# A STUDY OF THE PRESENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF 1941 AND 1948 KANSAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES HAVING COMPLETED TWO OR MORE UNITS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE.

by

# WALTER ROY GEHLBACH

B.S., Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, 1951

AN ABSTRACT OF A REPORT

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Education

KANSAS STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the present occupational status of 1941 and 1948 Kansas high school graduates who had completed two or more units of vocational agriculture.

The information in this study was secured by means of a questionnaire which was sent to 138 vocational agriculture teachers representing departments in Kansas secondary schools offering vocational agriculture in the years 1941 and 1948.

For the purpose of this study the state was divided into four areas. Questionnaires were sent to all schools offering vocational agriculture in the years 1941 and 1948. It was the local instructors responsibility to get the names of the 1941 and 1948 graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture from the school files and complete the questionnaire received.

The questionnaires were mailed to the instructors on May 13, 1955 and by June 7, 1955 there had been 82 or 59 per cent of the questionnaires returned. Questionnaires from the schools reporting no graduates in either 1941 or 1948 with two or more units of vocational agriculture were eliminated. In the final tabulations, questionnaires from 62 or 44.6 per cent of the selected schools were used.

The following summary of this study concerns 1941 and 1948 Kansas high school graduates who completed two or more units of vocational agriculture:

### Northeast Kansas

Forty-one and nine-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 42.3 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are farming at the present time.

Eight and eight-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 7.8 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in occupations related to farming at the present time.

Thirty and five-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years and are presently farming are full owners, 44.2 per cent are part owners, 20 per cent are tenants, and 5.3 per cent are farm hands. Sixteen and six-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years and are presently farming are full owners, 40.1 per cent are part owners, 41.1 per cent are tenants, and 2.2 per cent are farm hands.

The number of farms in Northeast Kansas decreased 15.5 per cent from 1940 to 1950. The number of 1948 high school graduates as compared to 1941 high school graduates presently farming decreased .6 per cent.

Fourteen and two-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in the armed forces at the present time as compared to 4.4 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in the armed forces.

Four and one-tenth per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in college at the present time as compared to .9 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in college.

# Southeast Kansas

Fifty-three and five-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 47 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are farming at the present time.

Ten and six-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 9.6 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in occupations related to farming at the present time.

Thirty per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years and are presently farming are full owners, 41.4 per cent are part owners, 27.1 per cent are tenants, and 1.5 per cent are farm hands. Fifteen and fivetenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years are full owners, 39.9 per cent are part owners, 40.9 per cent are tenants, and 3.7 per cent are farm hands.

The number of farms in Southeast Kansas decreased 14.7 per cent from 1940 to 1950. The number of 1948 high school graduates as compared to the 1941 high school graduates presently farming decreased 6.5 per cent.

Eight and six-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in the armed forces at the present time as compared to 3.1 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in the armed forces.

Two and six-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in college at the present time as compared to .8 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in college.

#### Northwest Kansas

Forty-five and four-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 40.8 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are farming at the present time.

Seven and nine-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 8.1 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in occupations related to farming at the present time.

Twenty-five and nine-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years and are presently farming are full owners, 37 per cent are part owners, 33.3 per cent are tenants, and 3.8 per cent are farm hands. Nine and four-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years and are presently farming are full owners, 32.1 per cent are part owners, 47.2 per cent are tenants, and 11.3 per cent are farm hands.

The number of farms in Northwest Kansas decreased 20.3 per cent from 1940 to 1950. The number of 1948 high school graduates as compared to the 1941 high school graduates presently farming decreased 4.6 per cent.

Thirteen and one-tenth per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in the armed forces at the present time as compared to 3.4 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in the armed forces.

Five and four-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in college at the present time as compared to .8 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in college.

### Southwest Kansas

Fifty-four and three-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 40 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are farming at the present time.

Four and three-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 5.7 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in occupations related to farming at the present time.

Twelve per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years and are presently farming are full owners, 52 per cent are part owners, 32 per cent are tenants, and four per cent are farm hands. None of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years and are presently farming are full owners, 33.3 per cent are part owners, 52.4 per cent are tenants, and 14.3 per cent are farm hands.

The number of farms in Southwest Kansas decreased 17.2 per cent from 1940 to 1950. The number of 1948 high school graduates as compared to the 1941 high school graduates presently farming decreased 4.3 per cent.

Thirteen and two-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in the armed forces at the present time as compared to none of the 1941 high school graduates in the armed forces.

Eleven and three-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in college at the present time as compared to none of the 1941 high school graduates in college.

### State of Kansas

Forty-eight and eight-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 42.3 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are farming at the present time.

Eight and six-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and seven per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in occupations related to farming at the present time.

Twenty-seven and five-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years and are presently farming are full owners, 42.6 per cent are part owners, 26.2 per cent are tenants, and 3.7 per cent are farm hands. Thirteen and two-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years and are presently farming are full owners, 37.4 per cent are part owners, 43.4 per cent are tenants, and six per cent are farm hands.

The number of farms in Kansas decreased 16 per cent from 1940 to 1950. The number of 1948 high school graduates as compared to 1941 high school graduates presently farming decreased four per cent.

Twelve and three-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in the armed forces at the present time as compared to 2.7 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates.

Five and nine-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in college as compared to .6 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates in college at the present time.

Eighty-nine and eight-tenths per cent of high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years are married while 70.4 per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years are married.

Fifty-eight and six-tenths per cent of the high school graduates have completed three years of vocational agriculture, and 27.4 per cent\* have completed four years of vocational agriculture. Fourteen per cent of the boys discontinued their vocational agriculture training after being enrolled for two years.

The statement which follows concerns all rural farm males in Kansas: For every 100 rural farm males in Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 125 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

<sup>\*</sup>The data asked for did not include information on the number of schools offering four years of vocational agriculture. Twenty-seven and four-tenths per cent may be low since some schools do not offer four years of vocational agriculture.

# A STUDY OF THE PRESENT OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF 1941 AND 1948 KANSAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES HAVING COMPLETED TWO OR MORE UNITS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE.

by

# WALTER ROY GEHLBACH

B.S., Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, 1951

# A MASTER'S REPORT

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Education

KANSAS STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE 378.73 R1607 1955 G311

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
PURPOSE	2
PROCEDURE	3
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	5
DATA	6
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	34
Northeast Kansas Area	34
Southeast Kansas Area	35
Northwest Kansas Area	36
Southwest Kansas Area	37
State of Kansas	38
SUMMARIZING STATEMENTS	39
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	41
BIBLIOGRAPHY	42
APPENDIX	<u>4</u> 3

#### INTRODUCTION

The problem, "Present Occupational Status of 1941 and 1948 Kansas High School Graduates Having Completed Two or More Years of Vocational Agriculture", was selected because the writer was impressed with the need for such a study in Kansas. The last study of a similar nature in Kansas was made in 1932 by Thomas Walter Bruner concerning the 1925-1926 high school graduates.

The primary aim of vocational education in agriculture is to train present and prospective farmers for proficiency in farming. The major objectives are to develop effective ability to:1

- 1. Make a beginning and advance in farming.
- 2. Produce farm commodities efficiently.
- 3. Market farm products advantageously.
  4. Conserve soil and other natural resources.

5. Manage a farm business.6. Maintain a favorable environment.

An authentic survey of former vocational agriculture students should indicate to what degree the instruction has been given to boys who are engaged in the occupation of farming.

Vocational agriculture in our public secondary schools is intended to prepare the All Day student for the occupation of farming. The student learns by doing. Much of the teaching is done on the job. Such a program is more expensive than the academic type of education.

<sup>1</sup>Glen C. Cook and Lloyd J. Phipps, A Handbook on Teaching Vocational Agriculture, p. 21.

One of the primary objectives of vocational education in agriculture is to prepare the All Day student for more advantageous entry upon the occupation of farming. Instruction in this area also serves as a means of developing acceptable ideals, appreciations, and attitudes.

In order to get a true census of a group of vocational agriculture students the author is of the opinion that it is best to wait a few years after graduation so they have time to become established. It is true that changes of vocation often take place seven or more years after graduation but they are less frequent than during the first few years after graduation. For this study the years 1941 and 1948 were selected. It was also thought that most boys would have served in the armed forces and have had an opportunity to select a vocation.

This study is an attempt to find the occupational status of high school graduates who have completed two or more units of vocational agriculture.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to determine the present occupational status of 1941 and 1948 Kansas high school graduates who have completed two or more units of vocational agriculture. In this study the writer made a comparison of the 1941 and 1948 high school graduates as to present occupational status; occupational status of those graduates now farming; per cent decrease in number of farms in Kansas as compared to the decrease

in graduates returning to the farm; the marital status of the graduates; the number of years enrolled in vocational agriculture by the graduates; and the Kansas replacement ratios for rural males.

# PROCEDURE

After selecting the topic for this report the writer consulted several leaders in the vocational agriculture field in Kansas concerning the problem. Consultants in phrasing the questionnaire included Assistant Professor Howard Bradley, major instructor, and Professor A. P. Davidson of the Department of Education, Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas.

The information in this study was secured by the means of a questionnaire which was sent to 138 vocational agriculture teachers representing departments in our Kansas secondary schools offering vocational agriculture in the years 1941 and 1948.

For the purpose of this study the state was divided into four areas. The schools which received questionnaires were determined by consulting the State Department of Vocational Education list of vocational agriculture teachers and departments for the years 1941 and 1948. Questionnaires were sent to all schools offering vocational agriculture in the years 1941 and 1948. A questionnaire for each of the two years (1941 and 1948), instruction sheet, cover sheet, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope were sent to each of the 138 selected secondary schools in Kansas.

