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THE FOURTEENTH DECENNIAL CENSUS

The enumeration of the population during a census of the United States always presents numerous difficulties, among them the apprehension on the part of the people, particularly those of foreign birth or extraction, that their answer to the enumerators' questions will cause increased taxation, legal entanglements, or other consequences injurious to their welfare. It is thought advisable by those in authority that the people to be enumerated be as well informed as possible in the matter and in conformity with this view we are setting forth for our readers such facts concerning the coming census as are deemed of importance personally.

The census is required every ten years by the Constitution of the United States and by act of congress. The date named for beginning the 1920 census is January 2, but the "Census Day" is January 1.

In cities the population enumeration will be completed in two weeks.

The censuses of manufactures, mines and quarries, oil and gas wells, and forestry and forest products will, as a rule, be taken by special agents and by correspondence, and not by enumerators.

The census is the means by which the Government ascertains the increase in the population, the statistics concerning agriculture and the vital information concerning the resources of the Nation.

The census inquiries are defined by act of Congress.

The information gathered is strictly confidential, made so by law.

Census information can not under any circumstances be used as a basis for taxation, nor can it be used to harm any person or his property.

It has nothing whatever to do with detection, arrest, prosecution, or punishment of any person for any violation of any law.

Important personal questions are:

1. Age at last birthday.
2. Each person ten years of age and over will be asked whether he is able to read or write.
3. Each person will be asked his birthplace as well as the birthplace of father and mother.
4. If foreign born the date of coming to the United

States will be asked, and, if naturalized, the date of becoming a citizen; also mother tongue or native language.

5. Each head of a family will be asked whether his home is owned by him or rented. If owned, whether mortgaged or free of debt.

6. Each person will be asked his occupation and whether he is an employer or employee or is working on his own account.

The answers to the above questions give valuable and vital information to the government concerning the health, welfare, and progress of the persons under its protection.

THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT

School histories mention the fact that the Pilgrims, after reaching the shores of the New World, met in the cabin of the Mayflower and drew up a "compact," an agreement or constitution for the government of the settlement they were about to make. As few of these books given the text of this compact, it will doubtless be welcomed here by many of our readers. The document is interesting because of its quaint spelling and phrasing and also because of the evidence it furnishes of the Pilgrims' religious zeal, strength of character and patriotism. It reads:

"In ye name of God, Amen; we, whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereigne King James, by ye grace of God, of great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of ye faith, etc., haveing undertaken, for ye glory of God, and advancemente of the Christian Faith and honor of our King and countrie, a voyage to plant ye first colonie in ye Northerne parts of Virginia, doe, by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in ye presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civill body politich, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of ye ends aforesaid; and, by vertue hearof, to enact, constitute and frame such just and equall laws, ordenances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete and convenient for ye generall good of the Colonie. Unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names, at Cape Codd, ye 11th of November, in the year of the raigne of sovereigne Lord, King James, of England, France and Ireland ye eighteenth, and of Scotland ye fiftyfourth, Anno Domini, 1620.