

Michigan Farm News

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33rd Year

Published Monthly

MFB Membership is Close to Goal at 61,685

MFB Objects to Road Bond Idea

Farm Bureau Favors Increase in Gasoline Tax and Pay as You Go Rather Than Bond for \$500,000,000

The board of directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau said in a statement January 26 that the Farm Bureau opposed to submitting to the voters at the April election a constitutional amendment to bond the state for 20 years for \$500,000,000 for highway purposes.

C. L. Brody, executive vice-president of the Farm Bureau, quoted the board as saying that the Farm Bureau organization of 61,685 farm families favors a gasoline tax of 5 cents per gallon or an even higher rate to continue the highway program on a pay as you go basis. Highways should be built and maintained through funds raised by the people who use the roads, Mr. Brody said.

Mr. Brody revealed that the Farm Bureau believes no radical change should be made in Michigan's highway program until information is available from the survey of Michigan highway needs being conducted by the legislature, and until the public knows more about the new road program being developed by the federal government. The MFB board of directors said:

Statement Relative to Highways and Highway Finance

Michigan's network of state trunk lines, county highways, and municipal streets is vital to the economy and well-being of the citizens of our state. Revenues presently available for construction and maintenance are not adequate to permit keeping pace with increasing traffic and mounting costs. However, a substantial amount of new construction is being carried on improvements in permanent and temporary. We do not feel that the highway situation throughout our state is as serious as some groups whose selfish interests are involved, might like to have us believe.

Highways should be built and maintained through funds raised by the motorists who are the principal beneficiaries of better and more adequate roads and streets. Farm Bureau members and the public generally are willing to pay for the privilege of riding on good roads. In fact, the saving in time, fuel, and wear-and-tear on motor vehicles renders adequate and well-maintained highways a good investment from the standpoint of the motorists and operators of commercial vehicles.

At the time when the gas tax rate was increased from 3c to 4 1/2c per gallon, we favored fixing the rate at 5c. Had that been done, there would have been substantially more money available during the past three years for highway purposes. However, the raise provided was the maximum which the Legislature was willing to grant at that time and was only secured by passage of the measure over the Governor's veto.

We renew our endorsement of a 5c per gallon gas tax or an even higher rate if need therefor can be demonstrated. We would emphasize that, in any such augmented highway program, equitable consideration should be given to all types of roads, including state trunk lines, county primary roads, county local roads and municipal streets, not merely super highways, as some interests are now currently advocating.

Our members have repeatedly emphasized the soundness of a "pay-as-you-go" program for highway construction and maintenance. The public always secures the most value for its money when improvements are made out of current revenue instead of on a borrowing basis.

We are opposed to any plan to mortgage the future at the present time for "building tomorrow's roads today." We would call attention to the fact that the interest on any such bond issue for 20 years would amount to approximately 1/2 of the principal sum. Big bond issues have an inflationary effect on our economy.

If unusually large amounts of highway work were to be undertaken in a relatively brief period, such as five years, the cost for such construction would be abnormal and excessive. Only a few of the biggest contractors could handle projects of such magnitude and naturally their bids would be higher than normal. Costs of all supplies, labor, and professional services involv-

Financial Headaches for MFB

Financial headaches for the State of Michigan and its taxpayers are building up as a result of developments under the capitol dome at Lansing. (See statement on this page by the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors regarding the proposed highway bond issue.)

The recommendations relative to schools and education were contained in a separate message. He advocated a constitutional amendment pledging the state's full faith and credit to bond issues for school construction. He proposed school legislation to require each school district to certify that its buildings and equipment conform to reasonable standards of health and safety. He urged that penalties in school-aid should be assessed in any district failing to meet sanitation and safety standards.

There was a time, not many years ago, when folks in public life tried to woo votes by promising to keep down costs and taxes. The modern method seems to be just the opposite. Public officials and lawmakers court public favor by proposing and supporting bigger and better public works programs, state-aid, and governmental assistance.

The Governor advocated that, for the present at least, there be no new tax imposed to retire half billion dollar road bonds. He suggested that the money be borrowed for 20 years and spent during the first 5 years. Existing revenues plus \$100,000,000 of new money per year, would provide sufficient income for a big program of road building and still allow for making the annual payments to take care of the interest and retirement of the debt. That would be true for the 5-year period.

The State of Michigan and its units of government are now confronted with many demands for increased expenditures. These needs include new school facilities, increased sums for school operations and larger budgets for mental hospitals, correctional institutions, and in fact, all the various departments and agencies of government. Meeting the most urgent of these requirements without the imposition of confiscatory taxes will demand great prudence and statesmanship of the highest order.

This is a time demanding sober judgment rather than inflationary spending financed through incurring vast debts to mortgage future generations.

Summarized briefly, the position of the Michigan Farm Bureau relative to highways and highway finance is as follows:

1. Highways should be built and maintained through funds raised by the motorists and by-and-large, they are willing to pay for the privilege of riding on good roads.
2. We would support a gas tax at the rate of 5c per gallon or even higher if the need therefor can be demonstrated.
3. In any stepped-up program of highway construction, equitable consideration should be given to all types of roads, including state trunk lines, county primary roads, county local roads and municipal streets.
4. A "pay-as-you-go" program for highway construction and maintenance is sound and most desirable because the public always secures the most value for

(Continued on Page 8)

AFBF Directors Meet with President



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the American Farm Bureau Federation visited with President Eisenhower January 18 and presented a copy of the 1955 AFBF policies dealing with national and international issues to Mr. Eisenhower. Matters discussed with the President included expansion of foreign trade, extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreement program, Farm Bureau support for variable farm price supports, and the use of money and credit policies to stabilize the general price level. In center of group—President Eisenhower and AFBF President Charles B. Shuman.

Financial Headaches at Capitol

STANLEY M. POWELL Legislative Counsel for MFB

Financial headaches for the State of Michigan and its taxpayers are building up as a result of developments under the capitol dome at Lansing.

Messages to the Legislature by Governor Williams, advocate (1) a \$500,000,000 bond issue for highways, (2) another substantial bond issue for new school construction, (3) drastic increases for state-aid for school operation and (4) an all-time high budget for the operation of state departments, institutions and agencies. A proposal for a state bond issue for school facilities in the amount of \$200,000,000 has been introduced.

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84th Congress Gets Flood Of Bills

DAN E. REED
MFB Legislative Dept

The 84th Congress started with a flood of new legislative proposals, some of which have a direct effect upon agriculture. Up to January 14, almost 2,500 bills had been introduced in the House and about 350 in the Senate.

Bills referred to the House and Senate Agriculture Committees include a number to fix the support price level for the basic commodities at 90 percent of parity and to raise the support price for dairy products to 85 percent of parity.

Numerous bills were introduced to increase old-age security benefits, to reduce the age of eligibility, to increase earning limitations, and to broaden the coverage for professional people.

Long-time opponents of farmer cooperatives also have been active. Rep. Noah Mason, Illinois Republican, has introduced one of his perennial favorites—to transfer anti-trust determinations respecting farmer cooperatives from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Department of Justice; and Rep. Cliff Davis, Tennessee Democrat, has dusted off his bill to tax margins of farmer cooperatives in the hands

of the cooperatives, with tax credits to the patrons.

After this money had been spent, the situation would be different. Referring to that problem, the Governor said, "That is a bridge we can cross when we come to it."

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He advocated a minimum salary of \$4,000 for each fully certified, degree teacher in our public schools, a \$3,000 minimum salary for each non-degree teacher and an appropriate penalty in school-aid schools where these standards are not met.

Mr. Williams advocated legislation to eliminate closed school districts by attaching them to nearby districts. He advocated the elimination of reimbursement by the state, for non-resident tuition payments, to the sending district. He declared, "The district in which the children live should be responsible for all school costs including operating and capital costs. Under the present formula, state-aid for tuition payments to school districts discourages the reorgan-

Deer Control Problem Was Created by Man

DAN E. REED
MFB Legislative Dept

in recent years did not result from letting Nature take its course. It was caused by the activities of man.

"Deer were scarce in the virgin forests because there was little brush land to produce deer food. The lumberman cut the big trees, created brush land, and the deer herd grew rapidly. Continued deforestation, uncontrolled fires, and year-round market hunting reduced deer numbers to a low around 1900. Better forest fire protection and more effective legal protection built up the herd to a high of one-million deer about 1940. However, by 1930 the young forests were beginning to grow out of reach of deer that already were too numerous in certain areas for the amount of winter food.

"Under the one-buck law, hunters took every year only 10 percent of a herd that increased 25 to 30 percent. The surplus deer used up the winter food reserves, and mass starvation occurred. Starvation has killed 50,000 or more deer in a single winter. Under-nourishment cuts down the fawn production rate, weight, antler development, and general vigor of the deer that survive. Ninety per cent of the starvation losses are fawns that never

reach that Michigan has enjoyed

of the cooperatives, with tax credits to the patrons.

ization of school districts." He further urged that state-aid for transportation should be at the rate of 2/3 of the actual cost instead of 100%, as at present.

In the field of higher education, the Governor outlined a capital outlay program for colleges amounting to \$25,000,000 annually for the next six years. He further recommended that the operating budget for state-supporting colleges be granted an increase of \$6,000,000 for the coming year. He favored using \$1,500,000 of school-aid funds for driver education.

Over a hundred bills and proposed Constitutional Amendments have already been introduced by various Senators and Representatives. Committees have been appointed and both branches of the Legislature are fully organized to transact business.

One of the first pieces of major legislation which is making substantial progress through the legislative machinery is S-1016 which provides for payment of the Korean War Bonus. A Constitutional Amendment authorizing an \$80,000,000 bond issue for that purpose was approved by Michigan voters last November.

In view of the unprecedented demands for state funds, it is going to be interesting to see what happens to S-1012 which would remove the expiration date from the Business Receipts Tax. The law providing for this new levy was passed during the 1953 session and provided that the tax would terminate on March 15, 1955.

As one veteran lawmaker observed, "Nothing is more permanent than a temporary tax."

If this tax is not continued, it appears that the State General Fund would soon be in the red unless some other new method of providing state revenue is enacted.

A Michigan Seal of Quality Bill has been introduced once more. This is a program advocated for years by Governor Williams. In former sessions, it has always been introduced by Democrats and has never emerged from committee. However, the 1955 version of the bill, H-27, is sponsored by Representative George A. Gillespie of Gaines and four other Republicans and three Democrats. This legislation is intended to be of benefit, both to the producers of high-quality agricultural products and as a protection to consumers.

The various measures, as they appear, are being carefully studied by staff members of the Public Affairs Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau. In general, the policy and program of the organization is determined by the resolutions adopted by the voting delegates last November and at previous state conventions of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

The Legislative Committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau was in session January 25, reviewing the legislative situation and measures introduced up to that time. They made various recommendations which were submitted to the board of directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau for consideration and action at the regular Board Meeting held on January 26. This is the procedure by which the elected board members carry on their part of the program of P. X., that is policy execution, in the Farm Bureau.

Tar, 41 Tons, Part of Roof Of FB Building

The roofing contractors are busy fabricating the roof on the new Farm Bureau office building now under construction on US-16, west of Lansing. This is no small project when you consider the area and material involved.

The roof itself includes an area of more than an acre. The material to be used includes nearly 11 miles of 15-lb. roofing felt, 46,500 square feet of roof deck, 94 yards of gravel and 41 tons of tar. The entire roof will be constructed in the unbelievable short time of 1280 man hours.

The building when completed will have a total floor area of 45,600 square feet with ceilings 10 feet high. To give some idea of the overall size, it would be possible to store 364,800 bu. of wheat or 240,000 bu. of ear corn in the structure. The new one story structure should be ready for occupancy about April 1, 1955, unless there is some delay.

DESIGN FOR SPACE

The effect of space in our homes can be created by the use of glass, mirrors, partitions and walls which aren't ceiling height, and built-in furniture and appliances.

Cheboygan, Bay, Livingston Lead

Fifteen County Farm Bureaus Have Reached or Surpassed their Goals for 1955; Roll Call Work Continues

NORWOOD EASTMAN
Manager of Member Service Division, Michigan Farm Bureau

The Michigan Farm Bureau membership for 1955 stood at 61,685 on January 25. This is 93 percent of the goal of 65,918.

Roll call work continues and it is expected that the remainder of the campaign will be completed in a short time. As in the past, a considerable number of renewals and new memberships will come during the winter months. Last year nearly 3,000 were received after the close of the campaign.

We have 5,900 families who became new members of the Farm Bureau in 1955.

What is needed now is a personal call on several thousand old members throughout the state who have not yet renewed for 1955. Some 55,000 members paid their 1955 dues by mail!

All of this is a great tribute to the enthusiasm and work of the membership organizations of 63 County Farm Bureaus. We thank them in behalf of all our members.

Cheboygan county has retained the trophy it won a year ago by reporting the highest percentage of goal to the state office by January 17. Cheboygan reported 347 members or 121.32 percent of its goal of 286.

Bay county won second place trophy with 1,824 members for 120.79 percent of its goal of 1,510.

Livingston county took third place trophy with 1,438 members for 120.73 percent of its goal of 1,191. Observe how close this race was!

Other County Farm Bureaus over their membership goals are Benzie, Tuscola, Alcona, Montmorency, St. Joseph, Branch, Washtenaw, Monroe, VanBuren, Missaukee, Saginaw and Berrien.

