

ABSTRACT

POPULATION STRUCTURE AND MOBILITY: A STUDY OF ARKANSAS STATE ECONOMIC AREA 7

by David Gordon Bennett

Population mobility has resulted, in part, in the net out-migration and depopulation of many areas of the nation. These effects can be caused by internal or external forces, or both. Changes in the social and economic characteristics of the population and region occur when such movements take place.

An investigation of the population structure and mobility of an area can reveal the forces causing the net out-migration and the social and economic consequences of this movement. The increased understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the region can assist communities in formulating rational plans for combating their problems.

The purpose of this study is to analyze the population structure and mobility of Arkansas State Economic Area 7 and their relationship to the economy of the region. The problems associated with population change, mainly since 1950, and the attempts to solve some of these problems, are discussed. Finally, the future of SEA 7 is appraised.

SEA 7 is one of the homogeneous socio-economic regions developed by Donald Bogue and Calvin Beale for the U.S. Bureau of the Census. It was chosen as the areal unit for this study because it is a region of recent net out-migration and depopulation. Data concerning population structure, change, and mobility in the Area were obtained largely from Bureau of the Census publications for 1950 and 1960, from a book of net migration statistics compiled by Gladys Bowles and James Tarver, from the Arkansas Business Bulletin, from various materials gathered from municipal and county agencies, and from information received during approximately fifty interviews conducted with leading public officials and civic and business leaders.

SEA 7 is a twelve-county region located in a predominantly rural, agricultural area in the northeastern part of Arkansas. For several decades out-migration and depopulation increased in SEA 7, reaching a peak in the 1950's. Mechanization, low market prices, and government allotments caused thousands of families to leave the farm. A high proportion of the displaced farmers left the region because of the lack of alternative jobs. Others stayed, thus increasing the unemployment problem and often depending on welfare for subsistence.

Since 1960, however, population decline has been arrested in the region, and small increases have occurred

in most of the counties. These gains have resulted chiefly from greater industrialization. The increase in industries, however, has not met the needs of all the displaced farmers, and therefore, substantial out-migration has continued. Most of the out-migrants have gone to other parts of Arkansas or to California, Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Michigan.

Low levels of education and training among the populace have resulted in primarily low-skill, low-wage industries coming into the region. The low salaries paid by these firms, together with the tax exemptions allowed many of them, have given the towns and counties only a modest improvement in their tax bases. Thus, the needed public and educational improvements have remained difficult to obtain.

Nevertheless, a strengthening of the economy has occurred. The incomes of families have risen, and unemployment has decreased. The problem of continued movement off the farm still exists, but the rate is declining, and the prospects for more industry offers hope that a greater proportion of the displaced persons will be able to obtain employment. The general outlook for SEA 7 during the next five to ten years is much brighter than it was in the 1950's.

POPULATION STRUCTURE AND MOBILITY:

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ECONOMIC AREA 7

By

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PREFACE

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I am especially grateful to Dr. Clarence W. Minkel, Professor of Geography at Michigan State University, for the many hours he spent reading the manuscript and for his

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Appreciation is also expressed to Miss Lanna Fay Collier, my student assistant at Arkansas State College, for typing much of the manuscript in first draft and to Miss Cheryl Ann Miftenberger, an employee of the Aeronautical Chart Center in St. Louis, for drafting the maps.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The mobility of large numbers of people of the United States has become a significant part of the American way of life. This movement of persons into and out of various areas affects the population structure¹ of the areas. Therefore, the decisions of numerous individuals to move not only affects each one of the movers personally, but also results in economic and social changes within the community as a whole.

The investigation of the distribution, structure and mobility of the population of an area can lead to a clearer understanding of its economy. Glenn F. Trewartha states that:

Population is the point of reference from which all the other elements are observed and from which they all, singly and collectively derive significance and meaning. It is population which furnishes the focus.²

¹Population structure refers to the various social and economic characteristics of the persons residing in an area.

²Glenn F. Trewartha, "A Case for Population Geography," Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. XLII, No. 2, June, 1953, p. 83.

Esse Lovgren says that:

One of the most important sections of population geography is the study of migrations between countries as well as within countries The migrations are part of the economic process.³

Changes in the total population of an area are the result of births, deaths and migrations. In the United States since World War II large migrations have been the most important variable in the alteration of the distribution of persons. Several major movements have been especially significant. These include the rural-urban movement, the westward migration, and the exodus from the South to the North, particularly as it relates to the Negro.

A great deal of research has been done concerning in-migration of regions, especially regarding the effect of the influx on their economy. However, very little work has been undertaken regarding the out-migration of regions and the results of this movement on their population structure and economy. David Lowenthal and Lombros Comitas iterate that:

From discussions in the press, and even in scholarly journals, one would have no idea how widespread the phenomenon of decline is.⁴

³Esse Lovgren, "The Geographical Mobility of Labor," Geografiska Annaler, hafte 4 (1956), p. 345.

⁴David Lowenthal and Lombros Comitas, "Emigration and Depopulation: Some Neglected Aspects of Population Geography," The Geographical Review, Vol. 52, No. 2, April, 1962, p. 196.

In such areas [areas declining in population], or in the social groups and communities they comprise, population decrease may have profound consequences. That emigration . . . is the prime factor in depopulation there is no doubt.⁵

The dearth of information available regarding the effects of emigration on the regions suffering the decline is serious, for only through an understanding of the consequences and changes brought about by such losses in population can rational plans be made to assist these communities. The study of such regions can lead the geographer to a fuller comprehension of the economic and social structure of these areas. Dudley Kirk, past president of the Population Association of America, states that:

. . . the study of migration differentials has made very little progress in the past thirty years, despite the fact that this, much more than any other demographic variable, is changing the distribution and characteristics of local population. To take a single example, what have been the effects on the State of Arkansas of the fact that close to half the people born in that state have left her boundaries? Who left or stayed? It is possible to judge what some of the social implications are?⁶

Therefore, studies of areas which have undergone emigration can be of significant value to the geographer and others in trying to determine the appropriate action

⁵Ibid., p. 197.

⁶Dudley Kirk, "Some Reflections on American Demography in the Nineteen Sixties," Population Index, Vol. XXVI, No. 4, October, 1960, p. 307.

to be taken for the benefit of both the economy of the region and the people.

The Problem

The purpose of this study is to analyze the population mobility of Arkansas State Economic Area 7 and its relationship to the population structure and to the economy of this region.

Answers will be sought to the following specific questions:

1. What is the present population structure of the region?
2. What changes in the composition of the population occurred between 1950 and 1960?
3. What has been the mobility pattern of the population?
4. What relationships exist between population changes in the region and various social and economic characteristics of the people?
5. What relationships are there between the population structure and the economy of the region?
6. What effect did emigration have on the economy?
7. What changes in the population and economy have occurred since the 1960 census?
8. What socio-economic problems have appeared since 1960?

9. What steps are being taken to help solve these problems?
10. What are the future prospects for Arkansas State Economic Area 7?

Procedure

The areal unit chosen for this study, Arkansas State Economic Area 7, was selected as representative of a region of recent net out-migration and population decline within the rural South. The State Economic Areas were developed by Donald J. Bogue and Calvin L. Beale under the sponsorship of the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Bureau of the Census initiated the work of areal delineation in 1949 and used the system for the first time in 1950 for the Censuses of Population, Agriculture, and Housing. The economic areas were developed by dividing the nation into regions of homogenous socio-economic characteristics and livelihood. Counties were used as the individual units to form each economic area. This system of areal classification helps particularly those attempting to better understand the regional problems and internal variations within each region.⁷

⁷Donald J. Bogue and Calvin L. Beale, Economic Areas of the United States (Glencoe, Ill.: The Free Press of Glencoe, Inc., 1961), pp. iii-v, xxix-xlii.

Data concerning the population structure, changes, and mobility were obtained mainly from the Bureau of the Census publications for 1950⁸ and 1960,⁹ from a book of net migration statistics compiled by Bowles and Tarver,¹⁰ and from the Arkansas Business Bulletin.¹¹ Other materials gathered from various municipal and county agencies were also used. Finally, approximately fifty interviews were conducted with leading public officials, civic and business leaders, and other citizens in the various counties in the region (Appendix A).

The field work for this study was conducted during a five-month period from January, 1967 to May, 1967. During this time, the author was living in the area while teaching at Arkansas State University at Jonesboro.

⁸U.S. Bureau of the Census, A Report of the Seventeenth Decennial Census of the United States: Census of Population: 1950. Vol. I, Part 4.

⁹U.S. Bureau of the Census, The Eighteenth Decennial Census of the United States: Census of Population: 1960. Vol. I, Part 5.

¹⁰Gladys K. Bowles and James D. Tarver, Net Migration of the Population, 1950-60 by Age, Sex, and Color, I, Part 5, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, May, 1965).

¹¹Arkansas Business Bulletin. Prepared by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research of the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas, May, 1966), pp. 5-6.

Location and Description

Arkansas State Economic Area (SEA) 7 is a twelve-county, predominantly rural and agricultural region located in the north-eastern part of the state (Figure 1). It is elongated in a northeast-southwest direction, extending from the Missouri border to a point near the confluence of the Arkansas and Mississippi Rivers (Figure 2). Although a part of the alluvial plain of the Mississippi River Valley, SEA 7 is distinguished from the area to the east because of differences in terrain, soil and economic emphasis.

The incomes and living standards for farmers are higher in SEA 7 than in the areas to the east and the west. To the west are the foothills of the Ozark Plateau where small-scale farming is practiced with the major emphasis on livestock. To the east is a continuation of the fertile Mississippi alluvial plain where sharecropping, although declining in importance, continues to be more extensive than in SEA 7.¹² The sharecropper system greatly lowers the per capita income of the plain.

Agriculture is the dominant economic activity in the SEA 7 twelve-county area. In 1960, cotton was the primary crop, although rice and soybeans ranked very high in

¹²Donald J. Bogue and Calvin L. Beale, Economic Areas of the United States (Glencoe, Ill.: The Free Press of Glencoe, Inc., 1961), p. 368.

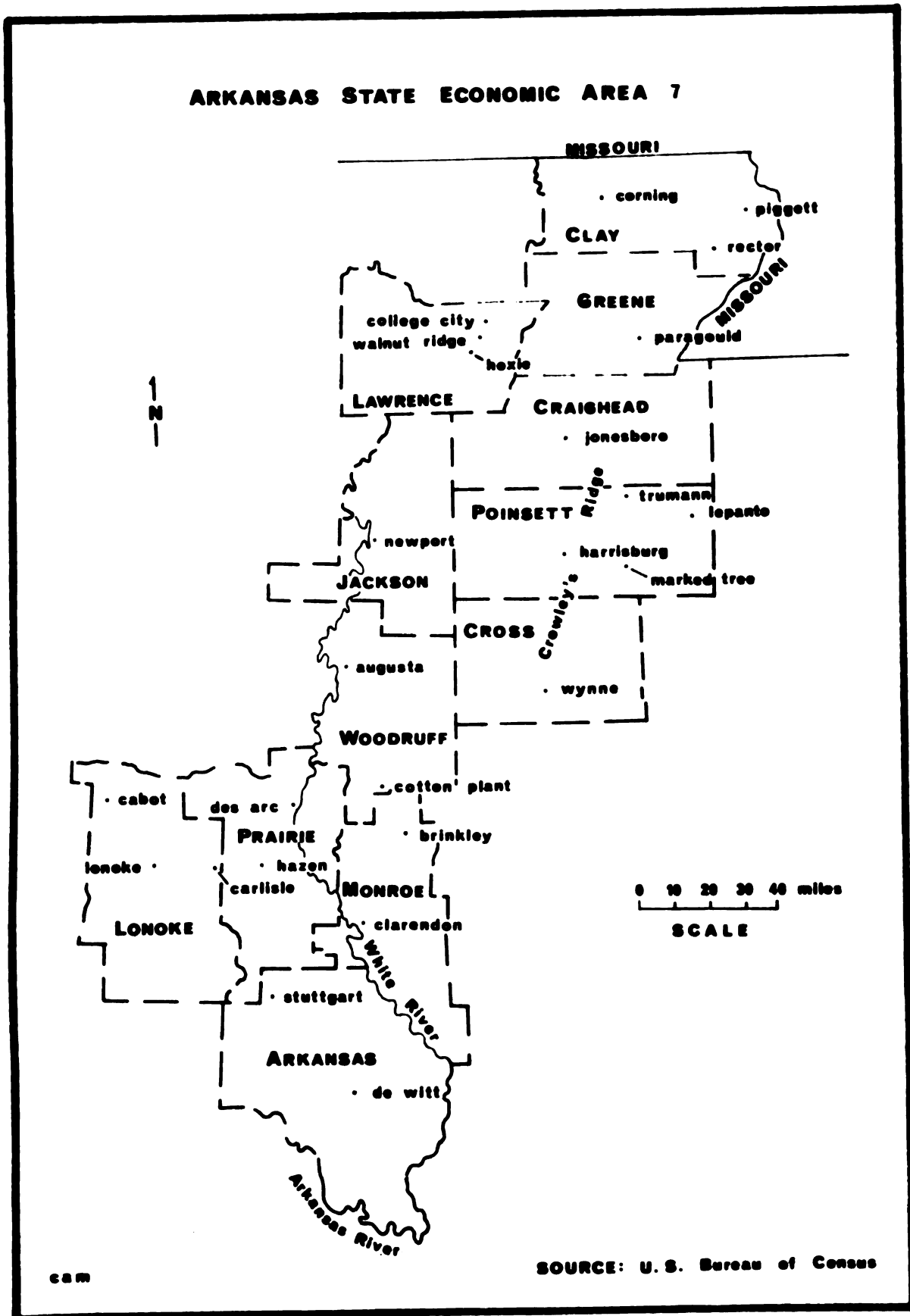


FIGURE 2.

several of the counties. Even though manufacturing industries are becoming increasingly important in certain parts of this region, they still reflect to a high degree the agrarian influence, being characterized largely by cotton gins and rice, soybean and cottonseed mills.

Differences between the counties in the northern and southern parts of the region are often significant. Variations in the soil and topography early influenced the settlement pattern and historical development to a great extent. Consequently, the present socio-economic characteristics reflect these physical and cultural differences.

Since the land on Crowley's Ridge is better drained, safer from floods and easier to travel on, this was the first section of SEA 7 to be settled. Although cotton was initially grown on the ridge, production soon spread to the fertile alluvial soils after the forests had been cut and transportation improved.¹³ However, in 1903 and 1904, William H. Fuller, who had brought rice from Louisiana, began growing it commercially near Carlisle in Lonoke County. During the past five decades rice farming has been generally successful, while cotton production has experienced alternate surpluses and failures.

¹³Ibid., p. 368.

The success of rice growing is related to three major factors. The last fifty years have proved to be economically favorable to the sale of rice. Also, the land is underlain with a heavy, limy clay subsoil that is well adapted to holding water. Finally, in part because of the lateness of development, the rice farms have been characterized mainly by independent white farmers, leaving them free from the unstable economy of sharecropping.¹⁴

The part of the region where rice has been dominant over cotton is the three-county area situated between the White River and Arkansas River in the south. These counties are Arkansas, Lonoke, and Prairie. The remaining nine counties to the northeast still had cotton as their major crop in 1960. The relationships between these different agricultural systems and population structure and mobility of SEA 7, and the effect of both on the economy of the region, have been substantial.

Conclusions

For several decades out-migration and depopulation increased in SEA 7. Mechanization, low market prices, and government allotments caused thousands of families to

¹⁴John Gould Fletcher, Arkansas (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1947), pp. 355-361.

leave the farm. A high percentage of the displaced farmers were forced to leave the region because of the lack of sufficient alternative sources of employment. Other displaced farmers and their families remained in the Area, thus increasing unemployment or underemployment problems and frequently depending on welfare for survival.

The 1950's were the peak decade for out-migration and loss of population. Most observers predicted that this region would continue to suffer a considerable population decline during the 1960's. However, the first six or seven years of this decade have witnessed a reversal of many previous trends. Population decline has ceased throughout most of the region and small gains have generally been made.

The recent increase in residents has resulted primarily because of greater industrialization. This growth of industries, however, has not met the needs of all of the displaced workers, and therefore substantial out-migration has continued. Although most of the people have gone to other parts of Arkansas, interstate migration has also been important, especially to California, Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Michigan.

Low levels of education and training in the region have resulted in mainly unskilled, cheap-labor industries being attracted into SEA 7. The low wages paid by these firms, together with the tax exemptions allowed many of

them, have given the towns and counties only a modest increase in tax base for the present and immediate future. Thus, rapid educational and other public improvements are still difficult or impossible to obtain.

Nevertheless, a general strengthening of the economy has occurred. The incomes of families have risen, and unemployment has dropped substantially. The problem of continued movement off the farm still exists, but the rate is declining, and the prospects for new and expanding industries offer hope that a greater proportion of the displaced persons will be able to obtain employment locally.

The general outlook for SEA 7 during the next five to ten years is much brighter than it was in the late 1950's. Industrialization and population should continue to increase, and out-migration to slowly decrease. Thus, the farm population should stabilize by 1972. Many problems still beset the region, but the standard of living promises to increase for most of the people.

CHAPTER II

POPULATION CHANGE AND MOBILITY, 1950-1960

The changes in the population of Arkansas State Economic Area 7 between 1950 and 1960 correlated with several of the national movements that occurred during that decade. These included the rural-urban movement, the emigration from the South, and the Negro exodus to the city and to the North and West.

Between 1950 and 1960, SEA 7 declined in population from 320,804 to 273,956, a loss of 46,848 persons, or 14.6 per cent. During this period, the natural increase was 53,000. If natural increase had been the only factor controlling population change, SEA 7 would have had 373,804 residents in 1960, instead of the 273,956 which the Census Bureau recorded. Therefore, a net out-migration of 99,805 persons occurred during that decade. The proportion of net out-migrants to the 1950 population shows a net out-migration rate of 31.1.¹⁵

¹⁵U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 7, Components of Population Change, 1950 to 1960, for Counties, Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, State Economic Areas, and Economic Subregions, p. 69.

This decrease in population was given earlier impetus by the Second World War. Patriotic feelings and higher wages attracted many people off the farms and into factories manufacturing wartime goods. Although some plants of this type were located in Arkansas, this state had never been an industrial area. Since there were few plants which could be converted from peacetime to wartime production, many of the people left Arkansas to find work in factories elsewhere, mainly in the states of Michigan and California. Ten of the twelve counties in SEA 7 experienced a decline in population between 1940 and 1950,¹⁶ whereas only three had done so during the previous decade.¹⁷ Many of the people who left during the 1940's never returned. In numerous instances, entire families emigrated to join a husband, father, or son who had been able to make a new start in an industrial state.

Every county in this Area lost population during the 1950's (Figures 3 and 4). Poinsett County had the greatest numerical loss (8,477), and Woodruff the greatest percentage decrease (26.4%). These two counties held the

¹⁶ Ken Parker, "Arkansas Is Going to Town," Arkansas Gazette (Little Rock), Sunday, October 29, 1950, p. 1-F.

¹⁷ U.S. Bureau of the Census, Sixteenth Census of the United States: 1940, Population, Vol. II, Part 1 (Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1943), pp. 418-422.

