

Michigan Farm News

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FEBRUARY 1, 1957

35th Year

Published Monthly

Legislature's No. 1 Problem is Rising Costs

Battle Coming on Aid for Schools

Growing Population, Expanding Services of Government, and Higher Costs Produce Largest Budget

STANLEY M. POWELL
Legislative Counsel for Michigan Farm Bureau

The Michigan Legislature has gone into the second month of what looks like a long, eventful and hectic session. The legislators convened January 9 but got off to a rather slow start during the first two or three weeks.

This is the first year of the biennial term of the legislators, so they had to organize, adopt rules of procedure, select officers and staff, and get the many standing committees designated and set up for work.

It was 20 days after they had convened before Governor Williams sent them his budget recommendations. There had been many rumors that this would represent an all-time high and would confront the lawmakers with the problem of paring it very substantially, or providing new state revenue to take care of the proposed increases.

The Governor has been advocating a corporate profits tax for the past eight years. It is possible that this year the Legislature may give in and decide to accept that means of balancing the budget.

Not many weeks ago the Auditor General issued the state's financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956. It showed that at that time the state's general fund had a healthy balance of \$25,566,271. However, since then things haven't been going so well, financially, for the state. General fund appropriations for the current fiscal year were about \$15 million above current revenue estimates.

This would wipe out more than half of the balance with which the year started. Also, it is probable that this Legislature will find it necessary to pass a number of deficiency appropriations for the current year, which will further eat into the state's surplus.

The Civil Service Commission has approved a wage boost for state employees which will raise the pay for these workers by about \$11 million annually above present rates, with \$8½ million to come out of the General Fund.

As the matter now stands, these increases will go into effect July 7, 1957, although the organization of state employees is making a strong demand that the higher rate of pay should become effective immediately, if not sooner.

School Aid. One item which could do a lot to throw the budget out of balance, and put the state in the red in a hurry, has to do with state-aid for schools. It appears that the school funds are not going to permit paying in full the \$190 per pupil gross allowance mentioned in the current formula.

School men are clamoring for a general fund appropriation of from \$20 million to \$25 million, or whatever it would take to permit the full schedule of payments envisioned in the current formula bill. They talk about a "moral obligation."

However, in re-reading the school-aid act, I find that it is made very definite in two different sections that the amount appropriated was to be only what came in through the primary fund and sales tax revenue and that the Superintendent of Public Instruction was mandated to cut the garment to fit the cloth.

A year ago the Legislature made general fund appropriations totalling about \$330 million. This year the requests by heads of state agencies and institutions totalled about \$504 million. The action of the budget office and the Governor has resulted in a budget involving general fund appropriations totalling \$410,997,220.

The Governor has said that this budget represents a paradox in that it is the "highest in the state's history and possibly the tightest." He has promised to stand behind every item in his recommendations without consenting to any slashes by the Legislature.

Of course, both the House and Senate, and their appropriating committees, are controlled by the Republican lawmakers and they might, or might not, be disposed to see eye to eye with Governor Williams on every item in his very ambitious program.

To balance the budget Governor Williams predicted that new taxes would be required. He promised to submit a tax message to the Legislature within a few days. It is taken for granted that he will once more advocate a corporation profits tax.

While, of course, farm folks deplore any tremendous increase in budget totals, they are concerned about a few items which they hope will not be eliminated or neglected in the confusion. Actually, the appropriations in which farm folks are especially interested constitute a very small proportion of the total budget.

Farm Bureau members are anxious to see that adequate provision is made for the Michigan State University, including its Experiment Station and Extension Service. They have requested that provision be made for erection of a new Home Arts Building at the Michigan State Fair Grounds.

They have also endorsed erection of a Short Course Center on the MSU campus. They have favored some part-time assistance to soil conservation districts and funds for purchase of land for state parks. This might be financed through a small charge for those using the parks.

Farm Bureau delegates also stressed the importance of sufficient funds to permit the Michigan Department of Agriculture (1) to carry on an adequate program of bovine brucellosis and T.B. eradication; (2) to enforce regulations concerning inspection of livestock coming into Michigan.

You may wonder why state budget totals keep soaring. I don't know as there is any one simple and complete answer. General inflationary trends which result in higher costs for salaries, wages, supplies, equipment and new construction, all enter the picture.

Every time a new state building is erected, even though it might be based on a self liquidating basis, there is a substantial cost for operation and staffing. In addition, there is the constant expansion in the functions of state government.

No program or service started by the state seems ever to be dropped or diminished. New and bigger projects and programs are the order of the day. Some of these activities favor considerably of benevolent socialism.

(Continued on Page 7)



RESTORATION OF NEW SALEM, ILLINOIS, ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S HOME 1831-37.

KALAMAZOO CITY FARMERS CLUB INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

Forum at Kalamazoo Feb. 20 on Farm Marketing Problems

Membership is Well on Way to 70,242

Membership in the Michigan Farm Bureau for 1957 was 65,191 families on January 30.

This is 93% of the state goal of 70,242 family memberships for this year.

The January 30 figure includes 61,109 renewals and 4,802 new members. We are 1,663 members ahead of where we were last year at this time.

Every County Farm Bureau has a goal and hopes to exceed it. County Farm Bureau memberships January 30 and their standings with respect to their goals are shown in the column below. Four counties are over goal. Forty counties from 90 to 99% of goal. Thirteen counties from 85 to over 88% of goal.

County	1957	As of % of Goal
1 Cheboygan	393	424 107
2 Manistee	276	283 107
3 Montmorency	197	206 104
4 Gladwin	446	451 101
5 Livingston	1,282	1,277 99
6 N.W. Michigan	1,118	1,196 98
7 Sanilac	2,361	2,355 98
8 Missaukee	508	493 97
9 Benzie	284	279 98
10 Branch	1,820	1,782 97
11 Bay	1,925	1,886 97
12 Washtenaw	1,778	1,731 97
13 Saginaw	2,595	2,524 97
14 Berrien	2,713	2,655 97
15 Ionia	1,244	1,244 99
16 Owasco	148	148 99
17 Huron	2,212	2,120 95
18 Alpena	629	602 95
19 Oshtemo	671	645 96
20 Tuscola	2,370	2,259 95
21 Leapeer	1,706	1,627 95
22 Van Buren	2,151	2,049 94
23 Presque Isle	499	473 94
24 Alcona	442	417 94
25 Mecosta	901	837 93
26 Charlevoix	358	337 94
27 Iosco	283	266 93
28 Genesee	1,659	1,557 93
29 Emmet	1,276	1,192 93
30 Macomb	1,230	1,145 93
31 Kalamazoo	1,306	1,210 92
32 Isabella	1,242	1,151 92
33 Calhoun	1,658	1,574 94
34 Oakland	1,120	1,036 92
35 Shiawassee	1,221	1,138 92
36 Monroe	1,616	1,493 92
37 St. Clair	1,426	1,314 92
38 Ingham	1,291	1,187 91
39 Grand Haven	1,454	1,307 90
40 Ogemaw	465	414 89
41 Wayne	685	632 90
42 Jackson	1,215	1,106 90
43 Newaygo	645	582 90
44 Kent	1,639	1,485 90
45 Arenac	481	428 88
46 Emmet	302	259 85
47 Eaton	1,384	1,225 88
48 Antrim	417	369 88
49 Barry	1,221	1,078 88
50 St. Clair	1,292	1,221 94
51 Muskegon	503	441 87
52 Ottawa	1,685	1,477 87
53 Midland	951	842 88
54 Allegan	2,075	1,793 86
55 Lenawee	1,894	1,463 85
56 Mason	1,597	1,163 85
57 Hillsdale	1,514	1,300 85
58 Clare	208	176 84
59 Kalamazoo	111	90 81
60 Montcalm	1,066	852 80
61 Wexford	257	206 80
62 Cass	924	728 78
63 Benzie	175	143 81
64 Otsego	113	84 74
65 Benzie	75	34 45
66 Delta	147	41 27
67 Emmet	210	54 25
TOTAL	70,242	65,191 93

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.

(Continued on Page 2)

Farmers are invited to attend the 2nd Annual Farm Forum of the Kalamazoo City Farmers Club February 20. They will hear well-known speakers on the marketing problems confronting agriculture.

The program will be held at the County Center Building, Recreation Park, in Kalamazoo, starting at 10:15 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 20. Lunch will be available in the building at noon.

Last year 800 came to the 1st Forum to hear a discussion of our national farm policy.

The biggest problem facing the farmer is to find greater markets to absorb the nation's expanding agricultural production. This problem will be covered from several viewpoints.

Four marketing specialists will tell producers what is being done and what they can do to help solve the problem.

10:15 a.m. Jack Bittner, Southwestern Michigan district marketing agent, will discuss quality and packing programs that will help state fruit and vegetable growers move more of their production into the markets.

10:45 a.m. Ralph Eastwood, of the National Dairy Council at Chicago, will describe what one farmers' organization is doing through research and promotion to boost the consumption of milk.

11:20 a.m. Gwynn Farnet, administrator of the U. S. Dep't of Agriculture's Foreign Agr'l Service, will tell what his agency is doing to sell more American products overseas. He will describe the situations that block farm exports, and give the outlook for future development of foreign markets.

1:00 p.m. Seth Shaw, meat and livestock marketing specialist for the Safeway Stores at Washington, D. C., will tell "How the Meat Producer Can Make it Easier for the Grocer to Sell More Beef, Pork and Lamb."

1:40 p.m. "Research on Parade" will be presented by Frank Teuton, information officer of the Agricultural Research Service of the U. S. Dep't of Agriculture.

Mr. Teuton will display over 100 new products that research has developed from farm crops. Pretty girls will model clothing made from farm crops. Mr. Teuton will show varnish made from potatoes, raincoats from lard, orange juice from powder, etc.

The Farm Forum was created to provide farm people with information on an agricultural issue each year. It is open to all interested persons.

Soil Cement Paving Gains in Michigan

Soil-cement base paving increased sharply in Michigan during 1956, attesting to growing popularity of this low-cost construction method for light-traffic roads and streets.

Portland Cement Association statistics show 611,664 square yards, equivalent to more than 52 miles of 20-foot roadway, were built in Michigan in 1956. An additional 70,000 square yards of runways also were constructed at Pontiac Municipal airport.

As its name implies, soil-cement base is produced by mixing

and compacting native soil, water, and cement to form a hard, durable base normally covered with a thin asphaltic wearing surface. Soil-cement base increases in strength with age and is ideal for county road improvement.

Costs of completed soil-cement base roads, including wearing course, ranged from \$11,500 to \$14,000 per mile.

Berlin Center Group

Berlin Center Community Farm Bureau of Ionia county met with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Signs, January 9. Ten families were guests, discussed the need for agr'l research and enjoyed a social evening.

Co. Legislative Groups at Lansing Soon

Members of County Farm Bureau legislative committees will be visiting their legislators in Lansing during the next few weeks.

The schedule for the annual legislative seminars is as follows: Southwest Region, Feb. 6. Northeast, Feb. 7. Northwest, Feb. 12. West Central, Feb. 13. East Central and U.P., Feb. 26. Southeast, Feb. 27. Thumb, Feb. 28. Central, March 12.

Chairmen of County Farm Bureau legislative committees have the details of arrangements and are planning for transportation and attendance of all Legislative Committee members.

Attending by regions, the meetings will start at 10 a.m. at the Famous Grill at Larch street and Michigan avenue, Lansing. After a discussion of state and national legislative issues, the committee members will entertain their Senators and Representatives at lunch. They will then visit the Capitol and attend sessions of the Senate and House.

Hodge Asks Study of Milk Market Bill

"I hope Farm Bureau families will study the state milk marketing control proposal which will be considered by the Legislature this year."

"Read the article on the last page of this paper. Then attend your February Community Group meeting for the discussion of the issue. The Board of Directors would like your help in deciding what position Farm Bureau should take."

Wightman Expresses Thanks for Letters

This is a note of appreciation to many friends and co-workers who have written to congratulate me upon being elected a director of the American Farm Bureau Federation at Miami.

I know that it was the Michigan Farm Bureau that was elected and not particularly the individual. The Midwestern Farm Bureau states have recognized that Michigan has one of the most outstanding programs in the American Farm Bureau Federation.

For that reason they were quite willing that Michigan should be represented on the AFBF board of directors, and felt that we should be. So let's keep the good work going.

For my part, I am reminded of Abraham Lincoln's statement when he received the nomination for President of the United States. He said, "I am deeply and painfully sensitive to the great responsibility which is inseparable from this high honor."

Thank you.
WALTER W. WIGHTMAN
Fennville, Michigan
January 23, 1957.

69,153 This Issue

This is the number of copies of the Michigan Farm News mailed to subscribers February 1.

Michigan Farm News
Established January 12, 1923
Entered as second-class matter January 12, 1923...

Michigan Farm Bureau
President W. G. Hodges, Snover
V. Pres. Blaque Knirk, Quincy
Exec. Sec'y J. P. Yaeger, Lansing

HIRAM and MARTHA
B. S. CLARK
Referendum
From time to time our Government, that bloated nurse-of-all...

Unwritten Laws of the Road
CREEP AND BE SAFE. Slow down at blind intersections. A blind intersection, unprotected by stop signs...