Complete county standings as of January 25 are:

County	Members		1955 Goal	Pct. of Goal
	Jan. 20	1955		
Cheboygan	347	286	121	121
Bay	1824	1510	120	120
Livingston	1438	1191	120	120
Benzie	260	230	113	113
Tuscola	2060	1871	110	110
Alcona	397	361	109	109
Montmorency	201	186	108	108
St. Joseph	1174	1094	107	107
Branch	1782	1691	105	105
Washtenaw	1704	1620	105	105
Monroe	1302	1318	103	103
Van Buren	1986	1933	102	102
Missaukee	464	456	101	101
Saginaw	2269	2251	100	100
Berrien	2412	2387	100	100
Sanilac	2100	2138	98	98
Ogemaw	381	388	98	98
Alpena	580	592	97	97
Lapeer	1581	1618	97	97
Gladwin	399	413	96	96
Presque Isle	452	470	96	96
Calhoun	1470	1544	95	95
Genesee	1419	1491	95	95
Kalamazoo	1145	1212	94	94
N. W. Michigan	1000	1065	93	93
Huron	1861	1997	93	93
Arenac	393	425	92	92
Ingham	1071	1171	91	91
Ionia	1178	1302	90	90
Isabella	1078	1206	89	89
Mecosta	746	837	89	89
Gratiot	1319	1497	88	88
Oakland	1008	1145	88	88
Antrim	413	475	86	86
Ocean	660	765	86	86
Barry	1076	1255	85	85
Allegan	1652	2161	85	85
Ottawa	1338	1567	85	85
Kent	1352	1600	84	84
Macomb	984	1162	84	84
Hillsdale	1304	1549	84	84
Clinton	1326	1592	83	83
St. Clair	1209	1460	82	82
Eaton	1223	1487	82	82
Osceola	563	687	81	81
Charlevoix	309	393	80	80
Manistee	234	291	80	80
Muskegon	422	526	80	80
Iosco	184	231	79	79
Mason	526	661	79	79
Lenawee	1305	1643	79	79
Shiawassee	939	1187	79	79
Midland	487	621	78	78
Wayne	486	595	78	78
Kalkaska	77	102	75	75
Montcalm	840	1130	74	74
Emmet	229	309	74	74
Newaygo	528	738	71	71
Jackson	809	1154	70	70
Wexford	203	300	67	67
Oshtemo	578	974	59	59
Otsego	77	134	57	57
Clare	106	200	53	53
State Totals	60,480	65,918	93	93

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PURPOSE OF FARM BUREAU
 The purpose of this Association shall be the advancement of our members' interests educationally, legislatively, and economically.

HIRAM and MARTHA
 S. CLARK

The Old La Grippe

I call to mind the old La Grippe, the scourge of winters past. That laid us on our several backs about to breathe our last. That stuffed our several noses up or made them freely run With chills and fevers taking turns from aching sun to sun.

The old La Grippe, as I recall, was quite a common thing. It took its toll from one and all to hail approaching Spring. We wore a stocking round our neck when we retired to bed. We snuffed salt water up our nose to clear our bursting head.

We guzzled quarts of catnip tea, at Mother's kind insistence. And wore a reeking fetty bag to bolster our resistance. We fought the demon tooth and nail in hopes this spring to skip But many times our hope would fail and we would catch La Grippe.

Oh that was in pre-sulpha times before the healing art Gave penicillin to the world or mycins got their start. Before the anti-histamines, before the shot-a-week. Before the burbling advent of the modern health technique.

Today I get my feet wet and it's just like long ago But this thing is not called the same. A virus lays me low. It is not of the simple sort that quinine can allay But a potent modern virus for a vital modern day.

So I must take a course of pills and stay in bed a lot. The Doctor mumbles in his beard, the nurse shoots in a shot. And all the while my head is stuffed, my nose elects to drip And they call the thing a virus but it's just the old La Grippe.

R. S. Clark
 315 North Grinnell Street
 Jackson, Michigan

IBM Computing Machines Take Over Cow Testing Records



HERE'S THE WAY IBM machines work: The records are punched into cards that fit an International Business Machine tabulator as shown above. Cards that MSC Dairyman Alvin Thelen feeds the machine are tabulated on one sheet. The electrical calculator can quickly produce complete records from the cards on individual cows, herds and Associations.

KEATS VINING
Agricultural Writer
 Monthly and annual production records for nearly 15,000 cows in about a third of the state's Dairy Herd Improvement Ass'n are being checked and recorded on International Business Machines at Michigan State College.

In May of 1953 owners of 14 herds in five counties started a trial run for a year on the machine tabulating plan. It was a successful operation. Owners liked the method.

Seven of the ten herd owners who completed the pioneer operation are Farm Bureau members. They are:

Barry county—George Clouse of Hastings, Karl Eckart of Lake Odessa, Lloyd Gaskill of Hastings, Oscar Kaechele of Middleville.

Ingham county—Kenneth Kurtz of Lansing R-2, L. F. Niergarth of Okemos.

Kent county—Elton R. Smith of Caledonia.

Others who completed the pioneer operation are: Charles Sklenan and Roland Lott of Charlotte, and Richard Powers of Leslie.

The state association decided to start the work on October 1, 1954. A summary for the first month's work showed 14,872 cows in 662 herds in the new program. The records came from 50 association supervisors in 40 counties.

The machine work is done in the Tabulating Center at Michigan State College. The kinks are pretty well worked out, with reports coming from the association supervisors and back to the farmer with little delay.

Three copies are made. A white copy goes to the herd owner. A yellow copy is kept in the tabulating office. The third copy or the barn sheet is returned to the herd owner with his white copy. The barn sheet is blank except for the names of the cows in the herd. It is ready for the supervisor when he makes his next regular visit. The farmer's white sheet fits into his regular herd book.

No supervisors reports are in the tabulating office more than eight days. Right now all tabulating work is done on Wednesdays. As more herds are added, another day's work might be arranged.

But there is more work than just the tabulating work each month. There are three cards made before the work starts.

The first card is a permanent cow identification card. This has such information as the county number, herd number, control number, barn name or number, registration number if a pure bred animal, whether bred naturally or artificially. Also sire or dam identification.

Another card is the current cow identification card reported each time the cow calves. Along with information about the cow, there is calf information.

The third card is the individual cow 305 day lactation card. This card, besides having information that is on the other cards, contains production information, feed fed, and data about feed costs, returns and the like. On the completion of a 305 day lactation period, this card is returned to the farmer. The information on the card is transferred to the individual cow record book by the association supervisor. If a cow milks beyond the 305 day period, the record is continued until the cow is dry.

The Tabulating Center has made up cards on all cows in Michigan DHIA, whether in the

(Continued on Page 8)

Community Farm Bureaus

WESLEY S. HAWLEY
 Coordinator of Community Farm Bureaus for MFB

Dear Community Farm Bureau Members:

As I was reading the minutes of the Star Award groups today, I was thrilled. These minutes certainly reveal something very interesting and vital in the life of the participating members. One can just picture the folks in any one of these communities making Farm Bureau really meaningful in their lives.

Certainly there was a maximum of participation on the part of the members and manifestation of effective leadership. The many things that were being worked on by the members would most assuredly make for this purpose.

Then, how about thinking of ways you could make your Community Farm Bureau a real potent effective force in your community? Much depends on you, the members, in making the Community Farm Bureau just such a force. Your part in all of this is portrayed very well in the following verse:

Good Members Are the Secret
 If we're going to have a Farm Bureau,
 It's true, you can bet your boots,
 We must bring together our members
 Right at the very grass roots!

We cannot hope for strong unity. As a farmer voice that is true, Unless we bring in the community And see the importance of YOU.

Farm Bureau was made so that farmers Could have a strong voice in affairs.
 We must muster our folks in Community Groups
 If we get to the head of the stairs.

You are the root of the problem. You are the Captain and Crew. So give your best to your meeting—
 The Key to the program is YOU!

Certainly there must be more You in community if we are to realize the maximum of community betterment and better living in our many rural communities in Michigan.

100% Participation Award. It has been called to our attention that the Chemung Community group of Livingston County earned a 100% Participation Award for their past year's activities. They were omitted from our listing of group winners in the last issue of the paper. The Secretary of this group is Edward Fritch. Our apologies!

STAR AWARDS FOR DECEMBER

Gold:
 Alpena county—Leer Community Farm Bureau, Mrs. Alma Wong, secretary.
 Genesee county—Gaines, Mrs. Bertha Slocum, secy.
 Hillsdale—Allen No. 1, Anna Watts, secy.
 Kalamazoo—County Center, Mrs. Rupert Smith, secy.

Silver:
 Presque Isle—Ocequoc, Mrs. Gordon C. Merchant, secy.

TOTAL COMMUNITY GROUPS
 A total of 1,385 community groups have been reported to the state office. Of this total, 42 are newly-organized groups.

"Legal Use of Farm Commercial License Plates" is the Discussion Topic for February.

Can you spot the BIG LOSER on this scorecard?

TRANSPORTATION SCORECARD

	RAILROADS	INTERCITY TRUCKS	INLAND WATERWAY CARRIERS	AIRLINES	INTER-STATE BUSES
Does carrier build and maintain the "roadway" which it uses?	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Does carrier pay property taxes on its "roadway" for support of the general services of government?	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Does carrier meet all its true costs instead of being helped by tax money?	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Is carrier compelled to maintain routes and services which do not pay their own way?	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Are carrier's rates regulated by government agencies?	YES	SEE NOTE #1	SEE NOTE #2	SEE NOTE #3	YES

#1. Any mail-carrying commercial airline which operates at a loss receives additional Federal subsidy to cover its deficit.
 #2. Only 38% of inland water transportation is regulated, in part by the Interstate Commerce Commission.
 #3. Only 12% of inland water transportation is regulated to some extent. Water carriers enjoy special protection from railroad competition.

Look closely—it's YOU!

Nat'l Council Farm Cooperatives

Most of the things you enjoy in your daily life—your home, your car, your clothes, the food you eat—are available to you in such quantity because America enjoys the world's greatest system of mass transportation. And the better that system works, the better for you.

And yet, railroads are subject to such laws and regulations, both in their rates and in their services, that they are not allowed to compete with other forms of transportation on an equal basis.

This costs you money in two ways—in higher taxes and in higher real costs of transportation.

You can help get lower real costs—and lower taxes, too—by supporting measures, state and national, which will put all forms of transportation on an equal basis—and which will give America's railroads freedom to compete.

J. F. YAEGER was elected a director of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives at the 26th annual meeting at Chicago January 8. He is one of the directors representing purchasing

Marjoram
 When you see the herb, marjoram, on your grocer's spice shelf, do you wonder what it's used for? Marjoram is of the mint family imported from France and Chile. The leaf is used with other herbs in stews, soups, sausage, poultry seasonings and in fish and sauce recipes. For a different flavor touch, sprinkle marjoram over lamb while it is cooking.

Deer Control Problem Man Made
 (Continued from page 1)
 get a chance to become legal targets.

"Michigan forests no longer have food enough for one-million deer. However, by maintaining a smaller but healthier and more productive herd, hunters can continue to harvest just as many or perhaps even more deer, but some of those deer will have to be does and fawns."

Place a clear glass over your open cookbook; this will keep your place and protect the book, too.

Storing Eggs
 When you cook eggs, M.S.C. home economists suggest using low heat to insure the best flavor and texture. Fast cooking tends to make eggs tough and leathery.

Cooking Eggs
 When you cook eggs, M.S.C. home economists suggest using low heat to insure the best flavor and texture. Fast cooking tends to make eggs tough and leathery.

Storing Eggs
 Store eggs as you would milk—in a refrigerator. Don't let them stand in a warm car or at room temperature. Keep eggs clean, cool and covered.
 Buy Farm Bureau Feed.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified advertisements are cash with order at the following rates: 10 cents per word for one edition. Ads to appear in two or more editions take the rate of 8 cents per word edition. These rates based on guarantee of 60,000 or more subscribers. They are members of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

LIVESTOCK
MILKING SHORTHORNS—Buy your next pair from Michigan's Premier Herd. Bull calves and yearlings. Also females. We are headquarters for registered Shropshire Sheep. Stanley M. Powell, Ingleside Farm, Ionia R-1, Michigan. (3-15-228)

LANDRACE BRID SOW SALE
 Saturday, February 19, 1:00 p. m. Registered sows bred to imported Scandinavian pure bred Landrace boars. Nationally recognized team most low Tree Farm, Noblesville, Indiana. (2-11-323)

SALESMEN WANTED
 MAKE \$75 AND UP every week. Full or part time. Take orders for America's largest selling, nationally advertised LIQUID FERTILIZER. Sold with Money-Back Guarantee. No investment. Write "Na-Churs," 437 Monroe St., Marion, Ohio. (10-61-338)

AGENTS WANTED
RUN A SPARE-TIME Greeting Card and Gift Shop at home. Show friends samples of all our new 1955 All-Occasion Greeting Cards and Gifts. Take their orders and earn up to 100% profit. No experience necessary. Costs nothing to try. Write today for plans, price on approval. Regal Greetings, Dept. 91, Ferndale, Michigan. (2-11-426)

FOR SALE
PINKING SHEARS—Only \$1.95 postpaid. Chromium plated, precision made. Manufacturer's Christmas overstock. Guaranteed \$7.95 value or money refunded. Order by mail, Lincoln Surtis Sales, 1704 West Farwell Ave., Chicago 26, Illinois. (10-11-308)

FOR SALE—Clover hay, wire tied. 7 1/2 miles east of Jackson, 9673 Ann Arbor Road, J. W. Knight, Grass Lake, Michigan. (2-21-182)

