

Michigan Farm News

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Roll Call Goal is 61,310 Farm Bureau Members

EDITORIAL

Poll Shows Benson Ahead

A large majority of farmers throughout the nation approve of the stands taken by Sec'y of Agriculture Ezra Benson in the face of the cattlemen's caravan to Washington and other spectacular maneuvers by the opposition, said the national Farm Journal magazine in its issue for December.

Opinion was gathered from farmers throughout the country, men who raise a variety of crops, and have various political affiliations.

Farm Journal said five things farmers liked best about Benson are (1) his reorganization of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture (2) requesting farmers' opinion on the next farm program (3) his emergency aid to drought areas (4) his purchase of a half-million lower-grade beef animals (5) his unwillingness to be stampeded by politicians and pressure groups.

Williams Approved as Chief of Nat'l SCS

State Soil Conservation chiefs from all states met with Secretary of Agriculture Benson at Washington Nov. 18 to hear his views on the reorganization of the USDA.

Afterwards 46 of them, including Mr. E. C. Sackrider, soils conservationist for Michigan, said in this letter to Mr. Benson:

"The State Conservationists of the Soil Conservation Service are expressing to you our appreciation of your meeting with us on November 18, 1953, and stating to us your views regarding the reorganization of the department.

"We are delighted at your appointment of Mr. Don Williams as acting administrator of the Soil Conservation Service. We have

full confidence in Mr. Williams' ability, integrity and objectiveness. We have no questions regarding his understanding of Soil and Water Conservation problems and his recognition of the importance of a dynamic program for helping farmers and ranchers solve these problems in the American way.

"We appreciate the opportunity afforded by this week's work conferences of contributing our thinking in formulating the procedures incident to effectuating the new organization.

"We wish to give assurance that we will give our best efforts as members of the team in an effective and efficient national program of Soil and Water Conservation."

Have a Running Start

Mrs. Mary Ellen Klaty of Sanilac county and Mrs. Glenn Robotham of Benzie county are the winners of the recent County Farm Bureau secretaries contest, preceding the 1954 membership campaign.

This was a contest to see which county secretary could have the highest percentage of the county membership goal for 1954 reported to the state office by November 16. There were two divisions in the contest. One division was for counties that are on the county office agreement; the other division was for counties without an office.

MRS. KLATY won the county office contest by sending in 937 paid memberships or 47% of the Sanilac goal of 1969. Close behind was Mrs. Thomas Kelsey of Allegan county. She reported 931 members or 46% of the county goal of 2033.

MRS. ROBOTHAM won by sending in 77 paid members or 35% of the Benzie goal of 219. Mrs. Herbert Paul of Presque Isle was a close second. She reported 153 members or 34.6% of the county goal of 442. Fourteen other secretaries reported from 24 to 39% of their goal for 1954.

PRESERVATION OF SELF GOVERNMENT DEPENDS ON US



WESLEY S. HAWLEY

Coordinator Community Farm Bureau Activities

Farmers have much at stake and should be deeply interested in the preservation of self government—Of, By and For the people, the free choice system. This is probably the greatest single challenge confronting us at the moment.

The farm home is the bed rock of our civilization. The investments in agriculture are greater than the combined investments of business and industry. A strong profitable agriculture is vital to our nation. Therefore, it is extremely important that farmers assume their rightful citizenship responsibilities.

How fortunate we are that we have the Community Farm Bureau close at hand where we can meet to think, to discuss, and to act on the many important matters facing us as citizens.

A Community Farm Bureau is the best media through which the Farm Bureau member can carry on citizenship activities to make for a better agriculture and nation and to preserve self government.

MFB Resolutions Booklet Ready

You may have a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Michigan Farm Bureau at its 34th annual meeting Nov. 12-13. Write

to Public Affairs Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, PO Box 960, Lansing.

Until the 1920's, agricultural movements were generally pro-

MFB Board of Directors and Officers for '54



THIS PHOTOGRAPH of the directors and officers of the Michigan Farm Bureau was taken at the close of the 34th annual meeting, Nov. 13. Names marked with * indicate a new member of the board. Seated, left to right: Blaque Knirk, District 2, Quincy; Russell E. Hazel, Dist. 1, Richland; Ward G. Hodge, vice-president, Dist. 6, Snover; Carl E. Buskirk, president, director-at-large, Paw Paw; *Mrs. Carlton Ball, representing women of Farm Bureau, Albion; Ren A. DeRuiter, Dist. 9, McBain; *Herman Howelsen, Dist. 3, Clinton. Back row, left to right: C. L. Brody, executive vice-president for public affairs, Lansing; Thomas Hahn, Dist. 7, Rodney; Walter W. Wightman, director-at-large Fennville; Vern Thalmann, representing Junior Farm Bureau, Berrien Center; Kenneth Johnson, Dist. 8, Freeland; James Mielock, Dist. 10, Whittemore; Marten Garn, Dist. 5, Charlotte; Albert Shellenbarger, Dist. 4, Lake Odessa; Gleason E. Halliwill, director-at-large, Gladwin; J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary and treasurer, East Lansing.

MFB Meeting Praises Benson

The largest annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau was held at Michigan State College Nov. 12-13. Nearly 600 delegates and as many visitors from the membership of 59,287 families came to make recommendations on national farm program for the future.

The 34th annual meeting agreed that mandatory farm price supports at 90% of parity for wheat, corn, cotton and other basic commodities are largely responsible for present farm surpluses and declines in farm prices.

They praised the stand of Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson for a flexible farm price support policy.

In resolutions adopted, they made these recommendations for national farm program policy:

1—CONGRESS should enact a farm program conforming to the basic principles of free enterprise.

2—Congress should enact a flexible farm price support policy providing for gradual abandonment of present high supports. This means to replace as rapidly as possible the mandatory 90% of parity farm price supports for basic commodities with the flexible price support provisions (75 to 90% of parity) provisions of the Hope-Aiken act of 1949.

3—Price supports should be based only on the modern 10-year moving average parity formula.

4—We should expand national and state activities in agricultural research and education to discover new methods and relationships in production, marketing and distribution of farm products.

5—Congress, the U. S. State Dept., Mutual Security Administration, Dept. of Agriculture and the Budget Bureau should take all steps to expand foreign trade. They should recognize that foreign nations need to export products to us in order to buy the production of American farms and industry.

6—In the field of money and credit, the dollar should be stabilized as nearly as possible at present levels. Restoration now of the dollar to previous high levels of purchasing power would throw our economy into a tailspin of declining prices. On the other

hand, further inflation of the dollar would raise costs and depreciate savings.

THESE recommendations will go to the American Farm Bureau convention at Chicago, Dec. 14-17. There representatives of 1,500,000 families in the Farm Bureau will shape for Congress and Secretary Benson the Farm Bureau's recommendations on the national farm program.

LAST JULY Secretary Benson invited the nation's farm organizations to submit to their memberships for discussion and recommendations five major problems in the national farm program. The recommendations are to be made available to Congress in early 1954.

The Farm Bureau membership has been conducting policy development meetings throughout the nation, with resolutions moving up from the County Farm Bureaus to state Farm Bureaus and finally to the AFBF in December.

Sec'y Benson asked for advice on:

- 1—Farm Income Stability and Improvement.
- 2—Production and Marketing Adjustments.
- 3—Conservation and Improvement of Farm Resources.
- 4—Capital Needs of Agriculture.
- 5—Trade or Aid—our exports to foreign nations.

ELECTIONS. The annual meeting elected seven directors of the MFB Board of 15 for two-year terms.

Russell Hazel of Richland, Kalamazoo county, MFB District 1, was re-elected. Herman Howelsen of Clinton, (Washtenaw) was elected to succeed Edward Fritch of Howell, District 3; Marten Garn of Charlotte (Eaton), Dist. 5, was re-elected. Thomas Hahn of Rodney (Macostota), Dist. 7, was elected to succeed Harry Norris of Casnovia, who retired. Ren A. DeRuiter of McBain (Missaukee), Dist. 9, was re-elected.

Mrs. Carlton Ball of Albion (Calhoun), newly elected chairman of the Farm Bureau Women, was elected to succeed Mrs. Harry M. Whittaker, who retired. Walter Wightman of Fennville (Allegan), was re-elected director-at-large in a three-cornered race in which Fred Brown of Mason (Ingham), and Carl Johnson of Pierson (Montcalm), were the other candidates.

The board of directors will elect a president and vice-president at its meeting in January.

Sec'y Benson Reorganizes Dept. of Agr.

November 2, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson announced the reorganization of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture as proposed in the President's Reorganization Plan No. 2.

The reorganization grouped some 20 major divisions of the Dept into one Administrative Services Agency, and these four service agencies: (1) Federal-State Relations (2) Marketing and Foreign Agriculture (3) Agricultural Stabilization (4) Agricultural Credit.

The Michigan Farm Bureau at its 34th annual meeting Nov. 12-13 said:

"We pledge the full support of the Michigan Farm Bureau for the reorganization plan announced by Sec'y Benson Nov. 2 to provide 'Better service to farmers through placing the operations of the Department on a more businesslike, efficient and decentralized basis."

"The transfer of the functions to the states is most significant. It replaces federal control of agr'l action agencies from the top down with local initiative and cooperative relationships between the USDA and state, county and township programs."

Post-War Adjustment is Here



MORE than 1,000 farm men and women representing the Michigan Farm Bureau membership of nearly 60,000 families heard Allan B. Kline, (right) president of the American Farm Bureau, and John Hannah, (center) president of Michigan State College, say the post-war adjustment is here. They said the going may not be so good for a while. Both spoke at the 34th annual meeting of the Farm Bureau Nov. 12 at Michigan State College.

PRESIDENT Kline is pictured saying that "Price supports have not held farm income at a high level. Actually it was the result

of demand during and after the war. For the first time now we see the real problems in our price support program. Support prices at high levels and acreage restrictions on wheat, corn and cotton will only invite farmers to plant other crops, which could be disastrous to producers of other commodities.

"There is no substitute for markets, and no substitute for efficient production, and continued agricultural research, and a sound national economy. What we want is a relatively stable price level to preserve farm purchasing power and good employment. We can work out our problems because

we have confidence in ourselves."

PRESIDENT Hannah observed that in the anti-inflation measures and readjustment of the farm price support program farmers may suffer some loss of income in the years just ahead, but the steadily rising population should call for greater farm production than we have ever known.

Clark L. Brody, (left) executive vice-president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, said that hungry Congressmen in both parties have created many of the farm problems which they now blame upon Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson.

Invite Every Farmer to Join

Most Members Say They Joined Farm Bureau Because They Got An Invitation

NORWOOD EASTMAN
Coordinator of MFB Organization Department

Several thousand Farm Bureau Roll Call workers are all set for the big week of November 30. Workers in 63 counties have dedicated themselves to inviting every farmer to join a County Farm Bureau. Their goal is 61,310 Farm Bureau families in Michigan for 1954.

Preparations for the campaign have been in progress for several months. Every county campaign has been carefully planned by a county membership committee. Each county has selected a Roll Call manager. Forty-two of the managers attended a special two-day training school during August.

Managers have selected township captains and workers to help invite farmers to become members. Most of the captains have attended one of a series of informal and inspirational meetings held around the state during October. These meetings featured outstanding speakers from AFBF. The work teams are ready and the issues are vital.

Chief among the issues is the determination of the farm policy which Congress will adopt in 1954. Farmers are a minority group. There has been greater participation in the development of policy in 1953 than ever before. The "pay off" will be on our ability to get our policies incorporated into a sound, workable farm program.

