

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Research Bulletin 199

Rural Community Trends; Second Report

HENRY J. BURT

(Publication Authorized June 13, 1933)



COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

JUNE, 1933

Agricultural Experiment Station

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF CURATORS.—MERCER ARNOLD, Joplin; H. J. BLANTON
Paris; GEORGE C. WILSON, St. Louis.

ADVISORY COUNCIL.—THE MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

STATION STAFF, JUNE 1933

WALTER WILLIAMS, LL. D., President

F. B. MUMFORD, M. S., D. Agr., Director

S. B. SHIRKY, A. M., Asst. to Director

MISS ELLA PAHMEIER, Secretary

AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY

A. G. HOGAN, Ph.D.
L. D. HAIGH, Ph.D.
W. S. RITCHEY, Ph.D.
E. W. COWAN, A.M.
ROBERT BOUCHER, JR., A.M.
LUTHER R. RICHARDSON, Ph.D.
U. S. ASHWORTH, A.B.

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

O. R. JOHNSON, A.M.
BEN H. FRAME, A.M.
F. L. THOMSEN, Ph.D.
C. H. HAMMAR, Ph.D.

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

J. C. WOOLEY, M.S.
MACK M. JONES, M.S.
R. R. PARKS, A.M.†

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

E. A. TROWBRIDGE, B.S. in Agr.
L. A. WEAVER, B.S. in Agr.
A. G. HOGAN, Ph.D.
F. B. MUMFORD, M.S., D. Agr.
D. W. CRITTENDEN, A.M.
F. F. MCKENZIE, Ph.D.
J. E. COMFORT, A.M.*
H. C. MOFFETT, A.M.
RALPH W. PHILLIPS, A.M.
S. R. JOHNSON, A.M.
C. E. TERRILL, B.S.

BOTANY AND PATHOLOGY

W. J. ROBBINS, Ph.D.
C. M. TUCKER, Ph.D.

DAIRY HUSBANDRY

A. C. RAGSDALE, M.S.
WM. H. E. REID, A.M.
SAMUEL BRODY, Ph.D.
C. W. TURNER, Ph.D.
WARREN GIFFORD, A.M.
E. R. GARRISON, A.M.
H. A. HERMAN, A.M.
M. N. HALES, B.S.
WARREN C. HALL, A.M.

ENTOMOLOGY

LEONARD HASEMAN, Ph.D.
T. E. BIRKETT, A.M.

FIELD CROPS

W. C. ETHERIDGE, Ph.D.
C. A. HELM, A.M.*

L. J. STADLER, Ph.D.*
B. M. KING, A.M.*
E. MARION BROWN, A.M.*
MISS CLARA FUHR, M.S.*

HOME ECONOMICS

MABEL CAMPBELL, A.M.
JESSIE ALICE CLINE, A.M.
ADELLA EPEL GINTER, M.S.
SYLVIA COVER, A.M.
HELEN BERESFORD, B.S.
BERTHA BISBEE, Ph.D.
JESSIE V. COLES, Ph.D.
MINERVA V. GRACE, M.S.
FRANCES SEEDS, M.S.
BERTHA K. WHIPPLE, M.S.

HORTICULTURE

T. J. TALBERT, A.M.
A. E. MURNEEK, Ph.D.
H. G. SWARTWOUT, A.M.
Geo. CARL VINSON, Ph.D.

POULTRY HUSBANDRY

H. L. KEMPSTER, M.S.
E. M. FUNKE, A.M.

RURAL SOCIOLOGY

E. L. MORGAN, Ph.D.
WALTER BURR, A.M.†
ARTHUR S. EMIG, Ph.D.
HENRY J. BURT, A.M.
L. G. BROWN, Ph.D.

SOILS

M. F. MILLER, M.S.A.†
H. H. KRUSEKOPF, A.M.
W. A. ALBRECHT, Ph.D.
HANS JENNY, Ph.D.
L. D. BAYER, Ph.D.
HAROLD F. RHOADES, A.M.

VETERINARY SCIENCE

A. J. DURANT, A.M., D.V.M.
J. W. CONNAWAY, D.V.M., M.D.
CECIL ELDER, A.M., D.V.M.
O. S. CRISLER, D.V.M.
ANDREW UREN, D.V.M.
A. M. McCAPES, D.V.M.
HAROLD C. McDUGLE, A.M.

OTHER OFFICERS

R. B. PRICE, B.L., Treasurer
LESLIE COWAN, B.S., Sec'y of University
A. A. JEFFREY, A.B., Agricultural Editor
J. F. BARHAM, Photographer
JANE FRODSHAM, Librarian

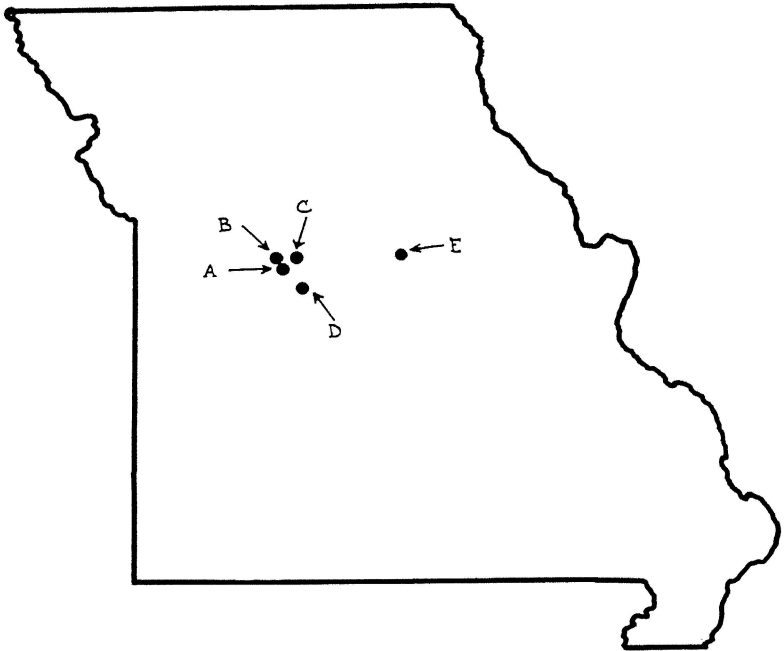
*In cooperative service with the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

†On leave of absence.

CONTENTS

	Page
Preliminary Statement	
Relation to the Previous Report	5
Value of the Project	5
Purpose of This Report	5
I. Developments of the Second Year	
Action of the Continuation Committees	6
New Communities Added	8
Changes in Index Number Components	8
Second Presentation of Results	9
II. Developments of the Third Year	
Action of the Continuation Committees	10
Changes in Handling the Data	11
Changes in Index Number Components	12
Third Presentation of Results	13
III. Data and Results	
The Five Participating Communities	13
The Index Number Results	26
Action of the Communities	26
Incidental Developments	30
IV. Directions for Carrying On This Project	
Local Initiative and Responsibility	30
Local Committee	31
Relation to State Agricultural College	31
Area of Study	31
Mapping the Community	32
Forms for Collecting the Data	33
Outline and Computation of All Data	41
Development of Community Programs	48

Abstract: This is the second report on Rural Community Trends, and is therefore the continuation of Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station Research Bulletin 161. It is an experiment in measuring the social status and trends in rural communities by means of annual index numbers. The first report gave the results for the first year only. This report describes the developments of the second and third years, presents the index number results for three years, and includes a full set of directions and forms which may be used by a rural community in applying the project to itself. As a basic approach to rural community organization this project seems to involve community values of more than usual significance.



Map 1.—Location of the Five Participating Communities.

Rural Community Trends; Second Report

HENRY J. BURT

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Relation to the Previous Report.—In 1930 the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station undertook a recurrent annual survey of the social status and trends in selected rural communities. In that year the project was applied to three communities, and in October 1931 the first report was published.*

The aim of this project is to combine the survey process with the community scoring technique in such a way as to derive an annual community index number to show the status and trend of the major community interests. The interests measured are the following: (1) Public Schools, (2) Health Conditions, (3) Utilities and Public Service, (4) Finance, Wealth and Trade, and (5) Civic and Religious Interests. Since the findings provide a continuous annual service of information as a basis for constructive community programs, this project may be regarded as a basic approach to rural community organization.

The first report included a detailed account of the selection of the community interests to be measured, the selection of the numerous index number components used in the measurements, the selection of the areas of study, the enlistment of local cooperation, the collection of the data, the index number results for the three original communities, and some notes on the significance and the continuance of the study.

Value of the Project.—(1) This project sets up a standardized (though flexible) plan of measurement applicable to any rural community of moderate size whose boundary can be fairly well defined. Through a uniform method of procedure, and a tested set of measurements, it offers the rural community a means whereby it can discover its own status, and its own trend of development. (2) This project is not "just another survey". To the survey method it adds the vital factors of continuity of effort and comparative measurement. The repeated annual check-up helps to overcome

*Burt, Henry J., *Rural Community Trends*, Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, Research Bulletin 161.

the great weight of social inertia so characteristic of the rural community. It replaces spasmodic effort with a continually revised program of building at the weakest points. (3) A third value of this project is the inter-community emulation which it fosters. It supersedes the petty rivalry of athletic prowess by centering the attention upon more substantial community interests. (4) In placing emphasis on the group method of getting results it tends to strengthen social control, to stimulate socialized leadership and to foster the general movement of rural cooperation. (5) The educational influence of the many standards used in the index number measurements is a very important value of this project.

Purpose of This Report.—The chief aim of the previous report was to derive the community index number components and to show how these measurements applied to the 1930 status of the three original communities. The purpose of the present report is: (1) To describe the developments in the second and third years of the project; (2) To present the index number ratings of the three original communities for three years, and of two additional communities for two years; and (3) To give an outline and a complete set of forms and directions for carrying on this project in any rural community.

I. DEVELOPMENTS OF THE SECOND YEAR

With the presentation of the index number findings before a community-wide meeting in each of the three original communities the work of the first year was completed. Each community meeting appointed a continuation committee whose task was two-fold: (1) To go over the index number findings very carefully and make recommendations as to specific projects which should be undertaken, with plans for carrying them out, and (2) To act as a local survey committee to collect the data for the ensuing year. The following section relative to the action of these committees is reprinted from the first report.*

Action of the Continuation Committees.—In each case the continuation committee met with a representative of the Agricultural Experiment Station shortly after the community meeting. Each committee gave consideration to the items which had been presented to its respective community meeting as needing special attention. Projects were selected and plans were made for carrying them out. Each committee prepared a report of its action, and made public

*Ibid, pp. 38 and 39.

the report. A selected list of the projects taken from these records is quoted below:

1. "Medical and Dental Inspection of School Children.

The record of the community on this item was gone over to see what districts most need attention. It was reported that the Health Committee of the P. T. A. has charge of this matter.

Plan: Since the Health Committee is now working on this project the Community Survey Committee voted to commend this work and to offer cooperation if needed."

2. "Vaccination of School Children for Smallpox and Immunization for Diphtheria.

After a long discussion the Committee agreed that if these items could be taken care of for every child it would go a long way toward insuring the good health of the community. The arrangements which all first-class communities have for requiring vaccination and immunization before children are allowed to attend school were discussed.

Plan: It was decided to ask the School Board to pass a regulation which would require every pupil to have an effective vaccination for smallpox before he is allowed to come to school this fall. This is to apply to all pupils, regardless of grade. In the second place it was decided to ask the School Board to recommend to the parents that every boy and girl be given an immunization for diphtheria before coming to school this fall."

3. "Quarantining of Communicable Diseases.

The importance of quarantining all diseases listed by the State Board of Health as needing quarantine was recognized by the Committee. Dissatisfaction was expressed over the way the quarantine placard was placed by the county health officer, however.

Plan: Mr. was asked to investigate the present method of having the county health officer quarantine diseases far removed from The County Seat, to find out how much this costs the county and to see if better cooperation can be worked out for quarantine. He is to report to the Community Survey Committee."

4. "Reporting of Communicable Diseases.

It was agreed that the reporting of all communicable diseases to the County Health officer and the strict quarantining of all diseases listed by the State Board of Health as needing quarantine are matters of vital concern to all members of the community and to the State and nation at large.

The State law which assesses a fine of \$50.00 for every case of communicable disease not reported by the physician attending, or not reported by the parent in cases where no physician is in attendance, was discussed.

Plan: In view of the fact that many cases of communicable diseases were not reported from the Community in 1930, and in view of the menace to life which this condition creates, it was decided that the committee should work out, as soon as possible, some means of bringing this matter to the attention of all the community people. Also, it was decided to recommend to the Homemakers Club that a meeting be devoted to the discussion of communicable diseases and their control, somewhat as outlined in the Missouri Public Health Manual, Book 4."

5. "High School Enrollment and School Attendance.

A list was made of the twelve 8th grade graduates. Also a list was prepared of those of school age who are not in school.