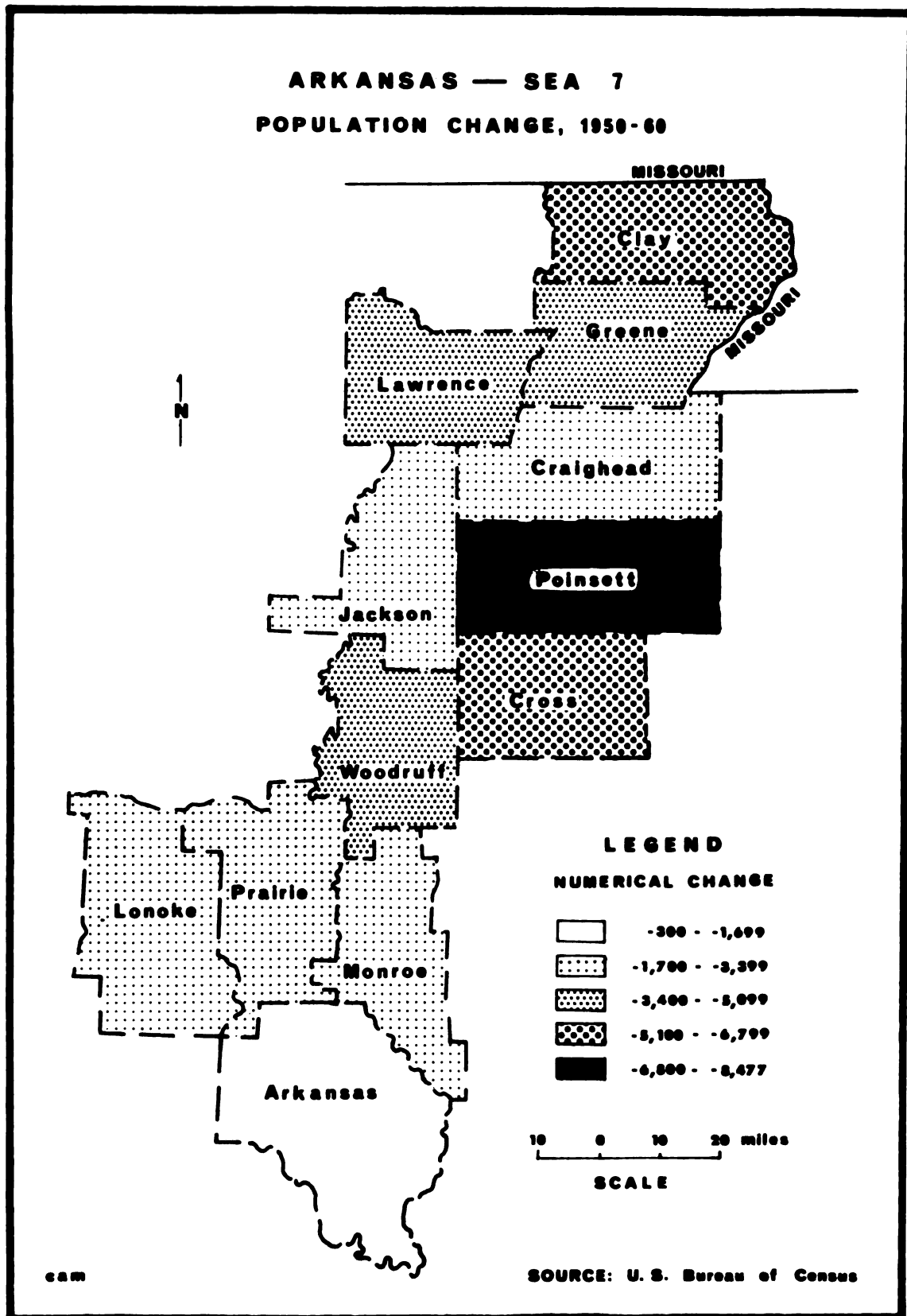


FIGURE 3.

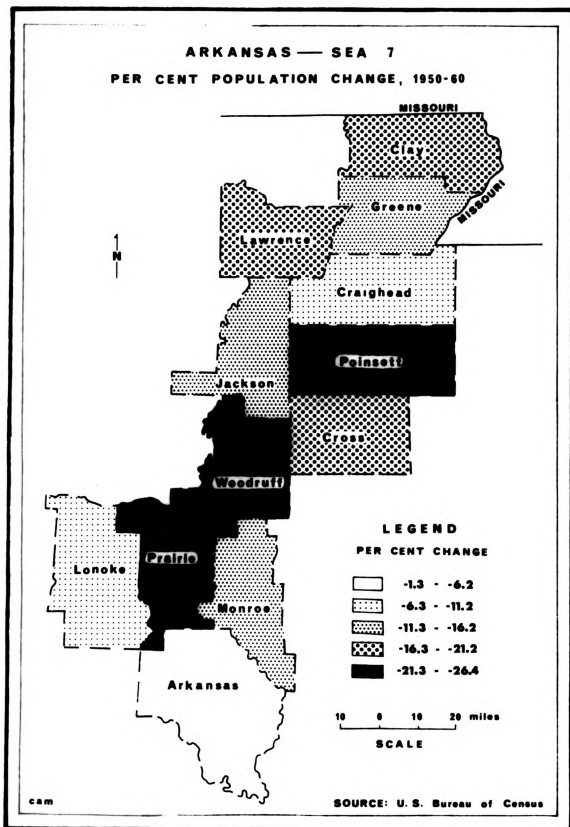


FIGURE 4.

same respective positions for net loss through migration, being -16,598 and -45.7 per cent (Figures 5 and 6).

Arkansas County experienced the smallest number and per cent of population decline and of net out-migration, being -310, -1.3 per cent and -4,969, -21.0 per cent, respectively¹⁸ (Table 1). Generally, the counties with higher rates of net out-migration tend to have lower educational and income levels and lower proportions of residents in the professional, technical and kindred workers occupation group.

TABLE 1. Arkansas-SEA 7: Population change and migration, 1950-60

County	Change		Migration	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Rate
Arkansas	-310	-1.3	-4,969	-21.0
Clay	-5,293	-19.9	-8,155	-30.7
Craighead	-3,310	-6.5	-10,948	-21.6
Cross	-5,206	-21.0	-9,565	-38.6
Greene	-3,951	-13.6	-7,641	-26.2
Jackson	-3,069	-11.8	-7,075	-27.3
Lawrence	-4,036	-18.9	-7,183	-33.7
Lonoke	-2,727	-10.0	-7,502	-27.5
Monroe	-2,213	-11.3	-6,456	-33.0
Poinsett	-8,477	-21.6	-16,598	-42.2
Prairie	-3,253	-23.6	-5,048	-36.7
Woodruff	-5,003	-26.4	-8,665	-45.7
SEA 7	-46,848	-14.6	-99,805	-31.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

¹⁸ U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, op. cit.

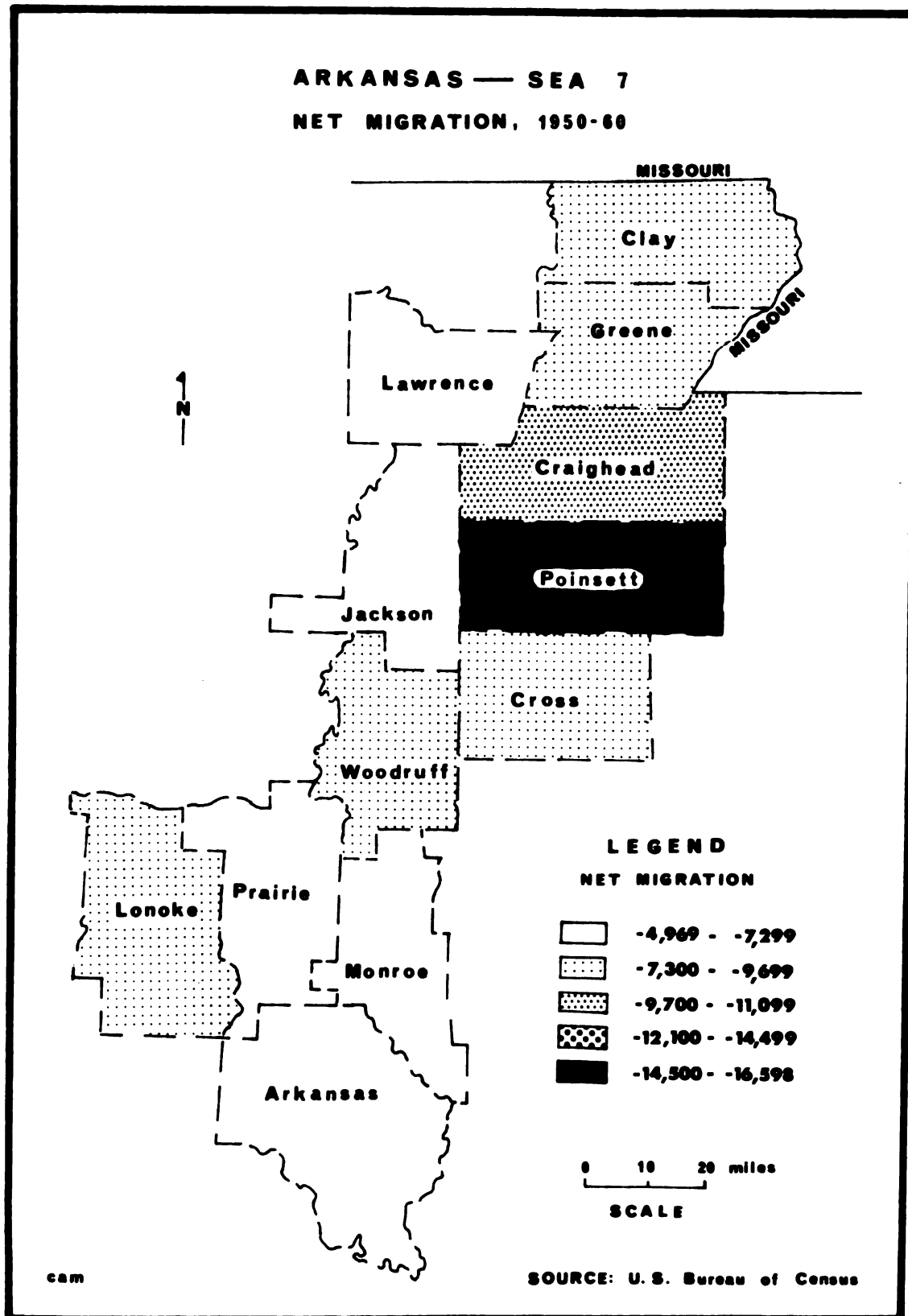


FIGURE 5.

ARKANSAS — SEA 7
NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-60

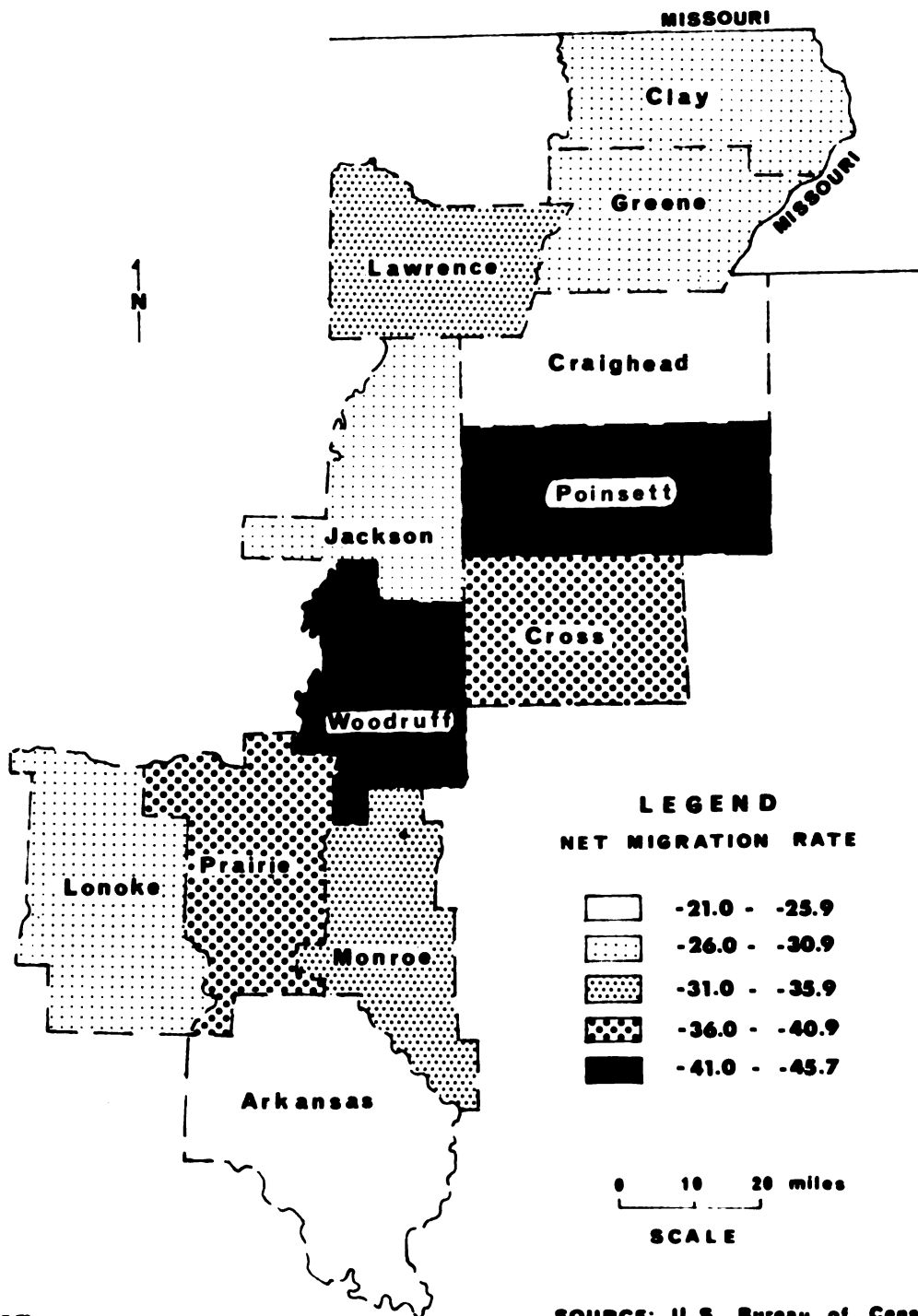


FIGURE 6.

Urban and Rural Changes

From 1950 to 1960, SEA 7 lost 22.6 per cent of its 1950 rural population.¹⁹ Since there was an increase in rural-nonfarm residents during this time, the loss can be attributed entirely to rural-farm population decline. The greater decrease in the rural population than in the total indicates an increase in urban inhabitants.

This increase was created by the same phenomenon that caused the accelerated decline of population of the total area. The attraction of the industrial North and West was felt most in the more rural areas. Although the number of persons living in urban areas increased during the 1940's, a gain in the percentage of the population classified as urban would still have occurred anyway since the decline in rural population was so great. The attraction of industry from outside of Arkansas was the primary force behind the initial widespread appearance of abandoned farmhouses in the study area.²⁰ Only Poinsett County had an increase in its rural population between 1940 and 1950.²¹

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Parker, op. cit.

²¹ U.S. Bureau of the Census, A Report of the Seventeenth Decennial Census of the United States: Census of Population: 1950, pp. 4-9, and 4-10.

Many struggling small farmers who had been fighting the boll weevil and the weather for years were susceptible to the "call" of the factory. Consequently, during the 1940's farms began increasing in size, and farmers started using more machinery.

Throughout the 1950's, the importance of the industrial attraction declined, and the significance of the "push" off the farm became dominant. The push of small farmers off the land was a result mainly of mechanization on cotton plantations in the area and the inability of the smaller farmers and share-croppers to compete successfully in the changing agrarian economy.

Paralleling the decline of the rural, particularly rural-farm, population, has been a continued increase in number of urban people. Indeed, all counties with an urban population in 1950, except Monroe, had a growth in number of urban residents by 1960 (Figure 7 and Table 2). Craighead, the county with the most urban inhabitants in 1950, experienced the greatest percentage increase (31.3%). Monroe County, on the other hand, had a decrease of 31.0 per cent in urban population. However, this figure is not truly representative of the urban change since it was obtained partly as the result of the town of Clarendon dropping below the minimum urban figure of 2,500 in 1960. The decrease in Clarendon was from 2,547 to 2,293, or ten per cent. In 1960, Lonoke County recorded its first urban population.

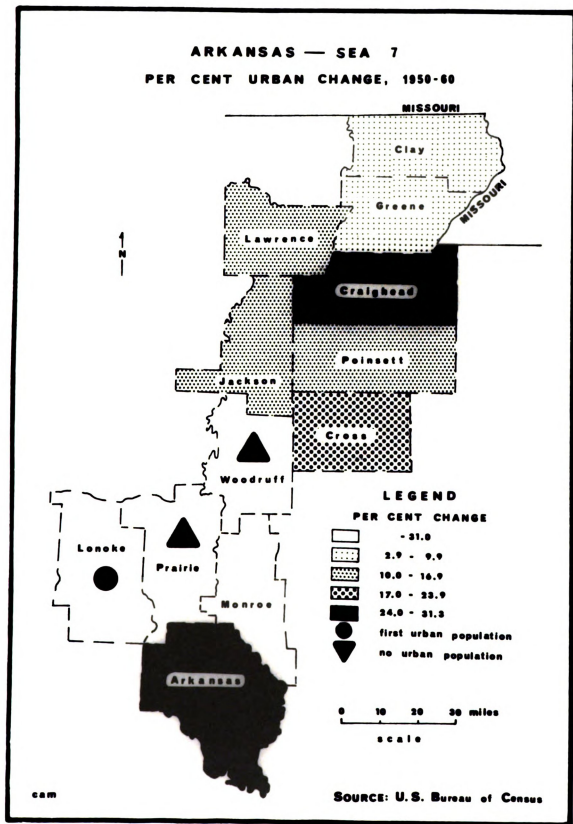


FIGURE 7.

TABLE 2. Arkansas-SEA 7: Per cent urban and rural change, 1950-60

County	Per Cent Change	Per Cent Change
	Urban	Rural
Arkansas	25.3	-21.2
Clay	8.5	-23.4
Craighead	31.3	-24.5
Cross	18.8	-29.0
Greene	2.9	-21.7
Jackson	12.0	-19.4
Lawrence	14.2	-24.6
Lonoke	*	-20.5
Monroe	-31.0	-1.0
Poinsett	16.7	-29.3
Prairie	**	-23.6
Woodruff	**	-26.4
SEA 7	18.4	-23.1

*First urban population.

**No urban population

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

During the 1950's, Poinsett County had the greatest per cent rural decline (-29.3%), and Monroe, the least (-1.0%). (See Figure 8 and Table 2.) The very low percentage decrease of the rural population in Monroe County was the result of the same occurrence which caused the peculiar change in the urban population of that county. Actually, approximately 4,500 persons left areas which were rural in 1950. This would represent a decrease of about thirty-five per cent.

A more complete understanding of the gradual change of the area from a traditional rural-agrarian society to an evolving urban-industrial one is gained

ARKANSAS — SEA 7
PER CENT RURAL CHANGE, 1950-60

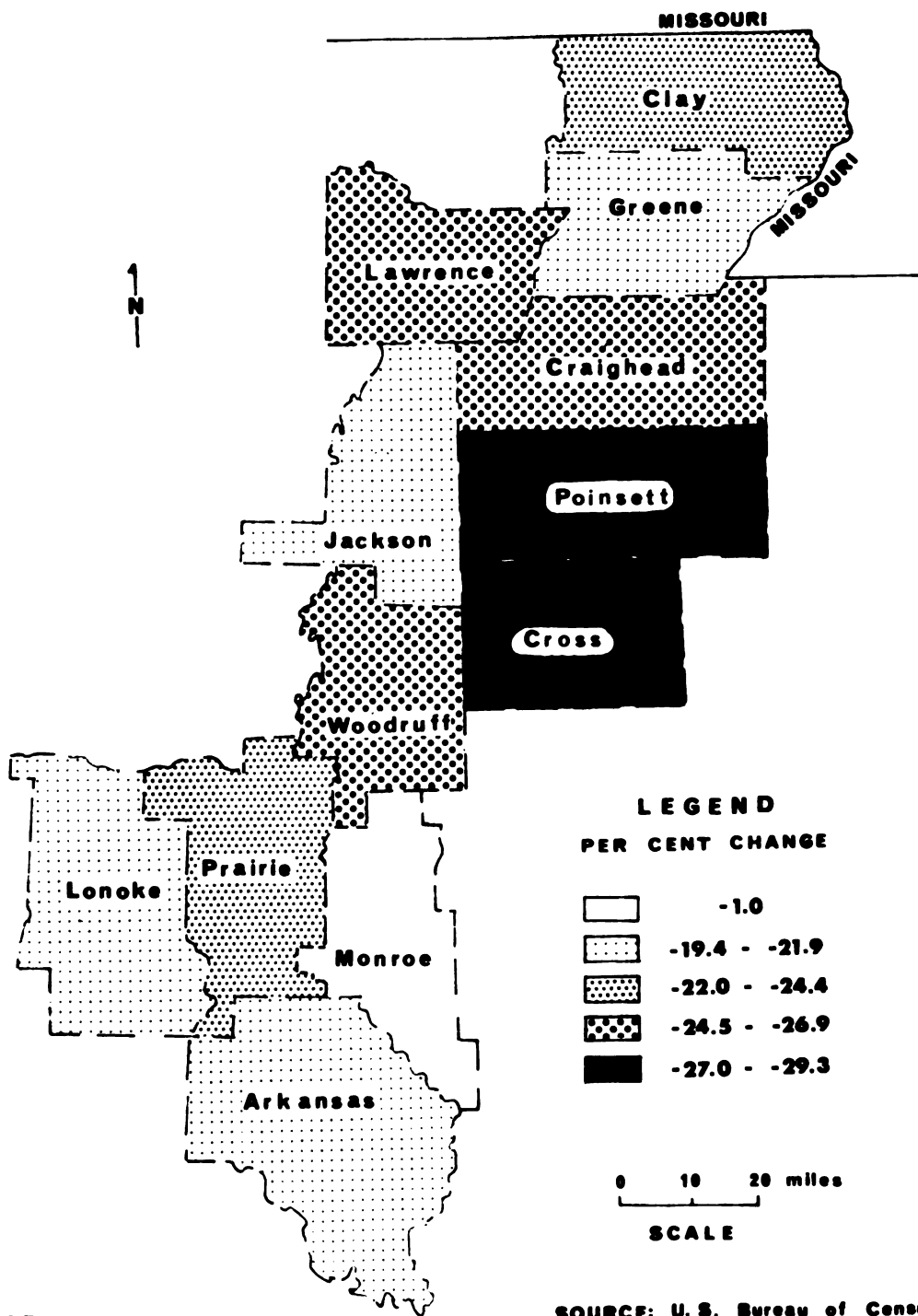


FIGURE 8.

when the rural-farm and rural-nonfarm categories are examined more closely for the 1950's. During that decade much more socio-economic reorientation was undergone than the overall rural-urban trends indicate. The rural-farm and rural-nonfarm changes were, in fact, much more pronounced than the general rural change. While only Arkansas and Craighead Counties had less than fifty per cent of their residents classified as rural-farm in 1950, no county had a rural-farm percentage that high in 1960 (Table 3). Indeed, only Greene and Clay Counties retained over forty per cent in the rural-farm division.

