YOUTH AND THEIR SITUATION IN THREE KANSAS VILLAGES

by

Glenn Wesley Long

A. B., Baker University, 1926

A THESIS

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Economics and Sociology

KANSAS STATE COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

1940

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INTRODUCTION

The Situation of Youth

During the early history of the United States, there continued to be for many years a vast unpreempted domain west of the Appalachian Mountains which presented unlimited possibilities to the young and ambitious person. Young people were not particularly concerned about finding jobs as soon as they had completed their education. If no jobs were available in the home community, they merely followed expanding agriculture into new and relatively undeveloped areas.

The attitude of the people in the early United States has been adequately described by Carl Van Doren in his "Three Worlds" (21, p. 27) in which he writes concerning his grandfather, who was an Illinois farmer.

"He was like most men of his generation in that older America. He looked on the future as a perpetual adventure and never doubted that it was an endless source of benefits to come. Men had only to work and wait for them. He had seen the wild prairie blossom under his hands. Other men could do and see so much if they chose. His contemporaries at Hope, though not one of them was quite so given up to the future as my grandfather, held his general opinion. They

were solid civil squires who had prospered, whose land by 1890 was worth 40 times what it had been when they had claimed it from the government, and who had never heard of any law of diminishing returns".

Thus, down to comparatively recent years, westward migration to free homestead land provided unlimited opportunities for employment and offered a safety valve for depressed industry.

As late as 1880 the Census reported that there were twice as many individuals engaged in agriculture as in manufacturing and mining. The geographical frontier of the United States, although rounded out by the end of the 19th century, continued to act as a shock absorber for the cyclical depressions which began to occur with startling frequency. Therefore, largely because the unemployed usually could migrate from home communities to more prosperous areas during economic recessions, the country was not confronted with unemployment in its acute stages until after 1929.

In 1935, it was estimated that there were 21 million youth between the ages of 16 and 24 in the United States; of this number 10 million lived on farms or in agricultural villages.[1] Exactly how many of these young people were

[1]In Kansas in 1930 there were 337,012 youth 15 to 24; this figure represented an increase of 21,065 since 1920 (5, p. 139-140).

unemployed at that time is a moot question. Estimates vary from three to seven million. Figures presented by the National Industrial Conference Board indicated that the number of unemployed youth between 18 and 25 years of age represented approximately 20 per cent of the total unemployed as of December 31, 1935. The higher estimates for unemployed youth in this country, for the most part, included not only those who were out of work, but also the young persons who had continued in school mainly because of the scarcity of jobs as well as those youths who had been compelled to remain on the home farm or who returned to the farm following the loss of urban jobs.

Whether or not all of these youth are classified in the preceding categories among the unemployed, one is forced to admit that they must all receive careful consideration in any adequate analysis of the potential effects unemployment will have on the youth of the present generation and the youth of tomorrow. It is particularly important that those youth who have been dammed up in the rural areas be included in any significant examination which is directed toward a satisfactory portrayal of the present and future situation of both rural and urban young people. Each year, under normal conditions, thousands of young people migrate

from the farm to the city. During the depression years this movement was arrested and more than 1,500,000 potentially urban people remained stranded on the farm. Eliminating the effects of the drought, this interruption in the normal trend of the population--together with the accretion in the number of adults living on farms--was responsible for a 10 per cent decrease in the average production per farmer (20, p. 84). "What these figures mean", Baker (2, p. 22) has stated, "is that many farms have been sub-divided, that abandoned farms have been reoccupied and submarginal land cultivated on a subsistence basis, and that young people are working for their keep on parental acres, adding little or nothing to agricultural production."

A factor which increases the magnitude of the problem is that each year approximately two million young people leave or are graduated from high school and college and enter the labor market. Admittedly, the retirement through age or death of workers in the upper age brackets has permitted many of these youth to obtain employment. However, since 1929 an increasingly larger proportion has been unable to secure jobs because of the lack of work experience and vocational training; and in a great number of cases, employers have been inclined to give employment preference to

heads of families. Therefore, as a result of these conditions each year nearly half a million young persons have not been absorbed into business and industry (20, p. 84).

This annual surplus, together with the technical improvements which have been introduced in recent years, is the principal cause underlying the fact that, although the production level of the United States in December, 1936, was about 10 per cent below that of 1929, total production would have had to reach a point 20 per cent above the 1929 level, or 33 per cent above that of 1936, to reduce unemployment to the pre-depression figures (20, p. 84).

In a summary of the foregoing paragraphs, it may be stated with some degree of certainty that although the problem of the older worker is serious, the employment difficulties of the younger persons appear more urgent. Moreover, this is not a problem which began in the emergency period of the depression, but rather it is an accumulative condition which is a result of changes in economic and social conditions in the United States, especially since 1900, and these conditions became more apparent at the nadir of the business recession. Neither is the problem of unemployed youth one which will continue only through the emergency period. It is a readily apparent imbroglio which

seems destined to remain for some time to come.

Obviously, the dearth of employment opportunities and the prevalency of economic insecurity with their resultant social consequences of unemployment, underemployment, or employment at work which is personally undesirable and unsuited to individual capacity, have not been limited to youth in recent years. However, the demoralizing and disorganizing psychological effects of idleness, discouragement, and frustration during periods of economic stress are especially far reaching and enduring in their influences and implications on the younger persons.

As stated, in past years of prosperity young people have been welcomed into an expanding agriculture and industry, but in recent years, unemployment has been unusually widespread among youth both in the rural and urban areas. Nevertheless, considerably more attention has been given to describing the unemployment conditions and their concomitant economic and social effects of the young people living in the cities. Too frequently the status of rural youth has been evaded by merely advancing the statement that at least young persons on the farms and in the rural areas "will not starve". In general it probably is true that rural youth are able to obtain food and shelter even though

the family is receiving relief. Nevertheless, a statement such as this fails to take into account that there are other essential and fundamental values necessary for the evolution of a satisfactory and useful life, and that these youth are just as eager as city young people for an opportunity to develop their capacities and to exercise one of the basic and most necessary processes of their adult life, that of earning a living. Furthermore, the searing effects of the economic and social conditions associated with the depression period upon the personality of rural youth, although they cannot be measured tangibly, probably are just as disasterous in their consequences as upon the personality of urban young people and are equally as significant in their influence on future prosperity and the general well-being of the nation. Moreover, inevitably as economic conditions improve the usual migration of rural youth to the city, having been temporarily blocked during the depression, again will be resumed.[2] Therefore, the present experiences, attitudes and values of the rural young people are of vital importance

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[2]From 1920 to 1930 there was a net movement into villages, towns, and cities of two million young people between the ages of 16 and 24. O. E. Baker of the Department of Agriculture estimates that this measurement of the population carries to the cities human values that had cost over 12 billion dollars in public and private cash spent by rural districts (6, p. 9).

to the urban areas, because they eventually will be reflected in the life of the city. Society cannot divide itself with a partition--a nation includes all those persons in it (12, p. 2).

The youth of the present and future generations can live either by social or anti-social methods. If society does not offer these youth the opportunity to pursue a normal life, their only alternative may be to follow the path of violence to maintain their existence. If the present factors, tending toward the unmitigated demoralization of the young people, are permitted to continue and expand, the United States may experience the effect of this pathology within a generation.

Review of Literature

Literature concerning rural youth in the United States is extensive as revealed by an examination of the Readers Guide and the files of the Kansas State College Library. However, little material is available pertaining to rural youth in Kansas. Therefore, the review of literature which is presented in subsequent paragraphs is primarily from the standpoint of the nation.

The available literature is either of a statistical or of a general nature. The first type is more valuable as

an indicator of the economic and social conditions associated with rural youth, but the second is worthwhile because the statements stimulate interest and denote pertinent opinions on the subject.

Rainey and others (18) in their report prepared for the American Youth Commission attempt to identify and describe some of the more urgent problems of American Youth. The number of youth between the ages of 16 and 24 in the United States increased from 20,126,794 in 1930 to 21,072,000 in 1935, or nearly 5 per cent. In agreement with the trend in the general population the rate of increase of youth is declining and an actual decrease in number will occur before 1960. The continued restriction of immigration into the United States will cause greater homogeneity of the youth population of the future. The general public is becoming increasingly conscious of and opposed to the employment of youth under 18 years which attitude will tend to eliminate child labor. In 1930 the number of young people between 16 and 24 gainfully employed numbered 11 million and in 1935 less than eight million were estimated to be at work. Youth have not been receiving a proportionate share of the available jobs, employers preferring the older, more qualified worker. The depression has caused many youth to accept jobs which under normal conditions they would not have

considered. In a survey of Pennsylvania youth of about 20 years of age, it was found that almost 50 per cent of the 5,000 were employed at simple manual labor or other work of an unskilled nature. Many more youth desire to enter the professions than at present can be accommodated. Employed youth 16 to 24 receive low wages, the median wage in the cities being $15 per week and in the rural areas $5 to $9 weekly, and a large percentage of them work without wages--in Indianapolis in 1935, 43 per cent of 3,800 employed youth 16 to 24 were receiving no pay. Youth 16 to 24 years of age comprise approximately one-third of the unemployed and 40 per cent of employable youth have been unable to find work. An extensive gap exists between the finishing of school and the obtaining of the first job which constitutes a major problem in the welfare of youth. The age on leaving school should be raised and special assistance in finding work should be given by the schools and special agencies. Since 1880, the population of the United States has changed from predominance of rural to predominance of urban people; in 1880, 71.4 per cent of the population was rural; in 1930, only 43.8 per cent lived in the rural areas. Because the population is growing older the ratio of employables to the total population has increased greatly. Today it is impossible for many high school graduates to find vocations

in the professions and white collar jobs and, therefore, secondary curricula should be designed to attract students from the academic course, relieving the problem of over-crowding in the professions. Wide-spread ill-health among young people remains a serious one--three-fourths of the school children examined have physical defects, seven-tenths of the industrial workers under inspection suffer from physical ailments, and in one year one-fifth of the young men applying for service in the Army and Navy were rejected because of physical disability. Concurrently, the decrease in employment opportunities, brought about by social and technical developments as well as the depression, have given youth more leisure time but the conspicuous inadequacy of recreational facilities continues to be an accumulated problem. In February, 1935, there were more than a million rural youth in the age-groups 16 to 24 years on relief. By October, 1935, this number had been reduced to 650,000. A check in the normal trend of youth to the urban areas during the depression has caused an accumulation of young persons in rural territory. Increase in the mechanization and commercialization of agriculture and the growing percentage of farm tenancy have reduced the opportunities of rural youth. Farms today have two million more youth than are necessary

to produce all needed commercial farm products. At the beginning of the depression farm youth were entering the productive age at the rate of about 200,000 a year and this annual increase was almost five times as rapid as the migration to the urban areas. Rural youth have fewer educational opportunities than urban youth--in city areas in 1931-32 one school child in four was attending high school, while in the rural territory only one in seven of the school population was in high school. A comprehensive program of vocational education should be initiated which will prepare rural youth not only for adjustment in agriculture but also for work in the industrial and commercial centers. An adequate conservation policy for youth is essential now to eliminate the changes that in the return to normal rural youth may not become the "forgotten man". There is an increasing demand among youth for courses in marriage and the family. The depression forced about one and a half million young people to postpone marriage.

Lister and Kirkpatrick (13) found in their study that most farm youth between the ages of 16 and 24 lived with their parents. Comparatively few youth have the advantages of vocational guidance or training. A large proportion of the youth leave school before acquiring an adequate academic

background. The educational system functions only partially in the interests of youth, placing too much emphasis on preparation for higher learning. Seasonal employment was at a peak when this study was made, therefore, most of the young persons who wanted to work had jobs; however, the wages were low, the number of hours too many, and the opportunities for advancement limited or non-existent. Approximately three-fourths of the young men and one-half of the young women had never seriously considered matrimony. More than 70 per cent of the young males and 80 of the young females expressed a desire to have children after marriage; the usual number favored was two. A major proportion of the young people approved sex education in schools. The chief source of sex education was the youth's contemporaries and fewer young people on the farm obtained such information from parents compared with those in the cities. Organized activity was limited, and confined primarily to young people in the lower age brackets.

Melvin and Smith (15) indicated that in 1935 there were about 20,800,000 youth 16 to 24 years of age in the United States; of this number about 10,000,000 lived in rural areas. From 1920 to 1930 the net migration from farms totaled 6,300,000 individuals of whom about 2,000,000 were

youth 15 to 24 years of age. Of the youth in the rural districts reported by the 1930 Census, more than 40 per cent lived in non-farm areas. Without migration to the cities, there will be almost 2,000,000 more rural youth in 1940 than in 1930 and even with the expected migration there will be approximately a million additional rural young people in 1940 compared with 1930. Developments in recent years such as the growing burden of debt, the increase in farm tenancy, the decreased demand for farm laborers, the trend toward large-scale land ownership, and the mechanization of agriculture have greatly reduced the opportunities of rural youth for attaining economic security. Non-agricultural employment in the rural areas has decreased its demand for labor and untrained rural young people going to cities find only limited opportunities in underpaid menial work. Largely because of the difference in educational facilities rural youth do not attend school as long as urban youth. High school attendance increased concomitant with the reduction in employment opportunities. With adequate facilities a substantial increase in rural school attendance may be expected. The proportion of youth married is greater among rural than urban youth. It is doubtful whether the economic recession

has had any marked effect in causing farm youth to postpone marriage.

There is a dearth of recreational facilities in rural areas, but a large proportion of youth do not take advantage of those available. In general, organizations in rural areas have attracted a small percentage of rural young people. A number of organizations have developed constructive programs to aid rural youth such as: Cooperative Extension service of the United States Department of Agriculture, National Youth Administration, Civilian Conservation Corps, Work Projects Administration, and the United States Employment Service. Society must accept the responsibility of providing adequate vocational and social facilities for rural youth as well as educational and economic opportunity if normal personalities are to be developed.

Barnes (3, p. 603-604) has shown that there is no group in the rural area which is more affected by the farm crisis and its future development than rural youth. In the early days, even down to the time of the World War, young people could find many opportunities for employment in expanding agriculture and industry, but this has all been changed by recent developments in the economics of large scale production, facilities for rapid and convenient

transportation, and the volume and efficiency of agricultural machinery. Despite the depression the marriage rate among rural youth is about the same as in normal times, thus rearing families and placing their children in a worse situation than their parents.

Melvin (14) in his study of rural youth on relief indicated in October, 1934, there were 625,000 rural youth on relief or being directly assisted by some governmental agency, this number representing approximately 10 per cent of all rural young persons in the United States. In February, 1935, there were more than a million rural youths in relief households. There were more young women than young men in relief households in October, 1935, indicating that young women have been unable to migrate from rural territory to the extent that they did in the twenties and that they are at a marked disadvantage in securing employment. Almost one-fourth of the young men 16 to 24 years of age were heads of households; the proportion who were heads of households was slightly larger in the village than in the open country. Comparatively few rural youth on relief, 20 years of age and older, were in school. Agriculture was employing more rural relief youth in 1935 than any other occupation. Of the young men who were out of school, 45 per cent were classed as employed. Relatively few out-of-school

young women were employed. The destitution of rural families on relief may be indicative of a situation which is more serious for youth in these families than the conditions confronting youth in urban relief households. The plight of these young people in the low income group is largely the result of long-time trends in agriculture such as "the depletion of soil fertility, over-crowding of the land, and in some sections the prevalent system of farming." The alleviation of the condition facing rural youth must come through increasing economic opportunities and through improved facilities for education.

Coyle (6) in his study of rural youth stated that anything which may be done to improve the condition of rural youth and enhance the opportunities for employment will help to create a secure future for the nation. Local organizations can do much more than they are now doing for the youth of the land. Every farming community and every village is affected by blocking the usual path of migration for youth from the rural to the urban area. Prolonged effort on a nation-wide scale is essential to the return of normal conditions. A majority of the youth continue to retain their vitality and ambition, yet every year "some of them break under the strain", turn to crime or lapse into a languid state which makes them risky prospects for future

employment. In 1930, the surplus of young men with no opportunity for farm occupancy was 201,000. More than one-half of the male youth interviewed stated they preferred farming to any other occupation providing they were given a fair chance to own their own farm and to do scientific farming. In the Middle West a large portion of the unemployment resulted from farm mechanization--in one county in Western Kansas the cost of producing a bushel of wheat has been reduced to 25 per cent of the 1919 figure. In general, rural non-farm youth are in a more advantageous economic position than those on the farms because they attend school longer, and if they cannot find jobs usually their families are able to support them. Some rural schools offer vocational courses but generally only in agriculture and home-making, although approximately one-half the young people must obtain jobs in industry. In the more prosperous areas youth usually postpone marriage but in the poorer rural districts many young persons marry regardless of poverty. The great majority of American youth are not well informed on the subjects of health, sex, and parenthood. Schools should be consolidated since consolidation saves money, provides better educational facilities for rural youth, and assists in uniting village and country. Recreation facilities should be increased and improved since experience has shown that an active program greatly reduces juvenile delinquency

and crime.

Brunner and Kolb (4, p. 13) showed in their study of rural social trends that apparently the urban areas "attract especially the best and least qualified of the farm youth". Seven intensive studies by as many colleges of agriculture have shown that migration from the home farm begins at the age of 18, and ends by age 30; that females are more likely to leave the farm than males, the children of tenant farmers than those of owners, the children of owners with low income than those of more prosperous owners; and that there was a tendency for those who migrated to the urban areas to enter the professional and unskilled groups.

In a study made of transient families it was found that a vast majority were composed of native born white Americans, younger than the average of the population and as might be expected their educational record was higher than the average for the country as a whole (7, p. 19).

Massimbene (17) in his study of the age of the workers in the Work Projects Administration program indicated that in November, 1937, approximately 9 per cent were between the ages of 16 and 24 years and that almost 32 per cent of the workers were less than 35 years of age. For the State of Kansas slightly more than 7 per cent of the total workers

were in the age group 16 to 24 years, and approximately 30 per cent of the workers were less than 35 years.

To provide a healthy situation in this country it is essential that all employable young persons be employed (8). Adjustments should be made to promote a sound general philosophy of adequate living, not mere securing possession; of happiness, not wealth.

Taussig and Joslyn (19, p. 97) in their study of American Business Leaders found that about 30 per cent of this group were sons of major executives and large business owners and that only a small proportion of the sons of farmers become business leaders which apparently indicates that even under normal conditions only a small proportion of the rural youth as well as farm young people reach a position of importance in the business world.

Leighton and Hellman (12) commented concerning the youth situation that if any one during the administration of Calvin Coolidge had suggested that within a few years the United States government would have to formulate a program to assist several million young people, he would have been considered demented. There is a definite tendency to consider the unemployed as persons apart from the people who occupy more favorable economic positions. "Unemployment

can do terrible things to people but they are still human beings." The nation is what the entire population make it--it cannot exist half slave and half free. Between one and one-half and two million male youth were graduated from college during the period 1929 to 1934 and from 50 to 85 per cent of these graduates are unemployed. Business will hire a few of the recent graduates from high school and college at the lowest possible price, usually offering a bare subsistence, but will give little or no consideration to the youth who have been out of school a year or longer. Also, the depression has produced the paradox that the youth with the longest training seems least able to obtain employment. "Self-respect requires regular employment." For the first time since 1911 the number of marriages in 1932 fell below the one million mark; although the population in 1932 was 34 per cent greater than in 1911. Unless the situation of youth in the United States is alleviated soon, a rapid increase in crime may be expected.

The number of unemployed young people between 18 and 25 years of age represented about 20 per cent of the unemployed December 31, 1935 (20, p. 79-99). More than one and one-half million potentially urban people have been left stranded on farms. About one-half million young people who

enter the labor market each year remain unabsorbed. Lack of work experience and vocational training have been handicaps to youth in finding jobs. The placement rate for youth in the United States Employment Service is much less than that for any other age group. The plight of rural young people is just as bad, if not worse, than that of urban youth. The city should be vitally interested in the problem of rural youth because many of these individuals, assuming the return of normal conditions will become urban residents and carry with them the personalities developed during this depression period. In recent years educational facilities and the enrollment in high schools and colleges have increased rapidly. In 1895 there were 2,600 high schools with an enrollment of 210,000 students; by 1936; these figures had increased to 29,000 high schools and 6,000,000 students which represented more than 65 per cent of the total population of high school age as compared with slightly more than 10 per cent in 1895. Enrollments in colleges and other institutions of higher learning increased from 237,592 in 1900 to 1,100,000 in 1930. The United States government has enacted legislation to further vocational education such as the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890; the Office of Education set up in 1867; the Hatch Act of 1890; Smith-Lever Act of

1914; and the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 which was supplemented by the George-Reed Act of 1929 which was superceded by the George-Ellzey Act effective July 1, 1934. Since the beginning of the depression the federal government has set up agencies and programs from which youth have benefited; for example, the federal transient relief program under the Federal Emergency Relief Act of May, 1933; the National Recovery Administration in 1933; the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933; the Federal Emergency Relief Administration College Aid Program; and the National Youth Administration in June, 1935. In addition, there are a number of youth organizations in the United States: Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts; Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, 4-H Clubs, National Student Federation of America, American Student Union and American Youth Congress, both organized in 1935.

A study sponsored by the Council of Social Agencies, East Orange, New Jersey (11), denoted the chief frustrations which most seriously affect the family life of youth as follows:

1. Unemployment. The replacement of men by machines prevents industry from reemploying of former personnel commensurate with the increase in production. More than

one-third of the young men from 18 to 21 years of age seeking work cannot find jobs. Approximately two and a quarter million youth reach the age of employability each year. More than twelve million youth have reached employable age since 1929.

