

**Side bar box: 1930-39...the second decade of CCFB**

**1930...**O. G. Barrett was the Farm Advisor. The CCFB board, to support and grow the 4-H club program, hired M. E. Tascher as assistant Farm Advisor (salary was \$2,000 plus automobile). The Farm Bureau created a tax committee (Mr. Watson, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Verduin) to address high farm property taxes in the county. The board approved action to begin publishing a newsletter to go out to members (The 1<sup>st</sup> issue of *The Country Side* was December 3, 1930). Membership dues were \$10 with half the dollars going to the IAA. The board went on record as opposing a proposal to abolish the County Assessor. The Farm Bureau created a new company, Gardener's Supply, to sell truck farmers seeds and insecticides. The 5 County Farm Bureau employees offered to withhold their wages during May until sufficient funds were available in the treasury.



O. G. Barrett

THE  
FARM  
ADVISERS



M. E. Tascher

**1931...**The Farm Bureau sought additional information on the creation of a Cook County Fair and also looked to create a vegetable grower's market. The Farm Bureau began distributing Illinois Farm Bureau calendars to members. The Farm Bureau leased office space to Gardeners Supply in Blue Island for a storefront and established a Farm Bureau office. The 1931 Annual Meeting featured a Country Life/Farm Bureau beauty contest with 12 contestants (Miss Laura Schoenbeck finished 1<sup>st</sup>).

***"THE DINNER BELL MUST RING"***



President D. A. Nietfeldt and members of his family dine on the huge float entered by the Farm Bureau in the Fourth of July Celebration. Geraldine Ettema reminds people that Prosperity for America must begin with the farmer by ringing the dinner bell.

**1932...**The Farm Bureau developed a committee to meet with the National Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association for development of a more suitable market in the Chicago area. The Farm Bureau worked closely with a new affiliate Gardner's Supply Co., providing administrative services. The concept of an

associate member was created (applied to Cook County Farm Bureau staff). The board recommended that the organization's women organize with program of work focused on foods, clothing, shelter and child welfare (Home Bureau).

**1933...** Mr. Barrett and Ms. Towne volunteered to reduce expenses/wages to help balance the budget of the Farm Bureau. The board voted to cut their expense reimbursement in half. Committees were created including publicity and advertising, 4-H club, property and equipment, insurance, Gardner's supply, markets, picnics and entertainment, farm supply, taxation and legislation, projects, membership, and finance.

**1934...** The board supported a merger of Gardner's Supply with Lake-Cook Farm Supply Company. C.H. Mills was hired as County Organization Director (a new position in conjunction with the IFB.) The Farm Bureau created a plan for the purchase and distribution of straw and hay. The board bought the building in Blue Island for \$7000 for office space. A study by the marketing committee to improve conditions for all growers of truck crops was approved. What...The CCFB had a baseball team?

**1935...** After a very deliberate discussion as to the sale of beer and other intoxicating liquors at meetings sponsored by the Farm Bureau, a vote was taken supporting. However, alcohol would not be allowed in any Farm Bureau business or educational meetings. There were 4025 farmers listed in Cook County according to the Census of Agriculture with nearly 2400 practicing intensive methods of farming, truck farming, greenhouse, mushroom growing, poultry with the remaining 1600 remaining dairy farmers and/or grain farmers. A piano was purchased for \$5 for the Farm Bureau building hall.

**1936...** The board approved action to buy signs for the members with their names printed on them. Soil PH testing equipment was purchased. M. E. Tascher resigned as assistant farm advisor to assume the duties of farm advisor at the Grundy County Farm Bureau. Mr. Chas Glover of Chicago Heights was selected as his replacement. The Illinois Farm Bureau established a quota for Cook County of 250 new members. The Cook County Farm Bureau board encouraged the Illinois Farm Bureau to hold their annual meeting in Chicago (which it did). The board contacted WLS Radio regarding holding the Barn Dance Show in Lagrange. The organization continued to work to improve the US Agriculture Adjustment Act as it related to truck gardening and onion sets.

**1937...** The board approved action to purchase the Arlington Heights State Bank building for offices for \$12,000. The Farm Bureau rented space to the Soil Conservation Association. The Farm Bureau became a distributor for DeKalb Hybrid seed corn. O. G. Barrett, farm advisor, submitted his letter of resignation to open a farm advisory service following 11 years of service (C A Hughes from Waterloo, Illinois was hired as his replacement).

**1938...** The first record of a budget being approved was recorded. Accepting teachers as members was discussed for those seeking auto insurance. The Farm Bureau sponsored a meeting of horseradish growers.

Cook County Farm Bureau Tax Committee



Ezra McClaughry, Harvey Adair, A. W. Sodman,  
D. A. Nietfeldt, John Watson, Tax Expert,  
I.A.A., Dan H. Bergman, Chairman.

**1939...** A resolution was approved that expressed appreciation to Cook County Assessor, John S. Clark, for his impartial attitude in bringing about a better balance between city and rural real estate valuations. The change in valuation saved Cook County farmers an estimated \$100,000. The organization also expressed appreciation to the Chicago Mayor for reforms made on the Randolph Street market for a better market for vegetable growers of Cook County and adjoining counties. A request was made for the state highway department to cut weeds before they go to seed.