Community Farm Bureaus
CLARE L. MCGHAN
Coordinator of Community Farm Bureaus for MFB
I have been reading a most interesting book "How to Work with Groups"...

The book is good and fits the needs of our Community Farm Bureau group program very well.
Audrey R. and Harleigh Trecker say that a good member of a group is an effective participant in the activities of the group...

How many checks would your Community Group make on the following questions? Rate your group—6 to 8 checks, Good; 4 to 6 checks, Fair; 0 to 4 checks, Poor.
The agendas are planned carefully and thoughtfully worked out.

How do you rate as a member of your Community Farm Bureau group? This is important because of our belief in a democratic organization and its effectiveness.
The Treckers say if we are to be effective in a democracy, we should be aware of the following, which is quoted from their book "How to Work with Groups":

"The citizens of a democracy must be informed; they must be avid and continuous seekers after the facts. They must express themselves, that is, be willing to make their views known, to speak up when they need to be heard."

snowed in... but your telephone keeps you in touch!
The weather's bad, the roads are worse, and it's just about all you can do to get out to the barn, much less into town.
But in spite of the snow, you're not cut off. Your telephone is still on the job...

Pruning Xmas Tree Plantings Builds Profits
Pruning is one of the simplest, easiest, and most profitable practices you can find if you have a Christmas tree plantation on your farm, said Ass't County Agr'l Agent Bob Earl of Van Buren County.

Big Rapids Creamery Joins Mid-West
Mid-West Producers' Creameries, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, a regional dairy marketing association with member creameries located in the five states of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Tennessee, announces that the Farmers Cooperative Creamery Association of Big Rapids, Michigan has been affiliated with their association.

EDITORIAL
(Continued from Page 1)
membership teams to invite their neighbors to be come members of Farm Bureau.
Their efforts resulted in an increase in Michigan Farm Bureau membership last year to 67,154 families. Present indications are that the goal for 1957 of 70,242 will be reached.

Roger Fleming, Secretary of the American Farm Bureau, said, "The family farm is gaining ground. It is getting larger, to be sure, but it is still the most efficient pattern of economic organization on the farms of the United States."

Dr. Herrell DeGraff of Cornell University confirmed the future of the family farm. He said:
"The mechanical phase of the agricultural revolution is running out—the sand is low in the glass. Mechanical improvements and advances of real significance are yet to come, but they will not be such as to cause further unbalance of land, labor, and capital on farms now in balance with today's most advanced tools."

"Large scale units beyond efficient family size are not going to take over."
"The agricultural revolution is changing. We are getting to the end of one era and are well into the beginnings of another. Large farms will not be favored by any enhanced opportunity growing out of the relative advance of the scientific revolution."
This should afford considerable encouragement to our farm family membership. We have struggled long and hard to prevent the leveling of individual farmer opportunity into the strait-jacket of a permanent government-controlled agriculture. The family farm would have a bleak future under a socialistic "equal shares" environment of that kind.

MFB Leaders Discuss State, Nat'l Issues
the proposed state milk control measure, the stepped-up farm research program, Soil Bank changes, the need for water use legislation, and other issues.
The schedule of meetings has been set for the following dates:

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
REGISTERED YORKSHIRE BOAR, 8 months old, 24 Pareded Shovels 7 weeks old, Henry Gearing, 838 Lake Michigan Drive, Allendale, Michigan, M-56, 13 miles west of Grand Rapids. (2-11-57)

FARM MACHINERY
CRAWLER CLEANER A-B-6 Model 1948. Excellent condition. Almost new tractor. Recently overhauled. New clutch, Salsburg Motor, George Sage, Gobles, Michigan. (2-21-57)

FARM WANTED
50 TO 100 ACRES—steady soil. On hard road. Lake or stream for irrigation. Modern home. Outbuildings secondary. Possession 1 to 2 years. O. Hunter, 23573 Karr Road, Belleville, Michigan. (2-11-57)

PLANTS
500,000 PREMIER Strawberry Plants grown in sandy, low ground. We'll give you a complete list of prices. Sample mailed on request. Royal Nurseries, Eau Claire, Michigan. (2-11-57)

Bread Stores Best in Freezer
The best method for storing bread is in the home freezer. Bread in its original moisture proof wrapper, will keep its original freshness for several weeks in the ordinary household freezer or freezer compartment of modern refrigerators.

Ad Sold Holsteins
My ad in the Jan. 1 Michigan Farm News found a buyer in Lapeer county for the 18 registered Holstein heifers. Had inquiries from Ionia, Otsego, Imlay City, Marlette, Mt. Clemens and phone calls. Leo McClellan, Davison, Mich.

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Right Now in Farm Bureau...

JERRY CORDREY

Coordinator, Organization Department of MFB

Membership in State office stands at 65,191. This is 93% of our goal of 70,242 for 1957. We have 4,802 new members.

We are 1,663 members ahead of where we were a year ago on this date.

Four counties have surpassed goal. These counties are Manistee, Gladwin, Cheboygan, Montmorency.

Michigan is leading so far in the American Farm Bureau Federation and can be the first state in the nation over goal.

Winners in the contest for highest percentage of goal by January 15th were: 1st—Cheboygan 107%; 2nd—Manistee 104.9%; 3rd—Montmorency 104.5%.

An "All Star Team" is to be selected this year. It will consist of the first 11 counties over goal. Pictures of the Roll Call managers from these counties will appear in the Michigan Farm News as soon as 11 counties qualify. First county over goal is captain of the team, so Manistee wins this honor. Coach for the "All Stars" will be Regional Representative from the first region over goal.

Seven places are still open on the team. Why not have your county on?

A list of county standings can be found elsewhere in the paper.

Other membership awards for 1957 are:

- Three trophies for highest maintenance of 1956 membership as tabulated August 15, 1957.
 - An award of utility value for all counties over goal August 15, 1957.
 - Two trips to American Farm Bureau Federation convention at Chicago next December for each of the 11 Districts.
- These will be granted to the two counties in each District on the following basis: One trip to the county that attains the highest per cent over goal August 15, 1957. One trip to the county that has the most members over goal August 15, 1957.
- This award consists of transportation plus \$50 towards expenses.
- Many counties have opportunity to win one of the above honors.
- Other activities in the spotlight are:
- Regional Legislative Seminars.** Legislative Committees from each county visit Lansing, are brought up to date on current legislative affairs by Stanley Powell, Dan Reed, and C. L. Brody. They have lunch with Representatives and Senators from their respective District and visit the Legislature in the afternoon. Dates for this year are:
- Feb. 6—Southwest Region.
 - Feb. 7—Northeast Region.
 - Feb. 12—Northwest Region.
 - Feb. 13—West Central Region.

Feb. 26—East Central Region and Upper Peninsula Region.
Feb. 27—Southeast Region.
Feb. 28—Thumb Region.
Mar. 12—Central Region.

District P.X. (Policy Execution Meetings). Legislative Committees will be brought up to date on American Farm Bureau Federation policies as adopted at the National Convention in December. These meetings will be staffed by the District Director. Dates for these are as follows, by Membership Districts:

- District**
- 1—Feb. 11—evening.
 - 2—Feb. 4—afternoon.
 - 3—Feb. 4—afternoon.
 - 4—Feb. 4—afternoon.
 - 5—Feb. 7—evening.
 - 6—Feb. 7—evening.
 - 7—Feb. 4—afternoon.
 - 8—Feb. 11—evening.
 - 9—Feb. 8—evening.
 - 10—Feb. 13—afternoon.
- Details of these meetings can be obtained from your Regional Representative.

Public Relations training meetings will be held in several regions during February and March to train county leaders for meeting with urban service clubs to discuss the farm situation.

County Presidents Conference. The second County Presidents Conference will be held on February 19 and 20, at the Gull Lake Biological Station. It will start at 10:00 a.m. Information on present programs and discussion of future plans will highlight the meeting.

District Petroleum meetings ("Power Farming with Farm Bureau") will be held during February. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about the petroleum program as well as to enjoy an entertaining program. Dates for these meetings are:

- Feb. 5—Northeast Region.
- Feb. 6—Northwest Region.
- Feb. 7—District 7.
- Feb. 11—District 4.
- Feb. 12—District 1.
- Feb. 13—District 2.
- Feb. 26—District 3.
- Feb. 27—District 6.
- Feb. 28—District 8.
- March 1—District 5.

Young Farmer Trainee Program. Five of the 19 Farmer Trainees for 1957 were placed on farms in Michigan on January 25. The rest will arrive on February 9. One of these boys may be in your county.

Blue Cross reopening instruction meetings are now being held and will continue through February.

Enrollment will be during March. Contact your Blue Cross Secretary or County Secretary for further information.

Regional Representatives are:

1. Spending all available time helping counties reorganize membership drive to finish the job quickly. Have you done your part?
2. Attending or will attend the following meetings in February: District Women's Advisory Councils.

- Region Liaison Committee.
- County Board meetings.
- Legislative Seminars.
- District P.X. Meetings.
- Public relations meetings.
- County Office Managers Conference, February 14 and 15.
- County Presidents Conference, February 19 and 20.
- District Petroleum Meetings.
- Blue Cross Reopening Meetings.

It's a busy time in Farm Bureau as you can see. Are you helping to carry some of the load in your county? Remember your organization can only do those things on which you are willing to help.

Ask your neighbor to join today!



Spring Planting Is Closer Than You Think!

It just isn't too soon for you to place your seed order. Your Farm Bureau Seed Dealer has ample stocks of the seeds listed below plus others. See him now!

- Farm Bureau Alfalfa
- Farm Bureau Clover
- Farm Bureau Brome
- Farm Bureau Timothy
- Mich. Cert. Seed Grains
- Mich. Cert. Seed Corn
- Kingscross Seed Corn



Seed Dep't
Farm Bureau Services, Inc.
Lansing, Mich.



Farm Bureau Mutual's Fire-Safety Awards

One-third of all farm properties have fire hazards which can be corrected readily.

The most common hazards found are improper wiring, fixtures and fuses.

These conclusions have been developed as the result of 964 personal inspections of farm and residential properties by Francis Bust, fire safety engineer for the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan. He was chairman of the 1956 Michigan Fire Prevention Week.

Mr. Bust made a report on his inspections as Farm Bureau Mutual launched its program to present 1957 Safety Award plaques to all insured farms meeting established fire safety standards. The first plaque was placed on the farm of Mr. Chellis Hall near Mason.

Awarding of the new Fire Safety Award plaques to policyholders will be undertaken as rapidly as the necessary inspections can be completed. The plaque will be prominently displayed on one of the buildings on each farm found to be free from abnormal fire hazards.

Most common of all hazards, Mr. Bust said is improper fusing. There were 113 cases of this hazard in 964 inspections. Faulty wiring came next on the list, with 63 cases, and improper fixtures accounted for 15 reports.

There were also 46 defective

chimneys listed among the inspections. Altogether, corrections were needed in 325 instances, or in one-third of the examinations.

Mr. Bust reported that his inspection activities were well received by the farmers he visited. They were glad to have suggestions in planning improved safeguards against fires.

James Rathbun, assistant manager for Farm Bureau Mutual's Fire Division, said, "We know that this program of safety measures will mean the averting of many destructive fires through the years."

"The program will be doubly

beneficial. It will help our policyholders to avoid the suffering and inconvenience that are the direct result of fires, and it will contribute to maintenance of the low rates that are among the present advantages to policyholders."

