A SOCIAL SURVEY OF AN OIL FIELD COMMUNITY IN CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

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A THESIS

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PREFACE

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This manuscript was prepared primarily to meet certain scholastic requirements. However, there was also a decided interest in the field of rural economics on the part of the writer, and especially in the problems as they actually exist in a certain oil field locality in east central Oklahoma. The writer trusts that this survey may contribute something of value to the rapidly growing literature on rural sociology, and may help in solving the problems of such communities, and that it may furnish an incentive for further research and effort in this direction. All sound, constructive social programs in the field of rural sociology must have, partly, for their foundation, the information gathered by an intensive study of this kind.

The writer, after some consultation and thought, decided that a study should be made of every home and every other institution within the boundaries of the small community at this time. An historical investigation of the people was made and a description of the unit surveyed is shown to give a clearer realization of some of the characteristics of the people of this community.

A questionnaire for every family in the unit surveyed was prepared on which was gathered facts that would lend themselves readily to statistical expression. Tables which were

compiled and placed within this work present the actual facts gathered concerning existing conditions in the community studied.

A cross section study of all the institutions of society in a small area gives one a clearer idea of the individual's problems than if any one of those institutions were studied in an intensive way. Some divergencies encountered in different oil field communities are great, depending upon the age and development of the oil field. By choosing a small unit, one is able to isolate and control inter-relating and counteracting phenomena to a more satisfactory degree than would be possible in a larger area. Moreover, we usually find oil field communities naturally set apart in small units because of the scattered groupings of the oil wells.

The analysis of the institutions of this community, however, goes somewhat deeper than mere barren statistical facts. The writer has lived in the community for more than one and one-half years and is quite familiar with the underlying currents of social conditions that are not to be found in statistical tables or gathered through statistical research.

The material for this thesis was secured by means of questionnaires, by investigating district and county records, and by personal contact with the people of the community.

The writer has taken facts from various publications, the acknowledgment of which will be found throughout this work. The outline of this thesis is based upon the "five agencies of civilization" as classified by Dr. Herman Harrel Horne in his book, "The Philosophy of Education".

The writer is indebted to Henry F. Holtzclaw, formerly Dean of the School of Commerce and Marketing at the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, to Harland H. Allen, the present Dean of that school, for their encouraging interest in this work, and to Professor Avery L. Carlson for reading the manuscript and for offering many helpful suggestions for its improvement. To Carl Jennings Pearce, a former classmate, the writer owes much for the kindly suggestions offered. Mr. Pearce made a similar survey of an agricultural district in Oklahoma in 1923. Lastly, the writer is indebted to his wife, who has materially lightened the burden of compiling the statistical data, and who, at all stages in the preparation of the manuscript, has been a constant source of encouragement.

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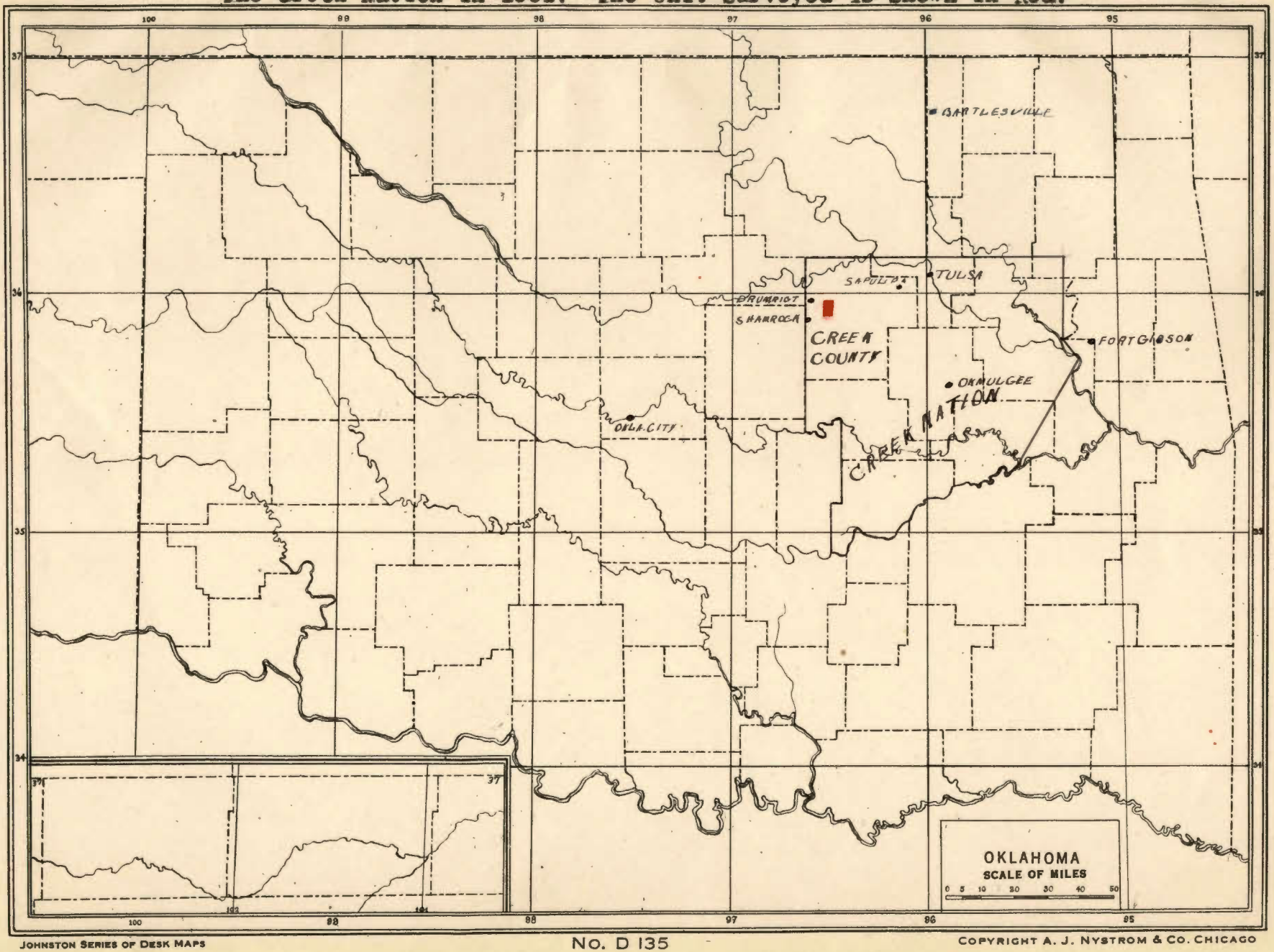
The Creek Nation in 1901. The Unit Surveyed Is Shown in Red.



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CHAPTER I

A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE UNIT SURVEYED

Consolidated School District, Number 65, Tiger Township, Creek County, Drumright, Oklahoma, is a unique community in many respects. It lies in the heart of the famous "Cushing Oil Fields" of Oklahoma. The District, which measures three miles by four miles, is easily accessable both from the towns of Shamrock and Drumright. The former is located on a branch of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway, which intercepts the main line, (Neosho, Mo. to Quanah, Texas) at Depew, Oklahoma; while the latter is located on a branch of the Santa Fe and Oil Fields Railway out of Cushing, Oklahoma. Neither Shamrock, a town of 5,000 inhabitants[1] or Drumright, a town of 6,460 inhabitants, are more than five miles distant from the citizens of the community; while there are a number of stores located at various points within the district. Shamrock is a typical oil town of the "mushroom" type, while Drumright is a town of more permanent nature.

The main and practically the only industrial enterprise of this district is that of oil and gas production. This industry is of a steady, productive type, and has stood the test of time. Farming, owing to its non-remunerative

[1] Federal Census, 1920

qualities due to the unfavorable topographical features of the country and the non-fertility of the soil, is engaged in only in small acreages along ravines.

The soil is principally of a very sandy, rocky type, although along the ravines we find a very good quality of sandy loam. This region is between eight hundred and nine hundred feet above sea-level.

It is hilly and rolling, marked with many depressions of various sizes and depths, but there is not a permanently flowing stream to be found in this territory. Besides the scrubby oaks that are to be found along ravines as well as on the hills, we find sycamore, cotton-wood, elm, maple, pecan, hickory and various kinds of the larger oaks along the small streams.

CHAPTER II

THE HISTORY OF THIS DISTRICT AND ITS INHABITANTS

In 1541[1] De Soto crossed the border of Oklahoma in the valley of the Arkansas River in search of gold and the fountain of youth. He was the first known white man to enter the territory, later known as the Creek Nation of the Indian Territory.

In 1721[1] La Harpe, a French explorer, ascended the Arkansas River and explored the eastern part of the present state of Oklahoma. French fur traders and trappers soon followed in canoes. As evidence of the permanent impression made by these early Frenchmen, we find the following French names in eastern Oklahoma today: Poteau, Illinois, Grand and Verdigris Rivers. Lois Bois, Cache, and Sallisaw Creeks, and the Coraval Mountains. The French began fur trading with the Indians about two hundred years ago. A large hunting knife that had been made by a blacksmith was found in digging a tranch at Cushing. It is thought that it is a relic of this French period. Lieutenant James B. Wilkinson, with five soldiers, was sent down the Arkansas River from the central part of Kansas in 1806[1] Few English speaking Americans penetrated the Creek Nation country until after the close of the war of 1812. In 1817, two Americans, Robert M. French and Samuel Rutherford established a trading post on the Verdigris River, a few miles north of Muskogee.

1. Wyatt, Frank S. and Rainey, Geo. A.---

"History of Oklahoma" Pp.20-29

As a result of the "Louisiana Purchase" of 1803, this territory became a part of the United States.