TABLE 3. Arkansas SEA 7: Rural-farm and rural-nonfarm, 1950-60

County	Per Cent Rural-farm		Per Cent Rural-nonfarm	
	1950	1960	1950	1960
Arkansas	40.1	21.4	17.1	24.3
Clay	54.3	41.6	36.1	45.4
Craighead	47.6	31.1	20.2	23.6
Cross	64.5	32.6	18.8	42.2
Greene	52.6	41.7	14.3	18.9
Jackson	54.4	29.4	21.5	40.0
Lawrence	56.2	32.0	29.2	47.5
Lonoke	63.5	36.3	36.5	52.1
Monroe	52.1	34.7	13.5	38.5
Poinsett	60.6	36.0	22.5	39.0
Prairie	52.8	33.5	47.2	66.5
Woodruff	61.8	38.2	38.2	61.8
SEA 7	54.8	34.9	24.8	36.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

The change from a high percentage of rural-farm persons to a predominantly urban and rural-nonfarm population is reflected by changes in the importance of agriculture and manufacturing in the counties. Between 1950 and 1960, the percentage of the labor force engaged in agriculture dropped from fifty to thirty-four per cent, while the proportion working in manufacturing grew from nine to fifteen per cent.²² Moreover, in 1960, in eight of the counties the percentage employed in manufacturing was nearly twice or more that of 1950 (Table 4). Only Prairie County had a lower percentage in 1960 than in 1950. In addition, the professional, technical and kindred workers occupation group showed gains for all counties except Prairie (Table 4).

Accompanying the trend away from a predominantly rural-farm economy has been a decrease in the percentage of tenant-operated farms. Between 1954 and 1959, the proportion of this kind of farm in SEA 7 decreased from fifty-one to forty-two per cent.²³ Every county in the region experienced a decline in this type of farming. The same forces which caused many of the small independent farmers to quit farming were also responsible for the decrease in number of tenant farmers.

²²Grant Bogue and Byron Walker, The Changing Face of Arkansas: Population Information for Mental Health Planning (Little Rock: Arkansas State Board of Health, 1964), pp. 16, 17.

²³Ibid., p. 48.

TABLE 4. Arkansas-SEA 7: Manufacturing employees and professional, technical and kindred workers, 1950-60

County	Per Cent of Employed in Manufacturing		Per Cent of Employed as Professional, Technical and Kindred Workers	
	1950	1960	1950	1960
Arkansas	13.4	15.0	4.2	6.7
Clay	7.0	14.4	4.2	6.4
Craighead	10.1	19.3	6.3	7.9
Cross	3.0	5.8	4.2	5.7
Greene	9.3	21.1	4.7	6.3
Jackson	9.8	12.9	4.3	5.6
Lawrence	7.7	14.3	5.6	6.9
Lonoke	5.6	12.1	3.8	6.8
Monroe	6.7	13.5	4.5	6.3
Poinsett	9.3	20.2	3.7	4.7
Prairie	9.7	8.9	4.6	4.0
Woodruff	6.7	8.4	4.8	7.0
SEA 7	9.0	15.2	*	6.4

*Not Available

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

The increase in urban occupations and the decrease in number of tenant and small-owner farmers helped to raise the income levels in these counties. Although the counties did experience a net out-migration and a net loss of 46,848 persons between 1950 and 1960, the per capita income in each increased by from forty per cent in Monroe County to seventy-seven per cent in Woodruff County. Although these counties lost many of their better educated young people, most still had an increase in the percentage of high school and college graduates. All of

the counties had a higher percentage of college graduates in the population in 1960 than in 1950, and only Prairie County had the reverse situation for high school graduates. This change represents, of course, the general trend in the United States for young people to obtain more years of education.

Nevertheless, between 1950 and 1960, the State of Arkansas lost more than fifty per cent of its college graduates. However, the in-migration of other graduates reduced the net loss to slightly over forty per cent.²⁴ This occurred despite the fact that per capita income increased 86.4 per cent (1950-1962) in Arkansas, while only 58.7 per cent for the nation as a whole, and manufacturing employment rose 32.4 per cent in the State, whereas it gained only 19.3 per cent for the United States.²⁵ The migration of college graduates varies substantially by major fields of study, being much more pronounced in fine and applied arts, social science, engineering, biological and physical science, and mathematics than in agriculture, health, law and education.²⁶ This shows that the economy

²⁴Charles E. Venus, Arkansas College Graduate Emigration (Little Rock: Industrial Research and Extension Center, College of Business Administration, University of Arkansas, July, 1965), p. 7.

²⁵Ibid., p. 5.

²⁶Ibid., p. 6.

of Arkansas does not supply adequate employment opportunities in certain fields, resulting in high out-migration rates of college graduates. Arkansas must acquire more industries requiring highly trained persons if the state is to retain its college graduates.

Migration Differentials

The percentage of net migration during the 1950-60 decade for SEA 7 is given by Bowles and Tarver as -26.7 per cent.²⁷ Although this percentage is different from the U.S. Bureau of the Census figure of -31.1 per cent,²⁸ the book by Bowles and Tarver is used as the source for this section because of the data available being in more comprehensive form. In addition, the data for age, sex, and white-nonwhite migration differentials are probably consistent for all cases.

White and Nonwhite

Between 1950 and 1960, the proportion of nonwhites in SEA 7 dropped from 17.9 per cent to 15.4 per cent. This, of course, means that this group experienced a

²⁷ Gladys K. Bowles and James D. Tarver, Net Migration of the Population, 1950-60 by Age, Sex, and Color, I, Pt. 5, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, May, 1965), p. 786.

²⁸ U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 7, Components of Population Change, 1950 to 1960, for Counties, Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, State Economic Areas, and Economic Subregions, p. 69.

greater percentage decrease in population than did the whites. They also had a greater net out-migration rate than did the whites, since they have had a higher rate of natural increase. In fact, the net out-migration rate was 31.2 per cent for nonwhites and 25.8 per cent for whites.

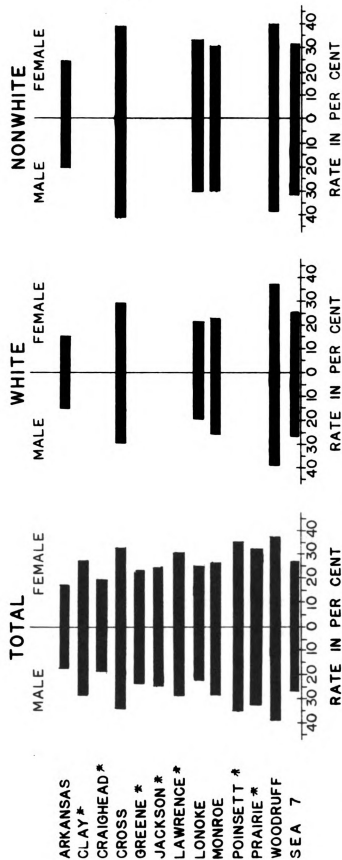
The nonwhite net out-migration rate is available only for SEA 7 as a whole and those counties within it having more than 5,000 nonwhites in 1950. Thus, the data is not available for seven counties in this region. Six of these seven counties are located in the northernmost part of SEA 7 and the seventh (Prairie) had the smallest total population of the Area in 1950. In the other five counties, namely Arkansas, Cross, Lonoke, Monroe, and Woodruff, where comparisons can be made between white and non-white migration characteristics, the net out-migration rate of the nonwhites was from nearly six to over eleven per cent higher than that of the whites (Figure 9). Moreover, in the individual age groupings the nonwhite rate was greater in nearly eighty-five per cent of the 306 cases listed in the statistical tables of Bowles and Tarver.

Age and Sex

For the decade beginning in 1950, SEA 7 experienced a net out-migration of nearly 100,000 persons, or 26.7 per cent.²⁹ The age groups with the highest rates of net

²⁹ Bowles and Tarver, op. cit.

NET OUT-MIGRATION RATES, BY COUNTY, 1950-1960



*DATA NOT AVAILABLE FOR WHITE AND NONWHITE.

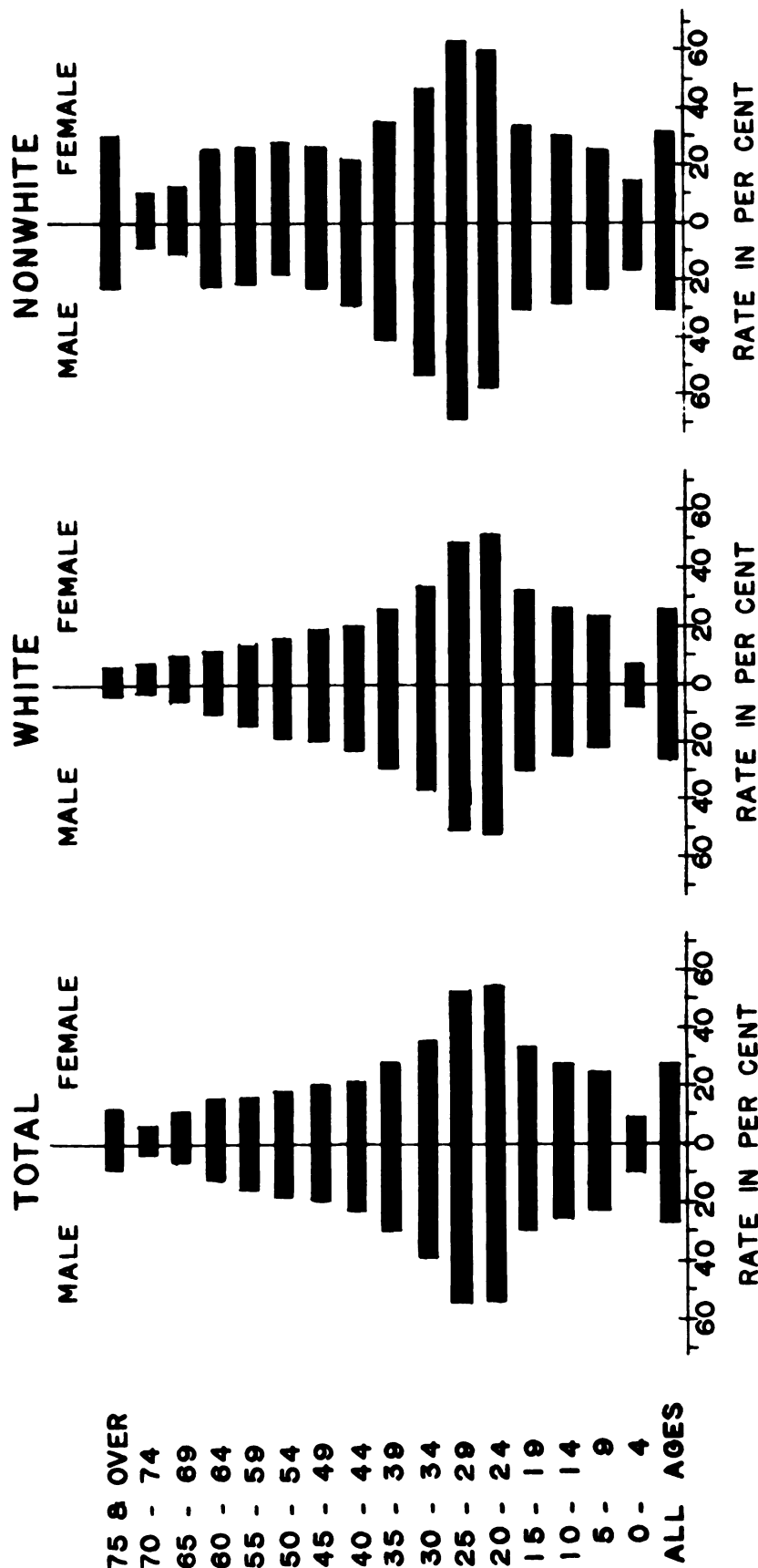
SOURCE: BOWLES AND TARVER, NET MIGRATION OF THE POPULATION.

FIGURE 9.

out-migration were the twenty to twenty-four and the twenty-five to twenty-nine year olds, with 53.4 per cent and 52.9 per cent, respectively. The twenty to twenty-four year age group had the greatest net out-migration rate (52.5%) for whites; the twenty five to twenty-nine year group, the greatest (65.4%) for nonwhites (Figure 10). The migration rates are probably highest in the twenties because this is a period in which many persons are seeking and searching for a vocation, a husband or wife, or a place to live. Furthermore, unmarried people, childless couples, or parents with only one young child can move more easily than larger families. Most of these adults have fewer binding ties with their present location, not having become as involved in social commitments. By the time adults reach thirty, most of them have begun families that will tie them more strongly to their communities, especially through the schools. Parents are often hesitant to continue moving their children from one school to another. Moreover, many husbands become established in a business firm and are reluctant to change jobs frequently.

Females in the total population had the greater net out-migration rate in the age groups ranging from five to nineteen years of age (i.e., five to nine, ten to fourteen, and fifteen to nineteen) and sixty years of age and over (i.e., sixty to sixty-four, sixty-five to

NET OUT-MIGRATION RATES, BY AGE, 1950 - 1960



SOURCE: BOWLES AND TARVER, NET MIGRATION OF THE POPULATION.

FIGURE 10.

sixty-nine, seventy to seventy-four, and seventy-five and over). This same pattern was true for the white population. However, nonwhite females experienced a greater net out-migration rate than nonwhite males in all age groups, except zero to four, and from twenty-five to forty-four years of age (i.e., twenty-five to twenty-nine, thirty to thirty-four, thirty-five to forty, and forty to forty-four). (See Appendix B.) Females move away from home somewhat earlier than males. The females are most often seeking a husband. Females marry at an earlier age than males and by the time the former have reached their early or middle twenties, most of them have married and settled down while the latter group at the same age has a higher proportion of single members, many of whom are in the armed forces or the college. Greater occupational opportunities for men also contribute to their higher migration rates after the middle twenties. Overall, males have a higher net out-migration rate than females for the total and white populations (26.9% to 26.5% and 26.2% to 25.5%, respectively), while the opposite is true for the nonwhite group (31.0% to 31.3%). However, the differences in migration rates between males and females for all ages can be judged as negligible since the variation is less than one per cent in all three cases. The most significant differences in migration rates are those based on age selectivity, age selectivity by sex, racial

selectivity, and racial selectivity by age and sex. For both sexes, nonwhites have higher net out-migration rates than do whites.

The counties in SEA 7 with the greatest net out-migration rates in the twenty to twenty-four year age group were Lonoke, Arkansas, Jackson, Poinsett, Prairie, Clay and Greene. The other five counties experienced the highest rate of decrease in the twenty-five to twenty-nine year group. In the five counties which had over 5,000 nonwhites in 1950, whites in all cases had the highest net out-migration rate in the twenty to twenty-four year age group, while the nonwhite rate of decline was always greatest in the twenty-five to twenty-nine year age group. Thus, whites migrate at younger ages than nonwhites. This could be due to the white person being able to more quickly save enough money to move and to more readily learn about outside opportunities than does his nonwhite counterpart.

For the five counties with over 5,000 nonwhites in 1950, in every case, except for males in Woodruff County, nonwhites had a higher net out-migration rate than did whites. Of these five counties, only Lonoke had a higher rate for white females than white males, and only Cross showed the same phenomenon significantly for nonwhites. When considering all counties and races, only Lawrence and Lonoke had a greater rate of decrease for females than for males.

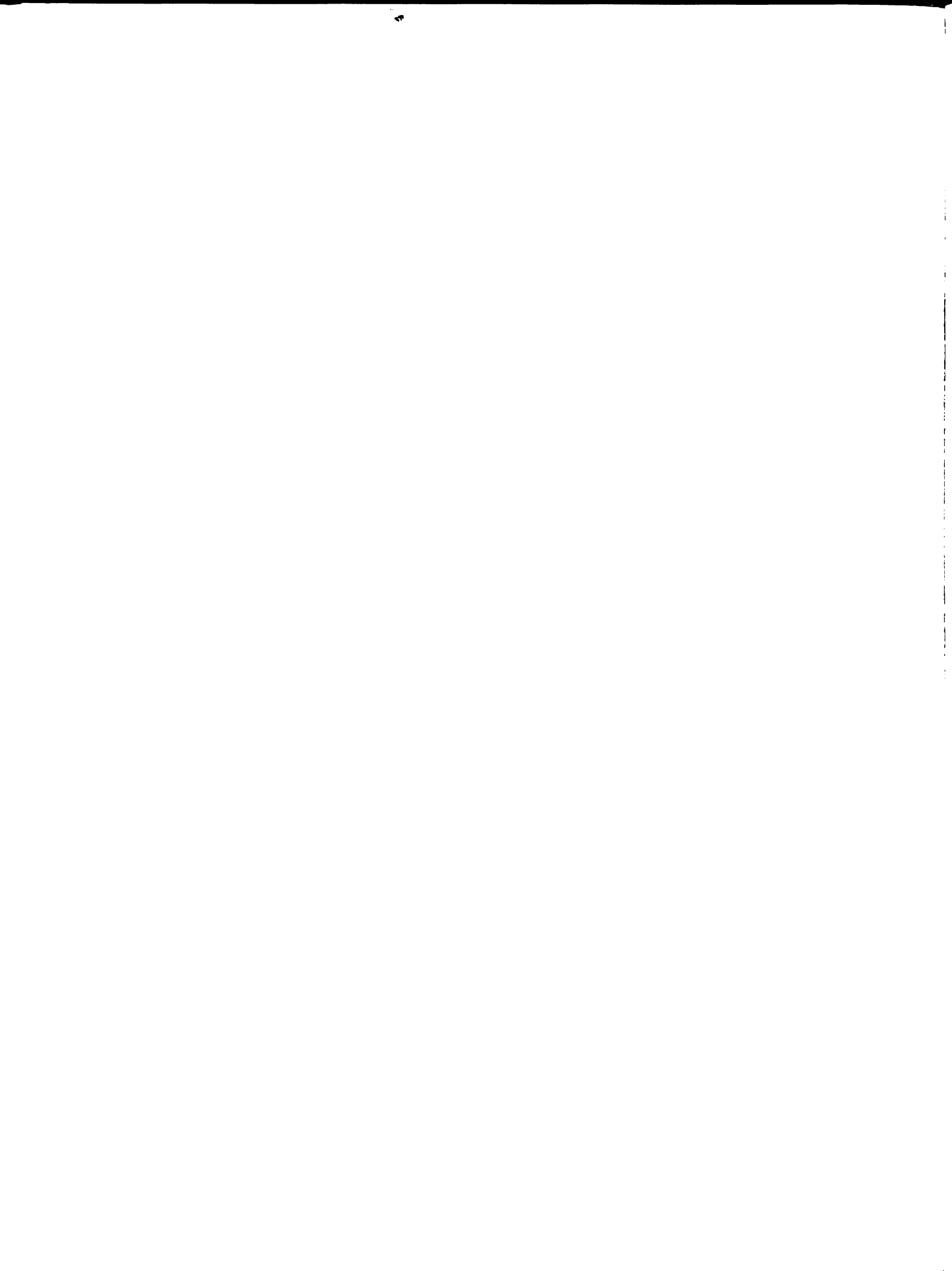
Only in a few cases was there an apparent net in-migration. These increases occurred only in the age groups of zero to four, sixty-five to sixty-nine, seventy to seventy-four, and seventy-five and over. The gain in the first age group was undoubtedly the result of natural increase more than offsetting out-migration, while the gains in the older age groups reflect the settling of elderly persons who retire to this area, as well as the lesser propensity of older natives to move. The highest net in-migration rate was 14.5 per cent for white males in the seventy-five and over age group in Lonoke County. However, this accounted for only a net in-migration of fifty-three persons. Many elderly and retired people are living in nursing homes. There are ten such homes located in the county.³⁰

Mobility Patterns

Patterns of population mobility are among the most difficult information to obtain for an area. However, data was collected by the U.S. Census in 1960 for movements of persons between 1955 and 1960.³¹ The discussion

³⁰Overall Economic Development Program for Lonoke County Arkansas. Compiled by the Lonoke County Development Council, January, 1966, p. 18.

