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A Study of One Hundred Relief Welfare Cases In Kingman County, Kansas.

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A STUDY OF ONE HUNDRED RELIEF WELFARE CASES
IN KINGMAN COUNTY KANSAS

BEING

A THESIS PRESENTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY
OF THE FORT HAYS KANSAS STATE COLLEGE
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER
OF SCIENCE

BY

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DATE May 15, 1937

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MAJOR DEPARTMENT

Acting
CHAIRMAN GRADUATE COUNCIL
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It would be unfair to have this work published under the author's name alone. The matter of collecting and writing this manuscript seems a trivial matter compared to the hours spent by others who have helped make this thesis possible.

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J. C. Witter
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Public relief as a national problem has grown enormously in the last three or four years in Kingman county as well as in the rest of the United States. It is a problem which one, when he is prosperous, thinks little about, but when one loses his job or has sickness or misfortune in the family, the problem becomes an issue which the sociologist and economist the world over is trying to solve.

There was need for very little relief in Kingman county in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Six of the oldest citizens of Kingman county were interviewed and the early conditions were discussed with them and a little of their philosophy was gained in regard to the present method of administering the charity to the poor. These men were all residents of the county for fifty years or more, and were all men who had achieved some success in spite of the hardships which they went through.

Money was very scarce in early times, even to the wealthy people, and most of the settlers had
little more than enough for maintenance of life. The country was agricultural, and still depends to a large extent on the products of the soil to keep the community in general prosperity. For money, men would work for the neighbors who had extra work to be done or gather bones from the prairie to sell in Hutchinson. There were some cash crops, but markets were distant and failures common. A man might spend a month gathering bones to be sold for a sum, often under five dollars.

The probate judge\(^1\) recalled of an instance which shows well how relief was cared for before the county existed. A woman died in the community. There was no estate or money with which to care for her. The neighbors cared for her in her illness, and after death she was buried by the neighbors. The Judge came to town in weather below zero to get a casket in which to bury her. The entire cost was borne by neighbors.

The President of the First National Bank\(^2\) recalled that he had many times helped his neighbors in their difficulties by doing the work or assisting

\(^{1}\) Kabler, L. W. (Interview) History of relief in Kingman county. August 3, 1936

\(^{2}\) Baldwin, Sam (Interview) History of relief in Kingman county. August 3, 1936
in the construction of a house. When these methods failed some neighbor canvassed the community and a small donation was gathered for the unfortunate individual.

A grocerman recalled a family who had been dependent upon the county and township fifty years ago. He pointed to the family today. They had eight children and they were still on relief with another generation of public wards growing to maturity.

None of the men interviewed were satisfied with the present method of administering to the needy. All felt that the problem was current and had to be solved, but all seemed to think that passing out money to men who wouldn't work was a mistake. One thought that there had been a commissioner in the office before the present incumbent who had encouraged the people to seek charity as a way out of their struggle. The entire group said that they would like to see those who were becoming dependent upon charity be allowed to work or starve.

Four of the six believed sterilization was necessary.

3. Bray, Walter (interview) History of Relief in Kingman County. August 3, 1936
4. McKenna, John (Same interview) History of Relief in Kingman County. August 3, 1936
necessary. The other two were reticent about dis-
cussing the matter, but one was inclined to disfavor
and the other to favor.

Vocational training in the school was advocated.
A civic pride and responsibility was stressed as a
quality lacking in many of the present generation
by an abstractor and real estate man. Tax payment
was something to dodge rather than a debt owed to
the government. The home was sadly lacking in the
proper perspective, but what to be done was a pro-
blem beyond his conception.

The mayor of Kingman and a lumberman said that
he thought the condition had been brought on by the
use of machinery. This belief was expressed by all
interviewed, but was not made the special issue.
The general opinion was that the depression linked
with the drought was causing at least the total on
relief rolls to double what it would have been had
times been normal. The opinion was also general
that the government should provide the opportunity
for a man to work, but that the government owed no

5. Murphy, Oren (interview) History of Relief in
Kingman County. August 3, 1936
6. Murray, William. History of Relief in Kingman
County. August 3, 1936
man a debt to be paid in order that he might not have to work.

The home and the family are the prime factors upon which our country is built, and there was a general fear among the men that the family is failing to provide the training that it did in the times past.

All the men favored a rehabilitation program, and thought that the needy should be well cared for by the government while they were in such unfortunate conditions.

The probate judge had formed the belief that the ownership of land should be limited. This plan would encourage the diversity of agriculture and increase the number of farmers.

The methods of handling the present problem were very uncertain. The mayor of Kingman said that union labor was causing unemployment because of their high price for labor. Outside of this and the large control of wealth by a few, he didn't feel competent to say just what should be done. The judge favored passing a law to insure limited land ownership, thus spreading the land among a
larger group of men with families. Sterilization was favored by four and possibly five of the six. Vocational education was favored by all with the responsibility placed squarely upon the school by the real estate man. Relief itself was partially blamed by the lawyer. Poor management by many was given as a cause by the banker. He suggested strong centralization of power in the hands of a poor commissioner in order that these might be made self-sustaining. The whole group felt that the country was in a process of revolution, and that it was wise for the government to try to solve the problem, but that it had not properly arrived at the correct solution. Five of the men favored centralization of the work under state control. One favored continuing with the local set-up.

The writer feels that the public has not really given this problem sufficient attention. It is a problem which faces every taxpayer and citizen, and should be recognized as such. The thinking of the community will have to be educated by highly qualified young people. When people have come to recognize the problem as a problem of a
world, then progress will be made. Social Security will be looked upon as an investment made by the citizens of the country, and not as charity. Commissions will be set up to guide and educate the unfortunate away from charity and into productive labor. Citizens will look upon their government as an investment rather than a burden and a political playground.

The general conditions which brought about this present economic instability is widespread, but Kingman county is a typical Kansas county in the opinion of the writer. The conditions may be worse in parts of Kansas, yet they are also better in a few of the more fertile counties. Therefore whatever conclusion is reached concerning Kingman county should be typical of the average Kansas county.

The depression has had an effect on this county yet the county agent⁷ and the resettlement advisor⁸ both estimated that the county was between fifty to eighty per cent back to what they termed normal. There has been a tendency for the large farmer to farm more land; thereby closing the small farmer

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⁷ Cathcart, R. B. Agric. and Economic conditions in Kingman County. Aug. 6, 1936
⁸ Giles, Henry Agric. and Economic conditions in Kingman County. Aug. 6, 1936
out. Both the county agent and the resettlement advisor estimated that this factor had driven many small farmers to town and the relief rolls. The estimate of the percent of cases on relief due to the depression ranges from one-fourth to one-third of the total. The county agent estimated that the drought was to blame for another one-fifth of the cases, while the resettlement advisor estimated that it was due to one-fourth of the total number of cases. Taking the estimate of these two gentlemen, the depression and the drought is to blame for approximately one-half of the cases in Kingman county on relief. Again the writer believes that Kingman county is a typical county as the drought gets steadily worse as one goes west, while the depression becomes more pronounced as one goes east into the industrial and mining centers.

The unemployment factor is an important factor to be solved. The county agent and resettlement advisor estimated that between sixty and seventy-five per cent of the relief clients would and could be removed from the rolls if the county could get
back to normal and enjoy several years of normal rainfall and prices for agriculture products. The county poor commissioner estimated that there are approximately two-hundred families who live in this county who will never be able to support themselves, and who will always be dependent upon government aid. The peak load of families on relief was four-hundred and fifty, but there are now one hundred and ninety-six. The average before the depression and the drought was around forty families. These estimates are interesting and tend to substantiate the fact pointed out above concerning the forcing of the little farmer from the soil and into public work. One can drive over great parts of Kansas, especially western Kansas, and note the many places that have been vacated because of hard times, drought, and specialization of agriculture.

Kingman county soil is varied. There is much soil that is subsistence soil, yet the county agent says that there is only one to two per cent

that is exploited beyond profitable production. The resettlement advisor gives a higher figure of ten percent. A trip over the county with the county agent for the purpose of survey showed very little soil that had been exploited beyond profitable production, and much farming being carried on in a diversified manner.

Kansas has been unfortunate in that her constitution was made with the provision that the county should administer the poor fund. It has given some very important matters such as the widow's pension over to the county commissioners to administrate. They have, unfortunately, administered this fund as charity instead of profitable work for the state. The township trustee formally administered the poor fund which was provided for by the poor law which has been a statute on the Kansas law books for many years. This law was repealed and the administration of the poor fund was given into the hands of the county commissioners. They are given the power to appoint a poor commissioner who shall receive a salary of not more than one hundred and twenty-
five dollars a month. When the Kansas Emergency Relief Commission was created in 1933 under the Social Security Act of the United States government, a provision was included that the poor commissioner should be a qualified man with a college education and some social experience. The case workers were also required to be college trained people with experience in handling social work. The county was not required to meet these standards, but if they didn't they could have their Federal appropriations cut off. The Kansas Emergency Relief Commission has agreed to pay twenty-five dollars a month on the salary of the poor commissioner in order that qualified men might be obtained. They also pay a small amount towards the remuneration of the case worker. This does not average twenty-five dollars over the whole state, but it is approximately that.10

John G. Stutz is the present executive director of the Kansas Emergency Relief Commission in Kansas. Miss Laura Presby is the District Case Work

10. Sears, John Administration Public Relief. August 5, 1936
Supervisor. Mr. John Sears is the poor commissioner in Kingman county. All officers are appointed. The poor commissioner is appointed by the county commissioners and is subject to their pleasure for the tenure that he enjoys. This fact makes the office rather insecure and uncertain and discourages any long term planning.

There is at the present time an amendment facing the people of Kansas at the next election to provide that the State of Kansas may participate in any aid which the Federal Government may decide to provide. Under the Social Securities Act as provided by the Federal Government, no state could enjoy the benefits of Federal aid unless they had a state commission which would supervise and control the expenditures in the state. If and when this new legislation is passed, it is to be hoped that all these officers will be placed on civil service.

The poor commissioner's office in Kingman county is administered by Mr. John Sears. Mr. Sears is a college trained man with the ambition
lief. The case worker makes out the application and then goes to visit the family. At the first interview all the data on the outline is obtained if possible. References are obtained and visited. Neighbors are interviewed. Notes are taken on all interviews and written up in the office. The family history and present status with some prognosis of the future is determined. This is all entered on the case history which is filed away. After the case is opened the client is visited once a month to see what progress is being made. An attempt is made to budget the family and the case worker tries to find work for them. If possible they are removed from relief rolls when they find a position, but if sickness or misfortune piles up on the client the budget or relief is increased. There is always a feeling about an interview that if the client can be made independent, he will be better off. Initiative is encouraged and rewarded in the client, but many of them are beyond the point where encouragement will benefit them.
There is some personal subjectiveness in the case histories. Visits to the families with the social workers have led the writer to believe that a qualified worker is of prime importance as many facts must be estimated. The ages of the clients must even be guessed sometimes. Every entry in the case is substantiated by inquiries. Letters are written to all the children and relatives who are able or are suspected of being able to help the client. Any indication that there might be a possible relative who could help is traced to the source. The case worker has found that the client will lie to gain a little help, and they must work entirely in the dark for many visits before they begin to get to the bottom of the matter.

