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A Study Of Part-Time Farming In The Southern District Area III, Texas

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A STUDY OF PART-TIME FARMING IN THE SOUTHERN
DISTRICT AREA III, TEXAS



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A STUDY OF PART-TIME FARMING IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT
AREA III, TEXAS

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By

Lawrence Winston Fryer

A THESIS PRESENTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN THE GRADUATE DIVISION
OF
PRAIRIE VIEW AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE
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August, 1965

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The writer wishes to express his sincere appreciation to Dr. E. M. Norris for his guidance in the writing of this thesis; and to twenty two vocational agriculture teachers and one hundred part-time farmers of the Southern District, Area III for supplying the information that made the study possible.

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my father, Mr. Brack Fryer, who has been an inspiration to me and to my wife, Mrs. Clara B. Fryer who has helped me in accomplishing my goal.

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INTRODUCTION

Part-time farming has always been present in the Southern District, Area III. Mighell states from ancient times those who lived by the sea or by seasonal or intermittent occupations such as fishing, lumbering, mining and fishing have operated small farms. Historically, certain combinations of farming and early manufacturing, or "cottage industries" were based with links in chain of industrial evolution.¹

Heady and Jenson stated that part-time farming is designed for families not wanting to leave the farm entirely. Hence one member of the family may carry operations throughout the year or part of the year while others are working off the farm, or the farming operation may be after working hours or on Saturdays. Part-time farming fits well with enterprises requiring hand labor.²

Castle and Becker found that part-time farmers are people that are not solely dependent on their farms for livelihood. In some parts of the United States part-time farming is relatively more important than commercial farming.³

¹Ronald L. Mighell, America Agriculture, (New York, John Willey and Sons, Inc., 1955, p. 110.

²Earl O. Heady and Harold Jensen, Farm Management Economic, University of Kentucky, Prince Inc., 1955, pp. 376-379.

³Emery O. Castle and Manning H. Becker, Farm Management, New York, London, The MacMillian Company, 1963, pp. 17-18.

Part-time Farmers in the Southern District, Area III are those who work on the farm and have off-farm employment.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

During the period of 1955 to 1965, the farmers in the Southern District, Area III have combined farming with off-farm jobs. The writer entered upon this study to determine the effect of part-time farming on the living standards of farmers in the Southern District.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to find out the living standards of part-time farmers with reference to social, economic and educational changes that have occurred since 1955 as a result of income from part-time farming and off-farm employment.

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

The information for this study was obtain from the following sources:

1. Inquiry response from part-time farmers, who constitute the population of this study.
2. Documentary materials from a review of literature.
3. Observations by the writer.

SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF STUDY

This study comprises one hundred part-time farmers in the Southern District, Area III in Texas. The schools included in the study are Van Vleck, Bay City, Sealy, Cuero, Hallettsville, Weimar, Columbus, Yoakum, Edna, El Campo, Hungerford, Wharton, Eagle Lake, Gonzales, Burton, Brenham and Waelder.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Standard of Living - The term "standard of living" has been used to denote three different concepts. The United Nations Report On International Definitions and Measurement of Standards of Living, states the first concept as it relates to the desirable conditions of living as defined for specific purposes, such as the fixing of minimum wages or working hours. The second relates to the actual living conditions of people and is increasingly designated as "levels of living." The third term relates to the aspiration or expectations of a people, that is, living conditions which they seek to attain or regain, or which they regard as fitting and proper for themselves to enjoy.⁴

Part-time farm - The United States Census in 1959 classified part-time farms as farms with sales of farm products of \$50 to \$2,499, if the operator is under sixty five years of age and he either (1) worked 100 or more days off the farm or (2) the non-farm income received by the farmer and his household was greater than production net income.⁵

Part-time farm - For this study "part-time farm" is defined as a farm producing a gross income from the sale of products of \$50 or more, if the operator (1) worked 100 or more days off the

⁴United Nations Report on International Definitions and Measurement of Standards of Levels of Living, New York, 1954, p.2.

⁵United States Department of Commerce, United States Census of Agriculture, 1959. Vol. 1.

farm (2) the non-farm income received by the farmer and his household was greater than production profits.

HISTORICAL AND RELATED INFORMATION

Area III was first organized in 1939 by the Vocational section of the State Department of Education. This area was made up of thirty-two school districts.

