



James H. and Lawrence E. Murphy established the Murphy Products Company on Dodge Street in Burlington, Wisconsin in 1922. James attended the University of Wisconsin and was the first country agricultural agent of Walworth County. Lawrence was a teacher in Kewaunee, WI. Century old feeding practices were being changed that held promise of improving livestock and poultry production. Murphy's Minerals and Murphy's Concentrates supplied nutrients not adequately found in farm grains and roughage. In 1947, the Murphys saw the business growing to a highly technical and vital agricultural industry. In the 1970's, the Company and Schlitz Brewing Company developed methods to convert brewery grains to more useful animal feeds. Plants expanded to Texas, Missouri, California and North Carolina. Ultimately, the businesses

were sold and the original plant is now owned by Maple Leaf Farms and is leased to Ralston Purina.

The Murphy Products Company sponsored "The National Barn Dance" from Eighth Street Theatre in Chicago on WLS Radio every Saturday night at 8:00. Before television, this radio show was very popular with not only farmers, but all the people who loved country living. Skyland Scotty, Uncle Ezra, Arky the Arkansas Woodchopper, Dezurich Sisters, LuLuBell and the Three Little Maids were part of the entertainment. Interestingly, Marge, one of the Three Little Maids became Jim's second wife and today lives with one of her children in California.

*Dr. Robert R. Spitzer*

Wisconsin is known for its leadership and taking on the big projects. Robert Spitzer, now retired president of MSOE and Murphy Products and coordinator for Food for Peace in the Ford administration in 1975 is working with Rotary, International to eliminate world hunger. One of the greatest inventions to help with his world problem is the concept of solar cooking with solar ovens, developed in upper Wisconsin and now used throughout developing countries.