



1-1-1935

## Rural Socio-Economic Conditions in Ward County and the Realtions Bewtween Farmers and Townspeople

L. O. Lantis

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/theses>

---

### Recommended Citation

Lantis, L. O., "Rural Socio-Economic Conditions in Ward County and the Realtions Bewtween Farmers and Townspeople" (1935). *Theses and Dissertations*. 4304.  
<https://commons.und.edu/theses/4304>

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by the Theses, Dissertations, and Senior Projects at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theses and Dissertations by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [und.common@library.und.edu](mailto:und.common@library.und.edu).

RURAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN WARD COUNTY  
AND <sup>6/2/31</sup>  
THE RELATIONS BETWEEN FARMERS AND TOWNSPEOPLE.

A Thesis

LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

Presented in Candidacy for the Degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy

by

L. O. Lantis



T1935

L29

This Thesis presented by L. O. Lantis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy is hereby approved by the Committee on Instruction in charge of his work.

Committee:

*M. Gillette*  
Chairman

*G. Libby*

*E. J. Lawrence*  
*W. L. Sch*

*J. W. Breitwieser*  
Director of the Graduate Division

University of North Dakota

August, 1935



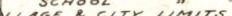
Bdg. 8 Jan '36 Hertzberg 1.00

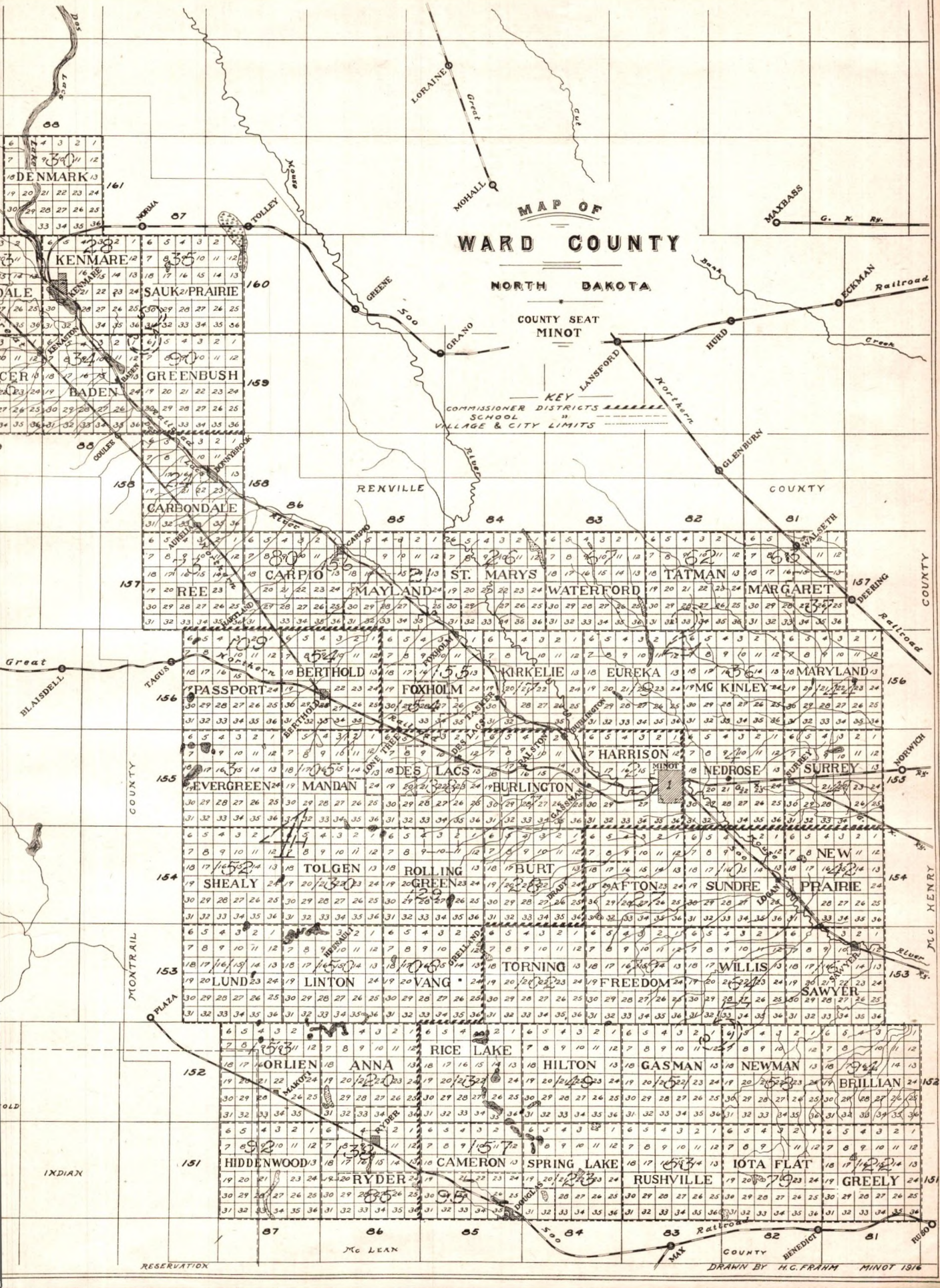


# MAP OF WARD COUNTY

NORTH DAKOTA

COUNTY SEAT  
MINOT

KEY  
COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS   
SCHOOL "   
VILLAGE & CITY LIMITS 







Township Hall Located in Nedrose  
Township, Northeast of Minot.



Home for Poor Maintained by Ward  
County. Five Miles South of Minot.



TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Part		PAGE
I.	INTRODUCTION.	
	Object of Study . . . . .	1
	Method of Study . . . . .	1
	Brief History of the County . . . . .	2
	Geographic Features . . . . .	3
	Population . . . . .	6
	Races and Nationalities . . . . .	18
	Occupations . . . . .	25
	Coal Mining . . . . .	38
	Communication . . . . .	41
	Roads . . . . .	41
	Railroads . . . . .	41
	Mail. . . . .	42
	Automobile Ownership. . . . .	43
	Radios. . . . .	44
	Telephones. . . . .	46
II.	TOWN AND COUNTRY BUSINESS RELATIONS	
	Marketing . . . . .	47
	Merchandising. . . . .	51
	Financial Affairs . . . . .	55



PART	PAGE
III.	EDUCATIONAL RELATIONS OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PEOPLE.
	Schools and Allied Organizations . . . . . 68
	4-H Clubs . . . . . 71
	Homemakers' Clubs. . . . . 73
	Parent-Teachers' Associations. . . . . 74
	Boy and Girl Scouts in Ward County . . . . . 75
	Libraries. . . . . 76
	The Press. . . . . 78
	Churches . . . . . 79
	Health. . . . . 85
IV.	TOWN AND COUNTRY RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL RELATIONS.
	Recreation in General. . . . . 90
	Motion Pictures . . . . . 90
	Dances. . . . . 91
	Community Picnics and Fairs. . . . . 91
	Games and Contests . . . . . 92
	Lodges . . . . . 94
	Clubs. . . . . 99
V.	ATTITUDES OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PEOPLE TOWARD EACH OTHER.
	Meaning of Attitude and How it Develops . . . . . 101
	The Personal Interview . . . . . 104
	Questionnaires . . . . . 109



PART	PAGE
VI. CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	113
APPENDIX . . . . .	119
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	125
Books . . . . .	125
Bulletins . . . . .	127
Magazine Articles . . . . .	129



LIST OF TABLES.

TABLES	PAGE	
I.	Names of Counties and Area of Each That is Larger than Ward County . . . . .	4
II.	Population of Ward County by Minor Civil Divisions . . . . .	6-9
III.	Population Trends in Ward County Compared with Corresponding Data for North Dakota and the United States . . . . .	10
IV.	Village and City Population of Ward County in 1930, 1920, and 1910. . . . .	12
V.	Population of Unincorporated Places and the Open-country in Ward County . . . . .	13
VI.	Population of Unincorporated Places and the Open-country in Grand-Forks County . . . . .	14
VII.	Decrease of Population in the Open-country and Unincorporated Places in Ward and Grand Forks County in 1930, 1920, and 1910. . . . .	15
VIII.	Percentage Rural Population Was of Total Population in North Dakota, Ward County and Grand Forks County in 1930, 1920, and 1910 . . .	16
IX.	Increase in Population in North Dakota, and Ward County in 1930 and 1920 . . . . .	16
X.	Density of Population in North Dakota, Grand Forks and Ward Counties, 1930, and 1920 . .	17
XI.	Number of Each Race and Nationality in Ward County, 1930 . . . . .	18
XII.	Nationality of Foreign-born White Population in Ward County, Number of Each and Percentage Each Was of the Total, 1930 . . . . .	19



TABLE	PAGE
XIII. Birthplace of Inhabitants of Ward County in 1885, Number in Each Group and Percentage Each was of the Total Population . . . . .	24
XIV. Farm Statistics in Ward County, 1930, 1925, and 1920 . . . . .	26
XV. Tenure of Farms in Ward County, 1930, and 1920, and Percentage of Total Number of Farms in Each Group . . . . .	26
XVI. Acreage Operated by Owners, Managers, and Tenants in Ward County, 1930, and 1920 . . . . .	29
XVII. Value of Land and Buildings on Farms Operated By Owners, Managers, and Tenants in Ward County, 1930 and 1920 . . . . .	29
XVIII. Size of Farms in Ward County and Number of Farms of Each Size, 1930 and 1920 . . . . .	30
XIX. Kinds of Livestock and Number of Each Kind in Ward County and Percentage of Increase of Decrease, 1930-1920 . . . . .	31
XX. Different Classes of Land in Ward County and the Acreage of Each Class, 1930 and 1925 . . . . .	33
XXI. Selected Crops Grown in Ward County, Acreage, and Total Production of Each, 1929, 1924, and 1919 . . . . .	34
XXII. Yield per Acre of Selected Crops in Ward County and the United States, 1929, 1924, and 1919 . . . . .	37
XXIII. Families Having Radio Sets in United States, North Dakota, and Ward County: 1930 . . . . .	45
XXIV. Location of Banks in Ward County, 1933 . . . . .	56
XXV. Number of Families Receiving Aid and Total Amount Given Each Month in 1934 . . . . .	60
XXVI. Seed and Feed Loans in Ward County, 1930 and 1932 . . . . .	62
XXVII. The Number of Foreclosures of Mortgages on Farms in Ward County, 1929-1934. . . . .	63



TABLE	PAGE
XXVIII. Grade of School, Location, Enrollment, and Number of Pupils from Farms, 1931-1932 . . . . .	69
XXIX. Total Enrollment of Students in Minot State Teachers College who live in Ward County and of Those Living on Farms in the County, Fall Term, 1934 . . . . .	71
XXX. Places Where Boy Scout Troops are Located and the Number of Troops in Each Place . . . . .	75
XXXI. Girl Scout Troops in Ward County and Number of Members in Each . . . . .	76
XXXII. Number of Physicians, Dentists, Osteopaths, and Chiropractors Residing in Minot and in Each Village in Ward County . . . . .	86
XXXIII. Distribution of Physicians in the United States, North Dakota, and Ward County According to Population per Physician. . . . .	87
XXXIV. Membership in Lodges and Attendance at Lodge Meetings . . . . .	95-97

LIST OF CHARTS

Chart

1. Percentage of Each Nationality Foreign-born White Population in Ward County, 1930 . . . . .	20
2. Percentage of Taxes Collected in Ward County, 1930-1933. . . . .	58
3. Monthly Salaries of Teachers in One-Room Rural Schools in Ward County . . . . .	66
4. Total Membership in Lodges and Total Farmer Membership in Lodges in Ward County, 1931-1932 . . . . .	98

ILLUSTRATIONS

Township Hall Located in Nedrose Township, Northeast of Minot.	B
Home for Poor Maintained by Ward County.	B
Former Danish High School in Denmark Township.	22



	PAGE
Danish Lutheran Church in Denmark Township.	22
A Typical Abandoned Farm Home.	27
One of the Better Farm Homes in the County.	27
Two Views of a Strip Mine Located in South-eastern Part of Ward County.	40
Equity Union Creameries Building and Minot Farmers Elevator Building.	49
Farmers' Union Oil Company Filling Station and Truck in Minot.	49
Another View of Elevator and Equity Creameries in Minot.	50
An Open-country Two-room School.	70
Rural One-room School.	70
Typical Open-country Church.	82
Roman Catholic Church at Foxholm.	82

#### MAPS

Map of Ward County, Showing Boundaries of the County, Townships, Railroads, etc.	A
Map of Ward County Showing the Location of Churches in Open-country and Unincorporated Places in the County.	80



## PART I-INTRODUCTION.

### Object of the Study.

This study was undertaken primarily as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of North Dakota. The relations of farmers and townsmen in Ward County, North Dakota, were studied and an attempt was made to determine the attitudes of these groups towards each other. The conclusions reached apply specifically to this county but this study should shed light on the relations of these two groups in other counties and states.

### Method of Study.

The data for this study were collected during the latter part of 1931, thruout 1932, 1933, and part of 1934. Many people living on farms and business men and women in villages were interviewed. Church was attended in several rural churches, newspaper editors, farmers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, and ministers were interrogated about the relations of rural and urban people. A questionnaire was filled out by many farmers and business men. Also, a questionnaire was used with many pupils in high schools in villages. County officials and others familiar with town-country relations were consulted and personal observations of these relations were analyzed. Many meetings of the Farmers' Union, and of the Parent-Teacher Associations were attended in



different parts of the county, and several commencements of elementary schools were attended, also. Newspaper files and histories of the state were examined. Records at the county court house were consulted.

Considerable attention is given to the history and the economic development of the county because these things are the foundation of present conditions. There are several different nationalities in the county and often people do not cooperate well because of prejudices. The occupations, climate, and general agricultural conditions in a given area have a very large part in determining the prosperity of the people who inhabit it. Therefore all these points have been included in the investigation of this subject.

#### Brief History of the County

In 1885, Ward County was organized out of parts of Stevens, Wynn, and Renville counties. In 1887, it was enlarged by the addition of more territory from Renville and Wynn counties.<sup>1</sup> In 1891, the boundaries of the county were changed and several townships were taken from adjoining counties and added to it. In

-----

1. Luella J. Hall, "History of the Formation of Counties in North Dakota", Collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, 1923, V. 210.



1909, Mountrail County was formed out of the southwestern part of Ward County, and Renville and Burke Counties were organized in 1910 out of the northern part of it. The first county seat was Burlington. Minot has been the county seat since 1888.

White people began to settle in the territory that is now included in Ward County about 1881.<sup>1</sup> This portion of the state had been the hunting ground of the Assiniboine, Arikari, Mandan, and other Indians. The settlers located farms near the present sites of Sawyer, Burlington, and Minot. The Great Northern Railroad located Minot in 1886, and it became the headquarters for the extension of the railroad west to Great Falls, Montana. Many men were employed by the railroad and Minot soon became a very busy place.

#### Geographic Features

Ward County is located in the northwestern part of North Dakota. The surface is rolling and the soil is fertile. Good crops will be produced if there is sufficient rainfall. The annual rainfall ranges from 14 to 16 inches while that of the central part of the state is 16 to 18 inches and in the eastern

-----

1. The Record, II, 10, Nov., 1896, and Report submitted by Miss Dorothea Knowlton in Miss Hazel McCulloch's class at Minot State Teachers College, entitled "A Backward Glance at the Mouse River Loop Region," pp. 2-9.



counties it is 18 to 22 inches.<sup>1</sup> The rainfall is frequently very small and some years there is practically a complete crop failure, because of this fact. In 1932, the precipitation in Minot amounted to 19.72 inches, in 1933, it amounted to 14.76 inches, and in 1934, it amounted to 7.13 inches.<sup>2</sup>

The area of Ward County is 2,054 square miles and there are 57 civil townships in it. There are only five counties in the state that are larger in area. They are shown in TABLE I.

TABLE I -- Names of Counties and Area of Each that is Larger than Ward County.<sup>3</sup>

Name of County	Area in Square Miles
McKenzie	2,847
McLean	2,305
Stutsman	2,282
Williams	2,138
Dunn	2,084
Ward	2,054

1. E. A. Willson, H.C. Hoffsommer, and A.H. Benton, Bulletin 214, "Rural Changes in Western North Dakota". (Fargo: Agricultural Experiment Station, North Dakota Agricultural College, 1928), p. 12.
2. Information obtained from Mr. Chatfield, Cooperative Weather Observer, at Minot.
3. Population Bulletin, First Series, North Dakota Fifteen Census of the United States; 1930, pp. 4 and 5.



The average size of a county in North Dakota is 1324.2 square miles. Therefore Ward county is much larger than the average.

In 1930 there were 2662 farms in Ward county and the average size of farms, if cultivated land only is considered, was 253.9 acres. The average for the whole state, if only cultivated land is considered, was 279.6 acres.

The Mouse river enters the county from the north about halfway between the eastern and western boundaries, flows in a southeastern direction and leaves the county about 16 miles from the southeast corner of the county. The DesLacs Lake is a long narrow lake which extends from Burke county on the North down about twelve miles into Ward county. Then it is drained thru DesLacs river which flows southeast and joins the Mouse river near Burlington.

The Mouse river district is an old lake plain or bottom of former Lake Souris. This lake was formed by an ice barrier which prevented the drainage to the north and so made a lake of the glacial waters. The Mouse river has cut its valley thru the sand and silt which had been deposited on the bottom of this old lake.<sup>1</sup>

-----

1. A. G. Leonard, Bulletin No. 11, "Geology and Natural Resources of North Dakota" (Grand Forks: University of North Dakota Departmental Bulletin, 1930), pp. 14 - 15.



## POPULATION

The population of Ward county in 1930 was 33,597. The only county in the state that had a larger population then was Cass county which had 48,735. The population of Ward county and of the minor civil divisions in it in 1930, 1920, and 1910 is shown in TABLE 11.

TABLE 11 - POPULATION OF WARD COUNTY BY MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS<sup>1</sup>

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS	1930	1920	1910
Ward County	33,597	28,811	25,281
Afton township . . . . .	287	234	207
Anna township . . . . .	150	170	121
Baden township / / . . . . .	208	238	357
Berthold city . . . . .	511	498	454
Brilliant township . . . . .	415	302	337
Burlington township . . . . .	478	496	478
Burt township . . . . .	246	262	257
Cameron township . . . . .	223	192	148
Carbondale township . . . . .	271	313	348
Carpio township . . . . .	342	376	318
Carpio village . . . . .	344	244	257
Denmark township . . . . .	254	335	446
Des Lacs township . . . . .	208	250	443
Des Lacs Village . . . . .	205	188	...
Donnybrook village . . . . .	259	267	297
Douglas village . . . . .	288	284	171



## POPULATION OF WARD COUNTY BY MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS (con't.)

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS	1930	1920	1910
Elmdale township .....	367	337	380
Eureka township .....	214	265	325
Evergreen township .....	64	111	142
Foxholm township .....	377	441	413
Freedom township .....	229	238	225
Gasman township .....	203	190	176
Greely township .....	121	148	165
Greenbush township .....	197	205	262
Harrison township <sup>2</sup> .....	281	302	289
Hiddenwood township .....	255	237	127
Hilton township .....	182	185	167
Iota Flat township .....	220	286	336
Kenmare city .....	1,494	1,446	1,437
Kenmare township .....	232	272	443
Kirkelie township .....	211	437	360
Linton township .....	149	148	114
Lund township 1.....	213	206	226
Mc Kinley township .....	256	268	312
Makoti township .....	276	283	.....
Mandan township .....	177	209	233
Margaret township .....	231	193	190
Maryland township .....	182	226	334
Mayland Township .....	225	243	252
Minot City <sup>2</sup> .....	16,099	10,476	6,188



## POPULATION OF WARD COUNTY BY MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS (con't.)

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS	1930	1920	1910
Nedrose township <sup>2</sup> .....	280	242	300
Newman township .....	257	333	364
New Prairie twp. <sup>2</sup> ..(T.154,R.81).	210	183	284
Orlien township .....	253	222	141
Passport township .....	202	232	239
Ree township .....	259	329	294
Rice Lake township .....	169	161	193
Rolling Green township .....	208	211	207
Rushville township .....	272	313	270
Ryder township .....	264	250	180
Ryder village .....	457	483	338
St. Marys township .....	210	220	246
Sauk Prairie .....	218	240	291
Sawyer township .....	187	180	219
Sawyer village .....	206	241	327
Shealy township .....	137	152	118
Spencer township .....	308	374	438
Spring Lake township .....	199	191	190
Sundre twp. <sup>2</sup> (T. 154 R. 82) .....	270	293	228
Surrey township .....	462	410	528
Tatman township .....	164	170	230
Tolgen township .....	107	156	148
Torning township .....	210	292	297



## POPULATION OF WARD COUNTY BY MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS (cont.)

MINOR CIVIL DIVISIONS	1930	1920	1910
Vang township . . . . .	155	149	172
Waterford township . . . . .	233	219	262
Willis township . . . . .	221	240	280

There are sixty-seven minor civil divisions in the county and twenty-six of these increased in population between 1920 and 1930. Between 1910 and 1920 twenty-eight of them increased in population. Minot is the only city<sup>3</sup> in the county, and its population in 1930 was 16,099. Therefore, 52.2 per cent of the county's population would be classified as rural; See TABLE III.

