

EDITORIAL

How We Make Up Our Minds

CLARK L. BRODY

Executive Vice-President of Michigan Farm Bureau
In Charge of Public Affairs

During the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meetings will be adopting resolutions for Farm Bureau programs and policies. This is a most important time for the members to register their views.

This is the time, too, when our state Resolutions Committee begins to function in preparation for the annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau November 8 and 9.

President Ward G. Hodge has appointed the following members to the state Resolutions Committee:

From the 11 MEMBERSHIP DISTRICTS

- 1—C. W. Randol, Galesburg
- 2—Leo C. Wagner, Adrian
- 3—Wilber E. Smith, Erie
- 4—Homer N. Cowles, Belding
- 5—Mrs. Cyril Spilke, Owosso
- 6—Merle Hazelton, Memphis
- 7—Andrew Kole, Fremont
- 8—Melvon Kindig, Shephard
- 9—George H. Schepelman, Bear Lake
- 10—Edward K. Shanahan, Charlevoix
- 11—Clayton Ford, Cornell

FROM NOMINATIONS MADE BY MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU WOMEN

- Mrs. Vernon Kingsbury, Alpena
Mrs. George Southworth, Elkton
Mrs. George Crisenbery, Jackson

FROM MICHIGAN JUNIOR FARM BUREAU

- Douglas Haskill, Lapeer

AT LARGE

- Thomas E. Hahn, Rodney
Robert E. Smith, Fowlerville
Allen F. Rush, (Chairman), Lake Orion

Chairman Rush has held meetings August 21 and September 18. The purpose of these early meetings is to get the Committee organized into a number of subcommittees. They are preparing for some 800 resolutions expected from the 65 County Farm Bureau annual meetings in October.

It is the task of the state Resolutions Committee to prepare a report for consideration by the 672 delegates representing 67,155 members at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The subcommittees put in a busy day September 18 in interviewing the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Michigan Department of Agriculture, State Conservation Department, Michigan State University, Michigan Agricultural Stabilization Committee, State Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Michigan Good Roads Federation, Michigan Rural Letter Carriers Association, Michigan Selective Service System, Michigan Employment Security Commission, and Executive Secretary J. F. Yaeger and Farm Bureau staff members on by-laws and internal affairs.

Roger Fleming, secretary-treasurer of the American Farm Bureau Federation, was in the state for the Open Forum meetings early in September. Several members of the Resolutions Committee discussed with him national issues of concern to Michigan farm people.

Participation in this effort to make the Michigan Farm Bureau policies a true expression of the interests of 67,000 member farm homes is one of the most interesting and satisfying experiences for both the Resolutions Committee and the Farm Bureau staff.

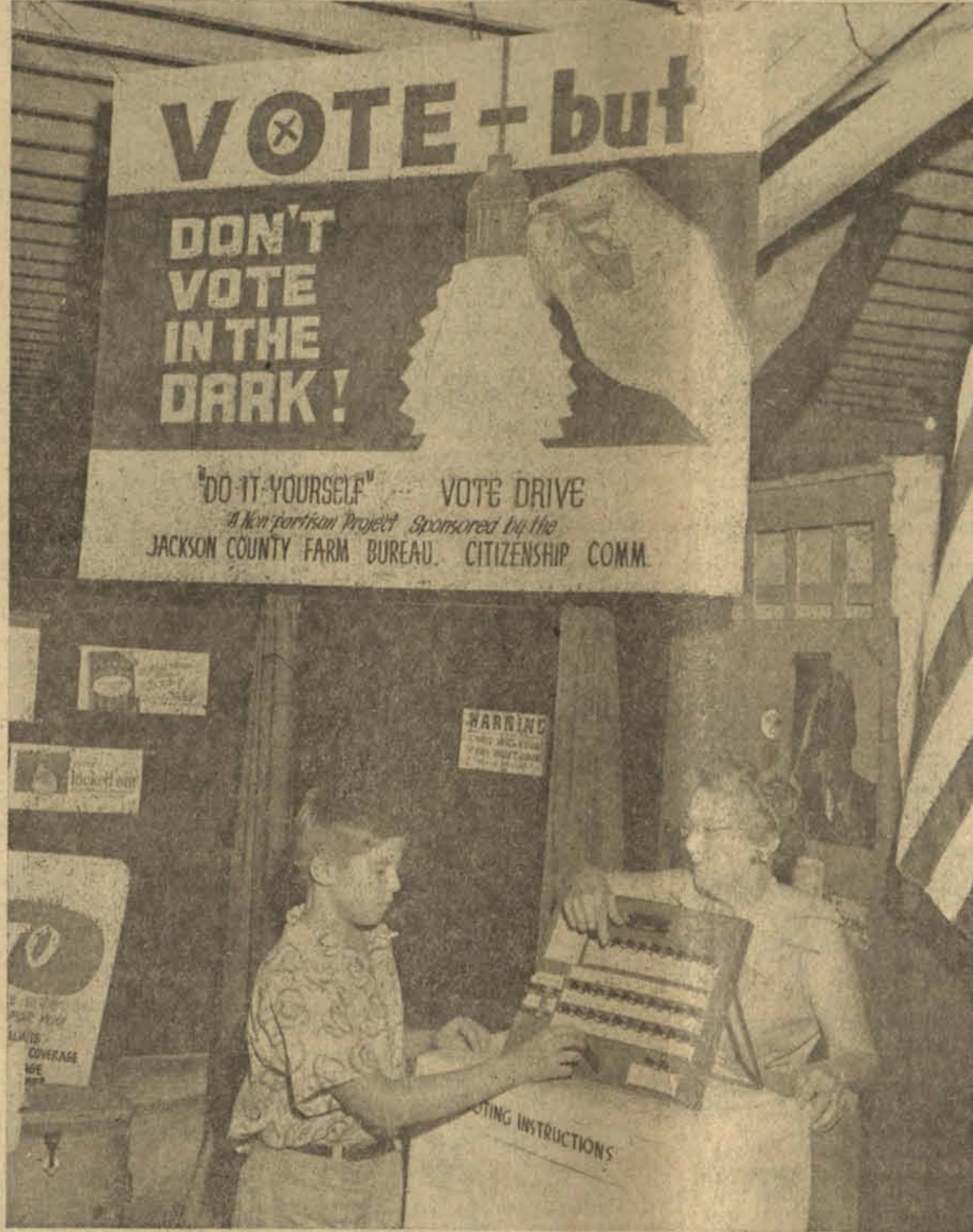
In fact, the accomplishment of this major objective is a year-round job. Throughout the sessions of Congress and the state Legislature the Farm Bureau membership is kept in touch with current developments through the Michigan Farm News, Minuteman Letters, 1,581 Michigan Farm Bureau programs, and meetings about the state.