³¹U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Census of Population: 1960. Subject Reports. Mobility for States and State Economic Areas. Final Report PC(2)-2B (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963).



of mobility patterns for SEA 7, therefore, is based upon this survey. (See Appendix C for detailed statistics.) The major disadvantage in using reports such as this one is that the exact number of moves and the destinations of each are not given. Nevertheless, the disadvantage of not knowing the precise number of moves made by persons during the five-year period does not prohibit the determining of the basic mobility trend patterns.

Of the total number of persons five years old and over living in SEA 7 in 1960, 52.5 per cent moved at least once during the five preceding years. During the same period, only 46.4 per cent of the 1960 nonwhite population moved. However, of those who moved, 68.8 per cent of the total population moved within the same county, while 79.1 per cent of the nonwhites did so. This shows that nonwhites have higher intracounty mobility rates than whites. Whereas 23.5 per cent of all those who moved entered SEA 7 from another state, only 16.4 per cent of the nonwhite movers represented interstate in-migrants. This demonstrates that although both whites and nonwhites showed some in-migration to the region, nonwhites had a lower rate of entry.

Between 1955 and 1960, SEA 7 had 30,161 in-migrants and 51,369 out-migrants for a net migration decrease of 21,208 persons. Although this covered one-half of the ten-year period between the 1950 and 1960 censuses, the

net out-migration was only slightly over twenty per cent of the total for that period. Since only about 21,000 of the nearly 100,000 net out-migrants left during the latter half of the decade, the rate of departure from the region appears to have diminished substantially during the late 1950's. Whereas the net out-migration rate for SEA 7 was 31.1 per cent for the entire decade, the rate for the last five years of it was only 8.0 per cent. This suggestion of a decline in net out-migration is discussed further in Chapter IV.

During the last half of the 1950's, the age group with the largest number of out-migrants was that of twenty to twenty-four years of age for males and females in both the total and nonwhite population. The out-migration rates for the various age groups were not compiled for this study. Nevertheless, computations reveal that 65.7 per cent of the out-migrants for the total population over five years of age were under the age of thirty.

In-migration

Although 30,161 persons resided in SEA 7 in 1960 who had not done so in 1955, 41.4 per cent of these people came from other parts of Arkansas. However, of the 2,727 nonwhite in-migrants to SEA 7 during the period, 61.2 per cent were from other SEAs in the State, but mostly from SEA 8 (Figure 11). Altogether, SEA 8, bordering SEA 7 on

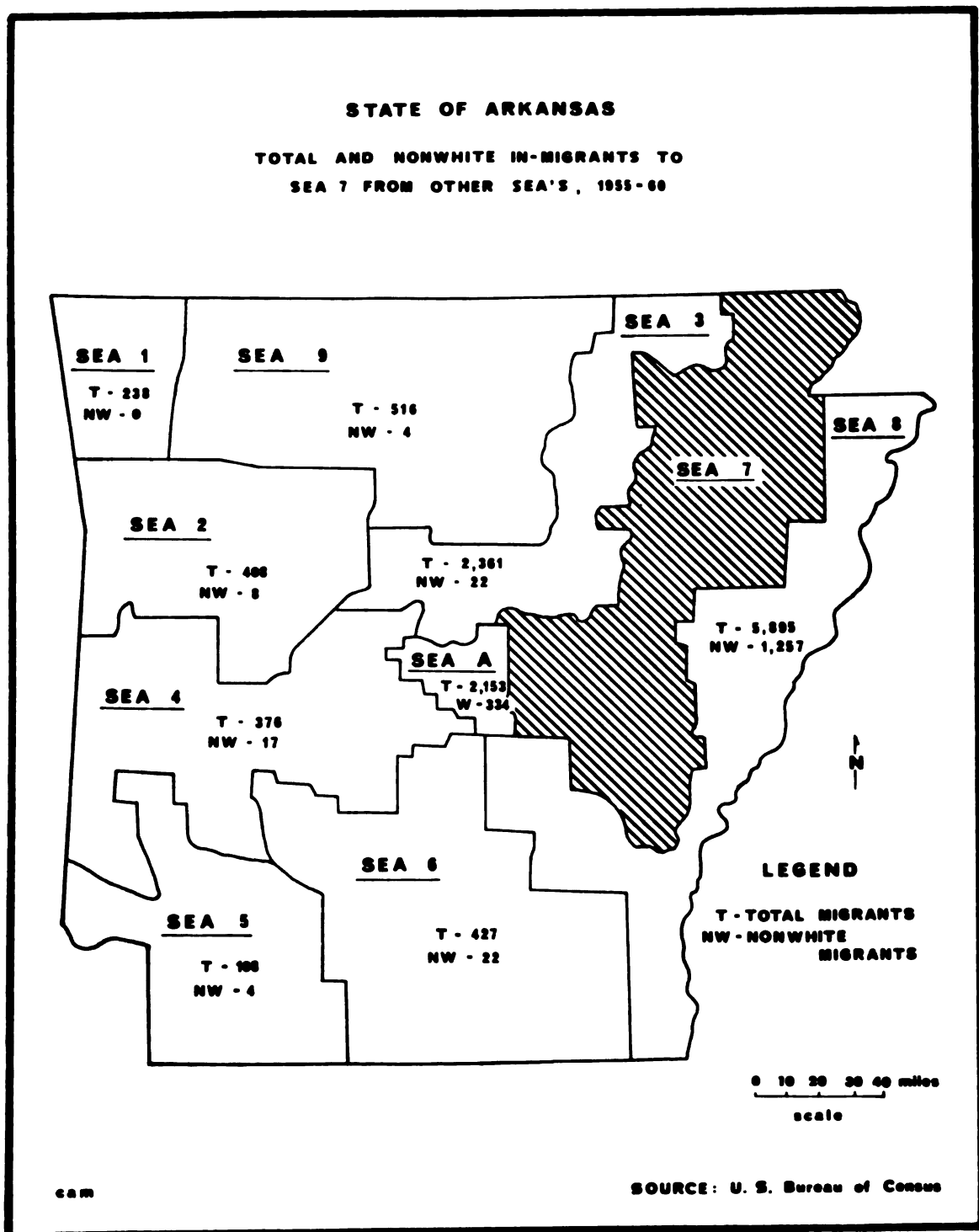


FIGURE 11.

the east, contributed 47.3 per cent of the in-migrants from the State, while SEA 3, to the west, and SEA A (the Little Rock SMSA) supplied 18.9 per cent and 17.3 per cent, respectively.

There was some in-migration from all states except Vermont and North Dakota (Figure 12). The five states from which the largest numbers came were Missouri (3,568), Michigan (2,670), Illinois (1,970), California (1,521), and Tennessee (1,484). In-migration from other SEA's in Arkansas and from these five states accounted for nearly eighty per cent of the total. Most nonwhite in-migrants from other states came from Mississippi (278), Illinois (153), Missouri (136), Tennessee (118), and Michigan (107). In-migration from other SEA's in Arkansas and from these five states accounted for over ninety per cent of the nonwhite total. Much of both the white and nonwhite in-migration represents individuals and families who left Arkansas at an earlier time, returning because of disenchantment with their new environment or because of hearing about a job opportunity in their home area.

Out-migration

Although a moderate in-migration occurred in SEA 7 between 1955 and 1960, over 51,000 persons moved out of the region during that time. Whereas many of these people left the State of Arkansas, 32.7 per cent of the total

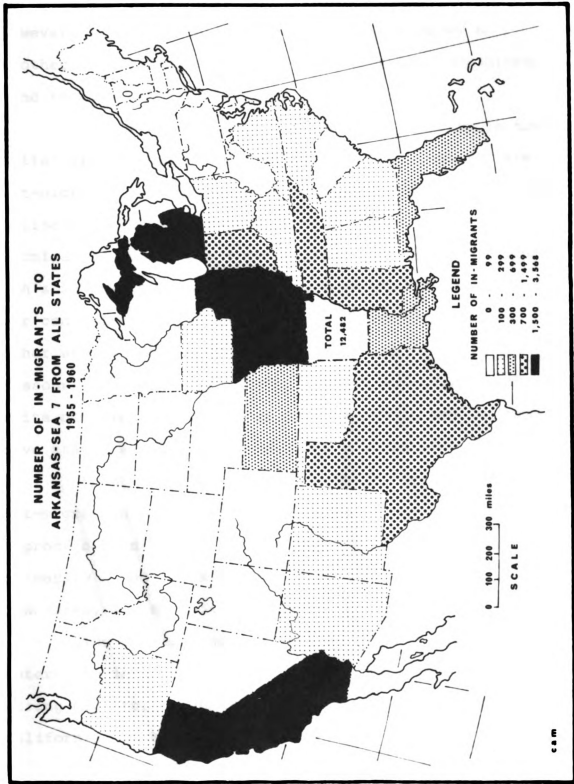


FIGURE 12.

moved to another part of the state. Among nonwhites, however, 43.8 per cent of the out-migrants moved to another SEA in Arkansas. This indicates that nonwhites tend to move shorter distances than whites.

People who left SEA 7 moved to all states in the United States, except Vermont (Figure 13). Most of the out-migrants went to California (5,875), Missouri (5,575), Illinois (4,720), Tennessee (2,512), Texas (2,310), and Michigan (2,281). SEA 7 out-migrants who moved to other SEA's in Arkansas and to these six states comprised 78.0 per cent of the total. Most nonwhite out-migrants to other states went to California (699), Illinois (684), Missouri (551), Indiana (173), and Michigan (163). Non-white out-migration to other Arkansas SEA's and to these five states accounted for 83.3 per cent of this movement.

From the preceding discussion of in-migration and out-migration patterns, several states seem to be key reciprocators for Arkansas-interstate migration. These are primarily Missouri, Michigan, Illinois, California, and Tennessee, and secondarily Mississippi, Texas, and Indiana.

The overall and nonwhite populations have similar interstate in-migration and out-migration patterns. The strong migratory movement of both whites and nonwhites to California, with a lesser reverse flow, corresponds with the general westward movement of the population of the United States. The primary importance of the states of

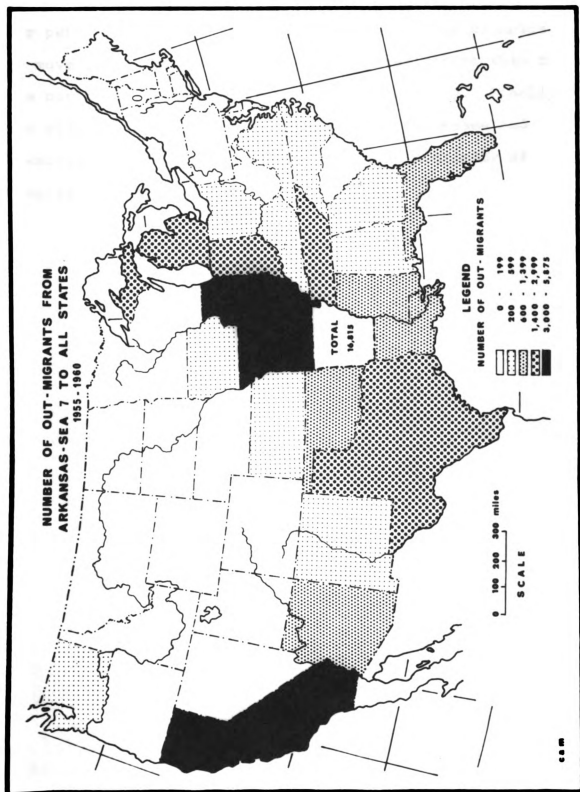


FIGURE 13.

Missouri, Michigan, and Illinois represents the tendency for persons from a south-central state, such as Arkansas, to move mainly to the north-central states rather than to the northeast or another section of the country. Finally, the sizable interstate migration between Tennessee and Arkansas is probably related to the close proximity of Memphis to SEA 7.

CHAPTER III

POPULATION STRUCTURE

The population structure of Arkansas State Economic Area 7 reflects significantly the historical development and present economy of this region.

In 1960, the Crowley's Ridge-Arkansas Prairies counties making up SEA 7 had a population of 273,956, while that of the whole state was 1,786,272.³² The population of Arkansas is unevenly distributed, as shown in Figure 14. The same is true of SEA 7, even though this region is designated by the Bureau of the Census as being fairly homogeneous economically. Craighead County, located in the north-central part, was by far the most populous in the region (Figure 15). Approximately forty-five per cent of the 47,303 people residing in this county in 1960 were in Jonesboro, the largest city in SEA 7. No other city had a population of more than 10,000. Poinsett County was the second most populous (30,834),

³²U.S. Bureau of the Census, The Eighteenth Decennial Census of the United States: Census of Population: 1960, I, p. 5-28. (All references to population characteristics are based on 1960 Census figures unless otherwise indicated.)

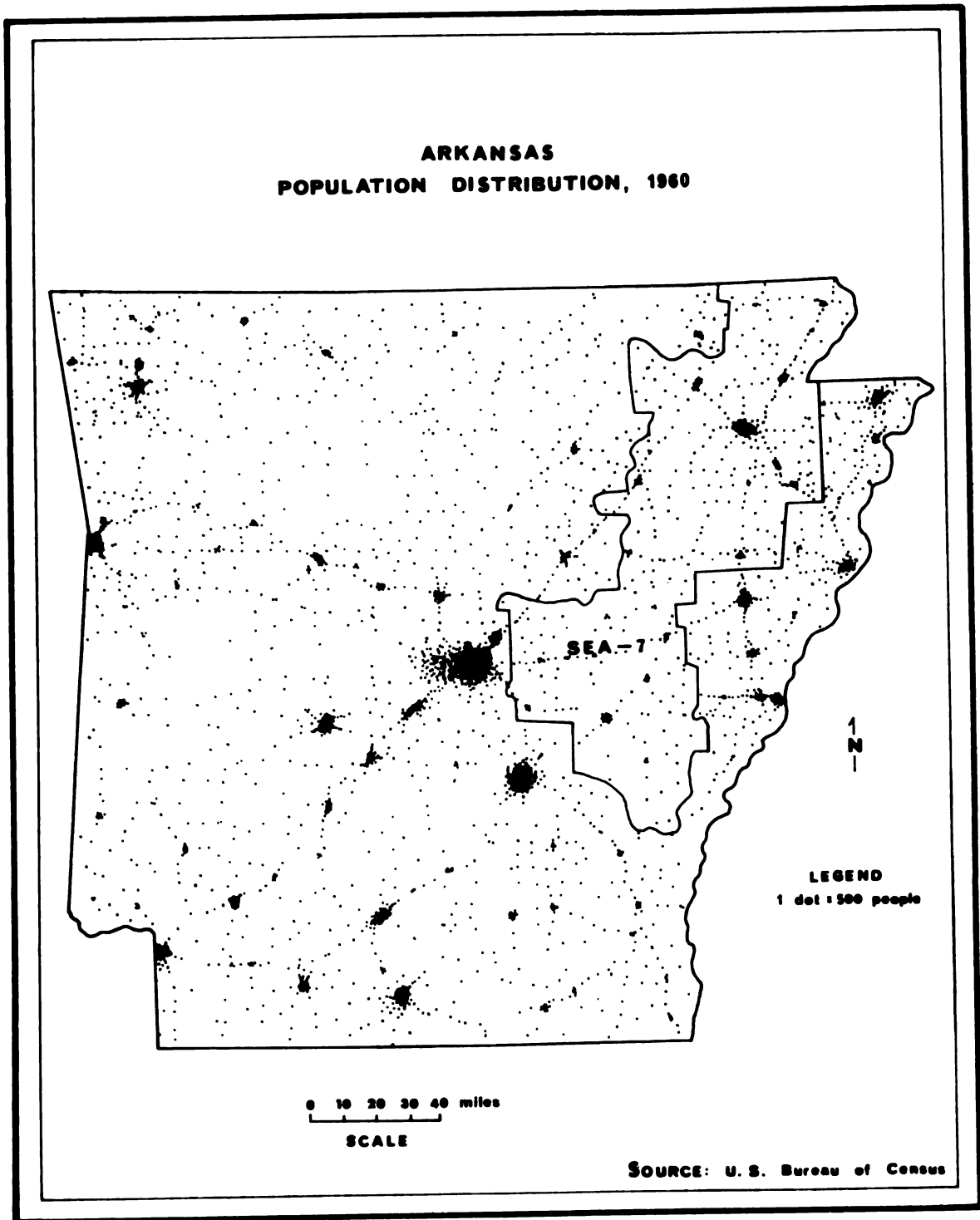


FIGURE 14.

ARKANSAS — SEA 7
TOTAL POPULATION, 1960

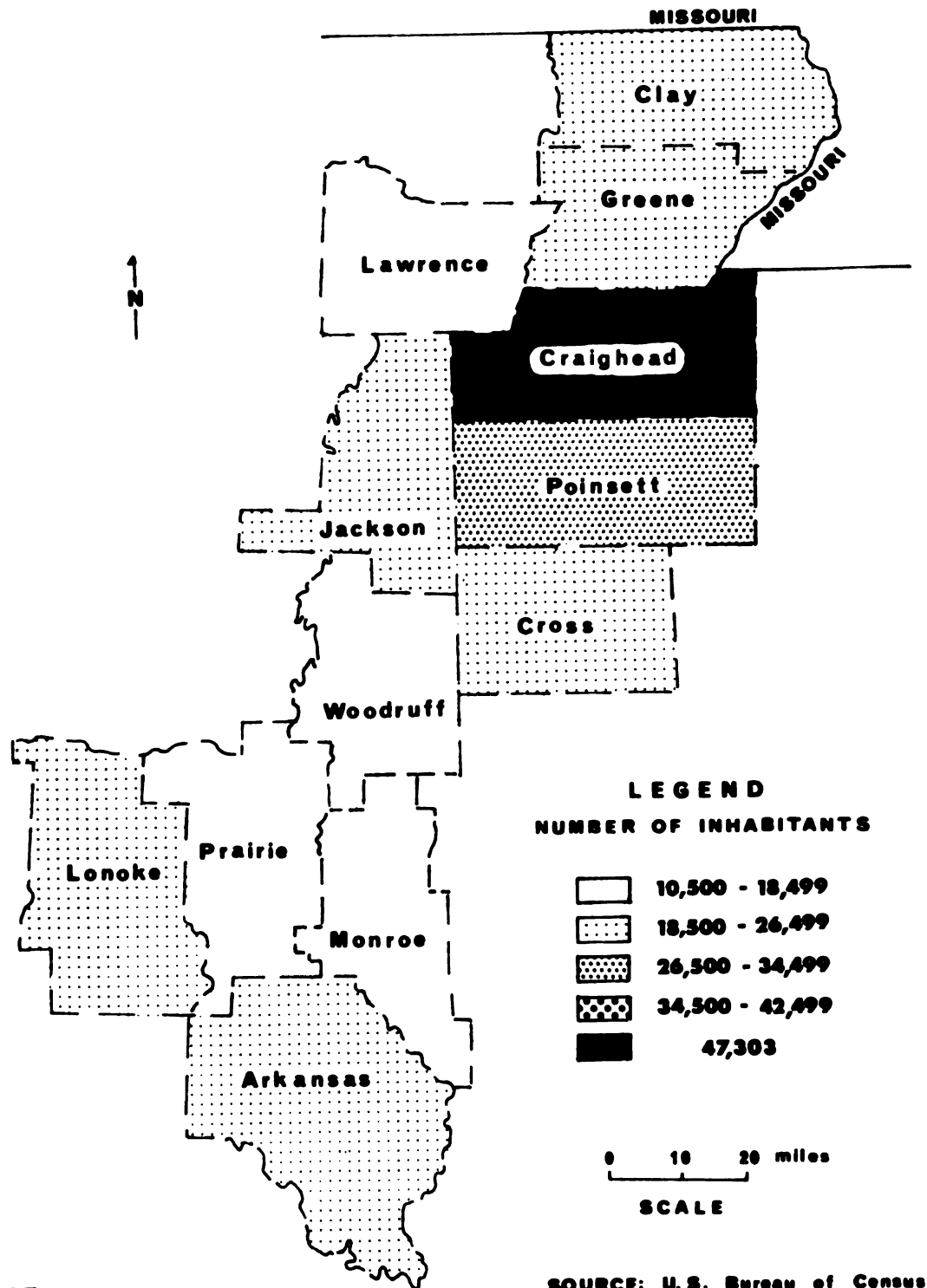


FIGURE 15.

but it had only two-thirds the number of inhabitants in Craighead. Prairie County had the smallest population (10,505), only about twenty-two per cent as many as Craighead (Table 5).

