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## The Standard of Living of Farm and Village Families in Six South Dakota Counties, 1935

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# The Standard of Living of Farm and Village Families in Six South Dakota Counties, 1935

W. F. Kumlien, Charles P. Loomis, Zetta E. Bankert,  
Edmund deS. Brunner, Robert L. MacNamara

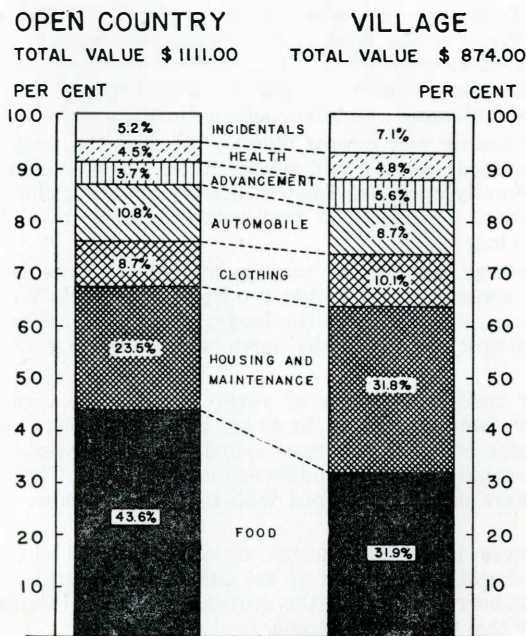


Fig. 1.—Distribution of comparative living expenses of selected farm and village families in South Dakota, 1935

Agricultural Experiment Station, South Dakota State College  
of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Brookings, South Dakota  
Cooperating with Social Research Division, Works  
Progress Administration; and Social Research Section  
of the Farm Security Administration and Bureau of  
Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A.

## Digest

1. This study was based on data obtained from 25 sample areas within six South Dakota counties, typifying respectively six different sections of the State.

2. With rising incomes the proportions spent for food, housing and maintenance decreased while the proportions spent for automobiles, health, and advancement increased. There was least change in the proportions spent for clothing and incidentals.

3. As might be expected, more of the family living was produced directly in the open-country than in the village. The open-country families used a much greater proportion of their income for food and automobiles. The village families allocated a greater proportion of their income to housing and maintenance, clothing, advancement, and health.

4. Size of family and income directly affected the proportion of expenditures for food, housing and maintenance. Duration of marriage and stage in the family cycle are factors directly affecting clothing expenditures. The extent of education was usually accompanied by a higher standard of living.

5. The average amounts of savings and investments in 1935 varied widely in the areas sampled within the State. The Hills Valley area and the southeastern counties made the largest expenditures for investments while the mid-west range and the north-central farming areas spent the least.

6. Only a small proportion of rural families have running water, electric lights, central heating systems, and telephones. The greatest number of home conveniences were found in the far-western Hills area and in the southeastern and middle-eastern counties. The larger farms in the area were usually equipped with a greater number of home conveniences.

7. Differences in family income usually reflected the comparative resources of the different parts of the State. The central section had to resort most to borrowing while the southeastern and Hills areas depended least upon this source of income.

8. The standard of living is usually higher in those tenure and residence groups where the male heads and homemakers have had the most education.

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# The Standard of Living of Farm and Village Families In Six South Dakota Counties, 1935

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## I. Introduction

**Objectives of the Study.**—Few State or Federal Government agencies which contact the rural families of South Dakota can justify their existence on grounds other than those of attempting to support or elevate the existent level of living. Officials of the Works Progress Administration, Farm Security Administration,<sup>1</sup> and Agricultural Adjustment Administration are constantly requesting information concerning the people in the drought States. One of the main purposes of this bulletin is to assist in supplying facts concerning the material level of living of the families investigated.

The inclusion of educational attainments, reading materials, and other similar factors mitigates the over-emphasis which the study otherwise places upon the economic aspects of family life.

**Method and Scope of the Survey.**—The block sampling was accomplished by township and village sections within six representative counties of the State: Yankton, Codington, Faulk, Jones, Perkins and Lawrence (Fig. 4). Contact with all the families within the chosen areas was made, few of them refused to cooperate in supplying information on the past year's income and expenditures. The data were recorded on schedules, the major portion of the findings being entered only after careful estimations had been made; in some instances existing records were employed as a basis for these estimates.

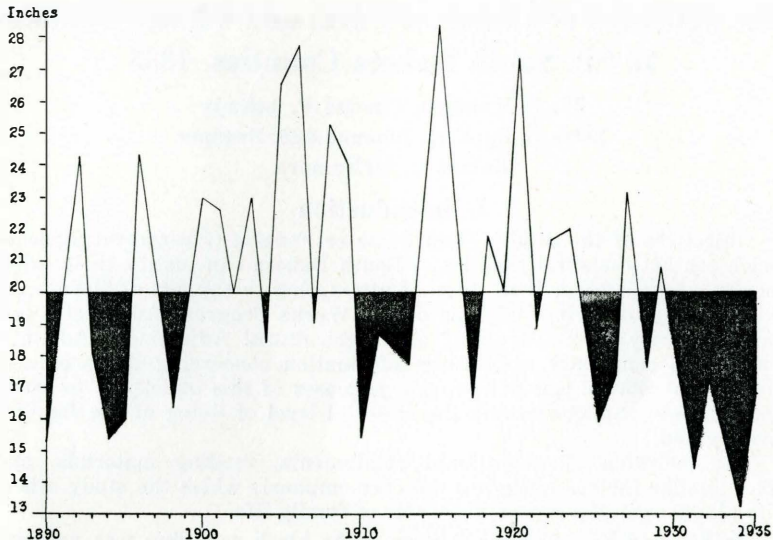
A total of 1875 usable schedules<sup>2</sup> were obtained, 1,101 from the open-country and 774 from villages. There were 646 schedules from farm owners, 455 from farm tenants; 376 from village owners, and 398 from village tenants. Full or part-time farmers, as they are reported in this study, refer to open-country families; village residents include only non-farm families (Table 1).

**The State.**—In South Dakota the majority of people have not adequately adjusted their practices and attitudes to the peculiar climatic conditions of the State. There are frequent departures from average rainfall, and adjustments are equally difficult during periods of extremes in either direction. An examination of Fig. 1A will show how sharply the rainfall fluctuates from the average of 20 inches.

Most people recognize the deteriorating social effects of drought—the depressing individual losses and the mass economic failures of both elderly and youthful operators, the resultant mobility of population, the decline in standard of living, and the need for outside aid. Not as many people, however, are conscious that these social effects are the outgrowth, at least in part, of unduly optimistic impressions developed when the rainfall is above the average. During such times, the opportunities of the State are over-emphasized, and, in the general effort to make quick

1. The Resettlement Administration, prior to September 1, 1937.

2. Copies of the schedule may be secured from any of the cooperating agencies.



Source: Compiled from "Climatological Data", Volume 40, Number 15, issued by the United States Weather Bureau, South Dakota Section.

Fig. 1A.—Inches of rainfall in South Dakota, by years, 1890-1935, showing deviations from average

capital of the apparent advantages, unsuitable farming practices inevitably develop. Soil strength is depleted and erosion takes its toll, but these evils receive little consideration until periods of drought point the moral. Overadvertising likewise leads to excessive immigration that is balanced by emigration in the succeeding period. It encourages the construction of schools and churches, the establishment of various social services, and a more elaborate set-up of local government. Later, difficult adjustments must be made with the turn in the rainfall cycle.

TABLE 1.— Number of families included in the standard of living survey, by county, residence, and tenure status, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Residence and tenure status	Counties						
	Total	Codington	Yankton	Perkins	Jones	Faulk	Lawrence
All families	1,875	318	399	386	231	296	245
Owners	1,022	152	260	225	123	128	134
Renters	853	166	139	161	108	168	111
Open country families	1,101	189	283	157	107	198	167
Owners	646	84	193	121	62	86	100
Renters	455	105	90	36	45	112	67
Village families	774	129	116	229	124	98	78
Owners	376	68	67	104	61	42	34
Renters	398	61	49	125	63	56	44

At the time this study was made, South Dakota was experiencing a period of extremely low rainfall, which, beginning in 1930 continued through 1936. The degree to which this period shattered the economic independence of the people of the State is shown by the amount of Federal

STANDARD OF LIVING IN SIX SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTIES 7

aid necessarily granted. During the drought years 1933-36, the people in 23 of the 69 counties in South Dakota received more than \$185 Federal aid per capita; in 25 other counties, they received \$129 to \$184 per capita; and in the remaining 21 counties, they received less than \$129 per capita (Fig. 2).

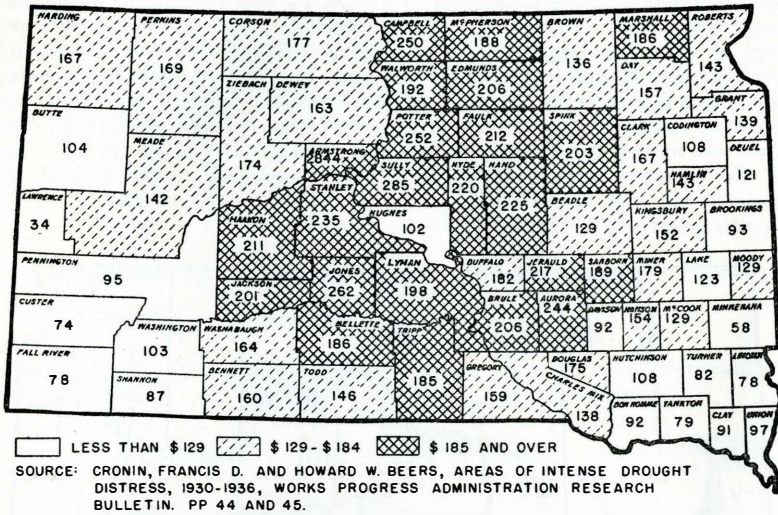


Fig. 2—Per capita Federal aid, 1933-1936

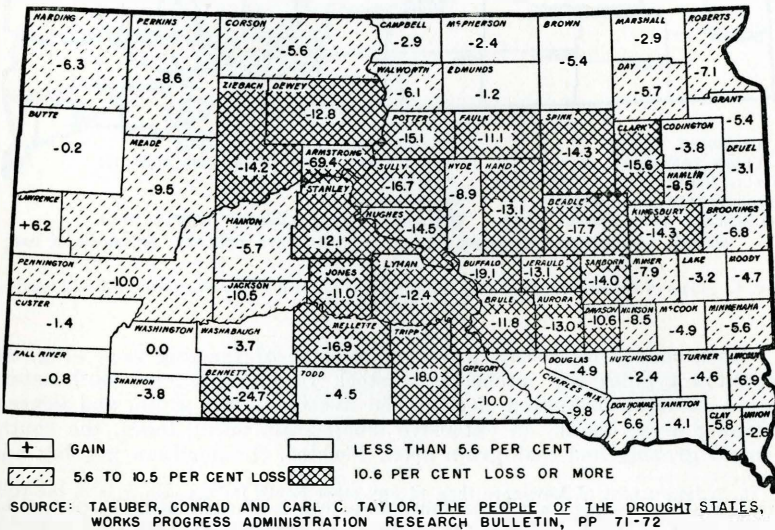


Fig. 3—Per cent change of farm population, 1930-1935



**The Representativeness of the Sample.**—If the assumption is made that per capita expenditure for Federal aid is a satisfactory index of need, Faulk and Jones were in the area of greatest extremity. Perkins was one of the counties which ranked next, while Yankton, Lawrence and Codington were in the area of least want.

That many of the people were dissatisfied with their material standard of living under these conditions is shown by the unreplaced migration from the State. Twenty-four of the counties lost more than 10.5 per cent of their farm population from 1930 to 1935, 20 lost from 5.6 to 10.5 per cent, and 23 lost less than 5.6 per cent. In only one county, Lawrence, was there a gain<sup>3</sup> (Fig. 3). Two of the counties sampled, Codington and Yankton, were in the group with the least loss of farm population; Perkins was among those with medium loss; and Jones and Faulk were two of the counties with greatest loss. The correlation between need for Federal aid and migration from farms is noticeable, especially in the counties sampled (Figs. 2 and 3).

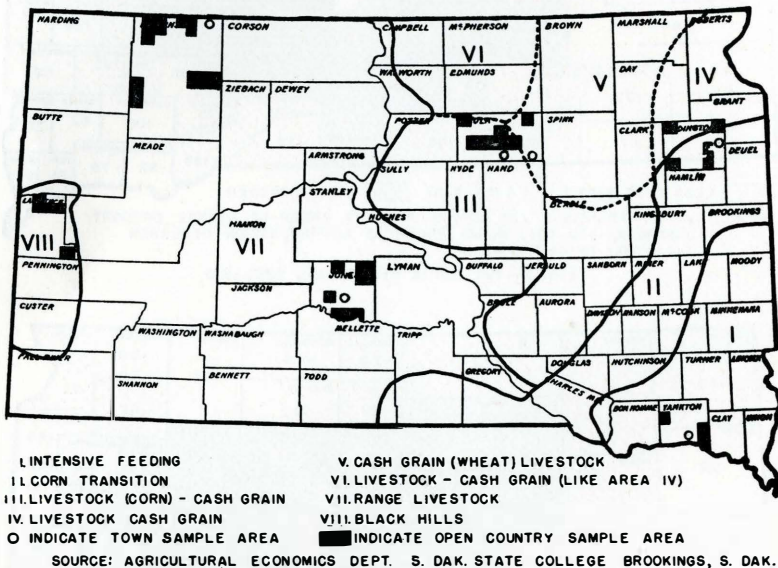


Fig. 4.—Type of farming regions and sample areas studied in the standard of living survey, South Dakota, 1935

Each county represents a particular type of farming area (Fig. 4). Yankton typifies the intensive livestock feeding area of southeastern South Dakota; Codington, a combined livestock, cash-grain, and general farming area; Faulk, an extensive small-grain area; Jones, the south-central grazing and cash-grain area; Perkins, the northern grazing and

3. A larger part of Lawrence than of any other South Dakota county is in the Hills area; the remaining portion is in the Hills Valley area. These areas usually receive heavier rainfall than the rest of the State, and during the past several years their more promising farm lands have been sought by many families leaving marginal farming areas of South Dakota.

## STANDARD OF LIVING IN SIX SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTIES 9

cash-grain area; and Lawrence, the Black Hills area with varied farming.

The distribution by size of farms in the sample areas follows the same pattern as that for the State as a whole. The proportion of the interviewed farmers who were tenants in the sample areas combined is the same as that for the State. However, as Table 3 indicates, when the tenure distribution for South Dakota by counties is considered, tenants are under-represented in Yankton and over-represented in Jones and Lawrence.

TABLE 2.—Distribution of farms by size in sample areas in six South Dakota counties and in the State

Size (in acres)	Coding-ton	Number of farms in sample areas					Total	Percentage of farms by size <sup>1</sup>	
		Yank-ton	Perkins	Jones	Faulk	Lawrence		Sample:	State
Under 3	0	6	2	0	4	2	14	1.3	0.5
3-9	0	3	1	0	3	20	27	2.4	1.7
10-19	0	3	0	1	1	17	22	2.0	1.0
20-49	5	8	0	1	1	14	29	2.6	2.2
50-99	3	32	2	0	1	9	47	4.3	3.8
100-174	40	110	13	13	16	27	219	19.9	23.8
175-259	33	53	9	2	7	13	117	10.6	11.7
260-499	91	66	47	27	90	37	358	32.5	34.4
500-999	16	2	48	42	59	22	189	17.1	14.2
1000	1	0	36	21	17	6	81	7.3	6.7
Total	189	283	158	107	199	167	1,103 <sup>2</sup>	100.0	100.0

1. United States Census of Agriculture, 1935.

2. This total includes 2 farms not included in other tables. One was operated by a manager and the other by a laborer.

TABLE 3.—Distribution of farm and part-time farm owners and tenants in sample areas in six South Dakota counties and in the State, 1935

County	Sample areas			Census figures for entire county <sup>1</sup>		
	Number Owners	Number Tenants	Per cent tenants	Number Owners	Number Tenants	Per cent tenants
All counties	646	454	41.3	3710	2641	41.6
Codington	84	104	55.3	587	711	54.8
Yankton	193	90	31.8	909	724	44.3
Perkins	121	36	22.9	1112	343	23.6
Jones	62	45	42.1	325	181	35.8
Faulk	86	112	56.6	445	528	54.3
Lawrence	100	67	40.1	332	154	31.7

1. United States Census of Agriculture, 1935.

On the basis of eight indices,<sup>4</sup> the counties of South Dakota were classified into three standard of living groups. Six counties sampled for this study ranked as follows: Yankton and Faulk first; Codington and Lawrence second; Perkins and Jones third, or lowest. (Fig. 18)

After due consideration of the representativeness of these six counties as to type and size of farm, tenure status, drought intensity, need for Federal aid, emigration, and standard of living, the assumption may apparently be made that they typify the State as a whole in many respects.

4. The following indices were used: 1. Percentage of farm operators with automobiles, 2. Percentage of farm operators with bath rooms, 3. Percentage of farm operators with electricity, 4. Percentage of farm operators with telephones, 5. Percentage of all homes with radios, 6. Rate of tenancy among farm operators, 7. Average value in dollars of farm dwellings, 8. Value in dollars of farm goods sold, traded, or used by farm operators and their families. This material was taken from the 1930 U. S. Census. Each of the above mentioned bases of comparison were given equal value and a composite map was drawn up which gave the final ranking of counties.

## II. Distribution of Total Value of Family Living by Groups of Goods and Services in Relation to Total Value of Living, Residence, Tenure and County Classifications

The total value of family living is the value of all goods and services consumed by a family to meet its needs and requirements, whether obtained through cash expenditure or produced at home. The 1,101 full and part-time farm families that lived in the open-country had an average value of \$1,111, and the 744 village families had an average of \$874 during the period April 1, 1935 to April 1, 1936. (Table 5; See Appendix, Supplementary Tables). This value did not include savings and investments, nor did any expenditures for farm operation enter into its computation. It did include food, housing and maintenance, clothing, health, advancement, automobile, incidental and "other" goods and services consumed for family living.<sup>5</sup>

The proportional distribution of the value of goods and services included in these categories is of importance to all students of the standards of living. Since Ernst Engel's statistical treatment of budgets, students of family expenditures have given more attention to this than to any other problem. Investigators are continually trying to find some simple index which may be used in establishing families in different levels-of-living groups irrespective of their cultural and class groups or geographic areas. Laws and restatements of laws have been made. It has been claimed that if one knew the proportion of the income spent for various items, one could know how well the family lived.

Zimmerman has shown that the laws or principles which have been evolved do not hold for all groups in all areas and cultures.<sup>6</sup> Four reasons may be given to explain the variations: (1) there is no category in the consumption budget which is not influenced by social customs and traditions;<sup>7</sup> (2) there are limits at either extreme of the income scale outside of which principles fail to apply;<sup>8</sup> (3) climatic and geographic influences as well as demographic factors are important; (4) relative degrees of isolation accompanied by the absence or presence of social organization may increase or decrease the consumption of various items in the budget.

Simple examples of the operation of these are given in order: (1) the silk stocking may give social status in one society and be a mere matter of curiosity in another; (2) a starving man or a multi-millionaire should not be expected to conform to consumption principles developed from the study of other classes; (3) the widespread use of fruit in the diet in Florida may not seriously increase the proportion of the total budget allotted for that food, but a similarly widespread use in South Dakota would have considerable effect; (4) the existence of social organization in a village of South Dakota makes such items as electric lights, indoor water supply, and sewage disposal available; to procure

5. See appendix for explanation of the chief categories. "The value of family living" is used in this study in place of the term "cost of living." Cost of living usually refers to cash expenditures, the value of food, fuel, and other items which were produced and consumed at home.

6. Zimmerman, C. C., "Consumption and Standards of Living," D. Van Nostrand Co., 1936, p.33.

7. *Ibid.*, p.106.

8. *Ibid.*, p. 104.

such items for farm families would raise the cost of housing and maintenance beyond that of the village families.

In other words, laws governing social reactions apply to a specific people in a specified time and space. Variations and incongruities enter when one attempts to compare different cultural groups at a given time or in a given locality.

However, within limits it may be said that practically all studies of consumption substantiate the principle that the larger the income, the smaller the proportion of the total expenditure which will be devoted to nourishment<sup>9</sup>. Other categories in the expenditure budget have no such universal behavior pattern. For example, some studies show that the proportion of the total expenditures allocated for clothing increases with rising incomes; others show the opposite trend. The same is true for rents and fuel.

In the present study there is a remarkable consistency in the direction of change in proportions which given categories made of the whole value of family living as income increased. Figures 5, 6 and 7 illustrate the relative proportions of the principal categories in four value of living groups.

