

A. free, responsible and aggressive Press is democracy's first line of defense



By GENE ALLEMAN

Despite any rumors to the contrary, Michigan farmers aren't getting richer as a result of wartime prices. Here's the evidence straight from the Michigan State Farm Bureau: A survey of the bureau membership has disclosed that the gross income of farmers in 1943 averaged \$4,905 with an average net income of only \$1,422. Nationally, the net farm income of 1942 was \$1,829. Half of the farm-operators families in 1941 received less than \$700 net cash income from all sources, including net receipts from operation of the farm, earnings from employment of the farm, rents, interest and other income.

In fact, only 7.7 per cent of the American farmer approached the war (1910-14) parity with other workers. For years the farmer has been using up accumulated reserves; now he must replace these at inflated wartime prices. A source of further irritation to a man who has never known an eight-hour work day, time-and-a-half or additional compensation beyond 40 hours, or double pay for Sundays.

Because the farmer owns both the land and the tools with which he produces, he has the capital and hence on the other side of the fence from the industrial laborer. The Michigan survey disclosed that the average Michigan farmer worked 13.3 hours every weekday during the winter season, and 9.8 hours on week days during the winter. Nearly 20 per cent of all Michigan farmers own their own homes; the average farm is 150 acres; the average family has lived on their own farm for 15.5 years.

Here is a modulation group in Michigan, outnumbered by city dwellers nearly two to one, which is working long hours, under extreme handicaps due to lack of labor and limited machinery, and still receiving only a modest return. We wonder how food prices would rise in cities if the same machinery of organized labor went out on a strike for increased earnings, overtime compensation after 40 hours, and other industrial benefits.

The farmer, owning his own machinery of production, doesn't do this. More and more, he is studying his problems through wars organizations and is coming nearer to directed producer cooperatives as one effective way to raise his income and standards of living.

Is the present \$50,000,000 fund adequate to meet the needs of the State of Michigan? New York Attention Hoover Cleaner Owners!

BIRMINGHAM AUTO BODY COLLISION WORKS Bumping Refinishing Automobile Glass 666 So. Woodward Phone 6

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Modernization Loans Need money to improve the appearance, convenience or comfort of your home? You can borrow up to \$2,500.00—have up to three years to repay—at our "friendly bank."

WAREBEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WAREBEK BUILDING

As You Work In Your Garden

The next time you are out turning the soil, and in the garden think about the following beautiful words written by Hobart Franks: "Today I picked up a clod from my yard, broke it, and as it fell through my fingers realized for the first time that this was more than just dust: this was a tiny piece of America! I owned a rare treasure—a bit of the only soil left in the world today where a man can stand free and unafraid."

"I was standing on a piece of America, a few feet around and a thousand miles deep. Here alone in all the world could I build my future, knowing that it would be secure; and rear my children with the assurance that they, and their children, could enjoy the same security. I could stand on my piece of America, think freely and say what I thought, do what I pleased, shrink from no man, and call upon whatever God I chose."

"Three deeds protect my land. One is locked in my strong box—my purchase deed. The others are engraved and placed in the hearts of every American—the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution. I am a fortunate man, the indisputable owner of my own life, and the land on which to live it. 'I am an American!'"

The Nazis Should Rebuild

President William Green, of the A. F. L., denounces the Russian proposal that German labor rebuild damaged cities in war-torn Europe, calling it "economically unsound and indefensible." The answer to Mr. Green's objection, we think, comes in a news article telling how the United Nations are planning to return home some twelve million European nationals taken into Germany. Experts believe that it will cost more than two billion dollars to complete the repatriation process.

Everybody knows that the Nazis have not hesitated to deport nationals from conquered areas into Germany, where they have served as slaves of the Nazi military regime. We think most Americans will agree with the declaration of Messrs. Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin that it is just to require Germany to make compensation for the damage done in Allied nations.

It is not that the Nazis are able and willing to give six years of the life of their men of military age to the processes of war, there is no reason why they should not be compelled to do what they have forced other peoples to do for them. This means that German workers should be required to rebuild what they destroyed.

Now THAT GOAL IS TO BE RATIFIED DURING 1945, bureaucracy will get another hold on the American people. With millions and millions of tons in our earth, and enough money to think if you will, our government why the federal government ever allowed labor troubles to interfere with getting it to consumers. Again, bureaucracy is the answer; that, and "politics."