The success of any program in Farm Bureau is dependent upon the Farm Bureau organization in the counties and states having a maximum number of farm families. Such an organization has power in Congress and elsewhere. Invite your neighbor to help in this program!

Farmers are going to be represented. The question is will they be represented by businessmen, labor leaders, or political spokesmen? Or will they develop, pay for, and operate a hard-hitting farm organization of their own? Invite your neighbor to join Farm Bureau and help farmers speak for themselves!

Here are some of the issues certain to be considered by the second session of the 83rd Congress:

1. Farm price support and adjustment program.
2. Federal spending and taxes.
3. Foreign economic policies — trade.
4. Decentralization and coordination of government.

These issues demand the best thinking of every American. Once you have decided, you must make your voice heard. The Farm Bureau is a free, independent farmer's organization through which you may speak. Invite your neighbor to join and speak with you!

We have every reason to look forward to the future with confidence if we use today to build a better and stronger Farm Bureau. Our best wishes and sincere appreciation will go with every worker in the current drive. They are the builders of the world's largest and most influential farm organization.

Let's not stop with 61,310. Let's invite every farmer to join and push past our 1955 goal of 65,630!

- Following is a list of the Roll Call Managers in the counties. They are key people in the membership campaign:
- Alcona county—Archie Cordes, Barton City.
 - Allegan—Milan Levett, Allegan R-2.
 - Alpena—Alfred Dove, Lachine R-1.
 - Antrim—Bruce McElroy, Charlevoix R-1.
 - Arenac—Percy Crawford, Twinning.
 - Barry—Mrs. Barbara Barcroft, 121 N. Church Street, Hastings.
 - Bay—Julius Rabe, Pinconning R-3.
 - Benzie—Marion Nye, Beulah R-1.
 - Berrien—Ray DeWitt, Buchanan R-2.
 - Branch — Arthur Haggerman, Tekonsha R-2.
 - Calhoun—Wilber Smith, Burlington R-1.
 - Cass—Lee Bakeman, Dowagiac R-4.
 - Charlevoix—John Brock, East Jordan R-2.
 - Cheboygan—Jack Savella, Cheboygan R-2.
 - Clare—Frank Humphrey, Clare R-1.
 - Clinton—Ellen Jo White, St. Johns.
 - Eaton—Robert Kline, Charlotte R-5.

- Emmet—Mrs. Ben Peters, Carp Lake.
- Genesee—Mrs. William A. Sobey, 12212 Stanley Road, Flushing.
- Gladwin — Gordon Willford, Gladwin R-3.
- Gratiot—Mrs. George Davidson, Alma R-1.
- Hillsdale — Willis Hoffman, Hudson R-1.
- Huron—John Terril, Sebawaing and William Harwood, Harbor Beach.
- Ingham—Dale Duncel, Williamston R-3.
- Ionia—Mrs. Irma Covert, Ionia.
- Isabella—Murray Gordon, Coleman R-1.
- Iscos—Arthur Ropert, Hale.
- Jackson—Mrs. Ruth Day, Clark Lake R-1.
- Kalamazoo—G. T. Blankshine, Mattawan R-2.
- Kalkaska—Jess Atkinson, Kalkaska and Mrs. Purcell Morrison, Rapid City R-2.
- Kent—Mrs. Thelma Heilman, 2011 S. Kalamazoo Ave., Grand Rapids.
- Lapeer—Sam Titus, Silverwood.
- Lansawee—Mrs. Walter Barron, Morenci R-3 and Abraham D. Hunt, Tecumseh R-1.
- Livingston—Mrs. Lillian Komraus, Webberville.
- Macomb — Anthony Rapes, (Continued on Page 2)

Michigan Farm News

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Michigan Farm Bureau

OFFICERS President...C. E. Buskirk, Paw Paw V. Prea... W. G. Hodges, Snover Exec. V. Prea... C. L. Brody, Lansing Exec. Sec'y... J. F. Yeager, Lansing

Community Farm Bureaus

MRS. MARJORIE GARDNER Dear Community Farm Bureau Members: Records indicated on the November 1st deadline for set-up sheets that 1247 of our 1262 Community Farm Bureaus have submitted their officers for the new fiscal year.

MONTCALM, Bloomer Township—Mrs. Bernice Durbin. SAGINAW, Thomas—Mrs. Carl W. Miller. Gold Star Awards for the month of September: BERRIEN, Niles—Mrs. Edna D. Sweeney.

HARDY'S COMPLETE MINERAL PLAN PROTECTS STOCK PROFITS 3 WAYS! 1. Supplies ALL Minerals Stock Needs 2. Saves Buying High-Priced Mineral Mixtures 3. Assures Efficient Feed Utilization

and is therefore useless for our records. We would appreciate your bringing this matter to the attention of your group so that your Community Farm Bureau Secretary records the attendance properly for the Community Farm Bureau.



Forecast For '53-'54

Below is a forecast of prospective livestock numbers in '53-'54. It is by L. C. Cunningham of Cornell University. His forecasts in the past have been surprisingly accurate.

POULTRY Probable increases: Layers—1 to 2%; Farm chickens raised—5%; Commercial broilers—5%; Turkeys—5 to 10%.

HOGS Spring farrowings up about .5 to 10%. Little change in average slaughter weights expected.

DRY LOT FEEDING WILL DROP Last year's increase of 3% will probably be followed by further expansion during 1953-1954. Dry lot feeding will probably drop below record level of last year.

WRITE YOUR OWN CONCLUSION All wise feeders and farmers know it pays to full feed good cows or hens if profitable production is wanted. Hogs respond to good feeding by best gains. Broilers, likewise, for beef cattle, wintering can be done at lowered costs with low-grade roughage (corn cobs, straw, etc.)



Grace, at Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving was a big affair at Grangers' place this year. The young folks and their families came to share the Granger cheer. The elders of our youth and prime have all gone on and we are now ourselves the older folks, my worthy wife and me.

Small Chris is first. (He missed his turn when last we held assembly) His tiny voice is scarcely heard, so reverent yet so trembly; Then Keith and Kathy sweetly say in cadences demure Their little grace in unison; by practice rendered sure; "Dear Heavenly Father, for our food we thank Thee once again. O make us clean and true and good. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Roll Call Goal Is 61,310 (Continued from Page 1) Washington, R-1. Manistee—Charles Brown, Onekama. Mason — Mrs. Ruth Slagle, Scottville R-1.

The purpose of the Committee is to go over the membership of the Community Farm Bureau Group and make sure that there are no omissions; that all 19-20-year-old children of the members are listed and that the roster is complete and receives the approval of the Community Farm Bureau Group as its official membership listing.

Milk Dispenser Injunction Granted A temporary injunction has been granted by Judge Coash in Ingham county circuit court restraining Michigan Department of Agriculture inspectors from interfering with bulk milk dispensers now in use in a number of Michigan hospitals, colleges and hotels.

Starve Oats, Starve Legumes If nurse crops are starved for fertilizer to limit their growth, legume seedings in them also will be starved, cautions Richard M. Swenson, Michigan State college research soil scientist. He points out that when 500 pounds of 4-24-12 fertilizer were put on an acre in M.S.C. experiments, wheat and oat yields increased 10 to 20 bushels per acre and alfalfa yields nearly doubled.

CLASSIFIED ADS Classified advertisements are cash with order at the following rates: 8 cents per word for one edition. Ads to appear in two or more editions take the rate of 6 cents per word edition. These rates based on guarantee of 50,000 or more subscribers. They are members of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

LIVESTOCK MILKING SHORTHORNS—We won Premier Breeder award at the recent 1953 Michigan State Fair, our 10th in 11 years. Take a short-cut to success by heading your herd with a young bull from Ingleside Farm. Write or visit Stanley M. Powell, Ionia, R-1, Michigan. (11-11-53b)

Chairman



MRS. CARLTON BALL was elected chairman of Michigan Farm Bureau Women at the 9th annual meeting attended by 1,600 women at Michigan State College November 11. Mrs. Ball succeeded Mrs. Harry Whittaker who retired after four years as chairman.

Danger of Cleaning With Gasoline When a farmer's wife uses a gallon of gasoline to do some cleaning in her kitchen, she is in as much danger as if her child were playing with an 83-pound piece of dynamite. That's pointed out by David G. Steinicke, extension farm safety specialist at Michigan State college.

The MECHANICAL Farmer SHOWS HOW TO DO IT ... on the ranch and farm. There have been many requests for a popular mechanic magazine of this type. The MECHANICAL Farmer begins publication this month. Subscription price \$4.50 per year. SEND ONLY \$1.00

PURE CRUSHED TRIPLE SCREENED OYSTER SHELL FOR POULTRY FARM BUREAU SHELL

Checkup of equipment prevents costly delays Every farmer knows that if his tractor, combine, or some other critical implement breaks down during the busy season, it means valuable time lost.

Telephone folks check, too Telephone people, too, have found that checking equipment regularly, and renewing worn parts, keep efficiency at its peak. And although the telephone company has to pay more for nearly everything it uses these days—wire, cable, poles, labor—the price of telephone service isn't up nearly as much as most things you buy.

LOW COST — COMPLETE COVERAGE FIRE and WINDSTORM INSURANCE OF FARM PROPERTIES IN ONE POLICY can rely on FREMONT MUTUAL Michigan folks have... for 77 years

FREMONT MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY FREMONT, MICHIGAN ESTABLISHED 1876

WINDSTORM DANGER SEASON IS HERE WARNING

And, Your Only Protection Is WINDSTORM INSURANCE

REMEMBER IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU! Check Your Windstorm Policy to see if you have adequate coverage

MICHIGAN MUTUAL WINDSTORM INSURANCE CO. HASTINGS MICHIGAN

Benson to Speak at AFBF Annual at Chicago

Final Actions on U.S. Farm Policy

Farm people will make their opinions known Dec. 14-17, when the American Farm Bureau Federation culminates months of policy development effort at its 35th annual meeting in Chicago.

Resolutions adopted at the close of the convention December 17 will reflect the decisions reached by a process of consideration and discussion in thousands of community, county and state Farm Bureau meetings throughout 48 states and Puerto Rico.

December 15 and 16 will be devoted to general speaking sessions at Chicago's Civic Opera Building. Convention headquarters will be at the Sherman Hotel.

Among the speakers will be Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson. He requested the opinion of farm organization members on a number of important national farm program questions. That resulted in the Farm Bureau's policy development program this year.

President Allan B. Kline of the AFBF will give his annual address at the opening general session Tuesday, December 15. Secretary-Treasurer Roger Fleming will give his report at the same session.

Other nationally-known figures on the speaking program are U. S. Senator Spessard L. Holland, member of the Senate Committee on agriculture and forestry; William Grede, president, Grede Foundries, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and past president of the National Association of Manufacturers.

Frederick L. Hovde, president of Purdue University and president of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities, is also a convention speaker.

THE CONVENTION week will open Sunday afternoon, December 13, with a vesper service in the ballroom of the Sherman Hotel, where an address will be given by the Rev. William Young, Presbyterian Church, Highland Park, Illinois.

MONDAY, December 14, will be devoted to the 19th annual meeting of the Associated Women of the AFBF, a joint commodity conference, and conferences on organization, rural youth, insurance, land and water use, state tax and legislative problems, service cooperatives, livestock, dairy, poultry, fruits and vegetables and field crops.

ANCHER NELSEN, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, will speak at the joint commodity conference.