2. Insufficient housing space. An increasing proportion of apartments do not provide enough room for youth to entertain their friends in their own home. There is little chance for young people to get more than superficially acquainted. This partly accounts for the fact that there are nearly a fifth as many divorces as marriages each year.

3. Postponement of marriage. Probably the most keenly felt frustration is the enforced delay of marriage, arising out of this situation are certain deleterious results such as deception during courtship, increase in crime, growth of promiscuous sex relationships, attitude of indifference toward having children, and husband and wife continuing to be employed after marriage.

Purpose of Study

Present day society is charged with the tremendous tasks of working out an adequate solution to the youth

problem in all of its complexities. Therefore, it is only to be expected that in recent years perspicacious individuals and influential organizations are becoming more and more conscious of and concerned about the accumulative nature and magnitude of the problem. Numerous programs have been planned or are in the process of delineation under the leadership of such organizations as the American Youth Commission, National Youth Administration, 4-H Clubs, Future Farmers of America, and special committees sponsored by local, state, and federal governments in an attempt to meet at least the exigencies of the present unemployment of youth.

To guide this planning and to facilitate further analysis of the problem it is imperative that a comprehensive description of the general situation confronting rural youth as well as an intensive exposition of the conditions and economic and social characteristics of youth in specified areas be made available for examination. Indubitably a definite and complete knowledge of the rural youth population is fundamental to the outlining of any effective program to assist these young people in adjusting themselves into a complex society. Detailed information concerning the present situation should be helpful in dealing with the

current youth problem as well as in working out an adequate approach to similar conditions appearing in the future.

The general purpose of this particular study is to further the objectives indicated above by providing a composite picture of the social and economic background of rural youth, and to a lesser extent that of their families, living in three agricultural villages in Kansas as of June, 1936. It is hoped that the information thus denoted will supplement the data already available, much of which still are exceedingly scanty, as well as present in clearer detail the situation of rural youth in an industrialized society, especially during a depression period. More specifically the study attempts to answer such questions as:

1. What is the employment status of youth living in agricultural villages?

2. Have youth been moving from place to place seeking work?

3. Are youth participating in the economic and social institutions of their community?

4. How are youth spending their leisure time?

5. To what extent are village youth marrying and establishing homes of their own?

6. To what extent are economically independent youth remaining in the home village?

7. Are village youth qualified by educational background and occupational experience to compete successfully in the labor market?

8. Have village youth been successful in the acquisition of some economic goods or a start toward future security?

In the attempt to answer these and other questions detailed consideration will be given to such items as: size and composition of the household; marital status and employment of the head and other members of the household in June, 1936; employment, marital status, and place of residence of economically independent youth away from home; residential changes and occupational mobility of in-school and out-of-school youth 15 to 29 years of age; education background of in-school and out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age; the earning and income of in-school and out-of-school youth 15 to 24 from employment and other sources; and, membership in organizations and the leisure-time activity of in-school and out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age.

In discussing these items and in giving an appraisal of the conditions of rural youth in these agricultural villages it is anticipated that it will be possible to make tentative suggestions or to formulate principles which will be of some fundamental value in delineating and analyzing

the rural youth situation. Thus it is hoped that the study will be able to make at least a minor contribution toward more adequate social and economic adjustments of rural young people in a rapidly changing culture and to assist in emphasizing the necessity for immediate action in approaching a solution to some of the basic problems confronting these youth.

Sample and Procedure

The three agriculture villages in Kansas selected for a Study of Rural Youth were a part of a national sample of 140 villages used in a series of studies in 1924, 1930, and 1935 for the purpose of depicting "changes in rural social life in the first three decades of the present century, and especially in the decade of 1920 to 1930" (3, p. 7). Originally the study in rural trends was initiated by the Institute of Social and Religious Research, Columbia University. In 1929, it became a section of the Research Committee on Recent Social Trends to investigate social changes in rural life. The 140 village communities for the national sample were selected in cooperation with the colleges of agriculture, state boards of education, and similar agencies.

Obviously, since the villages in Kansas of Inman, Mount Hope, and Oxford initially were chosen as a part of the sample for the nation it is not claimed that they are representive of the entire state. However, it is believed that, although each rural community has particular characteristics which are peculiar to a certain area, since the population in the rural sections of Kansas is relatively homogeneous that many of the conditions associated with these three villages will be found to exist generally in rural communities throughout the state. Therefore, the results obtained in this study cannot be denoted as definitive, except for the villages in the sample, but are rather indicative of the general situation of rural youth in Kansas and to a somewhat lesser degree in similar farming communities in other sections of the United States.

The data for the study were collected through personal interviews with all the families living in the three villages of Inman, Mount Hope, and Oxford in June, 1936. A total of 164 schedules was obtained for Inman; 116 for Mount Hope; and 272 for Oxford.[3] A separate schedule was

[3]Approximately one-third (97) of the completed schedules for Oxford were lost in transit between Washington, D. C. and Manhattan, Kansas; as a result, the data contained on these forms will not appear in this study. Fortunately, apparently the remaining schedules provide a good random sample of this village, therefore, the results will not be badly distorted by the absence of these data.

filled for each family in the village and if more than one youth between the ages of 15 and 24 lived in the household, an additional form was secured for each of these individuals. The schedule was completed in the presence of the members of the family and with their help. These interviews were made during the months of July and August, 1936.

The schedule used in this study were standard forms prepared by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education and the Council for Research in the Social Sciences of Columbia University. The work in Kansas was made possible by the cooperation of the Works Progress Administration and Kansas State College with the agencies designated above.

The schedules were filled by a staff of field workers, all of whom had college degrees or equivalent training. The forms were edited daily by a supervisor located in each of the three villages. When inconsistencies and errors appeared on a schedule the enumerator responsible for filling that particular form was contacted by the local supervisor and the mistakes corrected. In addition, the assistant state supervisor of rural research for Kansas under the Works Progress Administration, who was in direct charge of the study in the state and who in this case was

the writer of this manuscript, traveled from village to village and conferred with local supervisors and enumerators on an average of about twice each week. In these meetings numerous problems encountered by the workers were discussed and analyzed and the procedure to be followed indicated.

General Method

Before beginning the tabulations of the data for this study the schedules were sorted by villages and the data were then recorded on tabulation sheets especially constructed for that purpose. After the tabulations were completed the figures for each village were united to form a composite picture for the total group of 552 schedules, representing 484 families. Items of similar nature were grouped; for example, one section containing data pertaining to the characteristics of village families; another for economic factors; another for educational background; etc. Intervillage comparisons were made when significant. From an analysis of the group totals thus evolved, final conclusions were derived.

Because of the dissimilarities in many of the basic characteristics of the three villages involved in the survey which in some cases were dominate enough to influence the

entire group, subclassifications for individual villages were considered significant and, therefore, were indicated almost consistently throughout the study.

Caution Necessary in Interpreting Results

As indicated in the section dealing with the "Sample and Procedure" the number of family units included in the study in Kansas was not sufficient to lead to definite conclusions concerning the rural youth situation in the state as a whole. Therefore, caution is necessary in interpreting the data presented. Moreover, because of the limited size of the sample undoubtedly there are places in the study where the most valid interpretation of the results obtained may not have been discovered. Furthermore, comparable data concerning rural or village youth did not exist to an appreciable extent. The only sources of information concerning the rural population in Kansas were the Census for 1930 and current surveys made in other rural areas in the United States. These materials were utilized to a limited degree as a means of comparison.

Also, caution must be exercised in accepting some of the data presented, especially in the sections pertaining to economic status and to social, recreational and leisure-

time activities. While every effort was made to secure information which was reliable, it is necessary to understand that the answers to an objective questionnaire are frequently guesses, personal opinions, or estimates by the person or persons interviewed. Naturally, much of this inaccuracy was conditioned or eliminated by the judgment of the trained enumerator. Admittedly, the data are open to criticisms inherent in the use of the questionnaire, interview, or case history method of research, but it is patent that any form of social research involving contact with human beings perforce is exposed to such limitations. Assiduous care has been observed, however, to limit the percentage of error to a minimum.

Basic Definitions

1. Youth: All persons 15 to 29 years of age. (However, the major portion of the data concerning youth pertains to individuals 15 through 24).

2. Agricultural village: A population center of between 250 and 2,499 inhabitants which is located in a predominantly farming area and acts as a service center to the surrounding community.

3. Family: A person or a group of related or unrelated individuals who normally live together as a unit and

share in the joint income of the group. (The terms family and household are used synonymously in this study).

4. Open country: Includes all territory outside centers with a population of 50 and more.

5. Village: All centers with a population of 50 to 2,499.

6. Town: All centers with a population of 2,500 to 9,999.

7. City: All places having a population of 10,000 and more.

8. Employment: Any job at which a person worked at least one day every week for two weeks or more preceding June 1, 1936.

9. Farm: Any tract of land of three acres or more or a tract of land on which agricultural products to the value of $250 or more were produced during the preceding crop season.

10. Part-time farm: Is defined as such if the products sold or traded during the preceding crop season amounted to more than $50, if the tillable land cultivated was at least three-fourths of one acre, and if the head of the family worked at least 50 days at the off-farm job during the year preceding the date of the survey.

Description of Villages Studied[4]

Obviously, the village cannot be differentiated from its contiguous rural territory. The characteristics of village life are not confined exclusively within the incorporated boundaries and reflect to a considerable degree the influence and conditions of the surrounding hinterland. Therefore, it seems tenable to include in the description of the sample village a brief discussion of the more significant characteristics of the village community. Accordingly the subsequent paragraphs will involve a description of the surrounding area as well as a presentation of some of the most important features of each of the sample villages.

Inman, McPherson County. The agricultural village of Inman is located in the Southwestern part of McPherson County in an outstanding wheat producing region, although since 1926 oil and gas production have provided a cogent influence on agriculture. Due to the development of these industries during the years of the depression many of the people adjacent to and in the village of Inman did not feel

[4]The material in this section is for the most part an abstract of the description of each village which appeared in the Agricultural Village Survey for 1930-1935 prepared in connection with Rural Social Trends mentioned in previous paragraphs. The work was supervised in Kansas by Randall C. Hill and Glenn W. Long and copies of the reports are on file in the Department of Economics and Sociology, Kansas State College.

the adverse effects of the business recession to as great a degree as individuals in commmnities where this influence was absent.

The total population of Inman has changed little since its inception in about 1890, although with the exception of a slight decrease from 1910 to 1924 it has shown an increase in every period for which records are available as the following figures indicate:

Year	April 1936	1930	1920	1910	1900
Population	550	533	482	484	352

Apparently the tendency of the total population has been one of growth since its origin with a trend toward a greater relative stability in recent years which is in accord with population changes in villages throughout the nation (4, p. 84).

The population of the Inman community is composed of a thrifty conservative class of people, largely of German descent and predominantly of the Mennonite religion. The community is bound rather rigidly by convention and customs, and a few pecularities of dress and behavior patterns remain among certain groups of the Mennonites. The clannishness of divergent groups with varying degrees of adherent to the

prevailing religion is not conducive to general cooperation in organization activities either in the village or in the surrounding area. There are no civic and few social organizations. Moreover, a large percentage of the families do not support community affairs sponsored by the school such as athletic contests, musicales and plays. However, the majority of the farm population in the Inman community apparently are interested in modern production methods in agriculture and regularly adopt current practices in farm and home economy as recommended by specialists in the field. Naturally, the members of the older generation are extremely slow in making changes in many of the original agricultural methods.

The Inman trade area, extending approximately six miles north, six miles east, four miles south, and eight miles west, has changed little during the past several years. Improved roads, increase in public and private transportation facilities, and the proximate location of the large centers of McPherson, the county seat, and Hutchinson virtually have precluded the possibility of the extension of this area and materially have multiplied the difficulties of preventing its reduction.

Mount Hope, Sedgwick County. Mount Hope is located in approximately the northeast corner of Sedgwick county in an

agricultural area which primarily is devoted to wheat production. Although, agriculture is affected markedly by the urban influence of Wichita--the county seat and second largest city in Kansas--and by the oil and gas industries which are of major importance in this section. However, the oil and gas activities are concentrated more in the central and northeastern portion of the county and, therefore, have only a minor and indirect influence on the village of Mount Hope.

Mount Hope was founded about 1880 and the total population has remained relatively stable with a slight tendency to decline since 1910 as shown by the following figures:

Year	April 1936	1930	1920	1910	1900	1890
Population	500	466	513	519	327	241

The activities of the oil companies and related industries probably are responsible for the slight increase in the population from 1930 to April, 1936. Assuming no further such developments in the immediate vicinity and the unchanging condition of agriculture it is probable that Mount Hope will not grow in the future but may achieve relative stability of population if it can continue to perform useful functions for its residents as well as for those who live in the general community.

Transportation facilities are excellent. A state highway is routed through the village connecting it with the urban centers of Wichita and Hutchinson, each approximately 30 miles distant. Also, four busses and four trains operated by the Missouri Pacific railroad provide daily east and west service through Mount Hope.

The trade territory of Mount Hope, extending approximately six miles north, seven miles south, four miles east, and three miles west, has not changed materially during the last several years. The competition of the business houses located in the larger centers of Wichita, Hutchinson, and Newton, all within a radius of 30 miles, as well as that provided by the small villages in close proximity practically eliminates any possibility of the expansion of this territory. In fact a majority of the business establishments in Mount Hope fully realize that it is going to be a constant and intensive struggle to prevent a decrease in the size of this trade area.

Organization activities are comparatively significant in Mount Hope. In April, 1936, there were 18 civic, fraternal, educational, and social organizations with a membership ranging from 15 to 100 persons. However, several of these organizations such as the Modern Woodmen of America and the Community Club, the principal civic club, are relatively inactive but have not disbanded.

Oxford, Sumner County. Oxford is located in an area in Sumner County in which wheat is the principal crop and oil production is of major importance. The Village is situated near the Arkansas River on the eastern border of the county and almost in the center north and south.

Since 1926, Oxford has been influenced by the oil and related industries, consequently the people in the community have not felt the onerous results of the depression period to as great a degree as persons less favorably situated. Thirty blocks, which includes the western half of Oxford, are under lease to oil companies and numerous oil wells are located within the limits of the village. However, during the latter part of 1935 there was a noticeable decrease in the oil production in this area. Several of the older wells, formerly good producers, have been abandoned because of inadequate gallonage and new wells are drilled to a silicious lime depth where water interferes with production. Obviously these developments have the effect of curtailing business activity in the village and have had a pervasive influence in the entire community.

The village of Oxford was founded in 1871. It will be observed by the following figures that the population remained approximately stable from 1890 through 1920, although

there was some fluctuation during this period with a slight net increase indicated:

Year	April 1936	1930	1920	1910	1900	1890
Population	1,150	1,290	748	624	567	665

Then during the decade from 1920 to 1930, the population of Oxford increased sharply, primarily as a result of the development of the oil industry in this region. In the period 1930 to April, 1936, there was a perceptible decrease in the number of persons in the village resulting principally from a reduction in oil production.

The trade area of Oxford extending about four miles north, three miles east, seven miles south, and six miles west, has remained virtually unchanged in the past several years. The village is located 13 miles east of Wellington, the county seat, 11 miles west of Winfield, and 38 miles south of Wichita, all of which are larger centers. As would be expected, the close proximity of these larger places with good roads available has had a definite tendency to limit the Oxford trade territory and apparently will nullify any local attempts to expand this area in future years.

An investigation of group organization in Oxford leads to the tenable conclusion that according to the total

population and compared with Mount Hope, there are relatively few active organizations in the village. These groups evinced greater solidarity and, therefore, were more influential in community affairs than those in the other two villages in the sample. Sixteen organizations were active in the community in April, 1936; of this number only one, the Lions Club, has been gradually losing membership and apparently will be discontinued within a short time. Primarily because of the high per capita wealth in the village more funds were expended to support organization activities, the average annual expenditure for each organization being approximately $111 as compared with $63 for Inman and $50 for Mount Hope. The widespread difference in the affluence attained by various residents of Oxford was reflected in the sharply defined lines which denoted the different groups in the center-social strata designed according to financial standing.

Order of Presentation

In general, the subject matter is presented in the order in which it appears in the schedules used in collecting the data. The information for separate villages is shown in the following order: Inman, Mount Hope, and Oxford. This is purely an arbitrary arrangement for the sake of consistency

and convenience in analysing the data.

Population Trends

The number of youth at any given time in a definite area depends primarily on the number of births 15 to 29 years previously. The trends of births in Kansas increased until 1921 when the peak was reached with 23.7 births per 1,000 of the total population (Table 1). Since 1921 the general trend in the crude birth rate has been downward. In 1930 a temporary rise to 18.4 occurred followed by a new low mark of 17.0 in 1933. A slight increase to 17.8 births per 1,000 persons in the population occurred in 1934. In the main, the birth rate for the United States Registration area has followed a similar trend, being somewhat higher down to 1931 and then dropping slightly below the rates for Kansas (5, p. 122).

During the early history of the State of Kansas almost one-third of the total population was between the ages of 15 and 29 years (Table 2). From 1870 to 1900, the youth group showed a tendency to decrease and by 1900 the proportion of the population 15 to 29 years of age was similar to that for the United States. In 1930 Kansas had a smaller per cent of the entire population in the youth group as compared with

Table 1. Total population, number of births and births per 1,000 persons for Kansas, with a comparison of birth rate in United States Registration Area, 1917 to 1934 (5, p. 122).

Year	Kansas Population	Births in Kansas	Births per 1,000 Persons: Kansas	Births per 1,000 Persons: United States Registration Area
1917	1,736,900	38,611	22.2	24.7
1918	1,734,836	38,392	22.1	24.6
1919	1,759,703	36,033	20.5	22.3
1920	1,779,936	40,336	22.7	23.7
1921	1,792,924	42,493	23.7	24.3
1922	1,807,022	39,497	21.9	22.5
1923	1,824,190	39,[illegible]95	21.8	22.2
1924	1,833,[illegible]2	38,251	20.9	22.4
1925	1,812,946	37,724	20.9	21.5
1926	1,822,949	35,664	19.6	20.7
1927	1,837,514	35,330	19.2	20.6
1928	1,833,426	33,561	18.4	19.[illegible]
1929	1,852,114	32,[illegible]54	17.7	18.9
1930	1,851,024	33,974	18.4	18.9
1931	1,[illegible]15,415	33,074	18.2	18.0
1932	1,813,385	31,705	17.5	17.4
1933	1,836,449	31,145	17.0	(d)
1934	1,836,956	32,503	17.8	(d)

(d) Not published.

that for the entire nation with approximately 25 out of every one hundred persons in Kansas classified as youth.

A further compositional analysis of the trends in rural youth population is made in Table 2. The trend in the percentage age distribution for rural farm and rural non-farm youth could not be indicated for years preceding 1920 as this division of the population was not made by the federal census prior to that time.

Table 2. Number and per cent of the total population between the ages of 15 and 29 years in the United States (9, p. 576) and in Kansas (5, p. 92).

Year	United States		Kansas	
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
1870	10,864,005	28.2	111,996	30.7
1900	21,420,546	28.2	415,549	28.3
1930	32,256,101	26.3	477,525	25.4

When the age distribution of youth in the rural farm areas in Kansas was compared with the rural non-farm population for the years 1920 and 1930, no significant differences were apparent (Table 3). In both years there was a somewhat larger proportion of the youth 15 to 19 years of age in the rural farm than in the rural non-farm areas. Also, it will

Table 3. Per cent of youth 15 to 29 years of age in the rural farm and rural non-farm population in Kansas, 1920 and 1930 (5, p. 99-100).

Year	Rural Farm			Rural Non-Farm		
	Age in Years			Age in Years		
	15-19	20-24	25-29	15-19	20-24	25-29
1920	10.0	8.2	7.5	8.5	8.6	8.0
1930	10.5	8.0	6.3	8.4	8.5	7.7

be observed that a greater percentage of the youth more than 20 years of age in the total population was found in the rural non-farm as compared with the rural farm districts for 1920 and 1930. Moreover, between 1920 and 1930, there was a slight tendency for the proportion of youth 15 to 19 years of age in the farm population to increase with a compensatory decrease in the percentage of youth 20 to 29 years of age. It will be noted that the proportion of youth in all age groups in the non-farm population declined slightly from 1920 to 1930.

These changes in the age distribution of rural youth as described above apparently reflected to some degree the basic population trends during the 10-year period. While the rate of natural increase has been relatively high in the rural areas, the movement of the older youth from rural to urban communities in search of more adequate employment opportunities continued with marked acceleration in the period 1920 to 1930. Naturally this condition tended toward a comparative stability in the proportion of young people 15 to 19 years of age in the rural areas and a declining percentage of the youth more than 19 years of age as they attempted to obtain jobs.

FAMILY BACKGROUND AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF VILLAGE YOUTH

The age of youth is a period of transition characterized primarily by the attempts of the young person to make a satisfactory adjustment to the complexities of the culture and the natural environment with which he or she is associated. Many of the behavior patterns exhibited in adulthood are formed and the life organization of the young man or woman takes definite shape during this period. Under normal conditions the young man finishes school, secures employment, and establishes a home of his own during these years. For the young woman the process is similar but frequently the job is only a stop-gap between the completion of her education and the formation of a home of her own. An understanding of some of the fundamental adjustments which agricultural village youth are required to make and the extent to which they are successful may be obtained by an analysis of some significant characteristics of these young people. Whenever possible comparisons are made between youth in the three agricultural villages and in the entire state, the total rural farm, and the total rural non-farm population in Kansas to determine variations in important characteristics.