E-Z-WAY Family Budget Book. A complete and simplified system when properly kept. It has 52 weekly record accounting sheets in the book. Each sheet represents one week and it has a check to account for bills you pay by the month. Money-back guaranteed. \$1.00 postpaid. Send to E-Z-Way Family Budget, Box 24, Decatur, Michigan. (2-21-622)

TRACTOR PARTS
TERRIFIC BARGAINS. NEW and used tractor parts, tractor tires. Prompt shipment. Free 1955 catalog. Acme Tractor Supply Company, 1641 North 14th St., Lincoln, Nebraska. (1-21-206)

FARM WANTED
WANTED—To rent, 5 to 10 acre farm. Will pay rent on yearly basis, or remodel and do general repairs for rent. Clio H. Campbell, Jerome Street, Lansing, Michigan. (2-11-526)

WOMEN
EMBROIDER STAMPED LINENS. Buy direct from manufacturer and save. Send for Free catalog. MERIBEE, Dept. 675, 22 West 81st Street, New York 10, N. Y. (1-21-246)

GOOD MONEY in Weaving. Weave purs at home for neighbors on \$69.50 Union Loom. Thousands doing it. Union Looms, 174 Post Street, Boonville, New York. (2-11-246)

WANTED TO BUY
WATCHES WANTED. Any condition. Also broken jewelry, spectacles, dental gold, diamonds, silver. Cash sent promptly. Mail articles. Satisfaction guaranteed. Lowe's, Holland Building, St. Louis 1, Missouri. (2-21-248)

WHITE LEGHORNS
TOWNLIN White Leghorns bred to fulfill your complete need for replacement and production. 41st year, 28 years ROP and Progeny Testing Program under Michigan ROP. Poultry bred for the job of making money for you. Bred for High Production, Excellent Egg Quality, Good Body Size, High Laying House Livability. This year get your Leghorn chicks direct from the Breeder, Strain Cross No. 30, U. S. R. O. White Rocks, Michigan. U. S. Approved—Pullover Clean. Free Catalog explains fully the story of Townline Chicks—Write Today: TOWNLIN POULTRY FARM, Box 55-F, Zeeland, Michigan. (11-61-888)

INTRODUCING "EGG-NICK" LEGHORNS. The answer to poultry profits in today's competitive market. Investigate now. Janssen Farms, Box MP-130, Zeeland, Michigan. (2-11-211)

BABY CHICKS
SENSATIONAL VALUE! Assorted Heavy Chicks, \$5.99—100 postpaid! Positive U. S. Leghorns! No repellent! No Culls! Our choice of pullets, cockerels, or unsexed. Live Delivery! Send check or money order. We pay postage. Brokers. Shipped from nearest hatchery. In business over 25 years. Atlas Chick Co., 2651 Chouteau, C-56, St. Louis 2, Missouri. (2-31-604)

BROWN'S SUPER-BRED Partheno, Rhode Island Red, Babcock World Record Strain of White Leghorns. Holtzapfe White Rocks, U. S. Approved, U. S. Pullover and Topknot Clean. Brown's Hatchery, Coopersville, Michigan. (2-21-622)

WHITE ROCKS
POULTRYMEN! Win \$1,000 in \$3,000 Cash Prize! Free information on Holtzapfe White Rocks. Details Free. Janssen Farms, Box MP-200, Zeeland, Michigan. (2-11-232)

TURKEY POULTS
JANSSEN TURKEYS are REALLY BROADBREASTED! Mature faster on less food. Bigger profits. Literature free. Janssen Farms, Box MP-160, Zeeland, Michigan. (2-11-308)

POULTRY EQUIPMENT
POULTRY FEEDERS. Automatic Chain Type. Chick Brooders. Egg Washers. Literature free. Write: Ottawa-Hitch, Box 321, Holland, Michigan.

MAPLE SYRUP SUPPLIES
KING EVAPORATORS for all sizes of sugar bushes. Also all repair parts. Write for prices and literature. Order early. Be sure. Be ready for spring syrup making. Sugar Bush Supplies Company, P.O. Box 197, Lansing 4, Michigan. (M-43 at 4105 West Saginaw street, just west of Lansing and Weyerly golf course.) (1-11-322)

FOR SALE—400 good galvanized 12-quart sap buckets. Write Wilbur Vos, Jenison, R-2, Michigan. (2-11-156) SBSC.

MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCERS
FOR SALE—English Tin KING Evaporator, 36 inches wide by 10 feet long, for 500 to 700 buckets. Used two seasons. 600 fourteen-quart buckets, covers and spouts. Write Bernal E. Burke, Branch, Michigan. (2-11-308)

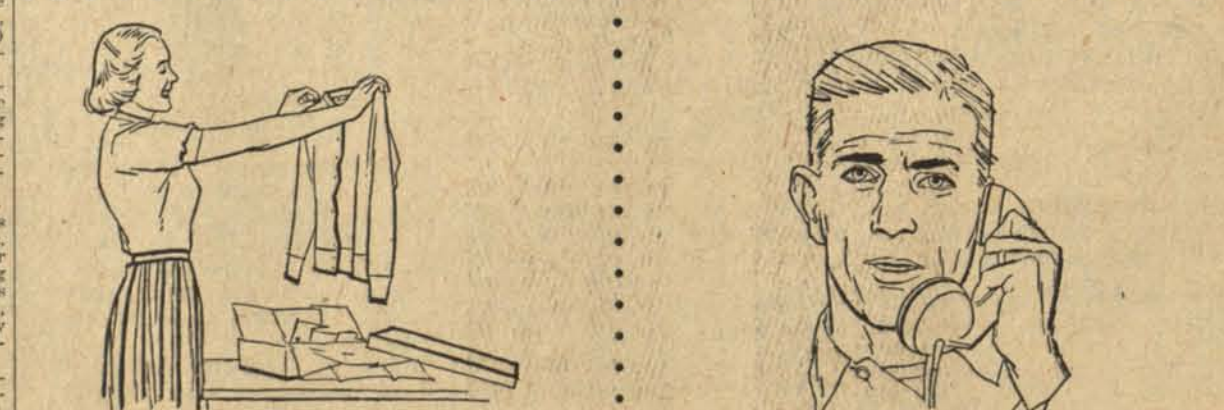
BARN EQUIPMENT
GUTTER-PLOW Barn Cleaner. 4-Plow self reversing. Low cost, easily installed. Literature. Write: Ottawa-Hitch, Box 321, Holland, Michigan. (2-21)

MILK HOUSE EQUIPMENT
ZERO T-20 MILK TANKS. No-lift, suction loading from pails. Literature free. Write: Ottawa-Hitch, Box 321, Holland, Michigan. (2-21)



FARM FACTS
 from MICHIGAN BELL

Sow Care Pays Off
 The kind of spring pigs the farmer raises depends a lot on the kind of winter care he gives his brood sows. Michigan State swine specialists have this advice: The average sow should gain from 75 to 100 pounds during the gestation period. Go easy on corn but use plenty of oats, alfalfa and supplement. The supplement should contain at least 20 per cent animal protein. A good ration combined with dry, clean, well-bedded housing will pay dividends in the form of strong, vigorous pigs at farrowing time.



Sweaters Made of Corn Fiber
 Vicara, a new fiber for sweaters, is made from protein found in the kernel of corn. It's usually blended with wool, or wool and nylon, to make sweaters soft and firm. It may be more durable and more resistant to wrinkles and mildew. Although it's more resistant to moths, they sometimes eat through the vicara and nylon to get at the wool. Michigan State College home economists say vicara needs the same protection against moths as an all-wool sweater. Wash with care; the fabric is weakened when wet.

Help Is a Few Words Away
 Just a few words spoken into your telephone can bring a doctor or fire fighters or advice in an emergency, when minutes count. And the wonderful thing about this dependable ally is that it is on duty 24 hours a day, every day. We hope you may never have to make an emergency call. Yet knowing that your telephone is near—"just in case"—surely means a lot. That's one reason why your telephone is worth a lot more than it costs.

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY



Swift Reports On Its Services To Agriculture In '54

On the rural routes of America live the producers of our nation's food supply . . . along the city, town and village streets live the people who depend on the food that farmers and ranchers produce.

Most of these consumers aren't able to come directly to your farm or ranch . . . neither can the retail dealers. That's why companies such as Swift have a job to do . . . to process and distribute what you produce.

The services we perform help provide a market for your livestock and other agricultural products. And,

the better job we can do in selling and distributing our products, the better market we can provide for you. Consumers living a thousand miles or more from your farm or ranch, become your customers.

Every year we do business with millions of people, both producers and those who buy our products. Our total sales in 1954 amounted to \$2,510,804,805. Net profit was \$19,050,891. The report below shows what happened to the money received from sales.

You'll also notice that our earnings per average dol-

lar of sales were 8/10ths cents. This small profit was used in two ways . . . part was paid to the 65,000 shareholders, a good number of them farmers and ranchers . . . the remaining profit is being retained in the business for future needs.



A. L. Bruckner
A. L. BRUCKNER
TREASURER, SWIFT & COMPANY

Here's what happened to the Swift sales dollar

For all "raw materials"—from your farms and ranches, and other sources, we paid out \$1,838,648,919 last year. Only a small part of that money may be profit for producers, just as only a small part of Swift's total sales may be profit for us. From the average Swift sales dollar, during the year of 1954, we paid out for livestock and other agricultural products. . . . **73.2 cents**

For labor in 1954 we paid out \$328,446,934. As in your business, labor costs are an important item with us. Swift's organization of 78,000 men and women processes and markets the products we buy from you. Out of the average sales dollar, Swift employees received. . . . **13.1 cents**

For supplies we paid out last year \$125,225,094. This includes a wide variety of necessary items . . . fuel, electricity, containers, spices, sugar, salt (6 million dollars' worth of salt in a year), etc. The cost for supplies, per average sales dollar, in 1954, was . . . **5 cents**

For transportation we paid out \$66,435,539 last year. Products must be moved—often great distances—to match the supply with demand. Our transportation costs for 1954, per average Swift sales dollar, were . . . **2.6 cents**

For taxes—federal, state, local, including unemployment insurance and old age benefit taxes—we paid out last year \$33,234,696. Taxes are a large part of our cost

of doing business these days. Our total tax bill was actually greater than our net profit. Out of the average Swift sales dollar for 1954, taxes were . . . **1.3 cents**

For other expenses in 1954 we paid out \$99,762,732. These are necessary business costs not classified above . . . interest on borrowed money, depreciation, telephone and telegraph bills, rent and advertising. From the average Swift sales dollar, these costs were . . . **4 cents**

Net earnings in 1954 were \$19,050,891. This was used in two ways—for future business needs and dividends to shareholders. Net earnings per average sales dollar . . . **8/10 cent**

What About the Driver Without Insurance?

Especially if He Has an Accident

NILE E. VERMILLION
Manager of Farm Bureau Insurance Companies

The present Michigan financial responsibility law requires surrender of driving privileges after an accident if the driver does not post security or insurance to cover the damages.

The assigned risk pool provides a source of insurance for the driver who is a poor risk.

In spite of these provisions of the law and the voluntary cooperation of companies, there are substantial numbers of cars being driven without insurance, and there is an occasional innocent victim who is left with no recovery of damages.

The public is insisting on some solution for these innocent victims. Compulsory insurance is the most obvious, but it is also the most dangerous.

Insurance companies have successfully resisted enactment of compulsory insurance laws in every state but Massachusetts. Today auto rates are a political football in Massachusetts.

It is felt that compulsory insurance administered by the state, as it is in Massachusetts, would inevitably deprive all companies, stock or mutual, bureau or independent, of their freedom of action, and result in arbitrary rates determined not by territorial frequency and severity of accidents, but rather by the political opportunism of those who have political futures at stake. For example, a minority group like farmers might be at the mercy of a dominant labor party, which in turn would favor urban interests against rural.

At issue in this problem is the right of the motoring public under a free enterprise system to buy a competitive product at a competitive price from any one of its choice of competing companies. The question of regimenting insurance companies is something akin to that of regimenting farmers. The price we will have to pay for compulsory auto insurance may be too much.

Of course, these comments on compulsory insurance would be no answer unless we have some better solution. As a matter of fact, a number of other solutions have been suggested, and some of them are being tried out.

One of these plans goes under the name of the "unsatisfied judgment fund." A state fund is created by an additional tax paid when the motorist applies for his license plates. If he is later injured in an accident and cannot recover his damages he may make application to the fund for partial restitution.

The extra tax to be charged will depend on the experience the fund has with claims. As a necessary part of this plan any uninsured car involved in an accident must be impounded until the owner pays off, and the guilty driver deprived of driving privileges.

A variation of this plan proposes to create the fund by a levy against the insurance companies on a pro rata basis.

Still another variation is to make payment to the fund by the motorist voluntary, so that if he does not pay the extra tax he can not seek recovery from the fund.

In either case the cost of protecting against the uninsured motorist is borne by the motorist who was prudent enough to insure himself.

The unsatisfied judgment fund is in operation in two Canadian provinces and in the state of New Jersey. Results are inconclusive

because they are too new.

The most recent proposal is one developed by the insurance industry to solve the problem and preserve free enterprise. It goes under the title of "unsatisfied judgment insurance." An endorsement is added to your auto policy promising to reimburse you for your injury if you are unable to collect a judgment against the guilty party. An additional premium is charged for this coverage, and it is a matter of choice with the policyholder.

There are a number of variations to the plan. In California steps are being taken to require this coverage by law, and have the extra premium or some levy against the insurance companies paid into a fund administered by a state agency. In some cases the amount of recovery is limited. In some there is no coverage for property damage. Some companies propose to give the coverage with no extra premium.

