

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

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

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—1919—A Half-Century Of Service To Michigan Farmers—1969—

April 1, 1969



STATE MEMBERSHIP GOAL IS REACHED!
topping 53,894 members at press time.

— Vern M. Bullen Photo —

SLAVE AUCTION—sold, for one day of hard labor is Donald Ruhlig (left) Southeast Regional Representative for the Michigan Farm Bureau. Buyer, for \$13,000 in bogus-bucks, was an area hog farmer, who intimated that he had just the right spring-time fork and shovel job in mind. The occasion was one in a statewide series of ten membership Victory Party "Auctions" where fake money earned by membership workers become legal-tender for the day.

AUCTIONEER DUANE DUNBAR, Lenawee Co. Farm Bureau member, had a busy day "selling" valuables in a 2-hour session typical of the regional auctions climaxing the membership year (additional story, page 13). Volunteer membership workers received \$1,000 or more in the funny-money for each new member signed, plus similar payment for other Roll-Call work. The auction parties combined food and fun to repay work of volunteers with valuable prizes.

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amazing system

Michigan farmers have again discovered that Washington D. C. is a place that one must see in order to believe.

The four o'clock rush hour, when thousands of government clerks and other employees hit the streets toward home, the hundreds of taxis everywhere — until you need one; the rows of impressive buildings (some with anti-aircraft defenses built into their roofs) and the distinctive government method of getting things done, are all parts of the near-unbelievable.

"Now I know why a new President has trouble changing things much in just four years" said one of the 37 Farm Bureau legislative leaders after his first glimpse of the growing complexity which is our seat of government.

He had visited both Houses of Congress, benefitted from attending formal briefings and hearings, and met and visited with his Congressman. He came away with a feeling of amazement that the whole system works at all.

But work it does, and just how, when and why — and the special part farmers have in our American government system, were some of the reasons back of the 9th annual air-trip to Washington sponsored by Farm Bureau Women in late March.

During the three days spent in the nation's capital, selected legislative leaders had a breakfast to which Democrat members of Congress from Michigan were invited — a luncheon with Michigan newsmen covering the Washington beat, and another breakfast with Republican members of Congress from our state.

In between they attended a briefing conducted in the offices of the American Farm Bureau Federation, attended hearings and made calls on their Congressman.

"This is not a protest group" President Elton Smith told Washington newsmen. "We are here as part of a continuing conversation between Michigan farmers and their Representatives."

Farm Bureau Women had arranged the news conference and luncheon in the National Press Club in the heart of Washington to bring representative members of the group before newsmen whose areas of coverage included Michigan.

Present were news people from Time-Life, Booth Newspapers, Federated Publications, Associated Press and the Michigan League of Home Dailies.

The newsmen asked penetrating questions and discovered anew that farm people lead far from sheltered lives. Because Congress is expected to take a close look at farm-labor legislation this year, there was talk of what labor-union attempts to organize farm workers might mean.

"We are not opposed to labor union organization of farm workers — providing it is on a voluntary basis" said Eugene Roberts, a member of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Farm Bureau. "As a voluntary organization, Farm Bureau could hardly oppose our own kind of structure. But we think there is no place for compulsion in America . . ." he added.

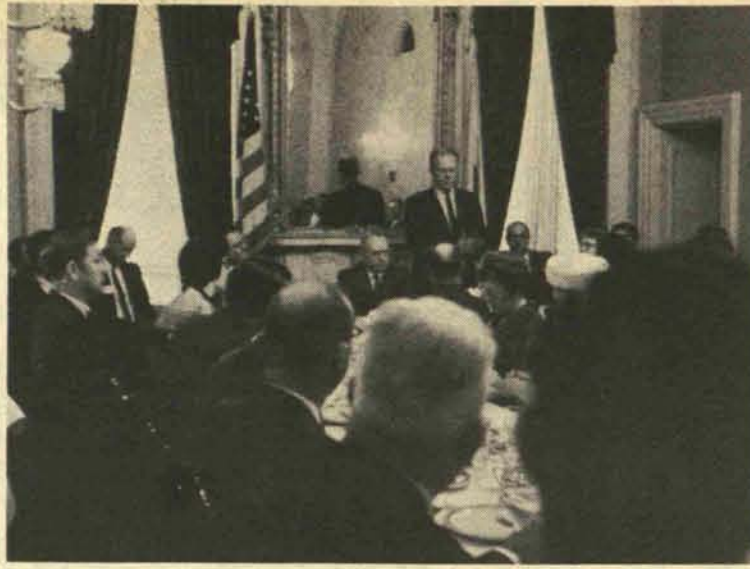
Ray Anderson, a member of the state Wage Deviation Board, said that farmers must be protected from harvest-time harassment and strikes by labor organizers. Other members of the group pointed out the near-failure of the California grape boycott, telling newsmen that very few farm workers had voluntarily joined the union in California.

There were a total of 96 persons involved in this year's combined "American Heritage" and "Legislative Leaders" Washington Seminar with the group split almost evenly between men and women.

Of the 37 legislative leaders (25 men, 12 women) a majority were dairy farmers and the fact they found it possible at all to take time away from their operations, spoke well for their management abilities.

Those who have watched and guided the development of the air-tour as an important phase of Farm Bureau's policy development and policy execution programs, were pleased by the obvious professionalism — and forward outlook, of these people.

Melvin Woell



HOUSE MINORITY LEADER — Mich. Representative Gerald Ford, talks to Farm Bureau leaders at breakfast in the Speaker's private dining room — in the Capitol.



U. S. REPRESENTATIVE . . . Edward Hutchinson, Benton Harbor, Mich. outlines actions of Congress of concern to Mich. farmers.



6th DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE — Charles Chamberlain is shown visiting with Farm Bureau Legislative Leaders.



FARM BUREAU LEADERS . . . met with Don Paarlberg, Economics Chief for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. From left, Pres. Smith, Eugene Roberts, Paarlberg, Nick Smith and Dean Pridgeon.

President's Column

OIL - a cash crop!

If someone had suggested 50 years ago, when Farm Bureau was first organized, that one way to more farm income would be through a petroleum cooperative, few farmers would have thought much of the idea.

Only 60 years earlier, the world's first oil well had been dug by Colonel Edwin Drake at Titusville, Pennsylvania, and oil remained more of a curiosity than a potential major source of energy for most people.

Wood and coal were used for heating, and coal provided much of the motive power for industry. "Coal-oil" — as kerosene was then called, was used in lamps and lanterns, and only later was replaced by the much brighter light of Mr. Coleman's gasoline-powered mantle lamps. The electrical revolution was just beginning but still held little promise for farmers.

Early records show that almost from the first, Farm Bureau had a "purchasing department" which at one time or another dealt in nearly every farm supply item — including coal. As farm machinery and gasoline-powered engines became more popular, petroleum products began to nudge out coal in taking a larger share of the farmer's expense dollar.

By then, the purchasing department had become Farm Bureau Services, and petroleum bulk stations had been set up at a number of locations around Michigan.

The first load of Farm Bureau gasoline was delivered to Branch county Farm Bureau Oil Company in June of 1932 to supply Farm Bureau member-patrons in that area.

But the real push which got farmers firmly established in the petroleum business came with World War Two, when refineries sometimes closed for lack of crude oil to process.

Farm Bureau members began to question why farmers couldn't set up a cooperative capable of representing them in all of the steps of the petroleum business — from actual crude production through the refinery process. Some leaders thought the idea involved too big a gamble, but others said that any kind of farming — on the earth's surface, or beneath it was a gamble.

Because the farm-sales volume of oil and other petroleum products had increased greatly, the Michigan Farm Bureau board of directors authorized the forming of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative in June of 1948 — financed by the sale of \$350,000 worth of stock to farmers and local cooperatives. At this stage, FPC bought the transports formerly used by Farm Bureau Services and used them to make deliveries to farmer cooperatives in all parts of lower Michigan.

Records show that Farmers Petroleum business amounted to more than \$3 million dollars in just the first year of operation. Of course this demand meant that we had to have a good source of supply and it wasn't long again before farmers were asking why they couldn't own the wells and maybe even refine the crude oil too.

After some hesitation, Farmers Petroleum bought two producing wells in northern Michigan with an estimated value of a half-million dollars. This proved to be a wise move, and since they supplied only a small part of the need, another 18 wells in central Michigan were bought, plus a half-interest in another 136 wells in Illinois.

But even this didn't begin to meet demand, and Farmers Petroleum continued to search for other wells.

Today, FPC has assets topping \$6 million dollars, a daily crude production of 1,000 barrels from 75 wells which are owned outright, and another 425 wells which are jointly owned.

Dividends returned to patrons over the years amount to more than \$4 million dollars!

Most importantly, Farm Bureau members have proven that when they make up their minds to work together, they can hold their own in a highly complicated, technical, high-risk business and not only survive, but provide themselves with the exact kinds of products and services they want — at considerable savings.

Elton Smith

MICHIGAN FARM NEWS

THE ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU

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young man with a purpose

Photostory by: Vern M. Bullen

"Young Man With a Purpose" best describes Henry M. Jennings, 32 year old farmer from Swartz Creek, who was recently named Michigan's Outstanding Young Farmer for 1969 by the State Jaycees and Central Soya, co-sponsors of this annual event.

Henry, his wife Linda and their three sons, Steven, Thomas and Peter, live on a 314 acre cash crop farm on W. Hill road in Mundy township, just a few miles out of Swartz Creek. The Jennings are Farm Bureau members, (Henry is a member of the Executive Committee of the Genesee County Farm Bureau Board of Directors) are active in their church as well as in other home and family-related areas.

In addition to the home site acreage, the Jennings rent and farm another 900 acres. This land is in four townships and the Jennings have selected a site two miles south of their present home to build a new home this summer.

Henry started planning years ago for his agricultural career. While in grade school, he was an active 4-H member, earned the Star Farmer degree in FFA in his high school days. His father had a livestock and crop farm just a few miles from where Henry lives now and by the time Henry was out of high school, he owned 70 acres of land . . . which gave him his start. All the time Henry Jennings works his land, he is following a set plan. He works with one thought in mind . . . "Plan your work and work your plan." This theory took root and as Linda says, "Every move he makes counts. I can almost see the wheels turning in his mind. He plans for the next month . . . for the next season . . . for the next year. He is definitely a student of farming and he knows his plan will work for us. We're all very proud of this honor . . . it has given us further incentive to devote our lives to farming. This is our life."

The Jennings exemplify the slogan "The family that prays together . . . stays together. They do this all the way . . . they pray together . . . they work together . . . they plan together, and as a family, they play together. After a spring and summer of planting and the fall harvesting, they vacation in the winter. The Jennings do not have any livestock on their farm. Henry says "There just isn't any place for livestock in my plan. I need every hour to concentrate on the cash crops and to make my plan work."

Henry has also taken some agriculture short courses at Michigan State University and is in his second year of the Kellogg Farmer's Study Program at MSU. Far and fore-sighted, Henry knows that this is a program geared to the farmer of today and tomorrow . . . when not just the crop will be important, but that soon a farmer will not be able to make a living on a 40 or 60 acre farm but will have to specialize on a much larger basis.

"Modern scientific farming methods and modern equipment are necessary to make a success of farming today. At one time, all a farmer needed was a strong back, a patient wife who could help at any time and some hired help. I have the strong back and also a patient wife and with our three sons growing up, I hope we can instill in them a love of the land as we have had it instilled in us."

The Jennings use the computer bookkeeping service offered by Michigan Farm Bureau, which, as they say "keeps it to a 'T' and we always know where we are and how we got there."

As a reward for this hard work, Henry Jennings will attend the National Outstanding Young Farmer meeting in St. Paul, Minnesota, April 7-9. Some 50 young men will be the center of attention at this "world series" of agriculture. From these 50 young men, will come the National Outstanding Young Farmer of America.

This month (beginning March 9) Henry joined a tour sponsored by the Kellogg program, which will take him across the nation to view other farming methods.

There's a pattern here . . . all one has to do is follow it . . . or set their own pattern. Farming is a vocation . . . a life time of happiness and work (as any job can be) . . . but the Jennings hope that other young couples will pick farming as a life time work. Just "plan your work and work your plan." It's not simple . . . but simply wonderful as the Jennings have worked it.



Peter Jennings ...in his daddy's shadow...



HENRY JENNINGS — 32 year-old Swartz Creek farmer will represent Michigan in the national Outstanding Young Farmer contest in Minnesota, April 7-9.

--OTHERS ALSO HONORED--

Sixteen local-Jaycee Chapter sponsored candidates for the Michigan Outstanding Young Farmer of 1969 were honored at a banquet-program March 1, hosted by the State Jaycees and Central Soya, one of Michigan's largest soybean processors.

Henry M. Jennings, Swartz Creek, emerged as the winner of the award. He was sponsored by the Swartz Creek Jaycees. The first three runners-up are Cletus A. Brooks, 31 year old dairy farmer, Onsted; Robert M. Zenz, 32 year old dairy and cash crop farmer, Grass Lake, and Edwin A. Estelle, 30, Gaylord potato grower.

Others in the final competition were Richard Brassow, Dexter; Duane R. Bull, Grant; Charles C.