The vital fundamental factor lies in the degree of participation and understanding of the Farm Bureau members themselves, and the continual registration of their views on community, county, state and national matters.

The policies to be established by our delegate body at East Lansing November 8 and 9 will determine and guide the activities of the Michigan Farm Bureau in the months, or even years, ahead. The resolutions officially approved will be registered by the five Michigan Farm Bureau delegates at the annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau Federation in December.

This process of harmonizing and mobilizing the interests and influence of 1,628,000 farm families in 48 states and Puerto Rico into effective state and national programs constitutes a great power for the perpetuation of the kind of government under which we and future generations will have to live.

The farmers of Michigan have a great stake in these Farm Bureau decisions.



LEARNING YOUNG. Leonard Canterbury, 10, knows how to use a voting machine. He learned from Mrs. Harold A. Barnard at Jackson County Farm Bureau Citizenship Committee's "Get Out the Vote" booth at Jackson County Township election officials loaned the booth and voting machine for instruction purposes. Hundreds got information about registering to vote and how to use the machine. (Jackson Citizen-Patriot Photo).

37th MFB Annual Meeting Nov. 8-9

The 37th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau at Michigan State University November 8-9 will be a stream-lined convention to provide the delegates much more time to work on the resolutions of policy and program.

This announcement has been made by a committee of the board of directors and members of the staff which has been working on the annual meeting program.

The 37th annual meeting will bring together 672 delegates to represent 67,155 families who are members of the Michigan Farm Bureau. Each delegate from a County Farm Bureau represents 100 members.

Resolutions from County Farm Bureaus must be with the state Resolutions Committee not later than November 1.

Besides adopting resolutions to set forth the Farm Bureau program for 1957, the delegates will hear the report of J. F. Yaeger, executive secretary, and will elect eight members of a board of directors of 16 for two year terms. The new board will elect a president and vice-president.

These meetings will precede the MFB annual meeting:

Oct. 27—21st annual meeting of Michigan Junior Farm Bureau, Music Auditorium, Michigan State University.

Nov. 7—12th annual meeting of Women of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Auditorium MSU.

Nov. 7—Commodity Day conferences for Farm Bureau committees representing dairy, fruit and vegetables, poultry, livestock and wool, and farm field crops interests. Union Memorial building.

FARM BUREAUS PLAN TWO WEEKS

Tour to AFBF at Miami Dec. 2 to 14

Farm Bureaus of the North-eastern states and Michigan are sponsoring a tour of Florida, December 2 to 14 in connection with the 38th annual meeting of the American Farm Bureau at Miami Dec. 9-12.

The arrangements for the trip by train to Florida and return, and by bus to visit points of interest in Florida are made by Nelson M. Jost of Travel Service Bureau, Inc. He has been conducting Farm Bureau tours for many years and will escort this group of probably 200 persons. Reservations can be started now and should be completed by November 1.

Full information regarding the tour, costs and reservation form may be had from Norwood D. Eastman, manager of the Member Service Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau, P. O. Box 960, Lansing, Michigan. See coupon at the end of this article.

Michigan people will leave Jackson by train Saturday, December 1, to join the tour at Washington and proceed south. Michigan folks will be back in Jackson Saturday, December 15.

Cost of Tour: The tour will be operated on an all-expense basis from Washington, D.C. at \$198 per person for coach and \$248 for Pullman accommodations. This includes round trip rail transportation—coach or Pullman on basis of two persons to a Pullman section, upper and lower. Meals beginning with dinner Dec. 2 and ending with breakfast Dec. 14. Hotel accommodations while traveling on basis of two to a room (excepting as stated below, all federal and state taxes, bus transportation en route, tips, baggage handling, and sightseeing as listed.

Exceptions: (1) Train fare from Jackson, Michigan to Washington. This is \$45.33 coach, \$79.79 Pullman round trip, also meal service and other expenses en route to Washington. (2) Hotel, meals and expenses in Miami while attending the convention.

Dec. 1—Sat. Michigan group (Continued on page 5)

Attend County Annual Meeting in October

Jr. Farm Bureau Convention Oct. 27

Michigan Junior Farm Bureau will hold its 21st annual meeting, October 27th at the Music Auditorium at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. with activities which will include an address by Barbara Foster, the state president. Talk Meet and Talent Find finals will precede the regular business meeting and election of officers during the afternoon program.