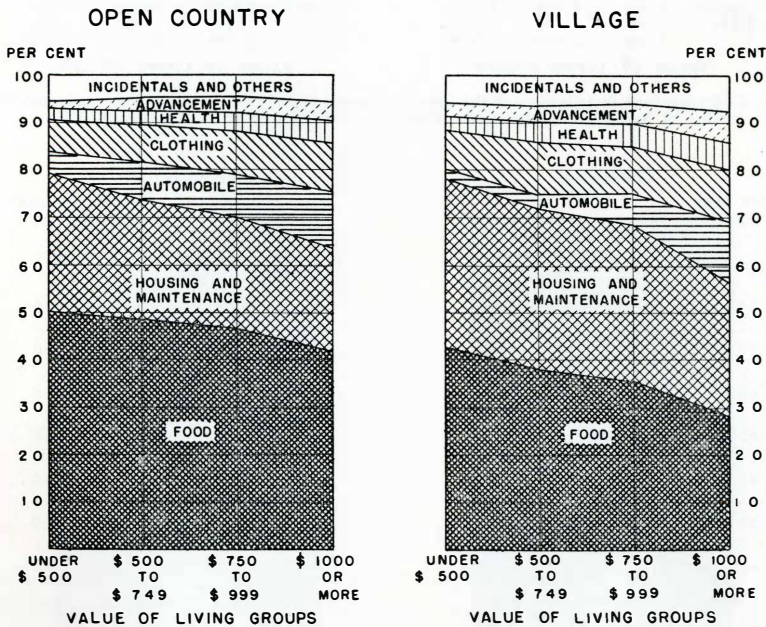


Fig. 5—Percentage distribution of the values of goods and services among four values of living groups of families by residence for six counties in South Dakota, 1935

9. Zimmerman, C. C., "Consumption and Standards of Living," has indicated exceptions even to this principle, p. 104.

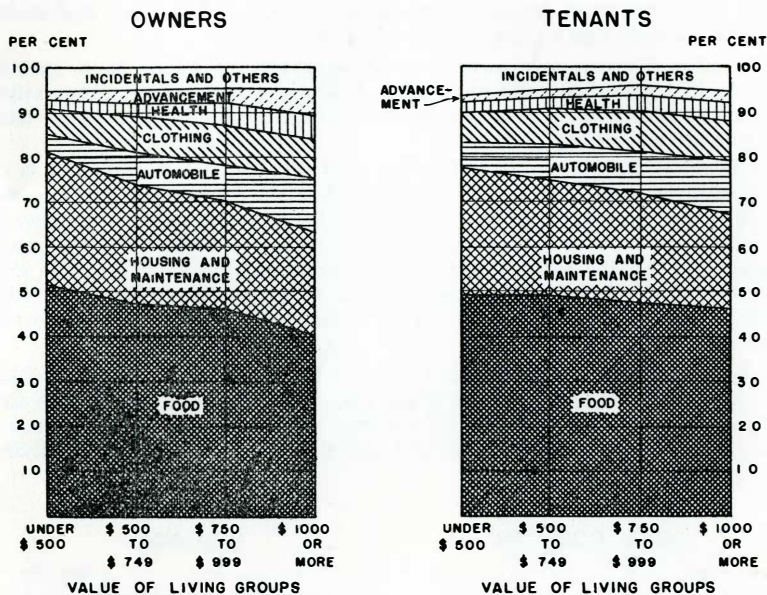


Fig. 6—Percentage distribution of the values of goods and services among four open-country value of living groups by tenure status for six counties of South Dakota, 1935

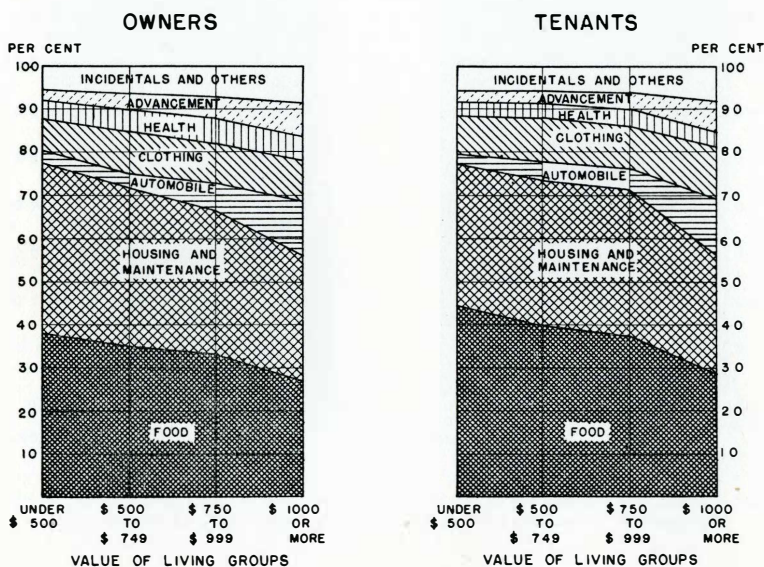


Fig. 7—Percentage distribution of the values of goods and services among four village value of living groups by tenure status for six counties of South Dakota, 1935

**Value of Living Groups and Distribution of Goods and Services.**—The four value of family living groups<sup>10</sup> used in the present analysis are as follows: 0—\$500; \$500—\$750; \$750—\$1,000; \$1,000 and over.<sup>11</sup> The higher the total value of living, the lower was the proportion allotted to housing, maintenance, and to food. The categories for clothing, health, advancement and automobile have the opposite tendency. With varying values of living, the trends of the proportions which the separate categories made of the total value of family living were remarkably consistent in both the open-country and village situations. The same trends existed within the tenure groups of both open-country and village families. The one exception was the expenditure for incidental and unclassified items<sup>12</sup> which had no such definite relationship to the level of living for the open-country groups as that found in the village groups (Fig. 5, 6, and 7).

If the Engelian principle that "the poorer an individual, a family, or a people, the greater must be the percentage of income necessary for the maintenance of physical sustenance, again of this a greater portion must be allowed for food," is true,<sup>13</sup> the categories in this study included as necessary for "physical sustenance" should be considered. Obviously the only two categories of goods and services which follow the pattern of "physical sustenance" goods to the extent of requiring smaller proportions with increasing incomes are housing and maintenance and food. Clothing, health, advancement, auto, and incidentals take larger proportions of the total value of living as the level of living advances to higher brackets.

**Food Proportions in the Total Value of Family Living.**—An analysis of many standard of living studies led Zimmerman<sup>14</sup> to the conclusion that generally from 40 to 60 per cent of man's economic energy enables him to feed himself and his dependents. In the present study farm owners with incomes of less than \$500 devoted 51 per cent of the total value of family living to food. In contrast, village home owners with incomes of more than \$1,000 devoted only 26 per cent of their total value of family living to nourishment. The other residence, tenure, and value of living groups ranged between these extremes. Figures 5, 6 and 7 depict the variations.

**Proportions of the Various Values of Living Allocated to Housing and Maintenance.**—Rent constituted the most important item in the group of expenditures called housing and maintenance. Slightly over one-half of the value of housing and maintenance for both open-country and village families was devoted to this item.<sup>15</sup> Fuel and lighting constituted 28 per cent of the value of housing and maintenance for open-country families and 31 per cent for village families. While 28 per cent of the fuel was furnished by open-country families only a negligible portion was fur-

10. Total value of family living may be used as representing net income minus expenditures for investment and saving. The net income includes both net cash income and value of goods produced and consumed at home.

11. More families were included in the higher value of family living groups. This resulted from an attempt to make the study comparable to other studies being made in areas of lower average value of living.

12. This category includes such items as spending money, photography, tobacco, candy, soda fountain expenditures, toilet articles and personal care, gifts, and alcoholic drinks.

13. Engel, Ernst, "Die Lebenskosten belgischer Arbeiter Familien fruher und jetzt," Bulletin de L'institut internationale de statistique, tome IX, premiere livraison, Rome, 1895, p.40.

14. Zimmerman, Carle, op. cit., p.3.

15. For the method of calculating rent, see appendix, p. 49.

nished by village families. Furnishings and equipment necessary for laundry, sewing, heating, lighting, kitchen, and table, the bedding, floor equipment, and other furniture constituted less than 10 per cent of the value of housing and maintenance for both village and open-country families. Additions and alterations constituted a small portion of the housing and maintenance budget—4 per cent for open-country and 2.4 per cent for village families.<sup>16</sup>

In the open-country the highest value of living group (\$1,000 and over) allotted approximately 23 per cent of the value of all living for housing and maintenance; the lowest (less than \$500) allotted 29 per cent. This holds for both tenure groups. In the village the highest value of living group among owners used approximately 10 per cent less for housing and maintenance than did the lowest; among village tenants the difference was only 5 per cent. The data in the present study tend to support Schwabe's contention that the higher the income the lower the proportion of it that is expended for housing. In this respect the trend of expenditures for housing and maintenance resembles that of food.

**Automobile and Value of Living Groups.**—For the village families who averaged \$1,000 and over for family living, the proportion spent for automobiles<sup>17</sup> was eight times as much as was spent for this item by those villagers who averaged a total value of less than \$500. The higher the value of family living, the larger the proportion expended for automobiles among both open-country and village families, but the correlation is higher for the latter. For the well-to-do villagers, automobiles often take the form of conspicuous consumption. In fact, social status in the non-rural community is determined more by the automobile for which one is attempting to pay than by the home one is buying and maintaining. Housing costs are not so closely related to increased incomes, therefore, as are automobile costs (Figs. 5, 6 and 7).

**Clothing and Value of Living Groups.**—There appeared to be small variations in the proportion allocated to clothing with changes in the total value of living; however, there was some rise in the share for clothing as the total value of living increased. In the open-country, families with total value of living of less than \$500 used approximately 7 per cent for clothing, whereas those with a total value of \$1000 or more used almost 9 per cent for this item (Figs. 5, 6 and 7).

**Health and Value of Living Groups.**—The South Dakota families with the highest value of family living allocated a larger proportion of of their living expenses for health than did the families with the lowest value of family living. Actually, those in the \$1,000 group allotted almost twice as large a share for health as did those with a family living figure of less than \$500. If income in the lower brackets were to be increased, probably more health services would be utilized. However, investigations have not included a comparison of actual medical requirements (Figs. 5, 6 and 7).

**Advancement.**—American standard of living studies have for the most part included a category bearing the unfortunate title "advancement." The authors, however, do not propose to guarantee that expenditures classified in this category have "advanced" all persons involved.

16. Unpublished data from a sample of 10 per cent of the schedules in the survey.

17. See Appendix, p. 50.

Readers may draw their own conclusions. From the authors' point of view, the category had as well be called "A" in line with Pareto's thesis. No value judgement is implied.

In this study advancement expenditures as a group bore a marked resemblance to health expenditures. For both tenants and owners, in the village or open-country, the proportion spent for advancement was greatest among those in the higher total value of family living groups (Figs. 5, 6 and 7).

**Incidental or Personal Expenditures.**—Almost three-fourths of the expenditures classified under this heading were made for gifts to persons outside the family, toilet articles, personal care and tobacco.<sup>18</sup> The proportions of the value of living allocated to these incidentals among open-country families were less variable among the different value-of-living groups than the proportions representing expenditures in any other one classification. In the open-country group 5 per cent of the value of living under \$500 was assigned to the category called "incidentals and other." Approximately 6 per cent of the values of living rated at \$1,000 or more was assigned to the same category. There was greater variation, however, among the village group (Figs. 5, 6 and 7).

**Distribution of Groups of Goods and Services by Residence.**—Any comparison of open-country and village characteristics presupposes that the writer and reader are aware of the two fundamental differences, permanently fixed in the background, that necessitate or are responsible for the variations. These two differences should be kept constantly in mind throughout any discussion of standard of living variations between the families of the two types of residence. One of these is the short spatial radius the village family has before coming in contact with another family as compared with the relatively long radius which an open-country family has before contact occurs. The more frequent secondary social contacts resultant in the village are responsible for many of the variations in the elements of the standard of living. The second fundamental dissimilarity lies in the traits peculiar to the primary open-country occupation, farming. The relation of these two differences to the variations in the elements of standard of living of residential groups will be suggested as the variations are discussed.

**Value of Living Furnished for Open-Country and Village Families.**—The open-country and village families differed widely in the proportions of total value of living furnished. The 1,101 open-country families furnished 37 per cent of their value of living whereas the village families furnished only 10 per cent of theirs. For the open-country families, 47 per cent of the value of housing and maintenance and 60 per cent of the value of food consumed were furnished by the farm. Only 22 per cent of the housing and maintenance and 9 per cent of the food consumed were produced at home by the village families (Table 5, Appendix). The South Dakota farm families with few exceptions maintain residence on the farms operated.

As the South Dakota farm is a food-producing unit, it is to be expected that the data would show a greater production of the food consumed than in the village. The village families have less opportunity to secure odd materials, such as cobs, wood, trash and brush for fuel. Their

18. See footnote 12, p. 13.



water supply also involves a cash outlay. If the village organization has an electric lighting system, they pay more in cash for light than the majority of farm families.

These peculiarities due to residence and social economic organization explain more completely the variation in proportion of value of living furnished than do any peculiarities in attitudes and budget planning.

**Total Value of Living for Open-country and Village Families.**—The open-country families, as stated before, had an average value of living of \$1,111 and the village families an average of \$874. Village non-farm families would have enjoyed approximately as high an average as the open-country farm and part-time farm families had the latter not spent so much for automobiles and consumed so much home-grown food (Cover Page). The village families spent more per adult male equivalent<sup>19</sup> in each of the other five categories of goods with the exception of health than did the open-country families. For residence groups, the average values of goods consumed per adult male equivalent were more nearly equal than the average values per family. The value of goods consumed per adult male equivalent for the open-country group averaged \$330 and for the village group, \$306 (Table 5, Appendix).

**Distribution of Value of Living for Open-country and for Village.**—The general distributions of the total value of living for the open-country and for village were somewhat similar. The largest category in each was food, which absorbed more than 43 per cent of the total for the open-country and 32 per cent for the village. Housing and maintenance was the second largest for each, representing 24 per cent of the open-country budget and practically as large a ratio as food in the village budget. The third largest item for the open-country was the automobile, but for the village it was clothing. The remaining categories received less than 8 per cent each (Table 5, Appendix) (Cover Page).

**Food and Housing and Maintenance in Relation to Residence.**—When open-country and village families were compared with respect to the pattern of consumption of goods and services, the chief difference was in the proportions which rent and food made of the total value of family living. Sixteen per cent was allotted for rent in the villages but only 12 per cent in the open-country; the proportions for food were reversed in importance. Whereas housing and maintenance comprised about 32 per cent of the total for the village compared with 24 per cent for the open-country, the percentages for food were 32 and 44 respectively. There is reason to believe that the estimated value of food and housing furnished by the farm obscured comparisons in these two situations. The open-country families averaged \$144 in food per adult male equivalent and the village families only \$98. The presence of food and the comparative ease with which it is obtained leads farm families to eat more than they would if a cash outlay were necessary. Furthermore, the outdoor physical life

19. "Cost of Living in the United States," U. S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, publication No. 357, May 1924. Adult male, 100; adult female, 90; child, 11-14 years inclusive, 90; child, 7-10 years inclusive, 75; child, 4-6 years inclusive, 40; child, 3 years or under, 15. Obviously a scale which is computed on the basis of food requirements should not be used as a divisor for other items of consumption if better scales were available. However, the practice is so common that it is justified by virtue of the comparisons it makes possible. Per capita expenditures for the various items is unsatisfactory. An average year old child should not require the same expenditure for any category as an adult, unless it be for health. A general consumption scale was not considered as useful for this study as the one here used.

of the farm dweller requires more nourishment. The village families may find it necessary to skimp on meals in order to arrange cash payments for rent, light, and water as well as for food items (Table 5, Appendix) (Cover Page).

More frequent social contacts in the village cause greater outlay for home furnishings and related items. The higher proportion for housing and maintenance which characterized the village families as contrasted with those in the open-country resulted in a higher average value per male adult equivalent, \$97 and \$77 respectively (Table 5, Appendix) (Cover Page).

**Automobiles and Residence.**—Open-country families spent more than two-thirds as much for purchase and upkeep of automobiles as did village families. While the latter allotted only 9 per cent of their value of living to automobiles, those in the open-country reported 11 per cent. The greater distance which farmers must traverse for economic and social services necessitates a more widespread use of this means of travel (Table 5, Appendix).

**Clothing Expenditures for Village and Farm Families.**—Clothes may not "make the man" but they are of considerable importance in establishing him with his contemporaries of both sexes as well as his social class. In the village the average expenditure for clothing per family was \$88, and in the open-country it was 9 per cent higher, or \$96. However, since village families are smaller than open-country families they spent more per adult male equivalent (\$31) than did the open-country families (\$29). Related to the total value of living, the average clothing expenditure of families in the village represented 10 per cent and in the open-country, 9 per cent (Table 5, Appendix) (Cover Page).

**Health and Residence.**—In South Dakota, according to this study, open-country families expended an average of \$50 and village families \$42 for health and health maintenance.<sup>20</sup> These expenditures constituted approximately 5 per cent of the total value of living for both open-country and village families (Table 5, Appendix) (Cover Page).

**Advancement and Incidentals.**—The two groups of services previously discussed as advancement and as incidentals and other were so much alike in respect to their variation in proportions of open-country and village budgets that they are here treated together. The village family allocated considerably more of the total value of living, in both dollars and proportions, to these items than did the open-country family (Table 5, Appendix) (Cover Page).

**Tenure Status and Distribution of Goods and Services.**—In the open-country the average owner family used goods and services in each category valued higher than those used by the average tenant family. With the exception of food and clothing, this was also true of village families. When the consumption of goods and services are reduced for all categories to values per adult male equivalent units, tenant families in both open-country and village consumed less than owner families (Table 5).

Although differences between proportions of the total value of living allotted to sub-categories for owners and tenants were not great, there was a tendency in both village and open-country for owners to allot rela-

20. See Appendix, p. 54 for discussion of items which constitute this category. Hereafter the category will be called "health".

tively smaller proportions to food and clothing and larger proportions to health, advancement, automobile, and incidentals. Data concerning these proportions are set forth in Figs. 5, 6, and 7 and in Table 5, Appendix.

A much smaller proportion of the total value of living was devoted to nourishment by the village-owner families than by any of the other tenure or residence groups. In all value of living groups the negative correlation between the total value of living and the percentage of the total allotted for food is higher in the case of the owner than in the case of the tenant (Table 5, Appendix).

### County Similarities and Contrasts in Distribution of Value of Living<sup>21</sup>

**(Food) Open-Country Contrasts by Counties.** — The proportion of value of family living devoted to food by county groups of open-country families conformed with the general principles that the higher the value of living or income, the lower the proportion assigned to food. The only non-conforming group was composed of open-country families in Faulk County which ranked second high in value of family living but highest in proportion of the value allocated to food. Open-country families in Lawrence and Yankton counties which were first and third high in value of living were low in proportion, approximately 39 per cent each, devoted to food. In Jones and Perkins, where the open-country value of living was lowest, families averaged approximately 46 per cent for food. Codington families, averaging a somewhat higher value of living than was found in Jones and Perkins devoted a smaller proportion to food (Table 6A, Appendix.)

**(Food) Village Contrasts by Counties.**—Ranked by the average value of living found in villages the counties were not in the above order. This discrepancy was probably due to the fact that in some counties the villages selected were markets of first rank for that area, while in other counties they were of lesser rank. For example, both Yankton and Codington counties have cities which draw the most profitable trade for their regions. The largest village in Faulk county was not selected. The villages surveyed in Perkins and Jones counties draw the most profitable trade for the surrounding regions since there are no cities, towns or larger villages nearby. Lawrence county families were still first in value of living but Jones and Perkins rose from fifth and sixth to second and fourth rank, respectively. Codington county families were fifth; Faulk, sixth; and Yankton, third. Four of the six county groups of village families followed the association of reduced proportions devoted to food with higher values of living (Table 6B, Appendix).

21. The greatest county contrasts in standard of living were found in the amounts of savings and investments (Fig. 8) and in the presence of various home conveniences (Figs. 15 and 16). The amount of savings and investments was not included as a part of the total value of living. Had it been so included, the data on distribution of goods and services by county would have shown more clearly a conformity with the general principles and laws discussed at the opening of this section. That is, the inclusion of the amounts of savings and investments would have lowered the proportions of the value of living used for subsistence in the more prosperous counties to a greater extent than in the less prosperous counties. This is one of the best indications of county variation because open-country families usually purchase security before advancement.

**(Food) Value of Food Furnished, by Counties.**—County differences were indicated in the values and proportions of the food consumed which was furnished by village families. As far as space is concerned, any village family may have a garden; but, in addition to space, rainfall or water accessible for irrigation is also a necessity. In 1935 the villages in the three eastern counties, Yankton, Codington and Faulk, were able to produce in value from one-seventh to one-sixth of the food used. Lawrence county village families produced approximately one-ninth, but Jones and Perkins village families secured through home production less than one-twentieth. In the open-country where dairy, poultry, and meat products form a large proportion of the food furnished, every county group of families furnished in value more than one-half of the food consumed (Tables 6A and 6B Appendix).

**Housing and Maintenance.**—The proportion of value of living devoted to housing and maintenance was influenced by county peculiarities. The location of the lumbering in the Hills area reduced the cost of building in Lawrence county; for both its open-country and village families, only a small proportion of the total value of living was devoted to housing and maintenance. Log houses or cabins were not infrequent there. The least valuable, or the relatively poor houses were found in Jones and Perkins counties in the open-country. As a large proportion of housing and maintenance was based on the value of the house, small amounts were used for this item by the open-country families in these two counties; these sums averaged less than one-fifth of the total value of living. The larger and better constructed houses of the two far-eastern counties, Yankton and Codington, required that larger amounts be expended for this category. With the exception of Lawrence county, there was little contrast among village groups (Tables 6A and 6B, Appendix.)

**(Other Categories) Automobiles.**—Distances to be covered and total value of living both influenced the proportions devoted to automobile expenditure. In the three western counties, which are the most sparsely settled, more than 10 per cent of the value of living was assigned to automobiles by the average open-country family. In Lawrence county, which lies in the west and has the highest value of living, families in both open-country and village allocated the largest proportions of the value of living to automobile expenditures (16.9 and 11.5 per cent respectively). Yankton, although an eastern county, included families which were second and third high in values of living for the open-country and village respectively, and had the second largest proportion of value of living devoted to automobiles (Tables 6A and 6B, Appendix.)

The county variations so far discussed largely account for continued variation among the lesser categories.

**Amounts and Types of Savings.**—It is doubtful whether any item of expenditure is more indicative of the independence and well-being of families than that of investment. However, the subject has received inadequate treatment.<sup>22</sup> One of the contributing causes for the failure to analyze this category lies in the difficulty inherent in logical definitions of investment. Some studies include payments on mortgages and other debts as invest-

22. Zimmerman, *op. cit.* as would be expected, the chief differentiating characteristic of village as compared with open-country families noted in this study is related to land investment and expenditures for operation of the farm.

ments. Some classify premiums on life insurance as family-living expenditures while others group them with investments. If payments on mortgages are included under investment, a difficulty arises due to the fact that part of the mortgage on a farm is on the dwelling. As is the case in this study, it may be charged to cash cost (rent equivalent) thus reducing the value of housing furnished by the farm. Some studies omit it from calculation and use an arbitrary figure. Whether purchase of livestock and machinery is investment or not is difficult to say without adequate inventory analysis.

