

When the Census Taker Calls



By ELMO SCOTT WATSON
Drawing by Ray Walters.

WITHIN the next few weeks an army of 100,000 men and women will be visiting every home in the United States and asking a series of questions which every one of us must answer, or have answered for us. Those questions are the following:

Name and address, sex, color or race, age, single, married, widowed or divorced; relationship to head of family; home owned or rented, free or mortgaged; literacy, place of birth and that of parents; citizenship, ability to speak English, whether employed and trade or profession, whether veteran of any American war.

But lest you should feel that the asking of these questions is a meddling, some interference in your private affairs, let it be stated at once that the man or woman who calls at your home and asks you these questions is a census enumerator, engaged in the huge task of taking the 15th decennial census of population in the United States, in accordance with Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States, that you are required by law to give true answers to the questions and that there is no real reason whatsoever why you should not answer them. For you have this assurance from Dr. William M. Steuart, chief of the bureau of the census, in regard to it:

"No citizen need hesitate to answer the questions asked by the enumerators. The facts, so far as the individual is concerned, will be safe in the hands of the government and will never be disclosed. No one need have the slightest fear that his personal or business secrets will ever be disclosed to friend or foe. The oath of the enumerator requires that he shall keep secret the answers to queries. If he does not, he is guilty of a crime, and if detected there is not the slightest doubt as to what will happen. The law will be invoked and enforced to the limit."

The 1930 census will be the greatest "counting of noses" in the history of the world. When it is completed Uncle Sam will know just how many more children he has than he had in 1920. As to what the population of the United States will be, Doctor Steuart says:

"It will be more than 121,000,000 and less than 125,000,000. We are certain as to this, because we know that the population of the continental United States is now increasing at the rate of about 1,400,000 persons each year, or, to put it another way, at the approximate rate of one person every twenty seconds. These totals are made up of the annual excess of births over deaths, which amounts to about 1,150,000, and the excess of immigration over emigration, which gives us an additional 240,000 each year. The 1930 census will show that our people are thirty times as many as were in the country in 1790 and nearly twice as many as in 1890, or only forty years ago.

"History records no instance in which population has so rapidly increased as has been the case in the United States. Neither is it of record that the increase in population has anywhere else been accomplished by

so great an improvement in the comfort and well-being of the people generally.

"In 1790 there were 4.5 persons for each square mile of what was then the United States. The 1930 census, I believe, will show forty people to each square mile, or nearly ten times more than at the time of the first census. In 1790 there were six cities in the United States with more than 8,000 inhabitants. Then the cities were responsible for only 3 per cent of the population; America in those days was truly agricultural. In 1920 the cities with more than 8,000 inhabitants numbered 824 and their population was 44 per cent of the national total. Add to these the little towns and villages of less than 8,000 people and we find that in 1920 the urban population was a little more than half the total for the Union."

In accomplishing the huge task which faces Uncle Sam's army of census enumerators, they will visit not only 30,000,000 homes but also more than 2,000,000 stores, almost 200,000 manufacturing plants, and in addition they will compile data concerning 6,000,000 farms, 14,000 mines and quarries, 100,000 irrigation and drainage projects. The reason for this is that the 15th decennial census will be not only a count of population but also a comprehensive study of the commerce and industry of the nation, including, for the first time, a census of distribution. In the last named it is hoped that there will be found at least some of the reasons for an estimated annual loss of \$10,000,000,000 in the process of placing commodities in the hands of the ultimate consumer.

"The 1930 census," says Doctor Steuart, "is going to be, we hope and believe, the most nearly perfect tabulation of population, business and other basic facts ever taken in history. I say this with the fact in mind that nearly 3,000 years have passed since the first census was made—when King David set out to number the people of Israel and Judah. It took him nine months and twenty days to do the job, and among the things he found out was that there were in Israel and in Judah about 1,300,000 valiant men that drew the sword."

"The first census of the United States was taken 139 years ago. The United States was first among the countries to make a regular periodical enumeration of its inhabitants a part of the fundamental law.

"The first American census, taken in 1790, was very limited in scope and was directed by the United States marshals. They were allowed thirteen months on the job, and when the totals were added up our population was about 4,000,000. That census related solely to population. The name of the head of the family was taken, together with the number of persons in each family, classified as free or slave. The whites, who were free, were classified as "free whites," as male or female, and the free whites males as over or under sixteen years of age. That was about all there was to it. The marshals who supervised the 1790 count numbered only 17, the enumerators 650, and you will appreciate



DR. WILLIAM M. STEUART

what the latter figure means when you are told that the enumerators who will take the 1930 census will be an army of more than 100,000.