Plan: It was decided to ask some competent persons in the community to talk with each boy and girl on the lists, with special attention toward the encouragement of the 8th grade graduates to attend high school. Supt. is to select the persons in each case to talk to the boy or girl, and to have general charge of the project."

6. "School Expenditures, etc.

Since many of the items of the school index chart are technical matters it was decided to leave their detailed consideration to the school people. It was thought best therefore to pass on to the school board and the school superintendent the offer which the County Superintendent has made to meet with them and to go over the items if they desire.

Plan: Supt. was asked to bring this matter to the attention of the other school people and to arrange a meeting if they desire."

7. "Community Hall.

The Committee was interested in the possibilities of securing a community hall. It was suggested that the German Church might be rented or purchased for the purpose.

Plan: Mr. was delegated to investigate the matter as to equipment price, and general desirability of the building as a community hall, and to report to the Survey Committee."

8. "Fire Protection and Prevention.

Since this community has had some disastrous fires in the last few years the committee took a special interest in the need for greater fire protection and prevention. The advantages which would come in the protection of life and property, and in the reduction of fire insurance rates, were discussed.

Plan: It was decided to ask County Agent to take charge of this project in behalf of the community. This project includes an invitation to the Missouri Fire Prevention Association and to the Missouri Inspection Bureau to send two men to the community who will discuss the methods of fire prevention and fire protection and answer all questions concerning insurance rates. They will also inspect the buildings and make a list of all fire hazards found. The project also includes plans for the elimination of as many fire hazards as possible during the year, so the community will get credit for the per cent of hazards eliminated. Finally this project is concerned with the possibilities of installing fire protection devices, such as a chemical tank, a fire alarm, etc."

9. "Sunday School Attendance of Young People.

It was recognized that the increase of attendance of young people at Sunday School was a difficult problem. It was agreed that a plan for checking the attendance might be an aid.
Plan: It was proposed to ask the public school teachers and the Sunday School Superintendents to act as a Sunday School Committee to work on this problem, with Mr. as chairman. The Superintendent of schools stated that he would provide a place on the weekly reports of the school teachers to report each week the pupils who attended Sunday School the preceding Sunday, and that he would pass the information along to the chairman of the committee. The Sunday School Committee is urged to give careful consideration to the whole problem of Sunday School attendance of young people, and to devise other means, if possible, to improve the situation."

10. "Church Attendance of Adults.

It was decided to ask the local preachers and the Sunday School superintendents to constitute a committee to study this problem and to carry out such plans as they think best.
Rev. was asked to be chairman of this committee."

11. "Trading.

The desirability of stimulating general trading at the village center was discussed. The question of making a trade survey of the community was taken up. Benefits derived elsewhere from such a survey were related. It was decided to take steps toward such a survey for the Community.

Plan: The committee recommended that the Community Association feature a talk on the feasibility and advantages of a trade survey at the September or October meeting (or call a special meeting if necessary). It was decided to ask Prof. of the College of Agriculture, who has had experience with trade surveys, to give a talk on this subject. If the people and home merchants seem favorable toward the idea the committee plans to go ahead with the survey."

12. "Water Supply and Sewage Disposal.

Mr. reported that the Sanitary Engineer of the State Board of Health has worked out a rating plan for inspecting and scoring the water supply and the sewage disposal of every home of the community. The Board has agreed to make a bacteriological test of every drinking water supply to see if it is free of contamination. Also the school grounds including the water supply and sewage disposal of each school, will be inspected if desired.

Plan: The Committee voted to approve this cooperation with the State Board of Health and to give them an invitation to carry out the full plan of inspection."

New Communities Added.—In the second year of study two rural communities (herein designated as communities D and E) were added. Community D is located in the same county (Pettis) with the original three. A main line of the Missouri Pacific Railroad passes through this community. Whereas general farming predominates in the other communities there is a strong emphasis here on dairying. This is not a consolidated school area, yet it represents that area, (a village and four large rural school districts) which, in the judgment of the county superintendent of schools and the county farm agent, would normally form a high school consolidation. After two years of inclusion in the project this community appears essentially comparable with the others.

Community E is a consolidated school community in Boone County, composed of a village center and five outlying school districts. General farming predominates. It rather closely resembles the other communities in the study. More details concerning the description of the five communities will be given in a later section called Data and Results.

Changes in Index Number Components.—Since a project of this kind requires experience for its most useful application, it is fortunate that the method of measurement employed is amenable to change. Provided the changes of a given year are made applicable equally to all participating communities there is no reason why

a given item may not be added, deleted, or modified as need requires.

In the second year of the study the only changes made in the components were in the Health Index. The first of these was the addition of a ninth item called *Percent Rating of School Sanitation*.* The sanitary engineers of the State Board of Health, in suggesting that this item be added as a health measurement, proposed a rating scale covering the site, building, water supply, toilets, ventilation, heating, lighting, cleaning, and personal hygiene. This appears as Form E under the subheading Forms For Collecting the Data, in Section IV.

One of the sanitary engineers visited each school in each community to make this rating. A bacteriological analysis was made of the water supply in each case. Several school wells were found to be badly contaminated. With the addition of school sanitation as the ninth component, the Health Index became the average of nine items instead of just the eight used for the first year.

The second of the changes made in the Health Index was a more careful rating of family water supply and sewage disposal. In the first year an uncritical basis of rating had been used.**

A series of rating scales to cover the various types of family water supply and sewage disposal were developed by the sanitary engineers for our purpose. These scales are included as Forms F to M under the subheading Forms For Collecting the Data, in Section IV. Through the services of one of the sanitary engineers these rating scales were used in all the communities. A visit was made to each home in the village center and to approximately 10% of the farms, selected at random.

The average of the family water supply ratings was used as the community figure, and the sewage disposal ratings were likewise averaged.

Second Presentation of Results.—The second year of this study ended, like the first, with the presentation of the findings to each community at a community meeting. A chart for each of the five divisions of community interests was prepared. These contained the data for all five communities, side by side, and gave the first year's results in comparison with those of the second year. All components which were lower in the second year were given in

*See components used in the Health Index, p. 65.

**For the first year of study a temporary scale had to be used for rating the water supply. This was based merely on type of supply. A driven well was rated as 100%, a dug well as 75%, a spring as 50%, and a cistern as 25%. As to sewage disposal: an Imhoff or septic tank was rated as 100%, a cesspool or pipe drainage as 75%, a closed, fly-proof privy as 50%, and an open privy as 25%.

red, and the community index numbers were likewise recorded in red wherever they showed a loss over the preceding year.

The manner of presentation just described added considerable interest and value to the data. Any local citizen could observe whether his community had improved or had gone "into the red" on any single component, on any community interest, or on the total community status. He could also compare the status and the trend of his own community with that of the other four communities with regard to each of the categories just mentioned.

The comparisons thus afforded made evident for the first time the strategic nature of this project, namely, that the results of the given year automatically enhance the results of the other years. The findings in terms of *amount* become endowed with all the significance implied in *direction of change*. It may be said that two years of a study of this kind yield a product more than twice as valuable as that of one year. From being a mere *product* study this project takes on increasingly the character of a *process*. Instead of an "instantaneous photograph" we have a "moving picture". Such considerations are influential in the decision of a community to continue the study, and in the willingness of the supporting agency to invest funds in it.

II. DEVELOPMENTS OF THE THIRD YEAR

Action of the Continuation Committees.—Following the presentation of the findings in the five communities involved in the second year of study the continuation committees met to discuss the results and to plan projects. In the case of the three original communities this committee action was regarded as an accepted community function. The novelty of the first year had disappeared. There seemed to be a more direct attention to the problems revealed by the findings. This was fostered by the fact that each community found itself confronted with some ratings "in the red", indicating that ground was being lost at those points. The county farm agent, and, in Pettis County, the home demonstration agent, attended these meetings. In one community the entire school board was invited.*

It is not necessary to record here the detailed action of these committees. Because of the economic depression it was practically impossible to take any action which would require the expenditure of money. This was a serious handicap, since community

*This school board had taken effective action to require small pox vaccination of all school children. This action was the result of the findings in the first year.

projects generally require funds. In most cases the plans were centered around health projects, and the continuation of the annual fire prevention campaign. The cooperation of the state and county health agencies, and the state fire prevention association were utilized with little or no cost to the community. A typed report of projects selected, with plans for carrying them out, was prepared in each community.

Changes in Handling the Data.—In Community A the first continuation committee had been composed of members appointed by the president of the Community Association at the time of the presentation of the findings. In the following year this was changed by the community association so that the chairman of the four standard project committees (agriculture, homemaking, civic and educational, and social and recreational) would constitute the new continuation committee. The collection of the data for the third year of study therefore fell to their hands.

In Community C the work had been in charge of a committee composed of the superintendent of schools as chairman, with the two resident ministers and one other citizen as members. Through the removal of the superintendent, and the unwillingness of either minister to allow the other to head the committee, a change was made necessary. The local women's club assumed the responsibility and the president of the club became chairman of the committee.

In Community D the regular civics committee of the community association was asked (by the association) to assume the duties of the original appointed continuation committee.

These changes in the methods of handling the data show how the project became adjusted to local conditions, and, in particular, how the continuation committees were absorbed by the community-wide agencies as a normal community function in these three communities.

In Community B there is no comprehensive community-wide organization. The P.-T. A. has sponsored the project. In Community E a community association exists, but has been content thus far to let the continuation committee function as a separate agency and report to the association annually.

With regard to the more detailed handling of data two changes have been made. For the third year of study a random sample, composed of 25% of the families, was used for the family schedule in place of using all the families as was done for the first two years. The second change was a more careful check-up on the

occurrence of communicable diseases. The family schedule had called for just the name of the person and the name of the disease. Such a record was difficult to check with the county health officers. Therefore, the whole item was transferred from the family schedule to the back of the family census card, and three additional questions were asked, namely—what doctor was called, whether quarantine was placed, and who placed the quarantine. The suggestions of the doctor in Community B were followed in these changes in the method of reporting communicable diseases.

Changes in Index Number Components.—The per capita life insurance in force had been used the first two years as a component in the Finance, Wealth and Trade Index. The personal nature of this item made it difficult to secure accuracy, and some objection was raised because it gave the impression of prying too closely into the private affairs of the people. For these reasons the item has been eliminated.

A second change has been the transfer of the items called “per cent of homes having a radio”, and “per cent of homes having an automobile”, from the Utilities and Public Service Index to the Finance, Wealth and Trade Index.

At the beginning of this project, in 1930, a method was sought for measuring the organizational efficiency of the community, but without success. In 1932, largely at the suggestion of the county farm agents in the two counties involved, a plan for rating the organized community-wide effort being made to take care of four vital phases of community life was evolved. The phases selected as a basis for measurement were agriculture, home making, civic and educational projects, and social and recreational projects. The rating was designed to be a measure of community activity in terms of (1) The number of community-wide projects planned and published before February 15th, (2) The per cent of such projects completed by the end of the year, and (3) The participation of local people in the community meetings held for the purpose of carrying out planned projects. For the third year of study these items on community organization were added as components in the Civic and Religious Index.

The detailed changes in components described above have been included not only as a matter of record, but also as an illustration of the way in which a project of this kind evolves to meet conditions. In its present form the project is distinctly more useful than at first. Other changes which may add much to its value are now under consideration.

Third Presentation of Results.—The series of charts used at the third presentation of the data to the communities contained all the ratings for every community during the total period of study. For the three original communities the time covered was three years, and for the two additional communities two years. These data are found in the Section called Data and Results.

The values arising from the continuing nature of the study, as elaborated in Section I under Second Presentation of the Results, were still more evident. If two years (two points in a curve) are the minimum for showing *direction of change* it may be said that three years (three points in a curve for each component) are the minimum for showing whether the change is *continuing up*, *continuing down*, or is *indeterminate* as to direction.

In observing the trend of each component over the three year period each of the three original communities could, for the first time, draw a conclusion as to the direction which each interest was taking. Again it was evident that the results for three years, taken together, were more than three times as valuable as the results of any one year. Local interest in the project was quickened.

III. DATA AND RESULTS

The Five Participating Communities.—The location of the five communities in this study is pictured on Map 1 (page 4). Four of them are in Pettis County, and the other is in Boone County. Some facts concerning the size and other characteristics of the communities are given in Table 1, called "The Changing Status of Several Factors in the Five Selected Communities". In addition to the geographic size, this table shows the population, the average number to the household, the length of residence of the heads of households, home ownership, and assessed valuation of property, for the years 1930, 1931 and 1932. Aside from the consistently decreasing value of property in all the communities, these figures do not show any clear trends. The population changes are inconsistent as to direction and are small in amount except for Community D where a loss of 85 persons, or 9.4%, is recorded from 1931 to 1932. In Communities A, B, C, and E there is some evidence that the number of persons per household is increasing. This may be a reflection of the tendency of people to return to the farmstead in times of economic depression.

Table 2 gives a view of the five communities with respect to age distribution. The figures are put in terms of deviations from the age distribution of the total rural-farm population of the state.