It was the local instructor's responsibility to get the names of the graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture from the school files and complete the questionnaires.

The questionnaires were mailed on May 13, 1955. A follow-up card was sent May 26, 1955 to all departments who had not replied and by June 7, 1955 there had been 82 or 59 per cent of the questionnaires received.

Questionnaires from schools reporting no graduates in either 1941 or 1948 with two or more units of vocational agriculture were eliminated. Several departments had been in operation less than two years previous to 1941 and had no graduates while other schools which had started up after closing during the war did not have graduates. In the final tabulation, questionnaires from 62 or 44.6 per cent of the selected schools were used.

Of the 62 schools used in the tabulations, 26 schools were in the Northeast area, 15 schools in the Southeast area, 15 schools in the Northwest area, and six schools in the Southwest area.

The total number of graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in the 62 high schools were 522 in 1941 and 552 in 1948.

A copy of the cover letter, questionnaire, and follow-up card may be found in the appendix.

# REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In reviewing Summaries of Studies in Agricultural Education, Supplement numbers 6 and 7, it was noted that in recent years a large number of the studies dealing with occupational status of former students of vocational agriculture were concerned with the occupational status of the students of one particular vocational agriculture department. There were only a few similar studies made on a state wide basis.

Bruner<sup>1</sup>, in a study of choice of vocations of vocational agriculture students in Kansas for the school year 1925-1926, found that 49.2 per cent of the boys who had been out of school seven years or longer were farming while 50.8 per cent were in some other occupation. One-third of those farming were renters, one-third were in partnership, one out of twelve was a land owner, and one out of twelve was still a hired man.

Carpenter<sup>2</sup>, in a study of the occupational status of state farmer degree members in Kansas, found 62.6 per cent of the vocational agriculture students who had received the state farmer degree in Kansas were farming full-time. He also found 26 per cent of the state farmers who were not farming were engaged in occupations related to agriculture.

leading the Bruner, "A Study of the Place of Residence and Choice of Vocation of Former Vocational Agriculture Students in Kansas High Schools", Master's Thesis in Agricultural Education, 1932, Kansas State College.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Frank R. Carpenter, "A Study of the Occupational Status of State Farmer Degree Members in Kansas", Master's Thesis, 1951, Kansas State College.

McFatter<sup>1</sup> made a study of the occupation of former students of vocational agriculture of Plain Dealing High School in Louisiana. His study showed 51.4 per cent of the students were in farming or in occupations related to farming, and of these 37.6 per cent were farming while 13.8 per cent were in occupations related to farming.

McNutt<sup>2</sup>, in a study of former students of vocational agriculture in Quarryville High School in Pennsylvania, found 34.8 per cent in farming, 10.6 per cent were in occupations related to farming, and 26.8 per cent were in occupations unrelated to farming.

#### DATA

The percentages used in the figures were based on the total number of boys graduating from the 62 high schools with two or more units of vocational agriculture.

Figure 1, "The Four Areas of Kansas", shows the four areas of Kansas as designated by the writer for use in this study.

Figure 2, "The number of farms in Kansas by county, area, and state from 1940 to 1950", was based on 1940 and 1950 United States Census of Agriculture. There was a decrease shown in all areas of Kansas from 1940 to 1950.

<sup>10</sup>ren S. McFatter, "A Study of Occupational Status of Former Graduates of Vocational Agriculture of Plain Dealing High School, 1928-1950", Master's Thesis, 1951, Louisiana State University.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>William E. McNutt, "Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in Quarryville High School", Master's Thesis, 1951, Pennsylvania State College.

The number of farms had decreased from 1940 to 1950 by 4,978 farms or 15.5 per cent in Northeast Kansas; 10,394 farms or 14.7 per cent in Southeast Kansas; 4,002 farms or 20.3 per cent in Northwest Kansas; 3,539 farms or 17.2 per cent in Southwest Kansas; and for the state of Kansas, 24,933 farms or 16 per cent.

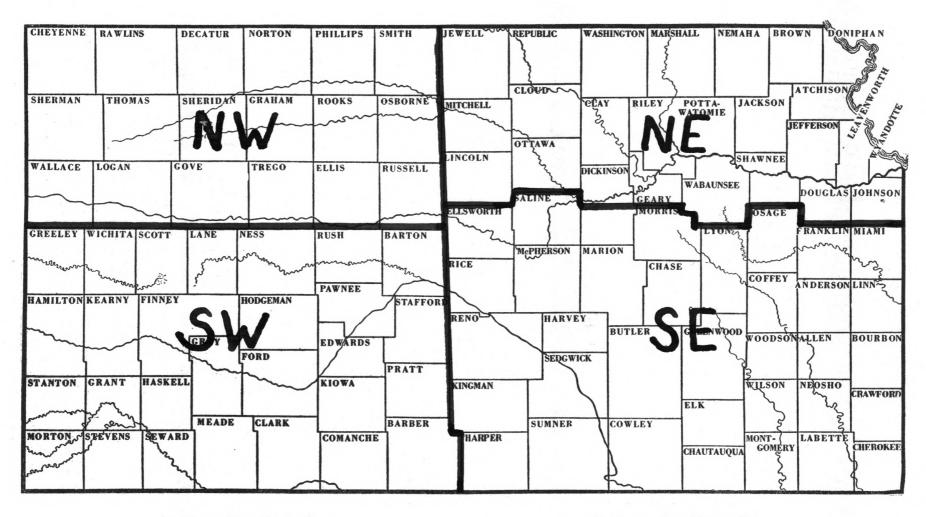
Figure 3, "Kansas replacement ratios for rural farm males, ages 25-69, 1950-1960", shows the ratio of expected number of entrants to the number of departures not considering migration from or immigration to the area. For every rural farm male in Kansas in 1950 between 60 and 69 years of age there are one and one-fourth rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to replace this one male by 1960.

A great lack of uniformity exists as to meaning, terminology, and classification of occupations related to agriculture. In this study the occupations related to farming included the following: auto mechanic, feed and fertilizer salesman, welder, carpenter, dairy creamery, agricultural extension worker, grain dealer, vocational agriculture teacher, farm supervisor, herdsman, and packing house worker.

Question may arise on auto mechanic, welder, carpenter, and packing house worker being referred to as related occupations.

It is not the primary purpose of the vocational agriculture

lCarlton E. Wright, "Occupational Distribution, Entrance into Farming and Occupations for Farming, for Former Students of Vocational Agriculture", p. 15.



N.W. - Northwest S.W. - Southwest N.E. - Northeast S.E. - Southeast

Fig. 1

THE FOUR AREAS OF KANSAS

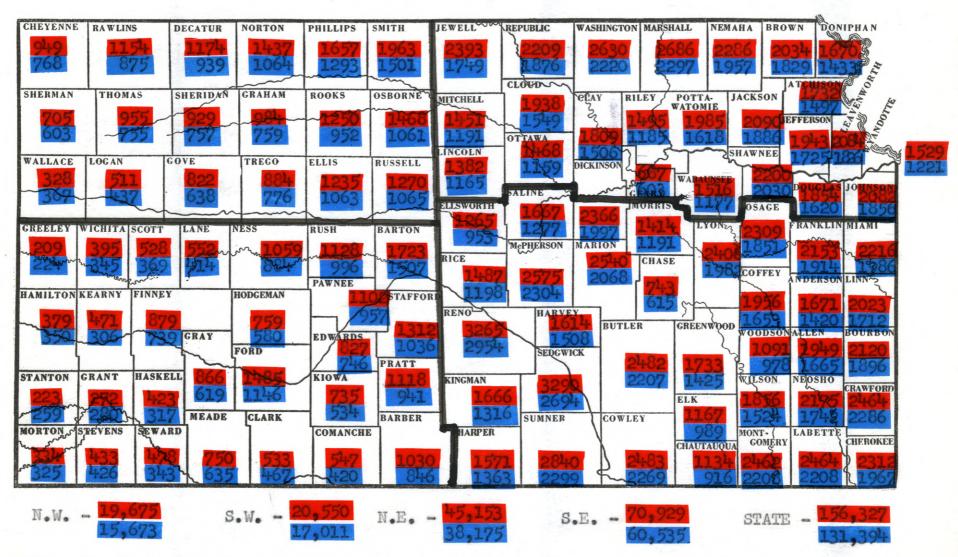


Fig. 2. Number of farms in Kansas by county, area, and state from 1940-1950.

