

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE **ACTION** PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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DELIGHT AND WONDER—are reflected in the face of little Earnest Thompson, Saginaw, while classmate Velma Jennings stays carefully in the background. More than 500 such kindergarten children have visited the Walter Frahm dairy farm near Frankenmuth so far this year.

"AGNES" A PRIZE GUERNSEY—is patient with the children. Other recent groups have included physically handicapped youngsters. The Frahms answer questions, give farm coloring books. Walter is a member of the Board of Directors, Michigan Farm Bureau. (Photo by Bailey)

MILK DOES NOT COME FROM BOTTLES...

Milk comes from cows.

Not everyone knows that. In fact, more people *don't know* the origin of their breakfast milk—*than do*.

Milk drinkers want high quality, fresh milk, and they want it when they want it.

They want it available at modest prices all year around. Although they may use their votes to support people and programs which work directly against dairy farmers and against the things that they as consumers want, it is usually done indirectly and in innocence.

Farmers have failed to tell their story with clarity and effectiveness.

There is a crying need for greater understanding of agriculture and its contributions to the remarkable economic growth and development of this country.

This is not a job for one farmer or for a handful of farmers. It is a job for all farmers and the benefits accrue to all farmers.

It is to the credit of Michigan agriculture and the Michigan Farm Bureau that public-spirited farmers in all parts of the state open their barns and fields to the eager feet and fingers of non-farm youngsters.

Near Frankenmuth, the Walter Frahms have welcomed school youngsters from nearby cities for a farm outing. Arriving by bus, the visitors are given a tour of the fine registered Guernsey dairy herd and get a thorough explanation of just how milk is produced.

Collies, a clutch of new kittens, grass to roll in, calves to pat, blossoms to see, and the joyful unity of the Frahm family itself with their own five children, are all part of the good impression gained by the visitors, most of whom have never been on a farm before.

In Calhoun county the Farm Bureau Women's committee, under the direction of Mrs. Wilbur Smith, sponsored an all-day tour of three local farms in late May, with the cited purpose "to give

city children a chance to learn about farm animals."

Farms visited were those of Farm Bureau members Sylvester Francisco and Sons (sheep and hogs), Lloyd Smith and Sons (dairy) and Harry Mutch (beef). The tour concluded with a visit to the stockyards at Battle Creek and a chance to witness an actual livestock sale.

Suggested as things to learn about the farm were cost of land, buildings, animals and operating costs. Included were labor costs, the cost of interest on money, of taxes and insurance.

The youngsters asked why cattle and sheep cannot be kept on the same pasture, why sheep are "dipped" and what happens to the lambs that the farmer raises each year.

What are the parts of a dairy cow? How many stomachs does she have? Why does she chew her cud—and what is it?

These and similar questions were posed along the tour route where the city children learned

the names of common farm tools such as a "combine", "corn planter", "corn picker", "cultivator", "drag" and "drill".

At the Harry Mutch farm near Marshall the group saw an ultra-modern beef feeding operation without much of the old-time back breaking hand labor once required.

They learned that farmers are mechanizing, and how much it costs.

At the Sylvester Francisco farm they saw lambs and hogs on feed for market. The lambs and children peeked at each other through the fences, finally decided to be friends. *Later, many of the children were puzzled by their greasy hands after running their fingers through the fleece, setting off another round of questions about "wool fat" (lanolin).*

At the Lloyd Smith dairy northwest of Marshall, the six busses stopped again while more than 200 youngsters saw how cows are housed, cleaned and milked in a "parlor".

They were impressed by the spotless milkhouse and the early hours kept by dairymen. They saw the role often played by the farmer's wife as Mrs. Smith filled in for her menfolk, forced to keep on with springtime farm work.

Not content with having sponsored the impressive affair, the Farm Bureau Women have arranged a "reporting" contest for each class involved in the tour. Winners with their parents will be guests of the Calhoun County Farm Bureau later.

These two projects-in-understanding are cited as good examples of the many which farmers must aim at the non-farm public in the interest of a continued healthy, prosperous and efficient agriculture.

Done well, such projects return the time and effort expended by a thousand-fold. If done not at all, disaster is invited to the house of agriculture through the door of misunderstanding.

Editorial**NOT ENOUGH**

How much do our high school youngsters understand about the economic principles upon which these United States were built, and freedom rests?

Not enough.

So little, in fact, that our public schools and colleges have become the target for growing criticism for their failures to teach effectively about our free enterprise system.

Recently the Information Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau prepared a simple questionnaire for use before classes of Senior High School students studying economics in the Lansing area. The results were shocking.

"Which of the following do you think should be government-owned or operated?" they were asked. The listing included railroads, banks, steel companies, newspapers and farms. A final blank was for "none"—and it is to the youngsters' credit that this is the blank that most of them filled.

Yet nearly one-third thought banks should be government owned and operated, and that government should control railroads. A few thought that farms should be government operated, but not a single student checked the blank for newspapers.

We'll come back to this point.

"Do you agree that the fairest economic system takes from each according to his ability and gives to each according to his need?" they were asked.

Obviously many recognized the wording of this sentence for the pure Marxism it is, and checked the "disagree" box. Still around one-third of the boys and girls agreed that taking things away from those that have more than they need at the moment is somehow the right thing to do, if others lack them.

The High School youngsters were more wary of the second tenet of the communist economic system, expressed in the wording: "Profits are unearned money, developed by capital, but created by those who labor." Most marked "disagree."

Profits and the part they play in the economic system have long proved puzzling to many. The words "profits" and "capital" and "workers" linked so closely together may have alerted some of the more astute students that this was a question to watch.

So perhaps most shocking to farmers were the two-thirds of the students who felt that government should guarantee farmers a minimum income pegged at the \$3,000 per year mark, the level suggested by government officials as being a poverty figure. Even students who earlier had successfully passed the more direct questions concerning Marxist philosophy were hooked.

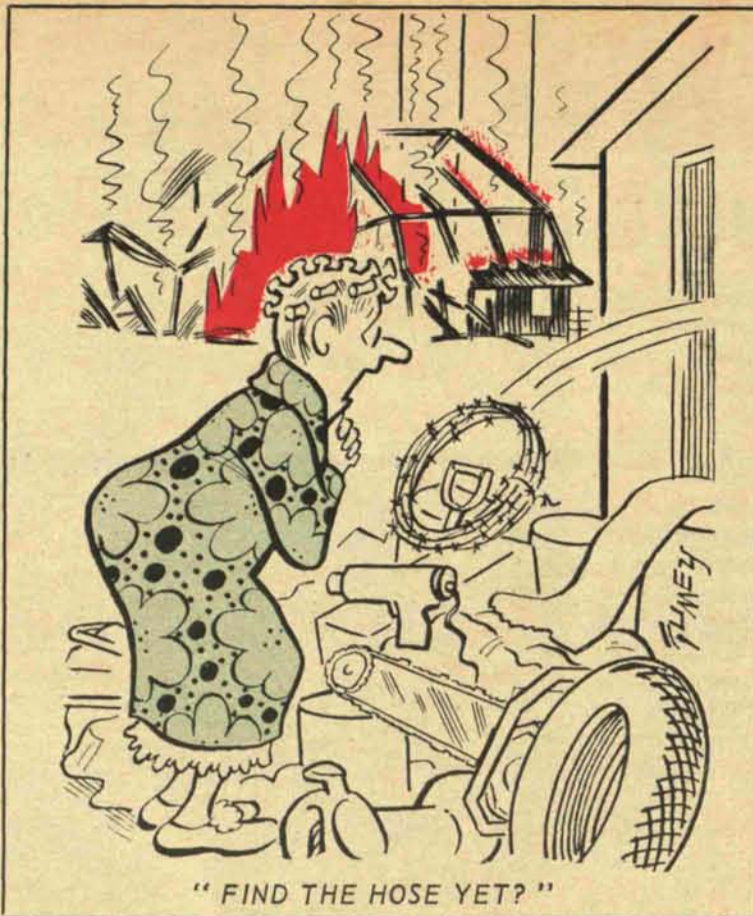
Seemingly, they failed to realize that government has no money other than that given it by citizens, and that for someone to receive a guaranteed \$3,000, the money must first be taken away by taxes or similar means from someone who had earned it—again "from each according to his ability" but now presented in more modern dress.

Before a report such as this is allowed to become overly significant, it should be clearly stated that Farm Bureau places little faith in polls and surveys as such. Questions can be too easily devised to attract answers sought by questioners, and the outcome of polls can be largely determined by the wording used or the circumstances of the moment.

But such replies as many of the students gave suggest that real weaknesses do exist in our economic teaching. *Weaknesses and some consoling strengths, too—for not one student blamed farmers for the high cost of living!*

And isn't it interesting that even though many would socialize the banks, railroads and even farms, not one student was bold enough to suggest government ownership of newspapers? Apparently, freedom of expression is better understood than economic freedom, even though human rights and property rights are inseparable in a free nation.

M.W.

**CITIZENSHIP SEMINAR**

If the high school students who attended the Michigan Farm Bureau's Young People's Citizenship Seminars in past years were to take the survey mentioned in our editorial, without doubt, the results would have been quite different.

A look at the agenda for this year's Citizenship Seminar, set for July 11-15 at Camp Kett, indicates the wealth of valuable information available to the fortunate participants. American Values and Systems, the History of Communism and its Challenge to Our Way of Life, the Open Market System, and the Two-Party System are areas to be discussed at the five-day seminar.

Predictions are for a "full house" at Camp Kett with most counties participating. Due to the distance factor, a separate two-day seminar will be held simultaneously in the Upper Peninsula. Sponsored by the Escanaba Chamber of Commerce and the County Farm Bureaus of the Upper Peninsula, the Citizenship Seminar will be held July 12-13, Oliver Auditorium, Escanaba.

A GIFT OF IRIS

The colorful picture of the Nelis Tulip Farm which appeared on the May cover page of the Michigan Farm News brought the congratulations of Mr. A. F. Bloese (his name rhymes with "daisy") of Bedford, Michigan.

Mr. Bloese's Bedford Gardens glow with equal color during a period from June 1 to June 15, but the array is in prize Iris blooms—about a half-million of them. Some of these blooms are as much as nine inches in length.

The Bloese fields are ranked with countless rows of Iris in every subtlety of color and shade. A warm welcome is extended to Farm Bureau members to visit Bedford Gardens.

"In fact," says Mr. Bloese, "I would like them to come so much that I will give every Farm Bureau member who visits my gardens a clump of my giant hybrid 'Heroique,' one of the famous French hybrids."

The beautiful show-garden would be enough incentive to prompt a visit, but how can you turn down a welcome as warm as this?

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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President's Column**HELP our HELPERS**

What are your thoughts about the coming election of 1966? Can I shake them a bit? So many people let their interest go dead about this so-called "off-year" election. I don't think you can afford to do it.

Some things that are mighty important to farmers have been going on in the Legislature the last two sessions. For example, the Workmen's Compensation bills have had a lot of "tanglefoot" in them for farmers. The law would have been in operation right now, if Farm Bureau, and some helpers, hadn't gone to work to change things.

What happened? There were some legislators this year who saw the serious confusions for farmers that were written into last year's law. They helped us to get a delay in the effective date of the law until May 1967.

And, by their efforts, workers who receive piece rates for farm work are excluded from full coverage under Workmen's Compensation. More—farmers will not have to pay premiums to cover working members of the family who live on the farm as called for by the 1965 Act.

How did bills ever get on the floor this year calling for total exemption from farm personal property taxes or exemptions of assessments on fruit trees, bushes and Christmas trees? Farm Bureau helped. But it took legislators with the farmers' interests at heart to get them on the docket!

There is a chance that the mid-May freeze-out of fruit may give a boost to clear the fruit tree exemption bill from Committee. Legislators can recognize the hardship in paying taxes on trees that bear little or nothing. I will not know what happened to these bills until after this is printed, since those bills have until June 8 for final passage.

But, again I stress that there were certain legislators who cared—who went to work for farmers. And they came from both sides of the political party fence! Some of them may have come from your legislative district. From a farmer's point of view, they deserve to be re-elected—regardless of party.

Those men forgot their party connection when they worked for you. It seems to me that farmers and Farm Bureau members can do no less for them. An unselfish action on our part calls for us to step over party lines, even split our ballot if need be, to get these men re-elected. Or, from a selfish point of view, if we don't vote for people who work for us, we'll get other people who won't give a darn.

We need to study the records of our legislators as persons and put the support where it belongs. Look over their records of the last couple of years. Even write them a letter and tell them that you will back them.

