

If corporation farming means the future unplanned use of our land and water, then we can anticipate ill conceived industrial development with the attendant blight of landscape, and the creation of massive irrigation projects which imperil or totally deplete existing water tables and destroy the quality of the table by infusions of brackish water. This is already occurring now in many parts of the country.

Since a large part of the future growth of America must be where the land is, we will soon see innumerable burgeoning new cities and revitalized old towns. Control of the land will critically affect the direction and quality of that growth and hence the quality of American life.

The land and its resources determine the potential of any nation. Its management and control are of vital concern to everyone.

As I mentioned previously, this is not the first time that the Senate Small Business Committee has considered the subject of corporation farming. In 1946, the committee conducted an extensive study of how the size and structure of farm operations affected two rural communities in California. One community was surrounded by independently owned and operated family farms while the other community was adjacent to large corporation farms. The two communities were identical in many ways—they were located in the same climate zone and had about the same volume of agricultural production, some \$2.5 per year. They were about the same distance from other small towns and major urban areas and were equally served by the various modes of transportation.

Despite these basic similarities, the study disclosed some striking differences between them—differences that were directly linked to the kind and size of agriculture associated with that community.

The family farm community supported 20 percent more people at a better standard of living than the corporation farm community. It had nearly twice as many individual establishments with 61 percent more retail trade.

The family farm community had more and better schools, churches, recreational facilities, civic organizations, and public services than the corporation farm area.

This was a single study but an exhaustive one. The subcommittee plans to update this report and seek new information and new observations about the future of farming in America.

At this time I would like to place a summary of the 1946 study in the hearing record and an article on this study by Don Ringler that appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on Friday, May 17, 1968, and also a statement on corporation farming by Gov. William Guy of North Dakota, who could not be here today.

(The materials to be furnished for inclusion in the record follow:)

[Reprint from the Congressional Record, Apr. 30, 1968]

SMALL BUSINESS AND THE COMMUNITY—THE EFFECTS OF THE SCALE OF FARM OPERATIONS, DECEMBER 23, 1946

(Report of the Special Committee To Study Problems of American Small Business, U.S. Senate)

The family farm is the classic example of the American small-business enterprise. For generations this institution and the community it supports have held the esteem of all who have known and understood the American heritage. States-