Size of Family

By including the number of youth who were economically independent and away from home, it will be observed in Table 4 that the average size of the families in the three agricultural villages was 3.2 persons. This figure was somewhat smaller than that indicated for the average number of members in all native white families in Kansas in 1930 which at that time was designated as 3.6 individuals (10, p. 7). Approximately 62 per cent of the total of 484 families in the villages had from one to three persons in each unit, this percentage being about the same as that indicated for all rural non-farm families in the state in 1930, with 61.2 per cent being thus classified. Eliminating the youth who had established economic independence from the paternal home, the actual size of the average village family as of June 1, 1936, was slightly smaller with only 2.9 persons (Table 5) and, compared with the original size of the families shown in Table 4, a larger proportion of the families were in the group with from one to three persons with 66.1 per cent falling in this category. Of the three villages, considering either the original or actual number in the family as of June 1, 1936, Oxford, with a larger proportion of the families including four or more persons,

Table 4. Original size of families, including economically independent youth away from home, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Number in Family	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
1	30	20.4	19	18.8	30	12.7	79	16.3
2	37	25.2	30	29.7	68	28.8	135	27.9
3	32	21.8	16	15.8	40	17.0	88	18.2
4	22	14.9	17	16.8	40	17.0	79	16.3
5	17	11.5	7	6.9	24	10.2	48	9.9
6	5	3.4	6	6.0	13	5.5	24	5.0
7	1	0.7	4	4.0	10	4.2	15	3.1
8	1	0.7	1	1.0	8	3.4	10	2.1
9	2	1.4			2	0.8	4	0.8
10			1	1.0	1	0.4	2	0.4
11								
12 and over								
Total	147	100.0	101	100.0	235	100.0	484	100.0
Average Number Persons in Family	3.0		3.1		3.4		3.2	

Table 5. Size of families in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Number in Family	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
1	30	20.4	20	19.8	31	13.2	81	16.7
2	42	28.6	33	32.7	74	31.4	149	30.8
3	28	19.0	18	17.8	44	18.6	90	18.6
4	24	16.3	17	16.8	35	14.8	76	15.7
5	15	10.2	7	6.9	24	10.2	46	9.5
6	5	3.4	3	3.0	16	6.8	24	4.9
7	1	0.7	2	2.0	6	2.5	9	1.8
8	1	0.7			6	2.5	7	1.4
9	1	0.7					1	2.1
10			1	1.0			1	2.1
Total	147	100.0	101	100.0	236	100.0	484	100.0
Average Number Persons in Family	2.9		2.8		3.2		2.9	

had the highest average number of persons in the household.

Type of Family

Classification of the families in the three agricultural villages according to various types in June, 1936, is given in Table 6. Families consisting of husband and wife or husband, wife, and children predominated with almost three-fourths thus designated. Broken families totaled only 7.9 per cent of the 484 household units. Apparently a major portion of the village youth at the time of the survey had the advantage of living in a normal family in which both parents could cooperate in their control and guidance. Moreover, only 2.7 per cent of the families in the three villages were classified as combined households (Table 7). Therefore, a great majority of these young people were not closely associated with many of the deleterious effects which are frequently a result of the combination of two or more families in a single household.

Table 8 indicates that families in the three agricultural villages in which one or more youth were living on June 1, 1936, had, on the average, 3.92 members in the household. About one-third of these families had at least five individuals in the home.

Table 6. Families in three agricultural villages classified according to type, June 1, 1936.

Family Composition	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Husband-Wife	36	25.8	25	24.8	61	25.6	121	25.0
Husband-Wife and Children	70	47.6	47	46.5	122	51.7	239	49.4
Father-Children	1	0.7	2	2.0	9	3.8	12	2.5
Mother-Children	10	6.8	6	5.9	10	4.2	26	5.4
Man	8	5.4	2	2.0	10	4.2	20	4.1
Woman	21	14.3	18	17.8	22	9.4	61	12.6
Other	2	1.4	1	1.0	2	0.9	5	1.0
Total	147	100.0	101	100.0	236	100.0	484	100.0

Table 7. Number of combined families in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Family	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Combined	4	2.7	3	3.0	6	2.5	13	2.7
Not Combined	143	97.3	98	97.0	230	97.5	471	97.3
Total	147	100.0	101	100.0	236	100.0	484	100.0

Table 8. Size of families with one or more youth in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Number in Family	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
1	1	2.1			1	1.2	2	1.2
2	12	25.0	7	18.9	14	16.7	33	19.5
3	15	31.2	10	27.1	23	27.4	48	28.4
4	9	18.7	9	24.3	16	19.0	34	20.1
5	5	10.4	6	16.2	10	11.9	21	12.4
6	3	6.3	3	8.1	11	13.1	17	10.1
7	1	2.1	1	2.7	5	5.9	7	4.1
8	1	2.1			4	4.8	5	3.0
9	1	2.1					1	0.6
10			1	2.7			1	0.6
Total	48	100.0	37	100.0	84	100.0	169	100.0
Average Number in Family	3.6		3.92		4.11		3.92	

Occupation of the Heads of Families Other Than Youth

Although each of these three villages was situated in a predominantly rural area, only 4.1 per cent of the male heads of the families living in these population centers had an occupation in agriculture as of June 1, 1936 (Table 9) and less than one per cent lived on a farm or part-time farm (Table 10). According to Table 9, the proprietary group was the largest single classification with 22.9 per cent of the male heads denoting this occupation. Including the 4.9 per cent of the males working for the Works Progress Administration, 26.8 per cent were placed in the semi-skilled or unskilled occupational category. Only 5.2 per cent were unemployed and looking for work. Although by adding the total male heads who were occupied on Works Progress Administration projects to the number unemployed, it was determined that 10.1 per cent of this group did not have regular employment as of June 1, 1936. Also, it must be remembered that at the time of the survey employment opportunities in these village communities were increasing principally because of the seasonal nature of agricultural work and, therefore, it was anticipated that a much larger percentage of the male heads either would be out of a job or obtain

Table 9. Occupational classification of heads of families, other than youth, according to sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Occupational Status	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Unemployed			3	9.1	5	7.0	1	4.0	14	7.4	3	8.8	19	5.2	7	7.6
Retired	14	13.5	7	21.2	8	11.3	1	4.0	10	5.3	10	29.4	32	8.7	18	19.6
Housewife			20	60.6			22	88.0			16	47.1			58	63.0
Farm Owner	1	1.0			6	8.4			4	2.1			11	3.0		
Farm Tenant									1	0.5			1	0.3		
Farm Laborer	1	1.0			1	1.4			1	0.5			3	0.8		
Professional	9	8.6			5	7.0			9	4.7			23	6.3		
Proprietary	26	25.0			17	24.0	1	4.0	41	21.6	2	5.9	84	22.9	3	3.3
Clerical	13	12.5	1	3.0	8	11.3			14	7.4			35	9.6	1	1.1
Skilled	15	14.4	1	3.0	6	8.4			38	20.0			60	16.4	1	1.1
Semi-skilled or Unskilled	26	24.0	1	3.0	8	11.3			47	24.8	3	8.8	80	21.9	4	4.3
WPA					7	9.9			11	5.8			18	4.9		
Total	104	100.0	33	100.0	71	100.0	25	100.0	190	100.0	34	100.0	366	100.0	92	100.0

Table 10. Residence location of families in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Residence	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Farm					1		1	0.2
Part-time Farm					2		2	0.4
Non-Farm	147	100.0	101	100.0	233	100.0	481	99.4
Total	147	100.0	101	100.0	236	100.0	484	100.0

employment on the Works Program during the fall and winter months.

Sixty-three per cent of the female heads of these village families were classified as housewives, probably indicating that in many cases the youth in the family made a significant contribution to the economic support of the household. If this is a valid assumption, although the shouldering of such an obligation to the parent is commendable, cognizance must be taken that it usually means an unfortunate delay in the formation of the youth's own family. Almost one-fifth of the female heads were neither employed nor seeking work. Most of these individuals lived alone and, consequently, were not rated as housewives. Only 9.8 per cent of the female heads were gainfully employed and of this group 4.3 per cent were working at semi-skilled or unskilled jobs. Slightly more than 7 per cent of the female heads of the village families were unemployed and seeking work.

Age of Youth

The age distribution of the male and female youth population in the three agricultural villages is given in Table 11. In the age groups 15 to 19 years and 25 to 29 years, female youth predominated and male youth had a higher

Table 11. Youth 15 to 29 years of age according to sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Age	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined				Total	
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female			
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
15-19	10	31.3	14	38.8	21	72.4	14	51.9	24	34.0	29	45.3	55	41.5	57	44.9	112	43.2
20-24	9	28.1	11	30.6	4	13.8	5	18.5	30	42.9	12	18.8	43	33.1	28	22.0	71	27.6
25-29	13	40.6	11	30.6	4	13.8	8	29.6	16	23.1	23	35.9	33	25.4	42	33.1	75	29.2
Total	32	100.0	36	100.0	29	100.0	27	100.0	70	100.0	64	100.0	131	100.0	127	100.0	258	100.0

representation among the youth 20 to 24 years of age. In the age classification 15 to 19 years the difference in the number of females compared with the number of males was not particularly significant, the percentages being 44.9 and 41.5, respectively. In the older age category 24 to 29 years this difference was accentuated with female youth representing 33.1 per cent of the total young women and male youth accounting for 25.4 per cent of the total young men in the village population. However, the most pronounced disparity in the proportion of male and female youth appeared in the 20 to 24 year age group, the only one of the three age classifications dominated by males, with young men contributing 33.1 per cent of the total of all youth compared with 22 per cent for the young women. Table 11 also indicates that for the entire population, irrespective of sex, young persons between the ages of 15 and 19 years had the highest representation with 43.2 per cent in comparison with 27.6 per cent and 29.2 per cent for the other two age groups.

When the age distribution of the youth in the three agricultural villages in 1936 was compared with that of youth in the total population of Kansas, the rural farm and rural non-farm areas, some dissimilarities were observed. The proportion of youth 15 to 19 years of age in the three

villages was considerably greater than that of youth in the entire state of Kansas and in the non-farm population, and only slightly greater than the percentage of young people in the same age classification in the entire rural farm population; the percentages were 43.2, 36.6, 34.2, and 42.4, respectively (Table 12). The proportion of agricultural village youth between the ages of 20 and 24 years was less than that indicated for the other areas. The same situation held for youth in the 25 to 29 year age group with the exception of those in the entire rural farm population in Kansas and here the proportion of young people in the villages was noticeably greater, perhaps denoting a normal migration of the older youth, especially females, from the farming areas to the agricultural villages. Twenty-nine and two-tenths per cent of all the youth in the three population centers were between the ages of 25 and 29 years, whereas, 25.4 per cent of the rural farm youth of Kansas were classified in this age group.

Sex of Youth

In the agricultural villages at the time of the survey, young men and young women were almost equal in number, 50.8 per cent of the total being males and the remaining 49.2

Table 12. Age of youth in Kansas, the rural farm population, the rural non-farm population, 1930 (5, p. 96, 99, 100) and in the three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936, according to sex.

Residence and Sex	Total		Age in Years		
	Number	Per Cent	15-19	20-24	25-29
Kansas					
Total	477,525	100.0	36.6	34.0	29.4
Male	238,925	100.0	36.8	34.0	29.2
Female	238,600	100.0	36.3	34.1	29.6
Rural Farm					
Total	174,748	100.0	42.4	32.2	25.4
Male	93,540	100.0	42.7	32.7	24.6
Female	81,208	100.0	42.0	31.7	26.3
Rural Non-Farm					
Total	110,049	100.0	34.2	34.5	31.3
Male	55,145	100.0	33.1	34.8	32.1
Female	54,904	100.0	35.2	34.2	30.6
Three Agricultural Villages	258	100.0	43.2	27.6	29.2
Male	131	100.0	41.5	33.1	25.4
Female	127	100.0	44.9	22.0	33.1

per cent consisting of female youth (Table 13). It will be noted, however, that, of the three age classifications, male youth were greater in number only in the 20 to 24 year age group with 60.5 per cent of the total. In the age categories 15 to 19 years and 25 to 29 years the excess of females over males was evident, particularly in the older age group. Since agricultural villages, because of the pull of occupational and marital opportunities, usually are considered concentration points for young women of all ages (16, p. 14) it would be expected that an excess of female youth would prevail in the three population centers selected for this study. Such would be the case if the marked influence of the age group 20 to 24 years could be discounted. The smallness of the sample in this age classification may be a partial explanation of this apparent inconsistency or, on the other hand, this situation may have been a natural result of the depression factors per se which would have a tendency to prevent the normal movement of male youth to urban communities and female youth to the smaller population center. These young people reached the age at which the attempt is usually made to attain a relatively permanent status in adult life during some of the worst years of the economic depression and, therefore, were stranded on the

Table 13. Youth 15 to 29 years of age in the rural non-farm population in Kansas, 1930, (8, p. 98, 99, 100) and in the three agricultural villages, June 1, 1938, according to age groups and sex.

Sex	Rural Non-Farm								Three Agricultural Villages							
	15-19		20-24		25-29		Total All Ages		15-19		20-24		25-29		Total All Ages	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Male	18,274	48.6	19,199	50.5	17,702	51.3	55,145	50.1	58	48.6	43	60.5	33	44.0	131	50.8
Female	19,342	51.5	18,757	49.5	16,775	48.7	54,904	49.9	57	51.4	28	39.5	42	56.0	127	49.2
Total	37,616	100.0	37,956	100.0	34,477	100.0	110,049	100.0	112	100.0	71	100.0	75	100.0	258	100.0

family farm or in the home village. Table 13 indicates, however, that in the entire rural non-farm youth population for Kansas in 1930, the proportion of males and females was approximately the same as in the three agricultural villages with males comprising 50.1 per cent of the total youth and females making up the other 49.9 per cent. The only age group in this segment of the population in which female youth were dominant was the younger classification of 15 to 19 years.

Marital Status of Youth

Marriage is a major epoch in the life of all youth. The normal sequence for young men, after the completion of their education, is employment, marriage, and a family. The succession of significant events for young women is similar except that employment is not essential to marriage, since her economic role is often submerged within that of the husband. An interruption of this usual cultural pattern is likely to have momentous consequences. It is generally accepted that the indefinite postponement of marriage may have some serious effects upon the emotional stability of those unable to marry and often results in a violation of the sex mores. Therefore, a description of the marital condition of

agricultural village youth is requisite to an understanding of the situation confronting these young people.

In accord with the normal pattern in the various segments of the population, many more young women than young men in each age group in the three villages were married (Table 14). Female youth usually marry at an earlier age than male youth, therefore, as would be expected, almost 9 per cent of the young women and none of the young men between the ages of 15 and 19 years were married. In the age group 20 to 24 years only 23.8 per cent of the male youth, but 53.6 per cent of the female youth in these three population centers were married. Among the youth between the ages of 25 and 29 years, 60.6 per cent of the young men and 78.6 per cent of the young women had established a family of their own. Since by later ages usually youth will have made a marital adjustment, the proportion of both male and female youth who were married became progressively greater in the older age classifications. The proportion of young men who were married varied from none in the 15 to 19 year age group, advanced to 23.8 per cent for those 20 to 24 years of age, and reached a high of 60.6 per cent among male youth 25 to 29 years and for female youth 8.8 per cent between the ages of 15 and 19 years, 53.6 per cent of those

Table 14. Youth 15 to 29 years of age who were or had been married[5] according to age groups and sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male

Marital Status	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Inman 25-29 No.	Inman 25-29 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 25-29 No.	Mount Hope 25-29 Per Cent
Married			3	33.3	8	61.5			2	66.7	3	75.0
Single	10	100.0	6	66.7	5	38.5	21	100.0	1	33.3	1	25.0
Total	10	100.0	9	100.0	13	100.0	21	100.0	3	100.0	4	100.0

Marital Status	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 25-29 No.	Oxford 25-29 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined[6] 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined[6] 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined[6] 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined[6] 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined[6] 25-29 No.	Three Villages Combined[6] 25-29 Per Cent
Married			5	16.7	9	56.3			10	23.8	20	60.6
Single	24	100.0	25	83.3	7	43.7	55	100.0	32	76.2	13	39.4
Total	24	100.0	30	100.0	16	100.0	55	100.0	42	100.0	33	100.0

Female

Marital Status	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Inman 25-29 No.	Inman 25-29 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 25-29 No.	Mount Hope 25-29 Per Cent
Married	1	7.1	7	63.6	8	72.7	1	7.1	2	40.0	7	87.5
Single	13	92.9	4	36.4	3	27.3	13	92.9	3	60.0	1	12.5
Total	14	100.0	11	100.0	11	100.0	14	100.0	5	100.0	8	100.0

Marital Status	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 25-29 No.	Oxford 25-29 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 25-29 No.	Three Villages Combined 25-29 Per Cent
Married	3	10.3	6	50.0	18	78.3	5	8.8	15	53.6	33	78.6
Single	26	89.7	6	50.0	5	21.7	52	91.2	13	46.4	9	21.4
Total	29	100.0	12	100.0	23	100.0	57	100.0	28	100.0	42	100.0

5. Includes one male 25 to 29 years of age in Inman who was divorced and one male 20 to 24 years of age in Oxford who was separated from his spouse.

6. No information available for one male 20 to 24 years of age.

20 to 24 years of age, and 78.6 per cent in the age group 25 to 29 years were married.

Since a vast majority of youth do not marry until their education is completed, it was deemed advisable to present marital information for those young people who were no longer attending school. The data for out-of-school youth is depicted in Table 15. No significant variations from the generalizations denoted above are revealed in this table. For male youth there was a slight increase in the proportion who were married, of course, with the exception of the age group 15 to 19 years in which there were no married youth. Among married female youth the greatest variation in the number of those who were out of school as compared with all female youth in the three villages appeared in the age group 15 to 19 years. Of those in this age category who were no longer attending school 31.3 per cent were married in comparison with 8.8 per cent of all female youth. There was some variation in proportion of married young women between the ages of 20 and 24 years; comparative figures for those youth out-of-school and for all female youth in the three villages denoted a difference of about 9 per cent in favor of the female youth who were not attending school.

A consideration of the marital status of the youth in the rural non-farm population in 1930 and in the three

Table 15. Out-of-school youth 16 to 29 years of age who were or had been married[7] according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male

Marital Status	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Inman 25-29 No.	Inman 25-29 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 25-29 No.	Mount Hope 25-29 Per Cent
Married			3	33.3	8	61.5			2	66.7	3	100.0
Single			6	66.7	5	38.5	6	100.0	1	33.3		
Total			9	100.0	13	100.0	6	100.0	3	100.0	3	100.0

Marital Status	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 25-29 No.	Oxford 25-29 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 25-29 No.	Three Villages Combined 25-29 Per Cent
Married			5	19.2	9	56.3			10	26.3	20	62.5
Single	7	100.0	21	80.8	7	43.7	13	100.0	28	73.7	12	37.5
Total	7	100.0	26	100.0	16	100.0	13	100.0	38	100.0	32	100.0

Female

Marital Status	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Inman 25-29 No.	Inman 25-29 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 25-29 No.	Mount Hope 25-29 Per Cent
Married	1	25.0	7	91.2	8	72.3	1	100.0	2	40.0	7	87.5
Single	3	75.0	1	8.8	3	27.7			3	60.0	1	12.5
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	11	100.0	1	100.0	5	100.0	8	100.0

Marital Status	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 25-29 No.	Oxford 25-29 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 25-29 No.	Three Villages Combined 25-29 Per Cent
Married	3	72.3	5	45.5	17	77.3	5	31.3	15	62.5	31	75.6
Single	8	27.7	6	54.5	5	22.7	11	68.7	9	37.5	10	24.4
Total	11	100.0	11	100.0	22	100.0	16	100.0	24	100.0	41	100.0

7. Includes one male 22 to 29 years of age in Inman who was divorced and one male 20 to 24 years of age in Oxford who was separated from his spouse.

agricultural villages in June, 1936, is presented in Table 16. When the number of married youth was analyzed with respect to residence in the rural non-farm population for 1930 and in the three agricultural villages for June 1, 1936, it was found that, with the exception of the young women between the ages of 24 and 29 years, proportionately more rural non-farm youth of both sexes were married. Also, when compared with the total rural non-farm population the village group differed somewhat in marital status according to sex. This situation would be anticipated as there were more young women than young men in the villages who were married. Consequently, there was a slightly larger proportion of married female youth in the three agricultural villages in comparison with the rural non-farm population than was true for male youth. The only marked variation in the proportion married in the comparison of all rural non-farm female youth and female youth in the villages was in the age group 15 to 19 years, in which 13.9 per cent of the former and 8.8 per cent of the latter were married. Whereas, the same comparison for male youth indicated the greatest difference in the percentage married was among those in the 20 to 24 age group with 29.7 per cent of the entire non-farm male youth and 23.8 per cent of the village young men having established a family of their own.

Table 16. Comparison of percentage of rural non-farm married youth 15 to 29 years of age in Kansas, 1930 (5, p. 143), with married youth according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June, 1936.

Age	Rural Non-Farm		Three Agricultural Villages	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
	Per cent married	Per cent married	Per cent married	Per cent married
15 - 19	1.7	13.9	--	8.8
20 - 24	29.7	56.4	23.8	53.6
25 - 29	63.1	73.1	60.6	78.6

As mentioned previously in this study, young women characteristically marry at an earlier age than young men, and the data in Table 17 tend to substantiate this statement. From 21 to 23 years seemed to be the most favored age of marriage for male youth, while more female youth were married between the ages of 18 and 20 years. Furthermore, only 23.3 per cent of the young men in comparison with 52.8 per cent of all young women had married younger than 21 years of age.