The annual banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Union Building. Recognition will be given to "goal getter" counties and various trophy awards will be presented. This will be followed by the evening speaker, Michigan Farm Bureau President, Ward Hodge, will conclude the banquet program by installing the newly elected state officers.

FB Mutual to Retire Some Early Loans

Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company has announced that it will call for redemption \$100,000 of its surplus certificates by the end of 1956.

Nile L. Vermillion, manager of the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, said that the action to pay off this first group of surplus certificates was taken by the FB Mutual's board of directors. Approval was granted by the Michigan Department of Insurance. Redemption of the first group of certificates has been started and will be completed by the end of this year.

The board's decision was based on the Farm Bureau Mutual's strong financial position, which makes it possible to return to Farm Bureau members money they loaned to start their own insurance program.

Mr. Vermillion expressed the Company's appreciation to the members for their foresight and courage in investing their money in Farm Bureau Mutual surplus certificates. The Company is pleased that the money put into the surplus certificates has been a profitable investment.

1957 Roll Call to Start January 3

The week of January 3-10, 1957, has been selected as Roll Call week for the Michigan Farm Bureau membership.

Several thousand volunteer workers will call upon neighbors and other farmers in an effort to raise our state membership from 67,155 to 70,242 farm families for 1957.

About November 1 all present members will receive a letter from their County Farm Bureau asking them to mail 1957 dues.

Collection of dues by mail was welcomed by the membership. It saves an enormous amount of time and travel for the workers.

That is the Place Where the Individual Member Says What He Wants 1957 Farm Bureau Program to be

October is the month of County Farm Bureau annual meetings. There the Farm Bureau membership will adopt resolutions that state the programs and policies they favor for 1957.

At the County Farm Bureau annual meeting, the member has his opportunity to speak, to recommend, to debate, and to act on what he wants in Farm Bureau. It is a most important meeting to attend.

Members have four important jobs to do at County Farm Bureau annual meetings:

1—Consider and act upon reports given by officers and committees of the County Farm Bureau.

2—Adopt resolutions of policy and program dealing with county, state, and national matters of interest to farmers.

3—Select delegates from the County Farm Bureau to the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting in November.

4—Elect directors for the county board. Some of the problems County Farm Bureaus are likely to consider at the annual meetings are:

Soil Bank. What do we think of the soil bank program so far? Should we make some recommendations?

Highways. The question of a new division of highway gasoline tax and license fees between the state, counties, and cities may come up again in 1957. Farm people will want to see that adequate consideration is given to farm to market roads.

Schools. Should there be changes in our methods for financing school operations and construction? This matter is getting considerable thought.

Migrant and Seasonal Labor. What about proposed legislation with regard to housing of migrant and seasonal labor? Should mandatory standards be imposed by law, or is the rapid improvement now being made under voluntary individual and group programs preferable?

Taxes. An idea that is attracting considerable attention is a recommendation for a state income tax. What should our position be?

Below is the list of County Farm Bureau annual meetings and the place and time for each.

District	Meeting Date	Location
District 1	October 25 at 8:00 p.m.	Methodist church, Coldwater.
Berrien	October 25 at 8:00 p.m.	Youth Memorial building, Berrien Springs.
Cass	October 20 at 7:00 p.m.	County Center building, Cassopolis.
Kalamazoo	October 25 at 7:15 p.m.	County Center building, Kalamazoo.
St. Joseph	October 11 at 7:00 p.m.	Methodist church, Centerville.
Van Buren	October 13, 12:30 noon, Paw Paw high school.	
District 2	October 25 at 8:00 p.m.	Methodist church, Coldwater.
Calhoun	October 16 at 8:00 p.m.	Community building, Marshall.
Hillsdale	October 10 at 8:15 p.m.	4-H Building, Hillsdale.
Jackson	October 17 at 10:30 a.m.	place to be announced.
Lenawee	October 12 at 8:15 p.m.	at Lenawee County Farm Bureau's new offices, or Producers Dairy Ass'n at Adrian.
District 3	October 3 at 7:30 p.m.	Fowlerville high school.
Macomb	October 17 at 7:00 p.m.	(Continued on Page 3)



FOR GREATER SAFETY. Insured by Farm Bureau Mutual. The safety decal is an important part of the Company's safe driving program. It was placed on Mr. Knirk's car by Nile L. Vermillion, manager of the Farm Bureau Mutual and Life Insurance Companies.

Blaque Knirk, left, president of Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co., admires the light reflecting safety decal now on 10,000 cars insured by Farm Bureau Mutual.

WANTED

ALL KINDS OF SEEDS!



The Seed Dep't of Farm Bureau Services

will pay the HIGHEST PRICES for your

- TIMOTHY
- MAMMOTH CLOVER
- JUNE CLOVER
- SWEET CLOVER

Contact us, phones IV 7-5911 or IV 7-5725 or write us P.O. BOX 960, LANSING

Who's Eligible For the Farm Bureau?

Farmers, and this is the way they are described in the by-laws of the Michigan Farm Bureau:

Section 1. Membership Qualifications. (1) Only persons engaged in the production of agricultural or horticultural products, including lessees and tenants of land used for the production of such products.