Mr. Rathbun emphasized that Farm Bureau members are urged to take note of farms displaying the new Safety Award Plaque in

Notice of Annual Meeting

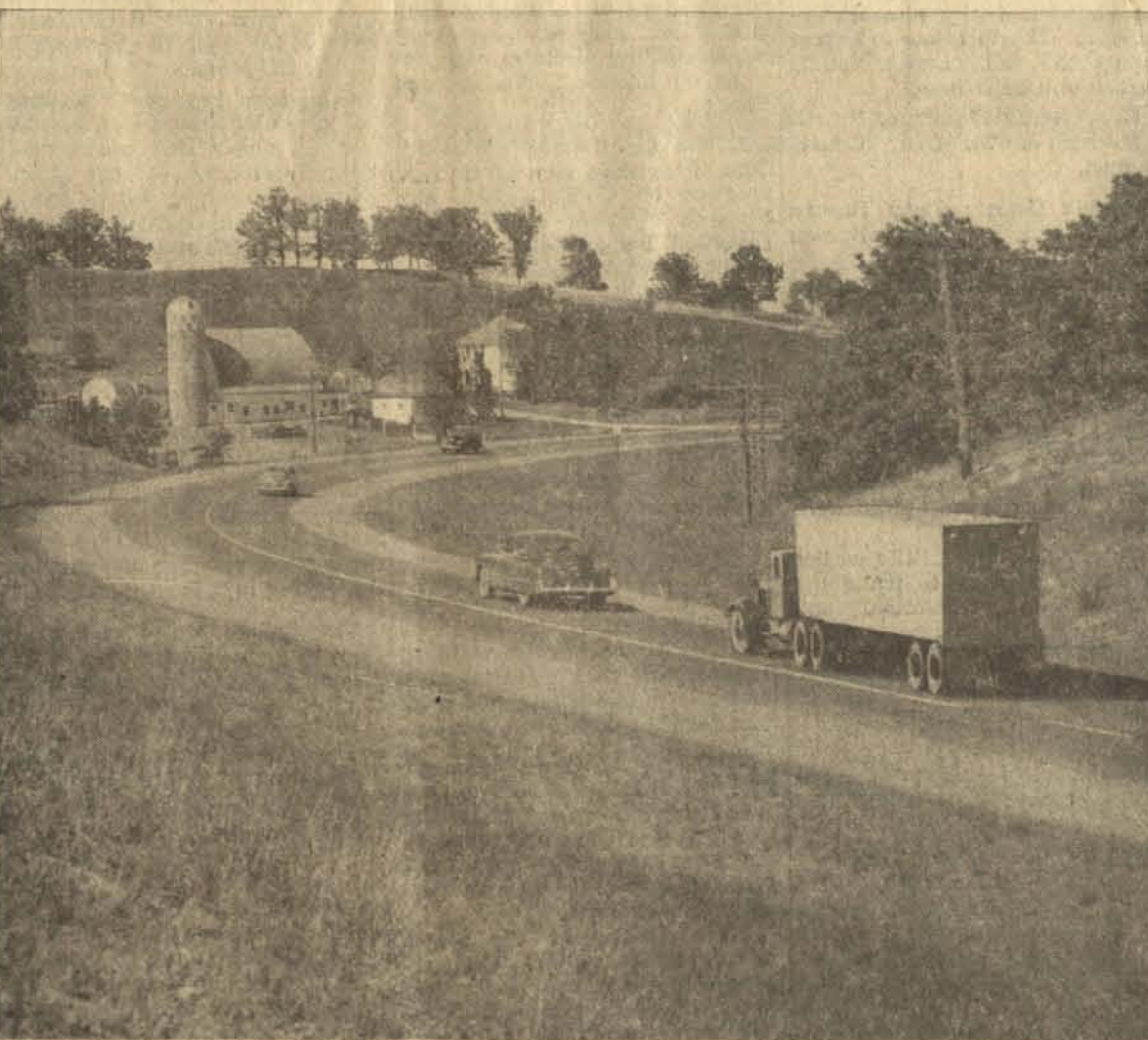
FARM BUREAU LIFE INSURANCE CO.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its office, 4000 North Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 26, 1957, 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.

February 1, 1957
Lansing, Michigan

J. F. YAEGER
Secretary



Don't let farm-to-market roads take you "for a ride"!

As a business man, Mr. Farmer, you'll want the answer to this: "Will the new roads... to be built under the 1956 Highway Act... give you the most for your tax dollar?"

They will... if they are Asphalt-constructed!

With Asphalt construction you get low first cost. Reduced "Mortgage" on future taxes. For Asphalt pavement provides minimum-maintenance. And when future loads and traffic volume increase... you just add more width or another Asphalt course.

Modern Asphalt roads are engineered from the ground up to give rugged wear... for generations. Smooth-riding, quiet... they reduce driving fatigue. Help prolong the life of your equipment. Glare absorbing... they're easy on the eyes. Skid resistant... they help you drive safely. In winter, snow and ice melt quicker, the way ahead is clear, faster. And Asphalt surfaces are not harmed by de-icing chemicals, either!

Choose pavement wisely. Send for the new booklet, "... From the Ground Up."

Scientifically constructed!

Economy, comfort and safety are built-in to last... with durable Asphalt construction. Built-in to save you tax dollars.



Ribbons of velvet smoothness... MODERN ASPHALT HIGHWAYS.



THE ASPHALT INSTITUTE
The Neil House, Columbus 15, Ohio

order to observe the safety measures taken by the owners. He believes there are many Farm Bureau properties that would benefit from a fire inspection. "We shall do all we can to help provide these inspections as rapidly as our facilities permit."

Hospital Care For 121,000 Children

One out of every four Blue Cross hospital admissions are for youngsters covered under family contracts, a Michigan Blue Cross-Blue Shield survey reveals.

During 1955 children under 19 accounted for 121,000 admissions more than \$13,000,000 worth of hospital care in Michigan.

Biggest single reason for hospital care was removal of tonsils and adenoids. There were 36,526 such cases requiring more than \$2,000,000 in hospital care.

The survey showed the stay was short—usually just a shade over 1½ days—and the average cost about \$58 a case.

Second major reason for hospitalization of youngsters was digestive and genito-urinary ailments. They accounted for 19,325

admissions and the cost of care was the highest of any category—\$2,839,000.

Diseases of the respiratory system (pneumonia, etc.) sent nearly 15,000 children to the hospital and Blue Cross provided about \$1,750,000 in hospital care.

4,203 boys were hospitalized for accidents compared to 2,135 girls. Accident cases averaged a week of hospital care and the cost to Blue Cross was over \$850,000.

Heart and artery disease among youngsters accounted for over 2,100 Blue Cross hospital admissions during the year at a cost of more than \$478,000.

Possible polio cases while relatively small in number—1,139—involved the longest average stay (2½ weeks) and the highest average cost (\$280 per case). In some of the severe paralytic cases, stays lasted up to four months and charges covered by Blue Cross often topped \$2,000 for hospital care alone.

Research on Wheat

Research conducted in the next few years at Michigan State University may well determine the future success of the Michigan wheat farmer. Everett Everson's job at the University is to breed better varieties of wheat for the state's No. 1 cash grain crop.

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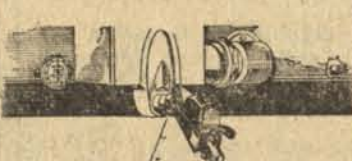
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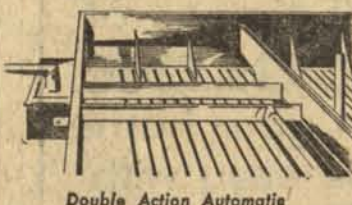
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REMEMBER: If you want the simplest, most efficient, economical Sap Extractor, check with us BEFORE you buy. For NOW as always KING gives you the greatest VALUE. Write For Details.

KING Portable Power TREE TAPPER



Save barrels of first run sap by faster, more uniform tapping. Tapper pays for itself in one season even in small sugar bush. Equipped with speed reducer... and brush for washing sugaring equipment. Now has full 2 hp motor... 2" bore, 1½" stroke, forged steel connecting rod, needle bearings for longer life and trouble-free service. Leak proof gas cap. Get your share of extra profits... order a KING Portable Tree Tapper NOW! Big labor saver. Has many other uses around farm. Only \$134.75

NEW IMPROVED Construction, heavy gauge plastic material manufactured expressly for

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- Over 20% more sap per tree.
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- Sunny days, even below freezing, are good sap days with KING SAP BAGS.
- Cleaner, sweeter, sun sterilized, high quality sap means more money for you.
- Bags can be hung out and picked up 3 times faster than buckets.
- The cover is part of the KING SAP BAG, so, no cover to buy.
- TRANSPARENT, easy to see sap level, saves time and steps.
- Does not blow off tree, keyhole slot in disc locks bag to spout.
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- BIG CAPACITY — 13 qts. expands to 15 qts. when full.
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- These advantages pay for your KING SAP BAGS in a short time.
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FREE—WITH EACH 100 BAGS—one storage rack for 100 bags, and one complete repair kit. Bags are easy to repair... just as you would an inner tube.

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100-299, 81¢ each
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Activities of Women of Michigan Farm Bureau

District 1

Mrs. Fred Foster, Chairman, Niles R-3

Berrien County Women's Committee meeting for December was held at the Youth Memorial Building December 19 with 31 women present. A report on the plastic dish sale was made. This has been very successful. An acknowledgment for the gift of \$10 for the retarded children of the Niles School was read.

The January program will be a panel on education. Mrs. John Walker urged every lady to read the article on education published in the U. S. News and World Report magazine.

Our Christmas party was enjoyed by all and a special word of thanks was given to the committee. Mrs. Walter Wellington, Mrs. Mabel Koebel, Mrs. Eugene Waldenmaier, and Mrs. Robert Knuth.

Cass County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met at the home of Mrs. Chester Ball January 8. The meeting called to order by Mrs. Wm. Harris. Roll Call was given by each lady giving a new year's resolution.

Mrs. Earl Shearer was appointed as the representative to the Cass County Center Building Association which met on January 21st at the County Court House. The Association will serve a dinner to the Soil Conservation meeting.

Mrs. Lee Bakeman and Mrs. Chester Ball reported on the coming year's program.

Reservations for the St. Mary's Camp on March 5th-8th must be made with Mrs. Charles Knapp, R-2, Marshall by March 1st. The next meeting will be February 5 at the home of Mrs. Lee Bakeman.

Kalamazoo County Farm Bureau Women's Committee met January 7 at the home of Mrs. Corbus, Louise Smith read the program for the St. Mary's Camp. Members were asked to attend the Rural Health meeting on January 16, 17, or 18th. The next meeting will be held in Schoolcraft at the Methodist Church on February 4th.

The program committee will work out a printed program for the coming year. Our secretary to send a letter to each absent group representative in order to create new interest and increase the percentage of attendance.

Duane Smith, a state trooper for the Michigan State Police at the Wayland post, spoke on "Safety on the Highways." He stressed the seven most unheeded

laws, and commended the driver training programs being conducted in the high schools. Mrs. Snyder, safety chairman, and Mrs. Rolfe, legislative chairman, reported on their responsibility.

District 5

Mrs. John C. Watling, Chairman, Bath R-1

Farm Bureau Committee Women of District 5 have been busy planning the coming year's work and appointing committees to carry out the program.

Clinton County Farm Bureau Women held their first meeting in 1957 with 31 groups represented and several guests. Roll call was answered by a Christmas experience. Devotions dealt with the true meaning of the greeting "A Happy New Year" and the challenges of each new day. \$53 from 7 groups and \$20 in pledges for the school fund for mentally retarded children were received.

Delegates to the State Health Conference in January were appointed by the chairman. A travelog by Rev. Price of St. Johns on a recent trip to Jamaica, Haiti and the Virgin Islands was greatly enjoyed.

Eaton County Women hold monthly evening meetings at the County Farm Bureau office at Charlotte. 25 people were present from 19 groups at the January meeting. Citizenship is the program theme this year.

Delegates will attend the Safety Council meeting in March and the Rural Health Conference in January at Michigan State University.

Our guest speaker from the County Civil Defense office, said "Civil Defense is being able to take care of oneself and to help others. Civil Defense is everyday help in any disaster."

The treasurer's report shows a wonderful bank balance from their Fair Booth earnings.

Genesee Farm Bureau Women meet at members' homes or places designated by a hostess group. Counties have different ways of earning funds. Genesee has a special box for a birthday fund to which each member contributes 1 penny per year when her birthday month comes.

This year when the appeal for Hungarian relief was made, the women voted to open their birthday fund and found \$17.50. Five dollars each, for food packages and drugs were voted to the Hungarian relief. The remaining \$7.50 was used to give cigars and candy to people at the County Farm at Thanksgiving time. They decided to continue the project for another year.

Guest speaker was Pete March, insurance salesman for Genesee Farm Bureau who won a trip for himself and wife to Miami in the insurance sales contest.

Ingham County Farm Bureau Women met at the Veterans of Foreign Wars home in Eaton Rapids for luncheon and business meeting in November.

As a Christmas project funds were given to the County Rehabilitation Center for foam rubber cushions for chairs. Community Farm Bureau groups were invited to help in this project if they wished. About 30 attended the Christmas party at the County Farm Bureau office in December.

In planning the 1957 year's program, 3 tours were decided on: (1) A visit to the State Legislature, (2) the County Court House to learn more about county government and (3) to the WJIM Country House TV Station or the School for the Blind.

District 6

Mrs. Irene Hitchings, Chairman, North Street

Huron county Farm Bureau Women are divided into East and West groups because of the large area. They alternate their meetings, but meet every month.

They have been active in assisting the 4-H Club young folks at fair time, serving meals from their kitchen at cost.

They have the services of a county health nurse now and are going to assist the Chest X-Ray and the Mobile Blood Units.

They have participated in all the state projects as well as local projects.

Many requests are made for the services of Farm Bureau women in rural areas. They are always willing to help on any local project that will better rural living.

Mrs. Bruce Crumback of Bad Axe and Mrs. Edward Oeschger of Bay Port are co-chairmen of Huron County Farm Bureau Women.

Sanilac County Farm Bureau Women will have their annual dinner February 1 at the Farm Bureau Building at Sandusky.

Mrs. Allyn Gordon has been appointed chairman for the bake sale and bazaar to be held then.

The dinner will be served by the Amadore and Applegate groups. Roll call response will be items about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

The women are very proud of the record of over 2,000 Farm



Bureau members in Sanilac county. Also that District 6 won first place for attendance at the annual Farm Bureau Women's meeting in Lansing.

MRS. WARD M. GILLILAND of Hart receives from Governor Williams the Certificate of Award and \$50 in cash for Crystal Lake

Community Farm Bureau as first place winner in Oceana county in the 1956 West Michigan Farm-to-Prosper Contest.

Our women were very gracious in donating \$50 to send a 4-H Club achievement booth winner to the 4-H Congress at Chicago.

Mrs. Edward Golding is chairman of Tuscola County Women's Committee. She has an enthusiastic group of women to help her.

This is true in all of the county committees in the Thumb district. There is much to be done.

District 9

Mrs. Oliver Tompkins, Chairman, Traverse City R-1

The weatherman says its "4" below at the airport. A good day to catch up on our mail.