With the present procedure of trial and error and gradually adding valuable statistics and facts to the case histories; there is being accrued a set of government documents which will make social planning a reality in the United States instead of an empty dream as it has been in the past.
CHAPTER II

CASE STUDIES

One who was not acquainted with the facts would be inclined to think of the problem of relief as being one related to the caring for the people who drift into the community and need just help enough to send them on their way. A study of Figure I will show this to be an error. The relief clients in Kingman county are not drifters. They are the permanent residents of the county. They have been in Kingman county for the major part of their lives. There are some, it is true, who drift from one place to another. There are some who drift from town to town within Kingman county. It has become necessary for people to establish a residence before they may enjoy the benefits of the poor law. Therefore the drifter who is inclined to move about the country keeps his permanent residence in some county.
Case 340 is a good example of the family which is mobile. Mr. E. has at one time owned his own farm, and at the present time owns his house in Kingman or has an equity of $1500 in it. There is also a mortgage of $1600 on the house. But the equity in the house is enough to give them a place to live for the few months that they stay in the city. They leave often and stay their allotted time and then begin proceedings to collect transportation money from the county in which they have landed for the trip back home. Thus they pay travel expenses one way only. They have money to get to their destination, but never money to get home again. The case as it is recorded in the poor commissioners office shows six moves since the case has been opened.

While the above case is interesting from the standpoint of the person who desires to study such transients; it is not the typical relief client in Kingman county.

The typical relief client is a family who has made this county their permanent home from 1. Appendix. Page 76
five to fifty years. Many of them were born and raised here. Seventy-seven percent of the families are of this type.

Figure III shows that thirty-two per cent of the families have never moved, while seventeen percent of the families have moved only once. Thus half of the families have not made a practice of drifting from one location to another.

Figure IV shows the effect of the depression, the drought and the general unemployment conditions of the country. The specialization of the agriculture industry is also pictured in this figure to one who examines it closely. Seventeen percent of the families have moved looking for employment. Sixteen percent have moved because they could not pay their rent and were necessarily forced to look for other quarters. Eight percent have moved because they could not make payments on their property and the mortgage holder got the land. This is an unfortunate condition, indeed, as the people of the soil are the foundation upon which our country is built. When a man cannot make a living on the land the time
has come when the government should take a hand and educate that man to more scientific processes of tilling the soil.

Many of the families have been at one time wealthy citizens, but have lost all their possessions due to unfortunate circumstances. One old fellow mentioned the fact that at one time he could have disposed of his property and had twenty thousand dollars clear. The case was just being opened as the old fellow had come to the end of his resources, and had to call for aid.

The conditions of the one hundred families in regard to assets and liabilities is a dark picture. Sixty-seven per cent of the families had nothing to report as an asset. Their holdings in this world was so meager that they did not deem the reporting of it worth while. Many of the families had lost everything when they lost their property in real estate. Many of them had been forced to sell their furniture and other valuable articles to buy food.

Then there is another side to this tale of woe. The man who reports a large amount of pro-
property to the case worker is not liable to get any help from the county. People with property should use that property to support themselves. If there is property in the family it is liable to be hidden. Thus taking the statistics from the relief rolls is about as inaccurate a way of arriving at an assessment of property as taking a valuation from the tax rolls.

There was reported to the case worker property valued at $13,873. Most of this was owned by families who owned their homes but who could find no work, and needed money with which to buy food. Personal property was composed of furniture, chickens, an old car in a few families, and tools. Twenty-four families reported personal property. Sixteen families reported real estate. The highest valuation placed on any real estate was $3,880. The lowest valuation placed on any home was $90. The average home owner owned property which the case worker reported as worth about $500 and in very poor condition. Usually cluttered and dirty premises was the report of
the visitor. Sixty per cent of the homes were reported in poor condition, while twenty-five per cent were reported to be in good condition.

Liabilities were also an uncertain item in the statistics obtained by the poor commissioners office. When a family has no credit, it can make no debts and most of these families had exhausted all their credit before the work of gathering these statistics began. Therefore little knowledge could be gained concerning liabilities. Where a report did approach completion, the client often did not know how much he did owe. His bills were so old that he had forgotten just how much they were.

In the light of the above facts; twenty-three families reported liabilities amounting to $10,480. Sixteen per cent of the families reported that they owed so much that they could not tell and had no way of telling how much it was. Fifty-eight per cent of the families reported no debts, but the accuracy of this report is doubted.
Twenty-six per cent reported that they owed such large doctor bills that they had lost track of the amount. The hospital and doctor bills were the leading item in the indebtedness of these people. Rent accounted for nine per cent of the reported indebtedness; food for ten per cent; taxes for five per cent and unpaid mortgages another five per cent.

By subtracting the liabilities from the assets, one arrives at the sum total of $3,393 worth of property. If the one property owner who owned a home worth $3,880 were removed from the rolls; there would be a deficit of $487. Carrying this point further; with the reluctance with which these people report property, and their forgetfulness of their debts; one could logically surmise that the deficit is far beyond $487.

The nationality of the families is predominately American. Eighty per cent of them are American and come from American stock. The Germans rank second in number. There are six per cent of the clients who are Germans; one per cent who are
Russians; two per cent who are negroes; and one per cent who are Dutch. Again one is reminded of the fact, that this problem is not a problem of providing for a foreigner, but a problem of providing work and food for our own people.

Probably the most fertile field in which one might work; if they were to set out to eliminate the evils and circumstances which have caused these families to be in the unfortunate circumstances in which they are, is the teaching of a vocation.

Forty-five per cent of the men reported that they had no occupation but that of a day laborer. Uneducated, loaded with a family larger than the average American family of two children, these men struggle along without any means of making a living but by odd jobs that they may pick up here and there. Twenty-seven per cent reported that they are or had been farmers, but with the coming of machinery, they have been released from the soil with nothing else to do. Seventy-two per cent of these men are either farmers or have no occupation. One surmises that the farmers were
unsuccessful or they would not be on relief.

One of these clients, visited, was trying to farm land that was eroded to such an extent that a car couldn't drive over it. The land was situated upon the side of a very steep hill, yet this man farmed that land year after year, losing money in every crop that he sowed.

The trades which every town and city has were represented, but they were minor items. There was one butcher, one carpenter, one trucker, one cook, two blacksmiths, two painters, three railroad employees, two mechanics, and one bootlegger. The rest reported no vocation.

The work record of these men is particularly interesting. Thirty-four per cent of the men were reported by the employers from whom they worked to be very good workers. Eleven per cent were too old to work, six per cent were fair workers, sixteen per cent were poor workers, and twenty per cent would not work when a position was obtained for them. This sixteen per cent were usually loud in their denunciation of the government set-up for the administration of relief and all the people who were trying to administer to their wants and
keep them alive till something could be found for them to do.

Cases 659, 122, 193, 534, and 116 are good examples of men who are disorganized and have come to the place where they expect the government to care for them without any initiative on their part.

Mr. M. in Case 659 came to Kingman County to place his wife under her mother's care during confinement. He had neither a job nor money to live on. He expected the county to care for him. The wife's parents were not residents of this county either, having come here recently because the old lady had a brother who had a house here. The poor commissioner tried to get Mr. M. to go back to the county where he had a permanent residence, but he gave his wife's confinement as the reason for staying here in this county. He did agree to help Mr. M. providing he would return to his home county when Mrs. M. was able to travel.

Mr. M. was dishonest about his relief grocery

1. Appendix, page- 86
2. Appendix, Page- 94
3. Appendix, Page- 97
4. Appendix, Page- 103
5. Appendix, Page- 106
they originally were made for.

When Mrs. M. recovered after the baby was born, the family was sent back to the home county on county money, but in a short time Mr. M. was again in the office asking for aid. Not long after this Mrs. M. and mother were in office saying that Mr. M. had deserted. This proved to be just another means of trying to get relief. Mr. M. was given a job, but he suddenly became ill and stayed ill for two months. The doctor could not find anything wrong with him. The family could not starve, so direct relief was given him, and Mr. M. had won his case.

Case 122 is the story of a spoiled boy who cannot settle down to work. He cares for nothing but a good time. When his wife tries to prevail upon him to work or provide for her, he becomes angry and threatens her or leaves her to live with his mother.

Case 193 is another example of a worthless man. He has three children and his wife is expecting another. They have no water on their place, so do not drink enough. The wife became
sick with kidney trouble. The children went without food for two days, yet the man would not report for work when it was provided. The case worker visited the place and saw the man in the yard as she drove into the yard, but when she got into the house, he had jumped into bed and was groaning with imaginary pain.

Case 534 is the story of a man who cannot hold any position in which he is placed. The county road supervisor fires him because he is an agitator of trouble; he was jailed in Iowa for causing trouble among the workers who were there to shuck corn. His father-in-law who is a wealthy farmer in Nebraska refused to help them because they had tried to impose upon him. He had kept them for several years and had given them $1,500 at one time, but they had spent this in one year. They then came back for more help which was refused as help only made him more dependent upon society.

Case 116 is the case of a soldier who expects to be cared for by the county without working for
the commodities which are given him. A job was provided for Mr. L. but he absolutely refused to work. He appealed to the American Legion to get more aid from the county. The Legion tried to secure the facts and when it did, dropped the case.

These cases are interesting, but they are the exceptions. If work could be provided for most of the men they would gladly work, and most of them would welcome a position which would remove them from the relief rolls.

The marital status of the men who are relief clients is typical of the ordinary American rural family. Sixty-three per cent of the men are reported to be good husbands. Eighteen per cent are reported to be poor husbands. There were seven cases of divorce reported, four men who had been married twice, six men who had deserted their wife, and six cases where the father and husband was immoral. There was one case of the husband who was left by a wife. He cared for the children and kept the house clean while she was living.

with another man in Wichita. She eventually came back to her husband and gave as the reason for deserting immorality and drunkenness.

There was one case of incest reported. Mr. M. was the father of three children, one who as a girl of fifteen. Immoral relations were carried on with the girl for some time until the girl became frightened and reported the affair to the mother. The father deserted, but eventually came back to the family and the whole story was denied.

One case of rape is reported. Mr. C. was tried but evidence was insufficient to convict him. There is also a feeling among the neighbors that Mr. C. has been implicated in the burning of several buildings around his home town.

The health of the men as a whole is poor but not as poor as that of the women. Figure XIV shows thirty-two per cent of the men have good health, eight have fair health, and forty-three have poor health. Figure XIII gives the

diseases which afflict the men in poor health. Feebleness and mental disturbances rank high with seven per cent each. Feebleness is not a disturbing factor as many of the clients are old men, but mental disorganization such as described above in the men who won't work is a disturbing factor in any country or community. Cancer accounts for five per cent of the sickness and inability to work. Rheumatism accounts for another five per cent, rupture another five, and crippled bodies another five per cent. Kidney trouble accounts for four per cent, insanity two per cent, stomach trouble two per cent, bad teeth two per cent, poison in the system two per cent, and tuberculosis heart, blindness, diabetes, deafness, high blood pressure, venereal disease, and mastoid each account for one per cent.

