

AN ECONOMIC SOCIAL AND  
RELIGIOUS SURVEY  
OF A RURAL  
COMMUNITY

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AN ECONOMIC SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS  
SURVEY OF RURAL

COMMUNITY  
LIBRARY  
A & M COLLEGE  
STILLWATER OKLA

BY

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## P R E F A C E

Society has frequently been studied from the top downward. Only a few intensive studies have ever been made of the small unit in the field of rural sociology. The most prominent studies of this character have been undertaken by the Department of Church and Country Life of the Presbyterian Church. This organization has made surveys of rural communities in Indiana, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio. Similar studies have been made by graduate students in The State University of Iowa, and The University of Minnesota.

This is the first attempt to make an intensive social survey of a rural community, that has been made in Oklahoma. The writer is indebted to many people who have aided and encouraged him in making this study. He is especially indebted to Dr. Avery L. Carlson, who completed a similar survey in Iowa in 1915. Professor Carlson has directed this work from its inception. The writer is also indebted to Mrs. Emma Bassler-Elledge, County Superintendent of School, and Mr. A. C. Hesser, County Assessor, for permitting the use of valuable records in their respective offices. Dr. A. S. Davis, Pastor of the Presbyterian church of Stillwater, also gave valuable suggestions. To Mr. H. H. Holderread, a farmer in the township, to Mr. M. Y. Brown, the only teacher in the district, and to Mr. John Wilkins the oldest settler in the community, the writer is especially indebted for valuable information on the religious, educational and historical aspects of the subject. To Dean

Henry F Holtzclaw, of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, I hereby acknowledge my deep debt of gratitude for his kindly interest, encouragement and appreciation of my efforts, of which the following pages are the result.



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## INTRODUCTION.

The principal consideration which prompted the writer to undertake the task of collecting the data contained in this survey was to secure original information concerning the Economic, Social, and Religious conditions of a small rural community in central Oklahoma.

The reasons for surveying a small community may be enumerated as follows;

(1) Because of the interlations of Social problems, it is best that the social survey be made as comprehensive as possible.

(2) The factors of social life are more easily isolated and controlled for the purpose of an investigation, in a small community than in a large one.

(3) The smaller communities should be surveyed by statistical methods because each community has divergencies from the general trend that are of sufficient interest to warrant their intensive study.

(4) The small communities should be investigated to determine the truth or falsity of the idea that social disorders are characteristic only of larger centers.

The reasons which prompted the writer to undertake this study were because of an interest in this branch of sociology and also in order to fulfill particular scholastic requirements in the School of Commerce and Marketing of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College. This undertaking was selected also because it required research work and practice in making an original investigation.



The material for this study was gathered by the writer during the scholastic year, 1922-23. The unit selected for research and study is a purely rural community, three miles square, located in the southeastern corner of Cimarron Township, Payne County, Oklahoma. The investigation was made personally by the writer who armed himself with a questionnaire, and made a house to house canvas of the community on foot. While the study has not been an exhaustive one, some information has been secured, which it is hoped will throw light on the problems of rural and social life.

## C H A P T E R I .

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE UNIT SURVEYED.

## (A). Size and Location of the Unit.

The Independent School District located in the southeastern part of Cimarron Township, Payne County, Oklahoma, is an ordinary rural community, located a little north of the central part of Oklahoma. It is three miles square, and thus contains nine sections of land. The total number of acres in the community is 5,760. There are no towns or villages within this district. There are two towns within easy reach. Cushing with a population of 6,326\* people is located just two miles to the east. Ripley, an incorporated town of 410\* people is located one mile west and two miles north from the northern border. Cushing seems to get the larger share of the trade from this community. Cushing is an oil town containing some twelve refineries, cotton oil mills, storage houses, several tank farms and other varied industries which make it a thriving city, and gives the farmers of this district a market for their produce. Cushing has three railroads, namely; The Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe, The Oil Belt Route of the Santa Fe, and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad.

Ripley has but one railroad and it is a junction point on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. This town is typical of most towns of its size and serves as a trading center for the immediately surrounding country.

## (B). General Geographical Features.

The district drains to the north. Big Creek runs along its

\* United States census Report of 1920.



western border just inside the district, thus causing the water to drain to the west. This creek has a lime stone bottom in most places, and the water is very clear. It does not run in the summer, but still there are deep holes of water, probably fed by underground springs. There are several deep holes along this creek which may be from eight to twelve feet deep.

The land is rolling and almost all prairie, except for a few black jacks in the north eastern corner. The only trees are along the streams, although there are many farmers who have set out trees about their homes. Cotton wood, elm, box elder, walnut, black jack, cycamore and birch are the most frequently to be found. The persimmon trees are numerous; and there are a few pecan trees. The type of soil, geologically speaking, is the Kirkland clay loam and the Vernon clay. There is quite a bit of sandy loam also. This soil is not fertile as some of the other soils mentioned. Again, there are several sand rocks or boulders close to the surface. This region is between eight hundred and nine hundred feet above sea level. There are no large streams within the district, but the Cimarron River flows just two miles to the north.

#### (C). History of the District.

This community was opened for settlement September 22, 1891. The method of selection was as follows;

On September 22, 1891, at noon all the people who wanted a farm were to start from across the Cimarron River. People from everywhere were encamped across the river a few days before the race started. They came mostly on horse back.\* At twelve o'clock

\* The writer's great uncle, Isaac Pearce, rode a mule.



September 22, 1891, they rushed across the river and galloped off to select the best claim. However, much to their surprise, they found that some of the best claims had been taken and even crops were growing on them. These people were called Sooners, because they came in too soon. There is a district just to the south of Independence that they have named "Soonerville" because so many of the claims were taken before the formal opening. This district still carries that name, even until to-day. After selecting the claim they most desired, the Sooners had to find the rock on the claim which marked the range, township, and section number. When they found this rock, they rushed to Guthrie to file the record upon the land claimed. Guthrie was then the Capital of Oklahoma Territory, and is located just forty miles west of this community. This community has been settled only thirty-two years. There still remain three families in this community, who made the race for their farms on September 22, 1891, namely: Mr. John Wilkins, Mr. Chas. Williams, and Mr. J. A. Ford. Mr. John Wilkins has the highest improved and best kept place in the community. He has lived upon it since the opening of the strip, with the exception of one year, which he spent in Cushing, Oklahoma.

## CHAPTER II.

## POPULATION.

## (A). History of the Population.\*

Census	1891	-----	0
"	1892	-----	36
"	1895	-----	100
"	1900	-----	120
"	1905	-----	140
"	1910	-----	190
"	1915	-----	175
"	1920	-----	160
"	1922	-----	165**

Some interesting facts are revealed regarding the growth of the district. The first census ever taken was before the settlement, January 1, 1891. At this time it was inhabited by the Iowa Indians who lived in small tribes, here and there, throughout this district. There are still traces of these inhabitants to be found here, such as the location of their council meetings, their Indian dances, and their burial ground. To the west about five miles is the Indian Mission, for the Sac and Fox tribes. Uncle Billy Murdock was the founder of it, and he still presides over this mission. He is about ninety years of age at the present time. He is a white man.

The Indian children attend school with the white children, now.

\* Census Reports of 1900 and 1910, Oklahoma State Census Reports, Page 610.

\*\* Investigator report of 1922.



and some of them attend the same churches. Their social gatherings are frequently held jointly with the white people, and some of their children intermarry with the whites. But still there seems to remain an instinctive barrier between the two races. The Indian is still on a lower social basis than his white brother who looks down upon him to some extent. It is'nt considered a good social practice by some to intermarry with the Indian, although the practice has been frequent in many cases in this state.

