

Michigan Mirror

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rural students to school.

Farming For Freedom

Michigan farmers should have a better idea of where they appear in the defense picture when they go back home from East Lansing after Farmers Week, February 2 to 6, at Michigan State College, Agricultural Dean E. L. Anthony has announced that the theme for the 27th Annual Farmers' Week will be "Farming for Freedom."

Speakers who will tell farmers how they can help in the fight against the destruction of America's idea of self-government will include M. Clifford Townsend, director of agricultural relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and Col. Harold Furlong, director of the State Council of Defense. Edgar A. Guest, Michigan poet, will be an inspirational speaker on one of the main programs.

Dean Anthony says the program this year will stress poultry, dairy and meat products and more efficient family nutrition.

New Constitution

An important question of state government, which must be answered by the voters next November, has been overshadowed by the war crisis and other issues of more or less political complexion. That is the proposal to revise Michigan's constitution.

A similar proposal was submitted in 1926 and turned down by the voters 285,000 to 119,000. The need for revision has been argued sporadically by various interests in certain sections of the state, but the question has not come to the voters since its turnout 16 years ago.

Changed But Twice

It is interesting to note that the people of Michigan have changed their constitution but twice in 107 years. The original 1835 constitution lasted 15 years, until 1850.

The state then operated 69 years, until 1909, under the basic law adopted ten years before the Civil War. The constitution adopted in 1909 is still operative after 33 years of service. It took the 56 delegates to the last constitutional convention from October

1907 until March 1908 to frame the new constitution. It was approved by the voters in November, 1908 by a vote of 244,705 to 130,783.

Constitutional conventions were called by the legislature in 1867 and again in 1873, but revisions recommended in both cases were rejected by the voters. The 1867 attempted change lost, 71,733 to 310,592. The second attempt in 1873 was rejected 39,335 to 124,034.

Wariness, in past years on the part of Michigan citizens is indicated in the unsuccessful attempts to tamper with the state constitution. Whether that attitude still prevails remains to be demonstrated. Advocates for the new constitution have two hurdles to leap—the referendum relative to calling a constitutional convention in November, and the final approval of revisions, if made, by that convention.

War Jitters

Some folks, afflicted with war jitters, are still suffering from the shock of Japanese treachery at Pearl Harbor. They expect everything devilish from the little yellow men, from hideous poisoning to the destruction of whole families at the home hearth.

Some weeks ago certain sections of the country were warned against powdered glass in Japanese canned goods, mostly fish foods.

In Detroit recently, a woman arrived excitedly at police headquarters with a Japanese "mystery rug," woven in bright colors and

picturing the Japanese sacred mountain. She told police that when she walked on it she could see flames and clouds of smoke. Lieut. Frank Richards tried tromping it and told his detectives to take it away. He said he could see small bright spots like flames but no smoke and that he wanted no part of the thing.

Police detectives decided to have the thing analyzed to find out if the material had been saturated with an inflammable element, intended to set fire to American homes.

The escape for Americans, of course, is to refuse to become jittery by having nothing to do with Japanese canned foods or materials.

VICTORY

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changes in civilian life. Sweeping restrictions on lead, forbidding its use for a number of products, were added to similar limits on tin and copper. Sharp curtailments were imposed on the amounts of critical materials to be used in vending machines. Production of domestic vacuum cleaners was cut further for the first quarter of 1942, and a slight additional reduction was made in steel for nonmechanical refrigerators.

The Priorities Division made it distilleries, if they have the proper equipment, subject to orders to use their grain-treating facilities for the manufacture of 190-proof

ethyl alcohol 'only'. It was estimated that 60 percent of the Nation's beverage distilling capacity is involved, but OPM emphasized that a 5 years' supply of alcoholic beverages is stored in the United States.

The same OPM division ordered segregation of high-grade aluminum scrap, with the belief that 100 percent sorting would save enough for several hundred airplanes a month. Tin and lead scrap and privately imported copper were put under priorities, and Director Nelson took stricter control of copper scrap to insure the flow into war industries.

On the production side, the OPM iron and steel branch announced a 168-hour-a-week, closely checked program to increase the output of steel plates.

The use of methyl alcohol for manufacture into or packaging as antifreeze was forbidden by the Priorities Division. Tung oil was put under strict priority control.

Sugar Prices Adjusted
OPA raised maximum prices of raw cane sugar by 24 cents per 100 pounds to bring them into line with Government purchase arrangements for the Cuban crop. Refined sugar prices were adjusted to reflect the increase.