TABLE 1.—THE CHANGING STATUS OF SEVERAL FACTORS IN THE FIVE SELECTED COMMUNITIES

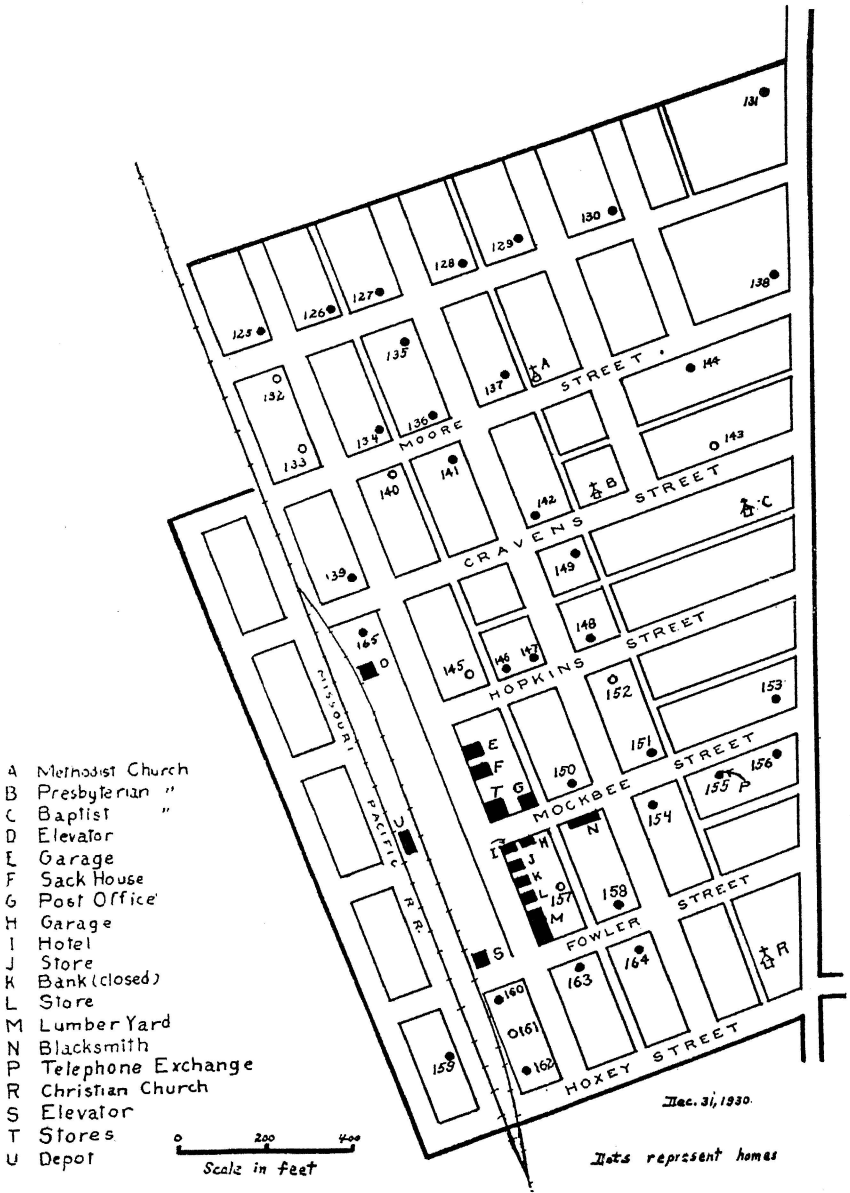
Community	Area (sq. mi.)	Population			Average Number Persons per Household			Average Years of Residence of Head of the Household			Per cent of Families Owning Homes			Assessed Valuation of the Property (real and personal)					
														Total			Per Household		
		1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
A.	37.6	512	533	485	4.0	4.3	4.3	25.0	23.9	20.0	54.3	46.0	50.0	1,855,290	1,525,100	1,326,140	14,962	12,299	10,201
B.	31.1	662	692	701	3.7	3.9	4.1	24.3	26.7	25.2	57.6	53.0	47.8	1,808,310	1,504,610	1,279,250	10,216	8,312	6,877
C.	48.8	814	804	794	4.2	4.4	4.4	35.2	30.9	31.3	60.4	64.7	57.1	1,067,690	1,026,830	929,970	5,866	5,867	4,769
D.	117.6	900	815	788		3.9	3.4		28.9	38.7		67.6	84.7		1,379,560	1,136,605		5,285	5,189
E.	51.9	809	809	788		3.5	4.0		29.5	31.9		67.8	72.7		729,733	627,262		3,347	2,591

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE AGE DISTRIBUTIONS IN THE FIVE SELECTED COMMUNITIES AND IN THE TOTAL RURAL-FARM POPULATION OF THE STATE

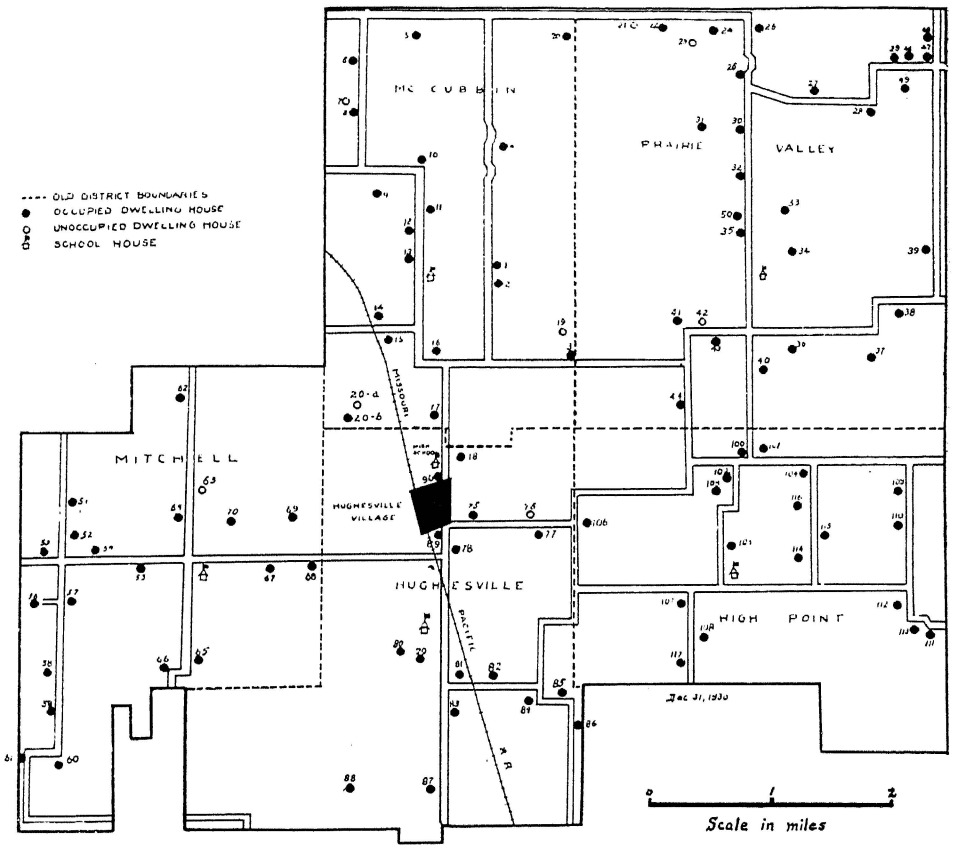
Age	The State of Missouri (1930 data)	Amount by which the age classes in the five selected communities deviates from the age classes of the total rural-farm population of Missouri. The deviations are shown for the years covered in this study, and are in terms of percentage differences, plus or minus, from the State figures.															Algebraic Total of Deviations (All Communities for all years)
		Community															
		A			B			C			D			E			
		1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	
Under 5	9.9	-1.7	-1.3	-4.2	-1.7	-3.0	-3.1	-0.1	+0.7	-2.0	-----	-2.7	-4.8	-----	-4.8	-4.4	-33.1
5-9	11.3	0.0	-1.0	-1.6	-1.2	-0.3	-3.5	-0.7	-3.5	-3.4	-----	-0.7	-0.8	-----	-1.2	-4.1	-22.2
10-14	11.3	-0.8	0.0	-2.0	-0.7	+0.4	-1.4	-0.5	-1.0	-0.7	-----	-3.0	-3.1	-----	-0.1	+0.4	-12.5
15-19	10.4	-1.0	+0.3	-1.3	-0.7	+0.4	+1.9	-1.6	-1.3	-2.1	-----	-1.7	-3.3	-----	+0.5	-1.3	-11.8
20-24	7.4	+1.4	+1.0	+2.6	+0.8	-0.5	+1.5	+0.6	+1.9	-2.4	-----	+0.4	-0.2	-----	-2.2	-1.1	+ 3.8
25-29	5.9	+0.9	+2.0	+1.7	-1.2	+0.2	-1.2	+0.5	-2.1	+2.3	-----	+0.9	+0.9	-----	-0.1	+1.4	+ 6.2
30-34	5.8	-2.5	-2.0	-1.7	-0.5	-2.2	-1.5	-0.5	-0.8	-0.4	-----	-0.1	-0.5	-----	-0.1	+1.5	-11.3
35-44	12.0	+0.7	-0.8	+0.4	+1.3	+1.0	+0.9	+0.3	+0.8	+1.1	-----	+2.7	+2.3	-----	+2.6	+2.3	+15.6
45-54	10.7	+3.9	+3.4	+4.8	+0.6	+1.6	+2.1	+0.5	-0.5	+1.1	-----	+1.0	+1.4	-----	+2.8	+2.8	+25.5
55-64	8.2	-0.8	+0.1	+1.9	+2.1	+2.1	+1.0	+1.1	+0.5	-0.7	-----	+2.2	-6.8	-----	+1.7	+2.0	+ 7.2
65-74	5.0	-0.5	-1.8	-0.7	+0.7	+0.2	+0.7	-0.3	-0.4	+0.7	-----	+2.2	+2.7	-----	+0.8	+1.6	+ 5.9
Over 75	2.0	+0.3	+0.4	+0.1	+0.7	+0.5	+0.7	+0.6	+0.5	+1.3	-----	+1.9	+2.3	-----	+1.3	+1.4	+12.0

This group is used as the basis of comparison because 76% of the total population in the five communities is rural-farm. A few rather wide deviations are to be seen in the table. Community A shows a decided excess in the 45-54 age group, but there are plusses and minusses in the intervals above and below. Community C lacks considerably in the 5-9 age group. Community E is far short in the under 5 age group and makes up for this by an excess in the 45-54 group. In the last column of the table, the deviations are summed up, algebraically. As a generalization from this column we observe that the five communities have a smaller proportion of their people in the intervals below age 20. This shortage is greatest in the lowest age groups. Also it appears that they have an unexpected shortage in the 30 to 34 age group. Finally, it is clear that these communities have an excess of their population distributed in the higher age groups. This is particularly true in the 45 to 54 group and in the over 75 group. The conclusion is (with exception of the 30-34 group) that these five communities have a somewhat smaller proportion of their population in the groups below 20, and a somewhat larger proportion in the groups above 20 than is true of the total rural-farm population of the state.

Detailed maps of the five participating communities are presented on pages 16 to 25.



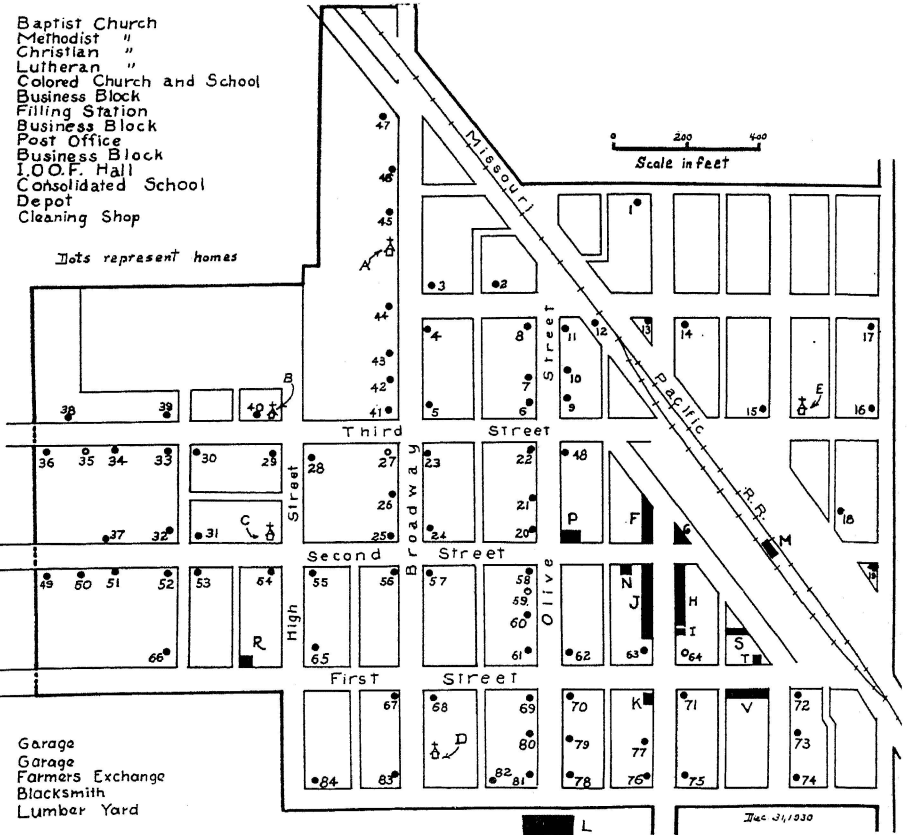
Map 2.—The Village Center of Community A (Unincorporated).