Although, in the interest of obtaining a logical budget, payments on farm mortgages were not included as investments in the present study, they are of an investment nature and may be included if it is kept in mind that part of such payments have already been charged to farm living and farm operation. When payments on mortgages are excluded from investments, this study indicates that village families made larger investments than farm families. When payments on mortgages were included, open-country farm and part-time farm families are shown as making the largest expenditures for investments. As would be expected, tenants invested less money than did owners. In this study, variations are more noticeable for the item of investment than for any other characteristic of either owner or tenant families, no matter whether in open-country or in village (Table 7, Appendix).

**County Variations in Saving, Interest, and Investments of Farm Operators.**—Probably one of the best indices to use in comparing similar cultural areas by item of expenditure for one given year is the average amount of savings which were accumulated through that year of economic effort.

On this basis, Fig. 8 shows that for the farm year, 1935, Lawrence county with \$103.60, and Yankton county with \$123.60, in savings offered possibilities for better livings for their families than did the others. These two counties lie in the extreme far west and southeast respectively. Better than in any other sections of the State have the farmers of these two regions during the past five years suited type and size of farms to the irregular climatic conditions which prevail. Jones and Faulk counties, situated in the central southwest and central northeast sections, are a part of what the South Dakotans are beginning to regard as their farm problem area. These counties averaged, on the basis of these data, less savings than the others, \$35.10 and \$26.60 respectively. Codington and Perkins represented the in-between counties, with savings of \$52.60 and \$43.80 (Fig. 8).

In every county except Faulk, where there was only slight variation by tenure status, there were extreme differences in the average savings of owners and of tenants. For example, the Lawrence county owners averaged savings of \$137.70, but the tenants only \$53.70. In Perkins, the average savings amounted to \$49.90 and \$2.40, respectively (Fig 8).

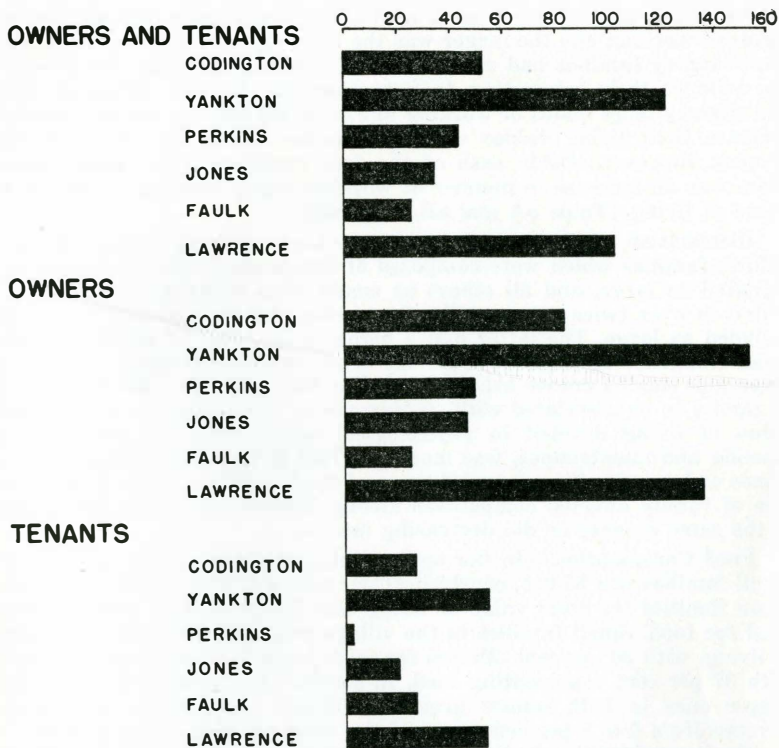


Fig. 8—Average savings, interest, and investments for 606 owners and 439 tenants whose major occupation was farming in selected areas of six counties, South Dakota, 1935

### III. Characteristics of Families Related to Value and Distribution of Family Living

Certain family characteristics influenced the value and distribution of goods consumed. Five of these were: size of family, males of working age, family life cycle, education of the family head and homemaker, and age and sex of the members.

**Size of Family and Value of Living.**— The size of the family was measured in adult male units.<sup>23</sup> The average open-country family (3.37 adult male units) was larger than that in the village (2.86 adult male units). Owners had smaller families than tenants in both open-country and village. In both residential groups and in all tenure groups, families increased in size as the value of living rose. The open-country family groups with values of living under \$500 averaged only 1.76 adult male units in size (Table 8A, Appendix). In contrast, the open-country farm families with values of living of \$1,000 or more averaged 4.05. The village averages by low and high levels were 1.97 and 3.23 respectively (Table 8B, Appendix).

23. See footnote 19, p. 16.

As in the case of adult male equivalent, the greater the number of males of working age the larger was the total value of family living. The open-country families had more males of working age than did those in the village. It is interesting to note that the tenants, although they had slightly more males of working age than the owners, did not thereby increase their living values enough to equal the living values of the owners. However, within each of the four residence and tenure groups there was an increase in number of working males with each increase in value of living (Table 8A and 8B, Appendix).

**Distribution of Goods and Services.**—As an empirical mode of procedure, families which were composed of five or more members were designated as large, and all others as small. This arbitrary procedure resulted in over twice as many families being classified as small as were included as large. The latter had a higher total value of living than did small families. In Fig. 9, the groups of goods and services consumed by large and small families are depicted. The tendency<sup>24</sup> for increase in size of family to be associated with an increase in the proportion of the total value of living devoted to physiological needs, with the exception of housing and maintenance, was manifest. This is true even though the incomes of large families exceeded those of small families. Thus, increase in size of family affected competition among internal factors in the budget in the same manner as did decreasing income.

**Food Consumption.**—In the open-country the total value of living of small families was \$1,015, of which 41 per cent was used for food. For the large families the total value of living was \$1,326, and 48 per cent was used for food. Small families in the village averaged \$837 for total value of living, with 30 per cent allotted for food; large families averaged \$981, with 37 per cent representing food. In contrast to the small families, the larger ones in both tenure groups in either open-country or village devoted from 6 to 8 per cent more of the total value of living to food.

The large families of all tenure and resident groups produced a larger part of their total food supply on the farm or in the gardens than did the smaller families. In rural areas increased physiological needs occasioned by the growth of the family may be met by increasing the effort expended in home production. Frequently such adjustments are not possible in the larger urban centers (Fig. 9).

**Value of Housing and Maintenance for Large and Small Families.**—The value of housing for small and large families (five or more full-year residents, as previously classified above) did not differ greatly. Large village families actually expended less than did the small village families for rent, fuel, housing alterations and other dwelling expenditures. Large families allotted less to expenditures for housing and maintenance as well as automobiles to make up for larger relative expenditures for food and clothing (Fig. 9).

**Automobiles and Size of Family.**—The large families (classified as above) spent less for automobiles both relatively and absolutely than did the small families in both open-country and village. However, when automobile expenditures for families in different phases of their life cycles are compared, this difference is found to be more complex. If such expenditures could be used as a rough index of mobility, young couples

24. See Zimmerman, Carle C., Correlation in the Household Budget, Sociologist, C. L. Hirschfeld Verlag, Leipzig C. Volume 8, 1932, p. 152.

would be adjudged the most mobile in the case of childless families. The older the childless couples, the less the expenditures for cars. In general, however, the reverse is true of couples with children for most of the groups reporting less than 35 years of marriage. Older parents, those married more than 35 years, may never have learned to drive and hence do not incur high automobile expenditures (Figs. 10, 11 and 11A).

**Clothing Cost of Large and Small Families.**—As might be expected large families (five or more full-year residents) spent more for clothes (\$136 for open-country and \$116 for village) than did small families (\$79 for open-country and \$78 for village). In both open-country and village the large families allotted approximately 2.5 per cent more of their family living for clothing than did small families. The variations between proportions which large and small families allotted for clothing were less than for food as shown above (Fig. 9, p. 35).

### Family Life Cycle and Value and Distribution of Goods and Services Consumed

**The Total Value of Family Living During Different Periods of the Family Life Cycle.**—Families wax and wane in size<sup>25</sup> and their composition changes as time passes. They have life cycles which begin with the marriage union and end when this union and the resulting family is destroyed by death or other forms of separation. In case there are no children, if either of the parents dies, or the union for other reasons dissolves, the cycle may be considered as terminated. In case children are born, the life cycle is terminated in the same manner if all the children have left home. When one parent with children remains, the cycle is terminated when all children have left home, or all but one of the parents dies or leaves.

The total value of family living fluctuates during various phases of the life cycle of the family. In this study the fluctuations for both childless couples and couples with children followed a pattern highly correlated with the work energy available. Since there was greater work energy during most periods after the marriage in the families with children, the value of family living was higher. In industrial areas where child labor is prohibited, workers find it difficult to augment their incomes as rural people do when their needs increase. In the present discussion data relevant to couples with children has been analyzed in more detail than data for childless couples.

For the open-country owners the value of family living increased with the duration of marriage up to 24 years. The comparatively high level of living reached at that time was maintained until the length of the marriage union had reached approximately 34 years. At that point it went into a decline, which continued as the families became older. There were sharper variations in this particular pattern for the tenants than for the owners. The increase in value of living was more rapid. Seemingly, the open-country tenants continually increased their level in value of living until 19 years after marriage. This resulted in the comparatively high level of living lasting about five years longer during the life cycle for the

25. Loomis, C. P., *The Study of the Life Cycle of Families*, Rural Sociology, Vol. 1, No. 2, June 1936; *Family Life Cycle Analysis*, Social Forces, Vol. 15, No. 2, December 1936; and *Growth of the Farm Family in Relation to its Activities*, North Carolina Experiment Station Bulletin, No. 298, June 1934.



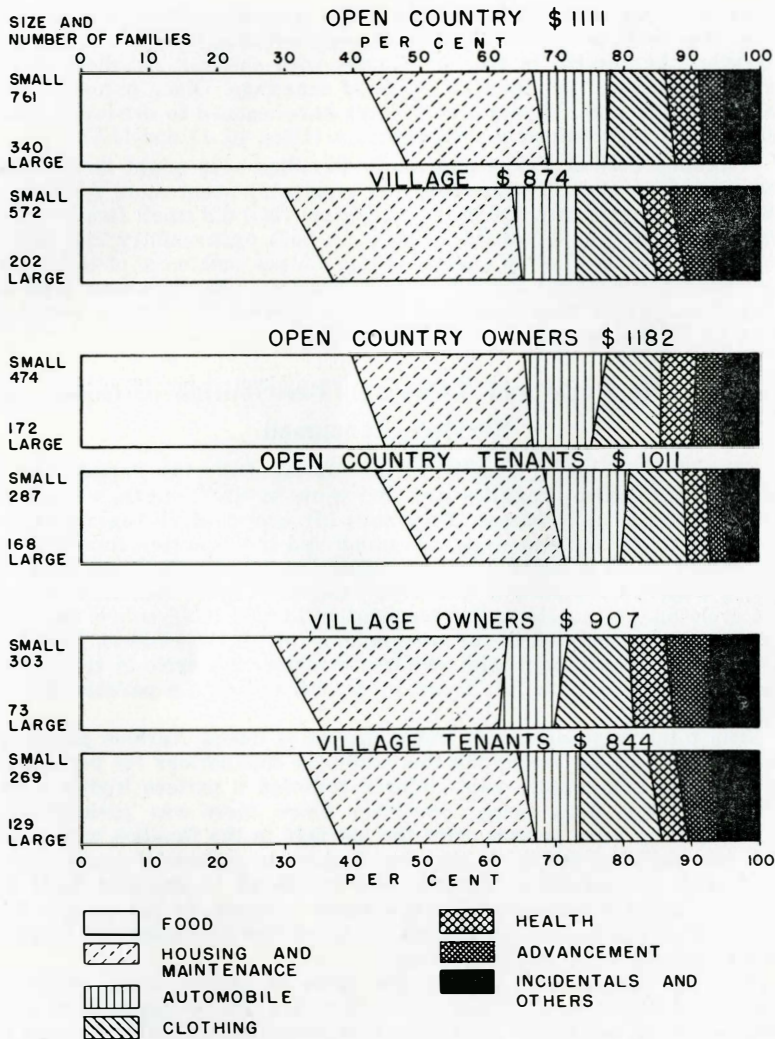


Fig. 9—Percentage distribution of principal groups of goods and services constituting family living of 761 small families and 340 large families in six South Dakota counties, by residence, 1935

open-country tenants than for the open-country owners, although at no time did the value of living for the tenants reach that of the owners.

Work energy made available by the aging of children may express itself more quickly in a higher material level of living than is true of younger owner families that are attempting to pay for their farms. There was greater irregularity during the whole family cycle for the tenant families than for the owners. The decline for the tenants was much shar-

per after the marriage had lasted 34 years than it was for the owners (Fig. 10).

There was considerable variation between the open-country and village family groups with respect to the patterns which the value of living made with increasing length of duration of marriage. For both village owners and village tenants, the rise and decline in value of living with duration of marriage was more irregular and there were apparently no successive periods of comparatively high value of living (Table 19, Appendix).

The above discussion applies only to the couples with children. In Fig. 10 the values of living for these couples were related to the duration of marriage by five-year periods of marriage. The relationships for the childless couples is not offered in as much detail. On the whole, childless couples of both residential and tenure groups reported lower levels of living than did the groups of families with children. Furthermore, families with children produced a larger portion of their value of living than was true for families without children.

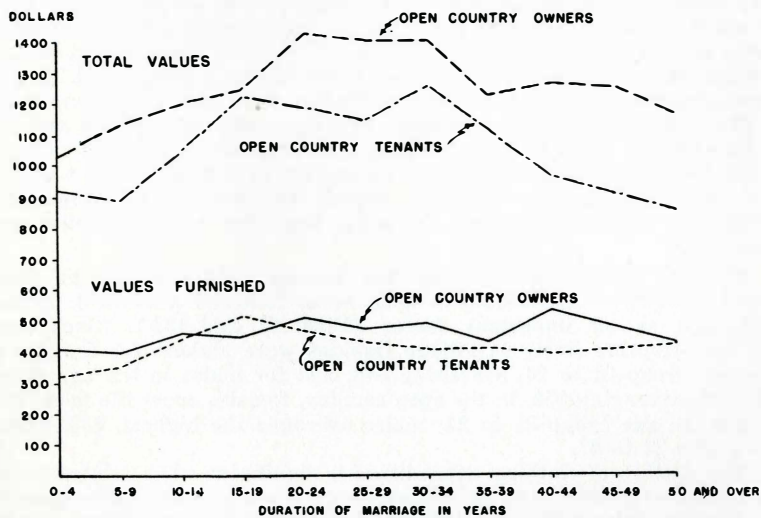


Fig. 10—Distribution of the value of open-country family living among the principal groups of goods and services, by duration of marriage

**Distribution of Goods and Services During the Family Life Cycle of Couples with Children.**— The composition of the value of living by goods and services consumed for the residence and tenure groups is presented in Figs. 11 and 11A. The open-country owners showed the least variation in proportion of the value of living assigned to various goods throughout the length of the family life cycle. Owners and tenant families in the open-country were alike in the trend formed by the proportions of the family living allocated to food and housing and maintenance as the length of marriage increased. Both devoted higher proportions of the family living to these two categories at the beginning or early and closing periods of the family life cycle than they did during

the in-between periods, during which the value of living was highest and the most work energy available. This meant larger proportions of family living allotted to automobiles, clothing, and advancement during the middle periods. Larger proportions were devoted to health during the opening and closing periods than during the middle period. These periods of high health expenditures are the periods of the life cycle of families associated with childbirth, the infancy of the children, and the old-age period of the parents. For both owner and tenants incidentals and other expense increased as the length of marriage increased.

The significance of the composition of the village value of family living by groups of goods and services consumed was lessened by the very small number of couples with children in the longer periods of marriage for both owners and tenants. In general the composition trends for village owners were considerably unlike those of the open-country.

As the duration of marriage increased, representing the period of declining values of living (Fig. 10), the proportions devoted to the subsistence items for the village owners rose, while for incidental items they apparently decreased. Proportions expended for advancement followed much the same trends as those for the open-country. Health expenditures, as related to total value of living, were small, grew larger, became medium, and were again small as the family life cycle progressed. Though more irregular, the trends for village tenants were somewhat comparable to those for open-country families. The open-country families and the village tenants seem to have used smaller proportions of their value of living for housing and maintenance during the periods of greatest income and work energy. This made it possible to increase the proportions allotted to advancement and in some instances to automobiles and incidentals.

**Clothing Costs for Age and Sex Groups.**<sup>26</sup>—In the present study clothing costs of individuals in both sexes followed a cyclical pattern with age as an important factor (Figs. 12 and 12A). Such costs for the offspring living in village families were highest for females in the age group 21 to 24, averaging \$48, and for males in the age group 24 to 27, averaging \$50. In the open-country, females spent the most, \$37, within the age group 21 to 24; males averaged the highest, \$35, within the group 24 to 27.

The pattern of clothing expenditure is significant when related to the phenomenon of courtship and marriage. It is not uncommon for parents to skimp in order that their children of the mating age may have desired clothing. In fact, expenditures for apparel for offspring were highest during the marriageable ages, except for seven daughters, 45 to 60 years of age. They resided with their families and were employed in the villages in which they lived. Fig. 12A which indicates the pattern of or expenditure for offspring, supports the sociologists' contention that much economic behavior is not to be interpreted without the analysis of sociological factors. Though there is no great increase in the requirements for bodily protection from the elements during the marriageable age, actual expenditures for clothing certainly do increase. When Figs. 12 and 12A are compared it may be seen that parents decrease the amount spent for their own clothing during the period when expenditures for the children's clothing are greatest.

26. All values given in dollars are taken from unpublished tables.

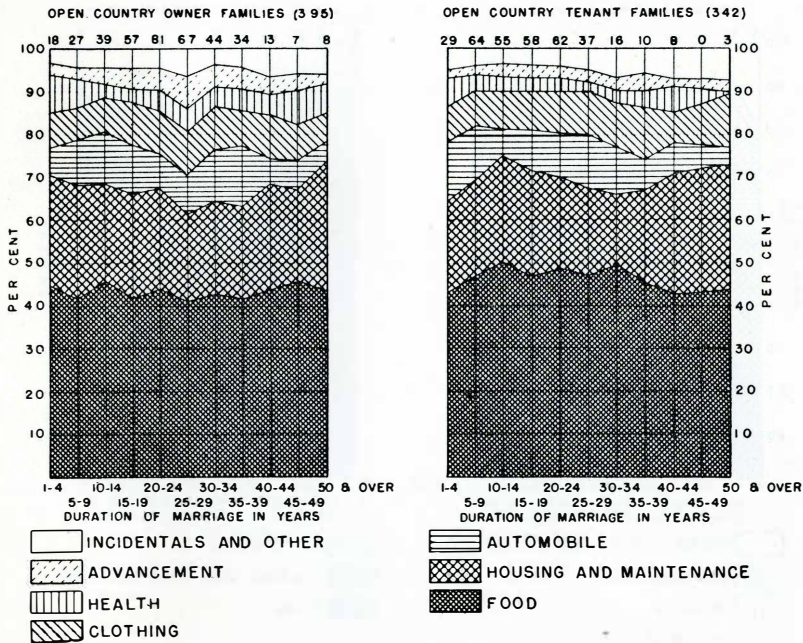


Fig. 11—Distribution of goods and services during the family life cycle of open-country couples with children, six South Dakota counties, 1935

The clothing costs for male heads and homemakers of both village and open-country families averaged approximately \$29 for the 24-27 year age group. In the open-country the expenditures for clothing were found to be less when older groups were considered. Among villagers, on the other hand, male heads and homemakers in the groups ranging from 27 to approximately 45 years old made greater expenditures than those who were between 24 and 27 years of age. Clothing costs for male heads and for homemakers followed about the same patterns for village families, although the homemakers from 27 to 30 years of age expended the most. Both male heads and homemakers in the open-country tended to decrease their clothing expenditures for the groups over 24 years of age, and in the village for those over 27 years of age.

Offspring of marriageable age living at home spent considerably more than did husbands and wives in any of the age groups (Figs. 12 and 12A). In this respect unmarried but marriageable offspring conform to the first part of Rowntree's poverty cycle. The periods before and during the first years of marriage are characterized by relative plenty. This period of "comparative prosperity" continues after marriage until two or three children are born. After this, his families sink below the poverty line, rising only when the children are old enough to assist the parents.<sup>27</sup>

27. Rowntree, B. S., *Poverty, A Study of Town Life*, New Edition, Longmans, Green & Company, New York, 1920, pp. 160 ff.

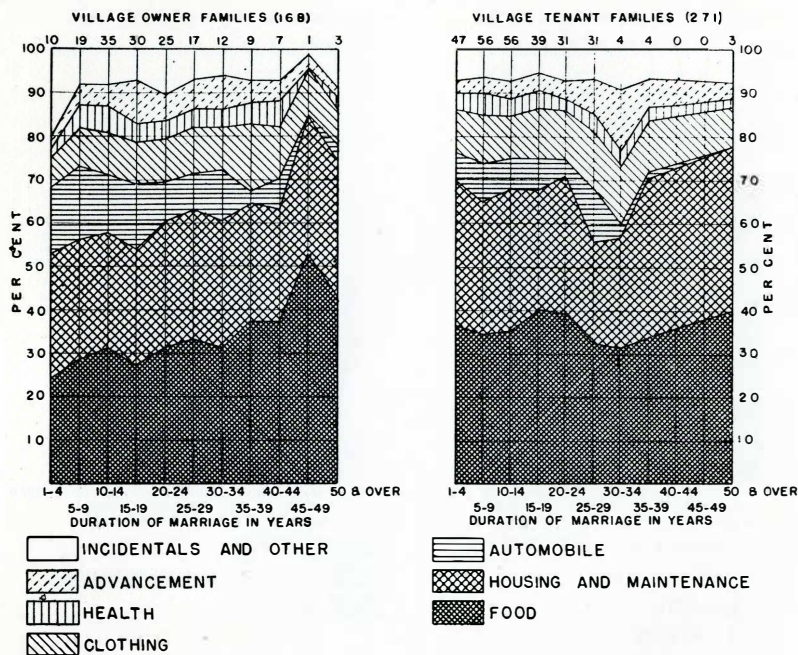


Fig 11A—Distribution of goods and services during the family life cycle of village couples with children, six South Dakota counties, 1935

**Education of Male Head and of Homemaker.**—The male heads of both farm and village families completed an average of 7.8 grades in school. There was only a slight difference between the average grade completed by the farm homemaker, 8.1, and by the village homemaker, 8.6. More significant were the variations between owners and tenants. In each residential division both tenant male heads and tenant homemakers had completed more years of school than the owner groups. As the tenants and their wives are on the whole younger than the owners and their wives, they have had the advantage of the more recently increased educational advantages. Although amount of formal education is correlated positively with value of family living, this factor, like that of the number of male workers, was not enough to compensate for the greater family living values accruing from ownership (Tables 8A and 8B, Appendix).