TABLE 5. Arkansas SEA 7: Population and density, 1960

County	Total Population	Density Per Square Mile
Arkansas	23,355	22.6
Clay	21,258	33.2
Craighead	47,303	66.0
Cross	19,551	31.2
Greene	25,198	43.5
Jackson	22,843	35.9
Lawrence	17,267	29.2
Lonoke	24,551	30.7
Monroe	17,327	28.1
Poinsett	30,834	40.5
Prairie	10,515	15.6
Woodruff	13,954	23.6
SEA 7	273,956	33.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

Craighead County also had the highest density per square mile (66.0), while Greene, the third most populous, had the second greatest density (43.5), and Poinsett the third (40.5). The difference in the size of the two latter counties caused the inversion of rank for total population and density (Figure 16 and Table 5). Prairie County, with only 15.6 persons per square mile, had the lowest density.

**ARKANSAS — SEA 7
POPULATION DENSITY, 1960**

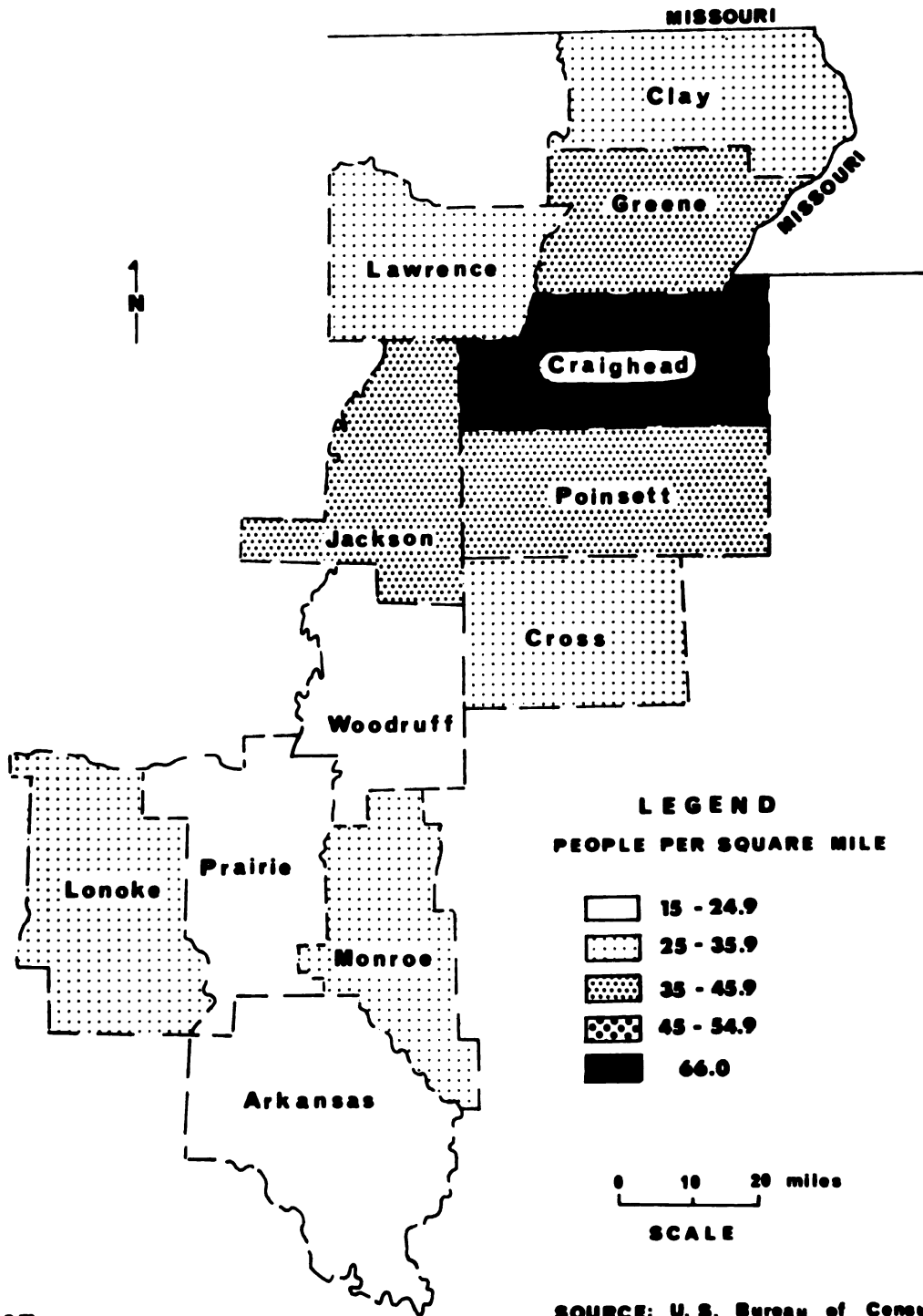


FIGURE 16.

Urban and Rural Population

Although the process of urbanization has been underway in Arkansas for several decades, only 27.9 per cent of the people in SEA 7 resided in urban areas in 1960. This was about fifteen per cent less than for the state as a whole and approximately forty-two per cent under that of the entire United States.

The agrarian dominance of the region is very significant since the socio-economic character of the inhabitants is greatly influenced by their place of residence.

Residence . . . is the most important indication of existing fundamental differences in the environment forces, both natural and man-made, that impinge upon the human personality. Within the limits imposed by man's biological inheritance, it determines largely the specific personality traits that any given person will acquire.³³

The highest percentage of urban population (54.3%) was in Arkansas County (Table 6), this being the only one with over one-half of its residents so classified (Figure 17). Even though this county leads SEA 7 in the proportion of urban people, no town within it has over 10,000 inhabitants. (Stuttgart has about 9,500 residents; DeWitt almost 3,000.) The largest units of manufacturing in the southern part of the SEA, including rice mills, are located in Stuttgart.

³³ T. Lynn Smith, Population Analysis (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1948), p. 27.

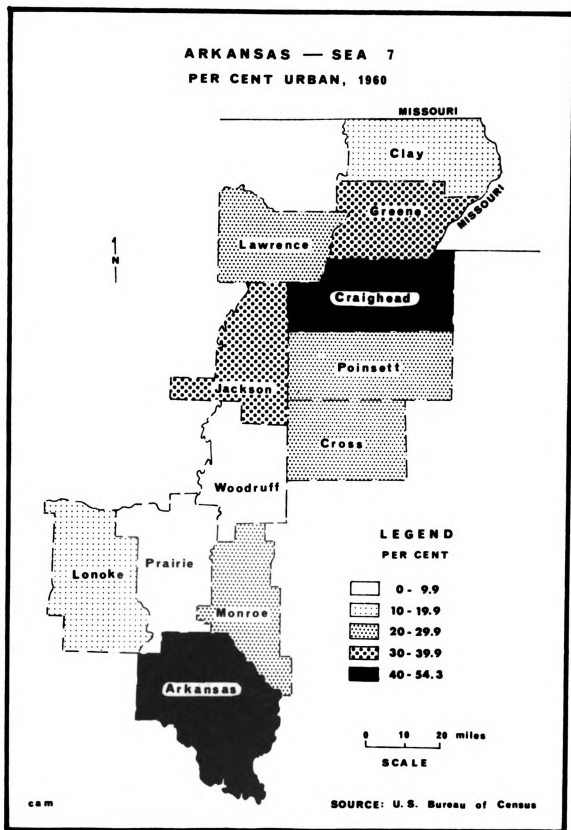


FIGURE 17.

TABLE 6. Arkansas-SEA 7: Urban and rural, 1960

County	Percent			
	Urban	Rural	Rural-farm	Rural-nonfarm
Arkansas	54.3	45.7	21.4	24.3
Clay	13.1	86.9	41.6	45.4
Craighead	45.3	54.7	31.1	23.6
Cross	25.2	74.8	32.6	42.2
Greene	39.5	60.5	41.7	18.9
Jackson	30.7	69.3	29.4	40.0
Lawrence	20.5	79.5	32.0	47.5
Lonoke	11.7	88.3	36.3	52.1
Monroe	26.8	73.2	34.7	38.5
Poinsett	25.1	74.9	36.0	39.0
Prairie	. .	100.0	33.5	66.5
Woodruff	. .	100.0	38.2	61.8
SEA 7	28.3	71.7	34.9	36.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

The low percentage (21.4%) of rural-farm persons in Arkansas County can be attributed chiefly to the fact that rice farming, which is planted on more acreage here, is a large-scale operation requiring large farms and large capital outlays (Figure 18). Planting and harvesting are done entirely with machinery, and thus relatively few men are needed. However, most farmers in the area are cotton growers.³⁴

The second-most urban county in 1960 was Craighead, with 45.3 per cent of its people in this category.

³⁴ Bogue and Beale, op. cit., p. 540.

ARKANSAS — SEA 7
PER CENT RURAL-FARM, 1960

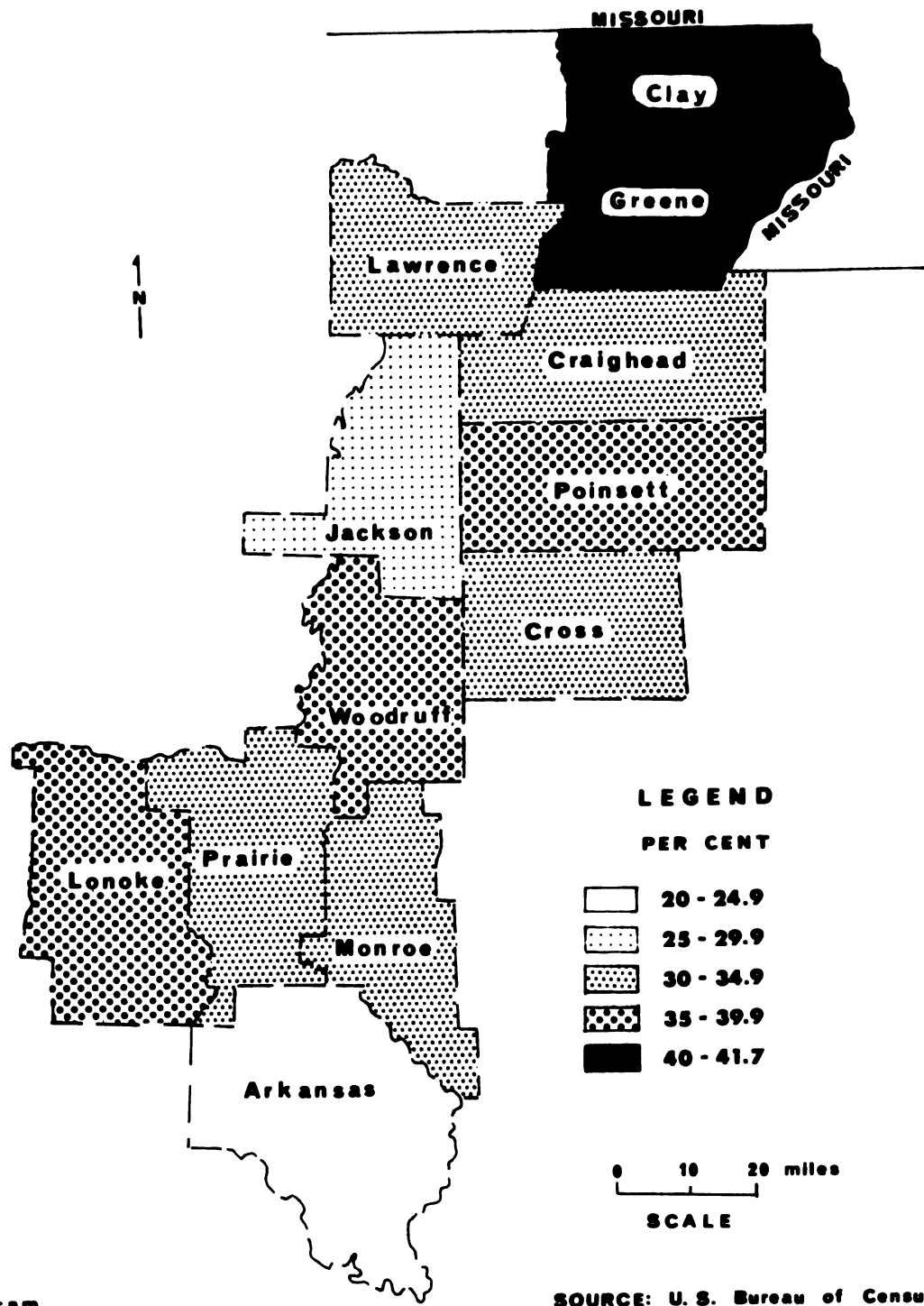


FIGURE 18.

However, the only urban place within the county was Jonesboro with 21,418 residents. Jonesboro is one of the leading cities in Arkansas in establishing a growing industrial economy. It is the major trade and transportation center for SEA 7. The industries of Jonesboro are gradually achieving a better balance between the early processing plants based on the local forest and crop resources and the growing number of manufacturers such as General Electric, Colson Corporation, and the Crane Company.³⁵ In addition to the expanding trade and manufacturing activities, Jonesboro has benefited from the rapid growth of Arkansas State University, one of the larger employers in the area.

The fairly high rural-farm percentage (31.1%) in Craighead County is indicative of the remnants of the longstanding cotton sharecropper system practiced here. Although rice is an important crop in the county, cotton farmers are still dominant.

Two counties, Prairie and Woodruff, had no urban population in 1960, while Lonoke had part (11.7%) of its residents classified as urban for the first time. However, all three counties have only slightly over one-third of their populations classified as rural-farm. Indeed, ten

³⁵ John B. Webster, "Jonesboro: A Chain Reaction," The Arkansas Economist, Vol. II, No. 3, Spring, 1960, p.23.

of the twelve counties in SEA 7 have more rural-nonfarm than rural-farm people (Table 6).

Racial Composition

In 1960, the percentage of nonwhites in SEA 7 was 15.4 per cent; only about 5 per cent above that of the United States as a whole. However, the racial composition within the region varied greatly, ranging from nearly fifty per cent nonwhite in one of the southern counties to nearly 100 per cent white in the northern-most ones (Figure 19). Monroe and Woodruff counties had the highest percentages (48.7% and 41.2%, respectively) of nonwhite residents, while Clay, Greene and Lawrence counties had the lowest, with less than one per cent each (Table 7).

TABLE 7. Arkansas-SEA7: Per cent nonwhite, 1960

County	Percent	County	Percent
Arkansas	24.7	Lawrence	0.9
Clay	. .	Lonoke	23.9
Craighead	3.4	Monroe	48.7
Cross	30.2	Poinsett	10.5
Greene	0.1	Prairie	18.5
Jackson	15.2	Woodruff	41.2
		SEA 7	15.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

ARKANSAS — SEA 7
PER CENT NON-WHITE, 1960

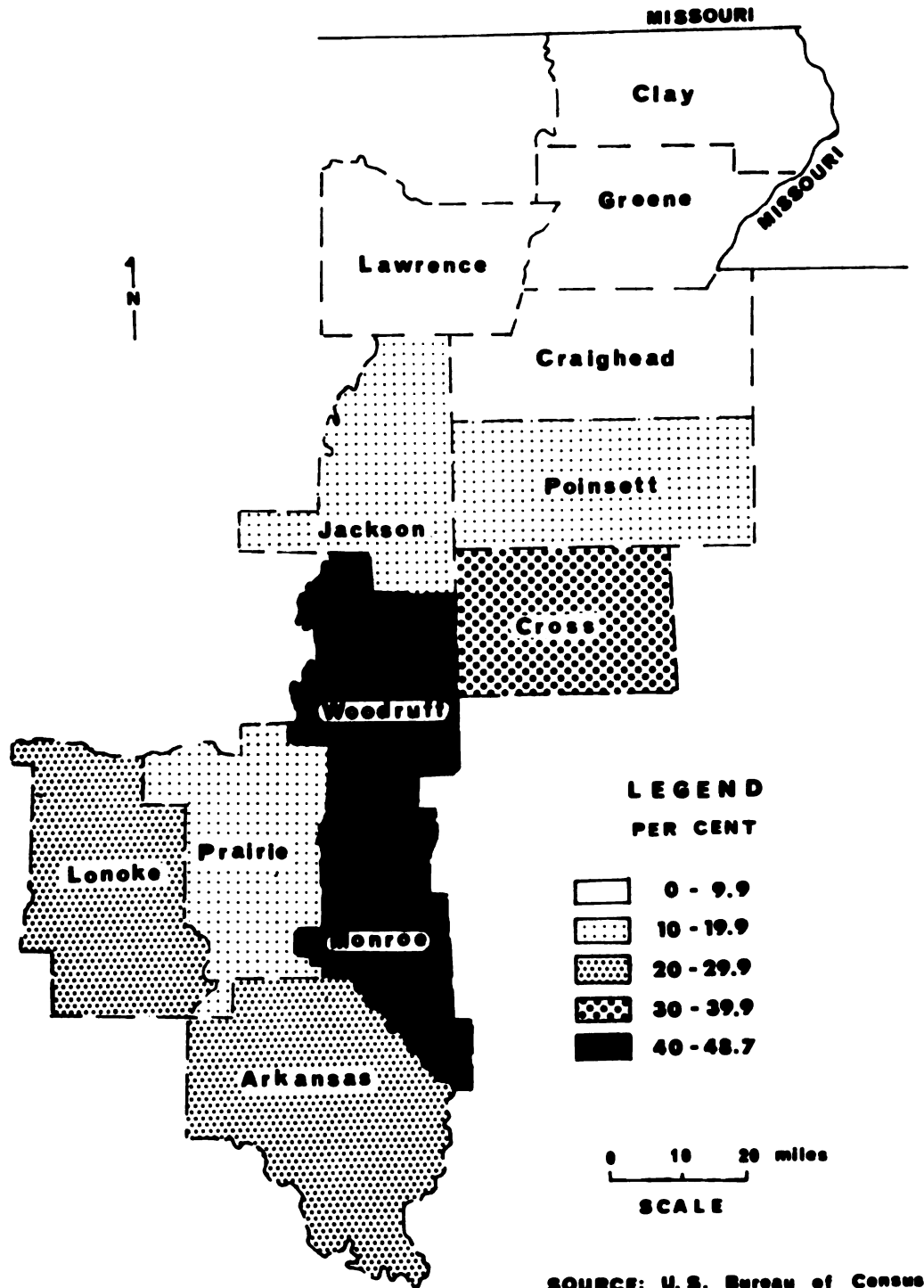


FIGURE 19.

The main reason for the wide variation in racial composition between the two groups of counties can be accounted for in large part by the fact that Monroe and Woodruff counties are in the heart of the earlier cotton plantation areas, while the other three are farthest removed from the influence of this socio-economic system.

Age and Sex

The county in SEA 7 with the greatest proportion of its inhabitants under eighteen years of age in 1960 was Monroe, while the two with the least were Clay and Greene (Table 8). Since nonwhites generally have higher birth rates than whites, this age differential can probably be attributed largely to the fact that Monroe had the highest percentage of nonwhites, while Clay and Greene had the lowest. Although this pattern did not hold true in every case, counties with higher proportions of nonwhites did generally tend to have younger populations.

Every county with over five per cent of its population nonwhite had a higher median age for whites than for nonwhites. The county with the largest proportion of its population between eighteen and sixty-four was Craighead, and the one with the highest percentage of residents sixty-five and over was Clay.

TABLE 8. Arkansas-SEA 7: Age and fertility, 1960

County	Percent			Median Age	Fertility Ratio*
	Under 18	18-64	65 & Over		
Arkansas	39.3	50.6	10.0	28.2	532
Clay	36.8	51.0	12.3	31.1	429
Craighead	37.2	53.6	9.3	26.4	451
Cross	43.3	46.8	9.9	23.6	600
Greene	36.9	51.8	11.3	29.8	429
Jackson	40.0	51.0	9.0	27.1	453
Lawrence	37.0	51.1	11.9	29.4	483
Lonoke	40.7	48.4	11.0	26.8	586
Monroe	44.2	45.6	10.2	23.3	643
Poinsett	43.4	48.7	7.9	22.9	545
Prairie	38.2	50.2	11.5	29.5	506
Woodruff	42.6	46.1	11.3	25.5	559
SEA 7	38.3	51.5	10.2	**	507

*Number of children under 5 years of age per 1,000 women 15 to 49.

**Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

Although females outnumbered males in ten of the twelve counties--and in eleven of the twelve when only nonwhites were counted--females were not most numerous in all the age groupings of any county. Males tended to predominate in most counties up to nineteen years of age. Females were dominant in the majority of counties in the age groups from twenty to forty-four. This difference in sex predominance in various age groups could be partially a result of age-sex migration patterns. Also, as noted by Shryock, migration rates are usually higher for

females from fourteen to nineteen years of age, while they are much higher for males from twenty to fifty-four.³⁶

The sexes were each dominant in about half the counties from the ages forty-five to sixty-four. Females outnumbered males in most counties in the age groups sixty-five to sixty-nine and eighty and over, while males were most numerous between seventy and seventy-nine years of age. This reflects somewhat the fact that women generally tend to outlive men.

Education

For an area in the United States to have a growing economy, the people must generally have a good education so that high-wage industries will be attracted. A low level of education, therefore, can seriously handicap the region in attaining a viable industrial base.

Within SEA 7 in 1960, no county had as much as 20 per cent of its population twenty-five years of age and over with four years of high school completed, not including those persons who had attended college. Craighead County led with 19.6 per cent of its population having a high school education, while Poinsett County had the least, 9.9 per cent (Table 9). Moreover, no county had

³⁶ Henry S. Shryock, Population Mobility within the United States (Chicago: Community and Family Study Center, University of Chicago, 1964), p. 400.

TABLE 9. Arkansas-SEA 7: Educational level, 1960

County	Percent					
	Four Years High School		Four Years Or More College		Median School Years Completed	
	Total Nonwhite		Total Nonwhite		Total Nonwhite	
Arkansas	17.6	5.3	4.8	1.7	8.8	6.8
Clay	11.1	. .	2.3	. .	8.3	. .
Craighead	19.6	6.9	5.6	0.5	8.7	6.7
Cross	12.8	2.1	3.5	2.2	8.0	5.4
Greene	13.2	. .	2.9	. .	8.4	. .
Jackson	13.3	5.0	2.8	1.2	8.4	7.1
Lawrence	12.6	. .	2.6	. .	8.3	. .
Lonoke	15.2	2.9	3.5	1.1	8.5	5.8
Monroe	12.6	3.1	2.7	1.4	7.9	6.2
Poinsett	9.9	1.5	2.6	1.1	7.6	4.7
Prairie	16.2	5.4	1.8	1.0	8.5	7.0
Woodruff	12.2	5.1	3.4	2.3	8.0	6.2
SEA 7	13.6	*	3.4	*	8.4	*

*Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

6 per cent or more of its inhabitants with four years or more of college. Again, Craighead had the highest percentage (5.6%), whereas Prairie had the lowest (1.8%). The national percentages were 41.1 per cent for high school graduates and 7.7 per cent for those completing four years or more of college.³⁷

The leading educational position of Craighead County relates directly to the presence of Arkansas State

³⁷ Ralph Thomlinson, Population Dynamics (New York: Random House, 1965), p. 467.

University. However, the existence of this institution did not seem to have a comparable effect on the college-level educational achievement of nonwhites. Although Craighead had the highest proportion (6.9%) of nonwhites with four years of high school completed, it had the lowest (0.5%) with four years or more of college. The schooling of nonwhites is significantly less than that of whites in all counties of SEA 7 (Table 9).

Another indicator of educational achievement is the median of school years completed. This varied from 7.6 years in Poinsett County to 8.8 years in Arkansas County for the total population; from 4.7 years in Poinsett to 7.1 years in Jackson County for nonwhites (Table 9). These compared with national figures of 10.6 years for the former and 8.2 years for the latter.³⁸ These low educational levels certainly hinder the counties in SEA 7 in their attempts to attract industries which require educated and skilled workers. Lacking opportunity at home, many of the best educated seek jobs elsewhere in Arkansas and outside of the state.

Labor Force and Income

The relationship between income and education is primarily through the intervening variable of occupation.

³⁸ Ibid.

Persons with more education normally occupy positions in higher-paying occupations.

In 1960, unemployment in SEA 7 ranged from 3.6 per cent in Lonoke County to 7.0 per cent in Jackson County (Table 10). Although only two counties exceeded the national average of 6.7 per cent, the low annual income of most of the area attests to chronic underemployment.

TABLE 10. Arkansas-SEA 7: Labor force, 1960

County	Per Cent Unemployed	Per Cent Employed as Professional, Technical and Kindred Workers	
		Total	Nonwhite
Arkansas	4.2	6.7	1.4
Clay	4.6	6.4	. .
Craighead	5.8	7.9	0.7
Cross	6.9	5.7	2.2
Greene	6.4	6.3	. .
Jackson	7.0	5.6	0.7
Lawrence	6.4	6.9	. .
Lonoke	3.6	6.8	0.8
Monroe	6.7	6.3	1.8
Poinsett	6.2	4.7	1.2
Prairie	6.0	4.0	1.2
Woodruff	4.3	7.0	2.4
SEA 7	6.0	6.4	*

*Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

Craighead County, which claimed the greatest proportion of college graduates, had the highest percentage (7.9%) of professional, technical and kindred workers.

Prairie County, which had the lowest proportion of college graduates, had the lowest percentage (4.0%) of such workers. These are far below the national figure of 12 per cent.³⁹ For nonwhites, Woodruff ranked highest and Craighead lowest in both cases.

The effect of inferior educational levels can be seen in the low incomes in the area. Although the annual median family income for the United States was \$5,620 in 1960,⁴⁰ only two counties, Craighead and Arkansas, were above the poverty level of \$3,000 as established by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in 1960. Craighead County had the highest median family income (\$3,408) and the lowest proportion (44.2%) of families with income under \$3,000 (Table 11). Even Craighead had twice the percentage of families below the poverty level than the national average of 22 per cent.⁴¹ Woodruff County had the lowest median family income (\$1,902) and the highest percentage (66.6%) of its families with an annual income of less than \$3,000. For nonwhite families, Arkansas County had the highest median income (\$1,963) and Lonoke County, the lowest (\$1,149).

³⁹Ibid., p. 479.

⁴⁰Ibid., p. 482.

⁴¹Ibid., p. 481.

TABLE 11. Arkansas-SEA 7: Family income, 1960.

County	Median Income		Per Cent with Income Under \$3,000
	Total	Nonwhite	
Arkansas	\$3,348	\$1,963	45.2
Clay	\$2,633	. .	56.2
Craighead	\$3,408	\$1,950	44.2
Cross	\$2,480	\$1,482	58.4
Greene	\$2,654	. .	55.8
Jackson	\$2,995	\$1,910	50.1
Lawrence	\$2,255	. .	62.3
Lonoke	\$2,708	\$1,149	54.3
Monroe	\$2,162	\$1,199	62.4
Poinsett	\$2,591	\$1,487	57.7
Prairie	\$2,853	\$1,469	52.3
Woodruff	\$1,902	\$1,281	66.6
SEA 7	\$2,767	*	53.8

*Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census.

Thus, in 1960 State Economic Area 7 was clearly in need of additional industries to help solve unemployment, underemployment, and resulting low income conditions. However, the low educational level promises to continue to retard industrial growth in most of the area. The present population structure undoubtedly reflects changes in the population which have occurred within this region. An investigation of the population and economic changes that has taken place since 1960 will contribute significantly to an understanding of the Area.

CHAPTER IV

POPULATION AND ECONOMIC CHANGES

SINCE 1960

From the 1960 U.S. Bureau of Census reports, SEA 7 appeared to be headed for a rather bleak future. This region, which declined in population by 3.6 per cent during the 1940's and by 14.6 per cent in the 1950's, certainly seemed to be moving toward a period of many problems. Although several factors contributed to the troubles of the region, the basic difficulty was that SEA 7--not unlike many other Southern regions--was part of the transition in America from a rural-agrarian to an urban-industrial society. Since this Area did not have many urban-industrial centers, the impact of this change was especially great.

In 1960, SEA 7 seemed destined to have a continued increasing net out-migration rate and population decline. This, of course, appeared probable since there was little industry to employ the young people when they finished high school, with the result that an ever greater number of them would have to seek employment outside of the region and the State.

Changes in Agriculture

Increased mechanization of agriculture and the effects of market prices and government allotments on various crops have brought about much change in agriculture in SEA 7 since 1959. The decline in rural-farm population and the change in the character of the agricultural economy have been particularly significant. Between 1959 and 1964, the total number of farms in each of the twelve counties dropped sharply. However, within the same period the number of acres in farms and the proportion of land in farms increased in every county except Arkansas and Poinsett.⁴² Nearly all of this additional land was reclaimed from marsh and forest areas. The average size of the farms and the value of land and buildings for individual farms increased in all twelve counties (Appendix D).⁴³ This demonstrates that although the number and percentage of rural-farm persons is decreasing in this region, agriculture is not necessarily declining. Indeed, it would appear to be expanding.

⁴²U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1964 United States Census of Agriculture (Preliminary Reports for Arkansas, Clay, Craighead, Cross, Greene, Jackson, Lawrence, Lonoke, Monroe, Poinsett, Prairie, and Woodruff counties, Series AC 64-P1; Washington: Bureau of the Census, September, 1966), pp. 1-5.

⁴³Ibid.

The change in the population, particularly since 1950, has suggested a dramatic change in the agricultural economy of SEA 7. Cotton, which has always been the dominant crop in this region, is being partially replaced by rice and soybeans (Appendix D). In 1964, over 4,350 fewer farms reported any cotton production than in 1959, and no county had an increase in the number of producing farms. Even though four counties reported an increase in the number of cotton bales produced, the region as a whole showed a small decline of about 3,400 bales from 1959 to 1964. Furthermore, the area under cotton cultivation decreased by 18,987 acres, or four per cent, during this period (Appendix D).⁴⁴ Several county agents in the region believe that this decline in acreage and production will probably continue for the next several years. In 1963, Craighead County ranked fourth and Poinsett County sixth in the State in cotton production. Within SEA 7, the first five ranking counties were Craighead, Poinsett, Lonoke, Monroe, and Woodruff.⁴⁵

The cultivation of rice, the second more important crop in the region, on the other hand, has had a substantial

⁴⁴Ibid., p. 5.

⁴⁵United States Department of Agriculture, 1963 Agricultural Statistics for Arkansas. Prepared by Roy D. Bass and others (United States Department of Agriculture, Report Series No. 128; Little Rock: Crop Reporting Service, Statistical Reporting Service, August, 1964).

growth. Not only were there over forty more farms reporting rice production in 1964 than in 1959, but also every county experienced an increase in acres under cultivation and bushels grown. This region produced approximately 9,500,000 more bushels of rice in 1964 than five years earlier, an increase of about forty-four per cent. Moreover, the area of rice cultivation expanded by 41,490 acres, or more than fifteen per cent.⁴⁶ This growth reflects the increased mechanization in the Area. In 1963, the top five rice-producing counties in Arkansas were Arkansas, Prairie, Poinsett, Lonoke, and Cross. All of these are in the SEA 7.⁴⁷

Soybean production is also rapidly developing in the region. The greater importance of this crop is not reflected in a rising number of farms under soybean cultivation, but rather in the greater volume of production per farm. For instance, although the number of farms reporting soybean cultivation decreased by about 1,500 from 1959 to 1964, production increased by nearly 8,000,000 bushels, a growth of almost one-third. Moreover, soybean plantings grew by 485,132 acres, or forty per cent.⁴⁸ The State of

⁴⁶U. S. Bureau of the Census, loc. cit.

⁴⁷United States Department of Agriculture, loc. cit.

⁴⁸U. S. Bureau of the Census, loc. cit.

Arkansas now ranks fourth in the United States in soybean production.⁴⁹ Most of this production comes from SEA 7. In 1963, Arkansas County ranked first in the State in soybean cultivation, while Poinsett County and Craighead County ranked third and fourth, respectively.⁵⁰ Thus, both rice and soybeans are becoming increasingly important at the expense of cotton.

The change in the relative status of cotton, soybeans, and rice is continuing. Several county agricultural agents in this region state that soybeans will probably become the most important crop in acreage in most counties, and in total value in many, because of the influence of government allotments. Both cotton and rice acreages are controlled, whereas soybeans can be grown on any number of acres. During the past few years, cotton allotments have been sharply curtailed. Only by renting or purchasing farms near his own has the farmer been able to plant an acreage large enough to balance his capital outlay for machinery and chemicals, which have become increasingly needed in the conduct of this economic activity. This consolidation of farms has been the primary cause for the

⁴⁹Arkansas Industrial Development Commission. Annual Report, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1966 (Little Rock: Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, 1966).

⁵⁰United States Department of Agriculture, loc. cit.

declining number of farm units. With continued low market prices and smaller government allotments, together with the devastating effect of adverse weather on the 1966 cotton crop (for example, cotton yield per acre in Craighead County decreased from 621 pounds in 1965 to 358 pounds in 1966, and the value dropped from 28.5 cents to 21.5 cents per pound),⁵¹ even fewer farmers than might normally be expected will plant cotton in 1967. Instead, a growing number of them will accept federal government payment for not planting their allotment, while putting all their effort into the cultivation of soybeans, which is not government controlled and which will probably yield a fair return for their labor.

Therefore, although cotton will undoubtedly continue to remain a major crop in many of the counties, soybeans and rice will surely replace the old "king" as the principal agricultural products of SEA 7. As cotton continues to decline in importance, tenancy will decrease, as will also the proportion of rural-farm population. In fact, between 1959 and 1964, the proportion of tenancy in the region decreased from as little as 2.2 per cent in Lawrence County to as much as 10.1 per cent in Cross County.⁵² Paralleling

⁵¹Agricultural Industry-Craighead County (Jonesboro: Agricultural Extension Service for Craighead County, January 3, 1967).

⁵²U. S. Bureau of the Census, 1964 United States Census of Agriculture, op. cit.

these changes will naturally be the further abandonment of the tenant shack and the old farm house.

Changes in Population and Industry

Having witnessed a net population loss in Arkansas during the 1950's, both the Census Bureau and the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare predicted substantial losses of residents for the State during the 1960's.⁵³ These forecasts, of course, were related primarily to the already heavily depopulating parts of the State, such as SEA 7. Indeed, recalling the trend of the 1950-60 decade and viewing the persistent decline of rural-farm residents mentioned above, most persons would probably assume that SEA 7 would continue to decrease in population and that unemployment and other problems would grow. However, because of the tremendous promotional effort on the part of leading citizens within the region, the population in most of the counties has been maintained or even slightly increased in relation to that of 1960 (Table 12).⁵⁴ Although hundreds of persons throughout the region have worked

⁵³David Petty, "State Regains Most of Lost Population, Report Maintains," Arkansas Gazette (Little Rock), June 10, 1966, p. 15-A.

⁵⁴Arkansas Business Bulletin. Prepared by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research of the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas, May, 1966), pp. 5-6.

diligently to attract industries to the many communities, organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Industrial Development Commission in the various counties, as well as the Industrial Committees on County Development Councils, have generally been the most significant instruments of industrial development in SEA 7.

Population Change

If SEA 7 had experienced the same average annual rate of decline between 1960 and 1965 that it did during the previous decade, the region would have shown a decrease of about seven per cent, or over 19,000 persons. However, according to data released by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Arkansas, SEA 7 had a population increase during the period of 3.2 per cent, or 8,729 persons.⁵⁵ Moreover, whereas all twelve counties in the region lost population during the 1950's, only Greene and Jackson showed a decline in the first half of the present decade (Figure 20). Nevertheless, only one county would have increased in inhabitants if net migration had been the only controlling variable. Although ten of the twelve counties grew in population, only Craighead

⁵⁵Ibid.

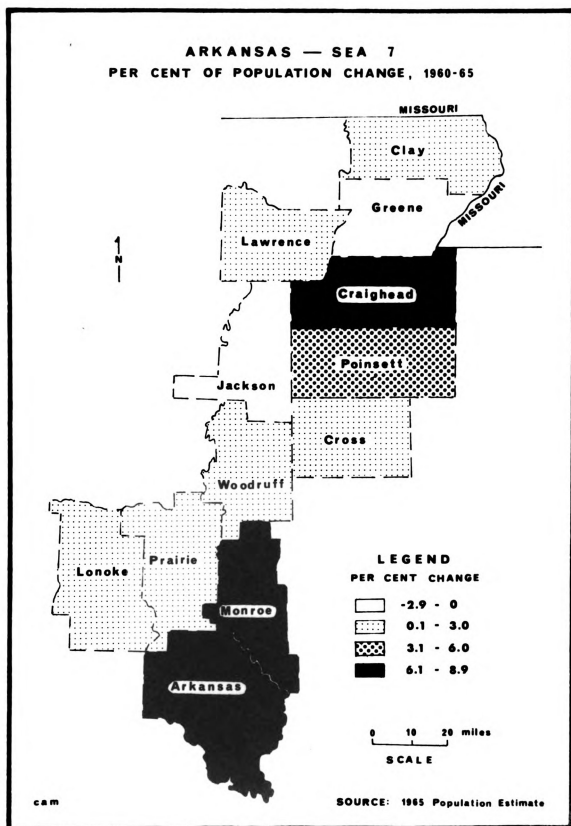


FIGURE 20.

County witnessed a net in-migration (Table 12).⁵⁶ This resulted from the rapid growth of Arkansas State University within that county.

Even though the population figures for 1965 are only estimates, the change from declining numbers to overall growth is indicated. Whereas SEA 7 previously was a withering part of the United States, today this region shows promise of renewed growth.

TABLE 12. Arkansas-SEA 7: Population change and migration, 1960-1965

County	1960 Census	1965 Estimate	1960-65	
			Per Cent Change	Net Migration
Arkansas	23,355	24,823	6.3	- 388
Clay	21,258	21,429	0.8	- 938
Craighead	47,303	51,508	8.9	+ 615
Cross	19,551	19,778	1.2	-1,344
Greene	25,198	24,663	-2.1	-1,928
Jackson	22,843	22,187	-2.9	-2,245
Lawrence	17,287	17,342	0.4	- 955
Lonoke	24,551	25,150	2.4	-1,371
Monroe	17,327	18,690	7.9	- 103
Poinsett	30,834	32,276	4.7	-1,429
Prairie	10,515	10,735	2.1	- 329
Woodruff	13,954	14,104	1.1	-1,318
SEA 7	273,956	282,685	5.0	-12,963

Source: Arkansas 1965 Population Estimates. Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Arkansas.

⁵⁶ Arkansas 1965 Population Estimates. Prepared by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research of the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas, May, 1966). (Mimeographed.)

The continued growth of many of the towns in the various counties has naturally played an important part in the stabilization of population in the region. The significance of this increase in the size of towns, however, will be difficult to ascertain until the 1970 census figures are available. While the proportion of the urban population has certainly increased in most counties, with the substantial decline in the rural-farm population, another significant change in the rural-urban character of many counties appears to have been a large gain in the number of rural-nonfarm inhabitants. This is revealed not only in discussions with county agents and other county leaders, but also by the many new houses being constructed in the rural areas.

Many of the families that have decided to discontinue agriculture as their major economic activity have either rented or sold the land to farmers with larger operations, and retained only the farmstead or a site upon which to build a new house. Also, many families who were previously tenants or sharecroppers have been permitted to continue living in the farm houses by paying a small amount of rent. The man of the house often helps work the land, while the wife frequently finds work in nearby towns to supplement the family income.

Industrial Change

The alteration of SEA 7 from a region of declining population to one of apparent growth has resulted mainly from the great increase of industrial-employment opportunities. Although the expansion of established firms has added to the number of jobs available in most counties, the greatest gain in industrial employment has been provided by the growing number of new manufacturing establishments.

Craighead County, the most populous county within SEA 7, experienced the greatest numerical and percentage population growth (4,205 and 8.9 per cent, respectively) between 1960 and 1965. During this time eight new industrial concerns came into the county. In addition, seven plants which were already located in the county expanded operations one or more times (Table 13). All of these expansions and the establishment of all but one of the new industrial plants have occurred in Jonesboro.⁵⁷ Manufacturing employment has increased in the county from about 2,600 in April, 1960⁵⁸ to over 3,900 in September, 1966.⁵⁹

⁵⁷Jonesboro's Immediate Trade Zone is Experiencing Substantial Industrial Growth. Prepared by the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce.