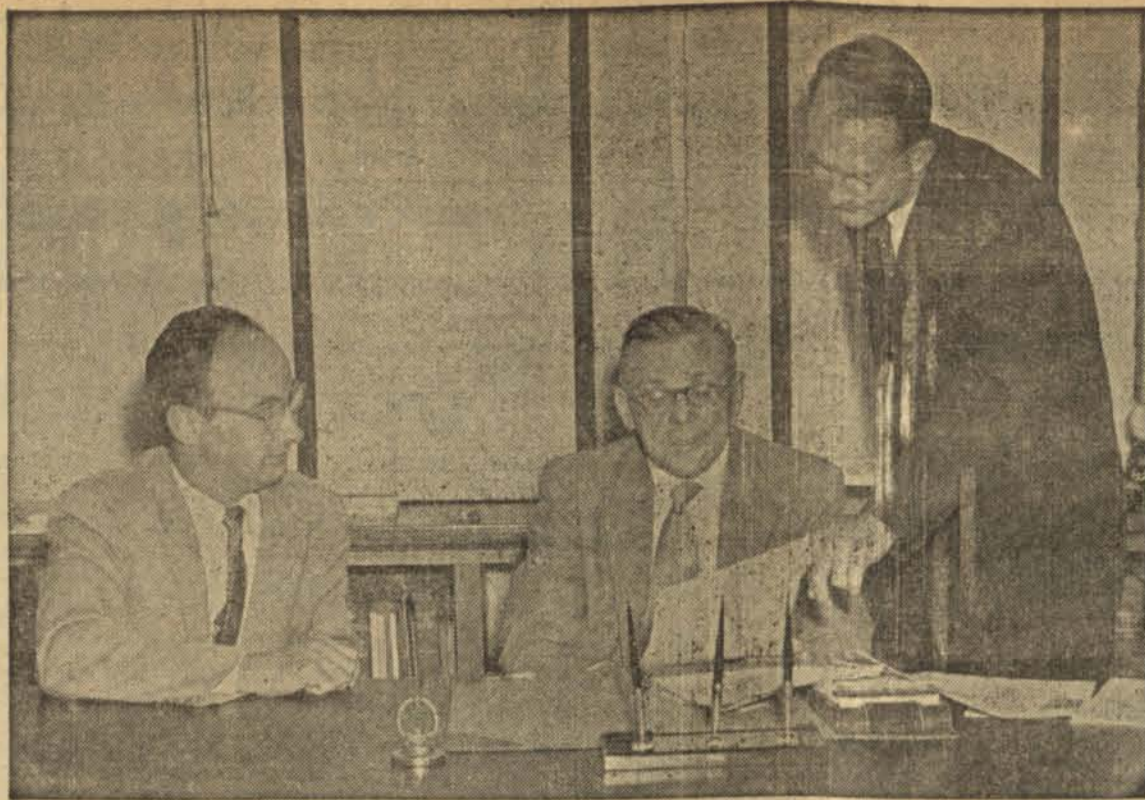
(2) Or lessors and landlords who receive as rent all or any part of the crop raised on the rented or leased premises, or the proceeds thereof.

These people shall be eligible for membership in this association, upon approval of their membership by the board of directors.

Sect. 2 Family Membership. Membership in this association shall be a family membership which includes the husband and wife and minor children;

Provided that, an unmarried minor reaching the age of 21 shall be included in his or her family for the balance of the calendar year, and provided, further that married minors must qualify as a family membership.

Fire Prevention Week Starts October 7



ARNOLD RENNER, state fire marshal, (center) joins with Richard Pfister, (left) and Francis Bust, both of the Michigan Rural Safety Council, in asking rural home owners to observe the week of October 7 as Fire Prevention Week.

Mr. Pfister is a farm safety specialist at Michigan State University and Mr. Bust is fire engineer for the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan.

Mr. Renner said 90% of preventable fires can be eliminated if safety measures are taken. Common causes of fires in order of their importance are: Chimneys; flammable liquids; smoking and matches; heating and cooking equipment; electrical; rubbish; lightning; dry cleaning; painting; children and matches.

There are 1290 house fires, 197 barn fires and 31 deaths and many personal injuries caused by

fire each year in the nation. Mr. Bust said this is an extreme price to pay when very little effort is required to keep such losses from occurring.

Mr. Renner urges citizens to provide themselves with adequate local fire fighting equipment and trained personnel to operate it. Then fires can be confined and loss to owners substantially reduced.

IN MISSAUKEE COUNTY

Young People Work On Natural Resources

MRS. FERN BERRY
Marion, Michigan

Young people are doing something about the natural resources of Missaukee county through the 4-H club program.

Elementary and Junior high school students of 12 rural and village schools are demonstrating what can be accomplished. They are participating in a four year course to study and improve the natural resources of the community.

Teachers are leaders. School credits are given for projects completed. Parents, rural and civic leaders help with the work. The program was set up in 1952 on a four year basis by Einar Ostrom, the county agricultural agent.

Soil. The first year the project was soil. Rural children were given the opportunity to find out about home farm soil problems while village children learned about home gardening problems.

Forestry. The second year of the course was devoted to forestry. This is a natural for the northwestern Michigan county. Forestry problems were studied and some of the members planted home trees nurseries.

Wildlife. Missaukee county is located in splendid hunting and fishing country. This was another interesting and profitable project. **Water.** The project for the school year ending in the spring

of 1956 was the water resources of the county. It was most interesting to the pupils.

Part of the work program was the improvement of Hopkins Creek, a stretch of trout stream set aside for juvenile anglers. Stone deflectors were built in the stream, and other stream improvement work was completed by the students and their leaders. School credits in science and English are given the students who complete their courses and projects.

The course is being continued as a part of the Missaukee County 4-H Clubs' program. Boys and girls are enrolled. Organizations and education agencies cooperating in the program include: the schools, Agricultural Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Outdoor Sportsmen's Club, and rural organizations in the county.

