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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

GRADUATE COLLEGE

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN ONE HUNDRED FAMILIES

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

degree of

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

BY

GOLDA BARBARA SLIEF

NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

1948

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GENERAL

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HEALTH AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN ONE HUNDRED FAMILIES

CHAPTER I

THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

The social and health problems of the Negro have been a concern of social agencies in all areas of the country for some time, since they influence the social and health status of the population. From previous surveys made in various parts of the country it was found that these problems were primarily in the fields of health, economics, education, housing, recreation, and family instability. Many of the writers on this subject state that the causative factor involved is one of discrimination which results in isolation associated with their status as members of a minority group.

With these nationwide problems and the causative factors in mind, an attempt has been made in this study to consider some of the aspects of the social and health conditions existing among a segment of the Negro population in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The area surveyed is bounded by Walnut Avenue on the west, Northeast Tenth Street on the north, Northeastern Avenue on the east, and the Rock Island and Frisco Railway tracks on the south.

There are approximately two hundred city blocks in the area, of which one hundred and fifteen blocks contain Negro homes. The

information presented was obtained through home visitation and interviews with adult members of the family group. One home in each block was chosen for visitation. No attempt was made to select the better homes, nor the poorer ones.

It should be observed that the survey was made at a time when excellent employment opportunities were available to the Negro population. One hundred families were included in the survey. The data obtained through the interview method covered the number in the household, birthplace, age, sex, education, occupation, status of health, and others in the household. Additional information secured included the marital status, number of marriages of the husband and wife, number of divorces, separations, and desertions. Also included were a data with reference to home ownership, mortages, and rentals paid. Notation was made regarding the type of home, number of rooms, doors, windows and screens. Also noted were the general condition of repair of the dwellings, the types of home furnishings, methods of housekeeping, condition of floors, and the source of water and milk supply.

Mention was made of the usual occupation of each member of the family, the present wage or salary, distance from work, mode of transportation, and whether employment was regular or irregular.

An effort was made to ascertain the usual amount paid for utilities, clothing, food, incidentals, drugs, dental and medical care, and also the amount and type of insurance carried. The former illnesses, surgical operations, and the amount paid for such care and treatment were noted.

Facts regarding preventive measures were collected with

reference to smallpox vaccination and immunization against typhoid fever, diphtheria, pertusis and tetanus.

Information was secured concerning the different phases of recreation, church affiliation, club participation, distances from parks, and churches, and the desirability or undesirability of the neighborhood in which the family resided. Every individual interviewed was assured of the confidential use of the data collected in that no names were obtained even though the street address was noted on the questionnaire. The supplementary material used in this study was secured from the files of the Council of Social Welfare, the City and State Health Departments, the Oklahoma County Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Oklahoma County Health Association, the City Park Department, the Urban League, the City Chamber of Commerce and other local and state agencies. Some of the information used was acquired from individual interviews with the staff members of the various agencies and associations and from printed material and personal observation.

CHAPTER II

ECOLOGICAL STRUCTURE

The social situation resulting from the presence of the Negro in the United States is commonly accepted as the greatest social problem confronting the American people.[1] The problem touches our social structure at all points and directly or indirectly affects every phase of American life, political, economic, intellectual, moral and social. The various phases of the race relation problem exercise an influence on the health and living standards of these people; it changes the economic structure of the country; it alters the attitudes and behavior patterns of both the Negro and the white races; it discriminates in equal opportunities for citizenship; and otherwise determines the personal and group reactions of both races.

The nature of the bi-racial problem has always existed but variations of the problem have changed with the changing conditions of the social order through the centuries of living in the United States. It is recognized by many writers on the subject that the problem is deeply rooted in the mores of the Negro race because of his slavery status through many centuries. History reveals that as far back as the eighth century the African Negro was captured and sold into slavery by

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[1] Reuter, Edward Byron, The American Race Problem (Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York, 1927).

the Arabs.[2]

In Table I the population of Oklahoma City is shown by decades since 1890. In 1890, there was a total population of 4,151. The Negro made up 6.7 per cent of the population at that time. In 1900 the Negro population increased to 12.1 per cent. In 1910 the Negro population was 10.2 per cent of the total. In 1920 it had decreased to 9.0 per cent, and in 1930 to 7.9 per cent. The 1940 census showed an increase to 9.5 per cent.

The growth of the Negro population in Oklahoma City has been continuous, from 278 in 1890 to 19,344 in 1940.

Table II shows the distribution of the population of Oklahoma City by race and sex for the year of 1940. Of the total population of 204,424, 98,744 were males and 105,650 were females. The distribution by sex of the Negro population shows that there were 9,173 males as compared with 10,171 females.

The history of the Negro in Oklahoma City constitutes an interesting phase of the development of the state. One person reported that he bought a lot from a Negro two days following the opening in 1889 for the sum of thirty dollars.[3] The lot was located on North Broadway between First and Second Streets. The exact lot is not definitely known but was thought to be the lot upon which the Skirvin Hotel is now built. There seems to be no doubt in the minds of the early day settlers that the Negro was exploited in the early days because of his

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[2] Ibid., 4.

[3] The 89'ers, Oklahoma The Beautiful Land (Times Journal Publishing Company, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1943. 166.).

TABLE I

POPULATION OF OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA BY DECADES

Decade	Number		Per Cent
	Total Population	Negro	Negro
1890	4,151	278	6.7
1900	10,037	1,219	12.1
1910	64,205	6,546	10.2
1920	91,295	8,241	9.0
1930	185,389	14,662	7.9
1940	204,424	19,344	9.5

Information secured from the United States Census reports for the year indicated.

TABLE II

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION OF OKLAHOMA CITY
BY RACE AND SEX IN 1940

	All Classes	White	Negro	Others	Per Cent by Race		
					White	Negro	Others
Total	204,424	184,715	19,344	365	90.4	9.5	.2
Male	98,774	89,413	9,173	183	90.5	9.3	.2
Female	105,650	95,297	10,171	182	90.2	9.6	.2

Information secured from the United States Census reports.

inability to cope with the white man in matters of business.

Oklahoma City was founded in a single day on April 22, 1889, as the United States soldiers fired the opening shots on that notable day at 12 noon. By nightfall the site of what is now Oklahoma City was settled and the area, which only a few hours previous was a vast prairie, was a vertible sea of tent homes with an estimated population of 10,000 persons.

From that day until the present, Oklahoma City has grown until now it covers an area of 25.46 square miles in the city proper, and 181.75 square miles in the Metropolitan area.

Oklahoma City became the capital of the State of Oklahoma in 1910, three years after statehood. Previous to that time the capitol was located at Guthrie.

Oklahoma City is located 260 miles south of the exact geographical center in the United States. In the opinion of some persons it is the key or central city to the great Southwest and is fast becoming one of the nation's greatest industrial, aviation, oil, agricultural, and livestock distributing centers.[4] The industries in Oklahoma City show wide commercial diversity. There are more than 500 manufacturing firms with headquarters located here. These include aircraft assembly and maintenance, petroleum production and processing, oil field and refinery equipment and supplies, steel fabrication, machine shop and foundry operations, meat packing, processing of dairy products, grain milling, cotton processing, building materials, food specialities, paper products

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[4] Oklahoma City State Capital of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, 1947.

and printing.[5]

In 1947 there were 556 wholesale establishments in Oklahoma City which served a great area of the Southwest. A more recent but rapid development of Oklahoma City is aviation. It is the home of Tinker Air Force Base, a $100,000,000 installation of Air Materiel Command. It was expanded to include the $25,000,000 former Douglas Plant, and is said to be the largest air depot in the world. From a national standpoint it ranks first in aircraft modification and second in the number of civilian employees.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration has established its Standardization Center operations at Will Rogers Field, where students from various nations of the world are coming to receive training. In addition to these two fields, there are six other active fields, located near the city. The city is served by three major airlines; namely, American, Braniff, and Continental.

Oklahoma City is the most centrally located city within the great mid-continent oil fields region. More than half of the state's oil production is within a sixty mile radius. The Oklahoma City oil field, located southeast of the city and partly within the city limits, was discovered in 1928. This field has been one of the most productive in the world. It has 1,600 wells and has produced nearly 700,000,000 barrels of oil.

Oklahoma City is one of the country's most important livestock centers. From the earliest days it has excelled in this industry. The

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[5] Oklahoma City from A to Z, Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, 1947.

Oklahoma City National Stockyards Company operates yards with a capacity of 33,000 head. The 1946 receipts of this company showed a total of 1,721,041 head with the annual production of over $40,000,000. The two major plants are Wilson and Company and Armour and Company. A Livestock Show and Rodeo is an annual event with an approximate attendance of over 25,000 persons. Oklahoma City is the center of a rich farming area. According to the latest figures available, the principal crops had an estimated total annual value, for the state as a whole, of $365,870,000. As the center of the state's agricultural activity, Oklahoma City has taken a great interest in promoting agricultural activities.

There are five railroads serving Oklahoma City; namely, The Santa Fe, Frisco, Rock Island, Missouri, Kansas and Texas, and the Oklahoma City, Ada and Atoka. In addition to the railroads there are ten bus lines operating 114 daily inbound and outbound schedules, also 78 Class A freight truck lines which provide service to 400 Oklahoma communities.

Oklahoma City has eight commercial banks from which a reliable gauge of business activity can always be found. Their combined resources exceed $345,000,000, with deposits averaging around $322,000,000. There are numerous Building and Loan Associations with total assets of $39,984,576 as of December 31, 1945. The buying income in Oklahoma City from the latest survey made by Sales Management shows an estimated gross buying power of $426,236,000. Twenty-six counties of the state are recognized as being within the trade territory of the community. The wholesale trade area includes Oklahoma, southern Kansas, western Arkansas, the Texas panhandle and eastern New Mexico. There are

two daily newspapers--The Daily Oklahoman (morning) and Oklahoma City Times (afternoon). The Daily Livestock News and the Daily Legal News serve special interest groups. The Advertiser and the Shopping News, both weeklies, have a city-wide coverage and are free. The Black Dispatch, a Negro weekly, is also published in Oklahoma City and has both Negro and white subscribers.

Oklahoma City is considered one of the leading convention cities in the United States. In 1946 there were more than 700 conventions held with an attendance of between 150,000 and 200,000. The facilities include the Municipal Auditorium with a seating capacity of 7,500 and the Livestock Coliseum, capacity of 3,000; also the Lincoln Park Amphitheater, capacity 20,000 and Taft stadium with a capacity of 18,000. In addition there are many smaller convention facilities in the Municipal Auditorium and in the hotels. There are 135 hotels with 6,000 rooms available for visitors.

There are four major radio stations in the city: WKY, KOMA, KOCY, and KTOK.

Oklahoma City serves as headquarters for 121 state organizations, 29 major Federal Agencies and 98 sub-offices. Oklahoma City offers many cultural, recreational, educational, and medical advantages. There is also the $10,000,000 Civic Center development.

There are 209 churches representing every denomination. The educational facilities include 68 public schools of which four are senior high, seven junior high, one junior college; one law school, six business colleges, three technical specialty schools, three vocational schools, three flying schools, and eleven Catholic parochial schools,

one of which is Negro. There are 67 parks, four of which are exclusively for Negroes. Lake Hefner and Lake Overholser (city water reservoirs) and Northeast Lake in Lincoln Park offer boating, and fishing for all citizens within the area. The University of Oklahoma Medical School is located here, also fourteen hospitals with a total bed capacity of 1,538.

There are approximately 80,000 homes in Oklahoma City. Of these about 40 per cent are owner occupied.

The retail business district extends approximately from Reno on the South to Fourth Street on the North and from the Santa Fe tracks on the East to Western on the West. A large wholesale district lies South of Main Street and East of the Santa Fe tracks. The transition areas of the city lie between Choctaw on the South and Reno Street on the North; from Santa Fe tracks on the East to Western on the West; from Fourth Street on the South and Tenth Street on the North; and from the Santa Fe tracks on the East to Western Avenue on the West. These districts are slowly being abandoned by the poorer class of whites and the white rooming house population. From the Frisco and Rock Island tracks on the North and the Canadian River on the South and from the Santa Fe tracks on the East to Western Avenue on the West, there is an area where the poorer classes of Negroes, Mexicans and whites live in an indiscriminate manner. The same condition exists in the Walnut Grove area located East of the Santa Fe tracks. The Elm Grove or Community Camp area lies in a triangle with Pennsylvania Street on the west, the Canadian River on the north and east and Exchange Avenue on the south. No Negroes live in this camp.

North and west of the retail and transition areas is the better residential section. As the community extends northwest the homes become more valuable. Nichols Hills lies in an area where the homes are quite expensive. The suburban town of Britton is north of Nichols Hills. The northwest area of moderately priced homes has extended far beyond the city limits. To the northeast the moderately priced homes have been extended to and beyond the Lincoln Park Section. South of the retail district and beyond the Canadian River is an area known as Capitol Hill. It was so named in early statehood because the promoters sold the lots on the pretext that the state capitol would be built in that section. Capitol Hill was a town with its own post office, business district, churches and schools before it was made a part of Oklahoma City.

To the southwest of the retail business district and beyond the Canadian River is the Packingtown section. Here is located the large packing plant industries with their own bank, post office and business district. To the east and south of this district are the homes of many workingmen and their families.

To the southeast of the main retail business district is the original oil field which extends north and east into the city limits. To the east of the oil fields area is located the Tinker Air Force Base and the former Douglas Plant. A new suburban city north of Tinker Air Force Base was built during the war and is known as Midwest City. This town also has its own post office, business district, theatres, schools, churches and council. It is about twelve miles from the downtown area

and considered within the boundaries of greater Oklahoma City.

The Negroes of Oklahoma City are segregated largely into six districts. In addition to the two Negro districts which have been mentioned previously, there is a small district lying between Peach Street on the west and Clegern Street on the east and with Reno on the south and Main Street on the north. This is almost entirely a residential area. Two comparatively new and attractively planned sections have been built. These are exclusively for Negroes and lie within the boundaries of Metropolitan Oklahoma City. One is known as Carverdale and lies north of the Oklahoma State Fair Grounds at Northeast Tenth Street. The west boundary is the M.K. & T. Railway tracks, the east boundary is Foundry Street extending north to Sixteenth Street. It is located on a forty acre tract. The homes contain from five to seven rooms and have tile baths and kitchens, floor furnaces and hardwood floors throughout. The homes sold when built in 1945 for $6,000 to $7,500 dollars.

The other new Negro area is known as Edwards Addition and lies in a triangle bounded by Sixteenth Street on the north, Highland Street on the west and by Foundry Street on the east. The same type of planning and construction is found here as in Carverdale. Edwards Addition is the location of the Edwards hospital for Negroes now under construction.

The largest and oldest Negro section lies between the Rock Island tracks on the south and Tenth Street on the north. Eastern Avenue is the eastern boundary. The western boundary is north from the Rock Island tracks to Fourth Street, east to Stiles, north to Fifth

Street, east to Durland, north to Sixth Street, east to Phillips Street, and north to Tenth Street. This sector is the area in which the one hundred homes were visited and upon which this thesis is based.