⁵⁸Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960. Prepared by the Reports and Analysis Section of the Employment Security Commission (Little Rock: Department of Labor, 1960), p. 14.

⁵⁹Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966. Prepared by the Reports and Analysis Section of the Employment Security Division (Little Rock: Department of Labor, 1966), p. 19.

TABLE 13. Arkansas-SEA 7: New industries and expansions in Craighead County, 1960-65.

Industrial Concern	Date of Establishment or Expansion	City	Estimated Number of Employees Added
<u>New Industries</u>			
Alton Box Company	1960	Jonesboro	25
Crane Company	1960	Jonesboro	380
Arkansas Shoe Company	1961	Jonesboro	100
Delta, Inc.	1962	Jonesboro	55
Hytrol Conveyor Co.	1962	Jonesboro	42
Jonesboro Tool and Engineering Co.	1962	Jonesboro	10
Ridge Plastic Co.	1962	Jonesboro	12
Caraway Apparel Co.	1965	Caraway	25
<u>Expansions</u>			
Arkansas Glass Container Company	1960	Jonesboro	10
Broadway Packing Co.	1960	Jonesboro	35
Frolic Footwear, Inc.	1960	Jonesboro	200
General Electric Co.	1962	Jonesboro	50
Arkansas Glass Container Company	1962	Jonesboro	16
Jonesboro Concrete Pipe Company	1962	Jonesboro	13
Arkansas Glass Container Company	1964	Jonesboro	16
Arkansas Rice Growers Cooperative	1964	Jonesboro	5
Fasweet Company	1964	Jonesboro	Not given
General Electric Co.	1964	Jonesboro	100

Source: Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce.

The absolute number of new jobs made available by new and expanding industries might not, however, always be fully reflected by an increase in the population of a county. For example, many workers commute daily to Jonesboro from nearby counties. Although no statistics are available on

the exact number or percentage of employees involved, a survey taken in 1960 showed that commuters came from as far as forty miles to work in this city.⁶⁰ Moreover, Chamber of Commerce officials throughout SEA 7 often commented during interviews on the inter-county commuting of workers.

The possibility of this occurring is increased by the high percentage of rural-nonfarm persons who do not live a great distance further from a town outside their county than from one inside it. Industries also vary greatly in their employee characteristics. For example, many of the new and expanding industries in Craighead County employ primarily females. In fact, between fifty-five and sixty per cent of the industrial workers are women.⁶¹ Increases in industries employing men generally result in greater overall population gains than do those hiring mostly women. Finally, the relative decline of rural-farm persons is very important. Nevertheless, in most cases, an increase in manufacturing employment will result in a growth in the overall population.

⁶⁰The Economy of Jonesboro: Past and Future. Prepared by Douglas R. Porter (Fayetteville: City Planning Division, University of Arkansas, September, 1960), p. 16.

⁶¹Jonesboro, Arkansas: Facts and Figures. Prepared by the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce. January 1, 1966. Urban Center Questionnaire. Prepared by the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce. May 4, 1966.

Although areas in the South which have labor unions have been considered to have difficulty in attracting new industry, this does not appear to always hold true and will probably become less so in future years. As more industrialization takes place in SEA 7, union activity will probably increase. Indeed, the four largest employers in Jonesboro are unionized and probably forty to sixty per cent of all workers in the city belong to a union.⁶² Industry continues to expand in this county, however, as does overall employment, which increased seven per cent during the twelve months ending in March, 1965.⁶³

Many industries in Jonesboro represent national or international firms (Table 14). The five largest employers in the county are located in this city. They are Frolic Footwear, Inc., General Electric Company, Crane Company, Colson Corporation, and Southern Wooden Box Company.⁶⁴

In addition to the jobs made available in the new and expanding industries of Craighead and other counties, the gain in population and income results in the creation

⁶²Jonesboro, Arkansas: Facts and Figures, op. cit.

⁶³U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census: County Business Patterns, 1965-Arkansas (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1965).

⁶⁴Industrial Directory: Jonesboro, Arkansas. Prepared by the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce, January, 1967.

TABLE 14. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Jonesboro, January, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Market	Number of Employees
Frolic Footwear, Inc.	Women's shoes	nationwide	700
General Electric Co.	Fractional horse-power motors	nationwide	538
Crane Company (and Repcal Brass Manufacturing Company)	Brass and plumbing fixtures	worldwide	380
Colson Corporation	Material handling equip. and casters	nationwide	250
Southern Wooden Box Company	Wooden beverage boxes	nationwide	175
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	Utility	4 states	150
Arkansas Rice Growers Co-op.	Rice and by-products	nationwide	142
Arkansas Glass Container Company	Glass food containers	nationwide	130
Pepsi Cola Bottling Company	Soft drink bottling	13 counties	105
Jonesboro Water and Light Plant	Utility	local	101
Broadway Packing Company, Inc.	Meat packing	30 counties	100
Coca-Cola Bottling Company	Soft drink bottling	12 counties	80
A & P Coop Company	Egg crates	nationwide	60
Delta, Inc.	Cotton gin accessory equipment	worldwide	55
American District Telegraph Co.	Fire and burglar alarms	nationwide	50

Source: Industrial Directory: Jonesboro, Arkansas. Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce.

of numerous non-manufacturing jobs, especially in whole-sale and retail trade and services. The non-manufacturing employment in Craighead County increased by 1,652 between April, 1960, and September, 1966.⁶⁵ Many of these jobs made possible the population growth of the county.

Industrial growth has also helped to prevent continued population decline in other counties. The only other two counties which increased their number of inhabitants by over five per cent between 1960 and 1965 were Monroe and Arkansas. During this period, industrial growth was substantial in both counties.

Two new industries brought between 600 and 650 additional jobs to Monroe County. However, about one-half of these were for women. These two new establishments accounted for practically all of the county's new jobs in manufacturing after 1960. The two most populous towns, Brinkley and Clarendon, each received one of the new industries.⁶⁶ Since both the county and the towns are small

⁶⁵Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit. Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit.

⁶⁶An Industrial History of Arkansas. Prepared by the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission (Little Rock: Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, 1962). Clarendon: A Planning Studies Report. Prepared by the City Planning Division, University of Arkansas (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas, December, 1966), p. 5.

in population, any addition of a large industry can greatly stimulate their growth.

The effect of industrial growth on the population can be seen very readily in both Monroe County and the towns of Brinkley and Clarendon. Clarendon, which had declined in population from 2,547 in 1950 to 2,293 in 1960, more than overcame its previous loss by 1965. Sarkes Tarz in, Inc. provided 275 new jobs for Clarendon after opening in 1961. Although many employees of that firm undoubtedly commute from rural areas, the number of inhabitants in the town rose by 271 between 1960 and 1965.⁶⁷ Brinkley, which grew from 4,173 in 1950 to 4,636 in 1960, has continued to gain population. Since entering Brinkley in 1960, Wagner Electric Company has increased its number of employees to 356. By 1965, the town had added 271 more residents, and by 1967, another 593.⁶⁸ Although the population of these two towns increased by 542 between 1960 and 1965, Monroe County gained 1,363 inhabitants.⁶⁹ Considering the continuing decline of rural-farm persons, the greatest growth in the county must have been primarily rural-nonfarm. The

⁶⁷ Clarendon: A Planning Studies Report, op. cit., pp. 5,7.

⁶⁸ Brinkley, Arkansas. Prepared by the Brinkley Chamber of Commerce. (Dittoed.) 1967.

⁶⁹ Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 6.

major industries in the county are Phillips-Van Heusen, Inc., Wagner Electric Company, Sarkes Tarzin, Inc., and Stoddard-Quirk Manufacturing Company (Table 15).⁷⁰

TABLE 15. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Monroe County, March, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Number of Employees	Town
Phillips-Van Heusen Inc.	Textiles	414	Brinkley
Wagner Electric Co.	Electric motors	356	Brinkley
Sarkes Tarzin, Inc.	Television and radio components	275	Clarendon
Stoddard-Quirk Manufacturing Co.	Bottle crates, pumps, furnace filters, & air conditioner filters	100	Clarendon
Potlach Forest, Inc.	Hardwood and cypress lumber	70	Clarendon

Source: Clarendon: A Planning Studies Report, City Planning Division, University of Arkansas. Brinkley, Arkansas. Brinkley Chamber of Commerce.

Arkansas County experienced a gain of 1,468 persons from 1960 to 1965, while its two largest towns, Stuttgart and De Witt, increased in population by approximately 600⁷¹

⁷⁰ Clarendon: A Planning Studies Report, op. cit., p. 5; Brinkley, Arkansas, op. cit.

⁷¹ Interview with Mr. Henry Jones, Manager of the Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce, April, 1967.

and 800,⁷² respectively. Although the number of workers in manufacturing firms rose by 258 from April, 1960, to September, 1966,⁷³ employment is now even higher. Nearly all of the increase in industrial employment has been related to the growth of agricultural processing establishments. Since the opening of the Arkansas Grain Corporation mill in Stuttgart in 1960, the number of jobs provided has reached 300. The Arkansas Rice Growers Corporation has added eighty-five new employees since 1962, and the Producers Rice Mill, fifteen. In addition, the R. W. Manufacturing Company, which began operation in October, 1963, now employs fifty men producing dust collectors for rice, cotton, and lumber mills.⁷⁴

The employment gains in manufacturing, plus smaller increases in some of the other firms since 1962, were offset significantly by the loss of the Fairbanks-Morris Stuttgart Pump Works, which had about 150 employees when it closed in 1963. The closing of the company operations in Stuttgart was not related to labor problems or to

⁷²Interview with Mrs. Mary Louise Wright, Executive Secretary of the DeWitt Chamber of Commerce, April, 1967.

⁷³Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 9. Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 14.

⁷⁴Stuttgart, Arkansas. Prepared by the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, 1962.

dissatisfaction with the local area. Rather, the move was to concentrate production in Kansas City and reflects a trend toward centralization which also affected plants in other parts of the nation.⁷⁵ The major manufacturing firms in Arkansas County are the Arkansas Rice Growers Corporation, the Arkansas Grain Corporation, and the De Witt Shoe Corporation (Table 16).⁷⁶

Other counties which gained population between 1960 and 1965 were Poinsett, Lonoke, Prairie, Cross, Woodruff, Clay, and Lawrence. Of these, Poinsett increased by over 1,000 inhabitants; the others between 75 and 600.

Poinsett County had an increase of 1,442 residents between 1960 and 1965.⁷⁷ Within this five-year period, manufacturing employment rose by 903 and non-manufacturing non-agricultural jobs by 479. Nearly sixty per cent of the latter were in trade, wholesale, and retail positions.⁷⁸ By September, 1966, 322 more manufacturing jobs had been created for a total gain of 1,225 new positions of this

⁷⁵Interview with Mr. Henry Jones, Manager of the Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce, April, 1967.

⁷⁶Interviews with Mr. Henry Jones, Manager of the Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce, and Mrs. Mary Louise Wright, Secretary of the De Witt Chamber of Commerce, April, 1967.

⁷⁷Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 5.

⁷⁸Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Arkansas. Prepared by the Poinsett County Development Council, May, 1966, p. 9.

TABLE 16. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Arkansas County, March, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Number of Employees	Town
Arkansas Rice Growers Corporation	Rice processing	400	Stuttgart
Arkansas Grain Corporation	Soybean oil and meal	300	Stuttgart
De Witt Shoe Corp.	Women's shoes	250	De Witt
Layne-Arkansas Co.	Pump gear drives, relift pumps, well drilling rigs	153	Stuttgart
Stuttgart Shoes Co., Inc.	Women's and children's shoes	145	Stuttgart
Comet Rice Mills	Rice and rice products	120	Stuttgart
Townsend Lumber Co., Inc.	Lumber and paneling	88	Stuttgart
Producers Rice Mill	Rice and rice by-products	80	Stuttgart
Stuttgart Machine Works	Storage bins and grain handling equipment	80	Stuttgart
R. W. Manufacturing Co.	Dust collectors for rice, cotton, and lumber mills	50	Stuttgart
C & L Rice Company	Rice processing	seasonal	De Witt

Source: Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce and De Witt Chamber of Commerce.

class since April, 1960.⁷⁹ In May, 1966, major industries in Poinsett County were reported to have increased their

⁷⁹Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 32.

payrolls by 1,179 persons.⁸⁰ The principal towns in the county made substantial population gains between 1960 and 1966. Trumann increased by 502, Lepanto by 428, and Harrisburg by 422.⁸¹ The exact change for Marked Tree is not known, but the town also grew in number of residents. The major industries in Poinsett County are the Singer Company (Wood Products Division) of Trumann, the Salant and Salant Garment Company of Trumann, the Salant and Salant Garment Company of Marked Tree, the Lepanto Garment Company, and the Harrisburg Manufacturing Company (Table 17).⁸²

Lonoke County is basically agricultural. Indeed, this economic activity contributes approximately eighty per cent of the income of the county.⁸³ Nevertheless, moderate-sized industry has recently come to the county,

⁸⁰ Interviews with Mr. Bob Maloney, Manager of Employee Training and Development for the Singer Company in Trumann and Mr. W. C. Barker, Plant Manager for Salant and Salant Garment Company of Trumann, April, 1967. Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 10.

⁸¹ Interview with Mrs. Mary Hamilton, Office Manager for the Lepanto Garment Company, April, 1966. Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 5.

⁸² Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 10.

⁸³ Overall Economic Development Program for Lonoke County, Arkansas. Compiled by the Lonoke County Development Council, January, 1966, p. 10.

TABLE 17. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Poinsett County, March, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Number of Employees	Town
Singer Co., Wood Products Division	Sewing machine cabinets, stools, seat parts, etc.	2,000	Trumann
Salant and Salant Garment Co.	Clothing	450	Trumann
Salant and Salant Garment Co.	Clothing	300	Marked Tree
Lepanto Garment Co. (Bobbie Brooks)	Ladies ready-to-wear	200	Lepanto
Harrisburg Mfg. Co.	Women's shoes	175	Harrisburg
Gotham Chalk Board Company	Chalk boards, pool tables, window frames, etc.	80	Marked Tree

Source: Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Poinsett County Development Council.

and the population increased about 600 between 1960 and 1965.⁸⁴ A special census showed that the largest town, Lonoke, gained 500 residents between 1960 and 1964.⁸⁵

Until 1963, manufacturing comprised an insignificant part of the economy of Lonoke County.⁸⁶ Many residents

⁸⁴ Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 5.

⁸⁵ Interview with Mr. Billy Thompson, Tax Assessor for Lonoke County, April, 1967.

⁸⁶ Overall Economic Development Program for Lonoke County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 11.

were commuting to jobs outside of the county in Pine Bluff, Little Rock, Jacksonville, and at the U.S. Air Force Base near Jacksonville.⁸⁷ Although the number of manufacturing units in the county decreased from twenty-four in 1960 to nineteen in 1964, manufacturing employment has more than tripled.⁸⁸ In 1963, the Ottenheimer Brothers Manufacturing Company came to the town of Lonoke.⁸⁹ This concern increased the number of persons employed in manufacturing by almost 300.⁹⁰ In that same year, Aire-Line Mobile Homes Corporation was established in Cabot, increasing industrial jobs by slightly over 100.⁹¹ Employment in manufacturing rose by 437 between 1960 and 1964.⁹² These two new industries, plus five smaller ones established during this period, contributed 423 of the new jobs.⁹³ By September, 1966, approximately 180 more jobs in manufacturing had been added.⁹⁴ In 1966, the Jacuzzi Brothers Manufacturing

⁸⁷Ibid., p. 4.

⁸⁸Ibid., p. 11.

⁸⁹Ibid., p. 36.

⁹⁰Ibid., p. 11.

⁹¹Ibid., p. 35.

⁹²Ibid., p. 11.

⁹³Ibid., pp. 35-36.

⁹⁴Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 28.

Company began operation in the town of Lonoke. This firm employs between 100 and 150 workers.⁹⁵ Thus, major industries in Lonoke County today are the Ottenheimer Brothers Manufacturing Company, Jacuzzi Brothers Manufacturing Company, and Aire-Line Mobile Homes Corporation (Table 18).⁹⁶

TABLE 18. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Lonoke County, March, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Estimated Number of Employees	Town
Ottenheimer Brothers Manufacturing Co.	Clothing	300-350	Lonoke
Jacuzzi Brothers Manufacturing Co.	Water pumps, Whirlpool baths	100-350	Lonoke
Aire-Line Mobile Homes Corporation	Mobile homes	100	Cabot
Bancroft Cap Co.	Clothing	100	Cabot
Arkansas State Rice Milling Company	Rice and rice products	85-100	Carlisle
G. P. Freshour Construction Co.	Crushed rock	50	Cabot

Source: Overall Economic Development Program for Lonoke County, Arkansas. Lonoke County Development Council.

⁹⁵Interview with Mr. Billy Thompson, Tax Assessor for Lonoke County, April, 1967.

⁹⁶Overall Economic Development Program for Lonoke County, Arkansas, op. cit., pp. 35-36.

Prairie County had an increase in population of 2.1 per cent, or 220 persons, between 1960 and 1965.⁹⁷ Des Arc, one of the two largest towns, added 317 residents from 1960 to 1964.⁹⁸ Although Hazen, the other one, gained seventy-four persons by 1966, about sixty of these resulted from annexation.⁹⁹ Again, industry was important in population growth. Between April, 1960, and September, 1966, over 282 new jobs in manufacturing became available.¹⁰⁰ Nearly all of this increase was associated with the Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation plant in Des Arc. Established in 1960,¹⁰¹ it now employs approximately 220 workers.¹⁰² Hazen did not have a new industry or an expansion during this period.¹⁰³ Indeed, it still does not have any industry

⁹⁷Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 5.

⁹⁸Interview with Mr. Mike Graddy, Deputy Sheriff for Prairie County, April, 1967.

⁹⁹Interview with Dr. Travis Mathews, physician and member of the Industrial Development Commission of Hazen, April, 1967.

¹⁰⁰Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 30. Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 33.

¹⁰¹An Industrial History of Arkansas, op. cit.

¹⁰²Interview with Mr. Mike Graddy, Deputy Sheriff for Prairie County, April, 1967.

¹⁰³Interview with Dr. Travis Mathews, physician and member of the Industrial Development Commission of Hazen, April, 1967.

employing ten or more persons.¹⁰⁴ The major manufacturing industry in Prairie County in March, 1967, was the Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation plant in Des Arc.

Cross County increased in population during the first half of the 1960's by 1.2 per cent, or 227 persons.¹⁰⁵ During the same years, the largest city in the county, Wynne, added 1,092 residents.¹⁰⁶ Manufacturing employment grew by 517 during this period,¹⁰⁷ and 257 more jobs were added by September, 1966.¹⁰⁸ This growth of jobs in manufacturing was the result of the establishment and later expansion of the Addison Shoe Corporation, which began operating in 1960, and of the Halstead Metal Products, Inc., which opened in 1964.¹⁰⁹ Although a relatively large increase in

¹⁰⁴Hazen, Arkansas. [Prepared by the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, 1961.]

¹⁰⁵Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 6.

¹⁰⁶Interview with Mr. Jack Fiscus, Associate Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity for Cross County, March, 1967.

¹⁰⁷Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 15. Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Cross County Arkansas. Prepared by the Cross County Development Council April 28, 1966, p. 8.

¹⁰⁸Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 20.

¹⁰⁹Interview with Mrs. Betty Urfer, secretary of the Wynne Chamber of Commerce, March, 1967.

manufacturing jobs has occurred in Cross County since 1960, many of the residents of Wynne and the county drive between fifteen and twenty-five miles to the south to work in Forrest City in St. Francis County.¹¹⁰ Nevertheless, Wynne and Cross County are reported to have all of the industry they need at the present time. The principal industries in the County are the Addison Shoe Corporation, Halstead Metal Products, Inc., and Rainfair, Inc. (Table 19).¹¹¹

TABLE 19. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Cross County, March, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Estimated Number of Employees	Town
Addison Shoe Company	Shoes	600-650	Wynne
Halstead Metal Products, Inc.	Copper tubing	200	Wynne
Rainfair, Inc.	Men's trousers	175	Wynne
Halstead & Mitchell Co.	Heat exchange components	80	Wynne

Source: Wynne Chamber of Commerce

Until recently, Woodruff County had long been a completely rural, agricultural area. After many years of

¹¹⁰ Interview with Mr. W. M. Courtney, editor of the Wynne Progress, March, 1967.