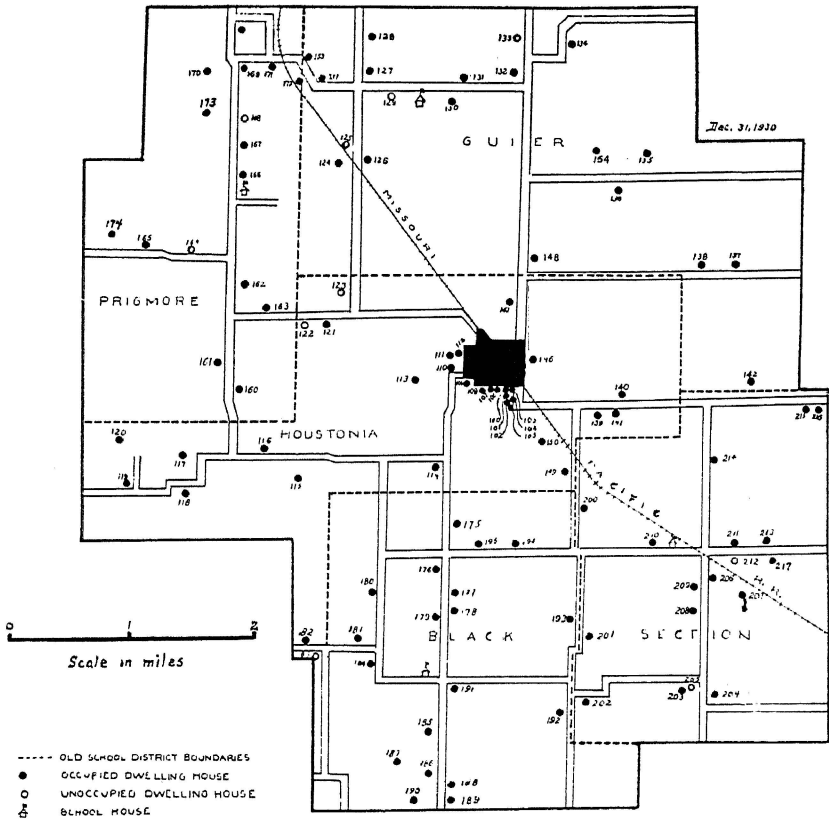
Map 3.—Entire Area of Community A; Area 37.6 Square Miles.

- A Baptist Church
- B Methodist "
- C Christian "
- D Lutheran "
- E Colored Church and School
- F Business Block
- G Filling Station
- H Business Block
- I Post Office
- J Business Block
- K I. O. F. Hall
- L Consolidated School
- M Depot
- N Cleaning Shop

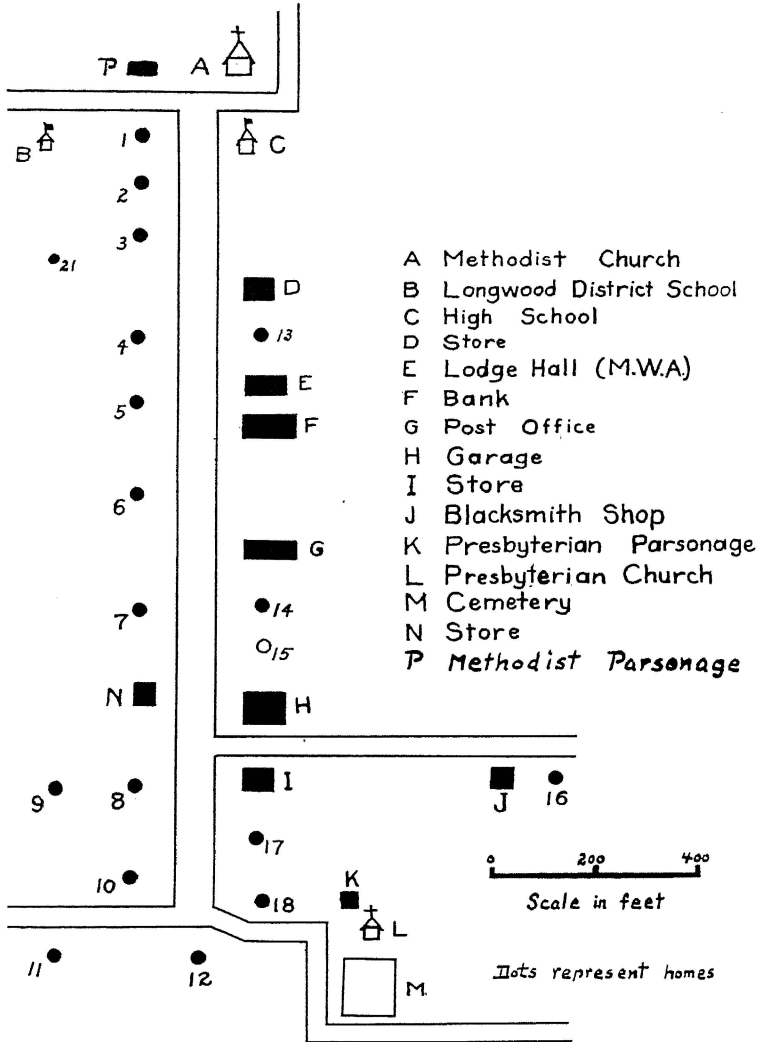
••••• Dots represent homes



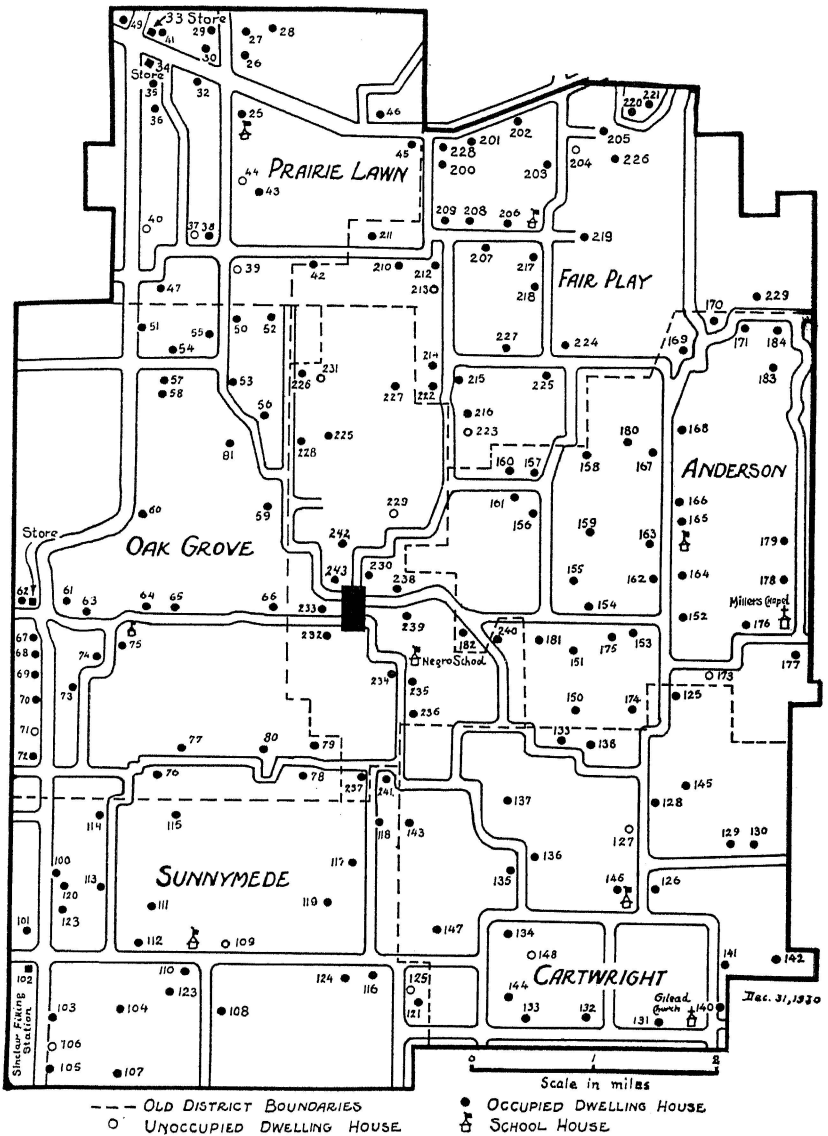
Map 4.—The Village Center of Community B (Incorporated).



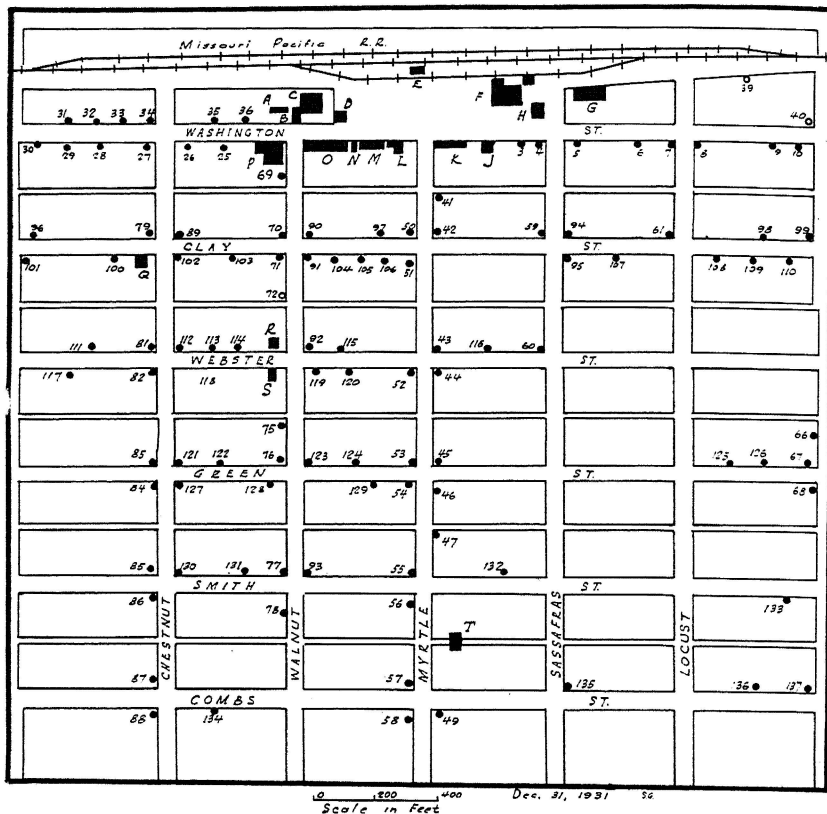
Map 5.—Entire Area of Community B; Area 31.1 Square Miles.



Map 6.—The Village Center of Community C (Unincorporated).

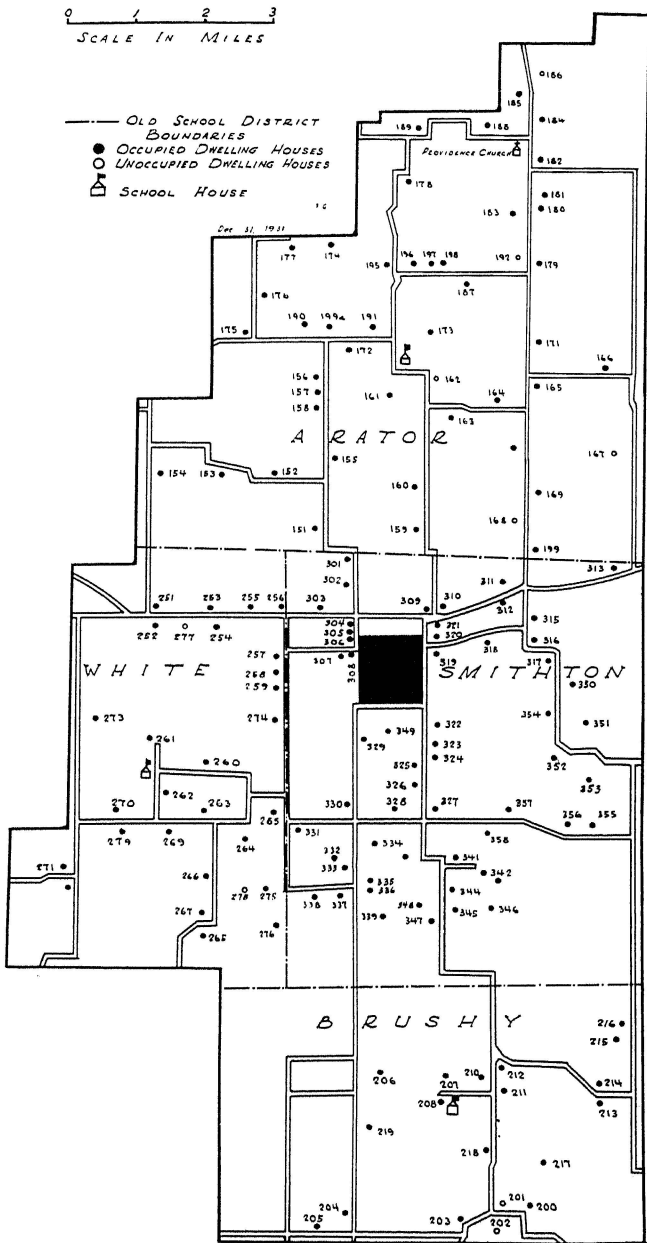


Map 7.—Entire Area of Community C; Area 48.8 Square Miles.