Eubank, Walker; Richard J. Kadlec, Chesaning; Gerald E. Knight, Howell; Marvin J. Kociba, Harbor Beach; Martin R. Sands, Grand Ledge; Robert Schoenborn, Grand Haven; Dennis J. Thelen, St. Johns; Wendell Van Gunst, Hart and John F. Ward, Ypsilanti.

The Michigan award is the result of a screening program conducted by local Jaycee Chapters, reaching more than 7000 farmers and ranchers throughout the United States. State Jaycee organizations then narrowed the field down to the state finalists who will be the center of attention at Saint Paul, Minnesota, April 7, 8 and 9.

Roger Bramer, Grand Haven, was state chairman of the project.



MR. AND MRS. HENRY JENNINGS — and four year-old son Peter, can step outside their home, look in any direction and say with pride "This land is our land!" They live and farm on 314 acres near Swartz Creek, Genesee county.



capitol report



FOR THE VEEP — Vice President Spiro Agnew accepted an engraved silver plate from National Cherry Queen, Julie Anne Hamilton, 18, of Cedar Springs, Michigan, during her trip around the country promoting Michigan's cherry industry. She was accompanied to Agnew's office in Washington by U.S. Senator Robert Griffin.

"farm property taxation now at completely unrealistic levels"

The farmer is feeling the effects of inflation . . . and a proper assessment of farm land might bring some relief," Robert Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau's Legislative Counsel, told those attending a Michigan State Farmer's Week meeting on Resource Development and Parks Recreation Resources, recently.

Smith said the problem is well known . . . now its time to find some solutions. "It is simply that taxation of farm property has reached a completely unrealistic level compared to farm income. The inflationary spiral is one of the most important reasons for this ever-increasing inflation along with increasing costs resulting in a tightening of the cost price squeeze.

"Another major factor is the constant pressure of rising school costs on the property tax. In many areas, 70% or more of local taxes are school taxes . . . this in itself is a double problem because schools depend on tax money to operate.

"Many farm leaders are becoming concerned with the rapid disappearance of good agricultural land. Future leaders may look back at the folly of our unwise land use. Much has been bought by land developers for suburbs and industrial use with the result that surrounding lands also feel the increase of land-tax value . . ."

What's the solution? "We believe that farm land should be assessed as farm land as long as it is so used, instead of on its potential value," Smith said. There

are basically four types of legislation, or combinations, that could bring some relief. A plain *Preferential Assessment* calling attention to the preservation of farmland, forest land and open face land; *Tax Deferral*: that land be assessed only on its value for agriculture; *Planning and Zoning*: again, assessed for its agricultural benefit provided it has been designated or zoned as agricultural or open space; *Area and Easement*: a method whereby the state or local government contracts with the landowner to restrict the development of the land for a period of time.

WILD TURKEY

In the early 1930's the wild turkey was on the brink of extermination in this country. By 1967, hunters were able to claim 118,844 of these birds from a population that is steadily increasing.

This suggests some benefit rather than adverse effect from the judicious use of pesticides by farmers and foresters, that helps to preserve and improve wildlife cover and food supply.

Again . . . it must be remembered that farm land is of equal value to the urban resident. Agriculture is still the second largest source of income in Michigan and space to grow food, and for future generations is a major concern for all."

TAKE-OVER DATE EXTENSION FOR DRY BEANS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a 60-day extension of the take-over date for dry edible beans — as requested by Farm Bureau and affiliate companies.

The new date of June 30 will permit orderly marketing of the 1968 bean crop.

Processors had been buying on a day-to-day basis in anticipation of a temporary market-decline based on the original take-over date of April 30.

Former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Marvin McLain, now on the staff of the American Farm Bureau, assisted in presenting the extension request to USDA. In the request to Under-Secretary Clarence Palmby, Farm Bureau said, "It is estimated that producers still own 30% of the 1968 crop and the benefits of orderly marketing of the balance of the crop will accrue to farmers . . ."



"SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS" — toward public understanding of weather effects on agriculture, were recognized recently by the U.S. Department of Commerce in presenting a public service award to Farm Bureau for producing a color film "Whatever the Weather . . ." Presenting the award is Ceel Van Den Brink, Mich. Meteorologist. Dan Reed, Farm Bureau Secretary-Manager, and Melvin Woell, Information Division Manager, accepted the award on behalf of the Michigan Farm Bureau.

legis-late-notes

° Farm Labor legislation will again be very much on the "front burner" this legislative season.

° Deadline for introduction of bills has passed, but before this happened — many labor bills were placed in the hopper.

° H-2310 is one such bill — which would apply to anyone hiring "one-or-more" people. It limits agricultural work to no more than six days or 48 hours in any week — or more than 10 hours in any day. The bill contains provisions for voluntary over-time and also for the employer to require over-time — but not more than 30 days in any 12-month period.

Under H-2310, the Department of Labor would issue rules and provide for appeal of employer and employee. The employer must keep records for three years and produce them in writing on demand.

° It is obvious that such legislation would create hardships in all types of farming.

° At least three bills are introduced to increase minimum wages in Michigan. One would place the wage at \$1.50 — another at \$1.60 and still another, to \$2.00.

° H-2363 is a bill to exempt approved migrant housing from all real estate taxes. Farm Bureau has supported this in previous years.

° Labor bill — S-166, would require any employer, including farmers, having 100 or more persons employed, to maintain at all times, a first-aid center served by a nurse or some other qualified person, to administer first-aid.

° Other bills would remove the present farm exemption on work-permits for those under 18. Still another would prohibit withholding of any payment as a bonus, unless it was by a written condition with the employee. It would also prohibit transportation of seasonal agricultural workers without written agreement . . . stipulating all terms and conditions of employment.

° House bill 2361, would appropriate money to Michigan State University to research group-housing of migrant workers and also approve money for credits to employers who make extensive improvement and — or, build new worker housing. This bill has been introduced in other years.

° Several bills would bring agriculture under the wage law, requiring payment every week — or each two weeks.

° It is expected that legislation to bring all farm workers under full workmen's compensation will be strongly promoted in the current session.

° Meanwhile, the Michigan Farm Bureau continues to work for fair and equitable arrangements for farmers under the present Workmen's Compensation Act — recognizing that farmers are having difficulty adjusting to the provisions of the Act as it applies to farm workers. Without a broad base of experience, this law has imposed financial hardship upon farm employers, and has caused a decrease in the number of available farm jobs.

does farm policy MAKE or BREAK the farmer?

President Smith on National Farm Panel

Programs and policies of the Michigan Farm Bureau made the national scene in early March when state president Elton Smith, appeared as a guest speaker and panelist on a national Farm Forum, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

With Smith on the platform was former Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, Terrance Hanold, President of Pillsbury Mills, Congressman Odin Langen of Minnesota's 7th district, Minnesota Governor Harold LeVander, and the presidents of the National Farmers Union and the NFO.

For the past 23 years, the Minneapolis Farm Forum has attracted thousands of farm and city people to the twin-cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul, with an estimated 2000 persons attending this year's March 6th session in the Leamington hotel.

Built around the general theme of "Agriculture, turned on or toned down . . ." this year's forum was again designed to bring together leaders of farm organizations, government and industry "to examine agricultural problems, needs and programs, affecting both the farmer and the consumer . . ."

Of prime interest to the huge audience were gains Michigan farmers have made in marketing through Farm Bureau sponsored programs. It was obvious from the start that the Michigan Farm Bureau has built and maintained a national leadership in such marketing — both through long-time established affiliates, and the newer Michigan Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Association — MACMA.

Besides his formal platform appearances, Smith took part in a lively press conference, and in a discussion panel, and throughout the day was interviewed by numerous newspapermen, radio and television broadcasters.

Smith and the other farm organization leaders were asked to address themselves to the topic "Agricultural policy makes or breaks the farmer" — and at the onset, Smith made it clear that such a premise only holds to the extent that farmers themselves make the policy.

"I would say that it depends upon who makes that policy and to what extent it has been shaped by we farmers ourselves.

"They tell me that in this part of the country, some farmers do insist that farm prices are made in Washington, and as near as I can tell, they appear to endorse that idea as somehow being good.

"We farmers in Farm Bureau can't buy that," Smith said.

He told the large group that over the years farmers had collected considerable evidence that farm prices can be wrecked in Washington. "The farm-income problem hasn't yet been solved with 35 years of Washington political experimenting with all kinds of federal 'help' and about 30-billion dollars of our tax money.

"With that kind of a record of success — we think it's high time we try something else.

"So if the assumption is that how well we farmers do is tied only to national farm policies as set in Washington, we would need to begin by rejecting that premise" Smith told the forum group.

At this point, the Michigan Farm Bureau leader suggested that farmers substitute the idea that it is the kind of policy which they, themselves make, "and how we personally pursue our products into and through the market place, which really makes or breaks us . . ."

Elsewhere in his presentation, Smith made several direct references to holding actions as examples of market-wrecking. He said that farmers must realize that they cannot build markets by destroying things "either the actual

product or the market itself—just by turning their backs on it for a time". He said that markets don't go away, or change of themselves, and "sooner or later when you must face it again, the same market is there—in fact, usually weaker if anything because of what went on.

"Through such actions we farmers have lost far more than we could possibly gain because of such public displays of emotion — convincing many city people of our pettishness and immaturity."

He went on to explain that although farmers need to take a direct hand in their marketing programs, they must do so through reasoned action, tempered with the knowledge that farmers must operate within a complex national political and economic climate. "Realizing that we are only six per cent of the population and have long ago lost the ability to demand things . . ."

Smith added: "I'm convinced that we as farmers can still do what needs to be done to improve our incomes. Hopefully, we will have the understanding help of some parts of government in this work, but most certainly we will not get the job done by going the 'governmental' route."

Other major points made by President Smith included:

- *A growing feeling that the Capper-Volstead Act, enacted more than 45 years ago, does not now serve as an adequate legal base for bargaining in today's complex markets.

- *The Agricultural Fair Practices Act of last year is a "valuable first step" in building a more sound legal framework for farmer-bargaining. We need to go further.

- *Farm Bureau members feel that failure of a buyer to negotiate with a recognized bargaining association should constitute an unfair trade practice, and that such practices should be outlined in detail.

- *Some farm groups favor forced, compulsory bargaining, involving features such as those outlined in Senator Walter Mondale's bill (D-Minnesota).

- *Farm Bureau dislikes this approach, in that it involves placing a consumer-oriented government directly between the farmer and those with whom he would negotiate for farm prices.

- *Farmers dislike the idea of government appointed marketing "boards" speaking for them "no matter how carefully any administration attempts to pick the members."

- *The Mondale proposals do not refer to — or guarantee, such



NATIONAL PANEL — takes part in a question-answer session at the Minneapolis Farm Forum. Seated to the extreme right is Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith. Moderator (at lectern) is Dr. Sherwood Berg, Dean of Agriculture, University of Minnesota. To the left of Berg is former Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman.



HUGE CROWD — estimated at 2000 persons, fills every chair at the six-day Farm Forum where presentations were heard from heads of farm organizations and ag-related industries. Theme of the one-day affair was "American Agriculture: Turned On, or Toned Down."

board membership having agricultural representation. Apparently farmers would have no "say" in selecting board members. "I contend that this board would be subject to the political powers that be . . ."

- *The board selects from names submitted by county ASCS committees — and this leaves the entire operation wide open to manipulation.

Smith summed up Farm Bureau opposition to the Mondale measure by stating that the bill is drafted on the assumption that control over farm supplies is necessary to collective bargaining — "and to an extent I go along with that, but remember, under the Mondale measure, this control would be in the hands of government, and we know there is real danger there.

"We say that the future farm prosperity depends upon our own success as farmers in controlling the supplies of food and fiber we produce, rather than handing over this responsibility to anyone else — to government or labor or to anyone outside of agriculture."

Points of interest made by former Agricultural Secretary Freeman included these references to the stake U. S. farmers have in international trade:

- *The harvest equivalent of one in every four acres of American farm and ranch land is sold abroad;

- *Farm exports have exceeded \$6 billion for five straight years;

- *In terms of the farmer's pocketbook, one dollar of every six he earns comes from such exports;

- *These exports have generated close to one-million jobs off the



NEWS CONFERENCE — brings Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, (left) before a nationwide audience. Others are Tony Dechant, President of the National Farmers Union and Oren Staley, NFO President.

farm in production, processing, handling, shipping and other functions necessary to this trade;

- *These same exports have contributed a favorable balance of nearly \$1 billion per year in four of the past five years to the nation's crucial balance-of-payments.

Although attendance at the forum was largely from the Minnesota area, the meeting attracted farmers from North and South Dakota, Montana, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Cooperating in the forum were a number of Chambers of Commerce and farm-related business organizations in the six states of the Ninth Federal Reserve District.

— AWARDS — MEMORIALS — HONORS —



"HEY MOM — WE WON!" Gordon and Fay Philibeck get the news that they are Michigan's Most Outstanding Dairy Couple — and will travel to Washington, D. C. for the National Milk Producers Federation annual convention.

**MMPA SELECTS
BEST DAIRY COUPLE**

In annual competition sponsored by Michigan Milk Producers Association, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Philibeck, Menominee county Farm Bureau members were selected as the Outstanding Young Dairy Couple for Michigan in 1969.

The Philibecks farm more than 700 acres, milk 76 registered Holstein cows and are very active in a number of agri-related organizations.