New York State reports 55 below in some places.

The most cherry trees will stand is 30 below zero. Northwest farmers are beginning to wonder if there will be a short crop next summer.

The Cherry Producers Marketing Cooperative is a hot issue around here. One thing for sure, if we don't hang together, we're going to hang separately.

Benzie County Women's Committee seems to be internationally minded. They have been having interesting lectures and pictures on Mexico, Alaska, and Europe.

Kalkaska County Women's Committee had an informative program on Civil Defense, also films on "Tornado and Times of Disaster." I appreciated the invitation and wish I could have been there.

Missaukee County Women's Committee met January 8 with a 56% attendance. Mrs. Cole, editor of the Missaukee Republican, spoke on what makes a good newspaper.

Wexford County. Mrs. Dohms said they are all set for the Advisory Council meeting at her house February 27th. Wexford County Farm Bureau was gratified at the interest shown at the Roll Call kick-off dinner. Peter Sikkema of the Michigan Farm Bureau staff said farmers are strong in public and business affairs through their Farm Bureau.

Northwest Michigan Women's Committee made a contribution to the purchase of a bus for the county 4-H clubs. Their thank-you letter is so nicely written I would like to share it with you: Dear Mrs. Tompkins,

As a member of the Bates Merry Makers 4-H Club, I would like to thank the Northwest Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Committee for their part in helping to purchase the county 4-H coach.

We have had many enjoyable trips with it this past year. I personally was able to go to Cadillac for the district contests and East Lansing for Club week. Thank you for making this possible.

Sincerely, Sue Engle

The State Advisory Council meeting December 27-28 at Lansing (my first) was brimful of ideas for more effective activities for Farm Bureau women. I know the programs are going to be helpful.

District 10-E

Mrs. Vernon Kingsbury, Chm., Alpena R-1

Alpena County Women's Committee met at the home of Mrs. Adolore Rouleau in January. Twenty-three groups were represented. Thank you notes were read from three shut-ins whom the women had remembered with a Xmas gift. Reports were given by the Safety and Legislative chairmen. Plans were made to serve dinner for the Petroleum Co-op Day Feb. 5 at Long Rapids Hall. The ladies will give the proceeds of the dinner to Hun-

garian relief.

The program for the coming year was submitted to the group for approval. The February meeting will be with Mrs. Warren Spragg. A report will be given on the Hoover Commission Report.

Montmorency County Women's Committee met at the home of Mrs. Fanny Secrest. Names were drawn for hostess for the coming year. Guest speaker Mrs. Ruth Rice told the history of Atlanta. Civil Defense will be discussed at the meeting in February.

Ogemaw County Farm Bureau met at the home of Mrs. Minnie Clemens. Mrs. Enid Kenyon gave a report on the State Farm Bu-

reau Institute. The women recently sponsored a Victory Dinner for the Farm Bureau Young People and their sponsors. The evening was spent playing games and dancing. The party was a huge success. We decided to all learn the Farm Bureau Creed and recite it at the next meeting.

Presque Isle County Women's Committee met at the Hawks Township Hall. The meeting places were scheduled for the coming year. A "Care" package was sent out. Thirty-five women were present. Plans were being made for the year's program. The next meeting will be at Moltke.

Oceana Group Wins in Farm To Prosper

Several Community Farm Bureau won prizes in the 1956 West Michigan Farm-to-Prosper Contest.

Crystal Lake Community Farm Bureau placed first in Oceana county.

The contest is a community activities project carried on among rural community organizations for advancement of rural community life in Western Michigan.

Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, and Ottawa counties rural groups take part.

Winners in the 1956 contest were announced at the annual "Round-Up" December 27 at Muskegon Senior High School auditorium and cafeteria.

The Governor traditionally bestows the awards on winning organizations. On this occasion Governor Williams outlined his agricultural legislative program for the current session.

Governor Williams said he seeks further promotion for marketing of farm commodities, in-

cluding legislation looking to improved quality of marketed commodities. He wants research by Michigan State University into land use, and legislation establishing water rights and water management.

Other Community Farm Bureau placing among winners in the Farm-to-Prosper Contest were North Chester, fourth in Ottawa county; Dayton Progressive, fourth in Newaygo county, and Dayton Farm Bureau, fifth in Newaygo; West Grant second in Oceana.

Other Farm Bureau Commu-

ity Groups participating included: Mason county—Lincoln River, Amber, Sauble River, CBS, St. Mary's Lake, Riverton, E. and R., Summit-Pere Marquette.

Muskegon county — Casnovia, Ravenna, Holton, Holton Progressive, Cedar Creek, MRC, White River-Montague.

Newaygo county — County Line, Rural-Urban Sherman.

Oceana county — New Era Golden, Benona, Newfield, Ransacker, Shelby Young Adults, Lakeshore, Claybanks.

Ottawa county — Patchin, Gitchee, Tuttle.

A total of 101 Farm Bureaus, Granges, school groups, and independent organizations participated in this 17th annual contest. County prizes consist of five prizes carrying cash awards of \$50, \$30, \$20, \$15, and \$10, and framed certificates. The Sweepstakes winner receives an additional \$100 and a Michigan State flag which is kept until won by another organization.

Winner in 1956 was Ashland Grange, Newaygo county. Business organizations provide the prize money.

The Michigan Farm Bureau was represented by Dan Reed, associate legislative counsel.

CIO Proposes Changes in Election Laws

In setting out its plans for changes in Michigan election laws, the CIO lists the following goals in the January 24, 1957 issue of the Michigan CIO News:

1. Michigan CIO will continue to work to obtain reapportionment of both our congressional districts and the legislature so that representation may be based on people.
 2. Lower the voting age to 18.
 3. Time off, with pay, to vote.
 4. Simpler methods of registration.
 5. Consolidation of elections so that there are not more than one primary and one other election a year.
 6. An adequate number of competent, trained, bi-partisan poll workers.
 7. Establishment of bi-partisanship on all election boards.
 8. We support the election of the president of the United States and the vice president by direct popular vote.
- The deadline for filing petitions to place proposed constitutional amendments on the April, 1957 ballot has passed. No effort to reapportion the Michigan Senate can be made until next year.

NEW Printed Pattern

Easier to cut Sew and fit



9317 36-52 A printed pattern in a wonderfully becoming style for the larger woman (in sizes 36 to 52)—to slim inches from your figure! Ideal for a cotton gingham in colorful check or plaid.

Pattern 9317: Women's sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52. Size 36 takes 4 1/4 yards 35-inch fabric.



4792 10-20 PRINTED PATTERN New printed pattern in the newest silhouette! The Empire-Princess—fashions the loveliest lines for your figure.

Pattern 4792: Misses sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20. Size 16 dress and bolero, 4 1/4 yards of 35-inch fabric.

Send 35 cents in coins for each pattern to Michigan Farm News, P.O. Box 42 Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, N. Y. Add five cents for each pattern for first class mailing.

The Home Flower Garden

SOWING SEEDS INDOORS

H. L. R. CHAPMAN Horticulturist

A greenhouse is the ideal place in which to start seeds at this time of year, but if you do not have one it will be necessary to handle the seeds in the home.

Gardeners have been successful in raising young plants in the sun porch or in some warm, well lighted window of the home where the young plants can be protected from drafts and the direct rays of the sun.

Many of the troubles that affect young plants come from the soil, so much so, that it is advisable to sterilize the soil before sowing the seeds. There are several methods of sterilizing small quantities of soil.

A simple method is to fill a flat with the soil and then thoroughly drench it with boiling water. Moist heat is considered more effective than dry heat in destroying injurious organisms.

The boiling water method is suggested in preference to the generally recommended practice of placing a one inch layer of soil in a baking pan and baking it in the oven at a temperature of 200 degrees for thirty minutes.

If large quantities of sterilized soil are required, then undoubtedly, the best method of sterilizing is to steam it as is done in commercial greenhouses. It is well to remember that should the last method be used, the best results are attained when the soil is somewhat dry.

Sterilized soil should remain at least one week before it is used. If then it is too dry, moisture should be added. If too moist it should be exposed to the air to dry out. The soil must be in a condition to be handled before the seeds are planted.

Let me repeat here the soil mixture to be used for seed sowing as given in this column last month. This mixture should be: one part loam; one part leaf mold or peat moss; and one part builder's sand. This is thoroughly mixed and sifted through a quarter of an inch sieve.

To proceed with the sowing of the seeds indoors: Containers must be chosen. They may be four inch or five inch flower pots (if new clay pots are used they should be soaked for ten minutes in water and dried before using). The containers may be six inch seed or bulb pans, or they may be shallow boxes (flats).

Whichever container is used, it must have holes in the bottom. If flower pots or seed pans are used broken pieces of old flower pots should be placed over the holes, and over this half inch layer of sphagnum moss or clean crumpled leaves should be placed.

This is to make certain that surplus water can drain off

quietly without taking the soil down to block the drainage hole. If flats are used, omit the broken pieces of flower pots.

Next, fill the container to the top with the treated soil mixture. If the container is a flower pot or seed pan grip it with both hands and press the soil down firmly with the thumbs until it is one inch from the top. Then level the soil and it is ready to receive the seeds. If a flat is used as a container a flat piece of wood will be necessary to firm and level the soil.

A frequent mistake made is the sowing of seeds too thickly. That causes the seedlings to become weak and open to attack by disease. Sow the seeds evenly and not too thickly on the surface of the soil.

If the seeds are other than the dust-like type they should be gently pressed into the soil by using the bottom of a four inch flower pot. For flats use a flat piece of wood. The seeds should now be covered very lightly by sifting soil through a sieve made of window screen.

Next, water thoroughly but carefully by using a small watering can with a very fine nozzle or a spray bulb. After the water has drained off place the container in the location where the seeds will germinate. It is advisable to stand the container on a tray to prevent damage from moisture.

The name of the plant, the place where the seeds were obtained, and the date when the seeds were sown should be written on a small wooden label which should be placed in the soil at the edge of the container. This will enable you to keep records of your plants.

Place a piece of glass on top of the seed pan or flat. This will prevent too rapid evaporation and aid in keeping a uniform condition of soil moisture.

Most seeds germinate more readily in the absence of light. To imitate this condition place a piece of newspaper over the glass and allow to remain until after germination takes place.

When green color appears in the young seedlings air must be admitted gradually, a little more each day until the glass can be taken away. Fresh air without chilling is of great importance.

If watering is necessary do it in the morning rather than late in the day.

Give the seedlings as much light as possible, but not direct sunlight until the plants become

FARM BUREAU Garden Seeds

Your Farm Bureau seed dealer can make 166 leading varieties of Farm Bureau vegetable and flower seeds available to you.

Look over this list of beans, corn, and peas recommended for general use and for freezing.

Bush Beans

- Stringless Green Pod Top Crop
- Improved Golden Wax
- Penell Pod Wax (This variety not recommended for freezing)

Pole Beans

- Kentucky Wonder

Lima Beans

- Fordhook Bush
- Henderson Bush

Sweet Corn

- Golden Bantam
- Golden Cross Bantam
- Tendergold
- Stowell's Hybrid (White)

Peas

- Laxton Progress
- Laxtonian
- Thomas Laxton
- Little Marvel

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FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC. Garden Seed Dept. 2 P. O. Box 960, Lansing, Mich. Please send free catalog.

Name _____ Street No. & RFD _____ Post Office _____

So Pretty!



7055 SIZES 2-10 Daughter looks so pretty in this adorable pinafore! Her favorite whirly skirt—saucy bow ties—even a "ballet slipper" pocket of colorful embroidery!

Pattern 7055: Child's sizes 2-, 4, 6, 8, 10. Tissue pattern, embroidery transfer. State size.

Send 25 cents in coins for each pattern to Michigan Farm News, 263, Oldcraft Service, P.O. Box 162, Old Chelsea Station, New York, N. Y. Add five cents for each pattern for first class mailing.

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Farm Bureau In Upper Peninsula

WESLEY S. HAWLEY
Co-ordinator For U. P.
Farm Bureau in the Upper Peninsula is moving ahead. Chippewa and Baraga County Farm Bureaus are organizing for action, appointing committees and preparing their work.

Chippewa county is setting up membership, community, legislative, resolutions, Blue Cross and women's committees. They plan an Institute before spring if possible.

Baraga county has set up legislative, Blue Cross and women's committees. They will have more later.

Training schools for Community officers were held January 23 and 24 in Chippewa and Baraga counties. MFB staff members from Lansing helped in these profitable meetings; Don Kinsey, Mrs. Marjorie Karker and Clarence King. These were good and profitable meetings.

Menominee county held a very good County Institute January 30 for seven committees. The following committees are at work: membership, community, women, Blue Cross, legislative and resolutions. The membership and Community committees are busy building the membership and new community groups. The other committees are busy with their responsibilities.

Mrs. Ken Corey has been appointed to the State Women's Council and is on the Menominee county board of directors.

Delta County Farm Bureau is busy with groups and membership activities.

Farm-City Week Dates for 1957

Friday, November 22, has been set as the opening of Farm-City Week for 1957. The week will close with Thanksgiving Day, November 28.

"This week is set to emphasize the need for better rural-urban understanding," said Merle Tucker, of New Mexico, chairman of the National Farm-City Week Committee. "We hope and know that activities in this area are continuing throughout the year."