The Creek Indians of the Creek Nation, which was established in 1540, lived in Alabama and Georgia before emigrating to the "Indian Territory", where the government of the Creek Nation was later inaugurated.[1] The territory of the Creeks in Oklahoma lies principally between the South Canadian and the Cimmarron Rivers; it was ceded to them in 1826.[2] The Creek tribes began to move to the Indian Territory as early as 1825 because of the aggression of the white settlers on their old hunting grounds.

On May 28, 1830, President Andrew Jackson approved an act of Congress, providing for the establishing of the Indian Territory, but on account of the continued opposition of the settlemen, the Indian Territory was never organized. The "Indian Territory", as it is generally called, was not really a territory. It was not organized as a political body as had been planned in the treaty with the Indians immediately after the Civil war.

"The Creeks, or as they call themselves, "Muskogees", originally occupied a large part of Georgia and Alabama."[3] "They aided the English during the Revolution, also during the war of 1812. "illiam McIntosh, and few other Creeks, without the consent of the majority, ceded their lands in Georgia

1. "Creek Nation" in The Americanized Encyclopedia
2. Roberts, Chas. H.---History and Civics of Oklahoma
3/ Thoburn, Joseph B. and Holcomb, Isaacm M--History of Oklahoma

and Alabama to the United States and agreed to move to to the lands assigned them in the Indian Territory.

In 1832-33[1], Washington Irving visited the North Canadian and Cimmarron River valleys as far west as the central part of the present state of Oklahoma and wrote "Tour of the Prairies" and "The Rambler In North America". Many school buildings are named after him. The alphabet used by the Creek Nation was revised by Rev. John Fleming, a Presbyterian missionary among the Creek people. Nearly all of its nineteen characters were borrowed from the Roman alphabet.

The Creeks brought many negro slaves with them, from their old homes. These were freed after the Civil war, and were given land, along with the people of Indian blood, who later inter-married with them. Southern white men were practically the only whites that intermarried with the Indians.

Some Creeks desired to remain loyal to the Federal Government when the war broke out in 1861. All of the tribal agents of the government were southern men; and nearly all of them were active supporters of the secession movement. McIntosh was the leader of the Confederate Creeks. Ya-ho-la was the leader of the Union Creeks. Douglas H. Cooper defeated Ya-ho-la near the present site of Tulsa.[2]

1. Roberts, Chas. H. Oklahoma History and Civics, P. 16
2. " " " " " " " P. 45

There was much stubborn resistence shown by the Creeks against the Union forces during the Civil War, but one regiment of Creeks was organized and fought for the Union. Frequent Confederate raids were made into the Creek Nation; Probably the most important battle fought in the Indian Territory during the Civil War was that of Elk Creek, near the town of Oktaha, in the southern part of Muskogee County, in July, 1863[1], between Union Troops under the command of General Blunt, and the Confederate foces under the command of General W. Steele and General Douglas H. Cooper. It resulted in a victory for the Union forces, the Confederate troops retreating southward across the Canadian River. Raiding parties scourged the Creek Nation, destroying the property and driving off stock of all who were on the opposite side, so that the whole country was laid waste. The Indians lost heavily during the war, in property and deaths, caused principally by disease. The Creek Nation made its own separate treaty with the Federal Government. The Treaty stated:

1. That negroes who had been slaves of the Indians should be given full tribal rights and citizenship;
2. That surplus and unused lands of reservations should be opened for the settlement of other tribes of Indians from Kansas or elsewhere;

1. Thoburn, Joseph B., and Holcomb, Isaac M.---
"A History of Oklahoma" Pp. 88-89

3. That right- of-way for the construction of two rail-roads should be granted.
4. That Congress should have power to establish a territorial government, with an inter-tribal legislative council;
5. That large reservations in the western and central portions were to be ceded to the United States. 1

The cattlemen were opposed to the formation of a territorial government for the Indian Territory. A well organized givernment, they feared, would lead to the development of the country. Development would bring in railroads, followed by settlers, which would destroy ranges. The railroads, on the other hand, could expect much more business from a well settled and established country. They favored a territorial government, favored alloting lands to the Indians, and opening the remaining land to white settlement. T. C. Sears, of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company, discovered that the territory, later known as Oklahoma proper, had been ceded to the United States in 1866 and was subject to settlement under the "Homestead Act". This was a victory for the railroads. The Federal Government enacted a law, giving every alternate section of land on each side of the right-of-way for the first railroad to enter from the north and the first one from the east. As a result of this liberal offer,

1. Roberts, Chas. H.---Oklahoma History and Civics Pages 57-58

a great race took place between the two roads in Kansas, which were planning to build southward. They were the Missouri, Kansas and Texas, and the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Galveston.

The Missouri, Kansas and Texas reached the territory first, June 6, 1870, and was granted the right-of-way.[2]

The Atlantic and Pacific Railway entered from the east and crossed the Missouri, Kansas and Texas at Vinita, Oklahoma. The former(1871-73) was built through Muskogee, McAlister, and on to Paris, Texas. The latter, now the St. Louis and San Francisco, runs through Tulsa, Sapulpa, Oklahoma City, and Lawton. The railroad grants were naver made, however, because the United States never obtained possession of the land, it being allotted directly to the Creek Nation.

"The Creek government was not a very advanced form of government, until they adopted a written constitution in 1867. Their new government provided for a Principal Chief, who was elected by the people for a term of four years. The legislative power was vested in a National Council, consisting of a House of Kings and a House of Warriors. The nation was divided into forty- eight clans, each clan had a member in the upper house, while there were twice as many members in the lower house. Okmulgee was the capitol of the Creek Nation.[3]

2.Roberts, Chas.---Oklahoma History and Civics
Pp. 83, 60, and 121.

The leading Creek National officials later played an important part in the Constitutional Convention at Guthrie in 1906.[1] The government of the Creek Nation was disbanded in 1906. The Organic Act,[2] which provided for the organization and government of the State of Oklahoma, divided the "Old Indian Territory" into two parts, all that part which was situated west of the reservations of the five civilized tribes was to be included within the bounds of the territory of Oklahoma. The Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory were united and admitted as a state, November 16, 1907.[4]

The district surveyed lies in the northwest part of Creek County; a county, which perhaps furnishes the domicile for more decendants of the Creek Indians than any other county in the state. This country played an important part in the Creek Nation. We may say that what has been the history of the Creek Nation in general has been the history of the unit under consideration, because it was a typical portion of that Nation.

Practically all of the land in the unit surveyed is owned and held by Creeks. It had been developed for agricultiral purposes but slightly, when oil was discovered here by the Standard Oil Company in 1908. Since 1912 and 1913, however, there have been rapid strides made commercially and industrially in the development of this section.

1. The New Americanized Encyclopedia--"Creek Nation"
2. Revised Laws of Oklahoma--Vol. I, Page 14(26 State L 81)
3. Wyatt, F.S., and Rainey, Geo.--
"Brief History of Oklahoma"

CHAPTER III

T H E H O M E

I--INTRODUCTION

"There are five great agencies of civilization which conserve the past, preserve the present, and make possible a progressive future. These agencies are the home, the school, the vocation, the state, and the church." "Each of these agencies, too, discovers the social nature of man, revolving him as they do in a series of widening relationships with other beings." "Each of these institutions of society is based upon an underlying idea which explains their presence and service to civilization, and which justifies their existence."[1] The home and the school will receive special consideration in this survey.

"The home is the basic unit of civilization, in which appear in latent form all powers that later life is to realize."[2] "In the home the child stands in relation to father, mother, brother, sisters." "In the home it is the idea of obedience which is fundamental, and which becomes the habit of the child's life. This habit of the ready surrender of self to the standards of a righteous and loving authority is permanently desirable in a solid social fabric. To obey is better than sacrifice. This fundamental virtue is the contribution of the home to society and civilization. "The writer has endeavored to make a close survey of the home environment

1. Horne, Dr. Herman Harrel--The Philosophy of Education Pp 1 and 2

in this locality, in order that the social workers in this district and similar districts may have a clearer vision of a problem so vital to humanity.

II--MATERIAL ASPECTS

1. Buildings

If we were to search for a typical home in the oil fields, we should no doubt soon observe(for they are numerous) an unpainted shack setting back a small distance from one of the many trails through the sandy, rocky hills and bushy blackjacks. On closer examination we would also discern two small outbuildings made of scrap lumber and boxes. One, we soon recognize as being a garage, while the other is a partial shelter for the cow and chickens. The walls of the house are made of rough boxing boards and bats, while the half-gabled and half-flat roof is covered with tar-paper. The home has three rooms and a half-enclosed summer kitchen. Inside,we find that the floors are made of rough boring lumber with large open cracks between them; that the walls are papered partially with wall paper and partially with newspapers; and that the ceiling is constructed of a loosely tacked beaverboard through which dangles the ever-burning gas fixture. The furniture consists of iron bed-steads, old-fashioned dressers, stool-bottomed chairs, a sewing machine, a few home-made cabinets, etc.. The writer assumes that a typical home

is one that embodies the predominant characteristics of all the houses under considerations

A PICTURE OF A TYPICAL HOME

TABLE "A"----SHOWING THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN HOMES

NUMBER OF ROOMS	NUMBER OF HOMES
1	0
2	16
3	71
4	71
5	8
6	6
7	1
8	0
9	1
10	0
TOTAL	174

We find from this table that the average-sized house consists of three or four rooms. The real median is three and one-half

rooms to the home, but in practice, halves of rooms do not exist, though some of them do approach that very closely. We may say then that forty per cent of the time we encounter four-room homes while just as often we encounter three-room homes. The nine and seven room homes are of the rooming house type. The nine-room house is the large teacherage at the school. It is built on the plan of an apartment house; separate living rooms and kitchens are used by different families. The five-room and six-room homes are principally the company homes of the "farm bosses" and other higher company officials. They are the most modern houses in the oil fields.