Willard Grosserman, the present county agricultural agent, is enthusiastic about the program and said, "The kids are learning a lot about the problems of this area."

Missaukee County Soil Conservation District cooperates by furnishing award ribbons, printed matter, and advice.

School teachers and parents like the "All County-All Schools" program.

Who Sandman Is

Small children are told that the "sandman" comes visiting each night and that it is his "sand" which makes their eyes scratchy. Actually the scratchiness occurs when the small glands which produce secretions to keep the eyeball moist become tired and slow down. The resulting dryness produces an irritation and causes a person to rub his eyes.

If you expect to be liked you can't do just as you like.

When truth stands in your way it is time to change directions.

Mail Coupon For Free Soil Test Bags

A soil test is valuable for a field which will go into a crop next year.

Money can be saved and money can be made in some instances in the choice of fertilizer as the result of a soil test.

Mail the coupon below for free Farm Bureau Soil Sample Bags. You'll need 1 bag for each flat field. 5 bags each rolling field. Have your fields soil-tested at one of 52 County Soil Test Laboratories. Apply fertilizer on the basis of need for the crop.

FARM BUREAU SERVICES, Inc. Fertilizer Dep't 10 P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Mich.

Please send _____ Soil Sample Bags.

Name _____

Street No. & RFD _____

Post Office _____

- Charlotte—October 23 at 8:15 p.m., Williams Gun Club, Lapeer Rd., west of M-15.
- Ingham—October 16 at 7:30 p.m., American Legion building, Mason.
- Shiawassee—October 15 at 8:15 p.m., Methodist church, Corunna.
- District 6
- Huron—October 25 at 7:00 p.m., 4-H building, Fair Grounds, Bad Axe.
- Lapeer—October 18 at 7:30 p.m., County Center building, Lapeer.
- Sanilac—October 10 at 7:30 p.m., Sanilac County Farm Bureau office building, Sandusky.
- St. Clair—October 9 at 7:30 p.m., Community building, Avoca.
- Tuscola—October 16 at 7:00 p.m., Fair Grove high school.
- District 7
- Mason—October 11 at 8:00 p.m., Community hall, Scottville.
- Mecosta—October 22 at 8:30 p.m., Stanwood high school.
- Montcalm—October 16 at 8:00 p.m., Stanton high school.
- Muskegon—October 10 at 8:00 p.m., 4-H building, Wolf Lake.
- Newaygo—October 18 at 8:00 p.m., Foundation building, Fremont.
- Oceana—October 24 at 8:00 p.m., Fox hall, Shelby.
- Oscoda—October 25 at 8:30 p.m., Lincoln township hall.
- District 8
- Arenac—October 26 at 8:00 p.m., Omer hall.
- Bay—Oct. 23 at 8:00 p.m., Monitor town hall, west of Bay City.
- Clare—October 2 at 8:00 p.m., Clare high school.
- Gladwin—October 9 at 8:00 p.m., Community building, Gladwin.
- Gratiot—October 24 at 8:00 p.m., Ithaca high school.
- Isabella—October 25 at 8:00 p.m., American Legion hall, Mt. Pleasant.
- Midland—October 22 at 7:00 p.m., Sanford high school.
- Saginaw—October 23 at 8:00 p.m., 4-H building, Saginaw.
- District 9
- Benzie—October 15 at 8:15 p.m., Veterans Foreign Wars hall, Beulah.
- Kalkaska—October 12 at 8:00 p.m., I.O.O.F. hall, Kalkaska.
- Manistee—October 18 at 8:00 p.m., V.F.W. hall, Kaleva.
- Missaukee—October 8 at 8:00 p.m., McBain high school.
- Northwest Michigan—October 24 at 8:00 p.m., Gilbert Lodge, Twin Lakes.
- Wexford—October 23 at 8:30 p.m., Harrietta Community hall.
- District 10
- Alcona—October 15 at 8:00 p.m., Mikado township hall.
- Alpena—October 10 at 8:00 p.m., Long Rapids township hall.
- Antrim—October 22 at 8:00 p.m., Ellsworth Community

- building.
- Charlevoix—October 4 at 8:00 p.m., VFW hall, Charlevoix.
- Cheboygan—October 9 at 8:00 p.m., Cheboygan high school.
- Emmet—October 8 at 8:00 p.m., Alanson high school.
- Iosco—October 2 at 8:00 p.m., Plainfield township hall.
- Montmorency—October 5 at 7:00 p.m., Atlanta high school.
- Ogemaw—October 8 at 8:00 p.m., West Branch Township hall.
- Otsego—October 11 at 8:00 p.m., Badgley township hall.
- Presque Isle—October 4 at 8:00 p.m., Belknap township hall.
- District 11
- Delta—Oct. 12 at 8:30 p.m., daylight saving time. Rapid River

