

Population On Farms Continues To Decline

More Than Six Persons To One In Non-agricultural Employment

The long-term migration from the farm to the city, accelerated since the early Forties by war and by the great increase in non-agricultural employment opportunities, has brought the farm population down to a new low. Figures compiled jointly by the U. S. Bureau of the Census and the Department of Agriculture put the number of persons on farms at 21.9 million in April this year. This was equal to 13 1/2 per cent of the country's entire population, the lowest proportion on record.

In 1950, the number of persons living on farms was over 25 million and the proportion to the total population was 16.6 per cent. Just before Pearl Harbor, in 1941, the farm population was 30 million and represented 22.7 per cent of the entire U. S. population. Back in 1910, the first year for which figures are available, the farm population exceeded 32 million and represented more than a third of the country's total population.

Farm vs. Nonfarm

Thus over the last four and one-half decades the number of persons living on farms has declined by nearly a third and the ratio to the total U. S. population almost twice as much. There are now more than six persons in the nonagricultural population for every one living on a farm as compared with a two to one ratio in 1910. Despite the drop in the number of farmers, however, agricultural production set new records over the last decade, thanks to mechanization and better farming techniques.

The figures show a substantial decline in agricultural employment in recent years and a higher proportion of those living on farms earning their livelihood in nonagricultural industries as off-the-farm job opportunities have increased. Of the farm working population in April this year, only 5 million were employed in agriculture as compared with 6.6 million so employed in 1950. Nearly 3 million of the farm labor force were then employed in non-agricultural industries, and they represented 20 per cent of the entire farm population of working age as against 16 per cent in 1950.

Trend By Age Groups

A decline in the number of persons living on farms between 1950 and 1954 occurred in all age groups, but was relatively greater for those of the younger working ages. There were 1.1 million fewer children and teen-agers on farms in April this year than in the 1950 month, but their 1954 proportion of the total farm population was higher than in 1950. Similarly, the proportion of those between 45 and 64, and the 65 and over group also moved up. On the other hand, the number of those between 20 and 44 dropped by 1.4 million in the four-year period, and their proportion of the total farm population went down from 30 1/2 per cent to 28 1/2 per cent.

The following table gives the trend of the farm population (in millions), and its relationship to the total U. S. population, for selected years from 1910 to the present:

Year	Farm Population	Ratio to Total U.S. Population
1910	32.1	34.9
1920	32.0	30.1
1930	30.5	24.9
1940	30.5	23.2
1945	25.3	18.1
1947	27.1	18.9
1949	26.0	17.5
1951	24.2	15.7
1953	22.7	14.3
1954	21.9	13.5

Sources: U. S. Bureau of the Census; Dept. of Agriculture.



60 - SECOND SERMONS

—By—
FRED DODGE

TEXT: "To stupid people, sincerity is self-sacrifice."—Anon.

Someone charged David Hume, the agnostic, with being inconsistent because he wanted to hear the orthodox Scotch minister, John Brown. Hume replied,

"I don't believe all he says—but, he does. And once a week I like to hear a man who believes what he says."

The sound most satisfying to the human ear, is sincerity. Whether or not we agree with the man who believes what he says, we must respect

Good Seeds Are Best Investment For Crops

Investment in good seeds pays great dividends. That is the firm belief of Stewart Lipscomb of Blanch community, Blanch, Route 1.

Negro County Agent E. R. T. Carraway says that Lipscomb who has met all requirements of the N. C. Crop Improvement Association and is now a member, had 50 bushels of Taylor wheat which tested pure seed 99.81 per cent and germination 93.50 per cent.

Several other Caswell County farmers produced Taylor wheat in 1954 but did not have their seed certified.

The previous year, 30 bushels of Taylor wheat was seeded in Caswell according to Carraway. His opinion of the wheat for Piedmont farmers with good leaf rust resistance, was as follows: better than-average mosaic resistance, above average cold resistance, and good straw strength.