The areas bordering the railway tracks present an unpleasant appearance. Noise from the railway traffic is disturbing. Near Eastern Avenue is a large oil refinery which adds to the noise of the trains. The dwellings in this sector are in a poor state of repair. The population adjacent to the tracks, north to Fourth Street and east of Walnut Street and west of Eastern Avenue is wholly Negro. North of Fourth Street and between the east, west and north boundaries, there are many white families living alongside the Negroes. The two races seemingly are neighborly and amiable in their relationships. The children of both races are often seen together in play and they too seem happy and contented. A number of the homes are restricted to Negro residents in this sector which makes it difficult for the white owners to sell or rent to Negroes. Many of the Negro residences compare favorably with those occupied by the whites. Several homes occupied by Negroes cost from $20,000 to $30,000 each.[6] As in the white areas many of the homes have oil wells in their back yards. Some of the wells have been abandoned, others are still "on the pump" which produce a great deal of noise. No new wells are being drilled because the field has been completed.

The main business district is located in the 300 block of East Second Street between Central and Stiles Streets. The construction is

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[6]Federal Writers Project, A Guide to the Sooner State. (Norman, The University of Oklahoma Press, 1941).

of both brick and frame. Modern business houses are located on both sides of the street. The district contains a theatre, cafes, drug store, grocery and dry goods stores, office space, repair shops, barber and beauty parlors and other types of business facilities.

A second and newer business district is at Laird and East Fourth Street. This is comparable to the older business district in shops, commercial recreation and office space. There are a number of grocery stores and filling stations scattered throughout this east side sector.

There is another small business area on Eastern Avenue, between Sixth and Tenth Street, opposite the State Fair Grounds. Some of the commercial establishments in the section are owned and operated by white persons. Business establishments conducted by Negroes are listed by the Oklahoma City Negro Directory sponsored by the Negro Chamber of Commerce. The most numerous of the business establishments are cafes and grocery stores. The most successful businesses, with the exception of grocery and drug stores, are those where there is a limited competition with white operated concerns.[7]

Table III indicates that the majority of Negro business establishments are of a personal service nature. There are forty-five cafes, fourteen barbeque stands, twelve cleaners and tailors and eleven barber shops.

The Oklahoma City Park Department provides outdoor recreational facilities for the Negroes through its park system. Edwards Park,

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[7] J. Harvey Kerns, A Study of the Social and Economic Conditions of the Negro Population of Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma City Council of Social Welfare, 1945, 18.

TABLE III

NEGRO BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

OKLAHOMA CITY, 1945

Type of Business	Number
Auto Repair Shops	6
Barbeque Establishments	14
Barber Shops	11
Beverage Manufacturers	1
Cafes	45
Cleaners and Tailors	12
Confectionaries	4
Drug Stores	5
Dry Goods Stores	1
Electric Shops	2
Florists	1
Funeral Homes	5
Grocers	30
Hardware Stores	1
Junk Dealers	1
Landscape Gardeners	3
Lumber Companies	1
Manufacturers	1
Music Stores	1
Newspapers	1
News Stands	4
Notary Public	12
Photographers	2
Plumbers	5
Poultry Dealers	1
Service Stations	7
Shoe Repair Shops	6
Shoe Rebuilding Parlors	4
Taxicabs	1
Theatres	1
Transfers	6
Upholsterers	1

From a Study of the Social and Economic Conditions of the Negro Population of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. J Harvey Kerns, Survey Director, The Oklahoma City Council of Social Welfare, 1945.

located at N. E. Sixteenth and Grand Boulevard, is of the neighborhood type and has a shelter, comfort station, play ground, baseball and soft ball diamonds, play apparatus, picnicking facilities and is of scenic value. Riverside Park, located at California and Central Streets, has only a play lot and baseball diamond. Tolan Park, located at Reno and Blackwelder Streets, offers greater facilities. It has a clubhouse, comfort station, playground and play apparatus, also facilities for baseball, basketball, shuffleboard, football, softball and picnicking. It also has horseshoe, tennis and volleyball courts and a junior swimming pool. Washington Park, located at Fourth and High Streets, is also of the neighborhood type and has a playground with play apparatus, comfort station, clubhouse, amphitheatre, junior swimming pool, picnicking grounds and courts for tennis, horseshoe, volleyball, softball and shuffleboard. This park is the location of the proposed outdoor adult swimming pool for Negroes. The pool will be ready for use in June of 1948. It will be an outdoor pool, built in a fan shape, fifty feet wide at the base and one hundred feet in length. Modern bath house facilities will also be provided. The approximate cost will be $75,000.

The Negroes have both fishing and boating privileges at Lake Overholser and Lake Hefner. Lincoln Park is open to Negroes on every Thursday.

The educational opportunities for Negroes in Oklahoma City are afforded by the Douglas High School and the seven grade schools. The first Negro School in Oklahoma City started in March of 1891. It was housed in a two-room camp house in an abandoned wagon yard located on the corner of Reno and Harvey Streets. J. D. Randolph was the first

teacher. He remained as principal of the colored school for several years.[8] The building for the Douglas High School was constructed in 1934 at a cost of $219,158.42. It was built with sections planned for departments of arts, dramatics and debate, and social science. Provision was also made for an auditorium, a library, a medical clinic, and a cafeteria. The high school stadium was constructed two blocks from the school on the Washington Park site.

Inman-Page grade schools had an enrollment of 560 students with seventeen teachers in 1947. Dunbar grade school had an enrollment of 795 with twenty-four teachers.[9]

The Blessed Martin Catholic Parochial School is also located on the east side and had an enrollment of 159 students.

During World War II employment was at a very high peak for both the white and Negro races. Since the war the employment trend has been downward. In addition to this post-war trend there is the seasonal rise and fall of employment which makes it difficult to compute an accurate statistical analysis. In Oklahoma City in 1940 there were 13,000 unemployed of whom 2,350 were Negroes. In July, 1945 the total unemployed was 3,000 of whom 300 or 10. per cent were Negroes. The occupational statistics reveal that there is a heavy concentration of Negroes in the service and unskilled labor occupations. Seventy per cent of all gainfully employed Negro males were found in this field,

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[8] Crossley, Mildred M., A History of the Negro Schools of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Unpublished thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1939.

[9] Oklahoma City Board of Education, 400 North Walmut Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

TABLE IV

ESTIMATES OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY RACE, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA AT STATED PERIODS

	Total Unemployed	Unemployed Negroes
July, 1940	13,000	2,350
July, 1945	3,000	300
July, 1947	6,000	1,200

Based on official estimates of the labor market analysts of the United States Employment Service, Oklahoma Division, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

TABLE V

COMPARATIVE OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF NEGROES AND WHITES IN MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS, 1940

Occupation	Per Cent Negro	White
	Male	
Farmers, farm laborers and general laborers	62.2	28.5
Professional, managerial, clerical, and sales work	5.	30.
Skilled craftsmen	4.4	15.6
	Female	
Domestic, and personal service occupations	70.	22.
Sales and clerical occupations	1.	33.
Agricultural occupations	16.	2.

From Thomas, Julius A., "Wartime Changes in the Occupational Status of Negro Workers." Occupations, 23: 402-405, 1945.

while only 8.0 per cent of white males were found in this same field. Ninety per cent of the Negro female workers were in the service occupations as compared to 25 per cent for white women. Domestic service alone accounted for 75 per cent of all Negro females employed. The representation of Negroes in other occupations was limited. Two hundred and eleven Negro males were listed under the general census classification of "craftsmen, foremen and kindred workers." The building trades mechanics accounted for 87 of the total. There were 62 auto mechanics and repairmen in this group while the metal trades had only 6 Negro workers. In the female group only 52 of the 9,000 women were engaged in clerical and sales occupations.[10]

In 1940 Oklahoma City had 4,207 male persons in professional or semi-professional work. Of these only 160, or 3.9 per cent, were Negroes. Ministers and teachers headed the list of professions in which Negro men were engaged. There were eleven Negro physicians, five dentists, three pharmacists, and five lawyers.[11]

Crime and delinquency is considered a social phenomena which may be the direct or indirect reflection of cultural changes. In urban areas the zone of criminality and delinquency is identical with the transition zone; the area just beyond the central business district which is in the process of being absorbed for business or industrial purposes. This area is usually distinguished by deteriorated housing, over crowding, low living-standards, disorganized family and community

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[10] A Study of the Social and Economic Conditions of the Negro Population of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, J. Harvey Kerns, Survey Director.

[11] Urban League, Oklahoma City Chapter.

life and the absence of constructive social forces. The area with the heaviest concentration in Oklahoma City appears to be in the transition zones.

According to a study prepared by the Council of Social Welfare, there has been a decline in juvenile delinquency in Oklahoma City since 1945. The Survey of 1945 showed an increase in delinquency but it was only a temporary reaction caused by the termination of the War.[12] The figures compiled from records of the juvenile court, the Oklahoma City Police and the attendance officer of the city school system showed a 24.0 per cent decline in juvenile offenses compared with the 1946 statistics.

The largest number of offenses were committed by children, especially boys, between the ages of thirteen and fifteen years. The offenses fell into the categories of runaways, petty theft, burgulary, auto theft, immoral conduct and truancy.

The boundaries of the area with the heaviest concentration of juvenile delinquency appear to be Walker Street on the west, the city limits on the east, Tenth Street on the north and the North Canadian River on the south. The 1947 concentration appears to be in the same area as the 1946 survey revealed. The ratio of delinquency for all white children between the ages of eight to eighteen years was found to be one out of every 125 children. The ratio for Negroes, of the same age, was one out of every 38 children. The court statistics showed that according to school districts, Washington School in Southtown had

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[12] Misbehaving Minors, Research Division, Council of Social Welfare, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, February, 1948.

TABLE VI

ARRESTS FOR MAJOR OFFENSES CLASSIFICATION NUMBER I
January 1 - December 31, 1944
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Offense	White	Negro	Other Races	Total	Per Cent Negro of total
Murder	---	7	---	7	100.0
Manslaughter	4	---	---	4	---
Rape	11	1	---	12	8.3
Robbery	24	1	---	25	4.0
Aggravated Assault	39	85	4	128	66.4
Burglary	53	16	1	70	22.8
Larceny (Grand)	55	15	3	73	20.6
Larceny (Petit)	243	90	7	340	26.4
Auto Theft	77	11	1	89	12.3
Total	506	226	16	748	30.4

Of 748 persons arrested for major offenses, approximately 80.6 per cent were found guilty of the offense charged. Only 38 were found guilty of a lesser offense.

J. Harvey Kerns, A Study of the Social and Economic Conditions of the Negro Population of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. National Urban League Community Relations Project, 1945.

TABLE VII

PRINCIPAL ARRESTS, MINOR OFFENSES
Negores and Whites
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1944

Offenses	White	Negro	Other Races	Total	of Total % Negro
Drunkenness	3,858	604	723	4,912	12.3
Disorderly Conduct	821	313	66	1,200	26.1
Vagrancy	1,532	422	129	2,083	20.2
Gambling	609	805	4	1,418	56.8
Total	6,547	2,144	922	9,613	22.3

J. Harvey Kerns, A Study of the Social and Economic Conditions of the Negro Population of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. National Urban League Community Relations Project, 1945.

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TABLE VIII

NUMBER OF JUVENILE OFFENSES BY SEX AND RACE, BY YEAR, JUVENILE COURT OF OKLAHOMA COUNTY, STATE OF OKLAHOMA, 1941-1947.

Year	Total			White			Negro		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1941	321	263	58	242	204	38	79	59	20
1942	496	324	172	423	285	138	73	39	34
1943	800	475	325	687	411	276	113	64	49
1944	564	316	248	471	260	211	93	56	37
1945	735	456	279	629	394	235	106	62	44
1946	691	414	277	581	341	240	110	73	37
1947	525	333	192	426	267	159	99	66	33

Annual Reports of the Juvenile Court of Oklahoma County, State of Oklahoma, 1941 to 1947.

TABLE IX

NUMBER OF JUVENILE OFFENSES BY AGE, BY SEX AND BY YEAR.
OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, 1945 and 1947.

Year and Sex	Total	Number of Offenses According to Age										
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1945, total	735	1	2	3	7	11	46	91	142	272	62	98
Male	456	1	2	3	7	10	40	77	111	205	--	--
Female	279	-	-	-	-	1	6	14	31	67	62	98
1947, total	525	-	-	2	10	13	35	80	124	173	39	49
Male	333	-	-	2	8	12	31	68	89	125	--	--
Female	192	-	-	-	2	1	4	12	37	48	39	49

the highest number with 33 delinquents; Emerson school was second with 21 and Riverside third with 18 white children.

In the Negro school districts, Inman-Page had the greatest number with 31 delinquents, followed by Wheatly with 18 and Dunbar with 16 delinquents. Two of these schools are located in the east Negro section of Oklahoma City while Wheatly is located at 200 East California near the wholesale district.

The protection and promotion of the health and welfare of the citizens of any community are conceded to be the duties of the state and its subdivisions. The health of individuals while largely a personal matter is the responsibility of a community. Its ramifications are manifold and reached into all phases of community living.

Table X shows that the total number of live births in Oklahoma City was 5,404, a birth rate of 22.9 per 1,000 estimated population. The rate for the white group was 23.0 per cent and the rate for the Negro population was 20.0 per cent. This shows the white birth rate slightly in excess of the Negro rate. Of the total live births, 96.7 per cent were in hospitals. For the white group 98.2 per cent of the live births were attended by physicians in hospitals. In the Negro group 82.1 per cent were attended by physicians in hospitals.

A total of 114 stillbirths was recorded for Oklahoma City for the year 1946. Physicians in hospitals attended 89.4 per cent of all stillbirths. For the white group of stillborns 90.4 were attended by physicians in hospitals. In the Negro group, 84.1 per cent were attended by physicians in hospitals.

TABLE X

LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS
Place and Attendants
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1946

	Total		White		Negro		Indians
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.
Live births*	5,404	22.9	4,878	23.0	493	20.0	33
Physicians in hospital	5,230	96.7	4,794	98.2	405	82.1	31
Physicians in home	169	03.1	82	01.6	85	17.2	2
Midwife, other or unknown	5	00.2	2	00.2	3	00.7	0
Stillbirths**	114	21.1	94	19.2	19	38.5	1
Physician in hospital	102	89.4	85	90.4	16	84.1	1
Physician in home	11	09.6	8	08.5	3	15.9	0
Midwife, other or unknown	1	01.0	1	01.1	0	0	0

State Health Department, Research Division.
*Rates represent number per 1,000 estimated population.
**Rates represent number per 1,000 live births.

TABLE XI

Attendance at birth by race, Oklahoma, 1946*

Attendance at Birth	Total		White		Negro		Indian	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Total	50,043	100.0	45,090	100.0	3,342	99.9	1,611	100.0
Physician in Hospital	38,786	77.5	36,367	80.7	1,164	34.8	1,255	77.9
Physician in Home	9,752	19.5	8,304	18.4	1,248	37.3	200	12.4
Midwife and Other	1,505	3.0	419	0.9	930	27.8	156	9.7

*Oklahoma State Department of Health, Research Division, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Table XII shows the important causes of deaths as recorded by the State Department of Health for 1946. The total number of deaths of Oklahoma City residents was 1,830. Of these 169 were deaths of children under one year of age. The death rate for the year, 7.7, is the same as the state rate and the lowest ever recorded. The principal causes of these deaths ranking from first to tenth were: heart diseases, cancer, cerebral hemorrhage, congenital malformations, or diseases peculiar to the newborn, pneumonia, nephritis, tuberculosis, and diseases of the digestive organs. The leading causes of deaths among the Negroes of Oklahoma in ranking order were: diseases of the heart, cerebral hemorrhage, and tuberculosis.