A smart man works for his money, and then makes it work for him.

INFORMATION ON SOCIAL SECURITY

More Farmers Are Becoming Eligible

W. SCOTT HAMLIN

Manager, Lansing District Social Security Administration

Editor's Note—To help Farm Bureau members understand better the provisions of the Social Security Act, we have invited the Lansing District Office of the Social Security Administration to write articles on matters of current interest.

Since Apr. 1, 1956, thousands of self-employed farm operators and their workers in Michigan have become entitled to monthly benefits under the recent changes in the Social Security law.

Also included are the widows and minor children of many Michigan farmers and farm workers. In these cases, the breadwinner didn't live till he was 65, or death overtook his plans to retire in 1957 or future years.

Michigan farm families have established their stakes in the Social Security Program, giving them some protection against the hazards of old age and death.

After January 1, 1957, many more farmers and workers are planning to retire and file their claims in one of the 21 district offices of the Social Security Administration located in Michigan.

Many of these farmers plan to discontinue farming, sell out, or lease the land to tenants. Others between the ages of 65 and 72 plan to restrict their 1957 net earnings to \$1,200 or less.

Farmers age 72 or past know that the \$1,200 earnings limitation does not apply to them.

In order to facilitate the handling of their claims after January 1, 1957, we have several suggestions for farmers. When you call on the representative of the district office have with you:

- 1—Your Social Security card.
- 2—Proof of your age. If available, your birth or baptismal certificate is the best proof possible.
- 3—An extra copy of your 1956 Form 1040 and Schedule F that the Social Security office can keep to accompany your claim.
- 4—Proof of the payment of your 1956 self-employment tax on covered farm earnings. This can be your cancelled check or the copy of your postal or bank money order receipt.

When can you expect your

check? Well, that depends upon the work loads in the Michigan district offices. The Administration has hired new employees during the past few months in anticipation of heavy claim loads in 1957.

Good farm records and your cooperation in supplying needed evidence will be of immense help in processing your claims for Social Security benefits.

If you filed your claim for benefits in 1956 and your insured status was based on your 1956 farm income, it will be necessary for you to furnish the Social Security Administration with a copy of your 1956 Form 1040 and Schedule F along with your proof of the self-employment tax payment.

Storing Paint That Has Been Opened

To store surplus paints that have been opened, Michigan State University recommends pouring a small amount of the thinner over the unused supply of paint.

Use turpentine or painter's thinner for oil base materials. . . lacquer thinner for lacquers. . . or, special thinners for synthetic resin products. Use only enough thinner to make a thin film.

Put the lid on the can. Drive the lid down tightly.

Be careful not to rock or shake the can. This will prevent the film of thinner from mixing with the material.

Since there is not enough air in the tightly sealed can, the film of thinner cannot evaporate. It will remain on top almost indefinitely and prevent the formation of a coating or skin. When you wish to use the material again, just stir the thinner in. . . and it is ready for use.

Tangerines From Southeast Asia

Tangerines peel and eat easily and neatly. Southeast Asia has been producing these "kid glove" oranges for more than 4,000 years. January is a peak month of production for tangerines, often on the market through May. The most widely produced variety, the Dancy, is deep orange-red to scarlet, surface bumpy and irregularly furrowed in full maturity. A glossy, smooth peel usually denotes immaturity. Select tangerines that are heavy for their size.

Ogemaw Co. Leader Dies In Accident

Harry Lickfeld, 37, of Prescott, died and his wife, Dorothy, was seriously injured when their car collided with a truck in a snow-storm December 31.

Mr. Lickfeld was a member of the executive committee of the board of directors of Ogemaw County Farm Bureau. Mrs. Lickfeld is recovering at home.

Other members of the family are two daughters of high school age, Geraldine and Harriet.

Since the accident neighbors and Ogemaw County Farm Bureau members have operated the farm. They prepared the dairy herd for sale.

The Ogemaw County Farm Bureau board of directors in expressing their sympathy made this statement, in which MFB staff members should like to join:

"Members of Ogemaw County Farm Bureau and the Michigan Farm Bureau lost a good friend and worker in Harry Lickfeld. Few people have left more friends, more wonderful memories, and fine examples than Harry left in this community.

"Harry served as director of Ogemaw County Farm Bureau for six years. In that time he was chairman of the board two years, vice-chairman one year, and on the executive board two years. He represented his county at many meetings where his friendliness and good judgment made many friends at the state level.

"Harry represented District 10 as a member of the state resolutions committee at the 34th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau, November 12-13, 1953.

"He was president of the board of education at Prescott where they are working to consolidate several districts and build a modern educational system. He was trustee for Richland township, a member of the volunteer fire department at Prescott, substitute mail carrier out of Prescott, and worked for the Artificial Breeders Ass'n. Mr. and Mrs. Lickfeld were active in starting the Young People of the Farm Bureau organization in Ogemaw county, and served as counselors for two years."

The higher a man climbs the more dependent he becomes on others to keep him up there.

STATE OFFICIAL SAYS FARMERS

May Deliver Own Produce in Car

DAN E. REED

Associate Legislative Counsel
Use of an auto with passenger license plates for delivery of farm commodities by the producer has been given an official O. K.

Harold L. Harvey, director of the Enforcement Division of the Michigan Department of State, said in a letter to the Michigan Farm Bureau January 17, 1957:

"As long as this gentleman was delivering eggs produced on his own farm there should be no reason for him to purchase commercial plates."

The problem was raised by an incident affecting a Newaygo County Farm Bureau member who was delivering eggs in the city of Muskegon. The eggs, produced on his own farm, were being carried in a station wagon with a passenger car license.

The Farm Bureau member was stopped by a State enforcement official and told that he could not use a passenger car license when delivering eggs.

Asked whether a farm commercial license would be satisfactory, the officer said it would, but the vehicle could not then be used for family transportation.

As a result, the Farm Bureau member bought a full commercial

plate at considerable added cost.

The officer was wrong on two counts, as was confirmed by State Department representatives in a conference with Farm Bureau:

1. The alleged offense occurred on September 14, 1956. This was more than a month after the effective date of a Farm Bureau measure, passed by the 1956 Legislature, which legalized the use of a vehicle with a farm commercial license for the transportation of the farm family. The law went into operation on August 11, 1956.

2. The use of a passenger car to deliver eggs or other farm produce does not require that the vehicle have a commercial license if the use is by a farmer who raises his own produce.

Representing the Department of State in the conference were: Lee C. Richardson, director, and Frank D. Kelley, deputy director, of the Driver and Vehicle Services Division, and Harold L. Harvey, director of the Enforcement Division.

A man always tries to follow the straight and narrow when he shovels snow.

Many people are inclined to do good, but they keep putting it off until tomorrow.

Soil Conservation Districts Elect

At its annual meeting on January 18-19, the Michigan Association of Soil Conservation Districts re-elected Ray Anderson of Manistee county, as president; Lloyd Reusink of Lenawee county, vice-president; C. K. Colby of Shiawassee county, secretary, and Mrs. Marie Shepard of Genesee county, treasurer.

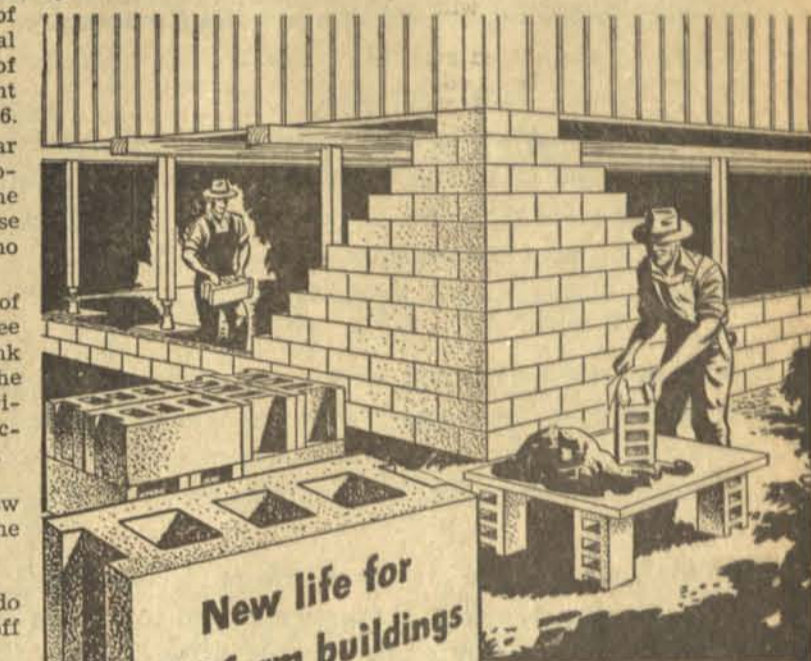
Herb Van Aken of Eaton county was given an award for outstanding service to conservation in Michigan. Mr. Van Aken has also been active in national conservation work and in water for

problems. Wexford County Soil Conservation District was given the Goodyear Award. Its chairman, Charles Gotthard, Farm Bureau leader of Wexford county, was awarded a tour to the Goodyear farms in Arizona.

A panel on water use, management and legislation was a feature of the conference.

People who jump at conclusions spend much of their lives up in the air.

Many people pray for things they wouldn't think of working for.



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.....
St. or R. No.....
Post Office.....State.....

Your family eats a BALANCED DIET! Your stock eats a BALANCED RATION!

NOW... BE SURE THE CROPS YOU PLANT THIS SPRING WILL EAT A BALANCED RATION!

HOW... It's easy! Just test your soil before planting. Then use the Farm Bureau High Analysis Fertilizer called for by the soil test.

WHY... Each Farm Bureau Fertilizer granule is uniform in chemical analysis, as well as size. Farm Bureau granulated fertilizer is dust-free, it has no bag-set. You get more for your fertilizer dollar from your Farm Bureau dealer...get your Spring order to him NOW!

Get your supply of **FREE** Soil Sample **BAGS** from your Farm Bureau Dealer

SEE YOUR LOCAL FARM BUREAU DEALER OR CO-OP ASS'N FOR FARM BUREAU BULK OR BAGGED FERTILIZER.

FERTILIZER DEP'T • FARM BUREAU SERVICES, INC. • LANSING, MICHIGAN

Resolutions on Michigan Farm Bureau Affairs

Ideas to Improve Our Organization

These resolutions on "Our Farm Bureau" were adopted at the 37th annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau at Michigan State University, November 8 and 9, 1956.

Membership and Program. We are proud of the fact that Farm Bureau policy is developed at the "grass roots" level by discussions held in our 1,584 Community groups and by resolutions passed at the annual meetings of our 66 County Farm Bureaus.

Whenever our right to speak for farmers is challenged, we are proud to point out that our membership of 67,154 member families is obtained on a voluntary basis and they believe in Farm Bureau enough to pay a \$10 membership fee. These fees are not obtained on a check-off method.

Groups other than farmers have many plans for agriculture that are not in keeping with our free enterprise philosophy. If we are to keep our free economic system, the farmer must be heard through his own organization.

Therefore, we implore all our members to contribute their best thinking to policy development and to inform themselves on the issues and problems facing agriculture, to the end that sound and fair solutions may be obtained.

We have attained recognition in the field of legislation and a voice at the conference table, and have been asked to contribute to the solution of national and international problems.

If we are to maintain this influential position, we must grow not only in numbers but in the determination to put our policies into action. Therefore, we urge that County Farm Bureaus plan aggressive membership campaigns to reach their goals and thereby play their part in reaching the state goal of 70,242 members.

Counties that contain industrial areas may need to carefully appraise their potential.

We believe that anyone who is interested enough to live on a farm, or produce farm products, even though he is not a full-time farmer, should be considered for membership.

Our attitude toward part-time farmers, whose philosophy promotes our way of life, should be

"Whenever a member moves permanently to another state or country, his service benefits shall be terminated."

(2) Amend Article VIII Section 2, paragraph 2, by changing the second sentence to read:

"The director nominated by the Michigan Farm Bureau Young People shall be elected for a term of one year, and the director nominated by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women shall be elected for a term of two years."

(3) Amend Article VIII Section 4 by changing the words "Michigan Junior Farm Bureau" to "Michigan Farm Bureau Young People" wherever these words appear in said Article.

(4) Amend Article XI by changing the words "Michigan Junior Farm Bureau" to "Michigan Farm Bureau Young People" wherever these words appear in said Article. (The convention adopted these amendments).

Policy Development and Execution. To better represent a complete cross-section of agriculture, we must have the thinking of our members on issues and problems facing agriculture.

The solution to many farm problems has originated in a Community group, has been considered in County Farm Bureau annual meeting and has become a policy of our state or national organization through action of our voting delegates.

The success of the Farm Bureau legislative program depends to a great extent, on the support of the members as evidenced in their contacts with their legislators.

We urge each member to be informed on the policies of our state and national Farm Bureau organizations and to give active support.

Community Farm Bureaus. We may be justly proud of our Community Discussion Group Program. Its value has been recognized by other State Farm Bureaus. We sincerely believe these discussion groups are the means by which our members become acquainted with the purpose, objectives and programs of Farm Bureau. They encourage the "grass roots" thinking that is determining policies of our organization. They stimulate interest in community betterment and

tempered to include these people in our organization.

