

Time for Happiness



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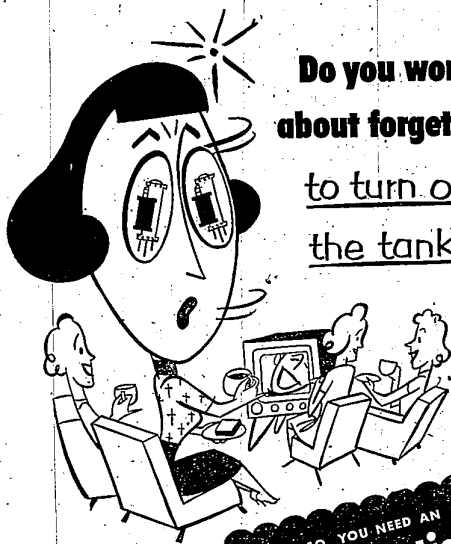
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Michigan Sheep Raisers Win 22 Firsts At Chicago

Michigan sheep raisers didn't pull the wool over the eyes of judges at the International Live Stock Show in Chicago but they did fleece their way to 22 out of the 32 first places.

One Black Top Merino ewe fleece, entered by George Hais and Son of Chelsea, was market wool champion, purebred reserve champion and reserve grand champion of the entire show. Gordon Grossman of Manchester had the reserve champion market fleece. Graydon Blank, Michigan State College livestock specialist, supervised the 49-fleeces exhibit, backed by Michigan Sheep Breeder's Association and Michigan Cooperative Wool Marketing Association.

Cows should be dry at least six to eight weeks before calving.



May the New Year hold only happiness for you.



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Comparison Of Benefits Between Farm And Shop Labor Is Urged

Farm wages may look small beside city shop pay, but, when a full-time hired man on a modern up-and-going farm counts his "extras" and yearling security, the farm hand has a good deal.

The city worker has to earn \$1.37 per hour, 40 hours per week, 50 weeks a year, to equal a full-time farm hired man at \$200 per month, figures L. H. Brown, Michigan State College agricultural economist. This compares a farm hired man getting a free house and a gallon of milk a day with a non-farm worker who lives ten miles from his job. Farm wages of \$150 per month would equal \$1.50 per hour in town on the same basis.

The farm hand works longer hours, possibly an average of ten hours a day, or as much as 55 or 60 hours per week. But the factory worker does not get paid for the hours he spends driving to and from work.

The factory worker has unemployment compensation — a substitute wage for limited periods of unemployment — but the farm worker is seldom out of work. Both workers are under social security old age benefits. Paid vacations for most farm workers are about the same as for non-farm labor, and there are no forced vacations from strikes or work.

SOIL CONSERVATION DIRECTORS TO BE NAMED IN JANUARY

Farmers will go to churches, township halls, schools and other spots in 63 of Michigan's 83 counties soon to express themselves on problems concerning their closest possessions, their lands. Annual meetings and director elections are scheduled in 63 of Michigan's 83 soil conservation districts for January. Osego, Emmet and Leelanau soil districts will have sessions in March.

Soil conservation districts are locally controlled and operated, points out W. S. Harrison, MSC extension specialist in soil conservation. Harrison, also assistant secretary of the State Soil Conservation Committee, notes that these districts are legal units of government. They are required by law to conduct annual meetings and name one or two directors each year to serve three-year "staggered" terms on the five-man boards. Success of the districts' conservation efforts depends on these local men, elected by their voters, stresses Harrison. Any district owner of farmer of three or more acres can vote. Nominating committees select candidates in most counties but others can be named on the floor.

These annual meetings — some all day with potluck or banquets, some afternoon, some evening — give directors a chance to report the year's activities and plans. In many cases, there will be speakers from industry, civic organizations and Michigan State College. Contests, movies and other activities and educational programs will help bring out an estimated 10,000 people compared to more than 8,000 in 1952.

Propose Expert Care In De-Horning Cattle

Farmers can head off a possible loss on marketing cattle by having them de-horned this winter, says Dr. Glen W. Reed, extension veterinarian at Michigan State College.

Horned cattle can bruise each other, and reduce value of the meat. Veterinarians can do a job without danger of causing weight loss or possibly death, both possible with amateur de-horning.

Feed new corn to hogs gradually.



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Farmers who plan 1953 construction programs in advance will save time, money and chances of error, urge MSC farm engineers.

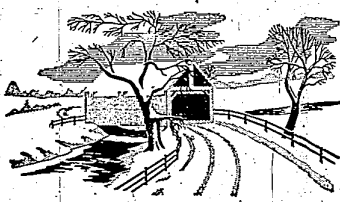
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