A measure for determining whether or not there was a surplus of youth in the three agricultural villages was the

Table 17. Youth 15 to 29 years of age according to age at first marriage in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Age at First Marriage	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
15-17			2	12.4			1	10.0	1	7.1	5	18.5	1	3.3	8	15.1
18-20	1	9.0	4	25.0	1	20.0	6	60.0	4	28.6	10	37.1	6	20.0	20	37.7
21-23	5	45.6	3	18.8	3	60.0	2	20.0	3	21.4	7	25.9	11	36.7	12	22.6
24-26	3	27.3	4	25.0	1	20.0			6	42.9	5	18.5	10	33.3	9	17.0
27-29	2	18.2	3	18.8			1	10.0					2	6.7	4	7.6
Total	11	100.0	16	100.0	5	100.0	10	100.0	14	100.0	27	100.0	30	100.0	53	100.0

extent to which married youth were living in combined or doubled-up households. While combined families are not inevitably indicative of the existance of a problem situation, nevertheless, this type of household is not a common cultural pattern and, therefore, if employment opportunities and housing facilities are adequate, youth ordinarily establish their own home instead of living with their parents, other relatives, or friends.

Table 18 denotes the fact that a large majority of the young married people were maintaining their own homes. Only 13.3 per cent of the married young men and 9.4 per cent of the married young women were living with other families. Although there might have been a tendency to combine families during the time that economic conditions were seriously depressed, the number of youth living in this type of household did not denote a significant trend in this direction. Melvin and Smith found in their study of 45 agricultural villages that in the West North Central region of the United States, which includes the three agricultural villages in Kansas, 12.5 per cent of married male youth were living in the parental household (16, p. 143).

A general analysis of the data concerning the marital status of the youth in the three agricultural villages is not

Table 18. Number married youth living in combined families according to sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Family	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
In Combined Family	2	18.2	2	12.5					2	14.3	3	11.1	4	13.3	5	9.4
Not in Combined Family	9	31.8	14	87.5	5	100.0	10	100.0	12	85.7	24	88.9	26	86.7	48	90.6
Total	11	100.0	16	100.0	5	100.0	10	100.0	14	100.0	27	100.0	30	100.0	53	100.0

definitive of a major decline in the marriage rate during the depression. In all probability, in these rural non-farm areas in which the culture pattern of early marriage is socially approved, there was only a slight decrease at the nadir of the business recession but apparently, these young people married at approximately the normal rate during the period. Although youth in the villages may not have been forced to postpone matrimony in the depression years, it does not necessarily follow that economic opportunities were not seriously limited or that the problems and difficulties of establishing and maintaining new homes did not become perceptibly magnified.

ECONOMICALLY INDEPENDENT YOUTH AWAY FROM HOME

In a study of rural youth it is essential that some information be provided for those youth who were at one time members of households living in the three agricultural villages and were no longer dependent on their families for financial assistance.

A large proportion of the youth 15 to 29 years of age had migrated to the towns or cities. Approximately one-half of the economically independent youth away from home were located in the larger population centers (Table 19). Less

Table 19. Residence of economically independent youth 15 to 29 years of age away from home according to sex, June 1, 1936.

Residence	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Open Country	1	20.0	3	37.5	3	25.0	1	6.3	6	31.6	7	23.3	10	27.8	11	20.4
Home Village	1	20.0	1	12.5			2	12.5	2	10.5	2	6.7	3	8.3	5	9.3
Other Village			1	12.5	2	16.7	4	25.0	1	5.2	7	23.3	3	8.3	12	22.1
Town	1	20.0	1	12.5	1	8.3	1	6.2	4	21.1	5	16.7	6	16.7	7	13.0
City	1	30.0	2	25.0	6	50.0	8	50.0	6	31.6	9	30.0	13	36.1	19	35.2
Not Ascertainable	1	20.0											1	2.8		
Total	5	100.0	8	100.0	12	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	30	100.0	36	100.0	54	100.0

than 10 per cent of these male and female youth remained in the home village, the percentages being 8.3 and 9.3, respectively. A slightly greater proportion of young men than young women moved to towns or cities. Moreover, 27.8 per cent of the male youth went to the open country areas as compared with 20.4 per cent of the female youth. Unless independence of the parental household is secured through marriage few young women can be expected to move to the open country with its dearth of employment opportunities for female youth. Almost three times as many economically independent young women as young men migrated to other villages.

Sex

More young women than young men had achieved economic independence from the home of their parents. Also, the excess of young women was greater in this group than in the population of the villages, June 1, 1936. While female youth comprised 49.2 per cent of all youth in the villages at the time of the survey (Table 13), they constituted 60 per cent of those who had obtained economic independence of the parental household (Table 20). It is ordinarily assumed that young women characteristically leave home to attain

Table 20. Sex of economically independent youth 15 to 29 years of age away from home according to age groups, June 1, 1936.

Sex	All Ages		15-19		20-24		25-29	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Male	36	40.0	8	53.3	17	39.5	11	34.4
Female	54	60.0	7	46.7	26	60.5	21	65.6
Total	90	100.0	15	100.0	43	100.0	32	100.0

economic independence at an earlier age than young men. Figures in Table 20 indicate, on the contrary, that young males had a slightly greater tendency to leave home at an earlier age than young female youth. In the age group 15 to 19 years, 53.3 per cent were males as compared with 46.7 per cent female youth who had established economic independence of their parents. In the older age groups young women did indicate a definite inclination to migrate at an earlier age as the disproportion between the sexes became progressively larger, reaching the greatest disparity among the youth 25 to 29 years of age. In this age group female youth dominated with 65.6 per cent as compared with 34.4 per cent for male youth.

Age

Youth who had left home and obtained an independent status were somewhat older on the average than the youth who lived in the three villages. Only 16.7 per cent of the youth who were away from home at the time of the survey were 15 to 19 years of age (Table 21) in comparison with 43.2 per cent of all youth in this age group in the three villages (Table 11). Moreover, a larger proportion of the youth away from home were 20 to 24 years and 25 to 29 years of age than was

true for those residing in the three population centers.

Table 21. Age of economically independent youth 15 to 29 years of age away from home according to age groups and to sex, June 1, 1936.

Age	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
15 - 19	8	22.2	7	13.0	15	16.7
20 - 24	17	47.2	26	48.1	43	47.8
25 - 29	11	30.6	21	38.9	32	35.5
Total	36	100.0	54	100.0	90	100.0

Size of Family and Youth Away From Home

According to the figures presented in Table 22 there was indicated a more pronounced tendency for youth in the larger families than in the smaller households to leave their parental home and obtain economic independence. The percentage of families in which there were youth away from home became progressively greater as the size of the family increased. Thus, while 95.4 per cent of the families in which there were less than four persons had no youth away from home 43.7 per cent of the families with at least eight

individuals had sons or daughters who had attained economic independence. Moreover, 4.6 per cent of the families of less than four individuals as compared with 56.3 per cent of the families of eight or more persons indicated at least one economically independent youth away from home.

Admittedly, the noticeable decrease in the number for each family classification in Table 22, especially in families of at least eight persons, was reflected in the comparative percentages of economically independent youth away from home. Nevertheless, it was assumed in light of the available data that the designation of the apparent trend in the migration of agricultural village youth was not too empirical to show in the study. Furthermore, it appeared logical that the larger the family the greater the migration because of the possible congestion in the household, the dearth of duties in the home or in the family enterprise, inability of parents to support a large group, and parental pressure on the youth to encourage financial independence.

Occupation

The means of self support are usually determined by the occupation of the individual. Table 23 shows that 50 per cent of the male youth who were financially independent of

Table 22. Economically independent youth 15 to 29 years of age away from home according to original size of family June 1, 1936.

Number Away From Home	Number in Family: Less than 4 No.	Less than 4 Per Cent	4-5 No.	4-5 Per Cent	6-7 No.	6-7 Per Cent	8 and Over No.	8 and Over Per Cent
Inman								
None	94	94.9	37	94.9	5	83.3	1	33.3
1	5	5.1	2	5.1			2	66.7
2								
3 and over					1	16.7		
Total	99	100.0	39	100.0	6	100.0	3	100.0
Mount Hope								
None	60	92.3	20	83.4	2	20.0	1	50.0
1	4	6.2	2	8.3	5	50.0		
2	1	1.5	2	8.3	2	20.0	1	50.0
3 and over					1	10.0		
Total	65	100.0	24	100.0	10	100.0	2	100.0
Oxford								
None	134	97.1	43	75.0	15	65.2	5	45.4
1	4	2.9	13	20.3	4	17.4	1	9.1
2			3	4.7	3	13.0	4	36.4
3 and over					1	4.4	1	9.1
Total	138	100.0	64	100.0	23	100.0	11	100.0
Three Villages Combined								
None	288	95.4	105	82.7	22	56.4	7	43.7
1	13	4.3	17	13.4	9	23.1	3	18.7
2	1	0.3	5	3.9	5	12.8	5	31.3
3 and over					3	7.7	1	6.3
Total	302	100.0	127	100.0	39	100.0	16	100.0

Table 23. Occupation (1, p. 5-7) of economically independent youth 16 to 29 years of age away from home according to sex, June 1, 1936.

Occupation June 1, 1936	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Farm Tenant					3	25.0							3	8.3		
Farm Laborer									1	5.3			1	2.8		
Housewife			5	62.5			9	56.3			22	73.4			36	66.6
Professional							3	18.7			4	13.3			7	13.0
Proprietary	1	20.0			2	16.7			1	5.3			4	11.1		
Clerical					3	25.0	4	25.0	3	15.8			6	16.6	4	7.4
Skilled					2	16.7			2	10.5			4	11.2		
Semi-skilled or Unskilled	4	80.0	3	37.5	2	16.7			12	63.1	4	13.3	18	50.0	7	13.0
Total	5	100.0	8	100.0	12	100.0	16	100.0	19	100.0	30	100.0	36	100.0	54	100.0

their families in the three agricultural villages were classified as semi-skilled or unskilled laborers. The clerical workers represented 16.1 per cent of the total number. The proprietary and skilled categories each accounted for 11.1 per cent of the economically independent youth away from home. Only 11.1 per cent of the male youth were engaged in agriculture, 8.3 per cent were farm tenants, the remaining 2.8 per cent consisted of farm laborers. According to the large proportion of these young men who have entered unskilled occupations, apparently rural youth have been unable to compete successfully in securing the better jobs in industry and have made little progress up the rungs of the agricultural ladder.

Almost two-thirds of the total number of female youth away from home were not gainfully employed, being classified as housewives. This seems to indicate that a large share of the female youth marry before becoming independent of the parental home or attain a marital status soon thereafter. Thirteen per cent of the economically independent young women had entered semi-skilled or unskilled occupations, another 13 per cent were classified in the professional group and only 7.4 per cent were employed in clerical work.

Again the difference in the total number of youth who are independent of their parents in each age group presented

a distinct handicap in making an equitable comparison. It will be noted in Table 24, however, that there appeared to be a slightly greater tendency for male youth who left home between the ages of 15 and 19 years and 25 and 29 years to enter semi-skilled and unskilled occupations as compared with the young men who secured economic independence between the ages of 20 and 24 years. The percentages in these three age-periods were 50, 71.4, and 41.1, respectively. Also, considering only the proprietary, clerical, and skilled occupations the male youth in the age group from 20 to 24 years had an apparent advantage in occupationsl rating over the youth in the other two age periods. Forty-seven and one-tenth per cent of the males obtaining independence between the ages of 20 and 24 years as compared with 41.7 per cent of those 15 to 19 years and 14.3 per cent of the older age group 25 to 29 years were classified in these three occupational categories. Only three of the youth away from home were designated as farm operators and they were classified as farm tenants. As pointed out above, a great majority of the young women away from home had attained a marital status and according to Table 24 apparently this is a valid assertion irrespective of the age of departure from the parental household. Almost 70 per cent of the age group

Table 24. Occupation and age on leaving home of economically independent youth 15 to 29 years of age according to sex, June 1, 1936.

Occupation June 1, 1936	Male						Female					
	Age on leaving home						Age on leaving home					
	15-19		20-24		25-29		15-19		20-24		25-29	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Farm Tenant			2	11.8	1	14.3						
Farm Laborer	1	8.3										
Housewife							16	69.7	14	60.9	6	75.0
Professional							1	4.3	5	21.7	1	12.5
Proprietary	1	8.3	2	11.8	1	14.3						
Clerical	2	16.7	4	23.5			3	13.0	1	4.3		
Skilled	2	16.7	2	11.8								
Semi-skilled or Unskilled	6	50.0	7	41.1	5	71.4	3	13.0	3	13.1	1	12.5
Total	12	100.0	17	100.0	7	100.0	23	100.0	23	100.0	8	100.0

15 to 19 years, approximately 61 per cent of the age group 20 to 24 years, and 75 per cent of the age group 25 to 29 years were assisting in the maintenance of homes of their own. Seemingly, the age at which female youth left home made little or no difference in their entrance to semi-skilled and unskilled occupations as about 13 per cent in each of the three age classifications were in this occupational category. Most of those in the professional class left home between the ages of 20 and 24 years. This would be expected since this is the age period in which a large share of the female youth who attend college are granted an academic degree and subsequently enter teaching or other professions.

Marital Status

Under normal conditions among youth who remain in the villages the attainment of economic independence and marriage usually are closely associated. A similar relationship cannot be assumed, however, for the youth who leave the home village and obtain complete self-support. Since only a small proportion of the total economically independent youth lived in the same village as their parents, the following analysis of Table 25 is essentially valid.

According to the data presented in Table 25, only 41.7 per cent of the economically independent young men were married, although approximately three-fourths of all young women had established homes of their own. This difference is to be expected as in a number of instances female youth attain economic independence through marriage. To further emphasize the importance of marriage in the determination of the economic status of young women, Table 25 indicates that a relatively high percentage between the ages of 20 and 29 years were married. Almost 77 per cent of such youth in the 20 to 24 year classification were married and of those in the 25 to 29 year age group 90.5 per cent had attained this status. Economic independence of the parental household only connotes individual support and not the ability to maintain a family. Therefore, it was not surprising that comparatively fewer young men than young women were married.

On the other hand, the marriage rate was higher for the independent youth than for all youth who claimed residence in the villages (Table 15). Also, considering only the youth who were no longer attending school and living in the three agricultural villages, the percentage married in all age groups with the exception of the female youth 15 to 19 years and 20 to 24 years was perceptibly greater for the

Table 25. Marital status of economically independent youth 15 to 29 years of age away from home according to age groups and sex, June 1, 1936.

Marital Status	15-19				20-24				25-29				Total			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Married	3	37.5	1	14.3	8	47.1	20	76.9	4	36.4	19	90.5	15	41.7	40	74.1
Single	5	62.5	6	85.7	9	52.9	6	23.1	7	63.6	2	9.5	21	58.3	14	25.9
Total	8	100.0	7	100.0	17	100.0	26	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0	36	100.0	54	100.0

economically independent young persons. Almost 42 per cent of the self-supporting male youth had established new families as compared with 36.1 per cent of the out-of-school youth who remained in the villages. As would be expected the difference between the proportion of young women independent of the parental home and the female youth in the population centers was particularly noticeable. Almost three-fourths of the females who were independent, as compared with slightly over 60 per cent of the female youth in the three villages, had married.

Among the economically independent male youth who had married, the age at first marriage for 53.3 per cent was 21 to 23 years (Table 26). For the corresponding group of female youth the most common age of marriage was 18 to 20 years. Apparently, early marriage was not unusual among these youth as 26.7 per cent of the young men and 62.5 per cent of the young women had established their own home before reaching the age of 21 years. One male and eight females were married before attaining the age of 18 years. When all married youth were considered, there was little disparity in the average age at the first marriage between all the youth living in the three villages and those who were self-supporting (Table 17).

Table 26. Economically independent married youth 15 to 29 years of age away from home according to age at first marriage, June 1, 1936.

Age at first marriage	Male		Female	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
15 - 17	1	6.7	8	20.0
18 - 20	3	20.0	17	42.5
21 - 23	8	53.3	9	22.5
24 - 26	2	13.3	4	10.0
27 - 29	1	6.7	2	5.0
Total	15	100.0	40	100.0

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The democratic philosophy of education in the United States has been a significantly compelling force which has persistently mandated that an education at the public expense be provided for every youth in this country. In recent years, the school in American society has assumed not only the responsibility of training youth in the United States for industrial and occupational efficiency but also of teaching for citizenship and service. This philosophy has further dictated that the homely concept of the greatest

good for the greatest number can only be realized if each person is intelligently informed and fully equipped to exercise his or her power of free and active participation in public affairs. The trend, therefore, has been toward the provision of better schools with more extensive curricula as well as increased facilities for adult education. Furthermore, during the depression with its myriad of complex unemployment problems, and increasingly greater emphasis has been placed on the desirability of extending the period of compulsory school attendance to mitigate the pressure for jobs as well as provide the youth with a more substantial background for occupational and social adjustment. Since unemployment is from one-fourth to one-third greater at 16 years than at 18 years, it is recommended that young people be kept in school until at least 18 years of age (18, p. 38). Also, studies have shown that rural relief youth in the United States were educationally inferior to all rural youth (14, p. 25). This was true for Kansas as well as for the country as a whole.[8] A low educational level and poverty seemed to be associated factors.

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[8]Hill, Randall C., and Long, Glenn W., Rural families on relief in Kansas. Monograph prepared for Division of Social Research, WPA, Washington, D. C. (Unpublished manuscript) 88 p. August, 1938.

In this chapter will be discussed the educational attainments and school attendance as well as other apparently pertinent data which will help describe the educational status of youth in the three agricultural villages in Kansas.

School Attendance

Readily accessible and comparatively adequate primary and secondary school facilities were available for the youth in each of the three villages surveyed in this study. Moreover, the high school located in each village had been given a relatively high rating by the Kansas High School Association.[9] During the school year 1935-36, 55.5 per cent of the young people 15 to 24 years of age were attending school (Table 27). Proportionately more male youth than female youth in the three villages were going to school, the percentages being 57.9 and 53.4, respectively. It will be noticed that there was a rapid decrease in the proportion of both young men and young women attending school after age 16 years, the age which marks the termination of the period of compulsory school attendance stipulated by state law. As

[9] Long, Glenn W., Supplementary report for youth in the villages of Inman, Mount Hope, and Oxford, Kansas. Report prepared for Division of Social Research, WPA, Washington, D. C. (Unpublished manuscript) 30 p. August 15, 1936.

Table 27. School attendance of youth 15 to 24 years of age in three agricultural villages according to age groups and sex for the school year, 1935-1936.

School Status	Male											
	15-16		17-18		19-20		21-22		23-24		All Ages	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
In School[10]	24	96.0	13	68.4	7	31.8	2	18.2	1	9.1	47	53.4
Out-of-School[11]	1	4.0	6	31.6	15	68.2	9	81.8	10	90.9	41	46.6
Total	25	100.0	19	100.0	22	100.0	11	100.0	11	100.0	88	100.0

School Status	Female										Total	
											No.	Per Cent
In School[10]	19	95.0	21	87.5	2	16.7	2	22.2			44	57.9	91	55.5
Out-of-School[11]	1	5.0	3	12.5	10	83.3	7	77.8	11	100.0	32	42.1	73	44.5
Total	20	100.0	24	100.0	12	100.0	9	100.0	11	100.0	76	100.0	164	100.0

10. Information not available for one female in school.

11. Information not available for 10 males and eight females out of school.

would be expected, the number in school became markedly less in each of the older age groups.

The proportion of the youth in the three villages who were in school was substantially greater than in the 13 agricultural villages in the West North Central region, of which the three population centers in Kansas were a part used by Melvin and Smith in their study of Youth in Agricultural Villages (16, p. 95). In the larger sample, 33.8 per cent of the male youth and 29.8 per cent of the female youth were in school.

Data were not available to indicate to what extent the depression period with its lack of opportunities for employment both in the home community and throughout the United States was responsible for keeping youth in the schools of the three villages. It is likely that the economic situation did exert considerable influence in maintaining a relatively high secondary school enrollment during the period covered by the survey.

Educational Attainment of Youth in School

Table 28 shows that a great majority of the youth in the three agricultural villages attending full-time day school, during the school year 1935-36, were in the grade

Table 23. Educational attainment of youth 15 to 24 years of age in school according to age and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Grade Completed	Male													
	Age June 1, 1936													
	15		16		17		18		19		20-24		All Ages	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Under 8	1	14.3			1	10.0							2	4.3
8	1	14.3	2	11.8									3	6.4
9	3	42.8	2	11.8	2	20.0	1	33.3					8	17.0
10	1	14.3	6	35.3	1	10.0							8	17.0
11	1	14.3	6	35.3	3	30.0			1	16.7			11	23.4
12			1	5.8	3	30.0	1	33.3	5	83.3			10	21.3
Over 12							1	33.3			4	100.0	5	10.6
Total	7	100.0	17	100.0	10	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	4	100.0	47	100.0

	Female[12]													
Under 8														
8			2	20.0									2	4.5
9	5	55.5											5	11.4
10	3	33.3	6	60.0									9	20.4
11	1	11.2	2	20.0	12	70.6	1	25.0					16	36.4
12					5	29.4	3	75.0					8	18.2
Over 12									2	100.0	2	100.0	4	9.1
Total	9	100.0	10	100.0	17	100.0	4	100.0	2	100.0	2	100.0	44	100.0

12. Information not available for one female.

Table 28 (cont.)