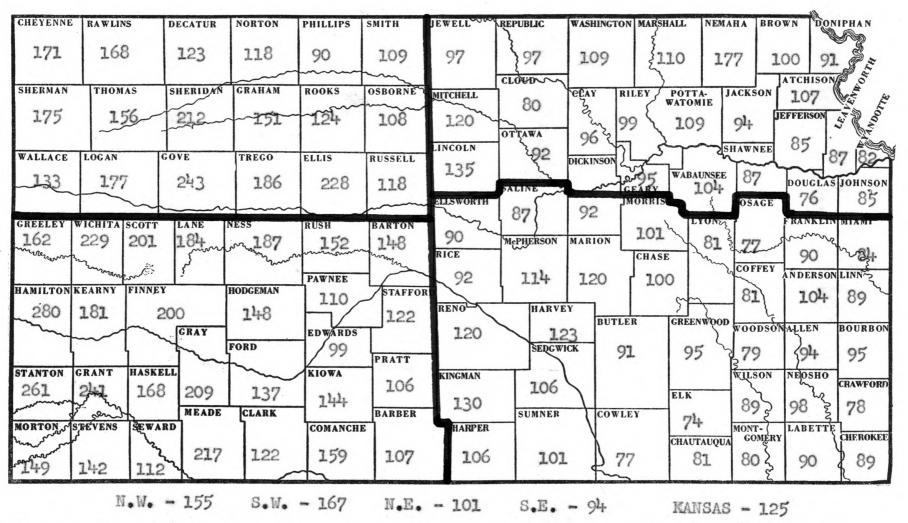


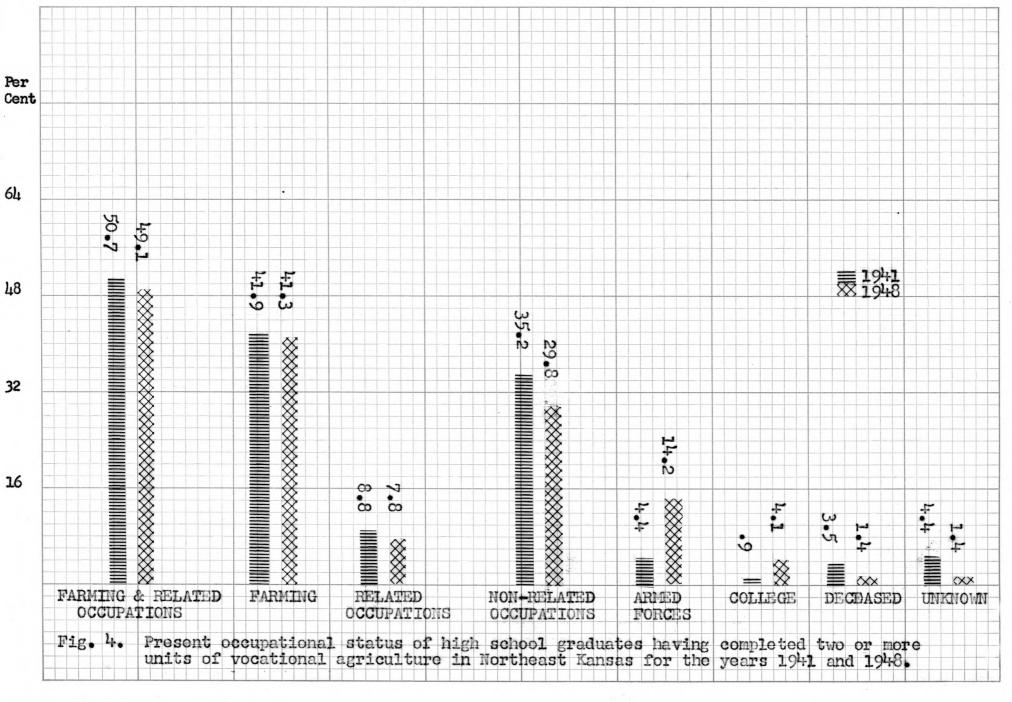
Fig. 3. Kansas replacement ratios for rural farm males, ages 25-69, 1950-1960.
Ratio of expected number of entrants, ages 15-24, to the expected number of departures, ages 60-69, through death or retirement.

program to develop journeymen in the field of trade and industry; however, many of the fundamental skills needed in these occupations are taught in vocational agriculture. For this reason these occupations are referred to as related to farming in this study.

Occupations non-related to farming in this study include:
day laborer, oil field worker, ministry, commercial trucking,
construction, teaching, aircraft manufacture, clerk, railroad
worker, filling station attendant, electrician, farm equipment
dealer, life insurance salesman, veterinarian, engineer, grocer
or baker, doctor or dentist, hardware storekeeper, lumberman,
manufacturing worker, publisher, plumber, accountant, frozen
food locker worker, gas company worker, policeman or fireman,
cleaning business, photographer, bricklayer, postal worker,
jeweler, and barber. Several of these occupations could be
classified as related to agriculture in certain respects but
in this study they are considered non-related to farming.

Figure 4, "Present occupational status of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in Northeast Kansas for the years 1941 and 1948", deals with 26 high schools. These 26 high schools had 227 graduates in 1941 and 218 graduates in 1948 having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture.

Fifty-eight and six-tenths per cent of the 1941 graduates are presently engaged in farming and related occupations, 54.3 per cent in farming, 4.3 per cent in related occupations, 32.7 per cent in non-related occupations, none in the armed forces, none in college, 2.2 per cent deceased, and 6.5 per



cent unknown.

Forty-five and seven-tenths per cent of the 1948 graduates were engaged in farming and related occupations, 40 per cent in farming, 5.7 per cent in related occupations, 18.6 per cent in non-related occupations, 13.2 per cent in the armed forces, 11.3 per cent in college, 1.9 per cent deceased, and 9.3 per cent unknown.

Figure 5, "Present occupational status of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in Southeast Kansas for the years 1941 and 1948", is concerned with 15 high schools. There were 130 graduates in 1941 and 151 graduates in 1948 from these high schools having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture.

Sixty-four and one-tenth per cent of the 1941 graduates were engaged in farming and related occupations, 53.5 per cent in farming, 10.6 per cent in related occupations, 24.9 per cent in non-related occupations, 3.1 per cent in the armed forces, .8 per cent in college, 3.1 per cent deceased, and 3.8 per cent unknown.

Fifty-six and six-tenths per cent of the 1948 graduates were engaged in farming and related enterprises, 47 per cent in farming, 9.6 per cent in related occupations, 30 per cent in non-related occupations, 8.6 per cent in the armed forces, 2.6 per cent in college, .6 per cent deceased, and 2.6 per cent unknown.

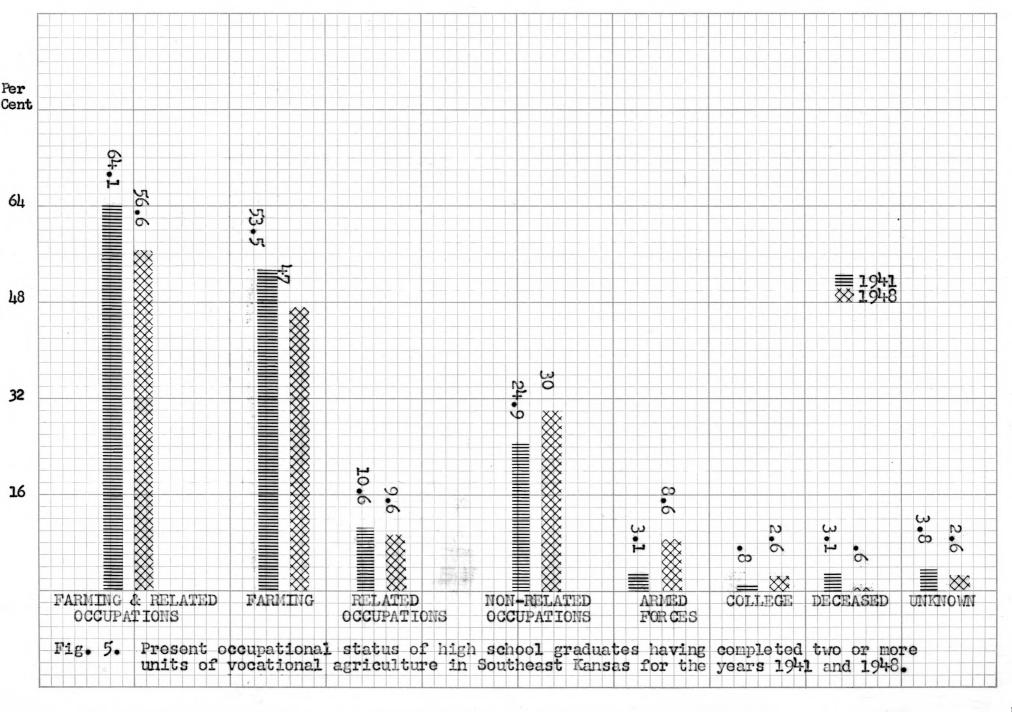


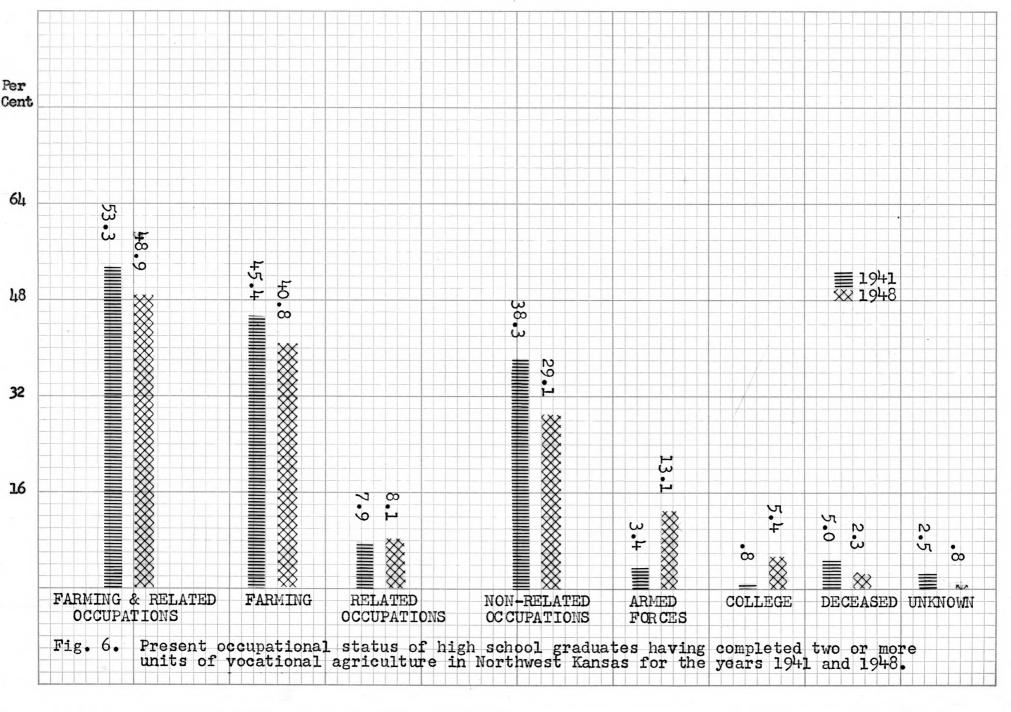
Figure 6, "Present occupational status of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in Northwest Kansas for the years 1941 and 1948", concerns 15 high schools. There were 119 graduates in 1941 and 130 graduates in 1948 who had completed two or more units of vocational agriculture.