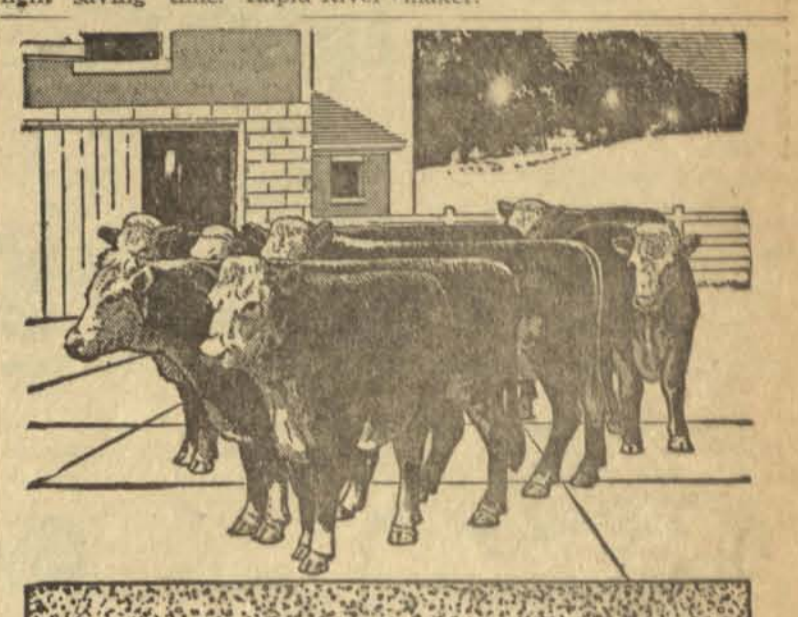
high school.
Menominee—Oct. 11 at 8:00 p.m., Standard Time, Stephenson high school.

Farm Bureau Would Aid Grape Growers

Senator Charles Potter has requested help from the Secretary of Agriculture in disposing of Michigan's record-breaking grape crop.

It's next to impossible for a man to travel the road to success without an occasional flat tire.

People who follow their impulses have a mighty poor pace-maker.



A CONCRETE lot helps you raise more beef with less feed and labor

A paved feed lot boosts beef production because on concrete the feed is eaten—not trampled in the mud. Less work is needed to keep the lot clean and a great deal more manure can be recovered.

The cost of a concrete barnyard is surprisingly low. Many farmers find that a paved lot actually pays for itself in as little as one year. On concrete cattle can be fed to heavier weights before marketing—no need to ship lightweight cattle in the "muddy season."

A concrete barnyard requires little or no upkeep yet puts extra profits in the bank year after year. Mail coupon today for free booklet on concrete feed lots or information on other concrete improvements.

PASTE COUPON ON BACK OF POSTCARD AND MAIL TODAY

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

2108 Michigan National Tower, Lansing 8, Michigan

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

Send booklet on concrete feed lots and (list subject) _____
Name _____
St. or R. No. _____
Post Office _____ State _____

Hereford Feeder 1600-CALVES-1600

Will Sell at
12th Annual Hereford Feeder Calf Auction Sale
Thursday, Oct. 18
West Branch, Michigan
at 12:00 O'clock Noon

At Association Yards 1 Mile North of State Police Post, West Branch

1600 HEREFORD FEEDER CALVES

All calves were field inspected, sired by purebred bulls, out of good beef cows, and castrated. Cattle will be sorted into uniform lots according to sex, weight and market quality. No pens of Steers will have stags or bulls.

Helpers suitable for commercial herd foundations will be offered. Top pens and individual calves will be selected by judges Tuesday afternoon. 4-H and FFA feeders should be interested in these selections, but they are open to all buyers. Sorting will be completed and pens ready for buyers' inspection Wednesday.

TERMS OF SALE—Cash or certified checks—or previous local bank arrangements. You may make arrangements for truck or rail shipment at the yard's office. Cattle will be cared for at owner's risk until Friday a.m.

N. E. Michigan Hereford Calf Assn.

Alcona, Arenac, Iosco, Ogemaw, Oscoda Counties
GEORGE WRIGHT Auctioneer Sec'y-Sales Mgr., Whittemore, Mich.
JAMES P. MIELOCK Auctioneer
This Sale is Carried Out in Cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture and Extension Department of Michigan State University.

Special Offer to FARM BUREAU MEMBERS only for a Limited Time

Have You Something You'd Like to Sell?

\$100 will present up to 25 words of classified advertising, including your name and address, in one issue of the Michigan Farm News. It is read by 67,155 members of the Michigan Farm Bureau. This bargain is less than half our regular classified advertising rate.

Please send your classified before October 20 for our November 1 edition. Extra words over 25 at 5 cents each. Some of our classifications:

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------|
| BARN EQUIPMENT | FARM EQUIPMENT | LIVESTOCK | POULTRY |
| BULBS | FARM MACHINERY | NURSERY STOCK | SWAPS |
| FARM FOR SALE | FIELD SEEDS | PLANTS | FOR SALE |

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MICHIGAN FARM NEWS
P. O. Box 960
Lansing, Michigan

Date _____

Please publish my _____ word ad for _____ times, starting with the

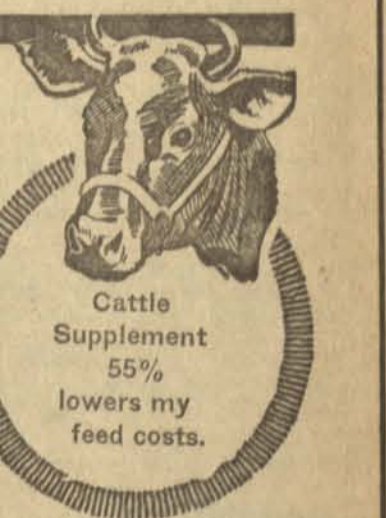
November 1 edition. I enclose \$_____

Farm Bureau proudly announces its Cattle Supplement 55% for dairy and beef animals



Here, for the first time, is a complete concentrate that will give your stock more vital protein at less cost than any of the more common protein sources.

Cattle Supplement 55% has added values that cannot be had by feeding any single protein source. It has the sulphur-bearing amino acids of methionine and cystine. These acids are important to proper ruminant nutrition and are very much lacking in soy bean oil meal.



Farm Bureau Cattle Supplement 55%

- is more economical.
- promotes better growth.
- promotes production.
- increases rumen activity.