Mrs. Philibeck (Fay) is especially active in the work of Farm Bureau Women, and on recreation programs for mentally handicapped patients at a nearby hospital.

Gordon Philibeck attended Michigan State University and studied basic veterinary medicine. They have six children, ages 14 years to 6 months.

Runners-up in the contest were Mr. and Mrs. John Tunison, Farm Bureau members in Lapeer county.



HARRY BURNS — a member of the Tuscola Co. Farm Bureau, was honored during Farmer's Week by Mich. State University for "Distinguished Agricultural Service". He farms 400 acres near Millington, has 40,000 laying hens, 18,000 pullets and daily egg production of 32,000. He operates his own feed mill, mixers and storage facilities. He has taken part in MSU's Poultry Science research projects.



JACK DENDEL — a member of the Allegan Co. Farm Bureau, has been elected president of the American Dairy Association of Michigan, at the recently held 1969 annual association meeting. Denzel operates a 392-acre dairy farm and apple orchards northwest of Kalamazoo. He has 120 head of Guernseys with 58 on the Dairy Herd Improvement Association testing program.

in memoriam

CHARLES J. DAVIS

The late Michigan Representative Charles J. Davis was honored Monday, March 17, as Michigan's Dairyman of the Year.

This unusual presentation was made because of Davis' years of service as a dairyman, dairy industry leader and agricultural legislator.

Mr. Davis died October 1, 1968 after serving since 1962 in the Michigan House of Representatives. In making the presentation during a dairy awards' luncheon at Michigan State University's Farmers' Week, Dr. Charles A. Lassiter, chairman of MSU's Department of Dairy, referred to Davis as a "progressive agricultural leader in this state."

Mr. Davis was a past president of the Ingham County Farm Bureau and was an active member and leader in many dairy and farm-related organizations.

Michigan Farm Bureau presented a Distinguished Service Award for Service to Agriculture



to Mr. Davis at the 1967 Annual Meeting, recognizing him as an outstanding dairy farmer, Farm Bureau leader and a member of the Michigan Legislature but above all, representative of the best in agriculture.

His wife, Lenore, resides on the family dairy farm, Maple Crest Farm, Onondaga.

STANLEY JOHNSTON

Michigan's million dollar peach scientist, Professor Stanley Johnston, died March 11, at the age of 70, in South Haven.

Professor Johnston received a Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award from Michigan Farm Bureau in 1960, recognizing him for his more than 40 years of service to Michigan's fruit industry.

Professor Johnston developed the world famous Haven peaches and improved varieties of raspberries, blueberries, strawberries and apricots. The much respected and honored Dr. Johnston had conducted research at Michigan State University's South Haven Experimental Station for 49 years and was slated to retire June 30, 1969. His legacy includes millions of improved fruit crops growing throughout the world.

Professor Johnston was born in Roscommon, graduated from Michigan State University in 1920 and received his master of science from that institution in 1930. Prof. Johnston was superintendent



of the South Haven station since 1920 and was appointed professor in 1945.

He served as president of the American Pomological Society and received the Wilder Medal for "Outstanding Service to Horticulture."

He is survived by his wife, Laura, and two sons.

**FREEDOMS FOUNDATION AWARD
TO MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU**

A program of the Michigan Farm Bureau has been selected to receive one of the coveted Freedoms Foundation awards for "An outstanding accomplishment in helping to achieve a better understanding of the American Way of Life . . ."

Basis for the honor was last year's "Citizenship Seminar" involving selected high school Juniors and Seniors in a full week of citizenship experience and training.

Plans for an appropriate presentation time and place remain pending, the Foundation reports.

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|--|---|---|---|



IN THE SERVICE OF THE FARMER

In March of 1921 — Clark L. Brody became Secretary-Manager of the Michigan Farm Bureau. For the next 31 years, until his retirements in 1952, he helped guide Farm Bureau into the position of solid leadership it now holds in both Michigan and among state Farm Bureaus.

Upon his retirement he wrote a book — portions of which will be reprinted in this, and following issues, in recognition of Farm Bureau's Golden Anniversary.

In this first installment, Mr. Brody sets the stage by taking us back to farming — as it used to be, nearly 100 years ago . . .

(From the book "In the Service of the Farmer" by Clark L. Brody, Copyright 1959, by Michigan State University Press. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.)

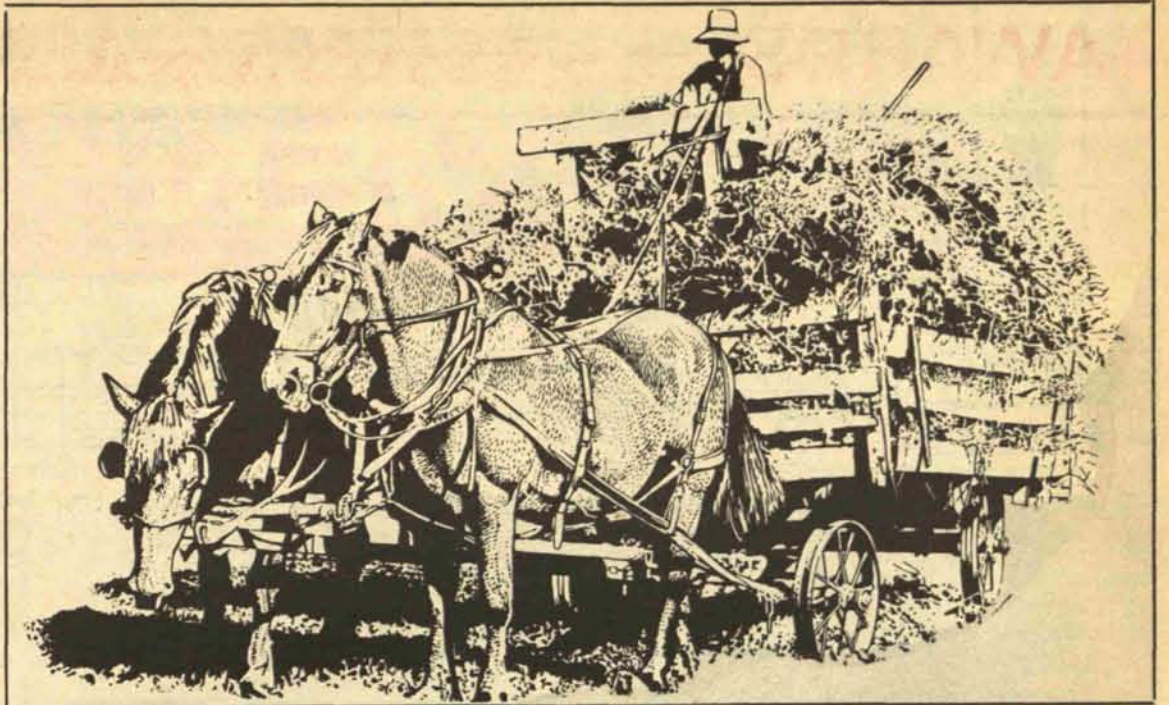
The Horse and Buggy Days

On February 1, a very cold day in 1879, Doctor Culp hurried by horse and cutter to our farm in Fabius Township, St. Joseph County, to deliver me. A neighbor had driven a horse the six miles to Constantine to get him. Aunt Kate, the local midwife, assisted Doctor Culp, and, I am told, gave me my first bath. Neighboring women, many of whom my mother had assisted on like occasions, took over the running of the house. They cleaned, laundered, and cooked for the family. Father was kept busy putting wood in the kitchen stove, heating water, and doing anything else the occasion demanded. The kitchen fire consumed wood at a prodigious rate and the need for hot water seemingly was endless. There is no record of what my father said when he pulled back the blanket for his first look at me. I can imagine that as he announced my arrival about the neighborhood, he exhibited considerable pride that his first child was a boy.

The parlor was reserved for company and for the Sabbath. The yellow shades were pulled all the way down during the week and the doors were shut. Everything was precisely and invariably placed, and though the room was dusted and aired every Saturday, it seemed nothing was ever moved. The furniture was ar-

ranged around a table in the center of the room, on which lay a few books — *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *Robinson Crusoe*, *Silas Marner*, and a nine pound, leather-covered Bible that Mother in 1880 has bought for eight dollars from a traveling salesman. A large album of tintypes was kept in the drawer of the table along with a stereoscope for viewing a collection of pictures Mother had also bought from a door-to-door agent. A highly buffed kerosene lamp with a green shade hung from brass chains over the table. The couch was the one piece of upholstered furniture; "tidies" were fixed to its arms and back with straight pins, on which many a wandering child's hand was impaled. The wooden rocking chairs had cushions filled with feathers from our ducks; Mother had crocheted intricate flower arrangements on the covers.

When the room was opened up, daylight filtered softly through heavy white lace curtains. There were artificial flowers in a small vase at each end of the mantle; for all we knew, the flowers could have been rooted there. Over the mantle was an oval mirror heavily framed with dark mahogany. Elsewhere on the walls there were my parents' marriage certificate with lines where the names of children could be entered; samplers — "God Bless Our Happy Home," and scenes of ladies and men displaying elegant manners to each other; a calendar a winter sledding scene at the top,



given to us by a seed company; and a family portrait, mother sitting by father's side, we children in our Sunday best sitting stiffly at their feet. The parlor had a stuffy smell, a church-like odor that I still associate with Sunday. We whiled away Sunday afternoons, when whooping it up outside was unseemly, leafing through the illustrated Holy Bible, its pages so cool to the touch, tracing figures in the carpet, speaking with hushed voices, and suppressing giggles as we examined tintypes of our relatives, while mother and father, almost strangers to us in a high-necked flowered dress and a high buttoned suit, sat upright and spoke of Sunday things.

Winters we lived mostly in the kitchen and sitting room. The other rooms were uninhabitable unless one was in bed, or unless a box stove were lit, and even so, though a box stove heated one side of a person, the other side chilled. But the blessed fire in the living room was never let die; the large "Granger" heating stove was in the winter our sun, our fount of energy and comfort. The louder the wind howled and the thicker the frost lay on the windows, the snuggler we felt by it. We did our weekly bathing and we donned our night clothes at the side of the kitchen stove. On a sub-zero night, the bricks and soapstones that warmed our feet in bed had been heated in its oven. In the morning, under several quilts we steeled ourselves for the cold dash to the living room where our clothes, set out by mother, were warming by the "Granger" stove full of blazing oak knots.

Come summer and the kitchen stove became an infernal device, the heat driving everyone except mother from the kitchen. There she would remain, laboring to satisfy our bottomless stomachs, knowing that a few hours later it would have to be done again, and again, and again. It was a labor of love, for she was happy in the kitchen. A batch of hot bread or a juicy roast was forage for us, her livestock, and the scent of ginger, cinnamon, and marjoram was to her what the smell of clover is to a man. A great soul made it possible for her to accept her Sisyphean lot with grace and equanimity.

The pantry was a dispensary as well as a storehouse for china, preserves, and canned goods. On the highest shelf — even my father had to stand on a chair to reach it — were "Dr. Culp's Cordial," for settling stomachs; "Porter's Pain King"; oil of camphor and wintergreen liniment for sore joints and muscles; ipecac, an emetic for croup; "Hostetter's

Bitters"; skunk oil; goose grease for sore throats, colds, and chest troubles; and sulphur and molasses, for spring fever. And a bottle of whiskey. A whiskey sling (two spoonfuls of whiskey in water, a dash of sugar, and, if desired, other trimmings) ridded adults of chills. A cold or cough called for a rubbing of the chest with skunk oil or goose grease. The child's resistance to the ritual was exceeded only by the adult's belief in its efficacy. To the dismay of the adolescent, sulphur and molasses and spring came unavoidably together. I wonder if young people today realize how much has been done for them, not having to submit to such cures and potions? When there was a baby in the house, sprigs of dried catnip hung in the pantry. Catnip, a mild but spicy plant, was picked by expectant mothers from along fence lines. Catnip tea kept the wind off a baby's stomach. Everyone put great store in these remedies. Perhaps faith in them often played a bigger part in recovery than the medicine. I am inclined to think it frequently does even today.

Our farm was very much a family enterprise. My grandfather had spent six weeks in 1830 coming from Ohio by horseback on trails blazed through the woods and by rafts on the streams to Michigan, had squatted on our land, cleared it, and been the first to break it with a plow. One of the land patents bore Martin Van Buren's signature, and of this we were inordinately proud. We thus had a strong sense of possession about the place, and it had its claim on us also. The land fed, sheltered, and nurtured us; in return, we dedicated ourselves to it.

Labor was manual, except for horse-drawn refinements such as a reaper, mower, dump rake, and thresher. A windmill pumped water, but in a windless spell we had to pump water by hand for forty head of livestock and the house. Mother had a hired girl

who worked for "keep" and two or three dollars a week, and father a hired man for "keep" and sixteen or eighteen dollars a month. At haying and harvest, additional field hands each cost seventy-five cents to a dollar per day.