Figure VI shows clearly that the men are not mentally equipped to make a living by any other means than by day labor. Eighty per cent of the men had an eighth grade education or less. Many
could not read nor sign their name. There were two that had one year of high school training, three had graduated from high school, one had two years of college training, and one had one year of business college training. Thus out of one-hundred relief clients there was not one who had a college education, and one who had attended college. Whether intelligent men attend college or colleges make men intelligent is a fact which has never been ascertained, but the lack of high school and college training is a glaring fact in these cases. School facilities were not as good in the days when the older men were young as they are today, but many of the men are of this generation and the children of these clients show the same lack of education.

The religions recorded for these clients are varied with the major churches ranking high. There is a decided absence of any emotional creeds. A fact which one would not expect to find. No faith has been recorded by forty-eight per cent of the
men. A few of these ask for clothes for their wife and children in order that they might attend Sunday School. Visits in the homes of the older people who have been the permanent residents for many years shows the Bible, well used, lying in a convenient place. This is not so noticeable in the homes of the younger generation and the transients.

Figure V shows the various church affiliations. The Methodist ranked high with thirteen per cent of the memberships reported. The Baptists were second with ten per cent of the memberships, there were three Catholics, two Penecostal, three Mennonites, four Christians, one each of the Tull Gospel, Holy Roller, Adventist, and Mission.

The age variations of the men shows a large per cent of them to be young men in the prime of their life. There are fewer young men than young women but more old men than old women. Figure VII shows only three per cent of the men are under twenty years of age, while there are six women
under that age for every three men. The highest per cent of the men fall between the ages of thirty-six and forty years of age. There are thirteen per cent of this age, while there are fifteen per cent of the women between these ages. Between the ages of fifty and sixty the men have a higher proportion; there being six per cent of the men between fifty-six and sixty, six per cent between the ages of sixty-one and sixty-five. The women rank four per cent and two per cent between these ages respectively. Thirty-one per cent of the men are over fifty. Twenty-two per cent of the women are over fifty. The large per cent of men over fifty leads one to suspect that they will always be relief patients and nothing but old age insurance will relieve the problem.

Figure X shows the social handicaps under which these men work. Thirty per cent have no handicaps and therefore should be self-supporting. Nine per cent have been listed as having poor mentality. By this term such men as those who won't work, those who can't understand why the government doesn't want to take care of their families
without them working, and those who show signs of being disorganized in general are included. Two per cent are entirely insane, two per cent seem to be poor managers and unable to appreciate the value of a dollar. Sixteen per cent have insanity in the family; a factor which the writer felt would tend to disorganize a family and handicap the man in making a living. Poor health which was plainly evident and so pronounced by the doctors handicapped fourteen per cent. Four per cent of the cases studied were drunkards, eight per cent were plainly too feeble to work, three per cent were too crippled to work very long at a time or steadily. One was blind and two were hard of hearing. Nineteen per cent have been listed as being social misfits. They are the ones who have also been included under the poor mentality class. They are agitators, bums, transients, criminals, bad check artists, immoral characters, and men of such disreputable character.
Drunkenness is not a common fallacy of these men. There are of course, many who drink, but the man who drinks his wages is either dropped or given grocery orders instead of money. Thus the amount of cases due to liquor is kept under five per cent.

Tobacco is rather common among these men as it is among the general population, but one feels that the man whose children are hungry at home should deprive himself of tobacco until his children are fed.

Mr. S. married an industrious girl who came from good German Catholic parents. He spent her dowery and mortgaged all the property for more than it was worth. He refused a resettlement loan with which he might have rehabilitated himself and his family. He forged his wife's name in mortgaging the property. The visitor visited the mother who had one child and was expecting another, and found her washing some small pieces for the baby. She complained that there was not enough fuel in their house to heat it. She hung
some pieces a few feet from the stove, and when the visitor left, the pieces were frozen. The family was out of groceries, and the baby was sick. The interesting thing about this case was the fact that the man smoked continually, and the wife unable to secure clothes and bedding for her children in any other way had made a comfort out of Bull Durham tobacco sacks.¹⁰

The story of the mothers and women in these cases is a pathetic one. They are the first to suffer. They are denied clothes and medical care which is so important in the personality and health of the woman. They labor and die in their efforts to reproduce children and care for them without the means which every family should have at their disposal.

The nationality of the women is practically the same as that of the men. Eighty per cent are American with Germans ranking second with seven per cent.

Figure XV shows the occupation of the mothers. One would not expect the women who are generally expected to be home makers to have an occupation, and the cases show this to be true. Records show that most of the women who work, do so in the home or in the home of others. Eighteen per cent of the women washed for the meager living that they might make. One was a teacher and one had been. Two sold whiskey. One was a prostitute, two sewed, one worked as charwoman in a hotel, and one was a stenographer.

When the mother of a family had no husband and her responsibility to her children was not to great, she was or could be placed in the county sewing room where clothing was made for the people who could not afford to buy it. This offered the mother work instead of direct relief where desired.

The marital status of the women is similar to that of the men. Figure XII shows five per cent of the women ranked below the men in good marital status or fifty-eight per cent as compared with sixty-three per cent of the men had good marital
status. There were eleven divorced women and seven divorced men. The desertions were the same, but immorality was a trifle higher in the women than in the men. Seven per cent of the women were immoral as compared with six per cent of the men.

Case 378\textsuperscript{11} is the story of a negro mother who has four children but who has never had a husband as far as can be ascertained.

Case 407\textsuperscript{12} is the study of a woman who has had so many husbands that she can not remember just how many there have been.

Case 397\textsuperscript{13} is the study of a French woman who married a negro soldier in France during the war. They returned to Kansas and settled in Kingman county. Mrs. M. had been a teacher of French in an English school. She had relatives in France but would not appeal to them for help. Her husband deserted her, got a divorce, and served a term in the penitentiary for non-support. Mrs.  

\textsuperscript{11} Case 11. Appendix. Page-- 118
\textsuperscript{12} Case 12. Appendix. Page-- 120
\textsuperscript{13} Case 13. Appendix. Page-- 123
M. did some hemstitching but that did not serve to support her, so she took up prostitution. She had three children whom she could not afford to clothe and send to school. She fell and broke her hip and died because of lack of doctor and hospital facilities.

The health of the mothers and women is a disturbing factor. It is a factor which has brought many of the clients to relief. Only sixteen per cent as Figure XIV shows, have good health. Seven have fair health, and sixty-nine per cent reported poor health. The health of the women suffer in times of depression and unemployment. Forty-three per cent of the men had poor health compared with sixty-nine per cent women.

Tuberculosis claimed four per cent of the women and one per cent of the men. Insanity claimed seven per cent of the women and only two per cent of the men. Five per cent listed their trouble as female trouble. Cancer and rupture which ranked so high in the men only affected one per cent of the women. Why insanity affected five
per cent more women than men is unknown. It may have been inherited or the woman staying in the home with the hungry children and the general destitute conditions may have been mentally affected more than the man who was able to get away from it.

The women are slightly better educated than the men as Figure VI shows. Eighty per cent had had an eighth grade or less education. This figure corresponded with that of the men, but four per cent had had two years of high school as compared with none for the men. Three per cent had had two years of college work as compared with one per cent for the men. The highest education which the men obtained was a two year college education by one per cent of the men, while three per cent of the women had two years of college, one per cent had three years, one per cent had had one year of business training. The religious recorded for the women were practically the same as that of the men, with the women showing slightly more memberships than the men.
Age variations of the women were discussed when this topic was covered under the age variations of the men. The higher per cent of young women than young men is noticeable. There were twelve per cent of the women between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-five and twenty-two per cent under the age of thirty. Fifty-one per cent are under forty and twenty-two per cent are over fifty. The women are not standing the unemployment situation as well as the men.

The propagation of these families was another item of unusual interest. There were twenty-eight per cent of the mothers who were either pregnant or had a baby in their arms under one year. There are fifty-seven per cent of the mothers under the age of forty-five and therefore should be potential mothers, but eighteen per cent of these women either were unmarried or their health was such that they could not bear children. Insane mothers in institutions, mothers who had no children because they were sterile, and mothers who were dying of some disease were classed under this group. Eighteen sterile women subtracted from fifty-seven
women under forty-five leaves thirty-nine potential mothers. Therefore seventy-four percent of the potential mothers were either pregnant or had a child under one year of age.

The story of the M.\textsuperscript{14} family serves to show well the misery which these mothers suffer, and the untold misery yet to be suffered. Mr. M. is unemployed and has nothing with which to buy food. Mr. M. has asthma and an impediment in his speech. Mrs. M. has two children. Before her first baby was born she was hit by an automobile which caused a miscarriage. The doctor advised that she not become pregnant again soon.

Two years later a son was born to this family with a hare lip and a cleft palate. He was taken to Kansas City for nine months to be treated. While he was there Mrs. M. became pregnant again and she again miscarried. The doctor advised that she must never have another child. She spent six weeks in the hospital and emerged from the hospital much improved, only to become pregnant again. A daughter was born. She is again

\textsuperscript{14} Case X. Appendix. Page--126
pregnant and expecting confinement soon. She has been very poorly and the husband remarked that he did not expect her to live through this confinement. Figure XVII shows the condition not only of this mother but of many more like her.

Figure XVI shows the number of children produced by each mother. The families average three and nine-tenths children. This makes a family of five and nine-teenths average. Eight of the mothers had no children, eleven per cent of the mothers had one child apiece, eighteen per cent of the mothers had three children each, eleven per cent of the mothers had seven children each, five per cent of the mothers had eight children each, one per cent of the mothers had nine, two per cent had ten and one per cent had eleven children.

The number of the children wouldn't be so bad but Figure XVIII shows that thirty-two per cent of the families reported that their children were in only fair health, and eighteen per cent reported good health. Figure XIX shows the diseases afflicting children under sixteen. Four
per cent of the families reported children with weak eyes. Fifteen per cent of the families reported that their children had bad stomachs or they had efficiently diagnosed the difficulty as being undernourishment. Tuberculosis claimed three per cent of the children in families. Three per cent were feeble-minded, two per cent reported gonorrhoea, and only two per cent reported tonsils. This is low, but probably correct as the county has removed most of the bad tonsils if the parents will give their permission. This can not always be secured, unfortunately for the child.

Delinquency is another factor which does not show in the records. There is a tendency to keep such matters covered if at all possible. There were seven per cent of the families reported illegitimacy for children over sixteen and four per cent reported illegitimacy for children under sixteen.

Case 112\textsuperscript{15} is a good example of how people hide illegitimacy. The daughter of the family knows the father of her child but does not want to marry him. She wished the matter to be kept
She was sent to Wichita where the child was born and no one ever knew it but her mother and sisters. The last report on the case was very encouraging. The girl was rehabilitating herself nicely, and her baby was adopted by another family.

