

Social Security Applications Hit New High Mark

According to William Royle, field representative of the Social Security Board in Reno, a total of 2,711,798 employers of one or more persons in steel, automobile, textile, electrical and mechanical appliances, lumber and wood-work, food processing, building supplies, and other industrial and commercial groups, whose employees will benefit under the Federal old-age benefits provisions of the Social Security Act, have reported to the Social Security Board since November 16, 1936, that their employment rolls number 26,696,137 wage earners. This, however, is not the total of persons employed now, or at any one time among the employers covered by the act, but rather a cumulative total in which there is considerable duplication due to the shifting of employees from one employer to another during the five-month period involved. The number of employers reported is the total number who filed applications in the five months period since November, 1936.

These figures and also the number of employers by states are as of April 17, and were made public by the board along with the state breakdown as of the same date of the 26,610,466 employees who have filed applications for Social Security account numbers and for whom Social Security accounts are being set up for their participation in the old-age benefits program. These figures include also some persons who made applications for account numbers though unemployed and some who applied for account numbers though employed in occupations not covered by the Act.

A few employments, such as agricultural labor, domestic service in a private home, casual labor not in the course of the employer's business, and several others, are not now covered in this program. Workers who are not in covered employment may become covered as they transfer to work in industry of commerce, whether full time, part time, or on a temporary basis.

As to the difference of 85,671 in the number of wage earners who have filed applications and the number of workers the employers have reported on their rolls, the board stated that applications are still being filed with local postmasters and that its Bureau of Federal Old-Age Benefits is receiving applications from post offices at the rate of approximately 40,000 daily. The board estimates that ultimately there will be active records set up for 40,000,000 workers.

To qualify for a monthly benefit a wage earner must be at least 65 years old, his total wages from covered employment after 1936 and before age 65 must be \$2,000 or more, and he must have received wages after 1936 in covered employment for work on at least one day in each of five calendar years before reaching age 65. Only wages up to \$3,000 a year from any one employer are counted as total wages. Monthly benefits are not payable until 1942.

Meantime, the Social Security

Board's regional and field offices are now prepared to assist workers who have reached age of 65 to file their claims for lump-sum payments, which are payable now to those who qualify. These payments mount to 3½ percent of the total wages received in covered employment after 1936. Hundreds of such claims, ranging from a few dollars to \$105, have already been filed with the board. The Bureau of Federal Old-Age Benefits estimates that approximately 325,634 persons or their estates will be eligible in 1937 for lump-sum or death payments. Claims will be filed during this year either by workers who have reached age 65 or by the families of workers who die during the year.

As of April 17, the number of employers in six western states whose applications for identification numbers had reached the board, and the number of workers in each state whose applications for Social Security account numbers had reached the board are as follows:

	Employers	Employees
Nevada	3,071	19,678
Utah	9,860	82,855
Arizona	7,592	72,114
Oregon	22,706	182,314
Washington	39,701	331,743
California	184,351	1,577,539

Totals of all states are as follows: 2,711,708 employers reported a total of 26,696,137 employees.

Stock Feeding In So. Nevada

"With her excellent climate, irrigation water supply soils, and wide range of feed crop production, southern Nevada," according to L. E. Cline, Senior Extension Economist, "should develop into a prosperous livestock feeding area." Clark and Lincoln counties' potentialities were thus presented last evening at George Thiriot's ranch in Pahranaagat valley where the subject of feeds and feeding for livestock was discussed with Messrs. Ferguson and Steele, W. U. Schofield, and George Thiriot of Hiko. M. A. Bunker and Carl Foremaster of Alamo; Wm. Wittwer and A. L. Kelly, manager Southern Nevada Meat and Provision company of Las Vegas; Extension Agents Louie A. Gardella of Lincoln, and J. H. Wittwer of Clark county.

Vital factors contributing to successful feeding of either hogs or cattle were emphasized as being first — proper selection of feeders; second—proper utilization of farm storage wastes and economic management of finishing with concentrate feeds; and third — following trends to determine best time at which to market the stock.

Among the important items in the feeding program was that of the recently introduced Hegari (Sweet Sorghum) which has been proved as well adapted to southern Nevada climate and most soils. Successful practices followed, consists of harvesting the grain crop of this sorghum with a combine or other harvester, then let the livestock do the rest by pasture and "hogging off" the residues of the crop.