Children completed the economic picture. Feeding chickens, slopping hogs, rendering lard, making soft soap, and helping in the house freed adults for more profitable work. After eight grades, which was all the schooling most people got, a farmer had acquired another hand in a son, and the expense of a hired hand could be done away with, or operations could be extended. This was not just an economical way of child-rearing; it was common-sense. Tasks were assigned in increasing measure to a child until the balance was tipped in favor of work. As the child contributed more and more to the welfare of the family, he was treated more and more as an adult, which was precisely what he desired and needed. Everything being equal, the stable, parent-child relationship was beneficial to everyone economically and emotionally. Inculcating the young into the economic and emotional fabric of the family in this way might be a good antidote to the turmoil of modern life, which is so disintegrative to the personality, family, and community.

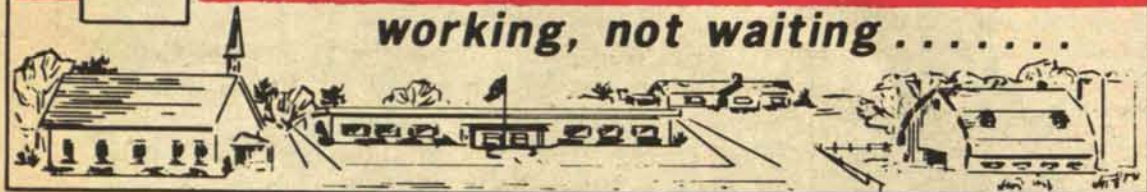
But all was not just hard work for a farm child, nor would parents have had it so. Perhaps our pleasures were made doubly sweet, coming as they did between chores.





FARM BUREAU WOMEN

working, not waiting



SAFETY WORKSHOP — sponsored by Farm Bureau Women, attracted 70 county Safety Committee members. Pictured at the Mt. Pleasant meeting (from left) are Alice Burandt, St. Joseph; Mrs. Margaret Kartes, West Branch, State Committee Chairman; Dr. Richard Pfister, MSU Safety specialist; State Trooper Richard Dragomer, and Martha Baker, Merrill. Dr. Pfister and Trooper Dragomer conducted farm, home and personal safety discussions. Safety committee members not pictured include Dessie DeGroot, Bellevue; Margaret Welke, Mayville and Maxine Topliff (ex-officio) Eaton Rapids.

we have important jobs to do

APRIL, and the rain come tumbling down . . . or does it? That's the way the rhyme goes, but we'll soon know. What could be nicer than the beautiful sunshine we have enjoyed for the last 2 months. In our part of the state we've had very little snow and except for the temperature outside and the brown grass you could even imagine summer was here.

The hum of tractors will soon be filling the air, and then we know spring work has officially begun and will continue to last until late next fall. One question comes to my mind, do you have your safety switch turned on? It's a good time to make those little repairs that needed to be done when you put that particular tool away, remember a stitch in time saves nine, it might even save some dispositions too. I'd rather mend a small hole any day than a big one, how about you?

In looking over some of the Michigan Farm Bureau policies the one on littering caught my eye, partly because I think of spring cleaning at this time of year and our roadsides in many places need some "spring cleaning". A portion of this policy is as follows: "The recently-passed Anti-Litter Law can help in curbing Littering. The judge may levy a fine and costs and may require the offender to pick up litter

along a specified mileage of highway . . ."

It is difficult to apprehend and identify litterers. Citizens must be willing to aid police officers in this difficult job. We must not permit local political influences to hamper enforcement.

We urge the use of signs posted along State and County highways and in parks, stating the maximum fine for littering. If "it pays to advertise," let's use this tool.

We also support legislation to make the owner of a vehicle responsible for litter thrown from his vehicle.

We commend television and radio stations and other media for their efforts to help "Keep Michigan Beautiful."

This is the part of the policy where "we all" as Michigan Citizens can go to work. Make those contacts with local officials and get the signs posted, doing our small or large part in helping to

Make Michigan Beautiful. We can always help by picking up those bottles, cans and pieces of paper along the roads near us. Each litter-bit picked up helps.

Mrs. Jerold (Maxine) Topliff

A Rhyme For Our Time

"Oh, it's just the little homely things The unobtrusive things The "won't-you-let-me-help-you" things That make our pathway light The "laugh-with-me-it's-funny" things and it's the jolly, joking things The "never-mind-the-trouble" things that make the world seem bright for all the countless famous things the wondrous recordbreaking things These "never-can-be-equalled" things that all the papers cite . . . are not the little human things The "everyday-encountered" things That make us happy quite So here's to all the little things The "done - and - then - forgotten - things those "oh,-it's simply-nothing" things that make life worth the fight."

— Author unknown

YOUTH, DRUGS AND CRIME SPRING WOMEN'S TOPICS

Juvenile Delinquency and Problems of Youth, Crime in the United States, Drugs and Narcotics and Fallacies in Juvenile Crime are the topics chosen for the Farm Bureau Women's District meetings in Lower Michigan during the month of April.

District 1, (Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties) will lead off the scheduled meetings on April 1 at the Youth Memorial Building in Berrien Springs. Juvenile Delinquency and Problems of Youth will be the program subject.

District 2 (Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, Jackson and Lenawee counties) will hear about "Fallacies in Juvenile Crime" at their April 30 meeting at the Lenawee County Farm Bureau office in Adrian. Belleville United Methodist church will be the site of the District 3 meeting. Drugs and Narcotics will be the subject of the program April 10 for all Farm Bureau women from Monroe, Livingston, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties.

Women of Farm Bureau in District 4 (Allegan, Barry, Kent, Ionia and Ottawa counties) will meet April 17 at the Hope Brethren church on M-50. Theme chosen for their meeting is Drugs and Juveniles. Juvenile Crime will also be the discussion for the District 5 (Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham and Shiawassee) Farm Bureau Women when they meet April 21 at the Mason United Methodist church.

Drugs and Juveniles is the subject chosen for three other district meetings . . . District 6 (Huron, Lapeer, Macomb, Sanilac, St. Clair and Tuscola counties), meeting April 15 at the 4-H Building, Goodells; District 8 (Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw counties), April 16 at the Trinity Lutheran school, Monitor township and the 10-East Farm Bureau Women, April 24. District 10-East includes Alcona, Alpena, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw and Presque Isle counties. This group will meet at the Fisher Grange Township hall in West Harrisville.

Districts 7 and 9 will learn about Crime in the United States at their District meetings. District 7 (Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newago, Oceana and Osceola counties) have scheduled their meeting for the Settlement Lutheran Church in Gowen and District 9 at the Twin Lakes 4-H Building, Traverse City. This district includes Benzie, Kalkaska, Manistee, Missaukee, N. W. Michigan and Wexford counties.

Fallacies in Juvenile Crime will also be the subject of the District 10-West meeting April 29. This meeting will be held at the Topinbee Community Center and all Farm Bureau Women from Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet and Otsego counties will attend.

All meetings are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. In addition to the above subjects, other entertainment is being planned for each district.

Elections for District Chairmen and District Vice Chairmen in Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 East and 10 West will also be held on these scheduled dates. District Women's meetings for the Upper Peninsula will be held during June.

All Farm Bureau Women are invited to attend . . . not only their own District meetings, but others as well.

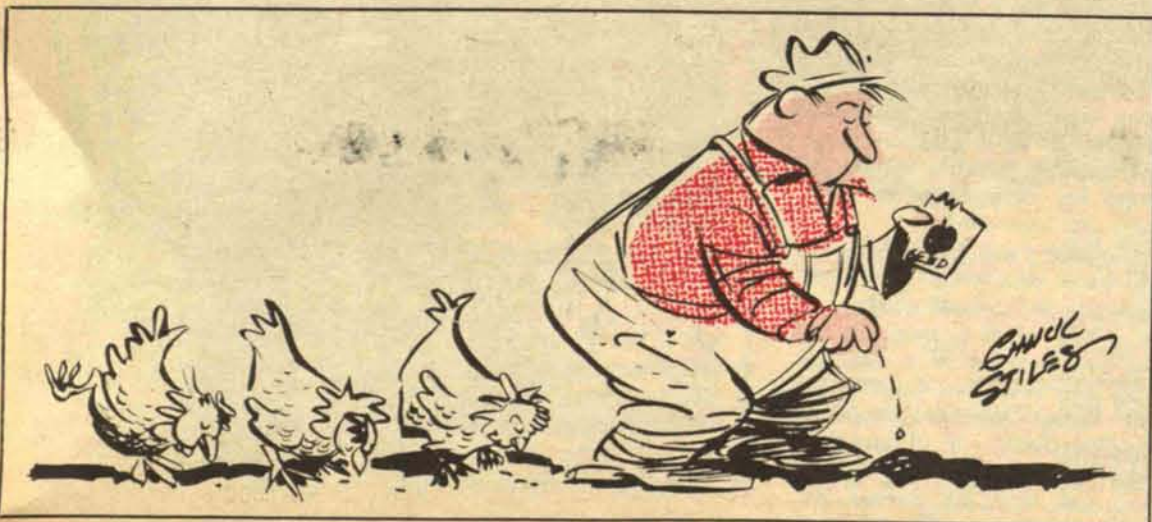
VACATION! TOURS ANNOUNCED

- CANADIAN ROCKIES:**—Aug. 9
All the way to the West Coast and into the Canadian Rockies by bus and train and then by ship to the Island of Victoria.
- SCANDINAVIA:**—September 8
See Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark in the fall . . . most necessary expenses included in tour cost.
- CALIFORNIA CRUISE:**—Oct. 28
Air to Los Angeles, bus up the Pacific Coast and a slow boat back to Los Angeles. Early reservations are necessary.
- HAWAII:**—Apr. 17 and Oct. 14
Two weeks duration each tour . . . visit four islands. Hotels, sightseeing, tips included in tour cost. Early reservations necessary as these are two of the most popular tours.
- MEXICO:**—Apr. 27 and Aug. 17
Ten day tour via jet-air, hotels, sightseeing and some meals. Under \$500.
- THE ORIENT:**—June 12
One month tour . . . Japan, Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines.
- THE NORTHWEST:**—June 30-July 12
Rail tour . . . pullman or coach. See the Glacier National Park; to Seattle by ship and on to Victoria and Vancouver.
- EUROPE:**—August 5
A 3 week tour of Europe . . . visit nine countries plus the Island of Majorca.

SOUTH PACIFIC:—Nov. 1
An ideal time to visit the Islands of the South Pacific including Pago Pago . . . Bora Bora . . . Tahiti and Samoa.

For further information regarding these tours and others not listed, please contact:

Information Division,
Michigan Farm Bureau,
4000 N. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, Michigan 48904
Phone—517 485-8121



stronger markets - more net income is aim of new Farm Bureau program

A growing conviction that right now is the best time for farmers to take positive action in moving federal farm programs closer to the market-place and more farm income, has resulted in a new, long-range proposal by the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Meeting in Chicago in mid-March, the 27-member board of directors — which includes Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, among its members, endorsed a five-year phase out of present feed grain, wheat and cotton control and subsidy programs.

The proposal follows recognition by farmers that present farm programs have not brought needed income into agriculture. "After more than thirty years of experience in attempting to solve farm problems through legislation, we are convinced that a new approach is necessary..." wrote voting delegates to the American Farm Bureau convention last December.

Now Farm Bureau will press for passage of a program which will move toward dropping acreage controls, base acreages, marketing quotas, processing taxes and direct payments for wheat, feed grains and cotton.

believe that such a program — when conducted over a 5-year period, will ease the transition to a market price system and will mean higher net incomes for farmers.

In the Farm Bureau proposal, the new program would take effect on the first of January, in 1971 as an amendment to the current farm program — the "Food and Agriculture Act of 1965" which is due to expire December 31, 1970.

Essentially, the Farm Bureau program provides for a 5-year period during which acreage controls, base acreages, marketing quotas and direct payments for wheat, feed grains and cotton would be phased out.

This program would be open to all farmers producing those commodities — but a special program would be open to any farmer whose gross annual sales of farm products were no more than \$5,000 and whose off-farm income was not more than \$2,000 per year. There are more than a half-million such farmers, who could then be eligible for one or more of these:

Compensation for acreage allotments and base acreages surrendered to the Secretary of Agriculture for permanent cancellation.

This would apply to all commodities having acreage allotment or base acreages. Such compensation would be in addition to land-retirement payments under the cropland adjustment program and would also be available to eligible farmers who wish to surrender their acreage allotments or base acreages without taking part in the cropland adjustment program.

Retraining grants not to exceed \$1,000; Adjustment assistance not to exceed \$2,500 per year, for two years; Loans under existing credit programs to help in transfer to more gainful employment.

more room for students at citizenship seminar

Nearly 200 high school students in Michigan will be invited to attend and participate in Michigan Farm Bureau's Sixth Annual Young People's Citizenship Seminar July 21-25 at Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant.

A main reason for holding the Seminar at Central Michigan University this year is for the expanded facilities, enabling more students to participate. Each county is encouraged to send three students... junior or senior, next fall (1969) and a fourth on a first-come, first-served basis.

Emphasis will be placed on four major subjects during the five day conference... (1) — The American Way of Life; (2) — People and Governments around the world; (3) — The main keys in the American Private Enterprise System and (4) — Our American Two-Party Political System function as the basis for our American System of Government, Society and Enterprise.

Five outstanding and competent leaders have been assigned to various sessions. The Americanism program will be handled by Dr. Clifton Ganus, President of Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, and Dean of the School of American Studies. The "People and Government Around the World" study will be led by Dr. John Furbay, lecturer, author and global air commuter. The discussion of our Economic Systems will be under the guidance of Kenneth Cheatham, of the Program Development Div., American Farm Bureau Federation.