In 1910 the maximum population of this district was reached. It was one hundred and ninety. This situation is partly explained by the fact that each family had raised their children, and the oldest child was, at this time, about old enough to leave home and the last child had just been born. So this was the period of maximum population. The young people who had married had moved out of the district, and the birth rate decreased, in this community. In 1915, the population had decreased to one hundred and seventy, due to the marriages of some, attendance at High School or Colleges of others, and others who sought employment elsewhere--all of which took them out of their home district. The population in 1920 was one hundred and sixty; and it is now one hundred and sixty-five, which tends to prove that it is likely to settle around this point.

The population around Cushing has changed very rapidly in the last ten years, due to the oil fields, and also on account of the oil production, year by year, gradually extending to these surrounding communities.

(B). Elements of the present Population. (1923)



## (1). Total Population by Age and Sex Division.\*

	Male	Female	Total
Under 5 years -----	9	13	22
5 yrs to 18 yrs ----	18	26	44
18 yrs to 21 yrs ---	6	3	9
21 yrs and over ----	45	45	90
Total -----	78	87	165

From the above table, it will be observed that there are a total of 78 males and 87 females in the district. There is an equal division of the sexes among those over 21 years of age there being 45 males and 45 females. It will be also observed that in the class of people under 5 years of age, there are 9 males and 13 females. The difference in sex is not so great among the people up to eighteen years of age, probably because the males are too young to leave home for employment. Consequently the males and females are nearer equal at this age than any other.

The first practical census was taken just after "the run," in which there was found to be one man on every one hundred and sixty acres, which would make the population thirty-six. But by 1895 when they had brought their families, which were small, consisting of a wife and occasionally one child, the population had increased to one hundred. By 1900, the population had increased to one hundred and twenty. Although not much of an increase, in itself, it was quite a growth if you consider the percentage of increase and also the large number who were forced to leave on account of lack of funds. The next five years the population also increased, but the growth was more steady. The people had become real home builders.

\* Investigator Count.

There are a total of seventy-five people twenty-one years of age, and ninety over that age. There are fifty-three persons of school age in the district, i.e. between the ages of five and twenty-one years.

(C). Population Classified According to both place and origin.

(1). Origin of Population.

Birthplaces -----	Number born -----	% of Total
Within District -----	50 -----	31.2
Oklahoma -----	31 -----	19.3
Other States -----	79 -----	49.5

From the above table it will be observed that the largest percent of the residents were born in other states. This would naturally be expected, since the district is only thirty-two years old. 31.2% were born within the district and 19.3% in Oklahoma. This is a typical American district of the Southwest.

(A). Classification of Children of Parents living in the District, According to their Residence.

Present Location -----	Number -----	Per cent
In District -----	89 -----	29.66
In County -----	94 -----	31.33
In Oklahoma -----	98 -----	32.66
Other States -----	2 -----	.66

The children raised in this community do not scatter far, 22.66% remained in the district; and 31.33% remained in the County, 32.66% have gone to other places in the State, and only .66% have gone to other states.

(B). Classification of Children over twenty-one years of age, or of husband of married daughters according to Occupation.



Occupation	Number	Per cent
Agriculture -----	18 -----	66.66
Baker -----	1 -----	3.33
Livery Barn -----	1 -----	3.33
Oil Fields -----	14 -----	44.66

There seems to be a very narrow range in the choice of occupation among the children of citizens of this community. The people of this social unit are engaged chiefly in agriculture. We find that most of the children (66.66%) follow this occupation in after life, either from choice or necessity. There are (44.66%) of the children engaged in oil field labor. The reason for the high percentage is because of the closeness of the oil fields. The closest field is only one mile northeast of this community, and there are several oil refineries within five miles. Besides a few school teachers, clerical workers, and one college graduate student, the majority of them are taking up agriculture and employment in the oil fields.

(C). Population Classified According to Size of Families.

Number of Families	Number of children in Families	Total Number of Children	Number of Parents in each class	Others in Home	Total Population.
1	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	6	2	14
2	1	2	4	1	7
7	2	14	14	2	30
3	3	9	6	0	15
2	4	8	4	0	12
2	5	10	4	1	14

(continued on next page)



Number of Families	Number of Children in Families	Total Number of Children	Number of Parents in each class	Others in Home	Total Population.
1	6	6	2	2	8
2	7	14	4	0	18
3	8	24	6	0	30
0	9	0	0	0	0
0	10	0	0	0	0
0	11	0	0	0	0
1	12	12	2	0	26
30	0	99	58	8	175
Outside District		6	Population of District		165
Within District		93	Children living elsewhere		10

The total population of the community, counting all children of parents who still reside within the district, bachelors, parents and others in the various households, is one hundred and seventy-five. However, ten of these daughters and sons reside outside of the boundaries of the district, leaving a total population of one hundred and sixty-five. There are a total of thirty families in the district, including a bachelor who resides on a separate farm. The average number of children per family is 3.33 and the maximum number is twelve. There were two families who had twelve children. The most frequent number of children per family is two, there being seven families with that number. There was one bachelor operating a separate farm, and six couples childless. There were two families who had only one child. There were eight families who lived with other families, who were relatives.

In this district there are no persons foreign born, or even of foreign born parents. Perhaps this was due to the fact that

the foreign born population do not seek the Southwest, like they do the East, North and the West, and especially the Northwest.

Only twelve children were born in the district during the last year, three of them died shortly after birth. There were a pair of twins (boys) among the new arrivals, but they only lived three weeks. Four of the new born were girls and seven were boys. Two funerals were held for members of the district during the past twelve months. One a double funeral for twin babies and the other for a baby girl, one month old. There were some more funerals held within this community for people who had resided outside of the district. Only three couples had been married during the twelve months, but none of them living inside of the district, although they were living in some part of the county.

(D). Decrease in Farm Population.

"A survey just completed by the United States Department of Agriculture shows a decrease, during 1922, of 460,000 persons in the agricultural population of this country. This presents a very serious situation in view of the fact that the total population of the nation is rapidly increasing. In addition to the normal city population, which is growing steadily, the remaining farmers must feed the 460,000 persons who have left the farms and gone to the cities."

"Something must be done to meet the decrease in farm population. Three methods suggest themselves: First, a 'back-to-the-farm' movement; second, a more widespread use of labor-saving machinery, and third, the encouragement of immigration to this country, of farmers from other countries."



" "The 'back-to-the-farm' movement has been agitated for a number of years; but with very little success. Persons who leave the farms and become settled in business positions in cities have little inclination to go back. However, it is probable that a strong 'back-to-the-farm' movement, now, would have more success than in the past because farm life is becoming increasingly more attractive as hard-surfaced roads, rural mail delivery, and telephone place the farmer within easier access to the country schools and churches, to their neighbors and to the theatrical and other entertainments in towns and cities."\*

A more widespread use of power machinery on the farm would help considerably. Many farmers are buying labor-saving machinery. In some communities, farmers who are financially unable, as individuals, to buy such machinery, are pooling their resources and purchasing the machinery as collective property, to be used, in turn, by the partners.

There should be a stronger encouragement of farmer immigration to the United States. Approximately 700 Norwegians and Swedish farmers were recently admitted to this country and left immediately for the farm lands of the West. They were an intelligent and thrifty lot and had no difficulty in passing the immigration tests. The government should seek more immigrants of this type.

\* The Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 19, 1923.



## CHAPTER III.

## LAND.

## (A). Land Ownership.\*

Total number of Acres -----	5,760.
Acres net taxable -----	5,760.
Acres in Public highway -----	85.
School, church and cemetery -----	4.
Total number of owners -----	13.
Average size of holding -----	135.3
Maximum size holding -----	360.
Minimum size holding -----	40.
Most frequent size holding -----	160.
Average actual value per acre -----	\$50.
Total actual value of all holdings --	\$288000.
Total number of renters -----	19.
Average increase in value per acre ---- (1910-20)	\$20.
Average increase in value per acre ---- (per year)	\$2.
Owners tilling their own farm exclusively	12.
Renters tilling rented farms -----	19.
Renters who own and till adjoining farm	2.
Owners who own and till the adjoining farm	3.