TABLE XII

IMPORTANT CAUSES OF DEATHS[1]
Negroes, Whites and Other Races
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 1946

Cause of Death*	Total	Rate	White	Negro	Other	Per Cent Negro
Total deaths, all causes	1,830	7.7	1,647	181	2	09.8
Deaths under one year**	169	31.3	145	24	-	14.2
Deaths under one month**	131	24.2	113	18	-	13.7
Diseases of the heart	493	208.6	458	34	1	06.8
Cancer	217	91.8	209	8	-	03.6
Cerebral hemorrhage, Embolism, Thrombosis	196	82.9	172	24	-	12.2
Congenital Malformations, diseases peculiar to first year of life	129	54.6	110	19	-	14.7
Pneumonia, all forms	70	29.6	59	11	-	15.7
Tuberculosis, all forms	67	28.4	45	21	1	31.3
Diseases of the respiratory system	25	10.6	24	1	-	04.0
Diseases of the digestive system	43	18.2	39	4	-	09.3
Nephritis	76	32.2	66	10	-	13.1
Diabetes	36	15.2	32	4	-	11.1
Diseases of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	6	1.1	5	1	-	16.6

[1] State Health Department, Research Division.
*Rates from specific causes represent number per 100,000 estimated population.
**Rates represent number per 1,000 live births.

TABLE XIII

MORBIDITY - COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Oklahoma County, 1946

Disease	Total Number
Gonorrhea	3,637
Syphilis	2,649
Influenza	1,107
Measles	585
Tuberculosis, all forms	217
Pneumonia, all forms	225
Poliomyelitis, acute	67
Scarlet fever	64
Diphtheria	19
Chicken Pox	68
Dysentery	15
Mumps	24
Meningitis	16
Septic sore throat	20
Typhoid, all forms	10
Pertussis	17
All other	48
Total	8,788

TABLE XIV

OKLAHOMA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

"VENERAL CLINIC REPORT"

1947

ADMITTED TO CLINIC

White females	1218
Colored females	149
White males	116
Colored males	30
TOTAL ADMITTED	1513

MEN AND WOMEN SENT TO OKLAHOMA MEDICAL CENTER AT WILL ROGERS HOSPITAL

	SENT	SYPHILIS	GONORRHEA	TOTAL
White females	35	24	9	33
Colored females	7	7	0	7
White males	7	7	0	7
Colored males	3	3	0	3
Total	50	41	9	50

THREE YEAR COMPARISON

YEAR	ADMITTED	SYPHILIS	GONORRHEA	BOTH	NEGATIVE
1945	1989	527	650	141	953
1946	1675	454	622	156	755
1947	1513	500	437	135	710

CASES: SEX AND TYPE OF INFECTION

	ADMITTED	SYPHILIS	GONORRHEA	BOTH	NEGATIVE	TOTAL
White females	1218	382	358	103	581	1424
Colored females	149	85	40	25	49	199
White males	116	22	27	4	70	123
Colored males	30	11	12	3	10	36
Total	1513	500	437	135	710	1782

N

W

E

S

Lincoln Park

Spring Lake

Classen Ave

Park

Park

23rd St

23rd St.

O.C. Uni.

16th St.

10th St.

Robinson Ave

Walnut

Stiles

Lindsey

Kelly Ave.

Belmont

Fair Grounds

4th St

Main St

Reno Ave

Park

Park

Western Ave

Eastern Ave.

May Avenue

26th St.

NEGRO DISTRICTS
OF
OKLAHOMA CITY

Negro Districts

Negro Parks

CHAPTER III

RESOURCES FOR SOCIAL WELFARE

The material presented in this chapter consists primarily of agencies supported through public funds; agencies supported by the Community Fund; and additional services given by clubs and civic organizations. Recognition should be given to the churches and fraternal organizations which carry on some phase of social welfare incidental to their religious and fraternal programs.

With a few exceptions, all of the social agencies in Oklahoma City give service to Negroes on the same basis as of other races. The general purpose of these agencies is to assist individuals, or groups, in making the best possible adjustment to their environment.

COMMUNITY CHEST AGENCIES

The private social agencies supported through voluntary contributions tend to use their service and funds for special purposes. To a great extent, the private agency is a local movement, concerned with the problems of individuals and families. Oklahoma City has a Community Chest organization through which an annual fund raising campaign is conducted. The funds collected are distributed to the recognized or member agencies of which there are twenty. These agencies are grouped under five main headings, namely: (1) family welfare agencies,

(2) health agencies, (3) child care agencies, (4) youth agencies, and (5) coordinating agencies.

The establishment of the Chest is upon the premise that it is better able to raise money than the individual agencies, since it is organized for that purpose, and also because it has better access to all community resources. The organization of the Chest in Oklahoma City was decided upon as a result of a two year study made previous to 1923 by the Civic Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. The first campaign for funds was held in December, 1923. The funds raised during this campaign amounted to $220,232.28.

The management of the Chest is vested in the board of directors and an executive committee elected from the membership of the board. There are forty-one members of the board who are elected at the annual meeting held on the last Wednesday in January of each year. At the present time there are no Negro members on the board. The executive committee consists of the five elected officers of the organization, three members appointed by the president, and approved by the board, and the chairman of the three standing committees; namely, the budget committee, the campaign planning committee and the publicity committee. The Board of Directors meet quarterly and at such other times upon call of the president. The executive committee meets upon call of the president. The executive committee, with the approval of the board of directors, employs an executive director who has charge of the general management of the business of the corporation.

The 1947 campaign goal was set at $578,800, of which $578,000 or 98.1 per cent was subscribed and collected. The remaining 1.9 per

cent will be made up from the shrinkage and contingency fund. This will make it possible for the member agencies to operate on the pre-campaign budgets which were set up as follows:

Health Agencies	$68,850 or 11.0%[1]
Oklahoma County Health Association	$40,900
Oklahoma City Safety Council	25,000
Children's Convalescent Home	2,950
Family Agencies	119,000 or 20.5%
United Provident Association	$65,000
Travelers Aid Society	16,000
The Salvation Army	33,000
Youth Agencies	193,272 or 33.0%
YMCA	$33,000
YWCA	50,800
Boy Scouts of America	45,000
Girl Scouts of America	12,572
Camp Fire Girls	15,900
Neighborhood Clubs	25,200
Stiles Street Youth Center (Negro)	10,800
Child Care Agencies	$81,130 or 14%
United Provident Association White Day Nursery	
United Provident Association Negro Day Nurseries	
(Budgets included with United Provident Association)	
Sunbeam Home Association	$62,730
St. Joseph's Orphanage	10,000
The Home of Redeeming Love	8,400
Coordinating and Miscellaneous Agencies	$31,455 or 5.4%
Council of Social Welfare	$18,000
Oklahoma City Urban League	6,310
School Feeding Program	5,000
Appeals Review Board	2,145

In addition to the above agencies the sum of $31,268 was allocated for administration of the Chest and $21,500 for the annual campaign for funds.

The Council of Social Welfare was established in 1936 and

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[1] The activities of the health agencies are described in Chapter IV of this study.

became the coordinating agency of the Community Chest in November of 1941. The purpose of the Council is for social planning which coordinates the programs of all health and welfare agencies. It promotes research through a community-wide council, and operates the Social Service Exchange and the Welfare Information and Referral Center. The Council made ten studies during 1947 with the result of a greater coordination of welfare services, less overlapping of services, recommendations for new services, and reorganization or broadening of established services. Representatives from public and private social agencies are members of the group of which three are Negroes.

The Welfare Information and Referral Center is an outgrowth of the Veteran's Center of World War II. Since the reorganization in 1947 and for six months during 1947, the center made 9,976 contacts. Of these 2,153 were referred to other agencies, 4,547 were interviewed by the Center staff and the remaining 3,276 persons were veterans who were served by the contact representative of the Veterans Administration.

The Social Service Exchange was established in 1926 by the executive committee of the Community Chest. It was organized to serve as a clearing house for all social agencies, public and private, for the purpose of reducing the cost of case work, to coordinate the efforts of the social work agencies; and to prevent overlapping, or for certain families from taking advantage of the resources of several agencies at the same time.

The files of the exchange contain a record of practically everyone who has, at one time or another, received assistance in Oklahoma City and County since 1926. It also gives an all inclusive view of the

social welfare facilities in the community. The monthly reports from the cooperating agencies are tabulated. These give valuable information revealing the total social needs and reflects the economic conditions of the area. The Exchange registered 5,762 families and individuals in 1947. There has been a total registration of 160,825 since 1926.

The United Provident Association was established in 1897 under the name of United Charities. In 1903 it was reorganized, renamed and incorporated for the purpose of adjusting individuals to normal family life and to adjust families to the community. Its general purpose at the present time is to serve intelligently and in a sympathetic manner families who are in distress and who are unable to regain their in independence and well-being without skilled counselling and guidance.

The agency performs a variety of services including the improvement of environment for the family served; instruction of women in household management; assisting in domestic and marital readjustment; vocational and occupational guidance; the treatment of children's problems and difficulties; guidance in recreation and use of leisure time; counsel in problems concerning mental disorders; and financial assistance incidental to treatment of the above designated problems. During 1946, approximately 1,000 families received some or all of the agency's services.

The agency employs several social workers one of whom is a Negro. Psychiatric service is available to the Negro clients. Should the client be in need of a psychiatric examination he is referred to a psychiatrist with the agency paying the necessary fee. The agency uses the facilities of the medical, dental, and children's clinics for

necessary medical or remedial care. The services of the agency are available to all races on an equal basis. The agency also operates three day nurseries. The white nursery is located at 517 West Washington, the West Negro Nursery at 10 S. Klein Street and the East Negro Nursery at 1337 N. E. 7th Street. Over 230 children are cared for monthly at the white nursery. The East Negro Nursery cares for 99 children each month and the West Negro Nursery cares for 50 children every month. The majority of the children in the nursery have only one parent. In most instances the father is dead, or has deserted his family or is physically incapacitated.

The Travelers Aid Society is an organized social service for transient families and individuals in need of assistance. The case work services are available to all persons regardless of age, sex, race or creed. The situations coming to the attention of this agency are usually of an emergency nature and the use of the inter-city service is highly developed through the intercommunications of similar agencies in other communities. The travel services are set-up to safeguard the young, the aged, the inexperienced, the handicapped or ill traveler, and also for the location service which is given for new arrivals in the city.

There were a total of 12,908 persons who received information and direction for the year terminating on April 1, 1947. During the same year, a more intensive case work service was given to 1,293 persons who were stranded. Of these 608 were given financial assistance.

The Salvation Army, which is classified as a family welfare agency by the Community Chest, attempts to provide short time financial

aid to needy families who do not qualify under the classification of the other family agencies in the community. It also provides housing and care for homeless and transient families and individuals. The agency conducts recreational and educational facilities for youth. During 1946 the agency issued 1,373 grocery orders to needy families; provided lodging for 3,096 transient individuals and families; gave 7,827 meals to these transients; rendered other material assistance in the way of clothing; and assisted 498 single transient women in making satisfactory plans for themselves. Negroes and other races or nationalities are given the same service as the white race.

The Sunbeam Home Association is a child caring agency. It was chartered in 1909. Its general purpose is to develop and maintain an adequate program of child welfare services to meet the needs of the community. The work of the agency is county-wide.

The special services of the association are to admit children who have no parents or other relatives to care for them; those needing care away from home during temporary emergency; and those who must be removed from their homes permanently. The last named are the children who are suffering from neglect, mistreatment, exploitation or conditions endangering physical or moral health.

This agency cooperates with the courts according to procedures authorized by state law when legal action is required. The association maintains a home for the children who require special observation, study and treatment. It also maintains a cottage for short time detention care or until a plan can be made for them. There is a well staffed social service department whose duties comprise the investigation of

homes from which the children come, counseling with parents, investigating prospective foster, and adoptive homes, supervising foster home care, and cooperating with social agencies from within and from without the city in reference, to any phase of child welfare services.

Children under sixteen years of age are eligible for the services of the agency. Negro children are given the same service as white children with the exception of dormitory care.

There is a monthly average of 29 children living in the Sunbeam Home; a monthly average of 76 children supervised in foster boarding homes, and a monthly average of 26 children in the detention home. Also there is a monthly average of 45 parents who receive counselling service for their children.

Previous to World War II the association maintained a child guidance clinic. It was discontinued when the psychiatrist entered the armed services and another could not be found for replacement. During 1947 a mental hygiene clinic was established in the administrative offices of the Sunbeam Home Association which replaces the work of the Child Guidance Center.

St. Joseph's Orphanage is a child care agency which receives some assistance from the Community Chest for the care of dependent, neglected and orphaned children of Oklahoma City. The institution has an annual average of fifty-one children from the city in the institution. The Negro child is not domiciled in the institution due to lack of facilities and the small number of requests for their care. Requests for care of the Negro child is a function of the office of the

Associated Catholic Charities and these requests are honored and the Negro children are accepted for care in Negro foster homes.

The Home of Redeeming Love also receives some financial assistance from the Community Chest. The institution is classed as a child caring institution and provides care for unmarried mothers before, during and after confinement. There were 214 girls who received care during the year ending on May 1, 1947. There were 136 babies born in the institution during that year. Of these 77 were placed for adoption. The others were kept by the mothers or taken by relatives. The Home accepts Negro unmarried mothers for care but the number of requests for care have been negligible.

There are several youth agencies participating in the Community Chest. The Young Men's Christian Association offers group work, club and athletic programs for boys from 7 to 17 years of age. The Hi-Y program and the Teen-Town activities are conducted for boys of high school age. The Y.M.C.A. operates its own summer camp where each year several hundred boys are given an opportunity to spend one to two weeks in camp. The Y.M.C.A. also maintains a gymnasium, swimming pool, dormitory and cafeteria. The Y.M.C.A. has a Negro branch located at the Stiles Street Youth Center. At the present, there are no gymnasium, swimming pool, dormitory or cafeteria facilities available to the Negro group.

During the past year the Y.M.C.A. conducted a drive for funds to build two new buildings. This drive totaled approximately one and one-half million dollars. The plans are to build a Negro branch building on the east side which will provide the facilities for dormitory space,

cafeteria, gymnasium, and swimming pool on the same basis as for the white group.

The Young Women's Christian Association advances the physical, social, intellectual and spiritual interests of young women. Its purpose is to teach character-making ideals through its services designed to meet the needs of girls and young women. Its program includes a counselling service, educational classes, entertainment and physical fitness programs. There are special activities for teen age, business girl, and industrial groups. The Y.W.C.A. maintains a swimming pool, gymnasium, dormitory, cafeteria, game rooms, library, craft shop, club rooms, reading rooms, chapel and a summer camp located near Bethany, Oklahoma.

The Negro branch of the Y.W.C.A. located at the Stiles Street Youth Center has a full-time Negro director who supervises the general recreational programs. This branch is similar to the Negro branch for young men in that no dormitory, cafeteria, gymnasium or swimming pool facilities are available. The summer of 1947 was the first season in which the summer camp of the Y.W.C.A. was made available to the Negro girl and young woman. They held a two week camp and the plans are to make this an annual event. The long range plan of the Y.W.C.A. calls for a Negro branch building, at an estimated cost of $250,000 to be located on the east side in the area of the greater Negro population.

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest youth agencies in the city and county. The program of the Scouts provides a citizenship training and youth leadership. There are five Negro troops in Oklahoma City and one in the county. There are 97 Negro Scout leaders

with one full-time leader working out from the main office. The Negro Scouts have the facilities of the white camps at designated times. These camps are located at Wheatland, Clinton, and Sasakwa, Oklahoma. An annual Jamboree is held in May of each year at which time all of the troops from the entire state participate in the camping programs.