See your local Farm Bureau Dealer or Co-op Ass'n for Farm Bureau "Open Formula" Feed.

ASK your Farm Bureau Feed Dealer about the NEW Cattle Supplement 55% or write for FREE information.

CLIP and MAIL TODAY

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Lansing, Michigan

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Where to Now for National Farm Program?

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for October

Background Material for Program in September by 1581 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups
DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research

To attempt to outline the problems of the national farm program is difficult in itself. To try to put them, and the Farm Bureau position regarding them, into a short article is like trying to squeeze a ton of hay into a capsule.

Background. Let us say at the outset that Farm Bureau policies on the matter have always been established by a majority vote of the farmer delegates at our annual meetings. The delegates have always stood for a program that in their judgment would bring the highest net spendable income for farmers.

They wanted the right to earn that income. They realized that no government could guarantee it to them without taking over management control of their farms. This we have resisted from the outset.

In the disaster days of the 1930's the Farm Bureau delegates urged the government to put support floors under farm prices, so that farmers could weather the storm. Farm Bureau fought for the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933—one of the first government price support programs.

But the Farm Bureau did not call for, and did not want, a support program that would substitute the government as a market in place of the normal consumer market. Such a move would mean that the government would take over the right to manage farm production—and freedom for the farmer would be gone.

World War II and the Korean War gave occasions for the government to introduce high support incentives in order to stimulate production of needed food and fiber. Farmers responded by increasing their output 33%.

When peace returned, and no emergency supplies were needed, politicians feared to lower the support levels—it might mean a loss of votes! The resulting high support levels in peacetime have created the most serious farm problem in our history—a farm recession in the midst of national prosperity.

The fact is that the level of farm income has normally risen and fallen in relation to national income rates. Only in two cases has the level of farm income dropped seriously below the national income rate. The first was when the O.P.A. price regulations were enforced more strictly for farm products than for other commodities. The second has been during the past five year period.

Never has an act of Congress resulted in a significant increase in farm income as compared to total national income.

Farm Bureau Position. Farm Bureau delegates called for a program based on variable price supports. They have continued to do so. Under this program price support levels would be raised as the supply of the product dropped, or would be lowered as the supplies built up into surpluses. This would prompt farmers to adjust production into line with present market demand.

Why have the delegates stuck to their position? They give good and sound reasons. They are:

1. High supports have spurred production of "basic crops" far beyond market demand. In March of 1956 there were \$10 billion worth of such products in govern-

Discussion Topics

- September through February, 1957
- These topics were chosen by your State Discussion Topic Committee from the results of the ballots returned by the Community Farm Bureaus.
- Sept. Who are the Future Farm Bureau Members?
 - Oct. The National Farm Program—Where Do We Go From Here?
 - Nov. The Growing Job of Keeping Rural Representation in our Michigan Legislature.
 - Dec. Programs and Services Which Farmers Have Established through Farm Bureau.
 - Jan. The Future of Agricultural Research in Michigan.
 - Feb. Will Local Government Control be Lost to State Regulations?

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



TRI-STATE WATER CONFERENCE sponsored by Farm Bureau at South Bend, Ind., Sept. 14, agreed that Ohio, Indiana and Michigan should start on water use laws. This is the Michigan delegation. Seated, left to right: Rep. George Dunn, Senator Charles Feenstra, Rep. Holly Hubbell, Senator Garland Lane, and Herbert Van Aken. Members of Legislature represent the Senate & House Interim Committee on Water Resources.

Standing, left to right—John Rulison, Russell Hill, Gleason Halliwell, Norman Billings, William Brake, Dan Reed, Dale Ball, Robert Linck.

willing to ask for cross-compliance in return for price supports, the depressing effect of growing surpluses spreads through all of agriculture. Acres taken out of controlled crops head into other crops. It may go into other supported crops or into crops not on supports.

New supplies of the non-supported crops flood the market, and prices drop. The price of supported feed grain goes up, adding to the costs for the livestock, dairy & poultry producers. Most farm products have no supports. Thus, farmers are not treated with equal consideration.

5. High supports have lost us much of our foreign market that usually helps to keep domestic prices on farm products up. In 1945 we exported 45% of our wheat. Now we export only 28%. Rigid high supports have encouraged other countries to expand wheat production and underprice us in the market. Some of them now have surpluses of wheat, too. They resent any dumping of our wheat on the world market at lowered prices. Russia has gained a good slice of our lost wheat market. So our surpluses continue to pile up.

The situation for cotton is the same. We have dropped from exports of around 10 million bales down to 2 million. Within 2 or 3 years American cotton will not be needed on the world market. What about our other farm products?

We must remember, too, that cotton producers have lost much of their domestic market to synthetic fibres. Factories are at work to produce substitute foods of all sorts. Our price support levels make it profitable. Even food protein is being developed from plants of the sea.

6. Stimulation of farm production in complete disregard for the ability of the people to use and consume it can never be a sound approach to adjusting our farm income problem. As long as a program exists that throws production out of balance with consumer use and demand, farm incomes will continue to suffer.

THE SOIL BANK

Farm Bureau delegates have recognized that the vast accumulation of surpluses has given farmers a problem that cannot be solved overnight.

There is need for thoughtful, unemotional, long-range solutions to be developed. No quick "cure-all" will do the job. In the boiling atmosphere of political campaigns such quick "cure-alls" are the rage.

In proposing the program of the Soil Bank, Farm Bureau delegates were seeking a practical solution. But here, too, if the program is not properly legislated and administered it can make the situation worse.