TABLE "B"---SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PORCHES PER HOME

Number of Porches	Number of Homes
0	29
1	46
2	95
3	3
4	1
5	0
Total	174

Of the number of porches per house, two is by far the most common, representing almost fifty-five per cent of the entire number of the homes in the district and sixty-six per cent of the number of homes having porches. A porch was taken to mean a platform of an appreciable size in front of a door to the home. In most cases such platforms did not have a shelter or roof over them.

TABLE C -- SHOWING THE NUMBER OF RENTERS AND OWNERS

Renters	109
Owners	65
Total	174

This table contains facts of more importance than may be seen by merely scanning the figures. Sixty-two per cent of the above are renters, and by far the greater part of these are termed renters in that they do not live in their own houses but in company homes. There is some distinction between company houses and privately owne ones. While the latter are of a temporary and portable type, the former are of a permanent and stationary nature; the former are usually

painted, gabled structures while the latter are unpainted, shedded ones. The company houses, which are furnished to all employees except "roustabouts" and those of idle occupations, will average twice the value of those owned privately. In each case the home is located near occupant's place of employment.

4. ECONOMIC CONDITION OF FAMILY

TABLE "D"----SHOWING THE VALUE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY OIL EMPLOYEES AND TENANT FARMERS

Value of Real Estate	Families
-00	42
50-100	7
101-150	20
151-200	13
201-250	11
251-300	22
301-400	15
401-500	11
501-600	5
601-750	1
751-1000	2
Total	147

These real estate values are based upon the actual buying and selling values as given by the owners to the investigator. At first thought, it may seem that a total of one hundred and forty seven tenant farmers out of a total of one hundred and seventy-four families in the district is rather high, but this will seem very reasonable when we consider that

there are many families that have sons living at home who are engaged in the oil industry. Real estate included within this table is only partly located in this district, no doubt the greater portion being outside of it. Practically all land in the unit surveyed is owned by Creek Indians and leased by oil companies. The oil employee's real estate, as well as that of many of the tenant farmers, consists of a small home built on a company lease with the permission of the company concerned. The meager financial status is partially indicated by this table. It may readily be seen how little concern the majority of the voters would have in a measure involving increased taxation. Incidentally, the school measure placed before the people on October 2, 1923, carried by a great majority in this district. We find more than twenty-seven per cent of the total oil employees and tenant farmers do not own one dollar's worth of real estate, and less than five per cent own more than five hundred dollars' worth of real property. The average holding is about two hundred and twenty-five dollars invested, and is usuall in the form of a small "shack" on a company lease, either in this district or in some other oil locality.

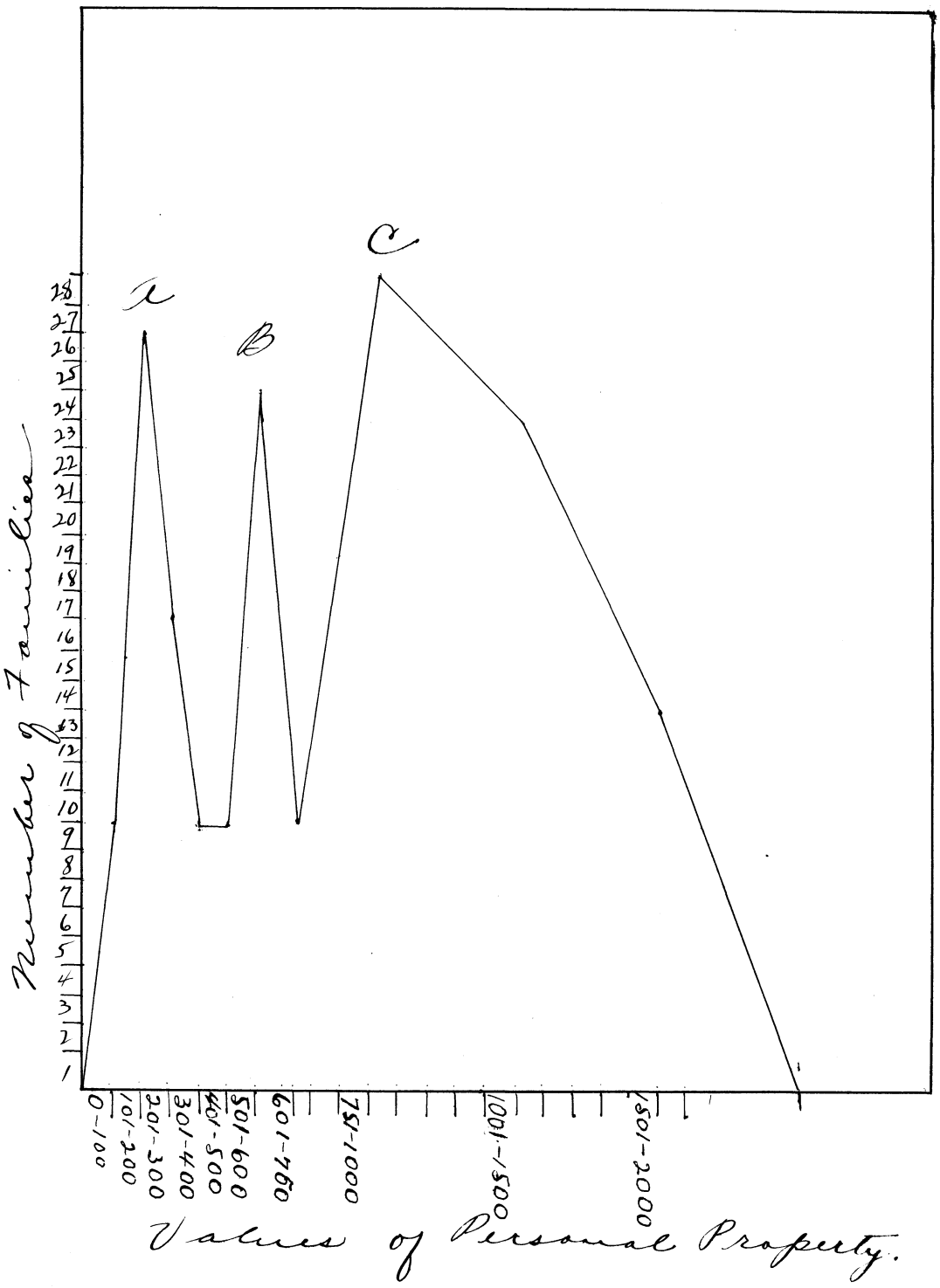
as shown by the graph(Table "E", on the following page) on the value of personal property in connection with this table.

TABLE "E"---SHOWING VALUE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED PER FAMILY

VALUE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	No. of Families
$ 0-100	9
101-200	26
201-300	16
301-400	9
401-500	9
501-600	24
601-750	9
751-1000	28
1001-1500	23
1501-2000	13
2001- up	8
Total	176

Each of these peaks has a significance. Families represented by peak "A" are out of the car-owning class and are to a large extent oil employees, while those represented by peak "B" are of the Ford owning class and are to a much greater degree or extent oil employees. But for peak "C" we encounter a somewhat different phenomenon. Here we find two outstanding reasons for the high value of personal property. One,is, as we would suspect, that we find the head men of the companies own larger cars, and having better and more furniture in their homes; the other is that the twenty-nine farmers are largely to be found in this class. Their live-stock and farm implements are the factors that largely account for this.

TABLE "F"



A GRAPH OF THE VALUES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY SHOWN IN TABLE "E"

In the following table, we find nearly forty-five percent of the dwelling houses averaging in value about one-hundred and twenty-five dollars apiece.

TABLE "C"---SHOWING VALUE OF DWELLING HOUSES IN UNIT SURVEYED

Value per House	Number of Houses
$ 75 - 100	33
101 - 150	31
151 - 200	13
201 - 300	59
301 - 400	9
401 - 500	11
501 - 600	0
601 - 750	7
751 -1000	7
1001 - up	4
Total	174

These are the privately owned houses of the oil employees and a large part of the farmers in the district. Twenty-five percent of the total number of the houses fall in a group whose average value is three-hundred and fifty dollars. These are almost exclusively company houses, the use of which is included in the salary of the employee occupant. Within the other smaller groupings of this table, we find company houses for company officials, the better farm houses, school teacherage, etc.

5 -- SANITATION OF THE HOME.

TABLE"H" ---SHOWING SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY BY HOMES

Source of Water	Number of Homes
Deep-drilled wells (over 150 ft.)	153
Deep-dug wells (over 30 ft.)	13
Cisterns	5
Springs	4
Total	174

From the table above, it will be observed that more than eighty-seven per cent of the homes obtain their water from deep-drilled wells. Every company furnished its employees with water piped to their door or near by. Deep wells are necessary here in order to obtain water of dependable quantity fit for human consumption. Since so large a proportion of the wells are so deep and so well cased and protected at the surface, the water may be said to be almost absolutely free from animal contamination and bacteria. In almost every instance, we find the deep-dug wells on farms.

The great depth is necessary toobtain a sufficient supply of water. Here, too, we find exceptionally sanitary water because of the fact that the native sand acts as a filter for all surface water that may find its way to the well. Sand, as we know, makes one of the most satisfactory types of germ-eliminating filters. The springs are not depended upon exclusively for the water supply of these four families. The springs are in every case free from filth and contaminated surface drains. The cisterns are very similar

in sanitation to cisterns found elsewhere. However, the homes are less infected by sparrows than are the average homes because there are scarcely any vines on the houses in which the sparrows may nest and roost. They are, ordinarly the cistern's greatest pest.