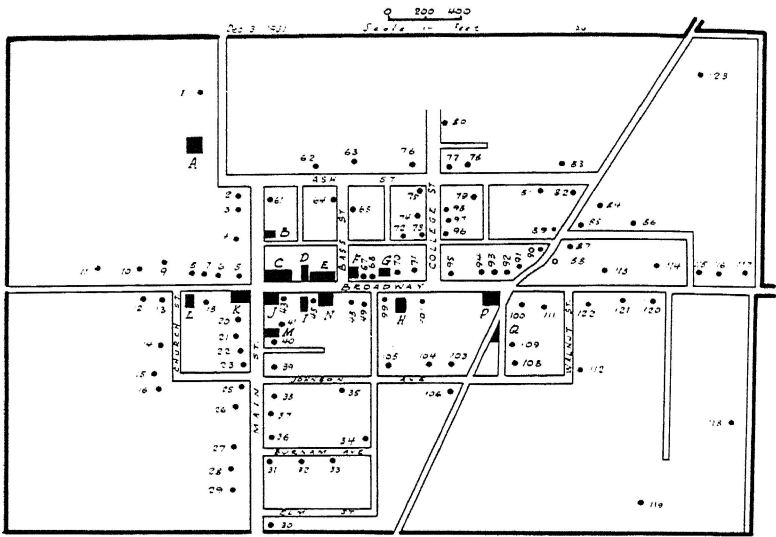


Map 8.—The Village Center of Community D. (Incorporated)

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| A—Garage | G—Smithton Elevator | O—Business Block |
| B—Blacksmith Shop | H—Standard Oil Tanks | P—Hardware Store |
| C—Jackson Lumber Co. | J—Telephone Office | Q—Christian Church |
| D—City Scales and Shoe Repair Shop | K—Smithton Motor Co. | R—Baptist Church |
| F—Depot | L—Business Block | S—Methodist Church |
| F—Smithton Creamery | M—Business Block | T—School House |
| | N—Store | |

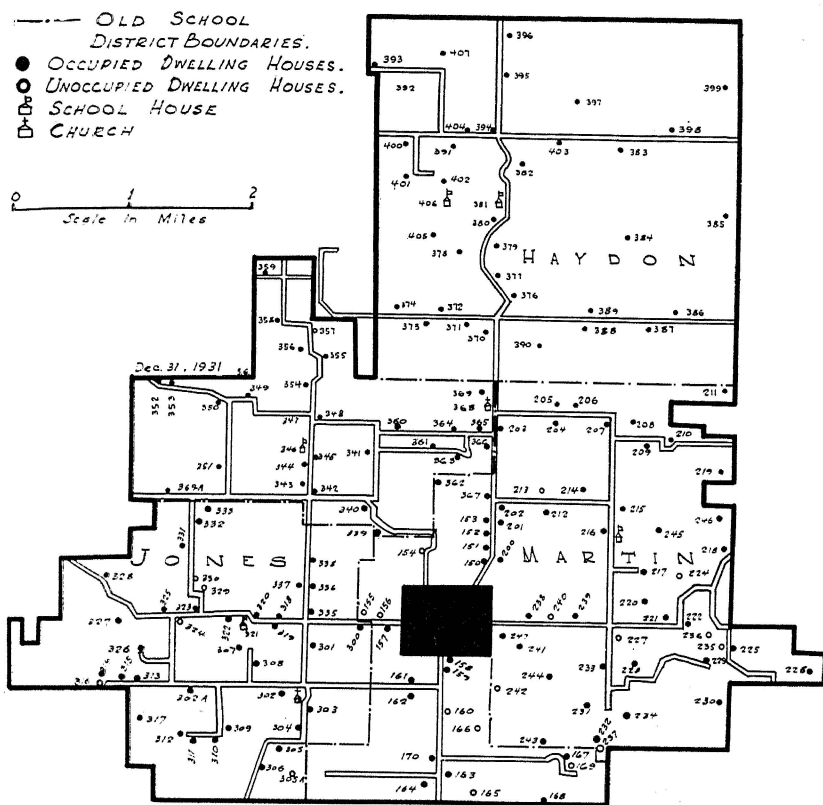


Map 9.—Entire Area of Community D. Area 117.6 Square Miles



Map 10.—The Village Center of Community E. (Incorporated)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| A—High School | G—Lodge Hall | I.—Methodist Church |
| B—Feed Mill | H—Community Hall | M—Hotel |
| C—Stores | I—Telephone Exchange | N—Store |
| D—Bank | J—Stores | P—Filling Station |
| E—Stores and Post Office | K—Garage | Q—Filling Station |
| F—Baptist Church | | |



Map 11.—Entire Area of Community E. Area 51.9 Square Miles.

The Index Number Results.—Tables 3 to 8 inclusive give the index number results of this study for the three years. The last in this set is the summary of the preceding five index number tables.

In going over this community index table it will be seen that the several communities show many differences in rating. Community D stands out as the leader with an index number of 65.1 for 1931 and 71.1 for 1932. Community A started, in 1930, with the highest rating among the three original communities (59.3), then dropped to 52.9 in 1931 and finally came back, in 1932, nearly to the first rating. Community B lost standing in the second and third years. Community C, starting with the poorest record of the three original participants in 1930, increased her standing by 10 points in 1931, but then dropped, in 1932, to the lowest point in the whole project experience (39.5). Community E made a favorable showing in the first year (57.4) but fell to a rating of 50.2 in the second.

Action of the Communities.—A few words concerning the reception of the results and the action taken by the communities seems in order at this point. Each year, following the presentation of the results, each one of the communities, through its continuation committee, studied the figures in detail, and made plans for projects. This general action has been reported under the Preliminary Statement of this publication, and samples of the reports and plans have been included. The very extensive detail of this community process prohibits an account of it here. Perhaps the most effective community action initiated by this project occurred in Community C. This community had received the lowest health rating in the first year (29.4). Spurred on by the unfavorable comparison, a definite drive was made on some of the factors, chiefly on those items relating to the reporting of diseases and to the health of school children. The result was that the health index was raised from 29.4 to 66.5.

It is equally significant that Community A had the best health rating in 1930, but due to some local prejudice against vaccination for smallpox, etc., this community neglected the very items which Community C was fostering. The result was the reverse of Community C's experience, namely a drop in the health index from 55.8 to 27.7. Such illustrations as these have been used in the community meetings as a means of impressing the necessity of community planning and continual community action.

There have been some barriers to effective activity in these communities. Two have had no community-wide organization,

TABLE 3.—PUBLIC SCHOOL INDEX

THE COMPONENTS	COMMUNITY														
	A			B			C			D			E		
	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
1. Per cent of school population, as enumerated, (i. e., 6-19 yrs. inc.) attending school daily.....	67.98	67.95	78.02	65.70	80.15	75.33	58.27	65.71	62.63	-----	85.25	87.43	-----	94.86	92.93
2. Average number of days attended by each child of school age (6-19 yrs. inc.).....	61.22	61.66	70.16	59.03	72.16	67.75	52.48	61.18	56.39	-----	75.15	76.94	-----	85.39	83.64
3. Average number of days schools were kept open....	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	-----	86.85	86.25	-----	90.00	90.00
4. Per cent that High School attendance was of total attendance.....	94.22	111.21	118.38	60.38	70.60	81.75	40.74	58.81	66.03	-----	118.38	110.97	-----	91.98	120.51
5. Training of teachers (see text for details).....	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	75.00	100.00	100.00	-----	91.65	100.00	-----	100.00	100.00
6. Average annual expenditure per child attending....	101.77	91.44	80.86	85.64	76.17	62.65	65.44	73.75	50.57	-----	66.83	62.49	-----	44.52	43.46
7. Average annual expenditure per child of school age (enumeration).....	69.18	62.14	63.09	52.26	61.05	47.20	38.14	48.47	31.67	-----	56.96	54.64	-----	42.23	40.38
8. Average semi-monthly expenditure per teacher employed.....	58.73	54.05	51.59	51.58	51.58	44.64	44.18	44.98	28.20	-----	51.52	50.54	-----	44.17	43.58
9. Expenditure per pupil for purposes other than teachers' salaries.....	53.84	40.92	36.65	29.97	30.29	21.94	15.85	27.02	16.61	-----	20.58	19.28	-----	32.17	14.98
10. Expenditures per teacher for salaries (average monthly).....	86.39	83.91	79.79	85.10	82.33	73.65	77.63	73.48	47.14	-----	87.22	85.50	-----	77.25	72.13
INDEX NUMBER (Average of the items)	78.33	76.28	76.85	68.37	71.41	66.49	55.78	64.34	54.92	-----	74.04	73.40	-----	70.26	70.16

TABLE 4.—HEALTH INDEX

THE COMPONENTS	COMMUNITY														
	A			B			C			D			E		
	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
1. Per cent rating of school sanitation.....	-----	43.3	26.6	-----	51.3	41.6	-----	31.3	21.4	-----	78.3	35.0	-----	66.3	26.2
2. Per cent rating of drinking water supply.....	70.2	39.7	39.3	77.5	40.1	40.1	79.5	48.6	48.6	-----	66.1	66.1	-----	26.5	26.5
3. Per cent rating of sewage disposal.....	34.3	30.0	30.0	32.1	32.3	32.3	26.7	34.0	34.0	-----	50.4	50.4	-----	36.1	36.1
4. Per cent of school children vaccinated for small pox.....	15.7	8.5	41.9	33.9	100.0	92.3	6.5	90.5	90.5	-----	49.0	69.5	-----	65.1	66.9
5. Per cent of school children immunized for diphtheria.....	26.0	14.1	71.6	41.2	41.9	74.4	18.5	73.8	97.2	-----	52.9	82.2	-----	9.3	12.0
6. Per cent of school children given medical and dental inspection.....	17.3	13.4	88.5	77.0	00.0	00.0	29.5	84.3	82.5	-----	61.1	100.0	-----	00.0	66.9
7. Per cent rating of sickness free days* (per family).....	82.5	100.0	100.0	56.5	44.5	55.0	57.5	95.7	00.0	-----	100.0	91.0	-----	57.4	77.0
8. Per cent of Communicable diseases reported to the State Board of Health.....	100.0	00.0	16.7	00.0	27.3	12.6	00.0	63.9	5.1	-----	33.3	100.0	-----	41.7	00.0
9. Per cent of quarantinable disease quarantined.....	100.0	00.0	40.0	00.0	27.6	10.6	16.7	70.1	11.8	-----	33.3	100.0	-----	71.4	00.0
INDEX NUMBER (Average of items)	55.8	27.7	50.5	39.8	40.5	39.9	29.4	66.5	43.5	-----	58.3	77.1	-----	41.5	34.6

*This rating is based on a scale where 10 days lost per family is rated as 100% and 30 days lost per family is rated as zero.

