

MICHIGAN CENSUS ADDS FACTS TO FARM INFORMATION

New knowledge of Michigan farm homes and farming operations in recent releases of information gained in the 1940 or 16th census of the United States.

Ten years ago, for instance, only one farm in five was credited with electric lighting but now the rural homes in the state show 71 per cent have the energy available. More than twice as many farm homes now are on hard surfaced roads as there were a decade ago and an extra 18,000 homes have gravel, shell or shale surfacing over the number reporting that type of road surface available 10 years ago.

Proof that Michigan agriculture is substantial is found in several of the census figures. Less than half the farms in the state are mortgaged and of those that are, the amount for each farm has been reduced from an average of \$2,534 in 1930 to \$1,780 in 1940.

The average age of a Michigan farmer is just over 50 years. Approximately two-thirds of the farmers have been on their farms five years or more. Taxes per \$100 of value average 90 cents as compared to \$2.07 in 1930.

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Farming is a serious business. Proof of that is found in the motor car and tractor figures in the census. The average age of the cars and tractors on Michigan farms indicates they are the same—the 1933 models.

Some farmers find time to gain outside pay. About one farmer in three reported working off his farm, usually non-farm work. This total of outside work in a year's time was \$638,291 days, compared to 6,347,179 days worked away from home farms in 1930.

The taste of cheese can now be photographed by the use of the X-ray. The picture of taste is fuzzy.

BUTZEL, LEVIN & WINSTON, Attorneys, 1590 National Bank Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND.

At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 15th day of June A. D. 1941.

In the MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ARON MENDELSON, Deceased.

Fred M. Butzel, Herbert A. Mendelson, Gladys M. Dietz and Harry L. Winston, Testamentary Trustees under Paragraph Sixteenth of the Last Will and Testament of the said deceased, having filed in said Court their Seventh Annual Account and petition praying for examination and allowance thereof.

It is Ordered, that the 15th day of July A. D. 1941 at nine o'clock in the forenoon at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition.

It is Further Ordered, that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Farmington Enterprise, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County.

Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.

GIRL CORN "CHAMP" SAYS FERTILIZER IS NEEDED FOR QUALITY

WALDRON, IND.—Beverly Meal can bake the best angel food cake in Indiana, serve a love score tennis game or sing solos in the church choir.

But this 17-year old farm lass is proudest of her feat of winning the crown of "Corn Princess" of Northern Indiana at the recent International Livestock Exposition in Chicago, in competition with hundreds of farm boys and girls. It was the second time in history the title has gone to a girl. Beverly averaged a yield of 83.4 bushels an acre of Reid's yellow dent corn on a 10-acre plot on her father's farm.

"Corn Growing Family," "Raising good corn is a Mead family tradition," she said. "Dad has been noted for quality corn for years. My two brothers have been corn growers. So I decided to try, even though it is a boy's work."

Last spring Beverly selected her seed with care, gave special attention to preparing the seed bed, fertilizing, killing and cultivating. Hard work and perseverance were rewarded when the judges at the International show pronounced her seed sample of corn one of the finest ever exhibited.

Beverly's father believes that good corn and good hogs go together. He follows a regular rotation of corn, wheat and clover on his 100 acre farm. He avoids hauling off vital plant foods by feeding his crops to the livestock. He realizes that soil fertility is his greatest asset. Year in and year out he applies 100 pounds of 2-12-12 fertilizer to his fields. The 10-acre plot on which Beverly's prize corn was grown received such an application last spring.

Beverly has been a G.I. member for eight years, but this was the first time she ever grew corn. She has been a leader in numerous other activities.

PLANT FOOD TRIO SPURS GROWTH OF MICHIGAN CROPS

CHICAGO.—How the "triplets" of plant nutrition—nitrogen, phosphorus and potash—perform their mysterious job of feeding Michigan farm crops and sustaining the fertility of the soil, was described in a statement issued here by the Middle West Soil Improvement Committee.

"Nitrogen is the mineral element which encourages the growth and development of leaves and stems, and the fleshy portions of roots and fruits," the statement sets forth.

"Phosphorus, usually provided in the form of superphosphate, is the element which hastens the ripening of seed and favors early maturity of the crop."

"Potash is the element so necessary for the development of starch. It is the balance wheel that promotes healthy growth, enables the plant to make proper use of the nitrogen supply, and develops resistance to disease by the plant. Potash helps produce better quality grain and fruit."

"Each of these three elements can best contribute its benefits to the soil in cooperation with the others. The land responds more to a fertilizer element than another to build up deficiencies and produce more profitable crops."