Case 360\textsuperscript{16} is an example of incest which ranks one per cent for children under sixteen and no cases for children over sixteen. Mr. C. and Mrs. C. have seven children, all having poor health. Mr. C. was one of the families who did not want their children to have their tonsils removed. Emma was reported to be pregnant. She is a twelve year old daughter of the C's. The people of the home town suspect Mr. C of being the father of two of his other daughter's children, so the case worker asked to have Emma examined.

The parents refused to bring her to town for the examination, explaining that Emma was simply in poor health. The case worker went after her and brought her to town. The doctor told her that she was six months along. Emma denied that she was...
pregnant and there the matter rests.

Insanity was reported as being the cause of disorganization in two per cent of the families. In one case Mr. K. had seven dead children and three children alive. One daughter married an insane man. She deserted him, leaving three children to be cared for by his mother. The father was confined in the insane asylum at Larned. His mother was also insane and turned his three small children out into the snow one winter night. The three children then went to their mother's parents, the K's. Two of them are feebleminded.

Venereal disease was reported in two per cent of the families among the children under sixteen but the cases were light and were easily cured.

One per cent of the families reported that prostitution existed among their children under sixteen.

The school status of the children as shown in Figure XXI does not tell the whole

story of school attendance. Many of the families sent the children regularly when they had food and clothing but kept them at home when there was nothing for them to wear on cold winter mornings. Their intentions were good so they were classed as good in attendance. Thus there were twenty-four per cent of the families that ranked as good in attendance as compared with three per cent not in school, four per cent poor in attendance, and four per cent irregular in attendance.

The education of children over sixteen is a reproduction of the education of the parents. Fourteen per cent of the families reported that their children got no farther in school than the eighth grade. Two per cent of the children by families over sixteen had attained the second year of high school and two per cent had graduated from high school. Only in one per cent of the families had the children attended college.

Figure XXIV shows the marital status of the children over sixteen by families. Fifteen per
cent of the families had children who were married and getting along as well as could be expected. Two per cent of the families had children who had married insane partners or they had become insane after marriage. Two per cent reported that their children had been divorced.

Figure XXV shows the amount of help which the children are willing to give to their folks. Eleven per cent of the families were helped by their children, while twenty-eight per cent of the families reported that their children did not help them. This need be no indictment on the children if they are unable to help, but many of them refused to accept any responsibility for their parents.

There is little crowding of families in the relief clients in this county. Eighty-two per cent of the families reported no other families or relatives in their homes. Four per cent of the families had one of the adults mothers in the home, two per cent had a father, two per cent a sibling, six per cent had married
children, four per cent had another family in their home with them and one per cent had grandchildren living with them.

Six per cent of the people lived in the client's home because they had no work, four per cent were on relief, and four per cent had no other home in which to stay, therefore they moved in with the client.

Figure XXVIII shows that in eight per cent of the cases the family received help from the outsider who was living with them and in eight per cent of the cases they did not receive help. Figure XXVIII further shows that aid was given by the family to others who were in the home in four per cent of the cases and aid was not given to others in ten per cent of the cases.

Figure XXIX shows the social resources which the family might fall back on if an emergency existed more than just being out of work. Sixteen per cent of the families were helped by Sunday Schools, the red cross or friends. Forty-eight per cent of the families received no help.
from any agency except the county. Eighteen per cent of the families reported relatives who were on relief here or elsewhere, and one per cent of the families reported social resources who could help but wouldn't.

Figure XXX shows the social resources which the families reported. Sixteen per cent of the families reported children, twenty-four per cent of the families reported parents still alive, five per cent reported siblings, and thirteen per cent reported that there were other relatives known to be alive who might have an interest in them.
CHAPTER III

CONCLUSIONS

The material for this work previous to the present chapter has been all taken from government records which exist in the poor commissioner's office in Kingman county and are actual cases with which he works every day. The writer covered Kingman county to determine the soil conditions, the topography of the county, the conditions under which the people studied live, the authenticity of the reports, and the thoroughness with which the work is being carried out.

There has been very little subjectiveness in the previous work. Practically all the statistics may be proved if one cares to review the same one-hundred cases with which the writer has worked. Chapter one was written with the purpose of giving the reader some indication how early charity and help was administered and how the citizens of Kingman feel concerning relief and the whole problem of unemployment.
While objectiveness has been aimed at in this study of the one-hundred cases; there are places and topics which have been subject to estimation. These, unfortunately will depreciate the value of such a work as this, but as time progresses and this work progresses, it is to be hoped that the records will become more complete. With the completion of these case studies in the government offices, the sociologists will look forward to a field rich in material and potential in service. Material when properly collected from the government records will furnish and open fields for social planning untouched today.

A summary of the cases will depart from the idea of objectiveness and enter the field of subjectiveness. The writer will try to present to the reader his conclusions and in a limited way some suggestions for the future administration of poor relief.

The citizens interviewed concerning this relief situation were unanimous in their belief that men should not be given relief if they refuse to work. From this one would conclude that
these citizens were not ready for the straight dole. These men who had made their way unassisted were inclined to favor the rugged individualism of the early pioneer. They did not believe in allowing the women and children to suffer. They believed that the poor should control the size of their family. But the thing that the writer noticed more than any other item when the interview was held, was the fact that they were very uncertain just what was to be done and where the present system and procedure would lead. They all had the feeling that we were facing a brick wall and where and which way to turn was still a moot question with them. This uncertainty will have to crystalize in the minds of men before desirable profitable legislation can be made and carried out. This crystalization will be slow, and there will have to be a certain amount of education of both the relief client and the taxpayer. The public will have to gradually become educated to the problem of public work.
The Federal government and the state and local governments will eventually reach the place where extensive public works and extensive public spending will be carried on in times of depression, and in times of prosperity the government can and should withdraw as much as possible from large expenditures and save for the time when there is again a period of general decline in prices and many frozen assets.

The county is seventy-five per cent normal, the depression and the drought are responsible for one-half of the relief cases, and sixty to seventy-five per cent of the cases will become independent if the county comes back to normality. These estimates were made by the county agent and the resettlement advisor. The poor commissioner made the estimation that there are probably two hundred permanent cases upon the permanent relief roll of this county. After studying these cases, the writer believes that this estimation is too high by far, and that the estimation of the county agent and the resettlement advisor are more nearly correct.
The personal for the administration of relief is capable, due to the qualifications set up by the federal government. The salary is insufficient to demand highly qualified men, yet by the help of the Kansas Emergency Relief Commission the salary has been increased to the place where men who are interested in the service may live comfortably.

The writer firmly believed that the position as poor commissioner and case worker should be placed under the Civil Service and merit system. It is further suggested that the title of the poor commissioner be changed to a more desirable name to designate his work. The writer would suggest some title such as County Social Advisor. There is plenty of social work to be done in every county in the United States to keep a qualified man employed profitably and continually.

The outline for guidance in the gathering of the material on these families is very good and is included in the appendix. The work is

1. Suggested outline for the organization of information obtained from the first interview. Appendix. Page 63
in its infancy and still in the process of birth in some places, but the purpose and method are highly encouraging and what reports that exist are believed to be authentic.

Conclusions relative to the cases studied with suggestions where a suggestion seems appropriate to remedy the situation follow:

1. These families are permanent residents of this county in the predominate number of instances.
2. The largest per cent of these families have lived in this county for a period over twenty years.
3. The largest per cent of these families have never moved. The next largest per cent have moved only once.
4. The reason given for the greatest per cent of the moves has been the desire to find work. The next reason has been unpaid rent, followed closely in per cent by the unstable family.
a. The suggestion to remedy the necessity of moves in the family is the elaborate program of public works in times of depression. The money for such a purpose will have to be raised from an emergency fund today, but it is to be hoped that the federal government can in the future periods of prosperity lay aside a sum in anticipation of the next period of depression.

5. The predominate number of clients have indicated that they have no church membership.
   
a. The writer believes that a plan of religious instruction should be given in our school systems. Not a creed, but the instruction of the child in ethics.

6. The average client has an eighth grade education or less.
   
a. The compulsory attendance law should be made to include a high school
education. Children who will live in farming communities should be taught vocational agriculture or other vocations in which they are interested. Girls should be instructed more extensively in home making, sewing, cooking, and the proper care of children.

B. Until the above program can be carried to realization, literature should be furnished to the young mothers, girls, and any other persons interested in the proper methods of conducting a home. Schools of instruction should be held where the individual attending might have any personal question answered and demonstrations of proper methods given, in cooking, sewing, child care, or any other phase of home making of general interest.

7. There are many old people on relief, but most of the relief clients are of the
age where they ought to be self sustaining and the writer believes they would be if they could find the means to do so.

a. A general old age insurance policy is believed to be advisable. It should be rather conservative and subject to any old person over sixty years of age. Also any person under sixty years of age who can prove by doctors examination that he is unable to work, and can prove by an examination of the county social worker that he has no means of sustainance, could enjoy the benefits of this insurance policy.

8. The clients are American citizens and not foreigners.

9. Close to half of these men have no occupation, and over one-fourth are or have been farmers.

a. The educational program as suggested will solve this problem.
10. The social handicaps of the men are not outstanding and it is to be hoped that a good social worker will be able to keep them close to the average for the general population.

11. The average client has a work record that is good. The man who has a poor record of work or refuses to work is a case for the social worker and sociologist to handle.

12. The marital status is predominately good, but there is a fertile field for the social worker here. He will find much of his work in adjusting marital conditions. This sort of work will call for highly qualified men.

13. With over half and almost three-fourths of the women in poor health, there seems to be an urgent need for social medicine. Public clinics, public nurses and public doctors seem to be a necessity.
14. With the family averaging very nearly six, the health of the mothers poor, and the wages of the father low; the writer would suggest confidential diffusion of knowledge concerning birth control.

a. Sterilization should be compulsory for the insane, feebleminded, the epileptic and other incompetent people, at the doctor and social worker's demand. Any other who desired could be sterilized with the doctor's permission free of charge.

15. The problem of others in the home is not critical, and would be solved completely under the above program as suggested.

Thus the situation exists and should be handled in the mind of the writer.
APPENDIX

SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR THE ORGANIZING OF INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE FIELD INTERVIEW

(Note: The first interview, primarily, is the case worker's report of the client's story.
In reporting the interview it is not necessary to repeat "He said" or "She said." It will be understood, unless otherwise noted in the history, that the material in the history is the client's version. It is necessary, therefore, whenever the case worker inserts anything in the report of the first interview that does not come from the client, i.e., information from other sources, or the impressions or opinions of the case worker, to carefully label the source of each material.)

OUTLINE

I. Source, (Person, interview) ....

II. Time and place of interview.

Referral: If the client has been referred to some other person or organization give the name and address of referring party.
(Note: The first interview, primarily, is the case worker's report of the client's story. In reporting the interview it is not necessary to repeat "He said" or "She Said". It will be understood, unless otherwise stated in the history, that the material in the history is the client's version. It is necessary, therefore, whenever the caseworker inserts anything in the report of the first interview that does not come from the client, i.e. information free from other sources, or the impressions or opinions of the caseworker, to carefully label the source of such material.)