Amendments to By-Laws

(1) Amend article IV Section 7 by changing the title to read "Expulsion and Cancellation" and by adding a second paragraph to read:



OFFICERS of the State Ass'n of Soil Conservation Districts for 1957 are: Standing, left to right: Ray Anderson, Chief, president; C. K. Colby, Corunna, secretary; Lloyd Ruesink, Adrian, vice-

president. Seated, left, Mrs. Ray Anderson, president of Ladies Auxiliary; Mrs. Marie Shepard, Swartz Creek, treasurer of State Ass'n.

improved rural living. We urge County Farm Bureaus to make every effort to bring to each member the opportunities offered by these groups.

Our goal of a group for every 35 members can be achieved through active County Committees and the development of well planned and interesting programs.

All Community Farm Bureau groups deserve the active support of those benefiting by the services rendered through the groups.

Let's Not Forget

We have adopted these resolutions as a program of work. Let's not forget them. — Harold T. Milett, Fowlerville, Livingston county.

Farm Bureau Women. We commend the Women's Committee of the Michigan Farm Bureau for the excellent work they are doing in the field of public relations, public health and international understanding. To strengthen this work further:

We urge all Community Group representatives to attend the Women's Committee in our county and state organizations.

ested in the current program of providing Farm Bureau speakers for service clubs.

We would urge those responsible for the success of this part of our program, on state and local levels, to use every available means to create a better understanding between producer and consumer.

Farm-City Week. We have long recognized the need for improved rural-urban understanding and welcome the designation by Congress and our President of November 16-22 as Farm-City Week.

With Thanksgiving Day as its climax, this week can focus the attention of the nation on the interdependence of agriculture, industry and labor and the importance of a wholesome rural community.

We urge all Farm Bureau units to cooperate in making Farm-City Week an effective program of understanding.

We congratulate Kiwanis International on being selected to coordinate the observance for the second consecutive year.

Michigan Rural Health Conference. The Michigan Rural Health Conference held annually in our state is a most valuable and commendable effort. We encourage attendance and participation in these educational and forward-looking sessions.

United Fund. Financial support for our voluntary health and welfare organizations can be most efficiently and economically collected and used through a budgeting review and a unified campaign. We endorse the "Give Once for All" program of United Fund and Community Chests.

Christian Rural Overseas Program. Through the Christian Rural Overseas Program and Heifer Project, Inc., much needed aid has been effectively provided for hopeless and hungry people in other lands.

We support the principles of this program which is putting quantities of our abundant farm production to good use.

Commendation of MFB Staff. We, the Board of Delegates to the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting, wish to express to the management and staff of the Michigan Farm Bureau our commendation for the capable, efficient, and effective work that has made our organization the voice of agriculture.

Reaffirmation. We reaffirm the resolutions adopted at previous annual meetings that are now in force except insofar as they are modified or supplemented by the resolutions adopted at this annual meeting.

Resolutions Committee

- District
- 1—C. W. Randol, Galesburg.
 - 2—Leo C. Wagner, Adrian.
 - 3—Wilbur E. Smith, Erie.
 - 4—Homer N. Cowles, Belding.
 - 5—Mrs. Cyril Spike, Owosso.
 - 6—Merle Hazelton, Memphis.
 - 7—Andrew Kole, Fremont.
 - 8—Melvon Kindig, Shepherd.
 - 9—George H. Schepelman, Bear Lake.
 - 10—Edward K. Shanahan, Charlevoix.
 - 11—Clayton Ford, Cornell.
- Mrs. George Crisenbery, Jackson, MFB Women.
Mrs. Vernon Kingsbury, Alpena, MFB Women.
Mrs. George Southworth, Elkton, MFB Women.
Douglas Haskill, Lapeer, MFB Young People.
Thomas E. Hahn, Rodney, At Large.
Allen F. Rush, Chairman, Lake Orion, At Large.
Robert E. Smith, Fowlerville, At Large.

Mail Coupon For Free Soil Test Bags

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 Dept. 2-57 P.O. Box 960, Lansing, Mich.

Please send — Soil Sample Bags.

Name _____

Street No. & RFD _____

Post Office _____

Yaeger Vice-Pres. of United Cooperatives

J. F. Yaeger was elected vice-president and a member of the executive committee of the board of directors of the United Cooperatives, Inc., at the 26th annual meeting held at Chicago, January 11. He represents Farm Bureau Services, Inc., of Michigan.

United Cooperative is a manufacturing and purchasing organization serving regional farm cooperatives throughout the United States. Its sales last year were \$35,304,000, up nearly \$5,500,000 over 1955. Net savings were \$545,776, of which \$501,911 was declared as patronage dividends to regional cooperatives, payable in preferred stock.

Frozen Meats Keep After Thawing

Frozen meat that has been thawed can be kept in the refrigerator as safely as meat that has never been frozen. This throws new light on a widespread belief that meat is more perishable after it has been frozen, say home economists at Michigan State University.

Experiments show that frozen meats may keep longer in a refrigerator than do fresh, unfrozen meats.

Growth of spoilage bacteria started at once on unfrozen meat placed in a refrigerator during tests by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. But it took 48 hours for these bacteria to start growing on meat taken from the freezer and thawed.

You need not feel that you must cook meat the moment it has been thawed, if you keep it in a good refrigerator. The refrigerator temperature—for either fresh or frozen meat—should be between 40 and 45 degrees.

Choose Your Corn Hybrid

What is the best corn hybrid for you? If you haven't decided on a particular one for your farm, here's how to go about it, says farm crops specialist Elmer Rossman of Michigan State University.

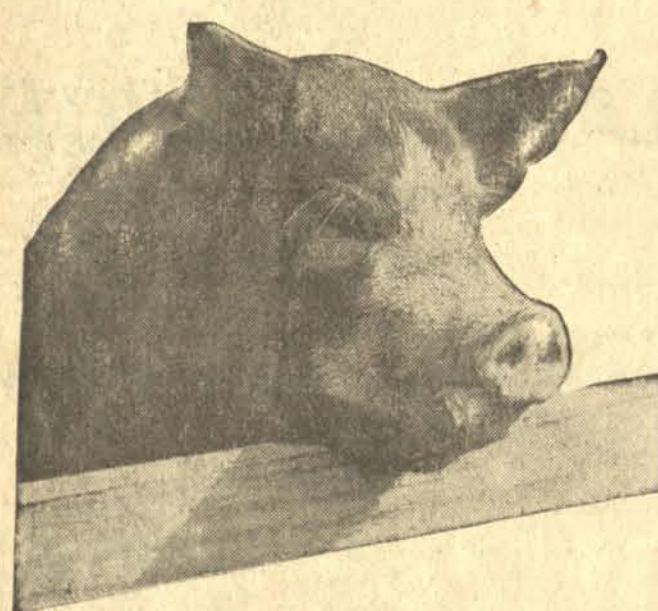
The first thing, says Rossman, is to obtain a copy of Michigan State's new extension bulletin F67, "Corn Hybrids Compared for 1957." It is now available at your county extension office.

The three most important qualities to look for are yield, maturity and lodging resistance.

Replacement Cows

Best way to get good replacement cows in a dairy herd these days is to raise them. If you buy surplus stock from another herd owner, chances are you'll be getting some cows that are lower in production than the rest.

The millenium will have been reached when we can have lasting peace without fighting for it every generation.



MEET No. 6

The Pig That's on the Profit Side of the Ledger

The first five pigs in a litter pay the upkeep on the sow. Your profit on pigs begins with pig number six. However, old feeding methods didn't provide adequate nutrition during gestation, lactation and early growing periods. Too few pigs were being weaned... something was lacking in normal rations.

Your Farm Bureau Services Feed Department answered the problem with its line of hog and pig feeds. An outstanding example of this answer is Farm Bureau Porkmaker 35%, available from any Farm Bureau feed dealer in Michigan. You can depend on it for maximum pork production at economical cost. Use your homegrown grains for best results, at lower costs.



"I've put on pounds since I've been fed FARM BUREAU PORKMAKER 35%

And what's really important is that every pound has been a healthy one. The additional B-12 and the antibiotics keep me in good shape right up to the time I hit 100 pounds. After that I go on Porkmaker 125. Even the breeding stock at our place benefits from Porkmaker 35%. Try it on yours!"

PORKMAKER 35% IS "OPEN FORMULA"

..... you see what you're buying by the tag on the bag!



See Your Local Farm Bureau Feed Dealer or Co-op Ass'n for Farm Bureau "Open Formula" Feeds.

FEED DEPARTMENT

Farm Bureau Services, Inc. Lansing, Michigan

We are particularly inter-

for High Yielding Excellent Quality OATS this year...

Plant

MICHIGAN CERTIFIED * Seed Oats

* Guaranteed varietal purity, and free from objectionable weed seed.

MICHIGAN CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Michigan State University
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

BARLEY • CORN • FIELD BEANS
FORAGE SEEDS • OATS • RYE
POTATOES • WHEAT • SOYBEANS

For FB Members Having Blue Cross

This is "check-up time" for Farm Bureau members. Make sure you are a paid-up member of your Community Farm Bureau Group so you will be eligible for the Michigan Blue Cross-Blue Shield enrollment re-opening coming soon.

If your Farm Bureau group offers Blue Cross-Blue Shield (nearly all of the 1,590 groups do) and you are on the 1957 membership roster as a paid-up member, you will be eligible to enroll for Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage for yourself and your family.

Mark the date of the re-opening on your calendar—March 1 to March 15.

This is the only time this year you may enroll in Blue Cross-Blue Shield, or make certain changes in your coverage if you now enjoy the service benefits of Blue Cross-Blue Shield.

Nobody wants to go to the hospital, but Blue Cross statistics show that if you belong to an average-size Farm Bureau Blue Cross family of three or more persons, chances are better than 50-50 that one of you will need hospital care during 1957.

The best answer to this problem is the service benefits protection of Blue Cross-Blue Shield which has been chosen by half the families in Michigan as their security against today's high cost of hospital and medical care.

It's important that you understand the meaning of "service benefits," too. This means that your Blue Cross coverage provides the hospital services you may need rather than limited cash payments. And, figures show that you don't have to be in the hospital very long to run up a bill of much more than \$500.

In fact, many hospital cases require extensive laboratory services and expensive drugs which can send the cost of care beyond the provisions of a plan that has set cash limits—even for a comparatively short stay.

However, the Blue Cross principle of providing service benefits—instead of set cash payments—was established to cover the highest cost case, as well as the average case.

In contrast, a system of limited cash payments for hospital services, which might have covered the average case five years ago, doesn't do the job today, and falls far short of covering the high-cost case.

Your Blue Cross coverage, which puts no price tag—or dollar limit—on the hospital care you or your family may need, is your guarantee that you will have real protection whenever you might need it.

Check your Farm Bureau membership—and mark the date of the Blue Cross-Blue Shield enrollment re-opening on your calendar!

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these matters should be safeguarded. Certainly state-aid should never be used as a club or bait to force or bribe the citizens of any district to become a part of any school district against their will.

We should realize that the state-aid formula involves more than just the distribution of some dollars among the schools districts. It can be a very effective leverage to mold the pattern of school district organization into conformity with the preconceived ideas of those sponsoring various schemes.

The Farm Bureau delegates urged that the feature of deductible mileage in the school-aid formula be increased from 2 1/2 to 4 mills. This would make possible the raising of the gross allowance feature of the formula to a higher level and would be to the great advantage of the more needy districts. That is, those having a relatively low assessed valuation behind each school pupil. It would, of course, reduce the state-aid to those more prosperous districts where the valuation per pupil is higher than the average.

Another bill in line with a Farm Bureau resolution, is H. 1, by Representative Don R. Pears, of Buchanan. This would prohibit placing any oscillating or rotating lights, other than white lights, on or near a highway.

A third bill introduced early in the session, directly in harmony with a Farm Bureau position, was H. 15, sponsored by Representative Allison Green, of Kingston. It would classify a person keeping 50 or more hives of bees as a farmer.

A fourth proposal which would carry out a Farm Bureau recommendation is H. 19, sponsored jointly by eight Representatives. It would increase the monthly license fee charged for a trailer in a trailer coach park from \$2.50 to \$3. The additional 50c would go to the local school district. The schools receive \$1.50 per month out of the present \$2.50 rate.

Regarding this matter, the Farm Bureau delegates concluded that the \$1.50 per month now charged "does not begin to cover the operating cost of educating the children that come from trailer camps. We urge the Legislature to amend this act to correct this situation so that educational costs may be spread more equitably."

A fifth bill which covers a matter for which we worked a year ago, but which was not enacted, is embodied in H. 27. It is being sponsored by Representatives Harry T. Emmons, of Byron Center, and Glenn Hunsberger, of Grand Rapids. It would permit farmers' mutual insurance companies to insure property used by farmers for their own storage in a village or city of less than 5,000 population.

Another bill, in line with Farm Bureau policy, is S. 1048, introduced by Haskell L. Nichols, of Jackson. It would regulate

school having less than 15 pupils.

The present formula provides a gross allowance of \$2,850 for any district having from 10 to 14 pupils, and a gross allowance of \$4,370 for a school with 15 to 34 pupils.

At the present time, the minimum millage requirements for securing any state-aid is 5 mills, and the minimum millage for full participation in state-aid is 6 1/2 mills.