"Fortunately, farmers everywhere can determine the needs of their soil by consultation with their county agent or with agronomists at the state college or experiment station. These experts are equipped to make soil tests and then to provide specific suggestions concerning official recommended fertilizer analyses adapted to various soils and crops."

On the basis of such information the farmer can select the fertilizer which will be best suited to the job of building and maintaining the productivity of his soil.

Courtesy "Ghost"

The county court room "ghost" in Charlotte, N. C., is gone. For 10 days justice was interrupted by walls emanating from the walls of the chamber. Finally workmen opened the grill work over one of the huge ventilators, just above the judge's dais. Out stepped "Ginger," the county jail's big tan cat that disappeared two weeks ago.

U. S. Buys Vast Reindeer

Herd for Preservation

Santa Claus is not going to have to thumb a ride for some time yet, anyway, for Alaska will have enough reindeer to supply the old Santa Claus's sleigh power from now until daisies grow at the North pole. The government recently completed the largest reindeer purchase in history, involving a third of the territory's vast herds.

"The government had to buy the herds because the industry was really faced with extinction," said Charles Burdick, a special agent for the department of the interior. "The white owners could not afford to take care of their herds and they had to be bought to be sure the industry kept going."

Eventually the plan is to get all reindeer under the control of the Eskimos, Burdick explained, so it will be entirely a native industry. He pointed out that the reindeer is the only dependable meat source the Eskimos have, and if the industry fell off it would mean a high relief load to the government.

When the deer finally get into the hands of the Eskimos, it will mean a much higher standard of living for three-fourths of their population, Burdick declared.

Just how this is to be accomplished has not been entirely determined yet.

Benjamin Franklin Had

Interest in Home Town

Benjamin Franklin's interest in architecture and pride in the beauty of his home city we find in a paragraph from a London newspaper in 1779, says the North American Review.

"Doctor Franklin has recommended to congress, to beautify Philadelphia, all the improvements adopted in London within these 20 years, in respect to lighting, watching and paving. Likewise to modernize the roofs of the houses, to slate them and new sash them in the present English manner. He has also sent them the ingredients of Leard's newly invented stucco, advising them to face all their brickwork with it. As Philadelphia has the most regular plan and the finest streets of any city in the world he accompanied with the noblest rivers in the universe, trade and the curiosity of rich Europeans will render it the wealthiest town that ever existed, for which purpose great encouragement will be given to a school of architecture, that their buildings may be beautiful and not, like London, ill placed. Their first attempt will be a church, equal, if not superior to St. Peter's at Rome, with walls so thick as to admit of the dome being all stone, which St. Paul's in London should have been. No sculpture or paintings are to be introduced but what shall be adapted to the architecture, and as fine as those in St. Peter's in Rome. It is the hope that the philosopher's zeal will stimulate England to improvements of equal consequence."

AT THE REDFORD THEATER



Designed to strike a responsive cord in the hearts of all the family, Andy Hardy's Private Secretary, opening at the Redford Theater Friday for an engagement of four days, is heralded as destined to prove one of the most popular of the series.

The latest Hardy Family picture proves a milestone in the life of Andrew Hardy. It's plot, in brief, finds the young man, deep in the duties as chairman of numerous senior committees, and being a Good Samaritan on the side to a couple of youngsters less fortunate than he. He is, however, inadvertently causes a near tragedy in the family, and how, in spite of failing an English exam, he manages to be among those present when diplomas are handed out, makes for one of the most human screen documents of the year.

The popular cast has again been assembled, with Lewis Stone as Judge and Mickey Rooney as Andy.

PRINCESS WATASSA TO TELL HEALTH STORIES AGAIN

Princess Watassa will be back in Michigan telling her health stories this fall!

This decision, in response to the 4,000 youngsters who had written in their pleas for her visit, was made at the meeting at the executive committee of the Michigan Tuberculosis Association, June 11.

Princess Watassa is an Indian girl who in colorful native dress tells health legends as a part of the educational program of the Michigan Tuberculosis Association. Miss Verna Wallette, a Chippewa Indian girl has been chosen as the new Watassa. A native of North Dakota, Miss Wallette will be graduated from the Milwaukee State Teachers' College in August.

For years "Princess Watassa" has been one of the most popular phases of the MTA work. The program was discontinued during the past school year but in the two preceding years 193,293 persons heard her stories. From tiny rural school rooms to large auditoriums, children were charmed with her tales of Indian lore. A teacher who as a little girl had heard Princess Watassa wrote—"as a rural school teacher, I thought you might teach my children a health lesson they would remember as I remembered that delightful day eight years ago."