TABLE 5.—UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES INDEX

THE COMPONENTS	COMMUNITY														
	A			B			C			D			E		
	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
1. Per cent of all-weather roads.....	68.0	74.2	74.2	63.2	64.2	64.2	38.5	38.5	30.0	-----	65.9	69.4	-----	17.1	17.1
2. Per cent of homes with telephones.....	67.7	56.9	50.0	60.5	46.4	30.4	63.7	64.9	53.1	-----	73.5	74.5	-----	83.9	70.5
3. Per cent of homes to which power current is available ¹	7.3	6.5	0.0	52.0	54.8	65.2	10.4	12.9	6.1	-----	62.3	57.4	-----	41.2	67.3
4. Per cent of homes to which light current or gas is available.....	20.2	13.7	12.5	58.2	63.5	67.4	19.8	23.8	24.5	-----	59.2	57.4	-----	41.2	67.3
5. Bus and rail transportation (passenger) ² (moving seats per capita per day, in hundredths, times 2).....	75.0	72.0	79.2	57.8	55.5	54.8	0	1.5	2.0	-----	100.0	100.0	-----	98.8	100.0
6. Truck and rail transportation (commodity) ³ (tonnage per capita per day, in hundredths).....	54.6	52.5	42.1	42.2	40.5	30.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	-----	41.3	45.6	-----	1.5	1.0
7. Fire prevention and protection (Total credit of 200)															
a. Invitation to Mo. Fire Prevention Ass'n for inspection of buildings ⁴	0	50.0	50.0	0	50.0	50.0	0	50.0	50.0	-----	0	50.0	-----	50.0	50.0
b. Per cent of Fire Hazards eliminated (credit 50).....	0	0	16.3	0	0	11.5	0	0	0	-----	0	0	-----	0	4.7
c. Fire Protection															
Chemical apparatus (credit 60).....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-----	0	0	-----	0	0
Vol. Fire Dept. (credit 20).....	0	0	20.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-----	0	0	-----	0	0
Fire Ordinances (credit 10).....	0	0	0	0	0	10.0	0	0	0	-----	0	0	-----	0	0
Fire Alarm (credit 10).....	0	0	0	0	3.0	10.0	0	0	0	-----	3.0	3.0	-----	0	0
INDEX NUMBER (Average of the items).....	36.6	40.7	43.0	41.7	47.3	49.2	16.8	24.2	20.9	-----	50.6	57.2	-----	41.7	48.2

1. In the home or within half a mile of it.
2. Based on "moving seats" per day into and, or, out of, the community center—Standard is $\frac{1}{2}$ a "moving seat" per day per capita.
3. Based on tons of capacity into and, or, out of, the community center—Standard is 1 ton per day per capita.
4. And the listing of all fire hazards.

TABLE 6.—FINANCE, WEALTH AND TRADE INDEX

THE COMPONENTS	COMMUNITY														
	A			B			C			D			E		
	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
1. Per capita bank resources (divided by 3).....	0	0	0	78.73	41.51	32.61	41.17	0	0	-----	73.98	76.02	-----	77.10	0
2. Per cent of homes having an automobile.....	84.70	84.70	75.00	67.80	68.90	60.80	74.70	70.60	63.30	-----	74.60	78.70	-----	61.70	63.60
3. Per cent of homes having a radio.....	42.70	46.80	37.50	41.20	36.70	26.10	37.40	39.80	39.00	-----	40.40	40.00	-----	54.50	50.90
4. Per cent of families trading regularly* in the village.....	72.58	80.33	71.90	91.52	93.85	93.50	50.55	38.85	34.70	-----	90.98	93.40	-----	92.98	93.00
5. Per cent of family expenditures (for goods and services) expended in the village.....	40.90	39.73	23.15	64.89	63.91	63.00	25.61	20.06	22.90	-----	55.11	66.18	-----	56.46	56.78
6. Household wealth (assessed valuation per household divided by 150).....	99.74	81.99	68.00	68.12	55.41	45.84	36.69	39.11	31.79	-----	35.23	31.30	-----	22.31	19.09
INDEX NUMBER (Average of the items).....	56.8	55.6	45.9	68.7	60.0	53.6	44.4	34.7	31.9	-----	61.7	64.3	-----	60.8	47.2

*This means that members purchase goods or services for the family every month in the year, and the total exceeds \$50.00 per family.

TABLE 7.—CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS INDEX

THE COMPONENTS	COMMUNITY														
	A			B			C			D			E		
	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
1. Community-wide Organization:															
a. Plan of work projects (credit 100)-----			100.0			0			25.0			88.0			0
b. Participation of local people (credit 200)-----			186.5			0			48.0			161.0			76.0
c. Results (credit 100)-----			50.0			0			13.0			50.0			0
2. Per cent of voters who voted-----	57.0	36.4	33.2	33.2	35.0	40.4	57.0	81.5	81.0		21.4	23.6		50.0	32.5
3. Per cent of homes owned by the occupants-----	54.3	46.0	50.0	57.6	53.0	47.8	60.4	64.7	57.1		67.6	84.7		67.8	72.7
4. Per cent seating capacity of community hall (times 3)-----	80.0	77.0	81.6	61.5	58.2	57.1	52.3	52.1	51.3		161.7	174.6		117.3	120.6
5. Per cent seating capacity of all churches-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	69.7	69.5	62.9		100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0
6. Per cent of Sundays the churches were used-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	94.0	100.0	26.6	100.0	100.0	100.0		100.0	100.0		100.0	87.5
7. Percent of children (5-19 inc.) who attended Sunday school regularly*-----	48.0	51.2	45.6	52.7	45.0	56.2	39.4	47.9	49.1		87.4	100.0		21.9	29.5
8. Per cent of adults (20 yrs. and over) who attended church regularly*-----	45.3	39.7	34.2	48.1	48.7	38.4	18.9	23.0	22.3		28.4	28.8		50.4	40.5
INDEX NUMBER (average of the items)-----	69.2	64.3	71.0	63.9	62.8	33.3	56.8	62.7	46.3		80.9	83.7		72.5	50.8

*This means at least 50% of the time.

TABLE 8.—THE COMMUNITY INDEX

THE COMPONENTS	COMMUNITY														
	A			B			C			D			E		
	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932	1930	1931	1932
1. Public School System-----	78.3	76.3	76.9	68.4	71.4	66.5	55.8	64.3	54.9		74.0	73.4		70.3	70.2
2. Health Conditions-----	55.8	27.7	50.5	39.8	40.5	39.9	29.4	66.5	43.5		58.3	77.1		41.5	34.6
3. Utilities and Public Services-----	36.6	40.7	43.0	41.7	47.3	49.2	16.8	24.2	20.9		50.6	57.2		41.7	48.2
4. Finance, Wealth and Trade-----	56.8	55.6	45.9	68.7	60.0	53.6	44.4	34.7	31.9		61.7	64.3		60.8	47.2
5. Civic and Religious Interests-----	69.2	64.3	71.0	63.9	62.8	33.3	56.8	62.7	46.3		80.9	83.7		72.5	50.8
COMMUNITY INDEX NUMBER (average of the items)-----	59.3	52.9	57.5	56.5	56.4	48.5	40.6	50.5	39.5		65.1	71.1		57.4	50.2

and in one of these a conflict over school problems has greatly hindered action. A similar school quarrel in another has weakened its community association, and thereby slowed up its community-wide projects.

Incidental Developments.—The cooperation of the State Board of Health has been very important in getting health standards before the people. The Board, in return, has found the careful health ratings of this study helpful in its problems of rural sanitation and health. The Missouri State Fire Prevention Association, through this project, has made its first effective contact with rural communities in the State. This also has been a reciprocal process in that fire prevention campaigns have been carried on at no expense to the communities. It seems quite probable that much property has been saved from fire because of the educational influence of the talks on prevention.

The reaction of the county agents to this project indicates its value. After three years of cooperation the agents express themselves as very favorably impressed. They regard it as an effective method of "selling" community standards to the people and of inducing a continuous process of community cooperation. They state that it offers an avenue for the introduction of new agricultural and home-making practices, and tends to make their work more fruitful because community opinion is aroused, and the force of group action is made available for carrying out desirable projects. It is appropriate to say, in this connection, that plans are now being developed for including measurements of the agricultural and home-making practices adopted.

IV. DIRECTIONS FOR CARRYING ON THIS PROJECT

The purpose of this section is to give a complete set of directions and forms whereby any rural community may apply the project to itself. The methods of computing the index numbers will be included.

Local Initiative and Responsibility.—Since this project is intended to be a method of community self-examination and community development it should be sponsored, preferably, by some community-wide organization. While a P. T. A., a women's club, or other special group may serve the purpose, it is more desirable to have an organization inclusive of all interests, such as a community association. If such does not exist it may be created for the purpose of sponsoring the project and of carrying out the plans

which grow out of it. This is substantially what happened in the case of Community E.

One of the best ways to introduce such a project, and develop interest in it, is to talk it over with the leaders in the community and then hold a community-wide meeting at which the results secured in other communities are presented in chart form. If the leaders are interested, if they will speak their approval of it in open meeting, and if a suitable organization is willing to sponsor it, the basis for success is assured.

Local Committee.—The success of the enterprise depends almost entirely upon the efficiency of the local committee selected to gather the data, and, later on, to develop projects from the findings. If the venture is sponsored by a community association it is recommended that the survey and continuation committee be composed of the chairman of the project committees.

The chairman should be an active, conscientious person who knows the community thoroughly, and who has a mind for details. A properly qualified chairman can collect the data successfully even with a poor committee, but a poorly qualified chairman will quickly wreck the whole project. For this position beware of the strong community leader who deals in generalities and has neither the time nor the disposition to handle figures.

Relation to State Agricultural College.—While any rural community may carry on this project independently in its own behalf, better results will come if several communities participate and all follow an agreed-upon standard procedure and standard set of components. Still better results will be assured if the process in all the communities is coordinated by a central state agency such as the Experiment Station of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. Up to the present this, of course, has been the method of procedure. The local communities have collected the data, and the facilities of the College have been used to tabulate the data and prepare them in chart form for presentation to the communities. We recommend that this method be continued.

Area of Study.—The problem of setting the boundaries of rural communities is a perplexing one in most parts of the country. The following comments are reproduced from the previous report (Research Bulletin 161) pages 10 and 11:

In the days before the rapid developments in transportation and communication it was comparatively easy to define a typical American rural community. It was then generally regarded as a "locality group". Within the last decade or two, however, the influence of the automobile, and its contemporary agencies of communication, has widened the horizon of rural people, stimulating new interests beyond the boundaries of the former community area. The concept of "special interest groups" in rural life has somewhat displaced the idea of "local-

ity groups". Yet conditions vary so greatly in different sections of the country that no assertion of this kind is valid for all regions. In Missouri the tendency is evident, but is probably nowhere near as far advanced as in some other sections. Moreover, the development of these special-interest groups, which renders hazardous the definition of communities on a locality basis, is much more pronounced in those cases where the community center is fairly large and is distinctly urban in its outlook. The communities made the basis of this study have comparatively small community centers, with population ranging from 77 to 263 persons. These centers exhibit clearly a rural rather than an urban emphasis. The interests of the people seem to be determined very largely by locality influences.

To these considerations may be added the very obvious fact that a study of this kind, which proposes to measure a number of community interests over a period of years, must have a locality basis. Special-interest groups have no geographic bounds; but any effort to find the per cent of children given a medical and dental inspection, the cost of education, or any other such data must presuppose a definite local area, and the same area must be used in succeeding years if the trends in the data are to be valid.

In determining the community for the purpose of this study the problem therefore became that of deciding how much of the area surrounding the rural village center should be included. The trade area was first considered. This was abandoned because of the difficulty in its accurate delimitation, and its inconstancy from year to year. The device of including the homes within a circle drawn one, two, three, four, or five miles from the village center was proposed. This was given up because it established an artificial boundary line regardless of community interests, and because it made difficult or impossible the collection of data on such interests as the school system.

It was finally decided to use the consolidated high school district as the community area. This is a definite, repeatable, fairly constant area. For Missouri conditions it is perhaps the most tangible geographic rural community that can be utilized at the present time for purposes of this kind. It is the legally recognized area in this state involving both village and open country. Being generally somewhat smaller than the "trade area" or the "fused community" it presumably includes only those farm families most closely identified with the interests of the village.

Experience with Community D for two years show that this study need not necessarily be confined to legally consolidated school communities as recommended in the above quotation. However, from the fact that the school data are available by school districts only, it seems necessary to bound the community by local school district lines. If the area is not a legally consolidated school community, or is not large enough to include most of the "natural"* community area, local school districts may be added. It is better to use an area too small rather than one too large, for, if too small an area is used, the data will have the virtue of representing, within reasonable probability, a very large sample of the true community, whatever that is.

Mapping the Community.—A carefully drawn map, like those shown in the section on Data and Results, is indispensable in this study. The county superintendent of schools or county surveyor can provide a base map from which the detail of roads, school district lines, etc., can be traced. Every occupied dwelling should be represented by a solid dot, and the vacant houses by a hollow circle. All houses, both occupied and vacant, should be numbered. Schools and churches should be shown by appropriate symbols (see maps),

*This word is here used uncritically to mean that area which the local people regard as constituting the community. Ordinarily the term "trade area" would most nearly approximate it.

and lodges, cemeteries, places of business, etc. should be represented in solid black by squares or rectangles of proportionate size, (see maps). All buildings but dwellings should be lettered for identification. A convenient scale for the community map is one and one-half inches to the mile. There should be a map also of the village center. A scale one inch to two hundred feet is suitable for this.

Forms for Collecting the Data.—A complete set of the forms required is given in this section. A statement of how the data should be collected accompanies each form.

The Household Census.—A census card like the one shown below should be made out for each household in the community. This is done by school districts. In most cases the teacher can be asked to take charge of this. In case she is not well acquainted in the district some competent woman who knows all the families should be asked to assist.

