member of the advisory board of the B & W Elevator; and past chairman of the Gratiot County Young Farmers organization



EDWARD SHEARER

Week of June 23 - Edward hearer, 35, a Gladwin area dairy farmer who farms 320 acres and milks 35 cows. Shearer serves as a commis sioner on the Gladwin County Board of Commissioners; received the Gladwin County Soil Conservation District's Farmer of the Year Award in 1979; is a member of the Gladwin County Farm Bureau and past member of the county Farm Bureau board; is a former member of the board of review of Grout Township; is a past director on the County Soil Conservation Board; and is a past member of the Farm Bureau committee on land use. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children.

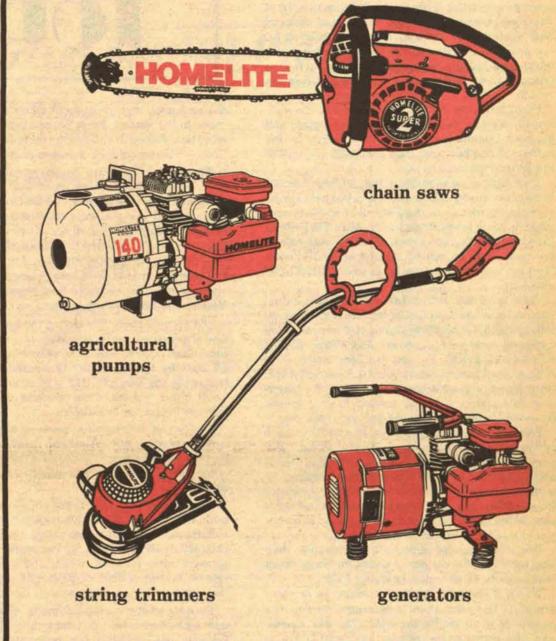


DWAIN GERSTENBERGER

Week of June 30 - Dwain Gerstenberger, 48, a cash crop farmer who raises corn, dry beans, sugar beets and wheat on 600 acres near Sandusky. He is a trustee on the Custer Township Board; an elder of Peace Lutheran Church; a local committeeman for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service; a member of the Sanilac County Farm Bureau; and member of the Farm Bureau committee on farm labor. Gerstenberger and his wife, Shirley, have four children.

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Agriculture Learning to Cope

The title of a successful Broadway musical performed a few years ago was "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope." We all have days when we feel like that. Right now, most farmers are having a year like that. But, farmers more than anyone else, have to cope.

Recently two writers for Drover's Journal described some of the conditions under which farmers are coping in 1980. They wrote: "Mix six months of depressed commodity prices with several doses of high interest rates and bake under hot inflation for the remainder of the year." This is the recipe for what they call an "agriculture crunch," which is guaranteed to leave a bad taste in any farmer's mouth.

Farm problems don't stay on the farm. They always move into town. Just as depressed grain and livestock commodity prices force changes in the cattle and hog business, they also force changes in the finance business.

Everyone is re-evaluating the money market. Long-term mortgages tied to the prime rate is one idea gaining favor, and the Federal Land Bank now offers variable interest rate loans. Also, the Federal Reserve Board recently took action to help relieve the rural credit crunch by making up to \$3 billion available to member banks for farm and small business loans.

Outside of the automobile and housing industries, no one has been harder hit than agriculture by inflation and the resulting higher cost of everything including money. U.S. News and World Report tells of how quickly farmers' troubles move on to others. April farm prices tumbled 4.5 percent down from March and all across the country, the magazine said, farmers began limiting buying to the basics of fertilizers, fuel, seed and very little else.

Sales of tractors were down by almost 20 percent in the first quarter this year, compared to the same period a year ago according to the Farm and Industrial Equipment Institute. Equipment manufacturers were so concerned about the depressed prices for hogs, cattle, grains, fiber and the widespread tightness of the money market that they joined in an appeal for relief to President Carter.

While farm people appreciate this concern, they also recognize the danger of crying for "help" from Washington. Washington help also hurts.

Many of the current price problems were compounded by government interference in the free enterprise grain marketing system by the administration's embargo on sales to the Soviet Union in early January. Attempts to correct market intervention usually lead to still more intervention. The price solution lies in more and better markets, not in expanded government "bail out" programs.

Prior to the embargo, U.S. agriculture had almost worked its way out from under most of the complex and costly farm programs. Agriculture was enjoying an expanding farm trade that produced about a fourth of its total income and removed the threat of crop surplus through normal market channels

Then came the embargo and suddenly international politics replaced part of the market price. At one large elevator exchange, wheat fell 32 cents per bushel below the price the day before. Corn dropped 123/4 cents per bushel from the previous day and soy beans were 47 cents per bushel lower than before the embargo was imposed. It was a tough way to start off a new decade.

When the embargo hit, Farm Bureau was assured that farmers would be protected from loss and would not be alone in making sacrifices.

Farm Bureau listed a number of options which experience showed would be helpful in easing the burden of clogged markets. Chief among them was a request for an acreage diversion program for feed grains and wheat to reduce the 1980 crop size by the 17 million metric tons involved in the embargo.

Farm Bureau also asked for low interest loans to holders of agricultural commodities not sold due to

DISCUSSION TOPIC by KEN WILES Manager, Member Relations

the embargo, with repayment when the products move in the market. Farm Bureau insisted that our allies be involved in extending sanctions against the Soviets because of their invasion of Afghanistan.

Through all this, Farm Bureau members suffered from a bad case of mixed emotions. They recognized that when the president of the United States is taking action - any action - against Soviet aggression, it is important that all citizens close ranks and support him. At the same time, Farm Bureau members are practical people and they know history.

There is a long U.S. history of boycotts and embargoes including embargo laws passed before the War of 1812 between the states and Great Britain.