The "Workmen's Comp" bill, the personal property and the fruit tree tax bill are only a few examples among many proposals where men have fought your battles on the legislative floors. The fight on the Minimum Wage issue still goes on. A 1966 bill would have spiked the rate at \$1.50 an hour plus time and a half for overtime work. That bill died in committee.

Farm Bureau, working with your legislator friends, is seeking a delay in the effect of the law until July, 1967, so far as farm workers are concerned who do piecework. This is to allow the Rural Manpower Center at MSU to develop records of farm piecework earnings. Already the fact becomes clear that the average apple picker makes as much as \$2.00 an hour. Records like this cast doubt on the need for such a law.

There are many things to consider. Some legislators helped to get a Michigan Bean Commission. More support for needy school districts from state aid came last year. There was money provided for research in agriculture and the Pesticide Center at M.S.U.

What legislators backed your programs? Find out and put them back in the saddle where they can help you during the next two years. If they did it once, chances are they will do it again.

E. S.

"A BUSHEL A DAY IS WHAT YOU PAY..."

LEADERS IN LANSING

"A BUSHEL A DAY — is what you pay for planting corn after the 10th of May!" But May 10, when many of the Michigan Farm Bureau board members had every need to be working in their own fields, they came to Farm Bureau Center, Lansing, instead. There, at a regular session of the Michigan Farm Bureau board, they worked harder than they normally would at home in the fields.

By close clock-watching and minimum time out for lunch or breaks, they were able to cut a normal two-day session down to the one day and a long evening, allowing quick return to spring farm work.

As full-time farmers, these busy people give freely of their time and effort to serve Michigan agriculture at considerable sacrifice to themselves and their families. But such is the penalty of leadership, and before the session concluded in the evening, they met with an equally unselfish farmer who appears to be giving even more—in service as a Trustee of Michigan State University.

In many respects, the two responsibilities are much alike. In the one case a farm citizen, Frank Merriman, chose to devote much time away from his Sanilac County dairy farm to represent a solid, rural viewpoint in promoting and protecting the best interests of agri-business at our great Land Grant University. In similar fashion, Farm Bureau board members take of their time, effort and personal finances to promote and protect the welfare of Michigan agriculture.

If it sometimes means that corn is not planted exactly when it should be, or that the dairy herd must be turned over to family or hired men for awhile, these dedicated people hesitate only briefly, if at all, at the thought.



FULL TIME FARMER — is Frank Merriman, Sanilac county dairyman (seated on the right) — who serves without pay on the 8-member Board of Trustees of Michigan State University. In visiting with Michigan Farm Bureau board members about his job and the work of the University, Merriman said there are many weeks when three or four days are necessary on University business. "Mileage" only — plus the self-satisfaction of doing a vital job are compensations he receives.

FULL AGENDA — BUSY DAY

The agenda was full and the day was jam-packed with action as members of the board of directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau gathered to guide the operation of the state's largest farm organization.

Secretary-Manager Clarence Prentice had prepared in outline form a complete "docket" including background material helpful to the members in a number of areas where board action might expect to be taken.

Included was a proposal to establish a soft wheat advisory committee which could eventually lead to a Michigan Wheat Growers' organization, a sweet cherry research project proposal, an Information Division proposal to make use of Public Service television time in telling the Farm Bureau story, and the review of legislative actions.

President Elton Smith opened the meeting promptly at 9:00 — which meant that several members of the 16-member board left home at daybreak to be present.

In his report to the board, Smith praised the series of marketing seminars held by the Market Development staff in March, and suggested that the board encourage another series, with greater emphasis on reaching more people.

"The American Farm Bureau Federation sent copies of our printed program to all state presidents suggesting this might be the kind of program to follow," Smith said.

He reported on the recent annual meeting of the Michigan Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Association (MACMA) and said that the Apple Division had made "a good showing" last year. He reported that Don Barden, South Haven, was re-elected to the MACMA board and that Stanley Hope, Watervliet, was named a director from the Vegetable Division.

"To have continued success in the marketing field, it is necessary that we convince more farmers of the value of this kind of organization, so they will become members and support our MACMA organization with their products," Smith said.

A report of the financial status of the Michigan Farm Bureau was reviewed in detail by members of the board, who found the organization to be operating on a sound basis, substantially as budgeted.

Secretary-Manager Prentice reviewed highlights of recent activities within the three major

limited number of the useful booklets left for sale out of an original order of 10,000.

The board spent some time reviewing the possibilities of a move by the Information Division into public service television programming, following a report from the Division which recommended such action.

"Apparently little material of the type Farm Bureau would produce is available to stations in Michigan now, and a need exists," the report read.

The report suggested that a gradual entry be made into this complicated media "without replacing or sacrificing present Farm Bureau information projects of importance." A schedule of approximate costs was included.

After some discussion, the board moved to implement the recommended program "as soon as feasible."

A continued concern over the decreasing production of soft wheat in Michigan was back of the suggestion that Farm Bureau explore the possibilities of a Soft Wheat Growers' Association.

Ohio Farm Bureau leaders have undertaken a similar proposal and the board approved an advisory committee to check if both states might move together in this effort.

The Sweet Cherry research project had been suggested by the board of directors in their March meeting, and listed as its objective "the determination of need for and the feasibility of, a sweet cherry market information and sales program for Michigan."

An end result of the study could well be the establishment of a MACMA Sweet Cherry Division to carry out market and information work, if the study determined that such a sales program is desirable.

The board approved the report for implementing later in the year.

In review of legislative matters, the board endorsed a statement commending those members of the Michigan Legislature "who have recognized the fact that Michigan farmers are carrying an unfair portion of the costs of schools and local government due to burdensome property taxes." The board emphasized tax reform as their number-one legislative objective.

all working together...

Farm Bureau is many things to many people, and it is different things to different people. In recognition of this, Michigan Farm Bureau Secretary-Manager, Clarence E. Prentice, suggests farmers take a broad look at the many "faces" and values of Farm Bureau. This article is a public reply to a farmer who questioned the value of membership when his insurance rates increased:

BY CLARENCE E. PRENTICE
Secretary-Manager, Michigan Farm Bureau

To some members, Farm Bureau is insurance—for the car, the home, livestock or estate planning.

To others, Farm Bureau is highgrade petroleum products, feed, fertilizer, marketing, bargaining or farm-labor procurement.

Farm Bureau is much more than any one thing or even combination of things. To me, Farm Bureau is a matter of all working together to do what cannot be done by separate farmers. It is the spirit of accomplishment year after year in protecting the interests of agriculture and of member-families.

In the field of legislation alone, there has not been a single year when Farm Bureau action has not more than paid back the dues of every member.

Farm Bureau is the Community Group and friendly discussions which solve local and county problems through joint effort.

It is the act of working with neighbors to get all the jobs done that can't be done alone.

To many, Farm Bureau is the basic philosophy of a free economic system and constitutional government. To others it means a statement of policy developed by a representative type of organization based on the actions of every member.

To me, Farm Bureau is all of these things including the services and supplies developed over the years. All have been started by MEMBERSHIP organization and by Farm Bureau members who have invested millions of dollars in these affiliate companies which



C. E. Prentice

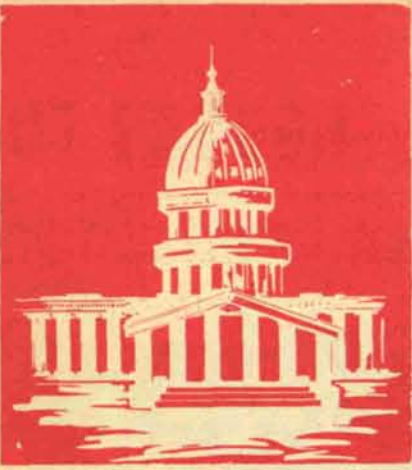
today have a combined volume in excess of \$100,000,000 annually!

So when someone implies that he may drop his membership because of some one, minor thing, it is much as if he were to suggest throwing away a car because he found a squeak in a spring!

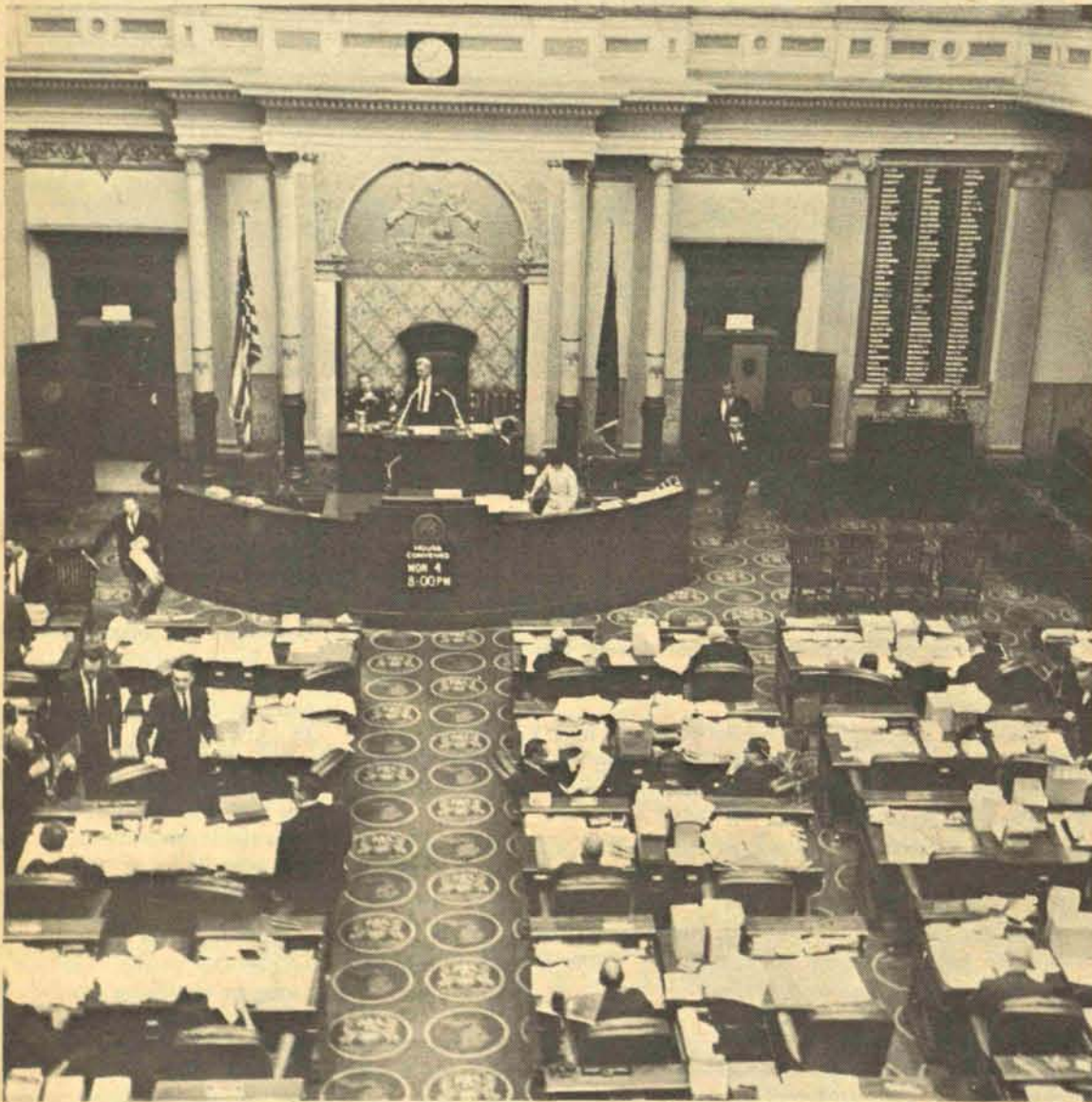
Such a person evidently has never really been "sold" that Farm Bureau is much larger than an insurance policy. Where have our local membership salesmen been? They have let this member become tied to only one small part of Farm Bureau, an organization that is worth many times more than his membership dues.

Where have we as fellow-members, officers and leaders failed in our job of acquainting all members with all of Farm Bureau?

It is obvious that we must work harder, that all of us have a job to do in acquainting our friends and neighbors with the many, changing facets of Farm Bureau.



capitol report



A LONG CALENDAR was faced by the 110-member body when Speaker Joe Kowalski gavelled the session of the House to order. Hundreds of bills awaited action before the next legislative deadline. The Michigan Legislature is aiming at a long recess beginning June 10. "Sine die" or final adjournment is not expected until late December. Bills not given Immediate Effect by a two-thirds vote of each house become effective 90 days after sine die adjournment.