The same conference program will include an address on prospective agricultural problems of 1954 by Earl Butz, head of the agricultural economics department of Purdue University.

Reports on the U. S. department of agriculture's drought relief program will be given at the livestock conference by R. L. Farrington, director of USDA's agricultural credit services, and Harry Reed, director of the livestock branch.

"HOW to operate profitably come from a hearty breakfast.

Internal Service Division Report

(Continued from Page 5)

One of the jobs of the Internal Service Division is to help all of the operating managers in employee training and information programs.

THE MOST difficult task during the past year was that of hiring and keeping qualified employees. To do this it is necessary to compare often the employee policies and benefits, such as: retirement, sick leave, vacation, pay, etc. to find out how Farm Bureau policies in these regards compares to other employers in the area. It is necessary to remain competitive for employees just as in the pricing of products, commodities or services.

During the past year increased attention was given to:

1. Management development information to improve the knowledge and skill of all executive personnel in our divisions, departments, and retail stores.

2. Office manager training information for 15 supervisory people in the Lansing office.

3. Holding new employee orientation meetings within the first 30 days of employment for the purpose of answering questions on employee policies and benefits and giving new employees an understanding of the various Farm Bureau operations.

4. A progressive performance rating system. This was accompanied by a thorough study and writing of job descriptions for all employees.

ALL of these, along with other information programs, results in greater understanding by employees and supervisors of the relation of their work to the work of others in the other Farm Bureau companies, divisions, and departments.

A special emphasis during the past year has been put on the important relationship of all routine record procedures in payroll, personnel, and building service departments with the training programs to improve supervision and the understanding of employees. The greatest opportunity for improvement in speed and quality of the work of employees rests with the supervisors in all parts of the Farm Bureau Companies.

THE WORK of the Internal Service Division for the coming year will be concentrated on:

(1) to streamline wherever possible the numerous procedures involved in record-keeping; (2) to continue the type of training that helps the supervisory staff understand and direct employees; (3) to study Farm Bureau policies as related to hiring and holding the type of employees needed for increased efficiency and productivity.

FB Service Co. Meetings Dec. 2 and 3

The 24th annual meeting of shareholders of Farm Bureau Services, Inc., will be held at Kellogg Center, Michigan State College, Wednesday, Dec. 2. The annual report of FBS is presented on pages 4 and 5 of this edition.

The 5th annual meeting of shareholders of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., will be held at Kellogg Center, Michigan State College, Thursday, Dec. 3. In our Nov. 1 edition we published a review of FPC activities for the year. In five years FPC has returned to shareholder patrons patronage dividends amounting to 73% of their investment. Patronage dividends in cash for 1952-53 were \$119,000.

Unfair Attack On Twps. Continues

... let them (township officials) answer for the Frankenstein monster they have created in the form of diversion amendments." This editorial statement in the November issue of "Inside Michigan" apparently seeks to build and foster the idea that the sales tax diversion amendment was promoted by township officials.

Those who took part in the fight against the adoption of the amendment in 1946 will resent this untrue implication.

Three organizations stood together in opposing the adoption of the amendment: the State Association of Supervisors, Michigan State Grange and Michigan Farm Bureau. They recognized bad government policy and the dangers involved.

200,327 Members of Ill. Farm Bureau

Illinois is the first Farm Bureau to have a membership of more than 200,000 families. Ten years ago Illinois passed the 100,000 mark.

Farm Lobbyists Steer Michigan Lawmakers

Editor's Note: Mr. Deatrack has been state capitol reporter for the Detroit Free Press for years. He attended some sessions of the 34th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau. This article is his appraisal of the significance of our resolutions on state affairs, together with some salty comments by Mr. Deatrack.

OWEN C. DEATRACK

"A Letter From Lansing" in the Detroit Free Press for Sunday, November 22, 1953

LANSING—Smart lawmakers have an advance blueprint of what is going to happen in the next session of the Michigan Legislature.

There's no need to consult fortune tellers—all they have to do is pay close attention to the resolutions approved by the Michigan Farm Bureau at East Lansing 10 days ago.

There is a Lansing saying: "The Governor proposes but the farmer disposes."

It applies to any governor, Republican or Democratic.

POLITICAL SIDELINERS continue to marvel at the impact that the farm minority has on running the State and passing Michigan laws. There are only 59,287 family memberships in the Farm Bureau—not many compared with the approximately 3,000,000 voters in Michigan.

But mighty few laws that displease farmers ever see daylight in the Michigan public and local acts published at the end of every legislative session.

In the last session the Bureau favored 10 laws. They were passed. It opposed 22. They were not passed.

Only one law was put on the books against the Bureau opposition—the new tax bill. And that was amended enough before it cleared the Legislature to remove most farmer objections.

BORROWED GLORY BELONGS TO POWELL

Able Bureau Lobbyist Stanley M. Powell modestly told his Bureau members that: "We think the Farm Bureau program was quite successful in the 1953 Legislature."

Powell, who labels himself the "Legislative Counsel for Michigan Farm Bureau" may have fudged in getting the Bureau a slice of borrowed glory,—some items were heading for passage no matter what the farmers wanted to do about them. Examples: The turnpike law and the new experiment to make parents responsible for property damage done by their children up to \$300.

But there wasn't any shading in Powell's claim for credit in defeating 22 bills the farmers spokesmen opposed.

They didn't wfit a constitutional convention, and one was not submitted on the ballot.

They didn't want certain highways closed to trucks on Sunday. Those highways are still open to trucks.

THE FARMERS wanted more rights on highways for their, farm vehicles that pay no highway tax. They got it in an amendment allowing farm equipment up to 186 inches wide to move on State highways, during daylight hours without a special permit. Safety-minded legislators objected in vain when the champions of the "poor farmers" pooled forces.

On the basis of that kind of record the "hep" lawmaker has found out where to learn what he is going to do next year in advance. Even more important, the lawmaker can find out almost positively what he cannot do next year and it saves him the strain of trying in lost causes doomed in advance.

Next year the farmers don't want any tampering with the way their supervisor neighbors make assessments. They probably won't get it despite the determination of such undaunted outfits as the League of Women Voters to bring modern and fair methods of property valuation to the whole State.

AN EVEN CHANCE TO BE ON BALLOT

THE FARMERS don't want anyone fooling with their township governments. They probably won't have to worry although the efficiency experts never quit pointing out how much money the back home government is costing.

Farmers said they would go along with an amendment of the sales-tax diversion plan to get the State away from the delayed financial headache of trying to make appropriations for schools on the basis of how much sales tax was collected two years earlier. This program is considered to have at least an even chance of getting on the ballot.

The school bus law should be amended, the farmers now agree, to coincide with regulations in other states where all traffic has to stop for a school bus on two-lane highways.

Fines collected from overloaded trucks should be turned over to the highway authorities to repair the roads the illegal loads destroy, the Bureau decided. That will take a Constitutional amendment because the fines now go to the library fund.

NOT ALL PROPOSALS MAY GET THROUGH

Definitely bounties must be continued on fox, wolf and coyote, the farmers decided. Laws improving the lot of farmers are also high on the list. But all of them may not get through the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Bureau officials think that a speed limit is not the answer to safety. The belting is that Michigan won't have a speed limit in 1954.

Most of all the Bureau wants to keep away from any State equalization program.

The Bureau also adopted a resolution to show more appreciation to "those State Senators and Representatives who have rendered outstanding service in promoting legislation in line with Farm Bureau recommendations and opposing measures which would have been detrimental to rural interests."

Bureau members will be urged to be more appreciative of "the worthy services being rendered in our behalf by these high-caliber lawmakers."

1,000's Complete Agr'l PD Cards

Thousands of MFB members have filled out Agr'l Policy Development survey cards at Community FB meetings. The same folks and others returned similar cards at annual meetings of County Farm Bureaus and nearly 600 voting delegates at the MFB Convention cheerfully took time to make a survey report—which will come to the attention of Congress.

The cards, which were not signed by the individual, are being summarized to show the average farming characteristics of FB members taking part in discussions and policy decisions.

There are 4,200,000 tractors on Results from Michigan's survey IU. S. farms. Before World War II have been forwarded to the Am-there were 1,700,000.

Terminal Building Continues Steadily

With favorable weather since ground was broken the last week of October to start construction of the 1,000,000 bushel addition to the Michigan Elevator Exchange grain terminal near Ot-tawt Lake, rapid progress has been made in the work preliminary to pouring the 28 concrete silos, according to James R. Bliss,

Exchange general manager.

As a result, the Exchange management and the contractor are now studying weather data to determine whether or not to pour the silos immediately or to wait until more predictable weather in the spring. A decision will be made on or before December 1, Bliss said.

The world's deepest producing oil well is 17,183 feet deep in Louisiana.

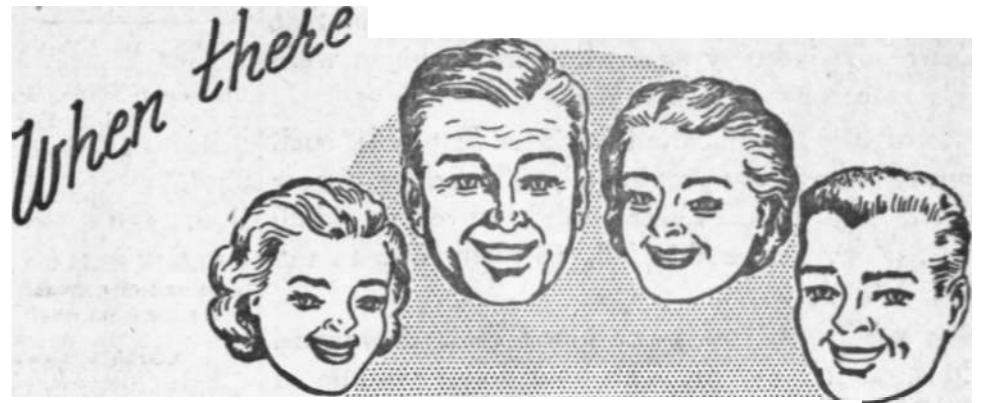
In 1952 the meat and fur provided by Michigan's wild animals were estimated to be worth more than \$15,000,000.

Buy Farm Bureau Feed.

TRAPPERS TURN HOW TO TUP ALL Fumutats

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Strength in UniTV...



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Farm Bureau Membership Includes the Family

ITS UNITY BEGINS AT HOME

Farm Bureau Families Work in Unity for a Strong American Agriculture and a Sound and Free America

JOIN YOUR COUNTY FARM BUREAU THE ROLL CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP WILL START NOVEMBER 30th



Aim at your future security by starting a FIP Savings Plan now. It's bound to be a bull's-eye. Fip makes it easy for you to save. It offers coupons that can be clipped and cashed, dividends, actual savings and essential protection. Your Farm Bureau Insurance Agent will be glad to tell you the story of this important Farm Bureau program for Farm Bureau families.

FARM BUREAU £ije INSURANCE

Mf l »TM IIANI AVINVI • UNUM, MI«MI«AM



with STATE MUTUAL'S "ALL-IN-ONE" Protection Plan

Your farm is both your HOME and your business. You'll enjoy new peace of mind in knowing that you are protected against loss from fire and wind with STATE MUTUAL'S "ALL-IN-ONE" Protection Plan.

This one non-assessable policy covers your home, buildings, equipment, and stock... gives you the exact coverage you need when and where you need it!

POLICY COMPANY AGENT PREMIUM

State 'ThutcuU NSURANCE COMPANY

702 Church Street, Flint 3, Michigan

E. R. DINGMAN, President H. K. FISK, Secretary

"State Mutual Insures tvtry Fifth Farm in Michigan... Ask Your Neighbor."