The relation between total value of family living and education was consistent and decisive. Each succeeding higher value of family living was accompanied by a greater average of grades of school completed. The farm families with values of living under \$500 averaged only 6.1 grades completed by the male head and 4.6 by the homemaker. The farm families with \$1,000 in values of living average 8.2 grades completed for the male heads and 8.9 for the homemakers. Similar relationships held for both residence and tenure groupings (Tables 8A and 8B, Appendix).

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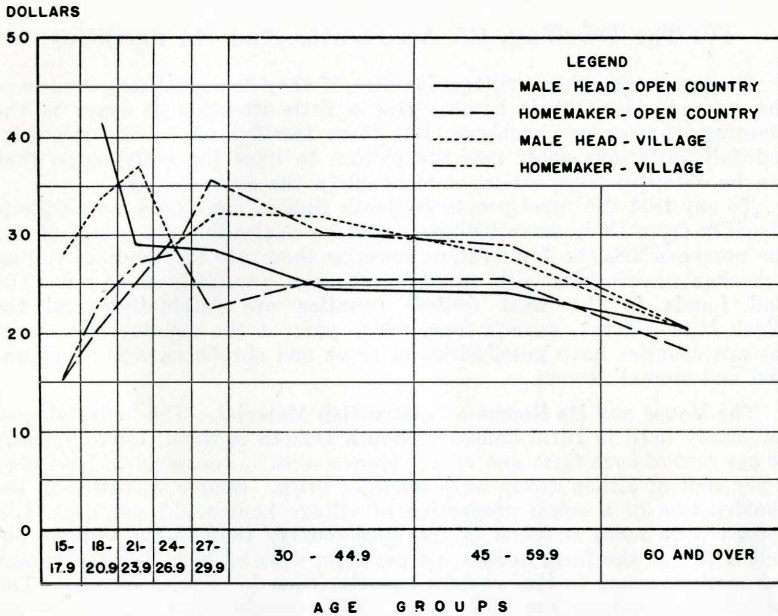


Fig. 12—Average expenditure for clothing for male heads and for homemakers in 1101 open-country and 774 village families in six South Dakota counties, 1935

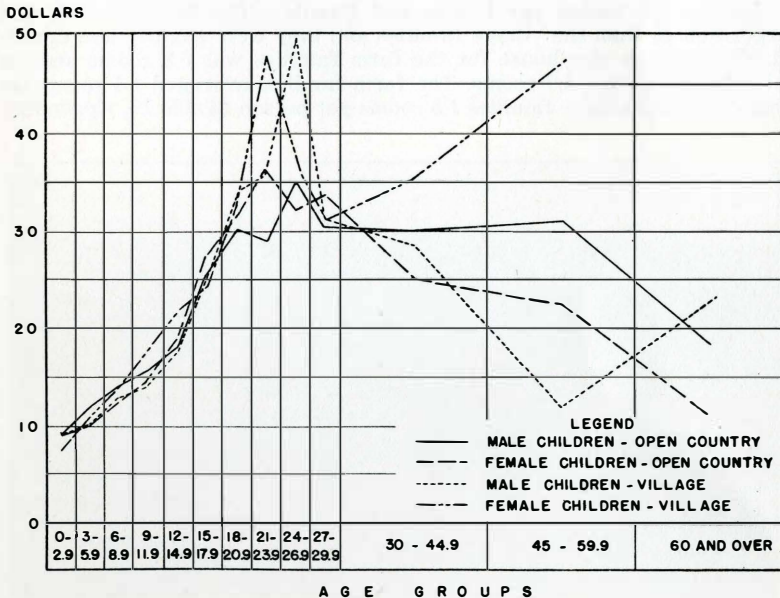


Fig. 12A—Average expenditure for clothing of male and female children in 1,101 open-country and 774 village families in six South Dakota counties, 1935

#### IV. The Dwelling, Its Accessories And Its Facilities

**Environment.**—Some village families, if they do not actually landscape the grounds about their homes, give a little attention at least to the planting of trees or shrubbery. But these families are in the minority. Rainfall variations enter into the picture to limit the satisfaction that can be obtained from attempts to beautify the surroundings.

To say that the rural people of South Dakota can derive no aesthetic pleasure from their surroundings would be misleading. In many of the far northern and the far western counties there are stretches of rolling unbroken prairie land with an impressiveness peculiarly their own. The Bad Lands in the west central counties are fascinating and the Black Hills attract tourists from every part of the country. The more eastern counties have possibilities of trees and shrubs as well as perennial and annual flowers.

**The House and Its Rooms—Construction Material.**—The material most commonly used in rural houses of South Dakota is wood; approximately 90 per cent of both farm and village houses were so constructed. Less than 1 per cent of either group were made of brick. Stucco was used in the construction of a small proportion of village houses, 2.7 per cent. Log houses were more common in the open-country than in the village, but only a few of the farm houses, 1.4 per cent, were of logs. The log houses are more common in the western counties than in eastern counties. The counties in or near the Hills area have a considerable number of log houses. Sod houses are not uncommon in Perkins county, some are built at the present time (Fig. 13-14 B) and (Table 9, Appendix).

**Number of Rooms per Person and Family.**—The farm families had larger houses than the village families and they were slightly less crowded. The average size house for the farm families was 5.8 rooms and for the village families 4.7 rooms. The farm families averaged 1.4 rooms per person and the village families 1.3 rooms per person (Table 10, Appendix).

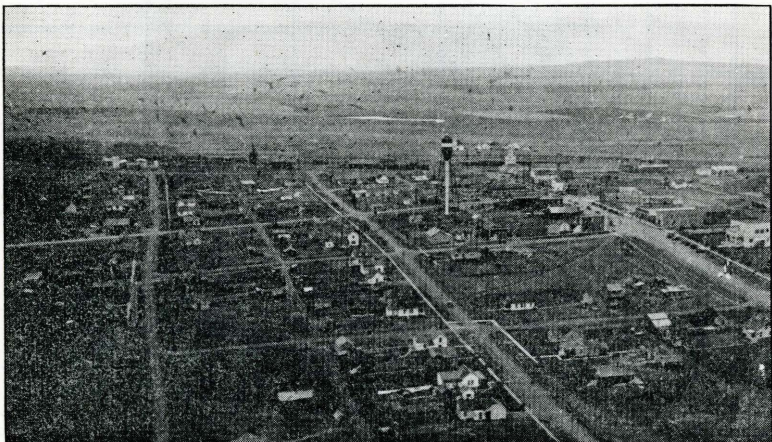


Fig. 13—Murdo, South Dakota, village environment

The number of rooms per house is one factor that does not change widely in a short period of years. For this reason these data are comparable with the same factors measured in other regions in recent years. Kirkpatrick reported in *The Farmer's Standard of Living* in 1926 average sizes of houses for the farmers of New England to be 9.6 rooms with 2 rooms per person; southern states 5.6 rooms, with 1.2 rooms per person;

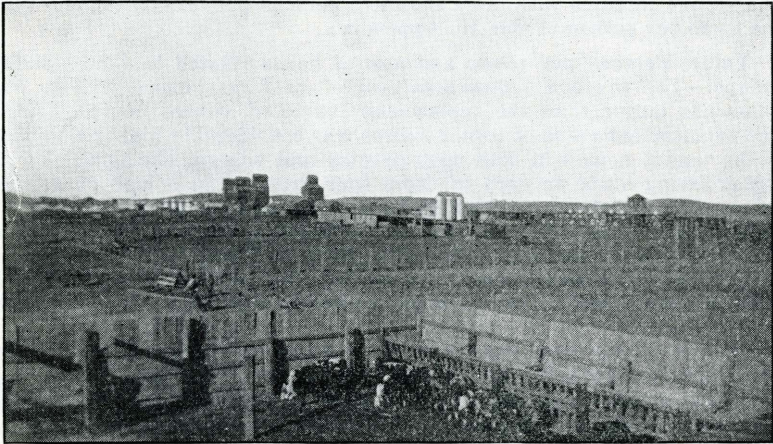


Fig. 13A—Lemmon, South Dakota, village environment

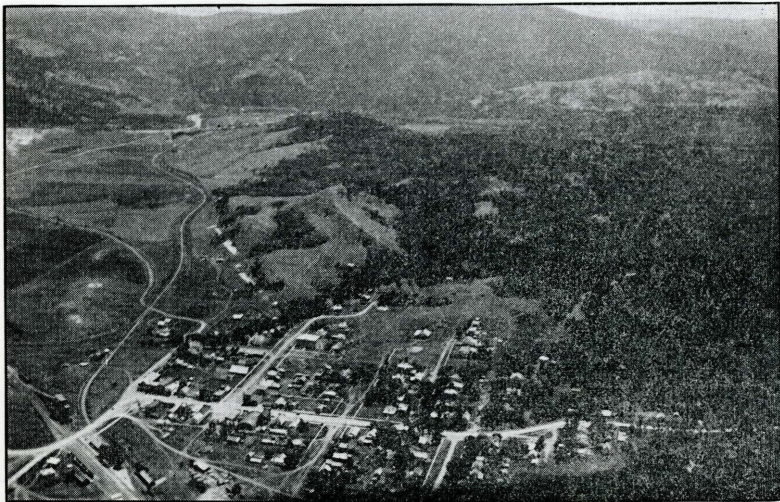


Fig. 13B—Whitewood, South Dakota, village environment



and northern states 6.9 rooms, with 1.5 rooms per person. This study of South Dakota shows farm houses closest to those of the southern states in average number of rooms and closest to the northern states in density of population.<sup>28</sup>

The houses in the open-country increased in number of rooms as the family increased in size, but not in the same proportion nor with the same consistency. The houses of large families had become more crowded. Farm families with more than six persons had less than one room per person. The village families with more than five persons per family had less than one room per person (Table 10, Appendix).

**Value, Persons per room, and age of house related to family living groups.**—The average replacement value<sup>29</sup> of farm houses, \$1,340, was somewhat larger than the replacement value of village houses, \$1,220. The replacement value of owner houses was considerably higher than that of the tenant houses in both open-country and village. The families with higher living value in each of these four groups had houses of greater values. The variations of value of house with value of family living were significantly large. The farm families with living expenditures under \$500 lived in houses with an average value of \$160. Those with living values of 1,000 or more had houses with average value of \$1,700. Similar variations were found in the various residential and tenure groups (Table 11, Appendix).

Houses in the open-country were older than houses in the villages. The houses occupied by owners were younger than those occupied by tenants. The average age for houses of farm families was 28.2 years; and for village families, 25.5 years; for farm-owner families, 26.8 years; for

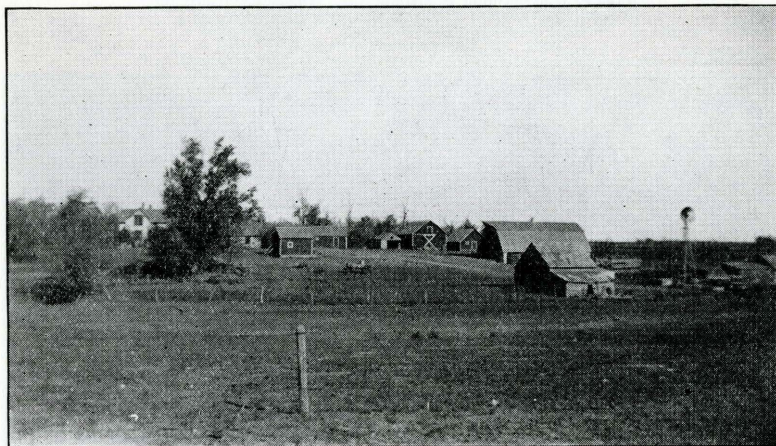


Fig. 14—An average general farm in Yankton county, open-country environment

28. Black, J. P. and C. C. Zimmerman, *Research in Farm Family Living—Scope and Method* P. 65, Social Science Research Council, New York, April, 1933.

29. Cost of purchasing house of similar material, construction, and quality in the same community.

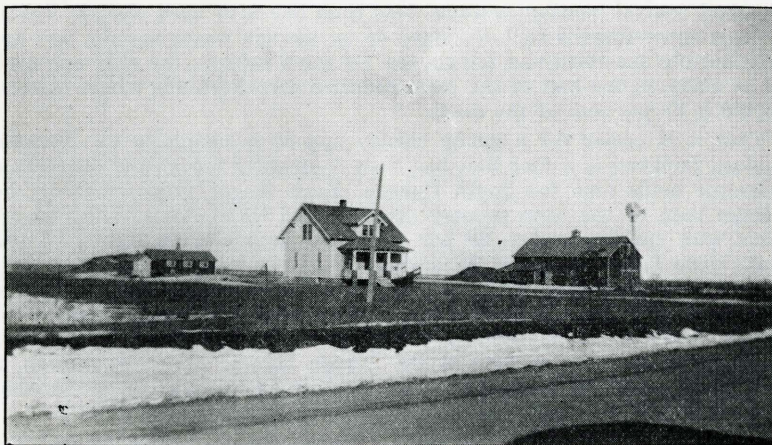


Fig. 14A—A general farm in Faulk county, South Dakota, open-country environment

farm-tenant families, 30.1 years; for village owners, 24.5 years and for village tenants, 26.4 years. For village families there was a tendency for the age of the house to decrease as the value of family living increased. This tendency did not appear for the farm dwelling although both owners and tenants with lowest value in living occupied the oldest house (Table 11, Appendix).

The density of population in the house was measured by the number of persons per room. Table 11 presents the density in relation to value of farm living. Although an increase in family living was usually accompanied by an increase in average number of persons in the house, an increase in family living not always was accompanied by an increase in density of living (Table 11, Appendix). As the family living rose, the number of persons per room declined definitely in the farm owner and farm tenant groups, but it just as definitely rose in the village-tenant group. The relationship was irregular for the village-owner group, but the trend was generally downward. Farm owners with value of living under \$500 averaged 2.01 persons per room, those with values of living of \$500 to \$749 averaged 1.59 persons, those from \$750 to \$999 averaged 1.43 persons and those with living value of \$1,000 or more averaged 1.36 persons. Farm tenant averages followed a similar pattern but were smaller on the whole than the owners (Table 11, Appendix).

**Accessories and Facilities,—Accessories and Residence.**—The accessories and facilities used to portray the material standard of living were five in number; heating system, lighting system, water supply, telephone, and radio. The data regarding their presence or absence are presented in relation to residence, tenure status, and income groups (Tables 23a and 23b, Appendix). Comparisons among open-country and village families and owner and tenant families, although indicating difference, are not so important as the fact that large proportions of each group did not possess these facilities. Only 12 per cent of the farm fam-

ilies had central heating systems, less than one-fifth used electric lights, at least three-fourths still depended on an outside water supply, and approximately one-third had telephones. Of the 5 indices, the only one used by as many as one-half of the farm families was the radio, which was reported in 58 per cent of the cases.

That it is easier for a group closely spaced horizontally to establish modern facilities is a fact that has been frequently recognized. The same principle holds true for South Dakota. Much larger proportions of the village than of the open-country families had these items. The proportions with running water, 69 per cent, and with electric lights, 76 per cent, were large compared to open-country proportions. However, less than one-fourth of the village families had furnaces. Approximately one-fourth of them used kerosene or gasoline lamps, and nearly one-third carried water for home use from an outside source. Telephones, which were installed in only 20 per cent of the village homes, were less numerous than in the open-country; but among the village families the proportion with radios, 62 per cent, was greater than among farm families.

**Household Accessories and Tenure Status.**—As is generally true for other areas, farm owners enjoyed the use of more of these facilities than farm tenants (Table 23a, Appendix).

**Household Accessories and Value of Living.**—As the value of living rose for farm families, both owners and tenants, there was an increase in proportions with furnaces, electric lights, telephones, and radios. Among both tenure groups in the villages, likewise, these household accessories, as well as indoor water supplies, became more prevalent as the value of living increased (Tables 23a and 23b, Appendix).

**County Variations in Household Accessories and Facilities.**—One of the best means by which counties can be compared is by an analysis of the accumulation of household accessories or facilities necessitating more than one year to acquire, for their presence or absence may indicate the

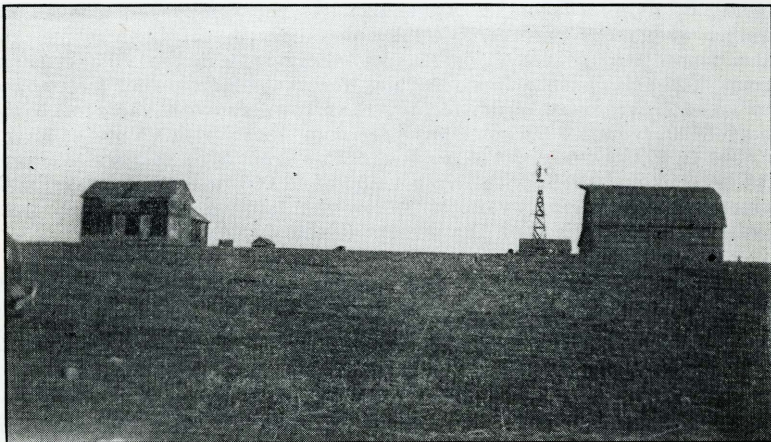


Fig. 14B—A general farm scene in Perkins county, open-country environment

relative standards of living. A comparison of values of living for one year reveals the standard for that 12-month period only; a comparison of the possession of household accessories and facilities has the advantage of revealing the standard for several years.

The accessories and facilities used to determine the material standard of living for the different farming areas of South Dakota, as represented by these six counties, were power washing machines, electric lights, central heating systems, inside water supply, telephone, radio, and automobile mileage over 2,500. Each county was given six points for every convenience in which it ranked first, five points for every one in which it ranked second, etc. The county with the greatest number of points was then ranked first, the county with the next largest number of points was given second place, etc.

The various percentages on which this ranking system was based are presented in Fig. 15 for open-country farm owners and open-country farm tenants, and in Fig. 16 for village families. For example, Yankton county owner families ranked first in the possession of power-washing machines with 65 per cent of the families in the sample reporting these machines. Codington county was second, 56 per cent of its owner families having such equipment; Lawrence county was third, with 54 per cent; Faulk county was fourth, with 52 per cent; Perkins county was fifth, with 51 per cent; and Jones was sixth, with 42 per cent. After the various counties had been assigned points for each facility, the final computation showed that Yankton and Lawrence counties were first in the possession of household accessories and facilities. Codington was third; Faulk, fourth; Jones, fifth; and Perkins, sixth.

Three groups of counties differentiated on the basis of eight indices calculated to indicate standard of living for 1930 are shown in Fig. 18. Comparison of these counties in 1930 and in 1935 shows the relative status of each regarding the adoption of home conveniences. Yankton was in the upper group in 1930 as well as in 1935. Lawrence, which was in the middle group in 1930, ranked as high as Yankton in 1935. The comparative prosperity of the Hills area during the past five years helps to explain the rise. Faulk county, which dropped to the middle group, owed its lower status in 1935 as much to the extreme economic difficulties experienced by the central counties of South Dakota as to the rise of Lawrence. The two counties, Jones and Perkins, which were comparatively low in 1930, were in the same relative position as to home conveniences in 1935.

The final ranking for the tenants revealed that as far as this group was concerned the relation of the counties in 1935 was the same as in 1930. Lawrence was again in the middle group and Faulk was one of the upper two of the sample (Fig. 15, p. 58).

With the exception of radios, no village index was included in the standard of living map for 1930. As indicated before in the discussion of the value of living, the counties as sampled by villages did not necessarily rank the same as the township sample would indicate. In the western counties villages were more often active trade centers than in the eastern counties where towns and cities diverted much of the trade. Thus, the fact that towns and cities were excluded from this study accounts for the situation which shows Perkins county as one of the

lower two in farm home facilities and as one of the upper two in village home facilities. Lemmon, the village selected in Perkins county, is the center of trade for a wide area, marketing many cattle (Fig. 13a, page 50). Yankton county was still first as represented by Lesterville and Mission Hill. Faulk county with the villages of Orient and Rockham ranked even with Perkins. Lawrence was fourth with Whitewood as the village selected there; Codington and Jones ranked as the two lower counties. Codington villages were represented by Wallace, Henry, and South Shore; Jones county, by Murdo (Fig. 16).

**Size of Farm and Presence of Household Accessories and Facilities.**—Slightly more than two-thirds of the 161 owners who operated farms above the average in size had power washing machines. Less than two-thirds of the 232 owner-operators with farms of average size and less than one-half of the 213 with farms below the average had such laundry facilities. A similar situation was found among the tenants. The proportions with power washing machines according to size of farm, largest, average and small were 64 per cent, 63 per cent, and 33 per cent respectively (Fig. 17).

As Fig. 17 indicates, greater proportions of the operators of the larger farms than of the operators of the smaller farms had electric lights, central heating systems, telephones, and radios. The operators of the larger farms covered a greater number of miles by automobile. The degree to which size of farm in this area is related to the presence of various home conveniences should be of particular interest to farm management specialists, manufacturers of those home conveniences, and to the farmers themselves.

The three categories of farms, large, average, and small were based on the mean average size of farm for each county as reported by the United States Census of Agriculture for 1935.

## V. Cash Income of Farm Operators

**Cash Income as Compared With Cash Expenditures.**—Farm expenditures including payments on mortgages for all farm property (except the dwelling) absorbed almost one-half the total cash income of either full or part-time farmers. Investments other than those for farm operation and property were negligible for the open-country families.