Dodging the Deadlines

Beating a deadline by a matter of hours, the Michigan Legislature passed and the Governor signed S. 763, introduced by Senators Roger Johnson (D-Marshall), Charles Zollar (R-Benton Harbor) and ten other Senators.

The bill delays the effective date of coverage of agricultural employees under the Workmen's Compensation Act from May 1, 1966 to the new date of May 1, 1967. The bill has been given Immediate Effect by the Legislature by a two-thirds vote of each house and became effective on the signature of the Governor on Friday afternoon, April 29, about 36 hours prior to the time the 1965 law would have become effective on farmers.

The year's delay will provide an opportunity for insurance companies, legislative leaders and Farm Bureau to work out problems of coverage and to further investigate rates, according to Senator Sander M. Levin (D-Berkley), Chairman of the Senate Labor Committee.

LEGISLATURE ON HOME STRETCH: Aiming for its scheduled June 10 deadline, the Legislature passed one of its last mileposts on May 20, the deadline for reporting of bills from

committee in the second house, except those measures having to do with taxes or appropriations.

Bills reaching the calendar include amendments to Michigan's minimum wage law. It seems likely that the present rate schedule of \$1.15 an hour for 1966 and \$1.25 an hour for 1967 will hold.

Farm Bureau is urging the adoption of an amendment to the bill which would give clear legal status for the establishment and use of the averaging concept in setting acceptable piecework rates on agricultural harvesting. A legal opinion questions the Wage Deviation Board's present authority to establish such rates.

The goal is a series of piecework rates which, if paid by the grower, would qualify him as having met the requirements of the Minimum Wage Act. This would permit the use of much harvesting labor which otherwise would not be employable, such as youngsters, oldsters and the handicapped.

The bill also is expected to delay the effective date of the Minimum Wage Act on piecework harvesting until the 1967 crop season. The Rural Manpower Center at MSU, under the direction of Dan Sturt, has completed

its study on piecework earnings of apple pickers during the 1965 harvest and is now gathering statistics on harvest earnings in 1966 crops, starting with asparagus.

NEW FOOD BILL IN MUD-DLE: After much work by a citizens committee advisory to the Michigan Department of Agriculture, a new food inspection bill for Michigan was prepared and introduced. It brought Michigan's food laws up to date repealing laws dating back to 1895 and modernizing the statutes.

The bill was amended in the House to greatly expand the coverage and the responsibility of the Department of Agriculture by removing the word "food" and inserting the words "consumer commodities" and would require the department to regulate the manufacture, distribution and sale of consumer commodities for the protection of the consuming public.

The amendments make the legislation unworkable and would greatly increase the cost of administration. Supporters of the bill, including Farm Bureau and the Department of Agriculture, urged the bill be amended by the Senate to return it to its original purpose.

FAST TIME — SLOW TIME

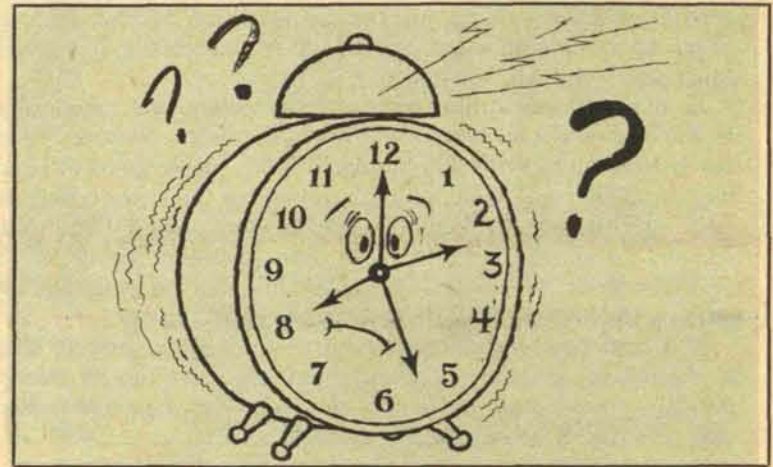
Michigan farmers may need to consider the choices which could face them on the fast time-slow time issue.

The question: Would farmers prefer

(1) the present situation, where all of Michigan is officially on Eastern Standard Time all year around, or

(2) a situation where the entire state would be on Central Standard Time during the winter months (from the last Sunday of October to the last Sunday of April, moving the clocks one hour ahead for the balance of the year. This would mean the same time that we have at present during the spring and summer months, and one hour later during the winter months; or

(3) so-called double-fast-time of Eastern Standard in the winter and Eastern Daylight in the summer. This would mean that during the period of the last Sunday of April to the last Sunday in October, our clocks would be one hour faster than the schedule followed at present. This would bring sunrise on June 30 at 6:00 a.m. and sunset at 9:14 p.m.



Unless the Legislature acts to establish a statewide uniform time, the bill recently passed by the Congress will bring a change and confusion to Michigan's time pattern.

In 1948, the City of Detroit took a straw vote which showed that a majority at that time did not favor Daylight Saving Time in the summer. This came as a surprise and shock to many, including the city fathers themselves.

Present thinking on the issue is not known. In the 18 years since 1948, there are many new voters in Michigan. In fact, half of our population is now under 25 years of age. What influence will this factor have on such issues as slow time-fast time?

County Farm Bureau Resolutions Committees should be sure that this subject is called to the attention of Farm Bureau membership at county Farm Bureau annual meetings.

STATE-NATIONAL NOTES

GOVERNOR VETOES

Governor Romney has vetoed H. 3327, which was highly controversial and on first view appeared to affect only the Detroit area, but in reality could have meant higher personal property taxes throughout the state.

The issue was on the depreciation schedule to be used for personal property taxation — straight line or accelerated. A change from the present accelerated schedule to a straight line would have meant higher personal property taxes for farmers.

Farm Bureau worked to get agriculture exempted from the bill and a compromise was worked out, but the Attorney General's office ruled that it would not be uniform and therefore unconstitutional.

Governor Romney said that the veto of the bill would save out-state taxpayers \$20 million, because the Tax Commission, in order to get uniformity, would have had to raise county equalized valuation.

MORE INFLATION

The next Congress will be asked by President Johnson to make broad changes in the Social Security Act. The President has announced that he wants to increase Social Security benefits "across

the board for 21 million beneficiaries — the aged, disabled, widows and orphans — including an increase in the monthly minimum, the monthly maximum and total family benefits."

It is reported that under consideration is the financing of part or all of these benefits from general tax revenues rather than from Social Security payments. By taking this route, controls on costs would disappear as costs would not be identifiable by the taxpayer and would be absorbed in the general budget.

One of the few remaining restraints on all-out inflation would be removed by such action.

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CEREAL CITY CRAFTS
138 North Avenue, Battle Creek, Mich.



Increase to School-Aid

BY: Robert E. Smith
Legislative Counsel, Michigan Farm Bureau

As this is written, final decisions have not yet been made of the exact amount of school aid increase that will be voted by the Legislature. However, there is no question but that the new school aid formulas instituted in 1965 will be continued with a substantial increase in appropriations.

The new approach to state aid passed by the Legislature in 1965 was completely in line with Farm Bureau's policy of increased aid and increased equity between districts.

School aid is now a dual formula. Part I (Formula A) applies to districts with a valuation per pupil of \$12,200 and over. Part II (Formula B) applies to the poorer districts having a per pupil valuation of less than \$12,200. There has also been a third part, known as a "special formula," which applies to relatively few districts.

The 1965 Legislature added more than \$70 million to the

school aid appropriation. Indirectly, this was also a type of tax reform and helped lessen the burden on local property taxes.

Some districts reported that it was the equivalent of as much as seven mills on their assessed valuation, meaning that without the increased state aid, the local district would have had to resort to increased property taxes.

Based on state equalized valuation, the increase was the equivalent of 2½ mills of property tax statewide. When applied to the assessed, this millage would be in most cases, considerably higher.

This year the Legislature has considered at least three state aid proposals—one in the Senate and two in the House. H. 4025, which passed the House, increases the gross allowances for Formula A from \$225 to \$280.50 and the deductible millage from 4.6 to 5.06, and Formula B from \$380 to \$405 per pupil and the deductible from 14.5 to 15 mills. These changes and others would amount

to a total increase of nearly \$68 million—\$61 million of which would be "new additional money" and \$7 million for normal growth. However, to prevent the state budget from going over one billion dollars, it will be necessary to cut large amounts of money from some proposals. School aid and higher education are among those expected to be scaled down.

New money for schools is expected to be compromised at about \$40 to \$45 million. This would be equivalent of 1½ mills on property tax on the state equalized valuation, or when applied to assessed valuations, could mean much more. It is also another step toward bringing the state's share of the cost of education to the level that it was a few years ago.

As an example, in 1964, under the old formula, a district with a per child valuation of \$12,000 received about \$185 per child—in 1965, under Formula A of the new state aid act, this was increased over \$14 per child, and under Formula B, the increase was over \$20 per child.

THAT GRAPE "STRIKE"

BY: Dan E. Reed
Legislative Counsel, Michigan Farm Bureau

"Eighteen students from the University of Michigan campus participated in a 'slave labor day' recently to raise money for grape pickers on strike in California," reported the April 21, 1966 issue of the Michigan Christian Advocate, the official publication of Michigan Methodists. The students were members of the Wesley Foundation, the Methodist Student Center on the U. of M. campus.

"They volunteered to work for \$1.25 minimum per hour, doing such odd jobs as raking lawns, scrubbing floors and washing windows. Many of the people who employed the students paid more than the minimum wage when the students explained the needs of the strikers and the conditions in California," the Advocate reports.

The Advocate reports that over \$100 was earned by the students on this project and that the Methodist Student Movement of Michigan sent a \$100 check. In addition to these gifts, the Ann Arbor students donated the Lenten Communion Service offering and the profits from the Student Center coke machine.

The Advocate stated "students do not feel that raising money for the grape pickers is enough, they are also carrying on an educational campaign to inform as many people as possible about the strike." Mimeographed leaflets have been sent to various groups throughout Michigan informing them "of the plight of the farm workers in California." Similar information was carried in the April 20 issue of the Michigan AFL-CIO News.

Apparently no one had explained to the students at Ann Arbor that the grape pickers in California were not on strike!

The grape pickers were picking grapes and earning almost twice as much per hour as demanded by the "strikers" who were not grape pickers at all but were representatives of the National Farm Workers Association and other groups, including the California Migrant Ministry.

The money from Michigan was sent, according to the Advocate, to the Farm Workers Association in Delano, California. Since the people "striking" had never been grape pickers, it is hard to see how the money might be used for the purpose for which it was obviously intended, that is, relieving distress among strikers. Instead, it appears to have gone to pay organizers and picketers.

A magazine similar to the Michigan Farmer, the California Farmer of March 14, 1966, reports—"The people doing the picketing do not represent the people doing the work. None of the so-called strikes has been called by employees in the area." The paper also reports that the past harvest has been California's largest grape crop in history, with

over 3,960,000 tons being harvested by 85,000 persons.

The California Farmer also reports that grower spokesmen "have continually stressed they would be willing to negotiate if a substantial number of their workers indicated they wished to be represented by the unions. Contending this is not the case, they point out that to enter into a union contract would force unionization of the workers."

Rev. Wayne Hartmire, a Presbyterian, is the Director of the California Migrant Ministry. The California Farmer reports that the Los Angeles Presbytery turned down a resolution supporting the Migrant Ministry and its Director in its alliance with the National Farm Workers Association.

Rev. C. Edgar Manherz is Pastor of the First Methodist Church and President of the Delano, California Ministerial Association (much of the strike activity centered around Delano). Rev. Manherz told the California Farmer reporter that "at no time have more than 10% of the farm workers supported the strike." He added that a complete audit of the payroll records of one large vineyard operation "showed that male adults averaged \$2.75 per hour during the entire harvesting season; women around \$1.95, and minors \$1.89 per hour." The union is demanding \$1.40.

The pastor of the First Baptist Church of Delano, Dr. Floyd Reed, says—"The outside clergy is not here to minister spiritually. They are not here at the invitation of the local churches. They are only here to back the strike." Rev. Manherz said the outside clergy are misinformed and do a disservice to the church when they come in.

The California Farmer reporter states—"One thing we couldn't help noticing: whenever the Rev. Hartmire (Director of the California Migrant Ministry) referred to those on strike he called them 'the workers' but when he was talking about the people working in the field, they were the 'strike breakers'."