Summary of the 24th Annual Report of Farm Bureau Manager Reports For An Expanded Fertilizer Program New Developments

J. F. YAEGER

The Manager's Report to the Farm Bureau Services Annual Meeting at Michigan State College, Dec 2, 1953

Farm Bureau Services during the fiscal year ending August 31, 1953, continued to expand its services to farmers in many ways.

The dollar volume of \$20,060,900, although less in terms of dollars, represented unit increases in a number of items. The unit volume of all Farm Bureau Services' seeds was 7% greater than in the prior year and alfalfa seed sales were nearly 30% greater.

Sales for Farm Bureau manufactured feeds were up 6% over the prior year in spite of the fact that feed sales of the industry as a whole in Michigan were down 6% as compared to last year.

Sales of direct application fertilizer materials, such as nitrogen, were up approximately 50% over a year ago. Mixed fertilizer sales decreased, however, as did all Michigan fertilizer sales this fall, primarily due to the cut-back in wheat acres.

Farm equipment sales continued their downward trend throughout the year. The total dollar volume of \$1,476,000 was approximately 40% less than budgeted at the beginning of the year. A net loss of \$251,000 resulted in this phase of the program. Farm Bureau Services' experience in this respect was no different, however, than that of the machinery industry as a whole.

Generally speaking, trends of the past year are expected to continue with some improvements in fertilizer and machinery. Both are essential items that farmers can hardly do without. Tractors have replaced horses, and certainly power equipment is essential to modern farm operation. Michigan farmers presently have \$20,000,000 of Co-op and Cockshutt equipment on their farms and continuing service to them is essential. Increased use of fertilizer to stimulate production on decreased or diverted areas is important.

DURING the past year the National Farm Machinery plant at Bellevue, Ohio, was sold to the Cockshutt Farm Equipment Limited at Brantford, Canada. This Company has a background of many years of successful operation, and the Cockshutt line of equipment is complete and outstanding. Farm Bureau Services will continue to service farmers as regards machinery by offering a complete line of Cockshutt equipment



J. F. YAEGER

IN MID-YEAR a functional re-organization of programs and staff was effected. Farm Bureau Services now operates in three main divisions; fertilizer manufacturing, farm equipment, general farm supplies. Re-organization was effected along these lines with Adolph Ecklund as manager of the Fertilizer Manufacturing Division, Maynard Brownlee as manager of the Farm Supply Division, Archie Moore as manager of the Farm Equipment Division. This pin points authority and responsibility. The coming year will be the first full year in which the revised program has an opportunity to function.

TWO YEARS ago the stockholders of Farm Bureau Services, at the annual meeting, voted to fore-

go dividends on patronage refund stock so as to make possible increased savings and reduction of taxes. Money saved in this manner is to be utilized to again rotate securities so that holders of securities issued in back years could receive the cash and thus the financing of the organization be placed in the hands of its present users.

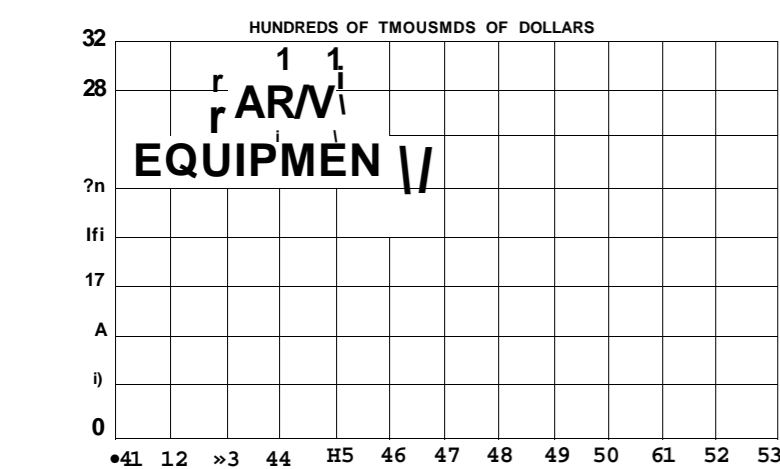
The program was started last year with the calling of \$47,000 of 1940 patronage-refund securities. At the same time securities sold for the fertilizer manufacturing operation at Saginaw were called and the program refinanced thru the exchange of securities and thru bank loans. The \$966,000 of securities called were of the 1946 issue.

At the same time approximately a million dollars of new securities were sold to finance a second fertilizer plant at Kalamazoo. A new model elevator was built at Lansing at a cost of approximately \$125,000, and \$70,000 is being invested in the modernization of the elevator located at Saginaw. Similar improvements in facilities to give better service is occurring in Farm Bureau Services' plants throughout the State.

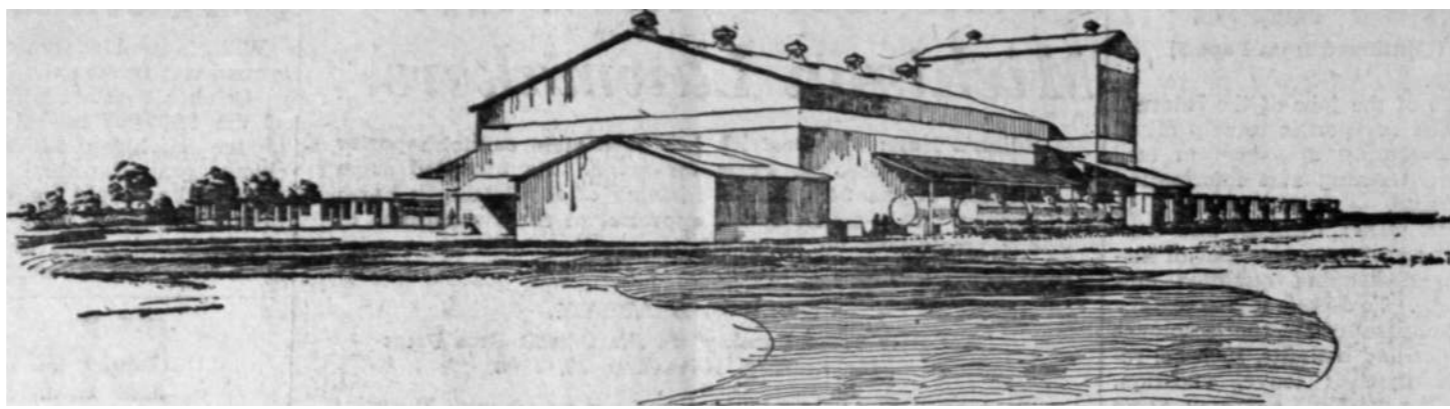
THREE YEARS ago the delegates at the annual meeting, after considerable discussion, reiterated their belief that Farm Bureau Services should continue its program of getting back to the source of supply. The best example of this is the fertilizer program where Services in recent years has moved into the processing of materials at the Saginaw plant and the ownership of raw phosphate rock deposits in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

It will be noted that processing activities resulted last year in the savings of \$316,292. Had operations been restricted to the distribution level savings would have been only \$176,156.

THIS YEAR marked the beginning of mining operations in the West. Much of the opportunity for developing the western properties will depend, however, on the availability of cheap electric



The demand for farm equipment, which had been decreasing for some time due to lower farm income, continued the downward trend the past year. During the year National Farm Machinery Cooperative was sold to Cockshutt Farm Equipment Company. Farm Bureau Service* is Michigan distributor for Cockshutt.



THIS drawing by the architect illustrates the Farm Bureau Services fertilizer plant now under construction at Kalamazoo. It is designed to manufacture 40,000 tons of granulated, high analysis plant foods a year. The large building is the manufacturing plant and is 151 by 288 feet. The plant will be highly mechanized with the latest labor-saving equipment. It is expected to be in operation by mid-January, 1954.

power, and the development of the Snake River area in Hell's Canyon in Idaho. Presently there is considerable discussion at the Nation's Capitol, and in the West, as to whether this will be done by private capital or the Government.

ALL IN ALL, the past year has been one of considerable progress and expansion even though earnings were down considerably as compared to recent years. It was inevitable that in this re-adjustment period and the continued drop in prices of merchandise handled by Farm Bureau Services that this would happen.

Management services offered to local co-ops is now taken advantage of by 18 such organizations. New to the group in the past year was the Mason County Co-op at Scottville. In addition, farmers at Marcellus and Mt. Pleasant have asked that their organizations be established as Farm Bureau Services' branches.

The confidence in Farm Bureau Services is further indicated by investment of well over a million dollars in Farm Bureau Services

by Michigan farmers during the past year.

WE LOOK ahead with optimism and determination to further expand services wherever farmers request it and proof of their desire is testified to by their willingness to finance and use the facilities. Increased services and benefits to farmers are not always to be measured by the size of earnings. Setting the pace in a competitive field with the farmers' welfare in mind, and the merchandising and manufacturing of the best quality products at the lowest possible cost, are important responsibilities of co-operatives. Often this is more worthwhile than the accomplishment of sizable business earnings.

COOPERATIVES frequently, by the competition they afford others and because their primary purpose is to serve their customers, set a pace that gives to the farmer a better quality product regardless of where he purchases it. We must remember, however, that cooperatives must be strong and flourishing if they are to be

effective competition and this can be accomplished only by patronizing them.

THE SQUEEZE between expenses and income will challenge the ingenuity of managers and operators of all businesses, but especially those serving farmers. This challenge we meet with confidence and pledge ourselves to continue to serve farmers with quality merchandise at the lowest possible prices with earnings returned to the patrons doing business with the organization.

The management of as large an organization as Farm Bureau Services with their varied scope of activities, is not that involving one man alone. We in Farm Bureau Services operate with a "management-team" philosophy. Many people play important parts in a successful program. The various division managers who report in the following pages are, of course, assisted by others. The sum total effort of all of these people, from those doing the more routine tasks, to those directing major activities, makes progress possible. Each is doing an important job.

Ten Years of Great Growth

G. F. GRISWOLD, Assistant Treasurer

The functions of the Finance and Credit Department include the handling of finances, negotiating bank loans when necessary, collection of accounts, granting of credit and disbursement of funds for Farm Bureau Services, Inc., The Michigan Farm Bureau, Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., and twenty-four Management Contract Cooperatives.

As the organization has grown the duties and responsibilities of this department have also increased.

LOOKING BACK ten years we find Farm Bureau Services has gone through a period of phenomenal growth. Comparing some figures from the August 31, 1953 report with August 31, 1943 we find the following:

	Aug. 31, 1943	Aug. 31, 1953
Current Assets.....	\$ 779,157.57	\$5,018,452.88
Investments.....	189,031.00	661,867.05
Fixed Assets.....	245,467.82	2,863,361.61
Deferred Charges and Other Assets.....	10,005.45	1,066,878.30
	\$1,223,661.84	\$9,610,559.84
Current Liabilities.....	249,778.93	2,248,151.99
Fixed Liabilities.....	92,105.00	1,658,500.00
Debentures Outstanding.....		3,020,900.00
Capital Stock Outstanding.....	499,782.00	2,243,672.00
Undistributed Patrons Equities.....	381,995.91	439,335.85
	\$1,223,661.84	\$9,610,559.84

TEN YEARS ago our total receivables were \$177,416.33. This year they are \$1,405,176.58.

This should indicate the tremendous job there is to keep track of accounts and get them collected so as to have funds with which to pay obligations.