Old records show that during the boycott of British shipping in the early years of our Republic, more than 55,000 American seamen were put out of work by loss of trade. The market disruption preceding the War of 1812 was so severe that in 1809 alone, 13,000 New Yorkers were sent to Debtors Prison for bankruptcy.

The Soviet embargo has severely affected all of American agriculture. American farmers are being hurt. Our long time credibility as a reliable supplier of food and fiber has been greatly damaged in international markets.

When American farmers are not allowed to compete, their "competitive advantage" and production suffers, as other nations are encouraged to expand production and compete for our markets. The depressed prices for corn, wheat and soy beans will remain as long as large tonnages of these commodities are held by government.

Because of the obvious damage to both American agriculture and this country's economy, and because the embargo has been ineffective, the American Farm Bureau Federation has called for an immediate end to this action.

Meanwhile, the land diversion program, the center piece of Farm Bureau's proposal to ease the burden of the embargo, was rejected by the administration. As a result, substantial new crop production is expected to be added to heavy hold-over stocks in a continuation of depressed commodity prices.

This being an election year, a flurry of congressional proposals to help agriculture through further federal involvement in the farming business have been proposed. Most popular of these are bills to raise loan rates for the three major crops - corn, soy beans and wheat.

True, the short term results of higher loan rates as now proposed would increase total net farm income, but in the long run, the higher loan rates would dramatically lower farm income. Loan rates at the levels proposed would bring the government firmly back into agriculture with production control and storage programs similar to those farmers labored under in the 1950s.

The higher support level would set the price of U.S. grain in world markets so much above world market prices that other countries could sell all the grain they wished in the world market.

Farm Bureau members favor a market-oriented agriculture. They believe government intervention

should be limited to allow all market forces (both in this country and elsewhere) to function. They seek an economic climate that brings the nation's supply of money and credit into line with a supply needed to support real productive economic growth.

Farmers realize that inflation remains our number one national economic problem. To control inflation, Congress must be forced to require the federal government to operate on a balanced budget. Farm Bureau members support a constitutional amendment to do this - and to restrict the spending authority of the federal government to a realistic percentage of the Gross National Product.

Because farmers do not accept slow downs and consider make-work rules and featherbedding ridiculous, because farmers give more of themselves in every way - agriculture continues to be the production pacesetter.

If farmers were not so good at what they do, there would be little need to worry about surpluses and expanded markets. The food would cost two or three times as much as it does now and most Americans would be farmers.

U.S. farm productivity has increased 25 percent in the past 20 years, with a level of input remaining about the same. Farm output in 1979 was up 5 percent from the year before, at a time when gains in industrial productivity leveled out or declined. Farm productivity has provided much of the buying power that remains in our politically weakened dollars.

So, obviously, farmers have learned to cope. They cope with the weather, with the bugs and diseases and even to some extent, with Washington.

But if farmers are to continue to cope, they need assurance - assurance that the incentives of the competitive enterprise, profit and loss system operate freely in rural America, assurance that as they work to enhance our competitive position in the world markets, there will not be undue federal interference with market directed forces.

One of the current Farm Bureau policy statements puts it this way: "A national farm policy carried on in this manner will assure a positive future for America's family farms which are presently unequalled anywhere in the world in terms of performance and opportunity."

(This article is based on remarks by Cecil Miller, vice president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.)

Questions for Discussion

- What kind of government farm programs, if any, should Farm Bureau propose for the 1980s?
- 2. How much government management of farm commodities do farmers desire in order to ensure federal support for prices or producer income?
- 3. Under what circumstances should the executive branch be permitted to impose embarages?
- 4. What are farmers in your locality doing to cope with inflation?

What's Happening

Aug. 5 Statewide Policy Hilton Inn Aug. 19 **Development Conference** Lansing District 2 Policy Aug. 26 Hillsdale County FB Office **Development Meeting** 8 p.m. District 3 Policy Washtenaw County FB Aug. 28 **Development Meeting** Office, 8 p.m. Sanilac County FB Office Aug. 28 District 6 Policy

Development Meeting

pointed to the Michigan Apple Committee by Gov. William G. Milliken. The appointments are

Shirley M. Pitsch of Rock-

ford and Daryl K. Peterson of

Ludington have been reap-

subject to Senate confirmation and expire in 1983. Pitsch and her husband operate a 150-acre fruit farm devoted primarily to apples. Most of their fruit is packed for wholesale marketing. They also grade and pack fruit for other growers in the area. The Pitsches are Kent County Farm Bureau members.

Governor Appoints Apple Growers

Peterson manages a 250-

acre operation involving apples, cherries and plums. He farms jointly with his father and part-time with his uncle and brother. About one-third of the crop is marketed fresh and the remainder is processed. Peterson is Mason County Farm Bureau membership chairman.

Farm Bureau Market Place

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: One free non-commercial 25-word ad per month per membership, additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12x16 or \$12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER and ALL COMMERCIAL advertisers: 15

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MISCELLANEOUS

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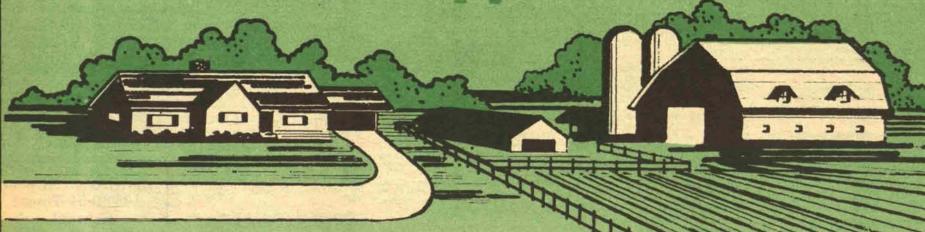
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