EASTER HAS COME AND GONE—BUT THE WOMEN'S nice new hats still remain with us!

says he intends to publish nationwide. Florida to the state stage is away from Michigan unless the state provides better safeguards for his milk supply.

Michigan's forest products research project sponsored by the state planning commission, and almost an unexplored field to conquer and develop. Only 30 per cent of forest resources are being utilized today. The remaining 70 per cent waste consists of sawdust, shavings, trimmings, and the limbs, tops and cull logs left in the forest. From every ton of this waste—limbs, between 50 and 60 gallons of ethyl alcohol can be manufactured; a ton of waste will furnish 100 pounds of high-grade fertilizer; every ton of sawdust contains cellulose which could be amputated into rayon and other fabrics. Project these possibilities into Michigan, and you become impressed with the potentials.

Last January, down in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida to the state stage is away from Michigan unless the state provides better safeguards for his milk supply.

SMITH WOODCRAFT CO. Phone 2218 Grand & Refferer

MODERN FIREPROOF CONSTRUCTION GAVEL Local and Long Distance Moving STORAGE BIRMINGHAM 10240 GAUKLER Storage Co. 9 Grand Ave. PONTIAC

Speed And Greater Speed

An idea of what is ahead of the country so far as rail road travel is concerned, is easily obtained by noting that a new 4,000-horse-power Diesel passenger locomotive is geared for a speed of 98-miles an hour. A fairly good indication of what is ahead of the country, so far as automobile transportation is concerned, can be gleaned from the experience of the past. The laws limiting speed have been gradually raised with the development of better highways and improved automobiles. The same thing will continue in the future.

It is in the air, however, that the average American will get his speedy travel in years to come. The aircraft of today travel much faster than one would have expected, and nobody is foolish enough to put a limit upon speeds that may become possible in the present generation.

1500 Miles An Hour

The prediction that air travel will reach 1500 miles per hour in the next ten to fifteen years, comes from Peyton Magruder, who designed the B-26 Marauder medium bomber.

The engine points out that the German V-2 goes much faster than fifteen hundred miles per hour and travels sixty miles high. He is confident that technical difficulties will be licked and asks "what would prevent you from putting passengers in it and sending them off on a trip?"

With ALL THIS PAPER SHORTAGE GOING ON, and if Hitler were pardoned by the Allies, how could he get back to his old trade of paper-hanging?

The Birmingham Eccentric

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week when, at a local lunch counter, he sat with his daughter, rubbing elbows with the crowd, as he waited for his victuals. (Incidentally, to this Wanderer, the former Governor looked well and in good humor; he was wearing a mutton-out-of-doors heavy shirt, with a few neckties—proving that Birmingham is a nice sort of Saturday lounging town.)

Up in Bloomfield Hills police court lately two persons held on trial for violation of the law. One pair for trial and their cash bonds have been forfeited. Duran Merriam, St. Clair Shores, posted \$25 in a speeding case and Eulus Zimmerman, Pontiac, posted \$50 cash in a reckless drive case. Milo Boden, 14 Mile road, paid \$50 fine and \$25 costs in a reckless driving case. Accrily, Justice A. L. Hulet heard the case.

Bob D. Buick, 619 Riverbank, likes to work in his yard and garden. This spring, in looking over some of the grasses sown last fall, he saw coming up a good many tulips, yet he solemnly affirms that he dug up all up and lost last fall before planting grass seed. His next door neighbor also planted grass seed in part of a vegetable garden—and amid the new grass are numerous onion stalks showing themselves. Apparently, Eveknok soil is firmly on bulbs.

Can it be that those new bits of elastic, called "makers" will erase the old-fashioned "cigarette" habit? Wilson's. "This said that you just insert a paper in the machine, and the machine will spit out a hammer it full of most any kind of pipe tobacco and presto, you have a smoke."

DISPLAY ADVERTISING must be in the Eccentric office by its insertion each Tuesday evening for check that week. This is made necessary because of the machine-power problems. This advance in "deadline" is effective April 12.

PECK'S Cash and Carry Suits, Topcoats, \$1.09 Plain Dresses. CLEANED AND PREPRESSED For Delivery Phone 230 WOODWARD—NEAR MAPLE

Happenings of Long Ago

60 YEARS AGO April 4, 1885 "Miss Bertha Park spent her vacation in Pontiac." "R. Haskins has sold and shipped his planer to parties up north." "August Miller had the misfortune to lose one of his horses last week."