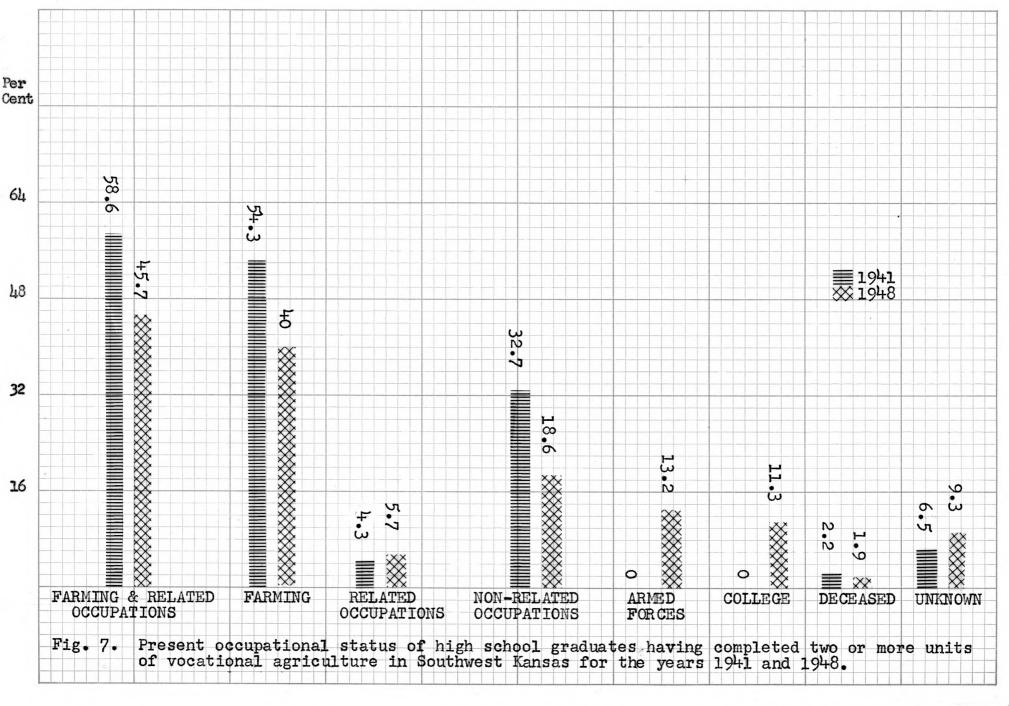
Fifty-three and three-tenths per cent of the 1941 graduates were engaged in farming and related occupations, 45.5 per cent engaged in farming, 7.9 per cent in related occupations, 38.3 per cent in non-related occupations, 3.4 per cent in the armed forces, .8 per cent in college, 5.0 per cent deceased, and 2.5 per cent unknown.

Forty-eight and nine-tenths per cent of the 1948 graduates were engaged in farming and related occupations, 40.8 per cent in farming, 8.1 per cent in related occupations, 29.1 per cent in non-related occupations, 13.1 per cent in the armed forces, 5.4 per cent in college, 2.3 per cent deceased, and .8 per cent unknown.

Figure 7, "Present occupational status of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in Southwest Kansas for the years 1941 and 1948", concerns six high schools having 46 graduates in 1941 and 53 graduates in 1948 with two or more units of vocational agriculture.

Fifty-eight and six-tenths per cent of the 1941 graduates were engaged in farming and related occupations, 54.3 per cent in farming, 4.3 per cent in related occupations, 32.7 per cent





in non-related occupations, none in the armed forces, none in college, 2.2 per cent deceased, and 6.5 per cent unknown.

Forty-five and seven-tenths per cent of the 1948 graduates were engaged in farming and related enterprises, 40 per cent in farming, 5.7 per cent in related occupations, 18.6 per cent in non-related occupations, 13.2 per cent in the armed forces, 11.3 per cent in college, 1.9 per cent deceased, and 9.3 per cent unknown.

Figure 8, "Present occupational status of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in Kansas for the years 1941 and 1948", concerns 62 high schools in Kansas with 522 graduates in 1941 and 552 graduates in 1948.

Fifty-seven and four-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates of Kansas are engaged in farming and related occupations, 48.4 per cent in farming, 8.6 per cent in related occupations, 32 per cent in non-related occupations, 2.7 per cent in the armed forces, .6 per cent in college, 3.5 per cent deceased, and 4.5 per cent unknown.

Forty-nine and three-tenths per cent of the 1948 graduates of Kansas are engaged in farming and related occupations, 42.3 per cent in farming, 7 per cent in related occupations, 26.7 per cent in non-related occupations, 12.3 per cent in the armed forces, 5.9 per cent in college, 1.6 per cent deceased, and 3.5 per cent unknown.

A condensed version of Figures 4 through 8 is found in Table 1. In this table we find a comparison of each of the

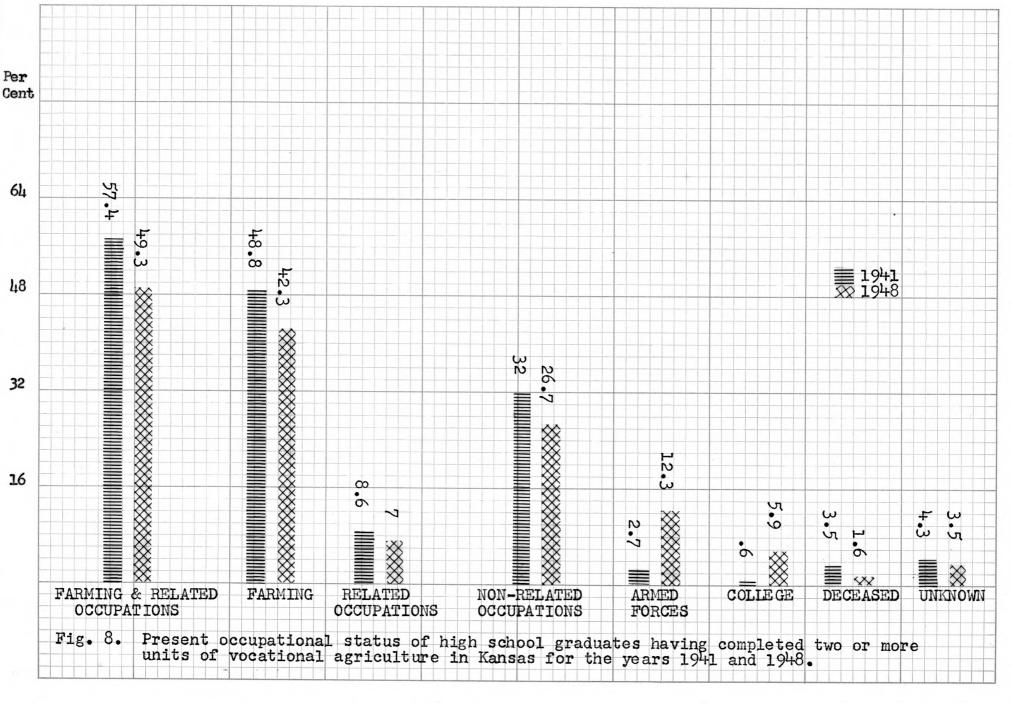


Table 1. Present occupational status of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more years of vocational agriculture in Kansas. (Shown in percentages)

Status	N.E.Kansas		S.E.Kansas		N.W.Kansas		: S.W.Kansas		Kansas	
	141	: 148	141	: 148	141	148	1147	: 148	141:148	
Farming and related occupations	51.6	49.1	64.3	55.6	53.0	49.3	58.6	45.7	56.9 50.0	
Farming	41.9	41.3	53.5	47	45.4	40.8	54.3	40.0	48.8 42.3	
Related occupations	9.7	7.8	10.8	8.6	7.6	8.5	4.3	5.7	8.1 7.7	
Non-related occupations	35.2	29.8	24.9	30.0	38.3	29.1	32.7	18.6	32.8 26.9	
Armed forces	4.4	14.2	3.1	8.6	3.4	13.1	0	13.2	2.7 12.3	
College	•9	4.1	.8	2.6	.8	5.4	0	11.3	.6 5.9	
Deceased	3.5	1.4	3.1	•6	5.0	2.3	2.2	1.9	3.5 1.6	
Unknown	4.4	1.4	3.8	2.6	2.5	.8	6.5	9.3	4.3 3.5	

areas of the state as well as the state figures on per cent of high school graduates having two or more units of vocational agriculture in farming, related occupations, non-related occupations, armed forces, college, deceased, and unknown.