D. Hale Brake, former State treasurer and known by many high school graduates as the leader of Student Government Days programs in many of the state's high schools, will lead the program on "Participating in Political Parties." Mr. Brake is also a member of the Michigan State Association of Supervisors.

A session on "The Challenge of Leadership" will be conducted by Art Holst, National Football League official and administrator for the Forest Park Foundation, Peoria, Illinois.

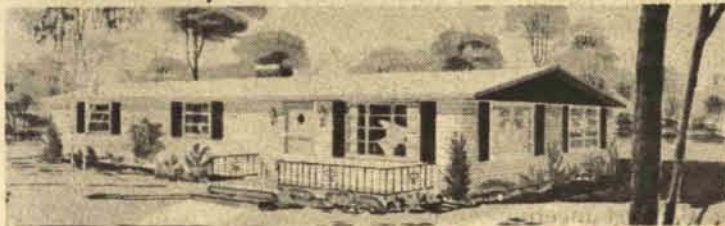
Selection of students is a county Farm Bureau responsibility. Citizenship Committees and Farm Bureau Women's Committees have previously been responsible for the success of the program.

Miss Helen Atwood, Coordinator of the Michigan Farm Bureau Women's program; Dale Sherwin, Michigan Farm Bureau's Legislative Counsel and Dave Cook, Young Farmer Program Director are directing this year's seminar, which last year won a Freedoms Foundation award.

June 1 is the enrollment deadline. Further particulars will be given in the May Michigan Farm News. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Dale Sherwin, Public Affairs Department, Michigan Farm Bureau, 4000 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48904.

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what's a funny place for a phone?

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to the editor...

I want to thank the Michigan Farm Bureau for the wonderful trip to the American Farm Bureau convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

I feel that I learned more about Farm Bureau in those four days than previously had been acquired in my life.

What I learned made me proud of what Farm Bureau members throughout this country are now doing, and most of all, I was proud of our own "Four Star" award-winning Michigan Farm Bureau, and our John Nye — winner of the national Discussion-Meet contest.

Both my parents and I met many fine people, some of whom we hope will become even better friends in coming years.

I certainly will never forget this experience. Thank you again!

Diane Traver
(Michigan Farm Bureau Queen)



DAVID MORRIS—Grand Ledge cattleman and third member of the Michigan Farm Bureau board, has been elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Mich. Live-stock Exchange. Also elected was Milton Brown, Mt. Pleasant, and Blaque Knick, Quincy. Morris feeds 1000 cattle, farms 650 acres.

end boycott — unions crushing truth like grapes!

emotional issues

This article is reprinted from the editorial pages of one of Michigan's leading newspapers — the Muskegon Chronicle; March 13, 1969

We can't recall an issue in recent years which has been so charged with emotion, and so muddled with misinformation and misunderstanding as the so-called "strike" against grape growers, tied to a national boycott against California table grapes.

The complexity of the situation is such that it has taken many weeks to assemble from both sides the basic, factual data on which to render an informed opinion, plus additional time to wait for the introduction of Senate Bill No. 8 — a piece of legislation central to the issue — and to study its provisions.

We are now ready and here it is; straight out and, we trust, presented in a manner to clear away the confusion that has sent hundreds of people — most of them well-meaning, but woefully misguided — into the streets here and across the nation to boycott grape sales and help the "striking farm worker," as the letter below puts it, win "a chance to join a union of his choice and to bargain collectively with his employer."

On the face of it, that sounds like a laudable undertaking; a cause to rally around. But the truth of the matter — a truth designedly crushed like grapes beneath the weight of a massive propaganda campaign — is that the boycott is not an effort to show concern for migrant workers, raise wages or secure collective bargaining rights for farm workers. What it is — stripped of all the posters and bleeding heart rhetoric — is a multimillion-dollar drive to force grape pickers to join a union to which they don't want to belong.

If successful, the boycott — which already resembles an interstate conspiracy in restraint of trade — would compel grape growers to sign closed shop contracts, thereby forcing the pickers to join the union as a prerequisite to working on the farms.

But the fact is, despite almost four years of organizing effort and the expenditure of \$10,000,-

000 (Caesar Chavez and his AFL-CIO-backed United Farm Workers Organizing Committee is getting \$10,000 a month from the AFL-CIO and \$7,500 a month from the UAW for organizing work), that less than 2 per cent of all California's farm workers have joined the UFWOC.

The figures are confirmed from reports filed by the UFWOC with the U. S. Department of Labor, and by the "Farm Labor" report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Further, virtually all of the UFWOC members are employed in California's wineries. Some of the wineries, faced by union market boycotts of their wines, gave in to union pressure and signed union shop contracts under which all workers employed by them in the production of wine grapes must join the union. No voluntary membership is involved. Workers join the union or don't work.

And so, obviously, the total number of UFWOC members employed in all California agriculture, other than in the wine industry, is negligible.

What about those table grape workers pictured by the UFWOC propaganda as destitute, homeless or miserably housed migrants striking for bargaining representation and higher wages. To begin with, they are not migrants. Close to 90 per cent of them live in the county they work in and most of them have been county residents for more than five years — "an almost totally domestic work force," as described in the May, 1967 issue of The Federalist, the official AFL-CIO magazine.

There was and is no "strike" of grape pickers. More than 5,000 pickers have been working regularly in the San Joaquin Valley fields since Chavez announced a "strike." And there were and are no shoeless, starving, ragged and mistreated grape workers. California's farm workers are among the highest paid in the entire United States. The average wage is \$1.63 an hour — considerably higher than in most of the Midwest (if the boycott is justified, then perhaps California should stop buying Midwestern agricultural products).

Moreover, California farm workers are covered by more pro-

ductive laws than workers in most other states. They have workmen's compensation, liability and disability insurance; farm-labor contractor regulations; wage collections laws; transportation regulations; a wage payment law, and minimum wages for women and minors. Passage of unemployment compensation legislation is expected before summer.

Most table grape harvest workers are paid on a combination hourly and piece rate basis. The most common arrangement is \$1.50 per hour plus 15 to 25 cents per box, the box rate varying with grape variety. If workers don't earn more than \$2 an hour, they are not working very hard. A good worker can make up to \$140 a week during the four-month picking season, and phases of picking work other than grapes can give seven more months of work. The 12th month can be spent picking oranges. Finally, 88 per cent of the vineyard workers are permanent residents of the Fresno, Delano, Bakersfield area, who pay taxes and send their children to school there. The children who work in the fields do so in off-months, have permits to do so, and are paid full scale.

As to bringing all agricultural workers under the National Labor Relations Act, we see nothing wrong with an equitable national labor law covering farms and farm workers.

But, just as circumstances required a different law for railroads, so do circumstances peculiar to the agricultural industry require a special law for farm workers.

Industrial laws, for example, restrain disaffected employees from destroying the property of their employer. But the necessity

of synchronizing production operations with seasons of the year, and because of the perishable nature of their final product, any significant delay in operations would have the effect of destroying the farmer's product for the whole year.

It is also clear to the farmer that any law covering farm labor is going to have to recognize the fact that it is not only farm workers who need protection, but farmers as well. It is highly probable that any law that fails to give the farmer the protection he needs will turn out to be a legal instrument of great injustice.

The workingman has only his current income to protect; the farmer his current income and the entire accumulation of a lifetime — perhaps of several lifetimes — to protect.

Which brings us to Senate Bill No. 8, a piece of legislation which should provide a rude awakening for those who believe that the motives of organizer Chavez and his supporters are pure — that is, purely and simply to guarantee the farm workers a right to collective bargaining.

A reading of the bill, which reached the Senate Jan. 15, indicates that it would make it possible for union officials to extract dues from hundreds of thousands of farm workers — whether they wanted to pay or not — without a vote by even a single worker.

It would allow a union official to obtain a compulsory union shop agreement with an employer before anyone goes to work. Under this agreement all workers would be obtained through a union hiring hall, and all would be compelled to join the union within 7 days or lose their jobs — precisely the thing the California grape

pickers are fighting against.

The bill offers a meaningless nod to the principle of free choice, purporting to provide for an election if petitions are signed by 30 per cent of the workers — workers, mind you, who are already screened through a union-controlled hiring hall, and bound by a contract in which they had no voice. An election would be a practical impossibility.

The Senate bill is aimed at the capture of millions of agricultural workers by compulsory unions; a drive to organize all farm workers in all crops to collect millions of dollars a year in forced dues. The assault on the grape pickers was just an opening shot; if passed, the Senate bill, — despite their gutty fight against union coercion — will force them into bondage with the rest.

The legislation should be seen for what it is and quickly killed. If it goes through it could give the labor unions dictatorial powers over the marketing and pricing of foods.

We believe the American people are sick of strong-arm approaches. There's a glove on the mailed fist this time, but an informed public will not be misled.

President Nixon — a man who does his homework — saw the truth long ago. He had an answer last November to the grape boycott — and to the union signs proclaiming the dire news that "NIXON EATS GRAPES": "I intend," he said, "to eat more grapes and drink more grape juice than ever."

We intend to do likewise.

And we urge that you make your views on this issue — and on Senate Bill No. 8 — known immediately to Michigan Sens. Hart and Griffin.

Gold Medal Award

The George Washington Honor Medal Award was conferred on Farm Bureau Insurance Group by Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. The announcement was made February 22 at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Text of the announcement, made by Freedoms Foundation President Kenneth D. Wells, read, "The trustees and officers of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge announce with pleasure the selection of Farm Bureau Insurance Group by the distinguished National and School Awards Jury, to receive the George Washington Honor Medal Award for 'What the United States Flag Means to Me' Essay Contest . . . an outstanding accomplishment in helping to achieve a better understanding of the American Way of Life."

Farm Bureau Insurance Group is currently conducting a similar essay contest for eighth grade classes throughout Michigan. The month-long contest, which began February 22, again offers a free trip to Fort Mackinac for student and teacher.

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, nonsectarian, education organization created to achieve a better understanding of the basic principles underlying the Republic and to encourage Americans to be more articulate about freedoms in today's America.

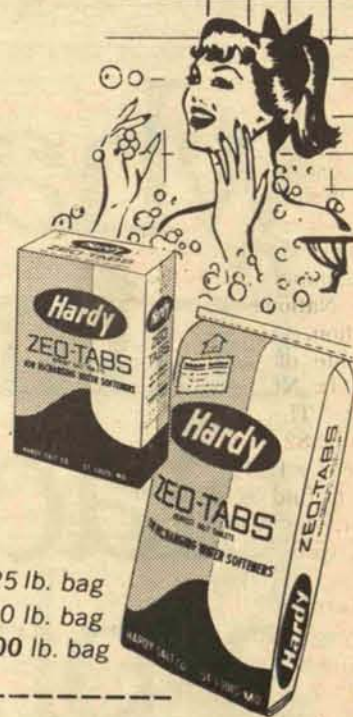
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the grape boycott: NOW— A TOUCH OF VIOLENCE!

A recent exchange of letters concerning the controversial California grape boycott has appeared in the Michigan Christian Advocate, the official publication of Michigan United Methodists.

One such letter, written by a Grand Rapids, Mich. man, prompted a reply from Michigan Farm Bureau Secretary-Manager, Dan E. Reed.

Both letters are printed in their entirety . . .

Explains Grape Boycott

To the Editor:

In a letter awhile ago, the writer, Mrs. Bourns of Wixom, contends that the grape boycott hurt the growers and the agricultural workers. She was of course correct. The strikers, who have been forced to refuse to work for over three years now, have suffered greatly. The economic damage to the growers, too, has been substantial. This is unavoidable, whatever the results.

This situation arose when Cesar Chavez and the workers in the grape-producing farms in California attempted to gain union recognition. They were denied this basic right and promptly went on strike. The growers then imported wetbacks, more than 5,000 of whom were arrested and returned to Mexico, and also "green gardeners" (carriers of green cards) who have been properly called the newest legal gimmick to recruit cheap strike breakers from south of the border.

Unable to stop the "scab-labor," the only recourse was to appeal to the American people in the form of a legal consumer boycott.

A fallacy, widely adhered to in this area, is that grape workers do not desire a union. The fact is that whenever an election is held, the field workers have voted overwhelmingly to be represented by the National Farm Workers Association.

The life of the migrant farm worker is NOT financially rewarding. The average laborer finds only 82 days of farm work in a year. If he is fortunate enough to find 52 weeks of work, however, he would earn only \$2,386, well below the poverty level.

Furthermore, the hardships of his physical life are shocking. The infant mortality rate is 125% higher than the national average; maternal death rate is also that much higher; influenza and pneumonia are 200% higher; tuberculosis and other infectious diseases 260% higher; and accidents 300% higher. Death to the average migrant worker comes mercifully at 49 years. Would Mrs. Bourns want her family to change places with them? Grapes are dear at that price.

The basic aim of the boycott is not to gain a \$3.60 per hour wage for each migrant worker, even though they certainly work hard enough to earn that much. The goal is simply to gain for the farm worker a right won long ago by the industrial laborer, to join a union voluntarily.

Paul F. Reinhart,
Grand Rapids.