Farm Equipment Div. is Now A Wholesale Operation

ARCHIE MOORE, Manager As Farm Bureau Services entered the year 1952-'53 the demand for farm equipment, which had been decreasing for some time due to a lower farm income, continued the downward trend.

FARM equipment manufacturing schedules are set up almost two years in advance. Contracts are placed for materials and the thousands of component parts which are purchased from specialty manufacturers. Because of this it is necessary to accept and assemble machines ordered earlier even though demand is decreasing at the time. The net result is over production and pressure at the retail point and results in price cutting and excessive trade-in allowances so as to effect sales.

DURING the first month of the 1952-'53 fiscal year conditions at National Farm Machinery placed the Farm Equipment Division in a very uncertain position as to the future.

It was necessary to make special and sometimes costly sales efforts for the purpose of moving inventory. The volume of patrons' purchases at the Farm Equipment Branches were as follows:

	Wholesale	Retail	Total
Lansing.....	\$347,673.41	\$174,129.89	\$521,803.30
Saginaw.....	159,941.55	168,247.68	328,189.23
Kalamazoo.....	86,181.58	122,749.70	208,931.28
Mt. Pleasant.....	80,001.34	91,156.70	171,158.04
Hastings.....	J.H.H.S.	97,739.45	109,440.83
Emmett.....	\$108,514.27	28,531.29	\$137,045.56
	\$794,016.53	\$682,555.41	\$1,476,565.94

The original sales goal for the Equipment Company is in a good financial position. Their exper-

During the past year a study was made of credit policies affecting both wholesale and retail accounts. After carefully studying all the factors involved and much discussion, recommendations were made to the Board of Directors who approved and adopted a definite policy regarding credit.

THE POLICY limits, retail credit to thirty days unless special financing arrangements are made. Additional credit is denied if patron's account is past due. On wholesale accounts credit is to be denied if the account is past due and proper arrangements have not been made for settlement of the account.

We believe the policy as approved by your Board of Directors is reasonable and for the best interests of the member Coops and the entire organization. The support and cooperation of all concerned is very necessary.

THE PAST year has been a period in which the trend has been for both farmers and dealers to ask for more credit, in spite of this trend, we closed our books

lence covers over one hundred years of sound growth. They are one of the big nine full line companies in the industry with factories in both the United States and Canada and well able to serve Michigan farmers.

(2) The quality of Cockshutt farm equipment is outstanding.

(3) With the help of the Cockshutt Company, Farm Bureau Services should set up a wholesale Farm Equipment division to be operated according to the established practice in the industry.

(4) In making this change it was decided that Farm Bureau Services, Inc., did not have capital to conduct a wholesale distribution on a large scale and still

on August 31 with our accounts in as good or better condition than they were a year ago. Farm Bureau Services has wholesale accounts with approximately 220 regular dealers and at August 31 there were 190 of these accounts which showed no past due invoices or were paid in full. We wish to take this opportunity to thank these dealers for having their accounts in proper order.

During this past year Farm Bureau Services Branches had a total volume of both wholesale and retail accounts amounting to \$7,176,136.49. At August 31 the outstanding accounts, both wholesale and retail, amounted to \$285,524.27 or 3.9% of the yearly volume.

THIS represents fourteen days' business invested in accounts receivable. Branch store managers should be commended for this fine showing.

Economic conditions at present and forecasts for the next two years indicate that Farm Bureau Services will have to hold strict policies regarding credit sales in order to keep the organization in a good financial position.

remain in the retail business. Retail operations will be placed under contract to independent operators as soon as dealers with the necessary capital requirements can be selected. One hundred good dealers is Farm Bureau Services' goal. These dealers must be approved by the county Farm Bureau Farm Supply Committees. If proper public relations are maintained between the dealer and the County Farm Bureau, the operation of these retail stores can be excellent business opportunities and render outstanding service to the farmer.

The reorganization of the Division was completed as of November 1st.

Finance Promotion Division

B. P. PATTISON, Mgr.

At the close of Farm Bureau Services' last fiscal year, Finance Promotion Division had been assigned the task of raising \$2,000,000 to do two things; first, to build a fertilizer manufacturing plant at Kalamazoo; second, join with other Regional Mid-west Co-operatives in the development of joint holdings of phosphate rock in Idaho. The campaign was started August 15, 1952 and on August 31, 1953, total debenture sales were \$1,066,230. The program also secured the transfer of some \$200,000 of 1946 four percent ten-year debentures to the new five percent fifteen-year maturity Series "A" issue.

Fifty people were licensed to sell these securities of which only three were full time employees of the division. The estimated sell-

ing cost for the million dollars sale of securities was 4.2%.

During the year, one employee of the staff sold \$40,000.00 of debentures for a local co-operative to help strengthen its financial position. There are a number of local co-operatives in the State that would benefit materially by securing some additional invested capital from their patrons.

ALL Series "A" four percent debentures sold in 1946 to finance construction of the fertilizer plant in Saginaw were called for redemption. Debenture holders were offered the option of cash payment or an exchange for the new five percent fifteen-year Series "A" debentures. The final figures show cash requests for \$367,730.00 and total exchange requests of \$636,090.00.

Buy Farm Bureau Feed.

Plant Food Manufacturing Has Lively Year

ADOLPH F. ECKLUND, Mgr.

This past year's operation has been a busy one for the plant food manufacturing division. Early in the year it was decided that the construction of a second fertilizer plant in southwest Michigan was in order. A survey showed the best site to be near Kalamazoo.

It was decided to hire the John J. HaTe Company of Atlanta, Georgia, to install a patented process for granulation which showed much promise and has been tested most extensively.

PLANS were drawn and construction started about June 1. It is anticipated that we will be able to start operation in the plant in January and should give a substantial tonnage of high analysis granulated fertilizer for spring shipment.

The past year's operation has seen the end of shortage in most lines of fertilizer materials. Triple super phosphate which was so short up to a year ago has been released to where purchase of spot shipments can now be made at market prices.

Nitrogen solution and ammonium sulphate at present are adequate for any needs. Anhydrous ammonia has been very tight but is now expected to meet all demands by January 1, 1954. Potash is equal to the present demand as is sulphuric acid and phosphate rock.

IN SPITE of increased supplies price increases were experienced during the late spring and early summer. These adjustments were primarily increases that would normally have come earlier but had been held back by the Price Stabilization Board. They were in sulphur where prices had not increased for five years and phosphate rock which had not increased in price in four years. There was also a small increase in nitrogen prices.

The easier markets did not solve all the problems of opera-

most of them are endeavoring to solve it one way or the other by some process of granulation.

We have consistently shipped more fertilizer from Saginaw than the plant was designed to produce. This was possible because a large tonnage was shipped early. As farm income shrinks and more fertilizer is available this is bound to change and it is unlikely that as high a percentage will move early. The demand has required considerable tonnage be moved during the latter part of the season without proper cure.

WITH THE anticipated increases in the use of fertilizer over the next five years, a second plant located at the Kalamazoo plant, along with the plant at Saginaw and an interest in the plant at Hartsdale, will place Farm Bureau Services in a position to most effectively serve the needs of the members with the high analysis mixed goods they need.

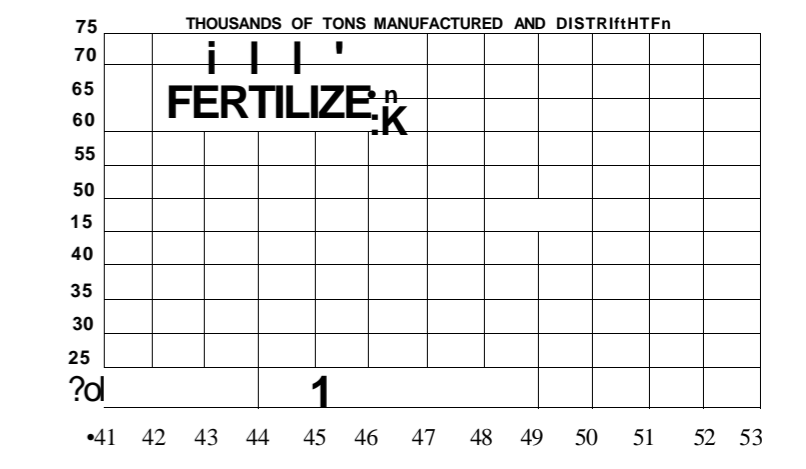
This past year Farm Bureau Services has offered 5-20-20 and 6-24-12 for the first time. The acceptance of these grades exceeded all expectations. Our plants at Kalamazoo call for processing major portions of 5-20-20. The plant will be able to make a very satisfactory 10-10-10 and even higher in this ratio.

TOTAL production this past year is somewhat below that of a year ago but exceeds the previous year. This was mostly in 0-20-0 which is a direct application material seems to be losing out rapidly to mixed goods. Production was as follows:

Saginaw Mixed	55,786	53,684
Saginaw Super	4,691	3,498
Saginaw Raw Materials		398
Hartsdale Mixed	3,771	4,129
Hartsdale Surfer	2,217	107
Total	66,465	61,816

3,303 tons of the decrease of 4,649 tons was in superphosphate.

A MAJOR portion of decrease in mixed fertilizer was due to decreased planting of wheat this



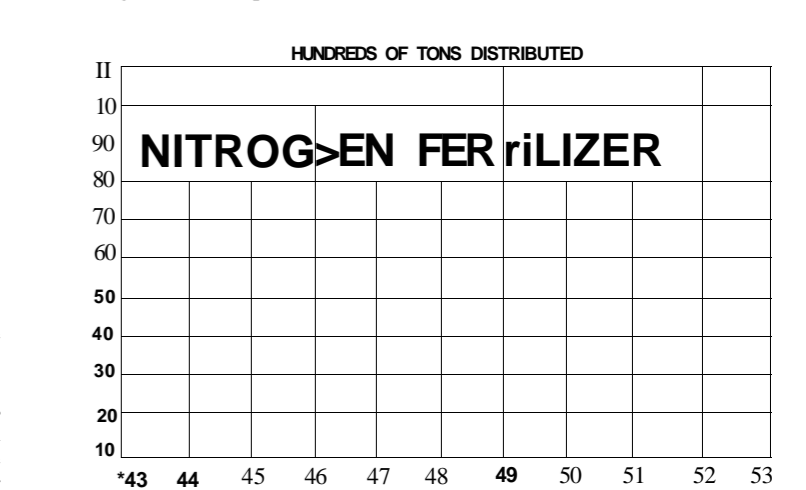
This graph illustrates the accomplishments made by Michigan farmers through Farm Bureau Services when they started manufacturing fertilizers at Saginaw in 1948. A second Farm Bureau fertilizer manufacturing plant is being built at Kalamazoo and should be in operation in January, 1954.

Last year we reported the discovery of the effect of wetting agents in improving the keeping quality of stored mixed fertilizer. These have since been used in all nitrogen goods mixed.

HOWEVER, we have continued to be plagued with problems in processing and this past fall has been the worst of any season to date. We came to the conclusion that while we have done a number of things that should have made major improvements, other factors, although tending to economy, added to the problems of processing.

In the light of this all formulations have been changed and at the suggestion of consultants whom we have called in, we have made other changes which we feel certain will produce high analysis pulverized fertilizer that will be of competitively high quality.

IT DOES appear from all advice that we can get, that the only real solution to the problem is the installation of some process of granulation at Saginaw as well as at Kalamazoo. All manufacturers are having the same problem and



Farm Bureau Services is the largest supplier of nitrogen fertilizers in Michigan. We distributed 55% more nitrogen goods for direct application than in 1952. The graph illustrates the rapid growth of interest farmers have in nitrogen fertilizers.