Is Michigan the next state in the organization drive of the National Farm Workers Association?

The California Farmer reports—"In essence, the current developments may well have resulted from the influence of a Chicago-based 'school for agitators' on leaders of both the National Farm Workers Association and the California Migrant Ministry."



ANNOUNCEMENT BY SENATOR Guy VanderJagt (R-Cadillac) that he is a candidate for the 9th Congressional District seat was followed by several important changes in committee assignments in the Michigan Senate to permit him more freedom for the campaign. Senator VanderJagt (at desk) was replaced on the heavily scheduled Appropriations Committee by Senator Charles Zollar (R-Benton Harbor) who represents Berrien and Cass counties and part of St. Joseph. Zollar, shown at the door of the Senate Document Room, was replaced on the Agriculture Committee by Senator Harold Volkema.

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FARM BUREAU POLICY:

"We are strongly opposed to compulsory collective bargaining for farm workers.

"Collective bargaining by labor unions in industry has been adopted as national policy to equalize the bargaining power of workers and employers. Farmers are far more vulnerable to work interruptions than other employers. Not only a year's income but also a substantial investment in bringing the crop to harvest stage may be lost in a relatively short period. Compulsory collective bargaining by unions of farm workers would not result in equalization of bargaining power but rather in the submission of farmers to labor union leaders."

foresight — and dedication!

ST. JOHNS CO-OP

By: Don Kinsey

Big, good-natured John Hall, manager of the St. Johns Co-operative, has been digging. His "spade work" has been probing for facts about his cooperative and its history.

"You find a lot of answers why a co-op like this is important when you dig into the reasons why some folks worked so hard to make it go," said John. "But if we want to look at how it got started, let's go and ask Goldie Brooks."

Goldie is the widow of George Brooks, who for 39 years was secretary-treasurer of the St. Johns Co-op, and its manager from 1924 to 1959.

Events that led to the birth of this cooperative were stirring at about the same time as the founding of Farm Bureau in Michigan, the late "nineteens" and the early "twenties."

"But, no," said Goldie, during our visit to her home. "Farm Bureau didn't get things going here. It was just an infant when this Co-op got started. It was the Grange folks in this area, and they talked about forming a live-stock marketing association."

"I was there at the meeting in the Grange Hall. There were about 500 farmers and they were all pepped up and decided to put the wheels in motion."

They formed a stock company in 1920, with 171 farmers putting up money and signing notes to provide \$67,150 in capital. Their association did \$312,210 in business in the first year. The original name was "The St. Johns Agricultural Association."

But in 1929, this association was incorporated and became the St. Johns Cooperative. Original investments of the old association were paid off, and \$48,545 of new capital was made available by 155 stockholder farmers.

From that day forward, the St. Johns Co-op has been a farmer-owned business "on the grow." By 1944, all of the 1929 investment capital had been repaid to original stockholders. By 1965, the number of stockholders had increased to 1017, with assets mounting to \$664,010, all of which was earned through business operations. This was the foundation for growing services.

In a cooperative, as in any other business, new and expanded services can be provided only when the owners invest to create them. Farmers are the co-op owners. They provide for growth in services and facilities by leaving a share of their earnings in the business. This also increases the number of farmer-owners who realize on the earnings of the co-op.

The benefits are double. Farmer-owners gain the advantage of more modern services to match the changing conditions in their farm operations. There are cash returns on their investment, too.

The St. Johns Cooperative has paid over \$100,000 in cash to stockholder patrons. The capital withheld in certificates has not been increased very much since 1961. In a five year period retained earnings have gone from \$312,000 to only \$325,000. Yet, what gains this span of time has produced!

Business volume serving farmers in 1961 was a bit over one and a quarter million dollars. By 1965, it was almost two million. Clinton county produced 3,624,000 bushels of grain and beans in 1965. The St. Johns cooperative marketed about one and a half million dollars worth of these crops and sold to farmers another half million dollars worth of farm supplies. Farmers were earning returns on all of this business vol-

ume. And in five years, the St. Johns Co-op has increased its assets by 35%.

Food for thought. A farmer member might well stand back and look at the growing grain silos and other facilities of his co-op and ask "What if these services were not there?"

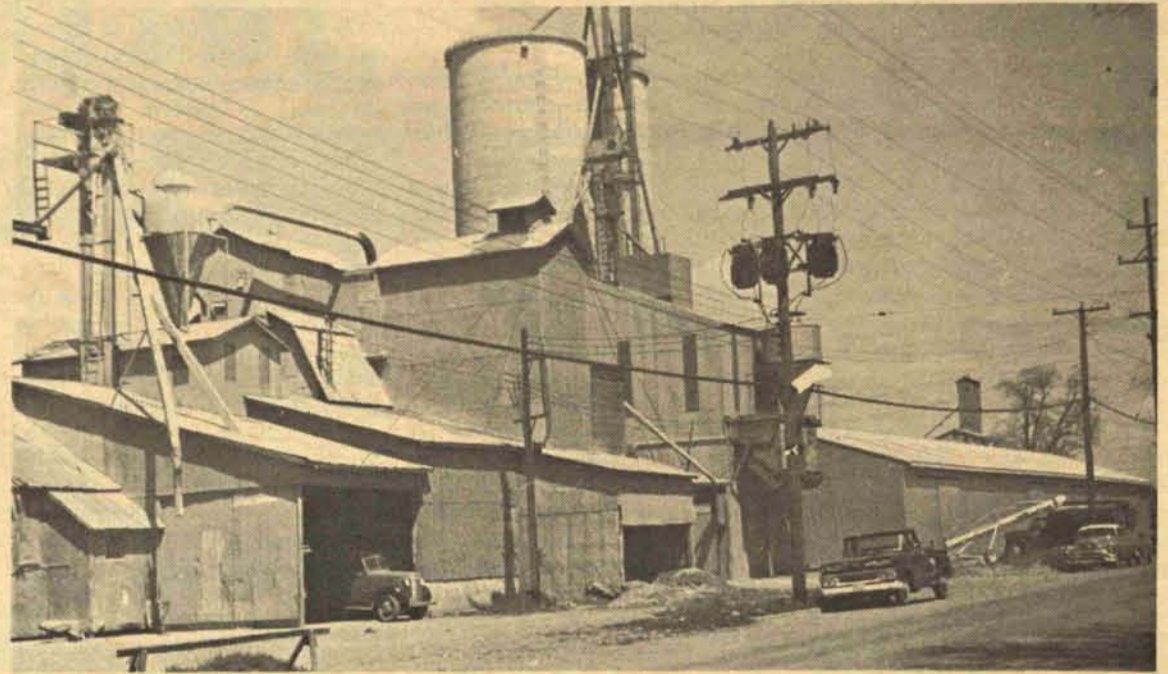
Facilities like this are the farmer's tools just as certainly as his tractor or his combine. They serve and perform one of the essential jobs of running a farm — marketing, or making readily available supplies with which to operate. Any other business would pocket all the gains.

The St. Johns Cooperative serves farmers within a radius of about 18 miles. Ten years of development have made a world of difference. Modern services, not available ten years ago, include field application of liquid nitrogen fertilizer, bulk spreading of mixed fertilizers, bulk feed delivery to the farm and field application of weed-killing chemicals.

The ten year growth in marketing facilities for grain and beans is tremendous. The first group of storage silos was erected in 1945-46 to hold 40,000 bushels. 1965 — another group was added with a capacity of 18,000 bushels. Then a real surge ahead. The largest addition came in 1961 — a silo complex holding another 140,000 bushels. Add another for beans in 1964 — a 41,000 bushel unit.

Don't overlook the value of the 1,000 bushel per hour, gas-fired grain dryer. Modern high-moisture grain gets stalled without such a service. Since 1945, a boost in the grain-handling capacity of 297,000 bushels. And that's a growth in service capacity!

The St. Johns Cooperative has been a long-time member of the Michigan Elevator Exchange offering a national and international



ONE MEASURE OF GROWTH at the St. Johns Cooperative is seen in the bean storage facility and the feed plant. Five years ago, this scene included only the feed plant at the center of the picture. The 41,000 bushel bean silo was added in 1964. An extensive warehouse for farm supplies stretches beyond the feed plant. Combined facilities support a two million dollar per year business for Clinton County farmers.

scope in the marketing of grain and beans. Working relations with Farm Bureau Services have endured for years. This relationship gives the local co-op the advantage of national purchasing programs on farm supplies, quality control of products sold and the benefit of research farms and laboratories where feeds and other products are tested.

John Hall, the manager, credits much of this growth to the foresight and dedication of farmers and officers of the co-op who have backed it to the hilt.

There is Warren Coffman, president since 1935, supported by a forward-looking board. There were the enduring efforts of George Brooks who made the co-op his life for 39 years. There was the Becker family, John, J. Lawrence and Agnes who worked to build the business since its beginning in 1920. Agnes Becker still keeps the books. She is on a "first name" basis with practically every farmer who enters the place.

There is still the need to expand. The service needs of Clinton county farmers continue to grow. The St. Johns Cooperative is offering debentures to finance new services and facilities.

The yardstick with which to measure the soundness of an investment is the record of business growth. The record speaks for itself.

John Hall says, "The Co-op that stands pat on what it is doing today doesn't keep up with the parade."

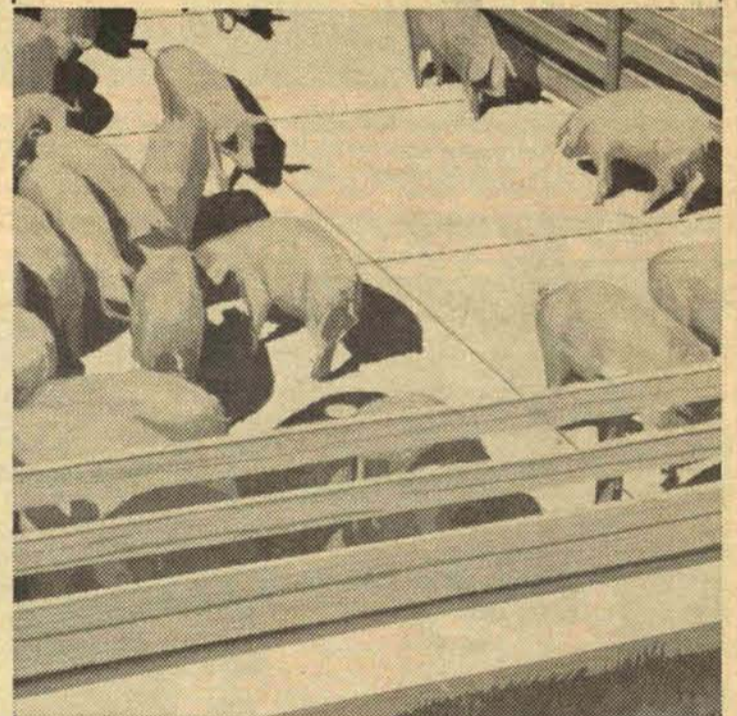


LARGEST EXPANSION has been in the grain marketing operations. Storage capacity for grain has been increased by 158,000 bushels since 1961. Total handling capacity for grain and beans now sums to 297,000 bushels.



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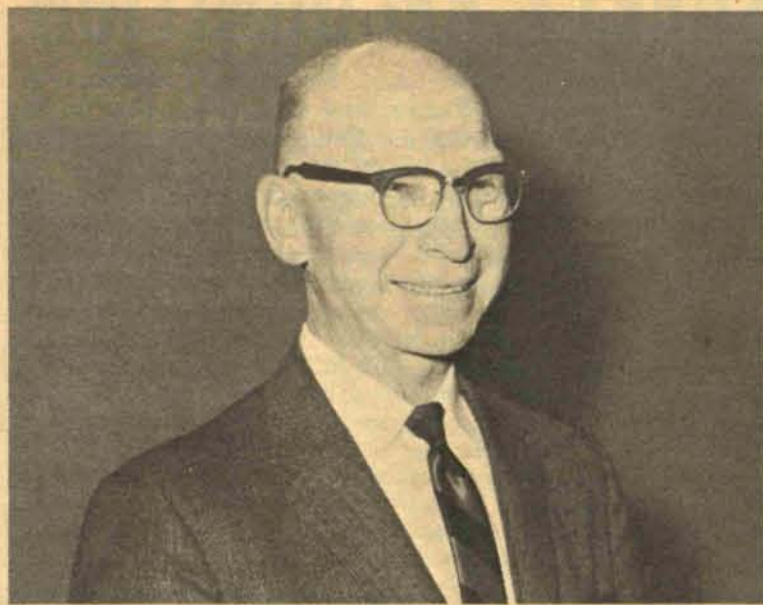
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IT'S GOOD TO COME "HOME"



In 1954, Marlie joined the staff of the Michigan Farm Bureau as a regional representative for the Thumb Region. He has served in this capacity in the Southeast, Central and South Central regions during his career. During the period of 1960-63, he filled in for vacancies on the regional staff, rounding out his experience in every region of the state.