"It appears that the 'nigger' is still the leading issue in Virginia politics." "The latest slang expressive of the freakish individual is 'he's chasing his hat'."

"Don't be foolish now and miss the musical treat at the Baptist church April 9." "This is a good year for candidates for presidential nominations to padlock their mouths."

"Mr. Watkins has hired a man to work on his farm near South Haven. He and his family moved here last week."

"Most people gave Miss Phoebe Cousins credit for being too smart a woman to parade her love affairs before the public."

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"An anxious group of twenty enthusiastic high school girls and boys impatiently await tomorrow evening the time set for the departure of the senior Washington group for the capital city."

"The 'big' fight will be between Detroit and Pontiac—brings with it for 1925 something besides the routine housecleaning. This may be seen in the re-naming of work on the widening of Goodrich street."

"The first shout is for the fire that burned at the oil station or the oil that burned at the gas station; the second shout is for the chimney fire in the C. F. Field property on Oakland avenue; the third shout is for Fire Chief Olsen astride the Berger residence on Pierce street; and the fourth shout is for the configuration of unknown origin which swept through and nearly destroyed the refuge box on the corner of Woodward and Hamilton avenues. All of which have happened here during the past week."

"Birmingham still controls the traffic over its streets. This was definitely decided Wednesday afternoon when an attorney for the Flint Trucking Co., of Flint, paid \$10 to Justice of the Peace Buck for violation of one of the local ordinances; by one of the Smith Drivers."

5 YEARS AGO April 4, 1940 "Building operations in Birmingham continued here during the month of March amounting to \$11,500 more than in February and \$1,500 more than March of 1939."

"The annual solicitation of funds for the maintenance of the

ACME Window & House Cleaning Company Phone 1162 424 PARK STREET BIRMINGHAM "Oakland County's Oldest Window Cleaning Service"

RESTAURANT OPERATION SCHEDULE SO YOU WILL FIND THEM OPEN... WHEN YOU GO TO YOUR FAVORITE EATING PLACES

So that you will not be disappointed at finding your favorite eating place closed when you go there to eat, the Restaurants listed here are publishing their operating times. Knowing that you do not want to waste time, gasoline and that they are letting you know what days they are closed and what hours of other days they will be open to serve you. Check this list carefully, it will help you plan your dining engagements without disappointments...

THE NORMANDY LUNCHEONS DINNERS S. W. CORNINGS at Woodward and 10-Mile Rd. Daily Hours, including Sunday Luncheons 11:30 A. M. to 2:30 P. M. Dinners 5:30 P. M. to 8:30 P. M. CLOSED ALL DAY ON TUESDAYS

DIXIE DINER 25 E. Merrill WEEK DAYS - 6 A. M. to 8 P. M. Including Saturdays CLOSED ALL DAY SUNDAY And Every Evening

CORNINGS' EL PATIO Woodward Ave. at Coldlee Highway "Five always Dinner time at Cornings" Champagne and Alf Served Open Evenings and All Day Sundays SUNDAYS - 12:30 until 9:00 pm. Week days - 8:30 until midnight Mondays-Closed All Day Phone Royal Oak 9772

WEEK DAYS - 11 A. M. to 8 P. M. Including Saturdays CLOSED ON SUNDAYS For Reservations Phone B'ham 9039

Didja Ever See Such a Stubborn Guy?



"Clean Out That Attic! You may find something to Sell through the Eccentric Want Ads!"

Birmingham Community House and the continuance of the welfare and social work will be held from April 8 to April 22. A corps of about 200 workers will take the field Monday in an endeavor to obtain subscriptions.

"Judge Albert H. Schmidt, of Mantowick, Wis., one of the men of vision who started the Wisconsin city's famous Citizenship Day honoring 125-year-olds, was in Oakland county the early part of the week to give advice and moral support to the group which plans to stage such a celebration May 19 in this county."

"A crucial battle for first place in the Municipal Housing League was to take place Wednesday night on the local allies. Top team was that captained of Harold H. Corson, Russell Grinnell, Mrs. Vera Schultz and Miss Lucille Facer. In second place was a squad composed of Donald C. Eg-

KLAD-EZEE GARMENTS For Children of All Ages Shown by Appointment in the Quiet of Your Home Birmingham Representative Mrs. Clara Herzberg 683 E. Lincoln Phone 4475

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