The Girl Scouts of America is another of the youth agencies deriving funds from the Community Chest. The program and aims of the group are along the same lines as for the Boy Scouts in that it trains for citizenship and leadership. There were a total of 2,612 girls enrolled last year with 620 adult leaders engaged in working with the girls. The Girl Scouts operate both summer and day camp programs. The summer camp is located at Lake Murray in southern Oklahoma. The Negro branch of the Girl Scouts is located at 1214 N. E. 8th Street with a full time Negro director. There are 25 troops. Five are located in the county and 20 in Oklahoma City. The Negro Girl Scouts have their own summer camp located at Camp Murray and designated as Camp Number Three.

The Camp Fire Girls is another youth agency serving girls from the ages of 7 to 18 years. It promotes a recreational program and citizenship training. There is no Negro branch of this agency in Oklahoma City.

The Neighborhood Clubs is a Community Chest agency serving the youth and adults of the city. It provides a neighborhood center type of program for children and adults of all ages. There are three centers in the city, two for whites and one for Negroes. The Negro Club is located in the Stiles Street Youth Center. The organization

maintains free book and toy libraries and provides club type programs for all ages and varying interest groups. During the summer months the Neighborhood Clubs conduct soft ball leagues, picture shows and a teen-town type of program. The activities of the centers include athletics, crafts, sewing, cooking, photography, active and quiet games, informal play, folk dancing, hikes, trips, camping and other activities which provide wholesome recreation. The organization employs two part-time Negro workers.

The Stiles Street Youth Center located at 300 N. Stiles is a large four story building owned by the city, and leased to four Negro Community Fund groups for their indoor vocational and recreational programs. The building is usually crowded with children during their leisure hours.

During the past year there were 72 adult club or class sessions held in the building; 104 sessions of the Y-Teen group; and four special Y-Teen events. The attendance for community groups totaled 30,307; and the Neighborhood Clubs and City Park Department registrations totaled 14,724. The Center is maintained through the Community Chest and serves a real need in the Negro area.

The Urban League of Oklahoma City was organized in March of 1945, when citizens of the Negro and white races established the League for the purpose of studying and planning for the social welfare needs of the Negro group. The local League became an affilliate of the National Urban League in November of 1946. The National Urban League was founded in 1910 and is the oldest inter-racial social service agency in the United States. It has centers in 56 cities located in 20 states

of the Union.

The School Feeding Program of the Community Chest provides free lunches to school children from low-income families who otherwise would not receive sufficient nourishment. The funds received from the Chest are administered by the Board of Education and the class room teachers specify which children are to receive the free lunches. The Board of Education allocates this fund to the various city schools, through a committee composed of school principals. The Negro schools receive a larger proportion than the white schools because the need is deemed greater among the Negro children.

PUBLIC WELFARE AGENCIES

The Oklahoma County Department of Public Welfare administers the provisions of the Oklahoma Social Security Act pertaining to the assistance of the needy aged, the blind and aid to dependent children; crippled children's assistance from State Assistance Fund providing hospitalization and medical appliances for children in accordance with qualifications established by law. Services are rendered on an equal basis regardless of race. There were three Negro case workers on the staff who served the Negro clients in 1947. The percentage of Negro families receiving aid to dependent children was abnormally high. There were 1,374 families who received Aid to Dependent Children. Of these, 571, or 41.5 per cent, were Negro families.

Child Welfare services were given to 187 children, of whom 170 were white and 8 were Negro. Assistance to crippled children was given to 150 children, of whom 132 were white and 17 were Negro children.

The State Welfare Board was set up by legislative act in 1932. Its functions are to assist the chronically unemployed of the state in a general relief program. The State Welfare Board also distributes the surplus commodities sent to the state by the Federal Department of Agriculture. There were 105 carloads of commodities sent to the board for distribution between the dates of September 1, 1947 and December 31, 1947. These were issued to the state eleemosynary institutions which include all state hospitals, orphanages, industrial schools, and mental institutions, also to Indian hospitals, Indian schools, and to the public schools which were providing free lunches to deserving children.

The office of the United States Social Security Board in Oklahoma City issues Social Security cards and administers the provisions of the Federal Social Security Act in relation to old age retirement and survivors benefits.

The Oklahoma County Probation Office, a division of the County Court, is responsible for the supervision and care of adult parolees of courts in Oklahoma County. The personnel of the department give counsel, advice and practical aid to individuals in making a good social adjustment and to assist them in obtaining suitable employment to further industrial rehabilitation.

The Juvenile Division of the Oklahoma County Court was established by a state legislative act in 1909. The 1947 state legislature enlarged the Division making it possible to increase the personnel. There is the Chief Officer, who is an attorney, and five assistants. The five assistants consist of four white women and one Negro man, all of whom have had social work training or experience. The Juvenile

TABLE XV

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS OF OLD AGE ASSISTANCE AND AID TO THE BLIND ACCORDING TO RACE IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1947

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	ALL RACES			WHITE	NEGRO	INDIAN	PER CENT OF NEGRO
	TOTAL	M	F				
Old Age Assistance	7,543	3,403	4,140	6,622	892	38	11.8
Aid to the Blind	173	104	69	126	46	0	26.5

Oklahoma Department of Public Welfare Report for the Fiscal year, July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947 (Oklahoma City, October 31, 1947).

TABLE XVI

NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS OF AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN, CHILD WELFARE SERVICES AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S ASSISTANCE ACCORDING TO RACE IN OKLAHOMA COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1947.

	Fami-lies	Chil-dren	Fami-lies	Chil-dren	Fami-lies	Chil-dren	Fami-lies	Chil-dren	Fami-lies	Chil-dren
Aid to Dependent Children	1,374	3,187	798	1,872	571	1,288	14	27	41.5	40.3
Child Welfare Service		187		170		8		9		04.2
Crippled Children's Assistance		150		132		17		1		11.3

Ibid.

Division has jurisdiction of the children that come to the attention of the court, who are under sixteen years of age if they are boys, and under eighteen if they are girls.

The attendance officers of the Oklahoma City Board of Education hold special commissions from the Oklahoma City Police Department. There are five field officers who work under the Chief Attendance Officer, two of these officers are Negroes. The purpose of this law enforcement group is provided for by the State Compulsory School Attendance Law.

The Recreation Division of the City Park Department employed three full time recreation directors in 1947. In addition to the chief director there was one white and one Negro woman to supervise play activities.

The staff is increased greatly during the summer months for supervised play activities in all of the city parks and on public school play grounds. The summer staff work in two shifts which makes it possible for the parks to be open for children from 10 A.M. to 8 P.M. and the school playgrounds from 1 to 8 P.M. The City Library system maintains the Carnegie Library, the John H. Wright Branch in Packing-town, Dunbar Branch for Negroes at 613 Northeast 4th Street and the Douglas High School Branch. Cooperation is also given to the libraries located in the Public Schools. Two Negroes are employed in the branch libraries.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the State Board of Education is a social welfare resource for physically impaired and vocationally handicapped persons. Its function is to assist these

individuals to become self supporting. Its services are available to persons of all races over the age of sixteen years. The services include vocational counseling, vocational training and physical restoration if needed. The Division makes selective placement in industry and gives follow-up supervision as is necessary to insure the individuals successful rehabilitation.

OTHER SOCIAL WELFARE AGENCIES

In Addition to the Community Fund and public welfare agencies there are several private agencies engaged in social welfare work. Chief among these is the Oklahoma County Chapter of the American Red Cross with offices in the Terminal Building. The American Red Cross is authorized by an act of the National Congress "to act in matters of volunteer aid to sick and wounded of the armed services in time of war; to act in accord with the Army and Navy authorities as a medium of communication between the Army and Navy of the United States and its people; and to act in disaster relief on both the national and international levels." The local Chapter is an affiliate of the American Red Cross and is under the immediate authority of the Midwestern Branch Office located in St. Louis, Missouri.

The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary through the local posts maintain service officers who give counsel, advice and assistance to veterans in filing claims for veterans benefits available through the Veteran's Administration. In emergencies, financial assistance is given until a plan can be made for him or his family. It also provides a child welfare service to assure care, training and

protection to the minor children of veterans of all wars who may find themselves in need of assistance due to the death or disability of the father or mother or both. The state and National Legion Funds may supplement the funds of the local posts when necessary to carry out these functions. There is a well organized Negro Legion Post and Auxiliary located in the east side Negro section whose service officers give all of the services as necessary to veterans and their dependents on the same basis as the white posts give service to the white veteran and his dependents.

The Associated Catholic Charities is the general diocesan organization set up under the direction of the Bishop, to direct the Catholic Charitable activities of the state. Its specific services cover child care, delinquency, maternity care, care of the aged, limited family care, adoptions and emergency relief. The state office is maintained in Oklahoma City and the staff includes a social case worker. A great portion of the work of this agency is local. All races and creeds are given counsel or assistance, based on needs, when application for aid is requested.

CHAPTER IV

MEDICAL RESOURCES

The problem of providing satisfactory medical care for the ill has been a perplexing one for most every community. The principal factors in the problem are the cost of medical and hospital care, and the loss of wages.

There is an interdependence of the physical and social causes in illness as well as in good health. This is exemplified in the causes of sickness. Premature aging is not a chronological, but an environmental factor. Men and women in the low income group have a tendency to grow old earlier than those who have had the opportunity of better living and good medical attention.

Another cause of illness is infection. This too tends to be found in the low income group more frequently because of crowded housing, poor sanitation, inadequate nutrition and the lack of facilities for good personal hygiene.

The environment is a causative factor which would include the work environment. The work environment influences health through long hours, overwork, monotony of work, the speed of work, contact with poisinous substances, and an insanitary work environment.

Oklahoma City is favorably known for its medical facilities.

In the preventive field there are both public and private agencies. In the curative field the institutions are primarily in the private field. However, there are several that are tax supported.

There are fourteen hospitals with a capacity of 1,538 beds located in Oklahoma City. All are private institutions with the exception of the Oklahoma University Hospitals; the Army Hospital at Tinker Field, the Veterans Hospital at Will Rogers Field, the Oklahoma Medical Center also at Will Rogers Field and the Isolation Hospital.

State legislation establishing the University Hospital was passed and signed by the Governor on March 17, 1917. The hospital was opened in 1919. It is maintained at public expense for the teaching benefit of the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine and the care of indigent sick of the state at large.

The Crippled Children's Hospital was established by State legislation in 1927 and is operated in connection with the University of Oklahoma School of Medicine. The hospitals are approved for standardization by the American College of Surgeons and approved for general internship and residence in specialties by the American Medical Association.

The services of the University Hospital include general medicine, general surgery, obstetrics, orthopedics, gynecology, neurology, urology, radiology, dermatology, cardiology, opthalmology, endocrinology, and otolaryngology.

The services of the Crippled Children's Hospital include pediatrics, orthopedics, general and plastic surgery, otology, cardiology, opthalmology, and laryngorhinology. The Infectious diseases,

cases of poliomyelitis, the rheumatics, and the pneumonias are admitted for hospitalization. A total of 1,467 patients were cared for in both hospitals during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947.

The University Hospitals maintain out-patient departments for diagnositc services and treatment of ambulatory patients. At University Hospital there are clinics for general medicine, rectal, gastroscopy, varicose veins, gynecology, diabetic, genito-urinary, obstetrical, dermatology, radiology, gastro-intestinal, arthritic, cardiac, allergy, dental, endocrinology, neurology, psychiatric and tuberculosis. The outpatient clinics at Children's Hospital are the well baby, pediatric, orthopedic, cardiac, polio follow-up, dental, and the nose and throat clinics.

The hospital established a School of Nursing in 1911. The student nurses serve both hospitals and are supervised by an all graduate ward and administrative staff.

Special departments of the hospitals are the dietetic, social service, physical, occupational therapy, the clinical and pathological laboratories, and X-Ray. At Children's Hospital a kindergarten, public school room, and a library are maintained.

The capacity of both hospitals consists of 454 beds and forty bassinets. Of these, 268 beds and 20 bassinets are in the University Hospital and 186 beds and 20 bassinets at Children's Hospital. This capacity may be increased in emergencies. Negroes are admitted for all hospital and out-patient services. In the out-patient departments only separate waiting rooms are used, but the facilities of the clinics are the same as for the white patients. In 1945 a new wing for Negro

patients was added to University Hospital, at a cost of $124,645.98. This wing contains 54 beds for adults and eight beds for children. The Negro babies are kept in a separate compartment in the obstetrical division. This Negro wing is staffed by Negro graduate nurses supplemented by Negro aides and orderlies.

The medical staff consists of both Negro and white physicians. The resident for this wing is a white physician. The premature Negro babies are given care in the special nursery at Crippled Children's Hospital.

When this wing was completed the Negro children who were hospitalized in the Crippled Children's Hospital were transferred to the Negro wing at University Hospital. This has worked a hardship on these children because they no longer have the public school and occupational therapy facilities they formerly had at Children's Hospital.

The Children's Welfare League of Oklahoma City maintains a convalescent home for crippled children and children suffering from cardiac ailments at Bethany, Oklahoma. The children who no longer require constant or daily hospital care are accepted from the Crippled Children's Hospital. It serves as a rehabilitation center until the children may return home. The Home is under the supervision of a registered nurse. A regular school curriculum is conducted for children of all grades. The Home participates in the Oklahoma City Community Fund for the care of children from the city.

Although there is no announced policy of segregation in practice, the Negro convalescent children are being given special attention in private foster homes.

The Army Hospital at Tinker Field serves the army personnel connected with the field. The civilian personnel employed there receive medical aid through the Industrial Medical Service of the Oklahoma City Air Materiel Area. The services are designed to aid in keeping all civilian personnel healthy. First aid facilities are available at any time. There are seven first aid stations located throughout the industrial centers. The department employs several physicians and sixteen graduate nurses. Each first aid station is staffed by a graduate nurse. Medical assistance is available from the Main Dispensary.

Pre-placement physical examinations are given. These include an X-Ray of the chest, serology, urinalysis and other laboratory tests. Physical re-examinations are given as deemed advisable by the physician.

Many physically handicapped persons are employed on the type of work which he may perform with restrictions applicable to his physical condition.

Hospitalization for industrial accidents is provided in the private hospitals of Oklahoma City. The injured employee may receive compensation. Non-industrial illness and accidents are paid by the employee. Ambulance service is provided for the civilian employee in case of accident or illness suffered on duty. Sick leave with pay is granted under certain conditions. The Industrial Medical Service provides visiting nurse service for follow-up purposes for those employees injured in line of duty and for occupational diseases.

It also maintains an Industrial Health Education branch which performs many services designed to improve the general health, morale

and efficiency of these civil service employees. Medical counseling is one phase of the program. All medical services work closely with the supervising personnel in every phase of preventive medicine to maintain the highest standards of health and personal safety. Many Negro civilians are employed by the plant and receive all benefits of the medical service.

The Veteran's Administration maintains a hospital, located at Will Rogers Field, for all veterans having service connected disabilities who require hospitalization. The hospital serves both men and women veterans and veterans of all races.

The Veteran's Administration maintains a clinic in the Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The services include general medicine, dental and psychiatric service for diagnostic and treatment purposes for ambulatory patients. They also maintain a medical social service and nursing staff.

A new 1,000 bed hospital for veterans has been assured for Oklahoma City. The cost of the construction has been placed at $15,000,000.