The Area Supervisor divided area into three districts; (1) Eastern (2) Northern and (3) Southern.

The Southern District is composed of the following schools: Van Vleck, Bay City, Sealy, Cuero, Hallettsville, Weimar, Columbus, Yoakum, Edna, El Campo, Hungerford, Wharton, Eagle Lake, Gonzales, Burton, Brenham and Waelder.

The Southern District offers leadership activities for students studying vocational agriculture and opportunities for students to observe farming methods in all the districts in Area III.

The Southern District contains all types of soil, from sandy soils to heavy black soils, from hilly to level land. Since all types of soil are present the writer found a number of crops and livestock in the Southern District. The leading crops are cotton, corn, peanuts, truck crops, rice, and melons. The leading livestock produced are beef cattle, swine, and poultry.

Part II

PRESENTATION OF DATA

The one hundred farmers used in this study were selected at random and were informed prior to the visit by the vocational agriculture teacher for collecting information. The writer felt that this investigation would be more accurate if farmers had more time to compile records before the visit and to save time in the process.

The farmers had an educational range from 0 grade to master of science degrees. The farmers had an age range from thirty two to seventy six years with an average of 53.9 years.

Table I

Farm Ownership

Type of Ownership	Farms Reporting	Percentage	Acres Included	Average Acres
Owner	100	100	8760	87.6
Owners and Renters	45	45	996	22.2
Total Acres Included			9756	

Table I shows that 100 farmers were operators while 45 were also operating farms as renters or tenants.

Table I also shows the total acreages included in this study to be 9756 with an average to be 97.56 per family. Farm owner-operators of 100 farms reporting or 100 percent of the total, had an average of 87.60 acres. Farm tenant operators had an average of 22.2 acres.

Table II shows the total acreage operated by these farm families and how these acres are being put to use. Out of 100 percent farmers with 9756 acres, seventy six farmers used 4415 acres for cultivation. Sixty four farmers used 5341 acres for pasture. There were no acres of idle land. All farmers used land for hunting and those having creeks, lakes, and ponds used these for fishing.

Table II

Total Acres and How Used

How Used	No Farm Reporting	No. Acres	Average Acres	Percent
Acres in Cultivation	76	4415	58	45.1
Acres in Pasture	64	5341	83.4	54.9
Acres Used for Recreation	100	9756	97.56	100

EDUCATIONAL EFFECT

Table III reflects the educational status of adults. The farmers reported in this study had an average age of 53.9. The average grade level completed was 5th.

Table III also shows the percentage and number of adults who completed elementary school, high school and college. This table includes both male and female aggregating 200 persons.

Table III

Adult Education

Number of Schools Completed				
Age Range	Elementary	High	College	No Formal Schooling
32-42	40	30	0	26
42-52	43	28	0	17
52-62	27	16	3	9
62-72	12	6	0	5
72-76	1	0	0	1

According to off-farm jobs located in the Southern District, age and education do not have a great deal of value in hiring of these farmers for unskilled labor. Sixty six per cent had less than a high school education.

The younger the age range of the farmer, the more extensive the educational preparation. Those farmers between the ages of 32 and 42, either completed high school or an adult short course, as compared with those in the age bracket 62-72, where very few finished high school.

Service education plays a major role in the farming success of a farmer, the study shows that due to inadequate training, the majority of the farmers must obtain off-farm unskilled labor jobs.

Vocational agriculture has helped part-time farmers by affording excellent opportunity in farming for day students and adult farmers to up grade their standards of living.

Table IV shows adult participation in social organization of the community. In 1955 one hundred families participated in church, 51 families participated in Sunday School, 96 families were lodge members. More families participated in adult classes in 1965 than in 1955, see Table IV.

Table IV

Participation in Social Organizations

Name of Organization	Numbers Reporting Participation in the year										
	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Church	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Church Tres.	20	16	18	10	7	21	9	19	14	12	15
Church Sec.	30	23	15	29	11	24	19	29	17	28	26
Sunday Sch.	55	55	55	56	51	50	54	52	57	56	58
B. Y. P. U.	22	25	18	30	15	33	27	28	30	32	34
Youth Fellowship	20	15	11	22	19	21	12	14	26	28	29
Mission	32	20	35	24	36	22	34	28	32	36	38
Deacon	37	40	26	39	38	56	52	33	41	51	58
Choir	20	12	18	30	34	35	29	17	36	37	39
Lodge	99	82	74	95	93	92	96	94	97	98	99
Farmers Class	60	65	40	44	50	49	61	64	66	68	69
Homemakers Class	67	53	66	58	54	63	62	66	64	67	69

Table V shows the number of children at home, in school and the number of drop-outs from 1955 to 1965.