To the Editor
Michigan Christian Advocate
Dear Sir:

Misinformation recently carried in this column under the heading "Explains Grape Boycott" requires correction. The author, Paul F. Reinhart, of Grand Rapids, failed to give any explanation of the secondary boycott now being pushed in Michigan, in other states and in other countries, against the sale of California grapes. Instead, his entire letter consisted of a collection of half-truths and misstatements about California farm labor.

Let's look at the boycott as now supported in Michigan by full-time offices in several cities, with a paid staff devoting full time to forcing retail stores and wholesalers not to make California grapes available to their customers.

(1) The boycott aims to deny a market to California grape growers, over 75% of whom are family farm operators with less than 100 acres of grapes.

(2) By destroying this market, the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC), AFL-CIO affiliated and financed, hopes to force growers to sign contracts with the union. These contracts would require that any worker employed by the grower must join the union or be fired. This would force California farm workers into a union which only about 2% have joined voluntarily in the three years of the so-called "strike."

The grape pickers, by the way, are not on strike. Many have shown their opposition to being forced into the UFWOC by forming another organization — The Agricultural Workers Freedom to Work Committee. This group says it is not anti-union, but is against being forced to join the UFWOC-AFL-CIO, led by Cesar Chavez.

The pastor of the Church of Our Savior, located in Delano (the heart of the UFWOC campaign in California) is Rev. Theodore Brohm. Writing in the October 16, 1968 issue of "The Lutheran Reporter," Rev. Brohm says — "Cesar Chavez has, I feel, become the pawn of a huge power and propaganda machine, the like of which this country has scarcely seen. The result is that in this position he has lost the support of his own Mexican-American families."

(3) Far from a "non-violent" boycott, pickets have caused serious damage to Michigan stores and businesses. Brake hoses have been cut on trucks delivering fruit and vegetables to retail

"—lacking public's support boycotters turn on retailers"

stores; melting packages of ice cream have been shoved into piles of dry goods, to be found later; shopping carts of frozen foods and hard-to-return one-of-a-kind items have been piled into shopping carts and abandoned in stores or jammed into check-out lanes. Jugs of household bleach have been poured or "spilled" onto all kinds of grocery or household items and abandoned. Glass has been broken in stores in several cities; packages of potato chips and cookies have been crushed, and prepackaged meats have been ripped open. Threats against their families and threats of fire have forced some retailers to stop handling grapes.

(4) The boycott is against grapes now. One retailer says he has been pressured not to sell cigarettes, Campbell Soup products, beer and wine, and now grapes. He stocks over 100,000 items in his store. He wonders what is next! So do the producers of Michigan products! The boycott can be directed against Michigan cars, Florida oranges, Michigan apples, or any identifiable product.

(5) Mr. Reinhart refers to a "consumer boycott." The present action is not a consumer boycott but is a secondary boycott against a party not involved in the dispute. The retailer has an obligation to offer his customers the products they want to buy.

The boycott supporters apparently do not believe their campaign has the support of the people, so they attack retailers instead of trying to keep consumers from buying.

Now, a few corrections to the many misstatements in Mr. Reinhart's letter regarding the California grape workers —

1. The grape workers are not migrants — about 90% live in the communities where they work. Some are American citizens, some are aliens who live and are raising families of American citizens in the communities where they work. Most of the family heads have full-time work in the vineyards. Wives and families earn extra money picking grapes during harvest.

2. Mr. Reinhart's reference to "green gardeners" is a clue to the depth of his research. The correct sound-alike term is "green carder." These are Mexican citizens who are cleared to come into the U. S. to work. Hundreds of Canadian green-carders come into the Detroit area to their jobs. This is an old established practice.

3. The grape-pickers, or farm workers, already have the same "right" to organize that farmers or hardware dealers or anyone else enjoys. The "strike" and boycott is not for the right to organize voluntarily, but is to force workers to join the UFWOC or lose their jobs. It is a power play based on union dues of \$24 to \$42 per year.

4. The "average" earnings which Mr. Reinhart used are based on the minimum wage in California, not on earnings. Pickers averaged between \$2.00 and \$2.25 per hour in 1967. The figures for 1968 are not yet available but are higher. Good pickers earn up to \$3-\$4 per hour.

Workers employed on a year-round basis earn \$5,000 to \$6,000 per year. The housewives, high school students and casual help



"EAT CALIFORNIA GRAPES" — urge representatives of the "Young Americans for Freedom" counter-picket group which passed out grapes and hand-bills at a Grand Rapids supermarket check-out. The literature described the AFL-CIO contrived grape "strike" hoax. — Floyd Hilliker Photo

who come in to earn extra income may work from one day to a month or two. But they become part of the "average" of "82 days of farm work per year" which Mr. Reinhart reports.

Many of the grape workers own their own homes and have lived in the same area for a number of years.

5. A few wine and liquor-producing corporations, such as Schenley and Christian Brothers, have signed contracts with the unions. Labor problems developed which have led to the use of mechanical grape harvesters and many of the workers have now been replaced by machines.

Unfortunately, much of the sup-

port for the picketing of stores and the destruction of jobs and property has come from well-meaning but poorly informed people in churches, and student groups, as well as from SDS and other radical groups.

Growers in California urge visits to the grape areas to see and learn first-hand. An all-expense-paid trip to the California vineyard area has been offered to Mayor Daley, of Chicago, who gave his support to the boycott. So far, he has not taken this opportunity to see for himself.

The secondary boycott has no place in this country.

Sincerely,
Dan E. Reed

"counter-pickets" effective at Grand Rapids supermarket

Grand Rapids free-lance writer, Floyd Hilliker, was on hand when Meijer's Supermarket in Grand Rapids was "picketed" by a group of grape boycott supporters.

"Labor Supports the Grape Boycott" — "Grape Pickers are Starving in California" — "Michigan Catholic Bishops Support Grape Boycott" — "Don't Shop Meijers" — "Fred Meijer gets rich while grape pickers starve" were slogans scribbled on placards carried by the youthful militants. The last two signs specifically attacking a retailer, were part of a new phase of the AFL-CIO boycott campaign which has resulted in serious damage to Michigan stores and businesses.

Hilliker reports that a counter-picketing group, the Young Americans for Freedom moved into action soon after the boycotters appeared. They passed out grapes and literature and carried signs advising customers to buy and eat California grapes — "Support the Free Enterprise System . . ."

Earlier, the boycott supporters had announced their intentions of a lengthy demonstration, but left the scene in disgust shortly after the Young Americans for Freedom group appeared.

"As the son of a hard-working farmer in Northern Michigan, I too am very much against this unfair grape boycott, and the attempted coercion of farm workers. I spent three years in the Army during World War Two, in the fight over dictatorship. It looks like the battle isn't over yet . . ." Hilliker observes.

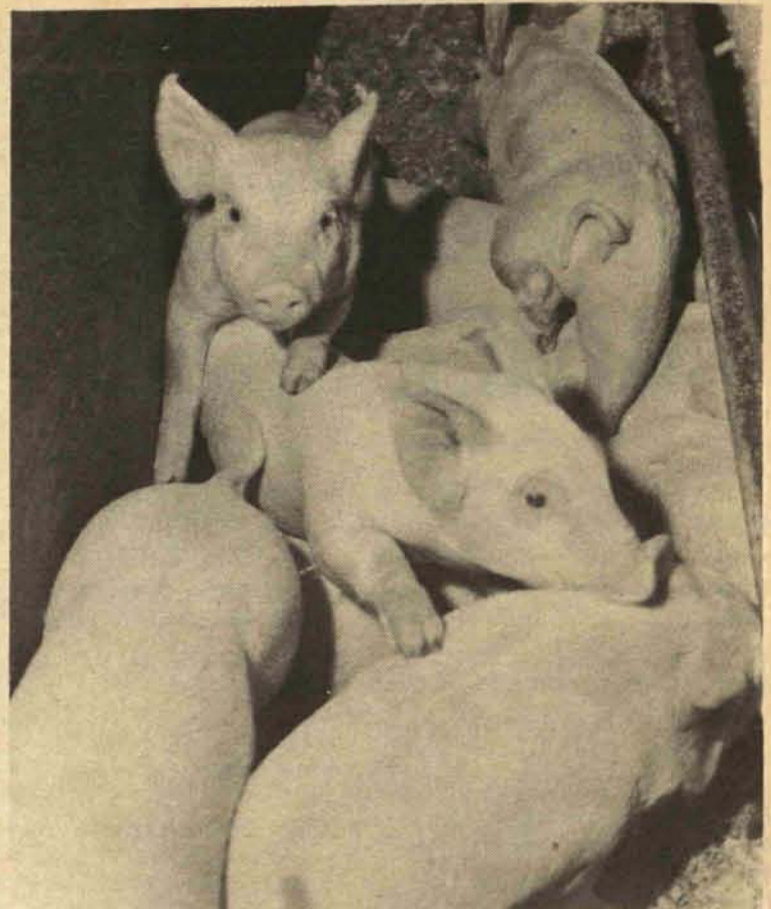
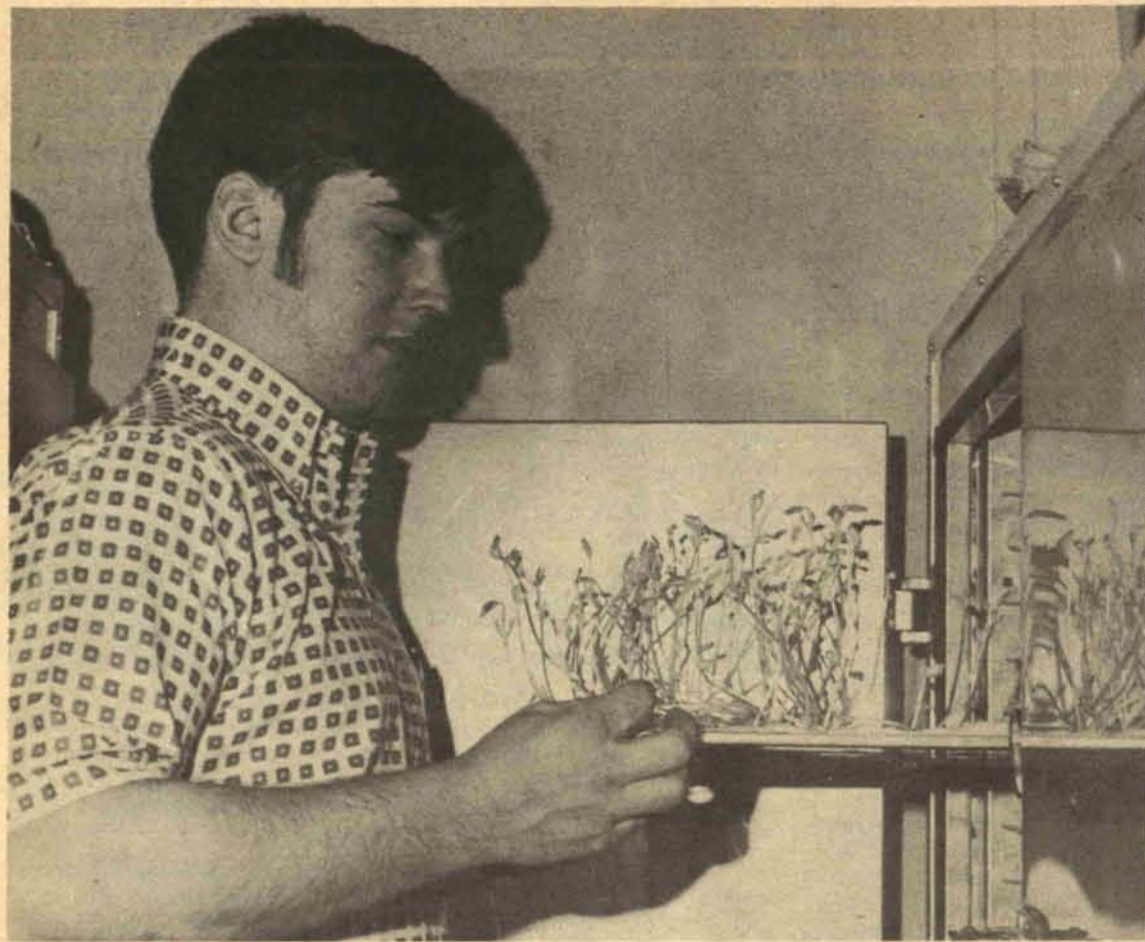
MAMRELUND LUTHERAN CHURCH Kent City, Michigan

WHEREAS: The grape boycott, in our opinion, after careful investigation, has become a political issue . . . Therefore, we of Mamrelund Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kent City, Michigan, at a special congregational meeting called for said purpose; do hereby state:

We recommend that the Council of Churches of Michigan, the Michigan Migrant Ministry and the Michigan Synod of the Lutheran Church in America . . . should maintain a neutral position in said controversy. And, that copies of this statement be sent to all churches of the Michigan Synod L. C. A. and the Executive Committee of L. C. A., the Michigan Migrant Ministry and the Michigan Council of Churches.

