

From "Business Biographies" in the Farm Bureau News, Sept. 28, 1933:  
The Farm Bureau News was published by the Island County Farm Bureau in Oak Harbor, WA between 1920 and 1950.

## **CHARLES McEACHREN**

Millwright, ship-builder, home-steader, store manager and farmer—Charles McEachren has been all of these during his varied career.

"Of all my work, I like mill-wrighting better than any," McEachren stated. "It's hard at times, but always new and always interesting,"

McEachren was born in Brewer, Maine, in 1873. It was when he was employed at a saw mill in Maine that stories of the West told by a friend of his who had returned from Seattle led Charles to decide to come West in 1900. Several other young men made the trip with him.

From 1900 to 1905, McEachren worked in Western Washington sawmills and was at one time employed in the Moran shipyards and helped build the battleship, "Nebraska." Two other local men, Charlie Wolfson and Fred Carlson, were employed at the shipyards at the same time, he said

"In 1905, I bet \$25 with Uncle Sam against 160 acres of homestead in Chelan County," McEachren said. "I stayed with the homestead for three years and then came back to Puget Sound where I worked as a mill wright until 1919."

He established a store in Everett which he operated a year and then sold out and moved to Oak Harbor in 1921. His first business here was a restaurant where John Meeter's Furniture store is at present located. After nearly a year in the restaurant business McEachren bought a farm on Scenic Heights, the place now occupied by John Kingma, where he spent three years.

Since then, McEachren has spent seven years working at the Co-Op Store, three years as manager. He has been at his present location for three years and formerly operated the feed business he sold to the Fox River Butter Company.

"My chief hobby is baseball," McEachren said, "But I also like football and other sports."

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