The 1947 State legislature granted the Veterans Administration a site on the State owned land located at Kelly and N. E. 13th Streets which is near the University Hospitals and the Oklahoma School of Medicine.

The Oklahoma Medical Center, formerly known as the Rapid Treatment Center, is located at Will Rogers Field. It is a State-Federal project and provides rapid treatment for venereal diseases. The purpose is to reduce the incidence of these diseases which is very high in the State and in the local community. Treatment is mandatory for all

infected persons who have been arrested for occupying and consorting for immoral purposes. Other persons may be treated on a voluntary basis. The institution has a capacity of 150 beds and four bassinets. The service is free to those unable to pay. All races are eligible for hospitalization and treatment.

Oklahoma City owns and maintains a Communicable Disease Hospital located at 3400 Creston Drive. This hospital has a capacity of thirty-five beds. Three full-time graduate nurses are employed. All races are eligible for hospitalization. Non-city cases are admitted through special arrangements.

St. Anthony's Hospital, a Catholic institution, is owned and operated by the Sisters of St. Francis. It has 375 beds and 75 bassinets. The hospital renders all types of medical and surgical services. The lower floor is allocated for Negro patients. Twenty or more beds are available to these. Provisions are made on the third floor for Negro obstetrical cases. The hospital operates under a closed staff provision, so all Negroes admitted are treated by physicians on the hospital staff. The hospital cares for many charity cases as well as pay patients. It has a well equipped out-patient department.

The Mercy Hospital, formerly the Oklahoma City General Hospital, is owned and operated by the Sisters of Mercy. Most of the Oklahoma City and County indigents and emergency cases in need of hospitalization are admitted to this institution. It also has provisions for private patients. It has 156 beds and 18 bassinets. The first floor is reserved for Negroes and can accommodate eighteen patients. No provisions are

available for Negro obstetrical cases. The hospital has an outpatient department where diagnosis and treatment is given to ambulatory patients.

The other six hospitals in Oklahoma City, all privately owned, do not hospitalize Negroes.

The new Edwards Memorial Hospital for Negroes, now under construction, will open about May 1, 1948. This hospital was built by Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Edwards, Negro philanthropists of Oklahoma City. It is a three story building of brick, fireproof construction and will house two major operating rooms, an obstetrical department, occupying one complete wing, three clinics, an emergency room, a laboratory and laundry, kitchen and dining room facilities. The Jeffersonian and Ruth Bryan Owen Clubs of Oklahoma City donated the site for the hospital. A federal grant of $41,850 dollars was obtained from the United States Public Health Service to equip the hospital. The capacity of the hospital will be 105 beds. There will also be a number of bassinets for the obstetrical department. It will be a general hospital and will provide greatly expanded medical facilities for Negroes. It will offer training facilities for nurses and doctors under public health plans. It will also be the only hospital in Oklahoma City built and operated by Negroes for Negroes. The Great Western Hospital for Negroes was closed about one year ago, and is now used for housing purposes.

The Oklahoma City Health Department serves the residents of the area. The Department has several physicians and nine bureaus. The purpose of the Department is similar to that of the state and county departments of health and works in cooperation with them but it is not

directly connected with these groups. Its funds come from the city budget and its staff is made up of physicians, nurses, chemists, bacteriologists, statisticians, dairy inspectors, garbage collectors, clerical assistants and administrative officers. The only Division reaching outside the city limits is the Bureau of Dairy Inspection. The Department examines all food handlers and issues food handler's cards as required by city ordinance. The Department conducts all of the immunization clinics in the public and parochial schools and elsewhere in the city for protection against smallpox, diphtheria and typhoid fever. The three city - county clinics set up as a part of the city-county program are the Well Baby Clinic, the General Clinic and the Venereal Clinic. The purpose of the Well Baby Clinic is to keep well babies well. Routine physical examinations are given and immunizations against communicable diseases are administered. The mothers are instructed regarding diet and the care of the babies. Its services are offered to babies ranging in ages from one to thirty-six months. The clinics on Mondays and Thursdays are for whites and on Wednesdays for Negro babies.

The Venereal Disease Clinic was opened in 1937. It offers a regular treatment plan to those persons infected with syphillis or gonorrhea. This treatment is available to any race. The clinic day for Negro males is on Wednesdays and for the Negro females on Thursdays. The venereal clinic is supported by funds derived from the city, state, and Federal governments. Both whites and Negroes are employed in the clinic services. Negroes are also employed in the divisions of nursing, dairy and food inspection, vital statistics, garbage collection and

sanitary inspection, dairy and food inspection and the isolation hospital.

The health work in the public and separate schools of the city is under the City Board of Education. In the white schools there are two physicians, one dentist and six nurses. In the Negro schools, one physician, one dentist and two nurses. The same services are rendered in both school divisions and consists of methods of control of communicable diseases, physical inspections, first aid, home visits, cooperation with health agencies, with civic and welfare groups, and the examination and supervision of the health of employees of the Board of Education. The dentists make dental examinations of all children in grades from the fourth through junior high school.

The Oklahoma County Welfare Board is a medical resource from the indigent poor. The Board operates on a $100,000 annual budget, obtained from tax funds, for hospitalization, medical service and welfare.

There is one Negro physician and one Negro dentist on the professional staff of the Board. The work of this board is under the supervision of the County Commissioners. Hospitalization is obtained upon recommendation of one of the county physicians after he has examined the patient at his office or in the home of the patient. Hospitalization is not limited to one hospital but may include any of a number of approved hospitals. The Board also gives medical care to the ill persons in the four homes, also supported by the funds.

Indigent persons suffering from tuberculosis are hospitalized in Campbells Sanatorium until they can be admitted to the State Sanatorium at Clinton. This is a function of the Welfare Board and the

county fund is used for this special hospitalization.

The Oklahoma Commission for Crippled Children was established in 1935 for the purpose of administering the provisions of the National Social Security Act in reference to services for the crippled child.

Of the 4,291 children who received benefits from hospitalization, 2,165 were admitted to the Crippled Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City. The total commitments from Oklahoma County were 519. These were not classified according to age, sex or race.

Oklahoma's first summer camp for crippled children was held at Camp Ione, near Oklahoma City in August, 1946. The Y. W. C. A. opened the camp's facilities free of charge and the Oklahoma County Chapter of the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis financed the major portion of the other camp expenses.

There are several private organizations that give some type of medical service or health education in the community. Among the longer established of these is the Oklahoma County Health Association, formerly the Tuberculosis Society of Oklahoma City. This society was established on January 29, 1918. On June 11, 1942 the Society adopted the present name and under wh ch it is incorporated. The Association maintains headquarters in the Variety Club Health Center in Oklahoma City. The Center is a thirty-two room brick building in which is housed the Tuberculosis, Children's Dental, Pre- and Post-natal, Well Baby and Pre-school, and Children's Eye Clinics.

The Tuberculosis Clinic was first established in 1918 and was located in the Provident Association Building. It was moved to St. Anthony's hospital in 1919 where it was maintained until 1941. The

services of the clinic are for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis. The facilities of the clinic include well equipped X-Ray and Laboratory departments. This clinic is open two half-days each week. Its service is available for white and Negro children and adults who are unable to pay for private medical and clinical care. The area of service is for residents of Oklahoma City and County.

The staff of the Tuberculosis Clinic consists of one full time nurse and two part time physicians.

The Dental Clinic was designed for children whose parents are unable to pay for private dental care. The service is for both white and Negro children. A limited number of adult patients are treated. No extensive dental care or dental surgery is available. The clinic operates five half days each week.

The Pre and Post natal Clinic is also supported by the Community Fund and the area of service is for mothers living in Oklahoma City and County. The Clinic serves both white and Negro mothers who are unable to pay for a private physician's care. In addition to the physical examination, all laboratory analyses are made as ordered by the physician, medicines are dispensed free and instructions in diet, physical and emotional care and child care are given. Health pamphlets furnished by the State Health Department are distributed. The staff consists of one full time nurse and a part time physician.

The Children's Eye Clinic was established in 1947 and serves the children of the city and county whose parents are unable to pay for private care. Both Negro and white children are served. The Clinic is open only one afternoon each week and appointments are made in advance.

The greater number of children admitted to the clinic are referred by the Medical Departments of the public schools. The Medical Clinics at the center served a total of 4,824 children and 2,448 adults for the fiscal year ending on October 31, 1947.

The Health Education Department conducts year-round programs on the prevention of tuberculosis, on general health, on nutrition and on other phases of health.

The Mobile X-Ray Clinic was opened in 1947. In the next eight months the clinic operated at 72 different locations in the city and county and made 43,888 miniature X-Ray films of chests of persons who came to the clinic locations.

The Speech and Hearing Department conducts classes for correction of speech defects and conducts lip-reading classes. A full time speech correctionist is employed. Appointments for individual conferences are made before admission to class work. The speech correctionists assist with audiometer hearing tests in the public schools. Many schools, including some of the Negro schools, have had the services of the audiometer tests. This service is free to all in need regardless of ability to pay. It is financed through the Community Chest and works closely with the Society for the Hard of Hearing. During the last fiscal year a total of 3,806 were served of whom more than half were children.

The Mother's Milk Bank located in the Variety Club Health Center is a private philanthropy and was established in 1944. The mothers who are the donors are paid a specified sum for each ounce of milk. At least ninety-five per cent of the donors are Negroes. Prospective

donors are given thorough and complete physical examinations at the University Hospital, and the babies are checked regularly at the Well Baby Clinic. During the last fiscal year the bank had an intake of 46,911 ounces of milk and dispensed 40,053 ounces upon physician's orders to premature and sick babies. The milk is sold, or given without charge to those unable to pay.

The Public Relations Department maintains a constant interpretative service in reference to the work of the various clinics and departments at the center and on general phases of health in an attempt to stimulate community consciousness through informational and educational channels.

A Negro Health Coordinator is in charge of the Negro health education work. He is a college graduate and specially trained in health activities. There is a special Negro health committee that assists in formulating policies and sponsoring programs for the Negroes. The purpose of the department is to promote better health, sanitary and social conditions among Negroes. The work is among organized groups and the separate schools to awaken interest in community betterment and to disseminate health information. This department sponsors the annual Negro health week, the annual essay contests and acts as health consultants for Langston University.

The Christmas Seal Sale Department is a year round activity leading up to the holiday mailing of over 50,000 letters to purchasers of seals which is the sole support of the tuberculosis clinic including the mobile X-Ray unit. During the last fiscal year the Oklahoma County Health Association realized $41,500.00 from the sale of the seals and

received $40,440.00 from the Community Chest budget for the work of the other departments.

There is no discrimination shown in the services offered at the center. There is a central waiting room for all races.

The Variety Club Health Center is owned by the Local Variety Club. The Club built the Center at a cost of $60,000.00 and dedicated it to the preservation of health in the community. The Club also provides the funds for the maintenance of the building. The Club also provides motion pictures and other types of entertainment for the Children's Hospital and children's wards in hospitals, crippled children's home and for other shut-ins.

A new health service was inaugurated in Oklahoma City in 1947 with the opening of the Mental Hygiene Clinic of the Oklahoma Committee for Mental Hygiene and sponsored by the American Business Club of Oklahoma City. The clinic is staffed by a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker and a secretary. These handle a case load of about 50 patients each month. The clinic is also being used as a teaching center in that at the present time graduate students in clinical psychology are getting practical experience in case work.

The Oklahoma City Society for the Hard of Hearing is an organization endeavoring to aid handicapped individuals through special speech classes, lip reading classes and aids in obtaining medical care when needed. It also assists in economic adjustments by referral to other agencies for job training and placement. It also serves as a social organization to assist individuals in making social contacts in an effort to overcome emotional maladjustments. The society gives service

to Negroes when requested but the social activities are closed to them.

The Oklahoma County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis renders special services to assist adult poliomyelitis cases in hospitalization and treatment at Warm Springs, Georgia and at Tuskegee Institute for Negroes. This service was designed for those ineligible for aid through the Oklahoma Crippled Children's Commission.

The Oklahoma City Safety Council is a Community Chest agency charged with the promotion and development of public safety within the city. It is classified as a health agency.

The need for the establishment of this agency was guaged on the traffic accidents within the city during the past seven years. The figures show that 6,186 persons were injured and 133 were killed in 40,561 traffic accidents within the city limits during this seven year period.

The County Medical Society for Negro physicians has twelve members. The purpose of this society is for fellowship and professional counseling. There are twenty-three Negro graduate nurses in Oklahoma City who are eligible and are members in the District Nurses Association. The District Association also has approximately four hundred white nurse members. Other Negro health workers in Oklahoma City are six dentists, four pharmacists, one health consultant and one health officer.

CHAPTER V

INTERPRETATIONS OF GENERAL TABULATIONS

The materials presented in this chapter were secured in the course of a survey of 100 Negro families in Oklahoma City. It is believed that the data gives a picture of living conditions in the large Negro residential district in Oklahoma City and provides a general description of the health problems of the area.

All of the data gathered was obtained through home visitation and an interview with an adult member of the family group who signified a willingness to answer the inquiries. The questionnaire method was used. The question relating to family heads showed that 76 per cent of the men and 24 per cent of the women were the heads of their households.

The occupations of these individuals are shown in Tables XVII and XVIII.

The average income of the persons in the various occupations show that the earnings for the Negro seem to be in harmony with the prevailing wage. The greatest variation in wages paid was in the laboring group. The lowest wage paid was $18.00 per week and the highest $62.50. The greater number fell within the $30.00 to $40.00 per week wage scale.

TABLE XVII

OCCUPATION AND AVERAGE INCOME - MALE

OCCUPATION	PER CENT	AVERAGE WEEKLY INCOME [1]
Common labor	28	$ 34.25
Porters	8	31.50
Cooks and Chefs	5	47.20
Truck Drivers and Trash Haulers	5	29.00
Pullman Porters	4	40.00*
Janitors	3	31.50
Mechanics	3	40.00
Carpenters	2	30.00
Butchers	2	31.00
Insurance Salesmen	2	37.50
Painters	2	40.00
Teachers	1	44.75
Realtor	1	75.00**
Detective	1	47.50
Service Station Attendant	1 (11 hr. day)	43.00
Waiter	1	20.00*
Aid to the Blind	1	45.00
War Veteran total disability	1	40.00
Groceryman	1	62.00**
Minister	1	25.00**
Old age Assistance	1	11.45
Retired on Savings	2	--
TOTAL	76%	

[1] Average weekly income was after all tax and other deductions were made or the take home pay.

*Plus tips.

**Varies (approximately).

TABLE XVIII

OCCUPATION AND AVERAGE INCOME - FEMALE

OCCUPATION	PER CENT	AVERAGE WEEKLY INCOME [1]
Domestic Service	5	$ 15.60
Supported by children (Ill health)	5	--
Independent income (Rentals	2	49.00
Old age assistance	2	11.45
Maid work (Hotels)	2	25.00
Clerks	2	20.00
Waitress	1	20.00*
Laundress	1	20.00
Teacher	1	37.50
Cook	1	25.00
Aid to Dependent Children	2	16.00
TOTAL	24	

[1]Average weekly income was after all tax and other deductions were made, or the take home pay.

*Plus tips.