-----

1. Population Bulletin, First series. North Dakota Fifteenth Census of United States: 1930, p. 24.
2. Ward. -- County total for 1910 includes population (432) of North Minot village, annexed to Minot city between 1910 and 1920. Parts of Minot city annexed to Harrison township in 1924 and 1929. Parts of Harrison township annexed to Minot city in 1926, 1929, and 1930, and part of Nedrose township annexed in 1929. New Prairie and Sundre townships organized in 1922 from unorganized territory.
3. This statement is based upon the ruling of the Bureau of the Census that a place must have a population of 2,500 or more to be a city.



TABLE III--Population in Ward County Compared with Corresponding Data for North Dakota and the United States.<sup>1</sup>

Ward County			North Dakota			United States		
Population			Population			Population		
1910	1930	Percent Increase	1910	1930	Percent Increase	1910	1930	Percent Increase
Total								
25,281	33,597	32.9	577,056	680,845	17.9	91,972,266	122,775,046	33.5
Urban								
6,188	16,099	160.1	63,236	113,306	79.1	42,166,120	68,954,823	63.5
Rural								
18,093	17,498	- 3.3	513,820	567,539	10.4	49,806,146	53,820,223	8.1
Native White								
	29,197		413,697	566,095	36.8	68,386,412	95,497,800	39.6
Foreign-born white								
	4,171		156,158	105,148	-32.6	13,345,545	13,366,407	.16
Negro								
	76		617	377	-38.9	9,827,763	11,891,143	20.9
All Others								
	153		6,584	9,225	40.1	412,546	2,019,696	389.5

1. Taken from Census Reports, 1910 and 1930.



A study of this table shows that the population of the county grew much more rapidly than that of the state and almost equalled that of the United States. However, the urban population increased much faster than that of the state or country, but the rural population decreased, while that of the state and entire country showed an increase.

The negro population of the county is noticeable. There were 76 negroes reported in 1930 and only 377 in the entire state, which means that 20.2 per cent of all negroes in North Dakota live in Minot. None of them live on farms and almost all of them live in Minot. They began to come to Minot when it was a village and when a few had settled there others followed.

Most of the negroes in Minot are not very desirable citizens. They live in one section of the city and have some small shops, particularly restaurants and billiard parlors. Some of them are gamblers and bootleggers and very few of them are married.

"All others" includes Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and Mexicans. For facts concerning these groups see TABLE XI, p.18.



The trend of population of Minot and the incorporated villages in the county during the last two decades is interesting. These facts are shown in TABLE IV.

TABLE IV - Village and City Population of Ward County in 1930, 1920, and 1910.

Villages and Minot	Population		
	1930	1920	1910
Berthold	511	498	454
Carpio	344	244	257
DesLacs	205	188	---
Donnybrook	259	267	297
Douglas	288	284	171
Kenmare	1494	1446	1437
Makoti	276	283	---
Minot	16099	10476	6188
Ryder	457	483	338
Sawyer	206	241	327
Total	20139	14410	9469

The total population of the county in 1930 was 33,597.<sup>2</sup>  
If 20,139 lived in villages and Minot, then the difference

-----

1. Population Bulletin, First Series, North Dakota, "Number and Distribution of Inhabitants," 1930. p. 24.

2. Ibid., p. 24.



13,458, would be the population of unincorporated places and the open country. A similar method of computation gives the population of unincorporated places and the open country, for 1920 and 1910. These figures are shown in TABLE V.

TABLE V - Population of Unincorporated Places and Open-country in Ward County.

1930			1920			1910		
Total Population	Rural population outside of villages	Percentage	Total Population	Rural population outside of villages	Percentage	Total Population	Rural population outside of villages	Percentage
33,597	13,458	40.1	28,811	14,401	49.9	25,281	15,812	62.5

This table shows that the population of unincorporated places and the open country has declined both in percentage of total population and in actual number of people in this group. Another interesting fact is that the number in this group in 1920 was 91.1 per cent of what it was in 1910, a decrease of 8.9 per cent, and the number in it in 1930 was 93.5 per cent of what it was in 1920, a decrease of 6.5 per cent. These changes occurred and at the same time the entire population of the county gained 13.9 per cent between 1910 and 1920 and 16.6 per cent between 1920 and 1930.

It will be interesting to compare the changes in population with those in Grand Forks county which is located in the extreme eastern part of the state and was settled many years before settlers



entered the western part of the state. Facts for Grand Forks  
<sup>1</sup>  
 county, similar to those shown by TABLE V, are shown in TABLE VI.

TABLE VI - Population of Unincorporated Places and the Open-  
 country in Grand Forks County<sup>2</sup>.

1930			1920			1910		
Total popula- tion	Rural popula- tion out- side of villages	Per cent- age	Total popula- tion	Rural popula- tion out- side of villages	Per cent- age	Total popula- tion	Rural popula- tion out- side of villages	Per cent- age
31,956	11,831	37.0	28,795	12,010	41.7	27,888	12,748	45.7

This table is interesting when compared with the one showing the changes in Ward county. Each of these counties has a city in it and this is the largest city in its respective part of the state. Grand Forks and Minot are about the same size. The former had a population of 17,112 and the latter had 16,099 in 1930. The population of the open country and unincorporated places in Grand Forks county in 1920 was 94.2 per cent of what it was in 1910, a decrease of 5.8 per cent and the number in this group in 1930 was 98.5 per cent of that in 1920, which was a decrease of 1.5 per cent.

-----

1. *ibid.*, p. 12
2. *Ibid.*



A comparison of these facts about the population in these two counties can be more readily understood by studying the next table.

**TABLE VII - Decrease of Population in Open-country and Unincorporated places in Ward, and Grand Forks counties 1910-1920, and 1920-1930.**

County	Decrease in population of open country and un- incorporated places, 1920 to 1930	Decrease in popu- lation of open country and unin- corporated places, 1910 to 1920
	Percentage	Percentage
Ward	6.5	8.9
Grand Forks	1.5	5.8

The fact that Grand Forks county showed a smaller percentage of decrease in each decade may be accounted for partly because it is an older county than Ward and partly because crops are more uncertain in the part of the state in which Ward county is located. This is due to the shortage of rainfall which compares unfavorably with that in the Red River Valley in which Grand Forks county is located.

It will help to understand conditions in Ward county if the percentages that the rural population is of the total population as shown by the census in 1910, 1920, and 1930, in the entire state and in the two counties already studied, are compared. These facts are shown in TABLE VIII.



TABLE VIII - Percentage Rural Population Was of Total Population in North Dakota, Ward County and Grand Forks County in 1930, 1920, and 1910<sup>1</sup>.

State and County	1930	1920	1910
North Dakota	83.4	86.4	89.0
Ward County	52.4	63.6	75.5
Grand Forks County	46.4	51.3	55.3

Minot and Grand Forks have been growing during the last two decades and some of the villages in these counties have grown while other small villages have decreased slightly during this period. These facts explain why the rural population in Ward and Grand Forks counties is much smaller in percentage than that of the whole state. The increase in population of Ward county and of the state is shown in the following table:

TABLE IX - Increase in Population of North Dakota and Ward County, 1920-1930 and 1910-1920.<sup>2</sup>

State and County	Increase in population 1920-1930	Percentage	Increase in Population 1910-1920	Percentage
North Dakota	33,973	5.3	69,816	12.1
Ward County	4,786	16.6	3,530	13.9

1. U.S. Census Reports, 1910, 1920 and 1930.
2. Population Bulletin, First Series, North Dakota, Number and Distribution of Inhabitants, 1930, P. 3 pp. 14-15, and P.24.



The gain in population in Ward county was larger in each decade than the gain in the state for the same period. This was due to the fact that the county has been settled only recently and to the fact that Minot has grown greatly since 1910. In fact, the increase in population of Minot between 1910 and 1920 was 4,288 and the growth of the population of the county in the same decade was, 3,530. The growth of population of Minot between 1920 and 1930 was 5,623 while the increase in population of the county for the same period was 4,786. In other words, the growth of Minot more than equalled that of the county for these decades.

The density of population in Grand Forks and Ward Counties and in the state is shown in TABLE X.

TABLE X - Density of Population in North Dakota, Grand Forks and Ward counties, 1930 and 1920.<sup>1</sup>

State or County	Inhabitants per square mile, 1930	Inhabitants per square mile, 1920
North Dakota	9.7	9.2
Ward County	16.4	14.0
Grand Forks County	22.3	20.1

These figures show that the density of population in Ward county is much greater than that of the state and also there was a larger increase in the decade, 1920-30 than there was in the state.

-----

1. Ibid., pp. 4-5



However the increase in density of population in Grand Forks county and Ward county is about the same, but the density is 35.9 per cent greater in the former county. Ward county was surpassed in density of population only by Cass and Grand Forks counties

#### RACES AND NATIONALITIES.

TABLE XI- Number of Each Race and Nationality in Ward County, 1930<sup>1</sup>.

Races and Nationalities	Number in Group
TOTAL . . . . .	33,597
White . . . . .	33,368
Negro . . . . .	76
Indians . . . . .	7
Chinese . . . . .	18
Japanese . . . . .	54
Mexican . . . . .	74

The population of the county is almost entirely white. The number of Negroes, Indians, and Mongolians is so small that they exercise no influence on the relationship of rural and urban people. Almost all the Negroes, Chinese, and Japanese live in Minot and

1. Fifteenth Census Reports on Population, Vol. III, part 2, by States, Montana to Wyoming, Table 13 p. 422 and Table 18, p. 428.



therefore the rural population of the county consists almost entirely of white people.

TABLE XII - Nationality of Foreign-born White Population in Ward County, Number of Each and Percentage Each was of the Total, 1930.<sup>1</sup>

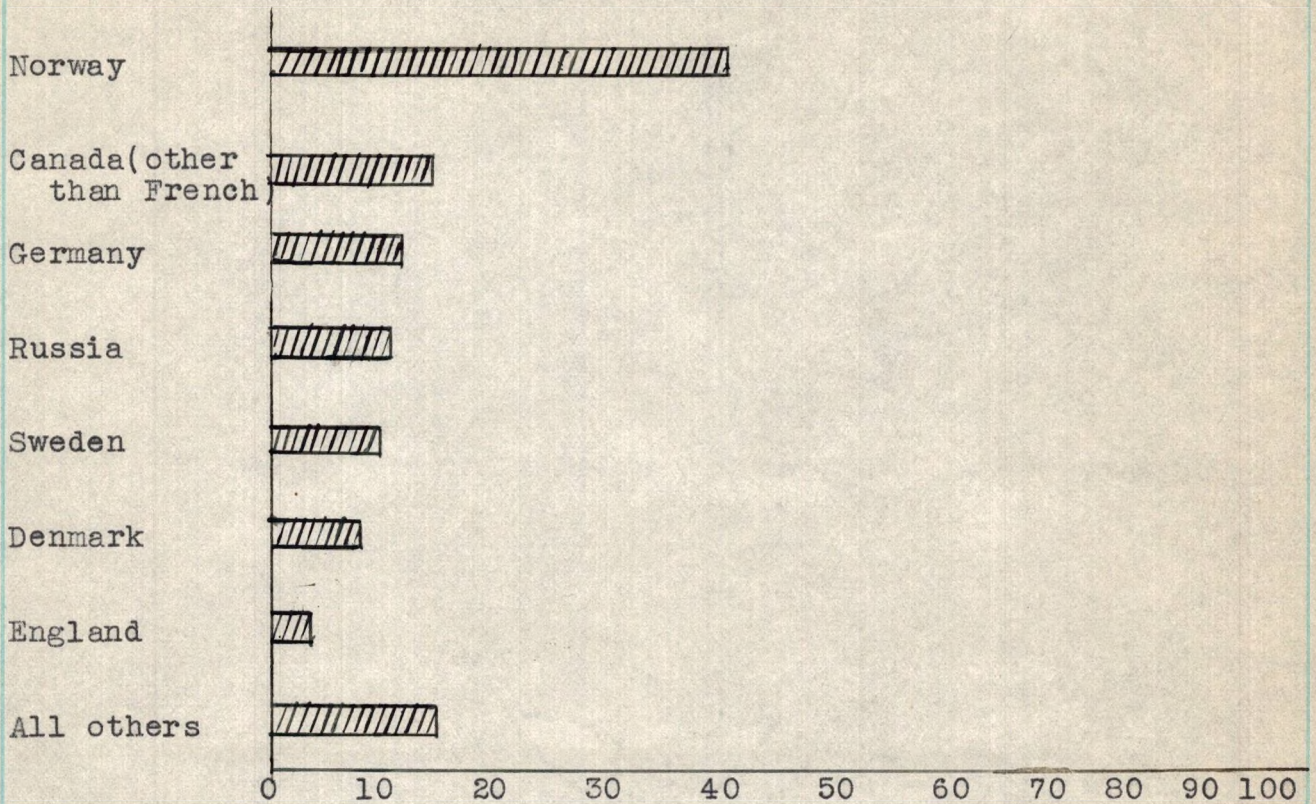
Nationality	Number in Group	Percentage Distributions	Percentage of Total Population
Total	4,171	100.0	12.41
Norway	1,576	37.7	4.68
Canada-other	491	11.8	1.46
Germany	407	9.7	1.21
Russia	382	9.2	1.13
Sweden	374	9.0	1.11
Denmark	287	6.9	0.85
England	103	2.5	0.31
Poland	78	1.8	0.24
Czechoslovakia	54	1.3	0.16
Austria	52	1.3	0.16
Scotland	43	1.0	0.12
Irish Free State	38	.9	0.11
Canada-French	38	.9	0.11
Netherlands	27	.6	0.08
Rumania	23	.5	0.07
Northern Ireland	14	.3	0.04
France	13	.3	0.04
Finland	10	.2	0.03
Switzerland	5	.1	0.02
Hungary	3	.1	0.01
Iceland	1	----	----
All Other	152	3.6	0.45

These facts are graphically shown in Chart I.

1. Ibid.



CHART I - Percentage of Each Nationality, Foreign-born White Population in Ward County, 1930.



It is noticeable that while the foreign-born whites come from several different countries in Europe, over one-half of them come from Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. Not many immigrants have come from these countries since the World War. The industrial development in Sweden and Norway and endeavors to discourage emigration from these countries by their governments have tended to keep

-----



their people at home. Denmark has become very prosperous economically due to cooperative methods in agriculture and marketing and few Danes have come to the United States in recent years.<sup>1</sup> These people began to come into North Dakota in territorial days and have been a very influential element in the development of the county.

While the Scandinavians are scattered over the county, in country, and village, and city, it is noticeable that one township in the county is named Denmark and originally was largely settled by Danes. This is the most northern township in the county. There is in it a Danish Lutheran church with the parsonage across the road and a cemetery nearby. On the other side of the church is a school building which was used for many years to house a school that was conducted in a similar way to a "folk-school" in Denmark.

Very few Germans have come into the county during the last few years. Professor Down says of the Germans:<sup>2</sup> "Economically, the Germans are very thrifty and prosperous. They were industrious and from an economic standpoint probably the most successful of all our immigrants." Dr. Steiner says, "Germans blend more quickly than any other foreigner (except the Scandinavian) with the native life."<sup>3</sup>

There are some Russian farmers in the county and they

- 1.
  - <sup>2</sup> G.S.Dow, "Society and Its Problems, " Revised Edition, (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1929), pp. 110-112.
  2. Ibid., p. 108
  - 3.
- E. A. Steiner, "On the Trail of the Immigrant," New York: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906, P. 109





Former Danish High School  
in Denmark Township.



Danish Lutheran Church  
in Denmark Township.



exhibit the traits usually mentioned in discussion of their qualities. They are industrious, but social and moral conditions among them are sometimes bad. The position of women among them is very low. They often do not have a high regard for education, but some of the children are very bright and some parents show a high appreciation of the work of the school.

The other group which is quite large is the Canadian which does not include the French Canadians. A large percentage of them came to the country from Ontario. They are easily assimilated and some of them are leaders in their communities.

There is no trouble between the different nationalities in Ward County. Occasionally some one criticises the immigrant and says all Europeans should be denied entrance into the United States. However it is usually found upon investigation that the person who has expressed this idea has had some unpleasant experience with one of these immigrants and so generalizes, using this experience as the basis for his remark.

There is some intermarriage of the different nationalities and this helps to prevent the prejudice which often is manifested. Dr. Hayes has well said,<sup>1</sup> "The fears which some people have expressed that race mixture means mongrelization and degeneracy are without scientific foundation. Mixture, as such, means nothing of the kind. Everything depends upon what goes into the mixture."

-----

1. Edward Cary Hayes, "Sociology", (New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1930, p. 272.



TABLE XIII- Birthplace of Inhabitants of Ward County  
in 1885, Number in Each Group and Percent-  
age Each was of the Total Population.<sup>1</sup>

Country or State	Number of People	Percentage of Total Population
Total	257	100
Norway	69	26.8
Minnesota	39	15.2
Dakota	32	12.5
Wisconsin	23	8.9
New York	19	7.4
Canada	16	6.2
Illinois	14	5.4
Ohio	7	2.7
Iowa	6	2.3
Scotland	6	2.3
Sweden	6	2.3
Michigan	5	1.9
Germany	4	1.6
Indiana	3	1.2
Denmark	2	.8
Ireland	2	.8
New Hampshire	1	.4
Maryland	1	.4
New Jersey	1	.4
Pennsylvania	1	.4

1. Collection of State Historical Society of North Dakota,  
Vol. IV, 1885, page 431



It is interesting to study the place of birth of the people living in Ward County in 1885.<sup>1</sup> These facts are shown in Table XIII.

Some noticeable facts about this earliest census of Ward County are that the Norwegians were by far the most numerous of the foreigners then as they are now, and the Canadians were second then and also in 1930. The states that had representatives in the county in 1885 were mostly those lying east of North Dakota in the same latitude. Of the total population, in 1885, 59.1 per cent were born in the United States and 12.5 per cent were born in Dakota Territory.

#### OCCUPATIONS

There is no other occupation in Ward County that has as many people dependent upon it as farming. There are no large factories in the county and mining lignite coal and railroading are the only other occupations that employ a considerable number of workers. Farming is the basis of the success of business in the villages and in Minot. Sometimes people haven't thought about it in this way, but in a section of the country like the northwestern part of North Dakota, even the cities are "exaggerated country towns" and the business men find that they prosper when the country people are prosperous and vice versa.

Some statistics concerning farming in Ward County will give a good summary of important points about this occupation.<sup>2</sup>

-----

1. Collection of State Historical Society of North Dakota, Vol. IV, 1885, p. 431.
2. Preliminary Announcement, 1930 Farm Census, Ward County, North Dakota, Released March 30, 1931.



