

Farm Migration Figures Show Social, Economic Progress

A look behind the figures for the long-term migration trend from the farm to the city and the overall population shifts throughout the United States over the last few decades provides a vivid picture of the change and progress brought about by the growth of the economy and the widespread expansion of opportunity.

The most dramatic of these changes has occurred in the South. The 1954 figures show that in 1920 a total of 51.3 per cent of the population in the South lived on farms as compared with less than 30 per cent in the North Central States and under 25 per cent in the West.

Biggest Change in South
The rapid growth of industrialization below the Mason and Dixon Line has brought a fundamental change. The number of persons living on farms in the South has declined by more than 6 million since the beginning of the Twenties and the total now represents little more than a fifth of the entire population of that region. The proportion a year ago was exactly 22.2 per cent, according to the Agriculture Department. Combined with the higher earnings provided by jobs in business and industry, and diversification and mechanization of farm output, this population shift figures importantly in the strides made by average income

levels in the South in recent years. Big population shifts have also occurred in other parts of the country. The number of persons living on farms in the nation's bread-basket comprised by the North Central States declined by more than 3 million between 1920 and 1954. The proportion of farm to total population of that region showed an even greater rate of decline, from 29.7 per cent in 1920 to 15.2 per cent in 1954.

Trend in Other Regions
The number of persons living on farms in the West declined by only around 225,000 between 1920 and 1954. However, due to the great expansion of the overall population in the West in the period, particularly on the Pacific Coast, the farm population last year represented only 9.1 per cent of the West's total population as against 24.7 per cent in 1920. The farm population in the Northeast, which has been in a downturn since the last century, declined by 600,000 between 1920 and 1954, and its proportion of the total population fell from 8.6 per cent to 4.7 per cent. Over all, the total farm population in the United States declined between those years.

One of the significant results of the decline in the farm population shows up in the income figures translated to a per capita basis. Though the number of active farmers is down to the lowest level in decades, production in general is at near-record levels. Much of the growth of farm income between the Twenties and now may reflect the big rise in prices over the last decade and a half, but a good deal also represents increased efficiency and more production of livestock, with an assist from Government support operations.

For the three decades from 1924 to 1954, total cash receipts from farming (excluding Government payments and off-the-farm income) rose from \$10.2 billions to \$30 billions, an increase of practically 200 per cent. Adjusted for the change in the farm population figures in the period, however, the per capita cash income from farming was more than four times as high last year as it was in 1924, rising from only \$328 billion in 1924 to \$1,368 last year.

The difference between the rise in total and per capita income is even more marked in the South, where aggregate cash receipts from farming were up 109 per cent between 1924 and 1954 but on a per capita basis were up 313 per cent. The margin is least in the West, where over-all cash receipts from farming were up 276 per cent in the 1924-54 period and on a per capita basis were 315 per cent higher.

HOSTESS TO BRIDGE CLUB
Mrs. T. B. Sumner was hostess to her bridge club Tuesday night at her home on Front Street. Those playing were Mesdames V. N. Darden, J. O. Felton, B. G. Koonce, W. G. Wright, Nathan Relfe, J. R. Futrell, Miss Thelma Elliott and Miss Kate Blanchard. The high score prize went to Miss Elliott. A sweet course was served.

HOSTESS TO BRIDGE CLUB
Mrs. J. W. Dillon was hostess to her bridge club Wednesday night at her home on Grubb Street. Those playing besides the hostess were Mesdames Vivian Mathews, J. L. Harris, Eldon Winslow, Charles Murray, D. E. Reed, Jr., John Coston and Miss Dorcas Knowles. The high score prize went to Mrs. Harris and the floating prize was awarded Mrs. Mathews. A sweet course was served.

Antique
"My husband has the strangest hobby," said Mrs. Smith to a friend, "and I never knew anything about it until yesterday. I found in his desk a queer looking ticket inscribed Mudhorse 10 to 1. I asked him what it was and he told me it was a relic of a lost race. Isn't it interesting?"



THE ADMIRAL COULDN'T DO BETTER—Hospital Corpsman Robert Brown, of Clearfield, Pa., presents his young son to view for a happy Navy couple at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Md. Brown is one of four land-based corpsmen assigned to infant care for Navy dependents.

BPW Club Elects Officers For Year

New officers for the year 1955-56 were elected at the May business meeting of the Perquimans BPW Club when it met at the new home of Mrs. Roxanna Jackson Thursday night. They are: President, Mrs. Emily T. Harrell, who will be serving her second year; first vice president, Mrs. Roxanna Jackson; second vice president, Mrs. Atha Tunnell; treasurer, Mrs. Wilma Hurdle; recording secretary, Miss Hulda Wood, and corresponding secretary, Mrs. Dora T. Riddick.

Mrs. Harrell presided over the meeting and announced that the State Convention will be held in Raleigh, June 10, 11, 12. The following delegates were elected to attend: Mesdames Harrell, Roxanna Jackson, Mary S. Lane and Miss Hulda Wood.

Mrs. Alice Towe, State Education and Vocations Chairman, announced that the State Convention this year will highlight this committee since the National Chairman of this committee, Sylvia Sorkin, will be guest speaker at the Saturday night banquet. The plans are to have an Occupations and Vocations Exhibit when members will present interesting hobbies.

Following the reports of various committees the meeting was adjourned. After opening her housewarming gifts, Mrs. Jackson invited the members to the candle-light dining room where a surprise party was given in honor of Mrs. Towe who was recently selected the Club Woman of the Year.