Table V

Children at Home, In School,
Drop-outs and the cause of Drop-outs

Year	Children at Home			Children in School			Cause of Drop-outs				
	Number	Farms Reporting	Average	Number	Farms Reporting	Average	No. Drop-outs	Marriage	Work	Lack of Interest	Health
1955	433	100	4.33	433	100	4.33	5	0	5	0	0
1956	408	100	4.08	408	100	4.08	2	1	1	0	0
1957	365	100	3.65	365	100	3.65	3	0	2	1	0
1958	328	100	3.28	328	100	3.28	3	0	3	0	0
1959	291	100	2.91	291	100	2.91	4	0	2	2	0
1960	243	100	2.43	243	100	2.43	6	2	3	1	0
1961	187	100	1.87	187	100	1.87	2	1	1	0	0
1962	112	100	1.12	112	100	1.12	0	0	0	0	0
1963	74	100	.74	74	100	.74	0	0	0	0	0
1964	36	100	.36	36	100	.36	0	0	0	0	0
1965	14	100	.14	21	100	.21	0	0	0	0	0

Data in Table V show that of 100 farms reporting, 32 families had no children at home, in school or drop-outs, 68 families had 433 children at home or in school in 1955.

The 100 families reported 14 children at home and 21 children in school in 1965.

The 100 families had 5 drop-outs in 1955 caused by work as compared to no drop-outs in the years 1962-1965.

From 1955 to 1965 there were no drop-outs because of poor health.

Table VI shows the educational status of children in comparison with adults in this study.

Table VI

Educational Status of Children

Year	Completed High School			Attended College			Completed College			Drops-Outs and Cause			
	Number	Families Reporting	Average	Number	Families Reporting	Average	Number	Families Reporting	Average	Lack of interest	Marriage	Army	Health
1955	20	100	.20	18	100	.18	6	100	.06	1			
1956	41	100	.41	31	100	.31	8	100	.08	1	2	1	
1957	34	100	.34	38	100	.38	10	100	.10	3		3	
1958	34	100	.34	42	100	.42	12	100	.12	4	2	1	
1959	33	100	.33	45	100	.45	11	100	.11	6	3	2	
1960	42	100	.42	53	100	.53	13	100	.13	4			
1961	56	100	.56	53	100	.53	14	100	.14	8			
1962	65	100	.65	88	100	.88	15	100	.15	10	4	1	
1963	38	100	.38	99	100	.99	16	100	.16	11	5	2	
1964	37	100	.37	77		.77	23	100	.23	3	2		
1965	26	100	.26	53		.53	25	100	.25	5			

Families reporting on completed high school, attended college, completed college and cause of drop-outs were 100 per cent.

Comparing 1955 with 1960 and 1965, in 1955 the 100 families had 20 children completing high school, 18 children attending college, 6 completing college and 1 drop-out caused by lack of interest. In 1960 the 100 families had 42 children completing high school, 53 attending college, 13 completing college and 4 drop-outs caused by lack of interest. In 1965, 26 children completed high school, 53 attended college, 25 completing college and 5 drop-outs caused by lack of interest.

Drop-outs during the ten year period were caused from lack of interest, marriage and army. No drop-outs were caused by lack of health. The greatest number of drop-outs were 15 in 1962 and 18 in 1963.

Social Affects

Table VII shows that since 1955 there has been a yearly increase in the number of modern conveniences enjoyed by farm families. The greatest advance was made in electrical appliances from 1960 to 1965.

