

FARM NEWS

Higher Education Crisis Seen By MSC President

A stern warning that America's higher education system may not be physically or intellectually equipped for its greatest crisis, expected in 10 to 15 years, has been issued by Michigan State College President John A. Hannah.

Speaking at Portland, Oregon, before the Association of Governing Boards of State Universities and Allied Institutions, Dr. Hannah predicted that U. S. colleges will face their greatest crisis after 1950 when enrollments are expected to double.

To pass the crisis successfully, President Hannah said that we must tell the story, task and problems of higher education to the people and the legislatures.

"State legislatures need only to be reminded that the alternatives to providing adequate physical plants and operating funds for the years ahead are to limit enrollments . . . or admit all comers and lower out educational standards tremendously."

Neither of these would be acceptable to the American People, Hannah added.

Another problem which the colleges must take to the people, President Hannah pointed out, is that the Korean veteran will be more costly to taxpayers for education than was his older brother, the World War II veteran.

"We would be well-advised to acquaint our legislatures with this fact," the MSC president concluded.

ADDED NITROGEN GIVES LESS BOOST IN HOT SUMMERS

If nitrogen side-dressing of corn, beans or sugar beets or top-dressing of small grains didn't pay off in extra yields in Michigan this past summer, do not reach the conclusion it never pays. Dr. Ray Cook, Michigan State College soil scientist, explains it this way.

In a summer of hot weather, extra nitrogen application does not "pay-off" as effectively as it would in a normal or cool summer. When the soil is cool the small organisms do not work to break down the organic matter very fast. That means less nitrogen is liberated to help the crop. So the nitrogen you add gives yields quite a boost.

When the summer is hot the organisms work much faster and let off much nitrogen which the plants can absorb. As a result, the extra nitrogen you apply is not as effectively used.

In 1951 experiments at the Perden Farm near Chesaning, side-dressing of corn made extra bushels cost only 18.6 cents each when 40 pounds of nitrogen an acre were added. Sugar beets were produced at a cost of \$2.14 a ton with the same amount. Extra beans made possible by 40 pounds of nitrogen cost only \$2.33 a bushel.



Misshijman fourth class, Brian F. Walker, USN, shows his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard L. Walker and his brother Jack, all of 17241 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington, Mich., the famed USS Enterprise Bell at the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., during a special three day "Open House."

Committee Urges Fire Precautions Through Inspection And Repair

Losses from farm fires, an every day danger, and possible precautions that should be kept in mind the year long were stressed in Michigan during national Fire Prevention Week.

In cooperation with Michigan State College Agricultural Extension Service, representatives of insurance companies, utilities and the Michigan Department of Agriculture met to discuss fire prevention on the farm.

The Michigan Rural Fire Prevention Committee met recently on the MSC campus to discuss fire prevention means, and ways of getting direct action. The committee secretary is George Amundson, agricultural engineer of the MSC Extension Service.

One direct approach to fire prevention, the 4-H Club Fire Prevention Project, was reported by P. G. Lundin of the MSC 4-H Department. In 1951, with 140 members enrolled, there were 356 projects completed in 25 counties. Safety and fire prevention are stressed also in the 4-H Rural Electrification Project.

Committee members are circulating fire prevention inspection blanks through vocational agriculture teachers, county agricultural agents and others to carry farm thermometers at hay harvest time and soon afterwards to help farmers check hay.

BULL RATES PROOF REPORT BEFORE KILL

Dairy farmers who rush their three-year-old bulls to slaughter may be sorry when the final reports are in, cautions George E. Parsons, dairy extension specialist at Michigan State College.

"If he was good enough to use as your herd sire he is good enough to keep alive until the proof is made," Parsons urges.

Farmers buy bull calves, nurse them through the first year, start using them occasionally at a year of age, and head most of their three-year-old bulls off to the slaughter house, explains Parsons. Then, two years later a farmer has a daughter milk production average or a U. S. D. A. proof of the value of his herd sire, but no sire left, he notes.

In many cases, the proof indicates the bull might better have been butchered as a calf, Parsons admits. In other cases the proofs are so good that everyone wants to buy the proven sire — but he's gone on the fateful trip to the slaughter house.

Some dairymen are equipped with bull pens to handle these three, four and five-year old bulls and find it comparatively easy to keep them around until the proof is made. Others work out an agreement with a neighbor to keep the bull as a herd sire for a couple of years, Parsons suggests. The original owner can keep ownership or sell his neighbor a part interest, according to the dairy specialist. In other cases, a three-year-old bull may be sold to another dairymen, he comments, but at least he is alive in case his record indicates he has greater value living than butchered.

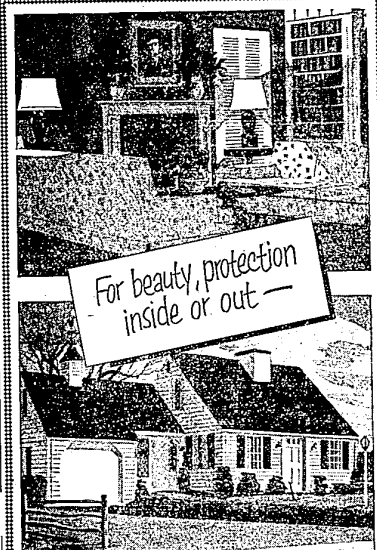
The Grist Mill

By Ed Alechin
County Agricultural Agent

Many Michigan farmers face serious loss to stored grain on their farms unless they make frequent inspections for insect damage and make necessary treatments.

There are three main places to look for insect damage. They are at the top and bottom of the grain pile and where the grain elevators may have necked the grain.

If insect damage is found, the only thing to do is fumigate. A mixture of ethylene dichloride and carbon tetrachloride is recommended by Michigan State College as the best fumigant for this purpose. This mixture is heavier than air and will penetrate to the bottom of the bin when applied to the top of the pile.



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WATER EVERGREENS

Now is a good time to make certain that your evergreens are well watered. Don't be fooled by the fall rains. To be sure your evergreens have ample water, check the moisture at 6, 12 and 18 inches. As winter approaches, it is important that evergreens have abundant moisture.

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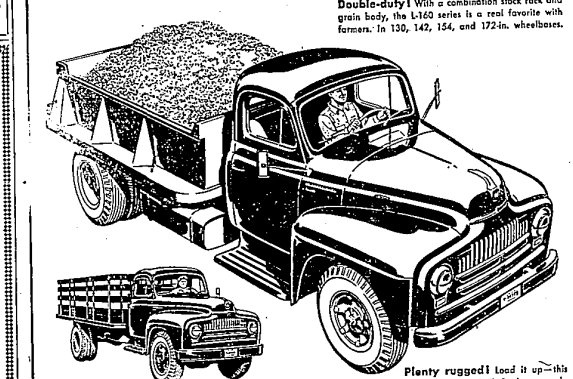
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