

**Apple Growth**  
Apples that grow to their full size must have ample moisture throughout the growing season, the department of agriculture points out. If an apple orchard suffers from drought for even a few days the final size of the crop is reduced. Apples recover well from dry spells but they are not able to make up for slow growth in dry weather by extra rapid growth after a good rain.

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## Michigan Mirror

(Continued from Page Two)  
sians pointing to possible solutions.

"Michigan is not getting full economic benefit from the forest," declared Dr. Grover Dillman, president, Michigan College of Mining and Technology. Dr. Dillman is chairman of a special committee on forest products research created by the Michigan Planning Commission.

"First, much of the wood that is cut goes outside the state to be processed or manufactured into products," he pointed out.

"Second, only a portion of the wood that is used in the state is made into products affording the greatest economy. The remainder is wood waste which, if made useable, could considerably increase

Industrialization to the Upper Peninsula."

Seventy-five per cent of the Upper Peninsula timber is shipped out of the state as rough lumber to be surfaced, cut up, and manufactured into consumer products.

The Upper Peninsula needs more furniture factories, more wood products industries, more flooring plants which could tap its pool of manpower. This industrialization, now lagging, would provide payrolls. Too much of the labor wage paid for processed articles now goes to persons outside of the Upper Peninsula.

Instead of the lumber industry requiring the buyer to dry, plane, and cut wood for use, these operations could be handled in small mills here.

Scientific management of wood

would utilize the present waste of defective logs, tops and limbs of cut trees as well as sawdust, shavings, edgings, trimmings and shavings. The result would be more income for the Upper Peninsula.

"In my opinion, the surface of agricultural potentials in the Upper Peninsula has only been scratched."

Such is the positive belief of Charles Flyg, commissioner, state department of agriculture, who is a dirt farmer from Leelanau county. Flyg pointed to a 40 per cent increase of dairy production in the past five years, and he added: "This is only a start as the records show the Upper Peninsula is well adapted to the production of tame hay. There is no other type of livestock that will consume and produce as profitably on hay as dairy cows."

"Therefore, the Upper Peninsula would do well to increase greatly its dairy cow population and utilize this good feed which we all agree will do much to maintain the proper soil fertility rather than to ship hay out of the country and deplete the soil fertility of our farms."

Flyg said Houghton county ranked third in the state in potato yield and was the home of Michigan's 1911 potato king, Emil Debakker, Belgian immigrant, who grew 711 bushels of potatoes per acre on a ten-acre plot.

Before war veterans purchase land, they should consult county agricultural agents, Flyg warned. Much of the Upper Peninsula is not suited for agriculture.

"If we are to expand agriculture in this section, we should give every consideration to the crops that can best be produced here, taking into consideration seasonal affects, types of soil, water levels and proximity to markets."

Oats is another crop which was adapted well to many counties in

the Upper Peninsula.

Relatively new and young is the tourist-recreation business in the Upper Peninsula. George E. Bishop of Marquette, secretary of the Upper Peninsula Development Bureau, is its spokesman.

Before the North can reap a good harvest in tourist dollars, Bishop says it must fill the following needs:

Expansion of facilities for housing, feeding and entertaining tourist guests. (Note: This column is being written at Ontonagon on V-J night. Place: A tourist cabin along the beach of Lake Superior. It is modern throughout, heated, and furnished with running water and electricity. Rate: one dollar a person per night.) Educational training for those employed in the resort business including guidance for the building and maintenance of cabins, restaurants and hotels.

David Witcox, representing the state conservation department, is a former executive with the National Parks Service. He told editors of the postwar program for development of the Porcupine Mountains whereby state-owned lodge and cabins, leased out to experienced hotel operators, are a post-war possibility. Other state parks in the north are due for improvements, he said, under the legislature-approved appropriations.

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# THE JOB AHEAD

The news that made August 14 a never-to-be-forgotten date in history has been followed by glorious days of rejoicing and thanksgiving.

Now, as we enter the long-awaited era of peace, we face new tasks, new responsibilities—new opportunities. Immediately ahead is the job of swift reconversion to civilian production.

Your Telephone Company has its reconversion problem, too. For Michigan Bell has been on a war footing through all the 44 months since Pearl Harbor. The needs of war took over the raw materials and manufacturing facilities which normally would have allowed us to expand. At the same time, the armed forces and war industry required a vastly increased use of the telephone.

Under those circumstances, there was just one thing for Michigan Bell to do—take care of war needs and essential civilian needs first. All of them we met. But in many instances we were unable to provide telephone service to others who asked for it.

The patience and understanding of the public throughout the war has served as a constant encouragement to our 14,000 employees and has helped them maintain a traditionally friendly and courteous service under trying circumstances. We are grateful for the tolerance of those who have had to do without a telephone, or have had service from us that was not as good as we wanted it to be.

Now we mean to remedy conditions just as fast as we can. We are tackling the job with all we have.

Even in the dark days when victory seemed far away, Michigan Bell engineers were busy designing a post-war program. Their plans call for spending \$120,000,000 for expansion and improvement in the next five years—to provide all needed service—to catch up with normal growth and assure safe margins for future development—to utilize scientific improvements—to extend the rural telephone system.

The program will include the erection in Michigan of 40 new buildings and major additions to present buildings, the purchase and installation of \$50,000,000 worth of switchboards and other central office equipment, the placing of long distance cable containing 50,000 miles of wire, and local cable containing 2½ million miles of wire—enough wire to encircle the earth a hundred times.

We recognize as our first obligation the supplying of service

ice to 125,000 Michigan families whose orders have been held up because of war. But this part of the job, too, will take time.

Bell System's Western Electric Company—manufacturers of vital communications equipment for both Army and Navy, makers of 5,000,000 military telephone sets for war use, biggest producer of radar systems—is already reconverting its huge factories to the production of civilian telephone equipment to speed relief of the serious telephone shortage.

Nearly half of the waiting applicants can be served as soon as enough telephone instruments roll off the production line—a matter of months. But telephones are only part of the need. To fill the other orders, cable must be produced, placed and spliced; complex central office equipment must be engineered, manufactured and installed in telephone buildings. Much of this manufacturing and installation involves hand-soldered connections—millions of them—and it must be done in close quarters where only one or two men can work at a time. It's a long slow process.

Many of the projects in our post-war program are already engineered and the equipment ordered. The job is started. It will be accelerated as rapidly as manufacturing facilities, materials and trained men become available.

We already are hiring and training inexperienced men and we hope to have back with us soon our 2,800 experienced employees still in the armed forces. The expansion program will mean jobs ultimately for about 2,000 new workers in addition to our own returning veterans. Thousands of other workers employed by contractors and suppliers will also benefit from Michigan Bell's program.

While the work will be pushed forward with as little delay as possible, we still must ask your co-operation and your patience. The magnitude of the manufacturing and installation job is such that many of those now waiting will not have telephone service for a long time. It may take as much as two years before telephones can be installed generally without delay.

We intend to keep the public advised as to the progress we are making, not only in meeting immediate needs but in moving toward our long-range objectives. And with every confidence we look forward to the day when we again can provide good telephone service whenever and wherever it is wanted.

GEORGE M. WELCH,  
President

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