The main idea of the plan was to take some acres out of production temporarily, and adjust our farm production to actual demand. Get rid of the surpluses and improve our market prices.

To give it greater momentum, farmers are allowed to cash Soil Bank Certificates at 105% of their face value if they will take the amount in government surplus products.

It is considered that it is better to store the fertility of our land in the soil than in costly government warehousing programs where the products spoil.

It will cost us less to pay to slow production down than to store and administer a wasteful production program. Many "soil bank" proposals were made during the last Congress. And many of them were designed to defeat the proposed purposes entirely.

1. There is the danger of making the Soil Bank merely a means of pouring new capital into agriculture with the result of increasing production to new surplus levels. Unless the program aids in adjusting production to market demand, it will harm rather than help the farm income

Women of the Mich. Farm Bureau

(Continued from Page 4)
Add 1 cup raw tart cherries, cut
Add 1 cup chopped nutmeats
Mix well. Bake in a well greased loaf pan for 1 hour at 325 degrees.

Manistee County had very good exhibits at the Northwestern Michigan Fair held at Traverse City.

Arcadia Lakeside Farm Bureau won first prize in the agricultural exhibit.
John Milarch took 12 blue ribbons on his display of winter apples. He also won the trophy with a total of 22 blue ribbons and \$28 in special premiums.

Wexford County Women's Committee had as their guest speaker the prosecuting attorney, Mr. William Petersen of Cadillac in September. A program to help care for juveniles, 12 to 16 years of age, who have had difficulties, is apparently vitally necessary. By the time youth gets to the Perhaps, if more assistance prosecutor, they are adults. could be given them through the probate court, we would see better results. The Women's Committee plans a follow-up program on foster children in the 1957 program.

The Rural Urban Tour of last month, which included the Chipper Chips potato chip factory in Manton, Anderson Brothers Farm and the Charles Gotthard farm was discussed. The group feels that more urban ladies are contacted through the conferences similar to those held last year.

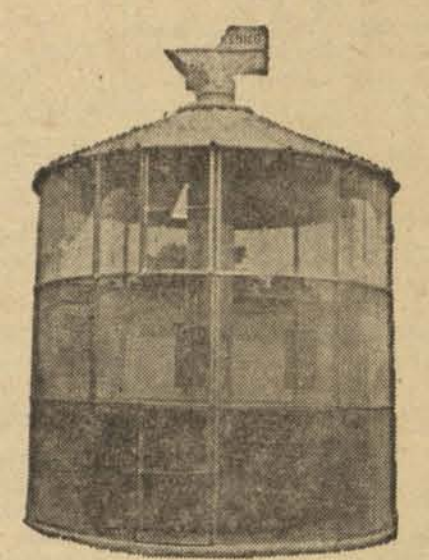
Benzie County Women's Committee is planning a drive for the benefit of the Traverse City State Hospital. Mrs. Nye, chairman of the Women's Committee, prepared a history of the Committee with emphasis on its accomplishments. This was presented at their regular meeting.

Missaukee County Women's Committee has had several fine programs recently. Their attendance has been excellent.

Buy Farm Bureau Seeds.

Diplomacy is the art of getting the things you really want without getting into trouble. People in the pursuit of happiness sometimes look for it in mighty strange places. A man can be successful in making money and a dismal failure in the way he spends it.

Drier corn means more money for you! Unico has the answer



Round type Unico X-Pan-Do Crib.

THIS PRACTICAL farm corn crib is made of 4 x 12 foot panels of open expanded metal. It gets maximum air circulation to dry corn faster. Expanded metal mesh openings are small—to make cribs rat-proof and bird-proof. Small openings eliminate need for rodent guards which cut off air circulation.

THE PANELS are easy to erect. Simply bolt 4' x 12' panels together to make a complete side wall. X-Pan-Do cribs are available with center-stack and down draft ventilator that provides maximum center drying in crib storage. The roof cap can be removed for elevator filling. Two sizes—400 and 900 bu. capacity.



Available from your Farm Bureau Steel Dealer

The Unico X-PAN-DO Crib is built to give years of "on-the-farm" storage service. Made of bonderized metal, finished with rust-proof primer and rust-free aluminum.

Complete information is available from your Farm Bureau dealer or you may use the coupon.

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Farm Bureau Services, Inc.
P. O. Box 969
Lansing, Mich.

Please arrange for me to receive all of information on your line of Unico X-PAN-DO Corn Cribs.

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Address

City



If You Bump Your Neighbor . . .

Suppose you and a fellow Farm Bureau member collide in your autos.

What happens then? Does your insurance cover both of you?

Well, if you're both carrying collision coverage through your own Farm Bureau Insurance Company—both cars will be repaired free of charge.

In other words—when two Farm Bureau insured members collide — Farm Bureau waives the collision deductible for each member. This is called "fellowship collision coverage."

For example, if you have Farm Bureau auto insurance with \$100 deductible collision coverage and collide with another Farm Bureau insured member—your \$100 deductible

is waived and the entire repair bill is paid for you. And the insured member with whom you collide would also have his deductible waived if he is carrying collision coverage.

Is this an important feature to Farm Bureau members? It certainly is. Savings to policyholders through deductible waivers for the last six months amounted to approximately \$8,000. Collision deductibles were waived for more than 130 Farm Bureau insured members during that period!

This is just another reason why more than 55,000 automobiles owned by Farm Bureau members are protected by Farm Bureau auto insurance. And, its another reason why, "It's Good Business To Do Business With Yourself."

AS A FARM BUREAU MEMBER . . .
...it's GOOD Business to do Business with YOURSELF!

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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.