6 LIGHT AND HEAT

TABLE "I" --- SHOWING THE SOURCE OF LIGHTS OF THE HOMES

Source	Number of Homes
Gas	148
Oil	17
Electricity	9
Total	174

We learn from this table that eighty-five per cent of the homes are lighted with natural gas, while ten percent are lighted with coal oil and five per cent with electricity. We may say that from the standpoint of use of the eye, this district is as well equipped with lights as are the most of our modern towns and cities. Gas is said to produce the most pleasant light known. It is intense, but soft, continuous and pleasing to the eye. Gas and electricity, where used, are furnished free to all oil employees. The old time oil lamp is found among the families not engaged in the oil industry, but happily only ten per cent of the homes in the entire locality use these.

TABLE "J" --- SHOWING THE SOURCE OF HEAT OF THE HOMES.

Source	Number of Homes
Gas	157
Wood	17
Total	174

Here again we find the inhabitants of this district well blessed. In fact, if it were not for the fact that natural gas for heating purposes was free to all oil employees and that the supply was plentiful, there would be much suffering in cold weather because of the openness of the cheaply and poorly constructed dwelling houses. More than ninety per cent of the homes use natural gas for heating purposes. However, wood is plentiful and free, and may be obtained, as it were, in the back yard. Here again we find conditions more favorable than in our modern cities and towns. Most stoves have flues for the outlet of the unburned gas fumes, and the greater proportion of the houses are so loosely constructed that ventilation is not a serious problem.

The writer has not compiled statistics along the line of the general cleanliness in and about the home, but from observation can give a fairly accurate estimate of this. There is, among oil employees no live stock to contaminate the home premises except a few chickens and a cow. The cows are not penned up, but are allowed to range at large, thus there are

few filthy cow barns to be found. Horses are a rare thing except on farms. Here we find sanitary conditions very much similar to farm homes located elsewhere. The cleanliness of the home is more marked than the average home of people similarly situated financially socially and educationally. The equipment of the home is very simple and, as is most frequently the case, proportionately free from filth.

7 COMMUNICATION AND HOME UTILITIES

TABLE "K" ---SHOWING THE CONVENIENCES AND UTILITIES ENJOYED BY THE HOMES

Utilities and conveniences	Number of Homes
Chickens	157
Cars	130
Gardens	126
Milk Cows	121
Telephones	17
Mail Service	4

The above table shows that nearly seventy percent of the homes have their family cow, which adds much to the enjoyment and well being of the family, physically and economically. Owing to the fact that there is free range and plenty of grass, the expense of a cow for at least eight months of the year is very small. More than ninety per cent of the families have their own chickens, and seventy per cent have their own gardens. Both of these valuable assets to health and economy

are far more prevalent than one would suspect among a more or less transient population. The writer believes that no h higher average of these three utilities - cows, chickens, and garden - can be found among the farmers of Oklahoma as a class. Seventy-five per cent of the families have cars while but ten per cent have telephones. The distance to all neighboring towns necessitates the ownership of a car for the family. Good highways to all the neighboring towns and cities make them equally useful for pleasure and business. There is an economy of car operation found in this section. A great amount of free gasoline is obtained from "drips" on the gas lines. This gasoline requires closer care and regulation of of the carburetor, but on the other hand it has greater power and gives greater mileage because of its high testing qualities. Many companies furnish their employe s gasoline for their own use or sell it to them for a nominal sum.

The telephones are all privately owned by the oil companies, hence they are found only in the homes and offices of the higher officeals. There are no party or private line patrons of telephone exchanges within the district surveyed. There is only one rural mail delivery in this section. It is routed out of Bristow and touches only the southern edge of the district where it only serves four families. Swisher's Store, near the school, accomodates a number of families living near

by, by arranging to bring out daily their mail from Drumright and distribute it from the store. No doubt by far the greater portion of the families obtain their mail directly from the Drumright or Shamrock Post Office. However, the handicap of the mail service does not render the mail order house helpless, for more than seventy-five per cent of the homes in the district aremail order patrons.

III - CULTURAL ASPECTS

1. LITERATURE

One could not expect an average amount of literature to be read by these people because of the poor mail service and the difficulties encountered by a transient population in attempting to build up a private library.

(a) Books

TABLE "L"---SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BOOKS FOUND IN THE HOMES

Number of Books	Number of Homes
0	11
1-10	42
11-20	46
21-50	46
51-up	29
Total	174

More than five per cent of the population have not a book (school books excluded in this table) in the home. Of course this is a deplorable fact but the temporariness of the home in a large way accounts for this condition. We find

that twenty-four per cent of the homes have not more than ten books in them and the writer estimates that, on the average, it will fall below five per home. Just as many homes (twenty-six per cent) fall in the 11-20 class as in the 21-50 class, and less than seventeen per cent of the homes have more than fifty books in them. One home has approximately four hundred books in it, while another has three hundred. Again observing large groupings, we find that more than fifty-eight per cent of the homes have less than twenty books in them. Now the facts given by the above figures in general would not be so deplorable if it were not for the fact that the quality of the books as a whole are unfit or of little benefit for the home. By far the greater per cent of these are cheap novels or out-of-date volumes of various titles. None of the people within the district have availed themselves of the opportunity for reading and study offered through the traveling library.

(b) Periodicals and Magazines

TABLE "M" --- SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS FOUND IN THE HOMES

Number of Magazines and Periodicals	Number of Homes
0	37
1	66
2	57
3	13
4	0
5	1
Total	174

From the above table it will be noted that thirty seven per cent of the homes take no magazines and periodicals, and we find that these same homes do not take a daily paper. Thus thirty-seven per cent of the homes do not take any form of current literature except perhaps a weekly now and then. These same people do not have telephones and mail service thereby being completely isolated from the outside world except for the intercourse the family car affords to a small per cent of them. Thirty-eight per cent take at least two magazines. These last facts must be discounted some because of the fact that approximately forty-five per cent of the magazines and periodicals listed in the above table are agricultural papers of the ordinary sort. This may be accounted for by the fact that practically all of the minor positions in the oil fields as well as some of the higher ones, are held by people who were reared on the farm or have spent some of their mature days there.

(c) Daily Papers

TABLE "N" --- SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DAILY PAPERS TAKEN BY THE HOMES

Number of Dailies	Number of Homes
0	51
1	112
2	10
3	1
Total	174

In this district we find The Daily Oklahoman and The

Tulsa World in close competition. Each one has a carrier who makes his daily route through the concentrated areas of population throughout the district. Almost thirty per cent of the homes do not take a daily paper. These are, generally speaking, scattered and not on a paper route. More than sixty-four per cent take at least one daily paper while almost six per cent take two. One well travelled family in the district takes three dailies. The Daily Oklahoman, The Tulsa World, and The Chicago Tribune. On the whole we find seventy per cent of the homes taking daily papers. This, the writer believes, is an excellent showing when we consider the number of homes that are not on a well-travelled paper routeor on a mail route.

2. MUSIC

TABLE "O" --- SHOWING THE KINDS OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOUND IN THE HOMES

Kind of a Musical Instrument	Number of Homes
No Instrument	94
Phonographs	49
Violins	38
Guitars	35
Pianos	22
Organs	11
Harps	5
Miscellaneous	7
Total	174

It will be observed from this table that fifty-four per cent of the homes are without a musical instrument of any kind.

This condition could be expected from an humble transitory population whose interest and capacities in the higher things of life have gone undeveloped while the individuals have sought what they considered the necessities and pleasures of life. More than thirty-three per cent of the various musical instruments, which includes many instruments of very little value, are phonographs, the estimated value of which exceeds the other sixty-seven per cent.

IV SIZE OF FAMILY

TABLE "P" --- SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN TO THE FAMILY

Number of Children	Number of Homes
0	11
1	24
2	36
3	38
4	36
5	11
6	15
7	3
8	0
Total	174

From the above table we will readily locate three as being the average number of children per family. There are almost as many families of two children and of four children as there are of three. The average number of children per family is approximately three, also; while the median would indicate between three and four children per family. We may at once calculate from this table a total of five-hundred and

twenty children of the one hundred and seventy-four families located within the district. This number of children and parents somewhat exceeds the total population given in the table near the end of chapter one, but this may be readily accounted for by the fact that we find only one parent in a few homes; some children living out of the district; while some are married and are living within the district, thus being counted both as a parent and as a child in this. On the whole, the members of the families in this locality are of a healthful, contented, virile type and the homes are crude, but of a cheery, cozy nature.

The conditions that go to make up the home life have largely been given. We have found that the home itself is a small humble construction, that there are almost twice as many renters as there are owners; that the average family has five members; that in general, sanitation conditions rate fairly high; that the conveniences of the home are fair, and that the culture side of the home life is very much neglected.

CHAPTER IV

THE SCHOOL.

"The school was first in the home, and by growth became a separate institution as an extension of the home. The teacher is still said to stand 'in loco parentis!'"[1] "In the school the youth stands in relation to teachers and fellow pupils."[1] "The underlying idea of the school, which explains the school and justifies its existence, is development; development of the body as the fit medium of expression for the mind, development of the mind as the fit governor of the body and as embodying rational ends in itself. The school does for the child what the aeons of the past have done for the race,--develops its mind and body."[1]

I-HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL.

Pleasant Hill School, the name of the district school in the community under consideration, was organized on June 2[illegible], 1910.[2] A small pine school house was built and on "December1, 1910, plans were taken toward drilling a deep water well."[2] On July 10, 1914, plans were made to plumb the school house for gas. During the war, two oil wells, which are still producers, were drilled on the school grounds. The school was moved one-half mile south of here in 1920 because of the noise, danger from fire, and the poor condition of the building. It was rebuilt of brick and the lumber of the old building was used to

1. Horne, Dr. Herman Harrel--The Philosophy of Education-Pp.1-2
2. District Records on File at the School.

build teacherages. In 1921, the district was said to be consolidated--a mere legal procedure, it seems, to justify and legalize the running of wagons to haul the children to and from school.

II--PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SCHOOL AT PRESENT.