OUTLINE

1. Source. (Person interview)

II. Time and place of interview.

Referral; If the client has been referred to some other person or organization give the name and address of referring party.
III. Exact address and directions for reaching the home.

IV. Request of the client.

V. Family set-up.
   A. List the members of the family giving names, ages, relationship to head of family, date and place of birth.
   b. Give an explanation for the presence of anyone in the family group who does not appear to belong in it.

VI. Settlement.
   Length of time family has lived in present home, in community, in county, in state, any city. Get exact dates for recent movements of the family and be sure that residence status is clearly defined. Where is the family's legal settlement for purposes of relief?

VII. Present situation.
   a. What has caused the client to apply at this time?
   B. How has the family been managing to get along without relief?
   c. What effort has been made to secure
employment, obtain credit, borrow money or utilize other resources?
Are all employable members registered at the United States employment office?

VIII. Assets.

a. Real estate and buildings (describe it)
   1. Assessed value
   2. Approximate market value
   3. Income from property
   4. Condition of property

b. Working capital
   1. Live stock
   2. Farm or other machinery
   3. Garden or crops
   4. Other

c. Personal property
   1. Household belongings
   2. car
   3. Bank or Postal savings
   4. Stock or bonds
   5. All debts, moneys or goods owed to the client.
6. Insurance
   a. Name of company
   b. Amount of policy
   c. Loan value
   d. Surrender value
   e. Indebtedness against
   f. Years in force
   g. Other information

7. Income
   1. All real property
   2. All working capital (Cash or income in kind such as milk, butter, eggs and such)
   3. All personal property.
   4. Pensions or compensation benefits
   5. Estimated income from odd jobs
      a. Cash or kind
      b. Amount
   6. All other income
IX. Liabilities

a. Total indebtedness against real property.
   1. Mortgages or notes.
      a. To whom given
      b. Amount
      c. Date due

2. Taxes
   a. Amount of annual taxes
   b. Number of years delinquent
   c. Total amount due

3. All other encumbrances.
   b. Total indebtedness against working capital
   c. Total indebtedness against personal property
   d. Total amount owed on Insurance policies
   e. Bills owed.
      1. Grocery, Rent, clothes, doctor, hospital, personal loans.
   f. All other debts or obligations.
X. Analysis of family (It is important that the following information be obtained sooner or later for the Case history. This fact should be borne in mind during the first interview and all pertinent remarks be recorded. This part of the interview should not be forced. If time is limited it should be left out altogether.)

A separate paragraph should be devoted to each member of the family showing:

a. For the men
   1. Background
      a. Type of home maintained by parents
      b. Occupation of parents
      c. Number in family
      d. Home and school training
      e. Religious history
      f. Recreation and companionship
g. Marital history

1. Previous marriages
   a. Dates
   b. Name of spouse
   c. Names and birth of children
   d. Reason for dissolution of marriage and date.
   e. Other pertinent information.

2. Present Marriage
   a. Courtship and marriage
   b. Date and place
   c. Domestic relationship.
   d. Recreation and companionship
   e. Signs of family
   f. Ambitions
   g. Responsibility and stability
h. Initiative
  i. Activity
  j. Temperments and tastes
  k. Courage
  l. Forethought and thrift

m. Sense of justice

a. Health history
  1. General physical conditions
  2. Previous illnesses
  3. Physical handicaps
  4. Names and addresses of doctors, hospitals and clinics where he is known

i. Work history
  1. Names and addresses of employers
  2. Dates of beginnings and endings of jobs
3. Kind of work done
4. Average weekly wage
5. Reason for leaving
6. What has been done since last regular job.
7. Special skills
8. Work preferences
9. Prospects for employment

2. Attitudes
   a. Degree of dependency upon others
   b. Pride
   c. Self respect
   d. Attitude toward work
      1. Wants real work
      2. Prefers relief to work
      3. Feels the "World owes him a living"
      4. Feels the world owes him a chance to work for his living
Attitudes toward the relief administration and the workers

1. Friendly
2. Confiding
3. Cooperative
4. Reticent
5. Distrustful
6. Antagonistic
7. Sullen
8. Wants to place all responsibility on worker
9. Wants to make his own plan with the least possible help from agency
10. Other significant attitudes

b. For the woman.

1. Background (Use the same outline as for men)
2. Attitudes (Use the same outline as for men)
c. **Children of working age at home**

1. **Work history** (Use same outline as for men)
2. **Health history** (Use same outline as for men)
3. **Home and school training** (Including religious training)
4. **Recreation**
5. **Sense of home responsibility**
6. **Reaction of children towards parents.**
7. **Reaction of parents toward children**
8. **Marital history, if any** (Use the same outline as for men)

d. **Children below working age**

1. **Health history** (Same as above)
2. **Home, school and religious training**
3. **Recreation**
4. **Aptitudes**
5. **Reaction of children towards parents**
6. Reaction of parents toward children

e. All others in the home

XI. Social resources

a. Relatives (Give names and addresses of closest relatives)
b. Parents
c. Children not in the home
d. Siblings
e. Names and addresses of friends who might help
f. Church and lodge connection and the possibility of help from these sources
g. Union membership
h. Others

XII. References

Get from the client the names and addresses of three or four dependable persons in the community who know the client and who can be consulted about the client.
XIII. Sidelights
All information or incidents brought out by the interview which throw interesting side lights on clients personality, attitudes, family relationships, adjustment difficulties, and other matters of interest.

XIV. Analysis
Tentative analysis by interviewer of outstanding strengths and weaknesses in the clients situation.

XV. Disposition of Case
Intake interviewers disposition of case

a. Rejected, with reasons for rejection

b. Accepted for further investigation.
CASE No. 340

FAMILY SET UP: Mr. E. is 63, American, blacksmith, Christian, and in fair health. Mrs. E. is 63, American, Christian, and in fair health. Veda, a daughter, is a saleslady and in good health.

PRESENT SITUATION: Mr. E. worked in a blacksmith shop in Meade, Kansas for about six weeks. But after harvest this work ceased and E. has been home since unable to find work. Mrs. E. does washing and ironing but does not make enough to keep the family.

ASSETS: Family owns home in which they now live. They say that they have $1500 equity in the property and have been trying to get a loan on the property. Family's household furniture is worth about $100. Working capital consists of chickens. E. says that the chickens are not netting family anything as they have to buy feed for them.
LIABILITIES: Family has a mortgage on $1,600 home.

SOCIAL BACKGROUND: E. has been a farmer and at one time he owned his own farm, but it seems he was unable to make farming pay, so he moved to town. Veda used to be a breadwinner for the family; she has had two years of college work in Tennessee. She taught one year in Butler county, but she did not enjoy teaching and later became a saleswoman. E. had a sixth grade education and Mrs. E. also had a sixth grade education.

ANALYSIS: E. is too old to get a good job, thus as he does not have savings to depend upon, he needs relief. Veda seems intelligent and energetic, but some reason or other she has never been able to get work as a saleswoman in Kingman. She has been offered many housekeeping and hired girl jobs, but she does not take them as she feels she should have something better. The family has a son who lived in Florida, the
last time they heard from him. But they claim he is now in the CCC. It seems he is single now but has been married.

Visitor called to inquire whether Veda would be interested in the housing project. Veda had been busy washing all day. She was just finishing the mopping when V. entered. Mrs. E. had not gained her strength back since her last illness. Veda was very much interested in housing project. The budget will be raised if she takes this work so as to allow her clothing. All her clothing is somewhat of rundown condition. E. in office wanting work. V. interviewed place where he last worked. Found that the man was a hard and good worker. Getting old but is willing. Veda likes her work, but it seems that she does not get many signers. She has no employment in view. Word came to the office that the family had gone to Florida. Five months later E. was in office to make application for aid. He and his family have
been in Florida with a son who lives in Miami. The son is a fisherman. Since they were not gone for six months, they retained their settlement here.

E. in the office. He wanted to talk to the poor commissioner. The manager of the re-employment office had called and said that he could not place E. on WPA project as E. had been assigned to take work last fall and did not accept it. Said that he could not re-assign work. E. said he would have to have a grocery order. V. talked with E. about the necessity of a grocery order. V. asked what Veda was doing. He said that she had a job at a restaurant. She receives five dollars a week but E. protested that she was a woman and he couldn't expect her to take care of him and wife. V. told E. that in emergencies people were expected to do things that they were not expected to do in a permanent plan. Since Veda is living at home, she should contribute something to the E's for room rent,
if nothing else. E. finally agreed. V. talked with the county engineer. County engineer told V. to tell E. to report for work.

LETTERS ON FILE:

Chicago, Illinois
January 19, 19-

Dear Sir: I would like to know what right you or any Kingman man has to tell these people in Chicago that we haven't any thing in Kansas that we lost our property that I Mr. E. can't have C. W. A. work there because we've been gone since June 1st we stored our things in our house and came to Chicago just in order to make a living and succeeded until Nov. 17 the company my daughter was working for went on the rocks so now its impossible to get work we went to the place here where they supply government money for transients but they have to have a recommendation from the head of our home town and instead of your giving us a kind word you have ruined us by telling them
that you cannot authorize our return to Kansas that we were not eligible and that I cannot get C. W. A. there I would like to know what authorized you to give out such false information as this and whose money are you using for C.W.A. President Roosevelt did this for all unemployed white or black young or old you can't have Kingman pets altogether on this work for they tell me here that I will get CWA there as my home is there. Why I have payed taxes and lived in Kansas since 1915 have lived paid taxes and voted for Kingman men three years and have always tried to be a good citizen never been in jail or into any trouble of any kind but yet you tell these people here that we are not authorized to come back to Kansas and not even eligible almost black mail I call it. Why did you do this. You could at least give us a good word. Our place there is not foreclosed on I have kept in touch with the man who holds
the mortgage and he will consent to the federal loan that's one reason why we are so anxious to get there you had no right to say such things and you owe us an apology.

Now please write us at once and tell us that we are eligible. so we can get this travel money here it doesn't mean a red cent out of your pockets and I know you would do it for your Mexican and negro citizens won't you do it for an American born white man and his family. Please write us by return mail for we're coming whether you want us or not and there is such things as men like you getting into trouble guess you heard about Mr. Domre here the president of the Federal Loan Co. he favored his close friends and relation and he didn't hold his job with them very long.

I request an answer to the fixing things so I can come back or can get this government money to come on I hope you will just put yourself in my place and for once in your life remember
the Golden Rule you're a church member so act accordingly. I'll see you when I return but let me hear at once.

Very respect

Please rush an answer I want to take it to the head lady of this co and be on my way home it won't cost you anything.

(Some errors in spelling corrected. Legibility fair but no punctuation.)

Selma, Alabama April 23, 19-

Dear Miss Cragin: We are on our way home having a very hard time of it short on money. I am writing this to you and hope you will have work that Veda and I both can start right in on as soon as we get there. We will surely be on sufferance when we arrive and hope you can have something we can do. Be sure and help us. Will see you soon. Please help us. Very respect--

Mr. E.