	Total													
Under 8	1	.3			1	3.7							2	2.2
8	1	6.3	4	14.8									5	5.5
9	8	50.0	2	7.4	2	7.4	1	14.3					13	14.3
10	4	25.0	12	44.4	1	3.7							17	18.7
11	2	12.4	8	29.7	15	55.6	1	14.3	1	12.5			27	29.7
12			1	3.7	8	29.6	4	57.1	5	62.5			18	19.8
Over 12							1	14.3	2	25.0	6	100.0	9	9.8
Total	16	100.0	27	100.0	27	100.0	7	100.0	8	100.0	6	100.0	91	100.0

and high schools. Only nine young people, or 9.8 per cent of the total of 91 youth, had taken a post graduate course in high school or had enrolled in a college or university. However, only two out of these nine youth had taken work as post graduate students in the local high school. A slightly greater proportion of young men than young women attempted to attain an educational status higher than the twelfth grade, 10.6 per cent of the former and 9.1 per cent of the latter. The predominance of village male youth in the colleges and universities was in accord with the proportion in the total college population in the United States in 1930, 58.6 per cent of the total college enrollment was males, and the remaining 41.4 per cent females (22, p. 259). A larger proportion of girls than boys, however, had gone to high school during the school year 1934-35, the respective percentages being 86.4 and 73.7. The larger proportion of young women in the high schools was in virtual agreement with the entire high school population in the United States in which females in secondary schools outnumbered males, 51.9 per cent as compared with 48.1 per cent (21, p. 259). A comparison of the proportion of young men and young women in the last two years of high school, suggest that more boys than girls drop out between the third and fourth year. Of

the young men 44.7 per cent had attained this educational status, while 54.6 per cent of the young women had finished the last two years of their secondary education.

Using the age-grade schedule of the United States Office of Education for computing retardation (16, p. 31), the in-school youth in the three villages indicated a fairly high educational attainment and relatively little retardation. Approximately one-fourth of the young men 16 years of age and one-fifth of the young women of the same age had completed less than one year in high school (Table 28). These percentages were comparatively high but the smallness of the sample had a tendency to distort the picture because numerically only four male youth and two female youth in this age group had not entered the first year of high school. Likewise, only a small proportion of the youth 17 years of age were below the second year of high school. Moreover, many young people were advanced beyond the grade considered normal for their age.

Educational Attainment of Youth Out of School

An analysis of the grade attainment of youth living in the villages who were no longer attending school as of June 1, 1936, denoted a relatively high educational status.

Almost 65 per cent had completed high school or gone on to take advanced training (Table 29). At the same time the proportion who had passed only the eighth grade or less was about twice as high for both sexes and all ages as for in-school youth. Although slightly more young men than young women had achieved a grade standing past the twelfth grade--14.7 per cent as compared with 12.5 per cent--young women on the average had more education than young men. Over 19 per cent of the male youth as compared with only 9.5 per cent of the female youth had not gone any further in school than the eighth grade or less. While 78.2 per cent of all the girls in the villages had completed from the ninth to twelfth grade in high school, only 65.8 per cent of the boys had progressed that far.

That young people in these agricultural villages in Kansas attained a relatively high educational level is attested by a comparison of the data on school attainment in the West North Central region, which includes the three Kansas villages, as well as in other areas in the United States (16, p. 97). While admittedly the data are not strictly comparable, they are the best available and are believed to depict the general situation. While the youth in the 13 villages in the West North Central region had the

Table 29. School attainment of youth 15 to 24 years of age out of school according to age and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Grade Completed	Male[13]															
	Age June 1, 1936															
	15-17		18		19		20		21		22-24		All Ages	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Under 8			2	50.0							1	7.1	3	7.3
8	2	66.7									3	21.4	5	12.2
9	1	33.3					1	11.1			1	7.1	3	7.3
10					1	16.7	1	11.1					2	4.9
11					1	16.7							1	2.4
12			2	50.0	4	66.6	5	55.6	5	100.0	5	35.7	21	51.2
Over 12							2	22.2			4	28.7	6	14.7
Total	3	100.0	4	100.0	6	100.0	9	100.0	5	100.0	14	100.0	41	100.0

	Female[13]													
Under 8											1	6.3	1	3.1
8	1	100.0			1	14.3							2	6.2
9											3	18.7	3	9.4
10					1	14.3					2	12.5	3	9.4
11			1	33.3					2	100.0			3	9.4
12			2	66.7	3	42.9	3	100.0			8	50.0	16	50.0
Over 12					2	28.5					2	12.5	4	12.5
Total	1	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	3	100.0	2	100.0	16	100.0	32	100.0

13. Information not available for 10 males and eight females.

Table 29. (cont.)

	Total													
Under 8			2	28.6							2	6.7	4	5.5
8	3	75.0			1	7.7					3	10.0	7	9.6
9	1	25.0					1	8.3			4	13.3	6	8.2
10					2	15.4	1	8.3			2	6.7	5	6.8
11			1	14.3	1	7.7			2	28.6			4	5.5
12			4	57.1	7	53.8	8	66.7	5	71.4	13	43.3	37	50.7
Over 12					2	15.4	2	16.7			6	20.0	10	13.7
Total	4	100.0	7	100.0	13	100.0	12	100.0	7	100.0	30	100.0	73	100.0

highest educational attainment of the seven regions included in the study of Youth in Agricultural Villages, the three villages in Kansas indicated a slightly higher level of education than was shown for the entire region. For example, 49.7 per cent of the male and female youth in the region had finished high school, whereas 50.7 per cent of the Kansas youth had completed their secondary education. Also, 11.8 per cent of the young people in the West North Central region had advanced beyond high school training as compared with about 13 per cent of the young people in the three agricultural villages in Kansas.

Age at Leaving School

It is evident from the data presented in Table 30 that youth in the three agricultural villages were leaving school at an age which at present is generally considered too young to secure full-time employment. Slightly more than three-fourths of all the out-of-school youth had left school before reaching the age of 19 years and about one-fourth did not attend school after they were 16 years old. Since the average youth does not complete high school until about 18 years of age, these figures seem to reveal the fact that a large number of youth failed to complete their secondary

Table 30. Age at leaving full-time day school of out-of-school youth 15 to 24 according to age and sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Age Left School	Male [13]								Female [13]								Total	
	Age June 1, 1936								Age June 1, 1936									
	16-18		19-21		22-24		All Ages		16-18		19-21		22-24		All Ages			
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Under 15	1	14.2					1	2.4					2	11.8	2	6.3	3	4.1
15-16	3	42.9	1	5.0	8	35.7	9	22.0	2	50.0	1	9.1	2	11.8	5	15.6	14	19.2
17-18	3	42.9	13	65.0	3	21.4	19	46.3	2	50.0	10	90.9	7	41.2	19	59.4	38	52.1
19-20			6	30.0	2	14.3	8	19.5					5	29.4	5	15.6	13	17.8
Over 20					4	28.6	4	9.8					1	5.8	1	3.1	5	6.8
Total	7	100.0	20	100.0	14	100.0	41	100.0	4	100.0	11	100.0	17	100.0	32	100.0	73	100.0

[13] Information not available for 10 males and eight females.

school education. This situation is further emphasized by the preceding table (Table 29) concerning school attainment of out-of-school youth in which it is indicated that more than one-third of the village youth had not been graduated from high school. Slightly more young men than young women left school before attaining the age of 17 years. On the other hand, considerably more female youth than male youth had dropped out of school before they were 19 years of age. A little more than 70 per cent of the boys and 81.3 per cent of the girls had left school before reaching this age. More than 29 per cent of the young men and about 19 per cent of the young women had continued in school after age 19 years. The greater proportion of young men than young women in the older age classification attending school probably reflected to some extent the approval of the earlier marriage of young females which commonly prevails in the rural areas as well as the attitude that a relatively high educational attainment is not as essential for young women as for young men since a large number work only a short time before marriage and subsequently are not gainfully employed.

Not so many years ago a large proportion of the youth in the teen-ages were able to obtain comparatively permanent

employment, in fact there was widespread approval of and a general demand for their services. During the past few years compulsory education and child labor laws have exerted a powerful influence on raising the minimum age that the young person may leave school and secure employment. Moreover, recent trends in business and industry which have placed a high value on work experience have made it exceedingly difficult for youth to find a relatively satisfactory job.

Nevertheless, despite the apparent significance of these trends seemingly there continues to be a cultural lag in the provisions for keeping youth in school until after the teen-age which is shown in Tables 29 and 30, indicating to some degree the waiting period between the termination of school and the obtaining of employment. It will be observed in Table 31, although the limited sample prevents a complete and accurate analysis, that those youth who left school in the older age groups had to wait the shortest time before finding a job. Among the male youth who discontinued school before reaching the age of 16 years, only 16.7 per cent succeeded in securing employment in less than one year after leaving school, while 80 per cent of those youth who were 19 years of age or older when they finished their

Table 31. Age finished school by youth 15 to 24 years of age and number of years before first job[14] was obtained according to sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[15]

Number Years Before First Job	Age Left School: Inman: Under 16 No.	Per Cent	16-17 No.	Per Cent	18-19 No.	Per Cent	Over 19 No.	Per Cent	Mount Hope: Under 16 No.	Per Cent	16-17 No.	Per Cent	18-19 No.	Per Cent	Over 19 No.	Per Cent
Less Than 1					3	75.0	2	100.0			1	100.0	2	50.0		
1-2			1	100.0	1	25.0			1	33.3			2	50.0		
3 and Over									2	66.7						
Total			1	100.0	4	100.0	2	100.0	3	100.0	1	100.0	4	100.0		

	Oxford								Three Villages Combined							
Less Than 1	1	33.3	5	55.6	4	50.0	2	66.7	1	16.7	6	54.5	9	56.3	4	80.0
1-2	1	33.3	2	22.2	3	37.5	1	33.3	2	33.3	3	27.3	6	37.5	1	20.0
3 and Over	1	33.3	2	22.2	1	12.5			3	50.0	2	18.2	1	6.2		
Total	3	100.0	9	100.0	8	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	11	100.0	16	100.0	5	100.0

Female[15]

	Inman								Mount Hope							
Less Than 1			1	50.0	4	80.0										
1-2	1	100.0	1	50.0	1	20.0	1	100.0					1	100.0		
3 and Over																
Total	1	100.0	2	100.0	5	100.0	1	100.0					1	100.0		

14. Three males never employed and nine housewives omitted from calculations.
15. Information not available for 10 males and eight females.

Table 31 (cont.)

	Oxford								Three Villages Combined							
Less Than 1	2	100.0	2	40.0	1	20.0	1	100.0	2	66.7	3	42.9	5	45.5	1	50.0
1-2			3	60.0	4	80.0			1	33.3	4	57.1	6	54.5	1	50.0
3 and Over																
Total	2	100.0	5	100.0	5	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	11	100.0	2	100.0

education found employment in less than a year. Furthermore, 50 per cent of the male youth less than 16 years of age as compared with 18.2 per cent of those between the ages of 16 and 17 years, 6.2 per cent of the young men 18 or 19 years of age, and none of the male youth 19 years of age and older when leaving school had to wait at least three years before obtaining a gainful occupation. While young women leaving school at the later ages had a shorter period of apparent idleness than those discontinuing their attempts to attain a higher level of education at the earlier ages, the tendency was not nearly as pronounced as for young men. The age at leaving school did not seem to influence significantly the duration of the waiting period intervening before female youth were able to obtain their first job.

Although the limited sample again makes a definite conclusion relatively untenable, the data presented in Table 32 apparently provided additional evidence to support the thesis that educational attainment does have some bearing on the occupational status of the young person. A great majority--77.8 per cent--of the male youth who went no further in school than the eighth grade were classified as semi-skilled or unskilled workers as of June 1, 1936, the major portion of whom had no particular occupation but were

Table 32. Grade completed by youth 15 to 24 years of age out of school and their occupation according to sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[15]

Occupation June 1, 1936	Grade Completed: Inman: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent	Mount Hope: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent
Farm Tenant												
Proprietary			1	14.4			1	25.0	1	20.0		
Clerical			3	42.8					1	20.0		
Skilled												
Semi-skilled												
or Unskilled			3	42.8			2	50.0	3	60.0		
Unemployed							1	25.0				
Total			7	100.0			4	100.0	5	100.0		

Occupation June 1, 1936	Oxford: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent
Farm Tenant			1	6.7					1	3.7		
Proprietary					1	20.0	1	11.1	2	7.4	1	20.0
Clerical			2	13.3					6	22.2		
Skilled			2	13.3					2	7.4		
Semi-skilled												
or Unskilled	5	100.0	10	66.7	2	40.0	7	77.8	16	59.3	2	40.0
Unemployed					2	40.0	1	11.1			2	40.0
Total	5	100.0	15	100.0	5	100.0	9	100.0	27	100.0	5	100.0

Female[15]

Occupation June 1, 1936	Inman: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent	Mount Hope: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent
Professional												
Clerical			2	16.7					1	33.3		
Skilled			1	8.3								
Semi-skilled												
or Unskilled			1	8.3								
Housewife			8	66.7			1	100.0	2	66.7		
Unemployed												
Total			12	100.0			1	100.0	3	100.0		

15. Information not available for 10 males and eight females.

Table 32 (cont.)

Female

Occupation June 1, 1936	Grade Completed: Oxford: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined: Under 9 No.	Under 9 Per Cent	9-12 No.	9-12 Per Cent	Over 12 No.	Over 12 Per Cent
Professional					1	25.0					1	25.0
Clerical			2	20.0	2	50.0			4	16.0	2	50.0
Skilled									1	4.0		
Semi-skilled or Unskilled			2	20.0					4	16.0		
Housewife	1	50.0	6	60.0	1	25.0	2	66.7	16	64.0	1	25.0
Unemployed	1	50.0					1	33.3				
Total	2	100.0	10	100.0	4	100.0	3	100.0	25	100.0	4	100.0

employed irregularly at any type of common labor. While some of the young men who had completed from 9 to 12 grades in school were occupied at semi-skilled or unskilled jobs the number became proportionately less as educational qualifications advanced. Approximately 59 per cent of the boys who discontinued school between the ninth and the twelfth grade and 40 per cent of those who had no educational level beyond high school were employed at jobs requiring little or no skill. Although a similar tendency seemed to be present among young women, since more than one-half of the female youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years were married and not gainfully employed, June 1, 1936, the remaining number was not sufficient to denote perceptibly the inverse relationship existing between educational attainment and occupational status as was shown for young men in Table 32.

ECONOMIC STATUS

Almost as important as the educational attainment of young people is the facility with which they find jobs after their formal schooling is completed, or dropped. A description of the employment and occupational status of the youth in the three agricultural villages should provide

further comparatively valuable information concerning their general welfare. The extent to which these young persons obtained adequate employment and entered desirable occupations present tangible criteria by which to judge the success or failure of their social and economic adjustment in society. Also, such a presentation should afford an insight into the employment opportunities available to the youth in these villages. Moreover, in this chapter will be depicted certain data concerning the financial standing of the young people in the three population centers, such as income, source of income, value of property owned, and the employment of youth by relatives.

Employment Status

Table 33 indicates that a great majority of the male youth in the three agricultural villages were at least partially employed[16] as of June 1, 1936. Only 9.6 per cent of these young men were unemployed, while the remaining 90.4 per cent had succeeded in securing some kind of gainful employment. However, some of these young males, who were not working at the time of the survey, undoubtedly were helping in the homes, with the family enterprise, or occupation

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[16] A youth was considered employed if he worked for pay at least one day each week, emergency employment included, during the two weeks preceding June 1, 1936.

Table 33. Employment status of out-of-school youth 15 to 29 years of age according to sex and age groups, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male

	Inman						Mount Hope					
	15-19		20-24		25-29		15-19		20-24		25-29	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Employed			9	100.0	13	100.0	5	100.0	3	75.0	3	100.0
Unemployed									1	25.0		
Total			9	100.0	13	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	3	100.0

	Oxford						Three Villages Combined						All Ages	
Employed	6	85.7	22	84.6	14	87.5	11	91.7	34	87.2	30	93.8	75	90.4
Unemployed	1	14.3	4	15.4	2	12.5	1	8.3	5	12.8	2	6.2	8	9.6
Total	7	100.0	26	100.0	16	100.0	12	100.0	39	100.0	32	100.0	83	100.0

Female[18]

	Inman						Mount Hope			
Employed	3	75.0	1	12.5	3	27.3			1	20.0	2	25.0
Unemployed					1	9.1			2	40.0		
Housewife	1	25.0	7	87.5	7	63.6	1	100.0	2	40.0	6	75.0
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	11	100.0	1	100.0	5	100.0	8	100.0

	Oxford						Three Villages Combined						All Ages	
Employed	4	36.4	6	54.5	5	22.7	7	43.7	8	34.8	10	24.4	25	31.3
Unemployed	4	36.4					4	25.0	1	4.3	1	2.4	6	7.5
Housewife	3	27.2	5	45.5	17	77.3	5	31.3	14	60.9	30	73.2	49	61.2
Total	11	100.0	11	100.0	22	100.0	16	100.0	23	100.0	41	100.0	80	100.0

18. Information not available for one female.

without receiving any definite remuneration; therefore, some of their apparent surplus time was accounted for in this manner. Apparently, those male youth in the age group 25 to 29 years who had not been handicapped during all their employable years by the depressed economic conditions were more fortunate in their economic adjustment than were the younger males. Slightly more than 93.8 per cent of the males between the ages of 25 and 29 years as compared with 91.7 per cent of the young men 15 to 19 years of age and 87.2 per cent of those in the 20 to 24 age group were working as of June 1, 1936.

More young men than young women in all age groups were gainfully employed at the time of the survey (Table 33). Almost three-fourths of all the young women in the three villages were married, therefore, the matrimonial process had eliminated many of the girls who were unemployed as well as a few who were working prior to marriage.[17] Only 7.5 per cent of all the young women indicated either no gainful work or no house-wifely duties, June 1, 1936. On the other hand, if the group of young women designated as housewives are omitted from consideration, a little more than 19 per cent of the female youth are shown in Table 33 as being unemployed.

[17] Only three of the housewives in the villages were gainfully employed, June 1, 1936.

In general, unemployment in the three population centers did not appear to present a serious problem. It must be remembered, however, that employment opportunities in these agricultural communities were approaching their peak at the time of the year the data were collected and it is logical to assume that the proportion of unemployed would increase during the fall and winter months. Also, since those youth who were working on emergency programs, such as the Works Progress Administration, the National Youth Administration, and the Civilian Conservation Corps were considered gainfully employed, doubtless, the discontinuance of this type of work would accentuate the problem of unemployment in these villages.

Of the three villages, Inman with only one female out of the total number of youth unemployed, not including housewives, had the smallest unemployment problem. In Mount Hope there were only one male and two females unemployed as compared with seven young men and four young women in the larger population center of Oxford.

Data in Table 34 reflect to some degree the amount of employment available for male and unmarried female youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years during the twelve months, June 1, 1935 to June 1, 1936. It is evident that over a

Table 34. Number of days of gainful employment of out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age from June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages.

Male[19]

Days Gainfully Employed	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
None							1	25.0							1	3.4	1	2.4
1-59									4	57.1	2	11.1	4	33.3	2	6.9	6	14.6
60-119					2	40.0			3	42.9	5	27.8	5	41.7	5	17.2	10	24.4
120-179					1	20.0	1	25.0			1	5.5	1	8.3	2	6.9	3	7.3
180-239			1	14.3	2	40.0					6	33.3	2	16.7	7	24.2	9	22.0
240-299			2	28.6							3	16.7			5	17.2	5	12.2
300 and Over			4	57.1			2	50.0			1	5.6			7	24.2	7	17.1
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	29	100.0	41	100.0

Unmarried Female[19]

Days Gainfully Employed	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
None							1	50.0							1	14.2	1	7.7
1-59	1	33.3											1	16.7			1	7.7
60-119	1	33.3							1	33.3			2	33.3			2	15.4
120-179									2	66.7			2	33.3			2	15.4
180-239							1	50.0			1	25.0			2	28.6	2	15.4
240-299											2	50.0			2	28.6	2	15.4
300 and Over	1	33.3	1	100.0							1	25.0	1	16.7	2	28.6	3	23.0
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0			2	100.0	3	100.0	4	100.0	6	100.0	7	100.0	13	100.0

19. Information not available for 10 males and 7 females.

period of time, most youth experience some unemployment, assuming that all youth were seeking employment. Only 17.1 per cent of the young men and 23 per cent of the young unmarried women had worked at least 300 days during the twelve months under consideration. Moreover, more than 40 per cent of the young males and 30.8 per cent of the young unmarried females were gainfully employed fewer than 120 days, or less than half the time during the year. The youth of both sexes between the ages of 15 and 19 years apparently experienced the greatest difficulty in finding regular employment. Although only a small percentage in this age group had no work at all during the period, 75 per cent of the young men and 50 per cent of the young women in comparison with 27.5 per cent and none, respectively, of male and female youth between the ages of 20 and 24 years were employed less than 120 days. These figures seem to support the tentative conclusion presented in the discussion of Table 31 that more time was lost by youth who leave school before age 19 years than was true for those youth who discontinued their formal education after that age.

Since the actual number of youth in any one of the three villages was small, it is difficult to present an adequate comparison of the employment situation existing in

each of the population centers. Inman, however, as denoted in the analysis of the preceding table, had the most favorable employment conditions during the period June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936. A major portion of the youth not only were employed on June 1, 1936, but also had steadier work during the year.

Occupational and Financial Status

A discussion of the occupations of youth, their incomes, the economic relationship to their parents, the type and value of property owned, and the mobility of these youth are essential for a relatively complete evaluation of the economic status of these young people. It is fundamentally important to know not only whether youth were employed but also at what were they working and, at the same time, obtain an insight into the occupational opportunities present in these three villages which will enable these youth to advance up the socio-economic ladder.