1. Buildings.

The present school house is a brick structure of nine class rooms and an auditorium which has a seating capacity sufficient to care for three-hundred individuals. The class rooms are twenty-six feet in size with a twelve foot ceiling. The ceiling and walls are plastered. Slate blackboards are found on two sides of each room. The floors are of hard pine except for the concrete floors in the basement.

2. Heat, Light, and Water.

Gas is used for heating and lighting purposes. It is piped from a gas well of the Prairie Oil and Gas Company about one-half mile away and is furnished free to the school. Every room as well as the auditorium is equipped with large combination gas and wood stoves. Both the heating and ventilating equipment is that in general use in the best schools of the country; it is manufactured by the Smith System Heating Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The stoves are equipped to burn wood, which is so plentiful here in case an emergency arises

as it has in the past. The window space in class rooms is equal to one-fourth of the floor space and the seats are so arranged that the light always falls over the left shoulder of the pupil. This especially is to be commended from the standpoint of the eyes, to say nothing of its value otherwise. There is a double sanitary drinking fountain placed in the hall near each main entrance. They are connected to the school's water supply tank and are protected from the extreme temperatures so that the water is always pleasant to drink.

3. Furniture and Fixtures.

Every class room is equipped with individual desks made of maple; more than one-third of these are adjustable. In each class room there is a set of wall maps, various charts, and a book case used for the storing of various school materials. The auditorium is equipped with a high grade of maple opera chairs, a fine piano, and a medium sized stage equipped with two full settings of scenery. A small room equipped with book-cases, files and an office desk is used for both the office of the superintendent and the school library, which consists of two-hundred and fifty volumes.

4. The Teacherages.

There are two teacherages, or homes for teachers, also located on the four acre school ground. One is a four room cottage occupied by the superintendent, while the other is a nine room bungalow structure which is used for the living quarters of the other teachers. These teacherages are furnished with

everything necessary in way of housekeeping equipment is furnished except linens. The large teacherage has three completely equipped kitchens, including pantries. Gas is also furnished free to these homes for fuel and light. A hydrant is located on the back porch of each of these. Two garages, a hen house, and a cow barn are located nearby for the convenience of the teachers.

5. Water System.

There is a small shed (12 ft. by 20ft.) that houses the water works equipment of the school. The source of the water is a deep (275 ft.) drilled well, over which is constructed a permanent derrick of the oil field variety. The water is lifted by a Morse Model "H" pumping jack, operated by a Morse three horse power gas engine. There are three storage tanks which have a total capacity of over fifty barrels which amount is sufficient to run the institution for two weeks without refilling, and such a quanity can be pumped within four or five hour's time.

6. Toilets.

The toilets are brick structures (10 ft. by 14 ft.) located about fifty yards from the main building. Each toilet is equipped with the four unit size of the Standard Smith Sanitary Chemical Toilet Equipment manufactured by the Smith Heating Company, of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The construction of the buildings and the equipment makes for an agreeableness unsurpassed even in the more modern toilets with their sewer connections.

7. Equipment for Teaching.

There is a well equipped manual training room in the basement. It has only six double benches, but they are of the best variety and quality manufactured by Richards-Wilcox Manufacturing Company, of Aurora, Illinois. There are more than eight-hundred dollar's worth of hand tools,(inventoried on the basis of cost)including one Stanley mitre box saw and one Stanley plough plane.

Every class possesses an United States'flag and a wall map cabinet containing seven maps--one of each continent and one of the United States. This cabinet is distributed by the Rand and McNally and Company, publishers, Chicago, Illinois.

In the high school study hall we find also two large series of maps and charts. They consist of the "Breasted Ancient History Series" and the "European History Series", both of which are published by the Denoyer-Geppert Company of Chicago, Ill.

The science laboratory used in connection with the general science course in the high school, is equipped so as to meet the Oklahoma accredited high school requirements. One large room is given over exclusively to this work.

In the various grade rooms, there are cabinets filled with assortments of charts, supplementary books and miscellaneous teaching materials. Every teacher in the grades has access to the new seven volume edition of "Public School Methods" published by the School Methods Publishing Company, of Chicago, Illinois.

The library contains the Encyclopedia Britamica, the New Americanized Encyclopedia, The World Books, The Book of Knowledge, The Harvard Classics, Winston's Accumulative Encyclopedia, about fifty selected volumes of fiction, reference books in Ancient and Medieval-Modern histories, and a number of other books of miscellaneous titles. The books are checked out to all students who desire them; parents occasionally send for books to read. The general condition of the volumes in the library is very poor. Many of the volumes are old and have been subjected to abuse. There is a deficiency of report books in English and History; these are not of sufficient number to allow one to follow the outlined course of study of this state satisfactorily. In order to correct this, a certain sum should be appropriated to the library fund each year; no such appropriation was made in 1923-24.

The four acre school ground as well as all the desired adjoining land is used as a play ground. There are two basketball courts, two giant strides, six teeter-totters, two slides, and two sets of cross bar equipment. This school has no gymnasium, consequently all equipment of this nature must be placed out in the open air, but of course this disadvantage has its advantages. Since the children are hauled to and from school, there is little time before and after school for them to take advantage of the equipment. The play time is at recesses and

and at noon, with evenings off at intervals for matched games with the neighboring schools.

III--STANDARD OF THE SCHOOL.

Pleasant Hill School is accredited with a three year high school, and is under the inspection of the State Department of Accredited High Schools. The high school has two teachers while the grades have five. The high school teachers are experienced and hold degrees. None of the grade teachers hold degrees, but some of them hold life certificates and all have state certificates. All of the teachers are mature and have had at least two years of experience, one year of which has been in this school. The teachers, on the whole, are above the average in experience, scholarship, enthusiasm and interest.

The average attendance in the grades is one-hundred and sixty-eight, while that of the high school is approximately thirteen. The students, like their parents, are of an itinerant class; many enrolling and withdrawing each year.

TABLE "A"--SHOWING ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE BY ROOM AND GRADE GROUPINGS.

Room	Students on Roll	Percentage of Attend.
Primary	31	92
Second and Third "B"	42	93
Third "A" and Fourth	30	95
Fifth and Sixth	34	94
Seventh and Eight	44	94
Ninth and Tenth	14	93
Total	195	93

Table "A" shows that attendance rates a very high per cent; the highest being found in the room containing the third "A" and fourth grades. We also find that this room has the smallest enrollment of any of the grade rooms. This may be accounted for in that we find the greatest enthusiasm and interest displayed in the moderately filled rooms. The fifth and sixth grade room with its thirty-four pupils also ranks high in the per cent of attendance. The seventy and eighth grade room is a freak in regard to enrollment. In a normal situation we should find a regular gradation in enrollment from the primary grade upwards; the fewer numbers of course being found in the higher grades. This is not to be accounted for by the fact that a large number were retained in those grades last year as we might at first suppose, but it is to be largely accounted for by the fact that the teacher of the fifth and sixth grades last year was a hard enthusiastic worker who pushed her pupils ahead, thus preparing the greater part of the fifth grade pupils as well as the sixth grade pupils for the seventh grade work this year(1923-24).

A few achievement tests were given to class groups and the results show the students of this school to be somewhat below the average. The student body, taken as a whole, are less disciplined in actions and manners than similar bodies of students in other schools of equal standing. However, the corporal punishment list has been kept at a minimum and at the same time

results along this line have been satisfactory in general. It is a rare thing for the student to carry his troubles home to his parents in an effort to secure hasty action on the part of parent in his behalf.

IV--TAXATION, VALUATION, andEXPENSES.

From the table on the following page it will be noticed that the total "General Fund" for running the Pleasant Hill School has been decreasing steadily and rather rapidly for the past three years. The present school year (1923-24) necessarily must be shortened, due to the lack of funds; moreover, there should have been at least one thousand dollars worth of repairs made on the buildings which were not make. At the same time we see that the mill levy is increasing, but the valuation decreasing. No doubt the blame can be justly placed upon the county assessor for placing such a low tax valuation on a grouping of property which will far exceed ten million dollars in actual value. If it were not for the fact that this school is so fortunate as to own two oil wells of its own from which a yearly royalty of about $2,000 is received, it would be in much harder circumstances financially. It can at once be seen how fallacious is the idea of a fifteen dollar per capita child tax; for some moderately wealthy farming district will help pay the deficiency in the "General Fund". Everyone, of course, knows that a district in a farming community is much poorer than an equal area in a producing oil field.