There are thirty-three separate farms in the district; and the average size of each farm is 135.33 acres. The largest farm owned by one man is 360 acres, and it happens to be about the poorest farm in the community. The minimum size holding is 40 acres. This farm is rented. The minimum size holding farmed by the owner is 80 acres. The most frequent size farm is 160 acres.

\* County Assessors Books, Year 1921 and 1922, Payne County, Oklahoma.

The reason is because of the newness of this community, which is only thirty-one years old. The land was in 160 acre tracts when settled, and only a few farms have been divided since. The average actual value of the land per acre is estimated to be \$50.00 an acre. According to some farmers, the land has increased \$20.00 an acre in value since 1910. This valuation of the land is based upon its value for agricultural purposes. There have been oil booms throughout this community, at which times owners of farms are offered as high as \$100.00 an acre.

30% of the owners till their own farms exclusively. 60% rent and till adjoining farms, 50% of the farmers rent exclusively, 11% are renters, but own and till adjoining farms. There is a large percent of absentee landlordism in this community. About 65% of farms are tilled by renters.

(B). The Question of Rent.

Terms of rent per acre	Number of acres	Number of farms rented	Total rent.
\$ 1.56	860	5	\$1349.60
1.68	80	1	135.00
2.20	360	3	792.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>\$2276.60</b>

Grain Rent.

Share	Number of acres	Number of farms rented
½ grain	80	1
½ grain ½ cotton	1720	12
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>



The terms of cash rent range around \$1.75 per acre throughout this community, although cash rent is not practical in the district. They use the system of share crop rent most frequently. This consists of one-third of the grain and one-fourth of the cotton produced. Then if there is a failure both parties lose, and if a "bumper crop" both parties reap the harvest. Crops have been rather uncertain the last few years, hence we find more renters asking for one-third grain and one-fourth cotton rate, or rent on a share basis.

(C). Permanency of Land Tenure.

Length of Residence.

Period	Owners	%	Renters	%
Less than one year	2	.6	2	.6
1 to 2	1	.3	11	3.3
2 to 3	1	.3	3	.9
3 to 4	0	0	0	0
4 to 5	0	0	0	0
5 to 10	1	.3	1	.3
10 to 15	3	.9	0	0
15 to 20	0	0	0	0
20 to 25	1	.3	0	0
25 to 30	6	1.8	0	0

The above table on land tenure shows that there are a large number of short time occupants of the farms, in the case of renters. There are very few short time occupants of the farm in the case of owners. There are two owners who have occupied their farms for less than one year. This may be because the chance of finding



oil is probable and the farmer doesn't want to lose this opportunity. Three of the owners have occupied their farms between ten and fifteen years; and six of them between twenty-five and thirty years.

Only two renters had lived on the same farm less than a year. One of these had made it a habit of moving every year and the other was a "newly wed." One renter had lived on the same farm for eight years, but in this case he was renting from his father-in-law. Two to three years was the most common period of tenure.

(D). Comparison of Ages of Owners and Renters.

Ages	Owners	%	Renters	%
Under 25 yrs	0	0	1	.3
25 to 30 yrs	0	0	4	1.2
30 to 35 yrs	1	.3	8	2.4
35 to 40 yrs	0	0	2	.6
40 to 45 yrs	2	.6	2	.6
45 to 50 yrs	0	0	1	.3
50 to 55 yrs	1	.3	2	.6
55 to 60 yrs	2	.6	0	0
60 to 65 yrs	3	.9	1	.3
65 to 70 yrs	2	.6	1	.3
Over 70 yrs	2	.6	0	0

Only one man under thirty-five years of age owned land in the district. There were two owners between forty and forty-five. The maximum number of owners were between the ages of fifty and fifty-five, this number being three. Only one renter was under twenty-five years of age; four between twenty-five and thirty and the maximum number, eight, fell between the ages of thirty and thirty-five. Two owners were above seventy years of age.

## CHAPTER IV.

## BUSINESS RELATIONS.

## (A). Value of Personal Property.\*

The total value of personal property for the year 1922 was \$8,825.00, this is a low rating, because the County Assessor's books does not record the full value. When they are appraising the property, perhaps their appraisal would only reach one-half of the real value. Valuations for taxation purposes are notoriously below the market value.

## (B). Value of Live Stock.\*

Live Stock	Number	Value
Horses	61	\$3,110.00
Mules	19	705.00
Cattle	150	2,795.00
Swine	83	285.00
Sheep	0	000.00
Goats	0	000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>\$6,895.00</b>

There were sixty-one horses in the district, a very small number, indeed, when we take into consideration the fact that there are thirty families in this same district. That would average a team for each family. One reason we find so few horses is the fact that the majority of the families own automobiles. There are only a few tractors to be found. The tractor is not making much of a success in this part of the State, on account of the

\* Assessor's Books, year 1922, Payne County, Oklahoma.



small farms where diversified farming is carried on, although it can be used to an advantage over on the river where there are several hundred acres in one field. Here they use them for the heavy work such as plowing.

This district is a mixed farming region, ranging all the way from the production of live stock to the raising of small grain. The chief types of live stock are; horses, mules, cattle, and hogs. There were in 1922, sixty-one head of horses, nineteen head of mules, one hundred and fifty head of cattle and eighty-three head of swine.

There are one hundred and fifty head of cattle valued at \$2795.00. They have not made it a practice of feeding cattle for the market, although just outside of this district there are several men who make it their business to buy up all the calves of the surrounding country and prepare them for marketing, the coming spring. They also butcher veal and beeves for the local butcher shops of Cushing and Ripley. The raising of swine is not an important industry, here. There was only one farmer who was raising hogs solely for the market. He had forty head of swine. Most of the farmers raised hogs for their own winter meat. The value of the hog industry was \$285.00 and the number of hogs were eighty-three. One man raised one-half of the hogs produced in the district. Sheep and goats were not produced for commercial purposes, although two sheep were kept purely for pets.

This community had not engaged in the raising of pure bred stock. Not one case was found where they were interested in pure bred stock; although in the surrounding communities there were farmers who were taking an interest in such stock, and some of



them had captured prizes at the State fairs.

(C). The Raising of Grain.

Cotton is the predominating type of grain raised in this region. This is the beginning of the cotton belt of the South. The cotton crops is the best paying crop also, but the renters who put in cotton from year to year soon run the fertility of the land down, and it washed away. Commercial fertilizer was not used at all and very few farmers hauled their manure out on their farms. Even the owners were negligent about doing this. All the farmers believed in and practiced crop rotation. In not one single case did the investigator find that any one had a definite crop rotation scheme in mind for a five year period, or longer. Nearly all of the farmers rotated their crops to suit their convenience from year to year. Most of the places had never been planted in leguminous plants. The alfalfa crop was just beginning to be raised, but in small patches of five acres only or even less. There were some oats, wheat, kafir and corn raised, named in order of most prominence.

(D). The Dairy Industry.

The extent of the dairy industry in this community is shown in the following table.

Butter, pounds per week	----- 54	----- \$21.60
Milk, quarts per week	----- 350	----- 35.00
Cream, per week	-----	----- 20.00
Eggs, per week	----- 7672	----- 230.88
Cream separators	----- 10	-----
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$307.48</b>

The majority of farmers in this community sold enough dairy products and chickens and eggs to pay for their groceries and clothes the year around. There was one farmer who engaged in dairying exclusively. He was located four miles west of town on a good road. He milked fifteen cows, which brought him thirty-five quarts a day. He owned a quarter section of land. He had a large family. All the children were old enough to help with the work.