The unsatisfied judgment insurance idea has caught on and more companies are experimenting with it. There are a lot of pitfalls and dangers in it for the insurance companies, but time and experience will indicate the wisdom of this approach. The public is not generally aware of it as yet, and consequently there is no "demand" for it. Likewise there is

Junk in Corn Damages Feed Mills



METAL OBJECTS AND STONES left in farm truck boxes before loading with corn or grain cause a lot of damage to corn shellers and feed mixers. Employees of Farm Bureau Services at Kalamazoo collected the above odds and ends from a series of troubles that cost about \$700 for repairs. The screen at the left shows what happens. Things that have been found in grain for grinding—sometimes too late—include a trailer hitch, grease guns, various bits of scrap metal, bolts, pins, tools and any amount of stones. How do they get into the grain? Probably in the wagon box or truck and overlooked when the farmer begins to fill it with corn or grain.

no creditable experience from which an estimate of results can be predicted.

It can be said in favor of this latter plan that as more companies make it available, the motoring public will have available a means of protecting itself against the uninsured motorist, and against the hit-and-run driver, without turning the insurance industry over to the government to operate.

Our own Farm Bureau Insurance company and the other Michigan companies are studying this new development carefully. It is a situation which can use a lot of cooperation between companies, because no one knows all of the answers yet. The industry has a sincere desire to meet the needs of the public. At the same time, the industry is almost unanimous in its fears about compulsory insurance, with its implications of costly political manipulations.

It should be pointed out that compulsory insurance laws were introduced in over half of the state legislatures that met in 1953-1954. None of these passed, except compulsory insurance for persons under age 21 in New York and Maryland.

Coupled with any legislation to control the uninsured motorist should be stricter rules for revoking drivers' licenses and impounding vehicles where no financial responsibility is found. And, with it all, should be an aroused public feeling for more strict law enforcement. No law for the protection of the public is going to be effective unless it is impartially enforced. If you are caught with a hen pheasant, you know you are going to pay a stiff penalty. Human life is more important.

We have laws requiring financial responsibility of motorists, and a means for all but the very reckless to buy adequate insurance. Yet they do not all have it. Compulsory insurance would meet part of the need, but it is a dangerous extension of government.

Unsatisfied judgment funds are a better solution if they can be administered without prohibitive cost. Unsatisfied judgment insurance can be an ideal solution when it is worked out to the satisfaction of the public. It can be provided by voluntary action of the companies or it can be set up by statute, as has been proposed in California.

There is no plan of guaranteeing payment of losses which will not cost the insuring public something either in the form of premiums or a special tax or fee. It would appear preferable that these costs be figured out scientifically.

(Continued on Page 7)

MFB Women's Committees in District 7

MRS. DALE ROOT

Barryton, District Chairman

Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committees in District 7 are busily engaged in planning this year's program. They are giving extra effort to increasing attendance at committee meetings. Five of the counties were represented at the State institute in January.

The counties all get reports each month from their legislative chairman and from the United Nations, Safety, Health, Citizenship and International Relations reporters.

Chairman Mrs. Root has a new Mission, Mrs. Harold Fitch of Ludington. The Women's Committee and the Board of Directors are meeting together for a cooperative dinner during the winter months. The County Representative of the American Dairy Ass'n was the speaker at their January meeting and brought news about the Dairy Festival to be held Feb. 10-19. The Women's Committee also gave Christmas packages to persons in their county who otherwise would not have been remembered.

Mecosta county Women's Committee served the kick-off dinner for the roll call workers. The January meeting was open to all Farm Bureau Women in the county. Mrs. Thomas Hahn gave a very interesting report from the American Farm Bureau convention in New York. A teacher from the Ferris Institute who is also a lawyer, Mr. Kelly, spoke on "Laws of Interest to Women."

Montcalm county Women's Committee held its annual Christmas party with a cooperative dinner at noon, and made cancer dressings for the county in the afternoon. Gifts were also sent by the Committee to the juvenile home and to the county infirmary.

Muskegon county Women's Committee also has a new chairman this year, Mrs. Arlan Hetzeman of Holt. This Committee compiled a booklet for each Farm Bureau member in the county. They were passed out at the annual meeting. These booklets contained the reports of the various committees.

The Committee held a Christmas party with a cooperative dinner at noon. Representatives of the Consumers Power Co. in Muskegon gave a very interesting and instructive demonstration on home lighting at a recent meeting.

Newaygo county Women's Committee is serving dinners for the various district meetings held in their county. They have had programs on Farm Bureau by Mrs. Karker, coordinator of Farm Bureau Women's Activities, and a program on schools and their problems by the county school superintendent.

Oceana county Women's Committee sponsored a Rural-Urban conference recently and invited representatives from all the urban groups in the county to attend. Mrs. Olson of Montcalm county gave her prize winning speech "Farm Bureau Builds a Better World." Also on the program were Mrs. Mark Newman who announces for a radio program, and Mrs. Johnson who gave a talk on household suggestions. There was a talk on nutrition by Mrs. Hull Yaeger. Mrs. Gilliland showed slides, "This is your County."

Osceola county, Mrs. Paul Sealhoff of Reed City is the new chairman. This committee has been working very hard to improve attendance and for the last few months has led the district in this respect. They enjoyed a wonderful turkey dinner at their Christmas party and have had some very interesting programs.

District 7 will hold the spring council meeting Feb. 24 in Fremont. They will plan the district meeting which will be held April 6.

Farm Leaders To Receive Ag Awards

Three more leaders in Michigan agriculture will receive Distinguished Service to Agriculture awards during Farmers' Week, Feb. 7-11, at Michigan State College. T. K. Cowden, M.S.C.'s dean of Agriculture, will present plaques.

To be honored are: Milton Grinnell, East Lansing, editor of Michigan Farmer; Waldo Phillips, De-

Should Buyers of Milk And Cream be Bonded?

DAN E. REED
Ass't Legis. Counsel, MFB

House Resolution No. 17, adopted by the 1954 session of the Michigan legislature with Farm Bureau support, set up an Interim Committee to "study the bonding of purchasers of milk and cream from producers." A report of the study by the Interim Committee will be available to the 1955 legislature.

At a meeting called December 16 by Representative George Gillespie of Genesee county, chairman, the following statement was filed by Michigan Farm Bureau:

For several years, Michigan Farm Bureau members have indicated their interest in the matter of providing some assurance, by bond or otherwise, for producers of dairy products that the buyers of these commodities are financially able to pay for their purchases.

In 1953, fourteen separate County Farm Bureau annual meetings considered this problem of sufficient importance to express themselves favorably. Resulting from this action, the approximately 600 voting delegates at the 1953 Michigan Farm Bureau Convention adopted the following resolution:

Financial Responsibility of Buyers of Livestock and Dairy Products
"Trade practices in the buying of livestock and dairy products have made farmers the financial underwriters of these businesses. In many instances, farmers supply much of the capital for these operations without payment until two to six weeks later. It is impractical for each farmer to constantly check on the financial standing of these businesses. Recent failures have involved many losses to individual farmers, running from hundreds through thousands of dollars.

"We recognize that we have a responsibility in pursuing sound marketing practices and do not expect to be guaranteed against the possibility of any loss. Other states, however, have found practical methods of requiring certain standards of responsibility. We ask support for such a program in Michigan."

Following the action by the legislature in the regular session of 1954 establishing this committee, this resolution was adopted at the 1954 Michigan Farm Bureau annual convention on November 11 and 12:

"We recommend Michigan lawmakers for their action in setting up an Interim Committee to study means by which farmers can be given some assurance of the financial responsibility of commercial buyers of dairy products.

"We favor action to require a bond or other evidence of financial responsibility as a prerequisite to the obtaining of a license to buy livestock and dairy products commercially."

Nearly every year has seen one or more failures of Michigan

creameries or milk plants which have been purchasing dairy products from producers. Compared to the total amount of dairy products marketed, the losses involved seem small. As is often the case, however, comparisons of this sort tell only part of the story. The failure of a dairy plant in a small community may be as devastating as a natural disaster, tornado, or an earthquake. The losses not only affect the farmers themselves, but local businessmen and others who look to the milk or cream check for the payment of bills due.

The nature of marketing practices in the dairying field tend to make the farmer a depositor in a financial institution. The farmer becomes the financial underwriter of the business operation with much of the operating capital of many plants being provided by the milk or cream deliveries which are not paid for until 10 days to perhaps a month after delivery.

It may be said that a farmer should satisfy himself that a credit standing of purchasers of dairy products before delivering his milk. It is, however, impractical to think that each farmer in a plant with a thousand or more patrons, might examine the books of the organization each week to see whether they reflect a currently-sound position. In this financial operation, a farmer daily deposits his milk products which may total hundreds or thousands of dollars in value by the end of the pay period.

Few operations in the business world deal with a similar situation and the seriousness of the problem is not wholly indicated by the number of failures. No one would suggest doing away with the Banking Commission simply because we have few bank failures. We are not suggesting that farmers all possible losses through financial failure but we do believe it to be practical to give producers reasonable assurance of financial stability and soundness of plants purchasing dairy products.

The plan which has been in operation in Wisconsin for several years seems to give such reasonable assurance. It seems that such a plan can be adapted to Michigan conditions. Under this plan there are three methods by which a milk or cream purchasing plant may qualify for financial approval: (1) by filing a financial statement which meets the approval of the examining authority; (2) by filing an adequate bond; (3) by depositing securities, cash, certificates of deposit, insurance policy assignments or other evidence of financial ability to pay, with the state authority.

If such a plan were to be put into operation in Michigan, we believe that the great majority of purchasers of dairy products could qualify simply by filing their financial statements. Only a small percentage, we believe, would find it necessary to file a bond or deposit securities.

Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its office, 507 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan on Tuesday, February 22, 1955, beginning at 1:30 p. m. for the following purposes:

- 1.—To receive reports from officers and management.
- 2.—To elect directors.
- 3.—To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

January 15, 1955
Lansing, Michigan

J. F. YAEGER
Secretary

catur, past president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, and Ernest W. Ruehs, Caledonia, Kent county Farm Bureau director and civic leader.

Mr. Ruehs is well known in western Michigan as one of the most progressive farm leaders and a top-notch farmer. He owns a 350-acre farm, 100 Guernseys and 1,000 hens. He is a Farm Bureau director and civic leader as well as president of the entire Grand River Valley Lutheran Laymen's League and a member of his Lutheran Church board.

Mr. Phillips is a former president of Van Buren County Farm Bureau and Master of the local and Pomona Granges. He helped organize the Michigan Elevator Exchange, has been a director for 34 years and is president now. He is chairman of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives. He has served a total of 151 years on various boards of directors and local and state offices.

Mr. Grinnell is well known throughout the state as the editor of Michigan Farmer. He began his editorial career in 1920 when he headed the Michigan Business Farmer before its merger with the Michigan Farmer. He previously worked as a commercial artist and cartoonist. He was born on a farm near Clare and attended Central Michigan College.

These awards were first started last year at Farmers' Week. Clark

Brody, executive vice-president of the Michigan Farm Bureau; John Strange of Grand Ledge; and George Bishop of Marquette were honored in 1954.

Milk Outlets Soft Drinks at MSC

A survey of the selling power of cold milk compared to soft carbonated beverages made at Michigan State College shows "nature's food drink" can more than hold its own.

Two milk vending machines and a soft drink machine are side-by-side in Agricultural Hall. During a recent month the milk machines sold 2,593 units of homogenized chocolate and white milk. The soft drink machine sold 2,112 units.

Milk comes in 10-ounce cardboard cartons at 10 cents each; the soft drink in 6-ounce bottles at 6 cents each. So ounce-for-ounce, the price is the same.

Milk has become a popular mid-morning or mid-afternoon "snack" for students, office workers and staff members.

OVERLOAD SPRINGS

\$995 For cars and trucks. Front and rear. Gives capacity for all 1/2, 3/4 and 1 ton trucks. 5,000 to 1,000 lbs. extra for all cars except Olds prior to '52 and State make, model. BRINKMAN MANUFACTURING CO. 2315 Clay Dept. 16-F Topeka, Kan.



OAT CROPS WILL THRIVE ... IN '55

WITH MICHIGAN CERTIFIED SEED

This year... you can enjoy a high yield return of top quality oats by planting Michigan Certified Seed Oats.

Field and bin tested for variety purity
Freedom from weed seed
disease resistance
good bushel weight
strong straws

Michigan Certified Seed Oats have proved their ability to perform productively under Michigan's soil and climate conditions.

Choose the Certified Oat Seed for your particular area from these reasonably priced varieties:

EATON—JACKSON (FOUNDATION)
CLINTON—CRAIG—BONHAM

For details on Michigan Certified Seed Oat varieties, write today for your free copy of the new, 14-page booklet... "Certified Crop Varieties for Michigan".