Services, Inc., for the Year Ending August 31, 1953

President Notes Progress Made

ALFRED ROBERTS

President's Comments to Farm Bureau Services Annual Meeting at Michigan State College, Dec. 2, 1953

You as stockholders have gathered to hear a report on the past years' business and to set objectives for the future.

Your Board of Directors feels that much progress has been made in your organization this year. All operations have not turned out as well as we would like to report, but we must expect that at times in all types of business. Management and department heads will report in detail on the various operations.

Changes have been made late in the past fiscal year in regards to responsibility and duties of key people. We feel that the changes made have been in the best interest of your organization and that it will tend to render a better service to the stockholders and patrons in the future.

A very bright spot in the year's operation has been the calling in of the stock that was sold for the building of the fertilizer plant at Saginaw. This stock was issued for a period of ten years, but redeemed in seven. This is just another example of what farmers can do for themselves when they cooperate with each other for a common cause.

This year has also marked the extending of fertilizer operations. Ground was broken this summer for a new plant at Kalamazoo. It is expected to be in operation shortly after the first of the new year. A new process of manufacturing will be used at this plant. This will make possible a better grade of fertilizer for the farmers throughout the state.

This year has witnessed the building of a new model elevator west of Lansing on US-16 where the Farm Bureau Services warehouse is located. In addition to serving the needs of the farmers in the immediate area, it will be a place of training for future elevator managers and operators. I am sure you will agree that this is something for which there is a real need.

At some of the other branches, there have been remodeling programs under way with new facilities being added, all for the purpose of giving better service to the farmers in the surrounding communities.

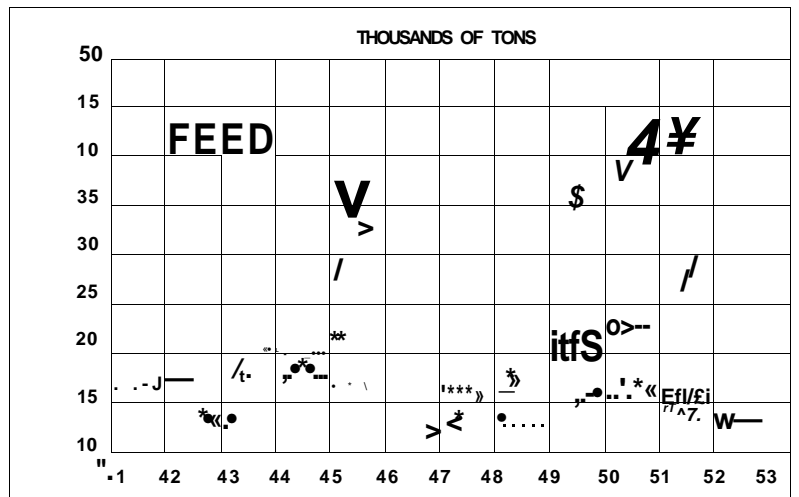


Alfred Roberts

DURING the year some local cooperatives have asked Farm Bureau Services for help in the way of management problems. Farm Bureau Services now has 18 points under management contract. This is another service extended to those who feel need of help at their local cooperatives.

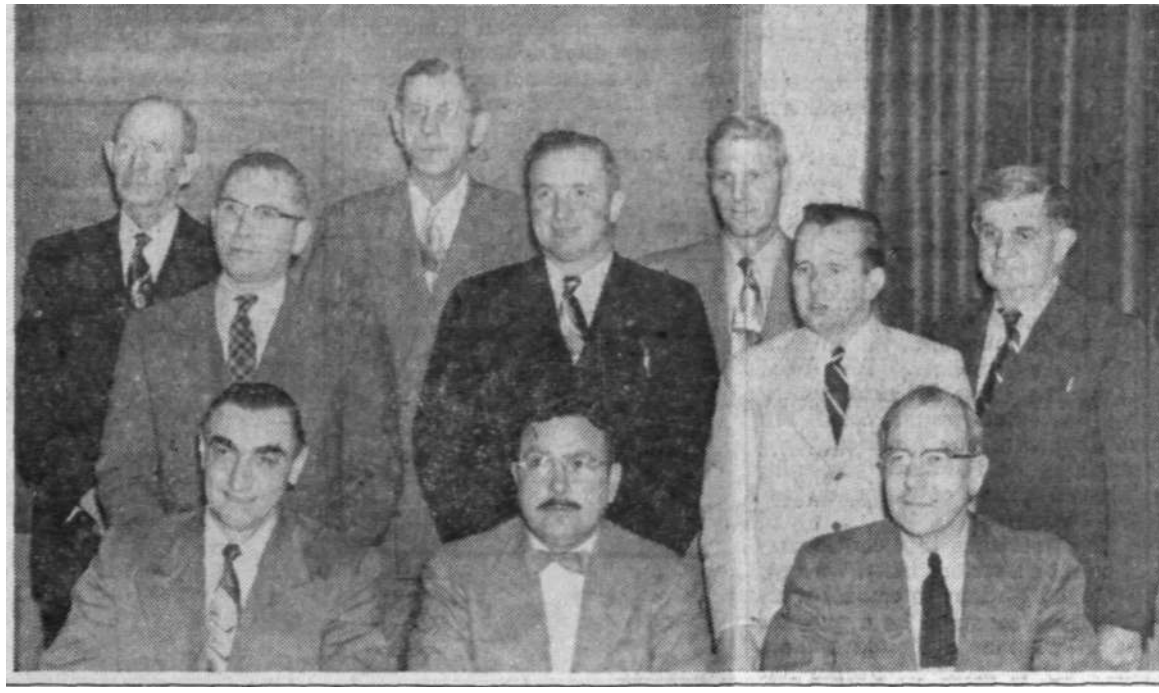
The future of Farm Bureau Services depends entirely upon you folks here today that are representing local cooperatives and the farmers of your community. With your loyal support there is no limit what an organization owned and controlled by farmers can do for themselves.

FORCES are continually at work hoping to destroy the benefits that rightly belong to farmers through their marketing and purchasing operations. Our young folks have come up through an



Farm Bureau feed sales rose to an all-time high this year, with a 6% increase in tonnage over 1952. 94% of our total mill tonnage is in the form of high concentrates. Each ton of concentrate provides five more tons of Farm Bureau feeds at the farm level than is shown on the graph.

Board of Directors & Officers for 52-53



Seated, left to right: Marten Gam, vice-pres., Charlotte; Alfred Roberts, president, Pigeon; J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary and manager, East Lansing.

Standing, left to right: Ivan Parsons, Grand Blanc; Ward G. Hodge, Snover; Thomas Berghouse, Cadillac; Blaque Knirk, Quincy; Albert Shellenger, Lake Odessa; Paul Kaechele, Caledonia; Carl E. Buskirk, Paw Paw.

Farm Supply Div. Operations

MAYNARD BROWNLEE, Mgr.

The Farm Supply Division again showed volume increases in most items, the wholesale volume for 1952-53 being \$11,408,000 as compared to \$11,319,000 last year. The unit volume of each department for the last 12 years is graphically illustrated in the charts accompanying this report.

FARM BUREAU FEEDS hit a new all time high for the year with a 6% increase in tonnage over 1952. This increase was made during a period when commercial feed sales for the industry as a whole were down 6% for this section of the country. These facts, coupled with substantial tonnage increases made by many of our Co-op members on Farm Bureau Feed, give evidence of the success of this program.

As this is written the year ahead looks good for the feed program. The dairy industry is weathering the slump in fairly good shape. Unless greater unemployment hits the cities, milk sales should increase. The egg market is favorable. It is expected that more chicks will be added to the replacement flocks this coming spring than the 615 million raised this year.

WE MUST NOT measure progress in dollars and cents alone. We enjoy a freedom that is known by no other country. Agriculture is the foundation of this nation. Let us do all in our power to preserve that which we now have.

We commend Mr. Yaeger and his staff for a job well done. We know they are putting forth every effort to render the kind of service they feel the farmers of Michigan want.

I should like to comment on the work Mr. Brody is doing in regards to public affairs. His valued assistance is very much appreciated.

When we adjourn this annual meeting today and go back to our various communities, may we go with a feeling of individual responsibility, determined to retain the cooperative way of doing business. Remember, where there is unity there is strength.

FBS Internal Service Division

W. VICTOR BIELINSKI Mgr.

The Internal Service Division of Farm Bureau Services provides services involving employee policies and working conditions. It includes the departments of building service, payroll, personnel, and office equipment and vehicles. In this way related activities which affect the internal operation of the business are combined.

THE NUMBER of employees on August 31, 1953, as compared to a year ago decreased from 714 to 704. This was due, primarily, to changes in the Farm Equipment Division from a branch to a dealer

(Continued on Page 3)

Prospects for the seed business seem especially good at this time. Prices on seed offered to farmers for next spring will be attractive and the acreage to be seeded will undoubtedly be larger due to acreage allotments on other crops. Again, sound merchandising should produce results for the aggressive Co-op or Farm Bureau dealer.

The Plant Food Department of Farm Bureau Services distributed 55% more nitrogen goods for direct application than in 1952. Farm Bureau Services remain the largest supplier of this type of fertilizer in the state.

The mixed fertilizer program was again limited only by production facilities, during the spring months of the year. The fall season was a different picture — acreage allotments on wheat substantially reduced demand. All fertilizer companies were knocking on doors for business this fall and, as it appears now, competition will continue to be keen for the farmers' fertilizer needs next spring.

Local cooperatives and Farm Bureau dealers should give serious attention to improving merchandising techniques if present tonnage is to be increased, or even maintained. The need on farms for better soil practices is evident in many areas. The return to the farmer for money spent for plant food is still attractive. There is a need, however, to get this information to the farmer patron. An organized sales and merchandising program will be needed by every local association to accomplish this.

STEEL products, for the most part, were in ample supply throughout the year. One exception to this was sheet metal roofing, which still requires considerable advance ordering to assure supply at the time needed. At least one supplier began offering, in mid-year, shipments in truckloads mixed with fence, nails, roofing, etc. This should be of real service to many smaller organizations, allowing them to carry smaller and better balanced inventories.

PAINT volume for 1952-53 was slightly in excess of the previous year, which is noteworthy in view of lower farm income. Considerable promotion effort was made by the department in cooperation with many local associations. Considerable benefit from this work can be seen, however part of the "pay-off" should come in increased volume in next year's operation. With high quality Farm Bureau paints, the paint business offers a real challenge to local co-ops. Most points have barely scratched the surface of the potential farm business available.

SALES ACTIVITIES. For the purpose of better coordination, effective March 1, 1953, Harold Weinman was given the responsibilities of supervision of the field force in addition to his sales promotion activities. Serving as Sales Manager, he has the responsibilities of working with the department managers to develop better and more effective sales programs and techniques, both at the wholesale and retail levels, so as to expand the use of Farm Bureau supplies and services to Michigan farmers.

Appreciation Days. One of the major problems has always been the dissemination of Farm Bureau commodity information. This year there were held, in cooperation with dealers, some 43 commodity information meetings for farmer patrons. These were all-day meetings called "Appreciation" or "Bonus" Days. It is estimated that 28,000 farmers attended these events and learned about Farm Bureau quality products and how to use them. In addition, throughout the year, thousands of Farm Bureau Members and Cooperative Patrons were informed about Farm Bureau products at community group and Co-op annual meetings by the field representatives, commodity specialists, and through visual aid materials.