A breakdown of the graduates in occupations related to farming is presented in Table 2. Comparing 1948 to 1941 we find a 1.4 per cent decrease in the number of graduates working as auto mechanics. However, there is little significant difference as to increases or decreases in the other occupations related to farming. There is a slight decrease in the number of graduates entering related occupations in Eastern Kansas and a slight increase in Western Kansas with a 1.6 per cent decrease over the entire state of Kansas.

A 5.3 per cent decrease in high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture engaged in non-related occupations to farming is noted in Table 3. A decrease of 5.4 per cent in Northeast Kansas, 8.5 per cent in Northwest Kansas, and 13.4 per cent in Southwest Kansas was found. An increase of 7.3 per cent entering occupations non-related to farming was found in Southeastern Kansas.

Figure 9, "Present tenure of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture and are farming in Northeast Kansas", concerns 26 high schools. These 26 schools had 227 graduates in 1941 of which the 95 presently engaged in farming are considered and 218 graduates in 1948 of which the 90 who are presently engaged in farming are considered.

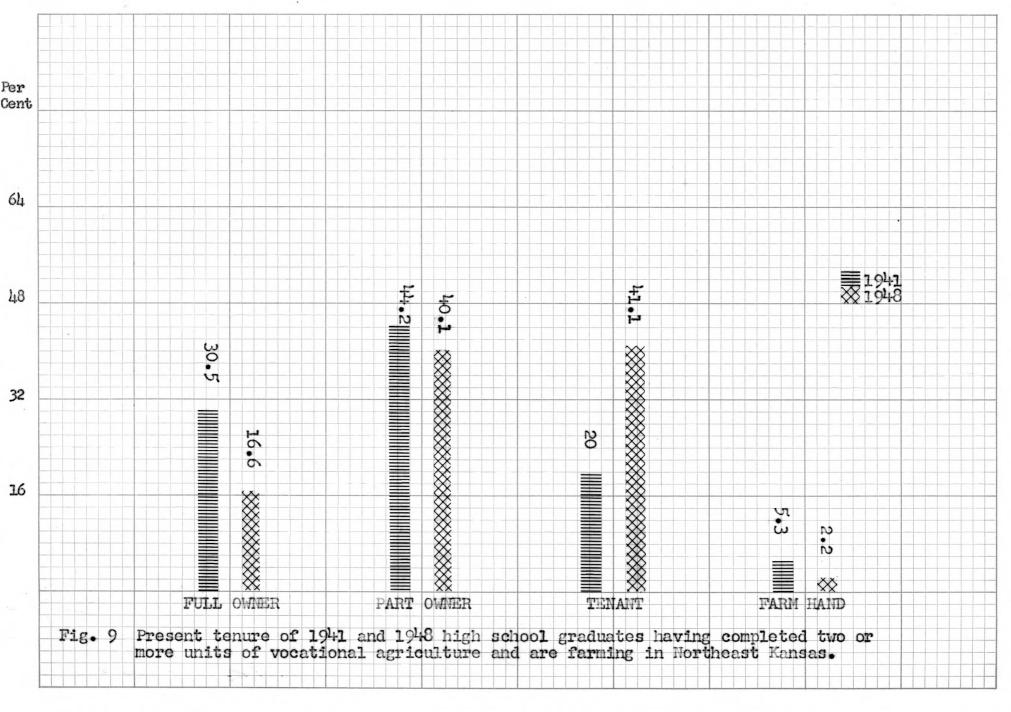
Table 2. Per cent of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates, having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture, engaged in occupations related to farming.

Occupation	N.E.	Kansas	S.E.K	ansas	N.W.I	Kansas	S.W.K	Kansas		
	: 141	: 148	147	148	141	: 148	141	148	14]:	148
*Auto mechanic Salesman: Feed & Fert. *Welder *Carpenter Dairy creamery Agr. extension Grain dealer Vo-Ag teacher Farm supervisor Herdsman *Packing house	3.1 1.8 1.3 1.3 0 0	9 2.4 1.5 9.4 9 0 0 0	31.552	2.2 1.3 .7 .7 1.3 0 2.0 .7	•9 •9 •9 •9 •9 •9 •9 0 0	5.0 0.5 0.8 0.0 0.0 0.0	0 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	2.331.58826	
Totals	8.8	7.8	10.6	9.6	7.9	8.1	1+•1+	5.7	8.6	7.0

It is not the primary purpose of the vocational agriculture program to develop journeymen in the field of trade and industry; however, many of the fundamental skills needed in these occupations are developed in vocational agriculture. For this reason these occupations are referred to as related to farming in this study.

Table 3. Per cent of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture engaged in non-related occupations to farming.

Occupation	N.E.K	ansas	S.E.K	ansa <b>s</b>	N.W.K	ansas	S.W.K	ansas :	Kansa <b>s</b>
	: 141	148	141	148	147	148	141	148	141: 148
Day laborer Oil field worker Ministry Commercial trucking Construction Non-agri. teaching Aircraft manufacture Clerk Railroad Filling Station Electrician Farm equipment dealer Life insurance Veterinarian Engineer Grocer or baker Ooctor or dentist Other	7.0043.005979743747.9498	10.1 1.9 1.7 2.4 4.4 4.4 4.4 4.4 4.4 4.4 4.4	89 2589 58 00 21 89 58 00 85 00 7.2	2500232221 000204	5342757 9 799997 10.2	12425 888585 15880 1031 2	8.7 2.2 0 0 0 0 4.4 2.2 2.2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	1.9 5.7 00002.8 000000005.0	5.2 5.6 1.9 2.9 2.9 1.4 2.5 2.4 1.7 1.1 1.5 1.1 1.5 1.1 1.6 9 1.1 .9 1.1 .9
Totals	35.2	29.8	24.9	32.2	38.3	29.8	32.7	18.6	32.0 26.7



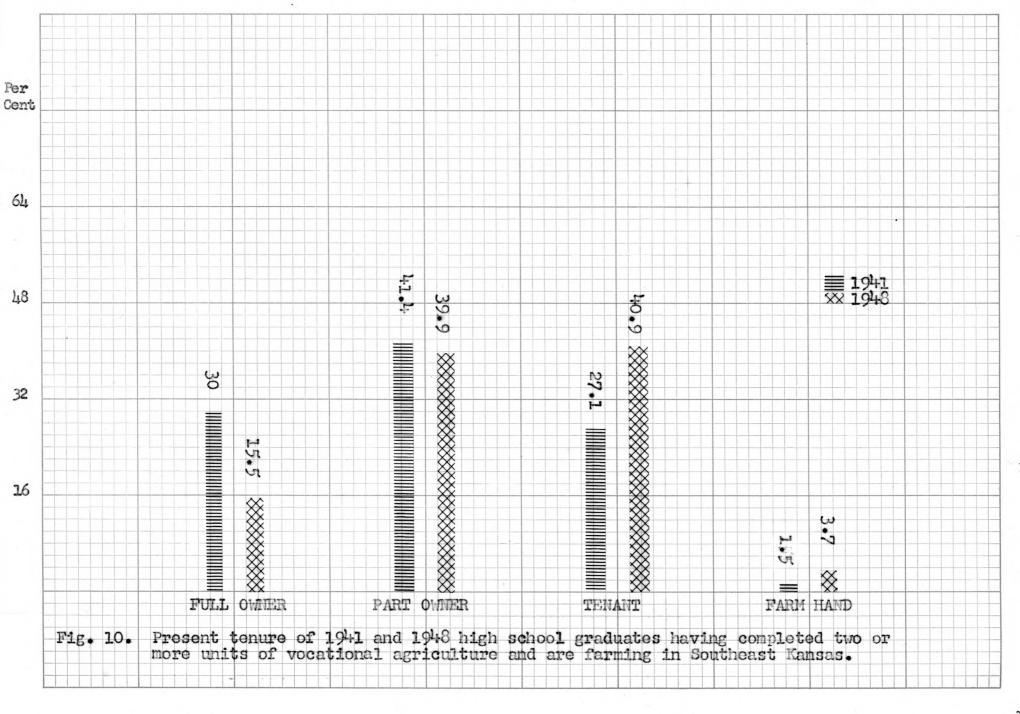
Thirty and five-tenths per cent of the 1941 graduates farming in Northeast Kansas are full owners, 44.2 per cent are part owners, 20 per cent are tenants, and 5.3 per cent are farm hands as compared to 1948 graduates of which there are 16.6 per cent full owners, 40.1 per cent part owners, 41.1 per cent tenants, and 2.2 per cent farm hands.