TABLE "B"-- SHOWING THE ESTIMATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS, ENDING JUNE, 1924[1]

SINKING FUND	AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION				
	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	23-24
For Int. On Bonds	2478.72	2832.00	3849.52	3476.00	4106.00
For Payment of Bonds	2360.00	2360.00	2820.00	2820.00	3345.00
For Payment of Judgments	205.00				
Commission to Fiscal Agency	6.20	8.00	9.50	8.69	8.27
TOTAL SINKING FUND APPRO.	5049.92	5200.00	6678.02	6371.97	7873.38
ESTIMATED INCOME					
GENERAL FUND		AMOUNT OF APPROVAL			
Surplus from Previous Year	3066.50	596.39	1023.57		
State Apportionment	588.06	773.23	612.00	700.51	806.08
County Apportionment	281.09	326.27	400.00	459.57	317.53
Royalty from Oil Wells	3365.06	2871.13	1200.00	1593.94	1569.53
Federal Aid	29.16	66.75			56.00
Gross Production	2256.36	2796.89	3307.28	2288.77	3053.08
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	9586.23	7430.66	6542.85	5042.79	5802.22
SINKING FUND					
Surplus from previous year		424.78	873.03		
Int. on Investment of Sinking Fund				550.00	326.70
TOTAL SINKING FUND		424.78	873.03	550.00	326.70
GENERAL FUND		AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION			
Salary of Teachers	4700.00	10480.00	7567.00	9670.00	9650.00
Supplies, Light Fuel and Water	500.00	3000.00	1152.00	200.00	250.00
For Maintainance and Repairs	100.00	100.00	600.00	614.71	1000.00
For Transfer Fees	100.00	750.00		231.01	983.84
For Sundry Other Expenses	352.83	324.10	6013.04	750.00	
For Furniture and Fixtures	600.00				
For Library	100.00	100.00	300.00	50.00	
For School Apparatus	100.00	394.64		200.00	
For Transportation of Pupils	7470.00	5400.00		3600.00	1751.16
For Janitor	900.00	1389.00	900.00		
TOTAL GENERAL FUND APPRO.	15422.83	21928.75	16532.04	15319.72	13735.00
ASSESSED VALUATION					
Personal Property	354165	740980			333666
Real Property	107820	107820			93517
Public Service Corporations	180042	215393			193237
TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATION	642027	1062193	732541	753642	630420
AD VALOREM TAX IN MILLS					
For current exp. of Gen. Fund	10	15	15	15	15
For Sinking Fund Purposes	8.65	6.3	9	8.5	13.43
TOTAL AD VALOREM TAX IN MILLS	18.65	21.3	24	23.5	28.43

1. Taken from Estimate Sheets on file in County Clerk's Office.

TABLE "C"--SHOWING SALARIES AND APPROXIMATE EXPENSES FOR THE PLEASANT HILL SCHOOL FOR THE SCHOOL TERM OF 1923-24.[1]

Superintendent's Salary	$2,025
Principal's Salary	1,500
Seventh and Eight Grade Teacher's Salary	1,125
Fifth and Sixth Grade Teacher's Salary	1,125
Third "A" and Fourth Grade Teacher's Salary	1,125
Third "B" and Second Grade Teacher's Salary	1,125
Primary Teachers	1,215
Janitor's Salary	500
Salaries of Wagon Drivers(approx.)	2,880
Insurance(approx.)	330
Miscellaneous Expenses (approx)	300
Approximate Total	13,150

This table varies very much from that shown in the large table on estimated incomes and expenditures; however, this is due to the fact that much cutting and re-arranging of expenditures was done by the School Board in order that finances would reach as far as possible in running the school as long as possible.

The approximate cost of all the buildings and equipment is $50,000. The interest at six per cent on the money invested would amount to $3,000 annually. Estimating the life of the buildings and equipment at ten years and allowing $10,000 to cover the salvage value at the end of that time; we find that we have a $4,000 depreciation each year. These estimates may seem a little over-drawn, but if they do it because everything was installed and erected when material and labor were high. Moreover, the buildings were poorly constructed, which was due, largely, to the inefficiency of the Board letting the contract.

Now taking all of the above expenses for running the school for the term of 1923-24, we find:

Salaries	$12,620
Insurance	230
Interest on Capital Invested at the Rate of 6%-	3,000
Miscellaneous	300
Depreciation, Less Salvage Value Pro-rated	4,000
Annual Repair, Estimate Pro-rated	500
TOTAL EXPENSES(Approximate)	$20,650

TABLE "D"--SHOWING COST PER CHILD ON ROLL FOR TERM OF 1923-24.

Cost per Child in Grades	$ 91.33
Cost per Child in High School	294.23
AVERAGE COST PER CHILD IN ENTIRE SCHOOL	105.90

TABLE "E"--SHOWING THE EXPENSE OF MAINTAINING THE HIGH SCHOOL.

Pro-rated General Expense	$ 819.18
Salary of High School Teacher	1,500.00
Superintendent's Salary Pro-rated	1,800.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	4,119.18

TABLE "F"--SHOWING THE EXPENSE OF MAINTAINING THE GRADES.

Pro-rated General Expense	$ 10,590.82
Salary of Teachers	5,715.00
Superintendent's Salary Pro-rated	225.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	16,530.00

The expense per high school student enrolled is exceedingly high; however, the estimated average attendance in the high school is about ten pupils. One can see that the espenses per high school student in attendance is more than $400 per term. No doubt the high school here must be abandoned, or else the superintendent must seek to handle the first two years

himself and abandon the eleventh grade entirely.

Here is a place for a school leader to establish himself in the favour of the community by reorganizing and systematizing the school system.

Such re-organization might be a consolidation with another adjacent district or the formation of a union graded school; in either case the high school could be located at Pleasant Hill. This would increase the enrollment in the high school as well as increase the finances of the school. Both would materially lighten the per capita burden per student in high school. New departments could them be added, and specialized instructors secured; all in all, the quanity, as well as the quality of the instruction could be increased at a smaller per capita cost.

CHAPTER V.

THE VOCATION.

"The vocation is made possible through the enlargement of personal power that takes place in the home and the school."[1] "The underlying idea of the business world, in wh ich each man follows his vocation and justifies his existence by the sweat of his brow, is the interdependence of the sons of the earth. No civilized man produces all he needs in order to live, nor consumes all of what he himself produces. The members of the business world, as they follow their vocations, daily enter into each other's labors. Each man is both a producer and consumer, producing one thing that is necessary for many lives, and exchanging it for many things necessary for his own life. The world of one's vocation emphasizes the unity, the solidarity, the interdependence, of man and man."[1]

I--AGRICULTURE.

Not many years ago the inhabitants of this district gained their living in a semi-civilized manner--largely through hunting and fishing. These Creek Indians engaged in agriculture slightly and traded but little with the rest of the world. Then the cow man entered this territory with his herds. He, too, at first engaged in agriculture very little , but traded considerably more than his native brother. A little later we found the small tenant settler engaged in farming and stock raising, but at the best in such a hilly, non-fertile country, he was able to do very little in the way of farming. Today we still find that same farmer, but he does not, as a rule, depend

upon his little farm solely for the sustenance of his family. He is employed in some form of public work during some part of the year. There are living now in this district, twenty-nine farmers(Table C) who make their living in just that way. Their avocation, in almost every case, is some form of work in the oil and gas industry. The rent here is very low. In some cases it is nothing. The oil companies that own the leases and have in hand the management of the land, had much rather have the land tilled than to have it grow up in weeds; consequently, as an inducement to get some one to farm it, in a few cases, they furnished free to a farmer, in addition to the land, a house and often times water and gas. The average cost of rental per acre is one dollar. The highest is two dollars per acre.

These farmers make a lower income, perhaps, than the steadily employed oil employee, but their expenses are usually less because they do not have the expense of moving around so much and they produce more for home consumption than do these oil workers.

The farmers here have more cattle on the average than do the farmers elsewhere. This may be attributed to the large amount of non-tillable land in proportion to the tillable area. Another surprising thing is that the number of horses is so very large when we consider the number of acres tilled as is shown in table "B". This condition is largely accounted for

TABLE "A"--SHOWING THE NUMBER OF LIVE STOCK OWNED BY THE AVERAGE RAISER OF SUCH LIVE STOCK AND THE PER CENT OF FARMERS WHO RAISE EACH KIND OF STOCK.

Average Raiser of-	Owns	Per Cent of Farmers
Cattle	14	85
Hogs	13	85
Horses	6	100
Sheep	0	0
Goats	8	7
Chickens	56	100
Turkeys	5	21
Geese	11	7

by the fact that many of these farmers do teaming work in the oil fields. The fact that one hundred per cent of the farmers own a good flock of chickens is to be commended when we know that the average farmer in the State of Oklahoma falls far short of that.

TABLE "B"--SHOWING THE AVERAGE ACREAGES OF CROPS GROWN AND THE PER CENT OF FARMERS GROWING EACH CROP.

Average Grower of	Acres	Per Cent of Farmers
Corn	13	100
Kafir	11	64
Cotton	10	50
Wheat	0	0

Every farmer grows corn to feed his horses and hogs. Kafir is grown to a less extent for the grain and fodder which supplies food, and to a large extent, for all the farm animals. Half of the farmers have a small acreage of cotton, but no wheat is grown here at all, due, perhaps, to the roughness of the land and the small tillable acreages. Every farmer has a

garden and about one-third of them have a small orchard.

II-THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY.

Long before America was discovered the people used some kind of petroleum for cement to hold building stone together. The Indians used the oil that collected on springs, and branches to anoint their bodies; they even burned some of it at their sacred feasts. But when the white men first came to this country, they thought it was a remedy for rheumatism and sold it in bottles. Then E.L. Drakes drilled the first oil well at Titusville, Pennsylvania, in August, 1859. A new application was now found for oil and the price went up as high as twenty-nine dollars per barrel. Soon after this, many wells sprang up all ofer the State of Pennsylvania, then spread into Indiana, Kansas, Ohio, Illinois, California, and later, into Oklahoma, Texas and Louisana. Among the richest fields in the United States are those in the last mentioned states.

"Some petroleum was discovered in the north part of the Indian Territory as early as 1890, but there was little development until 1905, when several wells were drilled in the vicinity of Bartlesville, Oklahoma."[1] Oil has been known to exist in Oklahoma for many years. It was first discovered, in 1901[2] in the Red Fork district near Tulsa.

1--Mace and Petrie--American School History--Ppl 416-418.

2-Thoburn, Joseph B. & Holcomb, Issac M.-A History of Okla.Pp.201

Oil was discovered near Drumright in 1908.[1] The oil field located within the vicinity surveyed was opened in 1912-13.[1] "Natural gas also was known before the Civil War, but did not come into wide use until 1870 to 1900, taking the lead for the time being over kerosene for both heating and lighting."[2] Natural gas abounds in this oil region. It plays a very important part in the oil and gas industry here.

More than two hundred products are made from crude oil. The most common are kerosene and gasoline. There are several gasoline refineries located in the district, but here the gasoline is made by condensation of the natural gas and not from crude oil.