"Since the 1790 census the nations of the world have been gradually developing methods and machinery that speed up the counting of heads and the accumulation of a vast amount of data regarding economic, social, educational and other conditions. Here in the United States the development has probably been more far reaching than in any other country. Consequently the director of the census is now by law required to enumerate in the space of one month more than 120,000,000 people and at the same time obtain very extensive information about 6,000,000 farms, 14,000 mines, 100,000 irrigation and drainage projects, the facts of employment and unemployment affecting millions of people, and also the trade, profession or particular kind of work done by every person of working age in the nation. Quite a job for four weeks, is it not? Yet it can and will be completed in the allotted thirty days."

With the exception of a comparatively few, when the vast total is considered, the original records of every family enumerated in the 1790 and subsequent census are on file in the census bureau, according to Mr. Steuart. The missing records have been lost or destroyed by accident. However, file on John Hancock has been preserved and his family was reported as being made up of "two white males over sixteen years of age, three white females and seven other free persons, not white." It is presumed the seven free persons listed as "not white" were negro servants.

In the taking of the 1890 census, each person was for the first time asked to give the value of his or her real and personal property. The records for Illinois show that Abraham Lincoln's family comprised Mr. Lincoln, his wife, his three sons and a boy, fourteen years old, named Philip Dinkell. Mr. Lincoln said he was worth \$17,000, of which \$5,000 was the value of his real estate, the remainder being personal property. In the same census James Buchanan listed his household as consisting of himself, his niece, Miss Harriet Lane, and eleven employees and servants, all of the latter being of foreign birth.

The system of individual enumeration, was adopted at the census of 1850, and at the same time a number of new classifications were added—illiteracy, school attendance, occupation, place of birth, age, etc.

Testing Seed Is Important Task

Ordinary Unglazed Newspaper Cut Into Strips Is Found Useful.

Recent experiments at University farm with newspaper testers have developed speedy and cheap methods of testing seed, particularly seed corn.

Use Wet Paper.

"Ordinary unglazed newspaper may be torn or cut into strips about 8 inches wide and 12 to 14 inches long," says H. K. Wilson, assistant agronomist of the Minnesota experiment station. "About six sheets of paper should be thoroughly soaked in water by kneading it into a wet roll. It is important that all sheets be wet. The strip of soaked paper is spread on a flat surface and kernels of corn to be tested distributed in the same manner employed in making a rag doll. About 50 kernels can be placed in each doll. Next, another strip of several thicknesses of soaked newspaper is placed on top of the corn, the edges of the paper are crimped together and then rolled into a compact doll. The ends should be tied loosely and the roll placed in a two-quart fruit jar.

"This jar does not require a lid but should be turned upside down and set in a warm place. A small nail placed under one edge will permit air circulation. It is unnecessary to give any further attention to the test until the results are taken one week later.

Carefully Tested Plan.

"This plan was carefully compared with the plan of placing a lid on the jar and punching a hole in it for air, which has been recommended in some quarters, and gave 9 per cent higher germination and much more vigorous seedlings."

Manure and Flies Are Big Menace to Health

It is a well-known fact that flies breed in manure and that they are not only a nuisance but also a menace to the health of both man and beast. It is equally well known that if manure is left lying in the barnyard till the corn is laid by a very large percentage of its fertility will be lost through fermentation and leaching, says the Iowa Homestead. If the bulk of the manure accumulated during the winter months can be hauled out before spring work begins there will be a chance of killing two birds with one shot—of reducing the fly nuisance and of saving valuable elements of fertility that are so much needed by our soils.

Let us get busy with the manure spreaders as soon as possible. If there is no better place for the manure than the pasture it may be used to advantage to increase its live stock carrying capacity.

Immature Grasses High in Much Needed Protein

Some tests which have been run on the feeding value of immature grasses by the Wisconsin department of agriculture indicate that many people have failed to appreciate the relatively high percentage of protein which they contained. Some samples of the first clippings of timothy and clover which were analyzed showed as high as 20 per cent of protein on the basis of dry weight. Samples of immature June grass ran equally as high, while a sample of immature rye was found to have 24 per cent of protein. Mature timothy hay has only about 6 per cent of protein and rye straw would have but little protein when mature.

Such figures as these would indicate that when grain is fed to cows on pasture during the spring and early summer, such feed would not need to be as high in protein as is sometimes considered necessary.

Agricultural Notes

Muddy water indicates wasted means.

Good land is constantly increasing in value.

Keep your soil and your soil will keep you.

Cod liver oil should not be fed to broilers the last two weeks before marketing. It taints the flesh with the odor of the oil.

When sweet clover is being seeded either alone, with some grain crop, or with a mixture of grass seed, it is essential that the seed be inoculated.