**Sources of Cash Income, Total Group.**—Only 66 per cent of the total cash incomes for full and part-time farmers came from Agricultural Adjustment Administration payments and from the sale of farm products. Borrowing, which accounted for 15 per cent of the total cash incomes, was the next most important source. Wages earned by operators and other members of their families supplied 7 per cent. Cash relief supplied an insignificant proportion (.7 per cent) of the total, but contributed somewhat more (2.3 per cent) to the cash outlay of village families. For village families, wages of operators and other family members contributed 66 per cent of the cash incomes. Table 12 shows the sources of cash income for both open-county and village families in the 6 counties studied.

**County Variations as to Sources of Net Cash Income.**— When the counties were compared by net cash incomes some interesting and signi-

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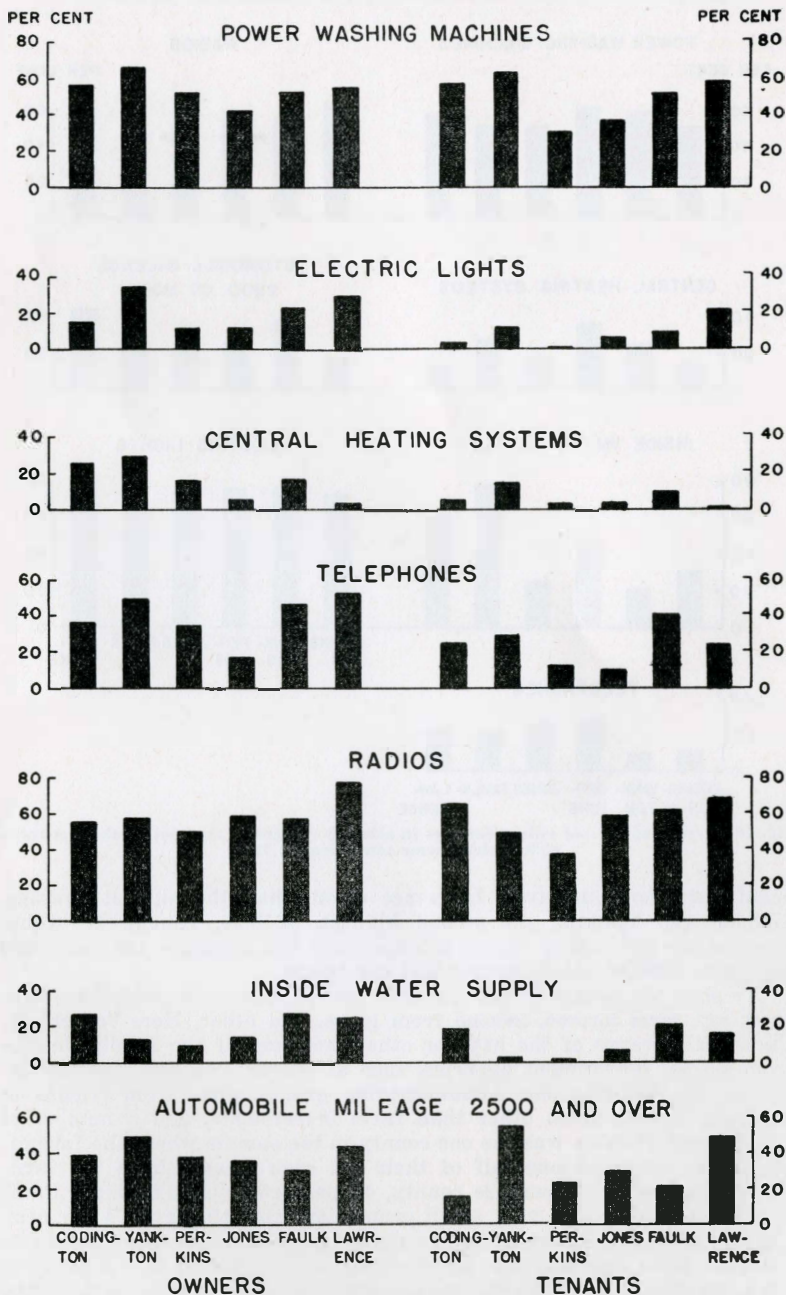


Fig. 15—Percentage of 1045 open-country families in six selected counties of South Dakota with various home conveniences

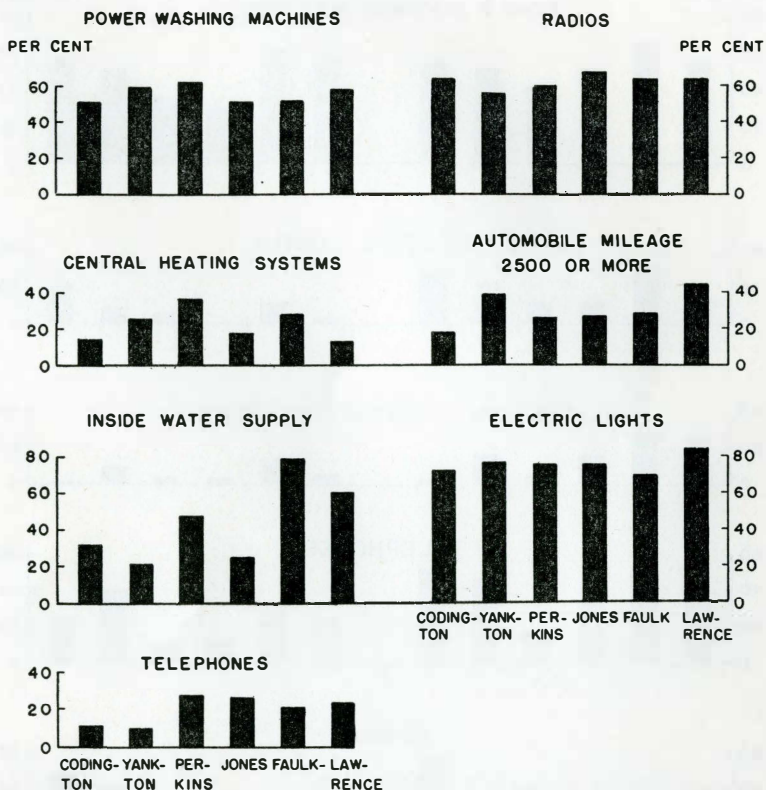


Fig. 16—Percentage of 844 village families in selected villages of six South Dakota counties with various home conveniences, 1935

ficant variations appeared. Lawrence county had the highest average, \$748.50, and Yankton the second highest, \$618.90. Among the other counties the differences were not important, the averages ranging from \$537.30 to \$566.60. Faulk county had the lowest.

To show the source of the net cash income, three classifications were used: net farm income, income from loans, and other. Here "other" included cash wages of the head or other members of the family, income from special government agencies, such as Works Progress Administration or the Resettlement Administration grants, gifts from friends or relatives, income from other than farm investments, and a number of minor items. Perkins was the one county in the sample where the farmers secured as much as one-half of their net cash income from the farm. The proportion for Lawrence county, 45 per cent, was also high. Faulk county received only a very small proportion from the farm, 4 per cent, and Jones county residents had to resort to loans and other sources to meet the farm expenditures. By studying the derivation of net cash income the degree to which the cash living expenditures were met by the farm may be seen (Table 13, Appendix).

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TABLE 4.—Cash income compared with expenditures for family living, operation of farm or garden, and investments for 1,101 open-country families and 774 village families in 6 counties, South Dakota, 1935

Item	Open-country				Village			
	Owners Average	Per cent	Tenants Average	Per cent	Owners Average	Per cent	Tenants Average	Per cent
Number of families	646		455		376		398	
Total Income <sup>1</sup>	\$1,724		\$1,199		\$923		\$847	
Cash income	1,645		1,172		882		836	
Funds from reserve <sup>2</sup>	79		27		41		11	
Total expenditure <sup>1</sup>	1,731	100	1,223	100	928	100	851	100
Cash expenditures for family living	761	44	616	50	789	85	784	92
Cash expenditures for farm operation	876	51	569	47	15	2	7	1
Total investments	52	3	23	2	91	10	44	5
Money placed in reserve <sup>3</sup>	42	2	15	1	33	3	16	2
Payments on mortgages and other debts <sup>4</sup>	162		74		23		1	

1. Cash income and money taken from reserve should equal cash expenditure plus money placed in reserve. Failure of interviewed families to give absolutely accurate amounts of expenditures and incomes accounts for the slight discrepancies.

2. Funds from reserve are not actually income. They represent decreases in checking accounts and cash on hand at the end of the schedule period as compared with the beginning.

3. Money placed in reserve is the amount by which checking accounts and cash on hand were increased at the end of the schedule year over this amount at the beginning of the year.

4. That part of payments on mortgages and other debts apportioned as payment for the dwelling is included as cash expenditure for family living. See the discussion of rent. The remainder is included under farm expenditure.

Lawrence county had to rely least upon borrowed money for living expenditures, averaging only 8 per cent of its net cash income from loans. Yankton, with 26 per cent coming from this source, also manifested comparatively little necessity for borrowing. Perkins and Codington were the medium counties in this respect. The two counties with the least proportion of net cash income from the farm, Jones and Faulk, had to resort heavily to borrowing. Each of the two secured funds for more than one-half the cash living expenditures from loans. Jones county, which produced no net income from farms, actually showed a loss of more than \$100 on farm operations (Table 13, Appendix).

A large proportion of the net cash income for the farmers in each county came from the sources classified as "other." Sixty per cent of the net cash income for Jones county and almost one-half of that for Yankton and for Lawrence can be explained in this way. Faulk and Perkins each obtained a relatively small, and Codington a rather high, proportion from other sources.

**Factors Influencing the Size of the Net Cash Income.**—Several factors were related to the size of the net cash income. Among these were tenure status, the type of farm, the size of farm, the value of farm and buildings, the amount of working capital expended, and the age of the head of the family. All of these factors are shown in Table 14 in relation to two groups of farm operators—those whose net cash income was below \$500 and those whose net cash income was \$500 and above.

The tenure status has an important bearing upon the size of the net cash income. In spite of taxes, farm building upkeep, and payments on interest or mortgages, the farm owners apparently were in a better position as regards net cash returns than were the tenants. It is possible



that in 1935 the farm owners may have left considerable taxes, interest, or mortgage payments unpaid. The data available, however, showed that over one-half of the farm owners received net cash incomes above \$500 (Table 14, Appendix).

In South Dakota the type of farm is also related to the net cash income. Within the counties studied the farmers were divided by type of farm into cash-grain, general, animal-specialty and livestock, and other farmers (Table 14, Appendix). Among farm owners who operated animal-specialty and livestock farms, the proportion receiving net cash incomes of \$500 or above was somewhat larger than among owner-oper-

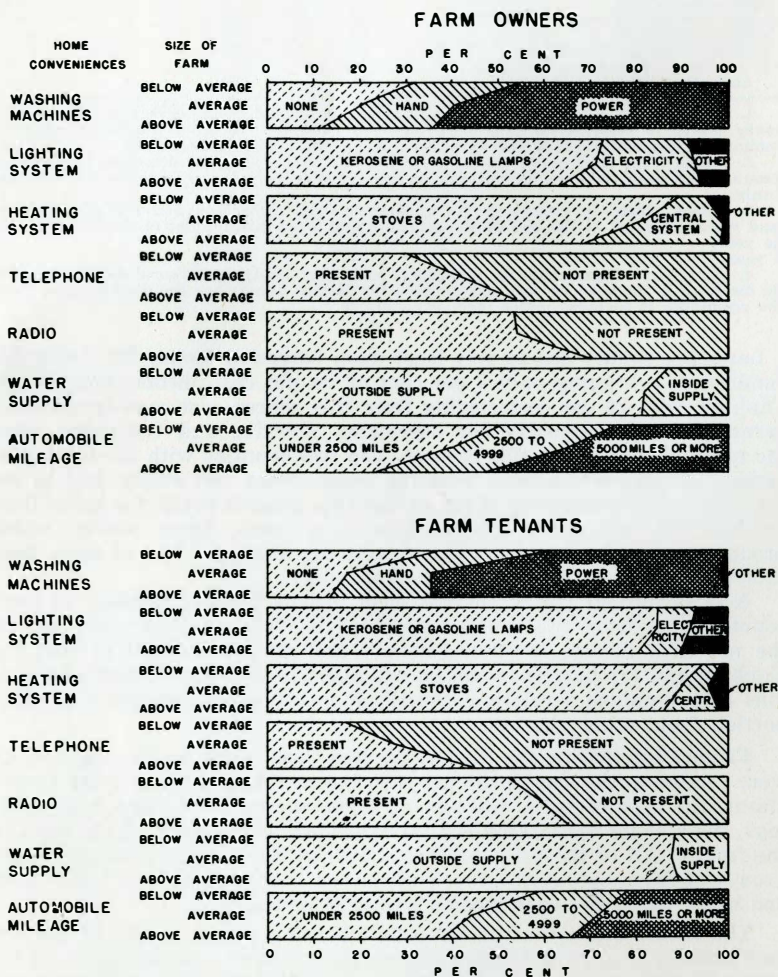


Fig. 17—Home conveniences of 606 farm owners and 439 farm tenants whose major occupation was farming, by tenure status and size of farm, South Dakota, 1935

ators in the other categories. Fifty-six per cent of the owners operating animal-specialty and livestock farms received the higher incomes, while those operating other types of farms were second with 53 per cent in the higher income group. Of the cash-grain farm owners and of the owners of general farms, 52 per cent and 51 per cent respectively were in the higher-income group.

For tenants as well as for owners, animal-specialty and livestock farming produced more net cash income during 1935 than other types of agricultural enterprise. Forty-three per cent of the farm tenants operating animal-specialty and livestock farms had net cash incomes of \$500 or above. Forty per cent of those with cash-grain farms, 37 per cent of those operating general farms, and 36 per cent of all others received the higher incomes (Table 14, Appendix).

A close association of larger farms and larger net cash incomes seemed prevalent. The farmers were grouped into three classes by size of farm operated: those operating farms below the average, those operating average-size farms, and those operating farms above the average. The significance of the influence of size of farm on the size of net cash income is shown by the wide variation in the proportion of each of those three groups that had net cash incomes of \$500 and above. Only 35 per cent of the farm owners operating farms below the average in size had incomes of \$500 or more, whereas slightly over one-half of the owner-operators with farms classified as average, and three-fourths of those with farms above the average received the higher incomes (Table 14, Appendix).

The value of farm and buildings is to some extent dependent upon the size of the farm. For estimating the worth of farm buildings, four values were used: less than \$5,000; \$5,000-\$9,999; \$10,000-\$14,999; and \$15,000 or more. It might be anticipated that the data would show corresponding relationships between farm buildings thus classified and averages for net cash income. This proved to be true, both for owners and tenants (Table 14, Appendix).

The amount of capital invested in the farm business<sup>30</sup> was a factor influencing the size of income. Farmers classified by farm expenditures constituted three categories: those who used less than \$250, those who used \$250-\$499 and those who used \$500 or more. Among owners, approximately one-third of the first group, one-half of the second, and three-fourths of the third had incomes of \$500 or more. A similar condition held true for tenants. Two groups of combination expenditures<sup>31</sup> were used in the analysis, namely, less than \$250 and \$250 or more. Thirty-eight per cent of the owners spending less than \$250 in combination expenditures had net cash incomes of \$500 or more, but 69 per cent of those spending \$250 or more were in the higher income group. Again the data for the tenants corroborated the trend indicated by the data for the owners (Table 14, Appendix).

30. Capital invested includes: Expenditures for labor, purchase of livestock, care of livestock, purchase and rental of machinery, repairs, buildings, land and other incidental farm expenditures.

31. Combination expenditures refer to expenditures which were difficult to assign to either living or farm expenditures. They included taxes, expenditures for rent as pasture land rent, payments on mortgages, and other indebtedness, refinancing charges, travel fares, and automobile expenditures.

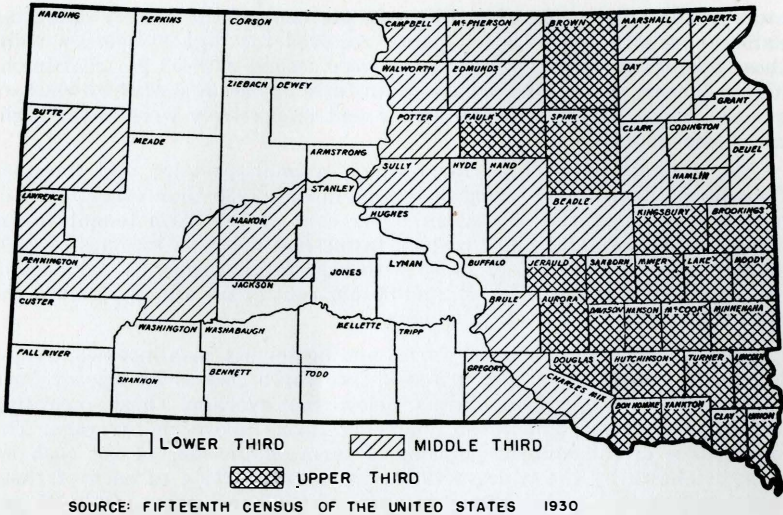


Fig. 18—South Dakota counties divided into three groups according to the standard of living, on the basis of eight indices for farm families,\* 1930

\*For explanation of methods of construction of this index, see footnote 4, p. 9.

The age of the head of the family was related to the size of the net cash income. A larger proportion of the middle-aged group than of the younger and older groups had net cash incomes of \$500 or more. According to age, the three groups were comprised of farm operators under 35 years of age, those 35-54 years of age, and those 55 years of age and over. There were few owners in the first group, but the second and third groups included 297 and 275 respectively.

The smallest group of tenants, which was the oldest, numbered only 64. In the youngest group, there were 118 tenants; in the middle-aged group, made up of those 35-54 years old, there were 257 tenants. Fifty-eight per cent of the owners in the middle-aged group received \$500 or more in net cash income, and 53 per cent of the youngest owners secured similar incomes. Less than 50 per cent of the oldest group of owners were as well paid for their work. Age among the tenants manifested a similar influence, except that the oldest tenants received more than the youngest tenants (Table 14, Appendix). These conclusions are similar to the results shown by the data on the family life cycle.

## VI. Some Non-Material Elements of the Standard of Living

**Education.**—The education of the heads of families of the home-makers was discussed in section III, **Characteristics of Families and Distribution of Value of Living.** The education of children not in school and in school is discussed in this section.

The extent of formal education among a group of people is an important factor in determining both the material and the non-material

standard of living. In South Dakota open-country families still find it relatively expensive to obtain for their children any formal education beyond the eighth grade. The cost of transportation or the cost of board and room away from home must be provided, as consolidated high schools offering transportation for students are comparatively few. For both open-country and village groups, charges for school supplies involve items other than textbooks. Clothing needed for school, for instance, is more expensive usually than that worn by children remaining at home. Hence

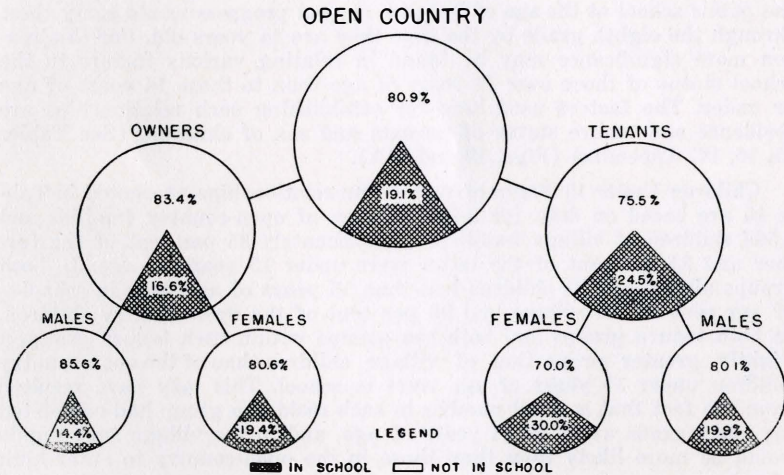


Fig. 19—Children 15 years of age or over who are at home and in school and not in school from 1,101 open-country families in six South Dakota counties, 1935

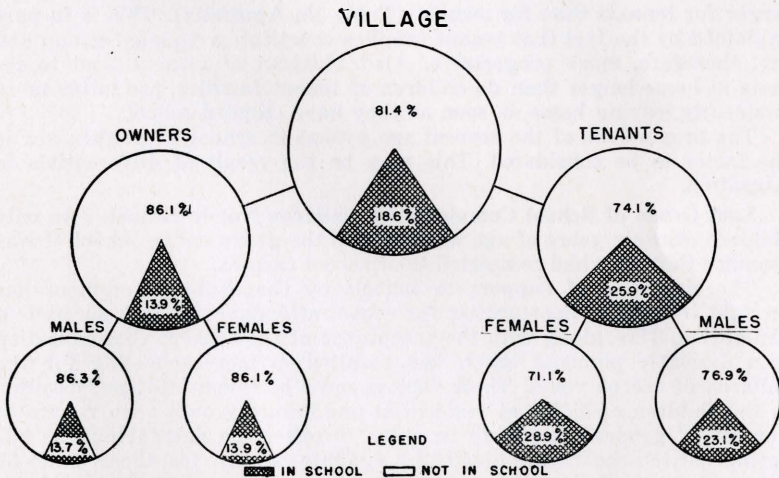


Fig. 19A—Children 15 years of age and over living at home who are in school and not in school—774 village families, six South Dakota counties, 1935

any attendance at high school or college by the children suggests that a family has an income beyond that needed for subsistence. It also indicates that the family appreciates the worth of an education and is willing to sacrifice more material elements for it, the choice often lying between a new car for the family and a year at college for a son or daughter.

The educational status of the children is indicated for two groups: those in school and those not in school. In South Dakota all children are required by law to attend school until the eighth grade is completed or until they have reached the age of 17 years. As the children usually enter the public school at the age of 6 years, normal progress would carry them through the eighth grade by the time they are 14 years old. For this reason more significance may be found in relating various factors to the school status of those over 14 years of age than to those 14 years of age or under. The factors used here for establishing such relationships are residence and tenure status of parents and sex of children. (See Tables 15, 16, 17, Appendix) (Figs. 19 and 19A).