(Money sent by county to them before they got home.)
Miami Beach, Florida  

Jan. 7, 19-

Dear Miss Cragin: I am writing to you as you were our case worker. Hoping you will take this up at the Court House and help us to get back home. You see our son sent us the money to come to him in time the hurricane it was bad we were to go home in about six weeks have been here eight weeks want to get home so bad and since the storms he hasn't been so he can get the money for us when the season opens up they put the rent and living expenses up so poor people can't hardly live here this is the season when the rich people came here to spend their money in this warm place today the 7th of January is like in June in Kansas but I want to be there Miss Cragin take this up and help us to get back. Were getting a little dole when we left $4.50 per week if that continued it would amount to a round enough to pay our expenses you see we have to pay 24 cents a gal for gas for the car and we are two thousand five hundred miles
from home please do this at once so anxious and
its miles from home please do this as its
necessary for us to be there. I am trusting
you. As ever

Mrs. E.

(Took one half hour to make this letter out.
The writing looks like duck tracks and the
spelling is that of a second grader--no "E"
and capital letters in the middle of every word.
Well, anyway the county had to do it. This is
only a beginning of their trips but it is all
that is on record. They are still on relief.
It is about time for them to travel again.
They always seem to manage to get there but never
to get back. They are now planning to go to
California.
December 4, 1934 Mr. M. came to the office asking for relief. He has been in Kingman county only a few days and as he is expecting his wife's confinement in a week or two, he says that he cannot go back to Salina where he has a legal residence. Mr. and Mrs. M. and children are living with her parents at the present who moved to Kingman from Salina about two months ago. Mr. M's reason for coming to Kingman was that he wished his wife's mother, who is a practical nurse to take care of his wife. The reason the wife's parents came to Kingman was because the wife's brother had a house in Kingman. The V. told M. that Kingman county could not do anything for them as they had a legal residence in Salina. She suggested that Mr. M. go back to Salina in two months and if he would promise that, Kingman county could give them aid temporarily. Mr. M. promised thus the V. took an application. Mr. M. was
born in Missouri on a farm and received an 8th grade education. He is twenty-five and she twenty-four.

At the age of nineteen he went to the oil fields in Tulsa and worked there for about six years. After that he went to Hays and worked in the oil fields there for about two years. Then he moved to Salina.

Mrs. M. was born in Illinois. She had an eighth grade education and when her father died she was placed in an orphan home because her mother married again. Mr. and Mrs. M. met in Salina and were married. Their daughter is a year old and has been ill with colitis.

The commodity slip of Mr. M. came back changed. The slip was for twenty-six pounds of potatoes and had been changed to read thirty-six. The V. called on Mr. M. to tell him the slip had been changed. Mr. M. came to the door. A brother-in-law was ill in bed. He was a trucker and it seems that he had just come home from the hospital. The V. told Mr. M
about the slip. He said that he did not understand how such a thing could happen. He had given the slip to his brother-in-law and he got them thirty-six pounds of potatoes. The V. asked Mr. M. if he did not sign the slip and he said that he did, but he could not change it. The V. said that because their residence was in Salina that Kingman county had done all they could do for them and that his name would be taken off the work list. The brother-in-law spoke up then and said that he had lived in this dump about long enough. He said that he knew where he could find out a few things. He had a few connections by which he could find out why his brother could not get into the CCC and why people had to have legal residences and could not be anywhere else. The V. explained that they received their orders from Topeka and had to obey them. The V. told Mr. M. that changing his commodity slip was
a penitentiary offense. That a carbon copy of the original slip was in the office. She said that his name would go off the work list and left.

Mr. M. came to the office and wanted a grocery order. He said he had no way of getting to Salina. V. said they would buy their bus tickets but Mr. M. said he wanted the money instead. V. of course wouldn't do that. So tickets were bought for the morning bus.

In September the M's and their three children and Mrs. M's mother were back. Mrs. M. and her mother came in the office asking for relief. V. asked her when the family came to Kingman. She said that they came Feb. 9th. V. explained that she had no legal residence in Kingman as it takes one year to establish a legal settlement, but six months will lose a residence. Kingman county had sent family
to Salina where they had a legal residence in January, then they had turned around and come back. As they have not been here a year, they have no legal residence. The mother was quite excited and talked emphatically saying that everybody told her relief would be given after six months residence and her daughter and children had to be taken care of. She could not take care of them but V. was paid to work here and if she refused to do something they would go to the county. V. explained that this office was the county office. Mother did not listen.

Mrs. M. said that her husband had deserted her, she doesn't know where he is, her children must have milk. He worked on pavement this spring. V. suggested they see county attorney and try to locate M. but she was not interested in this. Apparently family wanted relief in place of locating M. V. then explained that if M. is not in Kingman county family is not
establishing a residence as the family's residence is considered to be where M's residence is. Family left office saying that something was going to be done here.

Believe that M. is not gone but thinks family will receive help if they put up that story.

Since he changed the commodity slip he won't come back to office.

M. in office asking for commodities. He had taken it up with the commissioners but on interviewing the commissioners he had found that they would not help him. M. argued since he had been here six months he was entitled to help, but investigation found he hadn't been. Grocers in town are sending large bills to county office saying that M. owes them.

Sheriff brought mother of Mrs. M. to office. She wants to put M. in jail then the county will have to take care of children and her.
She says that M is a crook. Mrs. M. is pregnant again. Investigation found that M. is engaged in petty thieving.

Mrs. M. in office wanting some clothes for baby and since this is not the baby's fault, a layette was authorized.

M. in office saying he had to have work. So work given him and money order for groceries paid. Baby born Feb. 12, 19_7

Grocer called V. and said Mrs. M. had been in and that she had said she had an order coming but since it was Saturday afternoon she couldn't get it but that she had called V. and V. had said for her to buy. Grocer gave her the groceries but no money had come and he wondered if a fast one had been pulled on him. V. told him there was nothing to Mrs. M's story.
Mrs. M. in office for groceries and commodities. She says that M. is ill, children have colds, family is out of groceries. V. gave her a four dollar order and told her that M. must work it out when he was well.

For two months M. has been ill but the doctor can't find anything wrong with him except what he says himself. Can't let family starve so grocery orders have been given.
CASE No. 122

Man is 18, an American, has lived here all his life, belongs to the Christian church and is in good health.
The woman is 17, an American, belongs to the Church of Christ and has good health. They have one son who is seven months old.

Man's mother lives in the back of the house. She owns the property. At present she has no steady work. Man thinks he may have to help keep his mother before the winter is over.

During the summer the man drove a tractor for a construction company. He could go on with the Company to Iowa and back, but he doesn't think he can make enough to pay him to go. Another reason man decided not to go is that his wife is pregnant, and is expecting confinement in about two months.

They own nothing and have no working capital
Man has done some carpenter work, labor on pavement and odd jobs. Woman's parents are on relief. Man as the youngest of a large family and it seems that he was spoiled by his mother. He had an eighth grade education. Woman was born in Penalosa. She has had two years of high school. Man and woman were married real young, before either had a chance to have learned how to earn a living or do house work.

Past employers said that if man would settle down and not be so wild he could get a job. He runs around to dances all the time and tears around. Sometime man and woman are going to get a divorce. Wife lives with her parents a while then decides not to get a divorce. Part of the time man lives with his mother who is a widow. Woman needs clothing for baby. Authorized.

Employer said that man owes him a bill and that he intends to try to get him to work
it out. He said that the man is hard to get any work out of, he will not work unless he is forced to do so, especially if it is a bill he is to work out. The wife is with her parents most of the time. Later V. in home of wife's parents. They told V. that man does not help support his wife and baby. When he receives checks he spends money on himself and gambles.

New baby. Mother sick in bed. Didn't have a doctor until too late. Man left her. The only way to get money to her is to give the check directly to her or give them a grocery order.

Man in office saying that he wants the money not grocery orders. Woman said that he had threatened her if she got any more of the grocery orders.
CASE No. 193

HISTORY: They live on a farm eight miles from town where they have no water, but have to carry it from the neighbors and therefore do not exert themselves to keep clean. The home is not clean and wholesome. They have three children now and another ready to be born. The children are undernourished. They live in an old house of five rooms occupying three of the rooms, while another family occupy the two front rooms. They had a child die last year. Mr. S. said that he needed a girl to take care of his wife as she had a cold and a sore on her leg. He thought that she should not be out of bed, but he said that she did not want to stay in bed. Hired a girl for a few days. County and a benevolent society made clothes for the baby and gave some sheets. County gave the family a grocery order.
In April Mr. S. called in office asking for a grocery order. He said that he would get a check of seven dollars Saturday but needed groceries immediately. Asked if he wasn't working every week. Since 1933 he had been on indirect relief. Mr. S. said he wasn't working. Called at the Work Supervisor's office and asked if Mr. S. had been receiving work slips. Shown where he had received thirty hours each week but had not reported for work. When asked why he said his oldest girl had the measles. He was asked if his wife could not take care of the child and he said that he wanted to be home with her.

A week later S. was in office asking for groceries. He had not received his last week's check as he had not worked. His wife was sick, was his only excuse. His application was turned down. He threatened to steal unless he was given some food.
Neighbor came in to report that the children were hungry. W. called and found all the family in the yard. They had a bad color and the baby looked blue. They reported that they had not eaten for two days. Man had not worked, but seemed necessary to leave a three dollar order. Man gave as an excuse the fact that he was looking for another house to live in.

Doctor called at the S. home. Mrs. S. had poisoned kidneys. She hadn't been drinking any water for two or three days. Doctor was very much disgusted. He said that anyone would have poisoned kidneys if they didn't drink water just because it didn't taste good.

V. called. Two small children had started on an eight mile walk to get a quart of milk. S. had not worked for several days. The excuse was that his wife was too ill and there was nothing to eat in the house, and a man couldn't work without any thing to eat.
Talked to a Mrs. M. who raised S. She said that he went to the fourth grade in school. He never could understand things very well. He married his wife in Texas. Mrs. M. helped them some. She thought that S. might be made to work if his children were taken away from him. V. told S. that unless he worked he might loose his children. He told of an instance in Texas when they had threatened to take his children unless he went to work. He said that he worked a while then.

Mrs. S. in office after another grocery order.

Received a letter from a Texas Transient Bureau that the family were in Fort Worth asking authorization of return. Authorized it. Received a letter from an Oklahoma Bureau that the family was in Ardmore and wanted authorization to return them. Return was authorized. The family had sold everything they had had and started for Texas in an old car. Mr. S. had given a bad check for the car, then he had sold it when he got out of town.
Case worker in home in September. It was dirty, the children were dirty and not in school because of lack of clothing. One child had a very infected foot which looked very serious. Advised that they see a doctor.

October Mr. S. in office asking for clothing for children. Merchant wants a ten dollar grocery bill paid.

Mr. S. in office after order. Says that if it is refused he will steal. Authorized, but he was told he would have to work it out.