TABLE XIX

AVERAGE AGE - MALE GROUP

AGE RANGE	NUMBER	PER CENT
20 to 30	11	14.4
30 to 40	21	28.9
40 to 50	21	28.9
50 to 60	12	15.7
60 to 65	4	05.2
65 and above	7	09.2

TABLE XX

AVERAGE AGE - FEMALE GROUP

AGE RANGE	NUMBER	PER CENT
20 to 30	2	08.3
30 to 40	5	20.8
40 to 50	5	20.8
50 to 60	7	28.8
60 to 65	3	12.5
65 and above	2	08.3

The trade and professional individual incomes seem to be commensurate with the prevailing income and salaries paid white persons. This also seems to be in keeping with aid to the blind, old age assistance and aid to dependent children.

The women who are heads of families do not rate as high as the men in that the wages or salaries are much lower. It is noted that the teacher in the female group had a salary $7.25 less thanthe male teacher. Both were teaching in the same school and had identical educational backgrounds. The waitress and the waiter had the same salary. The domestic service group showed a wide variation in wages. The lowest wage paid was $15.00 per week and the highest $25.00. In most every instance this included at least two meals during the working day.

There were twenty-one wives working either full time or part time to supplement the family income. Of these, fifteen were engaged in domestic or maid work, four did home laundry, one was a seamstress and one was a cateress.

It will be observed in tables XIX and XX that the male groups have the highest average in the 30 to 50 age range while the female highest average is in the 50 to 60 age range.

Table XXI shows that the greater number of adults included in this study are native Oklahomans; Texas is second in the list; Arkansas is third; Louisiana is fourth; Alabama is fifth; Mississippi is sixth; Tennessee is seventh; Kansas is eighth, with two persons; and Georgia, Ohio, and Missouri are last with one person each. The table also shows that the greater number, 170, are from eight of the southern states while there are only four from the three northern states.

TABLE XXI

NATIVE BIRTHPLACE

STATE	HUSBANDS	WIVES	WIDOWERS	WIDOWS	TOTAL
Alabama	5	4		1	10
Arkansas	7	8		1	16
Georgia		1			1
Kansas		1		1	2
Louisiana	5	4		2	11
Mississippi	6	1			7
Missouri		1			1
Ohio	1				1
Oklahoma	32	34		10	76
Tennessee	1	1	1		3
Texas	17	19	1	9	46
TOTALS	74	74	2	24	174

Table XXII shows the marital status of the group studied. Seventy-four per cent were married; twenty-four per cent were widows and two per cent were widowers. Of the seventy-four married couples, thirty-five, or 47.3 per cent, were married for the first time. Twenty-three, or 31.1 per cent, of the couples were both married for the second time. In this group of twenty-three couples, the causes of the dissolution of the marriage ties involved the death of eight husbands and eight wives and the divorce of fifteen husbands and fifteen wives. The factors leading to the divorces were not ascertained.

The remaining sixteen, or 21.6 per cent of couples, had single or multiple marriages. Of this group six husbands were married for the first time and six wives for the first time. Also five husbands for the second time and seven wives for the second time. Four of the men had been married for the third time and two of the women for the third time while one man had a fourth marriage. The two widowers had been married only once. Of the twenty-four widows, sixteen had married only once, seven had been married twice and one for the third time. The number of years that the seventy-four couples had been married varied greatly, the longest time being in the group with single marriages.

The educational background of these 174 persons ranged from the second grade to college degrees. (See tables XXIII, XXIV, and XXV).

It will be noted from the tabulations of educational achievements that in the male groups, eighteen did not reach the junior high school grades; eight completed the eighth grade; seventeen had one to three years of high school and thirteen completed high school. In the male group of the college classification, seven had from one to three

TABLE XXII

DISTRIBUTION OF MARRIAGES ACCORDING TO
YEARS AND NUMBER OF MARRIAGES

NO. OF YEARS	1st MARRIAGE FOR BOTH	2nd FOR BOTH	1st FOR HUSBAND	1st FOR WIFE	MULTIPLE MARRIAGES	TOTALS
1	1	2	1			4
2	2	4				6
3	1	3				4
4		1				1
5	2	1	1			4
6	1		1			2
7	1	1		1	2	5
8			1			1
9	3					3
10	2	5		2	1	10
11		1				1
12	1					1
13	1			1	1	3
14	2		1			3
15	1	1				2
17	1					1
18	1					1
19	1	2				3
20	2		1			3
22	1	1				2
23	2					2
24	1					1
25	1			1		2
26	1					1
27	1					1
32	2					2
35	1			1		2
37	2					2
38		1				1
TOTALS	35	23	6	6	4	74

TABLE XXIII

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Grades	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	College 1	2	3 Degree
Number of Males	2	1	6	5	4	4	8	6	7	4	13	1	3	3 9
Number of Females	3	2	4	11	5	17	7	10	8	19		1	1	4 6
Totals	2	4	8	9	15	9	25	13	17	12	32	2	4	7 15

TABLE XXIV

EDUCATION OF FAMILY HEADS ACCORDING TO AGE RANGE

AGE	GRADES												COLLEGE				
MALES	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		1 YR.	2 YRS.	3 YRS.	DEGREE	TOTAL
20 to 30			1			1	2		1	3			1	1			10
30 to 40					2	2	3	3	2	1	5		1	2	1		22
40 to 50			2	3	1	2	1	1	2	2	3		1		4		22
50 to 60		1	2		1		3		1		1				4		13
60 to 70	2		1	2				1			1	1					8
70 to 80							1										1
TOTALS	2	1	6	5	4	4	8	6	7	4	13	1	3	3	9		76

TABLE XXV

EDUCATION OF WIDOWS AND WIVES ACCORDING TO AGE RANGE

FEMALES	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1 YR	2 YRS.	3 YRS.	DEGREE	TOTAL
20 to 30				1	1	1	2	1	3	2	5			1	2	19
30 to 40				1	2	1	7	4	5	4	5			3	2	34
40 to 50		1			5	2	6	2	1	1	8	1	1		2	30
50 to 60		1	2	1	3	1	2		1		1					12
60 to 70		1		1					1							3
TOTALS		3	2	4	11	5	17	7	10	8	19	1	1	4	6	98

years and nine had completed college degrees. In the female group twenty did not reach junior high school status; seventeen completed the eighth grade; twenty-five had one to three years of high school and nineteen completed high school. In the female group of the college classification, six had from one to three years and six completed for college degrees.

The occupations of the nine males who had college degrees were minister, realtor, detective, high school instructor, groceryman, pullman porter, dining car porter, painter and janitor. The six female college graduates were engaged in the positions of high school instructor, grade school teacher, and clerk. Three were homemakers. The seven men who had not completed their college work were working in the following pursuits: mechanic, porter, waiter, janitor, labor, and trash hauling. One was a totally disabled war veteran. Four of the six women who were college undergraduates were housewives. The other two were working outside of the home.

One point of significance in the educational age range is that there seems to be a trend for the younger person to have more education than the older individual. To the inquiry in reference to remaining in school longer, the general replies were to the effect that: "I quit school to go to work. I got tired of school. I finished all of the grades offered in the local school."

Table XXVI shows the distribution of children by age and sex. There were two ex-service youths in this group who were participating in the government training program. One was completing his high school work and the other was taking training as an electrician. Three of the

TABLE XXVI

DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN BY AGE AND SEX

AGE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN			PER CENT		
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
One year and under	10	9	19	12.0	10.8	11.3
Two years	6	3	9	07.2	03.6	05.4
Three years	9	6	15	10.8	07.2	08.9
Four years	2	4	6	02.4	04.8	03.6
Five years	11	6	17	13.2	07.2	10.2
Six years	5	7	12	06.0	08.4	07.1
Seven years	5	2	7	06.0	02.4	04.1
Eight years	4	3	7	04.8	03.6	04.1
Nine years	5	4	9	06.0	04.8	05.4
Ten years	5	2	7	06.0	02.4	04.1
Eleven years	1	3	4	01.2	03.6	02.2
Twelve years	3	6	9	03.6	07.2	05.4
Thirteen years	4	6	10	04.8	07.2	06.0
Fourteen years	3	5	8	03.6	06.0	04.8
Fifteen years	0	2	2	00.0	02.4	01.2
Sixteen years	3	4	7	03.6	04.8	04.1
Seventeen years	0	5	5	00.0	06.0	03.0
Eighteen years	2	4	6	02.4	04.8	03.6
Nineteen years	2	2	4	02.4	02.4	02.4
Twenty years	3	1	4	03.6	01.2	02.4
Total	83	84	167	100.0	100.0	100.0

youths had quit school and were working as a janitor, laborer and porter. Six of the girls were no longer in school. Four were engaged in domestic work, one was a dishwasher in a cafe and the other a pantry helper.

The weekly earnings averaged 18.60 per week. The highest salary paid was $30.00 per week and the lowest was $12.00. Two of the young men were receiving government training on the job which means that they were paid while learning.

Table XXVIII shows the distribution of children according to age and grade in school. It reveals that the total number of children found in the homes between the ages of five and sixteen years were in school. Five of the children in the sixteen to eighteen year age group were working full time. The grades attained by these children were within normal educational standards. In 22 per cent of the homes there were no children in the home. These were in the older age brackets, the young married folk and the recently married older couples. Three per cent of the married couples had only adult children living in the home. There were six children in this group with ages ranging from twenty-three to thirty-oneyears. The widows, comprising about 10 per cent, had fifteen adult children in their homes ranging in age from twenty-two to fifty. The widowers, comprising two per cent, had two adult children, five under age children, and two grandchildren under school age in the home. Forty-nine per cent of married couples had a total of 130 children under school age and six children over the age of twenty-one.

There were twenty-four homes in which relatives lived. These individuals were fathers, mothers, nephews, nieces, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law. Most of these individuals were employed and contributed

TABLE XXVII

SEX, AGE, OCCUPATION AND WEEKLY EARNINGS OF MINORS

SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	WEEKLY EARNINGS
Female	16	Domestic	$15.00
Female	17	Pantry Helper	15.00
Female	18	Dish Washer	18.00
Female	18	Domestic	18.00
Female	19	Domestic	20.00
Male	18	Porter	18.00
Male	19	Janitor	30.00
Male	19	Ex-service High School[1]	12.00
Male	20	Ex-service - Electrician[1]	15.00
Male	20	Laborer	25.00

[1]United States Government Training.

TABLE XXVIII

DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN ACCORDING TO
AGE AND GRADE IN SCHOOL

AGE	GRADES												TOTAL
	KINDERGARTEN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
5	17													17
6		12												12
7			7											7
8			1	5	1									7
9			1	6	2									9
10					1	5	1							7
11						2	2							4
12						2	4	2	1					9
13							1	3	4	2				10
14							1	1	3	1	1	1		8
15										1	1			2
16											3	3		6
17											1	3		4
18													3	3
										TOTAL				105

their share to the household expenses. In the seven homes in which relatives were living, the arrangements were made because of the housing shortage.

Tables XXIX and XXX show the distribution of adult children in the homes by age, sex, occupations and weekly earnings. It will be noted that the ages of the twenty-two females ranged from twenty-one to fifty years. Of these eight were between twenty-five and thirty years and six were between thirty and fifty years of age. With one exception all were single individuals. Of this group, nine were engaged in domestic work, two were waitresses, two were clerks, two were college students, one was a presser, one was a bakers assistant, one was a metal worker, one was a cook, one was unemployed and one was a part owner in a business establishment. The highest weekly wage was $37.50, the lowest $16.00, and the average $23.75. The ages of the nine adult males in the homes ranged from twenty-one to fifty years. Three were under twenty-five years, two were under thirty, and four were over thirty years.

With one exception all were single. The occupations are varied. Four were laborers, one was a grocery clerk, one was an electrician, one was a movie projectionist, one was a recreational director and one was a part owner of a business establishment. The highest weekly wage was $40.00, the lowest $20.00 and the average $30.00. The significant point in the comparison of the weekly earnings of the male and female groups is that the average wage of the male group is $6.85 higher than the female group.

The study revealed that there were thirty-four persons rooming

TABLE XXIX

DISTRIBUTION OF FEMALE ADULT CHILDREN BY AGE, SEX, WEEKLY EARNINGS AND OCCUPATIONS

AGE	WEEKLY EARNINGS	OCCUPATION
21	$ 16.00[1]	Waitress
21	18.00	Store Clerk
21	--[2]	College Student
22	---	Unemployed
22	--	College Student
23	24.00	Domestic
24	25.00	Cook
24	18.00	Waitress
25	25.00	Domestic
25	20.00	Domestic
25	20.00	Store Clerk
25	22.00	Domestic
25	24.00	Domestic
25	20.00	Domestic
27	36.00	Cook
28	27.50	Baker's Assistant
30	30.00	Presser
37	22.00	Domestic
40	22.00	Domestic
45	37.50[3]	Metal Work
47	20.00	Domestic
50	---	Part owner - Cleaners and Pressers.

[1]Plus tips and meals.
[2]At home during summer.
[3]Tinker Field employee.

TABLE XXX

DISTRIBUTION OF MALE ADULT CHILDREN BY AGE, WEEKLY EARNINGS AND OCCUPATIONS

AGE	WEEKLY EARNINGS	OCCUPATION
21	$ 20.00	Laborer
22	25.00[1]	Grocery Clerk
22	30.00	Railroad laborer
27	24.00	Laborer
28	30.00	Recreational director
30	40.00	Electrician
31	35.00	Movie projectionist
34	40.00[2]	Laborer
50	--	Part owner-Cleaners and Pressers

[1] Plus groceries at cost.
[2] Employed at Tinker Field.

in the one hundred homes studied. All were employed and no difficulty was revealed in the collection of room rents. These thirty-four roomers were found in fifteen different homes.

The investigation as to home ownership showed that 40 per cent owned their homes and that 42.5 per cent of the home owners had mortgages on their property. All of the rental homes were rented unfurnished. The amount of rent paid varied in accordance with location, the physical condition of the home and to government rental ceiling. Table XXXI shows the monthly rentals paid on 60 of the homes. The rental on the one-room home was $11.00. The rental on the two-room homes ranged from $10.00 to $20.00. The rental on the three-room dwellings ranged from $10.00 to $35.00, and on the four-room dwellings from $12.00 to $50.00. Rentals on the five-room dwellings ranged from $11.00 to $35.00, and from $15.00 to $25.00 on the six-room dwellings.

The one hundred homes visited were all of frame construction. Other types of building material were used for construction of homes in the area but the frame construction was found more frequently.

Table XXXII shows the number of rooms, doors, windows, beds and chairs in the one hundred homes.

The Table also shows that:

1.0% have one door in the home
3.0% have three doors
7.0% have four doors
16.0% have five doors
18.0% have six doors
16.0% have seven doors
8.0% have eight doors
10.0% have nine doors
11.0% have ten doors
3.0% have eleven doors
6.0% have twelve doors
1.0% have twenty doors.