Marlie has received many tributes from the regions in which he has served. Most recently, he was honored by the Clinton County Farm Bureau at their annual Rural-Urban dinner for his many contributions to that area.

Marlie and his wife, Helen, live in Three Rivers in St. Joseph County. Daughter Michelle ("Mickey") was married last year.

When time allows, Marlie's favorite leisure activities are golfing and fishing—and according to "unofficial" reports, both sports are tackled with the same enthusiasm and dedication as is his job.

"Working as a regional representative has given me a real and personal satisfaction in knowing that I have been able to assist Farm Bureau leaders in promoting their objectives. The friendships that have developed through these efforts cannot be measured, but will always be treasured," says Marlie.

"The diversified agriculture we have in the Southwest Region provides a real challenge and an opportunity to be of service to agriculture."

Meet Marlie Drew...

(Editor's Note: This is another in a series of "field reports" on Michigan Farm Bureau Regional Representatives, this month featuring Marlie Drew of the Southwest Region.)

"It's like being back home."

This is how Marlie Drew describes his return to the Southwest Region as Michigan Farm Bureau regional representative, serving the counties of Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren.

"Back home" in St. Joseph County was where Marlie first began his long association with Farm Bureau. In the early 40's he was chairman, vice chairman and discussion leader of his Community Group. Later he served on the county board of directors and was named county president in 1953. Farm Bureau activities on the state level included service as a member of the Relationship Committee and the Resolutions Committee.

John Deppong—heads COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



John Deppong

John A. Deppong, 26, former Corunna High School vocational agriculture teacher, has been named Chairman of the Community Programs Department, according to Glenn Sommerfeldt, Manager, Field Services Division.

Deppong replaces J. Delbert Wells, who left Farm Bureau employment for a position as Director of Economic and Political Education for the Missouri State Chamber of Commerce.

Born in Detroit, Deppong lived on a Lapeer County farm from the age of five until he began his college education. After obtaining his B.S. degree from Michigan State University in 1962, he became the vo-ag teacher at Corunna. He is currently working for his M.A. degree at MSU.

Under Deppong's guidance, the Corunna FFA Chapter has attained a number of accomplishments, including 14 State Farmers, three outstanding state Chapter awards, national outstanding Chapter in 1965 and

state dairy judging champions in 1963. His Chapter has had three regional FFA officers.

"We are pleased to have John join our staff and feel confident that his experience as vocational agriculture teacher will be helpful in his new position, especially in the Young Farmer programs," said Sommerfeldt.

Scholarship Awarded

The Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Scholarship Committee completed one of the most difficult tasks it has ever undertaken—choosing one out of several outstanding applicants for this year's Michigan State University \$324 scholarship.

Their choice: Norman Veliquette, Kewadin, eldest of the 11 children of Mr. and Mrs. Beverly Veliquette, dairy farmers from Antrim County. Mr. Veliquette is a former county Farm Bureau president.

Norman, who participated in the International Farm Exchange Program (IFYE) in Brazil, is in the third quarter of his junior year at Michigan State University.

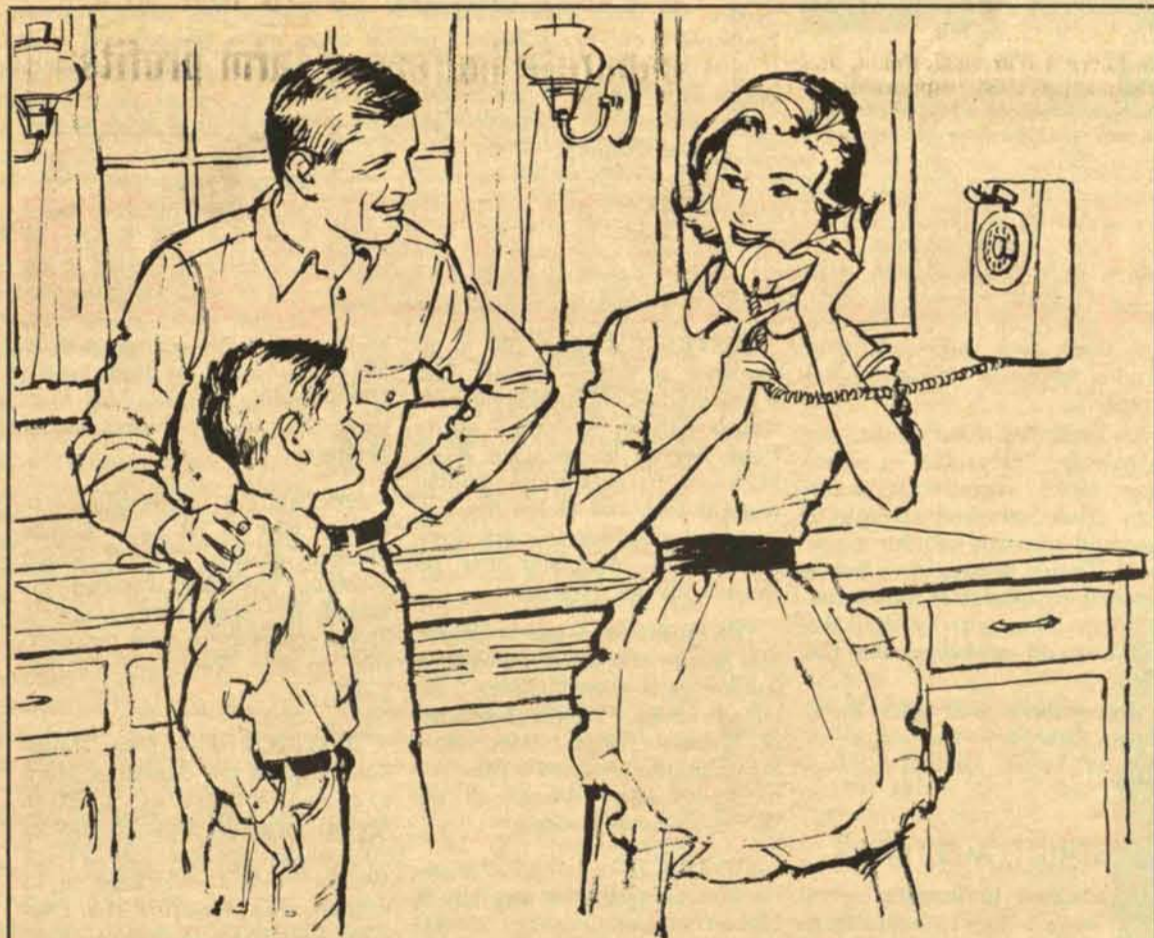
His twin brothers are now freshmen at MSU, and it's been a "work-a-semester, school-a-semester" schedule for Norman and the twins to help themselves and each other reach their goal in education.

The hard-working family, with its interest and concern for all family members and pride in each other's accomplishments is the type of background which made Norman the top contender for the scholarship. But, the Scholarship Committee reports, the excellence of other applicants this year made the decision most difficult.

Members of the Scholarship Committee are: Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, Mrs. Tom Wieland and Mrs. Robert Baccus.

The committee reports that applications for the Farm Bureau Women's \$200 nurses' scholarship are now being received. Deadline date for this scholarship is June 15.

Applications may be obtained from: Miss Helen Atwood, Women's Activities, Michigan Farm Bureau, 4000 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48904.



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MRS. SHIRLEY KENNARD

Farm Bureau—and Tuscola County especially—has lost a good friend with the passing of Mrs. Shirley Kennard, 26, Vassar, on May 7. Chosen in 1965 as one of the outstanding young women of America, Shirley had earned this recognition despite her 17 years in a wheel chair.

As Shirley Stevens, she won the admiration of millions of people across the nation who followed her progress as she battled total disabling polio. She was nine when the crippling disease struck, leaving her unable to move any part of her body except four fingers.

During months in an iron lung and trips to Warm Springs, she was determined to finish school and graduated only a year later than she otherwise would have. She was active in 4-H, winning many honors for outstanding work in projects and junior leadership activities.

Through her work as secretary of the Tuscola County Farm Bureau Young People, the committee received recognition many times with her program scrapbook of activities, which has been exhibit-

ed at the Michigan Farm Bureau annual meeting.

She was chosen as outstanding Farm Bureau girl by the Young People's Committee in 1961. For the past three years she has served as chairman for the March of Dimes in Tuscola County.

In 1964, she married Bradley Kennard, whom she had met at a Farm Bureau Young People's meeting. Since then, they have lived in the "dream house" which Bradley planned and built "special" so Shirley could carry out the tasks of a housewife.

"Both she and Bradley did so much for Farm Bureau, finding no job too big or small to warrant their time and efforts," reports Mrs. Clare Carpenter, vice chairman of the Farm Bureau Women and a close friend of the Kennards. "How rightly she deserved the recognition as outstanding young woman of America because her abilities, accomplishments and services were enjoyed by many."

Survivors include her husband, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stevens, and a brother, Robert Stevens.

FARM BUREAU WOMEN

working, not waiting



FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT in safety leadership, Mrs. Eugene DeMatio, chairman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's Safety Committee, was named runner-up in the "Mrs. Safety 1966" contest. At the 36th annual Michigan Safety Conference, "Lou" (right) congratulates Mrs. Harry Hazard, Detroit, as Mrs. Wm. Milliken (left), wife of Michigan's Lieutenant Governor, places the crown on "Mrs. Safety." Reporters at the big event, held in Lansing's Civic Center, had fun with the "Safety-Hazard" angle.

LOU DeMATIO WINS SAFETY RECOGNITION

Mrs. Eugene ("Lou") DeMatio, West Branch, chairman of Dist. 10E Farm Bureau Women, was named runner-up in the "Mrs. Safety 1966" contest at the 36th annual Michigan Safety Conference, held at the Lansing Civic Center, April 27.

She was recognized for her outstanding achievement in safety leadership by the Women's Division of the Michigan Safety Conference.

Mrs. DeMatio is chairman of the Farm Bureau Women's Safety Committee which has promoted local participation, throughout the state, in activities involving traffic safety legislation, slow-moving vehicle emblem use, and the Driver Improvement Program (DIP).

Concerned with Michigan's traffic accident toll, the committee, under Mrs. DeMatio's direction, has worked for several years to promote safety projects and has placed special emphasis on the program for 1966.

Statewide "Safety Workshops," designed to provide volunteers with information and inspiration to work for traffic safety in their

home communities, was one of the accomplishments which made "Lou" a leading contender for the title.

Crowning of "Mrs. Safety" and recognition of the runner-up were performed by Mrs. Wm. Milliken, wife of Michigan's Lieutenant Governor. Mrs. Harry Hazard, nominated by the Detroit Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, was selected as "Mrs. Safety 1966."

Judges made their decision based on personality, personal safety record, community activities, safety leadership, and substantiating evidence. Mrs. DeMatio's entry was submitted by the Michigan Farm Bureau Women.

MARY-EDITH SAYS "THANKS"

In the April 1 issue of the Michigan Farm News, it was reported that Clayton Anderson, Livingston County Farm Bureau leader, was killed in an auto accident, and his wife, Mary Edith, seriously injured. Mary Edith is chairman of the District 3 Farm Bureau Women.

Since that report, Mary Edith, convalescing at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, has received cards, letters, gifts, calls and visits from people throughout the state, and even as far away as California.

These remembrances have done much to cheer Mary Edith during her long convalescent period and she wishes to convey her sincere appreciation to everyone for their concern.

"It's difficult to find appropriate words to thank the many, many people for their thoughtfulness to me during this difficult time. I always knew Farm Bureau people were 'extra special' and wish it were possible to personally tell each one how much their kindnesses have meant to me," said Mary Edith.

She will remain at Sparrow Hospital through most of June according to latest reports.

WOMEN LEARN WHAT THEY "AUTO" KNOW

Farm Bureau Women throughout the state, gathering for their Spring district meetings, have learned what they "auto" know about their cars and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative.