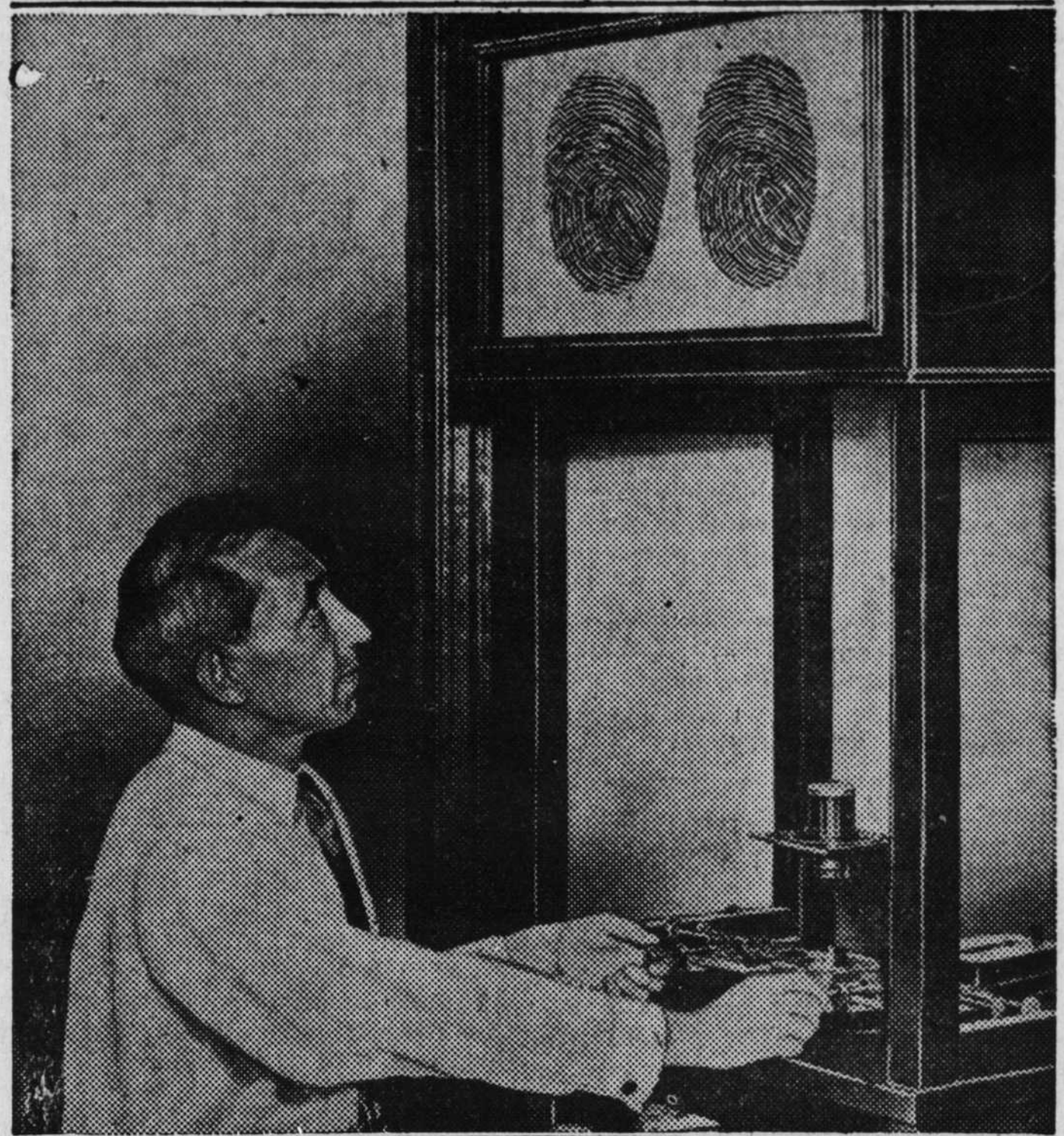
One rancher in Pahranaagat valley was reported as having planted over 80 acres of Hegari, and 200 acres of corn, most of which is to be marketed through the "Livestock Way."

Plans are being rushed forward for the construction of a 27-story hotel to be erected in downtown San Francisco. The structure will be finished in time to take care of visitors to the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1939.

PASSING ON LANDS

Leo J. Foley, of the division of investigation of the U. S. Land Office, is in Vegas for a few days passing on recent entries and proofs of land in this section.

New Jersey Police Sergeant Is Real-Life Scientific Detective



Sergeant Steffens operating a device known as a fingerprint comparison projector.

DETECTIVE story writers have made familiar to millions of readers the detective of fiction who relies on chemistry, the X-ray, the microscope and the other tools which modern science has made available for use in the war against crime. Sergeant Gustave R. Steffens, of the Elizabeth, New Jersey, police force, president of the Crime Detection Laboratory of New Jersey, is a real-life detective who uses these tools with a degree of success that would arouse the grudging admiration of even the most infallible fictional Hawkshaw.

Notable as Sergeant Steffens' achievements in the field of scientific crime detection have been, his early career gave no hint of what the future held in store for him. Born in Germany, he came to this country as a boy of 16 and got a job in a grocery store in Brooklyn. A few years later he returned to Germany, served two years in the Army, and then came back to the United States to land another grocery store job. During his off hours he studied music and harmony, becoming unusually proficient on the cornet.

In 1918, tiring of life as a grocery clerk, he joined the Elizabeth police force. He soon realized, however, that if he was to make a real success

in this entirely new field he needed specialized knowledge of a number of subjects that relate to the detection of crime, and to securing the conviction of the criminal. This he proceeded to acquire by studying law, including a course in commercial law for which he enrolled with the International Correspondence Schools. When he had completed the commercial law course he promptly enrolled with the same Schools for a course in chemistry. His practical experience as a policeman on a beat, and the knowledge acquired through these studies, provided the foundation for his unusually successful career as a guardian of society against crime and the criminal.

The Crime Detection Laboratory of New Jersey, of which Sergeant Steffens is president, was established in 1933 as a non-profit-making organization. It has cooperated with local, state and Federal police on more than 270 cases since it was organized. Its officers and staff members include a judge, doctors, and professional men in other fields. The work is arranged with competent men in charge of branches covering chemistry, toxicology, microscopy, ballistics, ultra-violet and X-rays, photography, automobile identification, locks and safes, finger prints, mineralogy and geology, criminal law and procedure.