These people should give more attention to dairy farming in this district. They are located within three miles of Cushing, a good market for milk, cream, butter, and eggs. Dairying is only a side line in this region, and it is carried on as incidental to the other farm work. It is apparent that there are tremendous possibilities in this type of agriculture, if the farmer could realize it. As the intensive type of farming increases dairying will probably become more important.

(E). The Poultry Industry.

The poultry industry was also neglected. There were approximately 3012 chickens in this community, yielding approximately 1096 eggs per day. At 36¢ per dozen, this produced \$32.88 per day or \$230.88 per week. Kaffir corn being a sure crop and good chicken feed, the poultry industry should be engaged in more intensively.

(F). Uses made of the Parcel Post and the Telephone.

The use of Parcel post was quite extensive in such commodities as clothing and some food stuffs. Sears Roebuch & Company, Montgomery Ward & Company, and The National were the leading mail order houses patronized.

The telephone is an improvement that has become an important way of quick communication within the district. It has become almost indispensable in every farm home. The entire community, with the exception of ten families are connected by telephone. These rural lines connect with all the neighboring towns and the toll lines. The telephone, the rural free delivery service, the parcel post, and the automobile have done more to make rural life attractive than any other agencies.



## CHAPTER V.

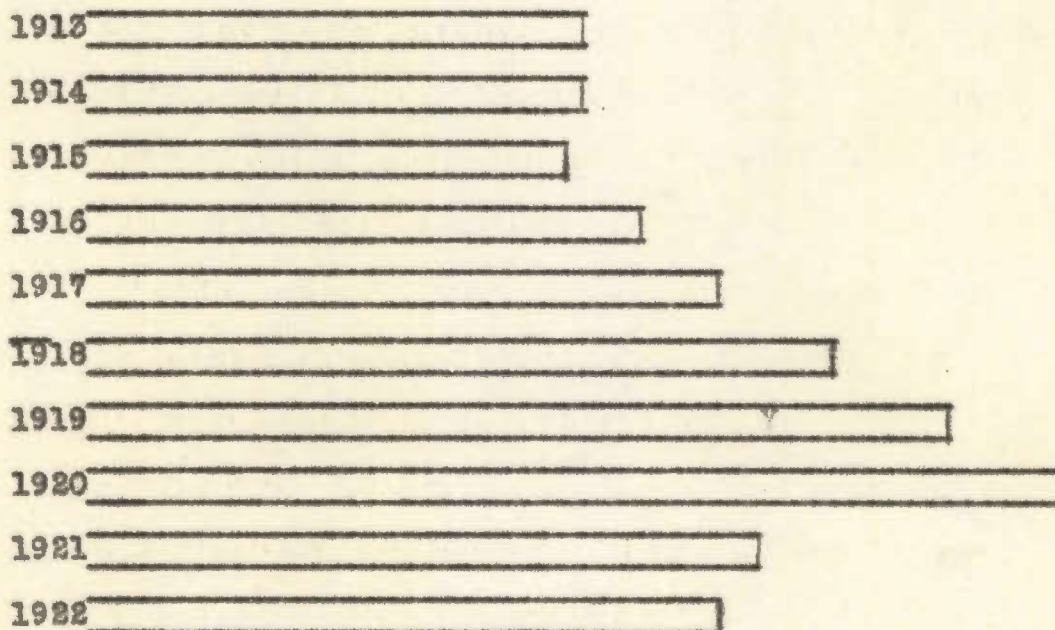
## LABOR CONDITIONS.

There was not a family within this district that was classed as agricultural laborers, although there were some individuals who were laborers, in the oil field, and on the highways, etc. The farm wage problem was a small matter here. The average wage could not be worked out for this particular community, but the farm wages had increased 31% in the last ten years, preceeding 1922. The average wage in the United States was \$41.75 per month, without board, in 1922, as compared with \$30.31, in 1913.

Average Farm Wage, per year, of the United States.\*

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FARM WAGES UP 31% IN TEN YEARS.



\* The Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 18, 1923.

## Average Farm Wage, per year, in the United States. (continued)

1913 -----	\$30.31	1918 -----	\$48.80
1914 -----	29.88	1919 -----	56.29
1915 -----	30.15	1920 -----	64.95
1916 -----	32.83	1921 -----	43.32
1917 -----	40.43	1922 -----	41.79

In 1913, the average wage for year was \$30.31. In 1914, it dropped a little, but went back to the same place in 1915, as it was in 1914. In 1916, it increased \$2.00 per month and in 1917, it increased to \$40.43, due to the United States entering the war on April, 6, 1917 and the following inflation of prices. By 1918 it had increased to \$48.80, 1919, to \$56.29, and by 1920, to \$64.95 per month. This rapid increase each year since 1917, is due to the scarcity of men, who enlisted in the United States Service. We notice in 1921, after the war and when the most of the soldiers had returned, wages took a drop to \$43.32 per month and in 1922, to \$41.79 per month due to the large supply of labor, and increase in the purchasing power of the dollar.

CHAPTER VI.  
HOUSING AND SANITATION.

(A). Housing Conditions.

The conditions of the various homes of the people indicate, to a great extent, their social standing in a community. The pride which people take in their homes and the conditions in which the various homes are kept are a good index of their culture, and ideals. The conditions of the barns and other farm buildings, especially as to the sanitation, have a close bearing upon the health as well as the local pride of the people. The following table brings out some significant facts regarding the condition of the dwelling houses.

(1). Heat.

gas	coal	wood	bath
3	3	26	1

With reference to the modern houses in this community, there is but one, which might be called modern. This home belongs to one of the oldest settlers. He has a six room house with bath.

Twenty-six of the families used wood, three coal, and three gas. There is a gas line that runs along the north border of this community, so these people are lucky to have the opportunity to use gas for cooking purposes.

(2). Material of which houses were Constructed.

Wood	Cement	Log	Stone
30	1	1	1



## (3). Number of Stories in the Houses.

One	Two	Three	Four
9	20	1	0

## (4). Condition of Paint on the Houses.

Good	Fair	Poor	None
6	10	3	13

## (5). Condition of Repair of the Houses.

Good	Fair	Poor	None
14	8	9	13

## (6). Number of Porches on the Houses.

One	Two	Three	None
8	13	1	8

There was one log house partly in use as a summer kitchen. It was in very good condition. There was one large stone house which is on the highest elevation in the district. There was one small cement house or garage being used as a home. It was occupied by a man and his wife. He seems to make his living in some other way than by work. By the looks of things most of the houses were very good, but some were inhabited by people who enjoyed living "close to nature," as they shared their houses with the dogs, cats, chickens, and other farm animals.

The remainder of the dwellings houses were wood; and all types were represented, from the old unpainted shack to the fine modern home. Every degree of refinement or lack thereof was represented in the houses of this community. There was only one home which was really modern in every respect. It was modern in that the conveniences consisted of gas heating, bath accommodations, water

piped into the house, with sinks, and screened porches.

On the other hand, the opposite type of taste and refinement in home construction was also prevalent in the community. There were a few extreme cases of neglect and wastefulness observed in the north part of this district. However, about one-quarter of a mile from the road was a grove surrounding an unpainted house. A more forsaken place I had never seen. The house was undoubtedly one of the oldest in this part of the country, although that would not make it so very old. It looked as though it never had been painted. The roof was falling in on the porches, and the window lights were missing. The cellar was rapidly filling with trash and filth. I was met by the head of the family, a man who was about fifty-eight years of age. I was soon surrounded by a flock of children, ranging in age from three years to eighteen years. Ignorance was written upon each of their faces, although all of them seemed happy and content. They were not bothered with the drudgery of having to attend school. They saw no need of it. The barn was in better condition than the house, it had been painted at one time.

The number of stories in the houses varied from one to three including the basement. The most common number of stories was two, there being twenty-two of these. There was one house with three stories including the garret and basement. The basement was used as a living room and kitchen. This house was built on the side of a hill. All conditions as to paint on the dwellings, from no paint at all to newly painted houses, were observed. Over half of the dwellings were in good or fair state of repair.