TABLE XIV - Farm Statistics in Ward County, 1930, 1925,  
and 1920.<sup>1</sup>

Farm Acreage and Value	1930	1925	1920
Number of farms	2,662	2,705	2,643
Acreage of all land in farms	1,156,516	1,047,286	1,022,806
Percentage of total area in farms	87.9%	79.7%	77.8%
Average acres per farm	434.5	387.2	387
Value of land and buildings	\$26,986,352	\$26,891,308	\$35,324,148
Value of land alone	20,193,273	21,321,888	29,668,243
Value of implements and machinery	4,133,830	2,373,274	3,308,412
Average value of land and buildings per farm	10,138	9,941	13,365

The following tables show the tenure of farms and number and size of farms in the county.

TABLE XV - Tenure of Farms in Ward County, 1930 and 1920,  
and Percentage of Total Number of Farms.<sup>2</sup>

Tenure of farms	1930	1920	Percent of total, 1930	percent of total, 1920
Number operated by:				
Owners	1,678	2,000	63.4	75.6
Managers	14	28	.5	1.1
Tenants	961	615	36.1	23.3

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.





A Typical Abandoned Farm Home. There are a Large Number of Such Buildings in Ward County.



One of the Better Farm Homes Found in the County.



The increase in tenancy during this decade was due to the fact that some of the original owners of the farms failed to make much progress in farming. Some of the original settlers who took up homesteads were not farmers, but settled on the land because it was an opportunity to get a farm and if they did not want to cultivate it they could secure a loan by giving a mortgage on the farm. Then if they could not pay back the money borrowed, the holder of the mortgage might become the owner and the settler would have had a place to live for several years and would have become acquainted in a new part of the country. Sometimes the settlers sold their farms. Those who bought these farms often did not want to cultivate them and so rented them.

The effect of tenancy is usually described as very bad.<sup>1</sup> The business depression during the last four years and the crop failures during the same time have made it difficult to determine what effect the increase in tenancy has had. Many farm buildings are needing repairs badly, but this is true of buildings used by owners as well as those used by tenants. Some farmers have said that the "hard times" had made every one feel that all his neighbors were his equal because neither owner nor tenant had accomplished anything.

-----

1. J. M. Gillette, "Rural Sociology," Revised Edition, (New York: The Macmillan Co., 1928), pp.245-253, and L. O. Lantis, "Rural Community Life", (New York: American Book Co., 1930), pp.116-122.



TABLE XVI - Acreage Operated by Owners, Managers, and Tenants in Ward County, 1930 and 1920.<sup>1</sup>

Tenure of Farms	1930	1920
Acreage operated by:		
Owners	771,620	776,347
Managers	7,834	18,441
Tenants	377,062	228,018

TABLE XVII - Value of Land and Buildings on Farms Operated by Owners, Managers, and Tenants in Ward County, 1930, and 1920.<sup>2</sup>

Tenure of Farms	1930	1920
Value of Land and Buildings on Farms Operated by:		
Owners	\$18,293,580	\$26,616,513
Managers	199,600	679,540
Tenants	8,493,172	8,028,095

It is noticeable that the number of farms operated by owners decreased in this decade and also the number operated by managers did likewise, while the number operated by tenants increased 56.3 per cent. There was a decrease, too, in the value of land and buildings on farms operated by owners and managers but a small increase in the value of those on farms operated by tenants.

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.



TABLE XVIII - Size of Farms in Ward County and Number of Farms of Each Size, 1930, and 1920.

Size of Farms	Number	
	1930	1920
Under 3 acres	2	-
3 to 9 acres	25	3
10 to 19 acres	14	1
20 to 49 acres	45	25
50 to 99 acres	65	32
100 to 174 acres	408	521
175 to 259 acres	187	218
260 to 499 acres	1,171	1,327
500 to 999 acres	626	457
1000 acres and over	119	59
	2,662	2,643

The average size of farm in the county in 1930 was 434.5 acres. This size of farm is the one that was most numerous as shown by the table. There were relatively few farms in the county that had less than 50 acres. However the number that belongs in this group changed from 1.1 per cent of the total number in 1920 to 3.2 per cent of the total number in 1930. This increase is explained by the fact that a few small farms have been purchased near Minot and the owners are raising vegetables and flowers for sale. Occasionally a small farm is operated by some one who has decided to cultivate a few acres and so produce much of the food required for himself and family.



The number of farms having more than 500 acres in them was 19.5 per cent of the total number of farms 1920 and 27.9 per cent of it in 1930. The explanation of the increase in the number of very large farms is that some people who owned halfsection of land or less were in debt and were forced to sell their farms. These were bought sometimes by a prosperous landowner who owned the adjoining farm and this farm would be combined with what he already owned. Some such purchases were made several years ago before the "financial depression" began and when crops were fairly good. Therefore the very small and the very large farms increased quite noticeably in the last census period.

The number of livestock in the county is shown in TABLE XIX.

TABLE XIX - Kinds of Livestock and Number of Each Kind in Ward County and Percentages of Increase or Decrease, 1930 and 1920.<sup>1</sup>

Livestock	1930	Number	1920	Percent Increase or Decrease
Horses	17,716		25,439	-30.3
Mules	333		373	-10.7
Cattle	32,457		32,994	- 1.6
Milk cows	14,202		13,179	7.7
Hogs	7,311		9,668	-24.4
Chickens	147,958		142,105 <sup>5</sup>	4.1

The number of horses has decreased considerably, the mules have shown a small decrease and the total number of cattle has decreased slightly. The number of milk cows has increased somewhat.

1. Ibid.



This is due to the fact that there has been much discussion about the importance of diversifying farming more and particularly about having some milk cows on each farm.

Because of the general shortage of feed for cattle, due to failure of hay and other feed crops, many cattle have been sold during the last two years. It seems probable that more cattle will be kept on the farms when there is a more plentiful supply of feed and pasture, provided a fair price is paid for milk and cream.

There isn't much indication at this time that the number of horses and mules will be increased very greatly. The feed for these animals has been so scarce and high in price that very few horses and mules are being raised. It is not possible to predict what might happen if there should be good crops for two or three years. Many farmers will not be able financially to buy tractors and will have to use horses and mules.

The number of hogs decreased 24.4 per cent and this is probably due to the fact that most of the farms are not fenced so that hogs may be raised. However, it is the opinion of some farmers that there will be more hogs in the county as soon as there is feed for them.

There was also a slight increase in the number of chickens. Farmers have been trying to raise poultry but the very low price of eggs and poultry during the last two years has tended to cause a decrease in the number of chickens.

The land in the county has a variety of used which are similar to those found in any agricultural section in the Middle West. TABLE XX shows the different classes of land.



TABLE XX - Different Classes of Land in Ward County and the Acreage in Each Class, 1930 and 1925.<sup>1</sup>

Classes of Land	Acreage in 1930	Acreage in 1925
Crop land, total	789,848	707,610
Harvested	680,627	649,452
Crop failure	11,383	9,506
Idle	97,838	48,652
Pasture land, total	252,446	218,319
Plowable	77,856	78,351
Woodland	6,906	3,627
Other	167,684	136,341
Woodland not pasture	2,999	5,835
All other land	111,223	115,522

The number of acres of crops harvested in 1930 was larger than in 1925 and the acres of idle land was about double that of 1925. The woodland in the county was 9,905 acres in 1930 and 9,462 acres in 1925. This is found along the Mouse river, in coulees, and in small tracts which were planted by the early settlers. The average number of acres of crop land for each farm in 1930 was 296.7.

The acreage and production of several crops in 1929 and 1919 in Ward County were about the average for the county when there is a "fairly good" year. Each of these crops would show a much smaller production for the years 1930-1934 because of the dry weather and insects. The figures for these years are not yet available.

The crop acreage and production of oats, rye, hay, and potatoes decreased, while the acreage and production of wheat, barley, and flaxseed, and mixed grains and corn cut for silage increased in 1929 in comparison with that of 1919. These facts are shown in TABLES XXI and XXII.



TABLE XXI - Selected Crops Grown in Ward County, Acreage, Percentage of Total Acreage in Each Crop, and Total Production of Each, 1919 and 1929<sup>1</sup>.

Selected Crops	Acreage				Unit	Production	
	1929	Percentage of Total	1919	Percentage of Total		1929	1919
oats threshed for grain	45,108	6.8	67,285	10.9	Bu.	871,699	700,162
Wheat	381,106	58.0	289,197	46.6	Bu.	4,388,685	2,176,767
Barley	48,898	7.4	17,613	2.8	Bu.	765,650	107,222
Rye	63,384	9.6	119,421	19.3	Bu.	549,584	613,729
Flaxseed	28,607	4.3	18,005	2.9	Bu.	134,743	59,574
Mixed grains	2,473	.3	312		Bu.	39,536	1,890
Hay	81,671	12.4	99,982	16.1	Ton	66,437	75,572
Corn cut for silage	2,574	0.4	1,219	0.2	Ton	6,788	3,699
Potatoes(Irish)	3,191	0.5	6,582	1.1	Bu.	138,644	314,693

1. Ibid.



In the county there was an increase of 31.7 per cent in the acreage and a little more than twice as many bushels of wheat were raised in 1929 as in 1919. The unfavorable weather conditions have caused a failure in the wheat crop during the last four years. The five-year average of wheat for 1928-1932 was 3,123,972 bushels.

The increase in the acreage planted in corn is very noticeable. This was due largely to the fact that the farmers are finding out that corn can be grown successfully for silage, provided the weather is satisfactory for other crops to grow. Many farmers have dairy cows and corn makes a large quantity of good feed for them. The growing season is short and very few farmers have tried to grow corn and have it mature.

The potato crop has decreased considerably. The dry weather during the growing season has caused a big decrease in the yield per acre and farmers have decided that potatoes are not a dependable crop. Fifteen or twenty years ago there was a great deal of discussion about growing potatoes for seed in various places in the county. At Berthold and at Minot large warehouses were built and it was proposed that farmers should raise potatoes and store them in these warehouses. Then in the spring, they would be sold for seed.



A complete or partial failure of the crop for a few years caused most farmers to abandon this project. See Table XXII, p. 37.

During the last three years there has been some experimenting with crops not generally grown in this part of the state.<sup>1</sup> Some effort is being made to find something that will grow well even if the weather is very dry. No very convincing results have yet been obtained but a few farmers are trying to improve conditions.

If the supply of moisture becomes adequate it seems probable that the crops that have been grown will be increased. Corn and crops suited for live-stock feed will be increased probably. Wheat seems to be the favorite crop with most farmers however, and they will continue to try to grow large crops of it.

1. Information given by Mr. E. A. Hendrickson, present County Agent in Ward County.



TABLE XXII- Yield per Acre of Selected Crops in Ward County and the United State, 1929, 1924, and 1919.<sup>1</sup>

	Yield per Acre in Ward County			Yield per Acre in United States		
	1929	1924	1919	1929	1924	1919
Oats threshed for grain	19.3	30.7	10.4	30.7	35.6	29.3
Wheat	11.5	14.6	7.5	13.2	15.9	8.2
Barley	15.7	24.3	6.1	23.2	26.0	22.0
Rye	8.7	16.3	5.1	12.6	15.9	12.0
Flaxseed	4.7	7.4	3.3	5.6	9.1	4.8
Hay	0.81T.	0.90T.	0.75T.	.92T.	.98T.	1.07T.
Corn cut for silage	2.63T.	5.18T.	3.03T.	6.9T.		
Potatoes (Irish)	43.4	84.3	47.8	107.6	127.0	91.2

A comparison of the average yields of these crops in Ward county with those of the whole country shows in almost every case that the former's yields are very much below those in the latter. This is a very significant fact when the prosperity of the farmers in Ward county is considered. They have had almost complete failures some years which makes the average for a crop for several years quite small.

Any observer quickly notices that there is much careless farming in the county. Too many farmers remember that when

1.

Statistics taken from Agriculture Yearbook, 1925, 1931.



there was a big crop they made considerable money and forget that the "good years" only occur once in several years. The farmers who do their work carefully are those who get fair crops even in bad years. One German farmer, who is prosperous, expressed his opinion of many farmers' failures as follows: "too many farmers want to make a lot of money out of one crop, wheat, and they do not want to raise different crops because this would require continuous work for several months each year." Another said when asked why he didn't have several milk cows on his farm, "I don't intend to be a chambermaid for several cows."

Probably many of these careless farmers have never been good farmers anywhere. They have drifted into Ward county and are trying to farm with as little work as possible. Some of them reason that if they do a lot of hard work in connection with a crop and then the season is dry or grasshoppers destroy it, they will have no remuneration for their work, and if there is sufficient rainfall and no insect damage, the crop will yield well and they will have excellent reward for their labor.

#### COAL MINING.

There are very extensive deposits of lignite coal in the county. The number of mines in operation in the county in 1932 was 41. Of these, three were classed "strip" mines, seven were "drift" mines, and thirty-one were "slope" mines. There are also some non-commercial mines which are operated by their owners for their own fuel supply.



The total production of lignite coal in Ward county in 1932<sup>1</sup> was 336,861 tons. The only county in the state that surpassed it was Mercer county. By far the largest mine in the county is the one operated by the Truax-Traer Lignite Company. It is a strip mine and is located in the southeastern part of the county. In 1931, the production of this mine was 232,548 tons, which was 69 per cent of the output of all the mines in the county. The maximum number of miners employed in all the mines in the county was 149 and the number of men other than miners who were employed in connection with the mines was 100.

Most of the output of these mines, except that of the Truax-<sup>2</sup>Traer Lignite Company is sold locally and the remainder is shipped. The farmers and residents in the villages and in Minot haul coal from the mines to their homes in wagons and trucks. The mines are located near Burlington, Carpio, Donnybrook, Foxholm, Kenmare, and Sawyer. There are other mines in the adjoining counties, not far from Ward county boundary and many residents of the county get their fuel from these mines.

-----

1. Fourteenth Annual Report, Coal Mine Inspection Department, State of North Dakota, Bismarck, 1932, p. 7.
2. Ibid., p. 16-17.





Two Views of Strip Mine Located in Southeastern Part of Ward County. Operated by the Truax-Traer Lignite Company.



## COMMUNICATION.

## Roads.

There was 237.4 miles of state highways in the county and many miles of county roads. The hard-surfaced roads connect the hamlets and villages with the city of Minot. Many of the roads that cross the main roads are not improved. In some townships, parts of these roads have been graded and gravelled, but many miles of these roads have not been improved. They are sometimes blocked with snow and at other times they are impassable because they are slippery and muddy.

There has been great improvement of roads in the county during the last ten years and both farmers and villagers are in favor of better roads, but many farmers are dissatisfied with the road work that is being done because most of the money is spent on the main roads that connect villages. Occasionally a business man in one of the small villages objected to the road-building program because it helped to cause people to go to the larger villages and Minot. Farmers sometimes say that it is a splendid idea to have the main roads in good condition, and yet the farmers who live on a road that is bad will find it very difficult to get out to the good road.

## Railroads.

Two railroads cross the county. The Soo Railroad extends from southeast to northwest across the northern part of it and the Great Northern crosses it from east to west. These railroads



intersect at Minot. There is a branch of the Soo Railroad in the southwestern part of the county and a branch of the Great Northern extends from Berthold through the northwestern part of the county. Another branch of the Great Northern crosses the extreme northeastern part of it. There is a branch of the Great Northern Railroad that extends north from Kenmare for a few miles and then turns east and leaves the county. There are 256.06 miles of railroad<sup>1</sup> in Ward county.

There are several bus lines extending from Minot to neighboring county seats and other important towns. These are direct competitors with the railroads in some instances and the use of automobiles has also reduced the business of the railroads. Many of the merchants in the villages within a radius of fifty miles or more of Minot, purchase their supplies at wholesale houses in Minot and haul them to their stores in motor trucks. Much coal is hauled from the mines in trucks and this reduces the volume of business that the railroads otherwise would do.

#### MAIL

There are several post offices in Ward county that have been discontinued. Since rural routes have been established, some of the post offices in small inland places are no longer functioning. Some of these places are Hesnault, Grelland, Tasker, and Lynch. There are now twenty post offices in the county.

-----

1. Information obtained from the office of the County Auditor in Minot and from the Office of the State Highway Department in Minot.



The mail is carried by rural carriers out of thirteen of these offices and the number of rural families that receive their mail in this way from the post offices in the county is 2272. In addition to these there are other families who are served by carriers who work out of offices that are located in adjoining counties. The rural free delivery of mail has had other effects besides making it possible for farmers to get their mail daily. Professor Sanderson says, "The rural free delivery and the automobile have been chiefly responsible for good roads, for until the present century but little improvement in them had been affected."<sup>1</sup>

#### AUTOMOBILE OWNERSHIP.

In 1933, Ward county ranked third in the state in the amount paid for registration of motor vehicles.<sup>2</sup> Cass county paid \$139,517.45, Grand Forks county paid \$75,772.70, and Ward county paid \$75,651.30. Due to the financial depression during the last three years rural people have not bought many new automobiles. There are many autos and trucks used by farmers and some of them would purchase new ones if they were financially able to do so.

There are a few farmers who do not like the insistence of some salesmen who try to sell automobiles and tractors to them. They said these agents offered very easy terms of payment and made such fine offers that they bought and agreed to pay later. Then the poor crops came and they could not make the payments as they had agreed to do. The companies insisted that the payments must be made or they would take the automobile or tractor. All such

-----

1. Dwight Sanderson, "The rural Community," (Boston, Ginn and Co., 1932) p. 546.
2. The figures were those furnished by the State Registrar of Motor Vehicles, Bismarck, North Dakota.



deals tended to develop an antagonistic feeling among farmers against the agents who live in towns.

It is often stated the the expenditure of large amounts of money for autos and roads means that less money will be available for churches and schools. The schools get their funds from taxes, and if taxes were lower, there would be more money available for other purposes. If the state and federal governments spent less money on roads, they might contribute more to schools. It may be that some money spent for the upkeep of an automobile or the purchase of a radio might have been given to the church. However, very few automobiles or radios have been bought by farmers during the last four years.

#### Radios

In 1925 there were 553,000 radio sets on farms in the United States.<sup>1</sup> On January 1, 1930, there were 1,371,073 radios owned by farmers.<sup>2</sup> These statistics show that farmer-owned radios increased greatly in number in the years just preceding the beginning of the "hard times". In North Dakota,<sup>3</sup> according to the last census report, there were 59,246 radios. Some facts concerning radios in the United States, North Dakota, and Ward County are shown in TABLE XXIII.

-----

1. J. M. Gillette, Rural Sociology, Revised Edition (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1928) page 325.
2. Abstract of the Fifteen Census of the United States (Washington, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1933) page 414.
3. Population Bulletin, Families, North Dakota. Fifteen Census of the United States: 1930, (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1932) page 19.



TABLE XXIII- Families Having Radio Sets in United States,<sup>1</sup>  
North Dakota,<sup>2</sup> and Ward County:<sup>3</sup> 1930

Area	All Families	
	Total Number	Having radio set Number                      Per Cent
United States	29,904,663	12,048,762      40.3
Urban and urban-rural	17,372,524	8,682,176      50.0
Rural-farm	6,604,637	1,371,073      20.8
Rural-non farm	5,927,502	1,995,513      33.7
North Dakota	145,005	59,246      40.8
Urban and urban-farm	25,929	12,076      46.6
Rural-farm	77,647	30,663      39.6
Rural-non farm	41,429	16,507      39.8
Ward county	7,394	3,450      46.7
Urban and urban-farm	3,612	1,847      51.1
Rural-farm	2,528	1,041      41.2
Rural-non farm	1,254	562      44.7

The percentage of families owning radios in each group of the population in ward County is larger than that of the corresponding group in either the state or the United States. Because of the bad general economic condition during the last four years not many radios have been purchased by farmers. Those who have them say they get a great deal of information from them concerning the weather, the prices of farm products, the political events, besides enjoyment from the reports of recreational events and the broadcasts of speeches and music.