Community Trends		
Form A	HOUSEHOLD CENSUS	Date.....
Community.....		District..... Map No.....
Relation-ship	Name*	Age

*Use initials (as L. E. Jones) for adult man, and the full given name (as Sarah M. Jones) for adult woman. In the column preceding each name place a letter to show family relationship, as follows: Use F for father, M for mother, C for children, Gf for grandfather, Gm for grandmother, A for aunt, U for uncle, and OR for other relatives. Use NR for no relationship.

Two items relating to health are called for on the back of the household census card. These refer to contagious disease in the household and to the number of days lost by sickness. They are the only two items (aside from the census) for which information

is needed from every household. The form used for this on the reverse side of the census card is reproduced below.

PERSONS IN THIS HOUSEHOLD WHO HAD A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST YEAR

Name of Person	Name of Disease	What Doctor Was Called?	Was Quarantine Placed?	Who Placed the Quarantine?

HOW MANY DAYS WERE LOST BY ALL MEMBERS OF THIS HOUSEHOLD COMBINED DURING THE LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF ANY SICKNESS?.....DAYS.
 (Count days lost if a person was unable to do his regular work.)

The Family Schedule.—A random sample of 25% is selected from the household census cards. Having first arranged the cards alphabetically by family name every fourth card can be drawn out to constitute this sample. In the first two years of study a schedule was made out for every family, but the 25% sample used the third year was found to be satisfactory. If, under local conditions, there is good reason for questioning the representativeness of such a sample, a larger proportion may be used, or, if the amount of work is no objection, all families may be covered. In the family schedule shown below, item 4 is answered affirmatively if “yes” is given for either one of the two questions. In item 8 an affirmative answer requires “yes” to both questions. The other items need no explanation.

Form B

**Community Trends
 FAMILY SCHEDULE**

CommunityDistrict Map. No.
 Name of Family HeadNo. in Household

- Does the family have a telephone?
- Does the family have an automobile (either truck or pleasure)?
- Does the family have a radio?
- Does the family have either electric light current or commercial illuminating gas? If not, is the light current or the gas within half a mile of the house?
- Does the family have electric power current? If not, is the power current within half a mile?
- How long has the head of the family lived in the community?
- Does the family own or rent the home? Which
- Does some member of this family (one or more) purchase family goods or services in the village center every month in the year? Does the total of such purchases exceed \$50.00 for the whole year?
- What fraction of all money expended by this family for goods and services during the whole year was spent in the village center? Check one of the following:
 None ¼ ⅓ ½ ¾ All

Public School Data.—The figures for eight of the ten items in the public school index number can be taken directly from the annual school reports made to the county superintendent of schools. The remaining two items (items 4 and 5) must be secured through the local school superintendent from records which do not go to the county superintendent. Form C, given below, is used to collect the two supplementary items needed.

Form C

Community Trends
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
(supplementary data)

Community For the year June 30, 193.... to July 1, 193....

1. Average daily attendance for the High School
2. a. Number of elementary school teachers employed
- b. Number of elementary school teachers who have had six or more years of training above the eighth grade
- c. Number of secondary school teachers employed
- d. Number of secondary school teachers who have had eight or more years of training above the eighth grade

Medical Inspection and Protection of School Children.—The data on physical and dental inspection, small pox vaccination, and diphtheria immunization of school children are gathered on Form D. The superintendent of the local schools has these data as a matter of record, or can get them, when requested, from his teachers.

Form D

Community Trends

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND PROTECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

Community..... Year.....

1. Number of school children given a physical inspection, including dental inspection, during the current school year.

	No. Enrolled	No. Inspected	Per Cent Inspected
In High School
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
TOTAL

2. Number of school children who now (December 31, 193) have an effective vaccination against smallpox.

	No. Enrolled	No. Vaccinated	Per Cent Vaccinated
In High School
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
TOTAL

(Continued on next page)

Form D (Continued)

3. Number of school children who now (December 31, 193) have an effective immunization against diphtheria.

	No. Enrolled	No. Immunized	Per Cent Immunized
In High School	-----	-----	-----
1.	-----	-----	-----
2.	-----	-----	-----
In Grade Schools	-----	-----	-----
3.	-----	-----	-----
4.	-----	-----	-----
5.	-----	-----	-----
6.	-----	-----	-----
7.	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL	-----	-----	-----

School Sanitation.—One of the sanitary engineers of the State Board of Health should be asked to rate each of the schools by the use of Form E. These engineers take the position that partial credit should not be allowed for an item. In checking up the matter in one of the two counties involved in this study it was found that the school sanitation ratings given as an annual inspection by the County Health officer were more than 25% higher (23 schools included in the comparison) than the ratings given by the sanitary engineer. A careless rating defeats the educational value of the sanitation standards involved.

Form E

Community Trends
RATING FOR SCHOOL SANITATION

Specification	Points Allowed
Site	5
Building	5
Water Supply	40
Toilets	20
Ventilation	5
Heating	5
Lighting	10
Cleaning	5
Personal Hygiene	5
Total	100

Water Supply and Sewage Disposal.—The series of forms lettered from F to M inclusive are for use in rating the family water supply and sewage disposal. A sanitary engineer of the State Board of Health should make the ratings unless some well qualified person familiar with community sanitation is available to do the work. Ordinarily all the homes in the village center should be rated, and a sample of 10% or more of the farms should be added.

Form F

Community Trends
RATING FOR A DRILLED WELL

Specifications	Points Allowed
Location	
Surface drainage	10
Proximity of contamination	10
Construction	
Pump platform	5
Casing—material and effectiveness of seal at top and bottom	50
Pump*	15
Connection between platform and pump base*	5
Waste water trough*	5
Total	100

*Full credit is given if a power pump is used, and if in conjunction with a pit that is constructed satisfactorily.

Community Trends		
RATING FOR A DRIVEN WELL		
Specifications		Points Allowed
Location		
Surface drainage		25
Proximity to contamination		25
Construction		
Platform		5
Pump and connection to platform		25
Pit for pump cylinder*		15
Waste trough		5
Total		100
*Full credit is given if cylinder is above ground and no pit is used.		
Note: Give full credit of 50 if power pump is used and properly installed.		

Community Trends		
RATING FOR A DUG WELL		
Specifications		Points Allowed
Location		
Surface drainage		25
Proximity of contamination		25
Construction		
Well top		10
Curbing		20
Pump*		10
Construction between well top and pump-pipe sleeve*		5
Waste Water trough*		5
Total		100
*Full credit is given if power pump is used, if same is satisfactorily installed.		

Community Trends		
RATING FOR A CISTERN		
Specifications		Points Allowed
Location		
Surface drainage		15
Proximity to contamination		10
Construction		
Watertight concrete construction		30
Manhole covering and top		15
Pump and connection*		5
Waste water trough*		5
Cut-off		5
Inlet pipe		15
Total		100
*Full credit given if power pump is used, if same is satisfactorily installed.		

Community Trends		
RATING FOR A SPRING		
Specifications		Points Allowed
Location		
Surface drainage		35
Proximity to contamination		35
Construction		
Watertight walls		15
Watertight cover		10
Discharge of overflow		5
Total		100
In built-up communities no credit is given to a spring as a drinking water supply.		

Community Trends		
RATING FOR CHEMICAL OF SEPTIC TOILET		
Specifications		Points Allowed
Satisfactory construction		50
Satisfactory provision for disposal of effluent		50
Total		100

Community Trends		
RATING FOR PRIVIES		
Specifications		Points Allowed
Location—at lower elevation than water supply. Satisfactory distance from water supply, depending on nature of soil		
		40
Construction		
Pit		25
Fly-tight pit, riser, and seat		25
Ventilation of pit		10
Total		100

Form M

Community Trends
RATING FOR FLUSH TOILETS

1. Municipal sewerage system	
When connected to municipal sewerage system	100
2. Private sewerage disposal	
Location. Tank and subsurface filter located at elevation below water supply and satisfactory distance demanded by soil conditions..	50
Construction	
Primary treatment or settling tank	25
Secondary treatment or subsurface filter ¹	25
Total for each of the two types	100

¹Full credit is given provided a stream with sufficient dilution, not used for a drinking water supply, is available to receive tank effluent.

Public Transportation.—The facts concerning bus and rail transportation of passengers, and truck and rail movements of goods should be recorded on Form N, called “Public Transportation Facilities.” Only those transportation services maintained for public use should be included, and only those which operate from or through the community center should be counted. In Community C the local people thought their community should have credit for the extensive transportation services operating over two state highways, one of which passes through the northern part of their community area while the other crosses the community close to its western boundary. These are from two to four miles from the community center. No credit was allowed for these.

If the community has a railroad station the station agent will provide the information required. Otherwise local business men can furnish the data.

Form N

Community Trends
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

Community	Year of	
1. Passenger Transportation (daily to, and, or, from the community)		
a. Auto Bus [*]		
List of Busses	Seats per bus	Total Seats
b. Rail		
List of passenger coaches	Seats per coach.	Total Seats
Total “moving seats” per day into and, or, out of the community		
Population	Moving seats per capita	
2. Merchandise Transportation		
a. Merchandise by Auto Truck		
List of Trucks	Load capacity (Tons)	Total Load (Tons)
b. Rail		
List of cars	Load capacity (Tons)	Total load (Tons)
Total tonnage per day into, and, or, out of the community		
Population	Tonnage per capita	

*Does not include school bus.

Religious Activities.—The measurement of religious activity used in this project is admittedly inadequate. Up to the present time it has not seemed feasible to apply standard measurements of religious education. The meagre facilities for such education in these small communities makes formal measurements seem too formidable. Yet a more effective method of rating religious activities is needed. Form O calls for the seating capacity of the churches, the proportion of Sundays on which a religious service was held, the

per cent of children attending Sunday School regularly, and the per cent of adults attending Church regularly. Either the ministers or the church clerks will be the informants for the activities.

Form O

Community Trends
RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Community Year of

1. Seating capacity of churches.

Names of the churches	Seating capacity
.....
.....
.....

2. Use of church buildings

Names of the churches	Per cent of Sundays on which a religious service was held
.....
.....
.....

3. Attendance of children at Sunday School

Names of the churches	No. of children (5-19 inclusive) who attended at least 50% of the time.*
.....
.....
.....

4. Attendance of adults at church

Names of the churches	No. of adults (20 years and over) who attended at least 50% of the time.*
.....
.....
.....

*This means 50% of the services which were held.

Fire Protection and Prevention.—This is regarded as a very important item in the utilities and public services index. In addition to the prospective saving of life and property, this item appeals to community leaders as the basis for an effective community effort. The interests of all are affected, and especially those who own much property. The demands on the individual are relatively small, and are impersonal. The project can be carried on with very little preliminary education. Practice in the art of community cooperation is thus fostered at comparatively small cost, while the benefits to the community are obvious to all.

The cooperation of the Missouri State Fire Prevention Association* has made possible the inclusion of this item. In each community an annual fire prevention campaign is held. The county farm agent also has cooperated. Each year he has run motion pictures on fire prevention at the community meeting. This meeting forms the climax of the fire prevention campaign.

Form P is used for the data.

*Through the Executive Secretary, J. Burr Taylor, 1330 Pierce Building, St. Louis, Missouri.

Form P

Community Trends
FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION

Community..... Year of.....

	Points Allowed	Points Earned
Invitation to State Fire Prevention Association for Inspection of Buildings, and Listing of Hazards.....	50	
Per cent of the Above Fire Hazards Eliminated During the Year.....	50	
Fire Protection		
Chemical Apparatus 60		
Volunteer Fire Department 20		
Fire Ordinances 10		
Fire Alarm 10	100	

Community Organization.—This item was added to the civic and religious index in the third year of the study. While far from adequate as a measure of organized community effort, it represents a start in this direction. The form for collecting the necessary data is given below.

Form Q

Community Trends
COMMUNITY-WIDE ORGANIZATION

- Name of Community Year of
- Name of Organization reported
1. Number of Community-wide projects undertaken, published by February 15, in:
 - a. Agriculture
 - b. Home-making
 - c. Civic and Educational
 - d. Social and Recreational
 2. Number under 15 years who took a definite prepared part in a community activity
 - Number over 15 years who took a definite prepared part in a community activity
 - Total attendance for the year at all community-wide activities related to the work projects
 3. a. Was an annual meeting held at which a community report was made?.....
 - b. How many of the projects undertaken were completed?.....

Miscellaneous Data.—The five remaining items of data are too brief to warrant the use of a separate form for each. These are (1) all-weather roads, (2) use of the franchise, (3) seating capacity of the community hall, (4) bank resources, and (5) household wealth. Form R is used to collect these miscellaneous data.

Form R

Community Trends
MISCELLANEOUS DATA

- Community Year
1. a. Total Miles of roads in the community (including the village)
 - b. Number of Miles of above which are all-weather roads
 2. Number of legally qualified voters who voted
 - Name of Election Number of Votes Cast
 3. Normal seating capacity of the largest building or room used for community gatherings
 - Name of Building or Room Normal Seating Capacity
 4. Total resources of the bank located in this community
 5. Assessed Valuation*
 - Real Property (farm and town lots)
 - Personal property

*This is the valuation after the State Board of Equalization has made its adjustments. The valuation of merchant's stock is not included.