All but eight dwellings had porches.

There were three unoccupied houses in the township. They were old deserted structures, unfit to live in, and had been idle for ten or twelve years.

Closely connected with the dwellings houses as indicative of the customs and habits of the people is the character of the lawns and walks about the houses. The following table reveals some facts on this subject.

(B). Character of Lawn.	No.	%
Grassed	10	33
Rubbish	10	33
Trees and Flowers	16	49
Mowed	4	12
Fenced	14	44

Total Number of Premises 32.

The most startling fact revealed by the above table is the small per cent of fenced lawns. On only 14% of the farms were the chickens, and other live stock kept away from the houses by fences. In a number of cases the lawn fences were in such poor condition, that the farm stock could easily get through them. Very few of the lawns presented a neat appearance, although some would equal that of a city lawn. The people who took pride in their houses usually took equal pride in their lawns. Bermuda grass was the most common vegetation on the lawns.

(C). Character of Walks.

Material	Good Repair	%	Poor Repair	Total
Wood	2	66 2/3	1	3
Cement	4	80	1	5

## Character of Walks (continued)

Material	Good Repair	%	Poor Repair	Total
Stone	9	77	2	11
No Walks	16	50	0	16

There were sixteen homes that were unimproved with walks of any kind, other than a few loose boards or stones laying about on the ground. There were five cement walks, three of which were in good condition, two of the four wooden walks were in a good state of repair. There were eleven stone walks and nine of this number were in good repair. The reason for the existence of a larger number of stone walks is the vast amount of stone that can be quarried from almost any farm. Lime stone and sand rock are the two most common rocks.

## (B). Sanitary Conditions.

The subject of sanitation and hygiene is an exceedingly big one; and the investigator is unable to do justice to it in this study. Everything that can have any bearing on the health of the community should be considered. The conditions of the living rooms, the source and character of the water supply, the methods of storing foods, heating conditions, privy conditions, garbage disposal, care of the milk, location of the various farm buildings with reference to the house and the wells--all have an important bearing on the problem. The information secured is far from complete and more or less inaccurate; but an attempt has been made to indicate the chief features of the sanitary and hygienic conditions that prevail in this district.

The following table indicates the number of living rooms in



the dwellings.

Number of Rooms	Number of Houses
1	1
2	0
3	3
4	6
5	8
6	10
7	3
8	0

There were three houses having seven or more rooms, and one having only one room. The most prevalent number of rooms was six, there being ten such dwellings, having six rooms each. The second most frequent type is followed by the four room building and the three room dwellings in order mentioned. As to the conditions of ventilation, some of the houses were light and airy, notably the new structures. Then there were a number of homes which were damp, filthy, and unventilated.

The water supply is an important factor bearing on the health of a family. The following condition reveals the excellent condition of the family water supply.

Source of Water	Number of such Homes
Dug well	15
Drilled well	12
Cistern	2
Spring	0
Hauled	0

From the above table it will be observed that the majority of the wells in the community are dug wells. They are fifteen feet in depth, or less than fifty feet. This is an unfortunate fact from the stand point of sanitation. A dug well especially the shallow ones are likely to receive impurities by seepage from the surface of the ground. According to the teachings of preventative medicine, the germs of disease from privies and barn yards may be carried a considerable distance underground by seepage. The distance such germs may be carried by under-ground streams is immeasurable. The shallow dug wells located near a privy or a manure pile or other source of germ infection are very likely to be alive with the germs of disease, which seep into the wells. There are twelve drilled wells in this community. However, such transmission of germs is largely prevented by the bed rock through which the deep wells are drilled. As such wells are usually fitted with tight casings extending down to bed rock, there is little danger of contamination from the surface drainage.

In this region the water is good when they protect it from the surface streams. There is not a "gyp" well in the community. There are several springs in this community, which are used for watering stock only. They are not protected from surface drainage. One spring furnished water for household purposes. It was walled up and a stone house built over it. This spring was located above the yard and other outbuildings, so there was no seepage from the premises.

The location of deep wells with reference to stables and privies is an important factor in the consideration of this subject. The following table is of value.



Distance from Stable or Privy	Number of each.
Less than 20 feet	6
20 feet to 40 feet	5
40 feet to 60 feet	2
60 feet to 100 feet	2
Over 100 feet	0

The above table is based upon the investigators estimates of distance, not upon actual measurements, and is, therefore, more or less inaccurate. Nearly half of the shallow wells are within twenty feet of stable or privy and five of them are between twenty and forty feet.

No reliable statistics were secured as to the method of cleaning privies; as many of the persons interviewed were women. So far as the investigator was able to determine there were five houses without privies. Not a single case was discovered where chemicals were used to clean and disenfect the privies. Those who were questioned as to the method of disposal of contents of privies, replied that they moved the building, and some admitted they had did nothing. The privies as a rule were in bad condition, doors off, roof half gone, contents exposed to fowls and stock, although there were some that were in excellent condition.

In most cases manure was allowed to accumulate around the barns. Some had piles from two to six feet in height. This is not only damaging to the health of both people and live stock, but also destructive to the value of manure as a fertilizer, but since this manure was not spread on the soil. The renters very seldom remained for more than two or three years, therefore, they

did not try to build up the ground by the use of fertilizer. Furthermore, it produces a good breeding place for the disease carrying fly, and other vermin.

The problem of pure milk is one of the greatest factors in health and sanitation. It is one of the most vital factors in the preservation of public health. Perhaps more dirt and disease germs are taken into the human body through adulterated milk than by means of impure water. The chief source of dirt in milk is in the process of milking. All the milking is done by hand in this community. In order to insure perfect cleanliness in milking, the stable should be clean, and the cows kept clean at all times. In the summer time this is usually not a difficult task, as the cows are allowed to run in the pasture all of the time, and they are usually milked out of doors. This insures some degree of cleanliness. However, in the winter season the milking is done in doors, and the animals are kept in the barns over night. If an investigation of the milk question should be made in this district in the summer, perhaps more sanitary conditions would be found.

There were fifteen milk houses to be found. They were not strictly milk houses, but rather smoke houses and milk houses combined. Nine of them appeared to be in fairly clean condition. In some cases where the cream separator was kept in the kitchen, they were evidently kept clean, for that reason. Care should be taken in the handling of milk in this community for many sell milk and butter in Cushing, and thus endanger many lives.

LIBRARY  
A & M COLLEGE  
STILLWATER OKLA



## CHAPTER VII.

## RELIGION IN THE COMMUNITY.

## (1). The Religious Conditions.

This district is typical of the average Oklahoma rural community. A church is located in the north central part of the district. Oklahoma being a State, only thirty-one years old, it has not yet built up the rural community church. There is a large field for service in these rural districts for workers in religious endeavor.

## (a). History of the Church.\*

The church in this community is called the Big Creek Church of the Brethren, taking the name of a creek that runs north into the Cimarron River, just one mile and a half west of the church. The Brethren are some times called "Dunkards." Their college is located at McPherson, Kansas.

This church was organized in 1896, with fifteen charter members. The present church building was built in 1898. The first money was raised in 1897, in this way. All the members rented twenty acres of land and planted it to cotton. This was on what was called the "Ans Good Farm." At the present time this farm is owned by A. B. Georgia. The farm is one mile north of the church. It is rented by Joe Holsinger. In 1899 each family gave the price it received for the cotton raised on one acre, if they owned the land. While renters gave their part of an acre, thus producing funds enough to pay for one-half of the material needed. They began to build before this crop was all gathered. The members hauled

\* History given by H.H.Halderread, by personal interview.

the lumber from Guthrie, a town located forty miles west of this community, and at that time the Capital of Oklahoma Territory. This was their closest railroad town, at that time, and for several years following. The contract was let for the building with material on the ground, and the members worked for \$1.00 per day. By this labor the cost was also kept down as this \$1.00 per day was donated by the members and taken off the contract price. The church is a good substantial building but very plain, the members doing the greater part of the work, except the finishing, which was not of much importance. An addition was made to the church, a kitchen, an extra room, and a little folks room being added.