Proposals being advocated would raise the minimum millage to 6 and the millage for full participation to 8. These figures are all on the basis of state equalized valuations.

One Room Schools. It appears quite obvious that a definite purpose behind some of the proposed changes is that of speeding up elimination of the one-room rural schools. The Farm Bureau delegates last November said, in this connection:

"We insist that the rights of the people in all districts to come to their own conclusions regarding proposed constitutional amendments which have been introduced thus far during the current session are

among over 100 bills and proposed constitutional amendments which have been introduced thus far during the current session are

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Puts All Insurance In One Package

For the first time, farmers can purchase "package" insurance protection similar to the "home-owner policies" which have won widespread popularity among city people.

A farm Protection Package, an entirely new approach to the farmer's problem of insuring his farm and personal property, has been developed by Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company.

In one low-cost program the new package provides protection against a host of farming hazards ranging from fire, wind, personal liability and employer liability to theft, lightning, vandalism, glass breakage and explosion.

The new idea makes available to farm operators the same kind of package protection that has become popular in cities, but there are important advantages to the farm "Protection Package."

It has been carefully tailor-made to meet specific farm needs and is completely flexible. Each farm owner can obtain a package fitted exactly to the requirements of his individual needs.

"Indications are that this is going to become an important development in farm protection," said Nile L. Vermillion, manager of the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company.

"Instead of scattering his insurance with the possibility of gaps and duplication, the Farm Bureau member now can realize new security in a single, closely-knit package program.

"Not only does this package offer new security, but it enables merchandising along highways by providing that the display and sale should be kept off the right-of-way. This would apply to both state highways and county roads.

Many of the other pending bills would directly or indirectly affect Farm Bureau folks and other rural citizens. During this session, let's follow developments closely and not be bashful about letting our lawmakers know just how we feel about the pending proposals.

must rent another residence in the event his home is damaged by fire or other hazards covered by the policy. The cost of removing debris in case of such damage also is covered.

Other hazards provided for in the package program include riot, aircraft damage, vehicle damage, bursting of pipes, damage from burglars, damage from falling objects, from the weight of ice, snow or sleet, collapse, landslide, leakage or overflow or water not resulting from flood, glass breakage, freezing of pipes, damage to electrical appliances by artificially generated electricity, smoke damage, personal medical expense and death of livestock on a highway.

The list of all the benefits available through the protection package is a long one. Among them, for example, is provision for living expenses which may confront a policy-holder if he

It happens sometimes. For example, James Spencer and J. C. Spencer of Lapeer, R. 2, may or may not be the same person. If they are we have a duplication. It pains us to think of how many ways that could happen. If you should be receiving two copies of the paper, we'd appreciate a postcard telling us the name and address we should use, and the one which should be discontinued. Thank you. Michigan Farm News, PO Box 960, Lansing, Mich.

Tip to motorists: Limit your speed—not your chances to live.



Good ideas are put to work for you in Farm Bureau

Refund of tax on gasoline used on farm averages \$91.28 yearly

Farm Bureau was a leader in getting state and federal gas tax refunds for farmers on gasoline used on the farm and for other off-the-highway purposes.

This check illustrates another benefit to farmers from their membership in the Farm Bureau:

DATE 1956 \$ 91.28

F.B.-sponsored legislation will save the average Michigan farmer annually—

State Gas Tax @ 6¢ per gal. \$60.85

Federal Gas Tax @ 3¢ per gal. \$30.43

TOTAL ANNUAL SAVINGS \$91.28

Farmers Savings
LANSING, MICH. Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 1956

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Mr. Farmer \$ 91.28

Ninety-One Dollars and 28 DOLLARS

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU
LANSING, MICHIGAN

Will you invite a farm family to join Farm Bureau—perhaps for the same reasons you did? Most people became members because some friend invited them. New memberships are being taken now for 1957. (Application below.)

2 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I hereby apply for membership in the _____
County Farm Bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau, and the American Farm Bureau, and agree to pay the annual membership dues of \$10.00.

It is agreed that 40 cents of this sum shall be for a year's subscription to the Michigan Farm News; that \$1.00 is to be applied as my annual dues to the American Farm Bureau Federation of which 25 cents is for a year's subscription to the Nation's Agriculture.

(Check One)

Have you ever been a member of Farm Bureau? New Renewal Transfer

NAME (print) _____ Applicant

Post Office _____ RFD _____

Road Address _____

Township _____

SIGN HERE _____

RECEIPT FOR DUES
RECEIVED \$10.00 in payment of County Farm Bureau, Michigan Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau dues for 1957 from this applicant:

ADDRESS _____

NAME _____

Signed _____
Membership Worker

Address _____

Complete the application and mail it to your County Farm Bureau Secretary, together with member's dues.

Give Receipt for Dues.

See page 7 for address of your County Farm Bureau Secretary.

Thank You For Your Help
Michigan Farm News

No. 1 Problem Is Rising Costs

(Continued from Page 1)

School Aid Formula. While considering the state's money problems, some of which stem directly from our rapidly growing population, we can't overlook the No. 1 financial headache, and that is the cost of current operation and capital outlay for the public school system. This is true despite the fact that the state is exceedingly generous in the amount of the state collected revenue which is distributed to the local school districts each year.

Just how the proceeds of the two-thirds of the state sales tax revenue and the primary school interest fund are to be divided up among the 3,491 school districts in Michigan is one of the big battles which will be fought out in the Legislature during the coming weeks.

The professional educators are not thoroughly agreed on all the details which they would like to see written into the new school-aid formula. However, most of the plans being proposed have much in common. They would give no aid to a one-teacher

school having less than 15 pupils.

The present formula provides a gross allowance of \$2,850 for any district having from 10 to 14 pupils, and a gross allowance of \$4,370 for a school with 15 to 34 pupils.

At the present time, the minimum millage requirements for securing any state-aid is 5 mills, and the minimum millage for full participation in state-aid is 6 1/2 mills.

Proposals being advocated would raise the minimum millage to 6 and the millage for full participation to 8. These figures are all on the basis of state equalized valuations.

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"We insist that the rights of the people in all districts to come to their own conclusions regarding proposed constitutional amendments which have been introduced thus far during the current session are

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County Farm Bureau Secretaries

Following are the names and addresses of County Farm Bureau secretaries, to whom new membership applications and Farm Bureau dues for 1957 may be mailed:

- Alcona — Mrs. Elizabeth McArthur, Harrisville, R-2.
- Allegan — Mrs. Ruth DeVerille, 227 Hubbard St., Allegan.
- Alpena — Mrs. Esther Kennedy, Posen, R-1.
- Antrim — Richard Wieland, Ellsworth.
- Arenac — Mrs. Ray Simmons, Twining.
- Baraga — Mrs. Charles Vak, L'Anse.
- Barry — Mrs. Leota Pallas, 121 N. Church St., Hastings.
- Bay — Mrs. Russell Madison, Main and South Henry St., Bay City.
- Benzie — Mrs. Glenn Robotham, Beulah, R-1.
- Berrien — Miss Barbra Foster, P. O. Box 113, Berrien Springs.
- Branch — Mrs. Belle Newell, 18 N. Hanchett St., Coldwater.
- Calhoun — Mrs. Harry King, Room 16, Town Hall, Marshall.
- Cass — Mrs. Verneda Schmok, Box 97, Cassopolis.
- Charlevoix — Mrs. Ivadelle Penfold, East Jordan, R-2.
- Cheboygan — Mrs. Tom Baker, Cheboygan.
- Chippewa — Mrs. Ernest Pettef, Pickford.
- Clare — Mrs. Donald Davis, Clare, R-2.
- Clinton — Mrs. Irma McKenna, 103 E. State St., St. Johns.
- Delta — Mrs. John M. Whitney, 428 South 8th St., Escanaba.
- Eaton — Mrs. Dorothy Anderson, 142 S. Pearl St., Charlotte.
- Emmet — Mrs. Roscoe Williams, 414 Jackson St., Petoskey.
- Genesee — Mrs. Gertrude Rettig, G-2501 Flushing Rd., Flint.
- Gladwin — Mrs. Dorothy Badger, Gladwin, R-3.
- Gratiot — Mrs. Wilma Feight, 128 N. Pine River, Ithaca.
- Hillsdale — Mrs. Margaret Lovelless, 47 S. Howell St., Hillsdale.
- Fleet, 47 S. Howell St., Hillsdale.
- Huron — Mrs. Barbara Bouck, 180 E. Huron St., Bad Axe.
- Ingham — Mrs. Dorothy Surato, 356 1/2 S. Jefferson St., Mason.
- Ionia — Mrs. Lester Covert, 111 1/2 N. Depot St., Ionia.
- Isabella — Mrs. Marie Farnan, 301 E. Pickard St., Mt. Pleasant.
- Iosco — Mrs. William Herriman, Tawas City.
- Jackson — G. E. Williams, Springport, R-1.
- Kalamazoo — Mrs. Mabel K. Bacon, Kalamazoo, R-5.
- Kalkaska — Mrs. Esther Dunlap, Kalkaska, R-1.
- Kent — Mrs. Arvil Heilmann, 204 Kerr Bldg., 6 28th St. S. E., Grand Rapids 8.
- Lapeer — Mrs. Enid Maunder, 148 W. Park St., Lapeer.
- Lenawee — Mrs. Alice Collins, Adrian, R-1.
- Livingston — Mrs. Mary Lou Stevens, 214 N. Walnut St., Howell.
- Macomb — Mrs. Madeline Douglas, Washington, R-1.
- Manistee — Harry Taylor, Cope-mish, R-1.
- Mason — Elmer L. Fredericks, Scottville.
- Menominee — Mrs. Bertil Gid- lof, Stephenson.
- Mecosta — Mrs. Margaret Fitz- gerald, Big Rapids, R-1.
- Midland — Mrs. Roy Varner, Midland, R-3.
- Missaukee — Mrs. Bonnie Bur- kett, McBain, R-1.
- Monroe — Mrs. Viola Eipperle, 8300 Ida West Road, Ida.
- Montcalm — Mrs. Carl Johnson, Pierson, R-1.
- Montmorency — Mrs. Ervin Far- rier, Hillman.
- Muskegon — Mrs. Alice Allen, Bailey, R-1.
- Newaygo — Mrs. Carroll Robin- son, Grant, R-1.
- N. W. Michigan — Mrs. Rose- mary King, 336 W. Front St., Traverse City.
- Oakland — James L. Reid, Mil- ford, R-2.
- Oceana — Mrs. Amil Johnson, Shelby, R-2.
- Ogemaw — Mrs. Arnold Mat- thews, Alger, R-1.
- Osceola — Mrs. Fred A. John- son, Hersey, R-1.
- Otsego — Mrs. Walter Miller, Gaylord, R-2.
- Ottawa — Mrs. Merle Herrinton, Allendale.
- Presque Isle — Mrs. Herbert Paull, Hawks.
- Saginaw — Mrs. Ethel N. Fuller, Box 1169, Saginaw.
- Sanilac — Mrs. Mary Ellen Klaty, 237 E. Sanilac St., Sand- usky.
- Shiawassee — Mrs. Ruth Alex- ander, Corunna, R-2.
- St. Clair — Mrs. Beulah Bur- rows, 81047 N. Main, Memphis.
- St. Joseph — Mrs. Beulah Timm, Centerville.
- Tuscola — Miss Loretta Kirkpat- rick, Box 71, Caro.
- Van Buren — Mrs. Katherine Johanson, 123 Paw Paw St., Law- rence.
- Washtenaw — Mrs. Emma B. Howelson, 109 1/2 E. Washington, Office 4, Ann Arbor.
- Wayne — Mrs. Robert Simmons, 51140 Geddes Road, Belleville.
- Wexford — Mrs. Richard Brehm, Tustin, R-2.

Proposed: A Milk Marketing Act for Michigan

Community Farm Bureau Discussion Topic for February

Background Material for Program in February by 1590 Community Farm Bureau Discussion Groups

DONALD D. KINSEY
Coordinator of Education and Research
Important Preliminary Statements

1. Our discussion topic for February has been changed. The delegates at November state convention asked that we discuss the proposed Michigan Milk Marketing Bill.

Since this matter is to come before the Senate in Lansing during February, discussion of the matter must start now. The change in topic has been approved by the State Topic Committee.

2. Farm Bureau has no established position with regard to this matter. If one is to be determined, the sentiment of the members must be known. And the subject is a very controversial one, to be sure.

3. It would be impossible to include all information gathered in an article of this extent. Both sides must be discussed. So considerable added information is being sent to the discussion leaders.

4. The reader must remember that the viewpoints and arguments presented here are not necessarily those of the writer nor the Farm Bureau. They have been gathered from persons who favor and oppose passage of the bill.

5. Whether you are a dairy farmer or not, it concerns you. (A) You use milk. (B) The interests of all farmers should be alive to problems in other fields of agriculture. (C) Future state action could possibly touch on your own field of production.

Background Facts

1. Milk has some special marketing problems. It is perishable. It must be clean and sanitary to be sold to the public. It is important to human health and vital to infants and children. Since it is perishable, special regulations are needed to place it on the market for fluid use.

2. Demand for fluid milk does not equal the seasonal changes in production. There must be enough cows to supply public needs when production is low. When the cows hit their peak of production, surpluses develop. You can't shut off a cow as you would a faucet.