Pipe lines running to the coast, to nearby shipping points, and to the larger commercial and industrial centers are found radiating out from this community. These pipe lines carry large quanities of gas, gasoline, and oil. Vacuum pump stations are found at regular intervals along these pipe lines. The suction produced by these pumps draw the gas from the wells and push it along the pipe line toward its destination. The oil from each well is pumped by an individual pump and piped into a small storage tank where the water is separated from the oil; and then the oil is pumped to a central station. There are hundreds of acres of tank farms near Cushing, Oklahoma, ten miles away where, the oil from this section of the fields is collected

1-An old Settler. 2-Mace&Petrie-American School History-Pp.417.

There are almost three-hundred oil wells within the district; The prairie Oil and Gas Company, the largest producer, has more than seventy wells. Many of the wells in the locality have ceased to produce in large quantities, and a few have run so low in production as to have been abandoned. There are some new wells being drilled from year to year.

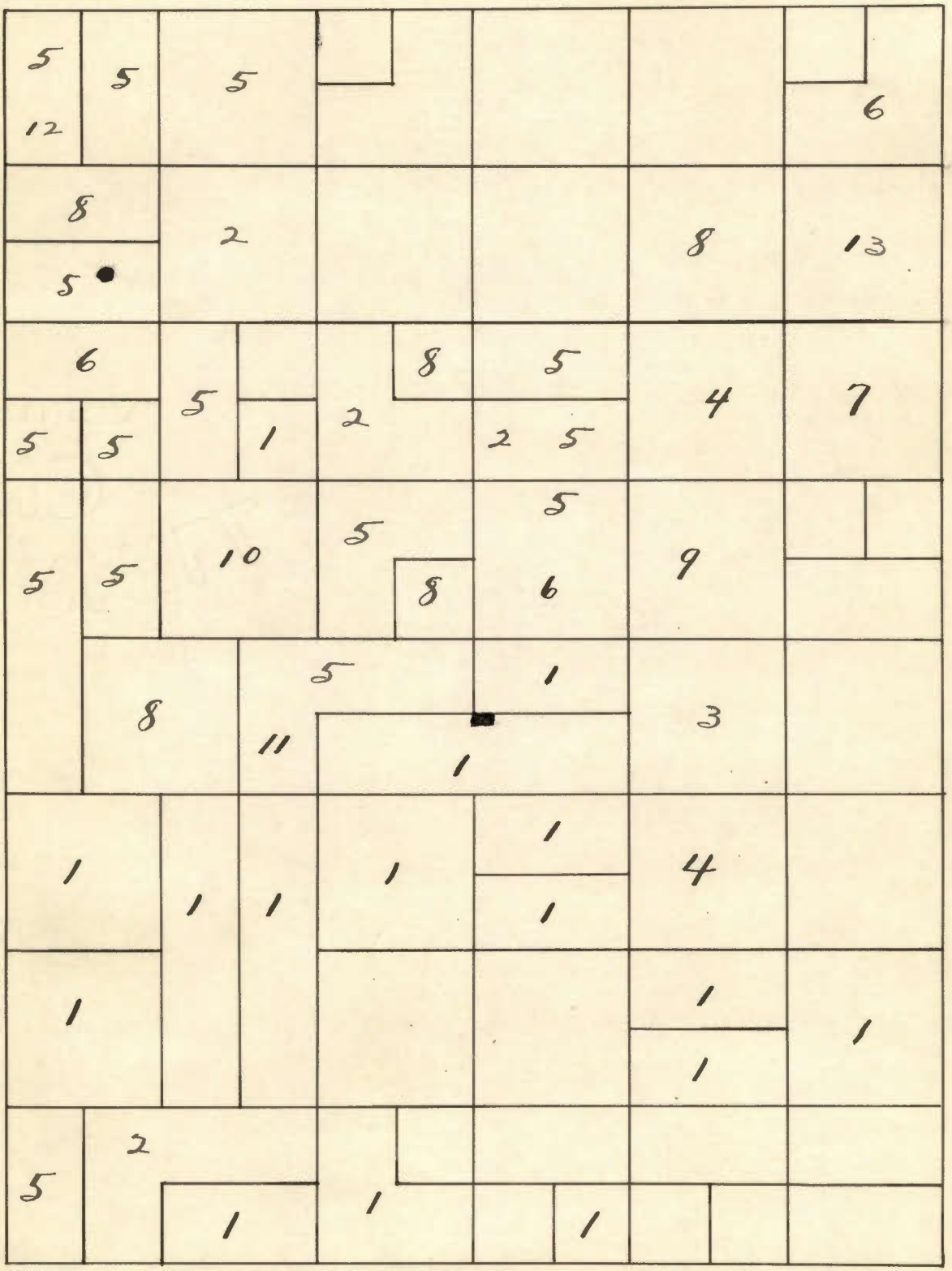
There are several corporations and a few private individuals holding oil interests in this district. Some of these companies do a national business while others do a business of a localized nature, but all are actively engaged in the oil and gas industry. A number of companies own pipe lines which cross the district in various places and directions. Tables "C" and "D" give one an idea of the extent and complexity of the holdings of these corporations.

TABLE "C"--LIST OF OIL COMPANIES OWNING LEASES IN THE DISTRICT.

1. Cosden Oil and Gas Co.	2. The Tidal Oil Co.
3. The Eastern Oil Co.	4. The Sinclair Oil Co.
5. The prairie Oil and Gas Co.	6. The Texas Oil Co.
7. The Roxana Oil Co.	8. The Magnolia Oil Co.
9. The T.B. Slack Oil Co.	10.The Cortez Oil Co.
11.The Aikins Oil Co.	12.The Standard Oil Co.

13. The Pure Oil Co.

TABLE "D"
A MAP OF THE DISTRICT SHOWING THE RESPECTIVE HOLDINGS
OF THE COMPANIES LISTED IN TABLE "C" AS PER NUMBER LISTED.



■-------Pleasant Hill School. ●-------Ella Jones Church.
Scale---One Inch Equals One Mile.

III WORKING CONDITIONS

When the field was under development, many hardships, caused by the uncontrolable conditions surrounding the worker had to be endured by him. As in all new oil fields, the noble, conscientious worker had to live with, compete with, and bear the blame with all the scalawags, or "globe trotters", which always infest a place where high wages abound and where he thinks he can get something for nothing with the least possible hindrance on the part of the law. But in time the tide subsided, and with it went this inferior element to some other booming locality. The more dependable, conscientious worker remained behind, moved in his family, and settled down in a more permanent way. This, in a way, describes very accurately the type of men filling the oil positions in Table "E".

TABLE "E" --- LISTING OCCUPATIONS; GIVING NUMBER ENGAGED IN EACH AND SALARY

Occupation	Number Engaged In.	Salary per Month
Roustabouting	58	$ 130
Pumping	46	135
Farming	39	
Engineering	15	135
Drilling	3	
Farm Bossing	7	200
Teaming	5	75
Miscellaneous	18	
Total	181	

The number of men engaged in "roustabouting" is greater than that in any other line of work. Roustabouts work in crews

of three with one engineer. The primary duty of these four workers is to keep all of the pumps working properly so that a good flow of oil is being pumped from every well. This necessitates frequent "pulling" of the rods and tubing in the well in order to keep the cylinder in the pump properly adjusted. The engineer operates the hoisting machinery while the three roustabouts tend to the jointing or unjointing of the pipe and to its care otherwise. The "pumpers" are those regularly employed workers whose duty it is to run an engine that pumps one or more oil wells, or one that operates the engines at a vacuum pumping station. The "drillers" in this district are few because of the fact that few new wells are being drilled here. The "farm boss" is the highest official of the company stationed in the field. He has charge of the property of the company, one or more farms depending on the density and extent of operations. Directly subservient to the farm boss, we find the "head roustabout". It is his duty to immediately supervise the crews described above. They are about as numerous as the farm bosses, but they receive only about five to ten dollars more per month than the ordinary roustabout. In Table "E", the head roustabouts and roustabouts are all classified as "roustabouts". There are but few teamsters engaged in the oil industry, as most of the hauling and the like is done by truck. Almost every lease has a small truck which is driven by a roustabout, but all

of the heavy hauling is done by large trucks owned and operated by individuals outside of the district surveyed. Various occupations are included in the "miscellaneous" group; some are of the oil and gas industry, while many of them are not. We find, for instance, that the storekeepers are classified under this grouping.

The above Table "E" gives the list of occupations and the number of individuals engaged in each together with the approximate money wages earned by each individual within his particular line of work. The many oil companies in this locality vary their wage scales but little. The above wages may be considered very good when we realize that here is no rent, fuel, light, or water bills to pay. The companies furnish homes for practically all of their employees excepting the "roustabouts" and some of the "pumpers", who in almost every case, own their own homes.

The "tower men" are the men whose duty it is to work, in rotation, the day and night shifts of twelve hours each, seven days per week. There are but few jobs that require a day and night shift. The working hours for at least ninety per cent of the working men, in the fields of this locality is from seven A.M. to five P.M. with an average of about two Sundays off per month; however, it is the duty of the employees concerned to report every Sunday in order that any emergency work may be taken care of.

The average length of time of residence per family in this district is about three and one half years, while the average length of time of steady employment by the same company is about three years. The greater portion of the unemployment hardship is borne by the unskilled, shiftless element as is found in every other kind of industry. Those individuals that really want to work and who turn out good substantial work can depend upon having a steady job.

The work in general is very healthful owing to the fact that it is principally in the open air and that on has to exercise himself rather vigorously and actively in performing his duties. It is not dirty or dusty work; however, it is very greasy. There is considerable danger at certain jobs, where large machinery is used, especially for the uninited or careless worker. The companies provide for accident insurance for their employees.

There is no child labor or woman labor problem to be dealt with here. The only capacity in which women are employed in the district is that of clerking in a general store. No children are employed in any capacity whatsoever, so far as the writer knows; some children are kept out of school during cotton picking season; however, this is not a problem of any concern.