Table 35 and Table 36 provide information concerning the occupational classification of male and female youth who were out of school, June 1, 1936. Of the employed male youth between the ages of 15 and 29 years, the largest proportion were at the bottom of the scale of occupations, 36.1

Table 35. Occupational classification (1, p. 5-7) of male youth 15 to 29 years of age out of school in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Occupational Classification	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Inman 25-29 No.	Inman 25-29 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 25-29 No.	Mount Hope 25-29 Per Cent
Farm Tenant					1	7.7						
Farm Laborer												
Proprietary			1	11.2	2	15.4			2	50.0		
Clerical			3	33.3	4	30.7	1	20.0			1	33.3
Skilled					2	15.4						
Semi-skilled			2	22.2	2	15.4	1	20.0				
Unskilled			3	33.3	2	15.4	3	60.0	1	25.0	2	66.7
Unemployed									1	25.0		
Total			9	100.0	13	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	3	100.0

Occupational Classification	Oxford No.	Oxford Per Cent	Oxford No.	Oxford Per Cent	Oxford No.	Oxford Per Cent	Three Villages Combined No.	Three Villages Combined Per Cent	Three Villages Combined No.	Three Villages Combined Per Cent	Three Villages Combined No.	Three Villages Combined Per Cent	All Ages No.	All Ages Per Cent
Farm Tenant			1	3.8					1	2.6	1	3.1	2	2.4
Farm Laborer	1	14.3	1	3.8	1	6.3	1	8.3	1	2.6	1	3.1	3	3.6
Proprietary			2	7.7	1	6.3			5	12.8	3	9.4	8	9.6
Clerical			2	7.7	2	12.5	1	8.3	5	12.8	7	21.9	13	15.7
Skilled	1	14.3	3	11.5	3	18.8	1	8.3	3	7.7	5	15.6	9	10.8
Semi-skilled	1	14.3	2	7.7	2	12.5	2	16.8	4	10.3	4	12.5	10	12.1
Unskilled	3	42.8	11	42.3	5	31.1	6	50.0	15	38.4	9	28.1	30	36.1
Unemployed	1	14.3	4	15.8	2	12.5	1	8.3	5	12.8	2	6.3	8	9.7
Total	7	100.0	26	100.0	16	100.0	12	100.0	39	100.0	32	100.0	83	100.0

Table 36. Occupational classification (1, p. 5-7) of female youth 15 to 29 years of age out of school in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Occupational Classification	Inman						Mount Hope					
	15-19		20-24		25-29		15-19		20-24		25-29	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Professional					2	18.2						
Proprietary					1	9.1					1	12.5
Clerical	1	25.0	1	12.5					1	20.0	1	12.5
Skilled	1	25.0										
Semi-skilled												
Unskilled	1	25.0										
Housewife	1	25.0	7	87.5	7	63.6	1	100.0	2	40.0	6	75.0
Unemployed					1	9.1			2	40.0		
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	11	100.0	1	100.0	5	100.0	8	100.0

Occupational Classification	Oxford						Three Villages Combined						All Ages	
													No.	Per Cent
Professional	1	9.1	2	18.2	2	9.1	1	6.3	2	8.3	4	9.8	7	8.7
Proprietary											2	4.9	2	2.5
Clerical			2	18.2	2	9.1	1	6.3	4	16.8	3	7.3	8	9.9
Skilled							1	6.3					1	1.2
Semi-skilled	1	9.1					1	6.3					1	1.2
Unskilled	2	18.2	2	18.2	1	4.5	3	18.5	2	8.3	1	2.4	6	7.4
Housewife	3	27.3	5	45.4	17	77.3	5	31.3	14	58.3	30	73.2	49	60.5
Unemployed	4	36.3					4	25.0	2	8.3	1	2.4	7	8.6
Total	11	100.0	11	100.0	22	100.0	16	100.0	24	100.0	41	100.0	81	100.0

per cent being classified as unskilled workers. When the 3.6 per cent of the young males designated as farm laborers were added to the proportion who were at the bottom of the occupational ladder this gives a total of 39.7 per cent of the entire group who were rated as unskilled employees. The largest proportion of the gainfully employed young women was in the clerical occupational group. No young men were engaged in professional service, while seven young women had acquired professional training. A larger proportion of male youth than female youth held proprietary positions, 9.6 per cent of the young men and 6.3 per cent of the young women (excluding housewives) having attained this occupational status. Only two out of the total of 83 male youth were operating a farm enterprise, being classified as tenants.

The greater proportion of young women than young men in the professions may be largely accounted for by the predominance of women in the teaching field. The relative availability of employment opportunities in the various business establishments in the three villages probably was the reason for the relatively high proportion of both sexes working in clerical positions. Furthermore, sons and daughters, and especially the former, frequently enter the business with their parents and after a few years become

partners in or owners of the firm. That there might be a tendency for youth in these population centers to ascend the occupational ladder was probably indicated by a relatively high proportion of proprietors and a smaller percentage of unskilled workers in the older age group among the male youth as compared with those in the 15 to 19 year age category.

There was little apparent occupational advantage held by the youth who were economically independent of their parents and away from home compared with all youth who remained in the home village. About the only significant difference in occupational rating between these two groups of youth appeared in the proportion unemployed. As would be presupposed, proportionately fewer youth independent of the parental household in comparison with all youth in the villages had no work (Table 23 and Tables 35 and 36); none of the self-supporting youth away from home were unemployed, while approximately 10 per cent of the young men and about 9 per cent of the young women in the three villages had this status, June 1, 1936. Unfortunately, no data are available for a comparison of the size of the income received by youth financially independent of their parents and all youth in the three villages. Perhaps it is logical to assume that

the independent group would hold a distinct advantage over all youth, since none of them were unemployed as of June 1, 1936, and a relatively adequate income is basic to a self-supporting status.

Income

Additional understanding of the economic situation of the youth in the three agricultural villages may be gained by an examination of their annual income. Since young people between the ages of 25 and 29 years are more likely to be self-supporting than those 15 to 24 years of age, the information obtained on the schedule was limited to the youth in the younger age group. Also, data for youth attending school and for married women are omitted from this section as these groups usually are not economically independent. Therefore, only the incomes of male youth and unmarried young women no longer attending school are analyzed.

The incomes of all young people in the three villages during the period June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, varied from less than $50 to more than $1,000 (Table 37). While 50 per cent of the male youth and 78.5 per cent of the unmarried young women received less than $300 during the period under

Table 37. Income of out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age from June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, according to age groups and sex, in three agricultural villages.

Male[20]

Income June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
Less Than:																		
$50							1	25.0	2	28.6			2	16.7	1	3.6	3	7.5
$50-99									3	42.8	2	11.1	3	25.0	2	7.1	5	12.5
100-199					2	40.0			1	14.3	2	11.1	3	25.0	2	7.1	5	12.5
200-299			1	16.7	3	60.0					3	16.7	3	25.0	4	14.3	7	17.5
300-499							1	25.0	1	14.3	3	16.7	1	8.3	4	14.3	5	12.5
500-799			3	50.0							5	21.7			8	28.6	8	20.0
800-999											2	11.1			2	7.1	2	5.0
1000 and Over			2	33.3			2	50.0			1	5.6			5	17.9	5	12.5
Total			6	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0	40	100.0

Unmarried Female[20]

Income June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
Less Than:																		
$50	1	33.3					1	50.0					2	28.6	1	14.3	3	21.4
$50-99									2	66.7			2	28.6			2	14.3
100-199	1	33.3							1	33.3	1	25.0	2	28.6	1	14.3	3	21.4
200-299							1	50.0			2	50.0			3	42.8	3	21.4
300-499	1	33.3	1	100.0									1	14.2	1	14.3	2	14.3
500-799																		
800-999																		
1000 and Over											1	25.0			1	14.3	1	7.2
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0			2	100.0	3	100.0	4	100.0	7	100.0	7	100.0	14	100.0

20. Information not available for 11 males and six females.

consideration, the largest single group of young men obtained between $500 and $799 and the largest concentration of female youth was in the income range of $100 to $299. Five young men and only one young woman received $1,000 or more from June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936. Youth of both sexes in the age group 20 to 24 years had a higher income than those between the ages of 15 and 19 years. Clearly, these figures show that, as would be expected, male youth received a much higher income during the period than female youth.

Figures presented in Table 38 provide additional evidence of the disparity between the incomes of male and female youth. Young men obtained on the average from all sources $413 as compared with $142 for young women, from June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936. The most important source of income for both male and female youth was work away from home; out of the total of 46 young men in the villages, 36 obtained money in this manner and 12 of the 13 young women were primarily dependent on this source of income. Among all the young men and unmarried young women out of school in the three villages, only two male youth were in business for themselves, but these reported the highest average incomes, the average receipts for the period being $800. Wages for

Table 38. Source of income for out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age[21] according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male

Source of Income[22]	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined		Average Amount Received
	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	
Wages for work away from home		6	5	2	7	16	12	24	$494
Spending money					4	1	4	1	18
Receipts from business				1		1		2	800
Other			1			2	1	2	340
Total		6	6	3	11	20	17	29	$413

Unmarried Female

										Average Amount Received by All Youth
Wages for work away from home	3	1		1	3	4	6	6	$258	$361
Spending money					1		1		25	20
Receipts from business										800
Other										340
Total	3	1		1	4	4	7	6	142	$373

21. Information not available for four males and seven females; one male who received no income omitted.

22. Eight males and one female reported two or more sources of income; the usual combination was for "wages for work away from home" and "spending money."

work at home and the amount of money received for selling farm products were included under "other" sources of income. The average for these two items was $340 for the 12-months' period. It is evident that many of these young people had an income adequate for their individual needs while, on the other hand, others were receiving an insufficient and uncertain income. Figures in Table 38 seem to support this conclusion as the average income from all sources and for all youth included in the analysis amounted to $373, or a little more than $30 per month during the entire period.

There was only slight variation in the amount and source of income in each of the three villages; the figures for all three population centers being fairly typical.

A relatively low income received by youth in the three villages may be sufficient if they were living in the homes of their parents or other relatives who were making contributions to their support. It will be observed in a comparison of the total number of all out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age shown in Table 37 with the total number of young people living in the homes of relatives (Table 39) that a large proportion of the male and unmarried female youth did not maintain homes of their own. Of the total of 40 males in this age group, 31 were living in the homes of

Table 39. Youth 15 to 24 years of age[23] out of school living in homes of parents or other relatives who pay board or share expenses according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[24]

	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined				Total All Ages	
	15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24			
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Pay Board			1	25.0					1	14.2	7	53.8	1	8.3	8	42.1	9	29.0
Share Expenses			2	50.0			1	50.0	3	42.9	6	46.2	3	25.0	9	47.4	12	38.7
Neither Pay Board nor Share Expenses			1	25.0	5	100.0	1	50.0	3	42.9			8	66.7	2	10.5	10	32.3
Total			4	100.0	5	100.0	2	100.0	7	100.0	13	100.0	12	100.0	19	100.	31	100.0

Female[24]

Pay Board			1	100.0							1	25.0			2	33.3	2	16.7
Share Expenses									1	33.3			1	16.7			1	8.3
Neither Pay Board nor Share Expenses	3	100.0					1	100.0	2	66.7	3	75.0	5	83.3	4	67.7	9	75.0
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0			1	100.0	3	100.0	4	100.0	6	100.0	6	100.0	12	100.0

23. Married youth omitted.

24. Information not available for 10 males and nine females.

their parents or other relatives and 11 of the 14 female youth had this economic status. Moreover, 32.3 per cent of all the young men and 81.8 per cent of the young women made no contribution to the economic support of the household. The proportion paying board or otherwise sharing the expenses of the family was considerably greater among the older than among the younger male youth; about 67 per cent of the young men between the ages of 15 and 19 years and approximately 11 per cent of those 20 to 24 years of age paid nothing for their support. Among young women the age seemed to have little influence on whether or not an economic contribution was made to the household as in each age group about eight out of 10 paid nothing toward maintaining the family in which they lived.

Ownership of Property

The type and value of property owned by youth is another index of their economic status. Only 47.5 per cent of all male youth out of school and 12.5 per cent of all out-of-school unmarried female youth 15 to 24 years of age reported ownership of property other than personal belongings (Table 40). As would be anticipated, the proportion owning some property was noticeably greater among the youth

Table 40. Youth 15 to 24 years of age out of school who owned or did not own property according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[25]

	Inmen				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined				Total All Ages	
	15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24			
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Own Property			4	57.1			2	66.7	1	14.3	12	66.7	1	8.3	18	64.3	19	47.5
Own no Property			3	42.9	5	100.0	1	33.3	6	85.7	6	33.3	11	91.7	10	35.7	21	52.5
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0	40	100.0

Female[25]

Own Property			1	12.5					1	16.7	2	20.0	1	9.1	3	14.3	4	12.5
Own no Property	4	100.0	7	87.5	1	100.0	3	100.0	5	83.3	8	80.0	10	90.9	18	85.7	28	87.5
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0	32	100.0

25. Information not available for 11 males and eight females.

20 to 24 years of age than among the youth between the ages of 15 and 19 years, especially was this true for young men. Proportionately, markedly fewer female youth in both age groups indicated property ownership in comparison with male youth. Apparently the acquisition of property by young women was an extremely slow process as only 9.1 per cent of the younger and 14.3 per cent of the older age group designated some property holdings.

There was slight variation in the amount of property owned by youth in each of the three agricultural villages. Relatively a few more youth between the ages of 15 and 19 years in Oxford had accumulated some property in comparison with the same age classification in the other two villages. This difference was probably primarily attributable to the extensive oil developments in this area.

The most common types of property owned by youth 15 to 24 years of age in the three agricultural villages were automobiles and furniture (Table 41). Only four youth, two males and two females, possessed any real estate. Miscellaneous property such as livestock, farming and business equipment, and savings were owned by eight young men and one young woman. The entire accumulation of $1,100 in savings shown in the footnote of Table 41 was in the possession of

Table 41. Type of property owned by out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[26]

Property Owned[27]	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined		Average Value[28]
	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	
Land and Buildings		1		1				2	$775
Automobile		4		1	1	7	1	12	292
Furniture		4		2		4		10	109
Other[29]		1		1		6		8	309
No property		3	5	1	6	6	11	10	
Total		13	5	6	7	23	12	42	$371

Female[26]

Land and Buildings		1				1		2	$900
Automobile					1		1		800
Furniture					1		1		400
Other[29]						1		1	20
No property	4	7	1	3	5	8	10	18	
Total	4	8	1	3	7	10	12	21	$530

26. No information available for 10 males and nine females.
27. Some youth owned more than one type of property; therefore, the total is more than 72.
28. Includes youth owning one or more types of property.
29. Includes livestock, $30; poultry, $15; farming equipment, $1,000; business equipment, $750; savings, $1,100; and miscellaneous property, $95.

one unmarried male in the 20 to 24 year age group living in Oxford. This seems to be indicative of the fact that these youth either were not inclined to accumulate a reserve fund or else their income did not permit such a procedure. In the light of the foregoing discussion concerning the small amount of income received by these youth, it is suggested that this situation undoubtedly had a material effect on their failure to build up a savings fund.

Fewer female youth than male youth possessed property but the average amount owned per person was higher for young women than for young men, the average for all types of property being $550 and $371, respectively. Female youth apparently had no property at all or had relatively extensive holdings. On the other hand, more young men owned some form of property but the per capita value was much smaller.

Most married men owned some property but the average amount possessed by each was relatively low, being $389 for each married male between the ages of 15 and 24 years (Table 42). As would be expected, the most common types of property possessed by young married males were automobiles and furniture. Few owned land or buildings or any other kind of property which might be used as an asset during periods of economic stress. However, life insurance was

Table 42. Type of property owned by out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age according to marital status, age groups, and sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Married Male[30]

Property Owned	Inman		Mount Hope		Oxford		Three Villages Combined		Average Value
	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	15-19	20-24	
Land and Buildings		1		1				2	$775
Automobile		4		1		4		9	231
Furniture		4		2		3		9	109
Other[31]		2		1		1		4	441
No Property						2		2	
Total		11		5		10		26	$389

Married Female[30]

										Average Value Male and Female
Land and Buildings		1						1	$1200	$988
Automobile					1		1		800	516
Furniture					1		1		400	255
Other[31]										441
No Property	1	6	1	2	2	6	4	14		
Total	1	7	1	2	4	6	6	15	$800	$550

Unmarried Male

Land and Buildings									
Automobile					1	3	1	3	$413
Furniture						1		1	100
Other[31]						5		5	241
No Property		3	5	1	6	4	11	8	
Total		3	5	1	7	13	12	17	$251

Table 42 (cont.)

	Unmarried Female									
Land and Buildings						1		1	$800	$800
Automobile										413
Furniture										100
Other[31]						1		1	20	131
No Property	3	1		1	3	2	6	4		
Total	3	1		1	3	4	6	6	$310	$841

30. Includes youth owning one or more types of property.
31. See Table 41.

omitted in the calculations; therefore, the financial situation of these male youth and their families may not be as serious as the figures in Table 42 seem to indicate. Since none of these young married males had any savings, perhaps it is tenable to assume that at least a portion of them carried some form of life insurance.

Since the property held by both man and wife was credited to the husband, as would be presupposed, a small proportion of the married female youth possessed any property (Table 42). Despite the comparatively high per capita average indicated by married female youth, the average value for both married males and females reporting ownership of property was only $550.

Comparatively few unmarried young men and women owned property. Some of these young people reported ownership of automobiles, furniture and miscellaneous possessions. Out of this entire group of youth, only one female indicated ownership of land and buildings. The average value of property owned by each youth denoting ownership was higher for unmarried females than for unmarried males; the comparative figures were $310 for young women and $251 for young men. Whether the lack of property among the unmarried male youth was a deterrent to marriage is a moot question but no

property ownership together with a relatively low income which seemed to prevail in these villages doubtless would have some tendency to reduce the normal marriage rate. If these youth did establish families of their own, in spite of these seemingly adverse financial conditions, there was no assurance that they would be able to maintain a standard of living compatible with health and decency.

Property ownership was more rare among in-school than among out-of-school youth. Obviously, youth who are attending school have fewer opportunities for earning money with which to accumulate property; therefore, it was only natural that they would show fewer possessions than out-of-school youth. Of the total male youth in school 73.8 per cent of those 15 to 19 years of age and 75 per cent of the young men 20 to 24 years of age indicated no property ownership (Table 43). Virtually the same situation existed among in-school female youth except that of those 15 to 19 years of age, 82.5 per cent reported no property in their own name. A great majority of the boys and girls attending school who possessed some property generally evaluated their resources at less than $100.

In comparison with the above figures for in-school male youth 20 to 24 years of age, 35.7 per cent of the out-of-

Table 43. Value of property owned by in-school[32] and out-of-school youth 15-24 years of age according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

In-school Male[33]

Value of Property	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Less Than $100	1	10.0			1	6.3			7	43.7			9	21.4		
$100-299	1	10.0							1	6.3			2	4.8		
300-499																
500-699											1	25.0			1	25.0
700-899																
900 and Over																
No Property	8	80.0			15	93.7			8	50.0	3	75.0	31	73.8	3	75.0
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	4	100.0	42	100.0	4	100.0

Out-of-school Male[34]

Less Than $100							1	33.3	1	14.2	4	22.2	1	8.3	5	17.9
$100-299											3	16.7			3	10.7
300-499											2	11.1			2	7.1
500-699			3	42.9											3	10.7
700-899											1	5.6			1	3.6
900 and Over			1	14.2			1	33.3			2	11.1			4	14.3
No Property			3	42.9	5	100.0	1	33.3	6	85.8	6	33.3	11	91.7	10	35.7
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0

Table 43 (cont.)

In-school Female[33]

Less Than $100	1	10.0			1	[illegible].3			4	22.2	1	100.0	6	15.0	1	25.0
$100-299					1	8.3							1	2.5		
300-499																
500-699																
700-899																
900 and Over																
No Property	9	90.0	3	100.0	10	83.4			14	77.8			33	82.5	3	75.0
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			18	100.0	1	100.0	40	100.0	4	100.0

Out-of-school Female[34]

Less Than $100											1	25.0			1	16.7
$100-299																
300-499																
500-699											1	25.0			1	16.7
700-899																
900 and Over																
No Property	3	100.0	1	100.0			1	100.0	3	100.0	2	50.0	6	100.0	4	66.6
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0			1	100.0	3	100.0	4	100.0	6	100.0	6	100.0

32. One male youth owning property valued at $12,000 omitted because he was considered an exceptional case.
33. Information not available for one male and one female.
34. Information not available for 11 males and eight females.

school youth in the same age group denoted no property holdings. However, the proportion of out-of-school male youth in the 15 to 19 year age group with no property was greater than that for in-school male youth of the same age, the percentages being 91.7 and 73.8. Almost 18 per cent of the out-of-school young men indicated ownership of property valued at less than $100 and slightly more than 14 per cent reported property worth at least $900. Thirty-five and seven-tenths per cent of the male youth possessed resources worth less than $500. Only two out-of-school unmarried young women indicated property ownership; one appraised her possessions at less than $100 and the other valued her property under $700.

It is apparent after an examination of the data concerning the value of property claimed by the youth in these three agricultural villages that many of these young people had been able to accumulate relatively sufficient assets. But the fact remains that there also were many village youth who had obtained little or no resources and, therefore, would be under a definite handicap in establishing themselves economically and in providing relatively adequate financial security for their families. Obviously, the lack of resources is not a disadvantage peculiar only to the

youth in these three villages but rather is characteristic of all youth regardless of residence location.

Mobility

Since the attempts of youth to make social and economic adjustments in society frequently result in movement from one place to another, it was considered logical to discuss the mobility of the agricultural village young people in connection with this chapter concerning their economic welfare. While a degree of mobility is probably normal, yet considerable movement among youth may reflect the dynamic restlessness and uncertainty of the present age with which these young persons are associated.