(b). The Church Building To-day.

The Big Creek Church of the Brethren is today a frame structure thirty-five feet by sixty feet. The church building faces the west and is set back about twenty feet from the public highway. There are six windows on each side of the building, and two doors in each end. The main auditorium is thirty-five feet wide by forty-five feet in length. There are two doors providing entrances in the front. The pulpit is in the rear of the auditorium. It has a rostrum about six inches high, which is covered with a carpet. There is also a carpet extending down the center aisle. The pulpit and the minister's chair are on this rostrum. Directly in front of the rostrum is a library table with Sunday School literature on it. There are twenty-one seats arranged in two rows for the congregation, besides a number of chairs for use on special occasions. There are two gas (natural) drop lights with two burners each. There are also a number of coal-oil lamps



on the side walls. There is a large gas heater in the center of the auditorium. The church did not have an organ. This was not on account of finances; but because the members object to an organ in the church.

Just off the main auditorium was a class room for the little folks, it had several little chairs, charts, and etc., for their needs. Adjoining this room was a kitchen of about fifteen by seventeen and one-half feet dimensions. The kitchen was well equipped for a rural church. It contained both a coal and a gas range, cabinet with utensils, nearly everything was tin-ware, including the eating pans. They held classes in the kitchen, also.

The church had a small library made up of a good selection of Christian books, besides there were twenty song books, perhaps there were several others but they were in the homes of the members. There was also, in connection with the library, a collection of boxes, labeled with the names of the head of the families, in which was placed the Sunday School literature, thus if they missed one Sunday, they could get the paper the next Sunday.

(c). The Church Services.

The Big Creek Church services are held every Sunday; Sunday School at ten, in the morning, preaching at eleven o'clock, Young People's meeting at seven, in the evening, and preaching services again at eight P. M. The Secretaries report on the black-board for Sunday, March 8, 1923, were as follows:

Enrollment.....	87
Cradle Roll.....	20
Home Department.....	9
Last Sunday's Attendance.....	48

## Secretary's Report (continued)

Offering to-day.....	\$2.58
Verses.....	26
Chapters.....	73
Bibles.....	7

The present minister, The Reverend Sala, lives in this community (just outside the boundary). He is a man of considerable education. He has a large library and is a well read man. He receives a salary of \$800.00 per year. This church's growth can be traced to the church having always employed a resident minister. The young people's society has the social leaders of the community. They give socials, hikes, weinie roasts, and other social amusements that are beneficial and uplifting to the younger generation of the community.

The young people of this church, who go away to college, usually go to McPherson College of McPherson, Kansas, which is the nearest college of the Brethren denomination. The year of 1922, the college graduated it's first student from this rural church. He will perhaps come back to this community, later. There are several students attending McPherson College from this church at the present time.

The other denominations represented are:

Church	Number of Families Belonging	Number of Individuals
Non-members	19	120
Brethren	4	11
Christian	2	7
True Followers	2	4



## Denominations Represented (continued).

Church	Number of Families Belonging	Number of Individuals
Church of Christ	1	2
Baptist	1	2
Church of God	0	2
Catholic	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
Totals.....	29	151

There is a limited number of denominations represented, although some of these denominations have churches which are located outside of this district, within a radius of three miles. The Big Creek Church of the Brethren is the only church located within the community surveyed in this study.

## CHAPTER VIII.

## EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS.

## (A). The Importance of the School in a Rural Community.

The problem of education in the rural school has been much neglected, while the city schools have been advanced to the front. The value of education to the farmers's children is now considered as great as it is to the children of the city. The rural school is the means by which we are to improve the social, economic, and political conditions of our rural communities. We can see for ourselves and it is also recognized to-day that the educated farmer has a tremendous advantage over the uneducated one. The Government even recognized this fact when the Morrill Act was passed, in 1862, whereby each State that was open for settlement was granted a certain amount of land and money for the support of an agricultural college. Here in Oklahoma, we have the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, located at Stillwater, and several small State Agricultural Colleges, with Junior standing, located over the State. The value of education and culture to the agricultural population cannot be accurately measured. Statistics show that many of the men and women prominent in public life obtained the rudiments of their education in the rural school. The one-room country school has had much influence for the good of the commonwealth. In colonial days and later, the school was the center of social activities. The spelling school, the singing school, and the entertainments served as a social opportunity in early history. Many of our rural schools have been neglected very



much and the communities show the effects of this neglect.

(B). History of the Rural School.

There have been three school houses built in this district in the last thirty-one years. The first one was built one-half mile north of the present school site. There seems to have been a dispute about its location from the beginning. It burned down, however, and a new one was built where the present one now is standing. The name of this school district is the Independence School, District Number 52. It is located in the center of the district, which is three miles square. The greatest distance any child has to walk to school is three miles. There is no railroad or industrial enterprise of any kind located within the district for the purpose of taxation. Early school history was not secured, as the County Superintendent has no records, except for the school years of 1920-21 and 1921-22.

(C). The School District in 1910.

The writer has chosen the school year of 1910, for the description, because that was his first year of attendance at school in this State. At that time, the writer was classified in the sixth grade, and was fourteen years of age. The school was called "Independence." The schools surrounding this district are, namely: Soonerville, Free Silver, Cottonwood, and Sunny Side. They are known by name rather than by district number. The school was a large one-room building, twenty-five by forty feet. There were five windows on each side, protected by heavy screens. There were two doors, which opened to the west. The building faced the west. There was a large platform in front, at one end of which

there was a well. The building had a belfry, which contained a large bell that could be heard plainly all over the district. Inside the school house, in the rear end was a rostrum about six inches high and ten feet wide, extending the width of the building. The teacher's desk was a sort of study table and a large chair with a half-back. The stove was a long iron, wood burning, stove with a drum on top. Many stirring scenes took place back of this stove because it acted as a barrier between the pupil and teacher. There were several seats, some for two and some for three. There were eighty-four pupils enrolled that year. Grades ran all the way from primer to ninth grade, inclusive. The teacher taught the ninth grade at recesses and at noon. M. Y. Brown was the school master. He held a third grade certificate and this was his first school. There was not a single tree in the school yard. There was a good wire fence around the yard, except on the side next to the road. The school grounds are situated on a level spot, which is near a creek.

(D). The School District in 1923.

A new building was finally decided upon in 1918. They voted bonds for a two-room building. It carried. The school at that time was still very large and the necessity for a two-room school was plain. The new building was forty feet by forty feet with a vestibule, ten feet by ten feet. It also had a belfry on top of the vestibule. The rooms were divided by folding doors. In case of Chapel exercises and entertainment, the two rooms were easily thrown together. On each side there are five windows protected by heavy screen. A cave has been constructed to protect the



children in case of cyclone, a phenomena which some times visits this section of the country. It is several feet from the school building. The ground is all enclosed by woven wire fence. There is a coal shed for fuel. There are two privies located on the rear of the school ground. Both are in good condition.

(E). The Equipment of the Building.

The heating equipment is a huge coal stove, with a large circular jacket, which prevents roasting the pupils who sit near the stove. There was a large table for study groups to use in solving problems. The rooms are equipped with shades and white curtains for all the windows. The room was made attractive with decorations, pictures, etc. The old double desk was the predominating type of desk. However, the single seat desk prevails.