TABLE XXXI

RENTALS PAID ON ONE HUNDRED HOMES

AMOUNT	ONE ROOM	TWO ROOMS	THREE ROOMS	FOUR ROOMS	FIVE ROOMS	SIX ROOMS	TOTAL
$10.00		1	1				2
11.00	1				1		2
12.00			3	1	1		5
14.00		1	2	2			5
15.00				1	1	1	3
16.00			2	1			3
17.00			1	2			3
18.00					2		2
20.00		1	2	4	2	1	10
22.00			6	2			8
25.00			2	2	3		7
27.00			1	1	2		4
30.00			1				1
32.00				1			1
35.00			2		1		3
50.00				1			1
						TOTAL	60

TABLE XXXII

NUMBER OF ROOMS, DOORS, WINDOWS, BEDS AND CHAIRS

	NUMBER OF FAMILIES				
NUMBER	ROOMS	DOORS	WINDOWS	BEDS	CHAIRS
1	1	1		11	
2	3		1	30	
3	27	3		35	
4	23	7	2	14	
5	24	16	1	9	
6	15	18	10		7
7	2	16	3	1	4
8	3	8	17		13
9	1	10	8		6
10	1	11	15		17
11		3	2		2
12		6	13		17
13					
14			10		9
15			3		11
16			3		5
17			2		
18			4		7
19			2		
20		1	2		1
21					
22			1		
23					
24					1
25					
26			1		

Also that:

1.0% have two windows
2.0% have four windows
1.0% have five windows
10.0% have six windows
3.0% have seven windows
17.0% have eight windows
8.0% have nine windows
15.0% have ten windows
2.0% have eleven windows
13.0% have twelve windows
10.0% have fourteen windows
3.0% have fifteen windows
3.0% have sixteen windows
2.0% have seventeen windows
4.0% have eighteen windows
2.0% have nineteen windows
2.0% have twenty windows
1.0% have twenty-one windows
1.0% have twenty-six windows

The per cent and the distribution of chairs in the one hundred homes are as follows:

7.0% have six chairs
4.0% have seven chairs
13.0% have eight chairs
6.0% have nine chairs
17.0% have ten chairs
2.0% have eleven chairs
17.0% have twelve chairs
9.0% have fourteen chairs
11.0% have fifteen chairs
5.0% have sixteen chairs
7.0% have eighteen chairs
1.0% have twenty chairs
1.0% have twenty-four chairs.

All of the outside doors and windows in these one hundred homes had screens and screen doors. Thirty-three per cent of the homes needed repairs on either the windows or door screen or both. A study of the phsycial condition of the houses in which these people lived revealed the fact that only 54. per cent were in good condition. Thirty-three per cent were in fair condition, while 7.0 per cent were in definite

need of repair, and 6.0 per cent were in need of rebuilding.

Twenty-three per cent of the families were using the living room and dining room for bedrooms. This fact indicates an overcrowded condition. Only thirty-nine per cent of the homes had separate dining room and kitchen facilities. The types of furnishings were classified into good, fair and poor. Fifty-one per cent of the homes had good furnishings, 29 per cent fair, and 20 per cent were poorly furnished. Under the classification of good furnishings the study revealed that the living room furniture was upholstered and in excellent condition. Also good taste was shown in the selection with reference to color, durability and arrangement.

With reference to the type of housekeeping it was found that 50 per cent of the dwellings were kept in a very neat condition, 31 per cent were neat and 10 per cent were dirty. It should be stated, however, that the dirty homes were also in need of repair. Perhaps an element of discouragement entered into the situation. It was found that 60 per cent of the floors were in a good state of repair, 25 per cent were fair and 15 per cent were in poor condition. The 25 per cent that were in fair condition were floors with well laid linoleum rugs. The sixty per cent that were in good condition were floors of wood construction.

Table XXXIII is a study of the bath and toilet facilities found among the one hundred families. It shows that 74 per cent of the families had modern toilet and bath facilities and 14 per cent had out-door flush type toilets and no modern bathing facilities, while the remaining 12 per cent had out-door pit toilets and no bathing facilities.

The area in which the pit toilets were found is located in the

TABLE XXXIII

BATH AND TOILET FACILITIES FOR ONE HUNDRED FAMILIES

NO. OF PERSONS USING	MODERN BATH AND TOILET	OUTDOOR FLUSH TYPE	OUTDOOR PIT TYPE
2	15	3	2
3	17	4	2
4	16		1
5	11	3	3
6	4	1	2
7	2	1	
8	1	1	
9	3		1
10	3		
11	1		
12	1	1	1
TOTAL	74	14	12

southeast corner of the area. Sewer lines have not been extended to this area even though the people living in the area have requested it.

Only four of the families visited in this area were tenants. The other eight were home owners. Piped water is avialable in this area, and facilities for electric lights. It was also in this area that garbage service is not provided. The streets in the area are not paved.

Table XXXIV shows that 97 per cent of the families used electricity for lighting purposes and only 3 per cent used kerosene lamps. Water was piped into the homes of 78 per cent, 19 per cent had hydrants in the yards and 3 per cent carried water less than 150 feet from adjacent yards. Gas was used for cooking and heating purposes in 98.0 per cent of the homes and only 2.0 per cent used wood for fuel. The city garbage service is available for 76.0 per cent of the families and 24.0 per cent either burn or haul their own.

Telephone service was installed in 73.0 per cent of the homes and 27.0 per cent had no telephones in their homes.

It was found that the light rates averaged about the same for the summer and winter months. The water rates were slightly higher during the summer months. The gas rates were four or more times higher during the winter months than during the summer when gas was used only for cooking and hot water tanks. The garbage rates were constant.

Table XXXV shows that 88.0 per cent of the homes had the facilities of a porch, 90.0 per cent had yards and 40.0 per cent had gardens. Most of the gardens were for vegetables but many were for both vegetables and flowers. It was also found that 25.0 per cent of the families had their own chickens which produced eggs and meat for

TABLE XXXIV

LIGHTING, WATER, HEATING, GARBAGE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES OF 100 FAMILIES.

FACILITIES	PER CENT OF FAMILIES
Lights:	
Electric	97
Kerosene	3
Water:	
Piped into house	78
Hydrant in yard	19
Carried less than 150 feet	3
Heating:	
Gas	98
Wood	2
Garbage Service:	
City	76
Burn and haul	24
Phones	73

TABLE XXXV

NUMBER OF PORCHES, YARDS, GARDENS
CHICKENS, TRUCKS, TEAMS

	NUMBER OF HOMES
Porches	88
Yards	90
Gardens	40
Own Chickens	25
Own Wagon and Team	3
Own Automobile	15
Own Trucks	5

their tables.

Automobiles were owned by 15.0 per cent of the families, 5.0 per cent owned trucks and 3.0 per cent owned wagons and teams. The individuals owning trucks, teams and wagons used them to assist in making a livelihood.

The city bus service served the area for transportation in the event there was no family car or other means of travel.

The information concerning musical instruments, refrigerators, sewing and washing machines is shown in Table XXXVI. It is interesting to note that 92.0 per cent of the households had radios. Of these, 67.4 per cent were cabinet models and 32.6 per cent were portable radios.

Twenty-two per cent of the families owned pianos. Electric refrigerators were owned by 48.0 per cent, ice boxes by 38.0 per cent, vacuum cleaners by 59.0 per cent, sewing machines by 58.0 per cent and washing machines by 65.0 per cent of the families. A study of this table would indicate that the Negro is fond of music. At the time of home visitation it was interesting to note that the radios were generally being played. Very few were turned off during the interview. It was also noted that the radios were tuned on at high volume.

The table also reveals that 86.0 per cent of the families owned some type of refrigeration. The other 14.0 per cent were living in areas where ice was not delivered. These families did not live near an ice dock.

The number of washing machines would indicate that most of the laundry is done in the home. The number using wash tubs and boards

TABLE XXXVI

REFRIGERATORS, RADIOS, PIANOS, VACUUM CLEANERS, WASHING AND SEWING MACHINES

ARTICLE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS
Radios	92
Pianos	22
Electric Refrigerators	48
Ice Boxes	38
Vacuum Cleaners	59
Sewing Machines	58
Washing Machines	65

was not ascertained. The number of vacuum cleaners would indicate that the Negro makes use of labor saving devices when possible.

The distances from the place of employment, church and park or recreational facilities are shown in Table XXXVII. A study of this table shows that all families had church and recreational facilities less than one mile from their homes.

The distance to the place of employment of some member of the household varied from one mile to more than five miles. Of these, 26.0 per cent were employed less than one mile from home, 20.0 per cent two miles, 20.0 per cent three miles, 14.0 per cent four miles and 20.0 per cent more than five miles. Those employed four or more miles from home were engaged in labor on building construction or were employed at the Oklahoma City Air Materiel Area at Tinker Air Force Base.

The types of recreation engaged in by these individuals varied according to the age groups. The children made use of the park recreational programs and the school playgrounds. The older youth attended movies and supervised play activities while the older folk, especially the women, preferred church and club activities. The greater number of the men enjoyed fishing and hunting in season.

The average monthly amount spent for food, clothing and incidentals in accordance with the number in the family groups were as follows:

	Food	Clothing	Incidentals
Two member family	$ 25.00	$10.00	$ 6.00
Three member family	34.00	15.00	7.00
Four member family	40.00	20.00	10.00
Five member family	48.00	20.00	11.00
Six member family	55.00	22.00	12.00
Seven member family	59.00	22.00	12.00

TABLE XXXVII

Distrance Traveled to Work, Church and Recreational Areas

	Number of families				
	Less than one mile	Less than two miles	Less than three	Less than four	Five or more
Mileage to work	26	20	20	14	20
Mileage to church	100				
Mileage to recreation	100				

	Food	Clothing	Incidentals
Eight member family	$66.00	$28.00	$15.00
Nine member family	75.00	32.00	16.00
Ten member family	88.00	40.00	20.00
Eleven member family	100.00	42.00	22.00
Twelve member family	115.00	50.00	25.00

All of the housewives interviewed deplored the high cost of food and clothing. Most of them stated that it took every cent they made to provide essentials for their families and that they were unable to save anything for emergencies, medical or dental care. Many in two and three person families stated that they had to rely on some of their savings made in former years. In the larger family groups it was found that more than one member of the family was working. It was noted that all families bought bottled pasteurized milk or canned milk for their families.

With reference to the monthly amount spent for drugs, medical and dental care, it was found that an average of $2.00 per month was spent for drugs. Most of the drugs purchased were aspirin, cough syrups, laxatives, and a few prescriptions.

The tabulations relative to the health status of family heads showed that of the 78 males, 63 were in good health. Of the fifteen who had complaints, ten were in fair health and were working. The diagnoses included: two with hypertension, two with hernias, one diabetic, two with varicose veins, and two non-total disabled World War I veterans. These ten males were over fifty years of age. Of the remaining five, three had hypertension and were over sixty-five years of age and were drawing old age assistance. One was totally blind and receiving aid to the blind. The other was a World War I veteran who

had been hospitalized recently and had not returned to work. Of the twenty-four females who were the heads of families, eighteen were in good health. Six had complaints. Of these, two had slight hypertension, two arthritic conditions, one a stomach disorder and the other recent surgery for fibroid tumors.

Table XXXVIII shows the number of families and the cost of medical, dental, and hospital care during a one year period of 1946-1947. The tabulation reveals that eight of the one hundred families had dental costs not exceeding $10.00; one had dental expenses between $10.00 and $20.00; two had dental expenses between $20.00 and $30.00; and one between the figures of $30.00 and $40.00. The other 88 families did not have dental care, even though five of the 88 needed but could not afford such care.

Thirty-seven of the one hundred families had some type of medical care during the same year. There were eleven who paid amounts between $1.00 and $10.00; three paid between the amounts of $10.00 and $20.00; seven paid between the amounts of $20.00 and $30.00; two paid between $30.00 and $40.00; three paid between $40.00 and $50.00; five paid between $50.00 and $60.00; two paid between $60.00 and $70.00. One each paid between $70.00 and $80.00; $90.00 and $100.00; $100.00 and $110.00; $130.00 and $140.00; $160.00 and $170.00; and $170.00 and $180.00.

Of the five persons who required hospitalization, two paid hospital costs between $20.00 and $30.00, one between $30.00 and $40.00, one between $50.00 and $60.00 and one between $70.00 and $80.00.

The persons who required medical care in the group were 15

TABLE XXXVIII

COSTS OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL CARE AND
HOSPITALIZATION - ONE YEAR - 1946-1947

	Number of Families		
Amounts	Dental	Medical	Hospital
$1.00 to $10.00	8	11	
$10.00 to $20.00	1	3	
$20.00 to $30.00	2	7	2
$30.00 to $40.00	1	2	1
$40.00 to $50.00		1	
$50.00 to $60.00		5	1
$60.00 to $70.00		2	
$70.00 to $80.00		1	1
$90.00 to $100.00		1	
$100.00 to $110.00		1	
$130.00 to $140.00		1	
$160.00 to $170.00		1	
$170.00 to $180.00		1	

fathers, 25 mothers and 12 children. Of these, 37 were treated in the physician's office, 10 were treated in the home, and 5 were treated in hospitals. The bread winners in this group lost a total of 123 days from work because of illness. The reasons for hospitalization were kidney stone, infected eye, hernia, pneumonia and fibroid tumor. Three of these individuals had surgical operations. Twenty-three of the one hundred families had never had any illness in their families, at any time, that required medical attention.

The past illness of breadwinners previous to 1945, fall into the following diagnoses; tumors, kidney stones, pneumonia, meningitis, asthma, hernia, rheumatism, hypertension, typhoid fever and diabetes. Seventy-seven of the breadwinners in the group had never had any illness that required medical care.

Three children of the group studied were admitted to Crippled Children's Hospital during the year 1946-1947. Two were hospitalized for pneumonia and the other for enlarged thymus. These children were hospitalized and received medical and nursing care at state expense.

Eleven mothers of the group studied received prenatal care at the Maternity Clinic and were admitted to University Hospital for confinement and postpartum care. This also was at state expense. Three of the adults in the group studied were attending the out patient clinics at University Hospital for the treatment of hypertension, arthritis and diabetes.

Twenty-five of the babies under two years of age were visiting the well baby clinics in the city. One child is being treated for follow-up on poliomyelitis, in the out patient department at Children's

Hospital. One tuberculous individual is receiving post sanatorium care at the clinic located in the Variety Health Center. Two veterans of WorldWar I and two of World War II were hospitalized during the year for service connected disabilities.

All of the domestic and food handlers received their blood tests at the City-County Clinic at no cost to the individual.

Table XXXIX shows the number of parents and children that have been vaccinated and immunized against communicable diseases. The total number of fathers, mothers, and children (both under and over age) who were living in homes was 363 persons. Of these 316 or 87.0 per cent were vaccinated against smallpox. It was found that fifteen of the adults had smallpox. This was in the older age brackets or persons over the age of sixty years.

A total of 189 or 52.0 per cent of persons were immunized against typhoid fever. It was also found that five adults had typhoid fever at some time during their lives.

The total number of children in the homes was 189 or both under and over the age of twenty-one years. Of these 155 or 82.0 per cent had been immunized against diphtheria. There were a total of 101 children under ten years of age. Of these 44 or 43.5 per cent were immunized against pertussis and 42 or 41.5 per cent against tetanus.

No history of mental diseases, mental deficiencies or epilepsy was found among the one hundred families. Eighty-six per cent of the families were clean and clothing was good. Eight per cent were clean but clothing was ragged.

Six per cent of the families did not have good clothing.

TABLE XXXIX

VACCINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS

AGAINST COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Disease	Fathers	Mothers	Children	Total	Per Cent
Smallpox	78	75	163	316	87.0
Typhoid Fever	44	38	107	189	52.0
Diphtheria			155	155	82.0
Pertussis			44	44	43.5
Tetanus			42	42	41.5

*Percentage based on number in age groups.

In the matter of insurance, it was found that 93.0 of the one hundred families carried some type of insurance, either life, sick benefit, or burial.

The study revealed that life insurance was carried in 87 families. Sick benefit in 82 families and burial expenses by 39 families. Thirty families carried all three types of insurance.