-----

1. Abstract of the Fifteen Census of United States, (Washington, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1933), p 414.
2. Population Bulletin, Families, North Dakota. Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930, (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1932), p. 19.
3. Ibid. P. 22



Telephones are not as numerous among the farmers as they were previous to 1930. Many families, both rural and urban, have had telephones removed from their homes because they could not afford to pay the monthly charge for them. One farmer said this had disadvantages, but it had advantages too because it was necessary for people to go to see each other when they wanted to talk together and so promoted more neighborliness. He said the telephone sometimes caused neighbors to quarrel, because there were often several families on the same line and they listened to conversations and then talked about what they had heard when it was not anything that concerned them in any way.



## PART II - TOWN AND COUNTRY BUSINESS RELATIONS

## MARKETING

The little villages are well supplied with grain elevators. A village may not have one hundred inhabitants, but it will probably have two or three elevators in it. During the last three years the crops of grain have been small and the grain-buying business has been greatly reduced. There are three kinds of elevators, viz., "line elevators," "independent houses," and "farmers' elevators."

Farmers' elevators are owned largely by the farmers, and some of them are not completely organized as cooperative companies, but are often called cooperative elevators. There is one such elevator in Berthold, Burlington, Des Lacs, Douglas, Foxholm, Hartland, Kenaston, Makoti, Niobe, Sawyer, Surrey, and Wolseth and two such in Minot. The relationship between the rural and village and city members of such companies seems to be very harmonious. There is often keen competition with the other elevators located in the same community.

Many farmers sell their butter and eggs to the grocers in the villages. Often they take groceries as pay for these products. There is a branch of the Armour Packing Company in Minot and much poultry and many eggs are bought by this company. Some dealers in fresh meat in the villages and in Minot buy cattle, hogs, sheep, and poultry from the farmers. Cream and milk are bought by different companies, one of which is the Equity Union Creameries, Inc.,



which is "owned, operated and controlled by farmers." It maintains a plant in Minot. The principle business of this corporation is transacted at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

The Farmers' Union Oil Company has its headquarters in Minot. The members of this company are mostly farmers but some of the stockholders are business men in Minot. The company maintains four filling-stations in Minot and has one in each of several of the villages in the county. The patronage dividends are paid in the form of shares of stock. There are several trucks that are owned by the company that go out thru the country and sell gasoline to the farmers.

It has been difficult to get the farmers to cooperate in any marketing plan that was undertaken for the purpose of changing and improving the existing plan. As an example of this, the actions of a few farmers in the fall of 1932 when the Farmers' Holiday Association was trying to control the marketing of farm products, may be cited. Pickets were stationed on the principal highways entering Minot and all persons coming into Minot with farm produce were stopped and an effort was made to persuade them not to sell it. Some of the farmers, who served as pickets, only a few days later brought grain to Minot and managed to evade the pickets by coming into the city on roads that were not watched. Other cases were reported where farmers who supported the movement sold grain in some of the villages that were not picketed.

This emphasizes the fact that the farmers are not opposed to





Equity Union Creameries Building  
Minot Farmers' Elevator Company



Farmers' Union Oil Company  
Filling Station and Truck





Another View of Elevator  
and Equity Creameries



the people in the villages and cities, but the marketing system is not operating as it should and they want to have it changed. The farmers have products for sale and they need money. Therefore they want to do something to boost prices, but they feel the need for selling some products and so desert the undertaking. It is difficult to get certain farmers to understand that they should be loyal to the group and stand together, even if they might profit by acting independently.<sup>1</sup> Farming tends to make those who follow it rather individualistic and each man wants to carry on his business in his own way. Since this is true it will be difficult to get all the farmers to cooperate in making cooperative marketing a complete success.<sup>2</sup>

#### MERCHANDISING.

Many farmers do not patronize the stores in the villages near which they live to a very great extent. They will trade at a store whose owner or manager they like. A reputation for square dealing on the part of a business man in a village will attract the farmers to his store. One farmer told the writer that he bought his hardware, implements, and clothing in Minot, but bought his groceries in a little village several miles from his home. He said he did this because the grocer was an honest man and was ready to give his customers the benefit of any changes in prices.

1. J. M. Gillette, Rural Sociology, Revised Edition, (New York, The Macmillan Co., 1928, pp. 197-199.
2. H. H. Maynard, W. C. Weidler, and T. N. Beckman, Principles of marketing, (New York, The Ronald Press Co., 1927), pp. 323-336.



Many people living more than twenty-five miles from Minot buy their furniture, clothing, machinery, and some groceries in this city. They say they do this because the dealers in the small towns have only a very limited supply of the articles mentioned and they prefer to go where they can have an opportunity to select the articles that suit them. There are four general stores in the county located in very small hamlets or the open country. Two of them are located near railroad stations. They are in Wolseth and Lone Tree. Two others are situated several miles from Minot in the open country and there are few other buildings there. These stores do not have a very prosperous business, but they do sell some goods and because the expense of operating such a store is small the owners make a living. These stores are important centers for the people to visit in the evenings, but all the people who meet in them are from the farms and so there is no opportunity for the rural people and villagers to meet.

There are several chain stores that are operating in the county. They are located in the larger villages and in Minot. Many farm people patronize these stores because they think they can get better bargains in them. Some of these chain stores have been in operation for many years, but several have been started during the last ten years. Retail branches of nationally known mail-order houses and variety store chains have helped to draw trade from the hinterland that would not have come to these centers if these stores were not there. Since this is true then Minot and the villages that have such stores have profited by them.



Some places of business in the smaller villages have been closed for several years. There were open-country stores, too, in the county twenty years ago, but they have quit business, because they were not successful. The general use of automobiles and good roads has almost or entirely destroyed the small merchant in the little village and the open country. There is a scarcity of such places of business as drugstores and dry-goods stores in the smallest villages. Therefore country people must go to the larger villages and Minot for their supply of such things and will buy other needed commodities at the same time.

Some of the large manufacturers of farm implements have district headquarters in Minot. Such concerns as The International Harvester Company, The John Deere Plow Company, and The J. I. Case Company have done a large business thru the district headquarters here, when the farmers were prosperous. Agents for different kinds of farm machinery and other commodities used by farmers travel over the county from Minot as the central point. These men make many contacts with the country people. Occasionally a farmer blames some agent because he persuaded him to buy some machinery that he did not need very badly, but there is nothing new or peculiar about such complaints.

Many of these dealers have had quite large amounts of money due from farmers and they have not been able to collect it during the past few years, because of the crop failures. In a number of instances such machines as tractors and combines were



taken back by the agent who sold them. Usually the farmers who had an experience of this kind were disposed to denounce these "high pressure" salesmen. However the farmers should remember that they were too ready to listen to the sales talk made by the machinery agent and did not think what would happen if crops failed or prices of crops dropped to a low point.

One example of a change in the way a certain type of merchandising is carried on is the method the Sweetheart Bakeries, Inc., located in Minot, distributes its products. It has several trucks and these take bread and other baked goods to the dealers in the villages, two or three times each week. Some of the other bakeries in Minot are distributing their products in a similar manner. The whole territory around Minot, having a radius of ninety miles or more, is covered by these trucks. During the summer months many farmers buy bread and then with the coming of colder weather the farmers' wives begin to bake their bread and cakes. They have more time and many of them bake particular kinds they like. The arrangement whereby they can exchange wheat for enough flour to meet a family's needs has caused many farmers to stop buying bread and have the bread baked at home.

Not many years ago the bakeries in the villages supplied all the bread that was needed in the community in addition to what was baked in the homes. Another line of business that has changed is meat marketing. Many of the retailers who sell fresh meat buy their supplies from the meat-packing houses and so the local market



for cattle, hogs, and poultry is very limited, except as dealers buy them and ship them.

Some farmers sell much of their produce, like potatoes, fresh vegetables, milk and butter, eggs and poultry directly to villagers and residents of Minot. In some instances farmers have regular customers in town and bring their products in to them each week. At certain times in the year, such as just before Thanksgiving or Christmas, farmers call at the homes of townspeople and try to sell poultry to them. Milk is sold to consumers directly by country producers and some milk is left at the stores for sale. While such marketing brings the farmers and townspeople into contact, it is a business relationship and not in a social way.

#### Financial Affairs.

Only a few years ago almost every village in Ward county had one or two banks in it. This state of affairs has been changed because several banks have failed and now many villages have no banks. The villages that now have banks in operation in them are shown in Table XXIII



TABLE XXIV - Location of Banks in Ward County,  
Oct. 27, 1933.

Village or City	No. of Banks	National	State
Berthold	1	-	1
Carpio	1	1	-
Donnybrook	1	1	-
Kenmare	1	-	1
Makoti	2	1	1
Minot	3	2	1
Burlington	1	-	1

Some of these banks have been allowed to carry on business under restrictions since the spring of 1933. Because of several bank failures in the villages in the county and one in Minot during the last few years some people have become afraid of banks and have arranged to take care of their money in other ways. In some villages, business men now have their checking accounts in the Bank of North Dakota at Bismarck.

Farmers have been asked about some of the bank failures and they say they were due to the fact that too many loans were made a few years ago and mortgages on farms were taken as security. When the loans were made farmers had been prosperous and the prospect for paying off the loans seemed to be very good. Then came years of poor crops and low prices and farmers could not pay their loans when due. The banks might foreclose the mortgages



and take the farms, but they would not be able to get the cash which they needed. Therefore some of them had to close their doors.

Because of the general financial depression during the last few years many people have been greatly in need of money. Sometimes the banks have refused loans to some people and they have complained that the banks were not willing to accommodate their patrons. However the more thoughtful farmers are agreed that the bankers need to be careful about the loans that they make. One farmer spoke about the cashier of the bank in the village nearest his home and said, "We sometimes think he is too particular about wanting extremely good security if he makes a loan, but then our bank is going along smoothly now and several others are having trouble and some have failed."

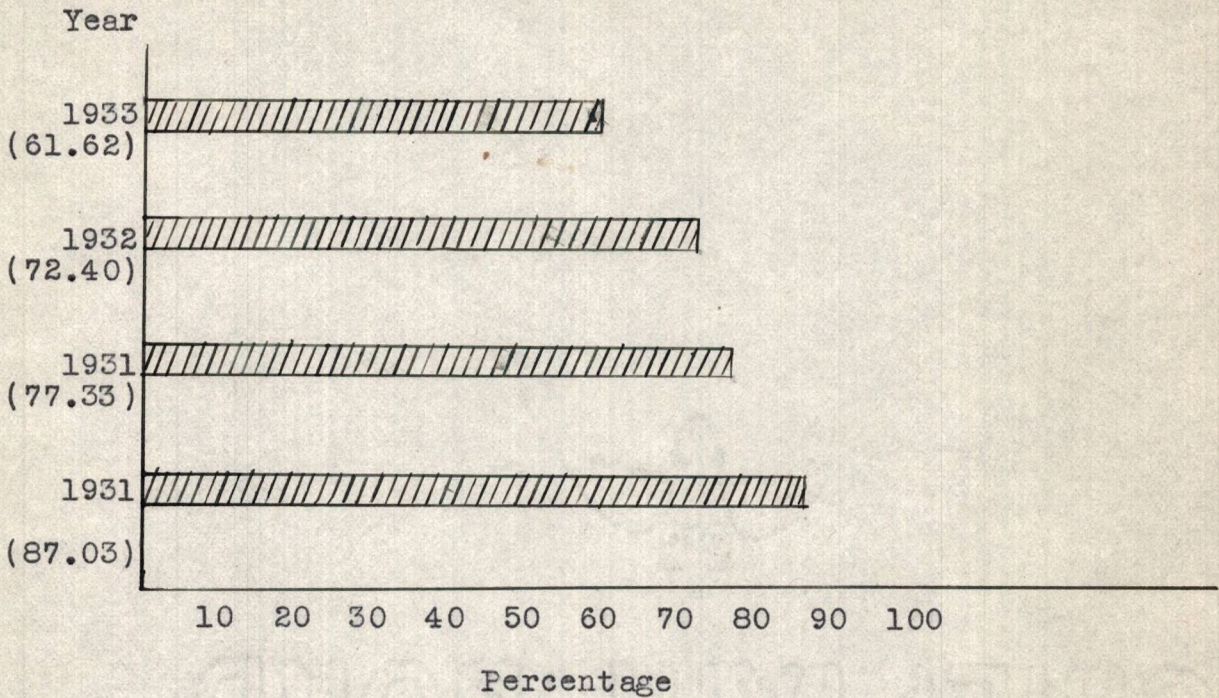
Many farmers and business men have been in great need of financial aid during the last four years. There was almost a complete crop failure in the county in 1931. This was due to an extreme shortage of moisture throughout the year. Most grain crops failed, gardens yielded almost nothing, pastures were destroyed and so there was no feed for livestock and nothing to sell and get money with which to buy food for people or animals. However the grain crops had to be sold at such a low price that they did not yield much money.

It was the above conditions that caused farmers to be unable to pay their taxes. May 4, 1935 the County Auditor reported that 87.03 per cent of the taxes due in 1930, 77.33 per cent of those due in 1931, 72.40 per cent of those due in 1932, and 61.62



per cent of those due in 1933 had been collected at that time.

CHART 2- Percentage of Taxes Collected in Ward County,  
1930 - 1933<sup>1</sup>.



1. Information obtained at County Treasurer's Office,  
Minot, North Dakota.



Because of the large amount of uncollected taxes many public officials are being paid with warrants which can be taken to the banks and discounted. Schools are short of funds and many of them are getting money by borrowing on their unpaid taxes.

There have been many people in the county who have been unable to buy the necessities of life during the last four years. The amount spent for poor relief in Minot for the year ending July 1, 1932 was \$141,000. Between July 1, 1932 and February 28, 1933 about one-half as much was spent. During the year 1931 - '32, the greatest number of families given assistance in Minot at one time was 400 and the peak given assistance up to February 28, 1933 was 625 families. The reason for the reduction in the amount expended, although the number of families was greater, was that a trained social worker had charge of the work during the last year and relief was more carefully supervised.

Much help has also been given by the county and by people in local communities. Churches, lodgers, service clubs, and other organizations have aided greatly. Many families had to have their rent paid, food and clothing provided and fuel furnished. The amount spent for furnishing necessities for families in Ward County from October 1, 1932 to September 30, 1933, was \$70,075.87.

The relief load by months in 1934 in Ward County is shown in the following table.



TABLE XXV -- Number of Families Receiving Aid and Total Amount Given, July - Decmeber 1934.<sup>1</sup>

Month	Number of Families	Percentage of total No. of families <sup>2</sup>	Total amount given
July	1,582	21.4	\$24,015.42
August	1,768	23.9	31,227.70
September	2,214	29.9	43,101.68
October	3,022	40.8	61,473.87
November	2,284	30.9	57,489.17
December	2,154	29.1	79,852.10
Total	-----	-----	\$297,159.94

The great increase in the number of families that received relief in September and October is explained by the fact that many families were provided with coal, which was the only thing they requested. The supply given them will be sufficient to carry them into January or February. The increase in the total amount of money given in the last three months of the year was due largely to the fact that clothing, food, and fuel bills were greater when winter came on.

-----

1. Information obtained from Miss Krick, who is in charge of relief work in Ward County, and from the Minot Daily News, January 12, 1935.
2. The total number of families in Ward County in 1930 was 7,395. (See Fifteenth Census of United States, VI, p.1002.)



It is noticeable, too, in the table that the number of families declined in November and December. The decrease in December was due, to some extent, to the fact that wheat checks were distributed in this month.

Some form of human relief was extended to those on the relief rools, such as food, clothing, rent, coal, fresh meats, and livestock feed. The latter came under the relief organization's classification of human relief.

The effect of the assistance given to farmers is difficult to determine. Many people, both villagers and farmers, have told the writer that this severe "depression" has caused people in villages and on the farms to think more kindly of each other. The business men in villages have been forced to realize that a crop failure means that the farmers are not able to buy supplies and to make payments on debts incurred. Farmers are understanding that many business men are not making as much money as usual and some have failed.

There are people who think the loans and other aids given to farmers tend to make them ore dependent. This is a problem which always arises when assistance is given to a group of people. There will always be those who consider such help as a gift or as something which is justly due them. They may come to rely upon such assistance in every time of financial need. However there was little of this attitude shown by those with whom the writer talked. In a few instances there were those who complained because the government was insisting upon payment of interest



promptly, or upon the payment of installments on farm loans.

The indebtedness of farmers in Ward County is large. The following table shows the seed and feed loans made in the county in 1931 and 1932.<sup>1</sup>

TABLE XXVI - Seed and Feed Loans in Ward County, 1931 and 1932

Year	Seed Loans		Feed Loans		Seed and Feed Loans	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Total for 1931-'32	
1931	1,035	\$123,935.20	1,598	\$296,818.91	\$420,754.11	
1932	1,962	469,595.50	569	48,090.20	517,685.70	
Total	2,997	593,530.70	2,167	344,909.11	938,439.81	

The average of the seed loans is \$198.04 and of the feed loans is \$159.16. These amounts are not very large, but many of the farmers who secured these loans already had other large debts. Then the short crops and low prices secured for farm products have made it very difficult for most of the borrowers to pay off these loans.

The farmers of the county are indebted for seed and feed loans \$938,439.81. The value of the land alone in 1930 was \$20,193,283. (The statistics concerning the value of land, buildings, implements, and machinery are found in Table XIII, p.21, this manuscript.) Therefore, the debt for these two items alone was 4.6 per cent of the land valuation. Other noticeable facts

-----

1. Information obtained from Ward County Agent, B.H. Daggett.



are the decrease in the value of implements and machinery during the same decade. This increase was probably due to the fact that many farmers bought tractors, threshing-machines, combines, and other harvesting machinery and particularly did they do this during the latter part of the decade.

The foreclosure of mortgages on farms was large in 1931 and 1932. This is shown in Table XXVI.

TABLE XXVII - The number of Foreclosures of Mortgages on Farms in Ward County, 1929 - 1934.<sup>1</sup>

Year	Number of Forecloseures
1929 . . . . .	34
1930 . . . . .	34
1931 . . . . .	76
1932 . . . . .	76
1933 . . . . .	41
1934 . . . . .	14
<b>Total. . . . .</b>	<b>275</b>

The size of farms on which mortgages were foreclosed varied from one having ten acres in it to another containing two sections. However the model size of farm in this group is 160 acres. There were only thirty-one that had less than 160 acres in them.

-----

<sup>1</sup>.This information was obtained in the office of the Register of Deeds for Ward County in Minot, North Dakota.



The decrease in the number of foreclosures of mortgages on farms after the first moratorium proclamation was issued by Governor Langer is noticeable. The announcement of a moratorium concerning mortgage foreclosures was first made by Judge Lowe, one of the District Court Judges in the Fifth Judicial District. He made this announcement in connection with a mortgage foreclosure case February 25, 1933.<sup>1</sup> Ward County is located in this district. Governor Langer declared a moratorium concerning mortgage foreclosures, April 17, 1933. Other similar proclamations have been issued since that date.

Between January 1, 1933 and April 17, 1933, there were twenty-eight foreclosures on farms in the county and between the last named date and December 31, 1934, there have been only twenty-seven foreclosures. The governor's proclamation was given wide publicity and public sentiment was aroused in favor of this proclamation.

In Ward County, 1687 farms were operated by owners, and of this number 1154 were mortgaged, 450 were not mortgaged, and there was no report for 83. The percentage of these farms mortgaged was 68.4. There were 756 farms operated by full owners, 253 of these were free from debt, 455 reported the amount of debt, one did not report the amount of debt, and for 47 there was no report at all. The 455 farms reporting the amount of debt were valued at \$3,824.521. The amount of debt on these farms was \$1,456,891,

-----

1. This information was obtained by consulting records in Judge Lowe's office in Minot.



making the debt 38.09 per cent of the value.<sup>1</sup>

A letter from Mr. Z. R. Pettet, Chief Statistician for Agriculture, Bureau of the Census, to the writer, declares, "A farmer owning part of the land and renting part of the land in the farm he operates could, of course, give no mortgage figures on that part rented, hence, we have restricted our comparison of value of farm land and amount of mortgage to full owners only."