(F). The supplies were good in this school due to the fact that they once had a real teacher who took an active interest and built it up to the standard and obtained the rating of a model school. Miss Margurett Darlow was the teacher who put this school in the place it now holds. She is now a Senior in the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, and will graduate in May, 1923. They had a set of large maps which were fastened to rollers and enclosed in a case placed above the blackboards. It also had a large book case located in the back of the room. The books found in this library were very suitable for the use of rural pupils; but many of the books are undoubtedly too advanced for pupils below the eighth grade. Many of the titles suggest books of high school grade. Some of the books were written in a style that would not appeal to children. On the other hand the books, as a

whole, were good. They have been adding to this list from year to year. They had a large Webster's Dictionary, a globe, and other supplies for primary work.

(G). The Preparation, Experience, and Average Compensation of Teachers.

After all the equipment is considered, the most important element in any school is the teacher. Good teachers can frequently get good results with poor equipment, but poor teachers frequently do not get good results with the best of equipment. The Teachers who have taught here have not attended college at all; some have attended summer sessions. The success of a teacher is measured to a limited extent by the number of terms she remains in one school, or at least the satisfaction which she has given is so measured. The teachers number six, since 1910. This averages two years for every teacher. They have been quite lucky in obtaining good school teachers. The man who taught here in 1910, Mr. M. Y. Brown, is teaching there again this year. He holds a second grade certificate. He is married and has two children.

(H). Report of District 52, for the School year of 1920-21 and 1921-22.

The following is a table of the School Census of 1920-21.\*

Race	Male	Female	Total
White	24	31	55
Colored	0	0	0

\* County Superintendent, Payne County, Oklahoma, Report for June 30, 1921.



The Following is a table of School Census of 1921-22.\*

Race	Male	Female	Total
White	20	33	53
Colored	0	0	0

There is very little difference in the two school years. Two students graduated in 1920-21 and went away to high school, and there were enough smaller children to take the place of the other pupils who graduated and did not go away to high school.

Teachers' Compensation 1920-21.\*

Name	Year	Certificate	Salary
Miss Grace Gray	1920-21	2nd Grade	\$135.00
Mr. Arthur Beall	1921-22	3rd Grade	\$125.00

The wages remain about the same from year to year. Miss Gray received \$15.00 more per month, but she had a second grade certificate. They have always paid good wages, in this district, for their teachers, perhaps this is why they have always been able to obtain capable and efficient teachers.

Assessed Valuation in 1920-21.\*\*

Personal Property	\$ 18,670.00
Real Estate	<u>125,875.00</u>
Total	\$144,545.00

Assessed Valuation 1921-22.\*\*

Personal Property	\$ 7,320.00
Real Estate	<u>124,725.00</u>
Total	\$132,045.00

\* County Superintendent of Schools, Payne County, Oklahoma, Report of June 30, 1921 and 1922.

\*\* Payne County, Oklahoma, Assessor's Books, 1920.

The following table gives an estimate of the amount set aside, at the school election, for appropriation and levy general fund 6.8 mills.

Appropriation for 1920-21.\* (Eight month school.)

Salary for Teachers -----	\$1080.00
Transfer Fees -----	150.00
Maintain Buildings and etc. -----	100.00
Fuel light and etc. -----	75.00
Other Expenses -----	<u>386.62</u>
Total -----	\$1791.62

Appropriation for 1921-22.\* (Seven month school.)

Salary for Teachers -----	\$ 960.00
Transfers -----	218.00
Maintainance -----	80.00
Library -----	5.00
Supplies, Fuel, etc. -----	45.00
Sundry -----	<u>109.57</u>
Total -----	\$1417.57

Report of Pupils for 1921-22.\*\*

Number enrolled during the year	Total days Attendance	Average daily Attendance	Number neither absence or tardy
Boys 19	1609.5	10.5	1
Girls 24	2017.5	12.5	1
Total 43	3627.0	23.0	2

\* Annual Report of School Clerk to County Superintendent of Payne County, Oklahoma.

\*\* Annual Report of 1921-22, of Teacher to County Superintendent of Schools, of Payne County.



The appropriations for this school district are very good. They have a new building, which of course does not need very much attention or repairs. Approximately \$100.00 a year would cover the depreciation for the five year period. They have appropriated \$5.00 for the library maintainance, a small sum, but is spent to an advantage it will be of great service. Taking their appropriations, all the way around they are reasonable and just.

## CHAPTER IX.

## GENERAL CULTURE.

The books, magazines, newspapers, musical instruments and the like in a home, along with the schools and the churches, all help to determine the general culture of a community. In this study the writer attempted to take the statistic secured--although incomplete and inaccurate, because most of the families did not know how many books they did have--and compile them so as to draw some definite conclusion as to the general culture of the community.

## (A). The Number of Books in the Homes.

Number of Books	Owner	Renter	Total
0	7	11	18
1 to 12	5	2	7
12 to 50	3	1	4
Over 50	1	0	1

Many of the families had school books, which were not included. There were eighteen families which had no books whatsoever, except the school books. There were seven families that had from one to twelve books. Five of these were owners of homes and two were renters. Four families had from twelve to fifty books. Three of these families were owners, and one was a renter. This renter was the school master, who had a library of many books at his home, which, however, was not located in the community. There was only one family that over fifty books. They were kept in a library, which had a study table attached. The books were mostly religious books. They had a large family of seven girls and one boy, and



were all lovers of good books. This community had the advantage of two small libraries; one, the church library and the other, the school library. The school had an exceptionally good collection of books, including such volumes as; The Pilot, the Old Curiosity Shop, Uncle Tom's Cabin, etc. The writer had access to these when he attended this same school in 1910-12.

(B). The Number of Periodicals Taken.

Books alone will not educate a person, for at least a large portion their education comes from reading the daily newspaper and magazines.\* The leading newspapers of our country are controlled by men who run them to suit themselves, thus printing only that which they desire to publish. The Catholics have control of part of the daily press of the country; and since it is contended, by some, that they owe allegiance to a foreign sovereignty; they can not be fair to the United States of America. The owners of our press should owe allegiance to the United States of America, first. Any paper that does not place the United States first in their teachings is not good literature for the future generations. Such papers as the New York Herald, New Orleans Picayune, and Hearst Magazine are a detriment to American ideals. These facts should be made known so as to put a check on many of these magazines which are un-American. We should have only good patriotic literature to read. Certain of these magazines have found their way into the public schools of this district.

\* The Oklahoma Herald, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, March 15, 1923.

The following table indicates something of the status of newspaper reading in this township.

Number of Dailies Taken.

Number	Owner	Renter
0	5	6
1	9	7
2	0	0
<hr/>		
Total	15	13

-----  
Number of Weeklies Taken.

Number	Owner	Renter
0	4	8
1	5	4
2	3	1
<hr/>		
Total	12	13

-----  
Number of Agricultural Papers Taken.

Number	Owner	Renter
0	2	7
1	3	5
2	9	2
<hr/>		
Total	14	14

-----  
Number of Magazines and Periodicals Taken.

Number	Owner	Renter
0	10	12
1	2	1
2	2	0
<hr/>		
Total	14	13



One-half of the families took daily papers. There were sixteen dailies subscribed for in the district. Some of the people also had access to a daily, who did not subscribe for one. There were nine families who took one weekly, at least, and four families who took two weeklies. The St. Louis Globe Democrat and the Kansas City Star were most prevalent. The Daily Oklahoman and The Tulsa Tribune were the most prevalent among the dailies, of the State papers.

The agricultural papers were to be found in most every home. The Oklahoma Farmer-Stockman, edited by Mr. Clarence Roberts, was the leading agricultural paper. There were nineteen subscribers to the agricultural papers. There were more families receiving two agricultural papers than there were families receiving one. The number of magazines were few, only five magazines being subscribed for within the district.

#### (C). Musical Instruments.

The number of musical instruments in this district is quite small. They are in great need of music in this district, although perhaps they have not seen the need of it, yet.