A tractor that is idle in winter makes its owner no money. On most well-managed farms there are winter jobs to do, such as sawing wood, grinding feed, baling hay, building terraces, etc.

Mulch paper is said to be worth while for certain early crops of high market value and in some home gardens where it is desired to eliminate cultivation and to utilize space to the best advantage.

New Zealand spinach is harvested as soon as the tips of the branches may be cut back about two inches. After a few days new branches, bearing leaves, will be put out. A constant supply until frost is possible with this treatment.



Miserable with Backache?

It May Warn of Disordered Kidneys.
DOES every day find you lame and aching—suffering nagging backache, headache and dizzy spells? Are kidney excretions too frequent, scanty or burning in passage? These are often signs of sluggish kidneys and shouldn't be neglected. To promote normal kidney action and assist your kidneys in cleansing your blood of poisonous wastes, use Doan's Pills. Endorsed the world over.

50,000 Users Endorse Doan's:
J. F. Parker, 115 Mansion St., Pittsburgh, Pa., says: "I gladly recommend Doan's Pills. My kidneys were not acting normally. The secretions were very irregular and burned in passing. I would get up in the morning tired and stiff all over. I had a constant backache and headaches annoyed me. Since using Doan's Pills I have been in good shape."

Doan's Pills

A Stimulant Diuretic to the Kidneys

Too Much Competition
"Did your wife get cold on the mountain? She is so hoarse!" "No, she wanted to talk the echo down."

Many on the Road
"What kind of a car have you?" "Or, a runabout. You know—run about a mile, then stop."

Children Cry for it

Children hate to take medicine as a rule, but every child loves the taste of Castoria. And this pure vegetable preparation is just as good as it tastes; just as bland and harmless as the recipe reads. (The wrapper tells you just what Castoria contains.)

When Baby's cry warns of colic, a few drops of Castoria has him soothed, asleep again in a jiffy. Nothing is more valuable in diarrhea. When coated tongue or bad breath tell of constipation, invoke its gentle aid to cleanse and regulate a child's bowels. In colds or children's diseases, use it to keep the system from clogging. Your doctor will tell you Castoria

deserves a place in the family medicine cabinet until your child is grown. He knows it is safe for the tiniest baby; effective for a boy in his teens. With this special children's remedy handy, you need never risk giving a boy or girl medicine meant for grown-ups. Castoria is sold in every drug store; the genuine always bears Chas. H. Fletcher's signature.

Great Water Project
Texans contemplate spending \$100,000,000 to make the mighty Brazos river work for them. It is a big task they have in mind for the river and its tributaries. They would irrigate thousands of acres of land, turn the wheels of many industries, develop electric power, supply drinking water and even use it for recreation. The Brazos river conservation and reclamation district created to direct the project will seek the financial aid of state and federal governments.—Indianapolis News.

Not at Dignified Banquets
At a dinner in Hollywood for the visiting British journalists, J. T. Collins, editor of an Australian paper found himself sitting beside Charles Chaplin but did not recognize him. The Australian introduced himself and asked his neighbor's name. Charles looked a bit startled, but finally confessed that he was Charles Chaplin. "But!" exclaimed the astounded Collins, "I thought you wore a moustache!"—Capper's Weekly.

Busy Woman
Old Friend—What is your daughter doing at present?
Her Dad—Fixing up a past for her future.—Boston Transcript.

Fliers Say Courage Varies with the Way they Feel

AEROPLANE
A pilots tell us that their courage, their whole attitude toward flying, varies from day to day, with the way they feel. If they feel full of pep, healthy, they can try anything—nothing frightens them. Their nerve is unshakable; their skill keen; their flying is machine-like in its perfection.

It is an entirely different story, however, if they wake up in the morning feeling sick, down in the mouth. Then flying becomes a real danger.

What is the matter with these brave people when they are not up to par? The natural poisons in their bodies have not been swept away. They are allowing their brains to be clouded and dulled by poisons which should not be permitted to remain in the body.

This is the lesson we can learn from airmen. It is the lesson that points to Nujol—the simple, natural, normal way—without the use of drugs or medicines to keep the body internally clean of the poisons that slow it up. Nujol is pure, tasteless, colorless as clear water. It forms no habit; it cannot hurt even a baby.

See how the sunshine floods into your life when you are really well. Get a bottle of Nujol in its sealed packages at any drug store. It costs only a few cents and it makes you feel like a million dollars. Find out for yourself what Nujol will do for you this very night. You can be at top-notch efficiency and happy all the time. Get a bottle today.

Member of the "Caterpillar Club" earns his right to membership by 6000 foot Emergency Jump.