Arlo Wasson, sales manager for F.P.C., expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to talk to women because they "control 85% of all family buying, 70% of the nation's private wealth, 65% of all savings accounts, drive 50% of all the cars — and pay 85% of the petroleum supply bills."

In an interesting three-dimensional (sight, sound and smells) presentation, Wasson showed the women his "Petroleum Tree" with all the products made from crude oil, and told of the contributions this industry has made to the nation's economy.

Before he had finished his demonstration, the Farm Bureau Women had increased their vocabulary knowledge with words such as pistons, cylinders, carburetors, "Power Balanced Gasoline," lube oil, Unico "power cruiser."

The women also received some words of warning about additives, leaky mufflers, and "cheapie" tires. "Clever talk and rigged demonstrations are selling additives that you put into fuels, lube oil, or both — with claims of great savings, longer tractor and car life, double mileage, etc.

"There is no product that can correct a motor if there is a malfunction — no product that by

adding it to fuel or lube oil can give your motor a rebuilt job. It's like taking an aspirin tablet for a broken leg. You might get momentary relief but it isn't going to set and heal that broken leg."

Recognizing the Farm Bureau Women's concern for safety, Wasson quoted experts in this area who believe that carbon monoxide from leaky mufflers are the cause of many car accidents. This deadly gas, finding its way inside autos, knocks the driver out, causing him to swerve into oncoming traffic or into a tree. Wasson reminded the women to periodically check their car's muffler and pipes to assure that each is tight and in good repair.

"Don't buy tires on price alone!" Wasson warned his audience as he demonstrated the difference between a \$9.95 "absolutely unsafe" tire and a strongly built \$20 tire. He explained that when driving at 50 miles per hour, the pressure on the tire tread to fly apart is over five tons.

"And who drives less than 50 now days?" he asked. "Buy from a reliable dealer — preferably a Farmers Petroleum dealer," was his advice.

Wasson urged the women to combine their management skill with Farm Bureau benefits for a successful farming operation.

"These benefits include aggressive programs in legislation, marketing, insurance, and of course, help in procuring good farm supplies such as fuel, oil and tires.

Mix these two well, and your farming operation will grow and prosper."

As he spoke these words, the petroleum "magician" poured some secret ingredients made from crude oil products into a glass and stirred it with his magic wand. Then a fascinated audience watched the symbol of their farming operations grow within the container and mushroom over the sides.

Management skill plus Farm Bureau benefits — the magic ingredients in the formula for success.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

In addition to learning what they "auto" know about their cars and Farmers Petroleum Cooperative, Inc., the Farm Bureau Women who attended their spring district meetings were entertained, well fed and treated royally by host counties. In the odd-numbered districts, election of officers was held.

DISTRICT 1, with Berrien as host, featured the new farm labor film, "While the Earth Remains." Over 65 women attended the meeting and re-elected Mrs. Vida Morehouse as district chairman.

DISTRICT 2 — 110 women heard Mrs. Richard Phillips, Associate Director of the Jackson County United Community Services, speak on "The Governor's Conferences on Strengthening the Family." Jackson was host county.

DISTRICT 3, with 100 in attendance at Wayne County, had a presentation on marketing with Ralph Burch, Wayne County Farm Bureau leader; Dan Reed, Michigan Farm Bureau Legislative Counsel, and Helen Atwood, coordinator of Women's Activities. Mary Edith Anderson was re-elected district chairman.

DISTRICT 4 — Barry County was host to 100 women. Featured speaker was Gene Carter who talked about "What's Expected of Women Today." Mrs. Wm. Scramlin also reported on the Associated County Women of the World triennial meeting.

DISTRICT 5 — the 125 women who attended the meeting in Shiawassee County were connected with the NORAD (North American Air Defense) center in Colorado Springs, courtesy of E. B. Stoddard, General Telephone Company. Mrs. Jeanette Babbitt, Clinton County, is the new district chairman.

DISTRICT 6 — 175 Farm Bureau Women heard Mrs. Maurine Scramlin, state chairman, report on her trip to Ireland for the A.C.W.W. triennial meeting. They were also entertained with "Water Winter Wonderland" music by a group from the host county, Huron.

DISTRICT 7 — Peter Slager, an ex-convict who is now director of Muskegon County's United Youth, told the women about his early life of crime and his cur-

rent work with young people. Muskegon acted as host to the 100 attending women. Mrs. Margaret Muir was re-elected district chairman.

DISTRICT 8 — Gladwin County was host to 70 Farm Bureau Women at the Dist. 8 spring meeting. The Women were entertained by Mrs. Pete Maxwell, Hope, who gave a slide presentation on her "People to People" tour.

DISTRICT 9 — "One Thousand Years of our American Heritage — the Gift of English Speech" was the topic of District 9's featured speaker, Joe LeHart. Wexford County was host to 75 women, who re-elected Mrs. Dorothy Hendricks as district chairman.

DISTRICT 10E — Alpena County was host to the 70 women who attended the 10E spring meeting. A highlight of their program was a tour of the Abitibi Manufacturing Plant, the second largest hardboard manufacturer in the United States.

DISTRICT 10W — State chairman, Mrs. Wm. Scramlin, reported to the 40 women at the 10W meeting in Antrim County, on her trip to the Associated Country Women of the World triennial meeting in Ireland.

DISTRICTS 11E and 11W spring meetings are scheduled for June.

PANIC IS POOR PLANNING

Be "Disaster Conscious"

Farm disasters come in many forms. Since the Palm Sunday tornadoes of 1965, farmers have become a bit more tornado-conscious. Yet time acts as an eraser to memories, and neglect so often replaces a planned readiness to act when disasters hit.

But our children, members of our family or friends can be the victims of our own neglect, for disaster emergencies in many forms can come to the farm.

They come like lightning — and lightning itself is a form of emergency threat. Among other things it is a cause of farm fires. Machinery may mangle and maim someone. It happens so quickly.

How long does it take for a fall to seriously injure some member of the farm family or an employee? Getting a bad burn is a matter of moments. Considering pesticides and medicine bottles, there are many poisons around the farm that become threats to the lives and health of children and people in general.

Every emergency that arises is a "panic situation." It should not be. It need not be. It will not be if we plan and prepare for emergencies properly.

Consider the farm wife who picked up the phone, called the fire department and screamed, "My house is on fire!" — and then hung up! Whose house? Where? Panic does this to people who are not ready.

Are the necessary phone numbers ready and posted by the telephone? The Fire Department, police, the doctor? Or must you lose precious minutes looking them up? Meanwhile, in your haste, your fingers are all thumbs.

Have you planned what to say regarding the emergency, where help is needed, the nature of any injuries and the condition of persons demanding immediate attention? Will you take time to find out any first aid steps that should be taken? Or have you studied up on how to handle most simple first aid measures.

If anyone needs to do this, it is farmers. Many lives can be saved, many injuries made less serious if we are prepared to do the RIGHT things.

Disaster readiness is often more than a personal affair. Many disasters become community affairs and call for mobilized action. This is particularly true of tornadoes, floods, grass or forest fires that get out of hand, and even of electrical systems that fail community-wide.

Communities have just as great a need to be prepared for disaster emergencies as families. Help for those who become the victims of such disasters should not be left to a hit-and-miss approach. It takes far too long to mobilize the needed aid.

Victims can die while chance passers-by or neighbors wonder where and how a supply of blood may be obtained from a blood bank or where trained persons can

be found to administer the needed transfusions. Obtaining medical supplies may suddenly become very important.

Victims have problems of food and shelter. Often these can be solved only by a community-wide and well-organized program.

Preparation calls for community leadership. Farm Bureau members of any county can assume the initiative to provide that leadership, and to develop the organized system that puts the area on a footing of preparedness.

Your county Farm Bureau board may wish to establish a County Preparedness Committee. Members of this committee should become acquainted with the county office of Civil Defense, the County Sheriff's department, fire departments, medical and hospital facilities and the services available through the Rural Defense Education department at Michigan State University.

Members of the committee should be well distributed over the county and should possess necessary information as to sources of aid, including telephone numbers of other committeemen and key public services.

These men or women should be prepared to move fast to save lives and property, and to spread a county-wide alert when the disaster hits. About four persons per township should serve as "emergency lieutenants" under an area committeeman. They become part of a local team.

Regular training sessions of all these people should be conducted to ready them for specific jobs when emergencies strike. Without such training, your organization remains a hit-and-miss affair. Every member of the team must know exactly what he must do and how to do it in the crisis. For example:

These persons should be instructed to report immediately any type of disaster situation to the County Preparedness Committee chairman and the Civil Defense Director or Sheriff. Each of these persons should maintain a list — by name, address and phone number — of ten or more Farm Bureau people in his area that he could call on for help as needed.

It is said that Nero fiddled while Rome burned. Farm Bureau people should not be found fiddling while emergencies threaten.

Disasters do not happen in the next county. They are not serious until they strike home.

Let us be ready.

STOP SIGN CAMPAIGN

A Farm Bureau STOP sign at every member's driveway — that's the objective of a continuing campaign launched throughout Michigan this month by county Farm Bureaus in cooperation with the Field Services Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

According to Charles Burkett, Chairman of the Field Operations Department, the campaign includes progressive goals toward which Farm Bureau leaders and members will work as the bright red signs-of-safety are placed at strategic points on farm driveways.

Each year the list of deaths and rural injuries rises — a twelve percent increase or more each recent year. Although death and accident injuries have been up in both rural and urban areas, the farming communities had the greatest percentage increase in total reported accidents.

"In our Farm Bureau resolutions last Fall, the delegates noted that traffic records show rural people becoming more frequently involved in serious accidents on local roads. Accidents at farm roads and crossings, including the farmer's own driveway, account for much of the rising toll of injuries," according to Burkett.

"I can think of no better way to do something positive about this problem than by everyone joining whole-heartedly in the Farm Bureau STOP sign safety-campaign," Burkett said.

He pointed out that Farm Bureau policy supports the use of the STOP signs, with a resolution urging "an intensive campaign be launched to promote the use of our combination FARM BUREAU and STOP sign to tell the world that we are proud to belong . . ."

The large, readily visible signs are in the standard octagonal shape used for all STOP signs, with one side printed with the Farm Bureau emblem. The STOP side is meant to face the farmer as he approaches the busy highway.

Thus the signs serve two purposes — first to remind the farmer and his guests to come to a complete stop as the farm driveway leads onto the main road, and secondly, to remind the passing public that a Farm Bureau member lives there.

In many Michigan communities the signs are to be seen at each driveway as neighbors join together in the safety and Farm Bureau promotion campaign.

This is the kind of placement program which many counties plan for the immediate future, with a majority of all Farm Bureau member's driveways posted within a three-year period.

A suggested campaign could include a goal of 25 per cent sign placement at member's homes in the first year, about 60 per cent of the member's lanes and driveways posted in the second year, and 75 to 100 per cent coverage at the end of a three year period.

All county officers and Farm Bureau leaders have been urged by Burkett to work with their Regional Representatives in developing a systematic, intensive STOP sign campaign.

Included, too, should be a planned replacement program to cover farmers who move, new members, and to place the sign at every driveway of farmsteads with multiple outlets.



We Point With Pride —

For the second time this year, the Gratiot County Farm Bureau points with pride to a "valedictorian" within its membership ranks.

Shirley McJilton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold McJilton of rural St. Louis, was named valedictorian of the 1966 graduating class of St. Louis High School. Her scholastic record was 3.97.

In March, another member, David Lake of Ithaca, was named valedictorian of Central Michigan University.

Shirley's parents have been Farm Bureau members since 1948

and her grandparents were one of the original members in Gratiot County.

She was named earlier this year as the DAR "Good Citizen" winner for her senior class. An accomplished musician and active in her church, she also has taken an active part in extra-curricular activities. She plans to enter Michigan State University next fall.

"We are indeed proud of Shirley and her entire family," said Mrs. Leona Vance, Gratiot County Farm Bureau Secretary.



A "COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKBOOK" — and a basket of all-Michigan farm products for recipe ingredients were presented to Governor Romney during Michigan Week by Mrs. Maxine Topliff, cookbook editor, and Michigan Farm Bureau president, Elton Smith.

FARM PREPAREDNESS

"Emergencies on the farm are a part of our everyday existence since farming is a hazardous occupation." With that statement, delegates to the annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau recognized a sad fact of rural life.

This awareness had grown with the Spring's rash of tornadoes, followed by summertime drownings, field work catastrophes and harvest-time hazards. Prompted by the obvious need for corrective action, the voting delegates endorsed community action programs which allow farm people and others to prepare to meet such emergencies. "We should avail ourselves of every aid. Often the lives and health of our families depend on quick and proper action," they said.