The table which was covered with a cutwork linen tablecloth was centered with a cake decorated in the colors of the club, green and gold. Refreshments of chicken salad sandwiches, mints, peanuts, punch and cake were served to the following members present: Misses Hulda Wood, Kate Blanchard, Thelma Elliott and Dillwyn Denton, Mesdames Harrell, Towe, Jackson, Mary S. Lane, Sally Lane, Atha Tunnell, Dora Riddick, Race Coston, Essie Burbage, Minnie Wilma Hurdle, Viola Nachman, Harriett Gustafson and Betty Swindell.

Plans were made for the annual Poppy Sale on May 28. Mrs. Lesie White, Poppy Chairman, had charge of the program and gave a very impressive talk on poppies. Following the meeting a social hour was enjoyed during which the hostesses served refreshments to the 13 members present.

Census Supervisor Urges Businesses To Submit Reports

Collection of reports in the 1954 Censuses of Business, Manufacturers and Mineral Industries, which are being conducted nationwide by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, now is moving into the home stretch.

Thirty-eight temporary field offices, established early this year to conduct these Censuses, are concentrating on the task of working themselves out of a job. These offices will be closed as soon as all business men have filed their reports and these reports have been checked and relayed to Washington.

Among these field offices the one covering this area is that of Census Supervisor Albert G. Miller, located at Charlotte, N. C. Here 19 employees are at work processing reports received to date from 44,000 establishments. They are aiming for completion of the job in the next few weeks when reports from a remaining 9,000 establishments have been received.

Registered letters are being sent to establishments which have not filed their reports in compliance with Census law, formally notifying them that their reports have not been received despite several previous reminders and that these reports must be turned promptly in accordance with the law.

In a statement addressed to heads of business establishments in this area, Census Supervisor Miller pointed out that the Census Bureau, like any well-conducted business is trying to avoid unnecessary delays and added expense arising from such delays.

"Delays are costly both in terms of added expense and the loss of time that cannot be recovered," Supervisor Miller said. "In our business of collecting and publishing statistics timing is very important. Those business men who have delayed filing their reports probably do not realize that statistics are a perishable commodity and decrease in value as they increase in age."

Auxiliary Selects Two For Girls' State

The American Legion Auxiliary of the William Paul Stallings Post 126, met Friday night, May 6, at the home of Mrs. Martin Towe with Mrs. Elizabeth Skipsy as joint hostess.

The president, Mrs. Helen Skinner, presided over the business session, using the regular opening ceremony. Routine reports were given by various committees. The Americanism Chairman, Mrs. Joe Nowell, reported first prize in the Americanism Essay went to Jo Pat Stokes. Two high school juniors were selected to attend Girls' State at Greensboro College. These were Sarah Elizabeth Sutton and Nancy Bagley.

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Fund Drive Starts For Negro 4-H Camp

The 4-H Club Foundation of North Carolina, Inc., is sponsoring the building of a 4-H Club camp at Hammocks Beach, Onslow County. This project was started in 1951, with 52 counties of the state participating. During the last four years more than \$37,000 has been raised and plans are now progressing to complete the camp this summer. An additional \$37,000 is needed to complete the project.

Citizens of Perquimans County will be called on to assist in raising the necessary funds. A campaign to raise \$600 in Perquimans, which is the local goal, is now in progress under the direction of W. C. Stroud, Negro Farm Agent. He is being assisted by local 4-H Club leaders and members.

Stroud stated the camp, when completed, will house 1,800 4-H Club members each season. He added the fund campaign now in progress will come to a close on May 28, which is the deadline for each county in reporting contributions to the State 4-H Foundation Office. The public is asked to participate in the drive, helping the 4-H'ers to secure their camp.

I could never think well of man's intellectual or moral character, if he was habitually unfaithful to his appointments.—Nathaniel Emmons.

Specialist Advising Cotton Fertilization At An Early Date

Cotton fertilizer should be applied early for maximum benefit, according to J. A. Shanklin, State College extension cotton specialist.

One of the most important steps to adequate fertilization of cotton, Shanklin says, is side-placement. "It has been proven time and again that side-placement of fertilizer will result in about a 17 per cent increase in cotton yield, compared with the traditional method of using the fertilizer below seed at planting time. Side-placement is even more advantageous in a dry season."

If you don't have equipment for side-placement, then put the fertilizer in the row about 10 days before planting and mix it with the soil thoroughly, Shanklin advises.

"Cotton absorbs the greater part of its nutrients during the first half of its growing period," he points out, "so it is necessary to get top-dressings of nitrogen and potash on early, or at about the time of chopping." Thus, you will be assured of early setting of squares and bolls, and of getting the jump on the boll weevil.

Early placement of fertilizer can mean about 300 to 400 pounds more seed cotton per acre, Shanklin believes.

Young Democrats Meet In Concord On Saturday, May 21st

The Young Democratic Clubs of North Carolina will hold a State-wide meeting and rally on Saturday, May 21, in Concord, N. C.

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day, May 21, in Concord, N. C. The principal speaker will be Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Paul M. Butler, who is making his first official visit to North Carolina.

There will be no registration charge for the Concord rally, and the cost of the turkey dinner will be only \$1.00 per plate.

Ticket requests should be sent to Miss Carolyn Goodman, Cabarrus County Court House, Concord, N. C. Further details are available from Young Democratic Clubs.

75th June German In Rocky Mount on Friday, June 10th

The Carolina Cotillion Club's June German, oldest dance of its kind in the country, will be held at Rocky Mount on Friday, June 10, for the 75th year.

Howard Strandberg, Jr., president of the club, announced that colorful and controversial Stan Kenton and his 20-piece orchestra will provide music for the diamond anniversary of the all-night dance.

Featured vocal soloist with the orchestra will be Miss Ann Richards.

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