It is significant to note that according to the data presented in Table 44 there was a considerable movement of the out-of-school youth between the ages of 15 and 29 years who were living in the three agricultural villages at the time of the survey. Slightly more than two-thirds of the young men and approximately 45 per cent of the unmarried young women had made one or more moves since becoming 15 years of age. Almost 30 per cent of the young men and about 23 per cent of the unmarried young women between the ages of 15 and 29 years had moved at least three times. The

Table 44. Mobility of out-of-school youth[35] since becoming 15 years of age according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[36]

Number of Moves	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Inman 25-29 No.	Inman 25-29 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 25-29 No.	Mount Hope 25-29 Per Cent
Not any			3	42.9			4	80.0	2	50.0		
1					2	15.4	1	20.0			3	100.0
2			1	14.2	3	23.1			1	25.0		
3 or more			3	42.9	8	61.5			1	25.0		
Total			7	100.0	13	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	3	100.0

Number of Moves	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 25-29 No.	Oxford 25-29 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 25-29 No.	Three Villages Combined 25-29 Per Cent	All Ages No.	All Ages Per Cent
Not any	6	85.7	6	27.8	3	21.4	10	83.4	10	34.5	3	10.0	23	32.4
1			5	27.8	5	35.7	1	8.3	5	17.2	10	33.3	16	22.5
2	1	14.3	3	16.7	2	14.3	1	8.3	5	17.2	5	16.7	11	15.5
3 or more			5	27.8	4	28.6			9	31.1	12	40.0	21	29.6
Total	7	100.0	18	100.0	14	100.0	12	100.0	29	100.0	30	100.0	71	100.0

Table 44. (cont.)

Female[36]

	Inman						Mount Hope				
Not any	3	100.0						2	100.0		
1											
2					1	33.3				1	100.0
3 or more			1	100.0	2	66.7					
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0		2	100.0	1	100.0

	Oxford						Three Villages Combined				All Ages	
Not any	1	33.3	2	50.0	4	80.0	6	66.3	4	57.1	4	44.5	12	54.5
1			2	50.0					2	28.6			2	9.1
2	1	33.3					1	16.7			2	22.2	3	13.6
3 or more	1	33.3			1	20.0	1	16.7	1	14.3	3	33.3	5	22.7
Total	3	100.0	4	100.0	5	100.0	6	100.0	7	100.0	9	100.0	22	100.0

35. Married female youth were omitted because of the possible influence of the mobility of the husband.

36. Information not available for 12 males and eight females.

older the youth, especially male, the greater the number of moves made. Ninety per cent of the male youth and 55.5 per cent of the unmarried female youth between the ages of 25 and 29 years had moved at least once since becoming 15 years of age. It is apparent that male youth were relatively more mobile than female youth.

The above figures indicate a greater movement of youth in the three agricultural villages than was found in the 45 villages studied by Melvin and Smith (16, p. 4). In the larger sample, which included the three villages in Kansas, only 13.5 per cent of the young men and seven per cent of the unmarried young women had moved three or more times since attaining their sixteenth birthday. This relative lack of stability of the youth population in the three Kansas villages as compared with the United States sample probably indicated primarily the influence of the transiency of farm labor and the adverse business conditions existent in these predominantly agricultural areas which reduced the number of normal employment opportunities.

To obtain a further understanding of the mobility of these youth living in the villages on June 1, 1936, it is essential to provide information regarding their residence location just prior to their movement into one of the three

villages. Of all the young men and unmarried young women who had made at least one move since becoming 15 years of age, the largest proportion of both sexes had come from the town or city areas to the villages (Table 45). Twenty-six and eight-tenths per cent of the male youth and 22.7 per cent of the unmarried female youth denoted this direction of movement. The migration from another village was next in importance, accounting for 22.5 per cent of the total young men and 13.6 per cent of the total young women in the three population centers. The movement from the open country to the villages was the least important of any of the types of last moves made by young men and unmarried young women 15 to 29 years of age, with 18.3 per cent of the former and 9.1 per cent of the latter group showing this type of migration.

A somewhat larger proportion of young men than young married women had migrated from the village, town, and urban areas. These differences probably reflect a higher mobility rate among young men in search of employment opportunities, the failure to locate permanent jobs, and the later return to the home village. Also, the oil developments with the increased possibilities for jobs during 1935 and 1936 in and near Inman and Oxford undoubtedly had some bearing on the movement of the male youth into these communities.

Table 45. Type of last move made by out-of-school youth[35] 15 to 29 years of age according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male[36]

Type of Last Move	Inman						Mount Hope					
	15-19		20-24		25-29		15-19		20-24		25-29	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
None			3	42.8			4	80.0	2	50.0		
Open Country to Village			2	28.6	2	15.4	1	20.0			2	66.7
Village to Village					4	30.8			1	25.0	1	33.3
Town or City to Village			2	28.6	7	53.8			1	25.0		
Total			7	100.0	13	100.0	5	100.0	4	100.0	3	100.0

	Oxford						Three Villages Combined						All Ages	
None	6	85.7	5	27.8	3	21.4	10	83.4	10	34.5	3	10.0	23	32.4
Open Country to Village			4	22.2	2	14.3	1	8.3	6	20.7	6	20.0	13	18.3
Village to Village	1	14.3	5	27.8	4	28.6	1	8.3	6	20.7	9	30.0	16	22.5
Town or City to Village			4	22.2	5	35.7			7	24.1	12	40.0	19	26.8
Total	7	100.0	18	100.0	14	100.0	12	100.0	29	100.0	30	100.0	71	100.0

Table 45 (cont.)

Female[36]

	Inman						Mount Hope			
None	3	100.0							2	100.0
Open Country to Village			1	100.0						
Village to Village					2	66.7				
Town or City to Village					1	33.3				1	100.0
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0			2	100.0	1	100.0

	Oxford						Three Villages Combined						All Ages	
None	1	33.3	2	50.0	4	80.0	4	66.7	4	57.1	4	44.5	12	54.6
Open Country to Village			1	25.0					2	28.6			2	9.1
Village to Village					1	20.0					3	33.3	3	13.6
Town or City to Village	2	66.7	1	25.0			2	33.3	1	14.3	2	22.2	5	22.7
Total	3	100.0	4	100.0	5	100.0	6	100.0	7	100.0	9	100.0	22	100.0

35. Married females were omitted because of the possible influence of the mobility of the husband.

36. Information not available for 12 males and eight females.

SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Active participation in the organizations and institutions of the community as well as the constructive use of leisure time is of fundamental importance in the development of sound minds and healthy bodies. Within recent years, concomitant with the forces causing a breakdown in the original isolation and solidarity of rural communities and neighborhoods, has come the recognition of the value of providing adequate organizational, recreational, and leisure-time facilities, especially for young and women living in these areas. However, many rural communities have been slow to understand the true significance and the apparent inevitableness of these trends and, therefore, have lagged far behind in the evolvement of new and extensive facilities for this purpose. It is now widely accepted that crime, juvenile delinquency, and restricted personalities are often the result of the failure of the community to foster these activities.

The lack of local opportunities for group participation frequently is a major reason for discontent among rural youth and encourages them to attempt to satisfy these felt needs elsewhere. It is important therefore to know

something further about the attendance of the youth at meetings sponsored by the institutions and organizations of these three agricultural villages as well as the kind of social-recreational activities in which these young people spend the major portion of their time.

Institutional and Organizational Facilities in the Villages

While the churches and the schools were the chief religious and educational institutions, respectively, in the three villages, they also performed a distinct recreational and social service in these communities. Yet in a reconnaissance survey of these three population centers, it was determined that adequate recreational and adult educational programs either did not exist or were not functioning effectively.[37] Also, there was a pronounced tendency not to utilize the facilities that were available.

As pointed out previously in this study in each of the villages was located an elementary and secondary school with a relatively high rating. The number of active churches in

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[37] Long, Glenn W., Supplementary report for youth in the villages of Inman, Mount Hope, and Oxford, Kansas. Report prepared for Division of Social Research, WPA, Washington, D. C. (Unpublished manuscript) 30 p. August 15, 1936.

each village varied from totals of four and five in Mount Hope and Oxford, respectively, to two in Inman. The average attendance at regular services for all of the churches in each of the population centers ranged from approximately 170 persons in Inman to about 100 individuals in Mount Hope and Oxford.

That there was a relatively sufficient number of social organizations in addition to those in connection with the church and school in each of the three villages was attested to by the fact that Inman had seven; Mount Hope, 15; and Oxford, 16 organized groups which held regular meetings.

Youth Participation in Organizations

It will be observed in Table 46 that a major portion of the in-school youth 15 to 24 years of age living in the three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936, were members of some form of community or institutional organization. Young women in this age group engaged in these activities to a slightly greater degree than did young men, 90.9 per cent as compared with 85.1 per cent. Among male youth attending school there was considerable variation in membership according to age groups. One-half of the young men between the ages of 20 and 24 years and 88.4 per cent of those 15 to

Table 46. Membership of in-school youth 15 to 24 years of age in community and institutional organizations[38] according to age groups and sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Membership	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
Male																		
Yes	10	100.0			15	93.7			13	76.5	2	50.0	38	88.4	2	50.0	40	85.1
No					1	6.3			4	23.5	2	50.0	5	11.6	2	50.0	7	14.9
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			17	100.0	4	100.0	43	100.0	4	100.0	47	100.0
Female[39]																		
Yes	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			14	77.8	1	100.0	36	90.0	4	100.0	40	90.9
No									4	22.2			4	10.0			4	9.1
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			18	100.0	1	100.0	40	100.0	4	100.0	44	100.0

38. Included such organizations as dramatics, debating, and musicals in connection with the school; church functions (regular services and young peoples societies); 4-H clubs and Future Farmers of America; social and civic clubs.

39. Information not available for one female.

19 years of age claimed an affiliation with at least one organization in the community; however, it will be noted that the small number in the older age group makes a relatively accurate comparison impossible.

As would be expected, a much smaller proportion of the youth no longer attending school than those in school owed an allegiance to any community organization (Table 47). Thus, 85.1 per cent of the male youth in school belonged to an organized group, but the corresponding proportion for the male youth out of school was 35 per cent. Similarly, among the young women there was a wide difference between those in and out of school, 90 and 50 per cent, respectively. Nevertheless, in both the in-school and out-of-school groups, young women seemed to have membership in organizations in greater proportions than young men.

Apparently, when youth left school there was a definite tendency to discontinue participation in organized group activities. This situation may have been a result of over-activity in school and a desire for a change after completing their formal education or the influence of other interests and the lack of opportunity for organization membership may have entered in to reduce the number of group associations. If, as generally agreed, participation in

Table 47. Membership of out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age in community and institutional organizations[38] according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male

Membership	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
Yes			4	57.1	2	40.0	1	33.3	2	28.6	5	27.8	4	33.3	10	35.7	14	35.0
No			3	42.9	3	60.0	2	66.7	5	71.4	13	72.2	8	66.7	18	64.3	26	65.0
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0	40	100.0

Female[40]

Yes	3	75.0	5	62.5			1	33.3	3	50.0	4	40.0	6	54.5	10	47.6	16	50.0
No	1	25.0	3	37.5	1	100.0	2	66.7	3	50.0	6	60.0	5	45.5	11	52.4	16	50.0
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0	32	100.0

38. Included such organizations as dramatics, debating, and musicals in connection with the school; church functions (regular services and young people societies); 4-H clubs and Future Farmers of America; social and civic clubs.

40. No information available for 11 males and eight females.

church, school, and other organizations is of value and youth are active only under similar stimulating conditions as found in school, then there is a definite place for community leadership among these out-of-school youth. Another factor involved is perhaps a lack of initiative and leadership among youth themselves.

Marriage seemingly was a factor in the extent of membership of young men and young women from 15 to 24 years of age in community and institutional organizations in the three agricultural villages. Of the total number of married male youth, 27.3 per cent claimed affiliation with any organization as compared with 31 per cent of the unmarried male youth (Table 43). A similar situation existed among married and unmarried young women, 55 per cent of the former and 75 per cent of the latter group denoting some activity in organized associations. Here, as indicated in the discussion of in-school and all out-of-school youth, a higher proportion of married female youth than married male youth participated in the organizations of the three villages; only 27.3 per cent of the young men as compared with 35 per cent of the young women indicated membership in group activities.

It appears after an analysis of the figures in Table 48 that marriage relationships were not conducive to

Table 43. Membership of out-of-school youth[40] 15 to 24 years of age in community and institutional organizations[38] according to marital status, age groups, and sex, in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Membership	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
Married Male																		
Yes			2	66.7							1	16.7			3	27.3	3	27.3
No			1	33.3			2	100.0			5	83.3			8	72.7	8	72.7
Total			3	100.0			2	100.0			6	100.0			11	100.0	11	100.0
Married Female																		
Yes			4	57.1			1	50.0	1	33.3	1	16.7	1	20.0	6	40.0	7	35.0
No	1	100.0	3	42.9	1	100.0	1	50.0	2	66.7	5	83.3	4	80.0	9	60.0	13	65.0
Total	1	100.0	7	100.0	1	100.0	2	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	5	100.0	15	100.0	20	100.0
Unmarried Male																		
Yes			2	50.0	1	20.0	1	100.0	1	14.3	4	33.3	2	16.7	7	41.2	9	31.0
No			2	50.0	4	80.0			6	85.7	8	66.7	10	83.3	10	58.8	20	69.0
Total			4	100.0	5	100.0	1	100.0	7	100.0	12	100.0	12	100.0	17	100.0	29	100.0
Unmarried Female																		
Yes	3	100.0	1	100.0					2	66.7	3	75.0	5	83.3	4	66.7	9	75.0
No							1	100.0	1	33.3	1	25.0	1	16.7	2	33.3	3	25.0
Total	3	100.0	1	100.0			1	100.0	3	100.0	4	100.0	6	100.0	6	100.0	12	100.0

38. Includes such organizations as dramatics, debating, and musicals in connection with the school; church functions (regular services and young people societies); 4-H clubs and Future Farmers of America; social and civic clubs.

40. No information available for 11 males and eight females.

participation in the institutional and community activities sponsored in these three villages. This situation probably not only reflected the lack of adequate facilities, leadership, and personal initiative, but also, the pressure of duties associated with the home and the maintenance of a family.

The intensity of the participation of in-school youth 15 to 24 years of age in community and institutional organizations located in the three villages is shown in Table 49. It will be observed that almost one-half of the young men and about 70 per cent of the young women had membership in at least three organizations. Moreover, 10.6 per cent of the male youth and 18.2 per cent of the female youth reported affiliation with at least five organized groups. These data tend to verify the assertion made above that among youth attending school the extent of participation in associated activities, especially in those connected with the school, was relatively high. As long as they were under the influence of the school, either through persuasion or of their own volition these young people attended the meetings of the organizations and apparently were rather definitely interested in group activities. Also, Table 50 appears to further emphasize this point in that proportionately fewer

Table 49. Number of community and institutional organizations to which in-school youth 15 to 24 years of age belonged[41] according to age groups and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Male

Number of Organizations	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
None					1	6.3			4	23.5	2	50.0	5	11.6	2	50.0	7	14.9
1 - 2	3	30.0			5	31.2			8	47.1	1	25.0	16	37.2	1	25.0	17	36.2
3 - 4	6	60.0			6	37.5			5	29.4	1	25.0	17	39.6	1	25.0	18	38.3
5and over	1	10.0			4	25.0							5	11.6			5	10.6
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			17	100.0	4	100.0	43	100.0	4	100.0	47	100.0

Female[42]

Number of Organizations	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
None									4	22.2			4	10.0			4	9.1
1 - 2	1	10.0			4	33.3			5	27.8			10	25.0			10	22.7
3 - 4	9	90.0	3	100.0	4	33.3			5	27.8	1	100.0	18	45.0	4	100.0	22	50.0
5and over					4	33.3			4	22.2			8	20.0			8	18.2
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			18	100.0	1	100.0	40	100.0	4	100.0	44	100.0

41. Attend the meetings of the organization at least one-fourth the time.

42. No information available for one female.

Table 50. Number of community and institutional organizations to which out-of-school youth[43] 15 to 24 years of age belonged[41] according to marital status, age groups, and sex in three agricultural villages, June 1, 1936.

Number of Organizations	Inman 15-19 No.	Inman 15-19 Per Cent	Inman 20-24 No.	Inman 20-24 Per Cent	Mount Hope 15-19 No.	Mount Hope 15-19 Per Cent	Mount Hope 20-24 No.	Mount Hope 20-24 Per Cent	Oxford 15-19 No.	Oxford 15-19 Per Cent	Oxford 20-24 No.	Oxford 20-24 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 15-19 No.	Three Villages Combined 15-19 Per Cent	Three Villages Combined 20-24 No.	Three Villages Combined 20-24 Per Cent	Total All Ages No.	Total All Ages Per Cent
Married Male																		
None			1	33.3			2	100.0			5	83.3			8	72.4	8	72.4
1			2	66.7											2	18.5	2	18.5
2											1	16.7			1	9.1	1	9.1
3																		
Total			3	100.0			2	100.0			6	100.0			11	100.0	11	100.0
Unmarried Male																		
None			2	50.0	4	80.0			6	85.7	8	66.7	10	83.4	10	59.8	20	69.0
1			1	25.0							3	25.0			4	23.5	4	13.8
2			1	25.0	1	20.0	1	100.0			1	8.3	1	8.3	3	17.7	4	13.8
3									1	14.3			1	8.3			1	3.4
Total			4	100.0	5	100.0	1	100.0	7	100.0	12	100.0	12	100.0	17	100.0	29	100.0
Married Female																		
None	1	100.0	3	42.8	1	100.0	1	50.0	2	66.7	5	83.3	4	80.0	9	60.0	13	65.0
1			2	28.6			1	50.0			1	16.7			4	26.7	4	20.0
2			2	28.6					1	33.3			1	20.0	2	13.3	3	15.0
3																		
Total	1	100.0	7	100.0	1	100.0	2	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	5	100.0	15	100.0	20	100.0

Table 50 (cont.)

	Unmarried Female																							
None											1	100.0	1	33.3	1	25.0	1	16.7	2	33.3	3	25.0
1		1	33.3														1	16.7			1	8.3
2		2	66.7	1	100.0								1	33.3	1	25.0	3	50.0	2	33.3	5	41.7
3													1	33.3	2	50.0	1	16.7	2	33.3	3	25.0
Total		3	100.0	1	100.0			1	100.0		3	100.0	4	100.0	6	100.0	6	100.0	12	100.0		

41. Attend the meetings of each organization at least one-fourth the time.
43. Information not available for 11 males and eight females.

out-of-school youth, if they belonged to any at all, claimed allegiance to two or more groups. Furthermore, the data in this table present additional evidence of the relative lack of participation of married youth in community organizations. Among the unmarried out-of-school male youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years, only 17.2 per cent indicated membership in two or three organizations. While the proportion of unmarried out-of-school females who indicated activity in two or three organized groups was considerably larger than for the corresponding group of male youth, it was not as high as for the young women still in school. Of these out-of-school female youth, 66.7 per cent showed activity in two or three organizations. The data are not entirely comparable, but in comparison 50 per cent of the in-school female youth claimed membership in from three to four organized groups and 18.2 per cent owed allegiance to at least five organizations. The intensity of the participation in associated activities of unmarried out-of-school male youth was almost twice that of male youth who had established families of their own, 17.2 per cent of the unmarried as compared with 9.1 per cent of the married male youth showing multiple organization membership. Although, as indicated above, a much larger percentage of both married and single

young women as compared with the corresponding groups of young men belonged to organizations, the difference in the proportion of married and unmarried females indicating an affiliation with more than one was about the same as for male youth. While approximately two out of three unmarried young women denoted membership in two or three organizations one out of three married young women owed allegiance to two organized groups, and none belonged to three different groups.

Leisure-Time Activities

Since a large proportion of the youth 15 to 24 years of age, especially those young men and young women no longer in school living in the three villages on June 1, 1936, did not participate in organized group activities, the question that immediately presents itself is: What did these young people do during the time that is normally available for these activities? This question is only partially answered by the data shown in Tables 51 and 52.

Table 51 gives information concerning the leisure-time and recreational activities from June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, of those youth 15 to 24 years of age who had not completed their formal education. More time was absorbed

Table 51. Average number of hours per week spent in various leisure-time activities by in-school youth 15 to 24 years of age according to age groups and sex, June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, in three agricultural villages.

Leisure-time Activities and Number of Hours Per Week	Male[44]											
	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Social Activities																
None					1	6.3			13	81.3	1	33.3	14	33.3	1	33.3
1-4	8	80.0			14	87.4			2	12.4			24	57.2		
5-8	1	10.0			1	6.3			1	6.3	2	66.7	3	7.1	2	66.7
9-12	1	10.0											1	2.4		
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0
Movies																
None	4	40.0							1	6.3	1	33.3	5	11.8	1	33.3
1-4	6	60.0			16	100.0			12	75.0	2	66.7	34	81.0	2	66.7
5-8									2	12.4			2	4.8		
9-12									1	6.3			1	2.4		
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0
Auto Riding																
None	2	20.0			1	6.3			8	50.0	2	66.7	11	26.1	2	66.7
1-4	7	70.0			15	93.7			6	37.4	1	33.3	28	66.7	1	33.3
5-8	1	10.0							1	6.3			2	4.8		
9-12									1	6.3			1	2.4		
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0

44. Information not available for two males and two females.

Table 51. (cont.)