1. Statistics by Counties, Second Series, County Table II, Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930 (Washington, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census), p.22.

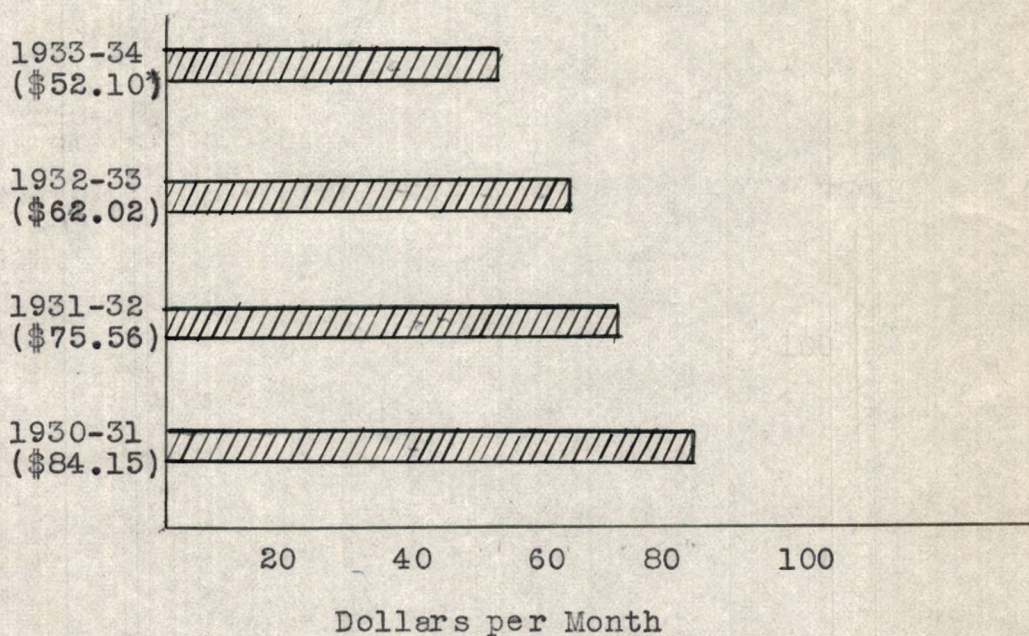


A few schools in rural communities have not been in session this year, 1932-1933. They have decided that it would be cheaper to transport the pupils to a neighboring school. There has been a considerable reduction in the salaries of teachers, too. In 1930-1931 the monthly salaries of teachers in one-room schools averaged \$84.15, and in 1931-32 they averaged \$75.56 and in 1932-1933 they averaged \$62.02. In 1933-34 the average was \$52.10.

CHART 3

Monthly Salaries of Teachers in One room Rural Schools in Ward County.<sup>1</sup>

School Years



Rural churches have found it difficult to keep their work going and some of them have not had a regular minister for the last two years. Some have continued to have regular meetings of the Sunday school and young People's Society but preaching service

1. Information furnished by County Superintendent of Schools, A. M. Waller.



has been dropped except when a visiting minister speaks, and such occasions are far between.

The Farmer's Union and the Parent-Teachers' Association have continued to have regular meetings. Lodges have found the interest in them on the part of rural people has decreased greatly. In one instance, at least, a luncheon club in a village has suspended its meetings until financial conditions are improved.



PART III - EDUCATIONAL RELATIONS OF TOWN AND  
COUNTRY PEOPLE.

Schools and Allied Organizations.

The people of Ward County are very well supplied with schools. Because of the great financial depression during the last four years a few rural schools have not been open, but provision has been made whereby children in communities that did not keep their schools open might attend a neighboring school.

The number of one-room rural schools in Ward County is 136. There are about twenty such buildings not in use but children who live in the districts where these buildings are located are attending school that is held in other buildings. There are three consolidated schools in the county that are located out in the country. Each of these schools employs two teachers. Previous to the school year, 1933-34, there were twenty-seven one-room rural schools in the county that were receiving state aid and this meant that they came up to a certain standard that was fixed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The high schools in the county are located in the centers of population and are very well attended. The location and enrollment of each high school are shown in the following table.



TABLE XXVIII - Grade of School, Location, Enrollment,<sup>1</sup>  
and No. of Pupils from Farms, 1931-32.

Location	Grade of School	Total Enrollment 1932-1933	Enrollment of pupils from farms	
			1931-'32	1932-'33
Berthold	First Class	79	43	45
Donnybrook	" "	63	35	29
Kenmare	" "	172	41	54
Minot	" "	Senior High 720	102	83
Carpio	Second Class	83	51	36
Douglas	" "	85	50	38
Ryder	" "	104	62	74
Surrey	Third Class	40	34	30
Burlington	First Class Consolidated	20	9	12
Des Lacs	" "	35	21	17
Foxholm	" "	32	20	21
Hartland	" "	40	35	35
Lone Tree	" "	20	18	16
Makoti	" "	83	45	58
Sawyer	" "	42	27	30
Wolseth	" "	11	10	11
Niobe	Three Years High School	22	13	High School Closed
Minot	Parochial	98	4	-
Kenmare	"	18	-	-
College High	First Class	157	39	62

1. Information obtained from reports on file in the office of the County Superintendent of Schools, Mr. A. C. Waller.





An Open-country Two-room School.



Rural One-Room School.  
This is a Better Building Than the Average.



The location of the State Teachers College at the County seat makes it possible for Ward County students to attend it at small expense. Some facts about attendance at this college are shown in the following table.

TABLE XXIX - Total Enrollment of Students in Minot State Teachers College who live in Ward County and of Those Living on Farms in the County, Fall, Term, 1934.<sup>1</sup>

Place of Residence	Male	Female	Total
Anywhere in Ward County	93	111	204
On farms in Ward County	17	34	51
Percentage of Total Living on Farms	18.2	30.6	25

These statistics show that the farm people are interested in the education of their sons and daughters even in the years when financial depression has been so severe. There are other rural people in the county who are enrolled in other colleges than in the Minot State Teachers College.

Each of the hospitals in Minot trains nurses and most of those taking training live in Minot or the surrounding territory. There are two private schools that offer courses in commercial work and each one has a considerable number of young persons whose homes are on farms or in villages in the county.

#### 4H Clubs.

Head, heart, health, and hands are represented by the "4-H in the name. Members of these clubs receive training in leadership and teamwork, but the greatest stress is placed on practical things in

1. Date obtained from registration cards in the Registrar's Office Minot State Teachers College.



Where there is a Smith-Hughes teacher of agriculture or home economics in the high school children taking these subjects carry on home projects under the teacher's guidance. Membership in 4-H clubs does not depend upon the course that the student is taking in school, but persons ranging in age from ten to twenty years are eligible to become members. The direction of these clubs is usually placed in the hands of the Smith-Lever agricultural agent or his assistant.

Some very desirable things are accomplished by these clubs. The projects that are undertaken by club members are carried on under expert supervision and, therefore those who carry them through to completion should learn a great deal about the work and be a better farmer or housekeeper because of this experience. The child may earn some money from the sale of articles that he has produced and so combine experience with practical results. It is also an effective way to get people interested in new methods of doing work. For example, when a mother has a daughter who is a member of a 4-H Canning Club, she will probably become greatly interested in what her daughter is doing and learn how to can fruits and vegetables in the most up-to-date manner.

The residents of villages and cities become interested in these clubs because their children may become members and then, too, business men in the villages sometimes offer prizes for winners in some particular line of work. Some of these clubs have exhibits of their products at the Northwest Fair held in Minot and considerable interest is shown in these exhibits by both rural and urban people.



The 4-H Clubs for girls are quite prosperous in Ward county. The leader of this work says that more than one-half of the members are country girls and that there is perfect harmony between the village and country girls when they have their meetings. Some of the clubs have been working on food projects and others on clothing projects. The 4-H Clubs for boys are not so numerous as those for girls. The reason for this is chiefly that the county agent has been kept so busy during the last two years with various forms of relief work that he couldn't give much time to club work. In 1932 there were ten boys' clubs in the county and they had a combined membership of ninety-six members. The boys worked on sheep, poultry, cattle, hog, and dairy projects, and 78.1 percent of those who began the work completed it.

#### Homemakers' Clubs.

These clubs consist of women who desire to do some work along the line of home improvement. There were twenty-five of these clubs in the county in December, 1933 and the number varies. The number of members in each club varies from ten to twenty-six and the average is fifteen. Regular meetings are held each month and there is a fine feeling of friendliness among the members. There are a few clubs which have only urban members, but most of them consist of village and farm women. The same woman who supervises the Girls' 4-H Clubs also directs the work of these clubs. The educational and recreational value of these clubs is important and they are beneficial, also, because they promote acquaintance and cooperation among the members.



### Parent-Teachers' Associations.

There were thirty Parent-Teachers' Associations in the county in 1932. Of these, eleven were located in Minot, where there was one in each of the elementary schools, one in each of the high schools, and one in the parochial school. The others are located in the villages and in the townships. Several villages have very flourishing organizations in them and the membership consists of farmers and their families together with the village residents.

The programs at the meetings are both educational and social. The people in the community take part in the meetings, the children usually have a place in the program, and most often a social hour with refreshments follows the program. As the name indicates, the programs consist largely of topics dealing with the relation of the home and school. Subjects pertaining to the roads of the school and problems of child welfare are given a prominent place in the discussions. During the social hour, parents and teachers have an opportunity to get better acquainted and talk over the problems that concern both of them. Through these meetings the socialization of the people is promoted and the best interests of the school are advanced.<sup>1</sup>

These meetings also give the rural young people an opportunity to do something that is different from the regular routine of home life. They take part in the meetings; present plays; musical programs; dances. Such events keep the young people interested in their community. Dr. Smith has stated the value of such organizations as follows:-"Parents and young people

1. Snedden, David, Educational Sociology, (New York: The Century Co., 1922), XII.



as well as children need such facilities for recreation and instruction. Every evening spent in the schoolhouse under proper surveillance is a disqualification for pleasure in the underworld."<sup>1</sup>

#### Boy and Girl Scouts in Ward County.

The Boy Scouts have been very prosperous in the county. Outside of Minot and Kenmare the members of the troops of Boy Scouts are partly from the farms.

TABLE XXX - Places Where Boy Scout Troops are Located<sup>2</sup>  
and the Number of Troops in Each Place.

Village or City	Population 1930	Number of Troops	Dwelling Place of Members
Berthold	511	1	Both village and country
Carpio	344	1	Both village and country
Kenmare	1,494	1	Village
Minot	16,099	9	City
Surrey	Not incorporated	1	Country
Drady	Not incorporated	1	Country
Sawyer	206	1	Both village and country

One of the biggest problems in connection with the work of Boy Scouts is that of finding a suitable leader for each troop.

1. Smith, Walter R., An Introduction to Educational Sociology, Revised and Enlarged, (Boston, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1929), VI, 122.
2. Information furnished by Mr. Evenson, Director of Boy Scouts in the area in which Ward county is located.



The boys will take great interest in the work, provided they have suitable leadership. It is possible to be a Boy Scout and not be a member of a troop. There are a few such members in the county.

TABLE XXXI - Girl Scout Troops in Ward County and No. of Members in Each.

Name of Troop	Location	Number of Members	By Whom Sponsored	Dwelling Place of Members
# I	Minot	25	Catholic Daughters	Minot
# II	Minot	23	Am. Legion Auxiliary	Minot
# III	Minot	30	Business and Prof. Women	Minot & Country
# IV	Minot	14	D A R	Minot

It is noticeable that there are no troops outside of Minot and there is only one member of any of the troops whose home is in the country. This girl lives in Minot with her aunt during the school year. There is one troop of Camp Fire Girls in Minot. This is the only one in Ward county and it has no country members. This troop is sponsored by the Congregational Church.

#### LIBRARIES.

The only public library in Ward county is located in Minot. There are volumes numbering . These books are used chiefly by Minot residents, but some people living in the villages in the county and in the country surrounding Minot secure books from it.

- 
1. Information furnished by the leaders of the different troops.



During the last two years the money available for the support of the Minot Library has been greatly reduced and so a small charge has been made for all books borrowed by those living outside of Minot. This has caused a bid decrease in the number of books borrowed by such people.

The schools in the villages have small libraries but the books in them are used almost entirely by the pupils.

In a rural county like Ward and with crop failures as frequent as they have been during the last few years, it doesn't seem likely that there will be many school libraries provided in the near future. The public library renders a great service in its work with children. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "After the church and the school, the free public library is the most effective influence for good in America."<sup>1</sup> And one of our greatest educators, Charles W. Eliot, president of Harvard University for many years said, "Our youth should read, read, read. Science may facilitate the use of the senses in acquiring knowledge-through motion pictures and the radio. But I do not believe these will supplant the surest process of instruction - reading."<sup>2</sup>

Investigations in other states show that farmers do read, but books do not figure largely in their reading matter. Books are expensive and the average farmer does not think he can afford to buy them. His reading consists largely of weekly newspapers, farm papers, daily newspapers, and women's magazines. A good library will supply the books and the librarian will be capable of giving advice in the selection of desirable books, and in

1. Quoted by Wilson Gee in The Social Economics of Agriculture, (New York, The Macmillan Co., 1932), 640.
2. Ibid, p. 641.



this way will render a valuable service to all people who have access to the library.

#### THE PRESS.

There are seven newspapers published in Ward county; one of these is a daily and the remainder are weeklies. The daily is published in Minot and the weeklies are published in Berthold, Donnybrook, Kenmare, Minot, and Ryder; Besides these papers, quite a number of daily papers from Minneapolis, St. Paul, Chicago, Grand Forks, Bismarck, and Fargo are sold in the county.

Farm papers have a considerable number of subscribers in the county. Papers published by the Parent-Teachers Association and the Farmers' Union are read by many people, both farmers and village residents. Political papers are read by often the discussion of events in them is so partisan that readers get a very biased opinion of political affairs. Several of the religious denominations publish papers and these so-called "church papers" circulate rather widely in the county.

During the present financial depression some people have discontinued their subscriptions to daily papers and many have dropped the weekly paper, also. The daily papers are much more expensive and therefore they are dropped first. Then, too, there are many items in the weeklies that tell about people and events in the county and people enjoy reading local news. Many editors of county papers have followed Horace Greely's advice given to a prospective country editor many years ago. He said,



"If a farmer cuts a big tree, or grows a mammoth beet, or harvests a bounteous yield of wheat or corn, set forth the fact as concisely and unexceptionally as possible.\*\*\*\*\* In short, make your paper a perfect mirror of everything done in your county that your citizens ought to know."<sup>1</sup>

The editor of one weekly paper said his subscribers had decreased about 10 percent in number and another said the number of subscribers to his paper had not decreased. Some editors of the weeklies have been taking farm products, such as poultry, butter, and wheat as payment for the subscription to the paper. One editor said he allowed farmers a little more than the market price for their produce when taken in this way. This action on the part of the editors tends to promote greater friendliness for the editors on the part of the farmers and enables them to keep their papers up to the usual standard.

#### CHURCHES.

There are a great many churches in Ward county. Thirty-three of these are located either in the open country or in the hamlets, and they range in membership from seventeen in a church located in Surrey, a small hamlet seven miles east of Minot, to 190 in one located in the open country five miles north of Kenmare, (See map of Ward county which shows the location of the churches in the open country and in unincorporated places.)

1. Quoted by Carl C. Taylor, in Rural Sociology, Revised Edition, (New York, Harper and Brothers, 1933), 347-8

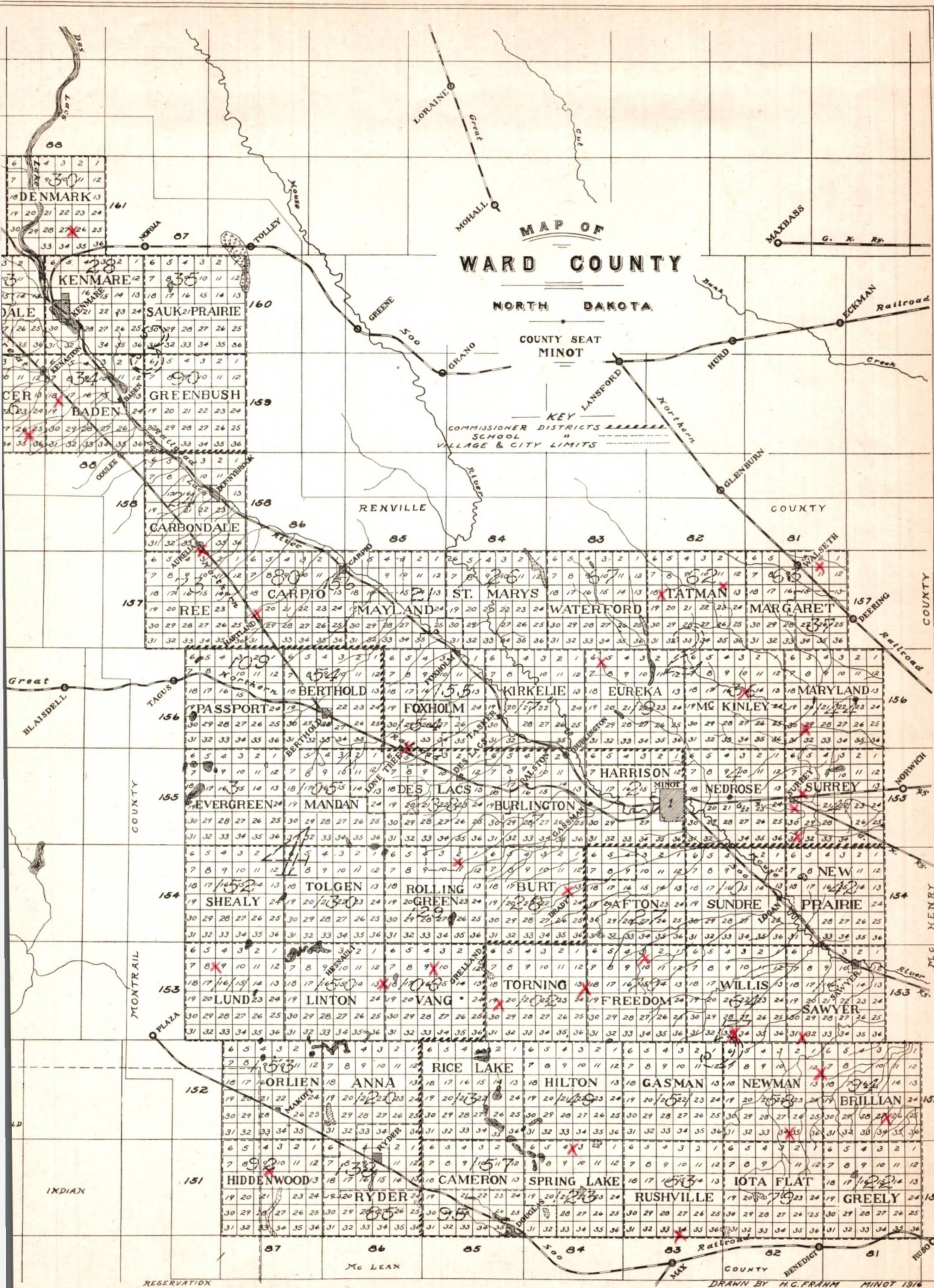


# MAP OF WARD COUNTY

NORTH DAKOTA

COUNTY SEAT MINOT

KEY  
COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS  
SCHOOL VILLAGE & CITY LIMITS



RESERVATION

DRAWN BY H.C. FRANK MINOT 1916



There are twenty or more religious denominations represented in Ward county. Minot has twenty-one churches with memberships ranging from thirty-five to 1000 in number. Some of the ministers in Minot have charge of the services in open-country churches located in the vicinity of Minot. The churches in Minot do not have many country members. The percentage of their members who live in the country varies from 2 percent to 27 percent. The attendance of country people at village churches is larger in the smaller villages than it is in the larger ones.

Some of the churches in the small hamlets and in the open country have as their ministers men who live in one of the villages in Ward county or in a neighboring county. When the weather is cold and the roads are in bad condition, the services are not held. The financial depression during the last three years has caused some churches to decide to discontinue their services. One minister told the writer that he had not received any pay for more than a year from one of his congregations consisting entirely of country people. An example of an open country church that has a minister residing near the church is the one located about three miles north of Kenmare in Denmark township. It is a Danish Lutheran Church and has been quite prosperous. However it doesn't have as large a membership now as it had fifteen or twenty years ago. There are some Dunker churches and one Amish church in the country and their members are largely farmers and the ministers generally live on farms.





Typical Open-country Church. Note the Bare Surroundings and Lack of Beautification.



Roman Catholic Church at Foxholm.



Occasionally families travel considerable distances to attend church. The greatest distance travelled was thirty miles, and eight to twelve miles was frequently mentioned as the distance that members lived from the church. Some people who live on farms prefer to attend church in the villages or in Minot because the congregation is larger, the music is better, and they enjoy the sermons more. It seems that the small churches in villages and the open country are finding it very difficult to keep up interest in the work they are doing.

The churches that reported a considerable attendance of country people stated that they made no distinction between country and village members. In some instances country young people attended the Sunday School and also the meetings of the young people.

The enrollment of country people in the Sunday Schools in village and city churches varied from 10 per cent to 42.1 per cent of the whole number and the attendance of farm young people at meetings of the young people's societies varied from none to 77.5 per cent of the total. In the smaller villages the social gatherings held by the church are attended by the country young people, but very few, if any, attend such meetings in Minot. The officers of village churches and Sunday Schools are very often farmers.

A minister who preaches in two villages said that he received his salary, but part of it was in produce. He said some of the country members gave him meat and vegetables and estimated the value of these things and considered them as payments on his



salary. One small church in Minot has a minister who teaches school in a small village in Ward county. He lives where he teaches and drives into Minot for the church services. The church pays him only a small salary and rents the parsonage which gives them some money to apply on the debts of the church.

In a few instances, people have decided not to have a minister while the financial depression continues. There are other examples where a minister is now preaching in three or four places so that each church may have a service. This arrangement means that the church work can't be done as effectively as it would be done if a minister could give more time to it. Sometimes the Sunday School meets every week but the regular preaching occurs only every two or three weeks.<sup>1</sup>

The pastors stated that they visited the country people who were members of their churches as regularly as they did those who lived in the villages.

Ladies' Aid societies, missionary societies, Sunday Schools, the Society of Christian Endeavor and similar organizations are found in connection with the various churches. Several churches are behind the work of the Boy Scouts. It is difficult to find competent leaders for these groups and so there is an opportunity for a considerable increase in the number of such organizations thru the churches.

It is said sometimes that the rural church is decaying because it is falling behind the urban church in progressive changes

1. Gillette, J. M., Rural Sociology, The Macmillan Co., 1928. 410-1.



that are found in them. However this is a matter of opinion. Sorokin and Zimmerman say that the urbanization of society is probably the "real menace to historical Christianity".<sup>1</sup> The fact that some small churches are keeping their work alive and although their members are very poor, they continue to do some religious work, is the greatest proof of the vitality of Christianity. There are several examples of this condition in Ward county.

#### HEALTH.

Rural people today are confronted with a very significant health problem which is due to the fact that it is difficult for many of them to secure proper medical attention. The doctor has disappeared from many villages and the tendency throughout the United States is for the physicians to congregate in larger villages and cities. Those farmers who live on good roads and not too far out in the country may secure medical aid when it is needed provided they will pay the extra charge that the doctor makes because he has to travel several miles.

There are several villages in Ward county that do not have a physician residing in them. The number of physicians living in each village and in Minot is shown in Table XXXII.

1. Principles of Rural-Urban Sociology, p. 442.



TABLE XXXII - Number of Physicians, Dentists, Osteopaths,  
and Chiropractors Residing in Minot and in  
Each Village in Ward County.

Villages and Minot	Physicians	Dentists	Osteopaths	Chiroprac- tors
Berthold	1	1		
Carpio	1			
Kenmare	1	3		
Minot	26	13	1	5
Ryder	1	1		

When provisions for the care of the health of people in a given area are considered it should always be remembered that there may be physicians who are living in villages in adjoining counties who are consulted by people in this area. There are physicians who live outside of Ward county only a few miles and they are regularly consulted by some of the people who live in the county.

The total number of physicians in the United States, in North Dakota, and in Ward county are shown in Table XXXIII.



TABLE XXXIII - Distribution of Physicians in the United States, North Dakota, and Ward County According to Population per Physician.

	Year	Population	Number of Physicians	Population per Physician
United States	1930	122,775,046	149,521	821
North Dakota	1930	680,845	501	1359
Ward County	1933	33,597	30	1120

It doesn't mean very much to assert that a certain section of a state has fewer people per physician than the entire state has and therefore it must be adequately supplied with physicians. The location of these physicians relative to the people whom they must serve is a very important consideration. In Ward county there are thirty physicians and twenty-six of them live in Minot. In 1930, Minot had a population of 16,099 which was 47.9 per cent of the total population of the county and yet 86.7 per cent of the entire number of physicians in the county lived in Minot.

This seems to be a very unequal distribution, but it must be remembered that physicians do not minister only to those who live in the town or city in which they are located. There are

----

1. Population Bulletin, First Series, United States Summary, Fifteenth Census of the U. S., 1930 p. 4.
2. American Medical Directory, 1929: Also an article by Dean H.E. French in the Quarterly Journal of the University of North Dakota.
3. Number ascertained by investigation of the writer.



specialists and hospitals in cities and people living within a radius of sixty or more miles of a city often go there for medical treatment. Automobiles and good roads make such a trip easily possible. Some of the villages in Ward county that had physicians living in them a decade ago now are without one. Usually these villages are decreasing in population and in volume of business transacted in them. Physicians must make a living and one writer has expressed the idea held by many of them when he said, "The physician like other men, goes shopping where the shopping is good."

There are five hospitals in the county. One at Kenmare, which is controlled by one of the churches, one in Minot which is managed by the Catholic Church, another in Minot which is under the control of the Protestant churches, and there is also a small private general hospital and one special one. Quite a good many patients in these hospitals live in counties adjacent to Ward.

Inhabitants of farms quite a distance from towns in which a physician is located have reported that sometimes they have been told to take the sick person to a hospital and then the physician would take care of them. Some physicians have refused to go out to see sick persons on farms unless assured that they would be paid promptly. During the last few years many people have deferred their visits to the physician or hospital until it was absolutely necessary that they do so. It is also a fact that many people have not had the money with which to pay for medical care and physicians, dentists, and hospitals have found it very difficult to get along because of lack of funds.



The staff of the "pre-school child Clinics" has aided the country people as well as city and village residents to maintain health conditions. These have been held in Minot at each of the schools, at the Northwest Fair and at various places throughout the county. Rural people have brought their children to these clinics and have received advice from the physician who conducted the clinic. The plans for the clinic have been made by the people in the locality and the physician has been supplied by the State Board of Health.

Several years ago Ward county had a county nurse who visited the schools and carried on the usual work that is done by such nurses. After a few years it was deemed advisable to discontinue this work because of the shortage of funds. During a part of the "depression period", nurses have been provided for those who needed them and were unable to pay for their services. During the present school year, 1934-1935, four nurses have been employed to look after the health of school children in Ward County, including Minot. In such cases the nurses have been paid from poor relief funds.

There has been a trained social worker employed by Minot and Ward County for several years. Since the amount of relief work has become so large it has been necessary for this worker and her assistants to devote all their time to the care of those who need food, clothing, and other necessities of life.



## PART IV -- TOWN AND COUNTRY RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL RELATIONS

### Recreation in General

The American people are showing greater interest in recreation than ever before. The working day has been gradually shortened. This means that there will be an increased demand on the part of the rank and file of the people for opportunities to participate in wholesome recreation.

"The automobile has greatly extended the borders of the local recreational community." <sup>1</sup> Many people, both in villages and on the farms, find it possible to travel 100 to 150 miles in one day in order to visit a lake, amusement park, or other place where facilities for amusement may be enjoyed. There are two very attractive parks in Minot and people visit them and hold picnics in them. Sometimes churches or Sunday Schools from places quite a distance from Minot visit one of these parks. People from the farms prepare a lunch and visit a park on Sunday where they can enjoy a day of leisure. There are many attractive spots in the county where small groups may go for a day's outing. The Mouse River has some very pretty places along its banks and some small lakes, also, attract people to their shores.

### Motion Pictures

One of the most common forms of commercial amusement is the motion picture. It makes a wide appeal to the masses of people and plays an important part in their leisure time. The financial depression has had its effect upon the motion picture, but it draws large crowds whenever the picture appeals to the people. There are four motion picture theaters in Ward County-- one in

1. J. F. Stiner in Recent Social Trends  
(New York, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1933), p. 922.



Kenmare and three in Minot. Many country people attend the shows, particularly on Saturday nights, but during the last three years the scarcity of money has reduced the attendance greatly.

#### DANCES

Dancing is a popular form of recreation both in rural and urban communities. There are halls in Minot and in several of the villages where dances are held more or less regularly throughout certain seasons. There are several halls in the open country where dances occur frequently. Sometimes dances are held at the school-house and sometimes at a farmer's residence or in his barn. Rural young people patronize these dances and there seems to be a splendid feeling amongst the people.

Sometimes residents of villages or of Minot patronize these dances in the country and cause trouble. Such people think they will "show the country folks how town folks act" and they do. Such occurrences cause discord in a community and country people think they could manage their dances quite successfully if the residents of the towns would not molest them. The difficulty lies in the fact that these dances are carried on for financial gain and those who are managing them want to have a large crowd and do not care who comes nor from what place they come.

#### COMMUNITY PICNICS AND FAIRS

In some communities, it is a well-established custom to hold an annual picnic. These picnics bring together a great many rural and urban people. The programs are varied and the whole affair helps to socialize the people. Several groups of Norwegians have annual meetings or "Lags". These are meetings of people who came from the same community in Norway, and are very similar to the reunions held by people from the same state in the United States.

There have been several community fairs held in the county, but



during the last three years because of the financial depression they have been discontinued in some places. The exhibitors at these fairs were mostly local people. In connection with these exhibits a program was usually arranged and topics pertaining to farm life were discussed by local speakers and sometimes by an expert from the State College of Agriculture. Usually, the prizes if more than ribbons were awarded, were donated by the local business men in the village or city where the fair was held.

The Northwest Fair is held in Minot annually in July. It receives some financial aid from the state and is attended by large crowds. Exhibitors from various parts of North Dakota and neighboring states make exhibits of live stock and various products. The usual line of exhibits is found at this fair and various entertainment features are included.

There are more exhibitions of freaks and gambling devices than should be allowed on the grounds, but one farmer expressed the idea held by many people when he said, "Farmers like to have a good time occasionally and do not care for educational work at all their meetings." It would seem, however, that more attention should be given to the educational exhibits and greater emphasis should be placed on displays of products that could be so arranged that they would have greater educational value.

#### Games and Contests

Base-ball teams have been organized in some villages and in some open-country communities. Games between such teams are usually well patronized. Minot has usually had a team, consisting largely of local players, and some country people attend the games, which this team plays with visiting teams.

During the last two years there have been several base-ball teams organized in the county and a series of games is played. Each



team plays a certain number of games with every other team and the championship is decided on a percentage basis. Some of the players live in the villages but most of them live in the country. The games that these teams play afford amusement for neighborhood groups of people and help to develop loyalty to the community which the team represents.

One farmer told the writer than the financial depression has caused the people in his community to think more about what they could do to provide amusement and recreation for themselves without going to the villages or Minot for it. He said they were having ball games, dances, and parties, in his community, and had found that they had musicians and players in their own community. The result was that they were having a good time and not spending much money.

Perhaps no type of athletic contest arouses more interest than basket-ball games. Every consolidated school and the village and city high schools, each have at least, one basket-ball team. Games played by these teams attract the people in large numbers and the young people, particularly, get great pleasure out of these contests. Some of these schools belong to a league and a series of games is played in order to determine the championship.

There is a district field meet held at the Minot State Teachers College each year and some of the schools have contestants in this meet. These contestants come from both farm and village or city homes. Some schools have an athletic contest in which only their own pupils participate. There is good feeling between the rural and urban members of competing teams.

Music appeals to most people and while only a small percentage of them may be interested in lectures, a much larger percentage



will participate in community singing. It gives a group a strong "we feeling," and has great socializing value. Dr. Hawthorn says, "There is democracy in music, since quartettes may be made up of the wealthy banker as bass, and of the poor tenant as tenor. Musical talent is not confined to social superiors."<sup>1</sup>

There is both educational and recreational value in music contests within the school and between schools. Debates and oratorical contests often arouse much interest among the people. Some of the high schools in the county have special teachers of music and other teachers who train pupils in debating and public speaking. The interest in these lines of work is not as keen as it is in athletics, but an enthusiastic teacher often awakens much interest among both the pupils and patrons of the school. When the glee club, band, or orchestra from one community competes with a similar organization from another, community loyalty is stimulated and the contestants become better acquainted with each other.

#### Lodges.

Several lodges are represented in Ward County. Each of them has some country members, but usually the percentage of the total membership that lives in the country is small. This is not because farmers are not wanted as members, but they find it difficult to attend the meetings regularly and the economic condition has been such during recent years that many members, both in town and country, have not been able to pay their dues and keep in good standing. The reports from the different lodges were unanimous in stating that there was a splendid feeling between the town and country members. Some facts concerning lodges and their membership are shown in the next table.

1. Horace Boies Hawthorn, *The Sociology of Rural Life* (New York: The Century Co., 1926\*, p. 389.



TABLE XXXIV-Membership in Lodges and Attendance at Lodge Meetings.<sup>1</sup>

Location	Total Member-ship	Farmer Member-ship	Average Total Attendance	Average Farmer Attendance	Distances Farmers Come to Meetings	Farmers as Officers in Lodge
Royal Neighbors						
Kenmare	31	8	15	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mi.-15mi.	Yes
Des Lacs	35	10	15	5	1 mi.-5 mi.	Yes Often meet in homes. Country people are interested.
Carpio	70	35	35-45	20	12 mi.	yes Farmers are interested.
Douglas	13	2	7	Irregular	15 mi.	Yes
Donnybrook	90	13	30	6	$\frac{1}{2}$ mi.-7 mi.	Yes
Minot	631	3	100	---	4 mi.	No
Makoti	38	3	25-30	3	1mi.-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ mi.	Yes Town and country people work together well.
American Legion						
Kenmare	71	32	26	8	29 mi.	Yes Low membership because of hard times.
Ryder	34	24	26	18	2mi-20mi.	Yes About 25% live in Ward County
Donnybrook	73	60	30	24	As far as 10 miles	yes
Makoti	21	10	18	Good	18 mi.	Yes
Minot	350	65	85	20	---	No
Berthold	43	18	38	14	1 mi.-18 mi.	Yes



Table XXXIV - Membership in Lodges and Attendance at Lodge Meetings.<sup>1</sup>

Location	Total Membership	Farmer Membership	Average Total Attendance	Average Farmer Attendance	Distances Farmers Come to Meetings	Farmers as Officers in Lodge
Sons of Norway						
Carpio	46	30	---	---	----	----
Douglas	17	12	---	---	----	----
Minot	150	8	50	3 mi.	8 mi.	No
Knights of Pythias						
Minot	122	10	25	3	6 mi.	Yes No other in Ward County
Rathbone Sisters						
Minot	40	Small Number	20	Small	----	No
Maccabees						
Minot	85	0	---	---	----	----
Danish Brotherhood						
Kenmare	38	15	---	---	1mi.-15mi.	Yes
Degree of Honor						
Kenmare	25	8	---	---	3mi.-12mi.	Yes



TABLE XXXIV- Membership in Lodges and Attendance at Lodge Meetings<sup>1</sup>

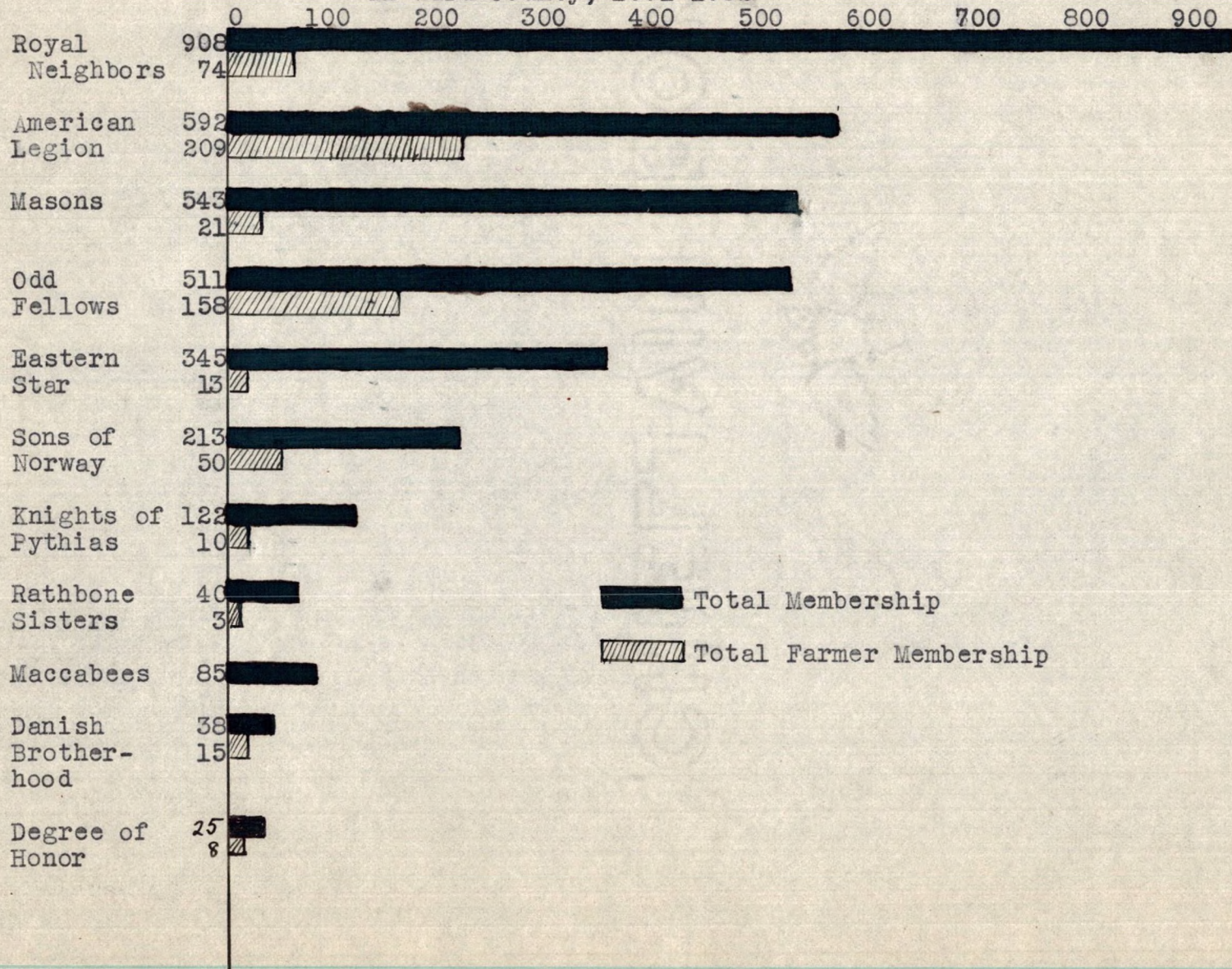
Location	Total Membership	Farmer Membership	Average Total Attendance	Average Farmer Attendance	Distances Farmers Come to Meetings	Farmers as Officers in Lodge
Masonic Lodge						
Berthold	41	10	25	10	4 mi.- 8 mi.	Yes
Minot	502	11	50	Seldom any	----	No
Odd Fellows						
Douglas	39	31	12-30	8-10	$\frac{1}{2}$ mi-12 mi.	Yes
Donnybrook	22	12	50%	50%	6 mi.	Yes
Minot	160	30	30	5	10 mi.-15 mi.	No
Des Lacs	35	25	20	6	1 mi.-10 mi.	Yes
Berthold	76	28	18	10	2 mi.-8 mi.	Yes
Kenmare	112	37	25	10	16 mi.	Yes
Ryder	67	25	20-30	10	Up to 20 mi.	Yes
Eastern Star						
Minot	284	2	50-100	None	-----	No
Berthold	61	11	18	6	$\frac{1}{2}$ mi.-6 mi.	Yes

1. Information obtained from officers of local lodges and from district officers.



CHART 4 Total Membership in Lodges and Total Farmer Membership in Lodges

in Ward County, 1931-1932





This table and the chart do not show the complete list of lodges in the county. There is a Knights of Columbus organization and the Catholic Daughters of America in connection with the Catholic Church in Minot. The exact number of members could not be obtained, but there are some members of these organizations who live in the country. The membership of the Catholic Church consists of a considerable number of farmers and there is a fine feeling of fellowship between the country people and the residents of Minot.

It is a fact that most members of lodges who live in villages and cities do not attend meetings regularly. The Masonic lodge in Minot, for example, reported a membership of 502 and 11 were farmers, who seldom attended meetings. There would be 491 members who are city residents and the average attendance at meetings was only 50, or about 10 per cent.

The farmers are greater in number in such organizations as the American Legion and Odd Fellows. Probably more work has been done to arouse the interest of the farmers in these organizations, and there are more of them than of most of the others. It is noticeable, too, that more farmers belong to organizations in the smaller villages in the county. This is explained because there are not many people in these villages who are eligible or who care to become members and so an effort is made to interest farmers who live in the community.

#### Clubs

Some clubs like the 4-H Clubs and Homemakers' Clubs have already been described. The young people in some of the churches maintain organizations, such as the Young People's Society Christian Endeavor and Baptist Young People's Union, and have re-



gular meetings. When the church is located in a small village, some of the members of these organizations live on farms. It seems that the residents of the villages mingle freely with the country young people and there is a general spirit of good fellowship between the members.

It seems that the attitude of many country people is that village and city folks do not care to become better acquainted with farmers. They have business dealings with them and there the relationship ends. Occasionally some lodge or club in the city will promulgate a plan to get country people to raise better gardens, or to interest them in having better poultry, or more beautiful yards. This does not always appeal to farmers' because it seems to them that the city people consider them as in great need of help and these schemes are proposed as plans of superior people who want to help those who are inferior. The success of such undertakings depends largely upon the manner in which the scheme is presented to the country people.

Clubs containing both rural and urban people will do much to break down the mistrust of each group for the other. If either group has any advanced ideas about local problems that are practical, they may be suggested and discussed by the members. In this way some beneficial results will be attained. If different groups do not come in contact with each other, then there isn't any opportunity for imitation, suggestion, and sympathetic radiation to act in the transference of ideas. This is well summed up by Dr. Dwight Sanderson in the following statement: "So we come

back to Miss Follett's statement that "the will to will the common will" is the core to the community as it is of all democracy!"<sup>2</sup>

1. J.M.Gillette, Rural Sociology (New York: The Macmillan Co., 1928),

pp. 485-490.

2. Dwight Sanderson, The Rural Community (Boston: Ginn and Co., 1932) it. p. 594. Chapter XVI in the same book has many pertinent points in



PART V-- ATTITUDES OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PEOPLE  
TOWARD EACH OTHER.

1. Meaning of Attitude and How It Develops.

It is quite difficult to determine what attitudes one group of people has for another group. The investigator may talk with many members of the group, or send a questionnaire to many of them and yet he cannot be certain that he has succeeded in getting the real facts that he desired or that he has sufficient information upon which to decide what the attitudes of the groups are. A man may not intentionally misrepresent his real attitude toward a group, but he may modify his statement of it because he wants to be polite and he thinks an honest expression of attitude would not be very pleasing to the investigator.

Perhaps a statement of the meaning of "attitudes" should be made at this point. Various definitions have been given as (a) <sup>1</sup> "a gesture, an incomplete act, or a tendency to act", (b) a "set of the organism toward the object or situation to which an adjustment is called for", <sup>2</sup> (c) "A preparation in advance of the actual response."<sup>3</sup> These definitions agree that attitudes are tendencies <sup>4</sup> to act in specific ways towards objects. Perhaps the best definition for use in this discussion is that expressed by Professors Thurstone and Chave. They say, "The concept "attitude"----denotes

1. Ellsworth Faris, "The Concept Social Attitudes", Journal of Applied Sociology, IX, 1925, p. 405.
2. L. L. Bernard, Introduction to Social Psychology, (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1926), p. 246.
3. F. H. Allport, Social Psychology, (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1924), p. 322.
4. E. T. Krueger and Walter C. Reckless, Social Psychology, (New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1931), p. 238.



the sum-total of a man's inclinations and feelings, prejudice or bias, preconceived notions, ideas, fears, threats, and convictions about any specific topic,-----<sup>1</sup> It is admittedly a subjective and personal affair." According to this statement a farmer's attitude toward village and city people would mean all that he thinks and feels about them.

The authors last quoted say that the concept "opinion" means a verbal expression of attitude, and our interpretation of an expressed opinion would be the attitude of the person of the person who expressed it.<sup>2</sup> We can measure attitudes by using opinions as a means. It has been said that opinion is much more superficial than an attitude, and is a "verbalization of our attitudes"<sup>3</sup> While attitudes are not opinions, "these verbalizations are indicative of what lies underneath them."<sup>4</sup>

It is important that notice be taken of the fact that occupations do have an important effect upon people's opinions and social attitudes. It is true that a certain class consciousness arises among those engaged in the same line of work. Kruger and Reckless say, "Attitudes are the products of experience, the result of social pressure, the mental effect of behavior which has been socially defined by communication between persons."<sup>5</sup>

While it is true that attitudes are rooted in experience, it is also true that they are communicable and Professor Park says that they are contagious under certain circumstances.<sup>6</sup>

1. L.L.Thurstone and E. J. Chave, *The Measurement of Attitude*. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1929), pp 6 & 7.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 7
3. Kimball Young, "Social Psychology", (New York: T.S. Crofts and Company, 1931), p. 578.
4. *Ibid.*, p. 578.
5. E.T. Krueger and Walter C. Reckless, *Social Psychology*, (New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1931), p. 249
6. Robert E. Park, writing in "Social Attitudes", edited by Kimball Young, (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1931), p. 32.



Children grow up in a cooperative human society and therefore children who live on a farm acquire attitudes largely from their parents and the same is true of the children who live in villages and cities. Now it is a well-established fact that the country mind is different from the city mind. The attitudes of each group are unlike because the stimuli are different. For example, farmers are inclined to be more individualistic than urbanites. This is explained by the fact that farmers live and work alone most of the time and so do not come in close contact with other people like village and city residents do.<sup>1</sup>

Most people have developed habits of adjustment to the standards of the larger social group. Therefore, each generation will accept the attitudes of the previous one and probably will change them. Group attitudes are transmitted to a child and become a part of him before he has a "mind of his own." Family attitudes and public opinion have so much power over a child that his mental outlook is molded into conformity to the group will.

Professor Folsom declares, "Few if any of us acquire our whole pattern of attitudes from our own individual thinking, or from direct personal experiences with all the situations concerning which we have attitudes. Many, if not most, of our significant personality traits are really traits of group cultures in which we have been reared rather than traits of our peculiar individualities"

2

If this be true then it cannot be expected that attitudes of one

1. J. M. Gillette, Rural Sociology, (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1928), pp. 50-54
2. Joseph K. Folsom, Social Psychology, (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1931), p. 557.



group towards another will change completely in a short time, but they may be modified.

## 2. How attitudes of Rural and Urban People Toward Each Other Were Studied

An attempt was made to determine the attitudes of these two groups toward each other in two ways. One was by the personal interview and the other was by using questionnaires and then rating the answers. These two plans were used partly as a check upon each other. It is understood that the results of neither plan should be taken at their face value.

### The Personal Interview

Many residents of Ward county were interviewed. Farmers in all parts of the county were visited at their homes and business men and other residents in the villages and Minot were also interviewed. These persons whose opinions were asked were mostly outstanding in their communities. Many of the names of these persons were given to the investigator by the County Superintendent of Schools and others by the County Agent. Some were taken at random and people were visited in the community without knowing who they were when they were approached.

Many farmers and farm women declared that the relations between farmers and village and city residents were very pleasant. They said the "hard times" during the last three years had tended to make these relations more congenial. The business men were realizing now more than in prosperous times that when the farmers do not succeed then the merchants and others in the villages and in Minot cannot expect to prosper.

One woman whose home is on a farm said that some merchants whose business has decreased greatly and whose credit at the banks also has declined, have stated that they now realized more than formerly



how the farmers have been experiencing great financial difficulties. There are some farmers who say that there are a few village and city business men who will not abide by the promises that they make. This charge has been brought against three grocers in Minot who made certain promises about the price for which they would sell milk and then, it seems, they sold it at a lower price.

One farmer's wife said she thought that many farm women did not feel at ease when in a group of city or village women because they could not take care of their hands and hair and appear as well-groomed as those who lived in village or city. She said the farm woman had to do much washing and cleaning, she had to help take care of milk and poultry and it was not possible for her to present a very attractive appearance. This caused many farm women to hesitate about attending church and other meetings in villages and cities.

Farmers have been so embarrassed financially during the last three years that they have not had money with which to buy clothes that they considered suitable to wear when they attended church in the city. Perhaps a part of this is imaginary but then it is agreed that styles and fashions are followed more closely by urban people than by rural dwellers. It is noticeable that farmers and their families seem to know the village people better in the small villages but in the larger villages and in Minot they meet in a business way only. They become acquainted with clerks and employees in the stores and banks, in the city but often do not know the owner of the store or president of the bank.

Some farmers have said that the business man in the village did not seem to realize that the farmers had been having much trouble about their financial problems during the last few years



because of dry weather, and crop failures, low prices of farm products, and the damage that grass-hoppers have done to crops. One business man in Minot stated that many village and city residents did not realize the actual financial condition that many farmers were now experiencing because they had not been out in the country and visited with the farmers. When people ride through the country and see crops growing and live stocks grazing in the fields, they conclude that the farmer is prospering. Some villagers criticize farmers because they say the farmer produces his living largely on the farm and is not in an extremely bad condition financially even if his crops are poor and insects damage or destroy his crops.

However, some business men declared that they fully realized that many farmers could not pay their debts. One implement dealer said he had many thousands of dollars due him from farmers who had bought implements, but had not had a good crop since they had made the purchases. He stated that he was not trying to collect the money due him, because he knew that those who owed him had very little money.

Almost all the villagers were of the opinion that it was very important that farmers should do well if village business men expected to prosper. A common expression was, "Well, if the farmers in this part of the state can get two or three good crops and a fairly good price for them, then everything will be alright." Another expression of a similar nature came from an automobile salesman in Minot two years ago. He said, "If the farmers have a good crop of grain, then I will sell several cars, but if they don't, then I will not do much business this year."

A criticism of farmers that was made by some townspeople was



that they had lost their sense of obligation to keep their promises and attend to their financial problems. If they could not pay their debts when due, they could, at least, make some arrangements with those who had given them credit or loaned them money, but they often failed to do this.

Some villagers and city dwellers have expressed the opinion that some farmers were accepting the loans of various kinds that the federal government has furnished them and do not expect to repay them according to agreement. They think this is an opportunity to get some money and so they accept it.

Bankers assert they will accommodate farmers as quickly as any one else. They want proper security when they loan a man a sum of money, and expect him to give attention to notices concerning the date of maturity of his loan. If such matters are neglected it is not surprising that bankers refuse to make loans to some farmers.

Some villagers declared that they would like to visit country people and be more friendly with them but they did not have an opportunity to do so. These people implied, at least, that country folks did not show a friendly spirit and invite them to visit them in their farm homes. It seems to the investigator that probably each one waited for the other to make the first advance. Some one has said that in order for a person to cooperate with others it is necessary for him to conduct himself in such a manner that other people can work with him. This is true in social relations as well as in business affairs.

Business men often told about the special efforts they made to develop the good feeling of farmers towards villagers. They sponsored community fairs, provided free picture shows, and arranged special bargain days. Many farmers attended the entertainment pro-



vided and helped to make the undertaking a success in every way. Occasionally one declared that he didn't think these things amounted to much except to get people to go to town and spend some money in the stores. Perhaps if such things were done several times in a year they would make a stronger appeal to the farmers as an evidence of the business men's real interest in doing something for the welfare of the community.

There was very little complaint by grocers and other merchants because farmers patronized distant mail-order houses. When the postmasters in the villages were asked about the amount of buying of this kind that was done by farmers they invariably replied that there was quite a considerable amount of it. However, no definite figures could be obtained because postmasters are not allowed to give out such information.

Probably the amount of such buying is not as large as it was a few years ago because there are branches of several well-known chain stores and mail-order houses in Minot and Kenmare now. Those who wish to buy goods from these stores may easily visit them and buy directly without using the mail. A visit to one of these stores proves that country people do much buying in them. However, one will find that many villagers and city residents are also patronizing them.

Village and city people sometimes show their lack of understanding country people when they say that the Farmers' Union is an organization that is very radical in its plans and some say it is decidedly socialistic or communistic in its tendencies. The writer attended a Farmers' Union meeting one evening when a man was present who had some pamphlets that were published by a communist group and he started to hand them out to the people. One of the farmers in



the community group told him they did not want any such circulars distributed at a Farmers' Union meeting. There may be some radicals in the different units of the organization but they are decidedly in the minority.

Villagers and nearby farmers recognize that they can best satisfy certain interests by cooperating. Such a mutual interest is the public school. In the small village schools there was many children from homes in the country and some members of the boards of education are farmers. When meetings of the Parent-Teachers Associations in such a school district are held there seems to be no social cleavage along country-village lines.

#### Questionnaires.

In order to have a check on these conclusions concerning attitudes of each group toward the other, a series of statements was prepared and sent to farmers and a series was sent to residents of villages in the county. They were asked to check these statements by underscoring "yes" or "no" placed before each one.<sup>1</sup> The sampling process was used because a full canvass was impossible. The Law of Statistical Regularity<sup>2</sup> was used and, if a larger number of persons had marked the list of statements sent them, the result<sup>3</sup> would have been more satisfactory. There were twenty-seven statements in the list sent to farmers and twenty-four in the list sent

-----

1. (a) George A. Lundberg, Special Research, (New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1929), pp. 208-242.  
(b) D. D. Droba, "Methods Used for Measuring Public Opinion," The American Journal of Sociology, XXXVII No. 3, (November, 1931), pp. 410-424.
2. Harry Jerome, Statistical Method (New York: Harper and Brothers 1924, p. 16. This is the law "that a moderately large number of items chosen at random from a very large group are almost sure, on the average, to have the characteristics of the larger group."
3. J. A. Neprash, "The Reliability of Responses to Questionnaires on Social Attitudes," Publication of American Sociological Society, XXVIII, No. 2 (May, 1934). pp. 69-73.



to village business men.<sup>1</sup>

It was decided that when any statement was marked "yes" or "no", this would show that the one who marked it was friendly or unfriendly to the other group. The answer of each person was scored and then each person's score was examined and if twelve statements were marked so as to indicate he was friendly and twelve statements were marked so as to indicate he was unfriendly to farmers then the attitude of this person was deemed "neutral". If more than twelve statements or a majority were marked "unfriendly" then this attitude was considered "unfriendly".

Following this plan it was found that thirty-eight of the forty-six townspeople who marked these lists and returned them were "friendly" to farmers, four were "unfriendly" and four were "neutral". This seemed to be in accord with the conclusion drawn from conversations with village people, viz., that the great majority of village people were friendly to farmers.

When the lists of statements sent to the farmers were examined it was found that forty-seven per cent of those who marked the statements were friendly, forty-seven per cent were unfriendly, and six per cent were neutral.

-----

1. See Appendix, pp. 119-122.



However, only eight of the farmers had marked the statements in such a way as to indicate that they are very unfriendly to villagers. This would show that most farmers are friendly to village residents and this agrees with the conclusion drawn from personal interviews with them.

As a further check upon the conclusions reached concerning the attitudes of country and village people toward each other a list of statements was prepared and given to village high school students and another list was given to high school students whose homes are on farms and they were asked to underscore "yes" or "no" placed before each statement. This was done because children learn to think about many controversial questions as their parents think about them. Professor Folsom says, "A social attitude may be regarded as a group trait. We may compare groups with respect to attitudes as we compare individuals with respect to temperament, attitudes, and other traits."<sup>1</sup>

One hundred and eight village boys and girls marked these statements. There were ten statements in the list submitted to each group. Each statement was carefully considered and it was decided that when "yes" or "no" was underscored it would express a friendly or unfriendly attitude toward the other group. Then each list was scored and if five of the statements were marked so that they were considered friendly and five were unfriendly then this one was neutral. If more than five or a majority were scored as friendly then the attitudes of this person was considered friendly and by

-----

1. Joseph K. Folsom, Social Psychology (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1931), p. 538.



the same method others were considered unfriendly.

The results were that forty-two were friendly, forty were unfriendly, and twenty-six were neutral. The number of statements on both the village and country lists being only ten, naturally they were not as comprehensive as though a longer lists had been used, but it seemed advisable to use only ten.<sup>1</sup> Of those who were unfriendly, only three had marked the statements in such a way that they would be called very unfriendly. In short, the village boys and girls seemed to be neither very friendly nor very unfriendly. However a greater number of statements in the list would have given more dependable results.

Of the list of statements marked by one hundred and two pupils who lived in the country, twenty-eight were friendly, twenty-seven were neutral and forty-seven were unfriendly. These figures seem to show that a large number of the boys and girls who live on farms are not friendly to village residents. However, thirty-two varied from neutral by only one point either way.

1. George A. Lundberg, *Social Research*, (New York: Longmans, Green and Co., 1929), pp. 234-239.



## PART VI - CONCLUSIONS.

It is the opinion of the writer that general conclusions based upon a limited study, such as this one, should not be considered final. Neither does he wish to formulate a list of conclusions which would apply to other counties in different parts of North Dakota or in neighboring states. Investigations similar to this one should be made in other counties in this state and section of the country and then a more general conclusion may be formed.

The most important conclusions may be stated as follows:

1. The past four years have been very difficult ones for the people in Ward County. The weather conditions have been unusual, prices of farm products have been low, grasshoppers and other pests have been very destructive some of these years, and this county has suffered because of the bad economic conditions found throughout the whole country. Many people had become heavily involved in debt before these lean years and so they have been reduced to a state of poverty. Farm buildings and machinery need repairing, new equipment is needed by many farmers, school-buildings and other public buildings need attention, but little has been done because of lack of money.

The season of 1934 has not been a favorable one for farmers. The same conditions that prevailed in previous seasons has been intensified by its long continuity. Small grains are a failure and the forage crops are short necessitating the re-



duction of livestock. The government had contracted to buy 19,957 cattle in Ward county, previous to July 23, 1934.

2. These adverse financial conditions have tended to make farmers and village people more sympathetic with each other. Each group recognizes that the other has not been prospering in recent years and therefore the envy that has existed to some extent has disappeared. Political differences caused much discord in the state about fifteen or more years ago, but the bad feeling of that time has almost entirely disappeared. There are a few radicals among the farmers and a few in the villages and Minot who are greatly dissatisfied with what is happening, but usually they are not the persons who are considered leaders in their respective communities.

3. More social contacts between the farmers and the villagers would promote a spirit of friendship between them. Their meetings are largely for the purpose of carrying on a business transaction and not in order that they may become better acquainted. The 4-H Clubs, Homemakers' Clubs, the Parent-Teacher Associations are examples of organizations that are bringing the two groups into closer relationship very successfully. There should be more telic policies and programs arranged for all the people in the whole community.

4. Townspeople and nearby farmers recognize certain mutual interests which they try to satisfy through cooperative effort. Education is a good example of this. All of the



villages in the county include in their school district some of the neighboring farms. This means that the children from the farm homes meet the village children in the classes at school and each becomes more friendly with the other. Parents get better acquainted, too, in the Parent-Teacher Association meetings.

In the smaller villages, churches often have a considerable number of farmer members and attendants. Young people from the country attend parties and social gatherings managed by the school, churches, and lodges in the villages, but this is not true in Minot. There are some business enterprises which have as stockholders both farmers and villagers. Examples of these are grain elevators and the Farmers' Union Oil Company.

5. The general "hard times" has caused several small communities to plan recreational events in which their own residents would participate. For example, several communities in Ward County have organized base-ball teams and have some players who live in the villages and others who live on farms. There are some communities where all the players live on farms. A schedule of games has been arranged so that there would be a championship team at the end of the season. Dances, parties, and social gatherings have been planned for the people in the community with some of their own members acting as leaders, musicians, and managers.



6. Some of the small villages in the county are declining in population and in the volume of business which they do. The improvement in means of transportation and good roads have made it easy for people to travel forty miles or more to reach stores, hotels, banks and amusement places in the larger villages and Minot. Several of the small villages of fifteen years ago had one or two banks in them, a fairly good hotel, and stores that did a considerable volume of business, and today the banks are closed, the hotel has closed or has declined until it is a very unsatisfactory place at which to stay, and the business that the stores do has greatly decreased.

7. Farmers do considerable buying from mail order houses, but it has not been possible to ascertain what the amount of such purchases is or has been. There is also a great tendency for farmers to leave the stores in towns near their homes and go to Minot when they want to make a valuable purchase. However a friendly attitude of business men in the small villages and their reputation for square dealing has caused many farmers to patronize such men. For example, farmers have told me that they went to Minot to buy clothing and hardware but often came through a small village to buy groceries from a grocer whom they liked. Farmers are looking for bargains and will go where they think they will get them. Just like other people they prefer to deal with those who are pleasant and agreeable. Business men in villages



should know this and try to conduct their business in a way that will appeal to their patrons.

8. The farmer can, to a great extent, choose his town at which he will do his buying and selling and in so doing greatly effect the prosperity of his home town. If he considers small towns an advantage to him he can have them by patronizing the places of business in them. If the small town disappears as a shopping place it will probably disappear as a market, because the basic reason the town has for existence is its stores and other related enterprises.

Farmers have been considered very individualistic, particularly in economic matters, but villagers often show this characteristic just as strongly and look upon farmers as potential customers rather than as fellow members of their communities. The small village merchants complained because farmers went to the larger villages and Minot to shop. One grocer in Minot said that he frequently sold fruits and groceries to people who lived out seventy-five or more miles.

It seems to the writer that this is a thing that inevitably happens because the small stores can not afford to carry fresh fruits and vegetables and the variety of groceries that will satisfy the demand of every group in the community. The same situation is more likely to occur in the case of farm machinery and materials that the farmer needs in his work. When he makes a trip to Minot or one of the larger villages to



should know this and try to conduct their business in a way that will appeal to their patrons.

9. The farmer can, to a great extent, choose his town at which he will do his buying and selling and in so doing greatly effect the prosperity of his home town. If he considers small towns an advantage to him he can have them by patronizing the places of business in them. If the small town disappears as a shopping place it will probably disappear as a market, because the basic reason the town has for existence is its stores and other related enterprises.

Farmers have been considered very individualistic, particularly in economic matters, but villagers often show this characteristic just as strongly and look upon farmers as potential customers rather than as fellow members of the communities. The small village merchants complained because farmers went to the larger villages and Minot to shop. One grocer in Minot said that he frequently sold fruits and groceries to people who lived out seventy-five or more miles.

It seems to the writer that this is a thing that inevitably happens because the small stores can not afford to carry fresh fruits and vegetables and the variety of groceries that will satisfy the demand of every group in the community. The same situation is more likely to occur in the case of farm machinery and materials that the farmer needs in his work. When he makes a trip to Minot or one of the larger villages to



buy the needed supplies he will probably buy groceries and utensils needed in the home.

9. Merchants may be very instrumental in developing good feeling between farmers and town people. Miller says, "Those merchants, once they give the impression that they are trying to give the farmer as good bargains in buying as any one else can give him and trying to pay or secure for him a fair price for what he has to sell, can do more in most cases than can any other group of equal size to promote good feeling and confidence between town and country."<sup>1</sup>

10. Churches in the villages and Minot have had an opportunity for the last three years to become better acquainted with the farmers, because many of the open-country churches have discontinued their services. If more of the laymen and ministers in the churches that are functioning would interest themselves in the country people then the churches would have fewer empty seats and would be more prosperous and the people would gain all that the church can do for them.

It is true that many people think of the church as an institution that should keep aloof from intimate contact with community life. The tendency of some religious denominations is to give attention only to their own members and disregard those who belong to other churches. Some of these maladjustments must be overcome and religion must become a social institution. James Myers, "The Larger Parish," Rural America, December, 1929.



tution which is adapted to the present age. It seems that the "larger parish" movement might be used in Ward county with splendid prospects that it might be successful.



## APPENDIX

## Statements Sent to Farmers

1. Yes--No--The town performs functions which country people need in order to exist.
2. Yes--No--Town people consider themselves superior to farmers.
3. Yes--No--Organizations among farmers have intensified the strife between town and country people.
4. Yes--No--A good village is a benefit to nearby farmers.
5. Yes--No--Farmers should not be interested in promoting industries in the nearby villages.
6. Yes--No--Farm children should not attend a consolidated school in the village, even if it is centrally located.
7. Yes--No--Farmers should expect village merchants to meet the prices of large mail-order houses.
8. Yes--No--There are too many retailers who are connected with the marketing of farm products.
9. Yes--No--The village is the natural center of rural life.
10. Yes--No--Village residents try to be friendly to the farmers.
11. Yes--No--Business men in villages dislike farmers because they will go to larger villages or cities to do much buying.
12. Yes--No--Village stores are often expensive because they are inefficient.
13. Yes--No--Farmers dislike many village merchants because they will not give them credit.
14. Yes--No--Farmers think that free movies and free band concerts given by village merchants are merely advertising schemes.
15. Yes--No --Village bankers loan money as readily to farmers as to business men in villages.
16. Yes--No--I think village people do not desire to cooperate with farmers in community betterment projects.



17. Yes--No--I believe that the villages have been largely responsible for the lack of social and recreational life among farmers, because they attract people to their institutions.
18. Yes--No--I think village people should work with the farmers around them rather than with the city dwellers near them.
19. Yes--No--The farmer does not feel "at home" in the village.
20. Yes--No--Too many village residents try to live without doing much work.
21. Yes--No--When country boys and girls come into close contact boys and girls living in villages they become dissatisfied with farm life.
22. Yes--No--Village people do not always show the proper respect for the farmer's land and other property.
23. Yes--No--Farmers always find that village people are interested in farm subjects.
24. Yes--No--It is better for farmers to keep up their church located in the country than to have a church located in the village.
25. Yes--No--Farmers would be willing to become members of commercial club in the village if given an opportunity to do so.
26. Yes--No--Village children are brought up to dislike farm work and rural life.
27. Yes--No--Village people don't wish to leave the impressions they are superior to farmers.



## Statements Sent to Business Men.

1. Yes--No--Consumers in a community should always patronize stores near their homes.
2. Yes--No--Farmers should be allowed to market their produce in villages from house to house without a license.
3. Yes--No--Villagers should foster cooperation among all the people in the community.
4. Yes--No--Villagers should try to develop an interest in affairs in the village among farmers in the community.
5. Yes--No--Residents of villages should make an effort to get farmers to become active members of lodges.
6. Yes--No--When a village enterprise is organized, farmers should not be invited to become stockholders.
7. Yes--No--Farmers should have a part in the planning of a community picnic or a Fourth of July celebration.
8. Yes--No--Cooperation between villagers and farmers in all plans for community betterment is not necessary.
9. Yes--No--Business men in villages do not try to attract farmers in the surrounding country.
10. Yes--No--Village members of churches should try to interest residents of the community who are not members.
11. Yes--No--Farmers do not try to make satisfactory settlements of bills long over due.
12. Yes--No--I think that retired farmers are a help to the village in which they reside.
13. Yes--No--I believe that country people are unwilling to cooperate with village Folks.
14. Yes--No--Village people are too much concerned with imitating the ways of cities and neglect the country people.
15. Yes--No--I think villagers and farmers should cooperate in arranging lecture courses and Chautauguas.
16. Yes--No--The village schools are not greatly superior to the one-teacher schools in the open country.
17. Yes--No--The stores in villages could survive without the patronage of the country people.



## Statements Sent to Business Men (con't)

18. Yes--No--The farmer has been given more help by the government than he deserves.
19. Yes--No--I think business men should treat farmers in every respect like they treat villagers.
20. Yes--No--Home life in the country is much more wholesome than in the villages.
21. Yes--No--Farmers are not, as a rule, interested in anything but making more money.
22. Yes--No--Country people should have a part in the management of village churches and Sunday Schools.
23. Yes--No--Farmers are always complaining about their lack of prosperity.
24. Yes--No--Farmers should band together for buying and selling.



Statements Sent to Pupils  
Attending Village High Schools, but Living on Farms.

1. Life in town is much more enjoyable than life on a farm.
2. Town boys and girls are very friendly to farm boys and girls.
3. Young people in towns have more fun than young folks on a farm.
4. Boys and girls on farms have to work much harder than do those living in towns.
5. Business men in towns accommodate farmers as readily as they accommodate men in the towns.
6. People in the churches in towns are very friendly with people from the country who attend the same church.
7. Bankers in towns are not very friendly to farmers.
8. People in towns think they are better than farmers.
9. Town folks think they know just how farmers should carry on their farm work.
10. People in towns criticize farmers unjustly.



Statements Sent to Pupils Attending

Village High Schools and Living in Villages.

1. Life in the country is much less enjoyable than life in towns.
2. Farm boys and girls are very unfriendly with town boys and girls.
3. Young folks on farms have more fun than young people in villages.
4. Country boys and girls have to work too hard.
5. Farm life is too lonely to be pleasant.
6. Farmers are not as friendly with town people as they are with other farmers.
7. Farmers often criticize town people unjustly.
8. Farmers should give more attention to social activities.
9. Farmers do not need to know much about their work in order to succeed.
10. Working outdoors on a farm is more enjoyable than working in a shop or factory.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

## Books

- Anderson, Nels and Lindeman, Edward C. Urban Sociology, Chap. XI. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1928, XXXIV - 414 pp.
- Anderson, Wilbert L. The Country Town, Chaps. XIV and XV. New York: The Baker and Taylor Company, 1906.
- Blumenthal, Albert. Small-town Stuff. Chicago; The University of Chicago Press, 1932. XVII - 416pp.
- Brunner, Edmund de S., Hughes, Gwendolyn S. and Patten, Marjorie. American Agricultural Villages, pp. 50-137. New York: George H. Doran Company, 1927.
- Douglass, Harlan Paul. The Little Town, New York: The Macmillan Company, 1919. IX - 258 pp.
- Dow, Grove Samuel. Society and Its Problems. Third Edition Revised, pp. 105-112. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1929, XIII - 707 pp.
- Folsom, Joseph K. Social Psychology, pp. 535-<sup>5</sup>461. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1931. XVIII - 701 pp.
- Galpin, C. J. Rural Life, Chap IV. New York: The Century Company, 1918.  
----Rural Social Problems, Chap. XV. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1924.
- Gee, Wilson. The Social Economics of Agriculture, pp. 640-643 and Chap. XXX. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1932. X - 696 pp
- Gillette, John Morris. Rural Sociology. Revised Edition, Chaps. XIX and XX. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1928, XIII - 574pp.
- Gillette, John M. And Reinhardt, James W. Current Social Problems, pp. 145-170. New York: American Book Company, 1933. X - 819 pp .
- Gillin, John Lewis, Dittmer, Clarence G., and Colbert, Roy J. Social Problems, Revised Edition. Chaps. XXII AND XXIII. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1932. X - 566 pp.



- Hawthorn, Horace Boies. The Sociology of Rural Life, pp. 416-424  
New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1925. X - 517 pp.
- Holmes, Roy Hinman. Rural Sociology, Chap. XX. New York: Mc Graw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1932 XIII - 416 pp.
- Kolb, J. H. and Brunner, Edmund de S. Recent Social Trends,  
Vol. I, Chap. X New York: Mc Graw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1933.
- Krueger, E. T. and Reckless, Walter C. Social Psychology, Chaps. IX  
and X. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1931.
- Lantis, L. O. Rural Community Life. New York: American Book Com-  
pany 1930, VIII - 375 pp.
- Lundberg, George A. Social Research. New York: Longmans, Green,  
and Company, 1929. XI - 380 pp.
- Miller, Elva E. Town and Country. Chapel Hill: The University of  
North Carolina Press, 1928. XII - 212 pp.
- Rice, Stuart A. Statistics in Social Studies, Papers I and XI.  
Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1930.
- Sanderson, Dwight. The Rural Community. Boston: Ginn and Company,  
1930. IX - 823 pp.
- Sims, Newell Leroy. Elements of Rural Sociology. Revised Edition,  
Chaps. IV, V, XXV, and XXVI. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Com-  
pany, 1934. XV - 718 pp.
- The Rural Community. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1920.  
XXIII - 916pp.
- Sorokin, Pitirim and Zimmerman, Carle C. Principles of Rural-Urban  
Sociology, Chap. XXVII. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1929.
- Taylor, Carl C. Rural Sociology, Revised Edition, Chaps. VII, XXV,  
and XXVI. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1933. XIV - 708 pp.
- Thrustone, L. L. and Chave, E. J. The Measurement of Attitude.  
Chicago; The University of Chicago Press, 1929. XII - 97 pp.
- Young, Kimball. Social Psychology, pp. 135-166 and pp. 570-598,  
New York: F. S. Crofts and Company, 1931. XVII - 680,pp.
- Social Attitudes, Chaps. I, II, III, and VII. New York:  
Henry Holt and Company, 1931. XXI - 382 pp.



## BULLETINS.

Bakkum, Glenn A. and Melvin, Bruce L. Social Relationships of Slaterville Springs--Brooktondale Area, Tompkins County, New York. Bulletin 501. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, March, 1930. 55 pp.

Burt, Henry J. Contacts in a Rural Community. Columbia, Missouri: Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Missouri and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, August, 1929. 75 pp.

Denune, Perry P. Some Town-Country Relations in Union County, Ohio. The Ohio State University, University Studies, Sociology Series, No. 1. Columbus, Ohio: The Ohio State University Department of Sociology and the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, June, 1924. 30 pp.

----The Social and Economic Relations of the Farmers with the Towns in Pickaway County, Ohio. Ohio State University Studies, Bureau of Business Research Monographs, No. 9. Columbus, Ohio: The Ohio State University Bureau of Business Research, Cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture, 1927. VII - 72 pp.

Galpin, C. J. The Social Anatomy of an Agricultural Community. Research Bulletin 34. Madison Wisconsin: Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Wisconsin, May, 1925.

Garnett, William Edward and Seymour, Aja Clee. Membership Relations in Community Organizations. Bulletin 287. Blacksburg, Virginia; The Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, June 1932. 63 pp.

Gauger, A. W. and Others. Geology and Natural Resources of North Dakota. University of North Dakota Departmental Bulletin, Vol. XIV, No. 11 Grand Forks, North Dakota: University of North Dakota, January, 1930. 64 pp.



- Hayes, Augustus W. Some Factors in Town and Country Relationships. Research Bulletin. New Orleans, Louisiana: Tulane University of Louisiana, Department of Sociology and The United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, September, 1922. 46 pp.
- Hoffer, C. R. and Cawood, Margaret. Service of Institutions and Organizations in Town-Country Communities. Special Bulletin No. 208. East Lansing, Michigan; Agricultural Experiment Station, Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, February, 1931. 37 pp.
- Kolb, J. H. and Polson, R. A. Trends in Town-Country Relations. Research Bulletin 117. Madison, Wisconsin: Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Wisconsin and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating. September, 1933. 37 pp.
- Landis, Paul H. The Growth and Decline of South Dakota Trade Centers, 1901-1933. Bulletin 279. Brookings, South Dakota: Agricultural Experiment Station, South Dakota, State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, April, 1933. 38 pp.
- South Dakota Town-Country Trade Relations, 1901-1931. Bulletin 274. Brookings, South Dakota: Agricultural Experiment Station of South Dakota State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts Cooperating with United States Department of Agriculture, September, 1932. 47 pp.
- Melvin, Bruce L. The Sociology of a Village and the Surrounding Territory. Bulletin 523. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, May, 1931. 138 pp.
- North Dakota, Number and Distribution of Inhabitants. Fifteenth Census of the United States. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1930. 28 pp.
- Page, James Franklin. Relation of Town and Country Interests in Garfield County, Oklahoma. Bulletin 194. Stillwater, Oklahoma: Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Agricultural Experiment Station, January, 1930. 47 pp.
- Population Bulletin, Second Series. United States Summary, Composition and Characteristics of the Population, Fifteenth Census of United States, 1931. Washington: Government Printing Office.



Preliminary Announcement, 1930, Farm and Census Ward County, North Dakota. Released March 30, 1931.

Rupp, Edwin. Fourteenth Annual Report, Coal Mine Inspection Department, in North Dakota. November 1, 1931 to October 31, 1932. Bismarck, North Dakota. 32 pp

Willson, E. A. Rural Community Clubs in North Dakota. Bulletin of Agricultural Experiment Station, No. 251. Fargo, North Dakota: North Dakota Agricultural College, August, 1931, 103pp.

Willson, E. A. Hoffsommer, H. C., and Benton, Alva H. Annual Changes in Western North Dakota. Bulletin 214. Fargo, North Dakota: Agricultural Experiment Station, North Dakota Agricultural College, January, 1928. 111 pp.

#### Magazine Articles.

Bernard, L. L. "A Theory of Rural Attitudes." American Journal of Sociology, XXII (March, 1917), pp. 613-649.

Bogardus, Emory S. "Social Distance and Its Origins." Journal of Applied Sociology, IX (1924-25), P. 216.

Droba, D. D. "Methods Used For Measuring Public Opinion". The American Journal of Sociology, XXXVII, No. 3 (November, 1931). pp. 410-423.

-----"A Scale of Militarism-Pacifism". Journal of Educational Psychology, XXII (1931) P. 96.

Gillette, J. M. "Urban Influence and Selection." Publications of the American Sociological Society, XXIII (December, 1928), pp 1-4.

Hall, Luella, J. "History of the Formation of Counties in North Dakota." Collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, V. (1923), P. 210.

Lantis, L. O. "Distribution of physicians in North Dakota". The Quarterly Journal, University of North Dakota, XXI, Number 4, (Summer Number, 1931), pp 337-347.

Mc Cormick, Thomas C. "Major Trends in Rural Life in the United States." The American Journal of Sociology, XXXVI (March, 1931), pp. 721-734.



Steiner, J. F. "An Appraisal of the Community Movement."

Publications of the American Sociological Society,  
XXIII, (December, 1928), pp. 15-29.

Zeleny, L. D. "A Measure of Social Opinions of Students."

Journal of Applied Sociology, XI (1926-1927), p. 56.