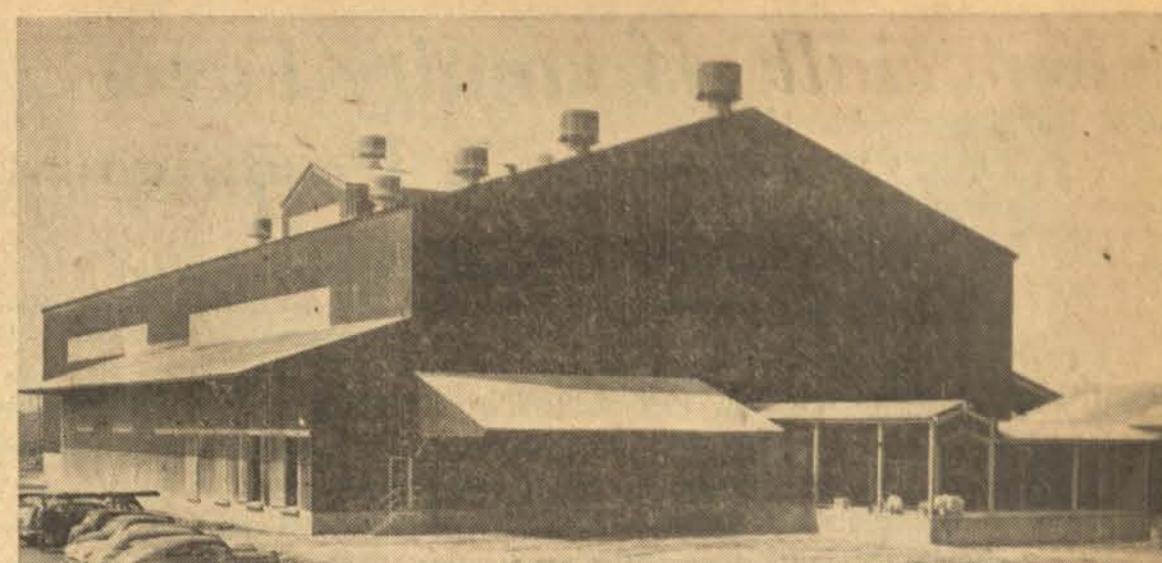


MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

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YOU OWN THESE
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YOU TO USE THEM!**

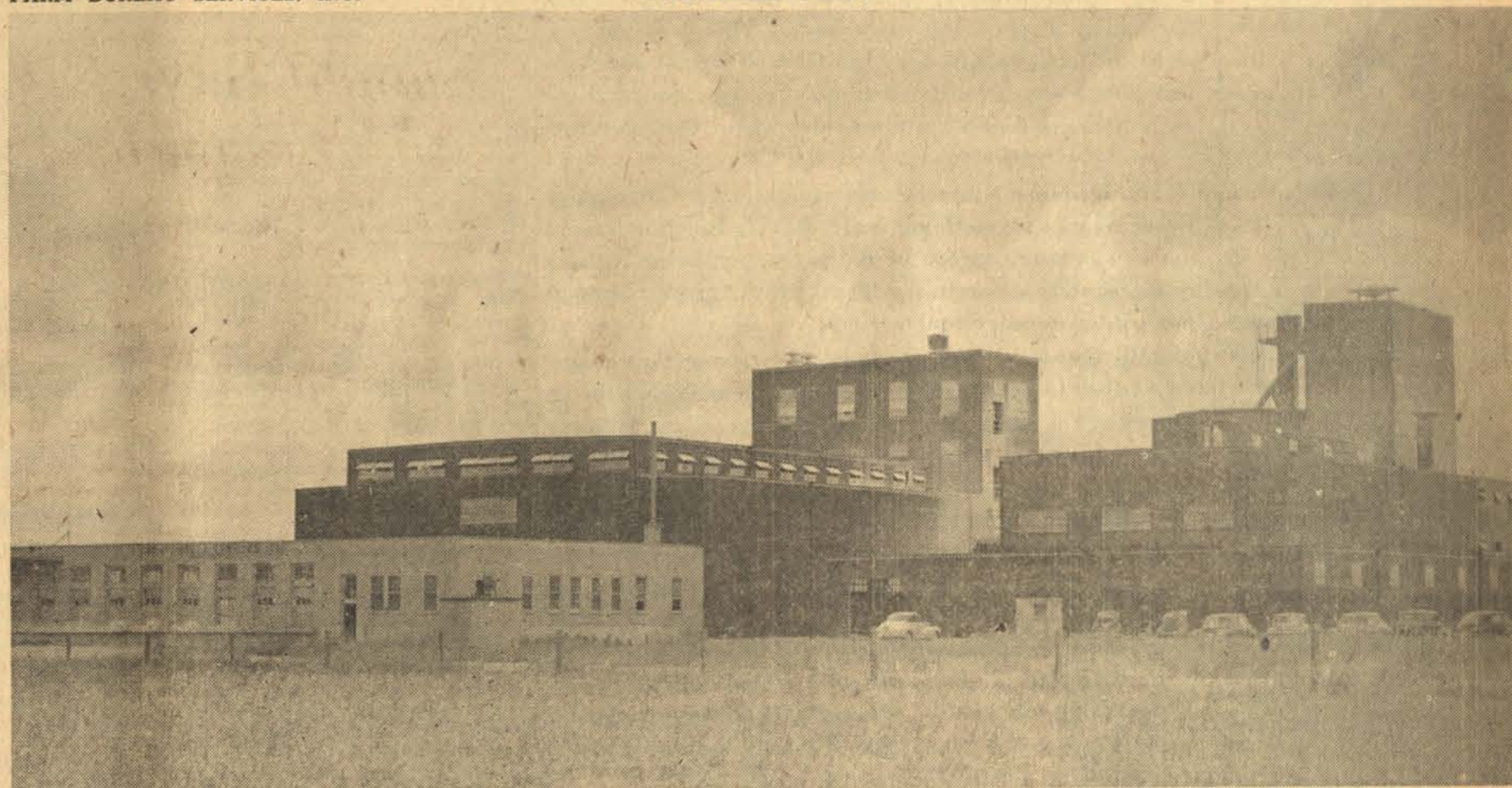


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FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.

FERTILIZER PLANT

SAGINAW



**Features that make FARM BUREAU
FERTILIZER your best buy:**

HIGH ANALYSIS means more plant per bag.

High analysis fertilizers are those manufactured to give you more plant food for your dollars. An example . . . 3 bags of 5-20-20 will do the same job as 5 bags of 3-12-12, and do it at lower cost, in less time and with less work on your part. Your Farm Bureau Fertilizer plants introduced 5-20-20, 6-24-12, 4-12-24 and 0-25-25 to Michigan. Put one or all of these advanced Farm Bureau Plant Foods to work for you today!

MINOR ELEMENTS are present in every pound.

Trace elements of the essential minerals are present in all grades of Farm Bureau Fertilizers as natural carriers. If you so desire, your Farm Bureau can, upon special order, add such minerals as manganese, copper, boron and zinc. These additions will be made in the proper proportions, as called for in the most up-to-date formulas, for use in areas where they are required. Just another example of the modern planning behind your modern fertilizer plants.

BETTER SUPPLY SERVICE from two plants.

No matter where you live in Michigan, you save money when you order fertilizer from your Farm Bureau Dealer. You save because of the ideal location of Kalamazoo and Saginaw and the resultant lower shipping rates. The production capacities of your plants guarantee you a broader selection of high analysis plant food than is available anywhere else in the state. Order "Farm Bureau" and save time, as well as money.

You, as a Farm Bureau Member, are a co-owner of two of the most modern fertilizer plants in the country. These plants are at Kalamazoo and Saginaw. . . They were designed and built at your request and with your money, to supply the best possible fertilizer, at the most economical price. They are capable of giving you the service you wanted . . . and now it's up to you to make use of them. It will be money in your pocket when you do!

GRANULATION makes each granule a complete fertilizer.

It is one of the most effective improvements ever made in the fertilizer industry. Your Farm Bureau Granulated Fertilizer flows more freely, stores better and is **DUST FREE**. Each one of these features saves you time, money and labor. In addition, granulation assures you of a more even distribution of the plant food to the crop. Check and compare . . . you'll insist on Farm Bureau Granulated High Analysis Fertilizer.

QUALITY CONTROL assures a quality fertilizer.

You are certain to receive uniform ingredients, in proper proportions, in every ounce of fertilizer you purchase from your Farm Bureau dealer. At each of your Fertilizer Plants, trained specialists keep constant watch on the ingredients being used in the process. Their experience guarantees you that you're getting the best plant food money can produce, as well as buy.

AND NOW FOR PRICE you are invited to check anywhere in Michigan and see for yourself how Farm Bureau Compares!

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INC.**

For more than a quarter of a century Farm Bureau Services, Inc. has operated on the principle that "There is No Substitute For Quality." Your Fertilizer Division operates in strict accordance with this principle. It provides the best quality plant foods at economical prices. Another example of the many products and services available to you, as a Farmer-Patron, through your "Farm Bureau Package."

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This is the House That Farm Bureau Built

Purpose of Farm Bureau
 "The purpose of this Association shall be the advancement of our members' interests educationally, legislatively, and economically."

This sentence is taken from the statement of purpose when the Michigan Farm Bureau was organized at Michigan State College, February 4, 1919.

Livestock feeders probably will use the entire 1954 corn crop production and will draw about 200-million bushels out of surplus, M.S.C. ag economists predict.

Fluid milk can be successfully frozen at home—if you use homogenized milk, say foods specialists at M.S.C.

Community Farm Bureau's Purpose

DONALD D. KINSEY
 Coordinator of Education and Research for MFB

This is the third of a series of articles that will appear in the Michigan Farm News during the next few months. Their purpose is to develop a better understanding of the Farm Bureau.

In 1936 leaders of the Michigan Farm Bureau became concerned to find a method that would hold the membership in the organization.

Some means was needed to build and hold a stronger loyalty and understanding on the part of the members. Stronger ties would prevent a sudden dropping away in cases of stress and economic decline. Leaders considered that members would be more loyal if they had some direct part to play in the organization.

The first discussion groups were organized in 1936. Many of those charter groups still exist. Progress was necessarily slow in the early days. This program had scope and could not be done in a trice. It is a bit uncertain just how many groups came into existence during those early years, because there was as yet no very accurate system of record keeping.

The Michigan Farm Bureau established a Community Farm Bureau Department in 1938. Its function was to aid in the promotional work, to supply helps for discussion and to discover the ideas that the groups brought forth in their programs.

Ideas Imported from Denmark. An event that helped to mold the pattern of our group system is seen in an experience of Keith Tanner, later Manager of the Member Service Division. During the year of 1935 Mr. Tanner worked among rural people in Denmark. He found that they had neighborhood discussion groups which met regularly. They were small groups of about 12 families and met in the homes of their members. They discussed not only matters of their community, but also agricultural problems of national concern. They believed in keeping a place for fun and recreation in their meetings, too. These "Folk Groups" of Denmark contributed some of these things to the Community Farm Bureau program in Michigan.

Only an estimate is possible of the actual growth in the number of groups during the early years. File records were analyzed in 1942 and the dead wood cleared out. It left about 250 valid groups active in the state.

Not until 1946 were careful and current records of group status put into permanent form. The rate of group growth by year is pictured in the following table:

Year	Number of groups in Michigan
1946-47	751
1947-48	783
1948-49	872
1949-50	989
1950-51	1078
1951-52	1151
1952-53	1262
1953-54	1355 (July 15th figure)

The Scope of the Discussion Program. Community Farm Bureaus are independent local units of the County Farm Bureaus. These groups elect their officers in September of each year and file a list of the officers' names with the County and State organizations.

The groups meet once a month for discussions of a topic or issue that is uniform to all groups within the state. Information is supplied in the discussions in the Michigan Farm News and by way of a Newsletter to the Discussion Leaders. Minutes of each meeting and reports of their discussions are returned from the groups to the County Farm Bureaus and the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Topics for the monthly discussion schedule are voted on by the groups themselves. The result of the vote is considered by a state committee elected from the districts of the state. They set up a discussion calendar for each six months period. Topics must be of interest to farmers in all areas of the state.

Compiled results of the monthly discussions, taken from group reports, are submitted to the administrative officers of the organization and to the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Each Community Farm Bureau also receives a copy of this state analysis, and thus may have a picture of the trends in the thinking of the members.

When discussion groups in many organizations adjourn their meetings the results of the discussion often die with the fall of gavel. Not so with the Michigan Community Farm Bureau. If the group properly reports the results of its deliberations these ideas go traveling. Their impact reaches to state and national levels.

An important product of the discussion is the member's recommendations with regard to the policies of his organization. Community Farm Bureaus are urged to submit recommendations for resolutions to their County Farm Bureaus at their County Annual Meeting.

High Quality Seed Is the Best Buy

Michigan State College farm crops specialists say the best policy is to buy the finest seed available. If you're limited on the amount you can spend, buy less seed and cut the seeding rate.

Your expenses are high in the first place—for seed bed preparation and fertilizer, and higher if you include the price of your land. Harvesting a poor crop because of inferior seed means that your initial investment is nearly lost. And if you get a big crop of weeds along with the seed—that means an expensive weed control program.

A small percentage of weed seeds in oats for example, can add up to a lot of weeds in a field.

No resolution becomes county or state policy until it has been ratified by the member assembly at this meeting or the delegate assembly at the state annual meeting. A group may make its own policy for local purposes. The county and state annual meetings, however, must have a legal quorum present, and a majority vote of the members present and voting is required to put a resolution in force. National resolutions, too, originating in state Farm Bureaus in this manner, must be passed by a majority of the elected delegates to the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention.

Programs Allied to Community Farm Bureaus. The Women's Committee of the County Farm Bureau is recruited from the Community Groups. This committee, rather than being appointed by the County Board, has a representative elected by each Community Group. The Farm Bureau Women have been a strong element in the 'over-all' FB program. They help to develop worthwhile projects and to keep their members informed of programs within the organization.

Also elected by each group is a Minuteman who is the legislative advisor of the group, and who rallies the members for support to the Farm Bureau policies when legislative action by the people is needed. The Minuteman is kept informed of events in Congress and the State Legislature by the Division of Public Affairs of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Through membership in the Community Farm Bureau a member of the County Farm Bureau becomes eligible to subscribe to the Blue Cross-Blue Shield Hospitalization and Medical-Surgical Group Plan.