Merchandising Kits. One of the greatest needs of local cooperatives and dealer agencies has been a good merchandising program. At their request, Farm Bureau Services again offered a monthly "merchandising kit" which contained "point-of-sale" promotion material for produce displays, suggested newspaper and radio advertisement, direct mail pieces, display layouts with instructions for building them, and many other items. Seventy-

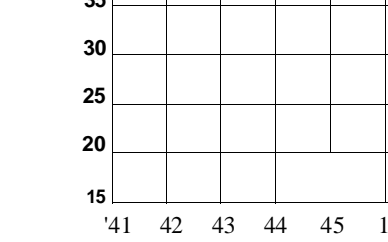
six local associations took advantage of this service.

Radio Advertising. Use of radio on a cooperative basis as a media for getting low-cost product information to farmer patrons has grown among dealers. This year 42 local associations joined Farm Bureau Services in using 10 radio stations to promote the sale of Farm Bureau supplies. During the 12-month period 3,173 commercial appeals were broadcast over these stations.

cause was market declines on inventories,—particularly true in feeds handled at warehouses where even normal margins are very small.

One new management contract was added during the year—the Mason County Cooperative, Inc., at Scottville. This organization has an annual volume in farm supplies handled and grain and beans marketed of approximately \$175,000.

Eighteen local cooperatives are



Paint sales volume showed an encouraging gain over 1952. Considerable promotion was done in 1953 which helped then and should contribute to further gains in 1954. In the years 1946 and 1947 the demand for paints was record breaking for all firms.

Other Promotions. Newspaper advertising was another major project of Farm Bureau Services. The Michigan Farm News, with a circulation of 60,000 subscribers, carried Farm Bureau commodity advertising in its twelve issues this year. In addition, other farm publications carried more than 300 column inches in special issues. Farm Bureau Services also furnished its dealers and distributed to farmers several hundred thousand circulars, literature, envelope stuffers, direct mail pieces, etc., describing its products.

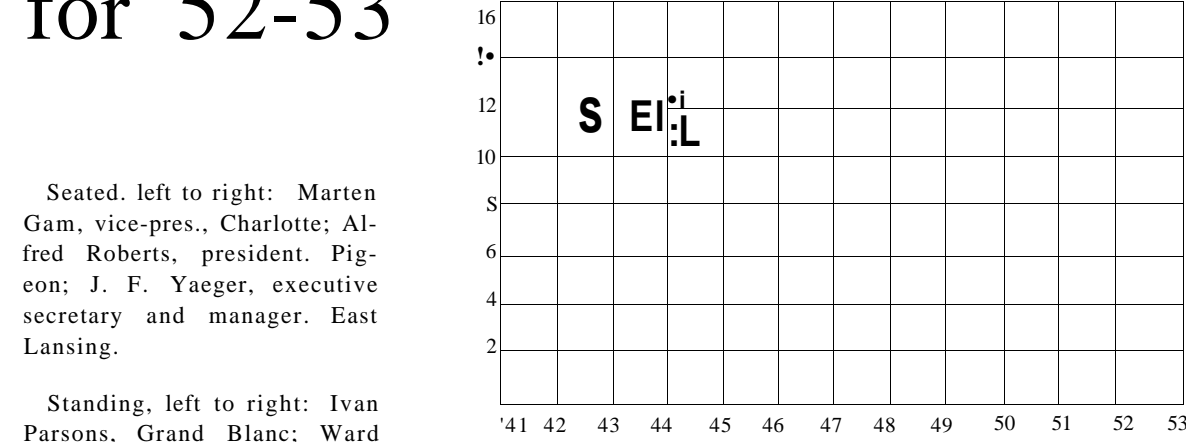
RETAIL ACTIVITIES. In an effort to streamline retail store supervisory activities, Ray Bohnsack, was given in mid-year the responsibility of all retail management services. This includes supervision of all branch and management contract points as well as assisting in the development of new local cooperatives and branch stores. He is assisted by two Store Supervisors—Kenneth Miller on the west side of the state, and M. H. Wallace on the east side.

Farm Bureau Services debentures were sold in the Sterling area for the purpose of starting a new branch store at that point. Over \$55,000 of debentures were purchased by the patrons to provide this service. A local elevator was purchased and began operations as a branch in September, 1952.

Services' 13 branch stores had a volume from the previous year. This decrease in net margin is due to several factors. The major

carried with it many problems. Prices on many items, which have been increasing almost continually for more than ten years, made an about face. Much credit goes to Farm Bureau Services' retail store managers, department managers, and store supervisors for their efforts in handling these situations. The year ahead will undoubtedly present new hurdles. With the continued cooperation of local associations, these can be met and progress maintained.

MSC potato specialists are cooperating with the U.S. D.A. and colleges all over the nation to try to develop potato varieties that will resist 25 virus diseases which threaten potatoes. More than 2100 varieties are being used in cooperative work at Sturgeon Bay, Wis.



The dip in tonnage of steel products sales by Farm Bureau Services in the years following 1947 was brought about largely by government allocations in connection with the national defense program. Steel products were in good supply this year for the most part.

Farm Bureau Services in Strong Financial Condition

LEON S. MONROE Comptroller

Despite abnormally low net margins for the year ending August 31, 1953, Farm Bureau Services, Inc., remains in a strong financial condition. Current assets exceeded current liabilities by over \$2,700,000, resulting in a ratio of current assets to current liabilities of 2 to 1.

Farm Bureau Service has approximately \$5,000,000 invested in cash balances, government bonds, accounts receivable and inventories; \$560,000 invested in securities, mainly of other cooperatives; has appropriated \$1,022,000 for facility expansions, and has invested in plants and equipment \$2,863,000.

Cash and government securities of \$680,000 is greater than normally carried due to early borrowings on a new facility loan from the St. Paul Bank for Cooperatives.

Accounts and notes receivable of \$1,405,000 are nearly normal for this time of year although somewhat higher than last year. Inventories totalling \$2,933,000 are approximately \$500,000 greater than last year, of which \$254,000 is in the fertilizer manufacturing plant, \$60,000 in Farm Equipment, and the balance in Branch and consigned inventories.

Funds invested in other cooperatives is approximately \$600,000 greater than last year, as a result of additional stockholdings in the St. Paul Bank for Cooperatives, necessitated by increased facility loan borrowings. These investments are made up of the following items:

Table listing investments in other cooperatives including United Cooperatives, Farm Bureau Milling Co., Central Farmers Fertilizer, etc.

Policy on expansion. In accordance with a policy established by your Board of Directors, all major additions to fixed assets have been financed through the sale of securities, or through long-term bank borrowings. During the past fiscal year, gross additions to fixed assets totalled \$549,000 and are made up of the following items:

Table listing expansion items including Sterling Elevator Facilities, Kalamazoo Fertilizer Plant, Hastings Elevator, etc.

The utilization of excessive cash balances as of August 31, 1953, and the liquidation of abnormally high inventories will provide funds to complete these projects.

Long term financing. In view of the need for the expansion of fertilizer manufacturing facilities and other expansion projects, your board of directors authorized a complete refinancing of long-term loans and the sale of additional 5% 15-year debentures.

This authorization provided for mortgage loans aggregating \$1,750,000 and additional debenture sales of \$1,000,000, or a total of \$2,750,000.

In addition to the financing of new projects costing \$1,618,600 listed above, the new financing provided \$344,000 for the calling of Series "A" 1946 debentures due in 1956, the payment of St. Paul Bank for Cooperative mortgaged then outstanding of \$725,600, and an addition to working capital of \$61,800.

The mortgage loan of \$1,750,000 is payable at the rate of \$2.50 per ton of mixed fertilizer handled, with a minimum payment during the 1953-1954 fiscal year of \$200,000 and \$260,000 per year thereafter.

Long range financial planning indicates that in order to liquidate our present mortgage loans, retire debentures outstanding totalling \$3,000,000 when due, and continue the retirement of preferred stock outstanding on a 13-year revolving basis, net margins averaging \$450,000 per year for the next 15 years are needed.

While earnings for this fiscal year fell below that figure, budgets for the coming year have an objective approximately \$440,000 of net margins. With the Kalamazoo Fertilizer Plant scheduled for production in early 1954, and the projected improvement in the operation of the Farm Equipment Division, the long range objective can be achieved.

Debentures, stock & equities. Borrowed and equity capital increased from \$5,155,000 at Aug. 31, 1952 to \$5,704,000 at Aug. 31, 1953, an increase of \$549,000. During the year approximately \$955,000 was raised through the sale of 5% 15-year debentures. In addition, \$566,000 of 4% 10-year debentures were exchanged for the new 15-year debentures and \$400,000 retired by cash payments. Following the plan approved by stockholders in November, 1951, the savings in income taxes and preferred stock dividends resulting from the reduction of "AAA" Preferred Stock dividends to 2%, was used for the retirement of \$47,160 of Preferred Stock issued as patronage refunds in 1940.

Net margins for the fiscal year amounting to \$123,679 were allocated as follows: Dividends on Class "AAA" Preferred Stock \$30,639; Federal Income Taxes \$32,852; Added to Reserve Fund \$10,579; Patronage Refunds Payable in Class B Preferred Stock \$49,609.

Table showing equity capital decreased approximately \$6,000 due to redemption of Preferred Stock in excess of capitalized net margins.

ORGANIZATION OF DIVISION. With respect to organization of the Comptroller's Division, some changes have been made to improve the efficiency in its operations. Responsibility for the operation of the Accounting Department has been placed in one department head, who has reassigned duties and added mechanized equipment resulting

Table showing organizational changes and equipment additions, including original, expended, and balance to be expended.

The summarization of budgets as prepared by the operating divisions, and reporting progress towards achievement have been refined during the year by establishing check points each month, thus providing management with more information as a guide to future decisions.

Grape Mly For grape jelly-making, use mixture of slightly underripe and ripe fruit.

UN Agreements & the American Constitution

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for December

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

It seems that you are more apt to find concern for the safety of the American government among some of its elder citizens. Also you will find a stronger element of faith in the foundations of our government.

While riding on a bus, I chanced to sit behind two of these older citizens and heard their conversation.

"No, Burt," said one of the men, "I don't think that America can have its government shot to pieces by these foreign schemers. After all, we have got our Constitution and Bill of Rights. Any court in the land will test a decision or a law on whether it's in tune with the Constitution, and that's a pretty good protection for our freedoms."

"Well, I'm not so sure," said Burt. "Some folks, nowadays don't think so much of our Constitution as you do. And there is no form of government on earth that can't be upset by a good, slick schemer!"

I wonder if Burt is just a pessimist—of if, perhaps, he has a point?

Let's take the United Nations, for instance. Does it offer any threat to the protection of the individual's rights as outlined in our American Constitution? Is there any chance that it can displace the laws made by the people's representatives within our states and nations?

Yes,—it seems that there is a loophole in the Constitution itself. Article VI, as it is written, makes any treaty the supreme law of the land. In other countries any treaty must be passed by the whole legislature. In America we have a shortcut to approving a treaty. Also in American we do not word a treaty to make it subject to the Constitution's control. Bills passed by Congress must be labelled as "pursuant to the Constitution of the United States."

Treaties, therefore, can over-ride all other laws—state or national. No treaty has ever been declared unconstitutional. When labelled "the supreme law of the land," it appears that they carry more power than either the Constitution or the laws passed by Congress and the state Legislatures.