ROTTERDAM TRADE-STUDY TOUR

Set for September

Here's a Farm Bureau sponsored European tour especially arranged to fascinate farmers. Rare indeed is the tour that takes in so many of the famous and historic points of interest on the European scene and yet includes so much of the farming scene of countries like Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Germany and France.

The tour extends from September 5-26. Our Michigan farmer tourists can leave either from Chicago or Detroit airports by jet plane and arrive in Holland the following morning. Just overnight—and you are there!

You will see Amsterdam and Rotterdam and the beautiful farming regions in those areas. Then to the fascinating terraced vineyards of the Rhineland in Germany.

Flax farms in Belgium should be a new experience. The dairy farms and famous horse breeding stables of France will be seen enroute to the towered castles of Brittany and Mont St. Michael, the Normandy Invasion beaches and the always fascinating landmarks of Paris.

Bill Day, farm director of Station WCMR at Elkhart, Indiana, will be one of the tour escorts. He plans to tape programs enroute on the tour and mail them back for broadcast as the tour proceeds.

It is a "worry-free" tour from the expense viewpoint. Most of the expenses are covered in the initial cost of \$756 (Detroit departure). The tourist will pay for three lunches and any personal expenses. But tips, planned sightseeing tours, transfers and hotel room expenses are covered.

Farm Bureau members interested in this tour should contact Melvin Woell, Information Division, Michigan Farm Bureau, Box 960, Lansing, Michigan 48904. Reservations must be completed by mid-August.



GRAPE COUNTRY — around Burge Bochem in Germany, where the vineyards produce world famed Moselle wine and beautiful souvenir snapshots such as this. Michigan farmers on the European Study Tour will also see large sugar-beet production areas and the famed Holstein cattle of Germany's Schlesswig-Holstein area. This photo shows the distinctive "Old Country" farming pattern with "villagers" farming the countryside as they reside in the nearby "burge" (village).



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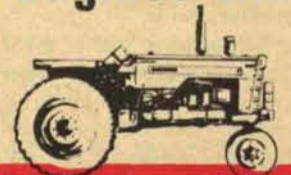
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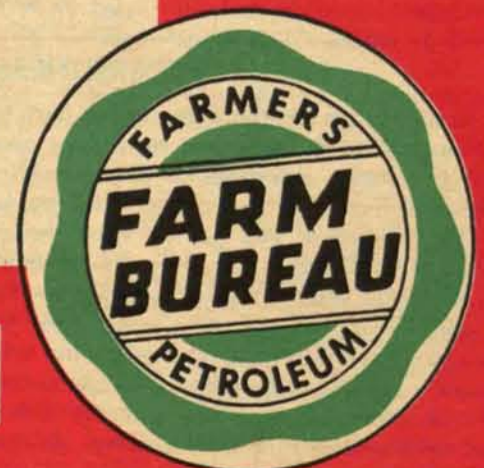
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BEANS ARE KING OF MICHIGAN CROPS

Bean Week

Michigan celebrated "Bean Week" during May 22-28, according to an official proclamation by Governor George Romney.

The proclamation read in part:

"Michigan has long been the nation's No. 1 producer of dry edible beans. This commodity has become an important source of income to nearly 14,000 farmers in the state.

"The state's annual production of dry edible beans has on occasion reached 850 million pounds. These are exported to consumers all over North America, the United Kingdom, Europe, Africa, Australia and Asia.

"Annual cash farm receipts from the sale of beans have added \$55 million a year to the state's economy in addition to the benefits derived by handlers, the transportation industry and many segments of our society.

"The production, marketing and distribution of dry edible beans has been a way of life with citizens in several Michigan counties for many years . . ."

Michigan grows more navy beans and several of the colored bean varieties than the rest of the states put together. Because of their distinctive flavor, they are used by the important canners of pork and beans—and in the traditional bean soup, famous world over, and served daily in the U.S. Senate dining room.

"MichEIE" wins in State Bean Contest

A good name helps to market a product. For a number of years, the Michigan Elevator Exchange has sold its top grade of Michigan pea beans on the consumer brand name "Casserole."

Beans grade for color—and those which are whitest sell best for home purposes. There is nothing wrong with the wholesomeness and food value of beans that lack the pearl whiteness of the top quality.

The Michigan Elevator Exchange sells two grades of beans to the canning industry. Michigan No. 1's sell to domestic canners and on the export market. They have fairly good color.

Domestic canners accept the Michigan Prime Hand Picked beans as good quality. They may be a bit yellower or darker, but they are just as good food.

The last two grades lacked brand names under which they could be sold. The Michigan Elevator Exchange decided to let Farm Bureau members and Community Farm Bureaus offer suggestions. They offered \$25 for the best name submitted for each grade of beans, with selections to be made by a panel of three judges.

The judges have spoken. The winners are chosen.

The winning name for Michigan No. 1 was "MichEIE," which makes use of the name of the marketing cooperative. The winner is The Harmony Community Group of Sanilac County.

Mrs. Albert Potgeter of Allendale submitted a similar name, "MichEIE Supreme." She deserves honorable mention. But The Harmony Group's entry was received first, and the judges took the simpler of the two suggestions.

"Qualipick" was the name chosen for the Michigan Prime Hand Picked beans. This winning entry was submitted by David A. Nelson of Fillion.

Both winners are from "beanland"—Michigan's Thumb, where a large percentage of Michigan beans are grown.

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks from the Michigan Elevator Exchange to the many Farm Bureau members who submitted worthy and interesting entries.



BEST BEAN NAMERS — Ed Messing (center), vice-president of the Harmony Community group, accepts winning \$25 check for the group's entry, 'MichEIE,' in the M. E. E. bean naming contest. Offering congratulations are Sanilac County Farm Bureau president, Stanley Gardner, and secretary, Marilyn Batkie.



MICHIGAN "BEAN WEEK"—was celebrated May 22-28 by proclamation of Governor Romney. Proudly holding the proclamation is Senator Emil Lockwood, Gratiot County, while Rep. Harry Rohlf, Tuscola, shows the Governor the fine quality of Michigan beans. Both Legislators are from the state's bean-growing area.



THEIR FIRST GROUP PORTRAIT taken of members of the newly-activated Michigan Bean Commission shows: (left to right) seated — Fred Bach, Ed Good, chairman Wilford Root, Basil McKenzie and Dean Jickling; standing — Howard Hirth, Warner Meylan, Stanley Sherman and Robert Dodge. Newly appointed secretary-manager Maynard Brownlee, formerly manager of Farm Bureau Services, was not present when the picture was made.

"While the Earth Remains"

A new motion picture film, depicting the employment of migrant agricultural workers and their importance to the economy of Michigan, is now available for showing by citizen-groups in the state.

The 25-minute sound and color film, titled "While the Earth Remains" was shot last year at many locations around the state and contains colorful scenes of fruit and vegetable production and harvest.

The picture was sponsored by the Farm Labor Management committee of the Michigan State Horticultural Society, after the committee agreed that a great need existed for a factual public presentation of out-of-state labor employed in harvesting Michigan crops.

"Many non-farm people have an inaccurate concept of the farm labor situations due to much misinformation presented in the mass news media in recent years," according to Paul Scott, Northport fruit grower and coordinator of the film activities for the committee. Scott expressed concern over such nationally viewed television films as the "Harvest of Shame" which have given agriculture a black eye.

In the new film, seasonal workers are shown busy at most of the jobs and crops in Michigan, from the harvest of asparagus to apples, to the work in sugar beets and pickles. Many types of migrant housing are shown. The film touches on social aspects as well as the economic side of

migrant work. Good labor management practices are stressed.

The entire cost of production was paid by contributions from individual farmers and agricultural groups such as the Michigan Farm Bureau.

Noel Stuckman of the Michigan Farm Bureau Market-Development department assisted the sponsors in developing the film and coordinating contributions.

"Farm groups should borrow a copy of the film for showing to influential local groups," Stuckman feels. Several copies of "While the Earth Remains" are available on loan at no cost through the Information Division of the Michigan Farm Bureau, Lansing.

NEW LABOR SERVICE IS WELL UNDERWAY

M. J. Buschlen, the new operations manager of the Michigan Agricultural Services Association, is not the kind of man to agree with John Milton. Milton said, "They also serve who only stand and wait." "M. J." isn't waiting.

The Michigan Agricultural Services Association is a new Farm Bureau affiliated company, organized for the purpose of recruiting and placing farm workers on member farms as needs exist.

"When you have a tough job to do, you hit the road to establish key contacts," says Buschlen. "I think Farm Bureau folks will understand that I'm only one man and cannot start with the state as a whole. And, for now, I want to start working where it will do the most good this year."

"Busch" reports good progress thus far in the contacts he has made. Some of these contacts have been with sugar and pickle processors. Those are the people who have already arranged a supply of workers for their seasonal needs.

The object is to line up these workers for employment in other Michigan areas during other parts of the season. Buschlen reports good acceptance, thus far, of inquiries into the recruitment of their worker supply.

Further contacts are being made in selected areas of Michigan to determine grower need and to lay the basis for scheduling these workers to the member growers. The wish is to move the workers available from crop to crop on the best possible timetable.

Grower contacts and worker scheduling are to be coordinated between Buschlen and the county Farm Bureau offices. This organization base will continue in the future.

Although the early season need for workers appears to be filled, by mid-July, the demand is expected to become acute. The most critical period will be during apple harvest.

"Considering that we face a late start this year, we are going to do the best we can to fill those needs," says "Busch."

In any case, growers are advised that they must secure a labor camp license before expecting workers. This is the law and growers should apply to their county Health Departments or ask for the aid of their county Extension Agent in getting these licenses.

Buschlen plans to extend his work to a statewide scope in September when work will be done to obtain grower memberships and develop recruitment and placement organization systems in the counties. This year will involve the placement of only a few hundred workers. But next year's objective is to place several thousand on Michigan farms.

"I'm making a lot of contacts among the workers themselves," says Busch. "I know that a big part of this job is to find the key that unlocks the door of human relations among workers."

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION AROUND MICHIGAN

JUST UNDER THE WIRE:



MUCH NEEDED CHANGES in Workmen's Compensation become law. Watching the Governor's last minute signature are: (L to R) Senators Vanderploeg (D-Muskegon), and Novak (D-Detroit); Dan Reed, Michigan F.B.; Gov. Romney; Elton Smith, President, Michigan F.B.; Andrew Co's's, Grange; and Senator Roger Johnson (D-Marshall) who introduced the bill in the Senate.

FHA CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY



MICHIGAN'S FUTURE HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION is twenty years old. At their annual convention in Grand Rapids on April 21-23 the group celebrated its twentieth anniversary with a huge birthday cake. Here, past state presidents light the candles before the 1600 delegates from Michigan high school vocational educational departments.

SCHOOL VISITS FARMS



HOW THE MODERN FARMER HANDLES FEED with very little labor is explained by Harry Mutch to a group from the Hughes School. On the Mutch farm the youngsters saw a completely automated beef-cattle feeding operation where one man can feed several hundred head of cattle with no labor in the feeding season.

CHILDREN SEE FLEECE

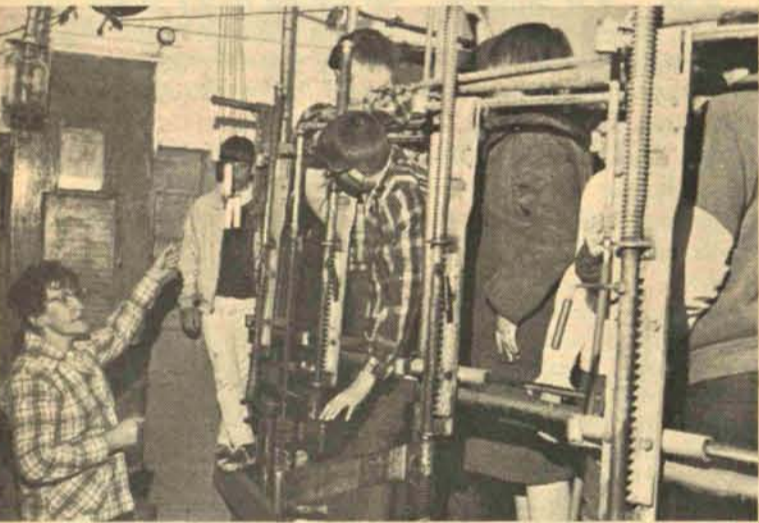


"THIS IS HOW NEWLY-SHORN FLEECE LOOKS", Nelson Francisco tells visiting youngsters from the Shearman School of Marshall. Nelson, junior partner in the Sylvester Francisco and Son Farm, shows the group how the fleece is taken from the sheep and rolled for shipping to the processor.

