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COW PRODUCING 200 POUNDS FAT NOT PROFITABLE

A dairy cow that produces only 200 pounds of butterfat a year isn't making a profit for her owner, regardless of costs, and milk prices, thinks Larry Johnson, dairy extension specialist at Michigan State College.

This is shown by the production records in Dairy Herd Improvement association herds in Michigan. The 1949 association cows that averaged 200 pounds of butterfat, consumed \$127 worth of feed, and returned \$106 over feed costs.

These cows did not "pay their way" by about \$20 if we go on the basis that feed costs represent half the total cost of keeping a cow. The DHIA analysis shows that in Michigan, a cow should produce close to 250 pounds of butterfat a year to make a profit for her owner.

As the average production level increased, the relationship between total production cost and net income became more favorable. For instance, the average butterfat production for all cows enrolled in associations in 1949 was 351 pounds. These cows consumed \$167 worth of feed and returned \$247 over feed cost to their owners.

Cows that produced 500 pounds of butterfat the same year consumed \$188 worth of feed and returned \$373 over the feed cost. The 1949 average butterfat level of 351 for DHIA cows is a half-time high figure and represents a substantial increase over the 247 pound average for 1920, and the 215 pound average for 1905, the year that cooperative cow-testing and record-keeping began in Michigan. Michigan had the first association in the nation.

Classified Ads Bring Results

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TEAT FOR TWO—Twins are nothing new to Lady, an Angus cow with big ideas about building up a herd. She has calved twins for nine out of the past 10 years. Here the latest (numbers 18 and 19), twin bull calves owned by Sam Carlson of Rock Island, Ill. line up for lunch.

Good Soil Practice Conservation Goal

Soil conservation districts and their benefits are now available to 82 per cent of the farmers in the United States. Michigan has kept pace with other states with 65 organized districts in 57 counties, covering more than 80 per cent of the actual farm land in the state.

Many people ask the question: are farmers and soil conservation districts cooperating with each other? They wonder if there actually exists a "movement" toward adoption of soil conservation practices.

Russell G. Hill, Michigan State College extension soil conservationist, makes this comment as an answer: "It is true that only approximately 12,000 Michigan farmers have obtained detailed farm planning assistance in soil and water conservation from soil conservation districts. However, it is estimated that more than 50,000 farmers in Michigan have greatly increased their use of soil and water conservation practices in the past 11 years as a direct result of district activity."

He credits demonstrations, tours, field days, and numerous other educational methods and events for farmers using an increasing number of conservation practices, based on the capability and needs of the land.

Hill claims that the ultimate goal is the development of "conservation farmers" as one who really believes that soil and water conservation practices are necessary, that their application will result in more efficient farming for an indefinite period, and one who actually applies conservation practices on the land.

This individual, Hill believes, will practice conservation farming on whatever land he may be located.

Bulletin Outlines Milk Sanitation

Demand for the production of milk of high sanitary quality are well founded, says J. M. Jensen, Michigan State College dairy scientist, in the forward to a bulletin recently authored by him.

"Practical Sanitation in Caring for Milking Machines," issued by the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, carries results secured in studies in milk quality and cream.

Milking machines and cream separators are recognized to be "problem" equipment where milk and cream contamination is concerned, Jensen points out.

Step-by-step pictures in the bulletin show a washing and sanitizing procedure that utilizes the value of brush washing, and yet permits fast, routine washing with only a limited amount of dismantling.

Tests showed that milking machines are more reliably washed by assembled washing after each milking than when dismantled and washed once daily.

A copy of the publication circular bulletin 218 can be obtained from county agricultural agents' offices or by writing to the Bulletin Office, Agricultural Hall, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

Lake Huron Herring Run About To Start

Lake Huron herring run is about to start, meaning good news to consumers looking for cheap nutritious food in these days of high meat prices.

Lake Huron commercial fishermen advise the conservation department they expect the run anytime now.

The Lake Superior run, which usually produces the bulk of the total yearly catch, is expected soon.

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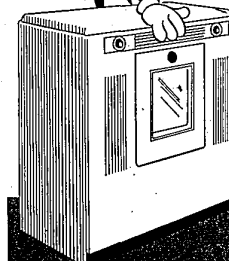
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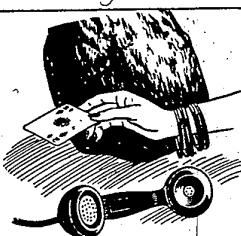


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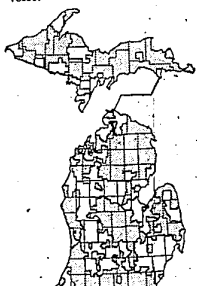
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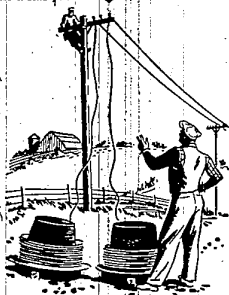
Rural Tele-news



50,000 GRAINS OF COAL—Did you know there was coal in your telephone? There are about 50,000 grains of it—behind the diaphragm of the mouthpiece—enough to cover a surface about the size of a dime. Coal used in telephones translates the vibrations of your voice into electric waves on wires. These waves are sent to another telephone, where they are converted back into your "voice."

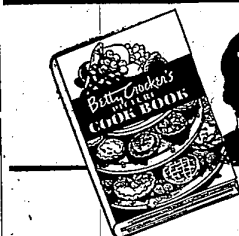


\$480 TELEPHONES—Last year, the average cost of new plant and equipment for each telephone added was \$480. More telephones are going in all the time. So a lot more dollars are needed to continue Michigan Bell's rural construction program. This money comes from investors. To attract their savings, the telephone business must earn enough to pay them a fair return. Since more and better rural service benefits you, it's good for you to have Michigan Bell make a fair profit.



FITS TOGETHER—Did you know that, in addition to Michigan Bell, there are 151 "independent" telephone companies in Michigan? Their territory is shown in gray on the adjoining map. Thousands of rural folks are served by these companies whose lines connect with Michigan Bell (area in white) for long distance service. Both the "independents" and Michigan Bell have as their goal more and better rural telephone service.

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