Radio																
None	2	20.0			1	6.3			6	37.6			9	21.5		
1-4	4	40.0			14	87.4			3	18.7	1	33.3	21	50.0	1	33.3
5-8	4	40.0			1	6.3			3	18.7			8	19.0		
9-12									3	18.7	2	66.7	3	7.1	2	66.7
13 and over									1	6.3			1	2.4		
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0
Reading																
None	1	10.0			1	6.3							2	4.8		
1-4	3	30.0			14	87.4			6	37.5			23	54.7		
5-8	6	60.0			1	6.3			5	31.2			12	28.6		
9-12									1	6.3	1	33.3	1	2.4	1	33.3
13 and over									4	25.0	2	66.7	4	9.5	2	66.7
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0
Outdoor Games																
None					5	31.2			8	50.0	2	66.7	13	31.0	2	66.7
1-4	9	90.0			10	62.5			5	31.2	1	33.3	24	57.1	1	33.3
5-8	1	10.0			1	6.3			3	18.8			5	11.9		
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0
Indoor Games																
None	1	10.0			5	31.2			8	50.0	2	66.7	14	33.3	2	66.7
1-4	7	70.0			10	62.5			5	31.2	1	33.3	22	52.4	1	33.3
5-8	2	20.0			1	6.3			3	18.8			6	14.3		
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0

Table 51 (cont.)

Dancing																		
None	10	100.0			16	100.0			14	87.4	3	100.0	40	95.2	3	100.0
1-4									1	6.3			1	2.4		
5-8									1	6.3			1	2.4		
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0			16	100.0			16	100.0	3	100.0	42	100.0	3	100.0

Female																		
Social Activities																		
None									8	47.1			8	20.5		
1-4	7	70.0	2	66.7	11	91.7			3	17.6			21	53.9	2	50.0
5-8	1	10.0	1	33.3					4	23.5			5	12.8	1	25.0
9-12	2	20.0							1	5.9			3	7.7		
13 and over					1	8.3			1	5.9	1	100.0	2	5.1	1	25.0
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0
Movies																		
None	6	60.0			1	8.3			4	23.5			11	28.2		
1-4	4	40.0	2	66.7	11	91.7			11	64.7	1	100.0	26	66.7	3	75.0
5-8			1	33.3					2	11.8			2	5.1	1	25.0
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0
Auto Riding																		
None	1	10.0	1	33.3	2	16.7			6	35.3			9	23.1	1	25.0
1-4	4	40.0			9	75.0			5	29.4	1	100.0	18	46.2	1	25.0
5-8	5	50.0	2	66.7	1	8.3			2	11.8			8	20.5	2	50.0
9-12									4	23.5			4	10.2		
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0

Table 51 (cont.)

Radio																		
None	1	10.0							3	17.6			4	10.3		
1-4	5	50.0	1	33.3	11	91.7			4	23.5			20	51.3	1	25.0
5-8	2	20.0	1	33.3	1	8.3			2	11.9			5	12.8	1	25.0
9-12			1	33.3					3	17.6			3	7.8	1	25.0
13 and over	2	20.0							5	29.4	1	100.0	7	18.0	1	25.0
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0
Reading																
None	1	10.0											1	2.6		
1-4	4	40.0	1	33.3	6	50.0			4	23.5	1	100.0	14	35.9	2	50.0
5-8	3	30.0	1	33.3	6	50.0			3	17.6			12	30.8	1	25.0
9-12	1	10.0							7	41.3			8	20.4		
13 and over	1	10.0	1	33.3					3	17.6			4	10.3	1	25.0
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0
Outdoor Games																
None	4	40.0			6	50.0			10	58.8			20	51.3		
1-4	4	40.0	3	100.0	6	50.0			6	35.3	1	100.0	16	41.0	4	100.0
5-8	2	20.0							1	5.9			3	7.7		
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0
Indoor Games																
None	3	30.0	1	33.3	4	33.3			11	64.7			18	46.2	1	25.0
1-4	7	70.0	2	66.7	8	66.7			6	35.3			21	53.8	2	50.0
5-8											1	100.0			1	25.0
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0

Table 51 (concl.)

Dancing																		
None	10	100.0	1	33.3	9	75.0			15	88.2	1	100.0	34	87.2	2	50.0		
1-4			2	66.7	3	25.0			1	5.9			4	10.3	2	50.0		
5-8									1	5.9			1	2.5				
9-12																		
13 and over																		
Total	10	100.0	3	100.0	12	100.0			17	100.0	1	100.0	39	100.0	4	100.0		

Table 52. Average number of hours per week spent in various leisure-time activities by out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age according to age groups and sex, June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, in three agricultural villages.

Leisure-time Activities and Number of Hours Per Week	Male 45															
	Inman				Mount Hope				Oxford				Three Villages Combined			
	15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24		15-19		20-24	
	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Social Activities																
None									5	71.4	13	72.2	5	41.7	13	46.4
1-4			4	57.1	5	100.0	2	66.7			4	22.2	5	41.7	10	35.7
5-8			2	28.6			1	33.3	2	28.6	1	5.6	2	16.6	4	14.3
9-12																
13 and over			1	14.3											1	3.6
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0
Movies																
None											3	16.7			3	10.7
1-4			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	5	71.4	13	72.2	10	83.3	23	82.1
5-8									2	28.6	2	11.1	2	16.7	2	7.2
9-12																
13 and over																
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0
Auto Riding																
None					1	20.0										
1-4			6	85.7	4	80.0	3	100.0	3	42.8	10	55.5	4	33.3	10	35.7
5-8			1	14.3					2	28.6	2	11.1	6	50.0	11	39.3
9-12									1	14.3	3	16.7	1	8.3	4	14.3
13 and over									1	14.3	3	16.7	1	8.3	3	10.7
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0

45. No information available for 11 males and eight females.

Table 52. (cont.)

Radio																		
None									1:	33.3:	2:	28.6:	8:	44.5:	2:	16.7:	9:	32.2
1-4				4:	57.2:	5:	100.0:	1:	33.3:	3:	42.8:	2:	11.1:	8:	66.6:	7:	25.0
5-8				3:	42.8:			1:	33.3:			4:	22.2:			8:	28.6
9-12										2:	28.6:	2:	11.1:	2:	16.7:	2:	7.1
13 and over:												2:	11.1:			2:	7.1
Total				7:	100.0:	5:	100.0:	3:	100.0:	7:	100.0:	18:	100.0:	12:	100.0:	28:	100.0
Reading																		
None										1:	14.3:			1:	8.3:		
1-4				4:	57.2:	5:	100.0:	3:	100.0:			5:	27.8:	5:	41.7:	12:	42.9
5-8				3:	42.8:					5:	71.4:	9:	50.0:	5:	41.7:	12:	42.9
9-12												1:	5.5:			1:	3.5
13 and over:										1:	14.2:	3:	16.7:	1:	8.3:	3:	10.7
Total				7:	100.0:	5:	100.0:	3:	100.0:	7:	100.0:	18:	100.0:	12:	100.0:	28:	100.0
Outdoor Games																		
None						5:	100.0:	3:	100.0:	3:	42.8:	6:	33.3:	8:	66.7:	9:	32.1
1-4				7:	100.0:					4:	57.2:	8:	44.5:	4:	33.3:	15:	53.6
5-8												3:	16.7:			3:	10.7
9-12																	
13 and over:												1:	5.5:			1:	3.6
Total				7:	100.0:	5:	100.0:	3:	100.0:	7:	100.0:	18:	100.0:	12:	100.0:	28:	100.0
Indoor Games																		
None				1:	14.3:	4:	80.0:	3:	100.0:	5:	71.4:	11:	61.2:	9:	75.0:	15:	53.6
1-4				6:	85.7:	1:	20.0:			1:	14.3:	6:	33.3:	2:	16.7:	12:	42.8
5-8										1:	14.3:			1:	8.3:		
9-12												1:	5.5:			1:	3.6
13 and over:																	
Total				7:	100.0:	5:	100.0:	3:	100.0:	7:	100.0:	18:	100.0:	12:	100.0:	28:	100.0

Table 52 (cont.)

Dancing																		
None			5	71.4	4	80.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	16	88.9	11	91.7	24	85.7
1-4			2	28.6	1	20.0					2	11.1	1	8.3	4	14.3
5-8																
9-12																
13 and over																
Total			7	100.0	5	100.0	3	100.0	7	100.0	18	100.0	12	100.0	28	100.0

Female[45]

Social Activities																		
None									4	66.6	6	60.0	4	36.3	8	28.6
1-4	4	100.0	5	62.5	1	100.0	3	100.0			2	20.0	5	45.5	10	47.6
5-8			3	37.5					1	16.7	1	10.0	1	9.1	4	19.0
9-12									1	16.7	1	10.0	1	9.1	1	4.8
13 and over																
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0
Movies																		
None	2	50.0	3	37.5					2	33.3			4	36.4	3	14.3
1-4	2	50.0	5	62.5	1	100.0	3	100.0	3	50.0	7	70.0	6	54.5	15	71.4
5-8									1	16.7	3	30.0	1	9.1	3	14.3
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0
Auto Riding																		
None	1	25.0	2	25.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	3	50.0	3	30.0	5	45.5	8	38.1
1-4	3	75.0	5	62.5					1	16.7	2	20.0	4	36.3	7	33.3
5-8			1	12.5					2	33.3	3	30.0	2	18.2	4	19.1
9-12											2	20.0			2	9.5
13 and over																
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0

Table 52 (cont.)

Radio																			
None	3	75.0									2	33.3	6	60.0	5	45.4	6	28.6
1-4			1	12.5	1	100.0	3	100.0					1	10.0	1	9.1	5	23.8
5-8	1	25.0	7	87.5					1	16.7	3	30.0	2	18.2	10	47.6
9-12									1	16.7			1	9.1		
13 and over									2	33.3			2	18.2		
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0
Reading																			
None	1	25.0											1	7.1		
1-4	2	50.0	5	62.5	1	100.0	3	100.0	1	16.7	3	30.0	4	36.4	11	52.4
5-8	1	25.0	3	37.5					3	50.0	4	40.0	4	36.4	7	33.3
9-12									1	16.7	2	20.0	1	9.1	2	9.5
13 and over									1	16.7	1	10.0	1	9.1	1	4.8
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0
Outdoor Games																			
None	2	50.0	3	37.5	1	100.0	1	33.3	6	100.0	8	80.0	9	81.8	12	57.1
1-4	2	50.0	5	62.5			2	66.7			1	10.0	2	18.2	8	38.1
5-8											1	10.0			1	4.8
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0
Indoor Games																			
None	1	25.0	4	50.0	1	100.0	1	33.3	6	100.0	8	80.0	8	72.7	13	61.9
1-4	3	75.0	4	50.0			2	66.7			1	10.0	3	27.3	7	33.3
5-8											1	10.0			1	4.8
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0

Table 52 (concl.)

Dancing																
None	3	75.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	2	66.7	4	66.7	6	60.0	8	72.7	16	76.2
1-4	1	25.0					1	33.3	1	16.7	4	40.0	2	18.2	5	23.8
5-8									1	16.7			1	9.1		
9-12																
13 and over																
Total	4	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	3	100.0	6	100.0	10	100.0	11	100.0	21	100.0

per week on the average by young men between the ages of 15 and 19 years in reading and listening to the radio than at any other type of recreation. These two forms of recreation also were the most important for young women in the same age group. Of the male and female youth 15 to 19 years of age, 33.3 per cent of the former and 20.5 per cent of the latter did not use any time in social activities. Dancing was the least significant of any of the forms of recreation, 95.2 per cent of the young men and 87.2 per cent of the young women did not indulge in this pastime during the period under consideration. Attending movies was relatively important since 81 per cent of the male youth and 66.7 per cent of the female youth 15 to 19 years of age spent at least from one to four hours each week in this type of recreation. Although the relatively few young men and young women in the age groups 20 to 24 years in-school did not permit an equitable comparison with the younger youth, it appeared that there were no significant differences in the type of recreational and leisure-time activity preferred.

In contrasting the extent of participation in the various activities of in-school and out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age, the differences seemed less marked than

was true by school attendance for participation in organizations in the three villages. Although the data contained in Tables 51 and 52 do not permit a precise comparison, apparently in-school youth spent more time per week on the average than out-of-school youth in most activities. Reading and attending motion picture shows seemed to attract a large proportion of the out-of-school youth each week. More than 90 per cent of those young men and women consumed some time in reading each week, more than three-fourths spending from one to eight hours in this manner. Virtually all the male youth, more than half of the female youth from 15 to 19 years of age, and almost three-fourths of those between the ages of 20 and 24 years went to at least one motion picture show each week.

Of the male and female youth who had completed their formal education, more than 40 per cent of the young men and about 30 per cent of the young women reported no time spent during the preceding year in such social activities as visiting and parties. This probably was an exaggerated proportion resulting from a misinterpretation of the question. While a large number of youth might not have attended parties, a certain amount of informal visiting normally takes place regardless of whether or not it is planned by the individual.

A report of no automobile riding by one-third to almost one-half of the young people doubtless indicated a lack of available facilities. This situation was significant in that it probably denotes a large group of youth were restricted in their outside contacts and, therefore, limited in their experiences.

From one-sixth to almost one-half of the out-of-school youth 15 to 24 years of age reported that they had not listened to the radio during the period June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936. It is suggested that these figures may indicate to some extent the lack of radio ownership. However, in all probability many available radio facilities were not utilized by these village youth.

The minor importance of outdoor games as sports was likely a reflection of the lack of opportunities, leadership, and personal initiative among these young people as pointed out in the preceding discussion of organized group activities. From approximately a third to more than three-fourths of the out-of-school youth reported no time spent in this manner.

The relative unimportance of dancing as a leisure-time activity was rather surprising since it is generally assumed that most young people participate to some extent in this

activity. However, religious taboos set up against dancing in one of the villages and general disapproval in another undoubtedly had a definite tendency to eliminate this pastime from the lives of these young people. From 72.7 per cent to 91.7 per cent of the young men and young women out-of-school denied any participation in dancing activities. The older attended dances somewhat more frequently than did the younger youth which seems to further indicate the existence of social disapproval of dancing which apparently would be more effective among the younger than the older age groups.

This discussion of leisure time activities is not to be interpreted to mean that every youth in the three villages should participate in all the specified activities. Any individual youth may concentrate on one or two leisure-time pursuits and not have the time or interest for other types of activities. However, it seems tenable to suggest that the leisure time as well as the recreational activities of the young man and young woman should be kept in reciprocal balance. Youth should be encouraged to diversify their talents and energies to assure with reasonable certainty both their mental and physical development, and not one without the other.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A review of the literature on the social and economic situation of rural youth in general and agricultural village youth in particular revealed that little information was available for these young people in Kansas. The consensus of opinion depicted by a considerable quantity of statistical and general material on rural youth in the United States was that the long-time rural youth problem of an excess in numbers in relation to a dearth of social and economic opportunities in rural and urban areas had become greatly aggravated during the period of depressed conditions. Also, denoted in the youth literature for the country as a whole was the apparent necessity for the immediate formulation of an adequate rehabilitation and conservation policy for rural youth.

The average size of the families including economically independent youth away from home of 3.2 persons in three agricultural villages in Kansas was somewhat smaller than that for all native white families in the entire state in 1930, which at that time was 3.6 individuals. Excluding the self-supporting youth, the average family on June 1, 1936, contained 2.9 persons. Families in which one or more youth

lived had, on the average, four persons in the household. Almost three-fourths of all the families in the three population centers consisted of husband, wife, and children. Only 7.9 per cent of the 484 household units were broken families.

Of the male heads of families, the proprietary group was the largest single occupational classification with 23 per cent of the total number. About 26 per cent of the male heads, including the 4.9 per cent who were WPA employees, were semi-skilled or unskilled workers. Approximately 10 per cent of the entire group had no regular employment. Sixty-three per cent of the female heads of families were classified as housewives, probably indicating that in many cases youth were making a contribution to the support of the household.

The proportion of youth 15 to 19 years of age in the three villages was greater than that of youth in the entire state, and in the non-farm and in the rural farm population of the state. The proportion of agricultural village youth between the ages of 20 and 24 years was less than indicated for other areas. The same situation was true for youth in the 25 to 29 year age group with the exception of those in the entire farm population and here the proportion of young

people in the villages was noticeably greater, perhaps denoting a migration of the older youth from the farming areas to the agricultural villages. The relative proportion of male and female youth between the ages of 15 and 29 years in the three villages was about the same as in the entire rural non-farm population. In the three population centers 50.8 per cent of the total youth were males and 49.2 per cent females.

More young women than young men in each age group were married. This was in accord with the normal pattern of females marrying at an earlier age than males as found in the various segments of the population. From 21 to 23 years seemed to be the most favored age of marriage for male youth, while more female youth were married between the ages of 18 and 20 years. Since by later ages youth will have made a marital adjustment, the proportion of both male and female youth who were married became progressively greater in the older age classifications. Proportionately, with the exception of the young women between the ages of 24 and 29 years, more rural non-farm youth of both sexes in 1930 in comparison with the agricultural village youth as of June 1, 1936, were married. A large majority of the married youth were maintaining their own homes; only 13.3 per cent

of the young men and 9.4 per cent of the young women were living with other families. Apparently during the depression period these young people married at approximately the normal rate. Although no postponement of marriage was evident among the youth in the villages, it is probable that economic opportunities were limited and the difficulties of establishing and maintaining new homes were perceptibly increased.

Approximately one-half of the economically independent youth had migrated to towns or cities. Less than 10 per cent of these economically independent male and female youth were located in the three villages. A slightly greater proportion of young men than young women moved to towns, cities, and open country areas and almost three times as many self-supporting young women as young men moved to other villages. Female youth comprised 49.2 per cent of all youth in the villages at the time of the survey, but they constituted 60 per cent of those who had obtained economic independence of the parental household. A large share of the female youth probably married before becoming independent of the parental home. There seemed to be a greater tendency for male youth who left home between the ages of 15 and 19 years and 25 and 29 years to enter low-skilled

occupations. The marriage rate was higher for the independent youth away from home than for all out-of-school youth who claimed residence in the village.

More than one-half of the male and female youth 15 to 24 years of age were attending school. A rapid decrease was denoted in the proportion of youth attending school after age 16 years, the age which marks the termination of the period of compulsory school attendance stipulated by state law. About 45 per cent of the male youth and approximately 55 per cent of the female youth had finished the third or fourth year of high school. The in-school youth showed a relatively high educational attainment and comparatively little retardation.

Almost 63 per cent of the youth no longer in school had completed high school or gone on to take advanced training. Young women on the average had completed more grades in school than young men. Youth in the three villages were leaving school at an age which is generally considered too young to secure full-time employment. Slightly more than three-fourths of all out-of-school youth discontinued school before reaching the age of 19 years and about one-fourth did not attend school after they were 16 years old. The youth who left school in the older age groups had

to wait the shortest time before finding a job. The number of young men who were employed in semi-skilled or unskilled occupations became proportionately less as educational qualifications advanced.

Only 9.6 per cent of the male youth 15 to 29 years of age were not gainfully employed as of June 1, 1936. A larger proportion of the young men between the ages of 25 and 29 years as compared with those in the age groups 15 to 19 years and 20 to 24 years were gainfully employed at the time of the survey. Of the young women between the ages of 15 and 29 years, 31.3 per cent indicated gainful employment. It was evident that over a period of time most youth had experienced some unemployment.

The average income from all sources for out-of-school male and female youth 15 to 24 years of age, married women excluded, from June 1, 1935, to June 1, 1936, was $413 and $142, respectively. Only 47.5 per cent of all male youth and 12.5 per cent of all unmarried female youth out of school reported ownership of property other than personal belongings. The most common types of property owned were automobiles and furniture.

Slightly more than two-thirds of the young men and approximately 45 per cent of the unmarried young women between

the ages of 15 and 29 years had made one or more moves since becoming 15 years of age. Almost 30 per cent of the young men and about 23 per cent of the young women had moved at least three times. The largest proportion of both sexes had come from the town or city areas to the three villages.

Adequate recreational facilities and adult educational programs either did not exist or were not functioning effectively in the three villages. About 85 per cent of the male youth in school belonged to an organized group, but the corresponding proportion for the male youth out of school was only 35 per cent. Similarly, among young women there was a wide difference between those in and out of school, 90 and 50 per cent, respectively. In-school youth spent more time per week on the average than out-of-school youth in the various leisure-time activities. A proper diversification of their talents and energies was not apparent among the youth, especially the out-of-school young people in the three villages.

This study of rural youth in three Kansas villages and an examination of the results of other rural youth studies suggest certain general recommendations which may be effective in improving the situation of these rural young people. These recommendations are as follows:

1. An adjustment of the functions of rural schools in terms of current conditions, especially with reference to vocational education and guidance, seems desirable. Youth should be given more opportunity for both general and special occupational training. This would eliminate, to some extent, the present tendency of youth to enter adult occupations by chance.

2. A longer period of schooling should be provided since youth are now leaving school at an age which is considered too young to obtain full-time employment. The curriculums should be organized to meet the interests and problems of the students in a changing society.

3. The establishment of county organizations for occupational information and guidance and to collect data on available opportunities and personal characteristics essential for success in various occupations would be of value in the placement of young people. These organizations should be coordinated and supervised by a state agency which would act as a clearing house for all organizations working with youth. The record of school attainment, interests, and aptitudes of all young people seeking employment should be available to these organizations. Some of this work is now being done by the Kansas Employment Service.

4. There is a definite need for adequate constructive recreational and leisure-time facilities in each community. A sufficient number of trained leaders is essential to stimulate and direct the youth in their recreational and leisure-time pursuits.

5. Further plans should be set up to coordinate studies already made and to make additional studies concerning rural youth. This work would formulate plans for youth on a long-time basis as well as help organize community resources such as the church, the school, civic clubs, and other groups which may be of assistance in charting plans for rural youth.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The writer wishes to acknowledge the guidance of Dr. Randall C. Hill, his major instructor, in this study. His helpful suggestions and valuable criticisms have made possible the successful completion of this work. The writer also desires to express his appreciation to Dr. W. E. Grimes, Head of the Department of Economics and Sociology, for his help and constructive criticisms. The writer is indebted to the people of Inman, Mount Hope, and Oxford, Kansas, for their cooperation in providing essential data and facts.

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