Table VII

Appliance and Equipment Purchased

Year	Radio	T. V.	Bath Fixture	Car	Truck	Refrigerator	Electric Iron	Fans	Air Condition	Washing Machine	Dish Washer	Freezer	Picnic Area Table, Pit, etc.	Pressure Pump	Dryer
1955	80	4	15	40	10	12	60	9	0	4	0	1	0	4	0
1956	87	10	16	45	14	18	88	12	0	16	0	6	0	8	0
1957	89	11	17	60	16	40	95	15	0	20	0	9	0	13	0
1958	97	11	22	83	18	55	96	23	0	31	0	17	3	17	0
1959	97	16	28	90	20	67	97	36	0	57	0	29	12	22	0
1960	100	40	36	100	27	89	100	95	1	62	0	34	21	49	5
1961	100	65	48	100	32	96	100	100	4	78	0	40	24	65	18
1962	100	74	59	100	33	100	100	100	8	85	1	53	28	78	23
1963	100	95	60	100	33	100	100	100	10	86	2	54	29	95	27
1964	100	97	60	100	33	100	100	100	15	87	3	55	30	96	30
1965	100	99	60	100	33	100	100	100	28	90	4	57	32	97	32

Each of 100 families had radios, cars and electric irons in 1960, electric fans in 1961 and refrigerators in 1962. Other acquisitions are 99 per cent with televisions, 90 percent with washing machines and 97 percent with pressure pumps or running water.

No families had air conditioners in 1955 as compared to 28 with air conditioners in 1965. No dishwashers were owned in 1955 as compared to 4 in 1965. No dryers were owned in 1955 as compared to 32 in 1965. Families had no picnic areas in 1955 as compared to 32 in 1965.

Table VIII shows the amount and kind of improvements made on farm homes in a ten-year period, from 1955-1965.

Table VIII
Home Improvement

Year	Build Home	Painted Home	Repaired Home	Electricity	Running Water
1955	6	10	5	55	10
1956	2	4	11	64	26
1957	3	8	17	78	38
1958	4	15	30	89	47
1959	2	18	25	100	57
1960	3	10	30	100	63
1961	1	12	20	100	81
1962	4	14	22	100	94
1963	3	16	20	100	95
1964	4	19	17	100	96
1965	5	6	18	100	96

The greatest number of improvements were made in 1959 with electricity.

Other improvements were greater in these years: 1955 - building homes, 6; 1964 - painting homes, 19; 1963 - repairing homes, 20; and 1964 - running water, 96.

Economic Effect

Table IX shows some of the economic aspects in farming of these part-time farmers, 1955, one hundred part-time farmers made \$155,211 from production of crops and livestock.

Table IX
Income from Farming and Weeks Devoted to Farming

Year	Farming Income			Weeks Devoted to Farming		
	Total	Farmers Reporting	Average	Total	Farmers Reporting	Average
1955	155,211	100	1552.11	370	100	37
1956	176,355	100	1763.55	368	100	36.8
1957	172,976	100	1729.76	320	100	32
1958	183,678	100	1836.78	339	100	33.9
1959	148,965	100	1489.65	356	100	35.6
1960	171,887	100	1718.87	380	100	38.0
1961	165,981	100	1659.81	365	100	36.5
1962	170,714	100	1707.14	376	100	37.6
1963	176,355	100	1863.55	368	100	36.8
1964	183,671	100	1836.71	325	100	32.5
1965	184,178	100	1841.78	315	100	31.5

As shown in Table IX the incomes from part-time farming for the 100 families aggregated \$184,178 in 1965, an increase of \$28,967 for the ten year period. Of course, some of this difference may be attributed to a higher price level.

Part-time farming took place after working hours off-farm, daily or Saturdays and by seasons.

In 1955 thirty seven weeks were devoted to part-time farming compared to thirty one and five tenth weeks in 1964. The variation in weeks may be due to better equipment and facilities on part-time farms.

Table X shows 100 part-time farmers made \$108,000 in 1955 from off-farm employment.

Table X also shows the incomes from off-farm employment for 100 families aggregated \$379,780 in 1965, an increase of \$189,780 for the Ten years period.

In 1955 thirty six weeks were devoted to off-farm employment compared to 49.4 weeks in 1964.

Improved roads and transportation make it easy for farmers to secure jobs off-farm and return to do part-time farming in the afternoon, and on Saturday.

Off-farm ~~employment~~ employment included many occupations - for example: cafe workers, cooks, janitors, construction workers, truck drivers, industrial workers, and school teachers.