In a growing number of counties also, membership in Community Farm Bureaus makes the member eligible for a Group Life Insurance contract.

The County Committee. Coordination of the Community Farm Bureau program in the county is carried on largely by the county Community Farm Bureau Committee. This committee is appointed by the County Board. Its functions are mainly—

1. To promote the organization of new groups.
2. To perform functions that help to maintain groups in good standing.
3. To plan and provide leadership training programs for Community Farm Bureau officers.
4. To work with other committees of the county to coordinate the group programs to the overall county program.

Community Farm Bureaus now exist in 64 counties in Michigan. A goal of 2,000 groups has been set for 1956.

Four Counties Win Awards In Citizenship

On the basis of reports, pictures, and clippings submitted, "Citizenship Awards" will be given to four County Farm Bureaus. The honor counties and the chairmen of their Citizenship Committees are: Kent, Ed Robinette; Lenawee, Mrs. H. P. Vaughan; Livingston, Robert E. Smith; Newaygo, Koos Karnemaat.

Programs carried out by Citizenship Committees in the following counties won honorable mention: Alcona, Alpena, Midland, Osceola, Tuscola.

The awards will be made at the MFB annual meeting at East Lansing in November. Citizenship programs reported by county committees included: radio programs on registration, absentee voting, and general election information; newspaper articles and ads; use of the APFB creed, based on statements in the resolutions adopted in December, 1953; "Get Out the Vote" parade floats; County Fair displays; use of placards and lapel buttons; use of phones and mail to get voters aroused. Farm Bureau Women took an important part in the work.

This is New Killer For Pests in Alfalfa



THIS FIELD OF ALFALFA on the Ray White farm near Bangor was sprayed with Dalapon to kill downy brome grass. A strip shown in the center of this photograph was NOT sprayed as a check to show the effectiveness of Dalapon. Photos below show the effect of Dalapon in the experimental work so far.

KEATS VINING
 Agricultural News Writer

Downy brome grass, sometimes called wild oats, has been a real grass pest in Michigan alfalfa fields for years.

Downy brome grass is a winter annual, reproducing from seed. Growth starts in the fall and continues into the next spring and early summer. Until recently there seemed to be no cultural control for the crop in alfalfa.

When downy brome grass took over an alfalfa field, it just about ruined the first cutting of hay. Downy brome is unpalatable in itself and when mixed with alfalfa or other legumes it reduces the feeding value of the hay.

But it appears that there may be an end to downy brome grass in alfalfa and also around barnyards and pasture lots.

but much better at the six- and nine-pound rates.

The results of the test were not available until five weeks after application. There was very little downy brome grass in the treated areas. The quack grass was greatly suppressed until after the first cutting had been removed.

There was no injury to the alfalfa from the three- and six-pound applications. There was some leaf injury where nine pounds was applied. But it was only temporary, with the plants growing in good shape at the time of cutting hay. More work is to be undertaken to study the effect of the Dalapon on alfalfa.

The Dalapon was applied in water in an ordinary weed sprayer at the rate of about 20 gallons per acre.

Dalapon has other farm uses besides the control of downy

there was almost a complete control of weeds and grasses in the sprayed areas.

Asparagus also has a use for Dalapon in the control of weeds and grasses. Another use is in pasture improvement.

Tests show that the Dalapon has a penetration into the plant roots. This was shown when sprayed cattails were pulled up. It is also true in quackgrass, orchard, Johnson, Kentucky and Canadian blue grasses. Dalapon also has a use for the control of crab grass and foxtail.

Dalapon can be used in combination with other brush killers where an over-all control of brush, weeds, and grasses is needed. It has given satisfactory control of grasses under drought as well as under heavy moisture conditions.

Any weed sprayer can be used for applying the new herbicide. The typical Dalapon action is a gradual yellowing of the plant and finally death to the plant.

FB Delegates Attend Water Conferences

Water and the legal right to use it was one of the matters discussed at the Natural Resources Conference held recently at the Masonic Temple in Lansing. Delegates from seven County Farm Bureaus were among the 150 representatives of industry, labor, cities, state agencies and other groups attending the water section.

Farm Bureau delegates also met with Chas. Butler, Director of Land and Water Use on the

Washington staff of the A.F.B.F., and Stanley M. Powell and Dan E. Reed of the Michigan F. B. Public Affairs Division.

Butler urged the importance of study of the need for water rights legislation in Michigan. The group recommended that this be made a discussion topic for Community Groups in the near future. (Note: The 10-member State Discussion Topic Committee last week set "Water Rights" for March Community F. B. discussions.)

"Start your water legislation with a consideration of surface water problems. Later you can add underground water provisions," said Butler. He also pointed out the need for conservation management of the water that falls on our land to provide continuing supplies in the face of greatly increasing use. Irrigation has been doubling in Michigan every two to three years for some time and many farmers are turning to 10- or 12-inch wells to provide water, it was pointed out.

Silage can be used for brood sow roughage if you don't have alfalfa around.

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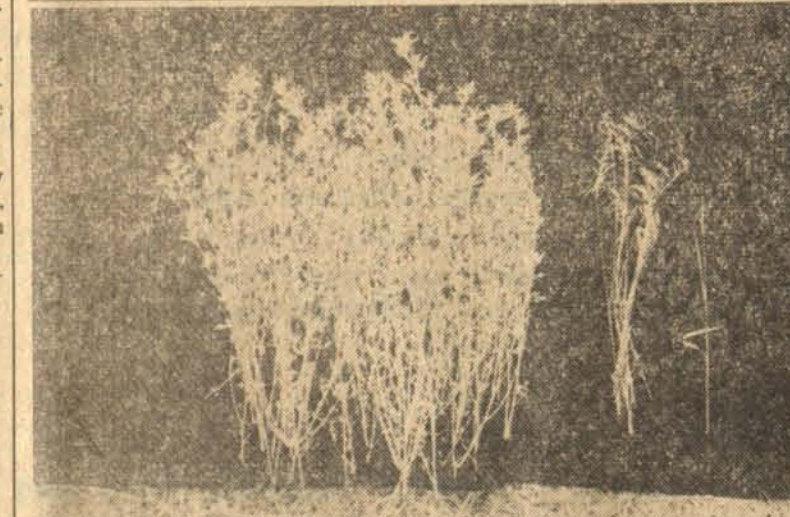
It's So Easy To Feed: As A Dry Feed Supplement: Add two to five pounds of Valley Lea Gro-Kwik to each 100 pounds of feed and watch the 'runts' and 'slow-starters' take on new life.

As A Free Choice Supplement: Add one quart of water to each four pounds of Valley Lea Gro-Kwik, put it in your feeder and the chicks will show you how good it is. Will they like Gro-Kwik? Two quarts of water to each four pounds of Valley Lea Gro-Kwik makes the ideal paste buttermilk, with its same results.

It's So Easy To Handle: Valley Lea Gro-Kwik Dry Buttermilk in the convenient 25 pound bags is so easy to handle on the farm, keep the waterproof liner closed tightly and it will not clog nor harden. . . when ready to use as free-choice separate supplement, put the proper amount of water in the bag with the Gro-Kwik and your super-supplement Valley Lea Gro-Kwik Buttermilk is ready for the feed lot . . . no muss, no fuss nor heavy, smelly barrels to handle—just healthy feeding results.

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THIS PHOTO SHOWS the amount of alfalfa, downy brome grass and quack grass grown in an area 2x2 square feet in the same field where the field had been sprayed with Dalapon sodium salt, six pounds to the acre, to kill downy brome grass.

The Dow Chemical Company has a new herbicide called Dalapon. It has been used for weed and grass control around industrial plants but not in agriculture. Its agricultural use will be possible when it has been registered and given a trade name with the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

For two seasons the Dow Company has carried on tests with Dalapon against downy brome grass on the Ray White farm near Bangor in Van Buren county. This field also contained some quack grass.

Mr. White is a member of the Van Buren County Farm Bureau. The Dalapon was applied in late March and early April when the alfalfa crowns were showing green but were somewhat protected by the old plants. It was applied at varying rates, from three to nine pounds per acre. Control was good at three pounds

brome grass in alfalfa. Cattails are one of the worst weeds in drainage ditches. This is true on farms as well as in other ditches. Dalapon may control them.

Spraying cattails has been carried on under a variety of conditions. When ten pounds of Dalapon and one quart of esterone 245 are used in 100 gallons of water, not only the tops of the cattails are killed but the material penetrates the roots. The kill is complete.

Sugar beet growers in eastern Michigan found the past year that Dalapon made a good post emergence spray for annual weeds and grasses.

On the William Steckert farm near Saginaw, five pounds of Dalapon was applied when the beets were four to eight inches high. The beet leaves were slightly burned but recovered. But

Challenge to Farmers is to Find New Ideas

Leaders Say Best Outlook in History

We present excerpts from an address by Ezra T. Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, before the annual meeting of the American Agricultural Editors Association.

In recent months, I have talked with many farm scientists and farm leaders, with top farmers and ranchers. They assure me:

"There is more opportunity for a farmer to boost his income today than at any time in history!"

Some economists say the average farmer can increase his income by 25 percent to 100 percent or more . . . IF he uses all the new tools and new techniques . . . IF he uses the better breeds, better seeds, better feeds and better methods now available.

An increase of even 25 percent in income could mean a thousand . . . two thousand, maybe as much as three or four thousand dollars extra.

We were talking about how the government might add up to eight percent to some farmers' income through price supports. Yet now we're saying a farmer through his own efforts might be able to add many times that much to the income he now has.

Isn't that a challenging fact? Doesn't that show we should place more emphasis on what the farmer can do, and less on what the government can do for him?

There are certain things government can and must do for agriculture. We must encourage agricultural research. Hybrid corn alone has raised the level of living more than all of the subsidies cornbelt farmers have received in the past 20 years.

When I say that there is a great opportunity ahead for farmers, I do not mean to infer we have not made tremendous progress. Almost within my memory, we've jumped from oxen to atoms while agriculture in most of the world has stood still.

It's a fact that in no other nation today do so few farmers produce so much food and fiber to feed and clothe so many at such a relatively cheap price.

This progress, achieved by the farmer's sweat, ingenuity and know-how, has paid off for all of our citizens.

For example: A Russian must work two hours to buy a pound of beefsteak. But one of our industrial workers earns his pound of beef with only 24 minutes of labor—just one-fifth the time. So it's a temptation to say our farmers are pretty good and let it go at that.

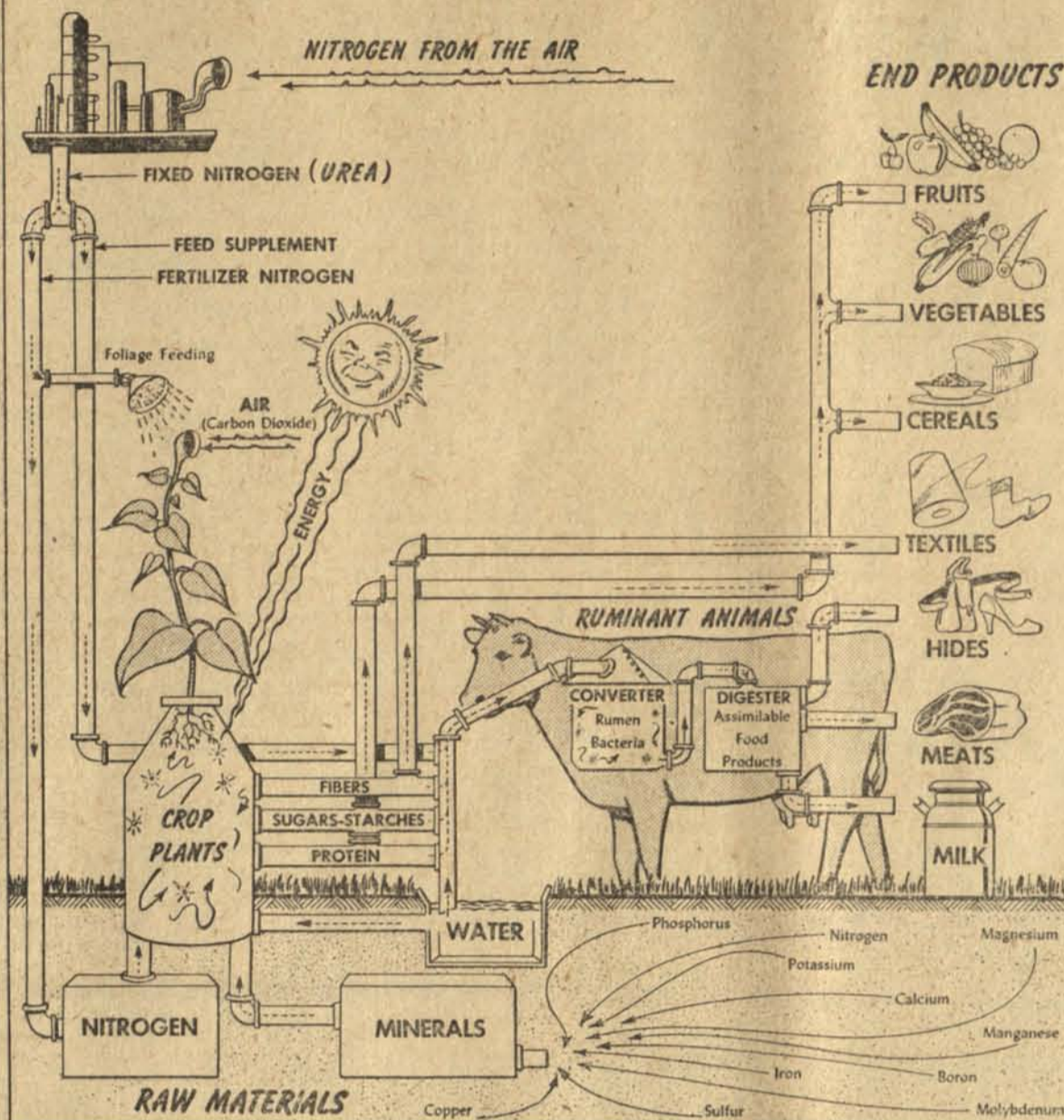
There are plenty of frontiers today in the basic challenge that

as farmers we can be much better. Proof of this opportunity lies in these dramatic figures: In Illinois last year, the top farmers on the better soils, but on the same size farm, earned \$10,000 more than the average farmer. That's according to University of Illinois farm management records.