3. Surpluses at peak production times must be put into manufactured products. Manufacturing costs are higher than fluid milk processing. So, less can be paid for milk that has to be used in manufacturing.

4. To keep an adequate supply of milk, some means is needed to give the dairy farmer a fair return for milk throughout the year. The classing of milk according to use, and a "blend pricing" program help to spread the income for milk over the seasons. Pool pricing helps to equalize the pricing among farmers in a milkshed area.

5. Problems develop. If prices are good, milk is shipped into the area. New producers jump into the game. Farmers add more cows. The next peak period finds added surpluses, and the blend price drops to all producers.

6. The best fluid price to the producer is closely linked to getting the best price at the consumer level. And the more fluid milk consumed by the public, the better the prospects for a good price on fluid milk all along the line. With this in mind, farmers have paid to advertise milk and dairy products through the American

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Housewives, businessmen, teachers, and students all over the world read and enjoy this international newspaper, published daily in Boston. World-famous for constructive news stories and penetrating editorials. Special features for the whole family.

The Christian Science Monitor, One Norway St., Boston 15, Mass. Send your newspaper for the time checked. Enclosed find my check or money order.
1 year \$16 6 months \$9 3 months \$4

Name _____
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(perhaps out of state) undercut the fluid price to consumers and take away customers from the cooperative market that must give the blend price. This is a difficult matter to control.

10. These, and other conditions, led to the demand for government controls over milk marketing in the early 1930s. Federal Marketing Orders were established. Later, state control laws began to take their places. At one time 28 states had state milk control acts. Only 17 states have kept them. Some were repealed, some declared unconstitutional, and some allowed to expire.

11. The proposed Michigan Milk Marketing Bill would place the administration of the law within the Department of Agriculture. Minimum prices would be established to producers and for wholesale and retail sales of fluid milk and cream packages. Manufactured milk prices would not be controlled.

Further features of the Bill are included in the information to the discussion leaders.

Arguments in Favor of the Bill

The stability and security of the whole milk industry has been threatened by violent disturbances, including strikes by producers, and dangerous pricing practices by milk distributors.

Michigan Dairy Farmers Federation has passed a resolution declaring that:

"Falling milk prices to farmers and rising farm costs since 1952 have cut dairy farm income at the same time that city incomes were rising. . . . In Michigan the incomes of many of our capable dairy farmers compare unfavorably with the incomes of their industrially employed neighbors.

"Low dairy income is contagious, undermining the success of many industries serving the farmer, and in many cases threatening the economic well-being of entire rural trading areas.

"Price negotiation by violence is not good for the dairy industry. In addition to interruptions of supply, producers leaving the business due to low prices constitute a threat to the future supply of high quality milk.

"Competition between milk distributors, super-markets and independent stores has resulted in price wars in every section of the state. This has dislocated the orderly marketing of milk. It has resulted in secret rebates, unearned discounts, gifts of products, money equipment and services and the extension of credit beyond reasonable standards.

"These costs siphoned off money logically belonging to farmers and marketing agencies, pauperizing the milk industry without benefiting either producer, distributor or consumer. They extract funds that might be used for sales promotion on milk in

competition with other food commodities glamorized by expensive advertising.

"Our officers and directors are hereby authorized and directed to do all in their power to urge the legislature to pass and the Governor to sign and facilitate the effectiveness of this needed state milk marketing act.

"Pricing under such regulations should recognize the significant long and short run economic factors affecting supply and demand and protect the industry from destructive competitive rivalries which are peculiar to the milk business in the absence of government regulation. Such competition causes violent and unsound price fluctuations which draw milk into abnormal distribution patterns."

Those favoring the bill do not consider it likely that state milk marketing orders will take over the functions normally performed by dairy farmers' cooperatives.

Prices established by the order would be minimum prices. Bargaining would still be possible for a premium above the established minimum price - and probably sometimes necessary. Also, marketing orders would call for expert and organized counsel at their establishment or termination. Farmer information would be needed at the hearings. Trained people would be necessary to present this information.

The farmer's cooperative would be needed in setting price levels, developing milk classification rules and auditing procedures. The organization would be needed to give the members information about the orders, aiding in bringing about needed amendments, etc.

It will be needed to fight cases of destructive competition. And, in order to bargain at all, the farmer's cooperative must continue to control supplies and facilities for handling milk. Only in this way can member producers be guaranteed a market for all the milk they produce and an income from all of it.

Without the cooperatives the dairy distributors can easily

make unreasonable demands on farmers to install new and expensive equipment at their own whim. Also, when savings are made by bulk deliveries, the cooperatives can see to it that such benefits are passed along to the farmers who are bearing this expense. Yes, cooperatives would still be important with the Milk Marketing Act in force.

It is well known that individual milk producers have no power to set their own milk prices. Even organizations of dairy farmers run into strong opposition. Control over marketing practices that would deprive producers of their reasonable returns in business are needed. And state regulation seems the only way to accomplish this.

Arguments Against The Bill

There are three main arguments given by those who oppose passage of the bill.

1. A state milk marketing act is another instance of surrendering to government the control over a private business program. Where do we stop, short of complete control by government over all the farmer's business functions?

There is no guarantee that the state can do a better job of regulating the market than could be accomplished by private organizations, supported by laws that do not surrender control of the industry itself.

Under state control, the farmer must abide by government decisions, like them or not. With dairy farmers a small minority to urban groups seeking political control, where would the dairy farmer end up? His voice would be "like one crying in the wilderness."

He would be out-voted by the consumer. And consumers usually are interested in cheap food. Price fixing by the administrator under overwhelming public pressure would make the whole matter a political football, with the

farmer swarmed under in the scrimmage.

His only recourse would be to strike—but in this case he would have the forces of law against him.

The present bill can be a wedge to more drastic state control of milk marketing. During a recent review of the proposed bill there were politically partisan groups present. These people wanted to act now to make the law administered by a state milk commission, appointed by the governor. Such a move would put the whole program under the control of any political group in power.

2. If we want laws to control unfair trade practices that harm the industry why don't we pass such laws without putting the whole industry under the yoke of state control? Why don't we keep our own rights and responsibilities to regulate our business operations?

When we fix retail prices on milk, are we acting to our own advantage? Many consumers buy large quantities of milk because they can get it at a discount and carry it home. If we take away their price advantage, they will reduce the amount of milk they use. This loss of sales would hit the price rates for our milk.

3. In many instances state milk control laws have been ineffective because a state cannot control milk coming out of state. This is interstate commerce. Producers are within reach over state borders who get only manufacturing prices. They welcome a chance to sell at a better price.

What is to stop a distributor from setting up collecting plants just over the boundary and bringing the milk to compete with local milk? In fact, with a premium retail price in effect, they would have a good motive for doing just this.

And if they did much of it, they would surely lower the local blend price. The present bill does not say how this would be controlled. It has been a source of trouble in other states with such laws.

Farm Bureau Position

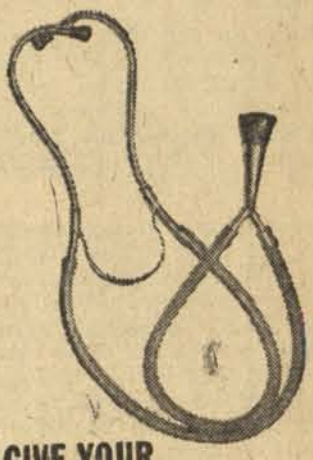
Farm Bureau delegates have established no position on the bill. That still remains to be done. Resolutions in the past have favored a free competitive enterprise system as being necessary to our American way of life. They have opposed regulations that would fix prices at the retail level—such as "fair trade"

laws. We ought to examine pretty closely what we have both to gain and to lose by going over to government control of a basic farming industry—especially when we are going to be a small minority in the matter of government influence in the future.

QUESTION

1. After studying the problem, and discussing it from both sides, please record the number of people in your group who favor the passage of a Michigan Milk Marketing Act; and the number who oppose its passage.

—Yes. Individual members.
—No. Individual members.



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400,000 Americans, leading active lives today, are living proof of the fact that cancer can be cured if detected in time. Give your doctor a chance to give you this protection by having a physical checkup every year of your life. This should include a chest x-ray for men; for women, a pelvic examination. Make it a habit . . . for life.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY 1222

Notice of Annual Meeting

FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.

The annual meeting of the policyholders of the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company of Michigan, a corporation, will be held at its office, 4000 North Grand River Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 27, 1957, 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.

February 1, 1957
Lansing, Michigan

J. F. YAEGER
Secretary



SMOOTH HIGHWAY ACTION TERRIFIC OFF-ROAD TRACTION

UNICO R.F.D. Dual-Duty FARM TRUCK TIRE

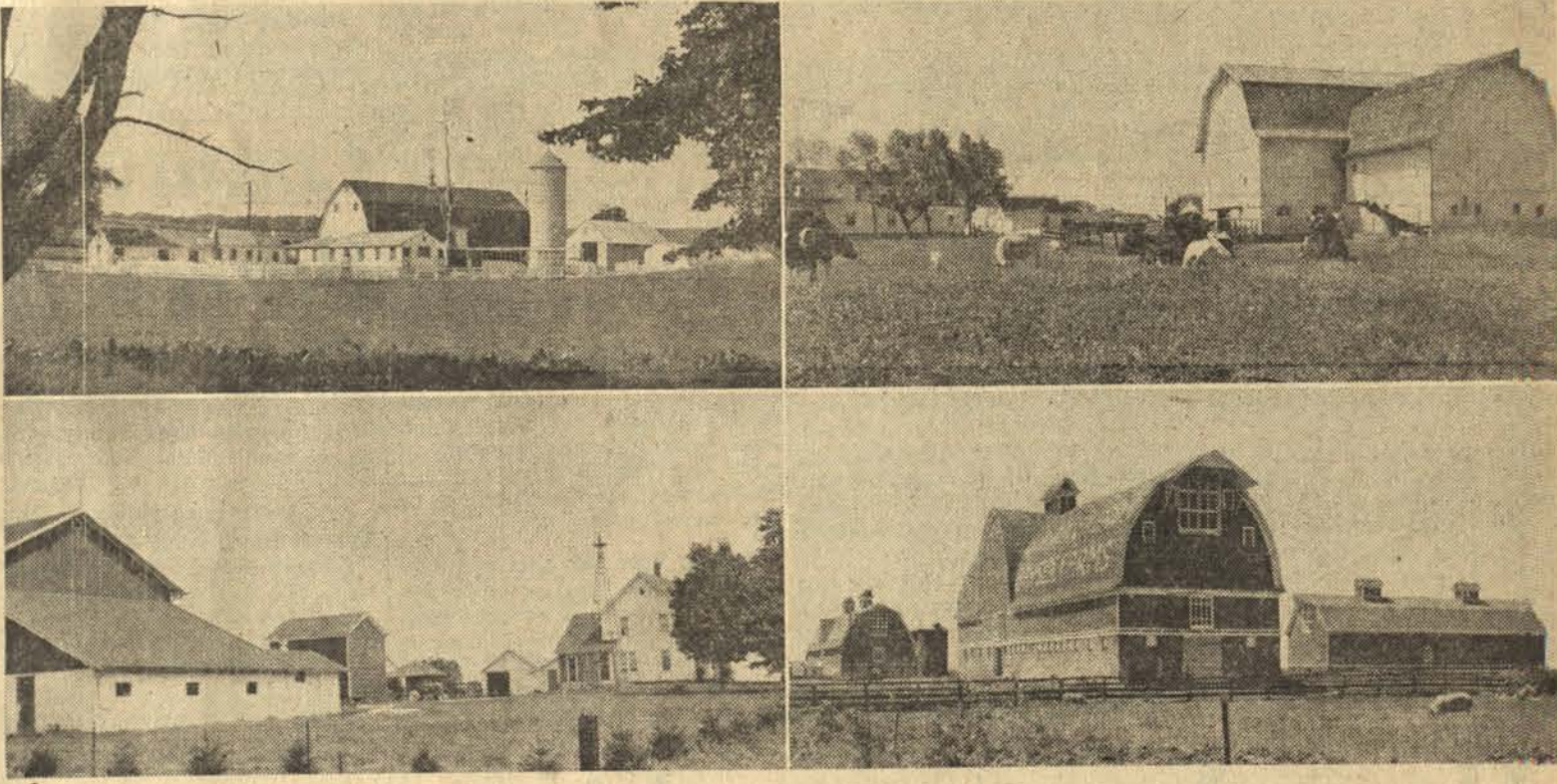
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Farm "Protection Package" Covers Fire, Wind, Liability, Theft

There's something new in Farm Bureau Insurance . . . a new and exclusive "tailor-made" plan to provide the modern protection required by modern farming.

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Now, for the first time, you can obtain fire and extended coverage protection and liability protection plus coverage for theft and mysterious disappearance of your personal property on or off your premises . . . all in one "Protection Package."

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to fit the specialized needs of your farm.

Remember, no two farms are alike and no two farms require the same insurance protection. Just as the farms shown above are entirely different, so is your farm different from any farm to be found anywhere.

So see your local Farm Bureau Insurance Agent, or send a postcard with your name and address to the home office at Lansing for complete details on this broad coverage, low cost protection plan.

Only your Farm Bureau Insurance Companies can provide you with the new farm "Protection Package."

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