Table X

Income from Off-Farm and Weeks Devoted to Off-Farm Employment

Year	Off-Farm Income			Weeks Devoted to Off-Farm Employment		
	Total	Farm Reporting	Average	Totals	Farm Reporting	Average
1955	\$108,000	100	\$1,080.00	360	100	36
1956	111,000	100	1,110.00	370	100	37
1957	109,500	100	1,095.00	365	100	37.6
1958	112,800	100	1,128.00	376	100	38
1959	152,000	100	1,520.00	380	100	38.8
1960	157,680	100	1,576.80	388	100	41
1961	225,550	100	3,255.00	410	100	48
1962	269,000	100	2,690.00	480	100	48.8
1963	265,650	100	2,656.50	488	100	49.1
1964	379,780	100	3,797.80	491	100	49.4

Table XI shows the number of acres, the number of farms reporting and the average acres of crops that were grown. In 1955, sixty-one farmers reported 1,415 acres of cotton grown, an average of 23.2 acres per farm, as compared to thirty nine farmers with 923 acres or an average of 23.6 acres of cotton grown in 1964.

Sixty-four farmers grew 1,201 acres of corn in 1955 an average of 18.7 acres per farm and 53 farmers grew 1,408 acres of corn in 1964 or 25.5 acres average per farmer.

Sixty-eight farmers grew 900 acres of hay in 1955 compared to 1,080 acres of hay in 1964.

Truck crops increased from 899 acres in 1965 to 1,000 acres in 1964.

The primary reason for the change in crop production from cotton to other crop enterprises is because other crops require less labor, and/or give quick cash returns, balance income or labor through out the year, as compared with cotton.

Table XI
Crops Produced

Year	Cotton			Corn			Hay			Truck Crops		
	Acres	Farms Reporting	Average	Acres	Farms Reporting	Average	Acres	Farms Reporting	Average	Acres	Farms Reporting	Average
1955	1,415	61	23.2	1,201	64	18.7	900	68	14.7	899	74	12.1
1956	1,287	60	21.2	1,201	60	20	1,027	60	17.1	900	70	12.8
1957	1,205	58	20.6	1,201	55	21.8	1,110	62	17.8	909	72	11.2
1958	1,190	58	20.5	1,200	51	21.4	1,214	64	18.9	916	73	12.2
1959	1,091	50	21.9	1,180	55	21.5	1,270	67	20.8	954	71	13.3
1960	1,033	48	21.5	1,170	57	20.5	1,252	59	21.2	960	70	12.2
1961	1,026	48	21.3	1,150	54	21.4	1,262	63	20.1	980	70	12.5
1962	1,009	46	21.9	1,100	51	21.5	1,306	61	21.2	1,000	70	14.2
1963	939	42	22.3	1,100	52	21.1	1,376	58	23.7	1,000	69	14.5
1964	923	39	23.6	1,408	53	25.5	1,080	56	19.2	1,000	70	14.2

Table XII shows the number of acres of pasture used for livestock and the amount of livestock produced for home and market.

Pasture acres increased from 5,341 acres in 1955 to 6,053 acres in 1964 an increase of 712 acres.

Seventy farms produced 896 calves for home and market in 1955. In 1964 seventy eight farms produced 1,009 calves.

Swine production shows an increase from 1955, in which year seventy eight farms produced 941 head while in 1964, fifty eight farms produced 1,452 head for home and market.

Breeding beef cattle increased from 978 head, produced by seventy farmers, in 1955 to 1,115 head produced by seventy eight farmers in 1964.

The number of breeding swine remained fairly stable with 378 head produced by seventy eight farmers in 1955 and 377 head produced by fifty one farmers in 1964. However it is to be noted that the number of farmers growing breeding swine declined from 78 to 50.

Comparing cattle production with swine production, eight farmers have gone into the cattle business since 1955 and in swine production twenty farmers went out of the swine business.