The net income of 1,000 Iowa farmers who kept records in co-

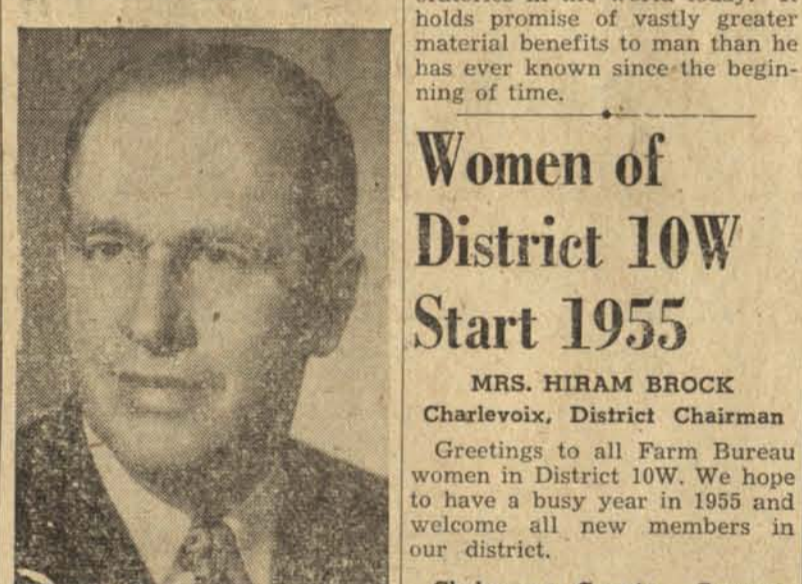
FARM FACTORY

CROP PLANTS AND LIVESTOCK PROCESS RAW MATERIALS INTO END PRODUCTS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING



"CHEMURGIC DIGEST," a monthly publication dealing with inter-relations between industry and agriculture, carried the above picture of the Farm Factory in a recent issue. The drawing shows graphically how nitrogen in the form of urea is converted by plants and livestock into a variety of products to fill human needs.

operation with the Extension Service, was \$8,353. But the top third of those earned a net income of \$13,000—or 60 per cent more. Each year the oil companies of America spend huge sums of money "wildcating" for new sources of petroleum. These outlays dwarf our own expenditures designed to tap new reservoirs of agricultural wealth.



EZRA T. BENSON

Isn't it about time to do some real "wildcating" in agriculture? Here we are an industry which markets \$30 billion worth of farm commodities each year. But we don't spend as much "wildcating" for new ideas as a few major oil companies do on exploratory operations. Yet I am convinced there are more potential "gushers" and pay zones in agriculture than in the richest oil field ever discovered. A "wildcatter" never knows whether he's 10 feet from a million dollars or a million feet from 10 dollars.

Back in 1924 American farmers harvested just under five million bushels of soybeans. This year our soybean production is estimated at a record-breaking 338-million bushels, with a market value of some \$800 to \$900 million.

Thus in the short space of three decades we have seen the development of a new major crop in this country and with it a new major industry. The versatile soybean has a wide variety of uses, from paints to plastics, from human food to livestock feed.

Think of what a profitable alternative crop would mean to wheat producers of the Great Plains States. Think of what a frozen concentrate or a stable, palatable whole dried milk would mean to our dairy industry. Think of what improved grasses would mean to our range country. I think you'll agree with me that we stand on the threshold of agriculture's most thrilling decade. At the atomic research farm at Brookhaven, scientists are using atomic rays to produce new crops, new vegetables, new fruits.

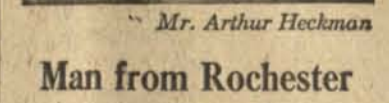
It's an age of chemistry—25 cents worth of hormones may put \$25 worth of beef on a steer. Some chemicals will delay ripening of crops. Others will speed their maturity. Systemic insecticides allow plants and animals to bite back at the bugs.

Farming isn't just men and land and animals and machines. It's one of the most exciting laboratories in the world today. It holds promise of vastly greater material benefits to man than he has ever known since the beginning of time.

stein of Harbor Springs is the only chairman in District 10W, starting her second year. Plans are under way for another Rural-Urban meeting in our county. After the huge success last year we have a big job on hand to improve this meeting.

REA Patrons Up 170,000

Rural Electrification Administration officials report that the list of applications for loans to REA cooperatives is at the lowest level since 1947. Loans during the fiscal year ending June 30 went to 325 electric co-ops in 40 states. The total amount of loans was the largest in the last 3 years. More than 170,000 new subscribers will be served.



Mr. Arthur Heckman

Man from Rochester says, "I'm a lot better off because of Blue Cross-Blue Shield!"

"Blue Cross-Blue Shield saved the day for me," says Mr. Heckman of Rochester. "I was in the hospital for over two months. Really needed the work—oxygen, operating room, anesthesia—and you find that they can really amount up in no time! My hospital bill alone was over \$1800. I didn't have to pay a penny of it! My Blue Cross Comprehensive Contract covered it all! And—Blue Shield paid \$468 of my doctor bill, too. It would take me years to get rid of that debt if I didn't have Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Like I say, I'm a lot better off because I've got it."

What if your family had an unexpected hospital bill this year? One in every three families will! Wouldn't you be a lot better off with protection like the kind that saved over \$2200 for Mr. Heckman? Find out how you can get low-cost Blue Cross-Blue Shield group coverage for hospital and doctor bills. A company with as few as 5 employees may qualify as a group. Today, contact your nearest Blue Cross-Blue Shield office, County Farm Bureau Secretary, or Grange.

Blue Cross Paid \$1,000 For 84 MFB Members

In the past year the Blue Cross has paid hospitals \$1,000 or more* in behalf of each of 84 members of Michigan Farm Bureau who have hospital-medical-surgical protection through Blue Cross-Blue Shield and their Community Farm Bureaus.

More than 38,000 families in the Michigan Farm Bureau have Blue Cross-Blue Shield protection through their Community Farm Bureaus. Each year the two services pay hospitals and doctors more than \$2,500,000 for services to families of Farm Bureau members.

If you belong to an average-size Blue Cross family of three persons, the chances are almost 50-50 that one of you will need hospital care during 1955.

Blue Cross records show that one out of every seven of its members goes to the hospital in the course of a year. Blue Cross paid for 450,000 hospital admissions last year.

Hospital, medical and surgical care runs into money. Michigan Blue Cross is paying hospitals more than \$6 million a month for care of members. Last year Blue Cross paid hospitals \$75 million for care of members and Blue Shield paid doctors \$28 million for medical and surgical services to members.

If you have to go to the hospital, you naturally don't know how long you'll stay or how much your bill will be. But to give you a rough idea of how hospital costs are running, during

November the average Blue Cross case was costing about \$175—almost three times the average back in 1945.

Of course, not everyone who goes to the hospital is an "average" case. Last year Blue Cross paid for the hospitalization of thousands of members whose bills were \$1,000 or more, and many bills ran as high as \$6,000.

More and more Farm Bureau families and other Michigan residents are taking advantage of the opportunity to obtain real protection from the high cost of hospital, medical and surgical care through Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Last November Michigan Blue Shield passed the three-million-member milestone, while Michigan Blue Cross membership reached 3,156,665.

Having income tax return trouble? Make sure it will be easier next year by keeping a farm account book, suggest M.S.C. farm economists.

What About Drive? Without Insurance?

(Continued from page 4)

tifically by insurance companies according to actual experience and on a competitive basis.

This problem is being studied by both the legislature and the insurance industry. The National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies discussed the matter at its 1954 meeting in Denver. The managers of Farm Bureau companies discussed it at the October meeting in Chicago. The same problem was on a recent agenda of the National Association of Independent Insurers.

A bill was introduced in the Michigan legislature last year which proposed a variation of the unsatisfied judgment fund. The fund would have been accumulated from an increased payment made in connection with each driver's license. The bill died in the House Committee on Insurance.

The Michigan Farm Bureau should not relax its insistence that a solution be found as quickly as possible. Your Farm Bureau Insurance Company is pledged to aid in finding a proper solution promptly.

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We want to get our "SPECKLED ROMANS" and Super-line HY-BIRDS tried out for heavy egg production and high fertility. Only folks like yourself are being invited to have some fun helping this little hen get home, so I'll know who to send the 2,500 No. 1 mating chicks to this spring in trial flocks of 100 each AT NO COST. (Choice of Champion White Leghorns or Old English Game.)

You are not obligated in any way and every member of the family can have great fun helping. Try it! Then return your puzzle patch with the coupon.

Can You Help This Hen Get Home?



This poor little hen is lonesome and wants to get home into a nice, warm house. It is now in the center of the yard and is trying to get to the house by going around the fences and through the gates. Can you help it? Just draw a line from the chicken to the house along the path for it to follow so that it does not cross a fence, then cut out the puzzle and send it to me with the coupon.

EASY RULES: It costs nothing to enter this interesting contest. Just draw a line for the hen to follow to the house, without crossing a "fence." The first 25 winners receive 100 No. 1 mating chicks in a choice of Speckled Romans or Super Line Hy-Birds. Duplicate prizes paid in case of final ties. All correct answers will be awarded a credit certificate on 100 chicks. Tying entrants will be required to finish the following sentence in 20 words or less: "There is much in raising top layers because." All completed entries also automatically entered for June 15, 1955 Grand Sweepstakes prize to customers of nationally advertised Deep Freeze, or 1-ton home cooling system, or 21 inch Television set, or Automatic Washer and Dryer, or Dish Washer. Decision of the judges will be final. Entries judged on correctness and originality. All entries must be post-marked before midnight May 28, 1955, and winning entrants will be notified promptly by mail. List of final winners will be mailed to anyone upon request if 5 cents is enclosed for mailing costs.

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New life for old farm buildings

...by remodeling with CONCRETE

You can add years of useful life to old barns, poultry houses, hog houses and other buildings by remodeling with concrete. Replacing inadequate foundations, rotted sills, floors and sidewalls with concrete strengthens and extends the service of the original structure.

Remodeling with concrete is economical too. By utilizing much of the old construction you save material and labor. And concrete is moderate in first cost, requires less upkeep and repair, lasts much longer. Result: **low annual cost.** Mail coupon for free booklet, "Restoring Old Farm Buildings with Concrete."

-----PASTE COUPON ON BACK OF POSTCARD AND MAIL TODAY-----

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
2108 Michigan National Tower, Lansing 8, Mich.

A national organization to improve and extend the uses of portland cement and concrete . . . through scientific research and engineering field work

Please send booklet on farm remodeling and (list subject):
Name.....
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Post Office..... State.....

Women of District 10W Start 1955

MRS. HIRAM BROCK
Charlevoix, District Chairman

Greetings to all Farm Bureau women in District 10W. We hope to have a busy year in 1955 and welcome all new members in our district.

Cheboygan County. Congratulations on being the first county to make its membership goal.

We want to welcome Mrs. Joe Rabideau of Cheboygan as county chairman of the Farm Bureau women. The women of Cheboygan county join the ladies of Presque Isle in resolving to stop the damaging of birch trees along the highway. This is a very worthy cause as the woods add much to the beauty of all resort areas.

Oisego County. We have a new county chairman, Mrs. Darrell Fleming of Gaylord. Our committee of ladies is very busy making plans for a Rural-Urban luncheon date to be announced later. Get those committees working and it will be a huge success.

Antrim County. Mrs. Carl Conant of Central Lake is the new women's chairman for Antrim county. Mrs. Conant attended the Institute in Lansing and I'm sure she will have many new ideas ready to put to use. Mrs. Conant is a daughter of Mrs. Thomas Dockery who was Chairman of this District two years ago.

Charlevoix County. We are indeed sorry to hear of the resignation of Mrs. Homer Nasson, chairman of the Charlevoix County Farm Bureau women, due to ill health. Sincerely hope this finds her well on the road to recovery.

Mrs. John Brock of East Jordan was appointed acting chairman for the unfinished term of Mrs. Nasson. Mrs. Brock attended the Institute at Lansing and has served on the county committee the past year.

Emmet County. Mrs. Harten-

United We Are Strong . . . Divided We Are Wrong

More and more you Farm Bureau members are proving the above slogan is right. More and more are you buying "Farm Bureau" and building a stronger commodity organization of your own.

To keep you informed of new opportunities to "Buy Farm Bureau," here are some new feeds available to you. Ask your Farm Bureau Dealer about them. He is your friend.

Booster Supplement 2000

This is a highly fortified mash ration to use when sickness hits the poultry flock—little pigs or calves up to about 10 weeks of age.