He believes that the Taylor will hold its own with the best of wheat varieties now in use. In addition, the Negro County Agent says millers have found Taylor wheat makes an excellent quality family flour, is an attractive wheat with more eye appeal than Atlas.

All of the Caswell County farmers who produced Taylor wheat in 1954 were well satisfied, but Lipscomb was especially enthusiastic concerning the variety.

Wm. Thomas Francis Dies Unexpectedly

William Thomas Francis, 87, died Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock at the home of his son, L. E. Francis. Deceased had been in ill health for two years but his death came unexpectedly.

Surviving are two sons, L. E. Francis of Edenton and Henry Francis of Norfolk; one daughter, Mrs. W. A. Mansfield of Driver, Va.; one sister, Mrs. W. A. Veau of Sherwood Oaks Calif.; 14 grandchildren and 27 great grandchildren.

He was a member of the Assembly of God Church. Funeral services were held at the Williford Funeral Home Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The Rev. J. H. Anderson officiated with

HALSEY

FEED
SEED

STORE

his sincerity.

We owe sincerity more than respect. We have an obligation to defend it against unworthy attack. Too often a heavy penalty must be paid by the man who says what he believes.

While we may not agree with the sincere man's beliefs, let us not ridicule—let us not belittle—let us not censure his sincerity. Launch a determined defense of his right to believe. Our world has too few men with the courage to say what they believe. Some day, you, yourself, may be that man.

burial in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Active pallbearers were: Joseph Mansfield, William Mansfield, Herbert Mansfield, Percy Mansfield, Robert Francis and Thomas Francis.

Honorary pallbearers were: W. J. Berryman, M. A. Hughes, Dr. J. A. Mitchener, Dr. J. W. Davis, Dr. Richard Hardin, Dr. J. A. Powell, O. M. El-

liott, R. K. Hall, Dr. W. S. Griffin, W. M. Wilkins, Ernest Kehayes, Pattie Perry, Ernest Ward, Joe Vail, Skinner White, T. J. Wilder, Lloyd Perry, W. B. Small, Eli Byrum, Johnny Bunch, Mark Bunch, W. H. Pierce, W. H. Hollowell, Gus Beasley, Clyde Berry, W. J. Taylor, C. E. Byrum, M. S. Elliott, B. L. Knox, S. J. Sutton, Jessie Perry, Dr. L. P. Williams, J. A. Bunch, William Privott, R. C. Holland, R. W. Carden, Gibson Mitchell, J. C. Williams, J. E. Bufflap, W. O. Speight and Walter Small.

Clean, Of Course

Is it a big firm where you are a clerk?

Rather. It takes a good fortnight before a joke goes from the general office to the chief.

EXPERT WARNS PARENTS ON CHILD CARE

Children have their problems, too... sometimes it's their parents! Beatrice Fairfax, nationally known expert on family affairs, sounds an urgent warning to mothers and fathers. Look for this revealing, helpful story in the November 14th issue of

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STATEMENT

Coastal Plain Life Insurance Company

ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA
Condition December 31, 1953, As Shown by Statement Filed

Income — From Policyholders, \$1,062,036.27; Miscellaneous, \$44,431.61; Total	\$1,106,467.88
Disbursements—To Policyholders, \$123,407.78; Miscellaneous, \$828,030.90; Total	951,438.68
ASSETS	
Bonds	\$ 109,298.93
Stocks	60,000.00
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	259,762.70
Policy loans	965.97
Cash and bank deposits	138,339.11
Life insurance premiums and annuity considerations deferred and uncollected	11,305.97
Interest and other investments due and accrued	998.10
Total Assets	\$ 580,670.86
Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds	
Aggregate reserve for life policies and contracts	\$ 201,615.00
Life Policy and contract claims	18,100.28
Premiums and annuity consideration received in advance	10,960.26
Accident and Health premiums	32,135.35
Commissions to agents due or accrued	572.00
General expense due or accrued	15,780.51
Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued	143.50
All other liabilities as detailed in statement	—
Total Liabilities (except Capital)	\$ 279,306.90
Capital paid-up	\$250,000.00
Unassigned surplus	51,363.96
Total	\$ 301,363.96
Total	\$ 580,670.86