Table XII
Livestock Produced

Year	Acres	Calves - Home & Market			Swine - Home & Market			Breeding Cattle			Breeding Swine		
1955	5,341	896	70	12.8	941	78	11.9	978	70	14.4	78	398	5.1
1956	5,469	912	72	12.6	980	78	12.4	982	72	13.6	78	400	5.1
1957	5,551	925	74	12.5	996	76	12.9	988	74	13.2	76	416	5.2
1958	5,566	929	75	12.4	1175	76	15.3	1019	75	13.7	76	427	5.6
1959	5,665	947	76	12.4	1274	74	17.3	1021	76	13.4	74	394	5.3
1960	5,723	963	74	13.0	1366	70	19.5	1057	74	14.3	70	391	5.6
1961	5,850	978	76	13.3	1378	67	20.6	1064	76	14.0	66	372	5.6
1962	5,864	981	77	12.7	1303	68	19.1	1100	77	14.2	62	365	5.9
1963	6,017	1003	78	12.9	1415	65	21.7	1108	78	14	60	360	6
1964	6,053	1009	78	12.9	1452	58	24.7	1115	78	14.4	51	377	6.2

Table XIII shows the scope of poultry production by the farmers studied.

Fewer farmers are engaged in the poultry business since 1965. The change is due to the trends in marketing of poultry and to the business requiring a larger volume of production.

Fryer production changed from 18,050 heads produced by 91 farmers in 1955 or an average of 196.1 fryers per farmer to 13,160 fryers produced by 19 farmers or an average of 774.1 fryers per family in 1964.

Ninety six farmers produced 8,622 laying hens in 1955, and fifty two farmers produced 20,960 laying hens in 1964.

Turkey production dropped from 4,780 turkeys for home and market produced by 51 farmers in 1955 to 841 turkeys produced by 11 farmers in 1964. Turkey production looks bad for part-time farming.

Table XIII
Poultry Produced

Year	Fryers Home and Market			Turkeys Home and Market			Laying Hens Home and Market			Breeding Turkeys Home and Market		
	Number Head	Farms Reporting	Average	Number Head	Farms Reporting	Average	Number Head	Farms Reporting	Average	Number Head	Farms Reporting	Average
1955	18,050	91	196.1	4,780	51	91.8	48,622	96	50.6	589	51	11.7
1956	17,900	83	216.8	4,461	48	92.7	5,871	85	69	560	48	11.7
1957	17,661	72	245.2	4,236	46	91.2	6,723	80	84	492	46	10.6
1958	16,806	67	250.9	3,853	44	87.7	8,955	78	119.6	406	34	11.9
1959	15,777	52	363.4	2,761	40	59	11,750	76	154.5	420	40	10.5
1960	15,463	46	336.1	2,400	36	55.9	12,900	67	192.8	415	36	11.4
1961	14,010	31	464.7	2,170	31	70	13,340	63	196.9	376	31	12.1
1962	13,600	27	503.5	1,845	28	65.9	18,481	60	308	358	28	12.9
1963	13,424	21	639.2	1,516	21	72.1	20,415	58	351.6	280	21	13.3
1964	13,160	19	774.1	841	11	76.4	20,960	52	403.7	165	11	15

Table XIV
Tractors Owned

Year	Tractors		
	Number	Farms Reporting	Average
1955	6	6	1
1956	8	8	1
1957	12	12	1
1958	17	17	1
1959	19	17	1.1
1960	23	21	1.05
1961	29	30	1.05
1962	37	35	1.05
1963	38	36	1.05
1964	41	39	1.05

Table XIII shows the number of tractors owned and the year purchased by 41 farmers reporting.

In 1955, 6 farmers reported purchasing a total of 6 tractors, an average of 1 tractor per family.

Over a period of 10 years 39 farmers have purchased a total of 41 tractors, an average of 1.05 per family.

Regardless of the decrease or increase in standard of living of the farmers in the Southern District, beliefs are that part-time farming advantages as an occupation outweigh the disadvantages.

SUMMARY

1. The majority of the farmers in the Southern District are part-time farmers.
2. The average farmer operates 97.56 acres of land and 100 per cent are employed off-farm.
3. The average schooling acquired by adults in the study is the fifth grade.
4. Before 1955, only 40 per cent of the group covered in the study had the use of electricity.
5. In order to maintain a certain standard of living, income from part-time farming had to be supplemented by income from off-farm employment.
6. Adults on the farms are now more conscious of the importance of a good formal education for their children.
7. Part-time farmers are employed off-farm as unskilled laborers and are constantly facing the threat of unemployment.