- It carries 2000 grams of antibiotics per ton (1 gram per pound.)
- It carries 45,000 U.S.P. Units of Vitamin A per pound.
- It carries 6810 I. C. Chick Units of Vitamin D-3 per pound.
- It carries 890 milligrams of Choline, 89 milligrams of Niacin, 100 milligrams of Riboflavin and 16 milligrams of Pantothenic Acid per pound.
- It's basic ingredient is fermentation soluble rich in all the known unidentified factors.

5 lbs. per 100 lbs. of this Booster 2000 gives you a ration fortified with 100 grams of antibiotic per ton besides all vitamins mentioned above. Ask your Farm Bureau Dealer, or write us, if interested in preventing and treating diseases that lower your profits.

New Hormone Feed

New Hormone Feed containing Diethylstilbestrol. Ask for Farm Bureau pelleted Steer Feed with Diethylstilbestrol.

It is pelleted (1) to make it different from our steer feed so it won't be accidentally fed to breeding animals or other than ruminants (2) Less loss when fed in bunks outdoors.

It carries the 5 milligrams of the hormone to each pound of pellets that is recommended by research (2 lbs. per day per animal).

Research work on it showed an average gain in weight of 20% over regularly fed animals—and 12% improvement in feed efficiency over animals fed regular ration.

Ask your Farm Bureau Dealer for more information.

Hi N-R-G Chick Starter 20% fortified with 100 grams antibiotic per ton and in CRUMBLES which birds eat readily. This is for treating sick birds, too.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC.
221 North Cedar Street Feed Department Lansing, Michigan

Legal Uses of the Farm Commercial License

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for February

Background Material for Program in February by 1385 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY

Coordinator of Education and Research for MFB

I never did get into the practice of writing recipes. Usually recipes are for good things. Well, this topic is almost a recipe for keeping something that has been of good value to the farmer. It is an information type of topic, not a controversial one.

The Motor Vehicle Code, in setting up the farm commercial license rate, yields a distinct advantage to the farmer. It is an advantage worth keeping. Like many other things, this advantage can be lost if abused. I will quote evidence later to show that it is not abused to any great extent.

How can we best protect this advantage? Perhaps the first thing necessary is to be well acquainted with the law. And the second thing would be to know how the law is applied and interpreted. The law has some different angles, and it is easy to violate a law without realizing it unless we know what we are doing. So let's dig into the matter.

Let's handle it in terms of cases. Here is Joe Blow—farmer. Joe works eighty acres about fifteen miles from a city. In the winter he gets a job in town. He has a pick-up truck with a farm commercial license. When he wants to go to the factory he jumps into the pick-up and takes off.

Is Joe violating the law? He is indeed! It is one of the more common violations. The Motor Vehicle Code reads (Chapter VII, Registration Fees, Paragraph 343c):

"For each road tractor, truck, or truck tractor, owned by a farmer and used EXCLUSIVELY IN CONNECTION WITH THE FARMING OPERATIONS OF SUCH FARMER, and not used for hire, 50c per hundred pounds of weight thereof."

The scale of license fees for regular commercial trucks runs from 65c per hundred pounds to \$2.00 depending on the gross weight class of the truck itself. Passenger automobiles are licensed at only 35c per hundred pounds. It might look like it is reasonable to use an empty pick-up as a passenger carryall without getting too much under the skin of the law. But that is not the way laws are set up. The license covers only uses which are related to farming operations.

Of course, factory work is not classed as a farming operation. An official Opinion of the State Attorney General (given in 1954) states that the use of a farm commercial licensed vehicle as a means of transportation to or from another type of occupation is not legal. The vehicle with such a license cannot be substituted for a regularly licensed passenger vehicle.

Broad applications of this ruling can be made. Under the same interpretation any use of the farm commercial license for general family travel, shopping, trips to church, vacations, picnics, etc., would be illegal.

The Law Says, "Prove You Are Right!" Numerous court decisions have established a point on this matter of special licenses or license exemptions. In the case of an arrest for a supposed illegal use of the license the court says, "One claiming an exemption from a license tax must clearly show his right thereto under the law, which must be strictly construed against him and in favor of the public."

Well, it seems clear that as long as we are hauling agricultural products from farm to farm—or from farm to market, or farm supplies to the farm, we are within our rightful use of the farm commercial license plate.

Some Related Questions. Now, what about hauling farm products to market behind a farm tractor? Or, what substances from the farm would be classed as "farm products?" What about wood? Or what about gravel and marl? Again we have some official opinions of the State Attorney General to help set us straight.

Opinion No. 1167 (1950) says that logs, pulpwood, cordwood and similar wood substances are agricultural products. They are crops grown on the farm. Hence the farmer is permitted to haul such products over the highways under the farm commercial license. But such timber harvest must be part of the farmer's farming operation.

The wood must be in a raw state, however. Wood products like finished lumber for sale falls outside the rule. These products have been changed by a commercial operation other than farming and thus they take on a new definition.

Gravel, marl, or like substances are mineral substances. They are "mined" on the farm—not grown,

Discussion Topics

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

- Mar. Michigan's Problems of Water Rights and Resources.
- Apr. The New Look in our Extension Program.
- May The New Look in our A. S. C. Program.
- Jun. Problems Relating to Closed School Districts.
- Jul. Doing a Good Job in Junior Farm Bureau Recruitment.
- Aug. Truck Overload Fines and Their Uses.

Be sure to read your discussion article in the Michigan Farm News. Attend your Community Farm Bureau meetings.

March 1-15 Blue Cross Dates

It would be a good idea for Farm Bureau members to circle the first two weeks in March on their calendars, because it is an especially important time for them this year.

March 1st to 15th is the annual Blue Cross-Blue Shield re-opening for Farm Bureau groups. At this time eligible Farm Bureau members who do not have Blue Cross-Blue Shield may get it and presently-enrolled members may make changes in their coverage. This year's re-opening is of special importance because both old and new subscribers will have a chance to choose between the new Blue Cross Cooperative group contract and the regular Comprehensive group contract.

Besides this new choice in basic contracts, subscribers will be able to choose as usual between ward and semi-private hospital accommodations and between the \$2500 and \$5000 Family Income Blue Shield surgical or medical-surgical contracts. You can select the coverage that best fits your individual needs.

There are two main rules about eligibility of Farm Bureau members for Blue Cross-Blue Shield group coverage:

Joins MAFC



L. A. CHENEY of Williamston was appointed assistant secretary of the Michigan Association of Farmer Cooperatives February 1 according to an announcement of J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary.

Mr. Cheney succeeds Everett Young who has gone to Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Young has an appointment from the Foreign Operations Administration of the U. S. government as cooperative organization advisor to the government of Thailand.

Mr. Cheney has been teacher of vocational agriculture at the Williamston high school for seven years. He was graduated from the agricultural department of Michigan State College

it? But it did more general good as a law than it did harm. Many of us can remember those whipping trailer-trains.

in 1939 and began teaching in that year. He is a member of state and national education associations and the Ingham County Agricultural council.

As a supervising teacher in vocational agriculture at Williamston, Mr. Cheney assisted in the training of 120 student teachers from Michigan State College.

The Michigan Ass'n of Farmer Cooperatives represents the interests of local, regional and state-wide farmers cooperatives in educational, legislative and business matters. It operates as a division of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

MFB Objects to Road Bonds Idea

(Continued from Page 1)

its money when improvements are made out of current revenue instead of on a borrowing basis.

5. In view of the study now being carried on of highway conditions and needs, no far-flung and drastic changes in Michigan's highway program and financing should be undertaken at the present time.

6. A spasm of abnormally stepped-up road building would result in excessive costs for materials and labor. Long-range planning, on the state level, could be carried on more intelligently when the Federal program, now developing, has taken definite shape.

7. There are many heavy demands for public funds at the present time, so expenditures for various projects should be carefully considered and kept in balance.

Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors
Ward G. Hodge, Pres.
C. L. Brody, Exec. Vice-Pres.

Broiling Meats

Searing is not usually recommended for broiling meats, say M.S.C. food specialists. It requires very careful watching and even then fat is more likely to spatter and smoke and make the broiling pan and compartment harder to clean.

Unfortunately no man knows his best days until they have been added to his past.

IBM Takes Over Testing Records

(Continued from page 2)

tabulating program or not. When a herd does enter, the cards will be ready.

The Michigan program starts all records as of October 1. They will close the following September. Cow, herd, and association records will be computed for the year.

When the association has its annual meeting, generally in the winter months, there will be no question about having the annual report ready.

Another interesting record is being made. Why are cows dropped from the herd or from testing work? The supervisor will indicate each month on the barn sheet the cows that dropped from testing or from the herd and the reason. This information will go on one of the cards. The information can quickly be assembled by running the cards through the tabulating machine. How many and for what reasons were the cows dropped from testing or from the herd?

A monthly report of all herds on test is sent to the county farm agent. This enables him to keep in close touch with the work in his county. And at the end of the year, he gets a copy of the annual report and any special reports.

Once a card is punched, and an operator can punch 2000 cards a day, it only takes 50 seconds to run an average sized herd through the computing machine. In an afternoon 150 to 200 reports can be tabulated from the cards.

How much does this new work cost the farmer? Right now it is \$1.00 per cow per year. This is in addition to the regular association fees.

In December 1954 there were 127 DHIA's in the state. Forty of them were cooperators in the new plan. They included about 25 per cent of the cows on test.

Larry Johnson, extension specialist in dairying at Michigan State College, and in charge of

all testing work, feels they have all the herds and cows they can handle right now. But new herds will be taken on in the future.

What are the advantages of the new system? Mr. Johnson says that records will be more complete, accurate and kept up to date. There will be a closer check on the work of the supervisor. All 305 day records will be available for sire proving. All monthly and annual reports will be completed on time.

The new system provides easy and quick analysis to answer area wide problems of feeding, breeding, and management. Then it is easier to train testers. They need less record work knowledge. One week training schedules are easier to schedule.

The disadvantages: One is the delay of eight to ten days on getting the record back to the farmer. The other is the added cost.

How do the association supervisors like the new program? Well, they are divided. Many supervisors have found that they can increase their income by being able to do more owner-sampler work or a chance to do artificial breeding work, something he has never had a chance to do.

Some associations have gone into the new work with all their members. In some associations only part of the membership is in the new plan.

The new tabulating program is a joint cooperative venture between the Michigan Association of DHIA, the Agricultural Extension Service and the Tabulating Center at Michigan State College. At the Tabulating Center, the DHIA work is in charge of Alvin Thelen. Miss Norma Taschman has done the research supervision for the testing associations.

NEW FABRICS

All of the newer synthetic fibers are similar to nylon in that they are strong and not easily worn by rubbing, are warm, yet light, are non-absorbent, need little pressing and are moth and mildew resistant.

Feb. Dates Important To Election

Important February dates which are geared to the Biennial Spring Election on April 4 include:

February 19—Last date to hold county conventions.

February 21—Biennial Spring Primary Election.

February 26—Last date for holding state conventions.

Where no contests exist, no primary election will be held.

Offices to be filled in the spring election include: Superintendent of Public Instruction (a member of the State Administrative Board), State Board of Education, Board of Agriculture (governing body of Michigan State College), Board of Regents (University of Michigan), Supreme Court Justice and township officials.

Delegates to county conventions elected last fall, continue to serve in this month's meetings. However, new delegates will be named to the state conventions.

BATTER

Tests show that when pouring cake batter into odd-shaped pans, such as rings, stars or hearts, fill them no more than half full.

COOKIES

Chilled refrigerator cookie dough may be cut more easily with a wire cheese cutter rather than a knife, say Michigan State home economists.

Don't Delay!

MAIL

YOUR FARM BUREAU DUES

Today

Farm Bureau Members: Have you paid your membership dues for 1955? Please mail them to your County Farm Bureau secretary.

Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the policyholders of the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its office at 507 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 23, 1955, beginning at 1:30 p. m. for the following purposes:

- 1—To receive reports from officers and management.
- 2—To elect directors.
- 3—To consider such other matters as may properly come before the meeting.

January 15, 1955
Lansing, Michigan

J. F. YAEGER
Secretary

Insurance is important in successful farming



LLOYD W. RUESINK

Head of a thriving family and a prosperous farm operator, Lloyd W. Ruesink is a past state president of the Junior Farm Bureau and past president of the Lenawee County Farm Bureau. He helped organize the local Farm Bureau oil co-op, and served as a director for five years. He served eight years as a state director of the Michigan Farm Bureau. At present he is secretary and regional director of his Soil Conservation District and a trustee of his church.

Along with his many other activities, he helps with the farming operations of his neighbors. He also flies his own airplane, mostly for the fun of it. Smiling, he explains that the plane was bought with "tobacco money."

"I don't smoke," he says, "so I say that I spend on my airplane the money that some people would use for tobacco. I really enjoy flying, and so do my youngsters. Every time I go up there's a clamor over who's going along."

"Good farming requires good insurance," he comments. "It provides the kind of security that we must have to be sure of doing our best job through the years."

"Also, my family is large and I believe in protecting it. Besides life insurance on myself and my wife, we carry Farm Bureau life policies on each of our seven children. We also have, through Farm Bureau, farm liability insurance, insurance on two cars and a truck, fire and windstorm insurance, and Blue Cross. "It is my feeling that an insurance company owned and operated by farmers can do a better job for farmers. That's why I rely on Farm Bureau insurance. I have been more than satisfied."

507 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE • LANSING, MICHIGAN

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE

* There's a Farm Bureau insurance representative nearby to serve you. Ask any Farm Bureau office how to reach him for information about life, auto, fire and farm liability protection, or about the FIP Protected Savings Plan.