Joseph B. Eastman, director of the new Office of Defense Transportation, named nine key executives to his staff.

Estimates of the Bureau of Research and Statistics showed our war expenditures in December were pushing the 2 billion dollar mark—\$1,997,000,000.

January Car Production Quotas
Raise To Use Up Inventories Before 100-Percent War Work
Passenger-car manufacturers will be permitted to produce a maximum of 294,848 cars this month, a reduction of 51 percent below output in January 1941. Leon Henderson, director of the Division of Civilian Supply, announced January 5.

This is the same production quota that was announced October 15, but which was ordered cut in half after the outbreak of war. The quota was restored to its original figure in order to permit manufacturers to use up already fabricated parts.

Further production of passenger cars beyond this January quota has not been authorized. The automotive industry is being converted as rapidly as possible to 100-percent war work, and it is expected that passenger cars to be built under this quota will be off assembly lines around January 31.

AMERICA CAN BE DEFENDED

Buy Farmington Products

THE STORY OF ELECTRICITY

Number Two in a series published by The Detroit Edison Company

For more than 2,000 years after Thales' experiments with amber and lodestone, his discoveries lay dormant. No one recognized their great importance and significance, or troubled to follow them further. Not until the year 1600, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth of England, was the thread of electrical knowledge again picked up.

Dr. William Gilbert, Physician in Ordinary to the Queen, was a far from ordinary person. A doctor by profession, he performed and recorded, as many experiments with "electricity" that his observations were published in a book, "De Magnete." This monumental work represented 17 years of study and research, and is a magnificent example of inductive philosophy. Written with the "inquiring mind" of a true scientist, Gilbert's book laid the found-

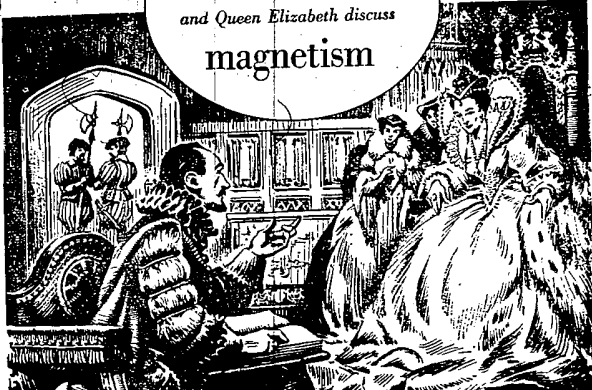
ation of the whole science of magnetism as we know it today. Queen Elizabeth and her Court were so interested in his demonstrations that he was granted a pension of £100 a year to further his studies.

Gilbert took up the study of amber, and showed that its power of attraction was common to many other materials: glass, resin, sulphur, rock crystal, sapphire, diamond. These substances he called "electrics." He also showed that the earth itself is a giant magnet, and that this explained the behaviour of the magnetic compass. He used a sphere of lodestone to demonstrate the earth's magnetism. He also devised the "versorium," a light needle or pointer mounted on a pivot for detecting electric charges. The Great Fire of 1666 destroyed nearly all of Gilbert's instruments.

GILBERT

and Queen Elizabeth discuss

magnetism



Mr. Farmer:

Start The New Year RIGHT!

Avoid Income Tax Trouble In 1942

Keeping adequate financial records is the surest way to avoid tax difficulties. Not only does the federal law require the farmer to keep ample records but experience and common sense point the wisdom of such practice.

With the importance of farm financial records in mind, the Enterprise has been able to complete arrangements to furnish, in combination with a year's subscription to the paper, a copy of "Agricultural Records," the easy accounting system for farmers, at a special price of \$1.79.

The regular price is \$5.50 and only by offering the record system to you with a year's subscription to your newspaper can we supply it at this remarkable special price.

Here is how the offer works. If you are a subscriber to this paper, you merely extend your subscription for one year at the usual price and are thereby entitled to buy one copy of "Agricultural Records" at the special price of \$1.79. If

you are not a subscriber now, you may subscribe to the paper for one year at the regular price and become entitled to buy one copy of "Agricultural Records" for the special \$1.79 price.

If you think of trouble when you think of making income tax returns, you need a copy of "Agricultural Records" because it:

1. Requires no bookkeeping knowledge.
2. Takes only a few minutes a week.
3. Makes a permanent record of your income and expense.
4. Shows how to figure farm income and deductible expense for tax reporting.

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"Agricultural Records"	\$5.50	Our Special Price To You
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