REP. RAAP



STRONG SUPPORTER of the elimination of taxation on farm personal property (S. 710) and fruit trees, bushes, vines, etc. (S. 352), is assistant floor leader for the majority party, Rep. Charles Raap (D-Muskegon). He serves on the Agricultural Committee and is aware of farmers problems, having supported needed amendments to the Workmen's Comp and Minimum Wage Laws.



HOW THE MILKING IS DONE on the modern dairy farm is explained to visitors from Marshall's Hughes School by Mrs. Lloyd Smith. Here she shows the guests how the cows are brought into the barn, washed and milked with a very minimum of labor and no manual handling of either the feed or the milk.

SECRETARIES TOUR FBS FACILITIES



COUNTY FARM BUREAU SECRETARIES — board the bus for a tour of Farm Bureau Services facilities including the bean and grain terminal and the feed manufacturing plant in Saginaw, the egg marketing plant in Brighton, and Farm Bureau Center, Lansing. The 26 secretaries and office assistants, representing 20 counties, were guests of Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

MUSIC IN THE AIR



"THE MICHIGANDERS" — a group of musicians from Pigeon, entertained the Farm Bureau Women at the District 6 spring meeting. Words and lyrics for the musical program were written by Mrs. John Leipprandt (left). Others in the group are: Howard Bedford, Mrs. Wesley Murdock, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leipprandt, daughter Janice, and Mrs. Ed Oeschger (not shown).



ADMIRING WORKMANSHIP of the reception desk in the new Lapeer County Farm Bureau office is Michigan Farm Bureau President Elton Smith as county president Robert Gleason and building committee chairman Horace Davis show off the new quarters. The desk was built and donated by Davis.



FARM BUREAU WOMEN not only raised part of the money for building the office, but they also furnished refreshments to the more than 250 members, friends and guests who came to the open house. Sampling some of the bountiful supply of cookies are Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hunt of Lapeer while Mrs. George Logan, vice-chairman of the Women's Committee, serves.

FARM BUREAU MARKET PLACE

SPECIAL RATE TO FARM BUREAU MEMBERS: 25 words for \$2.00 each edition. Additional words, 10 cents each. Figures such as 12 or \$12.50 count as one word. NON-MEMBER advertisers: 15 cents per word one edition, two or more editions, 10 cents per word. Copy deadline: 20th of the month.

1 AUCTIONS

MISSOURI AUCTION SCHOOL. Free catalog! 1330-50 Linwood, Kansas City, Mo. 64109. (2-Tf-10b) 1

8 FARM EQUIPMENT

LAYING CAGES—Automatic Feeders. Pit Cleaners. Feed Carts, Brooders. Literature free. Special prices. Write: Ottawa-Hitch, FN321, Holland, Michigan. (5-2t-19b) 8

BUNK FEEDERS—New augerless automatic bunk feeders. Silo Unloaders. Barn Cleaners. Literature free. Write: Ottawa-Hitch, FN321, Holland, Michigan. (5-2t-19b) 8

CALF CREEP FEEDERS—26 bushel, feeds 30 calves, \$88.50. Free literature. Dolly Enterprises, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois. (6-1t-17p) 8

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FARROWING STALLS—Complete \$22.95. Free Literature. Dolly Enterprises, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois. (5-3t-12p) 8

10 FARMS FOR SALE

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14 FOR SALE

FOR SALE—McDeering potato planter, one-row Digger on rubber, P.T.O. Deere two-row corn planter. Set Surge milkers and cooler. Vince Witowsk, R#1, Cedar, Michigan. (Leelanau County) (6-1t-24p) 14

FOR SALE—1 Danuser hole digger with 6" and 9" augers for 3 point hitch, 2 McColough diggers, Model No. 99, with 6" and 9" augers, 1 chain saw attachment for same with 34" blade, 2 heavy steel 300 gallon tanks. Sale or trade for boat and motor, etc. Colonial Fence, R#3, Charlotte. (Eaton County) (6-1t-52b) 14

JAMESWAY INCUBATORS like new. Also other used poultry equipment. Everything less than half price. Old Deckerville Hatchery. Call 376-9595 Deckerville, Michigan at noon hour. (Sanilac County) (6-1t-24p) 14

20 LIVESTOCK

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HEREFORD BULLS—pure bred herd sires. Ready for service. Also, registered heifers and calfs. Egypt Valley Hereford Farm, 6611 Knapp St., Ada, Michigan. Phone OR 6-1090. (Kent County) (11-tf-25b) 20

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FOR SALE—registered Tennessee Walking Horses; mares, fillies, geldings, and stallion. Merton A. Gilmore, Blue Water Road, R#6, Traverse City, Michigan. (Grand Traverse County) (6-3t-21p) 20

26 POULTRY

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26 POULTRY

DAY OLD OR STARTED PULLETS—The DeKalk profit pullet. Accepted by the smart poultryman for high egg production, superior egg quality, greater feed efficiency. If you keep records, you'll keep DeKalbs. Write for prices and catalog. KLAGER HATCHERIES, Bridgewater, Michigan. Telephones: Saline HAZEL 9-7087, Manchester GARDEN 8-3034 (Washtenaw County) (tf-46b) 26

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34 WANTED

AGENTS—Farmers, Contractors make extra money. Sell special farm equipment. Write: Ottawa-Hitch, FN321, Holland, Michigan. (5-2t-16b) 34

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DISCUSSION TOPIC

YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

AG-CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

By: Larry Ewing

It is a rare farm that can offer gainful employment to all children of the family when they grow up and start families of their own. Many leave the farm for that reason. Some seek other jobs for a variety of reasons, ranging from wanting a steady income to a desire to work indoors.

The point is — rural youth leave the farm.

Youth leaving the farm is nothing new. Think back as far as you can remember. Haven't folks always been leaving the farm for employment elsewhere? This is a sign of a growing technology, of more productivity allowing more freedom of decision.

Because youth are leaving the farm, does it mean that agriculture is a declining industry? Far from it! Opportunities for rural youth in agriculture have never been greater.

It is estimated that 40 per cent of the total national labor force is employed in occupations which are a part of agriculture. Take marketing as an example. In 1947 about 10.4 million people worked on farms, while 11.7 worked in marketing farm products. By 1964 about 13 million worked in marketing while just over six million worked on farms.

Yes, there are many job opportunities in agriculture. A Michigan survey made in 1965 indicates that there are over 200 "Agricultural Job Titles." These include such titles as: county agent, florist, food scientist, food purveyor, salesman, agricultural chemist, equipment mechanic and designer, conservation specialist, elevator operator, futures market trader, tax accountant, commodity grader and inspector. The list seems endless!

The firms that were contacted in the survey indicated that more agricultural workers would be needed in the future. Nearly 25 per cent more workers of this description will be needed by 1970. The nurseries of Michigan need 435 new workers each year, for example.

Farm youths get the training that gives them the inside track in agriculturally related jobs. This fact was clearly stated by employers. Background helps, but added education and experience is needed. Employers point out that all jobs require a high school education and about half of them require education beyond high school.

There are four levels of preparation open to youth going into agricultural occupations. They are: high school, post high school but less than college degree, four-year college degree training, and advanced college degrees.

Training has wide applications. Not every job takes a specific level of training. Many businesses are setting an arbitrary educational level for job personnel requirements. A young person today must start planning his future early and receive the education required for that job.

High school education is a basic necessity. The young person without this basic training faces a future of frustration. Opportunities for jobs and advancement will be extremely limited.

Curricula in high schools are being developed to give youth broader preparation for gainful employment upon graduation. Vocational agriculture programs are a good example. Many of the 210 vo-ag programs in the state are gearing up to the fact that all farm youth can't remain on the farm. Many youth are receiving basic training in agricultural non-farm jobs.

The first way this is being done is through a cooperative training program with participating businesses. In the freshman and sophomore years, the student receives the traditional agricultural courses. Subjects offered are plant, animal and soil science as well as agricultural mechanics. At the same time, the student carries on supervised farming projects.

In the junior and senior years, the student goes either into advanced courses on agricultural production or non-farm agriculture courses. The student who does not expect to stay in farming would select the latter courses.



Training is the key to the future for many farm boys and girls who must look ahead to living off the farm, but possibly in a farm-related job. Among methods suggested by a number of educators is an "Area Vocational Educational Center." This would be a training program located in a building or community college in the county supported by the entire county tax base.

The students from all high schools in the county would use the facilities on a schedule. At this area center, skills are taught that require expensive equipment. These include data processing, electronics, accounting and tax services.

This method might allow all youth to have opportunities that no one school could provide independently. The students would receive all other subjects in their home high school. They would graduate from a school in their home district.

What about training after high school — involving less than a full college degree? This type of technical training is becoming increasingly popular.

One of the best-known programs of this sort is the Short Course offering at Michigan State University. Agricultural short courses have been available for over 50 years. In recent years, many courses have been developed to provide technical training for youth. Training is offered in commercial floriculture, elevator and farm supply operations, landscape and nursery management, farm equipment service and sales, and in soil sciences as well as farm management.

Short courses at MSU offer many advantages. Sixty-five staff members provide the teaching in the Short Course program. The students also have classes with other College of Agriculture professors. This program gives youth an opportunity to try college life while learning a specific occupation.

While enrolled in these technical training programs, the student also has on-the-job supervised training. During this phase, he is paid. This helps finance the cost of the student's education.

Community Colleges may also provide an economical method of post high school training. While most of these colleges do not provide basic technical training, some offer such programs. Most of them provide excellent programs which lead on to a four year degree. The student entering a Community College should plan his courses carefully to provide the best advantage when he transfers.

COLLEGE TRAINING

Michigan State University, the nation's first Land Grant College, offers degrees in 23 agricultural majors. These include: Agricultural Biochemistry, Ag Business, Ag Communications, Ag Economics, Dairy, Food Science, Lumber and Building Materials, Marketing, Forestry, Resource Development, Packaging, and 13 others. Doesn't this broaden the picture of agriculture?

While the College of Agriculture is not the largest college at MSU, it is far from a declining part of the institution. In 1965, the enrollment in the College of Agriculture was 13 per cent more than in 1964. Even with increased enrollment, the all-agriculture demand for graduates from the Ag College far exceeds the number graduating. Start-

ing salaries are comparable to those for most other college graduates.

Without a doubt, it is expensive to go to college. It costs about \$6,400 for four years at MSU. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the average college graduate earns about \$150,000 more in his lifetime than a high school graduate. So the \$6,400 is a pretty good investment.

Parents should start counselling their children early. Farm families usually work closely together. This relationship gives opportunity and an intimate basis for talk about a young person's plans for the future. Parents can explain that agriculture includes farming and other occupations related to farming.

The local high school should also be of interest to the parents. Is the curriculum adequately preparing youth for employment or college? Does the school have "Opportunity Counselling" personnel? Are these people aware of the job opportunities within agriculture, or are farm youth being "counselled out" of agriculture?

A talk with the school vo-ag teacher would also be wise. Is he offering a program that trains youth in non-farm agricultural jobs? Does he need help to develop such a program?

Finally, parents should look at the Community College in the area. Is it providing technical training opportunities to rural youth designed to keep them in agriculture? How well is it preparing the youth who wants to transfer to another school for a degree?

CONCLUSION

Agriculture is an expanding industry. It will need more trained people as time goes on. The farm youth of today have more opportunities for rewarding careers in agriculture than at any time. They have the background necessary, but need the training. Agriculture needs them, too!

Proper training for youth is a team effort. The youth must be stimulated to think of the future. Educators must be aware of the opportunities in agriculture. Parents must counsel, take interest and provide sound financing for adequate educational facilities.

Many businesses and industries should cooperate with educational institutions by informing schools of the training needed and of future job opportunities. They should also provide on-the-job training for youth.

If this cooperation is given, youth will still leave the farm, but a lot less will leave agriculture.

QUESTIONS — SUGGESTIONS

1. How many jobs in agriculture can the members of your group list?
2. Arrange to tour a local business and see how many agricultural jobs you can find.
3. Ask your Vo-Ag teacher to your group meeting. Visit with him about his curriculum. Find out if he needs assistance in developing training programs for non-farm agricultural jobs.

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