A doctor called and told V. that the family was in the office after medicine. He refused to bother with them any more, and was sending them over to the relief office. The woman's step-mother has come to live with them. Order given for some Lysol and cotton to use on baby's sore face. Later Mrs. S. came after medicine for children. They had been sent home from school because of the sores on their body. Medicine granted.
April—one of the girls called at the office with a note asking for a grocery order. V. called at the home, and saw Mr. S. run into house. When she got there he was in bed sick. Mrs. S. showed V. the cupboard which was completely bare.

Called to find if S. would or would not work. He finally decided that he must go to Hutchinson where he was supposed to have a job. Didn’t go. Threatened to deny him all work, but this is what he wants. S. threatened to go to Oklahoma where he could get some real relief.

Interviewed timekeeper who thought S. was a loafer, and that he was worthless on a job. He is trying to collect compensation for an injury to his back.
CASE 534

PROBLEM: To get this man to realize that it is his responsibility and not the county's to take care of his family.

Resources: This family does not own any property. The woman had inherited around $1000 dollars from her mother's estate but they had run through with it in a very short time. A sister who is a teacher helps them occasionally.

ATTITUDE: Mr. C. signed up for WPA and worked four days that month, then the complaint came from the man in charge to not send him back as he would not work and created dissatisfaction among the rest of the men. He then went to Iowa to shuck corn. While there he was thrown in jail for being a spy and agitator.

Mr. C. sent his wife only $7.50 while he was away saying that he needed the rest of his wages to buy himself warm clothing. Mrs. C
came to office saying that her poor little babies were hungry. When the man returned home he was given a good position but created so much disturbance that he was fired. He later picked a fight with the county commissioner and some blood was shed. That did not satisfy him, so he hunted another commissioner and fought him. He was jailed for these assaults for eight days. When he got out he sought more trouble and was again placed in jail for sixty days.

Mrs. C's father is a wealthy farmer in Nebraska. He has helped them considerably, but they tried to beat him out of his home, so after giving them several thousand dollars, he determined that they would be better if they were independent. His help seemed to make them more dependent upon him.

Mrs. C. is a very thin woman and does not look well. She has had all her teeth out
and never has gotten any more. The baby is sick, but the rest of the children are well. Mr. C. is strong in the back, but seems to be weak in the head.

The standard of living is very low. The county commissioners gave her a stove and coal, and also a bed and mattress was furnished when they found she was sleeping upon a pasteboard box.

The landlord asked them to move if they weren't going to pay any rent and Mr. C. said that he would beat up on him and he probably would if he tried to make them get out.

The children are all practically naked and one can tell by their color they don't have enough or the right kind of food. There are three children.
CASE No. 116

Man's occupation is a laborer, American, age 45, white, an ex-service man, 26 years resident, no church membership, and he has stomach and lung trouble.
The mother is an American, 4 years a resident, a Baptist, and in fair health. She is 18 years old.
Two children in fair health.
Property valued at $22 which consists of a few tools, some old furniture and 12 chickens. They owe a $12.50 doctor bill.

Man's last regular employment was in Wichita in 1931. He is a day laborer.

RELATION: Wife's sister on relief and man's sister living in city ice plant. They have a family and earn about $4.00 a month.

They live in a dirty two room house. There is no order. Things are piled around, the
floors are dirty and greasy, and there is a sickening smell about the whole place. Mr. L's mother lives in the other part of the small house. The county keeps her. L was raised in Iowa and Nebraska. He has very little education, and has made the harvests for many years.

V. in the home in February. Mr. L. unable to get work. He is picking up old papers and sorting them to sell. He has spells of choking. His health was ruined in the army he claims. He thinks the country will soon be in a war.

In March found all dirty, wife expecting another child. County called doctor to help with case. Clothing made for new baby.

Mr. L. quite his job on the pavement as the cement was hard on his lungs. Found him another position but he refused to work.
Mr. L. wrote to the American Legion that he was not being treated fairly. The legion looked into the case and dropped it.

Mr. L. came to the office. They have moved over the Farmer's grocery store. They have only one room and it is quite crowded. The baby was born in August.

In January Mr. L. again came to office to make application for work or aid. They have been unable to buy clothing for the family. In investigating found that neither of the L's have any education.
CASE No. 230

Man is 39, an American, two years resident, a Baptist, and is partially paralyzed.
Wife is 31, American, two years resident, a Baptist, and in good health.
There are seven children all under 10.

Man has a large family and his business has failed and he has no income. They have no property whatever except a very small amount of furniture. They seem to be industrious.

BACKGROUND: The man is an ex-service man and has at one time received $18 a month compensation. He has tried to sell bread for a Wichita company. He leased a lunch room in Norwich, but could not meet his bills and lost the business. He has had jake paralysis. They are back $24 rent and $80 groceries.
Mrs. P. has been given work in the sewing room and Mr. P has been keeping the children. Family suddenly moved to Mulvane and opened a cafe, but were unsuccessful, and Sedgwick
county asked that Kingman county authorize their return.

V. Called and found children under care of Mr. P. Children seem to have the itch. There is no income whatever, and the mother has deserted her family and is living with another man in Wichita. V. left a grocery order. Clothing made for the children in the sewing room. Mr. P. seems to keep them very clean. Girls were very pleased with the new dresses.

V. called as she had heard that family was hungry. They were. Man seems to be ashamed that he can't make his own way. He is also very humiliated that his wife should desert him and children.

Wife back to live with her husband again. Her father says that the husband is a habitual drunkard. The wife deserted because of this. They are going to try to patch things up and live together again.
CASE No. 652.

Man is 48, American, lived here ten years, a Methodist, and in fair health.

Wife is 36, American, a Methodist, and in fair health.

They have lived in Nashville six years and in Zenda eleven years. She works at the hatchery in spring. She cannot stand work like she used to. His work is very uncertain. They own their place and pay $15.24 a month on it, but are back three payments and have four more years to pay on it. Two children are in high school. They have 20 chickens. They have no savings account. He has an insurance policy of $1000. She has a goitre and an tumor. Children are well.

Visited them today, wife is working at hatchery. She takes all the work she can get, the man would let her make the living if she would, and she were strong enough.
Father deserted his family, son wants to work in his place. There seems to be family trouble.

Mother in office and told V. that the family trouble was a case of incest. The father had told his twelve year old daughter that it was all right for them to have intercourse and that all girls did so. They had intercourse for several years until the girl found that she was quite unsocial. She then became terribly afraid of the father. She wouldn't stay in the home and the mother had found the trouble eventually and had caused the husband to leave. She desired to have him stay away. V. took her to dinner and she appeared very hungry.

Man back in the community. They are going to try to get along again. Woman is hesitant about talking to daughter. The daughter will not stay in the home. Woman tried to get a loan on their property, but they have too
much borrowed on it now. She feels that she cannot make the living as she is having much mental nervousness due to the goitre and marital trouble.

Case closed as both have a harvest position.
CASE No. 759

Father; 22 years old
Mother; 18 years old
Daughter; one year old

The man and woman live in a house with the Woman's parents. They board together thus hoping to save money. Man is supposed to pay $12 a month rent, but has not been able to do so. They have no assets.

Man and woman have lived here about eight years. He was born in Oklahoma. They have always farmed, but depends on day labor now for his living and is now working on relief.

The wife graduated from the Spivey high school and the man graduated from the eighth grade but went no farther.

The man's mother and aunt and uncle of the woman are all on relief.
Man signed for the CCC but did not show up. He was charged with rape and was tried in Kingman county courts but there was not enough evidence to convict him. Neighbors believe that he is burning buildings.

Man in office. He must have direct relief. His wife must have an operation. County must take care of her.
CASE No. 169

Father is 32, of German American descent, a Catholic, and in good health. The wife is 34 and of the same stock. They have one daughter 18 months old and are expecting another.

Mr. S. called at office asking for help. All of his stock is mortgaged and the holder of the mortgage will not take them for the mortgage.

Mrs. S. has been a school teacher and has saved $4000 and her grandparents had willed her several dollars with which they bought the farm upon which they lived. She had two sisters in Washington who worked for the government and two brothers who held college degrees. Her husband has mortgaged all the property and spent all their money trying to farm. She said that he had forged her name on the mortgages in order that he might get more money to spend. She came from a family of ten children but they had been honest and her husband wasn't. They had nothing but some
sandhill plums in the basement to eat. Mr. S. smokes Bull Durham tobacco and she has made a quilt from the tobacco sacks to keep her children warm. Visited and found family in cold kitchen. She was washing and the pieces froze in the house before the V. left.

They lost their farm and the husband is trying to build a house in town. He served in the army and thinks that he will get a bonus.

He was honorably discharged, but reenlisted. He deserted was caught and sent to prison. He also received a dishonorable discharge.

He probably will not get any bonus, and the house is about half done.

Woman in office begging for something to feed her babies. They are on direct relief.
CASE No. 378

FAMILY SET UP: Colored mother, 41 years old, a son who is 26, a daughter 18, son 16, and son 2.

HISTORY: Woman has lived in Kingman county for the past 18 years. She was in Wichita for four years before they came to this county. They came from Louisiana. The place where they live belongs to the woman and two sisters. The woman is to pay the taxes and keep up the insurance on the place to get to live there. The taxes amount to about $12 a year and the insurance $7. Woman said that she might have been able to manage but that her son who is married has come home to live.

Roy has two children who are living with their grandparents in Oklahoma. He is supposed to send them $3 a week for the care of the children. Sometimes he works at the hotel. He works only at nights. Roy and his wife do not have a divorce, they are just separated. The woman and her family have been dependent on the county
since 1926 when the woman's father died. William was sent to the CCC, and died in camp.

There has been no husband since the woman has lived in Kingman but three children have been born. As far as can be ascertained there never was a man.

Mrs. G. worked at the hotel two or three years, but was let out. The Red Cross and the school have given the children clothes. They live in an old house. The boards on the porch are shaky. The inside of the house has plastering off the ceiling and walls. The woman seems very appreciative of anything done for her. Dresses were allowed for Mrs. G. and her daughter. She is assigned to the sewing room. Fuel was sent out to the woman by the county commissioner.

June. Word has come that the woman is fired from the sewing room. Haven't checked up on report yet.
BACKGROUND: Woman's father was a drinking man. Her mother divorced him and remarried. They lived in Iowa, but came to Kansas and settled in Reno county. The woman has been married at least five times. Her daughter married a drunkard who also had venereal disease. She left him and later married another man who was very kind to both the daughter and her mother, but the smoke hurt the mother's eyes so she cannot live with them.

The woman feels that the county is not doing as much for her as they should. She is not strong. She has gall stones. She has had several operations.

She has had many children but they have been adopted out and are very bitter towards her.

The home is very clean and home-like. The woman wants a girl to stay with her. Clothes and groceries were sent to her. Sent several girls to her but they wouldn't stay or they were
fired. She had made several beautiful pieces of lace and a rug. V. bought the lace for $2. Woman seemed to be encouraged and offered to make another rug if V. would try to sell it.

