

## CLACKAMAS COUNTY, OREG.

Clackamas County is situated in the northwestern part of Oregon, its western part lying immediately south of Portland, the principal city of the State. It is separated from the Columbia River on the north by Multnomah County (in which Portland is located) which is 9 to 15 miles in width. The eastern boundary of Clackamas County is formed by the crest of the Cascade Mountains. The physiography of the county is dominated by the Willamette Valley and the Cascade Mountains. The Willamette River crosses the northwest corner and most of the county rises eastward from elevations a little above sea level to heights of 4,500 to 6,000 feet. Much of the land, then, consists of rolling bench lands and hills, with extensive areas of rugged mountains in the eastern part.

Practically all of the development is confined to the northern and western parts of the county, the valleys being rather thickly populated, the rolling uplands somewhat less so, while large mountainous areas in the eastern part of the county are practically uninhabited.<sup>1</sup>

Clackamas County in 1930 had a total population of 46,205 persons, of which seven-eighths, or 87.5 percent, were classed as rural. Of the latter, 44.1 percent were classed as rural-farm and 55.9 percent as rural-nonfarm. Oregon City, with a total population of 5,761 persons, was the largest city in the county. Of the 15,197 males 10 years old and over in gainful occupations, the number employed in nonagricultural pursuits was 9,666 distributed as follows:

	Number	Percent
<b>Nonagricultural</b> .....	<b>9,666</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Forestry.....	818	8.5
Manufacturing and mechanical industries.....	4,407	45.6
Building.....	817	8.5
Lumber and furniture.....	847	8.8
Paper and allied industries.....	1,336	14.3
Other manufacturing and mechanical.....	1,357	14.0
Transportation.....	1,336	13.8
Trade.....	1,582	16.4
Professional service.....	529	5.6
Domestic and personal service.....	316	3.3
All other and industry not specified.....	678	7.0

Mixed farming prevails in the area with most of the cash income received from dairying, fruits, grains, poultry, and potatoes and other vegetables.

In this area, 6,200 farms were enumerated in the 1935 Federal Census of Agriculture, of which 3,260, or 52.6 percent, were in the control of operators who did not have any outside income from their own services, while the remaining 2,940 farms, or 47.4 percent, were in the control of operators who worked 1 or more days off their farms for pay or income in 1934. Farms

<sup>1</sup> Most of the foregoing represents extracts taken more-or-less verbatim from the Soil Survey of Clackamas County, Oreg., published in 1926 by the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station.

of the former were larger and had a higher value on the average than farms of the latter. For both groups the median size and the median value were considerably smaller than the arithmetic averages for the same items. The average size of family (based on the number of persons per occupied dwelling) was 3.1 persons on farms of those operators who performed no off-farm work as compared with 3.7 persons for farms whose operators had off-farm work so that slightly more than one-half of the 1935 farm population was residing on farms of part-time operators. Eighteen percent of the population for the former group were living in a non-farm residence 5 years earlier as against 25 percent for the latter group. Also, 33 percent of the operators of the former group had been operating their farms less than 5 years as compared with 47 percent of the latter group.

Of the 2,940 farm operators who reported outside work, 1,046, or 35.6 percent, worked less than 50 days for additional income; 542, or 18.4 percent, worked 50 to 99 days; and 1,352, or 46 percent, worked 100 or more days. Farms representing the last-mentioned time group were considerably smaller on the average than those in the other two time groups but had a higher value per acre (land and buildings) due in part, perhaps, to a higher proportionate part of the total value represented by the dwellings.

Of the 2,300 classified reports on outside occupations, 1,768, or 76.9 percent, were classed as nonagricultural and the remainder as agricultural. Farms of the former group were somewhat smaller than those of the latter. The average size of family for farms in the non-agricultural group was 3.7 persons and 28 percent of the population resided in a nonfarm home in 1930 as against an average size of 3.5 persons per family and 19 percent residing in a nonfarm home in 1930 for the agricultural group. Also, 48 percent of the farms in the former group had been in control of their 1935 operators less than 5 years as contrasted with 40 percent for the latter group. For both these occupational groups, as the time spent at outside work increased there was a progressive decrease in the average and median size of farms.

As to tenure, 46.3 percent of the full owners performed outside work for pay, 47.3 percent of the part owners, and 52.7 percent of the tenants. However, a higher percentage of the full owners (49.5) working off their farms, worked 100 days or more than was true for part owners (29.3) or for tenants (42.7). Tenant part-time farms had larger families and a higher proportion of their population coming from nonfarm homes than for owner-operators.