Business in the State of North Carolina During 1953

	ORDINARY		INDUSTRIAL	
	No.	Amt.	No.	Amt.
Policies on the lives of citizens of said State in force December 31st of previous year	293	\$623,000	31,516	\$ 7,388,235
Policies on the lives of citizens of said State issued during the year	141	345,000	39,473	9,128,130
Total	434	\$968,000	70,789	\$16,516,365
Deduct ceased to be in force during the year	59	\$114,000	42,546	\$ 8,671,836
Policies in force Dec. 31st	375	\$854,000	28,443	\$ 7,844,529
Losses and Claims incurred during year	—	—	169	\$ 49,039
Total	—	—	169	\$ 49,039
Losses and Claims settled during the year, in full	—	—	169	\$ 49,039
Premium Income—Ordinary, \$26,089.63; Credit, \$589,331.15; Industrial, \$446,615.49; Total, \$1,062,036.27.				
President, S. E. Wilson; Treasurer, R. A. Wilson; Actuary, J. W. Wooler; Home Office, 224 S. Church Street, Rocky Mount, N. C. Attorney for Service: Charles F. Gold, Commissioner of Insurance, Raleigh, N. C.				
NORTH CAROLINA INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, Raleigh, October 14th, 1954.				
I, CHAS. F. GOLD, Commissioner of Insurance do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct abstract of the statement of the Coastal Plain Life Insurance Company, of Rocky Mount, N. C., filed with this Department, showing the condition of said Company on the 31st day of December, 1953. Witness my hand and official seal the day and date above written. CHAS. F. GOLD, Commissioner of Insurance.				

What's new with Chevrolet? everything!

Even Air Conditioning, if you wish

Air is heated or cooled by a single unit that fits compactly into the front of the car. Requires no trunk space! (V8 models only.) And that's only one of the wonderful extra-cost options you can get!

Wonderful new Glide-Ride Front Suspension

New spherical joints flex freely to cushion all road shocks. New exclusive Anti-Dive Braking Control, assures "heads up" stops.

Great new V8—two new 6's

New "Turbo-Fire V8" delivers 162 h.p. with an ultra-high compression ratio of 8 to 1. You can choose from two new 6's, too—the new "Blue-Flame 136" with Powerglide (optional at extra cost) and the new "Blue-Flame 123."

Easier steering, stopping, clutching

The new Chevrolet steers with ball-bearing ease, thanks to new friction-cutting Ball-Race Steering. New Swing-Type Pedals pivot at the top.

Tubeless tires as standard equipment

On all models! Proved tubeless tires give you greater protection against a blowout... deflate more slowly when punctured.

A ventilating system that really works

Chevrolet's new High-Level Ventilating System takes in cleaner air at hood-high level—away from road heat, fumes and dust.

Three drives, including Overdrive

There's Powerglide teamed with the new V8 or the new "Blue-Flame 136." New Overdrive teamed with the new V8 or the new "Blue-Flame 123." (Powerglide and Overdrive are extra-cost options.) New standard transmission, too!

The Bel Air 4-Door Sedan

... and Chevrolet's got that long, low "let's go" look

It's a show car from the word go! Longer looking—and lots lower. There's plenty of glamor inside, too—plus more room for hats, hips and shoulders!

This is the car that began with a great idea—the idea that a low-priced car could be built that would have the style, the performance, the comfort and convenience features, and the fine quality "feel" of high-priced cars.

This is the car that only the world's leading car builders—Chevrolet and General Motors—could have built. The Motoramic Chevrolet! Come in and see how the Motoramic Chevrolet for '55 is far more than a new model. It's more, even, than a completely new car. It's a whole new idea about cars!

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