CONCLUSIONS

The writer feels that it is impossible to reach certain desired conclusions. However, part-time farming and off-farm employment definitely exists in the Southern District. When an account is taken of income received from off-farm sources part-time farmers all seem to be in considerable better financial condition than they were eight years ago. There has been a very noticeable shifting of the amount of time to off-farm employment.

The writer also recognized certain influences in making this

study that are of social as well as economic value, that are aesthetic in nature and cannot directly be measured.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The writer would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Better utilization of land.
2. Part-time farmer should seek to do more cooperative planning.
3. The Southern District Department of Vocational Agriculture should devote more time to adult farmer Education in areas such as food preservation, home improvements and improved methods and techniques that can aid in raising the standards of living.
4. That more of the young farmers attending college be directed toward specialized fields of vocational agriculture.

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APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR M. S. DEGREE THESIS PROJECT

Family Record:

Name: _____, Married, if so ages of husband _____
 wife _____. Number of years married _____. Single, if so your age _____.
 Address: _____
 Places lived for the past ten years _____

I. Education Status:

Male Female

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| A. Grades completed in elementary school | _____ | _____ |
| B. Grades completed in high school | _____ | _____ |
| C. Years attending college | _____ | _____ |
| D. Did you complete a 2 or 4 years program? | _____ | _____ |
| E. Kind of certificate or degree or degrees? | _____ | _____ |
| F. Graduate Study (hours completed) | _____ | _____ |
| G. Year completing or leaving high school | _____ | _____ |
| H. Years completing under-graduate work | _____ | _____ |
| I. Years completing graduate work | _____ | _____ |
| J. Other college studies (hours) | _____ | _____ |
| K. Adult classes in agriculture or home-making | _____ | _____ |
| L. List some classes completed in adult classes | | |

M. Reason for leaving school

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. Economic reason | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Lack of interest | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Poor health | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Graduation | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Others (specify) _____ | | |

II. Community Activities Participated in:

A. Church _____, Sunday School _____, Others (specify) _____

B. List other community programs or organizations that you are active members of: _____

III. Family Status:

Year	No. Children	Children In school	Children completing Hi.sch.	Drop-outs Hi. School	Cause drop out
1955	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1956	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1957	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1958	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1959	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1960	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1961	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1962	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1963	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1964	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
1965	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Year	Attended college	Completed college	Drop-out	Cause of Drop-out
1955	_____	_____	_____	_____
1956	_____	_____	_____	_____
1957	_____	_____	_____	_____
1958	_____	_____	_____	_____
1959	_____	_____	_____	_____
1960	_____	_____	_____	_____
1961	_____	_____	_____	_____
1962	_____	_____	_____	_____
1963	_____	_____	_____	_____
1964	_____	_____	_____	_____
1965	_____	_____	_____	_____

IV. Present Status:

- A. At home with definite allowance ()
- B. Part time farmer at home ()
- C. Part time farmer away from home ()
- D. Renter or operator ()
- E. Owner ()
- F. In partnership at home ()
- G. In partnership away from home ()
- H. Manager of farm for another party ()
- I. Others (specify) _____ ()

V. Part-time Farming:

A. Type of farm _____

B. Size of farm _____, Acres owned _____, Rented _____.

C. Ownership of land:

1. Acres of crops grown _____.
2. Temporary pasture _____.
3. Native pasture _____.
4. Woodland _____.
5. Other _____.

D. Renter of land:

1. Acres of crop grown _____.
2. Temporary pasture _____.
3. Native pasture _____.
4. Woodland _____.
5. Other _____.

VI. Name of off-farm employer for the past 10 years.

VII. Farm and Industrial Income:

- A. Income from part-time farming _____.
- B. Income from off-farm job _____.

VIII. Time devoted to farming and off-farm work:

- A. Number hours working on farm
daily _____ day _____ night _____
weekly _____ monthly _____ others _____
- B. Number hours working off-farm
daily _____ day _____ night _____
weekly _____ monthly _____ others _____

IX. Appliance and equipment purchased (1955-65) - write in year of purchase

Electric iron _____	bathroom fixture _____
radio _____	builded house _____
television _____	added rooms _____
washing machine _____	car _____
dryer _____	truck _____
refrigerator _____	air condition _____
freezer _____	tractor _____
bed room furniture _____	others _____
living room furniture _____	