#### Musical Instruments.

Kind	Owner	Renter
Piano	2	1
Player Piano	1	0
Talking Machine	2	6
Organs	8	1
None	2	10

There were only three pianos used in this district and only one player piano. There were eight talking machines and nine organs. The class of music was not investigated; in fact there was not a musician in the district. The school house and the church were both without organs or pianos.

(D). Social Conditions.

Their social conditions were of two kinds; namely; the country dance type, and the social gatherings. The Brethren Church socials, where the young and old folks went for a jolly good social evening, were inspirational and uplifting. Weenie roasts, hikes, and entertainments of that nature were some of their out-of-door social functions.

There was one Farmer's picnic in the district, last summer, in a beautiful grove near the school house, which seems to have been a success, as it was mentioned often to me in the interviews.

The County Fair is held at the county seat (Stillwater) twenty miles northwest. It is patronized only by a mere handful of the people from this community. But every family attends the Cushing Fair, just two miles to the east of the district. Perhaps more of them would display products and livestock at the county fair, but the cost of transportation, expense in care and poor housing conditions, keeps them from exhibiting their products. The people look to Cushing and Ripley for their amusements. Occasionally a country dance is held in the community, but the auto and other means of conveyance have transferred the social activities largely to the city. The picture show, dance, skating rink, and the like are among some of their city amusements.



For a Social and Economical Survey of Cimarron Township in Oklaho-

Ma:

1. Population.

A. Name of Family \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

Names of members	Age	Marital con.	Occupation	Deaths	Church memb	Att Sch	First Ok	Res U S
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								

2. General Culture

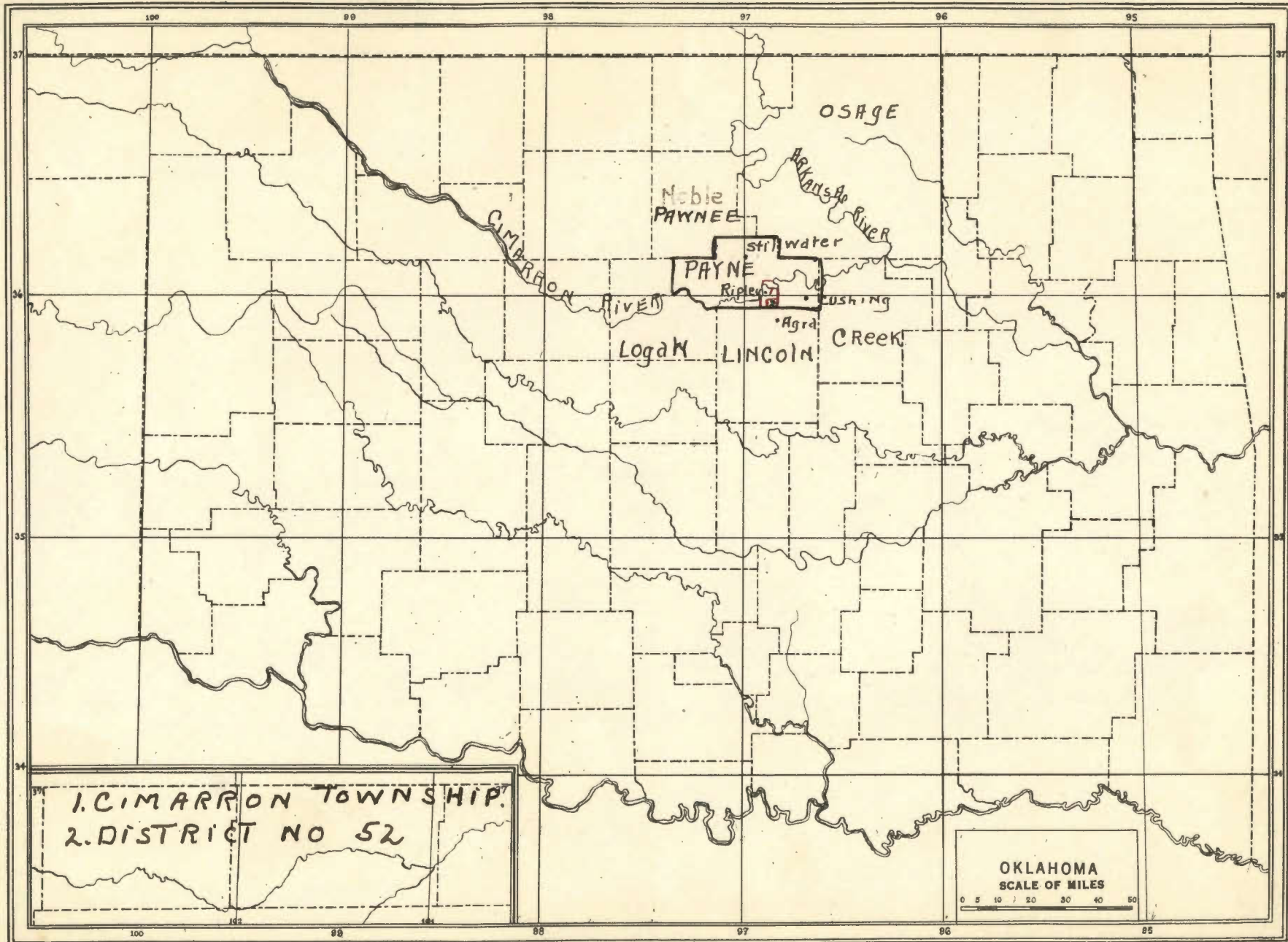
1. Books \_\_\_\_\_ Daily's \_\_\_\_\_ Agri. Papers \_\_\_\_\_ Magazines \_\_\_\_\_ Music \_\_\_\_\_

3. Business and Agriculture Conditions

A. Land  
 Rented \_\_\_\_\_ Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_ Rent \_\_\_\_\_ Tenure \_\_\_\_\_ Acres of each  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ paid \_\_\_\_\_ Wheat \_\_\_\_\_ Corn \_\_\_\_\_ Kafir \_\_\_\_\_ Cotton \_\_\_\_\_

B. Agriculture Conditions  
 1. Value of personal property \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Amount of live stock  
 \_\_\_\_\_ cattle \_\_\_\_\_ hogs \_\_\_\_\_ horses \_\_\_\_\_ sheep \_\_\_\_\_ goats \_\_\_\_\_ chickens \_\_\_\_\_ turkey \_\_\_\_\_ geese  
 P R \_\_\_\_\_  
 Com \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$. Dairy. Cows \_\_\_\_\_ grain \_\_\_\_\_ Butter \_\_\_\_\_ Milk \_\_\_\_\_ Cream \_\_\_\_\_ Sep. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$. orchards \_\_\_\_\_ garden \_\_\_\_\_ pasture \_\_\_\_\_ timber \_\_\_\_\_ R F D \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

C. Business conditions  
 1. Ins. \_\_\_\_\_ Int. \_\_\_\_\_ Life \_\_\_\_\_ Prop. \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Acc \_\_\_\_\_ Keep Acc \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Mail Order  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Groceries \_\_\_\_\_ Clothes \_\_\_\_\_ House hold \_\_\_\_\_ Implants \_\_\_\_\_ Agents \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Marketing Conditions.  
 \$. House Problem  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Material \_\_\_\_\_ Value \_\_\_\_\_ Rooms \_\_\_\_\_ paint \_\_\_\_\_ Depr \_\_\_\_\_ Porches \_\_\_\_\_ Lights \_\_\_\_\_ Heat \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. Yard  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Lawn \_\_\_\_\_ Fenced \_\_\_\_\_ Walks \_\_\_\_\_ Trees \_\_\_\_\_ Drain \_\_\_\_\_ Sanitation \_\_\_\_\_ Well \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_ Loc \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. Buildings  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Barnes \_\_\_\_\_ Graneries \_\_\_\_\_ Hay sheds \_\_\_\_\_ Imp shed \_\_\_\_\_







APPENDIX ( D ).

B I B L I O G R A P H Y.

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