A FORM TOWNS AND THE SECOND STATE SECOND STA

line hems down and, wrong side out. When removing from line fold right half over onto left half, then fold in quarters as you pull sheet from line. Hang garments up by their firmest parts. Keep similar pieces grouped together on the line.





ONE MAN ALONE...

- CAN'T DO MUCH about assuring farmers fair prices
- CAN'T GIVE THE PUBLIC a true picture of agriculture
- · CAN'T PROTECT HIS RIGHT to market his crops or purchase supplies co-operatively against interference by other groups.

These propositions and others can affect your income and operations as a farmer. They call for answers straight from the farm. The Farm Buress se answers from a membership of 700,000 farm families in 46 states How much can you do alone?

YOU CAN HELP YOURSELF by joining the Farm Bureau, or by continuing your membership. Family membership is \$5 per year.

OAKLAND COUNTY FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Roll Call For Membership Starts January 23

Michigan Bell Will Go to Court

The Michigan Bell Telephone Company plans to appeal to the Ingham Circuit Court for relief from an order of the Michigan Public Service Commission directing the company to refund \$3,500,000 to its customers. A permanent in junction will be sought to restrain the Commis sion from putting the order into effect.

We have no liking for litigation. It is a time consuming process that is as distasteful to the company as it must be to the public.

An order that jeopardizes our ability to provide good service by whittling away at our already inadequate earnings, however, cannot go un challenged. The public interest impels us to seek the protection of the courts.

The order is based upon the theory that exces profits taxes should be returned to customer rather than to the Federal Treasury as intended by the tax law. One out of every five tax dollars collected by the Treasury today comes from excess profits taxes. In this case, the Gove ment would take a loss of \$3,000,000.

Although the Federal Treasury would bear the brunt of the loss involved in such afrebate, oneseventh of the amount would come from the company. The order for 1944, unless restrained, could be repeated for 1945 and other years. Such a whittling process takes on the aspect of a permanent rate reduction to the jeopardy of the service rendered the public.

If we are to take our place in the expanding n tional economy anticipated after the war, and once again provide service on a basis of "when and where wanted", the Michigan Bell must un

dertake a postwar construction program requiring the expenditure of \$120,000,000 in 5 years. That program will provide jobs not only for its 3,000 men and women returning from the armed forces, but for many others as well.

The telephone industry has no royal road to money to finance its postwar program. It must compete with other industries in the open market for capital. To attract the investor's dollar, our earnings must be comparable with the average for other industries-not at a rate one-third lower, as is the case today.

The Michigan Bell has no desire to profit at the expense of war. It hasn't. The company's wartime earnings today are a quarter lower than in the pre-war period, 1936-39.

The price of telephone service is one of the few things that has not undergone a sharp wartime rise. On the contrary, rate reductions since 1939 are resulting in current savings of nearly \$4,350,000 a year to our customers.

There is one thing our customers want, and that is good service. The telephone bill for the best service is so small a part of the customer's budget that he does not want anything less than the best even though he might get it at a lower

For these reasons, we believe we're under the strongest obligation to seek our day in court. We believe our cause to be a just one in the interest of those served by the company, those who own it, and those who depend upon it for their living.

GEORGE M. WELCH

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE CO.