Woman has apparently had a very colorful life. She tells many tales of adventure. She has at least six children. She had had one crazy husband, one drunkard, one nice one and she skipped over several.

Woman is ill. She should go to the poor farm where someone can watch over her, but the farm is full. Will have to try to get another girl for her.
CASE No. 397

Mrs. M. is unemployable because of her health and needs care for her small children.

Mrs. M. owns what furniture there is in her three room house and apparently this is her only property. She is pleasant and very agreeable to talk to, but talks incessantly in a loud shrill voice. She approves of few people, and makes many threats.

HEALTH: Mrs. M. has had a broken hip in the past three months and has been confined to her bed. She was taken from the hospital at the end of eight weeks against her will.

EMPLOYMENT: Mrs. M. has a hemstitching machine and when well, does some hemstitching work. Other than this she has no employment.

RELATIVES: Mrs. M. has a mother Mrs. Fern Ande Guegautier of Paramne, France, who helps
her occasionally. Her husband who was a negro has divorced her and served a year in the penitentiary for non-support. He is now living in Norwich with his mother who is reported as well-to-do, but doesn't have anything to do with Mrs. M.

Moral: V. inquired about rumors which came to the office concerning Mrs. M. She had according to a business man, sent letters to the business man trying to get a start as a prostitute. She has some money saved but V. was unable to find out where or how much.

There are three little children whom the woman is trying to educate. She wrote several letters to the office trying to get them to help her more. She explains that she dislikes to ask for help, but being crippled there is nothing else for her to do.

Mrs. M. died in the Norwich hospital. She
had been ill for a long period of time. She was thirty-eight, had taught school in England. When she died the negro grandmother took the children.
CASE No. 10

Father is 36, mother 23, son 4, and a daughter 2. The man came to Kingman county from Wilson about five months ago. He had been employed on the Missouri Pacific there for five years as a section hand. When he lost his job he came to Kingman, but has had no work for some time. He is a good worker.

Man has asthma. The woman has had rather a tragic life since her marriage to her husband. While she was carrying her first child she was hit by an automobile. This caused a miscarriage. At the time the doctor advised that she not become pregnant soon. The couple married in 1930 when she was only 17. The man was 29. Two years later a son was born with a hare lip and a cleft palate. He was sent to Mercy hospital in Kansas City for treatment. He was there nine months. While he was there the Woman became pregnant again. There was another miscarriage. At this time the doctor said that there should be no more
CASE No. 112

Man is 56, a German, has lived here for 30 years, is a Baptist and is in good health. The woman is 51, a Scotch woman, has lived here for 30 years, is a Baptist and in fair health. They have 4 children. The oldest girl is 20, the boy is 15, and the next is 10. The youngest is 7. There are three married. The woman is very hard of hearing, and she is a poor housekeeper. Things were very dirty.

V. called and found family working. Children told V. their father would rather work on relief than for private men as he made more. He took outside work once in a while so he could keep on relief. V. unable to find any thing about the family as the mother is too deaf to hear her questions. Her arm has been broken, and is not healing.

The man is a farmer, but quit when the combine and tractor increased the capital required to farm. He has been known to this office since 1933.
Daughter in office. She is expecting confinement in a month or two and she wanted the county to take charge of her case. She desires to enter the Salvation Army Home in Wichita and it is necessary for some one to guarantee payment for her. She has been in Wichita for some time and no one in her home knows of her conditions but her mother and a sister.

A man in Kiowa is the father of the baby. The girl asked the man to marry but he would not, he told her that he would have nothing to do with the baby or the expense. The girl said that to live with him would be to live in hell. He is working in a bakery and makes a pretty good salary. His folks do not live with him. She is very anxious no one knows of her condition as she wants to go on and lead a normal life.

Girl gave birth to the baby which she is adopting out and seems to be rehabilitating herself. No one knows that she has had a child.
CASE No. 360

That father is an American, 50 years old, lived in the county seven months, belongs to the Christian church and his health is poor. The wife's record is exactly the same. There are seven children ranging from 17 years down. They all have poor health. One has liver trouble, one has stomach trouble, one nose, and one adenoids. The Red Cross has been helping them. The only kind of labor ever done is odd jobs picked up now and then.

Property: They have seven chickens. There are enough potatoes in the house for supper, a little flour, salt pork, and enough beans for one meal.

This family has lived in Spivey several years. They moved to Lecti where Mr. C. hauled sand for three or five years. They then went to Strong City, after which they returned to Spivey.
Mrs. C. thinks her mother and brother are working against her. The mother is losing her mind and has threatened to poison the whole family.

Mr. C. has had his hand hurt and it is refusing to heal. The poison seems to be working up his arm. Ethel is not well. Her side and stomach bothers her.

Emma has stomach trouble and Howard has had trouble with his nose. Ethel has finished high school, but has no ambition to go further. Aletta has finished the grades, but that seems to be about all the accomplishments the family has made in education.

They all need clothing.

Mrs. C. has three children away from home making the family a total of ten children. She has been married before. All three of the children are married and have families.
wouldn't have it done.

The county engineer offered Mr. C. work in order that he might pay for the tonsil operation. Everyone is to pay at least two dollars and as much more as possible. Mr. C. wanted the money instead. The engineer sent him up to see V. No one was in but Mr. C. returned to engineer's office and reported that V. had told him that he could not work on the tonsil operation unless he made a cash deposit.

Mr. C. placed on WPA and immediately bought a car.

A rumor came to the office that Emma is pregnant. The mother said that there was nothing to it; that Emma was pussy from kidney trouble and worms. V. suggested that Emma see a doctor.

A report reached V. that Emma was pregnant and since there has been other rumors con-
cerning Mr. C's fatherhood of two of his daughter's children, the people of Spivey thought that he might be the father of Emma's child. Deputy sheriff called to take the family to county attorney to see what should be done. C. denied that Emma was pregnant and they refused to have her examined.

Since the family refused to have Emma examined V. called at the home and took Emma to town to the doctor. The doctor said that Emma was pregnant and probably six months along. Emma denied to the doctor that she was pregnant, she told him that she had been ill for six months. Doctor told her that that wasn't true; she was pregnant. Emma reported that her sisters were mean to her. Emma is only 12 years old and in the 5th grade.

Man said that the doctors report was a frame-up. They wouldn't have another examination
though. He tried to get the V. to talk with the woman and try to get her to help Emma. He said that his family was of a jealous nature and it was about all that he could do to keep them at peace. There were times when the mother and Emma would fight and he would have to separate them.

The man was in office saying that he thought that Emma would be better if she were taken out of the home during her confinement.
CASE No. 224

Occupation: Farming.

Man is an American, 66 years of age, has lived here 46 years, a Baptist, has poor health and bad teeth. The wife is 56 years of age, an American, a Baptist, and has poor kidneys. There are two children living with them. They have no property.

Mr. and Mrs. K. traveled around a great deal. They lived in a small town in Oklahoma for a while. Mr. K owed a great many bills and was forced to sell all his property to pay his debts. The family then moved to Colorado where K. took a claim. He had several crop failures and contracted a great many more debts. He had to sell out in Colorado and could only pay a small part of his debts. The family had a great deal of sickness, one son and six daughters died. The family has one son now on relief, another daughter lives in a nearby town with her husband but they are very hard up.
Another daughter ran away from her husband and left 3 small children who are with the grandparents now. The father of the children lost his mind and is in the State Hospital now. He has escaped twice. Doctors say that he is very indifferent as to his surroundings and uncooperative and quite efficient in avoiding work. The daughter of the K's left the children with the insane husband's parents. The grandmother who is also insane turned them out into the cold and snow one winter night.

The children went to the mother's parents where they are living at the present. None of the children are bright. Two are feeble-minded. They give the grandparents much trouble.

The K's own no property. They have lived on a farm where they get their rent for keeping up the fences. They had to move the first of March.
Mr. K. is short and heavy set. He can not get around very well. His teeth have poisoned his system and he has a bad rupture. They were given direct relief.

One of the sons has brought his wife to live with the K's because there is no work for him to do at the present and they have no where to live. All were placed on direct relief.

In March V. found the K. family desperate. Mr. K. was very ill. Mrs. K. had to sell all the chickens to pay the bill. They take patent medicine for their troubles. V. advised them to consult a local doctor and get some medicine that would do them some benefit. Left a grocery order.

A grandson came to office. He had been in Colorado where he was married. He wants a relief job to take care of his wife. Mr. K. still sick and has no money to buy medicine. Money given.
(A letter taken in exact from a daughter of Mrs. K.)

Dear Sirs: I am writing in regard to my folks. We are not financially able to help them. We have a lot of taxes to pay and I should think the county could care for them. The old people here draw some pension. I think there should be some means by which you might help them.
FIGURE V

RELIGIONS RECORDED FOR MEN AND WOMEN

BLACK --- WOMEN
RED ---- MEN
FIGURE VI

EDUCATION OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE RELIEF CLIENTS

BLACK --- WOMEN
RED --- MEN

GRADING ONE TWO THREE FOUR ONE TWO THREE FOUR ONE
OR YR. YR. YR. YR. YR. YR. YR. YR.
LESS THAN HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH HIGH COLLEGE COLLEGE BUSINESS COLLEGE
FIGURE IX

OCCUPATION OF MEN WHO ARE RELIEF CLIENTS

FARMER
MECHANIC
RAILROAD EMPLOYEE
PAINTER
NONE
CARPENTER
BLACKSMITH
Butcher
Trucker
Bootlegger
Cafe Proprietor
FIGURE XII

MARITAL STATUS OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE RELIEF CLIENTS

BLACK --- WOMEN
RED --- MEN
<table>
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<td><strong>NUMBER OF POTENTIAL MOTHERS PREGNANT OR WITH BABY UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE</strong></td>
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*Figure VII: Mothers with Baby Under One Year OR Mothers Expecting a New Baby*
FIGURE XVIII
HEALTH CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN
UNDER SIXTEEN BY FAMILIES
FIGURE XIX
DISEASES AFFLICTION THE
CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE
OF SIXTEEN, BY FAMILIES
FIGURE XX
DELINQUENCY OF CHILDREN UNDER SIXTEEN
BY FAMILY

ILLEGITIMACY, INCEST, TROUBLE-SOME IN
PROSTITUTE VENEREAL
SCHOOL, DISEASE

TROUBLE-SOME IN
SCHOOL

GOOD ATTENDANCE
BAD ATTENDANCE
FIGURE XXII

DISORGANIZATIONS IN CHILDREN OVER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE BY FAMILY
### Figure XXIV

**Marital Status of Children Over Sixteen by Family**

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### Figure XXV

**Parental Responsibility Accepted by Children Over Sixteen by Family**

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FIGURE XXVI
OTHERS IN THE HOME BESIDES THE FAMILY, BY FAMILIES
FIGURE XXVII

REASON GIVEN FOR OTHERS BESIDES IMMEDIATE FAMILY BEING IN THE HOME

NO WORK ON RELIEF DISORGANIZED TO CARE FOR NO OTHER
   6
   5
   4
   3
   2
   1
   0

/ NO OTHER HOME

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