Outline and Computation of All Data.—Each of the five index number series will now be listed. Wherever the computation of the results is not obvious the exact procedure will be given.

The Public School Index.—Ten items or components are used in this index number. These are given below.

1. Per cent of school population, as enumerated, (i. e., 6-19 yrs. inc.) attending school daily.
2. Average number of days attended by each child of school age (6-19 yrs. inc.).
3. Average number of days schools were kept open.
4. Per cent that High School attendance was of total attendance.
5. Per cent of elementary school teachers who had six or more years of training above the eighth grade.
Per cent of secondary school teachers who had eight or more years of training above the eighth grade. } Average
6. Average annual expenditures per child attending.
7. Average annual expenditure per child of school age (enumeration).
8. Average semi-monthly expenditure per teacher employed.
9. Expenditure per pupil for purposes other than teachers' salaries.
10. Expenditures per teacher for salaries (average monthly).

The formulae for computing these components are as follows. The figures from 1 to 10 refer to the items, in order.

1.
$$\frac{\text{average daily attendance}}{\text{total enumeration}}$$
2.
$$\frac{\text{aggregate days of attendance}}{\text{total enumeration}}$$
3.
$$\frac{\text{length of term in days}}{2}$$
4.
$$\frac{\text{average daily attendance in high school}}{\text{average daily attendance in all schools}} \times 3$$
5.
$$\frac{\text{per cent elementary teachers having 6 or more yrs. training above 8th grade} + \text{per cent secondary teachers having 8 or more years training above 8th grade}}{2}$$
6.
$$\frac{\text{"total expenses of conducting school" (see report to Co. Supt.)}}{\text{average daily attendance}}$$
7.
$$\frac{\text{"total expenses of conducting school" (see report to Co. Supt.)}}{\text{total enumeration}}$$
8.
$$\frac{\text{"total expenses of conducting school" (see report to Co. Supt.)}}{\text{total teachers employed}}$$

$$9. \frac{\text{expenditures for purposes other than salaries}}{\text{average daily attendance}} \times 2$$

$$10. \frac{\text{expenditures for salaries}}{\text{total teachers employed}}$$

12

The public school index rating is more complicated than the others. For those who are interested in the detailed standards involved the following statements are appended to show what would be true of a school system if it received a rating of 100.

	Value entered in index
1. One hundred per cent of the children of school age would attend school and all would have perfect attendance	100
2. Each child would attend school 200 days each year	100
3. The school term would be 200 days	100
4. Thirty-three and one-third per cent of the pupils would be in high school	100
5. One hundred per cent of the elementary school teachers would have six or more years of training above the eighth grade, and one hundred per cent of the secondary school teachers would have eight or more years of training above the eighth grade	100
6. The annual expenditure would average \$100 for each child in average attendance	100
7. The annual expenditure would average \$100 for each child of school age	100
8. The expenditures would amount to \$200 per month for each teacher employed	100
9. The expenditures for purposes other than teaching would amount to \$50 per year per child attending	100
10. Teachers' salaries would average \$100 per month for 12 months in the year	100
Total divided by 10—the index number	100

When the components have been computed by means of the formulae given the average of the 10 items is taken as the public school index number.

The Health Index.—Nine components, as follows, comprise the index rating.

1. Per cent rating of school sanitation
2. Per cent rating of drinking water supply (families)
3. Per cent rating of sewage disposal (families)
4. Per cent of school children vaccinated for small pox
5. Per cent of school children immunized against diphtheria
6. Per cent of school children given medical and dental inspection
7. Per cent rating of sickness-free days (per family)
8. Per cent of communicable diseases reported to State Board of Health.
9. Per cent of quarantinable diseases quarantined.

Item 1 is the result secured by averaging the sanitary ratings (Form E) of the several schools of the community.

Item 2 is the average of family drinking water supply ratings taken from Forms F to J inclusive.

Item 3 is the average of the family sewage disposal ratings taken from Forms K to M inclusive.

Items 4, 5, and 6 are entered as the direct percentage of the school children who have, at the time of study, an effective vaccination for small pox, or immunization for diphtheria, or who have had, during the current school year, a medical and dental inspection. Form D shows the computation of these data.

Item 7 is found by tabulating the second question on the back of the household census card. Knowing the number of families in the community one can easily figure the average number of days lost per family, for the year, due to sickness. The percentage rating for the community is then read off by use of the following scale developed for this purpose.

Days Lost per Family per Year, Through Sickness	Percentage Rating
10	100
11	95
12	90
13	85
14	80
15	75
16	70
17	65
18	60
19	55
20	50
21	45
22	40
23	35
24	30
25	25
26	20
27	15
28	10
29	5
30	0

This is an arbitrary scale based on the experience of the study. The result is a "percentage" rating only because the data are referred to a scale extending from zero to 100.

Items 8 and 9 are found by listing the reports of communicable disease and quarantine found on the back of the Household Census card, and then checking with the County Health officer's records to see what proportion had been quarantined.

The health index number is the average of the nine health components.

The Utilities and Public Services Index.—Seven components are used for this measurement.

1. Per cent of all-weather roads.
2. Per cent of homes having a telephone.
3. Per cent of homes to which power current is available.
4. Per cent of homes to which light current or gas is available.
5. Bus and rail transportation (passenger).

6. Truck and rail transportation (commodity).
7. Fire protection and prevention.

Item 1 is taken from Form R. It is the proportion which all-weather roads are of the total road mileage in the community (including the village).

Items 2, 3, and 4 come from the Family Schedule (Form B). Each is a simple percentage computation.

Item 5 needs explanation. Form N, called "Public Transportation Facilities", furnishes the data. The unit of measurement is the *Moving seat per day*. If a public bus each day, with ten seats, enters the community this should be counted as 10 *moving seats*. And if the bus also leaves the community 10 more *moving seats* should be counted. The same applies to rail coaches or to any other public conveyance. The specific rating to be entered as item five is the number of moving seats per capita, per day, in hundredths, times 2.

Item 6 is handled very much as item 5. The unit of measurement is the available tonnage for commodities into, and, or, out of, the community, per day. This applies to both truck and rail service. Specifically this result is entered as the available tonnage per capita, per day, in hundredths.

Item 7 also needs comment. Two hundred points have been allotted to this item because of its importance. By reference to the index number results, as found in Section III, it will be seen how credits are distributed. An invitation to the Missouri State Fire Prevention Association to inspect the public and commercial buildings of the community is given 50 points. Another credit of 50 points as a maximum is given if all the fire hazards found the previous year have been eliminated. If not the community receives that proportion of 50 which corresponds to the per cent of hazards eliminated. The State Fire Prevention Association checks up on hazards eliminated and furnishes the necessary data annually. Finally the community receives a possible 100 points for protective devices as follows: For a chemical apparatus mounted on a truck, 60 points; for an organized volunteer fire department with names and phone numbers posted in the telephone exchange, 20 points; for the enforcement of a standard set of fire ordinances, 10 points; and for the possession of a fire alarm located at the telephone exchange, 10 points.

The utilities and public services index number is found by totaling the ratings of the seven components and dividing by 8

(since the fire prevention and protection item receives a possible 200 points).

The Finance, Wealth and Trade Index.—Six components are used in this index, as follows.

1. Per capita bank resources.
2. Per cent of homes having an automobile.
3. Per cent of homes having a radio.
4. Per cent of families trading regularly in the village.
5. Per cent of family expenditures (for goods and services) expended in the village.
6. Household wealth.

The first step of item 1 is computed by dividing the total bank resources of the banks in the community, as secured from the office of the Missouri State Finance Commission, by the population of the community. Experience with the rural communities in this study shows that such a per capita figure may fall between two hundred and three hundred dollars for the best-served communities. Consequently we have adopted three hundred dollars as the standard of measurement, equivalent to a rating of 100 points. The result to be entered for item one is therefore the per capita bank resources divided by 3.

Items 2, 3, and 4 are simple percentage figures based on questions found in the family schedule (Form B). Item 2 comes from question 3, and item 3 from question 2. Item 4 comes from question 8. In this case it should be noted that both parts of question 8 must be answered yes in order to count the given family as trading "regularly" in the village.

As to item 5 the necessary data come from question 8 on the family schedule. The fraction which is checked in question 8 is changed to a percentage when it is tabulated. These percentages are totaled for the community (or the sample of the community used) and that result is divided by the number of families involved. Item 5 is therefore entered as the family average of question 8.

Item 6 is the average household wealth. The county clerk will furnish the data. The figure wanted is the total assessed valuation of both real and personal property, after the State Board of Equalization has made its adjustments. The valuation of merchants' stocks is not included. The assessed valuation is divided by the number of households in the community, and then, in order to reduce this figure to a base where 100 would represent a high, standard rating, the result secured is divided by 150. This method of computation has been used because it was found that the most wealthy community in the study, under normal conditions, would have a

rating of nearly 100. The community mentioned was therefore taken as representing a desirable standard for this item.

The finance, wealth, and trade index is the average of the six components just described.

The Civic and Religious Index.—Eight components are used in this index.

1. Community-wide Organization
 - a. Plan of work projects
 - b. Participation of local people
 - c. Results
2. Per cent of voters who voted
3. Per cent of homes owned by the occupants
4. Per cent seating capacity of community hall
5. Per cent seating capacity of all churches
6. Per cent of Sundays the churches were used
7. Per cent of children (5-19 inc.) who attended Sunday School regularly
8. Per cent of adults (20 yrs. and over) who attended church regularly

The computation of item 1 is simple but rather lengthy. Subdivision a. may receive a possible 100 points, subdivision b. a possible 200 points and subdivision c. a possible 100 points. Each division is computed by noting the extent to which the elements which compose it approach given standards. There is presented below a detailed outline of this whole community-wide organization item to show the specific ratings assigned to each subdivision (a., b. and c.) and to each element within each subdivision.

1. Community-wide Organization	Possible Points
a. An annual community-wide plan of work-projects, published by February 15*, covering the following:	
Agriculture (standard is 4 projects)	25
Home Making (standard is 4 projects)	25
Civic and Educational (standard is 4 projects)	25
Social and Recreational (standard is 4 projects)	25
b. Participation of Local People	
Number under 15 years taking part† (standard—100 persons) 50	
Number over 15 years taking part† (standard—100 persons) 50	200
Attendance at meetings (standard—4 meetings per person per year)	100
c. Results	
Annual meeting and report	50
Per cent of projects undertaken which were completed	50
	100

*This includes a full complement of officers and committeemen.

†Definite prepared part in a community activity.

By having the necessary data of the organization or organizations concerned, (Form Q) and by observing the amount of possible credit assigned to each element, there should be no difficulty in computing the rating for each of the three subdivisions. To explain each detail of the computations here seems to be unnecessary, and would prove to be tedious.

Item 2 is the percent of the qualified voters (persons 21 years of age and over) who voted at the annual school election. If state, national or other elections were held during the year these should be included, and the average of the votes cast in all elections is used as the measure of the use of the franchise.

Item 3 comes from question 7 on the Family Schedule. This refers to legal ownership or rental, and has no relation to financial incumbrances on the home. It is computed as the percent which owned homes are of all homes in the community.

Item 4 computed as follows: the normal seating capacity of the community hall is divided by the population five years of age and over, and this result is multiplied by 3. This computation is based on the assumption (used as the standard) that a community hall ought to provide a seat for one-third of the community population five years of age and over.

Item 5 is computed exactly as in item 4. The seating capacity is the total for all churches combined.

Item 6 is the average of the percent of Sundays the several churches were used during the year.

Items 7 and 8 use the word *regularly* which means at least 50% of the Sundays. These percentages are easily figured from the data found on the Religious Activities form (Form O).

The civic and religious index number involves a possible total rating of 1100 points, due to the fact that the community-wide organization item has been assigned 400 points. Therefore, the index number in this case is found by dividing the total ratings received by eleven.

The Community Index Number.—Having derived each of the five separate index numbers, the Community Index is found by adding these together and dividing by five.

Reporting the Results to the Community.—A separate wall chart for each of the five index number results should be prepared in a form large enough for display. Another chart giving the summary, and showing the final community index number (see Table 8) will be needed. All figures should be rounded to the nearest whole number, as decimals are confusing to the community audiences. Some

person familiar with the data should explain the charts. Plenty of time should be reserved for discussion from the floor, since this is perhaps the most effective way of impressing the community ratings upon the people.

Development of Community Programs.—No attempt to plan programs should be made at the time the annual results are presented to the community. This matter should be turned over to the continuation committee for careful consideration. The county farm agent, the county home demonstration agent, officers of the local government, members of the school board, ministers, teachers, or other persons who are interested, or ought to be interested, in planning community projects, based on the findings, may be invited to sit with the continuation committee. Local conditions will of course determine the method of procedure. The larger objective is to stimulate constructive and continuous community-wide action in planning and in carrying out projects of community interest.