

# LESS THAN THREE ACRES NOT FARM, RULE FOR CENSUS

## Annual Production Must Be Worth Minimum of \$250, Another Essential Established.

### Large Tract Without Yield Outside Classification, Bureau Says.

A farm, according to the census bureau, is all the land farmed by one person, whether it is three acres or three thousand acres.

Soundly simple, doesn't it? But it wasn't so simple for the government officials to decide what the enumerators shall enumerate as a farm when they take the census in April.

The area of farm land owned by one person has nothing to do with the definition of a farm so far as the census bureau is concerned. The question is, not how much land does he own, but how much does he operate or farm. A man who owns 200 acres might farm half of it himself and rent the other half out to three tenants, 50 acres to each. This would go down on the census records as four farms, because the land farmed by each man is considered as a unit.

On the other hand, one man might rent various tracts of land from 10 different owners. He might rent a few acres on shares, a few more from somebody else for money rent, and the rest from other people on different terms. The different pieces of land might all be farmed and managed by one man, they would all be put down together as one farm. If, however, a separate manager were hired to supervise a certain part of the land, that part would go down as a separate farm.

Again, one man may operate 100 acres of farm land which he owns and he may also rent from a neighbor and operate an additional tract of 20 acres. In that case he will be reported in the census as operating one farm of 120 acres, but the report will show that he owns 100 acres of the farm and rents the additional 20 acres. This 20 acres of land should not be reported as a farm by the neighbor from whom it is rented.

### Minimums Fixed.

No tract of land of less than three acres will be registered as a farm unless it produced last year, at least \$250 worth of farm products, either consumed on the farm or sold. In the census of 1929, if a piece of land of less than three acres was farmed by a man who gave his entire time to the task, it was listed as a farm regardless of how little it produced, but this year none of these small tracts will be counted unless they produced \$250 worth of products, regardless of how many people spent their full time cultivating the area. The census bureau estimates that approximately 5,000 tracts of less than three acres in the United States are farmed by individuals who give their full time to the occupation. This change in the classification of farms is the only difference between the census bureau regulations for farm enumeration in 1929 from those of ten years ago.

There is necessarily a borderland between what is a farm and what is not, says the census bureau. A small place on the edge of a town or village is often the home of a city worker who undertakes to keep a cow, some chickens, and probably cut a little hay or raise a large garden or small crop. If the agricultural products from such a place amounted to \$250 or more in 1929, it shall be counted as a farm, regardless of how much or how little time the city worker gave to his farming pursuits, and regardless of how small the tract of land tended.

### Area Must Produce.

On the other hand, a large country place of 10, 15 or 20 acres may not necessarily qualify as a farm. Actual farming or agricultural operations must be carried out before any tract of land will be classified in this category. A large country estate of a retired capitalist is not a farm if the only work done around the place consists in mow-

ing the lawn and trimming the hedges. If the estate is of more than three acres, however, a very small amount of agricultural products could give it the rank of a farm, regardless of whether the products amounted to \$250 or not. In such a case as this, it would be up to the judgment of the census enumerator to decide whether agricultural operations were being carried on. Farm land is considered "operated" not only when cultivated crops are raised on it, but also when it is used to any significant extent for pasture or for production of hay.

### Old Definition Holds.

A number of agricultural pursuits not usually considered by the average person as farming come within the census bureau's definition. All markets and truck gardens, fruit orchards, nurseries, greenhouses, poultry yards, places for keeping bees, and all dairies in or near cities, even though little land is employed, are, for census purposes, farms, provided they produced in 1929 \$250 worth of agricultural products. If such places contain more than three acres they are farms regardless of the value of their products.

In 1925, the last year in which a farm census was taken in the United States, there were 15,331 farms of less than three acres. The total number of farms in the nation at that time was 4,873,649.

The general definition of a farm, "All the land which is directly farmed by one person, either by his own labor alone or with the assistance of members of his household or hired employees," has remained practically the same since 1870, the first year in which it was used by increasing number of factory workers and business and professional men. However, the men who live on little places along country roads and keep cows or chickens and have vegetable gardens, in making this matter of definition of a farm more important as well as more difficult. It is more necessary, therefore, than ever before that these "borderland" farms, as they have been called, should have the facts ready for the census enumerator to use in deciding whether the place is a farm when he calls in April.

# FARM BUREAU CO-OP EXCHANGE BIG AID TO SOIL WORKERS

The Douglas County Farm Bureau Cooperative Exchange is a corporation organized under the Oregon cooperative law, and, while operating along ordinary business lines, the essential aims and policies are directed, not so much toward making money in business, as to enable farmers to make money in farming.

This policy has been followed since the inception of the exchange in 1921.

The business began in rental quarters, 10 by 20 feet in size. Food was handled two days out of each week and all profits, above interest on capital stock, have been reinvested in the business together with additional stock subscriptions until the Roseburg quarters of the firm comprise 19,000 square feet of floor space, housing a complete line of feed, hay, grain, tile, spray and fertilizer materials, fencing, nails, farm machinery, tractors, pipe, pumps, plumbing and electrical supplies, as well as a shop where engine and implement repairs and rebuilding work is carried on.