TREATIES are put into effect without further action by Congress as follows

The President may negotiate agreements with other nations. These agreements, or treaties, must be presented to the U. S. Senate for approval. It takes a two-thirds vote of the Senate—two-thirds of the members present and voting—to pass a treaty.

LET'S LOOK at the United Nations. The U. S. puts its programs into effect by means of treaties. Even the signing of the U. N. Charter by the United States was a treaty agreement.

Senators in Washington report that attempts are being made to use this treaty power as an instrument against American freedom. Treaty proposals have been drawn up that strike close to our domestic laws—the laws that govern our internal affairs within our states and nations.

SHOULD these attempts succeed, our internal laws would find themselves out-matched by the strength of the treaties.

This threat to our freedoms is regarded so seriously that 60 out of the 96 U. S. Senators have signed a proposed Amendment to the Constitution (Senate Joint Resolution 130) to act as a safeguard. The proposed amendment was offered by Senator Bricker of Ohio. It would forbid the passage of any treaty that is not in agreement with the Constitution, and would prevent the treaty from overpowering State and national legislation

"IT THREATENS the right

of peaceful assembly, the right of association, and the right of the United States to protect itself against subversive activities of Communists. Part III, defining economic, social and cultural rights, would make the pretensions of Marxian Socialism the supreme law of the land. The International Labor Organization has submitted treaty proposals through the U. N. which would aim at domestic legislation. If passed, these proposals would make the U. N. a law-developing body of the United States."

Laws directly affecting individuals under local situations are included in the "Draft Covenant." They would control racial discrimination, capital punishment, freedom of thought and education, childbirth, and the special benefits due to workers. It is significant that our present Bill of Rights would be over-ruled.

UNDER the Bill of Rights, the individual has a check-rein on the powers of government over his personal rights. Under the "Draft Covenant" the government would define the rights of the individual and provide such rights as it considered he should have.

THE OPPOSITION to the Bricker Amendment. Senator Bricker's opponents state that the proposed amendment would seriously interfere with the treaty-making powers of the United States. The work of the President and the Senate would be so seriously curbed that we would lose our position of leadership in the world of foreign affairs.

DAVID BRUCE, former Assistant Secretary of State, says: "If we are going to do business with other countries, we have to be able to make treaties. Under Article I, Sec. 10 of the Constitution, separate states are forbidden the right to make treaties with foreign countries. If the Federal government cannot make them, our hands are tied. "The proposed Bricker Amendment involves a suspicion that is not justified. It assumes that the President and the Senate, acting together as a treaty-making authority of the United States, are going to abuse this power. The record does not warrant this distrust.

"UNDER Bricker's amendment, the United States could not participate in treaties to prevent the mass murder of political, religious, or national groups by another nation. We could not help set the standards for individual rights over the world. We would not be able to attack the tyranny of the Kremlin over religious leaders or masses of subjected peoples.

"We must remain concerned with the fate of human freedom elsewhere in the world. We have a reputation for supporting the rights of the individual and championing the cause of the oppressed wherever they may be. We cannot exercise influence in world affairs as they affect individual rights and freedoms if we block our powers to enter into international agreements.

- IN A Federal government such as our own, the power to direct foreign affairs must reside centrally, if anywhere. Bricker's proposal would seriously cut the President's powers and his freedom to conduct this country's relations with other nations.

"Present protections against un-

desirable treaties, or those that threaten the rights of American people do exist:

1. The President can refuse to sign a bad treaty.
2. The undesirable treaty can be killed by a vote of one-third of the Senate, plus one vote.
3. The Senate can pass the treaty after including proper safeguards.

Summary

SENATOR Bricker denies that his proposal would "block our powers to enter into the international agreements. He aims, rather, to throw out such treaties by law that would come into conflict with our American Constitution, or the laws governing internal affairs of the states and the nation.

To Americans this controversy should be a serious issue. We need a United Nations to control wars. But there seems to be a question as to whether a United Nations may try to force all people into the dominant mold of world politics, the Socialist fad of the day. The American people must be alert, to say the least, to what is happening. The results will point up our own future destiny.

Questions:

1. Do you regard the treaty proposals of the United Nations as a threat to the American Constitution and the Bill of Rights?
2. Are the present safeguards against undesirable treaties enough to protect our American freedoms without Bricker's proposed amendment to the American Constitution?

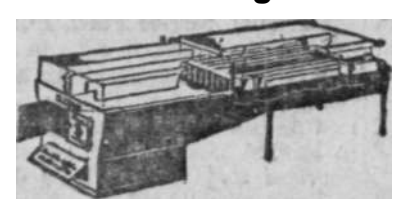
Reference: See the Congressional Digest, November, 1952.

Room Size Map to Show PD Meetings

A full room-size U. S. map is being assembled in AFBF offices in Chicago. It will show the location of thousands of FB meetings held during the recent months where farm policies were discussed and decided. Michigan's County FB secretaries have had an important part in reporting the location of many meetings to be placed on the map. Small reproductions will be made to show to members of Congress.

USDA reported that losses suffered this fiscal year have been caused largely by dealing in butter, dried milk, field seeds, corn, dried beans and wheat.

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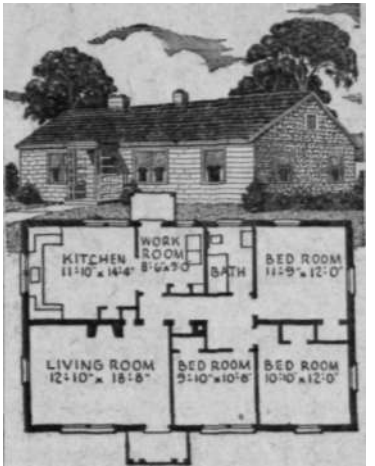


Group Rents Bus and Sets Attendance Record

Elton Farm Bureau Community group in Leelanau county rented an old school bus to transport 32 of its members to the annual meeting of Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau at Traverse City Oct. 29. Three other members of the group made the trip by private car.

Though most of its members live more than 20 miles from Traverse City, the group had the largest number of families represented at the meeting, and won an attendance award in the division for groups having from 20 to 40 members. Twenty of its 34 member families were represented.

Buy Farm Bureau Feed.



Attractive New Homes in CONCRETE MASONRY

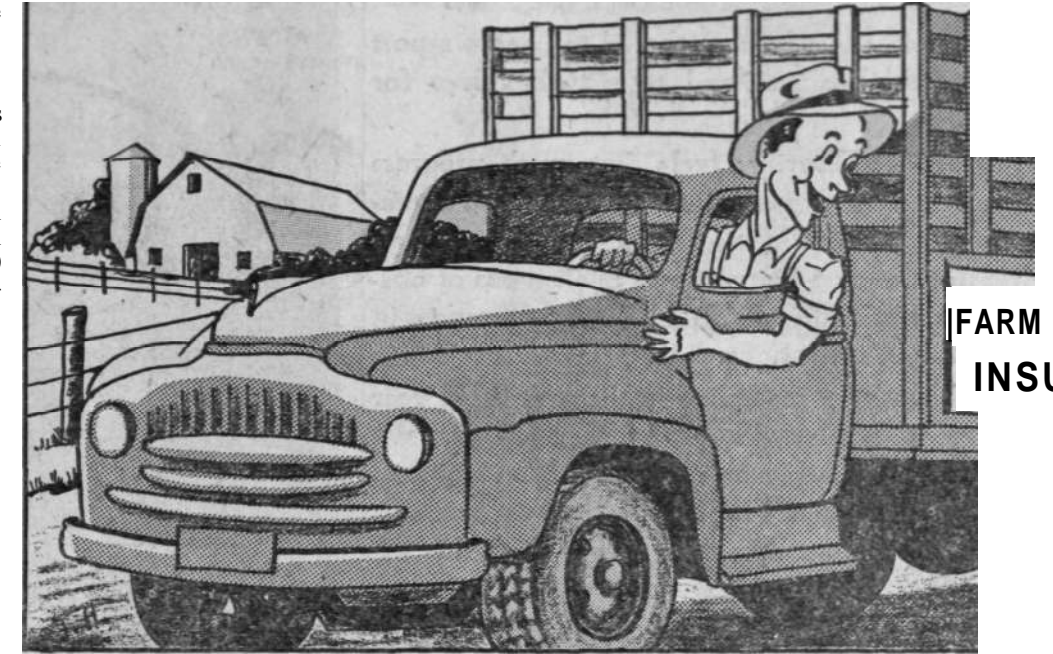
Economy, beauty, durability and comfort are important qualities in a modern home. A concrete masonry house gives you all four and more—it can't burn! That's priceless protection for farm families.

Send today for free booklet, "Concrete Masonry Farm Homes." It's full of ideas and describes many plans available through various state colleges.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

Olds Tower Bldg., Lansing 8, Mich.
A national organization to improve and extend the uses of Portland cement and concrete... through scientific research and engineering field work

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE



IS PREFERRED PROTECTION

By far the biggest name in automobile insurance to Farm Bureau members is the name of their own organization, the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan.

More member families carry Farm Bureau auto insurance than carry all other kinds of auto insurance combined.

For your farm vehicles there is no better protection than Farm Bureau insurance.

The cost is low.

The service you receive as a policy-holder is the very best.

There are special advantages in your Farm Bureau insurance policy.

Your Farm Bureau Insurance Agent will be glad to give you the details without obligation to you. If you do not know his name, any Farm Bureau office or store will explain how you can reach him.

LIFE INSURANCE THE HP PROTECTED SAVINGS PLAN
AUTO AND TRUCK INSURANCE FARM LIABILITY INSURANCE

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE

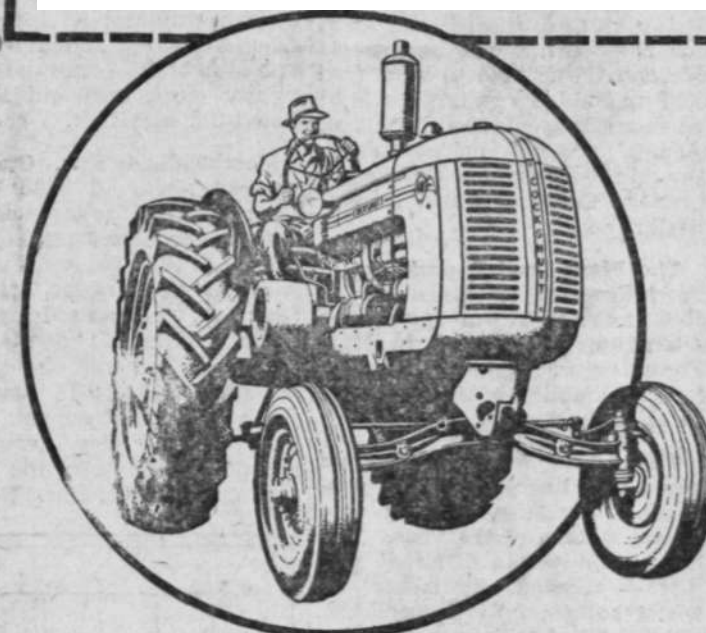
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Lansing 4, Michigan

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Discussion Topics

They were chosen by your State Discussion Topic Committee from the results of the questionnaires returned by the Community Farm Bureaus.

- Dec** United Nations Agreements and the American Constitution.
- Jan.** The Problem of Publicly-Owned Lands and Local Taxation.
- Feb.** Our Community Farm Bureaus and the Service-to-Member Program.
- Mar.** A State Plan to Regulate the Financing of Drainage Projects Within and Between Counties?

Be sure to read your discussion topic articles on this page of the Michigan Farm News. Attend your Community Group Meetings!