

I have copies of the full report here, if any member of the committee would like to look at it.

Mr. THOMPSON. For the purpose of this discussion, do I understand that they say a farm using less than one and a half man-years of labor is a family farm, and all others are in another classification?

Mr. TRIGGS. The report referred to them as "larger than family farms."

Mr. THOMPSON. Then the statement goes on to say that although the total number of farms has decreased by nearly 2 million, the proportion of family farms increased from 94.5 to 95.7 percent.

Mr. TRIGGS. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. In other words, 95.7 percent of the farms in the United States use less than 1.5 man-years of labor?

Mr. TRIGGS. That is correct.

Mr. THOMPSON. So that it would be obvious, wouldn't it, that they are increasing their productivity on those farms with less—even though the farms are growing in size—with less than 1.5 man-years of hired labor?

Mr. TRIGGS. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. So that in effect, really, the farms which use substantial amounts of labor are the very large corporate-type farms.

TRIGGS. Let me continue, because I am coming to this point.

I would like to comment in this connection, Mr. Chairman, that in our opinion the dividing line between what the Secretary defined as a family farm and what he has defined as a farm that is larger than a family farm, is far too low.

There are thousands of farmers, fruit and vegetable farmers in particular, who employ no workers during 9, 10, or 11 months of the year, or perhaps one hired man, or a little casual labor, but who employ 15 or 20 men during a short harvest season of perhaps 6 or 9—6 or 8 weeks.

Under the Secretary's criteria, these farms are classified as "larger than family farms," and we would submit that in fact most of these farms are family farms.

Mr. THOMPSON. Actually, we have heard testimony that the bill before us would affect only 3 percent of the farms in the United States.

Mr. TRIGGS. I would have to disagree with that, Mr. Chairman. There is not any close relationship.

Mr. THOMPSON. You can't conceive of a labor organization trying to organize a farmer such as the one you have just described, one who has a hired man, uses casual labor during 9 months, and then for a very short harvest season employs as few as five or 10 agricultural workers?

Mr. TRIGGS. Yes, I can conceive of it. They are signing up farmworkers in Florida at the present time. They have signed an asserted 30,000 farmworkers, and these farmworkers are coming north to work on farms of all sizes.

Mr. THOMPSON. Where would the union organizers find either the energy or the personnel to go after 3.7 million farms?

Mr. TRIGGS. I don't think they have an easy job of it, that's for sure.

Mr. THOMPSON. I don't think we need to worry much about it.

Mr. TRIGGS. I am perfectly free to admit that we are talking about a relatively small segment of American agriculture in this area.