**Children Under 15 Years of Age.**—The relationships presented in Table 15 are based on data for 2,522 children of open-country families and 1,569 children of village families. Approximately 35 per cent of the former and 34 per cent of the latter were under 15 years of age. In both groups almost all the children less than 15 years of age were in school—99 per cent of the village and 98 per cent of the open-country children. In both tenure groups and both sex groups within each tenure group, a slightly greater proportion of village children than of the open-country children under 15 years of age were in school. This may have resulted from the fact that a small number in each residence group had completed the eighth grade at 13 or 14 years of age, and in the village such pupils would be more likely than those in the open-country to enter high school.

**Children 15 Years of Age or Over.**—The proportion of children 15 years of age or over, who were living at home and attending school, was larger for tenants than for owners (Table 15, Appendix). This is in part explained by the fact that tenant families constitute a younger group and are, therefore, more progressive. Also, children of owners tend to remain at home longer than do children of tenant families, the latter more frequently leaving home as soon as they have stopped school.

The proportions of the several age groups in school vary when sex is the factor to be considered. This may be the result of differentials in migration.

**Last Grade of School Completed by Children Not in School.**—As only children over six years of age were used in the group not in school, it was assumed that they had completed their school careers.

The extension of support to schools by the State government has brought increased opportunities for school attendance to each succeeding generation. This, along with the acceptance of the concept that education is a desirable personal asset, has resulted in more schooling for the children of recent years. These factors must be taken into consideration in the children of different residential and tenure groups with regard to number of grades completed. In order to offset the age factor, the offspring not in school were divided by age into two groups, those under 35 years of age and those 35 years old or over. This made it possible to compare children born since and before the turn of the century.

The proportions<sup>32</sup> of children in the two age groups varied greatly according to the residence and tenure status of the parents. Among open-country families children not in school were younger than those of village families, and children of tenants were younger than those of owners.

Only 21 per cent of the daughters of open-country owner families were 35 years of age or more, but 47 per cent of the daughters of village families were 35 years old or over. In the open-country not more than 9 per cent of the female children of tenants were in the older group as compared with 17 per cent of those in the village. Similar variations are evident for the male group also (Table 16, Appendix).

Very noticeable was the consistency with which the data showed that the younger group of children had completed more grades before stopping school than the older children. With some few exceptions this held for all tenure and residence groups. Among the open-country farm owners almost one-half of the younger children had completed less than nine grades of school. A larger proportion, almost two-thirds, of the older children from the same group had finished less than nine grades. One-third of the younger group had completed at least one year of high school but little more than one-fifth of the older group had done so. Approximately one-sixth of the younger group had had some work in college but less than one-seventh of the older group had accomplished as much.

Although variations in formal educational achievements were chiefly related to the ages of the children, the residence and tenure status of the parents were also influential. In the open-country, fewer children of tenants than of owners had gone beyond the eighth grade. This was true for both males and females in each age classification, but it was more noticeable for the male children. In the village groups the tenure status seemed to have little influence; if any it was in the opposite direction (Table 16, Appendix).

As high school opportunities are more readily available to village children than to open-country children, a greater proportion of the former attend high school. This was true for both age groups.

However, of those who did complete high school, the proportions going into college were greater in the open-country than in the village. This was true of both tenure groups and both age groups for the female children, but it was not true for the younger male children (Table 16, Appendix).

**Last Grade Completed by Children in School Who Have Not Completed the Eighth Grade<sup>33</sup>.** — As previously stated it is customary in South Dakota for children to enter public school at the age of 6 years. Assuming normal progress, a child at the age of 9 years would have completed the second or third grade; one 10 years of age should have completed the third or fourth grade . . . . and one of 13 years, the sixth or seventh grade. These particular grades for corresponding ages were used as the normal grade to have been completed. The year in which the child's birthday falls influences the picture, but for residence and tenure comparisons the method is accurate (Table 17, Appendix).

Little or no difference in degree of retardation was apparent between the open-country and village groups, but the former did show some evi-

32. In the part of this section that follows, the children referred to are those over 6 years of age and not in school.

33. In the following part of this section, children referred to are those over 6 and under 18 years of age who have not completed the eighth grade.

dence of relatively further advancement. Of the farm children, 23 per cent had progressed beyond their normal grade, but only 21 per cent of the village children were similarly advanced. However, in considering age groups, the variation is not so significant. For example, of those 12 years of age, 40 per cent of the village children were above their normal grade, whereas only 34 per cent of the farm boys and girls were equally advanced (Table 17, Appendix).

The same situation existed when tenure status was considered. When each of the various age groups was considered as a whole, there seemed less retardation and more advancement for the children of the owner families.

**Reading Material.** — The open-country families provided themselves with more newspapers and magazines than did the village families.<sup>34</sup> Only 16.2 per cent of the open-country heads of households were without newspapers and just 27 per cent were without magazines; on the other hand, 26 per cent of the village households received no newspapers and 63 per cent, no magazines. Residence is more influential than tenure status in determining the number of subscriptions, as practically the same proportion of open-country tenants as of open-country owners reported no magazines. The same relationship was true for village tenants and village owners. However, tenants more often than owners were without newspapers (Table 18, Appendix).

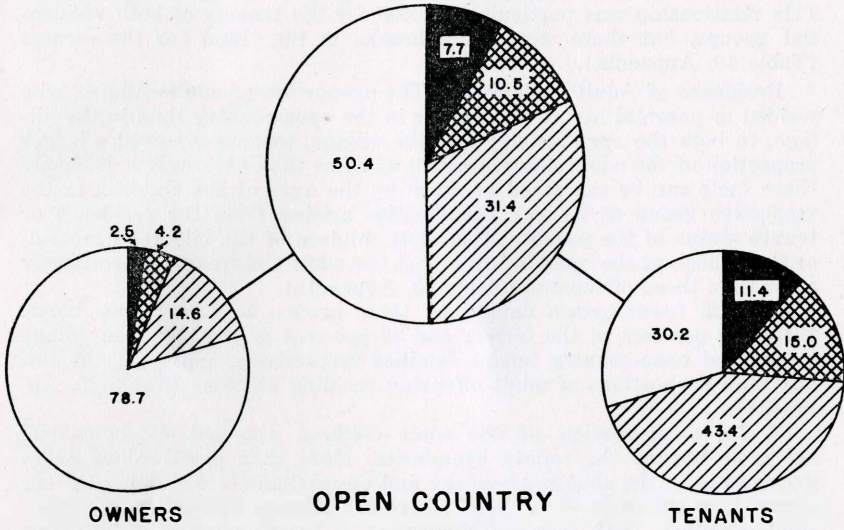
Approximately one-third of the open-country families were receiving a combination of two or more dailies and weeklies; 24 per cent of the village families had similar subscriptions. Moreover, a large proportion of the open-country families, 42 per cent, had two or more types of magazines while only 22 per cent of the village families reported a combination of magazines. Approximately one-fourth of the open-country families subscribed to farm magazines as compared with 4 per cent of the village families. Again, there was less difference between the various tenure groups than between the residential groups (Table 18, Appendix).

**Mobility, Spatial Mobility.**—The spatial mobility of the families in the survey was measured by the number of moves made from 1930 to 1935. No effort was made to determine whether the moves were from farm to farm, from village to farm, or from farm to village. The families who were residing in the village were much more mobile than the families living in the open-country, probably because of a greater movement from the open-country to the village than from the village to the open-country. Seventy-one per cent of the open-country families were stationary from 1930 to 1935, but only 50 per cent of the village families had made no moves in that period. As one would expect, the tenant families in both open-country and village were much more mobile than the owner families (Fig. 20).

Mobility as indicated by no move, one move, two moves, and three or more moves, was related to size of family, duration of marriage, and value of family living (Table 19, Appendix). In three of the four residential tenure groups the duration of marriage for the families with no moves was greater than for the families with one or more moves. With some minor exceptions the longer the duration of marriage the less the number of moves.

34. No attempt was made to measure the time spent in reading or the quality of reading material. Only the number of newspapers and magazines was considered. However, the village families had almost as little access to libraries as the open-country families, for only 2 of the 10 villages had public libraries.

VILLAGE



OPEN COUNTRY

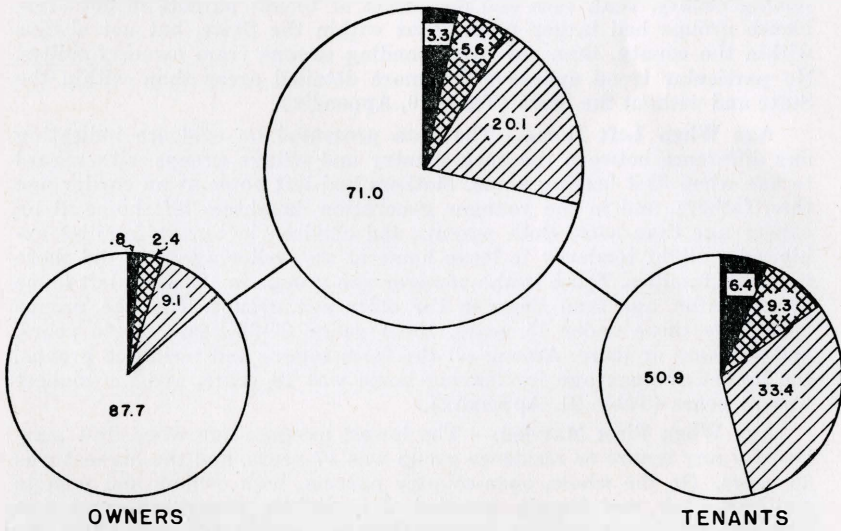


Fig. 20—Male heads of families, classified by number of moves 1930-1935 and by residence and tenure status, six South Dakota counties, 1935



As the number of moves increased the value of family living declined. This relationship was particularly close for the tenants of both residential groups, but there were more breaks in the trend for the owners (Table 19, Appendix).

**Residence of Adult Children.**<sup>35</sup>—The proportion of adult children who resided in parental homes was larger in the open-country than in the village. In both the open-country and the village, tenants reported a larger proportion of the adult children living at home than did owners. Probably these facts can be explained as much by the ages of the children in the respective group as by any peculiarities arising from the residence or tenure status of the parents. The adult children of the villages were older than those of the open-country, and the adult children of owners were older than those of tenants (Table 20, Appendix).

In 1935 fewer grown daughters than grown sons were at home. Fifty-one per cent of the former and 88 per cent of the latter, in village owner and open-country tenant families respectively, represent the low and high proportions of adult offspring residing at home (Table 20, Appendix).

A large proportion of the adult children who had left home had not gone beyond the county boundaries. More than one-third of every group were in the county of survey and approximately one-half of every group lived either in the county where the parents resided or in an adjoining county. Both sons and daughters of tenant parents in both residence groups had larger proportions within the State, but not always within the county, than did corresponding groups from owner families. No particular trend appeared for more detailed areas than within the State and without the State (Table 20, Appendix).

**Age When Left Home.**—The data presented no evidence indicating any difference between the open-country and village groups with regard to age when first leaving home. Mothers had left home at an earlier age than fathers, and in the younger generation daughters left home at an earlier age than sons. Both parents and children in tenant families exhibited a slight tendency to leave home at an earlier age than did those in owner families. Those in the younger age groups in 1935 had left home at an earlier age than those in the older age groups. The age groups used were those under 15 years, 15-24 years, 25-34 years, 35-44 years, and 45 years or more. Among all the farm tenure and residence groups, the lowest average age for leaving home was 18 years, and the highest was 24 years (Table 21, Appendix).

**Age When First Married.**—The lowest average age when first married for any tenure or residence group was 17 years, and the highest was 30 years. On the whole, open-country parents, both owners and tenants and both male and female, married at a slightly younger average age than did the village parents. Both parents and children of tenant families married at a younger age than those of owner families, the variations being larger in tenure groups as compared with residence groups. In all groups, females married at a younger age than males. For both males and females, the average age when married was higher in the older than in the younger age classifications. Village male parents 15 to 24 years reported an average age when first married of 20.4 years, but the average for those 45 years or more was 30.3 years (Table 22, Appendix).

35. Children 16 years of age or more.

The children who are married at the present time entered that status at an earlier age than did their parents. This is a variation that may be altered later as marriages occur among the older children who are now unmarried.

## Appendix

**Total Value of Family Living.**—The chief purpose of statistical standards-of-living studies has always been to depict the consumption practices and resources of families. Always there has been manifest in these studies an attempt to determine the "well being" of a given segment of a population.<sup>1</sup> Until recently research of this type was devoted largely to the families of working men in cities. Consequently, the cash expenditure was usually a relatively good index to the value of all goods consumed. In the case of full or part-time farm families the situation is different. The more nearly the farm family unit approaches self-sufficiency, the more difficult it becomes to determine the total value of family living.<sup>2</sup> A sizable portion of the goods consumed by most American farm families is produced on the farm. Students of the consumption of these families are, therefore, confronted with the difficulty of evaluating the goods which are charged to and produced on the farm and of determining which expenditures should be assigned to family living and which to farm enterprise.

**Housing and Maintenance.**—The combination of the categories insurance, repairs, and rent as used in these studies differs from that used in some other rural family living studies in that further refinements are introduced. In past studies it has been the general practice to ascertain the replacement or general value of the dwelling, then estimate an arbitrary proportion of this amount to be designated as rent furnished by the farm. This has been the method employed in determining the furnished value of housing even though cash rent may have been paid for the farm. If the farm were owned by the family, cash payments such as those for interest on mortgages and taxes on the farm property were not considered as entering this category. Thus there was no fine discrimination between that portion of the value of housing which was furnished by the farm and that which represented an actual cash payment.

In the present study the category called rent is broken into two separate parts—that which is furnished by the farm and that which represents cash payments. In order to accomplish this end a new category called rent equivalent is introduced. Rent equivalent equals insurance and repairs on the dwelling plus apportioned amounts of the cash payments made for interest on farm mortgage and for farm property taxes. The amounts for interest and taxes were calculated on the basis of the ratio of the replacement value of the dwelling to the total value of the farm and buildings, whereas insurance and repairs were always recorded on the schedule as chargeable to the dwelling.

1. For a history of these studies see Zimmerman, Carle C., "Consumption and Standards of Living," and Albrecht, G., "Haushaltungsstatistik-Eine literarhistorische und methodologische Untersuchung," Berlin, 1922, Carl Heymanns Ver.

2. For the difficulties encountered in reckoning the values of farm-produced items consumed by the family, see Black, John D. and Zimmerman, C. C., "Research in Farm Family Living,"—Scope and Method—Social Science Research Council, 230 Park Avenue, New York, April, 1933, pp.13 ff.

In some instances farm families actually made cash payments, designated as cash rent, for the use of dwellings. Some of the families paid cash rent for the entire farm in which case the total amount was divided into payments for the farm and for the dwelling on the same basis as that used in apportioning taxes and interest. The portion thus attributed as having been paid for the dwelling is called cash rent.

Rent furnished constitutes what is left of the amount representing 10 per cent of the replacement value of the dwelling after rent equivalent and cash rent have been deducted. Thus rent included (1) rent equivalent, (2) cash rent, and (3) rent furnished, all three categories equaling 10 per cent of the replacement value of the dwelling.

The value of fuel produced and consumed by the families is the amount the families claimed this item would have cost if purchased. Actual cash expenditures for preparing or procuring this fuel were included as its cash cost and formed a part of housing and maintenance.

Housing and maintenance included, in addition to rent and fuel (both furnished and purchased), furnishings and equipment, additions and alterations, and other household operation.

**Food Produced.**—In assigning an evaluation for goods produced on the farm or acquired by direct appropriation from the area, the amount which the family would have had to pay in stores from which groceries or other items were purchased, was used in the analysis. However, in the case of food, each family gave in addition the amount for which food could have been obtained if it had been sold at the farm. This figure does not appear in the study, but was used as a check on the value given, assuming the item had been purchased. The average value of the food produced and consumed, if calculated at prices which the families stated they could have obtained had it been sold at the farm, is always less than the figure used, namely the amount the food would have cost if purchased.

If the value of the food furnished by the farm had been estimated at its value if sold, the amounts would have been from 14 to 21 per cent less (Table 24).

TABLE 24.—Food furnished and consumed on farm, by average value if purchased and average value if sold, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Counties	Average value if purchased	Average value if sold	Variation	Per cent of variation of value if purchased
Codington	284.73	231.20	53.53	18.8
Yankton	274.21	222.80	51.41	18.8
Perkins	279.95	228.50	51.45	18.4
Jones	253.76	218.80	34.96	13.8
Faulk	351.63	296.60	55.03	15.7
Lawrence	265.54	210.20	55.34	20.8

**Automobile and Truck Expenditures.**—In any farm family, it is often the case that a motor vehicle sees service both on the farm and for family conveyance. It is difficult to determine what percentage of the expenditures for the car or truck as the case may be, should be assigned to family living costs. In this study, each family owning such a vehicle was asked to give information that would enable the enumerator to differentiate between the proportion chargeable to farm and to family living; however, these data were difficult to obtain.

In tabulating the findings, the following procedure was adopted. All

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automobiles, with their attendant expenses, were charged to family living. All trucks were included in the expenditures for farm operation, regardless of the use to which they were put. Trucks used for non-farm businesses do not appear in the tabulation, since only net income from non-farm businesses was obtained.

**Debts Incurred.**—The enumerators itemized expenditures to show whether they signified (1) cash paid on old debts, (2) new costs incurred and paid, or (3) new costs incurred but not yet paid. In analysis, however, only cash expenditures on bills paid up to date were used. The amount of indebtedness was not considered in the totals for goods and services received. It was assumed that the amounts paid on old debts would approximately balance debts incurred for purchase of goods during the schedule year.

The classification employed in grouping goods and services used in this study is as follows: <sup>1</sup>

**I. Housing and maintenance.**

Average value:

Open-country farm \$261

Village \$278

	Open-country Per cent	Village per cent
<b>A. Furnishings and Equipment</b> (Av. Val.: Open-country \$24) (per fam.: Village \$23)		
Total % A is of I -----	9.3	8.4
Total % Items 1-10 of A -----	100.0	100.0
1. Laundry -----	8.4	8.8
2. Sewing -----	2.1	.7
3. Heating -----	16.4	10.3
4. Lighting -----	9.2	5.2
5. Kitchen and table -----	7.8	4.5
6. Bedding and linen -----	10.3	7.4
7. Floor and window covering -----	6.5	17.8
8. Furniture -----	31.6	18.9
9. Other -----	5.6	22.4
10. Insurance on above -----	2.1	4.0
<b>B. Additions and alterations</b> (Av. val.: Open-country \$10) (per fam.: Village \$7)		
Total % B is of I -----	3.9	2.4
<b>C. Fuel (heating, lighting)</b> (Av. val.: Open-country \$74) (per fam.: Village \$86)		
Total % C is of I -----	28.3	30.8
Per cent fuel furnished -----	27.9	.5
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total % Items 1-6 of C -----	100.0	100.0
1. Electricity -----	4.6	24.2
2. Coal -----	63.4	52.1
3. Wood -----	7.1	6.0
4. Cash cost procuring, wood and coal -----	5.3	1.8
5. Gasoline, gas, kerosene -----	19.3	15.7
6. Other fuel -----	.3	.2

1. The schedule and instructions used in this study will be sent upon request made to the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, United States Department of Agriculture. More complete itemization is available in these sources.