An effort was made to ascertain the monthly premiums on these policies but the interviewee in most instances did not know because the husbands or fathers looked after that part of the family affairs. When the amount could be ascertained, with any degree of accuracy, the premiums paid for burial expenses was .50 cents per month. The sick benefit premium varied from $1.00 to $10.00 per month depending upon the amount to be paid by the insurors, and the type of sickness that was covered.

The premiums of life insurance also varied greatly depending upon the company writing the insurance, the amount carried, and if it was for a single individual or a group type of policy. The amounts paid varied from $6.00 to $43.00 per month.

From the data gathered it would appear that Negroes invest heavily on life and sick benefit insurance to the extent that it is a must in their affairs of living.

Sixty-four of the homes visited were located in desirable neighborhoods and thirty-six were located in undesirable neighborhoods. Seven dwellings were in deteriorated areas near the business districts, ten were in deteriorated residential districts with oil wells on the pump in back yards, ten were near the railway yards and pumping oil

TABLE XL

INSURANCE CARRIED - ONE HUNDRED FAMILIES

Type of Insurance	Number of families
Life Insurance	87
Sick Benefit	82
Burial	39

TABLE XLI

Religious Affiliations of Family Heads by Sex

Denomination	Male	Female	Total
Baptist	42	12	54
Methodist	17	4	21
Church of God	10	4	14
Episcopalian	1	2	3
Catholic	2	0	2
Christian	1	1	2
Congregational	1	1	2
Seventh Day Adventist	1	0	1
Christian Science	1	0	1
Totals	76	24	100

wells, and nine were near the railway yards, pumping oil wells, and an oil refinery and pump station that was in operation twenty-four hours of the day. Some of the residents in this area stated that they had become accustomed to the noise. All of the homes located in these deteriorated areas were south of Northeast Fourth Street with the exception of the eighteenth and nineteenth hundred blocks on Northeast Fifth and Sixth Streets. Proper housing in these areas is quite a problem even though many are home owners. There are no business restrictions in reference to noise producing industries.

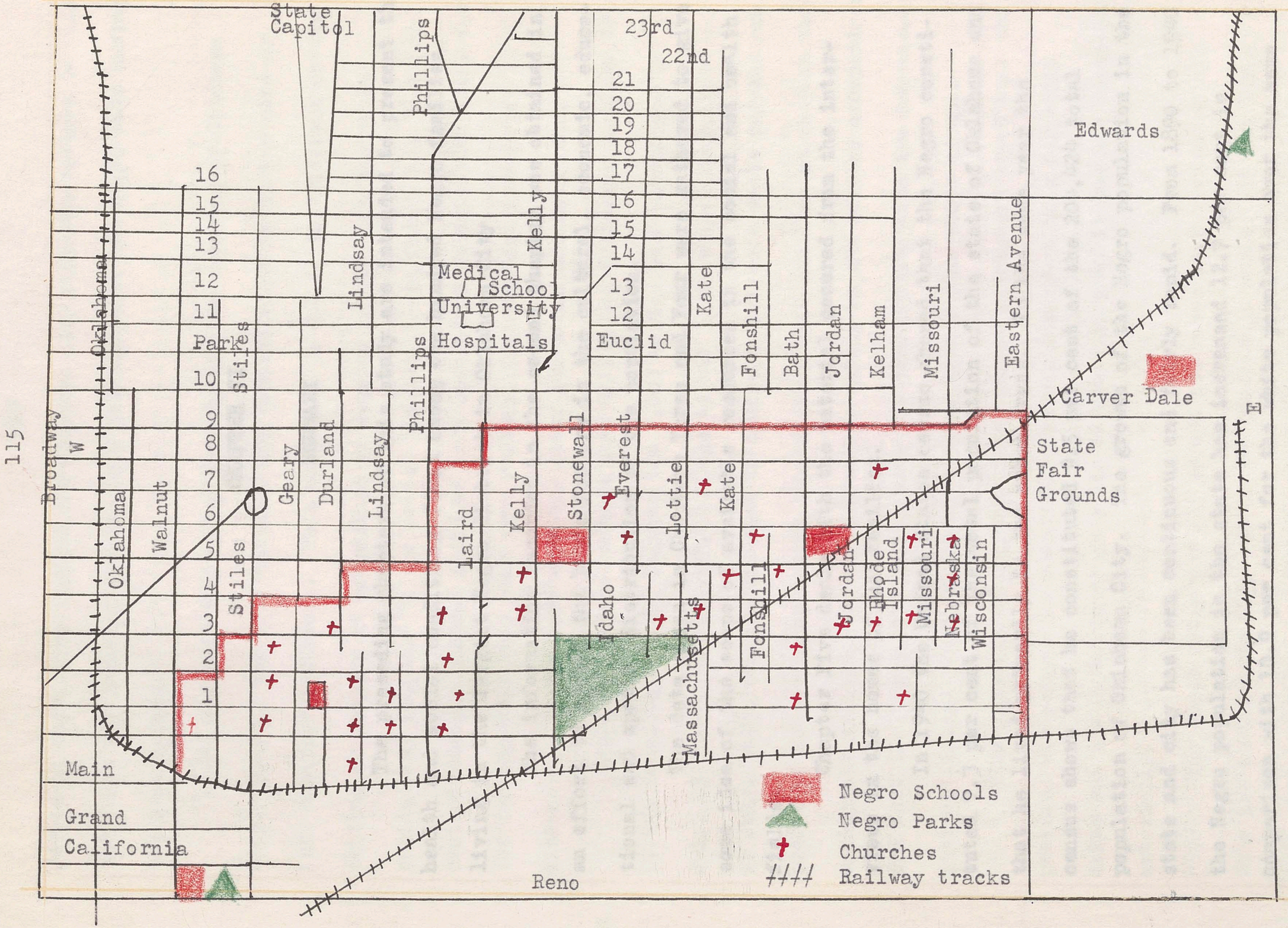
Table XLI shows the religious affiliation of family heads. The table reveals that 54.0 per cent were Baptist, 21.0 per cent were Methodist, 14.0 per cent attended the Church of God, 3.0 per cent were Episcopalian, 2.0 per cent were Catholic, 2.0 per cent were Congregationalists, 1.0 per cent Seventh Day Adventist and 1.0 per cent Christian Scientist. It is readily seen that the Baptist and Methodist Churches had the greater number of members.

Data relative to social and fraternal membership revealed that very few of the family heads or their wives belonged to any fraternal orders. Among the seventy-eight men who were the heads of their families only six belonged to the Masonic Order, one to the Modern Woodmen, two to the American Legion, one to the National Association of Colored People, and one to a college fraternity.

In the group of 98 women who were wives or widows, two belonged to the Daughters of Isis, two to Federated Women's Clubs and one each to the Business and Professional Women's Club, a college sorority and a social sorority. The greater number of Negro adults interviewed

stated that they preferred the social activities of their church affiliation to any other.

N


State Capitol
Phillips
23rd
22nd
21
20
19
18
17
16
15
14
13
12
Kelly
Medical School
University Hospitals
Euclid
Kate
Fonshill
Bath
Jordan
Kelham
Missouri
Eastern Avenue
Edwards
Carver Dale
State Fair Grounds
Broadway W
Oklahoma
Walnut
Stiles
Geary
Durland
Lindsay
Laird
Stonewall
Everett
Lottie
Idaho
Massachusetts
Rhode Island
Nebraska
Wisconsin
Parks
Main
Grand
California
Reno
Negro Schools
Negro Parks
Churches
Railway tracks

S

CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY

The preceding chapters of this study are intended to present the health and social conditions found among one hundred Negro families living in the largest Negro district in Oklahoma City.

The information recorded in the second chapter was obtained in an effort to reveal the basic factors in the cultural, economic, educational and spatial distribution of the population.

The data given in Chapters Three and Four were gathered to give some idea of the scope of available resources in the social and health fields.

Chapter Five deals with the material secured from the interviews in the homes of 100 families.

In 1940 the United States census showed that the Negro constituted 7.3 per cent of the total population of the state of Oklahoma and that he lived primarily in the urban areas. In the same year the census shows that he constituted 9.5 per cent of the 204,424 total population of Oklahoma City. The growth of the Negro population in the state and city has been continuous and fairly rapid. From 1890 to 1940 the Negro population in the state has increased 12.7 per cent in comparison with 10.9 per cent for the white population over the same

period of time. The figures for Oklahoma City show the reverse in that the white population increased 02.0 per cent over the Negro rate during the same period.

The Negro is segregated largely in five sections of Oklahoma City. Four of the five sections are considered to be in the more or less deteriorated areas. This condition is due to restrictions on the selling or leasing of properties to Negroes in the more desirable residential tracts. In the sector studied it was found that 36.0 per cent of the one hundred families were located in deteriorated areas for the reasons that they were near railway, business and industrial districts. In the same sections sewer lines had not been laid.

Employment was at a high peak during and following World War II. It was found that 1,200 Negroes and 6,000 whites were unemployed in July, 1947 as compared with 300 Negroes and 3,000 whites unemployed as of July, 1946. This would seem to indicate that more white persons are preferred in the labor market than Negroes. It was also shown that the employment available to Negroes was primarily in the service occupations and that the wages or salaries were not commensurate with the increased cost of living. This, perhaps, is also true in the white groups.

The juvenile delinquency rates showed a downward trend over the previous war years. No comparable figures were available for adult crime but the authorities gave the information that it has not decreased materially.

The death rates for all groups and races have reached an all time low in Oklahoma City and in the state as a whole. It was found that more individuals, especially mothers and babies were being

provided with better medical care and that hospitalization was more frequently used. It was found that the Oklahoma City mothers and babies had better medical care than those of the state at large.

The greater number of Negro deaths were due to degenerative diseases of the heart, cerebral hemorrhage including embolism and thrombosis and the congenital malformations peculiar to the first year of life.

Tuberculosis still remains high as a cause of death in the Negro race. The rate for the Negro and white has been greatly lowered in recent years but the Negro rate still remains about three times higher than the white rate. Pneumonia as a cause of death has been greatly reduced in both races in recent years due to improved treatment and new drugs.

The communicable disease death rate is quite low, due primarily to public health measures of immunization and health education. The morbidity rate of the venereal diseases is very high among both races. The segment of the population having the higher rate of diagnoses is found among those of moral degeneracy as shown from police records. The total number of individuals having these diseases in Oklahoma County was 6,286 for the year 1946 as reported to the State Department of Health. Of this number 1,513 or 24.0 per cent were forced by City Ordinance to receive treatment at the Rapid Treatment Center.

The annual reports of the public agencies and Community Fund agencies showed that the Negro received care on the same basis as whites. The activities of many of these agencies seemed to overlap. At the same time there were many unfilled gaps in the service for both groups.

A number of the private agencies gave similar service. Some did not serve Negroes. Others were unwilling to serve Negroes in the same manner as whites, but due to a lack of institutional facilities and the state law of segregation, were unable to care for Negroes. However, they made arrangements for care in private homes or other facilities.

The medical resources available to the Negroes showed comparable facilities in the Federal field. On the state and county levels there were deficiencies in comparable hospital facilities. However, this has been greatly improved since the opening of the Negro wing at the University Hospital, and through provisions for the care of the tuberculous at Campbell's Private Sanatorium from county funds.

The dedication and opening of the new Edwards Memorial Hospital for Negroes with a capacity of 105 will facilitate in the solving of this great social problem for the local community.

The analysis of the general tabulations of the data showed that a great per cent of the Negro population in this section of the city were in need of improved housing, extension of sewer lines, a better location for home building or an extension of the segregated area, greater employment opportunities, and improvement in medical and social services.

The local chapter of the Urban League, the various civic organizations of both races, and the different church sects are helping to create a better understanding of the needs of the Negro and are assisting in the search for a more stable order for all citizens. This is an educational program and it will be time consuming because of the

slowness with which the attitudes of a people are changed.

APPENDIX

SCHEDULE

Address_____Date_____No.

	Age last Birthday	Birth-place	Sex	Education Grade	Occupation	Health
Father						
Mother						
Children: 1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						

No. of years married _____No of marriages____Man ____Woman_____

Others in Household: Relationship to Father

1.
2.
3.
4.

Home owner_____Rent_____Other_____ Furnished_____Unfurnished_____

Type of home: Frame_____Brick_____Stone_____Cement_____Other_____

No. of rooms_____No. of doors_____No. of windows_____Screens___

Modern_____Bath room_____Tub_____Showers_____Persons Using_____

No of bedrooms_____No of beds_____No of persons using_____

No of other rooms_____Dining room and kitchen separate_____

SCHEDULE Continued

Type of furnishings - Good_____Fair_____Poor____No of chairs_____

Radio cabinet_____Radio portable _____Piano_____Ice Box_____

Frigidaire_____Sewing Machine_____Washing Machine_____

Housekeeping-Tidy____Neat_____Dirty_____Porch___Yard___Garden____

Cond. of floor_____Swept_____Scrubbed_____Vac.Cleaned rugs_____

Cond of Screens - Good____In holes_____ None_____

Source of water supply - City_____Cistern_____Well-dug__Drilled___

Milk supply - Dairy_____Raw____Pasteurized____Cow____TB tested_____

Income (weekly) Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Type of work: Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Distance from work_____Mode of transportation_____

Owns Car_____Owns team_____

Average Expenses per month: Rent_____Light_____Gas_____

Water_____Garbage_____Phone_____

Amount spent for: Food_____Clothing_____Incidentals_____

Drugs_____Medical Care_____Dental care_____

Insurance: Monthly amount_____Type: Life___Sick Benefit___Burial___

Work Record: No of Days lost from work, due to illness.

Father_____Mother_____Children_____Cause____Month_____

Hospitalization: Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Ill at home: Father_____Mother_____Children_____

No. Visits to clinics: Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Clinics visited: Tax supported_____Other_____

Medical Expenses paid by whom: Amount_____By_____

Amount for hospitalization_____Clinic_____Physician_____

SCHEDULE Continued

Dentist_____Druggist_____Other_____

Past illnesses of breadwinner: List:_____

_____

_____

Members of family: Clean_____Dirty_____

Clothing: Good_____Fair_____Poor (Ragged)_____

Physical Examinations this year:

Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Vaccination for smallpox: Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Typhoid immunization: Father_____Mother_____Children_____

Children Immunized for: Diphtheria_____Pertussis_____Tetanus____

Mental disease in family: Type_____Which member_____

Mentally deficient_____Which Member_____Epilepsy_____Member____

Social: Club members_____Name of Club_____

Church members_____Sect_____

Type of recreation: Park_____Sports_____Name_____

Movies_____Name of others_____

Distance from Park_____Distance from Church_____

Type of neighborhood: Desirable_____Undesirable_____

Give reason if undesirable_____

If multiple living units give: Families of dwelling_____No of Rooms___

Average number of persons per unit_____

N

DEER CREEK | EDMOND | LINCOLN | DEEP FORK | LUTHER

Edmond

Arcadia

Luther

SPRING CREEK | BRITTON | HARTZELL | SPRINGER | DEWEY

May

W. Hills

Nichols

Britton

Jones

W

E

COUNCIL GROVE | CHOCTAW (Green Pastures) | ELK

Oklahoma

CRUTCHO

Bethany

23rd

Meridian

Choctaw

Nicoma Park

Reno

Harrah

Okla. City

Reno

MacArthur

Ash

29th

Midwest City

44th

Grand Blvd

MUSTANG

GREELEY

CASS

POTTAWATOMIE

BOONE

Wheatland

Newalla

May

Santa Fe

High

Foundry

S

OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLA.

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