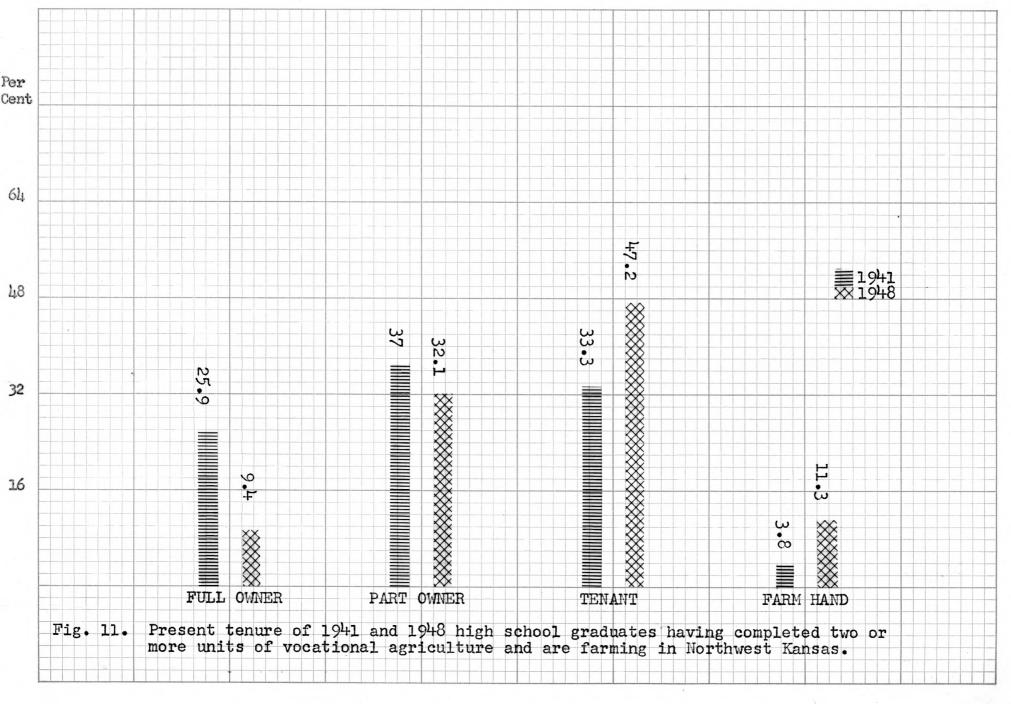
Figure 10, "Present tenure of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture and are farming in Southeast Kansas", concerns 15 high schools having 130 graduates in 1941 and 151 graduates in 1948. This figure concerns the 70 graduates of 1941 and 71 graduates of 1948 who are presently farming.

Thirty per cent of the 1941 graduates farming in Northeast Kansas are full owners, 41.4 per cent are part owners, 27.1 per cent are tenants, and 1.5 per cent are farm hands as compared to 15.5 per cent full owners, 39.9 per cent part owners, 40.9 per cent tenants, and 3.7 per cent farm hands of the 1948 graduates.

Figure 11, "Present tenure of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture and are farming in Northwest Kansas", concerns 15 high schools having 119 graduates in 1941 and 130 graduates in 1948 with two or more units of vocational agriculture. This figure concerns 54 graduates of 1941 and 53 graduates of 1948 who are presently farming.

There are 25.9 per cent full owners, 37 per cent part owners, 33.3 per cent tenants, and 3.8 per cent farm hands of the 1941 graduates farming in Northwest Kansas. This is com-





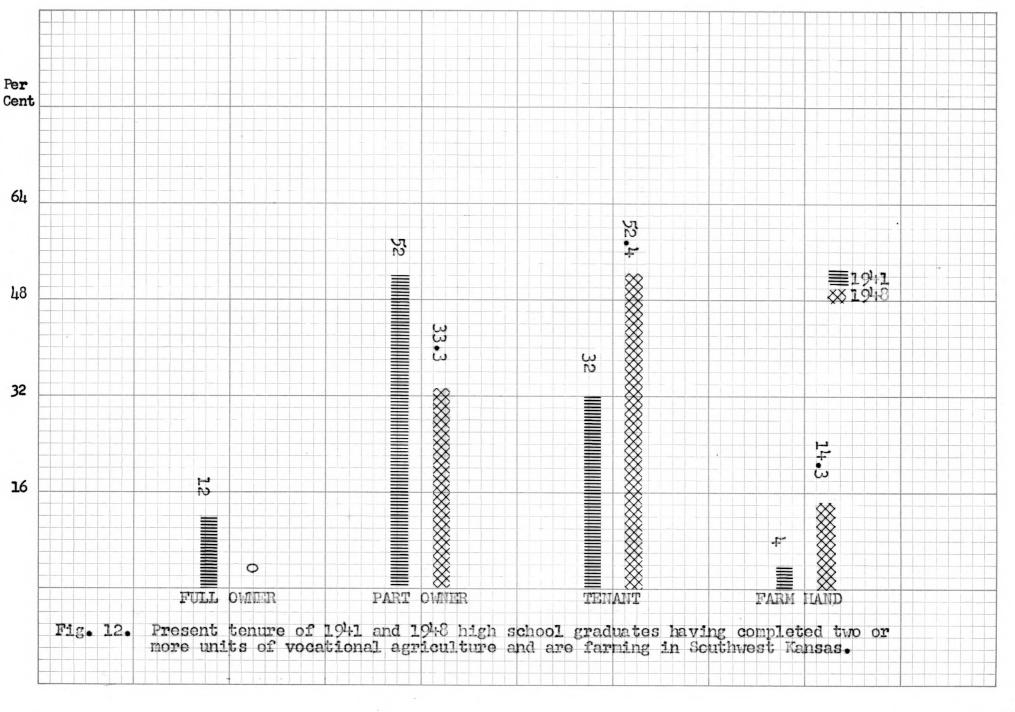
pared to 9.4 per cent full owners, 32.1 per cent part owners, 47.2 per cent tenants, and 11.3 per cent farm hands of the 1948 graduates.

Figure 12, "Present tenure of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture in Southwest Kansas", concerns six high schools having 46 graduates in 1941 and 53 graduates in 1948 with two or more units of vocational agriculture. This figure concerns the 25 graduates of 1941 and 21 graduates of 1948 who are presently farming.

There are 12 per cent full owners, 52 per cent part owners, 32 per cent tenants, and four per cent farm hands of the 1941 graduates in Northwest Kansas. This is compared to no full owners, 33.3 per cent part owners, 52.4 per cent tenants, and 14.3 per cent farm hands of the 1948 graduates.

Figure 13, "Present tenure of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture and are farming in Kansas", concerns 62 high schools having 522 graduates in 1941 and 552 graduates in 1948 with two or more units of vocational agriculture.

There are 27.5 per cent full owners, 42.6 per cent part owners, 26.2 per cent tenants, and 3.7 per cent farm hands of the 1941 graduates presently farming. This is compared to 13.2 per cent full owners, 37.4 per cent part owners, 43.4 per cent tenants, and six per cent farm hands of the 1948 graduates presently farming.



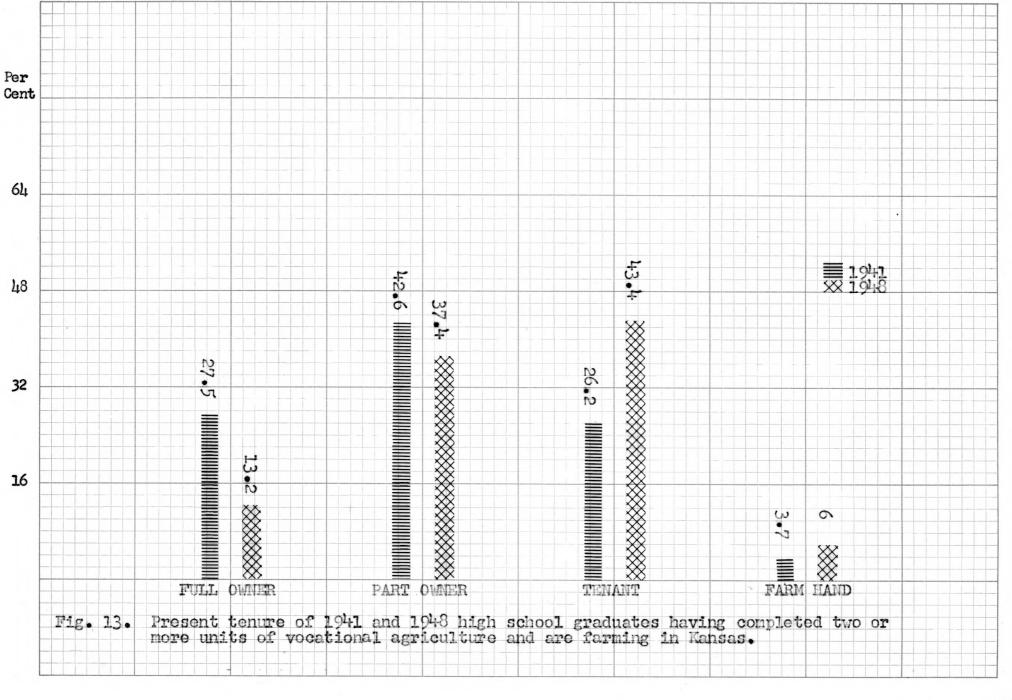


Figure 14, "Per cent decrease in number of farms in Kansas from 1940-1950 as compared to the per cent decrease of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture returning to the farm in 1948 as compared to 1941", provides the information for each of the four areas of Kansas as well as for the state as a whole.

A 16 per cent decrease in number of farms from 1940 to 1950 is noted as compared to a four per cent decrease in the number of high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture returning to the farm in 1948 as compared with 1941. The number of farms in the Northeast area decreased 15.5 per cent while the number of high school graduates returning to the farm decreased only .6 per cent. The number of farms in the Southeast area decreased 14.7 per cent while the number of high school graduates returning to the farm decreased 6.5 per cent. The number of farms in the North-west area decreased 20.3 per cent while the number of high school graduates returning to the farm decreased 4.6 per cent. The number of farms in the Southwest area decreased 17.2 per cent and the high school graduates returning to the farm decreased 4.6 per cent.