AG-PRODUCTION TRAINING FOR FARM-RELATED CAREERS

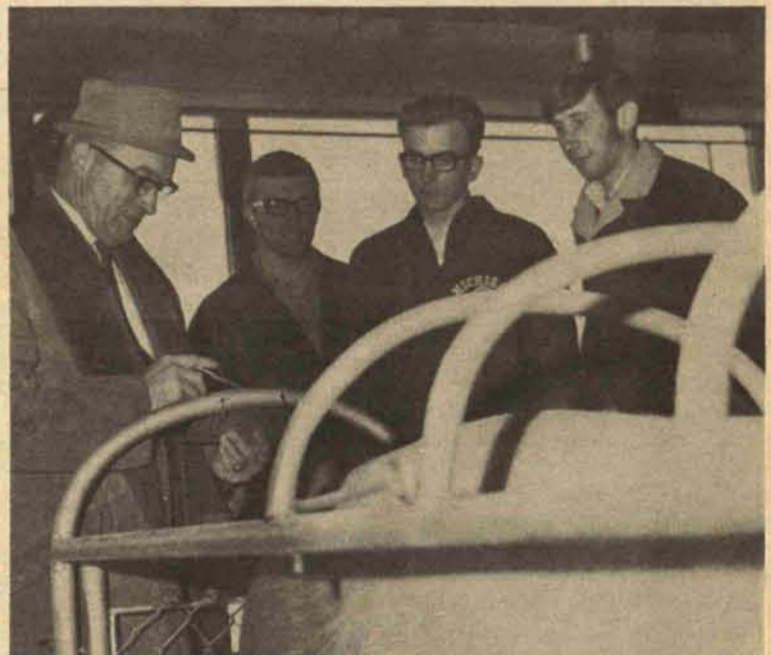
HAMMING IT UP . . .



THE TESTING OF SEEDS — for moisture resistance, ratio of growth and germination, are all important parts of the work done in MSU's ag-production course work — aimed at students on-the-job training to fit them for agricultural related careers. Roger Wowland of Bellevue, Ohio a 1969 course graduate, is pictured checking soybean varieties for the Michigan Crop Improvement Laboratory in the University greenhouses.

THERE'S A LITTLE HAM — in the smallest of them! . . . and when Mama Pig comes up with 13 little hams — that's a lot of ham and something for them to be "snooty" about. They're part of the Ag-Production swine project at Michigan State University.

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION — — PICTORIAL REPORT



PREPARING FOR AG-CAREERS

Forty eight "General-Ag" students graduated from Michigan State's Institute of Agricultural Technology March 14, prepared themselves for successful careers as farm operators and managers. A total of 450 students were enrolled in all phases of Ag Technology, offering on-the-job training while learning, providing work experience and a broad insight into the entire business.

Harold Ecker, Director of Institute of Agricultural Technology uses 45 instructors. About 80% of the students find employment

in the area for which they were trained with the remaining 20% going on to further their education in a four year course in the College of Agriculture. 153 students were enrolled in the most recent Ag-Technology course.

Courses are offered in Horticulture and Commercial Floriculture, Landscape and Nursery, Pesticides, Elevator and Farm Supply, Ag Production Program, Soil Technicians, Lab. Animal Technology, Turf Grass Management, Food Processing and Farm Equipment Service and Sales.

Several Farm Bureau people have served as resource personnel during the course. Elton R. Smith, Michigan Farm Bureau president, (a 1933 graduate of the program), advised the young men to continue their education and develop their farming abilities. Mr. Smith told them that "agriculture in Michigan is looking forward to young people to continue farming." Other Farm Bureau people included Robert Smith, Gordon Amendt and Walter Trinkline.

James Gibson is coordinator of the Ag-Production program.

DR. ED MILLER — professor of Animal Husbandry, MSU, works with Ag-Production students in reviewing charts of a sow and her family of piglets. Students Joe Riley, Corunna; Don Brown, Sunfield, and Stuart Wesselig, Belmont, Mich. will return to their farm homes to place into practice what they've learned in the 18-month course.

ANTIQUE ATTRACTIONS



OLD-TIME HOUSEHOLD TOOLS — attracted much attention at the mid-March Rural Urban event sponsored by Farm Bureau Women of Shiawassee county. Pictured looking over the exhibits are (left) Oren Semans — bearded in celebration of Ovid's coming Centennial; Charles Kridner, Dwight Kittle and Thelma Kridner. Semans and Kridner are county Farm Bureau directors.

A LOT OF CAKE



LEADERS JOIN — in a "Happy Birthday" party for Farm Bureau Insurance Group, with cake galore served to Home Office employees on the 20th anniversary occasion. Pictured are: (left) Nile Vermillion, Executive Vice President for Farm Bureau Insurance, and Mich. Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith.

MEMBERSHIP VICTORY AUCTIONS ARE HELD ACROSS MICHIGAN!

A concentrated effort by thousands of Michigan Farm Bureau members has resulted in Michigan reaching its membership goal of 53,707 members . . . 3,350 of these new.

One of the highlights of this year's membership drive was the Funny-Money auctions held in each of the ten regions. Members were issued "bogus-money" by their regional representatives, earned by bringing in new members, renewals, etc. Of the 71 counties in Michigan Farm Bureau, 42 of them were over goal with the rest of the counties expected to make goal by April 1.

Gifts ranged all the way from 19 inch portable television sets to electric frypans and down to a 10¢ screwdriver.

Field Services personnel Larry Ewing and Charles Burkett, anticipate an almost unbelievably low 5% cancellation of renewals, including deaths and those moving out of state, leaving a 94.6% maintenance of membership. Both state: "The continued good support of our affiliate companies plus the hard work of all Farm Bureau members has contributed greatly to this wonderful record-making year."



APPROPRIATE CLOTHING—was worn by LeRoy Brady for his Northwest Regional membership Victory auction. He led activities in coache's outfit, complete with whistle, used to stop and start auctioneer Vernon Gerber—himself a new Farm Bureau member.



MOST-SOUGHT MERCHANDISE—was a colorful electric frypan, part of the "Fun-Money" bounty offered membership workers in the Upper Peninsula Victory auction. Tantalizing the bidders is U. P. Regional Representative, Hugo Kivi.



A PEEK AT THE MERCHANDISE—was given bidders at the West Central Region "Fun-Money" auction by Regional Representative Ken Wiles. An enthusiastic crowd attended the auction at the Lincoln Township Hall, in Reed City.

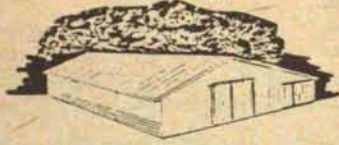


ANTRIM MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN—Garret George Grant, happily accepts a new, white top-hat from Northwest District Regional Representative, Norman Veliquette at the district's recent Bogus Money auction. District 10 Mich. Farm Bureau Director, Richard Wieland and Farm Bureau Queen, Miss Diane Traver, offer congratulations.

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14 FOR SALE

FARROWING STALLS—Complete \$26.75. Dealerships available. Free literature. DOLLY ENTERPRISES, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62326. (2-1t-15p) 8

JOHN DEERE B TRACTOR with Cultivator. Ready to work. \$200. Contact: Ferris Bradley, Route #1, Springport, Michigan 49284. (4-1t-25p) 8

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FOR SALE: A-No. 1 BUCKEYE TILING MACHINE and John Bean potato grader and harvester. Wilfred Malburg, 17251 22 Mile Road, Utica, Michigan 48087. Phone 463-7201. (3-3t-25p) 14

PICK-UP TRUCK STOCK RACKS—All steel construction \$109.50. Dealerships available. Free literature. DOLLY ENTERPRISES, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62326. (2-1t-19p) 8

FOR SALE: REGISTERED ENGLISH SHEPHERD PUPS. Registered polled Hereford bulls—service age. Black walnuts by the bushel—shelled and dried. Lester Everts, Vestaburg, Michigan 48891. Phone: 268-5391. (3-2t-25b) 14

FOR SALE: BUNK FEEDER SNOWCO model 700/8 ply tires. Used very little. Exactly like new. \$325. Cogger Turkey Farm, Corner White Lake and Cuthbert Road, Clarkston, Michigan 48016. (4-1t-25p) 14

14 FOR SALE

600 ASSORTED SWEET ONION PLANTS with free planting guide. \$3.60 postpaid. TONCO, "home of the sweet onion," Farmersville, Texas 75031. (1-4t-19p) 24

PARTS FOR CO-OP, COCKSHUTT AND BLACK HAWK tractors and farm equipment. Parts for Massey-Harris tractors and combines. Also used parts and attachments for Co-op and Cockshutt tractors. Will ship. Heindl Implement Sales, 1140 M-15, Reese, Michigan 48757. Phone VO 8-9808. (2-6t-39b) 8

MIDWAY—NEWEST, MOST PRODUCTIVE, beautiful, delicious strawberry that is replacing all others for market and home. 25—\$1.50, 100—\$5. Prepaid. Knobloch Nursery, 2139 Michigan Street, Algonac, Michigan 48001. Stamped envelope for list, quantity and other varieties. Phone: T-794-7986. (3-2t-35p) 22

RED RASPBERRY PLANTS—10/\$3.95; 25/\$8.45. Strawberry plans, Paymaster—50/\$2.45; 100/\$3.65. Everbearing onion clumps 10/\$3.65. Hancock's, 13289 Lakechamps Drive, Grand Haven, Michigan 49417. (4-1t-25p) 24

20 LIVESTOCK

WANTED TO BUY: 50 Holstein Heifers—Vac. breed or open. Ed Tanis, Route #1, Jenison, Michigan 49428. Phone: MO 9-9226. (3-3t-25b) 34

20 LIVESTOCK

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

26 POULTRY

DAY OLD OR STARTED PULLETS—The DeKalb 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

SHAVER STARCROSS 288—Started pullets available most every month. Get wise and try these top profit makers as your next flock. MacPherson Hatchery, Route #3, Ionia, Michigan. Phone 527-0860. (6-3t-28b) 26

KLAGER'S DEKALB PROFIT PULLETS—Order your started pullets that have been raised on a proven growing program. The growing birds are inspected weekly by trained staff, vaccinated, debeaked and delivered by us in clean crates. If you keep records, you will keep KLAGER DEKALBS. KLAGER HATCHERIES, Bridgewater, Michigan. Telephones: 313 429-7087 and 313 428-3034. (Washtenaw County) (9-tf-50b) 26

36 MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED TO BUY: Silver Dollars. Will pay \$1.75 each. Gold coins or rare coins. International Coins Exchange, 5475 State Road, Saginaw, Michigan 48603. Phone SW 2-4211. (3-2t-25p) 36

OLD STYLE SLEIGH BELLS OF ALL KINDS, 7 foot strop of new leather, 30 bells 1 1/2" diameter, heavy nickel plated \$15. Open bottom brass bells 2" diameter 7 foot strop \$30., postage extra. Alfred Jensen, Little Falls, Minnesota 56345. Phone 612 632-8240. (2-2t-40b) 36

FRUIT JARS—50¢-\$100. Send \$1 for Complete buy-sell list. Refundable. Schroeders, Paducah, Kentucky 42001. (3-1t-14p) 36

FREE 1969-S CENT with three 1955-S cents, \$1. Eight different Indianhead cents or V-nickels \$1.98, or California souvenir Gold dollar \$1.50. Half 75¢. Edel's, Carlyle, Illinois 62231. (4-2t-26p) 36

36 MISCELLANEOUS

HUNTERS GAME COOKBOOK. Field care to cooking. Recipes include Brunswick Stew. Rush \$1 to: COOKBOOK, 560 Pelican Drive, Satellite Beach, Florida 32935. (3-2t-20p) 36

MAKE YOUR WILL—Four will forms with instructions by Attorney. \$1. Money back guarantee. WIMPLE ENTERPRISES, Box 822, Department MF4, Garden Grove, California 92642. (4-1t-19p) 36

CALF CREEP FEEDERS—30 bushel capacity \$92.50. Dealerships available. Free literature. DOLLY ENTERPRISES, 219 Main, Colchester, Illinois 62326. (2-1t-18p) 8

"ZIPCODE DIRECTORY"—(All 35,000 Postoffices): \$1.00 MAILMART, Carrollton 72, Kentucky 41008. (3-tf-11b) 14

NIGHTCRAWLERS AND RED WIGGLERS. "B & B" Worm Ranch, Route #1, Box 341, Steele, Missouri 63877. Phone 695-4984. Area Code 314. (2-2t-19p) 36

VIRUS INDEXED RED RASPBERRY PLANTS

Propagated from Virus Indexed Foundation stock and grown under conditions to insure Virus freedom. Vigorous highly productive Latham variety. Choice of the progressive grower. Order now. 100 plants \$33.95, 500 plants \$100, 1,000 plants \$170. FOB Farm.

Len-Lo Farms, Box 238, Route #3, Caro, Michigan 48723

POLLUTION

and

PESTICIDES

DISCUSSION TOPIC

By: MELVIN L. WOELL

Perhaps the tale of the two garbage haulers will serve to introduce the first portion of this double topic dealing with pollution and pesticides.

The men held their heads high, for although most townspeople looked down on them as simple garbage collectors, they, in turn, looked down upon those they served, as garbage makers.

During the second World War, a great many Americans were stationed in England where the British were sometimes hard put to accept our attitudes toward trash. The tale is told of the G.I. sitting in a car parked on a street in Cheltenham, who boredly tossed an empty cigarette pack onto the nearby green.

An irate matron speared it with the tip of her umbrella and presented it through the open car window to the young man. He stuttered — "But I don't want it anymore!" "Neither does Cheltenham," she frostily replied.