In addition the exchange operates branch warehouses at Oaklawn and Myrtle Creek and a bean and apple packing plant at Roseburg.

The housewives are not entirely overlooked by the exchange, for the stock also includes electric ranges, washers, gas ranges and oil burning refrigerators.

The exchange also organizes and maintains a large interest in the Producers Agricultural Credit corporation, dealing in equipment and production notes and contracts.

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# PROPER SPRAYING VITAL NECESSITY IN FRUIT GROWING

## Efficient Work Should Not Be Expected From Pump Driven Beyond Its Normal Speed.

In the last ten years the fruit pests have been rapidly gaining in numbers, which makes the problem of control one of the most serious to the fruit industry today. It was only a few years ago that orchardists first began to use a spray to fight these pests. They applied this spray with small hand pumps and got along in pretty good shape. Then the steam sprayer was invented using a small steam boiler and a small steam engine to drive the pump. This made a very heavy outfit to move about the orchard, so a small gasoline engine was substituted for the steam engine to drive the pump. Much development then took place in the design of the pressure pumps. The first outfits were operated between 75 and 150 pounds pressure. This made a very heavy outfit to move about the orchard, so a small gasoline engine was substituted for the steam engine to drive the pump. Much development then took place in the design of the pressure pumps. The first outfits were operated between 75 and 150 pounds pressure. This made a very heavy outfit to move about the orchard, so a small gasoline engine was substituted for the steam engine to drive the pump.

Whatever we may think of the treatment of Russian peasants by the soviet government, we must watch with interest the Russian experiment in big-scale power farming, says an editorial in The Farm Journal for March.

Enormous areas of land have been taken from farmers, and the farms thrown together. Tractors will be used extensively, except for a few saddle horses ridden by farm managers. The grain trust experimented with some 20,000 combines last summer, and will use over 1,000 of these machines in 1930.

According to J. L. Fletcher, who recently returned from Russia, the land is generally level and free from trees and water courses in the Ukraine, Caucasus and Volga districts, where the grain-growing project centers. Fences are practically unknown. Besides, much of the grain-growing region is dry. In most parts of the country, the harvesting season is just about rainless, a condition made expressly to order for the tractor and the combine.

Wheat-growers in the United States may be confronted with new competition in the next few years.

# SCIENCE HAS NEW AID FOR DRY LAW

NEW YORK, March 12.—Science has an infallible way of spotting liquor made from recovered industrial alcohol—black ultra violet rays. Dr. Herman Goodman demonstrated to the society of medical jurisprudence that the hue of a pitcher of water caused by the merest speck of coloring matter was apparent under the rays. He suggested that a trace of coloring matter peculiar to each district in which commercial alcohol is made would make it easy to trace the sources of bootleg liquor.

# MACHINERY MAKES RUSSIANS RIVALS OF U. S. FARMERS

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# YOUNG PLAN WINS FINAL APPROVAL FROM REICHSTAG

BERLIN, March 12.—The reichstag yesterday gave final approval to the Young plan by a vote of 279 to 192 and then, by a rising vote, also approved the German-American agreement by which Germany's reparations payments to the United States are regulated. Passage of the Young plan and its connected legislation by the reichstag marked one of the most momentous decisions as yet taken by the young German republic's lawmakers.

Not only are German reparation payments fixed definitely and finally, thereby removing a great element of uncertainty in German economic life, but a large number of vexing leftovers from the World War are settled.

More than that, an international bank has been created whereby the world's central bankers are able to meet regularly and in a spirit of mutual cooperation to stabilize the world's exchanges and to aid the world's export trade besides putting Germany's reparations payments on a strictly regular basis.

That a new era will begin for

Germany will soon be outwardly manifested, assuming that the other powers signatory to the Young plan also approve it, by the gradual disappearance of the last allied soldiers from the occupied area, by the resignation of foreigners from the directorates of the reichsbank and federal railways and by the departure of S. Parker Gilbert, agent-general for reparations, and his staff.

With the complete ratification of the Young plan by all the interested parties, the last vestige of foreign control will disappear in Germany which at length will have control of her own affairs.

# PLATE GLASS LEVY BECOMES PART OF TARIFF SCHEDULE

(Associated Press Local Wire) WASHINGTON, March 12.—The duties on window glass proclaimed by President Hoover last year were restored to the tariff bill by the senate today when it upset a previous decision to cut the levies to the basis of the 1922 schedule. The vote, 40 to 34, was the third strategic invasion of democratic-independent ranks by the republican regulars in the last few weeks. The former vote for lower window glass rates was 41 to 40. Vice-President Curtis voted for the first time in the tariff contest today and broke a tie which restored to the bill the existing levies on plate glass.

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