Table 4 shows the number of years 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture were enrolled in vocational agriculture. It is interesting to note that three years of vocational agriculture is most popular with an average for the two years (1941 and 1948) of 58.6 per cent completing three years of work as compared

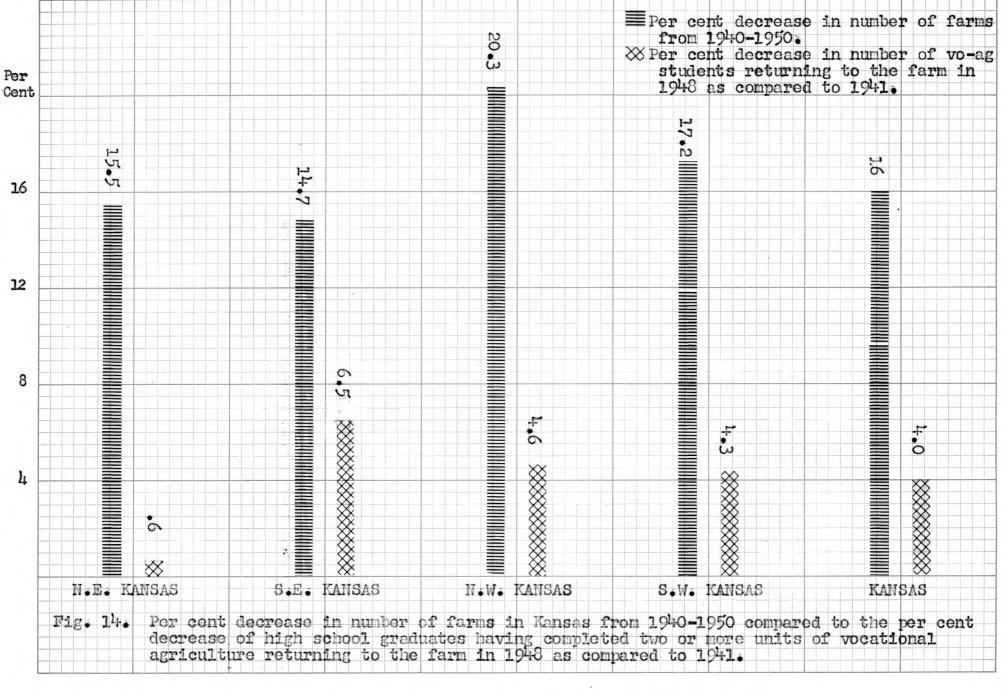


Table 4. Comparison of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture as to number of years enrolled in vocational agriculture.

64 12.2
310 58.9
152 28.9

Table 5. Marital status of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture.

Marital Status	Number	1948 Number:Per cent		
Single	50	10.2	155	29.6
Married	) <del>1)</del> +2	89.8	371	70.4

to 27.4\* per cent completing four years. Fourteen per cent of the boys discontinued their vocational agriculture training after being enrolled for two years.

Table 5 is concerned with the marital status of the 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture. Eighty-nine and eight-tenths per cent of the graduates who have been out of school for 14 years are married as compared to 70.4 per cent of the graduates who have been out of school for seven years are married.

#### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The important points concerning the occupational status of 1941 and 1948 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture were as follows:

#### Northeast Kansas Area

In comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture there was a decrease of 1.6 per cent engaged in farming and related occupations, of which there was .6 per cent decrease in those farming and a one per cent decrease of those in related occupations. There is a decrease of 5.4 per cent in non-related occupations; increase of 9.8 per cent in armed forces; increase of 3.2 per

<sup>\*</sup>The data asked for did not include information as to the number of schools offering four years of vocational agriculture. Twenty-seven and four-tenths per cent may be low since some schools in Kansas do not offer four years of vocational agriculture.

cent in college; decrease of 2.1 per cent deceased, and a decrease of three per cent unknown.

Comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture who are presently farming there was a decrease of 13.9 per cent full owners, decrease of 4.1 per cent part owners, increase of 21.1 per cent tenants, and a decrease of 2.3 per cent farm hands.

From 1940 to 1950 there was a 15.5 per cent decrease in the number of farms in Northeast Kansas. Compared to the number of 1941 high school graduates presently farming, the number of 1948 high school graduates presently farming decreased .6 per cent.

Figure 3 shows that for every 100 rural farm males in Northeast Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 101 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

#### Southeast Kansas Area

In comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture there was a decrease of 7.5 per cent engaged in farming and related occupations, of which there was a decrease of 6.5 per cent in farming and a decrease of one per cent in related occupations. There was an increase of 5.1 per cent in non-related occupations, increase of 5.5 per cent in armed forces, increase of 1.8 per cent in college, decrease of 2.5 per cent deceased, and a decrease of 1.2 per cent unknown.

Comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture who are presently farming there was a decrease of 14.5 per cent full owners, decrease of 1.5 per cent part owners, increase of 13.8 per cent tenants, and an increase of 2.2 per cent farm hands.

From 1940 to 1950 there was a 14.7 per cent decrease in the number of farms in Southeast Kansas. Compared to the number of 1941 high school graduates presently farming, the number of 1948 high school graduates presently farming decreased 6.5 per cent.

Figure 3 shows that for every 100 rural farm males in Southeast Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 94 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

#### Northwest Kansas Area

In comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture there was a decrease of 4.4 per cent engaged in farming and related occupations, of which there was a decrease of 4.6 per cent in farming and an increase of .2 per cent in related occupations. There was a decrease of 9.2 per cent in non-related occupations, increase of 9.7 per cent in armed forces, increase of 4.8 per cent in college, decrease of 2.7 per cent deceased, and a decrease of 1.7 per cent unknown.

Comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture who are

presently farming there was a decrease of 16.5 per cent full owners, decrease of 4.9 per cent part owners, increase of 13.9 per cent tenants, and an increase of 7.5 per cent farm hands.

From 1940 to 1950 there was a 20.3 per cent decrease in the number of farms in Northwest Kansas. Compared to the number of 1941 high school graduates presently farming, the number of 1948 high school graduates presently farming decreased 4.6 per cent.

Figure 3 shows that for every 100 rural farm males in Northwest Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 155 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

#### Southwest Kansas Area

In comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture there was a decrease of 12.9 per cent engaged in farming and related occupations, of which there was a decrease of 14.3 per cent in farming and an increase of 1.4 per cent in related occupations. There was a decrease of 14.1 per cent in non-related occupations, increase of 13.2 per cent in armed forces, increase of 11.3 per cent in college, decrease of .3 per cent deceased, and an increase of 2.8 per cent unknown.

Comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture who are presently farming there was a decrease of 12 per cent full owners, decrease of 18.7 per cent part owners, increase of 20.4 per cent tenants, and an increase of 10.3 per cent farm hands.

From 1940 to 1950 there was a 17.2 per cent decrease in the number of farms in Southwest Kansas. Compared to the number of 1941 high school graduates presently farming, the number of 1948 high school graduates presently farming decreased 4.3 per cent.

Figure 3 shows that for every 100 rural farm males in Southwest Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 167 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

#### State of Kansas

In comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture there was a decrease of 8.7 per cent engaged in farming and related occupations, of which there was a decrease of 6.5 per cent in farming and a decrease of 1.6 per cent in related occupations. There was a decrease of 5.3 per cent in non-related occupations, increase of 9.6 per cent in armed forces, increase of 5.3 per cent in college, decrease of 1.9 per cent deceased, and a decrease of .8 per cent unknown.

Comparing 1948 to 1941 high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture who are presently farming there was a decrease of 14.3 per cent full owners, decrease of 5.2 per cent part owners, increase of 17.2 per cent tenants, and an increase of 2.3 per cent farm hands.

From 1940 to 1950 there was a 16 per cent decrease in the number of farms in Kansas. Compared to the number of 1941 high school graduates presently farming, the number of 1948 high school graduates presently farming decreased four per cent.

Figure 3 shows that for every 100 rural farm males in Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 125 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

#### SUMMARIZING STATEMENTS

The first eight statements concern Kansas high school graduates having completed two or more units of vocational agriculture:

- 1. Forty-eight and eight-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and 42.3 per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are farming at the present time.
- 2. Eight and six-tenths per cent of the 1941 high school graduates and seven per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in occupations related to farming at the present time.
- 3. Twenty-seven and five-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years and are presently farming are full owners, 42.6 per cent are part owners, 26.2 per cent are tenants, and 3.7 per cent are farm hands. Thirteen and two-tenths per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years and are presently farming are full owners, 37.4 per cent are part owners, 43.4 per cent are tenants, and six per cent are farm hands.

- 4. The number of farms in Kansas decreased 16 per cent from 1940 to 1950. The number of 1948 high school graduates as compared to 1941 high school graduates presently farming decreased four per cent.
- 5. Fifty-eight and six-tenths per cent of high school graduates have completed three years of vocational agriculture, 27.4 per cent\* have completed four years of vocational agriculture. Fourteen per cent of the boys discontinued their vocational agriculture training after being enrolled for two years.
- 6. Eighty-nine and eight-tenths per cent of high school graduates who have been out of school for 14 years are married while 70.4 per cent of the high school graduates who have been out of school for seven years are married.
- 7. Twelve and three-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in the armed forces at the present time as compared to 2.7 per cent of the 1941 high school graduates.
- 8. Five and nine-tenths per cent of the 1948 high school graduates are in college as compared to .6 per cent of the 1941 graduates in college at the present time.
- 9. For every 100 rural farm males in Kansas between 60 and 69 years of age in 1950 there are 125 rural farm males between 15 and 24 years of age to enter farming by 1960.