D. Other household operation		
(Av. val.: Open-country \$17)		
(per fam.: Village \$21)		
Total % D is of 1 -----	6.4	7.6
Total % Items 1-6 of D -----	100.0	100.0
1. Telephone -----	18.7	17.7
2. Domestic help -----	11.5	17.3
3. Water bill (for household use) -----	12.8	24.3
4. Ice* (for household use) ----	3.6	7.2
5. Soap and cleanser -----	51.2	26.3
6. Other -----	2.2	7.2
E. Rent*		
(Av. val.: Open-country \$136)		
(per fam.: Village \$141)		
Total % E is of 1 -----	52.1	50.8
Per cent rent furnished -----	74.9	43.8
<hr/>		
Total % Items are of E -----	100.0	100.0
(A) Rent equivalent:	19.9	19.8
Open-country \$27		
Village \$28		
1. Repairs -----	13.1	20.2
2. Insurance -----	12.0	12.7
3. Taxes on house, interest on mortgage on house -----	74.9	67.1
(B) Cash rent: Open-country \$7	5.1	36.2
Village \$51		
(C) 10% value of dwelling minus (A) and (B): -----	75.0	44.0
Open-country \$102		
Village \$62		

		Open-country farm \$484	
II. Food		Average value:	
		Village \$279	
		Open-country	Village
		Per cent	Per cent
A. Purchased (Cost)			
(Av. val.: Open-country \$197)			
(per farm.: Village \$254)			
Total % A is of II -----		41.1	90.8
Total % Items 1-28 of A -----		100.0	100.0
		Open-country	Village
		Per cent	Per cent
1. Flour -----		15.33	8.2
2. Meal -----		.75	.3
3. Sugar -----		9.25	4.9
4. Syrup -----		1.97	1.0
5. Honey -----		.24	.2
6. Tea -----		.74	.4
7. Coffee -----		6.76	4.2
8. Poultry -----		.11	.7
9. Pork -----		3.59	6.9
10. Veal -----		.08	.2
11. Beef -----		4.92	8.6
12. Mutton -----		--	--
13. Lard or substitute -----		3.60	3.9
14. Milk (whole) -----		.62	9.2

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	Open-country Per cent	Village Per cent
15. Cream -----	.05	1.1
16. Butter -----	3.63	10.2
17. Oleo -----	--	--
18. Eggs -----	.34	4.2
19. Potatoes -----	3.77	3.9
20. Other groceries -----	16.54	12.3
21. Sweet potatoes and yams --	.10	.1
22. Root crops -----	.73	.7
23. Greens -----	3.09	3.5
24. Other vegetables -----	2.62	3.1
25. Fruits -----	9.49	6.2
26. All other fruits -----	.76	.8
27. Other food purchased -----	8.85	1.7
28. Meals away from home ----	2.07	3.5

B. Value of Food Produced and Consumed at Home.

Average value if purchased:

Open-country farm \$287

Village \$26

Total % B is of II. ----- 59.3 9.2

Total %	Items 1-26 of B	100.0	100.0
1. Flour -----		.61	--
2. Meal -----		.02	--
3. Sugar -----		--	--
4. Syrup -----		.02	--
5. Honey -----		.04	.20
6. Tea -----		--	--
7. Coffee -----		.04	--
8. Poultry -----		9.35	10.26
9. Pork -----		13.24	3.57
10. Veal -----		1.09	.08
11. Beef -----		6.60	1.41
12. Mutton -----		.62	.07
13. Lard or substitute -----		2.93	1.07
14. Milk (whole) -----		21.23	35.61
15. Cream -----		10.04	1.74
16. Butter -----		12.57	4.40
17. Oleo -----		--	--
18. Eggs -----		9.56	11.95
19. Potatoes -----		3.31	5.31
20. Other groceries -----		.03	--
21. Sweet potatoes and yams --		.01	--
22. Root crops -----		1.34	4.26
23. Greens (spinach, beet and other greens, asparagus, cauliflow- er, cabbage, kraut (can- ned), celery, lettuce, green onions, radishes, cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes) -----		4.07	11.47
24. Other vegetables -----		2.57	7.13
25. Fruits -----		.70	1.41
26. All Other Fruits -----		.01	.06

III. Clothing

Open-country farm \$97

Average cost:

Village \$88

## IV. Health, births, deaths.

	Open-country farm \$50	
Average cost:	Village \$42	
	Open-country	Village
	Per cent	Per cent
Total % Items 1-8 of IV	100.0	100.0
1. Doctor -----	41.1	38.5
2. Hospital and Nurse -----	13.2	19.7
3. Medicine, prescribed -----	11.5	7.0
4. Medicine, unprescribed -----	7.3	7.0
5. Dental -----	13.9	14.2
6. Oculist and glasses -----	7.8	10.4
7. Deaths, cemetery expenses ----	4.8	2.9
8. Other -----	.4	.3

## V. Advancement

	Open-country farm \$42	
Average cost:	Village \$49	
	Open-country	Village
	Per cent	Per cent
Total % Items 1-3 are of V -----	100.0	100.0
1. Formal education -----	30.9	33.7
2. Reading -----	16.2	12.7
3. Social Participation and Recreation -----	52.8	53.6
Per cent a-f are of 3		
a) Church expenditures -----	59.9	45.2
b) Other benevolences -----	2.4	2.2
c) Assessments, dues -----	6.0	13.7
d) Theatres, movies -----	16.4	21.0
e) Other types of social activity -----	10.4	11.3
f) Other recreation -----	4.9	6.6

## VI. Automobile

	Open-country farm \$120
Average expenditure:	Village \$76

## VII. Incidentals and other expenditures.

	Open-country farm \$58	
Average expenditure:	Village \$62	
	Open-country	Village
	Per cent	Per cent
Total % Items 1-9 of VII -----	100.0	100.0
1. Beers, wines, and hard cider --	5.2	8.4
2. Heavy alcoholic drinks -----	2.2	2.2
3. Gifts -----	18.5	20.3
4. Toilet articles and personal care -----	22.7	23.9
5. Candy, soda fountain expenditures -----	8.6	8.9
6. Tobacco -----	28.7	30.2
7. Photography -----	.6	1.7
8. Spending Money -----	12.4	3.3
9. Other -----	1.1	1.1

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TABLE 5. Distribution of average value per family and per adult male equivalent unit by groups of goods and services purchased and produced which were consumed by 1,101 open-country and 774 village families, six South Dakota counties, 1935.

Item	All Families			Owners			Tenants		
	Per cent distribution	Average in dollars Per family	Per A.E. <sup>1</sup>	Per cent distribution	Average in dollars Per family	Per A.E. <sup>1</sup>	Per cent distribution	Average in dollars Per family	Per A.E. <sup>1</sup>
<b>Open-Country<sup>2</sup>:</b>									
Total value of family living	100.0	1,111	330	100.0	1,182	361	100.0	1,011	290
Furnished	36.9	410	122	35.6	421	128	39.0	395	113
Purchased	63.1	701	208	64.4	761	233	61.0	616	177
Housing and maintenance	23.5	261	77	23.9	282	86	22.8	230	66
Furnished	46.9	123	36	45.4	128	39	49.6	114	33
Purchased	53.1	138	41	54.6	154	47	50.4	116	33
Food	43.6	484	144	41.6	492	150	46.8	473	136
Furnished	59.3	287	86	59.5	293	89	59.3	281	80
Purchased	40.7	197	58	40.5	199	61	40.7	192	56
Clothing	8.7	96	29	8.6	102	31	8.8	89	26
Health	4.5	50	15	5.2	61	19	3.4	35	10
Advancement	3.7	42	12	4.3	51	16	2.8	28	8
Automobile	10.8	120	36	11.0	130	40	10.5	106	30
Incidentals and other	5.2	58	17	5.4	64	19	4.9	50	14
<b>Village<sup>3</sup>:</b>									
Total value of family living	100.0	874	306	100.0	907	342	100.0	844	275
Furnished	10.1	88	31	13.0	118	45	7.0	59	19
Purchased	89.9	786	275	87.0	789	297	93.0	785	256
Housing and maintenance	31.8	278	97	32.7	296	112	30.9	261	85
Furnished	22.4	62	22	31.0	92	35	13.1	34	11
Purchased	77.6	216	75	69.0	204	77	86.9	227	74
Food	31.9	279	98	29.8	270	102	34.1	288	94
Furnished	9.2	26	9	9.7	26	10	8.8	25	8
Purchased	90.8	253	89	90.3	244	92	91.2	263	86
Clothing	10.1	88	30	9.2	83	31	11.0	93	29
Health	4.8	42	15	5.7	52	20	4.0	33	11
Advancement	5.6	49	17	6.3	57	21	5.0	42	14
Automobile	8.7	76	27	9.0	82	31	8.3	70	23
Incidentals and other	7.1	62	22	7.3	67	25	6.7	57	19

1. A. E., Adult male equivalent (see footnote P.16).
2. Number of families: Total, 1,101; owners, 646; tenants, 455.
3. Number of families: Total, 774; owners, 376; tenants, 398.

TABLE 7.—Amount and type of investment of 1,101 open-country and 774 village families in six South Dakota counties, 1935

Type of residence and types of investment	Total		Owners		Tenants	
	Average in dollars	Per Cent	Average in dollars	Per Cent	Average in dollars	Per Cent
<b>Open country<sup>1</sup>:</b>						
Total investments	\$ 40	100.0	\$ 52	100.0	\$23	100.0
Investments in other than farm	6	14.0	8	16.0	2	8.0
Money placed in savings	12	32.0	18	34.0	5	22.0
Life insurance	18	46.0	21	40.0	15	66.0
Other	3	8.0	5	10.0	1	4.0
Money placed in reserve	31		42		15	
Payment on mortgage and other debts <sup>2</sup>	125		162		74	
<b>Village<sup>3</sup>:</b>						
Total investments	67	100.0	91	100.0	44	100.0
Investments in other than farm	25	37.0	32	35.0	18	40.0
Money placed in savings	11	16.0	20	22.0	3	6.0
Life insurance	23	35.0	27	29.0	20	44.0
Other	8	12.0	12	14.0	4	10.0
Money placed in reserve	24		33		16	
Payment on mortgage and other debts <sup>2</sup>	12		23		1	

1. Number of families: Total, 1,101; owners, 646; tenants, 455.
2. Not included in investments. Such payments are partially charged to cash cost of family living, being treated as payment for the dwelling. See discussion of rent. Interest on mortgage was prorated to rent equivalent and farm operation. Payments on mortgage principal were allocated in part to other living and in part to cost of farm operation.
3. Number of families: Total, 774; owners, 376; tenants, 398.



TABLE 6A.—Average value and percentage distribution of total value of family living among groups of goods and services consumed by open-country families, classified by county of residence, six South Dakota counties, 1935

	Average value of categories in total family living						Percentage distribution of total family living					
	Codington	Yankton	Perkins	Jones	Faulk	Lawrence	Codington	Yankton	Perkins	Jones	Faulk	Lawrence
Size of household in adult male units	3.79	3.60	3.69	3.47	3.88	3.43	3.79	3.60	3.69	3.47	3.88	3.43
Categories of family living:												
Total value	1,088.40	1,117.48	985.70	1,068.93	1,135.88	1,241.96	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Furnished	435.08	458.94	340.85	315.47	453.93	371.70	40.0	41.1	34.6	29.5	40.0	29.9
Purchased	653.32	658.54	644.85	753.46	681.95	870.26	60.0	58.9	65.4	70.5	60.0	70.1
Housing and maintenance	309.46	305.33	173.52	205.88	238.23	274.79	28.4	27.3	17.6	19.3	21.0	22.1
Furnished	150.35	184.73	60.90	61.71	102.30	106.16	48.6	60.5	35.1	30.0	42.9	38.6
Purchased	159.11	120.60	112.62	144.17	135.93	168.63	51.4	39.5	64.9	70.0	57.1	61.4
Food	476.33	438.83	458.50	498.24	568.01	484.39	43.8	39.3	46.5	46.6	50.0	39.0
Furnished	284.73	274.21	279.95	253.76	351.63	265.54	59.8	62.5	61.1	50.9	61.9	54.8
Purchased	191.60	164.62	178.55	244.48	216.38	218.85	40.2	37.5	38.9	49.1	38.1	45.2
Clothing	81.13	107.92	96.26	80.10	106.45	93.17	7.5	9.7	9.8	7.5	9.4	7.5
Health	53.42	43.89	60.95	56.85	33.25	63.00	4.9	3.9	6.2	5.3	2.9	5.1
Advancement	38.28	44.76	45.43	35.95	36.38	46.84	3.5	4.0	4.6	3.3	3.2	3.8
Automobile	83.18	121.46	106.86	119.53	88.24	210.45	7.6	10.9	10.8	11.2	7.8	16.9
Incidental and other	46.60	55.29	44.18	72.38	65.32	69.29	4.3	4.9	4.5	6.8	5.7	5.6

TABLE 6B.—Average value and percentage distribution of total value of family living among groups of goods and services consumed by village families, classified by county of residence, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Item	Average value of categories in total family living						Percentage distribution of total family living					
	Codington	Yankton	Perkins	Jones	Faulk	Lawrence	Codington	Yankton	Perkins	Jones	Faulk	Lawrence
Size of household in adult male units	2.97	2.75	3.23	2.89	2.91	3.75	2.97	2.75	3.23	2.89	2.91	3.75
Categories of family living:												
Total value	787.10	831.65	826.34	1,047.39	763.82	1,089.17	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Furnished	98.40	186.08	53.95	49.42	81.98	93.81	12.5	22.4	6.5	4.7	10.7	8.6
Purchased	688.70	645.57	772.39	997.97	681.84	995.36	87.5	77.6	93.5	95.3	89.3	91.4
Housing and maintenance	244.36	306.59	270.30	317.98	252.94	282.42	31.0	36.9	32.7	30.4	33.1	25.9
Furnished	51.37	153.55	44.54	41.56	45.84	49.85	21.0	50.1	16.5	13.1	18.1	17.7
Purchased	192.99	153.04	225.76	276.42	207.10	232.47	79.0	49.9	83.5	86.9	81.9	82.3
Food	279.47	229.69	257.79	317.62	258.74	381.13	35.5	27.6	31.2	30.3	33.9	35.0
Furnished	47.03	32.53	9.41	7.86	36.14	43.86	16.8	14.2	3.6	2.5	14.0	11.5
Purchased	232.44	197.16	248.38	309.76	222.60	337.27	83.2	85.8	96.4	97.5	86.0	88.5
Clothing	66.09	79.83	101.63	99.17	71.17	101.57	8.4	9.6	12.3	9.5	9.3	9.3
Health	40.09	40.23	36.93	64.40	30.10	45.40	5.1	4.8	4.5	6.1	3.9	4.2
Advancement	51.59	44.90	35.60	82.63	27.58	65.32	6.6	5.4	4.3	7.9	3.6	6.0
Automobile	54.76	80.40	61.62	97.48	64.47	124.97	7.0	9.7	7.4	9.3	8.5	11.5
Incidentals and other	50.74	50.01	62.48	68.11	58.82	38.36	6.4	6.0	7.6	6.5	7.7	8.1

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TABLE 8 A.—Size and educational characteristics of 1101 open-country families in different family living groups, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Families by tenure, and value of living groups	Total number of families	Size of family-A. M. U. 1 <sup>1</sup>	Males of working age	Average of highest grade completed	
				Male Head	Homemaker
All families	1101	3.37	1.36	7.80	8.10
0-499	87	1.76	0.81	6.10	4.60
500-749	185	2.58	1.10	7.60	7.20
750-999	262	3.00	1.25	7.90	8.00
1000 and over	567	4.05	1.58	8.20	8.90
Owners	646	3.30	1.35	7.70	7.90
0-499	52	1.61	0.71	5.60	4.40
500-749	98	2.46	1.08	7.20	6.20
750-999	135	3.03	1.25	7.80	7.50
1000 and over	361	3.86	1.54	8.10	8.90
Tenants	455	3.48	1.38	8.00	8.30
0-499	35	1.98	0.97	6.80	5.00
500-749	87	2.70	1.11	8.10	8.40
750-999	127	2.97	1.25	7.90	8.50
1000 and over	206	4.37	1.63	8.30	8.80

TABLE 8 B.—Size and educational characteristics of 774 village families in different family living groups, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Families by tenure, and value of living groups	Total number of families	Size of family-A. M. U. 1	Males of working age	Average of highest grade completed	
				Male head	Homemaker
All families	774	2.86	0.97	7.80	8.60
0-499	182	1.97	0.56	5.40	6.70
500-749	217	3.04	0.97	7.50	8.60
750-999	140	3.10	1.02	8.60	8.90
.1000 and over	235	3.23	1.25	9.50	9.90
Owners	376	2.64	0.84	7.00	8.10
0-499	97	1.72	0.40	4.90	6.30
500-749	95	2.71	0.76	6.40	7.80
750-999	61	2.80	0.88	7.30	8.30
1000 and over	123	3.22	1.22	8.90	9.50
Tenants	398	3.07	1.09	8.60	9.10
0-499	85	2.26	0.73	5.90	7.10
500-749	122	3.29	1.13	8.30	9.20
750-999	79	3.34	1.13	9.70	9.40
1000 and over	112	3.24	1.28	10.30	10.30

1/A. M. U.—Adult male unit, see footnote, p. 16.

TABLE 9.—Material used in the construction of houses occupied by 1101 farm families and 774 village families in six South Dakota counties, 1935

Residence and tenure status of families	Total	Material of construction										Not Reported	
		Wood		Brick		Stucco		Log		Other			Per cent
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent		
Open country	1101	999	90.7	4	0.3	3	0.3	15	1.4	79	7.2	1	0.1
Owners	646	572	88.5	2	0.3	1	0.2	12	1.8	58	9.0	1	0.2
Tenants	455	427	93.9	2	0.4	2	0.4	3	0.7	21	4.6	-	-
Village	774	688	88.9	5	0.7	21	2.7	1	0.1	59	7.6	-	-
Owners	376	331	88.0	4	1.1	13	3.5	-	-	28	7.4	-	-
Tenants	398	357	89.7	1	0.3	8	2.0	1	0.2	31	7.8	-	-

TABLE 10.—Rural families classified by size of household, rooms per person and average number of rooms per house, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Item	Total	Size of household								
		One or less	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	Nine and ten
<b>Open country:</b>										
Number of families	1,101	103	235	207	215	125	83	63	32	38
Average number of rooms per person	1.4	3.2	2.3	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.0	.83	.68	.60
Average number of rooms per family	5.8	5.0	5.6	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.0	5.6	6.3
<b>Village:</b>										
Number of families	774	127	198	136	111	81	55	34	13	19
Average number of rooms per person	1.3	2.9	2.1	1.5	1.1	1.0	.81	.71	.60	.52
Average number of rooms per family	4.7	4.0	4.9	4.8	4.5	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.9

TABLE 11.—Average number of persons per room, age of dwellings, and replacement value of dwelling, classified by tenure, residence, and value of living groups, six South Dakota counties, 1935

	Total	Open-country				Total	Village			
		Under \$500	\$749 to	\$999 to	\$1,000 or more		Under \$500	\$749 to	\$999 to	\$1,000 or more
<b>All tenure groups:</b>										
Number of families	1,101	87	185	262	567	774	182	217	140	235
Replacement value of dwelling	1,340	610	850	1,120	1,700	1,220	670	970	1,340	1,780
Age of dwelling	28.2	29.1	26.3	28.6	28.5	25.5	26.7	26.8	25.4	23.3
Persons per room	1.37	1.96	1.57	1.44	1.27	1.30	1.34	1.16	1.29	1.40
<b>Owners:</b>										
Number of families	646	52	98	135	361	376	97	95	61	123
Replacement value of dwelling	1,460	670	880	1,150	1,850	1,440	780	1,230	1,620	2,020
Age of dwelling	26.8	26.2	24.1	26.7	27.7	24.5	26.1	25.4	24.8	22.3
Persons per room	1.46	2.01	1.59	1.43	1.36	1.51	1.82	1.51	1.37	1.45
<b>Tenants:</b>										
Number of families	455	35	87	127	206	398	85	122	79	112
Replacement value of dwelling	1,160	530	840	1,080	1,440	1,010	550	770	1,440	1,520
Age of dwelling	30.1	33.3	28.8	30.7	29.9	26.4	27.4	27.8	25.9	24.4
Persons per room	1.30	1.91	1.55	1.45	1.13	1.13	0.96	0.95	1.24	1.38

TABLE 12.—Sources of net cash income of 1,101 open-country and 774 village families, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Source of income	Tenure status of operator					
	Total		Owners		Tenants	
	Average	Per Cent	Average	Per Cent	Average	Per Cent
<b>Open country:</b>						
Number of families		1101		646		455
Total income	\$1450	100.0	\$1645	100.0	\$1172	100.0
Sale of farm products <sup>1</sup>	955	65.9	1120	68.2	719	61.4
Wages of operator	71	4.9	67	4.1	75	6.4
Wages of other family members	26	1.8	27	1.6	24	2.0
Boarders and lodgers	3	0.2	3	0.2	4	0.3
Borrowings <sup>2</sup>	214	14.7	219	13.3	206	17.6
Relief	11	0.7	7	0.4	15	1.3
Other income <sup>3</sup>	171	11.8	200	12.2	129	11.0
<b>Village</b>						
Number of families		774		376		398
Total income	\$ 858	100.0	\$ 882	100.0	\$ 836	100.0
Sale of farm products <sup>1</sup>	6	0.7	8	1.0	4	0.5
Wages of operator	485	56.5	435	49.3	532	63.7
Wages of other family members	81	9.4	87	9.9	75	9.0
Boarders and lodgers	18	2.2	20	2.2	17	2.0
Borrowings <sup>2</sup>	8	1.0	12	1.4	5	0.6
Relief	20	2.3	18	2.0	22	2.6
Other income <sup>3</sup>	239	27.9	301	34.2	181	21.6

1. A. A. A. payments are included in this category.

2. Include rural rehabilitation advances, seed loans, etc.

3. Other income is composed of income from others not living in the family, net profits from other farm business or from farms rented to others or other real property, income from monetary legacies or gifts, interest on dividends, insurance income, net profit from personal property, and all other cash receipts of all members of the family.

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TABLE 13.—Average net cash income of open-country farm operators, by source of income and tenure status, six South Dakota counties, 1935<sup>1</sup>

County and tenure status	Total Average	Source of net cash incomes in dollars					
		Net Farm		Loans		Other <sup>2</sup>	
		Average	Per Cent	Average	Per Cent	Average	Per Cent
<b>All farm operators:</b>							
Yankton	618.90	152.60	24.6	158.90	25.7	307.40	49.7
Codington	562.60	83.10	14.8	252.80	44.9	226.70	40.3
Faulk	537.30	21.20	4.0	373.30	69.9	139.80	26.1
Jones	566.60	-106.10	-18.7	333.80	58.9	338.90	59.8
Perkins	556.30	286.40	51.5	173.00	31.1	96.90	17.4
Lawrence	748.50	335.80	44.9	63.70	8.5	349.00	46.6
<b>Owners:</b>							
Yankton	670.40	111.00	16.6	193.10	28.8	366.30	54.6
Codington	697.40	105.90	15.2	251.60	36.1	339.90	48.7
Faulk	577.70	54.40	9.4	411.70	71.3	111.60	10.3
Jones	656.70	-109.10	-16.6	441.80	67.3	324.00	49.3
Perkins	598.40	353.10	59.0	166.10	27.8	79.20	13.2
Lawrence	896.40	401.10	44.7	59.90	6.7	435.40	48.6
<b>Tenants:</b>							
Yankton	510.10	240.30	47.1	86.90	17.0	182.90	35.9
Codington	459.40	65.40	14.2	253.80	55.3	140.20	30.5
Faulk	507.10	-3.70	-0.7	349.80	69.0	161.00	31.7
Jones	451.50	-102.40	-22.7	195.60	43.3	358.30	79.4
Perkins	420.10	71.50	17.0	195.20	46.5	153.40	36.5
Lawrence	532.60	241.00	45.2	69.20	13.0	222.40	41.8

1. Based on hand tabulation of a total of 1045 usable schedules, 606 for farm owners and 439 for farm tenants. Only the heads of households whose major occupation was farming were included.