CHAPTER VI

THE STATE.

"The plying of one's vocation safely and justly necessitates the state.[1]" "The underlying idea of the state is justice, 'suum cuique', to each man his own, the return of the deed of the doer, whether it be protection for his conformity to the law or punishment for his violation of the law. The state is the impartial judge, rewarding every man according to his deed. Justice is the foundation of the structure of human society. 'The Republic' of Plato, is the first great discussion, and one of the final great discussions, of the ideal state. Already it was recognized that the theme of justice, which is one of the titles of the dialogue, is in all its ramnifications, the theme of the state. To the modern Platonist, Hegel, the state is also, in the political organization of society, the final revelation of the eternal idea. It is the ministrations of the state that man becomes uniquely conscious of that which is just."

I CITIZENS

The individual citizen, instead of the state as a whole, has been selected for discussion here. From an analytic stand-point, the Government is made up of citizens; and from a synthetic stand-point, we may say that the citizens make up the Government of our democracy. The citizen of this community is largely the same type of citizen that we find elsewhere. His political and economic ideas are influenced somewhat along the socialistic line because he is so largely a wage earner and owns no real property himself. He is not bothered with taxes and is inter-

1.Horne, Dr. Herman Harrel, The Philosophy of Education, p.1-3

ested about taxation only in so far as he is to be directly benefitted by taxing his "brother's property".

II FRATERNAL ORDERS

There are many fraternal orders represented here. The Masons and Odd Fellows have the strongest representation with the exception of the Ku Klux Klan. This masked organization apparently has in its membership from thirty to forty per cent of the total eligible inhabitants of the community. Its hold on the community is apparently gradually slipping since Jack Walton so radically and publicly denounced its workings. Fraternal organizations seem to thrive much better in a community of wage earning men than in an agricultural community. This, the writer believes, is due to the fact that the laboring man has learned to organize for self protection..

III THE VOTER

The citizen in this district is very negligent about expressing himself politically through the voting polls. The school elections are the only well attended elections held in the district precinct. The voters seem to come out to these for various reasons that are none too worthy, but they are very apathetic in regard to other elections. The writer has served as a clerk of the election board for a special good roads bond election held in January, 1924; consequently he personally knows that only twenty-two votes were cast in the precinct of three hundred and seventy-three registered voters. This is, perhaps, somewhat worse than the average, but it gives one a fair idea of

the actual existing conditions. Much of this slackness in voting may be due to the fact that the population is of the transient variety and do not stay long enough in one place to vote, and as a constant repetition of this migration, become decidedly apathetic and negligent in exercising their right of franchise. The women seem to take as much interest in the school elections as do the men, but they are more apathetic in the other elections than are the men. The company officials in some instances seek to use their superior business authority as a political whip over their subordinate employees. It has been rumored that some company authorities issue directly to their employees political propaganda in behalf of some candidate. For instance, much interest has been taken by some of them in the election of the county assessors.

No doubt the actual value of the property within the district is immense although the valuation for taxing purposes is a little more than six hundred thousand dollars. The writer was personally informed, by one of the "farm Bosses" of a one hundred and sixty acre lease, that his company had been offered three million dollars for that particular piece of property. Of course this property is one of the most valuable within the district, yet there is much perhaps just as valuable and a great deal more that is nearly so. There are a number of gasoline and vacuum plants within the district which have a total valuation of many millions of dollars. There are also a number of pipe lines crossing the district whose valuation will run high into the hundreds of thousand of dollars.

We can at once see what an underated tax valuation is placed on the oil property within this district. Not only this district but many other similarly situated districts have the taxable valuation rated so low that it is not possible to run a fully accredited school for the nine month term. The writer has talked to many of the school boards in Creek County, and finds them all, especially, interested in seeing the "fifteen dollar per capita child measure" law enacted. One can see the fallacy of such a measure when he realizes that some poor farming district will have to help educate the child surrounded by large quantities of "golden liquid". This measure, to be successful, necessarily requires state uniformity in assessment of property as a perequisite.

IV CO-OPERATION FOR THE COMMUNITY BENEFIT.

There is little co-operation among the people for the benefit of the community as a whole. The school auditorium is beyond a doubt the chief gathering and civic center of the community. However, there is not an organization of any kind that includes more than a small minority of the homes of the district. In fact, in the running of the school itself, we find various factions. Some are based on the Klan and Anti-Klan organizations; while still others are based upon personal friendship of some of the school board members or teachers. The school board itself is torn by factions and so is the faculty at the school. The churches and Sunday Schools have not as a rule run smoothly as organizations for any appreciable length of time. Such are the conditions of community co-operation found here. No doubt

here is a rich field for some strong organizer and community leader.

V LAWLESSNESS

This is one phase of citizenship in which this locality ranks high. Very little thievery is practiced. No more precaution need be practiced in regard to house theft than is practiced in an old well settled agricultural community. Drunkenness and rowdiness are as infrequent as one will find in the average community. In general, we may say that the inhabitants of this district are at least average in keeping within the bounds of the law.

CHAPTER VII

THE CHURCH.

"And underneath this whole procession of institutions giving immortal significance to each and all, is the church."* "And the underlying idea of the church, in which man comes into his widest consciousness through relationship to God, is righteousness, the doing of the will of the Supreme Person upon the earth, the transformation of the kingdoms of earth into kingdoms of heaven, the addition of love and mercy to law and justice. The church is the perpetual prophet of the ideal to human society, winning the attention of men away from the things that are to the things that ought to be. In the church, society becomes most profoundly conscious of its inherent unrealized powers of righteous attainment, and man of his infinitude."

I DESCRIPTION OF RELIGIOUS CONDITIONS.

Only forty per cent of the head members of the families in this district are members of the church. A much smaller per cent are active members. The only organized active religious sect in the communtiy is that of the "Indedependent Holiness", whose followers make up the greater per cent of the active church members in the locality. The christian church has held one meeting in the district within the last year. It has considerable membership living here who are affiliated with the Christian Church at Drumright. Other churches of Drumright and Shamrock have a few members living within this community.

*Horne, Dr. Herman Harrel, -- The Philosophy of Education, Pp.1-4.

There is only one church building in the unit surveyed. It takes its name from the Ella Jones lease on which it is located. It was constructed in 1919 and dedicated to the people by the Prairie Oil and Gas Company holder of the Ella Jones lease. This church may be used by any denomination; however, the Independent Holiness Church members are the only ones who h have made use of it in the past year. An inter-denominational Sunday School has been held there, more or less regularly, in the past; but it ceased to exist in the summer of 1923 on account of lack of support and attendence.

An inter-denominational Sunday School was organized at the Pleasant Hill school house in September of 1923. It has been fairly well attended; the largest attendence being seventy-seven individuals. Such a Sunday School is organized at the baginning of each school year, but disbands at the end of the school year if not sooner.

In the spring of 1923, some attempt was made to organize a Christian Endeavor Society for the young people of the community; however, the leaders of the movement seemed to have quickly lost enthusiasm for they failed to meet the young people on the night set for organization. There was a very successful young people's society held in the school auditorium during the year of 1921-22. In so far as the writer can find out that is the only time that any organization of this kind has ever been in operation within the district. A few church services are

held at irregular intervals at the school auditorium by different denominations.

II A RIPE FIELD FOR RELIGIOUS WORK.

This community lacks religious leadership and co-operation for community moral and mental betterment. For the large majority of the people here, the Church is not considered even a part of their lives. The young people are growing to manhood and womanhood without even the basic principles of Christianity and the desire for brotherly co-operation being inculcated in their minds through the association with the church. The people of this community need to be brought face to face with the social and moral laws contained in the Bible; The Church and its auxiliary organizations should furnish the leaders and instructors, and the social and moral problems should be worked out in the laboratory of daily life.

A plan of rehabilitation of the religious activities and influences of this community should be developed whereby all the young people of the community will be touched and influenced spiritually. A community of this size and wealth should not plan to accept anything less than a full time paid pastor whose duty it is to lead the people of the community in things of a material welfare as well as those of a spiritual nature.

The pastor should be a community leader and interpreter of relationships among the members of the community. He should be a student of human nature and life, both past and present. In

filling the position of an interpreter of human life and human relations, a resident pastor, living among his people from year to year gains an advantage of intimacy and confidence which cannot be had by an itinerant preacher, even though the latter has a much greater ability. By living with his people, this resident preacher learns the problems of every individual in the neighborhood as well as the problems of the neighborhood as a whole. He would be much better fitted and situated to become the community leader in social and economic affairs. Thus, we can only hope to have a real constructive community leader and organizer in the resident pastor.

The Pleasant Hill School House is located in the center of the district. It has a splendid auditorium which will accomodate almost three hundred people. This auditorium furnishes a convenient and comfortable gathering place for a great portion of the people in the locality, and should be used as such for a Union Church and its auxiliary organizations until such church should see fit to undertake the financial outlay of constructing a building to be used exclusively for community religious and social purposes. A parsonage may be built soon after the church organization is completed and is functioning properly.

There are numerous people in the district who are very anxious for some good religious leader to formulate such a plan. The financial burden would not be great to any member, if about one hundred families in the community could be induced to be-

come members of this proposed church. The expenses at the beginning need not be more than twenty to thirty dollars per year. That is cheap when we consider that there are members of the Holiness Church in this vicinity who give one-tenth of all their earnings toward the financing of their church.

The Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations have not made themselves felt directly in this district. Here is an opportunity for their trained country workers, both men and women, to quietly develop among the young people of this community, a set of real service standards and reponsibilities. The benefit gained by the neighborhood through having its young people developed into religious and social leaders will soon be felt directly in the fostering of the inter-denominational church and in the doing away with the little whims and prejudices that have grown out of the development of various sects and creeds.

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