<sup>\*</sup>The data asked for did not include information on the number of schools offering four years of vocational agriculture. Twenty-seven and four-tenths per cent may be low since some schools in Kansas do not offer four years of vocational agriculture.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

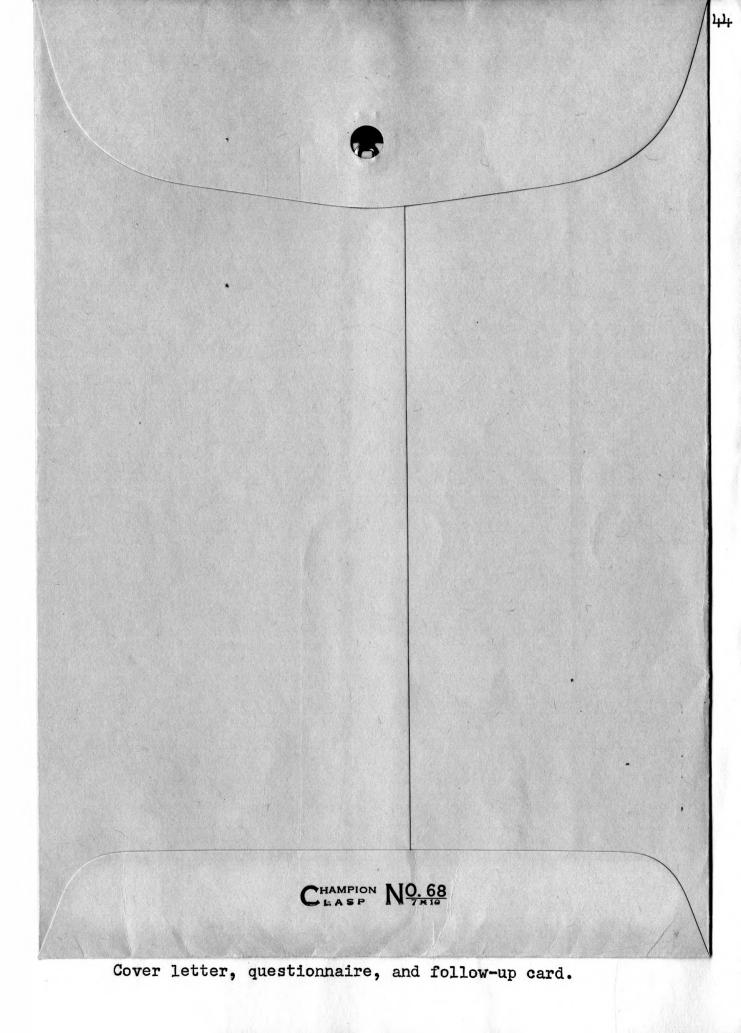
Acknowledgment is due Assistant Professor Howard R. Bradley of the Department of Education for his valuable assistance as major instructor, and Professor A. P. Davidson, Department of Education, Kansas State College, for his suggestions and guidance in this study.

The author also wishes to express his appreciation to the instructors of vocational agriculture in Kansas who cooperated in furnishing the needed data.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bruner, Thomas Walter. A Study of the Place of Residence and Choice of Vocation of Former Vocational Agriculture Students in Kansas High Schools. Thesis, M.S., 1932, Kansas State College, Manhattan.
- Carpenter, Frank Robert. A Study of the Occupational Status of State Farmer Degree Members in Kansas. Thesis, M.S., 1951, Kansas State College, Manhattan.
- Chase, Daniel Chavez. Socio-Economic Trends in Agriculture as Related to the Educational Objectives in Vocational Agriculture. Dissertation, Ph.D., 1954, Pennsylvania State University, State College.
- Cook, Glenn and Lloyd J. Phipps. A Handbook on Teaching Vocational Agriculture. Sixth Edition. Danville: Interstate Printing, 1952.
- Deyoe, George P. <u>Supervised Farming in Vocational Agriculture</u>. Danville: Interstate Printing Company, 1943.
- Hagood, Margaret Jarman. <u>Kansas Replacement Ratios for Rural Farm Males</u>, <u>Ages 60-69</u>, <u>1950-1960</u>. Unpublished data of the Chief of Farm Population and Rural Life Branch, United States Department of Agriculture.
- McFatter, Oren Shelton. A Study of Occupational Status of Former Graduates of Vocational Agriculture of Plain Dealing High School, 1928-1950. Thesis, M.S., 1951, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
- McNutt, William Edward. <u>Former Students of Vocational Agriculture</u>
  <u>in the Quarryville High School</u>. Thesis, M.S., 1951, Pennsylvania State College, State College.
- United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census.
- Wright, Carlton E. Occupational Distribution, Entrance into Farming and Opportunities for Farming, for Former Students of Vocational Agriculture. The Agricultural Education Magazine, 16:14-15, 17-18, July, 1943.

APPENDIX



Dear Fellow Worker:

Enclosed you will find a questionnaire, and I am asking your kind cooperation in filling out the needed data.

This problem is concerned with the Occupational Status of 1941 and 1948 graduates having two or more units (4 credits or more) of Vocational Agriculture.

I have made every effort to keep the questionnaire short and to the point. Please note that there are two pages to the questionnaire. One page is for 1941 graduates and the other for 1948 graduates as you will note at the top of the pages. It is thought that most of the information in regard to occupational status of the individual graduates can be obtained by telephone. Below you will find a recommended procedure for completing the questionnaire.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would return this questionnaire promptly as I would like to compile the information no later than June 1, 1955.

I thank you sincerely for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Walter R. Gehlbach

Walter R. Gehlbach

#### Recommended Procedure for Filling Out Data Sheets

1. Contact your school administrator for the list of graduating seniors of 1941 and 1948 in your high school.

2. Select the names of the graduating seniors who have had two or more units (4 credits or more) of Vocational Agriculture.

3. Write down their names on the questionnaire sheets and the

number of years they took Vocational Agriculture.
4. Find out the present occupational status of these individuals. a. Suggested people to contact for present occupational status of 1941 and 1948 graduating seniors in agriculture:

(1) School Administrator

(2) Local Banker

(3) Parents or Relatives(4) County Agent

(5) Postmaster or Rural Mail Carrier

# KANSAS STATE COLLEGE Department of Education Manhattan, Kansas

May 14, 1955

Dear Fellow Teacher:

Mr. Walter Gehlbach, vocational agriculture instructor, Alma, Kansas, is planning to finish the work for his Master's Degree at the close of the 1955 summer school.

Mr. Gehlbach has elected to study the present occupational status of high school graduates for the years 1941 and 1948 who have had two or more units (four or more credits) of vocational agriculture. Your high school has been selected to be included in this study. We trust that you will cooperate by furnishing the information requested.

The last study of this nature conducted in Kansas was in 1932. You will agree, I am sure, that we need authentic information concerning the occupational status of high school graduates who have had two or more units of vocational agriculture.

Sincerely,

A. P. Davidson

Professor

Vocational Education

APD:EB

## OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF 1941 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES HAVING TWO OR MORE UNITS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

Name of School

Name of 1941 Graduates Having Two or More Units (4 Credits or More) of Vocational Agriculture	Marital Status		Years Enrolled in Vocational Agriculture				Present Occupation	Place the correct number, or numbers, listed in the column below, in the "Present Occupation" column. If more than one occupa-
Name		Married	1	2	3	4		tion, list in order of importance.
Example: Jim Doe	х				х		3	1. Farmer, full owner
Example: Frank Jones		х				x	2,5	2. Farmer, part owner 3. Farmer, tenant 4. Farm hand 5. Welder 6. Auto mechanic 7. Carpenter 8. Hardware store 9. Farm equipment dealer 10. Soil conservation service 11. Agri. Extension Service 12. Grain dealer 13. Dairy creamery 14. Vo-Ag teacher 15. Other teaching
								6. College student 7. Clerk 8. Oil field worker 9. Day laborer 10. Salesman: Feed & Fertilizer 11. Armed Forces 12. Hatchery 13. Freezer locker (cold storage) 14. Commercial trucking 15. Other 16.

TOTAL NUMBER OF 1941 GRADUATES HAVING TWO OR MORE (4 CREDITS OR MORE) OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE:

### OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF 1948 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES HAVING TWO OR MORE UNITS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE

Name of School

Name of 1948 Graduates Having Two or More Units (4 Credits or More) of Vocational Agriculture		Marital Status					Present Occupation	Place the correct number, or numbers, listed in the column below, in the "Present Occupation" column. If more than one occupa-
	Single	Married	1	2	3	4		tion, list in order of importance
oe	x				х		3	1. Farmer, full owner
Jones		х				x	2,5	2. Farmer, part owner 3. Farmer, tenant 4. Farm hand 5. Welder 6. Auto mechanic 7. Carpenter 8. Hardware store 9. Farm equipment dealer 10. Soil conservation service 11. Agri. Extension Service 12. Grain dealer 13. Dairy creamery 14. Vo-Ag teacher 15. Other teaching 16. College student 17. Clerk 18. Oil field worker 19. Day laborer 20. Salesman: Feed & Fertilizer 21. Armed Forces 22. Hatchery 23. Freezer locker (cold storage) 24. Commercial trucking 25. Other 26. 27. 28.
	Credits or More)	4 Credits or More) Al Agriculture Marita	4 Credits or More) Al Agriculture Marital Status  Ame Single Married  De x	4 Credits or More) Al Agriculture  Marital Status  Vocat  Single Married 1  De x	Years Enroll Marital Status Vocational  Single Married 1 2  X	4 Credits or More) Al Agriculture  Marital Status  Vocational Agriculture  Single Married  2 3 0e x x	Years Enrolled in Vocational Agriculture  Single Married 1 2 3 4  The second of the se	Years Enrolled in Vocational Agriculture  Single Married 1 2 3 4  Oe x x 3

TOTAL NUMBER OF 1948 GRADUATES HAVING TWO OR MORE (4 CREDITS OR MORE) OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE: