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The Activities of Rural Young People in Missouri

A Survey of 2,297 Young People Attending High School

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Rural Section, Division of Social Research, Federal Works
Progress Administration Cooperating*

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ABSTRACT

This investigation relates to some of the economic and social activities of rural young people. The scope of the inquiry was extended to twelve sample counties and included 2,297 young people, aged 16-24, who were living on farms and in places having up to 5,000 population. Those studied were in high school at the time of the survey. It was found that about one-half of the boys in villages and towns were finding some work for pay, while one-fourth of those on farms were likewise employed. A total of 55 different occupations were indicated as being those at which the informants had worked outside the home. Employment at school which was made possible largely by the National Youth Administration figured prominently among the occupations given. It appeared that many local organizations were failing to provide the programs or activities in which many of the young men and women would be interested. In addition to a variety of activities in which young people were engaged, they also reported things they would like to learn to do and indicated others in which they could participate if facilities were provided by their local communities. Along with their future plans, a number of different occupations were listed as the occupational preferences of young people. Also given were suggestions regarding the principal needs of young folk in the community. From these proposals it appeared that young people are generally aware of many local problems. It is suggested that the thinking of young people be incorporated into local planning by responsible community leaders.

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PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Purpose

It is the purpose of this inquiry to ascertain some of the economic and social conditions relating to the life of rural young people. The survey was planned to answer such questions as: What are young people doing? What are their occupational preferences? In which occupations are young people now engaged? How much money do they earn? What are local organizations doing that is of interest to young people? What are the future plans of high school graduates? Are young people aware of certain needs in their local communities? The study especially aims to determine what young people are now doing, what they could do if they had the opportunity, and the things they would like to learn to do. It is also the purpose to discover what they think are the principal needs of young people in their own communities.

Scope and Description of the Sample

The investigation was conducted in 12 sample counties¹ and included 2,297 young people, 16-24 years of age, who resided on farms and in places having up to 5,000 population.

The sample counties are well distributed over the state (Figure 1). They were selected by the Rural Section of the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration on the basis of principal type of farming, rural-farm population, farm tenancy, non-agricultural enterprises, and population engaged in non-agricultural enterprises.² In 1930 these counties contained 6.3 per cent of Missouri's total population and approximately 11.0 per cent of the rural population.³ They contained 10.5 per cent of all rural families.

¹ The counties surveyed are: Adair, Douglas, Franklin, Hickory, Holt, Johnson, Miller, Newton, Pemiscol, Ralls, Ray, and Shannon.

² Counties were arranged into groups and sub-groups by these factors and the sample counties were selected from the sub-groups so that they contained around 10.0 per cent of the rural population.

³ United States Census definition of rural, i.e., including places having up to 2,500 population.

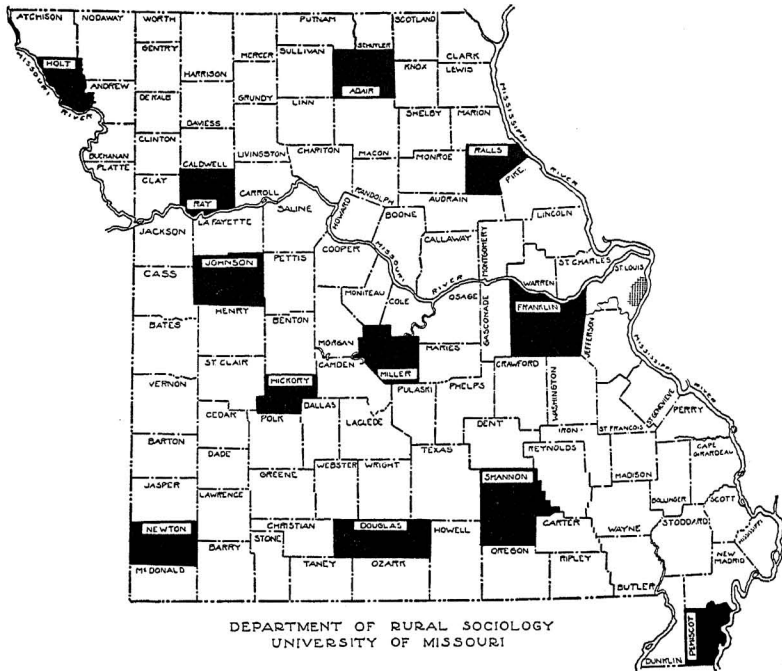


Fig. 1.—Sample Counties in Missouri, shown in black.

All of the young people studied were in high school at the time of the survey and most of them were aged 16-19. Negroes were not included inasmuch as they are found extensively only in particular rural areas of the state. In 1930 the sample counties contained 6.5 per cent of all persons aged 15-24, and 6.5 per cent of those in school aged 16-20. If the two largest cities (St. Louis and Kansas City) are excluded, the sample counties, representing the rural areas of the state, contained 9.9 per cent of all persons aged 15-24.⁴ The sample includes 2,273 or 32.5 per cent of the 6,996 young people in school, aged 16-20, who were enumerated by the 1930 Census in the twelve counties studied.⁵ Additional data relating to the composition of the sample are given below as the general background of the young people studied.

⁴ *Fifteenth Census of the United States, Population, Vol. III, Part 1 (1930), pp. 1328-1354.*

⁵ Similar results may be obtained by using high school enrollment data rather than the school attendance data given in the United States Census Reports, i.e., King, Lloyd W., *School Directory of Missouri, 1935-36*, and Lee, Charles A., *Eighty-third Report of the Public Schools of the State of Missouri, 1932.*

Procedure

The original data for this investigation were obtained on schedules by the group interview method in April, 1936. The schedule was prepared by the Missouri Rural Research Staff in the Department of Rural Sociology. All senior high schools in the sample counties were then visited by a member of the research staff and schedules were distributed to the students aged 16-24. Instructions as to the proper procedure in filling the schedules were given by the visitor. Completed schedules were returned to the Department of Rural Sociology for tabulation.

The punched card method was used in tabulation and the data were analyzed by simple statistical methods. For purposes of comparison, most of the data were summarized under farm and non-farm, male and female classifications. The farm classification includes only those living on farms, while the non-farm includes the young people who were reported from places having up to 5,000 population. Young people residing in places having 5,000 or more population were not included.⁶

I. GENERAL BACKGROUND OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE STUDIED

Personal Background

The 2,297 young people studied were classified into two broad residential divisions—farm and non-farm.⁷ Those living on farms numbered 1,295, which amounted to 56.4 per cent of all the young people included (Table 1). The remaining 1,002 or 43.6 per cent

TABLE 1.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE, 1936

Residence, 1936	Total		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences.....	2,297	100.0	1,098	100.0	1,199	100.0
Farm.....	1,295	56.4	652	59.4	643	53.6
Non-farm ¹	1,002	43.6	446	40.6	556	46.4

¹Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

were reported from villages and towns. Slightly more than one-half (52 per cent) were girls, while 48 per cent were boys. A larger proportion of the boys were living on farms than was reported for the girls, with 59.4 per cent of the former and 53.6 per cent of the latter recorded as being farm residents.

⁶ There are three places in the 12 counties studied which have 5,000 or more population. These are: Kirksville in Adair County, Warrensburg in Johnson County, and Washington in Franklin County.

⁷ Non-farm is defined as places having up to 5,000 population.

TABLE 2.—AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE STUDIED, BY RESIDENCE.

Age	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ²			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All ages.....	2,294 ¹	100.0	1,097	100.0	1,197	100.0	651	100.0	641	100.0	446	100.0	556	100.0
16.....	937	40.9	423	38.6	514	43.0	243	37.3	264	41.2	180	40.3	250	45.0
17.....	748	32.6	342	31.2	406	33.9	211	32.4	224	34.9	131	29.4	182	32.7
18.....	405	17.7	211	19.2	194	16.2	109	16.8	98	15.3	102	22.9	96	17.3
19.....	133	5.8	75	6.8	58	4.8	55	8.4	39	6.1	20	4.5	19	3.4
20.....	50	2.2	34	3.1	16	1.3	27	4.1	9	1.4	7	1.6	7	1.3
21.....	14	0.6	9	0.8	5	0.4	5	0.8	3	0.5	4	0.9	2	0.3
22.....	3	0.1	1	0.1	2	0.2	--	--	2	0.3	1	0.2	--	--
23.....	3	0.1	1	0.1	2	0.2	1	0.2	2	0.3	--	--	--	--
24.....	1	--- ³	1	0.1	--	---	--	---	---	---	1	0.2	--	---

¹Total excluding 3 cases for which no data were reported.²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.³Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

The ages of the informants ranged from 16 to 24. A distribution of these as given in Table 2 shows, however, that 97.0 per cent were 16-19 inclusive, while the remaining 3.0 per cent (71 cases) were 20-24. This age distribution is, of course, peculiar to the present sample and is representative of the young men and women in high school. It does not give proportional representation of the ages 16-24 as they occur in the population as a whole. There was some difference between farm and non-farm boys in the percentage who were 20 years of age and over, with 5.1 per cent of the former and 2.9 per cent of the latter included in this group. However, the proportion aged 20 and over was about the same for both the farm and non-farm girls.

Length of Residence in the Community

The informants were asked to indicate the number of years they had lived in the communities in which they were residing as of April, 1936. These data which have been summarized in Table 3 show that more than one-half (57.9 per cent) of those reporting had lived less than 16 years in present communities. Sixteen was the minimum age included in this study. Recent migratory tendencies are evidenced in the data which indicate that 29.5 per cent of these young people had lived in their respective communities less than seven years. This group was significantly larger than the

TABLE 3.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF YEARS' RESIDENCE IN COMMUNITY.

No. of Years in Community	All Residences		Farm		Non-farm ²	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	2,277 ¹	100.0	1,281	100.0	996	100.0
Less than 1.....	64	2.8	36	2.8	28	2.8
1.....	124	5.5	48	3.8	76	7.7
2.....	84	3.7	50	3.9	34	3.4
3.....	121	5.3	72	5.6	49	4.9
4.....	95	4.2	55	4.3	40	4.0
5.....	85	3.7	49	3.8	36	3.6
6.....	97	4.3	53	4.1	44	4.4
7.....	66	2.9	37	2.9	29	2.9
8.....	77	3.4	35	2.7	42	4.2
9.....	60	2.6	32	2.5	28	2.8
10.....	80	3.5	32	2.5	48	4.8
11.....	52	2.3	23	1.8	29	2.9
12.....	91	4.0	48	3.8	43	4.3
13.....	53	2.3	25	1.9	28	2.8
14.....	68	3.0	38	3.0	30	3.0
15.....	99	4.4	51	4.0	48	4.8
16.....	447	19.7	274	21.4	173	17.4
17.....	299	13.1	186	14.5	113	11.4
18.....	155	6.8	90	7.0	65	6.6
19.....	44	1.9	34	2.7	10	1.0
20.....	10	0.4	8	0.6	2	0.2
21.....	5	0.2	4	0.3	1	0.1
22.....	1	0.0 ³	1	0.1	--	--

¹Total excluding 20 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

³Less than one-tenth of one percent.

TABLE 4.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF YEARS' RESIDENCE IN COMMUNITY AND BY AGE AND RESIDENCE.

Residence and Age	Total	Number of Years in Community																							
		Less than One	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
All Residences.....	2,274 ¹	63	123	84	121	95	85	96	66	77	60	82	52	91	53	68	98	447	299	155	44	10	4	1	---
16.....	926	25	54	29	53	46	26	36	26	34	21	31	29	33	22	32	51	378	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
17.....	741	22	39	37	33	25	25	36	26	21	24	28	15	32	16	15	29	45	273	---	---	---	---	---	---
18.....	403	8	21	11	22	17	23	16	9	13	10	12	2	21	11	17	10	16	20	144	---	---	---	---	---
19.....	133	2	7	4	8	6	6	5	2	7	2	5	4	4	1	5	5	3	10	43	---	---	---	---	---
20.....	50	5	1	3	3	1	4	2	2	2	3	3	1	---	2	3	2	3	---	---	10	---	---	---	
21.....	14	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
22.....	3	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---
23.....	3	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	---
24.....	1	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Farm.....	1,278	35	47	50	72	55	49	52	37	35	32	32	23	48	25	38	51	274	186	90	34	8	4	1	---
16.....	500	12	19	19	37	24	11	18	12	13	12	9	11	17	14	17	28	227	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
17.....	430	13	17	21	17	15	17	19	17	10	14	15	8	18	6	8	13	171	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
18.....	205	4	7	4	12	10	14	9	3	6	4	5	---	9	3	9	3	9	11	83	---	---	---	---	---
19.....	94	2	4	4	4	5	4	4	2	4	---	1	2	4	2	1	5	4	1	7	34	---	---	---	---
20.....	36	3	---	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	---	1	2	2	2	3	---	---	---	---	---	---
21.....	8	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
22.....	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
23.....	3	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	---
24.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Non-farm ²	996	28	76	34	49	40	36	44	29	42	28	50	29	43	28	30	47	173	113	65	10	2	---	---	---
16.....	426	13	35	10	16	22	15	18	14	21	9	22	18	16	8	15	23	151	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
17.....	311	9	22	16	16	10	8	17	9	11	10	13	7	14	10	7	16	14	102	---	---	---	---	---	---
18.....	198	4	14	7	10	7	9	7	6	7	6	7	2	12	8	8	7	7	9	61	---	---	---	---	---
19.....	39	3	---	---	4	1	2	1	---	3	2	4	2	---	2	---	1	1	2	3	9	---	---	---	---
20.....	14	2	1	1	2	---	2	---	---	---	1	2	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
21.....	6	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	2	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
22.....	1	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	---
23.....	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
24.....	1	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

¹Total excluding 23 cases for which no data were reported.²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

one including those who had been in the community from 7 to 12 years inclusive. The latter classification included 18.7 per cent of the cases. A slightly greater percentage of the non-farm group than of those living on farms was reported among the ones who had resided in the community less than seven years. The percentages were respectively 30.8 and 28.3. The concentration at 15 to 18 years' residence in the community, which is shown in Table 3, is largely a function of the age of the individuals studied and it is a reflection of the number of young people who had always lived in their present communities.⁸

For purposes of further analysis and due to the general requests for factual material of this kind, these data relating to the number of years in the community have been further classified according to the age and residence of those studied (Table 4). This arrangement especially indicates the number of youth who had always lived in the communities in which they were enumerated. It was found that 37.5 per cent of the total had always resided in the community, while the remaining 62.5 per cent had lived there for various periods of time, none of which was equivalent to the number of years represented in the ages of the individuals studied. The young people living on farms, with 41.3 per cent reporting continuous residence, evidenced a larger percentage than did the non-farm group with 32.6 per cent.

More than three-fourths (77.0 per cent) of the ones now living on farms were born on them, while over one-fourth of the young people residing in villages and towns were born on farms (Table 5). Some evidence of population shifting is indicated by these data which also show that 12.5 per cent of the persons whose resi-

TABLE 5.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO BIRTHPLACE AND BY RESIDENCE.

Birthplace	Residence					
	All Residences		Farm		Non-farm	
	No.	%	Bo.	%	No.	%
All places.....	2,285 ¹	100.0	1,288	100.0	997	100.0
Farm.....	1,276	55.8	992	77.0	284	28.5
Village ²	484	21.2	135	10.5	349	35.0
Town ³	324	14.2	88	6.8	236	23.7
City ⁴	201	8.8	73	5.7	128	12.8

¹Total excludes 12 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having less than 2,500 population.

³Includes places having 2,500-4,999 population.

⁴Includes places having 5,000 and over population.

⁸ Additional data regarding length of residence in the community have been made available through other studies. For example: Anderson, W. A., *Rural Youth: Activities, Interests, and Problems*, Bulletin 649 (1936), Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, p. 8. This study of 347 young married people aged 15-29 disclosed that 13 per cent of the young men had lived in the present community one year or less; 26 per cent had lived there 2-4 years; 17 per cent, 5-9 years; and 44 per cent for a period of 10 or more years.

dences were farms had been born in places having 2,500 or more population. In net terms, however, there were about as many born on farms and now living in villages and towns as there were who had been born in non-farm areas and were living on farms. A total of 296 were born in non-farm places who were residing on farms, while the reverse situation was found for a total of 284. The possible influence of farm modes of living in relation to the youth studied is further indicated by the fact that 51.7 per cent of the ones residing in villages and towns had, at one time or another, lived on farms.

The foregoing data do not, of course, give an extensive treatment of the matter of population mobility, but they do serve to indicate its existence. These data do not give, for example, the frequency of moves from one community to another or the range in distance of the migrations that occurred. Consideration of these factors is important in the study of population mobility. Moreover, the mobility indicated here is largely a function of moves made by the families of the informants rather than moves by the individuals studied. However, the findings given, which are based on the available information, should give a useful index of the length of residence by age and place of residence which is typical of the young people studied. The incidence of the frequency of occurrence of "new-comers" and those of long-time residence in the local school population is a factor which might be important to the formulation of local recreational programs and to the school administration in local education systems.

Family Living Conveniences

Data were obtained relating to selected household conveniences or facilities important in family living. The items reported include some usually considered as general indices of the level of living in regard to the material elements involved. It is considered that the absence or presence of certain facilities is an important factor in the environmental background of rural young people.

The most significant item reported was the automobile which was found in 69.5 per cent of all cases. This was the only major facility with which a greater percentage of the farm group were identified when compared with non-farm young men and women. As indicated in Table 6 there were 75.0 per cent of those living on farms who reported that their families had automobiles, in comparison with the 62.5 per cent replying from non-farm residences. Electric lights were mentioned by 42.7 per cent, and running water

TABLE 6.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED FAMILY LIVING CONVENIENCES AND BY RESIDENCE.

Conveniences and Facilities	All Residences		Farm		Non-farm ³	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total young people.....	2,177 ¹	2	1,222	---	955	---
Electric lights.....	930	42.7	163	13.3	767	80.3
Telephone.....	918	42.2	515	42.1	403	42.2
Radio.....	1,273	58.5	556	45.5	717	75.1
Piano.....	834	38.3	423	34.6	411	43.0
Running water.....	635	29.2	147	12.0	488	51.1
Indoor toilet.....	456	20.9	73	6.0	383	40.1
Furnace.....	269	12.4	71	5.8	198	20.7
Automobile.....	1,513	69.5	916	75.0	597	62.5

¹Total excluding 120 cases for which no data were reported. These cases either had no facilities or failed to report those they did have.

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated in reporting facilities.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

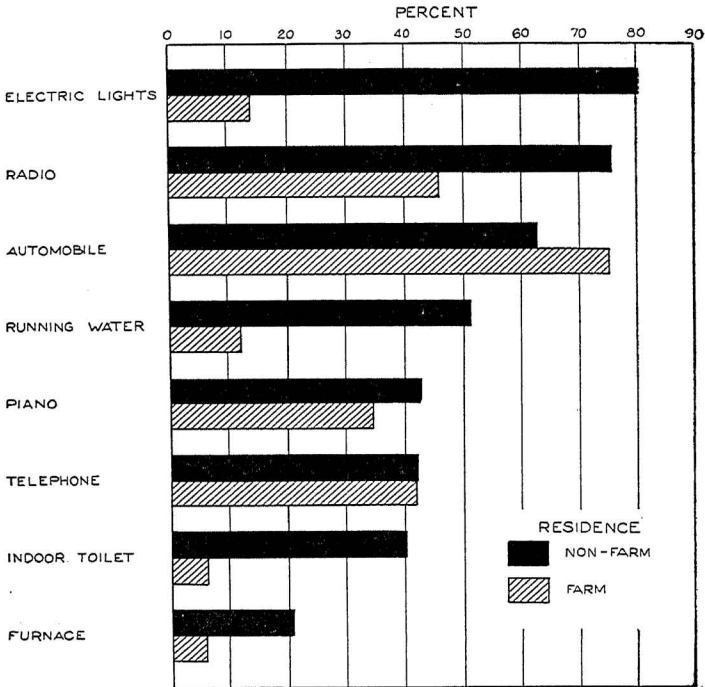


Fig. 2.—Distribution of Farm and Non-Farm Young People According to Family Living Conveniences.

by 29.2 per cent. As might be supposed, in view of present conditions, the occurrence of these facilities was found to be largely a function of residence, with electric lights being noted by 80.3 per cent of the non-farm youth in contrast to 13.3 per cent of those on farms. A significant proportion of both the farm and non-farm

young people had radios at home. This item was indicated by 45.5 per cent of the former and by 75.1 per cent of the latter. Telephones were reported as often proportionately by farm youth as they were by the others. Figure 2 shows a percentage distribution of conveniences according to the residence of those reporting. Results similar to the ones given here regarding facilities have been indicated by studies made in other regions.⁹

II. ECONOMIC AND OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

Home Responsibilities

Daily routine duties that are evidenced in the form of chores, housework, and other responsibilities were found to be prominent in the homes of the young men and women studied. When asked if they were working at home, affirmative replies were given by 84.9 per cent of all the young people. The remaining 15.1 per cent, however, stated that they did not work at home. As might be generally assumed, a greater proportion of the farm youth were found to be engaged at home when compared with the non-farm. As summarized in Table 7, work at home was reported by 92.1 per

TABLE 7.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WORKING AT HOME, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Working at Home		Not Working at Home	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	2,294 ¹	100.0	1,947 ³	84.9	347	15.1
Male.....	1,096	100.0	933	85.1	163	14.9
Female.....	1,198	100.0	1,014	84.6	184	15.4
Farm	1,293	100.0	1,191	92.1	102	7.9
Male.....	651	100.0	606	93.1	45	6.9
Female.....	642	100.0	585	91.1	57	8.9
Non-farm ²	1,001	100.0	756	75.5	245	24.5
Male.....	445	100.0	327	73.5	118	26.5
Female.....	556	100.0	429	77.2	127	22.8

¹Total excluding three cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

³Total includes 105 young people who indicated that they received some wages for work at home.

cent of the farm as compared with 75.5 per cent of the non-farm young people. A slightly larger percentage (93.1 per cent) of the farm boys worked at home in comparison with the 91.1 per cent of the farms girls who did likewise. The opposite situation was reported in the non-farm division with 77.2 per cent of the girls and 73.5 per cent of the boys working.

⁹ Kirkpatrick, E. L., and Boynton, Agnes M., "Rural Young People Face Their Own Situation," *Rural Sociology*, Vol. I, June, 1936, pp. 151-163. Facilities for recreation in the home have been listed by Thurow, Mildred B., *Interests, Activities, and Problems of Rural Young Folk*, Bulletin 617 (1934), Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, p. 32. An analysis of conveniences in relation to the selection of agriculture as a vocation by rural youth is given by Hypes, Rapport, and Kennedy, *Connecticut Rural Youth and Farming Occupations*, Bulletin 182 (1932), Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 37-40.

Most of the work at home was carried on without the stimulus of remunerative inducement. Only 5.4 per cent of the young people working at home directly received pay for their activities. A significant difference was noted between boys and girls in this regard, but there was little margin of contrast between farm and non-farm groups. The young men received pay in 8.3 per cent of the cases, while only 2.3 per cent of the young women did. Financial benefits were reported by 9.1 per cent of the farm boys, 8.3 per cent of the village and town boys, 1.9 per cent of the farm girls, and 2.8 per cent of the girls in non-farm areas.

It was found that most of the young people had regular responsibilities at home. Apparently most of the responsibilities are of the sort that embodies work. Approximately the same percentage indicated regular responsibilities that also indicated work at home. Table 8 shows that 85.7 per cent reported regular responsibilities, while 14.3 per cent did not. The distribution here with respect to residence and male and female classification is similar to that reported above in Table 7 which gives the number working at home.

TABLE 8.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE HAVING REGULAR HOME RESPONSIBILITIES.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Those Having Regular Responsibilities		Those Not Having Regular Responsibilities	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	2,291 ¹	100.0	1,963	85.7	328	14.3
Male.....	1,098	100.0	950	86.5	148	13.5
Female.....	1,193	100.0	1,013	84.9	180	15.1
Farm	1,293	100.0	1,197	92.6	96	7.4
Male.....	652	100.0	610	93.6	42	6.4
Female.....	641	100.0	587	91.6	54	8.4
Non-farm ²	998	100.0	766	76.8	232	23.2
Male.....	446	100.0	340	76.2	106	23.8
Female.....	552	100.0	426	77.2	126	22.8

¹Total excluding six cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

In order to obtain some measure of the usual responsibilities which young people have at home, they were asked to state them. The classification obtained gives a general indication of what young people consider as being the home tasks for which they are either entirely or in part responsible.¹⁰ The findings of this phase of the inquiry are shown in Table 9. More than one-half (52.0

¹⁰ The scope of the present study was not extended beyond determining the existence and types of responsibilities. Significant study can be made regarding the time required for regular home responsibilities as well as for tasks otherwise classified. Such study has been made, for example, in New York State by Beers, Howard W., *The Income, Savings, and Work of Boys and Girls on Farms in New York, 1930*, Bulletin 560 (1933), Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 18-24.

TABLE 9.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE HAVING REGULAR HOME RESPONSIBILITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO TYPE OF RESPONSIBILITY, BY RESIDENCE.

Classification of Regular Responsibilities	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total young people having responsibilities.....	1,956 ¹	----	949	----	1,007	----	609	----	582	----	340	----	425	----
Chores.....	1,018	52.0	699	73.7	319	31.7	459	75.4	235	40.4	240	70.6	84	19.8
Farm work.....	614	31.4	496	52.3	118	11.7	475	78.0	111	19.1	21	6.2	7	1.6
Help support family.....	138	7.1	115	12.1	23	2.3	64	10.5	19	3.3	51	15.0	4	0.9
Housework.....	961	49.1	65	6.8	896	89.0	36	5.9	515	88.5	29	8.5	381	89.6
Take care of children.....	133	6.8	22	2.3	111	11.0	14	2.3	71	12.2	8	2.4	40	9.4
Take place of hired help.....	412	21.1	336	35.4	76	7.5	249	40.9	57	9.8	87	25.6	19	4.5
All others.....	75	3.8	45	4.7	30	3.0	18	3.0	11	1.9	27	7.9	19	4.5

¹Total excluding seven cases for which no data were reported.

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated in instances where more than one responsibility was given.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

per cent) of those having regular responsibilities reported chores. The young men, with 73.7 per cent reporting, were identified with these more frequently than were the young women who reported them in 31.7 per cent of the cases. A slightly larger percentage of the farm boys were occupied with chores than were the non-farm, while this responsibility was indicated by 40.4 per cent of the farm girls as compared with 19.8 per cent of the non-farm.

Next to chores, housework was the most frequently designated home responsibility. It was mentioned by 49.1 per cent of all the young people but was largely characteristic of the girls, 89.0 per cent of whom were so classified. Only 6.8 per cent of the boys were found with this type of responsibility.¹¹ Farm work was frequently given by the farm group and it was the most significant type reported by the farm boys with 78.0 per cent of them included. Taking care of children occurred as a regular responsibility in the homes of 6.8 per cent of those studied, while 7.1 per cent stated that they contributed to the support of the family. The latter task was more significant for boys than it was for girls with 12.1 per cent of the former and 2.3 per cent of the latter included.

There were 1,607 or 70.0 per cent of the total number who reported that they were dependent on their parents for spending money. The remaining 30.0 per cent indicated that they did not rely on parents for support of this sort (Table 10). There was a marked differential between boys and girls, with only 54.0 per cent of the former in comparison with 84.7 per cent of the latter, included under this classification of dependency. A wide difference

TABLE 10.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO INDICATED THAT THEY WERE DEPENDENT ON PARENTS FOR SPENDING MONEY.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Dependent for Spending Money		Not Dependent for Spending Money	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences.....	2,295 ¹	100.0	1,607	70.0	688	30.0
Male.....	1,097	100.0	592	54.0	505	46.0
Female.....	1,198	100.0	1,015	84.7	183	15.3
Farm.....	1,294	100.0	938	72.5	356	27.5
Male.....	651	100.0	388	59.6	263	40.4
Female.....	643	100.0	550	85.5	93	14.5
Non-farm ²	1,001	100.0	669	66.8	332	33.2
Male.....	446	100.0	204	45.7	242	54.3
Female.....	555	100.0	465	83.8	90	16.2

¹Total excluding two cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

11 A study made previously in Boone County, Missouri, gives data regarding activities included in housework: Hill, R. C., Morgan, E. L., Campbell, M. C., and Johnson, O. R., *Social, Economic, and Homemaking Factors in Farm Living*, Research Bulletin 148 (1930), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 51-52.

was not found for all young people between the farm and non-farm groups, with 72.5 per cent of the former and 66.8 per cent of the latter reporting parents as the source of spending money. However, there was sufficient evidence to show a significant difference between farm and non-farm young men in this instance, with 59.6 per cent and 45.7 per cent respectively mentioning dependency. Data were not obtained by this study which designate the amount of spending money received, but information pertaining to total money earned was included. These data are given in the following section of this report.

Work Outside the Home

While attending school some of those studied found it necessary to live away from home. As Table 11 shows, there were 8.2 per cent of all the young people attending school who took room and board in the vicinity of the school attended. Most of these resided on farms and appreciably more farm girls than boys lived away. Only 5.7 per cent of the non-farm group found it expedient to room and board away, as compared with 10.1 per cent of the farm residents.

TABLE 11.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO LIVE AT HOME AND THE NUMBER WHO ROOM AND BOARD AWAY FROM HOME, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE AND SEX.

Residence and Sex	Total Young People		Living at Home		Room and Board Away from Home	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	2,290 ¹	100.0	2,103	91.8	187	8.2
Male.....	1,095	100.0	1,022	93.3	73	6.7
Female.....	1,195	100.0	1,081	90.5	114	9.5
Farm	1,291	100.0	1,161	89.9	130	10.1
Male.....	651	100.0	606	93.1	45	6.9
Female.....	640	100.0	555	86.7	85	13.3
Non-farm ²	999	100.0	942	94.3	57	5.7
Male.....	444	100.0	416	93.7	28	6.3
Female.....	555	100.0	526	94.8	29	5.2

¹Total excluding 7 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

It was further found that about two out of five worked for their subsistence outside the home. There were 79 or 42.5 per cent of the ones rooming and boarding away from home who worked either for their room, their board, or both. A greater proportion of the boys (47.2 per cent) were reported working than was true of the girls who were represented by 39.5 per cent of their number. These data are given in Table 12 which also shows that a considerably greater percentage of the farm group were working for their keep away from home than was found for the non-farm.

TABLE 12.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR ALL OR PART OF THEIR ROOM AND BOARD AWAY FROM HOME.

Residence and Sex	Total Young People Who Room and Board Away From Home		Working for Room or Board or Both		Not Working	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	186 ¹	100.0	79	42.5	107	57.5
Male.....	72	100.0	34	47.2	38	52.8
Female.....	114	100.0	45	39.5	69	60.5
Farm	130	100.0	67	51.5	63	48.5
Male.....	45	100.0	29	64.4	16	35.6
Female.....	85	100.0	38	44.7	47	55.3
Non-farm ²	56	100.0	12	21.4	44	78.6
Male.....	27	100.0	5	18.5	22	81.5
Female.....	29	100.0	7	24.1	22	75.9

¹Total excluding one case for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

More than one-half of the former were so engaged, in comparison with 21.4 per cent of the latter. It is considered significant that an appreciable number of the young people who were living away from home while in school were working for all or part of their room and board. However, it should be remembered in this connection that 91.8 per cent of the total number studied were living at home. Therefore, in terms of the total, there were only about three out of one hundred who worked for board and room outside the home.

Work outside the home for pay was a characteristic of one out of four of the young men and women included in this survey. Both the farm and non-farm classifications were well represented by those who worked for wages. However, a strikingly greater proportion of the non-farm boys were receiving pay in comparison with the ones on farms. Nearly one-half of the boys in villages and towns received pay, while about one-fourth of those on farms did. This variation seems to be largely due to the fact that farm boys are more often needed at home, while those living elsewhere are less confined occupationally to home work. It is also likely that villages and towns afford more opportunities for the type of employment that could be obtained by these young people, all of whom are in school. In order for them to be employed for wages there is especially needed a supply of part-time work. A smaller percentage of girls than boys were working for pay. As indicated in Table 13 there were 14.0 per cent of those living on farms and 20.4 per cent of the non-farm who reported income from work outside the home. These data are shown graphically in Figure 3.

TABLE 13.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE HAVING WORK FOR PAY OUTSIDE THE HOME, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Working For Pay		Not Working For Pay	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	2,293 ¹	100.0	573	24.9	1,720	75.1
Male.....	1,096	100.0	370	33.8	726	66.2
Female.....	1,197	100.0	203	17.0	994	83.0
Farm	1,293	100.0	246	19.0	1,047	81.0
Male.....	651	100.0	156	24.0	495	76.0
Female.....	642	100.0	90	14.0	552	86.0
Non-farm²	1,000	100.0	327	32.7	673	67.3
Male.....	445	100.0	214	48.1	231	51.9
Female.....	555	100.0	113	20.4	442	79.6

¹Total excluding four cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

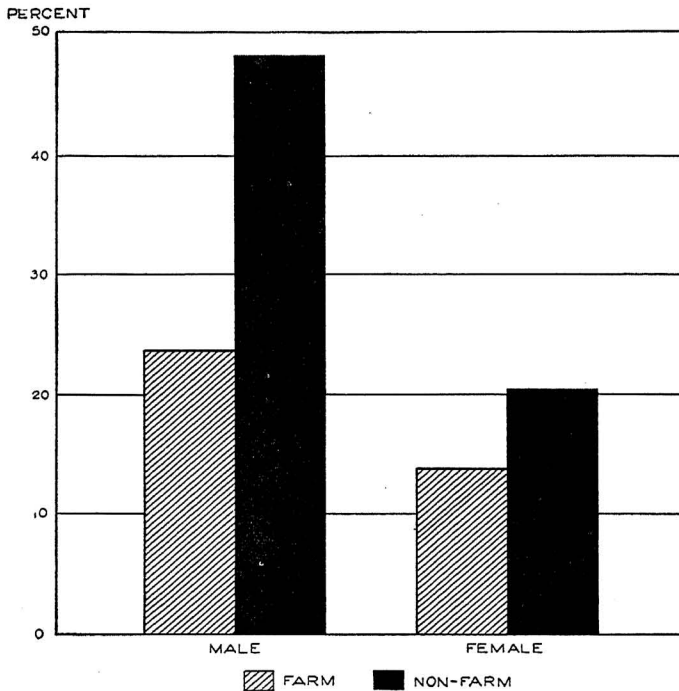


Fig. 3.—Distribution of Rural Young People Having Work for Pay Outside the Home.

The occupations at which young folk were working for pay in 1936 have been tabulated and are given in Table 14. One significant feature noted in the occupations reported is that there were a large number of them. There were 55 different occupations indicated by the 566 who provided these data. A few of the occupa-

TABLE 14.—PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS AT WHICH RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WERE WORKING FOR PAY IN 1936, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE

Occupation ²	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total young people working for pay ----	566 ¹	100.0	367	100.0	199	100.0	155	100.0	87	100.0	212	100.0	112	100.0
Beauty operator—barber-----	6	1.1	1	0.3	5	2.5	---	---	2	2.3	1	0.5	3	2.7
Care of children-----	5	0.9	---	---	5	2.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	4.5
Clerical-----	14	2.5	2	0.6	12	6.0	---	---	5	5.7	2	0.9	7	6.3
Clerk in store-----	82	14.5	60	16.3	22	11.1	15	9.7	9	10.3	45	21.2	13	11.6
Delivering papers-----	34	6.0	33	8.9	1	0.5	6	3.9	1	1.2	27	12.8	---	---
Farm Laborer-----	47	8.3	47	12.8	---	---	40	25.8	---	---	7	3.3	---	---
Housework-----	24	4.2	1	0.3	23	11.6	---	---	13	14.9	1	0.5	10	8.9
Janitor-----	21	3.7	18	4.9	3	1.5	5	3.2	1	1.2	13	6.2	2	1.8
Librarian-----	10	1.8	2	0.5	8	4.0	1	0.6	2	2.3	1	0.5	6	5.3
Musician-----	8	1.4	3	0.8	5	2.5	1	0.6	---	---	2	0.9	5	4.5
National Guard-----	5	0.9	5	1.4	---	---	2	1.3	---	---	3	1.4	---	---
Odd jobs-----	50	8.8	47	12.8	3	1.5	27	17.4	2	2.3	20	9.4	1	0.9
Poultry raising-----	5	0.9	4	1.1	1	0.5	2	1.3	1	1.2	2	0.9	---	---
Service station attendant-----	13	2.3	12	3.3	1	0.5	2	1.3	1	1.2	10	4.7	---	---
Theatre usher-----	9	1.6	7	1.9	2	1.0	---	---	---	---	7	3.3	2	1.8
Truck driver-----	7	1.2	7	1.9	---	---	3	2.0	---	---	4	1.9	---	---
Waiter or waitress-----	14	2.5	2	0.6	12	6.0	1	0.6	3	3.4	1	0.5	9	8.0
Work at school—including N.Y.A.-----	123	21.7	45	12.3	78	39.2	24	15.5	43	49.4	21	9.9	35	31.2
All others ⁴ -----	89	15.7	71	19.3	18	9.1	26	16.8	4	4.6	45	21.2	14	12.5

¹Total excluding seven cases for which data were not reported.

²The occupations listed in this classification are given in the terminology used by the young people reporting.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

⁴Includes 55 different occupations, none of which were reported as many as five times.

tions were outstanding in the frequency of their occurrence, but an appreciable number of young people were represented by a large number of the ones less frequently reported. The most significant occupation was work at school which was made available largely by the National Youth Administration. More than one out of five (21.7 per cent) of the youth employed were engaged at this type of occupation. N. Y. A. work was especially important to those living on farms, with 49.4 per cent of the farm girls being employed and 15.5 per cent of the boys. Other occupations were important to a larger proportion of the non-farm group, with only 9.9 per cent of the boys and 31.2 per cent of the girls indicating N. Y. A. employment. It should be remembered in this connection that these computations relate only to those who were working outside the home for pay and that there was a larger proportion of the non-farm young people so employed.

The most significant occupation reported by farm boys was that of farm laborer which was mentioned by 25.8 per cent of those replying. The next important was odd jobs which was reported by 17.4 per cent. Boys in villages and towns were more occupied with work peculiar to the places in which they lived. Thus 21.2 per cent were engaged as store clerks, while 12.8 per cent delivered papers. Housework was an important occupation for girls, being mentioned by 14.9 per cent of the farm girls and by 8.9 per cent of the non-farm. A number of the girls were also gainfully employed as store clerks, an occupation given by 10.3 per cent of the farm girls and by 11.6 per cent of those living in villages and towns. Table 14 itemizes the occupations which were reported by as many as five young people. The significance in these is the indication provided of the type of work young people are doing when they work outside the home for pay.¹²

More than one-half of the informants earned some amount of money during the year 1935. Table 15 gives a distribution of these estimated earnings. It was found that 46.8 per cent had not earned money in 1935, while an additional 39.8 per cent reported earnings of from \$1 to \$75. These two classes combined include 86.6 per cent of all those studied. Earnings of from \$76 to \$1,200 were reported by the remaining 13.4 per cent. The group reporting no money earned is largely composed of those not working out of

¹² A number of studies which include the occupations of rural young people have been made in other states. Among these are: James, J. A., and Kolb, J. H., *Wisconsin Rural Youth, Education and Occupation*, Bulletin 437 (1936), Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station; Hypes, Rapport, and Kennedy, op. cit.; Anderson, W. A., and Kerns, Willis, *Interests, Activities, and Problems of Rural Young Folk*, Bulletin 631 (1935), Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station.

TABLE 15.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO MONEY EARNED IN 1935 AND BY RESIDENCE

Amount Earned, 1935	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ²			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	2,269 ¹	100.0	1,085	100.0	1,184	100.0	642	100.0	632	100.0	443	100.0	552	100.0
None.....	1,063	46.8	285	26.2	778	65.7	165	25.7	394	62.4	120	27.1	384	69.6
\$ 1-\$75.....	904	39.8	521	48.0	383	32.3	316	49.2	225	35.6	205	46.3	158	28.6
76-150.....	185	8.2	166	15.3	19	1.6	94	14.6	11	1.7	72	16.2	8	1.4
151-225.....	57	2.5	54	5.0	3	0.3	29	4.5	2	0.3	25	5.6	1	0.2
226-300.....	36	1.6	36	3.3	---	---	21	3.3	---	---	15	3.4	---	---
301-375.....	4	0.2	4	0.4	---	---	1	0.2	---	---	3	0.7	---	---
376-450.....	9	0.4	8	0.7	1	0.1	6	0.9	---	---	2	0.5	1	0.2
451-525.....	5	0.2	5	0.5	---	---	5	0.8	---	---	---	---	---	---
526 and over ³	6	0.3	6	0.6	---	---	5	0.8	---	---	1	0.2	---	---

¹Total excluding 28 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

³Includes one case of \$1,200, one of \$1,000, one of \$800, and three of \$700.

the home for pay and including those who did not receive pay for work at home. Proportionately, about as many farm as non-farm boys reported earnings that exceeded \$150. However, exceptionally high earnings (over \$375) were reported by a larger percentage of the farm boys. There were 16 (2.5 per cent) who indicated earnings greater than \$375, while only 3 (0.7 per cent) of the boys residing in villages and towns were so classified. This difference may be explained by the instance that some farm boys are given the opportunity of carrying out projects of their own such as feeding livestock. When these projects are successful the earnings may be quite large in comparison with those possible through the occupations available to the boys living elsewhere. Most of the earnings reported by girls did not exceed \$75, while about two-thirds of those replying had none to report. From these estimates of money earned it appears that a significant number of these young people who are in school are availing themselves of some or all of the work opportunities that are found. The amounts earned are small, considering the group as a whole, but they give tangible evidence of the progress these young folk have made in the way of financial accomplishments through their own efforts. It was not within the province of this investigation to determine how the young people disposed of their earnings. Such study should be made in Missouri especially with a view to determine the extent to which these earnings may supplement the total family income. Earnings contributed by the younger members of the households are particularly important to families on relief.¹³

13 Specific cases of the earnings of rural young people being taken to supplement total family income are given in the following report: Kirkpatrick, E. L., Tough, R., and Cowles, Mary L., *How Farm Families Meet the Emergency*, Research Bulletin 126 (1935), Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 19-20; also, Morgan, E. L., Ensminger, J. D., and Sneed, M. W., *Rural Women and the Works Progress Program*, Research Bulletin 253 (1937), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 16-18.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND PARTICIPATION

Type of Organizations Attended

It was not within the province of the present study to investigate extensively the organizational affiliations and participation of the young folk studied. However, an attempt was made to determine how many young people were attending certain general types of organizations and to discover the number who participated in the leadership of these organizations. Other studies regarding participation in organization and social contacts have previously been made in this state by Morgan and Burt.¹⁴

A total of 989 young people listed the organizations which they attended. These were arbitrarily compiled according to certain types and the young people reporting them were classified accordingly. Results of this classification (Table 16) indicate that organizations sponsored by the church and Sunday school were attended by the greatest number of young people. This classification includes largely the societies for young people such as Christian Endeavor and B. Y. P. U. It does not include Sunday school classes. Specific reference to church and Sunday school attendance is made below in this report. There were 41.8 per cent of the young people who indicated that they attended the organizations fostered especially for them by the church and Sunday school. For girls this type was by far the most significant, being attended by 47.8 per cent of those on farms and 53.1 per cent of the ones living in villages and towns. This was also a chief type of organization attended by the young men, but a smaller proportion of them than that for young women was found here. Church and Sunday school young people's organizations were the most frequently mentioned by non-farm boys, with 37.0 per cent of them so classified, but this type was not the most important for farm boys. Only 28.2 per cent of the latter attended these societies.

Farm organizations including the Future Farmers of America and Farm Bureaus were attended by more of the farm boys than any other type with 49.8 per cent of their number represented. Organizations classified as National Youth, including the Boy Scouts and 4-H Clubs, were frequently given and they were especially important to the non-farm boys, 29.7 per cent of whom attended them. School societies, excluding classes, were also sig-

14 Morgan, E. L., and Burt, Henry J., *Community Relations of Rural Young People*, Research Bulletin 110 (1927), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station; Burt, Henry J., *Contacts in a Rural Community*, Research Bulletin 125 (1929), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station.

TABLE 16.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS ATTENDED.

Classification of Organizations Attended	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people-----	989 ¹	---	465	---	524	---	273	---	251	---	192	---	273	---
Church ⁴ -----	34	3.4	6	1.3	28	5.3	3	1.1	10	4.0	3	1.6	18	6.6
Community or civic ⁵ -----	17	1.7	7	1.5	10	1.9	7	2.6	6	2.4			4	1.5
Farm ⁶ -----	231	23.4	177	38.1	54	10.3	136	49.8	36	14.3	41	21.4	18	6.6
Fraternal ⁷ -----	68	6.9	21	4.5	47	9.0	6	2.2	5	2.0	15	7.8	42	15.4
National Youth ⁸ -----	185	18.7	91	19.6	94	17.9	34	12.5	45	17.9	57	29.7	49	17.9
School ⁹ -----	168	17.0	54	11.6	114	21.8	28	10.3	64	25.5	26	13.5	50	18.3
Social ¹⁰ -----	63	6.4	20	4.3	43	8.2	11	4.0	16	6.4	9	4.7	27	9.9
Sunday School and Young Peoples ¹¹ -----	413	41.8	148	31.8	265	50.6	77	28.2	120	47.8	71	37.0	145	53.1
All others ¹² -----	102	10.3	55	11.8	47	9.0	24	8.8	19	7.6	31	16.1	28	10.3

¹Total excluding 1,308 young people who either did not attend organizations or failed to report those attended

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated where more than one type of organization was reported.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

⁴Includes only church-sponsored organizations for adults, i.e., Ladies' Aid Society, Missionary Societies, etc. Does not include church attendance.

⁵Includes Chamber of Commerce and community clubs.

⁶Includes Farm Bureaus, Women's Farm Clubs, F. F. A., etc.

⁷Includes general fraternal orders, i.e., Elks, DeMolay, I. O. O. F., etc.

⁸Includes such organizations as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, and Campfire Girls.

⁹Includes organizations sponsored by and/or concerning the school, i.e., Literary and Dramatic Clubs, P. T. A., etc. School classes were not included.

¹⁰Includes organizations such as Girls' Circle, singing schools, etc., not affiliated with the school.

¹¹Includes church and Sunday School organizations sponsored primarily for young people. It includes chiefly the young people's societies such as Christian Endeavor, B. Y. P. U., etc. Regular Sunday School classes were not included.

¹²Includes miscellaneous organizations such as bands, orchestras, National Guard, political organizations, and others not classified elsewhere.

nificant but more so for the girls than for the boys. They were attended by 21.8 per cent of the former and 11.6 per cent of the later. Community or civic organizations were mentioned by only 1.7 per cent of those reporting, adult church organizations by 3.4 per cent, and social clubs by 6.4 per cent. These data give some indication of the general types of organizations attended by rural young men and women. However, it should be borne in mind that these particular data are not intended to provide a basis for extensive generalization. No facts are given here which make an index of the extent to which young people attended these organizations. Neither is indication given as to whether all types are available to all the young people. These data were not made available through the current study.

In view of the fact that participation in the activities of organizations plays an important role in the lives of individuals, it is of importance that most of the young people studied reported attendance at church and Sunday school services. Only 8.7 per cent of the informants who gave these data stated that they had not attended church during 1935 (Table 17). A greater proportion of the boys than girls listed no attendance, but very little difference was found between the farm and non-farm groups as a whole in this respect. Nearly one-half (47.3 per cent) of all the young people estimated that they attended from 10 to 39 times during the year, while nearly one-third (31.0 per cent) said their attendance was 40 times or more.

Comparison of data regarding Sunday school attendance with that of church attendance shows that a considerably larger percentage under both farm and non-farm and male and female classifications did not attend Sunday school (Table 17). However, this comparison also shows that larger proportions of the young folk under all the classifications attended Sunday school 40 times or more. These attendance data do provide some measure of participation, but one should observe caution in using comparisons made here. Special consideration should be given to the fact that church services are found to be highly irregular from church to church, in different regions of the state, and between farm and non-farm areas. A recent study of the rural church in this state indicated that only 10.5 per cent of the country churches had full-time preaching services, while 57.4 per cent had services only one Sunday out of four. On the other hand, in towns of 1,500 to 2,499 population, full-time services were held by 67.9 per cent of the churches, while 8.2 per cent had one-fourth time services. This study also revealed that Sunday school services tended to persist

TABLE 17.—DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE ACCORDING TO FREQUENCY OF CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

Classification of Attendance by Residence and Sex	Frequency of Attendance, 1935													
	All Young People		None		Less than 10		10-19		20-29		30-39		40 and Over	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Church attendance:														
All residences.....	2,041 ¹	100.0	178	8.7	265	13.0	352	17.2	381	18.7	233	11.4	632	31.0
Male.....	979	100.0	127	13.1	139	14.2	155	15.8	191	19.5	97	9.9	270	27.5
Female.....	1,062	100.0	51	4.8	126	11.9	197	18.5	190	17.9	136	12.8	362	34.1
Farm.....	1,142	100.0	106	9.3	146	12.8	215	18.8	231	20.2	143	12.5	301	26.4
Male.....	581	100.0	77	13.3	75	12.9	102	17.5	123	21.2	55	9.5	149	25.6
Female.....	561	100.0	29	5.2	71	12.7	113	20.1	108	19.2	88	15.7	152	27.1
Non-farm ²	899	100.0	72	8.0	119	13.3	137	15.2	150	16.7	90	10.0	331	36.8
Male.....	398	100.0	50	12.6	64	16.1	53	13.3	68	17.1	42	10.5	121	30.4
Female.....	501	100.0	22	4.4	55	11.0	84	16.8	82	16.3	48	9.6	210	41.9
Sunday School attendance:														
All residences.....	2,002 ³	100.0	292	14.6	144	7.2	206	10.3	256	12.8	274	13.7	830	41.4
Male.....	964	100.0	194	20.1	69	7.2	104	10.8	118	12.2	133	13.8	346	35.9
Female.....	1,038	100.0	98	9.5	75	7.2	102	9.8	138	13.3	141	13.6	484	46.6
Farm.....	1,118	100.0	175	15.6	89	8.0	135	12.1	164	14.7	156	13.9	399	35.7
Male.....	566	100.0	118	20.8	41	7.3	71	12.5	74	13.1	77	13.6	185	32.7
Female.....	552	100.0	57	10.3	48	8.7	64	11.6	90	16.3	79	14.3	214	38.8
Non-farm.....	884	100.0	117	13.2	55	6.2	71	8.0	92	10.4	118	13.4	431	48.8
Male.....	398	100.0	76	19.1	28	7.0	33	8.3	44	11.1	56	14.1	161	40.4
Female.....	486	100.0	41	8.4	27	5.6	38	7.8	48	9.9	62	12.7	270	55.6

¹Total excluding 256 cases for which no data were reported. These either did not attend or failed to indicate the number of times attended.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

³Total excluding 295 cases for which no data were reported. These either did not attend or failed to indicate the number of times attended.

when preaching services were abandoned.¹⁵ Such factors as these should be noted when the organizational participation of these young people is considered.

Appreciably more than one-half of the young people were listed as being church members. As given in Table 18, church membership was mentioned by 59.3 per cent of the total number. Likewise it was found that proportionately more girls than boys were members, while a greater percentage of the non-farm youth were so classed when compared with the ones on farms.

TABLE 18.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE CHURCH MEMBERS, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Church Members		Non-Church Members	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences.....	2,194 ¹	100.0	1,301	59.3	893	40.7
Male.....	1,028	100.0	538	52.3	490	47.7
Female.....	1,166	100.0	763	65.4	403	34.6
Farm.....	1,226	100.0	644	52.5	582	47.5
Male.....	602	100.0	278	46.2	324	53.8
Female.....	624	100.0	366	58.7	258	41.3
Non-farm ²	968	100.0	657	67.9	311	32.1
Male.....	426	100.0	260	61.0	166	39.0
Female.....	542	100.0	397	73.2	145	26.8

¹Total excluding 103 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

There were 73 (3.2 per cent) of the young people who were 4-H Club members at the time this survey was made. Of this number 59 were farm boys and girls. A considerably greater number, however, had previously been members. As shown in Table 19, there were 490 or 21.4 per cent of all reported who were either affiliated when these data were gathered, or who had been 4-H Club members at some previous time.¹⁶ Membership was more frequently reported by girls than it was by boys and more often by the farm group than it was by the non-farm. It is encouraging to find that an appreciable number of these young people have participated in this important educational project which is conducted by the Cooperative Extension Service of the College of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with organized counties, communities, and schools of the state. In 1936 the enrollment in 4-H Clubs in Missouri surpassed all pre-

¹⁵ Sneed, Melvin W. and Ensminger, Douglas, *The Rural Church in Missouri*, Research Bulletin 225 (1935), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 22-25.

¹⁶ Recent data relating to those enrolled in the Missouri College of Agriculture for the school year 1936-37 show that 201 or 27 per cent of the total were former 4-H Club members: Agricultural Extension Service, *Brief Report of 4-H Club Work in Missouri for 1936 and Some Survey Studies*, No. 538, (1937) p. 15.

TABLE 19.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN MEMBERS OF 4-H CLUBS, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		4-H Club Members ³		All Others	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	2,292 ¹	100.0	490 ⁴	21.4	1,802	78.6
Male.....	1,096	100.0	156	14.2	940	85.8
Female.....	1,196	100.0	334	27.9	862	72.1
Farm	1,293	100.0	335	25.9	958	74.1
Male.....	652	100.0	130	19.9	522	80.1
Female.....	641	100.0	205	32.0	436	68.0
Non-farm ²	999	100.0	155	15.5	844	84.5
Male.....	444	100.0	26	5.9	418	94.1
Female.....	555	100.0	129	23.2	426	76.8

¹Total excluding five cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

³Includes those who have ever been a member.

⁴Includes 73 young people who were 4-H Club members at the time of the survey in April, 1936

vious records with 17,613 rural boys and girls aged 10-21 included in the memberships of 1,910 standard 4-H Clubs. These clubs were found in 111 of the state's 114 counties.¹⁷

Leadership Responsibilities in Organizations

A total of 521 young people indicated that they were actively engaged in the leadership, as determined by their status as officers, of the various organizations in which they participated. Nearly four out of five (78.1 per cent) of the ones serving as officers did so in but one organization. However, 15.9 per cent were leaders in two organizations, an additional 5.8 per cent in three, and one individual was prominent in four different groups (Table 20). A greater proportion of the girls served in two or more organizations than did the boys. It was found that 27.9 per cent of the former and 14.3 per cent of the latter were officials in as many as two but not more than four different ones. Similarly, a larger percentage of the non-farm youth were officiating in two or more when compared with the farm young people. These data are indicative of the instance that many of the young folk studied were finding opportunities to acquire leadership experience, and for some of them opportunities were available from several different sources.

Organizations sponsored by the church and Sunday school for young people were the ones in which the largest percentage had officerships. There were 234 or 44.9 per cent who were officers in such groups as Christian Endeavor, B. Y. P. U., and the various Sunday school organizations which included regular classes. More

17 *Ibid.*, pp. 3-4.

TABLE 20.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WERE OFFICERS OF ORGANIZATIONS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH THEY SERVED.

Residence and Sex	Number of Organizations									
	All Young People		One		Two		Three		Four	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	521 ¹	100.0	407	78.1	83	15.9	30	5.8	1	0.2
Male.....	231	100.0	198	85.7	23	10.0	9	3.9	1	0.4
Female.....	290	100.0	209	72.1	60	20.7	21	7.2	---	---
Farm	245	100.0	200	81.6	35	14.3	9	3.7	1	0.4
Male.....	124	100.0	110	88.7	10	8.1	3	2.4	1	0.8
Female.....	121	100.0	90	74.4	25	20.7	6	4.9	---	---
Non-farm ²	276	100.0	207	75.0	48	17.4	21	7.6	---	---
Male.....	107	100.0	88	82.3	13	12.1	6	5.6	---	---
Female.....	169	100.0	119	70.4	35	20.7	15	8.9	---	---

¹Total includes only those who reported that they were officers of organizations.

²Includes places having up to 3,000 population.

than one-half (54.5 per cent) of the girls had official positions in this type of organization, while one-third of the boys did. The farm and non-farm groups were found to be similar for both boys and girls in the proportion that reported offices in these church and Sunday school groups. These data are shown in Table 21 which gives a general classification of the types of organizations in which young men and women were reported as being officers. Inasmuch as it is intended here to obtain some indication of the types of groups in which rural young folk have found opportunities for the demonstration of their leadership traits, all organizations reported were included. In Table 16 above regarding types of organizations attended, the ones classified as being Sunday school or young people's did not include regular Sunday school classes nor did the school classification include school classes. This was done because it was felt that these particular organizations omitted were not comparable to the others reported where additional effort and desire is usually necessary on the part of the ones participating. However, in the matter of organizational leadership the more routine organizations (school classes and those in Sunday school) were included.

Table 21 further shows that the groups in which the greatest percentage of farm boys held offices were those classified as farm organizations. The most usual one in this classification was the Future Farmers of America. Approximately two out of every five farm boys who held office did so in those especially classified as farm organizations. The most significant for non-farm boys other than the Sunday school and young people's societies were the ones classified here as being national youth organizations. A little more than one-fourth (28.0 per cent) of the young men in villages and towns who held offices did so in this type which largely included Boy Scouts and 4-H Clubs. The various groups connected with the school including classes, literary, and dramatic clubs, were prominent in this classification. They were reported by one-fifth of the officers and next to Sunday school and young people's societies were the most usual for both the farm and non-farm girls. A number of young people were officers in community or civic organizations, social clubs, and the church, but in relation to those having offices in other types of organizations they were decidedly in the minority. The organizational classification employed here is entirely arbitrary and the data available are limited in scope, but it is thought that they do give a general indication of the types of organizations in which rural young people have had opportunities to acquire some leadership training and status.

TABLE 21.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WERE OFFICERS IN ORGANIZATIONS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF ORGANIZATION SERVED.

Types of Organizations in Which Young People Were Officers	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	521 ¹	---	231	---	290	---	124	---	121	---	107	---	169	---
Church ⁴	32	6.1	3	1.3	29	10.0	1	0.8	12	9.9	2	1.9	17	10.1
Community or civic ⁵	4	0.8	---	---	4	1.4	---	---	2	1.7	---	---	2	1.2
Farm ⁶	74	14.2	63	27.3	11	3.8	53	42.7	8	6.6	10	9.3	3	1.8
Fraternal ⁷	37	7.1	15	6.5	22	7.6	2	1.6	3	2.5	13	12.1	19	11.2
National Youth ⁸	93	17.9	43	18.6	50	17.2	13	10.5	23	19.0	30	28.0	27	16.0
School ⁹	108	20.7	47	20.3	61	21.0	25	20.2	26	21.5	22	20.6	35	20.7
Social ¹⁰	20	3.8	5	2.2	15	5.2	1	0.8	7	5.8	4	3.7	8	4.7
Sunday School or Young People's ¹¹	234	44.9	76	32.9	158	54.5	39	31.5	63	52.1	37	34.6	95	56.2
All others ¹²	17	3.3	9	3.9	8	2.8	3	2.4	3	2.5	6	5.6	5	3.0

¹Total includes those who reported that they were officers of organizations.

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated where more than one organization was reported.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

⁴Includes largely offices held in connection with the church or church-sponsored organizations, but not including Sunday School and the usual organizations for young people.

⁵Includes community clubs and Chamber of Commerce.

⁶Classification consists chiefly of women's farm clubs, the F. A. F., and Farm Bureaus.

⁷Composed mostly of DeMolay, Royal Neighbors, etc.

⁸Includes Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H Clubs, an Campfire Girls.

⁹Includes organizations sponsored by and/or concerning the school, such as P. T. A., literary and dramatic clubs, etc. Also includes school classes.

¹⁰Composed of such social organizations as girls' circle, singing schools, and others not connected with school.

¹¹Includes church and Sunday school organizations sponsored for young people. It represents the Christian Endeavor, B. Y. P. U., and also the regular Sunday school classes.

¹²Includes miscellaneous organizations such as bands, orchestras, National Guard, and others not classified elsewhere.

Organizational Activities of Interest to Young People

In order to get some measure of how well existing organizations are serving rural young folk, the informants were asked to denote whether there were organizations in their communities which had programs of interest to them. The results of this particular phase of the inquiry revealed that one-half of those studied considered their local organizations as being uninteresting as measured by the programs they provided. The other one-half (Table 22) stated that there were organizations which had programs of interest. A slightly larger proportion of the girls than of the boys mentioned that there were interesting programs and a somewhat larger percentage was found for the non-farm in comparison with the farm groups. When only the young people who reported attendance in local organizations were considered, it was found that a larger proportion thought that local programs were interesting. However, nearly one-third (31.8 per cent) stated that these programs were lacking in interest.

TABLE 22.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE REPORTING ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY WHICH HAD INTERESTING PROGRAMS.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Young People Reporting Programs of Interest		Young People Reporting No Programs of Interest	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences	1,999 ¹	100.0	1,021	51.1	978	48.9
Male.....	930	100.0	449	48.3	481	51.7
Female.....	1,069	100.0	572	53.5	497	46.5
Farm	1,113	100.0	529	47.5	584	52.5
Male.....	548	100.0	246	44.9	302	55.1
Female.....	565	100.0	283	50.1	282	49.9
Non-farm ²	886	100.0	492	55.5	394	44.5
Male.....	382	100.0	203	53.1	179	46.9
Female.....	504	100.0	289	57.3	215	42.7

¹Total excluding 298 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

The importance of these data is found in the indication they provide of the general attitude of the young people studied toward the various organizations in their local communities. The adequacy or inadequacy of the programs of the organizations in the several communities represented has not been measured in terms of accepted program standards. However, assuming that these young folk have been sincere in their replies, these results pointedly suggest that local organizations are failing to provide the programs or activities in which a strikingly large proportion of these young men and women would be interested. This seems to show the

TABLE 23.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO REPORTED ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE TYPE OF INTEREST PROVIDED.

Classification of Interest in Organizations	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	551 ¹	---	241	---	310	---	134	---	161	---	107	---	149	---
Agricultural improvement.....	15	2.7	14	5.8	1	0.3	11	8.2	1	0.6	3	2.8	---	---
Better citizenship.....	23	4.2	13	5.4	10	3.2	9	6.7	4	2.5	4	3.7	6	4.0
Community benefit.....	23	4.2	9	3.7	14	4.5	4	3.0	7	4.3	5	4.7	7	4.7
Educational.....	87	15.8	35	14.5	52	16.8	17	12.7	29	18.0	18	16.8	23	15.4
Homemaking improvement.....	50	9.1	3	1.2	47	15.2	2	1.5	35	21.7	1	0.9	12	8.1
Programs and entertainment.....	171	31.0	72	29.9	99	31.9	38	28.4	52	32.3	34	31.8	47	31.5
Religious.....	71	12.9	32	13.3	39	12.6	22	16.4	20	12.4	10	9.3	19	12.8
Social and meeting people.....	149	27.0	70	29.0	79	25.5	42	31.3	41	25.5	28	26.2	38	25.5
All others.....	95	17.2	50	20.7	45	14.5	18	13.4	17	10.6	32	29.9	28	18.8

¹Total excluding 470 cases for which no data were reported.

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated where more than one interest was reported.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

necessity for revision or extension of the programs of many of the present organizations as well as to indicate the possible local need for organizations of types other than the ones now available.

Some estimate of what the current organizations were doing that interested young people was obtained from those who stated that there were organizations which conducted interesting programs. Replies which were received in answer to the question, "What are these organizations doing that you like?" have been arbitrarily classified in Table 23. Only 551 of the 1,021 to whom this question applied gave these data. The classification used here follows as nearly as possible the terminology employed by the informants in describing the things they thought of interest. The interest reported by the largest percentage of young people was that described as programs and entertainment. This was mentioned by about the same proportion of the boys as of the girls and little difference was indicated between the percentages for the farm and non-farm groups. The next most significant type of interest was reported as being purely social with opportunities to meet other people. This was given by 27.0 per cent of all those reporting, while 31.0 per cent gave programs and entertainment. Organizational activities of educational importance was a type of interest cited by 15.8 per cent of those replying, while religious interest was the classification given in 12.9 per cent of the cases.

Other interests reported were listed as "better citizenship," which was given by 4.2 per cent of the informants; "community benefit," mentioned by 4.2 per cent; and "homemaking improvement," which was cited by 9.1 per cent. Miscellaneous interests which were classified in Table 23 as "all others" included particularly such activities as "hiking," "handicraft," and "athletics." Also mentioned were "cooperation" and "letting young people join." The foregoing data are considered representative of the thinking of these young people in regard to the activities of various local organizations. The results also suggest the need for further investigation of the interests of the young participants who are concerned with these organizations which are found in the communities represented.

IV. LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES, DESIRES, AND NEEDS

Use of Leisure

One of the chief purposes of this study has been to determine the activities in which young people are now engaged, what they could do if they had the opportunity, and those things which they would like to learn to do. The inquiry indicates that reading is one of the principal activities in which nearly all young folk participate. It is a leisure-time activity that can be practiced even when one finds it impossible to indulge in others, assuming of course that something to read is available.

Most of the young people were from households that subscribed for newspapers. However, 170 or 7.6 per cent of those answering said that no newspapers were taken by their families. The remaining 92.4 per cent of the young folk mentioned that papers were available in their homes. But, as shown in Table 24, nearly one-third reported no daily papers available, while about one out of five indicated no weeklies. The lack of dailies was decidedly more prevalent among the farm boys and girls than it was

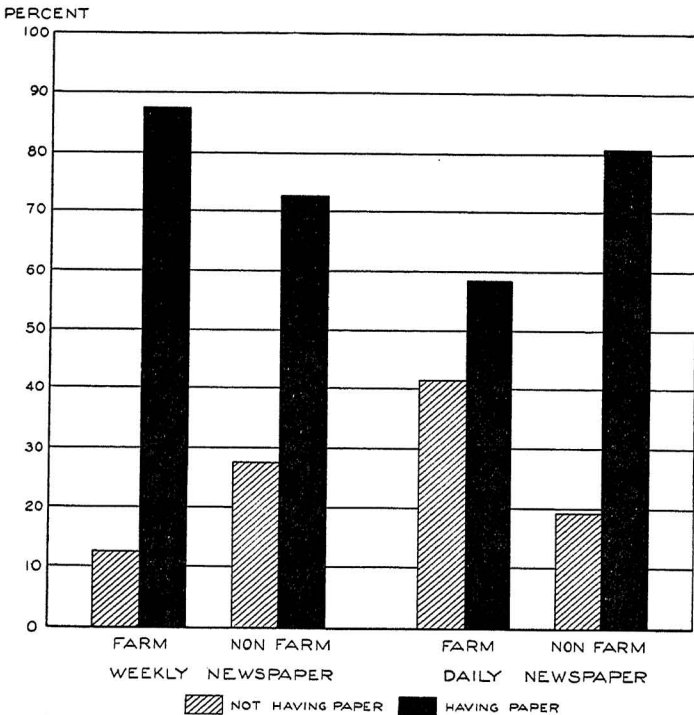


Fig. 4.—Distribution of Rural Young People According to Whether Their Families Subscribe for Daily and Weekly Newspapers.

TABLE 24.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAILY AND WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS SUBSCRIBED TO BY THEIR FAMILIES.

Number of Newspapers	Weekly Newspaper						Daily Newspaper					
	All Residences		Farm		Non-farm ²		All Residences		Farm		Non-farm ²	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	2,243 ¹	100.0	1,268	100.0	975	100.0	2,247 ³	100.0	1,271	100.0	976	100.0
None.....	431	19.2	162	12.8	269	27.6	716	31.9	527	41.5	189	19.4
One.....	751	33.5	393	31.0	358	36.7	1,232	54.8	662	52.1	570	58.4
Two.....	611	27.2	417	32.9	194	19.9	242	10.8	69	5.4	173	17.7
Three.....	281	12.5	196	15.4	85	8.7	39	1.7	10	0.8	29	3.0
Four.....	114	5.1	71	5.6	43	4.4	8	0.4	1	— ⁴	7	0.7
Five and over.....	55	2.5	29	2.3	26	2.7	10	0.4	2	0.2	8	0.8

¹Total excluding 54 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

³Total excluding 50 cases for which no data were reported.

⁴Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

for the village and town group. It was found that 41.5 per cent of the farm group and 19.4 per cent of the non-farm had no daily papers. On the other hand, a smaller proportion of the young people on farms were without the weekly publications than was found for the non-farm. There were 12.8 per cent of the former and 27.6 per cent of the latter whose families had no weeklies. There were 13.3 per cent of the young people who had more than one daily paper at home, while 47.3 per cent had more than one weekly. Young folk reporting the largest numbers of papers available were generally found to be the relatives of local newspaper editors who received a number of different publications. Contrast between the farm and non-farm classifications in the number reporting papers at home is shown graphically in Figure 4.

More than four out of five (84.0 per cent) reported that magazines were received regularly at home. A total of 359 or 16.0 per cent did not have these available. The informants were also asked to list the periodicals which they regularly read and a total of 1,301 of all the youth studied named publications which have been arbitrarily classified in Table 25. The remaining 996 did not mention the names of the ones read. This group either read none regularly or failed to give the ones they did read. Results of the classification given in Table 25 show that the largest percentage of all the boys read periodicals classified here as "national," while the most frequently reported by girls were those recorded as "women's" magazines. "National" magazines, reported by 42.0 per cent of the boys, included chiefly the weekly and monthly publications of national scope which contain fiction and articles of popular interest. Among these were *Collier's*, *Liberty*, *Saturday Evening Post*, and the *American*. "Women's" magazines were read by 58.7 per cent of the girls. This classification included such periodicals as *Woman's Home Companion*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Pictorial Review*, and *McCall's*.

"Farm journals" were read by more of the farm boys than any other type, but "women's" magazines were the most important for both farm and non-farm girls. "National" magazines were the most frequently mentioned by boys in villages and towns and they were second only to "farm journals" in the number of times reported by the farm boys. Publications of the "sensational" or "thriller" type were read by about the same proportions of both the farm and non-farm groups. It is considered significant that the latter type was less frequently mentioned than were other types of periodicals which perhaps afford reading matter of a more informative nature. Only about one out of ten cited publications of

TABLE 25.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO TYPES OF MAGAZINES READ.

Classification of Magazines Read	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	1,301 ¹	---	548	---	753	---	317	---	412	---	231	---	341	---
Farm journal ⁴	312	24.0	149	27.2	163	21.6	130	41.0	141	34.2	19	8.2	22	6.5
Exclusive ⁵	76	5.8	34	6.2	42	5.6	18	5.7	15	3.6	16	6.9	27	7.9
Household ⁶	250	19.2	52	9.5	198	26.3	35	11.0	111	26.9	17	7.4	87	25.5
National ⁷	496	38.1	230	42.0	266	35.3	112	35.3	107	26.0	118	51.1	159	46.6
News ⁸	95	7.3	40	7.3	55	7.3	23	7.3	18	4.4	17	7.4	37	10.9
Scientific ⁹	78	6.0	74	13.5	4	0.5	35	11.0	2	0.5	39	16.9	2	0.6
Sensational or thriller ¹⁰	133	10.2	57	10.4	76	10.1	33	10.4	34	8.3	24	10.4	42	12.3
Sports ¹¹	50	3.8	46	8.4	4	0.5	12	3.8	2	0.5	34	14.7	2	0.6
Women's ¹²	520	40.0	78	14.2	442	58.7	46	14.5	236	57.3	32	13.9	206	60.4
Youth's ¹³	98	7.5	65	11.9	33	4.4	29	9.1	19	4.6	36	15.6	14	4.1
All others ¹⁴	67	5.1	26	4.7	41	5.4	12	3.8	21	5.1	14	6.1	20	5.9

¹Total excluding 996 cases for which no data were reported.

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated where more than one type of magazine was reported.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

⁴Includes such publications as Capper's Farmer, Missouri Farmer, and Country Gentleman.

⁵This classification includes some of the more expensive periodicals which are largely non-fiction, such as National Geographic, Forum, Asia, Reader's Digest, and Atlantic Monthly.

⁶Includes the following: Good Housekeeping, Household, Home Friend, Better Homes and Gardens, Country Home, and Comfort.

⁷Composed of weekly and monthly magazines of national scope whose appeal is for persons who desire fiction and articles of popular interest; for example: Collier's, Saturday Evening Post, Liberty, American, etc.

⁸Includes Time, News Week, Literary Digest, Pathfinder, and Current History.

⁹Includes chiefly Popular Mechanics, Scientific Monthly, Popular Science, and Popular Aviation.

¹⁰Includes western story magazines, movie magazines, etc.

¹¹Examples are: Hunting and Fishing, and Field and Stream.

¹²Includes the following: Woman's Home Companion, Ladies' Home Journal, Pictorial Review, McCall's, Delineator, and Woman's World.

¹³Includes Boy's Life, Girls' Companion, American Boy, Scouting, and Open Road for Boys.

¹⁴Includes those not otherwise classified. The most frequently reported in this group were various publications by religious organizations.

the sort classed as "sensational" and the proportions were practically the same for both boys and girls.

One-fourth of the girls mentioned "household" magazines which were represented by such publications as Good Housekeeping, Home Friend, and Better Homes and Gardens. Magazines classed as "scientific," including such items as Popular Mechanics, Popular Aviation, and Popular Science, were read by 13.5 per cent of the boys and were slightly more prevalent among the non-farm than the farm boys. Publications particularly devoted to youth, including Boys' Life, American Boy, Girls' Companion, and others were not conspicuous in this classification. They were read by only 7.5 per cent of all the young people, but were better represented by the boys than they were by the girls. Publications especially devoted to news were read by 7.3 per cent of the total. The foregoing classification is an arbitrary one and has been used here simply for the purpose of providing a general indication of the reading interests of those studied. The results of this tabulation seem to indicate that an appreciable number of young people are finding periodical literature available which is of an informative nature. It will be necessary, however, for further study to measure the extent to which reading is a part of the leisure time activities of these young folk.

A total of 1,673 gave information relating to the number of books at home. These data show that 60.1 per cent of the young people were from homes which had private libraries of no more than 50 volumes, while an additional 18.8 per cent estimated the home book resources as being from 51 to 100 volumes. Only 73 or 4.4 per cent stated that there were no books at home. The remaining 16.7 per cent had more than 100 volumes available. A marked difference was not found between the farm and non-farm groups in the number of books. "None" was the report given by 4.7 per cent of the farm young people in comparison with 3.9 per cent of the non-farm. The foregoing data pertaining to available reading matter are largely quantitative and not extensive in scope. However, they do indicate something of the extent to which such materials are immediately available in the homes of those studied.

Of consequence here is the fact that if reading materials are not provided in the homes of these young folk, it is likely that little, if any, will be available from other sources. In view of the fact that public library service has not substantially advanced beyond the incorporated limits of the cities in this state, this is especially true for the young men and women living on farms. A recent survey of library resources in Missouri indicated that more

than 1,700,000 persons were not served by public libraries. It was further determined that most of these were rural people with about 95 per cent of them being beyond the present scope of service rendered. Facilities in other types of libraries were also found to be generally inadequate for the needs.¹⁸

Travel also has a place in the activities of these young people as shown by data which indicate that 80.0 per cent had traveled outside the state. These data give no indication of the distance or frequency of travel, but they do serve to indicate its existence among the things young folk are doing. The ones living on farms reported out-of-state travel less frequently than did those in towns and villages, while more boys than girls were so classified (Table 26). The answers given are in part a function of the residence of those reporting, but it is considered significant that one out of five had not traveled outside the state, regardless of whether they lived near the state's boundary or in a more central county.

TABLE 26.—NUMBER OF RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE TRAVELED OUTSIDE THE STATE, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE.

Residence and Sex	All Young People		Traveled Outside State		Have Not Traveled Outside State	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All residences -----	2,275 ¹	100.0	1,820	80.0	455	20.0
Male-----	1,087	100.0	900	82.8	187	17.2
Female-----	1,188	100.0	920	77.4	268	22.6
Farm -----	1,280	100.0	965	75.4	315	24.6
Male-----	642	100.0	513	79.9	129	20.1
Female-----	638	100.0	452	70.8	186	29.2
Non-farm ² -----	995	100.0	855	85.9	140	14.1
Male-----	445	100.0	387	87.0	58	13.0
Female-----	550	100.0	468	85.1	82	14.9

¹Total excluding 22 cases for which no data were reported.

²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

In order to determine further the things young people are doing, the informants were asked to check a list of activity items under three possible categories; namely, things you do now, things you could do but have no opportunity, and things you would like to learn to do. A given item was checked under only one of these headings. Items included in the list were largely derived from those in a similar classification which was employed by Morgan and Burt in their study of the "Community Relations of Rural Young People" made ten years ago.¹⁹ This study was based on a

18 Morgan, E. L. and Sneed, Melvin W., *The Libraries of Missouri, A Survey of Facilities*, Research Bulletin 236 (1936), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station.

19 Morgan, E. L. and Burt, Henry J., *Community Relations of Rural Young People*, Research Bulletin 110 (1927), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station.

sample consisting of 427 young people in high school, aged 14-20. Data were obtained on questionnaires which were distributed to young folk in the high schools of four rural communities. One was located in the north central portion of the state, one in the south central, one near the southeastern, and one in the southwestern portion. This project and the present one are not wholly comparable due largely to the age composition of the samples and the areas included. However, due to the nature of the activities being considered, it is thought that no great methodological injustice is done by making some comparison between the two studies.

A total of 113 items were considered under the activities which young people do now. These are given in Table 27 which includes farm and non-farm, male and female classifications of the young folk who reported the activities. The chief purpose here is to list these items as they were reported with a view to provide a source of information from which persons interested may make their own inferences. Ranking was used to array the activities according to the number of times they were reported. A rank of one was assigned to the item reported by the largest number, etc. The sequence of items as they are published was determined by the rankings for all young people with disregard for the residence and sex classifications. Tables relating to the things young people could do but have no opportunity and things they would like to learn to do have been similarly prepared and are included below in this report.

As indicated in Table 27, reading newspapers was the most important item that appeared in the present list of activities. It was first in rank for all groups except the non-farm girls. The next most frequently reported item was that of attending movies and shows. This ranked higher among the non-farm young people than it did for those on farms, but no marked difference was displayed between the two. Reading books, going to parties, and playing checkers were the next most important activities, ranking third, fourth, and fifth respectively. Listening to the radio was of major consequence in ranking sixth, while driving an automobile was tenth in the list. The former was more prevalent in the non-farm group than it was for the farm, but the reverse was found in the case of the boys who drove automobiles. Activities in this classification which were found to be least significant were largely those involving various musical instruments. The activity least engaged in was playing the flute, while five of the last ten items in rank related to musical instruments.

TABLE 27.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY NOW DO.

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Total young people	----	2,297	----	1,098	----	1,199	----	652	----	643	----	446	----	556
Read Newspaper	1	1,998	1	932	1	1,066	1	535	1	569	1	397	2	497
Go to movies and shows	2	1,872	2	866	3	1,006	3	484	4	496	2	382	1	510
Read books	3	1,845	5	806	2	1,039	5	473	2	562	6	333	3	477
Go to parties	4	1,706	6	775	6	931	8	455	6	479	9	320	4	452
Play checkers	5	1,596	4	816	9	780	4	482	7	412	5	334	9	368
Listen to radio	6	1,575	10	753	7	822	15	390	9	375	3	363	6	447
Play cards	7	1,565	8	763	8	802	11	440	9	375	8	323	7	427
Go swimming	8	1,448	3	836	15	612	2	488	19	299	4	348	11	313
Play softball	9	1,429	9	759	12	670	13	431	11	363	7	328	14	307
Drive an automobile	10	1,225	7	769	22	456	6	468	25	227	11	301	20	229
Date	11	1,195	20	472	10	723	23	261	11	363	16	211	10	360
Make candy	12	1,180	44	236	5	944	42	127	4	496	36	109	5	448
Fish	13	1,147	11	750	29	397	9	443	3	238	10	307	30	159
Cook	14	1,145	49	191	4	954	50	96	3	549	41	95	8	405
Play volley ball	15	1,107	18	490	14	617	21	300	14	332	20	190	15	285
Have own room	16	1,095	21	458	13	637	26	241	15	327	14	217	12	310
Ride a horse	17	1,085	15	593	20	492	9	443	13	334	27	150	31	158
Play basketball	18	1,049	13	639	25	410	18	342	28	214	12	297	25	196
Play croquet	19	970	22	425	18	545	29	224	20	263	18	201	17	282
Drive a horse	20	921	14	598	30	323	7	466	24	236	29	132	41	87
Dance with others	21	873	33	316	17	557	37	151	22	249	24	165	13	308
Read plays	22	867	34	309	16	558	32	197	16	305	34	112	18	253
Play baseball	23	848	12	644	40	204	16	368	39	112	13	276	38	92
Take part in plays	24	833	29	351	21	482	31	213	21	262	28	138	21	220
Milk cows	25	801	16	548	35	253	11	440	26	223	37	108	62	30
Go ice skating	26	749	17	524	38	225	20	310	37	132	15	214	37	93
Go to concerts	27	739	30	341	28	398	35	184	32	184	26	157	22	214
Go boating	28	710	23	423	34	287	27	228	35	149	19	195	32	138
Make clothes	29	706	107	17	11	689	102	11	8	406	105	6	16	283
Raise a garden	30	687	24	397	33	290	28	226	29	201	22	171	39	89
Sing in glee club	31	626	47	199	23	427	54	87	30	195	34	112	19	232
Feed livestock	32	594	19	481	52	113	14	413	43	96	51	68	76	17
Play ping-pong	33	579	38	288	32	291	47	106	42	97	21	182	27	194
Sing in church choir	34	573	52	163	25	410	52	91	27	215	46	72	26	195
Study etiquette	35	554	56	146	27	408	60	75	31	194	48	71	22	214
Do fancy work	36	541	96	30	19	511	92	19	16	305	101	11	24	206
Play tennis	37	513	31	322	43	191	46	114	81	20	17	208	28	171
Raise poultry	38	509	35	307	41	202	24	251	33	181	55	56	71	21
Go to lectures	39	492	43	248	36	244	37	151	38	121	40	97	33	123

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Camp.....	40	474	37	302	44	172	41	137	51	62	24	165	35	110
Raise farm crops.....	41	462	26	388	64	74	17	359	48	66	78	29	92	8
Can food.....	42	441	99	27	24	414	93	17	18	303	103	10	34	111
Raise farm stock.....	43	439	27	372	68	67	19	339	50	63	73	33	100	4
Engage in rifle match.....	44	434	28	363	65	71	25	250	62	49	33	113	69	22
Trap animals.....	45	415	25	390	88	25	22	286	84	16	38	104	89	9
Take part in spelling match.....	46	409	50	176	37	233	45	122	35	149	58	54	42	84
Act (dramatics).....	47	378	51	173	39	205	49	97	41	99	44	76	36	106
Play the piano.....	47	378	84	55	30	323	79	33	34	157	85	22	29	166
Play football.....	49	329	35	307	91	22	40	139	96	9	23	168	82	13
Repair automobile.....	50	327	32	317	104	10	32	197	101	6	30	120	100	4
Target practice.....	51	320	40	273	75	47	36	174	74	27	39	99	72	20
Drive a tractor.....	52	309	39	286	90	23	30	214	81	20	46	72	106	3
Construct a bird house.....	53	304	42	266	82	38	39	146	76	26	30	120	84	12
Shoot a shotgun.....	54	289	41	271	94	18	32	197	91	12	45	74	97	6
Play soccer.....	55	281	55	147	48	134	58	78	59	51	49	69	44	83
Give readings.....	56	280	71	86	42	194	63	59	40	106	81	27	40	88
Sing in quartette.....	57	272	64	100	44	172	66	51	44	88	61	49	42	84
Repair furniture.....	57	272	45	205	68	67	43	125	59	51	42	80	79	16
Paint houses and other buildings.....	59	237	46	202	84	35	44	123	79	22	43	79	82	13
Give speeches.....	60	217	66	94	50	123	63	59	46	71	70	35	53	52
Lead others in games or contests.....	61	214	59	121	56	93	65	56	56	52	54	65	57	41
Sing solos.....	62	212	72	83	49	129	72	48	52	59	70	35	47	70
Play billiards.....	63	211	47	199	102	12	55	85	104	4	32	114	92	8
Take part in drills.....	64	203	68	91	53	112	67	50	54	58	64	41	52	54
Put money in bank.....	65	198	53	162	83	36	50	96	77	24	53	66	84	12
Teach Sunday school class.....	66	196	87	45	46	151	79	33	45	78	99	12	46	73
Play French harp.....	67	195	57	141	73	54	48	103	68	40	68	38	80	14
Write for local or school paper.....	68	191	78	76	51	115	75	41	56	52	70	35	48	63
Sing duets.....	69	179	92	34	47	145	97	15	47	68	90	19	45	77
Play guitar.....	69	179	58	126	74	53	53	89	66	42	69	37	87	11
Lead others in singing.....	71	178	76	77	55	101	77	36	52	59	64	41	56	42
Play in orchestra.....	71	178	70	88	58	90	82	32	69	34	55	56	50	56
Perform stunts, tricks, etc.....	73	174	61	115	72	59	60	75	71	29	67	40	62	30
Lead others in religious activities.....	74	171	81	63	54	108	78	35	49	64	79	28	54	44
Debate.....	75	170	72	83	60	87	67	50	62	49	73	33	58	38
First aid practice.....	76	168	65	99	67	69	69	49	64	43	59	50	66	26
Play monopoly.....	76	168	76	77	57	91	88	22	71	29	57	55	49	62
Exhibit things at fair.....	78	164	63	104	71	60	56	84	64	43	88	20	76	17
Bowling.....	79	156	61	115	80	41	72	48	102	5	52	67	59	36
Box.....	80	153	54	149	110	4	57	80	110	1	49	69	106	3
Paint pictures.....	81	145	83	56	59	89	84	28	55	54	79	28	61	35
Play jew's harp.....	82	139	60	119	92	20	58	78	87	14	64	41	97	6
Ride a motorcycle.....	83	128	66	94	85	34	69	49	84	16	63	45	75	18

TABLE 27.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY NOW DO.—Continued.

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Play a violin.....	83	128	82	62	70	66	76	38	78	23	83	24	55	43
Give recitals.....	85	117	94	31	61	86	88	22	61	50	104	9	59	36
Write stories.....	86	113	89	43	66	70	87	23	66	42	88	20	65	28
Play golf.....	86	113	79	70	78	43	86	24	87	14	62	46	64	29
Tap dance.....	88	110	100	26	62	84	100	14	73	28	99	12	50	56
Give orations.....	89	109	80	64	77	45	74	43	70	31	87	21	80	14
Construct furniture.....	90	108	69	90	94	18	62	60	94	10	77	30	92	8
Play hockey.....	91	94	75	81	100	13	83	31	92	11	59	50	108	2
Play organ.....	92	93	106	18	63	75	101	13	56	52	106	5	68	23
Repair radios.....	93	91	74	82	106	9	69	49	102	5	73	33	100	4
Play chess.....	94	90	88	44	76	46	85	26	74	27	91	18	73	19
Take part in mock trials.....	95	85	86	51	85	34	79	33	83	17	91	18	76	17
Write poems.....	96	69	98	28	80	41	97	15	79	22	97	13	73	19
Play ukulele.....	97	67	103	25	79	42	102	11	84	16	96	14	66	26
Construct radios.....	98	63	85	52	103	11	90	21	104	4	76	31	96	7
Play cornet.....	99	59	89	43	97	16	93	17	99	7	82	26	89	9
Play clarinet.....	100	58	97	29	87	29	109	5	99	7	83	24	69	22
Play banjo.....	101	51	91	36	98	15	90	21	89	13	95	15	108	2
Play accordion.....	102	40	105	21	93	19	93	17	92	11	109	4	92	8
Play saxophone.....	103	39	100	26	100	13	108	8	110	1	91	18	84	12
Paint pottery.....	104	38	109	14	89	24	102	11	89	13	110	3	87	11
Repair motorcycle.....	104	38	92	34	110	4	93	17	107	3	94	17	111	1
Play mandolin.....	106	36	100	26	104	10	97	15	96	9	101	11	111	1
Play bass or baritone horn.....	107	34	94	31	112	3	107	9	110	1	85	22	108	2
Play trombone.....	108	30	104	24	108	6	102	11	108	2	97	13	100	4
Write prose.....	109	25	111	8	96	17	109	5	98	8	110	3	89	9
Clog dance.....	110	24	108	15	106	9	106	10	104	4	106	5	99	5
Write plays.....	110	24	110	10	99	14	109	5	94	10	106	5	100	4
Play zither.....	112	9	112	4	109	5	113	1	110	1	110	3	100	1
Play flute.....	113	6	113	3	112	3	112	3	108	2	113	0	111	4

Comparison of the current data with those used by Morgan and Burt shows considerable similarity of the findings in general. Some obvious variations, however, will be noted here. The most important activity listed in the previous study was going to church. This ranked first among 147 items. In the present study church attendance was recorded separately from the activity items, but had it been included, it would have ranked second only to reading newspapers.²⁰ The investigation conducted in 1927 did not include reading newspapers. Going to movies and shows ranked second in both studies. In general, the results of the two are similar where comparison seems feasible. The most marked difference, perhaps, is in the activities which have become more available during the last decade. Thus it is noted in the current study that listening to the radio ranked sixth and was reported by more than two-thirds of those studied. Morgan and Burt found "running a radio" as an activity in which only one-third of their sample group were participating. The difference in terminology here may account for some of this variation, but it is assumed literally that "running a radio" ten years ago is fairly similar to "listening to the radio" today.

Desires and Preferences Expressed

Most of the young men and women who were to graduate from high school had—to some extent—decided what they desired to do after graduation. Those graduating were asked to check a list of prospective plans. This list, shown in Table 28, is not an elaborate one, but it appears to be inclusive enough to provide a general indication of the sort of activity these young folk might prefer. From these data it appears that about four out of ten desired to pursue further their formal education in one way or another. There were 26.3 per cent whose expressed plan was to attend college or university, while an additional 10.6 per cent were to go to business college. Little difference was noted between the farm and non-farm groups in the proportion that planned to attend college, while only a slightly larger percentage of the boys than of the girls expressed this desire. More girls than boys, proportionately, mentioned business college.

It was found that around one out of five farm boys planned to continue in farming, while those remaining had other plans. To purchase a farm may be too ambitious a plan to expect of many of the young men on farms, but it is considered significant here that only two out of 194 mentioned it. Of course, those who expected

20 The number attending church is given in Table 17.

TABLE 28.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN 1936 CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO FUTURE PLANS.

Future Plans Expressed by Rural Young People Graduating From High School in 1936	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ¹			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total young people expecting to graduate from high school.....	767	100.0	344	100.0	423	100.0	194	100.0	210	100.0	150	100.0	213	100.0
Attend college or university.....	202	26.3	100	29.0	102	24.1	56	28.9	45	21.4	44	29.4	57	26.8
Attend business college.....	81	10.6	27	7.8	54	12.8	15	7.7	24	11.4	12	8.0	30	14.1
Take correspondence or postgraduate course.....	15	2.0	3	0.9	12	2.8	---	---	8	3.8	3	2.0	4	1.9
Study beauty culture.....	30	3.9	---	---	30	7.1	---	---	17	8.1	---	---	13	6.1
Secure position in home town.....	67	8.7	29	8.4	38	9.0	8	4.1	16	7.6	21	14.0	22	10.3
Secure position in city.....	57	7.4	31	9.0	26	6.2	14	7.2	15	7.2	17	11.3	11	5.2
Purchase a farm.....	2	0.3	2	0.6	---	---	2	1.0	---	---	---	---	---	---
Rent a farm.....	5	0.7	5	1.5	---	---	4	2.1	---	---	1	0.7	---	---
Secure job on farm.....	27	3.5	24	7.0	3	0.7	19	9.8	3	1.4	5	3.3	---	---
Become partner with father on farm.....	19	2.5	19	5.5	---	---	19	9.8	---	---	---	---	---	---
Go into business for self.....	13	1.7	11	3.2	2	0.5	5	2.6	1	0.5	6	4.0	1	0.5
Become partner with father in business.....	14	1.8	13	3.8	1	0.2	6	3.1	---	---	7	4.7	1	0.5
Get married.....	11	1.4	5	1.5	6	1.4	5	2.6	4	1.9	---	---	2	0.9
No plans.....	128	16.7	50	14.5	78	18.4	21	10.8	34	16.2	29	19.3	44	20.6
All other plans.....	96	12.5	25	7.3	71	16.8	20	10.3	43	20.5	5	3.3	28	13.1

¹Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

to become partners with their fathers are potential owners, if the father owns his farm and it is sufficiently free of indebtedness. There were 9.8 per cent of the farm boys who expressed this plan, while an additional 9.8 per cent planned to become farm laborers and 2.1 per cent expected to be renters. Only 8.7 per cent of all those graduating planned to secure a position in the home town, while an additional 7.4 per cent expected to do likewise in some city. No plans were given by 16.7 per cent and a larger proportion of the non-farm than of the farm group was so classified. There were 12.5 per cent of the total who had plans other than those itemized in the classification used. A larger percentage of the young farm folk had other plans than was found for the non-farm. This suggests that the list of plans used here was somewhat more applicable to the non-farm than it was to the farm group. It should also be observed that the foregoing represents only the expressed plans of the ones studied; these data do not show whether their plans were successfully carried out.

All the young people were asked to indicate their occupational preferences. For this purpose a number of different occupations were listed and the informants were asked to check the one they preferred. Occupations included in the list and the results of this phase of the inquiry are shown in Table 29. Farming, aviation, and engineering were, in the order given, the most frequently preferred by boys, while stenography, teaching, nursing, and beauty culture were the ones most mentioned by girls.²¹ It is noted that farm boys preferred farming more than any other occupation, but less than one-fourth (22.0 per cent) of all of them had this preference. Aviation was most desired by boys in villages and towns, but it was mentioned by only 16.4 per cent of them while 15.0 per cent preferred engineering. The professions of medicine and dentistry were given preference by 10.6 per cent of the non-farm boys and 2.6 per cent listed law. Medicine and dentistry were named by only 3.3 per cent of the boys on farms and 3.8 per cent indicated law. A distribution of the young men according to their preferences is shown graphically in Figure 5.

Stenography was preferred by about as large a proportion of the farm girls as it was by the non-farm. It was listed by 23.5 per cent of the former and 26.9 per cent of the latter. Teaching was preferred much more frequently by girls than it was by boys and

21 Similar results relating to the occupational preferences of young people in high school have been found in other studies. For example: Kirkpatrick, E. L. and Boynton, Agnes M., *op. cit.*, p. 161; and Frayser, Mary E., *Attitudes of High School Seniors Toward Farming and Other Vocations*, Bulletin 302 (1935), South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 18-21.

TABLE 29.—OCCUPATIONAL PREFERENCES OF RURAL YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN, CLASSIFIED BY RESIDENCE.

Type of Occupation Preferred	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ²			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All occupations.....	2,214 ¹	100.0	1,058	100.0	1,156	100.0	632	100.0	625	100.0	426	100.0	531	100.0
Army-Navy.....	48	2.2	48	4.5	---	---	29	4.6	---	---	19	4.5	---	---
Aviation.....	165	7.4	147	13.9	18	1.6	77	12.2	12	1.9	70	16.4	6	1.1
Banking.....	25	1.1	17	1.6	8	0.7	7	1.1	5	0.8	10	2.3	3	0.6
Barbering—beauty culture.....	191	8.6	3	0.3	188	16.3	1	0.2	100	16.0	2	0.5	88	16.6
Clerical.....	50	2.3	26	2.4	24	2.1	14	2.2	12	1.9	12	2.8	12	2.3
Dentistry—medicine.....	79	3.6	66	6.2	13	1.1	21	3.3	5	0.8	45	10.6	8	1.5
Electrical.....	41	1.8	41	3.9	---	---	24	3.8	---	---	17	4.0	---	---
Engineering.....	137	6.2	137	12.9	---	---	73	11.6	---	---	64	15.0	---	---
Farming.....	173	7.8	165	15.6	8	0.7	139	22.0	7	1.1	26	6.1	1	0.2
Forestry service.....	74	3.3	74	7.0	---	---	43	6.8	---	---	31	7.3	---	---
Homemaking.....	54	2.4	---	---	54	4.7	---	---	33	5.3	---	---	21	4.0
Journalism.....	67	3.0	18	1.7	49	4.2	8	1.3	17	2.7	10	2.3	32	6.0
Law.....	39	1.8	35	3.3	4	0.3	24	3.8	1	0.2	11	2.6	3	0.6
Librarian.....	37	1.7	9	0.9	28	2.4	7	1.1	14	2.3	2	0.5	14	2.6
Mechanical.....	88	4.0	88	8.3	---	---	55	8.7	---	---	33	7.8	---	---
Merchandising.....	39	1.8	25	2.4	14	1.2	15	2.4	7	1.1	10	2.3	7	1.3
Ministry.....	14	0.6	8	0.8	6	0.5	5	0.8	2	0.3	3	0.7	4	0.8
Nursing.....	208	9.4	---	---	208	18.0	---	---	117	18.7	---	---	91	17.1
Salesmanship.....	45	2.0	37	3.7	6	0.5	15	2.4	1	0.2	24	5.6	5	0.9
Social work—recreational.....	28	1.3	8	0.8	20	1.7	2	0.3	9	1.5	6	1.4	11	2.1
Stage.....	22	1.0	12	1.1	10	0.9	6	0.9	4	0.6	6	1.4	6	1.1
Stenography.....	297	13.4	7	0.7	290	25.1	6	0.9	147	23.5	1	0.2	143	26.9
Teaching.....	254	11.5	46	4.3	208	18.0	33	5.2	132	21.1	13	3.1	76	14.3
Trucking.....	39	1.8	39	3.7	---	---	28	4.4	---	---	11	2.6	---	---

¹Total excluding 83 cases for which no data were reported.²Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

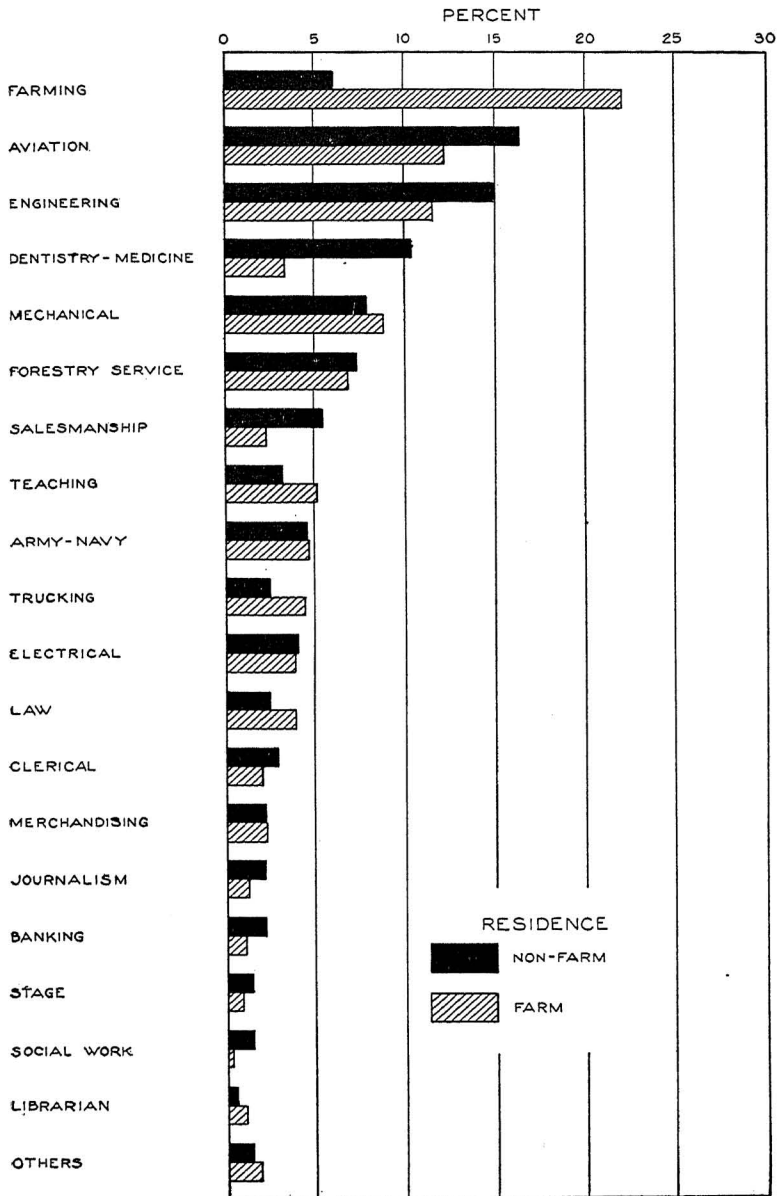


Fig. 5.—Distribution of Rural Young Men According to Occupational Preferences.

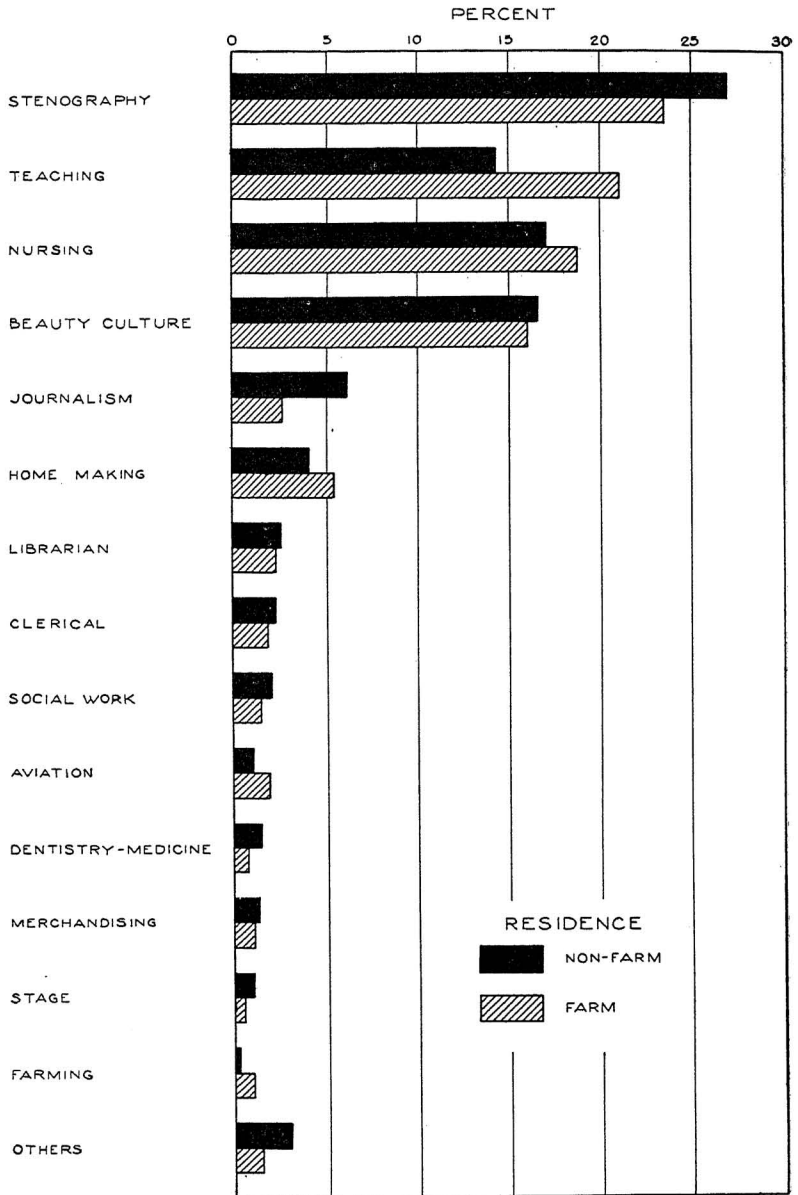


Fig. 6.—Distribution of Rural Young Women According to Occupational Preferences.

more farm than non-farm girls listed this preference. Beauty culture was desired by 16.0 per cent of the young women on farms and by 16.6 per cent of the others, while 18.7 per cent of the former and 17.1 per cent of the latter designated nursing. Figure 6 shows a distribution of young women classified by the occupations which they preferred. From the foregoing there appears to be no unusual concentration of preferences in particular occupations. To be sure, some are more prominent than others, but it should be observed that appreciable numbers of these young folk gave preference for a wide variety of occupations. It is noted, for example, that the five occupations most preferred by the boys were reported by only 56.9 per cent of their total number. The remaining 43.1 per cent indicated one of the several other occupations which were included here. It is perhaps appropriate to suggest that the occupational preferences given above should not be interpreted too generally. The list used is not extensive and is far from being all-inclusive. There are doubtless many other occupations that would also have been preferred had they been included. Lists such as the one used in this study tend to determine largely the pattern of thought for those whose lot happens to be providing the data. However, as far as a particular list of items is concerned, the answers given do reflect attitudes or preferences regarding those items.

Desires and preferences of rural young people were further expressed through a list of specified activities. These were checked under one of three divisions, i. e., things you do now, things you could do but have no opportunity, and things you would like to learn to do.²² It is the latter classification that is being considered at this point. The activity which ranked first among those which young people would like to learn to do was play the piano. This, however, was not so significant for boys as it was for girls. Repair airplane, play guitar, box, ride a motorcycle, and repair radios were respectively the five highest ranking activities for the farm boys, while construct speed boat, repair airplane, box, construct radio, and repair radio were the five that village and town boys indicated most frequently. These data are shown in Table 30. Farm girls wanted to learn to play the piano more than they did any of the other activities but driving an automobile and tap dancing were also frequently checked. The prominent ones mentioned by village and town girls were tap dancing, play the piano, ice skating, playing tennis, and driving an automobile. Activities which were

22 Further explanation of this procedure has been given above, pp. 42-43.

TABLE 30.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY WOULD LIKE TO LEARN TO DO.

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Total young people	----	2,297	----	1,098	----	1,199	----	652	----	643	----	446	----	556
Play the piano	1	709	10	251	1	458	11	155	1	265	15	96	----	193
Tap dance	2	649	11	250	3	399	14	131	3	201	7	119	1	198
Play guitar	3	580	4	313	9	267	2	210	4	180	12	103	17	87
Play golf	4	528	12	238	6	290	16	127	10	137	8	111	7	153
Dance with others	5	509	8	273	12	236	8	163	12	131	9	110	13	105
Play in orchestra	6	494	15	223	8	271	18	122	8	146	13	101	9	125
Drive an automobile	7	478	77	70	2	408	77	40	2	236	72	30	5	172
Go ice skating	8	474	46	112	4	362	55	57	5	170	38	55	3	192
Act (dramatics)	9	472	28	165	5	307	28	88	7	148	22	77	6	159
Ride a motorcycle	10	463	6	300	22	163	4	179	23	90	6	121	22	73
Play tennis	11	431	16	206	14	225	12	139	55	46	27	67	4	179
First aid practice	12	420	22	179	11	241	20	100	11	132	20	79	11	109
Play violin	13	399	14	225	20	174	10	161	16	114	32	64	33	60
Repair airplane	14	391	1	359	99	32	1	212	92	20	2	147	98	12
Construct speed boat	15	389	3	315	59	74	7	167	57	44	1	148	61	30
Go swimming	16	363	73	75	7	288	65	51	6	166	86	24	10	122
Write stories	17	358	37	125	13	233	34	79	13	125	50	46	12	108
Perform stunts, tricks, etc.	18	344	20	186	23	158	19	111	27	81	23	75	21	77
Box	19	343	2	326	113	17	3	193	113	10	3	133	107	7
Play saxophone	19	343	17	196	27	147	24	91	39	63	11	105	19	84
Repair radio	21	338	5	301	93	37	5	173	86	23	5	128	95	14
Repair automobile	22	332	9	272	67	60	9	162	66	35	9	110	68	25
Construct radios	23	330	6	300	100	30	6	171	92	20	4	129	101	10
Paint pictures	24	321	43	116	17	205	42	67	17	111	46	49	15	94
Play accordion	25	319	26	170	26	149	21	97	26	82	24	73	29	67
Lead others in singing	26	318	39	123	18	195	37	76	18	109	47	47	18	86
Do fancy work	27	306	70	82	15	224	67	49	14	123	67	33	14	101
Make clothes	28	297	93	53	10	244	92	33	15	115	98	20	8	129
Engage in archery	29	295	25	173	40	122	33	80	51	49	16	93	22	73
Engage in rifle match	30	294	29	162	35	132	29	84	35	68	21	78	30	64
Conduct meetings	31	291	32	140	25	151	30	83	22	95	37	57	38	56
Conduct public discussions	32	288	30	155	34	133	25	90	29	79	30	65	41	54
Play chess	33	286	23	175	44	111	30	83	51	49	17	92	32	62
Play banjo	34	278	19	193	54	85	16	127	47	54	28	66	59	31
Lead others in games or contests	35	271	33	134	32	137	32	81	28	80	40	53	35	57
Construct rowboat	36	260	21	183	58	77	21	97	53	48	18	86	62	29
Play hockey	36	260	23	175	54	85	27	89	61	38	18	86	46	47
Sing solos	38	259	51	105	24	154	52	58	21	97	47	47	35	57
Target practice	39	246	44	115	36	131	44	62	42	59	40	53	24	72
Play football	40	244	18	194	75	50	15	128	71	32	28	66	82	18

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Write plays.....	41	243	57	97	28	146	52	58	31	77	58	39	28	69
Repair motorcycles.....	42	241	13	231	120	10	13	134	122	6	14	97	119	4
Give readings.....	43	235	86	60	19	175	84	38	20	103	89	22	24	72
Debate.....	44	234	46	112	40	122	44	62	33	73	45	50	44	49
Write poems.....	44	234	60	92	30	142	56	56	24	86	63	36	38	56
Camp.....	46	224	55	100	38	124	43	65	35	68	65	35	38	56
Give speeches.....	47	212	45	114	48	98	44	62	44	56	42	52	49	42
Play clarinet.....	47	212	48	111	46	101	62	52	46	55	36	59	47	46
Be a member of Girl Scouts.....	49	209	---	---	16	209	---	---	139	---	---	---	26	70
Go boating.....	50	202	84	61	31	141	77	40	25	83	94	21	34	58
Cook.....	51	198	62	91	45	107	47	61	62	37	72	30	26	70
Play monopoly.....	51	198	49	110	52	88	69	46	68	34	32	64	41	54
Can foods.....	53	196	93	53	29	143	99	27	41	60	82	26	20	83
Lead others in religious activities.....	54	194	82	67	37	127	71	45	30	78	89	22	44	49
Shoot a shotgun.....	55	192	31	146	79	46	37	76	92	20	26	70	66	26
Sing in quartette.....	56	187	59	93	49	94	66	50	40	61	52	43	56	33
Bowling.....	57	185	40	119	63	66	57	55	79	26	32	64	50	40
Write for local or school paper.....	58	184	66	84	47	100	68	47	38	66	60	37	54	34
Construct buildings.....	59	183	26	170	118	13	21	97	118	8	24	73	117	5
Play basketball.....	60	180	91	56	38	124	80	39	37	67	101	17	35	57
Play mandolin.....	61	179	36	126	73	53	39	75	71	32	43	51	78	21
Give orations.....	62	178	58	96	56	82	48	60	49	53	63	36	62	29
Play cornet.....	63	173	38	124	76	49	50	59	84	24	30	65	68	25
Take part in plays.....	64	171	98	49	40	122	97	28	34	70	94	21	43	52
Be a member of Campfire Girls.....	65	170	---	---	21	170	105	---	19	107	---	---	31	63
Teach a Sunday school class.....	66	167	97	50	43	117	105	24	32	74	82	26	48	43
Ride a horse.....	67	160	114	26	33	134	121	5	58	43	94	21	16	91
Drive a tractor.....	68	158	40	119	88	39	36	77	86	23	55	42	88	16
Paint pottery.....	69	155	83	62	50	93	90	35	47	54	79	27	51	39
Run a cow-testing association.....	70	153	34	133	110	20	25	90	106	14	52	43	114	6
Play french harp.....	70	153	40	119	98	34	48	79	79	26	56	40	105	8
Sell merchandise.....	72	152	53	103	76	49	34	60	76	30	52	43	81	19
Sing duets.....	73	151	79	69	57	82	80	39	44	56	72	30	66	26
Play billiards.....	73	151	50	108	81	43	59	54	88	22	39	54	78	21
Be a member of 4-H club.....	75	150	89	58	51	92	80	39	43	57	100	19	52	35
Play trombone.....	76	145	51	105	86	40	59	54	83	25	43	51	90	15
Exhibit things at fair.....	77	143	66	84	68	59	50	59	66	35	85	25	72	24
Construct trailer.....	78	142	35	132	120	10	41	68	116	9	32	64	123	1
Sing in glee club.....	78	142	79	69	61	73	80	39	53	48	72	30	68	25
Construct furniture.....	78	142	56	98	80	44	59	54	74	31	51	44	97	13
Give recitals.....	81	139	93	53	53	86	95	31	50	52	79	22	54	34
Write prose.....	82	138	76	72	68	66	71	45	68	34	79	27	57	37
Play ukelele.....	83	137	72	78	68	59	69	46	71	32	69	32	64	27
Play ping-pong.....	84	134	86	60	59	74	88	37	59	42	87	23	57	32

TABLE 30.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY WOULD LIKE TO LEARN TO DO.—Cont.

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Play soccer.....	85	130	63	90	86	40	76	43	88	22	47	47	82	18
Make candy.....	86	128	79	69	68	59	84	38	65	36	71	31	73	23
Play organ.....	87	124	77	70	72	54	84	38	70	33	69	32	78	21
Play flute.....	88	121	68	83	89	38	74	44	84	24	58	39	95	14
Trap animals.....	89	119	60	92	103	27	62	52	96	19	56	40	105	8
Clog dance.....	90	118	91	56	66	62	96	29	62	37	79	27	68	25
Repair furniture.....	91	111	74	74	93	37	77	40	77	27	66	34	101	10
Play jew's harp.....	92	104	68	83	109	21	57	55	106	14	77	28	107	7
Take part in young people's meetings.....	93	103	101	40	65	63	92	33	56	45	121	7	82	18
Be a member of Boy Scouts.....	93	103	53	103	---	---	40	70	---	---	67	33	---	---
Sell insurance.....	95	102	64	89	118	13	62	52	113	10	60	37	122	3
Play croquet.....	96	99	101	40	68	59	97	28	62	37	108	12	76	22
Take part in drills.....	97	96	89	58	89	38	84	38	90	21	98	20	85	17
Play bass or baritone horn.....	98	95	71	81	117	14	74	44	120	7	60	37	107	7
Paint houses and other buildings.....	99	93	75	73	110	20	71	45	109	13	77	28	107	7
Play volley ball.....	100	91	119	22	62	69	116	13	59	42	115	9	64	27
Sell farm machinery.....	101	90	65	88	127	2	52	58	127	1	72	30	123	1
Play zither.....	102	88	84	61	103	27	90	35	103	16	82	26	99	11
Sell books.....	103	86	88	59	103	27	88	37	101	17	89	22	101	10
Sing in church choir.....	104	81	104	39	82	42	101	26	77	27	106	13	90	15
Take part in pageants.....	104	81	110	33	78	48	109	21	74	31	108	12	85	17
Raise poultry.....	106	80	99	45	96	35	108	22	92	20	87	23	90	15
Fish.....	107	77	116	24	73	53	113	15	99	18	115	9	52	35
Take part in mock trials.....	107	77	100	42	96	35	103	25	99	18	101	17	85	17
Help in father's business.....	109	72	106	35	93	37	116	13	104	15	89	22	76	22
Take part in short dialogues.....	109	72	111	30	82	42	111	18	79	26	108	12	88	16
Play cards.....	111	65	116	24	85	41	112	16	79	26	118	8	90	15
Play baseball.....	112	64	108	34	100	30	103	25	90	21	115	9	104	9
Construct bird houses.....	113	59	106	35	108	24	99	27	101	17	118	8	107	7
Raise a garden.....	113	59	120	17	82	42	119	10	96	19	121	7	73	23
Raise farm stock.....	115	56	101	40	114	16	105	24	113	10	103	16	114	6
Sell feed and fertilizer.....	115	56	93	53	126	3	94	32	126	2	94	21	123	1
Milk cows.....	117	54	121	16	89	38	122	4	120	7	108	12	59	31
Take part in spelling match.....	118	53	115	25	102	28	115	14	109	13	113	11	90	15
Drive a horse.....	118	53	122	15	89	38	124	2	104	15	106	13	73	23
Sell household utensils.....	120	47	105	38	124	9	105	24	118	8	104	14	123	1
Date.....	121	44	112	29	116	15	110	19	116	9	114	10	114	6
Raise farm crops.....	122	39	112	29	120	10	113	15	122	6	104	14	119	4
Be a member of Future Farmers' chapter.....	123	38	108	34	125	4	101	26	125	4	118	8	127	0
Play softball.....	124	37	123	12	107	25	120	9	106	14	125	3	99	11
Feed livestock.....	125	33	118	23	120	10	118	11	124	5	108	12	117	5
Earn money.....	125	33	125	7	106	26	122	4	96	19	125	3	107	7
Study etiquette.....	127	28	124	8	110	20	125	1	109	13	121	7	107	7
Play checkers.....	128	22	126	6	114	16	125	1	112	12	124	5	119	4

least reported as being those young people would like to learn to do were largely things they already do or know how to do. Of the items included, playing checkers was the one reported by the least number as something to learn to do. This activity ranked last among the 128 items included. Morgan and Burt found the following activities to be the most significant among those which young people would like to learn: develop camera pictures, play saxophone, play violin, first aid practice, paint pictures, debate, make radios, give readings, play in orchestra, and play piano.²³ These activities are listed in the order in which they ranked in the previous study; they are the first ranking ten out of the 148 items used.

Principal Needs of Young People in the Community

The activities in which young folk were potential participants but in which they did not participate because they had no opportunity to do so were checked along with the things they were doing and those they would like to learn to do. Here it is considered that the things young people could do, but do not because of the lack of opportunity, give some indication of various things which may be needed to improve the recreational facilities now existing in different rural communities. It also appears that these activities may possibly suggest extension of the scope of present affairs to include certain things not now available.

A number of activities which are universally considered as being a part of the things people do for recreation were reported by the ones studied as things they could do if they had the opportunity. The first five items in rank were go boating, camp, ride a horse, fish, and drive an automobile (Table 31). Farm boys most frequently reported go boating, drive a tractor, camp, ride a motorcycle, and play football as the things they could do but had no opportunity, while the most significant for the non-farm boys were ride a horse, drive a horse, engage in rifle match, go boating, and camp. Activities most frequently given by both farm and non-farm girls were go boating, camp, and ride a horse. Items least mentioned here were largely those relating to the use of various musical instruments. Things which young people could do but had no opportunity were also found by Morgan and Burt.²⁴ The most important activities indicated in their study were camp and ride an airplane.

Further expression of possible needs in the community was given by the informants through their suggestions for improvement

²³ Morgan, E. L. and Burt, Henry J., *op. cit.*

²⁴ *Ibid.*

TABLE 31.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY KNOW HOW TO OR COULD DO BUT IN WHICH THEY HAVE NO OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE.

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
All young people.....	---	2,297	---	1,098	---	1,199	---	652	---	643	---	446	---	556
Go boating.....	1	341	1	186	2	155	1	111	2	66	4	75	2	89
Camp.....	2	310	2	164	3	146	3	96	1	78	5	68	3	68
Ride a horse.....	3	293	7	128	1	165	3	34	4	59	1	94	1	106
Fish.....	4	213	14	100	4	113	9	64	3	60	26	36	6	53
Drive an automobile.....	5	210	8	123	7	87	8	65	16	36	9	58	7	51
Play croquet.....	6	204	18	93	5	111	19	45	7	49	15	48	4	62
Play volley ball.....	7	202	10	113	6	89	14	54	8	48	7	59	8	41
Drive a horse.....	8	197	9	114	8	83	36	33	28	26	2	81	5	57
Engage in rifle match.....	9	185	4	145	34	40	6	67	45	16	3	78	24	24
Ride a motorcycle.....	10	180	5	141	37	39	4	79	32	22	6	62	37	17
Drive a tractor.....	11	179	3	161	66	18	2	103	63	11	9	58	67	7
Go ice skating.....	12	174	18	93	9	81	10	57	10	44	26	36	9	37
Play football.....	13	150	6	131	62	19	5	77	69	9	12	54	55	10
Go swimming.....	14	139	13	102	40	37	11	56	113	1	17	46	10	36
Go swimming.....	15	137	31	66	14	71	33	35	12	40	32	31	15	31
Construct rowboat.....	15	137	12	104	44	33	6	67	32	22	25	37	49	11
Play golf.....	15	137	21	90	27	47	28	38	51	14	14	52	13	33
Take part in plays.....	18	131	44	51	10	80	39	31	9	45	40	20	12	35
Feed livestock.....	19	130	14	100	46	30	22	43	40	17	11	57	47	13
Trap animals.....	20	127	11	111	72	16	15	52	51	14	7	59	100	2
Raise poultry.....	21	124	26	76	26	48	25	41	20	33	28	35	40	15
Play baseball.....	22	121	16	96	52	25	11	56	45	16	23	40	59	9
Listen to radio.....	23	119	35	60	17	59	19	45	11	42	55	15	37	17
Play soccer.....	24	118	24	80	38	38	19	45	51	14	28	35	24	24
Milk cows.....	25	114	30	67	27	47	84	13	38	18	12	54	16	29
Play ping-pong.....	25	114	27	74	34	40	39	31	51	14	18	43	22	26
Play basketball.....	27	112	36	58	25	54	36	33	35	21	35	25	13	33
Take part in spelling match.....	27	112	39	55	20	57	26	40	22	29	55	15	17	28
Be a member of 4-H Club.....	29	111	53	36	11	75	42	29	5	52	83	7	27	23
Debate.....	30	110	40	54	21	56	29	37	16	36	46	17	30	20
Act (dramatics).....	31	109	41	53	21	56	30	36	21	31	46	17	23	25
Have own room.....	32	108	45	49	17	59	52	22	16	36	34	27	27	23
Paint houses and other buildings.....	32	108	17	95	78	13	13	55	104	2	23	40	49	11
Box.....	32	108	18	93	74	15	15	52	69	9	19	41	77	6
Target practice.....	35	106	23	87	62	19	18	46	63	11	19	41	64	8
Can foods.....	36	102	74	27	11	75	65	18	13	39	73	9	10	36
Exhibit things at fair.....	37	101	34	61	34	40	24	42	29	25	43	19	40	15
Raise a garden.....	38	99	42	52	27	47	69	17	22	29	28	35	35	18
Lead others in games or contests.....	39	98	38	56	32	42	30	36	32	22	40	20	30	20

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Shoot a shotgun	40	94	21	90	106	4	22	43	104	2	16	47	100	2
Teach a Sunday school class	41	91	70	28	15	63	22	19	35	85	6	17	28	28
Give readings	42	90	63	32	19	58	51	23	13	39	73	9	33	19
Go to concerts	43	89	58	34	23	55	52	22	24	28	62	12	20	27
Raise farm stock	43	89	25	77	80	12	30	36	76	7	19	41	83	5
Play softball	45	87	49	42	31	45	46	26	40	17	52	16	17	28
Play hockey	46	86	33	63	55	23	41	30	51	14	31	33	59	9
Raise farm crops	47	79	29	69	88	10	45	28	95	3	19	41	67	7
Lead others in singing	48	78	53	36	32	42	74	16	26	27	40	20	40	15
Play in orchestra	49	77	51	39	38	38	61	20	30	24	43	19	43	14
Be a member of Girl Scouts	50	75			11	75			6	51			24	24
Be a member of Boy Scouts	51	74	27	74			15	52			38	22		
Construct speedboat	51	74	32	64	88	10	26	40	81	6	36	24	88	4
Cook	53	72	37	57	74	15	42	29	90	4	33	28	49	11
Dance with others	54	70	77	24	30	46	95	8	26	27	52	16	33	19
Play checkers	55	69	63	32	40	37	69	17	40	17	55	15	30	20
Go to lectures	56	68	61	33	42	35	48	24	40	17	73	9	35	18
Bowling	57	66	47	48	66	18	48	24	76	7	36	24	49	11
Take part in drills	57	66	63	32	43	34	65	18	38	18	58	14	39	16
Do fancy work	57	66	99	11	23	55	105	6	24	28	91	5	20	27
Give speeches	60	62	68	31	45	31	52	22	31	23	73	9	64	8
Help in father's business	61	61	50	40	58	21	62	19	49	15	39	21	77	6
Be a member of Campfire Girls	62	60			16	60			15	38			29	22
Sell merchandise	63	59	68	31	47	28	52	22	45	16	73	9	48	12
Go to movies and shows	64	56	63	32	53	24	52	22	36	20	71	10	88	4
Sing in glee club	64	56	70	28	47	28	82	14	51	14	58	14	43	14
Perform stunts, tricks, etc.	64	56	53	36	60	20	65	18	45	16	45	18	88	4
Construct trailer	67	54	42	52	116	2	33	35	104	2	46	17	116	0
Construct buildings	68	52	45	49	108	3	36	33	113	1	52	16	100	2
Paint pictures	69	51	77	24	50	27	87	12	58	13	62	12	43	14
Repair automobile	69	51	48	46	103	5	42	29	104	2	46	17	92	3
Sing in a quartette	71	50	70	28	57	22	74	16	63	11	62	12	49	11
Construct bird houses	72	48	51	39	93	9	46	26	81	6	61	13	92	3
Construct furniture	73	47	53	36	83	11	62	19	84	5	46	17	77	6
Play billiards	74	45	58	34	83	11	69	17	113	1	46	17	55	10
Lead others in religious activities	75	44	81	23	58	21	92	9	63	11	58	14	55	10
Go to parties	75	44	91	17	50	27	90	11	40	17	85	6	55	10
Date	77	43	61	33	88	10	52	22	84	5	67	11	83	5
Make candy	78	42	81	23	62	19	65	18	59	12	91	5	67	7
Play cards	78	42	77	24	66	18	69	7	63	11	83	7	67	7
Write for local or school paper	78	42	88	18	53	24	99	7	49	15	67	11	59	9
Construct radios	81	39	57	35	106	4	48	24	95	3	67	11	108	1
Read plays	81	39	77	24	74	15	79	15	76	7	73	9	64	8
Give recitals	81	39	86	20	62	19	82	14	59	12	85	6	67	7

TABLE 31.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SELECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH THEY KNOW HOW TO OR COULD DO BUT IN WHICH THEY HAVE NO OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE—Continued.

Type of Activity	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.
Play chess.....	84	38	70	28	88	10	74	16	95	3	62	12	67	7
Repair furniture.....	85	37	63	32	103	5	60	21	104	2	67	11	92	3
Travel in other states.....	85	37	84	21	72	16	79	15	69	9	85	6	67	7
Play the piano.....	87	36	109	8	47	28	113	4	37	19	99	4	59	9
Repair motorcycle.....	87	36	58	34	116	2	52	22	113	1	62	12	108	1
Sing duets.....	87	36	84	21	74	15	87	12	74	8	73	9	67	7
Give orations.....	90	35	75	26	93	9	69	17	76	7	73	9	100	2
Travel in other countries.....	90	35	91	17	66	18	84	13	63	11	99	4	67	7
Write stories.....	92	34	97	14	60	20	95	8	81	6	85	6	43	14
Make clothes.....	92	34	99	11	55	23	95	8	59	12	105	3	49	11
Sing in church choir.....	94	33	94	16	70	17	99	7	51	14	73	9	92	3
Take part in mock trials.....	94	33	83	22	83	11	62	19	74	8	105	3	92	3
Read books.....	96	31	88	18	78	13	84	13	90	4	91	5	59	9
Sell books.....	97	30	88	18	80	12	79	15	76	7	105	3	83	5
Play banjo.....	98	27	95	15	80	12	91	10	69	9	91	5	92	3
Play guitar.....	98	27	103	10	70	17	95	8	59	12	111	2	83	5
Repair radios.....	98	27	75	26	119	1	74	16	124	0	71	10	108	1
Play monopoly.....	101	24	95	15	93	9	92	9	95	3	85	6	77	6
Play accordion.....	102	22	99	11	83	11	99	7	69	9	99	4	100	2
Paint pottery.....	103	21	98	12	93	9	99	7	95	3	91	5	77	6
Play saxophone.....	103	21	99	11	88	10	117	2	90	4	73	9	77	6
Sell farm machinery.....	105	20	87	19	119	1	74	16	113	1	105	3	116	0
Repair airplane.....	106	19	91	17	116	2	87	12	113	1	91	5	108	1
Read newspaper.....	107	18	106	9	93	9	105	6	90	4	105	3	83	5
Write Poems.....	107	18	112	7	83	11	115	3	90	4	99	4	67	7
Play a violin.....	109	17	109	8	93	9	99	7	84	5	115	1	88	4
Be a member of Future Farmers' chapter.....	110	13	103	10	108	3	92	9	95	3	115	1	116	0
Sell household utensils.....	110	13	112	7	101	6	105	6	84	5	115	1	108	1
Travel within state.....	110	13	118	6	99	7	109	5	84	5	115	1	100	2
Play cornet.....	113	12	112	7	103	5	117	2	104	2	91	5	92	3
Sell insurance.....	113	12	106	9	108	3	109	5	95	3	99	4	116	0
Write plays.....	115	11	109	8	108	3	105	6	104	2	111	2	108	1
Play clarinet.....	116	10	112	7	108	3	113	4	104	2	105	3	108	1
Play jew's harp.....	116	10	103	10	125	0	109	5	124	0	91	5	116	0
Play mandolin.....	116	10	112	7	108	3	109	5	113	1	111	2	100	2
Sell feed and fertilizer.....	116	10	106	9	119	1	99	7	113	1	111	2	100	0
Play organ.....	120	9	122	2	99	7	123	1	84	5	115	1	116	0
Play french harp.....	121	8	112	7	119	1	115	3	113	1	99	4	116	0
Write prose.....	121	8	122	2	101	6	117	2	95	3	124	0	92	3
Play flute.....	123	6	119	3	108	3	117	2	104	2	115	1	108	1
Play ukelele.....	123	6	119	3	108	3	117	2	95	3	115	1	116	0
Play trombone.....	125	3	122	2	119	1	123	1	113	1	115	1	116	0
Play zither.....	125	3	119	3	125	0	117	2	124	0	115	1	116	0
Play bass or baritone horn.....	127	2	125	1	119	1	123	1	113	1	124	0	116	0

of the organizations which had programs of interest to them. It should be recalled in this instance that only 1,021 or 51.1 per cent indicated that there were organizations which had programs of interest to young people.²⁵ Of this number 398 offered suggestions which they thought would lead to improvement, while the remaining 623 either considered the organizations as being satisfactory or failed to mention the suggestions they might have had. In general, the suggestions given by the farm group were similar to those mentioned by the non-farm and little difference was found between boys and girls in the needs mentioned. Suggestions given are classified in Table 32. Here it is indicated that new or more members was the suggestion given most frequently. It was one listed by 47.2 per cent of those reporting.

The next most important suggestion was that if the organizations are to be improved they should be characterized by greater attendance, better cooperation, and more interest. This was representative of the proposed suggestions given by one-third (32.4 per cent) of the young folk reporting. Better management was given by 11.3 per cent and better programs by 5.0 per cent. Equipment of various kinds was listed as necessary by 5.5 per cent, while 6.0 per cent mentioned that present financial resources were insufficient. Some indicated that social activities were not extensive enough, while cooperation with parents, and literature were also thought to be essential to the betterment of existing circumstances. The foregoing does not afford a measurement of these organizations according to some standard, but the fact that many of the young people do recognize organizational shortcomings and offer suggestions whereby improvements might be made is indicative that they are fairly well aware of existing problems.

Other data made available through the current project indicate that a great many young people also see the definite need for betterment of many of the circumstances relating to their local communities as a whole. Those studied were asked to state what they thought to be the principal needs of young people in their communities. These returns have been classified according to general types of needs and presented in Table 33. Needs which were classified as being those relating specifically to recreational and social activities were the most frequently mentioned. Nearly two-thirds of the 1,545 who provided these data were identified with this type. "Something to do in the summer," "some way to spend leisure time," and "entertainment" are typical of the ones ex-

²⁵ Data regarding those who reported organizations of interest are given in Table 22 of this report.

TABLE 32.—SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH WERE REPORTED AS HAVING PROGRAMS OF INTEREST TO RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE.

Classification of Suggestions for Improvement of Organizations	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	398 ¹	---	166	---	232	---	98	---	119	---	68	---	113	---
Better attendance, cooperation, interest	129	32.4	45	27.1	84	36.2	29	29.6	44	37.0	16	23.5	40	35.4
More cooperation with parents.....	6	1.5	2	1.2	4	1.7	2	2.0	1	0.8	---	---	3	2.7
Equipment.....	22	5.5	14	8.4	8	3.4	9	9.2	6	5.0	5	7.4	2	1.8
Finance.....	24	6.0	11	6.6	13	5.6	6	6.1	5	4.2	5	7.4	8	7.1
Literature.....	6	1.5	2	1.2	4	1.7	2	2.0	1	0.8	---	---	3	2.7
New members.....	188	47.2	68	41.0	120	51.7	37	37.8	59	49.6	31	45.6	61	54.0
Better organization and management.....	45	11.3	23	13.9	22	9.5	11	11.2	8	6.7	12	17.6	14	12.4
Better programs.....	20	5.0	10	6.0	10	4.3	5	5.1	5	4.2	5	7.4	5	4.4
Social activities.....	9	2.3	4	2.4	5	2.2	2	2.0	3	2.5	2	2.9	2	1.8
All others.....	24	6.0	11	6.6	13	5.6	7	7.1	10	8.4	4	5.9	3	2.7

¹Total excluding 623 cases for which no data were reported. These either had no suggestions to offer or failed to report those they did have.

²The percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated where more than one improvement was reported.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

TABLE 33.—RURAL YOUNG PEOPLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE THINGS THEY CONSIDERED AS BEING PRINCIPAL NEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY.

Classification of Principal Needs in the Community	All Residences						Farm				Non-farm ³			
	Total		Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All young people.....	1,545 ¹	---	713	---	832	---	412	---	451	---	301	---	381	---
Church or religious.....	143	9.3	55	7.7	88	10.6	40	9.7	73	16.2	15	5.0	15	3.9
Educational.....	254	16.4	136	19.1	118	14.2	90	21.8	72	16.0	46	15.3	46	12.1
Employment or money.....	272	17.6	170	23.8	102	12.3	109	26.5	61	13.5	61	20.3	41	10.8
Equipment or facilities.....	631	40.8	278	39.0	353	42.4	124	30.1	141	31.3	154	51.2	212	55.6
Interest and cooperation.....	50	3.2	18	2.5	32	3.8	11	2.7	27	6.0	7	2.3	5	1.3
Library.....	118	7.6	45	6.3	73	8.8	21	5.1	34	7.5	24	8.0	39	10.2
Organizations and leadership.....	483	31.3	197	27.6	286	34.4	133	32.3	176	39.0	64	21.3	110	28.9
Recreational or social.....	1,000	64.7	411	57.6	589	70.8	215	52.2	300	66.5	196	65.1	289	75.9
Roads or transportation.....	67	4.3	46	6.5	21	2.5	33	8.0	18	4.0	13	4.3	3	0.8
All others.....	221	14.3	107	15.0	114	13.7	72	17.5	64	14.2	35	11.6	50	13.1

¹Total excluding 752 cases for which no data were reported. These either saw no principal needs or failed to report those they did see.

²Percentages do not total 100.0 in this table. Cases are duplicated where more than one need is reported.

³Includes places having up to 5,000 population.

pressed. Recreational or social needs were given by a larger proportion of the non-farm than they were by the farm group and more frequently by girls than by boys.

Equipment or facilities was a necessity recognized by two out of five (40.8 per cent) of all the young people, but it was mentioned by a larger proportion of the non-farm than it was by the farm young folk. The need for facilities was widely expressed, but it was particularly reported from communities which lacked a gymnasium, community center, dance hall, or theatre. Need for a swimming pool was frequently expressed. Organizations and leadership were indicated by 31.3 per cent and this was especially important to the young people living on farms.²⁶ Educational needs were listed by about one out of six. These suggested extension of certain local education systems which do not now offer training beyond the tenth grade. Also mentioned was a demand for courses which were not offered locally.

Less than one out of five gave employment or money as a principal shortcoming, while one out of ten listed church or religious needs. Lack of Sunday school was frequently given under the last mentioned classification, while others such as the need for "more interest in the church" and "better church programs" were also mentioned. The inadequacy of library facilities was given by several with 7.6 per cent definitely indicating preference for a locally sponsored library. Greater interest and more cooperation were given by 3.2 per cent, while 4.3 per cent keenly felt the necessity for better roads and means of transportation. A wide variety of needs, classified here as all others, was reported by 14.3 per cent. Under this classification were mentioned "better laws," "less responsibility to the family," "drinking water," "ambition," "less backward ways," "better agriculture," and others of a similar nature.

The foregoing results seem to indicate very clearly that the young people included in this inquiry want to be better occupied than they are now. Activities and facilities now available through many of the existing organizations do not appear to be extensive enough to satisfy some of the most prominent interests of these young men and women. It is the responsibility of local communities through their existing agencies and perhaps through organizations not now available, to consider seriously the expressed needs of their younger generation. Such consideration should be espe-

²⁶ The need for leadership as reported here appeared to be related to the need for organized activities. All clubs and specific organizations such as 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, and baseball teams were classified under organization and leadership needs.

cially concerned with the chief needs of local young people who apparently want something to do more than they want anything else. The results of this investigation might well be a tool for the use of local leaders in their endeavor to stimulate further interest in local organizational activities. It appears that these young people are not only generally aware of many local needs, but that they also have a rather broad conception of possible future developments.

V. SUMMARY

This is a study of 2,297 young people aged 16-24 who were living on farms and in places having up to 5,000 population. Geographically, the scope of the investigation was extended to twelve sample counties. Taken together, these twelve are considered representative of the rural areas of the state. The young people studied were in high school at the time of the survey and most of them were from 16 to 19 years of age. Recent population migration was evidenced by data which indicated that 29.5 per cent of all those studied had lived in their present communities less than seven years, while an additional 18.7 per cent had lived there from seven to twelve years and the remaining 51.8 per cent for longer periods of time. Selected family living conveniences were reported available, the most frequently mentioned being the automobile which was listed by 75.0 per cent of the farm youth and by 62.5 per cent of the non-farm.

Most of the young folk studied had regular home responsibilities, but only 5.4 per cent indicated that they directly received pay for their activities. However, a relatively large number were individually earning their own spending money, with 46 per cent of the boys and 15.3 per cent of the girls so classified. There were 8.2 per cent of the total who took room and board away from home and it was found that one-half of these worked for either their room, board, or both. About one-half of the boys in villages and towns managed to acquire some work for pay outside the home and one-fourth of those living on farms did. Girls found work for pay less frequently than did the boys. A total of 55 different occupations were reported by 566 young folk as being those in which they had obtained work for pay outside the home. One out of five of this total mentioned occupations connected with the school. These were made available largely by resources supplied by the National Youth Administration. This was found to be a more important source of employment for the farm youth than it was for the non-farm. More than one-half of all the in-

formants earned some amount of money during the year 1935. Most of the young people in school mentioned no earnings or some that did not exceed \$75, but 13.4 per cent of the amounts were in excess of that sum.

It was found that organizations sponsored by the church were the ones attended by the greatest number of the young people as a whole. However, farm organizations such as the Future Farmers of America were attended by more of the farm boys, while national youth organizations including the Boy Scouts were important groups reported by boys in villages and towns. Other than church organizations, various societies connected with the school were the most significant for girls. More than one-half of these young men and women were church members, while those remaining were not. However, only 8.7 per cent stated that they had not attended church during 1935. About one out of five either were or had previously been members of 4-H Clubs. There were 546 who indicated that they were officers in various organizations. Many of these served only one, but one out of five was prominent in two or more different groups. One-half of these young folk thought that local organizations were uninteresting as measured by the programs they offered. This finding suggests that a number of local organizations are failing to provide the programs or activities in which a large proportion of young people would be interested.

Reading was one of the principal activities in which nearly all participated. It was further determined that a fairly large proportion of the ones studied were finding reading matter of an informative nature available at home. Only 7.6 per cent had no newspapers, but one-third had no daily paper. Four out of five stated that magazines were regularly received, while nine out of ten had some books available at home. Travel has a place among the activities of these young folk as shown by the instance that nearly four out of five of them had traveled outside the state. Reading, attending movies and shows, and going to parties were found to be the things most young people were doing out of a list which included more than 100 activities. Likewise, boating and camping were the activities most frequently mentioned as the ones they could do if they had the opportunity, while playing the piano, dancing, golf, and others were prominent among the things young people would like to learn to do. Approximately four out of ten who were to be graduated from high school planned to continue their formal education. Only about one-fifth of the farm boys intended to continue in farming after graduation, while more than one-fourth

of them planned to attend college. There were 16.7 per cent of the total who had no plans.

The occupations preferred by the most boys were farming, aviation, and engineering, while those given preference by the most girls were stenography, teaching, nursing, and beauty culture. It was noticed that relatively large numbers of young men and women indicated preferences for a variety of occupations. Suggestions for the improvement of local organizations were given. Especially mentioned among these was the need for new members, greater attendance, better cooperation, and more interest. Among others mentioned were better management and better programs. It was found that many young men and women were aware of the need for improvement of a number of the circumstances relating to their local communities as a whole. Most of them mentioned recreational and social needs, while equipment or facilities was recognized as a necessary improvement by 39.7 per cent. Among others were mentioned the need for enlarged school curricula, social organizations, leadership, opportunities for employment, and various church and religious improvements. The fact that rural young people are rather seriously concerned about something to do presents a problem of some magnitude for the consideration of local organizations and leaders. From this study it appears that the needs and improvements suggested by these young men and women might well be locally recognized and incorporated in future program making.

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