2. Includes all income from sources other than farm and loans.

TABLE 14.—Factors influencing amount of net cash income of open-country farm families, by size of income and tenure of operator, six South Dakota counties, 1935<sup>1</sup>

Factors	Size of net cash income									
	Total	Owners				Tenants				
		Number	Below \$500 Per Cent	\$500 or more Per Cent	Number	Total	Number	Below \$500 Per Cent	\$500 or more Per Cent	Number
<b>Type of farm</b>										
All types	606	284	46.9	322	53.1	439	269	61.3	170	38.7
Cash grain	139	67	48.2	72	51.8	93	56	60.2	37	39.8
General	146	72	49.3	74	50.7	106	67	63.2	39	36.8
Animal specialty and livestock	200	88	44.0	112	56.0	119	68	57.1	51	42.9
Others	121	57	47.1	64	52.9	121	78	64.5	43	35.5
<b>Size of farm:</b>										
Below average	213	138	64.8	75	35.2	172	123	71.5	49	28.5
Average	232	107	46.1	125	53.9	194	117	60.3	77	39.7
Above average	161	39	24.2	122	75.8	73	29	39.7	44	60.3
<b>Value of farm and buildings:</b>										
Under 5,000	198	129	65.2	69	34.8	167	122	73.1	45	26.9
5,000 - 9,999	197	101	51.3	96	48.7	149	94	63.1	55	36.9
10,000 - 14,999	93	32	32.7	66	67.3	61	27	44.3	34	55.7
15,000 or more	108	20	18.5	88	81.5	55	20	36.4	35	63.6
Unknown	5	2	40.0	3	60.0	7	6	85.7	1	14.3
<b>Farm Expenditures in dollars:</b>										
Under 250	209	140	67.0	69	33.0	133	135	73.8	48	26.2
250 - 499	169	83	49.1	86	50.9	123	72	58.5	51	41.5
500 or more	228	61	26.8	167	73.2	133	62	46.6	71	53.4
<b>Combination expenditures in dollars:</b>										
Under 250	306	190	62.1	116	37.9	288	204	70.8	84	29.2
250 or more	300	94	31.3	206	68.7	151	65	43.0	86	57.0
<b>Age of man-head</b>										
Under 35 years	34	16	47.0	18	53.0	118	90	76.3	28	23.7
35 - 54 years	297	124	41.8	173	58.2	257	142	55.3	115	44.7
55 years and over	275	144	52.4	131	47.6	64	37	57.8	27	42.2

1. Based on the hand tabulation of 1045 usable schedules. Only the heads of households whose major occupation was farming were included.

TABLE 15.—Children<sup>1</sup> of heads of families classified by residence and tenure status of parents and by sex, age, and status in school, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Tenure status of parents, sex and status of children in school	Total	Residence status of parents and age of children										
		Open country				Village						
		6 to 14.9 years		15 years or more		6 to 14.9 years		15 years or more				
Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent			
Total	2522	100.0	887	100.0	1635	100.0	1569	100.0	535	100.0	1034	100.0
in school	1179	46.7	867	97.7	312	19.1	720	45.9	528	98.7	192	18.6
Not in school	1343	53.3	20	2.3	1323	80.9	849	54.1	7	1.3	842	81.4
Owners	1575	100.0	459	100.0	1116	100.0	831	100.0	203	100.0	628	100.0
In school	633	40.2	448	97.6	185	16.6	289	34.8	202	99.5	87	13.9
Not in school	942	59.8	11	2.4	931	83.4	542	65.2	1	0.5	541	86.1
Male	859	100.0	227	100.0	632	100.0	399	100.0	108	100.0	291	100.0
In school	313	36.4	222	97.8	91	14.4	147	36.8	107	99.1	40	13.7
Not in school	546	63.6	5	2.2	541	85.6	252	63.2	1	0.9	251	86.3
Female	716	100.0	232	100.0	484	100.0	432	100.0	95	100.0	337	100.0
In school	320	44.7	226	97.4	94	19.4	142	32.9	95	100.0	47	13.9
Not in school	396	55.3	6	2.6	390	80.6	290	67.1	0	—	290	86.1
Tenants	947	100.0	428	100.0	519	100.0	738	100.0	332	100.0	406	100.0
In school	546	57.7	419	97.9	127	24.5	431	58.4	326	98.2	105	25.9
Not in school	401	42.3	9	2.1	392	75.5	307	41.6	6	1.8	301	74.1
Male	499	100.0	213	100.0	286	100.0	384	100.0	172	100.0	212	100.0
In school	266	53.3	209	98.1	57	19.9	218	56.8	169	98.3	49	23.1
Not in school	233	46.7	4	1.9	229	80.1	166	43.2	3	1.7	163	76.9
Female	448	100.0	215	100.0	233	100.0	354	100.0	160	100.0	194	100.0
In school	280	62.5	210	97.7	70	30.0	213	60.2	157	98.1	56	28.9
Not in school	168	37.5	5	2.3	163	70.0	141	39.8	3	1.9	138	71.1

1. Six years of age or more

TABLE 16.—Children<sup>1</sup> not in school, classified by residence and tenure status of parents, and with sex and age related to last grade of school completed, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Sex, age, and number of grades completed	Type of residence and tenure status of parents							
	Open-country				Village			
	Owners		Tenants		Owners		Tenants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Total	941	100.0	400	100.0	541	100.0	307	100.0
Under 35 years of age:	736	78.2	361	90.2	296	54.7	253	82.4
Under 9 grades	362	49.2	195	54.0	111	37.2	92	36.4
9 - 12 grades	254	34.5	128	35.5	152	51.4	141	55.7
13 grades or more	120	16.3	38	10.5	33	11.1	20	7.9
35 years of age or more:	205	21.8	39	9.8	245	45.3	54	17.6
Under 9 grades	134	65.4	31	79.4	151	61.6	39	72.2
9 - 12 grades	44	21.4	4	10.3	67	27.4	14	25.9
13 grades or more	27	13.2	4	10.3	27	11.0	1	1.9
Male	545	100.0	232	100.0	251	100.0	166	100.0
Under 35 years of age:	423	77.6	208	89.7	142	56.6	136	81.9
Under 9 grades	240	56.7	131	63.0	58	40.8	56	41.2
9 - 12 grades	143	33.8	67	32.2	65	45.8	73	53.7
13 grades or more	40	9.5	10	4.8	19	13.4	7	5.1
35 years of age or more:	122	22.4	24	10.3	109	43.4	30	18.1
Under 9 grades	89	73.0	21	87.5	84	77.1	21	70.0
9 - 12 grades	22	18.0	1	4.2	21	19.3	8	26.7
13 grades or more	11	9.0	2	8.3	4	3.6	1	3.3
Female	396	100.0	168	100.0	290	100.0	141	100.0
Under 35 years of age:	313	79.0	153	91.1	154	53.1	117	83.0
Under 9 grades	122	39.0	64	41.8	53	34.4	36	30.8
9 - 12 grades	111	35.5	61	39.9	87	56.5	63	58.1
13 grades or more	80	25.5	28	18.3	14	9.1	13	11.1
35 years of age or more:	83	21.0	15	8.9	136	46.9	24	17.0
Under 9 grades	45	54.2	10	66.7	67	49.3	18	75.0
9 - 12 grades	22	26.5	3	20.0	46	33.8	6	25.0
13 grades or more	16	19.3	2	13.3	23	16.9	—	—

1. Six years of age or more.

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TABLE 17.—Children<sup>1</sup> in school who have not finished the eighth grade, classified by residence and tenure status of parent, age, and position in school, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Residence and tenure status of parents, and age of children	Total	Residence of parents and position of children in school												
		Open-country						Village						
		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Total	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Total					
Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent			
Total	759	155	20.4	431	56.8	173	22.8	464	94	20.2	275	59.3	95	20.5
Under 10 years	327	113	34.6	168	51.3	46	14.1	216	65	30.1	124	57.4	27	12.5
10 years	110			69	62.7	41	37.3	64	2	3.1	38	59.4	24	37.5
11 years	109	2	1.8	55	50.5	52	47.7	58	1	1.7	38	65.5	19	32.8
12 years	99	4	4.1	61	61.6	34	34.3	63	4	6.3	34	54.0	25	39.7
13 years	64	6	9.4	58	90.6			33	5	15.2	28	84.8		
14-17 years	50	30	60.0	20	40.0			30	17	56.7	13	43.3		
Owners	387	77	19.9	218	56.3	92	23.8	175	31	17.7	102	58.3	42	24.0
Under 10 years	162	52	32.1	81	50.0	29	17.9	72	21	29.2	39	54.1	12	16.7
10 years	48			29	60.4	19	39.6	28			19	67.8	9	32.2
11 years	63	2	3.2	34	53.9	27	42.9	24			15	62.5	9	37.5
12 years	51	3	5.9	31	60.8	17	33.3	24	1	4.2	11	45.8	12	50.0
13 years	34	2	5.8	32	94.2			17	2	11.8	15	88.2		
14-17 years	29	18	62.1	11	37.9			10	7	70.0	3	30.0		
Tenants	372	78	21.0	213	57.2	81	21.8	289	63	21.8	173	59.9	53	18.3
Under 10 years	165	61	36.9	87	52.8	17	10.3	144	44	30.6	85	59.0	15	10.4
10 years	62			40	64.5	22	35.5	36	2	5.6	19	52.7	15	41.7
11 years	46			21	45.6	25	54.4	34	1	2.9	23	67.7	10	29.4
12 years	48	1	2.1	30	62.5	17	35.4	39	3	7.7	23	58.0	13	33.3
13 years	30	4	13.3	26	86.7			16	3	18.8	13	81.2		
14-17 years	21	12	57.1	9	42.9			20	10	50.0	10	50.0		

1. Six years of age or over and under 18 years.

2. Grades used as normal, by age: 2nd and 3rd grades—under 10 years; 3rd and 4th grades—10 years; 4th and 5th grades—11 years; 5th and 6th grades—12 years; 6th and 7th grades—13 years; 7th grade—14-17 years.

TABLE 18.—Amount and type of reading materials received by families classified by tenure and residence, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Reading materials	All families	Num-ber	Per Cent	Open country				Village						
				Owners		Renters		Owners		Renters				
				Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent	Num-ber	Per Cent			
<b>Newspapers:</b>														
Total	1,101	100.0	646	100.0	455	100.0	774	100.0	376	100.0	398	100.0		
None	179	16.2	78	12.1	101	22.2	198	25.6	74	19.7	124	31.1		
1 or 2 weeklies	202	18.3	113	17.5	89	19.6	128	16.5	75	20.0	53	13.3		
1 or 2 dailies	339	30.8	196	30.3	143	31.4	239	30.9	109	29.0	130	32.7		
1 or 2 others	1	0.1	1	0.2			1	0.1	1	0.3				
Combination of 2 or 3 newspapers	364	33.1	247	38.2	117	25.7	189	24.4	107	28.4	82	20.6		
Not reported	16	1.5	11	1.7	5	1.1	19	2.5	10	2.6	9	2.3		
<b>Magazines:</b>														
Total	1,101	100.0	646	100.0	455	100.0	774	100.0	376	100.0	398	100.0		
None	299	27.2	173	26.8	126	27.7	491	63.4	238	63.3	253	63.6		
1 or 2 farm	279	25.3	154	23.9	125	27.5	29	3.8	13	3.5	16	4.0		
1 or 2 woman's or child's magazines	35	3.2	26	4.0	9	2.0	49	6.3	19	5.1	30	7.5		
1 other	23	2.1	17	2.6	6	1.3	24	3.1	14	3.7	10	2.5		
1 or 2 religious	7	.6	4	0.6	3	0.6	8	1.0	5	1.3	3	0.7		
Combination of 2 or more	458	41.6	272	42.1	186	40.9	173	22.4	87	23.1	86	21.7		
Not reported	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		

TABLE 19.—Number of people in the family, duration of marriage, and value of family living for 1774 families classified by residence, tenure status, and number of moves from 1930 to 1935, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Number of moves	1930-35, by						Value of family living			
	residence groups	Total	Owners	Tenants	Total	Owners	Tenants	Total	Owners	Tenants
Open-country	4.31	4.18	4.46	20.7	24.0	16.7	1151	1244	1038	
No move	4.32	4.16	4.64	22.7	25.0	17.9	1195	1246	1086	
One move	4.14	4.35	4.08	16.3	16.7	16.1	1063	1243	1004	
Two moves	4.50	4.24	4.58	17.3	18.2	17.1	1060	1313	980	
Three or more	4.77	4.40	4.90	11.4	19.7	10.0	909	805	925	
Village	4.01	3.83	4.14	17.9	24.2	13.4	963	1061	893	
No move	3.79	3.80	3.78	20.9	25.2	13.0	1046	1101	945	
One move	4.13	3.89	4.18	15.9	23.4	14.1	889	905	885	
Two moves	4.45	4.49	4.44	13.1	15.1	12.8	849	991	821	
Three or more	4.38	3.50	4.52	13.1	15.8	11.6	876	826	884	

TABLE 20.—Residence of adult children by residence and tenure status of parents and by sex, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Residence and tenure status of parents, and sex of children	Total	Residence of Children							Foreign Un-tries known	
		At home	Not at home	Adjoin- ing County	coun- ties in county	Adjoin- ing state	Other states			
<b>Number</b>										
<b>Open-country:</b>										
Males	1,674	1,343	331	137	30	49	41	43	--	31
Owner parents	994	742	252	104	19	39	33	36	--	21
Tenant parents	680	601	79	33	11	10	8	7	--	10
Females	1,422	1,038	384	154	49	48	55	47	--	31
Owner parents	821	551	270	105	35	29	47	33	--	21
Tenant parents	601	487	114	49	14	19	8	14	--	10
<b>Village:</b>										
Males	1,030	727	303	128	21	50	39	45	2	18
Owner parents	485	238	197	88	9	32	26	30	1	11
Tenant parents	545	439	106	40	12	18	13	15	1	7
Females	987	638	349	137	29	60	53	58	3	9
Owner parents	495	252	243	99	15	39	39	42	2	7
Tenant parents	492	386	106	38	14	21	14	16	1	2
<b>Per cent</b>										
<b>Open-country:</b>										
Males	100.0	80.2	19.8	41.4	9.0	14.8	12.4	13.0	--	9.4
Owner parents	100.0	74.6	25.4	41.3	7.5	15.5	13.1	14.3	--	8.3
Tenant parents	100.0	88.4	11.6	41.8	13.9	12.7	10.1	8.8	--	12.7
Females	100.0	73.0	27.0	40.1	12.8	12.5	14.3	12.2	--	8.1
Owner parents	100.0	67.1	32.9	38.9	13.0	10.7	17.4	12.2	--	7.8
Tenant parents	100.0	81.0	19.0	43.0	12.3	16.6	7.0	12.3	--	8.8
<b>Village:</b>										
Males	100.0	70.6	29.4	42.2	6.9	16.5	12.9	14.9	0.7	5.9
Owner parents	100.0	59.4	40.6	44.7	4.6	16.2	13.2	15.2	0.5	5.6
Tenant parents	100.0	80.6	19.4	37.7	11.3	17.0	12.3	14.2	0.9	6.6
Females	100.0	64.6	35.4	39.2	8.3	17.2	15.2	16.6	0.9	2.6
Owner parents	100.0	50.9	49.1	40.8	6.2	16.0	16.0	17.3	0.8	2.9
Tenant parents	100.0	78.4	21.5	35.9	13.2	19.8	13.2	15.1	0.9	1.9

TABLE 21.—Average age of parents and children when first left home, by age groups, sex, residence of parents and tenure status of parents, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Age in 1935, by residence of parents	Age when first left home							
	Owners				Tenants			
	Parents		Children		Parents		Children	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Open-country:</b>								
All age groups	21.2	20.7	21.7	20.3	21.2	20.2	20.5	19.1
Under 15	--	--	5.0	--	--	--	--	9.5
15 - 24	--	19.0	19.0	18.8	19.7	18.1	19.3	18.3
25 - 34	22.2	20.7	21.8	20.8	21.2	20.3	21.2	20.5
35 - 44	21.9	20.4	22.9	21.3	21.5	20.2	21.2	19.6
45 and over	20.9	20.9	24.0	--	21.1	20.8	--	16.0
<b>Village:</b>								
All age groups	21.6	20.6	22.0	20.4	20.8	20.3	21.8	19.9
Under 15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
15 - 24	19.0	18.6	19.9	17.7	20.0	18.4	19.9	18.5
25 - 34	21.7	19.1	22.0	20.0	20.8	19.9	22.1	20.0
35 - 44	20.6	20.6	22.0	20.2	22.0	20.5	23.5	22.4
45 and over	21.9	21.1	23.4	21.5	20.0	21.7	24.1	21.3

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TABLE 22.—Average age of parents and children when first married, by age groups, sex, residence of parents and tenure status of parents, six South Dakota counties, 1935

Age in 1935, by residence of parents	All families				Age when first married Owners				Tenants			
	Parents		Children		Parents		Children		Parents		Children	
	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male	Male	Fe- male
<b>Open-country:</b>												
All age groups	26.7	22.3	23.8	21.4	27.5	23.0	24.2	21.8	25.6	21.5	22.7	20.3
Under 15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
15 - 24	21.3	18.6	20.1	19.3	18.9	20.4	19.4	21.3	18.5	19.8	19.3	19.3
25 - 34	24.0	21.1	23.7	21.9	24.7	21.5	23.9	22.2	23.8	20.8	22.9	21.3
35 - 44	25.9	22.0	24.7	21.7	26.2	22.2	24.8	22.0	25.6	21.6	24.5	19.8
45 and over	27.8	23.6	26.6	23.3	28.1	23.8	26.6	23.7	27.1	23.0	--	17.1
<b>Village:</b>												
All age groups	27.6	22.6	24.1	21.3	28.6	23.4	24.3	21.6	26.8	21.9	23.7	20.5
Under 15	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
15 - 24	20.4	19.0	20.9	18.7	18.5	18.6	20.8	18.3	20.7	19.0	20.9	19.0
25 - 34	23.5	20.7	23.7	20.7	23.7	20.4	23.5	20.8	23.4	20.8	24.1	20.4
35 - 44	26.7	23.0	24.1	22.8	25.7	22.8	24.2	22.9	27.3	23.1	23.8	22.4
45 and over	30.3	24.3	26.8	22.3	30.3	24.6	26.8	22.1	30.3	23.8	26.7	23.2

TABLE 23A.—Percentage of farm families having specific accessories and facilities by tenure and value of living groups

Value of Living Groups	Number of Fam- ilies	Heating System		Lighting		Water Supply		Other Facilities					
		Furn- ace	Stove and Fireplace	Elec- tri- city	Kero- sene and Gas Lamps	Other	Out- side Water Supply	Inside Water Supply	Other	Tele- phone	Both tele- phone and Radio	Radio None	
(Dollars)													
Total	1,101	12.0	88.0	16.7	82.9	0.4	75.5	24.4	0.1	9.8	34.9	23.2	32.1
0-500	87	--	100.0	2.3	97.7	--	74.7	25.3	--	6.9	17.2	4.6	71.3
500-749	185	5.4	94.6	10.3	89.2	0.5	76.2	23.8	--	7.6	39.5	7.6	45.3
750-999	262	7.6	92.4	12.6	87.4	--	75.6	24.0	0.4	12.6	38.2	17.5	31.7
1000 and over	567	17.8	82.2	22.9	76.6	0.5	75.3	24.7	--	9.7	34.6	33.6	22.1
<b>Owners</b>	646	16.3	83.7	22.9	76.6	0.5	75.2	24.6	0.2	11.6	31.1	27.4	29.9
0-500	52	--	100.0	4.0	96.0	--	78.8	21.2	--	9.6	15.4	5.8	69.2
500-749	98	7.1	92.9	15.3	84.7	--	80.6	19.4	--	12.2	32.7	13.3	41.8
750-999	135	10.4	89.6	18.5	81.5	--	79.3	20.0	0.7	14.8	34.8	20.0	30.4
1000 and over	361	23.3	76.7	29.4	69.8	0.8	71.7	28.3	--	10.5	31.6	37.1	20.8
<b>Tenants</b>	455	5.7	94.3	7.9	91.9	0.2	75.8	24.2	--	7.3	40.2	17.1	35.4
0-500	35	--	100.0	--	100.0	--	68.6	31.4	--	2.8	20.0	2.8	74.4
500-749	87	3.4	96.6	4.6	94.3	0.1	71.3	28.7	--	2.3	47.1	1.2	49.4
750-999	127	4.7	95.3	6.3	93.7	--	71.7	28.3	--	10.2	41.7	15.0	33.1
1000 and over	206	8.3	91.7	11.7	88.3	--	81.6	18.4	--	8.2	39.8	27.7	24.3

TABLE 23B.—Percentage of village families having specific accessories and facilities by tenure and value of living groups

Value of Living Groups	Number of Fam- ilies	Heating System		Lighting		Water Supply		Other Facilities					
		Furn- ace	Stove and Fireplace	Elec- tri- city	Kero- sene and Gas Lamps	Other	Out- side Water Supply	Inside Water Supply	Other	Tele- phone	Both tele- phone and Radio	Radio None	
(Dollars)													
Total	774	23.4	76.6	75.5	24.5	--	30.7	18.6	50.7	1.2	43.1	19.4	36.3
0-500	182	4.9	95.1	45.6	54.4	--	45.0	13.2	41.8	.6	25.2	.6	73.6
500-749	217	14.7	85.3	69.6	30.4	--	38.3	19.8	41.9	.5	48.8	7.8	42.9
750-999	140	21.4	78.6	85.7	14.3	--	26.4	23.6	50.0	1.4	55.0	15.0	28.6
1000 and over	235	46.8	53.2	97.9	2.1	--	15.3	18.7	66.0	2.1	44.7	47.2	6.0
<b>Owners</b>	376	27.7	72.3	80.1	19.9	--	31.1	15.2	53.7	1.9	42.6	23.1	32.4
0-500	97	7.2	92.8	48.5	51.5	--	40.2	15.5	44.3	1.0	26.8	1.0	71.2
500-749	95	21.1	78.9	82.1	17.9	--	42.1	14.7	43.2	1.1	53.7	13.6	31.6
750-999	61	23.0	77.0	93.4	6.6	--	32.8	14.7	52.5	3.3	52.4	19.7	24.6
1000 and over	123	51.2	48.8	96.7	3.3	--	14.6	15.5	69.9	2.4	41.5	49.6	6.5
<b>Tenants</b>	398	19.3	80.7	71.1	28.9	--	30.4	21.9	47.7	.5	43.7	15.8	40.0
0-500	85	2.4	97.6	42.4	57.6	--	50.6	10.6	38.8	--	23.5	--	76.5
500-749	122	9.8	90.2	59.8	40.2	--	35.3	23.7	41.0	--	45.1	3.3	51.6
750-999	79	20.3	79.7	79.7	20.3	--	21.5	30.4	48.1	--	57.0	11.4	31.6
1000 and over	112	42.0	58.0	99.1	.9	--	16.1	22.3	61.6	1.8	48.2	44.6	5.4