Mankind has been described as one of the few creatures known to foul his own nest.

Apparently, the more he has, the more he despoils and throws away. This, in spite of a longer life-span than most creatures, an enlarged brain which gives him the ability to learn and remember, and advantages of a complex society which he has built to give him great material rewards. In recent years there is growing evidence that city man — as opposed to country man, is the far greater problem. But, farm or city, we all live in the same world.

Newspaper headlines tell part of the story: — "Oil Spills Into Ocean" — "Smog Makers Sued" — "Air Pollutants Cut Growth".

Where will it end?

It will end when enough people decide it must stop.

The first step will be to identify the garbage makers and pass the problem back to them — as in the case of Cheltenham, saying "We don't want it any more . . ."

NATURE AS A POLLUTER

But isn't nature herself the world's greatest polluter? What of giant storms filling the sky with dirt? — Of sulphur fumes pouring from volcanoes, forest fires begun by lightning and the stench of organic decay in sloughs and swamps?

California scientists have discovered that nature is a very efficient housekeeper and manages to sieve and vacuum tainted air. Nature uses the washing-machine of rain and snow cycles, with moisture forming around dust motes to drag them down with the falling drop, plastering them once more into the soil.

But modern man — especially city man, disturbs or ignores these cycles of nature, and piles his excretions where natural processes cannot reach, or concentrates them all out of proportion to nature's ability to handle at once.

FARMERS AS GARBAGE MAKERS

Agricultural man is a student and user of these natural processes. He has learned to pace himself with the rhythms of the seasons. He uses the natural processes which turn barnyard manures into humus and prime elements of the soil, meanwhile protecting the precious topsoil from leaching and blowing.

"Farmers watch huge factories blacken the skies with their smoke, pouring their heat and chemicals into the streams. We watch the city sewage empty into the water. It is not the farmer who contributes to such things . . ." said Michigan Farm Bureau President, Elton Smith, speaking recently to a farm-city audience at Port Huron, Mich.

"We are surprised and hurt when people suggest that farmers contaminate streams or poison the soil or atmosphere. We eat the same foods, drink the same waters. We see how the American life-span has been lengthening and know that our 70 and more years have been gained through good nutrition and banishment of disease. Much of this has been brought about through chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides . . ." Smith said.

Helping bear out his statements are recent studies by Michigan State University which show that a large part of the pesticide and other contamination in Michigan rivers comes from city areas.

According to Dr. Matthew Zabik, Michigan State University entomologist, urban and suburban centers, and not farms, appear to be major sources of pesticide contamination for streams of our state.

Dr. Zabik found that up to 80 per cent of the pesticide contamination entering one river came from waste water treatment plants, and as low as 20 per cent came from what he assumed to be agricultural pesticide use.

Zabik explained that when farm crops are sprayed, most of the chemicals are absorbed by the soil, with some residue eventually reaching some streams by a slow process.

Although the studies were largely made on the Red Cedar river in Ingham County, other investigations were made on three Kent county streams last year as well, all of which flow through extensive farming areas surrounded by city centers.

In each case, findings followed those of the Red Cedar, where monitoring was done at 14 "stations" over a period of three years. Samples were taken from the river-bottoms to measure long-term effects and from suspended matter, to measure day-to-day contamination.

The importance of such research to farmers may be measured in terms of a proposal introduced in last year's session of the legislature which would have resulted in unwarranted controls over farm-use of pesticides and herbicides. After public hearings in Lansing in which Farm Bureau took an active part, the bill died in committee.

Most recently, a Special House-Senate pesticide study committee took note of the research facts showing that less than half of all pesticides are used in connection with agriculture, and that a major part of all measurable contamination from their use comes from city areas.

The committee called for greater care in the use of what it termed "persistent" pesticides (those which stay in the soil for long periods of time without breaking down) and called for clearly spelled out labels and closer adherence to recommended use-practices.

FEBRUARY TOPIC SUMMARY

Supreme Court Reorganization

740 Groups Reporting

Would your Group support compulsory retirement of Justices by certain age?

YES: 667 NO: 72

Should there be higher qualifications for a seat on the Court? YES: 655 NO: 59.

Should terms of Justices be limited to 12 years? YES: 456 NO: 229.

Do you feel that actions of the Supreme Court have caused serious erosion in law and order? YES: 702 out of 740

388 Groups reported comments to the effect that the Supreme Court has favored rights of individuals and criminals over rights and protection of a majority of citizens; limited and hampered law-enforcement on all levels and caused undue court delays.

NEXT MONTH:
Farm Labor Problems

"The level of living of consumers would be drastically reduced if pesticides were not used today. It has been estimated that livestock output would be reduced by about 25 per cent and crop production by nearly 30 per cent in the first years of nonuse. Farm exports would be eliminated by such a reduction and prices of farm products might increase by 50 to 75 per cent. Consumers would pay higher prices for poorer quality products. The effect of these losses would be cumulative over the years . . ."

—Statement from Senate Appropriations Committee, as quoted by Mrs. Haven Smith, Chairman of AFBF Women's Committee in a letter to 16 national women's groups.

Having made the point that pesticides are important and necessary in the production, storage and transportation of food for a hungry world, farmers and others who use them must also face the fact that these weapons-of-survival remain killers to be treated with respect.

Farm chemicals are poisonous and must be treated as such. The farm department of the National Safety Council emphasizes "Four Keys to Pesticide Safety" . . . beginning with careful reading of every word on a pesticide or herbicide label and the careful following of all instructions to the last word.

The Council suggests that users employ common sense to bridge any gap between what is written on the label and the actual application of any chemical.

Next, pesticide users should thoroughly plan their application programs, using the correct chemicals at the right time to do the right job.

"Use the appropriate respirator when required. Wear the prescribed type of clothing or skin covering as noted on the label or special instructions. Keep children away from mixing, dusting or spraying areas" the Safety Council warns.

Storage areas should be off limits, with all farm chemicals stored in a locker, room or building which remains locked. It is stressed that chemicals must be stored where there can be no mistaken mixing or chance contact with human food or with livestock feeds.

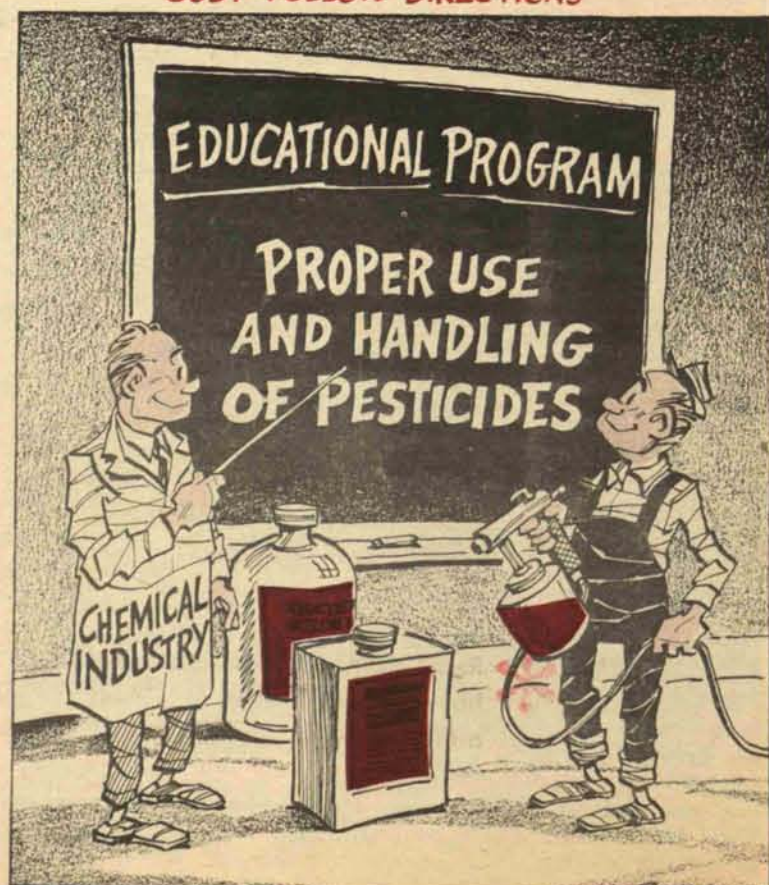
Above all — keep pesticides in original containers, never in fruit jars, open pails, coffee-cans or other containers without label or distinguishing marks. Remove only those amounts of chemicals needed to do the job, return any unused portion to the safe-storage area.

Never, never allow pesticide-herbicide containers to go to city dumps or rubbish heaps, accessible to animals, weather or children. Empty containers should be disposed of immediately, with the Safety Council suggesting that metal or glass containers should be crushed, broken and buried whenever possible. Another caution is to avoid fumes from burned paper containers — for gases released by the heat can be extremely poisonous.

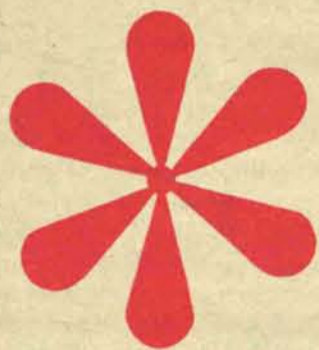
— TO REPEAT —

- (1) Read and follow the labels — every word.
- (2) Plan your application program, use correct chemicals and in correct amounts.
- (3) Store all pesticides under lock and key.
- (4) Dispose of empty containers immediately.

JUST FOLLOW DIRECTIONS



Want Go-Power?



Then
Use
The
Best
"Darn"
Gas
by a **"Country Mile!"**



Farmers Petroleum customers get new high octane gasolines blended specifically for top performance all year long . . . and the "extra power" of HPA, the new high performance gasoline additive. HPA cleans your fuel system and keeps it clean, free from harmful rust and other foreign material. Convince yourself . . . try a tank today for faster starts and longer engine life and get that extra "Country Mile" right now!



FARMERS PETROLEUM



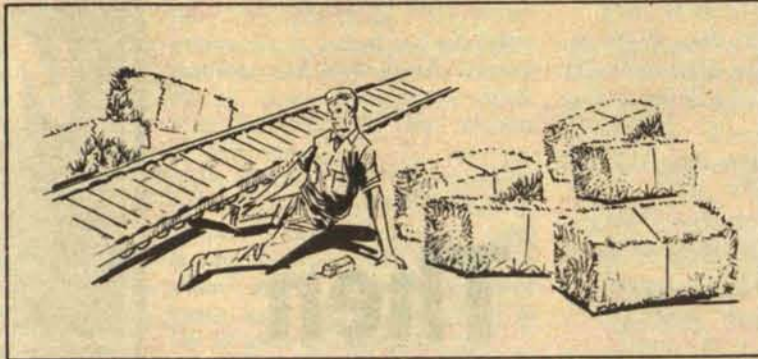
Remember, our Custom Diesel Fuel has the power additive HPAD . . . and that means power!

4000 N. GRAND RIVER

LANSING, MICHIGAN



CASE 412 — Employee picking apples fell when a ladder broke. The employee suffered a fractured ankle and was admitted to the hospital where he died five days later from causes questionably related to the accident. Claimant's widow and brother have retained separate attorneys and are making claims against the employer for medical bills exceeding \$2,000.00. Another claim alleges death was related to the accident, caused by the negligence of the employer.



CASE 413 — Elevator fell on 18-year-old temporary employee. Employee paralyzed. Medical payments now total \$16,971.89. Weekly nursing care costs are \$42, continuing for nearly 18 months and indefinitely into the future.



CASE 414 — Employee alleges heart attack resulted from his employment.



CASE 415 — An employee driving a tractor struck a tree limb, injuring his neck and shoulder. Weekly compensation amounted to \$50.82 for 14 weeks plus medical care.



CASE 416 — Employee fell from silo sustaining a broken leg and three fractured vertebrae. Compensation was paid a rate of \$103.00 weekly plus medical care including two surgeries.



CASE 417 — An employee ruptured himself while stacking crates of apples. Weekly compensation was \$69.00, plus medical. He was disabled four months.



CASE 418 — An employee who sprained his back while digging trees, was disabled 49 weeks. Weekly compensation paid totaled \$2,146.89, plus medical expenses exceeding \$500.00.



CASE 419 — Cow kicked an employee causing abscess on leg. Compensation was \$63.00 weekly — disabled three months.



CASE 420 — Employee bent over and strained his back while feeding cattle. Disabled six weeks.



CASE 422 — Employee caught his hand in the loader on a tractor. Fractured his finger.



CASE 423 — Employee caught his fingers in the chain of a machine. Has been declared to have lost the industrial use of two fingers of his right hand.



CASE 421 — Employee fell and fractured arm. Disabled 60 weeks.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE...

WHO NEEDS IT

A lot of our policyholders have . . . just check our case files. And some of them, like most people, thought they really didn't need Workmen's Compensation Insurance. But today's modern farm . . . its machinery, its multiple hazards and unpredictable weather . . . is an open-end employee hazard. Full protection against the unexpected can cost as little as \$58 a year. Don't second-guess the future. Call your local Farm Bureau Insurance Group Representative. See how little it costs to be safe . . . Workmen's Compensation safe.

**FARM BUREAU
INSURANCE
GROUP**

Farm Bureau Mutual • Farm Bureau Life • Community Service, LANSING