Fay Holden is seen as May Hardy, Sara Haden as Aunt Milly and Ann Rutherford as Polly Benedict. Two additional screen favorites, Ian Hunter and Gene Reynolds, make their appearance with the family in the new production.

The picture also marks the screen debut of a pair of promising newcomers, Kathryn Grayson, seventeen-year-old coloratura soprano, and Todd Karns, son of the popular screen comedian, Roscoe Karns. In addition to appearing in the important dramatic role of Andy's secretary, Miss Grayson sings three songs, two classical and one popular selection. Young Karns, who proves himself one of the most promising juvenile finds of the year, portrays the role of Miss Grayson's brother.

The newest of the Hardy Family series was directed by George B. Seitz, who has piloted the family through most of their screen adventures.

A school commissioner in a county where the rural schools could not use films for lack of electricity, requested a full week's time stating that Princess Watassa "means more to us than to counties with more resources within the school."

During the year that the program has been discontinued, the MTA has received requests from principals and teachers all over the state for the return of Princess Watassa. Bookings for this dramatic health teacher will begin now for the coming school year, according to Theodore J. Werle, executive secretary of the Michigan Tuberculosis Association.

"There is no charge to the schools," said Mr. Werle, "for Princess Watassa's work is part of the educational drive to wipe out tuberculosis, which is financed by the sale of tuberculosis Christmas seals."

BLUEGILL AVERAGES SEVEN AND A HALF INCHES

The average bluegill caught by Michigan anglers, according to conservation department creel records for the last five years, is 7½ inches long.

The Michigan Tuberculosis Association has recently published a pamphlet, "Tuberculosis and Your Child" which will be sent free of charge to any person requesting copies.

The first tuberculosis association was organized in Michigan 33 years ago. Due to its efforts the tuberculosis death rate in the state has decreased from 99 to 33 per hundred thousand.

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(A true Copy.) Florence Dwyer, Probate Register.

June 19-1941



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Parasitic Fungus Growth Attacks Potatoes, Beets

That finicky fungus, known widely as Rhizoctonia, and causing an equally well-known disease of potatoes, sugar beets and other crops, shows differences which may account for some of its eccentricities.

According to E. L. LeClerc of the Louisiana State university, as the result of investigations in co-operation with the United States department of agriculture.

Reported in Phytopathology, the plant-disease specialists' journal, LeClerc shows how the Rhizoctonia from the potato will not attack sugar beets, whereas the same organism from sugar beets will attack potatoes.

Investigating further, LeClerc found that the threads composing the body of the sugar-beet Rhizoctonia were appreciably and significantly thicker than those of the potato organism. The sugar-beet form also grew faster in laboratory tests, and made its best development around 80 degrees Fahrenheit, while the potato form, the slower grower, developed best at around 77 degrees. The sugar-beet Rhizoctonia also seemed to be more highly parasitic against other test plants than did the potato form.

Grass Silage

Much interest among farmers is spreading in grass silage. For centuries the Swiss dairy producers of the Alps cut their grassy meadows even during rains and without hesitation stored the hay in silos without loss. Since grass has less sugar than corn or sorghum crops it is necessary to add dilute sulphuric or hydrochloric acid to the grass to be silaged. However, more recently farmers have found that if they add a little molasses to the grass (it also will go through the right kind of fermentation and make excellent silage. Whey or whey powder, as by-product of cheese factories, can also be added to the grass silage and give similar results. Molasses is becoming popular with farmers to add to other fodder or silage as animal feed and it very likely will increase in popularity in Texas because of regular importations of black strap molasses from Cuban sugar mills to the Texas Gulf coast from where it reaches the interior by tank car or truck.

'Don't Fire Till—'

Some day, some time, somebody will establish with certainty who actually gave this famous order.

That it was issued at Bunker Hill on June 17, 1776, to the Continentals who were about to be attacked by the British regulars under the command of William Howe is agreed, as is also the circumstance that the Minutemen were short of ammunition and heavily outnumbered.

Traditionally, credit for the line goes to Col. William Prescott, who, knowing that his men would be tempted by the crimson coats and white breeches of the king's grenadiers and cognizant of his troops' lack of sufficient equipment, had them hold their fire till the enemy was almost upon them.

It was to whom the words have been attributed are Corporals Israel Putnam, Warren and Stark, the last of whom is said to have adjured his men:

"Don't fire till you see the whites of their eyes, or Mollie Stark's a widow!"

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