¹¹¹ Interview with Mrs. Betty Urfer, secretary of the Wynne Chamber of Commerce, March, 1967.

decline, the population of the county has become stabilized. From 1960 to 1965, it grew slightly by 1.1 per cent, or 150 inhabitants.¹¹² Employment in manufacturing increased from 176 in April, 1960,¹¹³ to 901 in September, 1966.¹¹⁴ Most of this gain of 725 jobs resulted from new industries coming into the county. The Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation shirt factory was established in Augusta in 1960¹¹⁵ and now has about 300 employees.¹¹⁶ The Augusta Corporation, which has been in operation for approximately four years, making brass solder-joint pipe fittings, has 225 workers. The Arkansas Electric Cooperative Plant opened in Augusta in 1966 and has 16 employees.¹¹⁷ These new industries have not only helped to increase slightly the population of the county, but also have been instrumental in giving the town of Augusta a gain from 2,272 to 3,000 residents between

¹¹²Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 6.

¹¹³Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 38.

¹¹⁴Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 39.

¹¹⁵An Industrial History of Arkansas, op. cit.

¹¹⁶Welcome to Augusta, Arkansas. Prepared for and sponsored by the Augusta Jaycees (Los Angeles: Empire Producing Company, [1966]).

¹¹⁷Ibid.

1960 and 1966.¹¹⁸ Besides the Phillips-Van Heusen Corporation and the Augusta Corporation, the only other large industry in Woodruff County is the Delta Plywood Corporation at Cotton Plant, which was established in 1956.¹¹⁹ In 1963 it employed between 130 and 140 persons.¹²⁰

Clay County experienced a growth in population between 1960 and 1965 of 0.8 per cent, or 171 persons.¹²¹ Estimates of population in the three largest towns of the county, namely Piggott, Corning, and Rector, show increases in their number of residents by 224,¹²² 504,¹²³ and 183,¹²⁴ respectively. Meanwhile, jobs in manufacturing in the county grew from 702 in April, 1960,¹²⁵ to 1,103 in September,

¹¹⁸Ibid.

¹¹⁹An Industrial History of Arkansas, op. cit.

¹²⁰Overall Economic Development Program for Woodruff County, Arkansas. Prepared by the Woodruff County Development Committees, May 17, 1963, p. 16.

¹²¹Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 5.

¹²²Interview with Mrs. Catherine Conner, secretary of the Piggott Chamber of Commerce, February, 1967.

¹²³Planning Studies Report: City of Corning, Kilgore Township, Clay County, Arkansas. Prepared by the City Planning Division of the University of Arkansas (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas, November, 1966), p. 11.

¹²⁴Interview with Judge Carl Ermert, county judge for Clay County, February, 1967.

¹²⁵Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 12.

1966.¹²⁶ Almost three-fourths of this gain was due to the initiation of two new industrial plants in the county. In 1960, W. H. B., Inc. (now Blades Manufacturing Company) began operations in Rector and now has approximately 150 employees.¹²⁷ In 1965, Basler Electric Company was established in Corning and now employs about 125 persons.¹²⁸ Today, the largest manufacturing firms in Clay County are the Brown Shoe Company, the Clayton Shoe Company, and Rector Garment Company (Table 20).¹²⁹

TABLE 20. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Clay County, May, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Estimated Number of Employees	Town
Brown Shoe Company	Shoes	345	Piggott
Clayton Shoe Co.	Shoes	285	Corning
Blades Manufacturing Co. (was W. H. B., Inc.)	Airplane parts	150	Rector
Basler Electric Co.	Electric motors	125	Corning
Rector Garment Co.	Pants	180	Rector
J. W. Black Lumber Co.	Lumber	60	Corning

Source: Piggott Chamber of Commerce and Rector Chamber of Commerce.

¹²⁶ Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 17.

¹²⁷ Letter from Mr. Joe Landis, president of the Rector Chamber of Commerce, May, 1967.

¹²⁸ Information from the Corning Chamber of Commerce, May, 1967.

¹²⁹ Interview with Mrs. Catherine Connor, secretary of the Piggott Chamber of Commerce. Letter from Mr. Joe Landis, president of the Rector Chamber of Commerce, May, 1967. Information from the Corning Chamber of Commerce, May, 1967.

Lawrence County had the smallest gain in population between 1960 and 1965 of any county in SEA 7. This growth was only 0.4 per cent, or 75 persons.¹³⁰ Manufacturing employment increased from 519 in April, 1960,¹³¹ to 615 in September, 1966.¹³² This addition of workers was due largely to the establishment of the Southern Manufacturing Company in 1962 and of Frolic Footwear in 1966.¹³³ In August, 1963, Lawrence County suffered a substantial loss to its economy. At that time the U. S. Air Force 725th Radar Squadron installation at Walnut Ridge was closed. This caused the transfer of 175 officers and men. A total of 101 families left the county, seventy-four of which had lived in the towns of Walnut Ridge, Hoxie, and College City.¹³⁴ The economic impact of this move included such results as a loss in accounts for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company amounting to five per cent of its gross income in that area, a decrease of

¹³⁰ Arkansas Business Bulletin, op. cit., p. 5.

¹³¹ Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 23.

¹³² Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 27.

¹³³ Interview with Mr. Clay Weir, director of the Employment Security Division for Lawrence County, February, 1967.

¹³⁴ Arkansas Department of Labor, Economic Base Report: The Walnut Ridge Labor Market Area: Lawrence County, Arkansas. Prepared by the Employment Security Division, October, 1963, p. 69.

ten per cent in gross billings for the local branch of the Arkansas-Missouri Power Company, a decline of \$1,200 per month in local business for the Arkansas-Louisiana Gas Company, a drop of five per cent in billings for the Walnut Ridge Water Department, a decline of possibly fifty per cent in the construction industry in the area, and an increase of twenty to twenty-five per cent in rental vacancies, with a probable reduction of the asking prices for houses on the market.¹³⁵ Despite this setback, however, the county has increased slightly in population and employment. Today, the major manufacturing enterprises in Lawrence County are Frolic Footwear, Inc., Lawrence Manufacturing Company, Southern Manufacturing Company, and Vulcan Corporation (Table 21).¹³⁶

TABLE 21. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Lawrence County, March, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern	Type of Product	Number of Employess	Town
Frolic Footwear, Inc.	Shoes	240	College City
Lawrence Manufacturing	Dresses	130	Walnut Ridge
Southern Manufacturing	Missle parts	130	College City
Vulcan Corporation	Shoe last	115	Walnut Ridge
Gulf Oil Corp. (chemical)	Fertilizer	50	College City

Source: Lawrence County Employment Security Commission and Walnut Ridge Chamber of Commerce.

¹³⁵Ibid., p. 29.

¹³⁶Interviews with Mr. Clay Weir, director of the Employment Security Commission for Lawrence County, and Mrs. Sue Smith, secretary of the Walnut Ridge Chamber of Commerce, February, 1967.

Only two counties, Greene and Jackson, declined in population between 1960 and 1965. However, even though they lost 2.1 per cent and 2.9 per cent, respectively,¹³⁷ both had a gain in manufacturing employment.

Although Greene County had a decrease of 535 inhabitants during the five years,¹³⁸ it recorded an increase of 224 employees in manufacturing industries between April, 1960, and September, 1966.¹³⁹ Only one large industrial concern entered the county after 1960. This was the L. A. Darling Company which began operating in Paragould in April, 1966, and now has almost 100 employees. Six smaller industries were also established by the end of 1966. All of the major manufacturing firms in Greene County are located in Paragould, the only large town, and include Emerson Electric Company, Ed White, Junior Shoe Company, and Ely-Walker, Inc. (Table 22).¹⁴⁰

Jackson County, which lost 656 residents between 1960 and 1965,¹⁴¹ gained 198 manufacturing employees from

¹³⁷Arkansas Business Bulletin, loc. cit.

¹³⁸Ibid.

¹³⁹Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 19. Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 23.

¹⁴⁰Interview with Mr. Donald Cox, executive secretary of the Paragould Chamber of Commerce, May, 1967.

¹⁴¹Arkansas Business Bulletin, loc. cit.

TABLE 22. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Greene County, May, 1967 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern (All in Paragould)	Type of Product	Estimated Number of Employees
Emerson Electric Company	Fractional horse power motors	550
Ed White, Junior Shoe Company	Shoes	500+
Ely-Walker, Inc.	Sport shirts for boys	450+
Foremost Dairies	Dairy products	130
L. A. Darling Company	Store fixtures and garment racks	100
Dr. Pepper Bottling Company	Soft drinks	60
Wonder State Manufactur- ing Company	Dryers for cotton gins & specialty items	50

Source: Paragould Chamber of Commerce.

April, 1960, to September, 1966.¹⁴² These additional jobs were created mainly by two new industries, Kickerinos, Inc. and the Morgan Arkansas Manufacturing Company, coming into the county during this period. At present, the largest industries in Jackson County are Victor Metal Products Corporation and Revere Copper and Brass, Inc. (Table 23).¹⁴³

¹⁴² Arkansas Department of Labor, Employment and Payrolls, Second Quarter, 1960, op. cit., p. 21. Arkansas Department of Labor, Arkansas Employment and Payrolls, Third Quarter, 1966, op. cit., p. 26.

¹⁴³ Newport-(Jackson County). Prepared by the Newport Chamber of Commerce, March, 1966.

All of the major industries in the county are located in the largest town, Newport. This town now has about 8,300 residents,¹⁴⁴ an increase of nearly 1,300 since 1960.

TABLE 23. Arkansas-SEA 7: Major industries in Jackson County, March, 1966 (50 or more employees)

Industrial Concern (All in Newport)	Type of Product	Number of Employees
Victor Metal Products Corporation	Collapsible metal tubes, aluminum condenser parts, plastic caps for tubes, aluminum beer cans	350
Revere Copper and Brass, Inc.	Aluminum foil	300
Kickerinos, Inc.	Women's casual and sport shoes	124
Southern Cotton Oil Division, Hunt Foods and Industries, Inc.	Cottonseed and soybean oil, meal, linters, and hulls	103
Morgan Arkansas Manufacturing Co.	Portable buildings	100
American Lantern Co.	Indoor and outdoor light fixtures	75
Brown Jordan Corporation	Wrought iron, aluminum and bronze furniture	65
Townsend Lumber Company	Lumber	50

Source: Newport-(Jackson County). Newport Chamber of Commerce, 1966.

¹⁴⁴1967 Editor and Publisher Market Guide (New York: Editor and Publisher Company, Inc., 1966), p. 47.

The principal reason for the decline in population in Greene and Jackson counties appears to be that the movement of families off the farm has been greater than the ability of industries in the two counties to supply a sufficient number of jobs to accommodate the displaced workers. Perhaps 250 to 350 more new jobs would have been required in each of the counties to have stemmed the tide of population decline.

Industrialization has definitely been the most significant factor in ending the decline of population in SEA 7 as a whole and in all but two of its counties. While the least percentage of loss in residents by a county between 1950 and 1960 was 1.3 per cent, only two counties had a greater rate of decrease (2.1 per cent and 2.9 per cent)¹⁴⁵ between 1960 and 1965. Thus, at least for the moment, large-scale population decline has been arrested in all but two counties of SEA 7 and in these it has been significantly reduced.

¹⁴⁵Arkansas Business Bulletin, loc. cit.

CHAPTER V

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Data concerning population change and population structure in SEA 7 and its various counties reflect significantly some of the region's social and economic problems. Certain problems, however, are not always discernible from statistics, but become apparent when one lives in or visits the counties. Most of the problems in SEA 7 are common to all the counties, although a few apply to only some of them.

The reversal of the trend of population decline in SEA 7 indicates that many of the problems have been partially or completely solved. Since the major troublesome factors have been common in varying degrees throughout the region, a general discussion of these agents is here presented systematically rather than county by county.

Although problems that people face are often propelled by some force, or forces, outside their own region, the dilemma of finding a solution is usually related significantly to the culture of the inhabitants. The culture traits--the ways of living and thinking--of a group may affect the degree of difficulty which may be encountered in dealing with a problem.

Since attitudes and population structure affect both the ability to handle difficult circumstances and the method of procedure, many problems are not strictly either economic or social. In fact, most of them are so inter-related that they, perhaps, should not be labeled as one or the other.

Employment Opportunities

Even though many problems have been present in most of the counties of SEA 7, the great majority of them are connected in some way with the matter of securing adequate employment opportunities.

The Effect of Mechanization

The change which SEA 7 has been undergoing from a rural-agrarian to an urban-industrial society has made new demands on the inhabitants of the region. The mechanization of agriculture, which has had a particularly great effect on cotton farming, began to push the smaller and more marginal farmers off the farm. As they increasingly began moving from the land, the problem of unemployment was heightened. Since very few manufacturing industries were established in SEA 7 until near the end of the 1950's, a growing exodus of families resulted. The lack of job opportunities, therefore, resulted in a high net out-migration rate, an absolute decline in population, a relatively

high unemployment rate, and chronic underemployment in the counties of the region.

The fairly low income of most farmers, together with the high degree of unemployment and underemployment, have been important in keeping average income at a low level. Even though most of the counties had a higher percentage increase in per capita income during the 1950's than did the United States as a whole, actual dollar increases were always below that of the nation.

The low per capita income in the area puts a severe limit on the economy. First, the low buying power of the public results in, at best, a slow growth of commercial and service enterprises. Second, there is less tax money available than would be the case if incomes were higher. This situation is demonstrated in a report on public schools in Lawrence County:

Due to low incomes and persistent underemployment in the area, the resulting narrow tax base limits the amount of revenues available. The county and cities are bonded almost to their maximum legal limits. Financial assistance is needed for construction of water and sewerage systems for domestic and industrial development.¹⁴⁶

Finally, welfare payments and related activities have risen, thereby putting an increased strain on local and state budgets.

¹⁴⁶ A Survey of Public Schools in Lawrence County, Arkansas: Final Report. Report of a Comprehensive Educational Survey. Supervised by staff members and graduate students of the University of Arkansas, May, 1966, p. 4.

State and Local Attempts
to Attract Industry

While population declined and unemployment soared upward, city, county and state leaders in Arkansas became increasingly alarmed at the dismal economic prospects. Businessmen and government officials at all levels realized that local communities would not be able to supply the capital needed to acquire land and construct buildings which could be used to attract industries.

Therefore, in 1955, the Arkansas legislature passed Act 404, forming the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission (AIDC). The AIDC has as its major objective the establishment of new industries and the expansion of existing ones. Among other activities, it prepares free brochures for the communities. These contain such information about the community as location, climate, geology, history, economy, labor, transportation, and utilities. They also describe social and cultural facilities, government and community facilities, and sites available. These brochures save the communities the expense of making their own, which in some cases they could not afford.

To promote local assistance in the endeavor, Act 404 authorized the formation of local nonprofit industrial development corporations, many of which have worked effectively with the state headquarters. Finally, the Act

furnished the towns and counties with the first means of financing industrial development in the history of Arkansas. The Act permits the issuance of first lien bonds to finance seventy-five per cent of the total cost of lands, improvements, and buildings. The communities must provide the remaining twenty-five per cent. The bonds are issued by the local industrial development corporation and are sold on the open market after being approved by the AIDC. They have a maximum maturity of twenty-five years. Interest rates may not be higher than six per cent.

In 1957, a further step was taken to provide the finances needed by communities to develop facilities for prospective and expanding industries. Act 567 established the First Arkansas Development Finance Corporation to provide a method for financing industrial development in cooperation with commercial banks, institutional investors, federal and state agencies, and industries themselves.

In 1958, the third in the series of steps to stimulate industrialization was taken. Amendment 49 to the Arkansas Constitution permits communities to vote on an ad valorem tax up to five mills of the total assessed valuation of real and personal property. The bonds issued are tax exempt, reach maximum maturity in thirty years and have a maximum interest rate of six per cent. The annual debt service on the bonds is satisfied from rents paid to the local government by firms using the facilities or by a combination of such rentals and a public tax.

In 1960, Act 9 was passed by the Arkansas General Assembly authorizing municipalities and counties to issue special obligation revenue bonds for obtaining new industries. There is no limit on the amount of the bond issue and 100 per cent financing is available if the prospective bond purchasers are satisfied that the industry using the plant will pay enough rent to meet the annual debt service on the bonds. The bonds are exempt from federal income tax, can mature at any time up to thirty years, and have a maximum rate of six per cent interest. Sale of these bonds authorized under Act 9 has been the method of industrial financing most often used since 1960.¹⁴⁷

The State of Arkansas had previously passed labor legislation which has also been helpful in attracting industry to SEA 7. The Anti-Violence Act of 1943 makes unlawful the use of force, violence, or threats to attempt to stop a person from working in a lawful occupation and sets punishment for such action.¹⁴⁸ (See Appendix E.)

On November 7, 1944, the "Freedom to Work" Amendment Number 34 to the Arkansas Constitution was passed. It states that no person shall be denied employment because of membership in a labor union, because of refusal to join or affiliate with a labor union, or because of resignation

¹⁴⁷An Industrial History of Arkansas, op. cit.

¹⁴⁸Hazen, Arkansas, op. cit.

from a labor union. Furthermore, no person shall be compelled to pay dues to a labor union as a prerequisite to employment.¹⁴⁹ (See Appendix E.)

In 1947, the Arkansas legislature passed Act 101. This Act provides for the enforcement of Amendment No. 34 and makes additional statements regarding labor-management relations.¹⁵⁰ (See Appendix E.)

Arkansas is further noted for its low taxes and low wages. One of the most attractive of the tax advantages is an exemption for seven years from property tax provided to new cotton and textile mills.¹⁵¹ Average hourly wage rates in Arkansas are about thirty per cent below the national average. Although wage increases and industrialization have occurred in the State, the wage differential has been maintained and the surplus of labor should continue to sustain this difference.¹⁵²

Therefore, with the advantages of the ability to provide plant facilities, labor laws favorable toward industry, low taxes, and low wages, the communities of SEA 7 began to campaign for new manufacturing firms. One of the

¹⁴⁹Ibid.

¹⁵⁰Ibid.

¹⁵¹Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Monroe County, Arkansas. Prepared by the Monroe County Development Council, September, 1966, p. 15.

¹⁵²An Industrial History of Arkansas, op. cit.

most important steps taken by many of the towns has been to establish or revitalize the local Chambers of Commerce, or occasionally the Junior Chambers of Commerce. Most of these organizations have begun to collect information about their communities and to prepare brochures. These are distributed to industrial firms that have expressed an interest in locating in the general area. The towns and counties have been fairly successful in most cases in obtaining new industries, at least enough to stabilize their populations.

However, many problems related to employment opportunities remain. One of these involves the type of industries that are attracted. Most of the firms which have begun operation in these counties within the past ten years have been those employing unskilled workers and paying low wages. Many operate on a small margin of profit and cannot support high wages. Thus, even though the various political divisions have been helped economically by the additional jobs and the resulting rise in family incomes, they have not been able to produce the strong economic growth that would probably accompany higher-wage industries.

Many of the incentives used to attract new industry have also had adverse effects on the local areas. Since under Act 9 cities lease property to new industries without additional taxes, and since new cotton and textile mills are tax exempt for seven years, an extra burden is placed on municipal and county governments in that no immediate revenues are received from them to defray the added expense

of building and maintaining streets, roads, and sewerage and water systems serving the industries and the additional people moving into towns.¹⁵³

Education

The greater attraction for low-wage, low-skilled industries than for high-wage, high-skilled ones is related to the population structure of the region. Like many other sections of the South, SEA 7 is predominantly rural. As is true in most of the rural South, high school and college education has not been considered highly important by the majority of the people until recently.

The Relationship of Education and Industry

Today, many of the parents who remain in SEA 7 and who have less than a high school, or not even an eighth grade, education are seeing their sons and daughters graduate from college. Although there are still many poorly educated young people, an increasing number of highly trained youths are looking for employment opportunities in or near their home counties. This new generation of young people is searching for jobs that require a good education and will pay accordingly. Unfortunately, such positions are

¹⁵³Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Monroe County, Arkansas, loc. cit.

difficult to find in SEA 7, and in most of Arkansas. Industries that need this type of employees appear to be either unaware of the growing pool of trained labor or uninterested in coming to this region to develop branch operations. At any rate, these young people must usually leave the region and the state to find good employment opportunities. This means, of course, that the drain of many of the best-educated people away from SEA 7 is continuing.

As most college, and even many high school, graduates continue to leave the Area, the labor force remaining continues to be composed largely of poorly educated, unskilled or semi-skilled persons. For over a decade the growing labor supply has been composed largely of farmers and their wives who have sought employment off the farm. Most of these people, however, know little more than what they were able to learn on the farm and during a few years of schooling. Therefore, they could not have begun working at a highly-skilled job, but only at an unskilled and semi-skilled level. Textile and shoe industries have taken advantage of this factor.

The Dropouts

While an increasing number of young people are finishing high school and going to college, many others are following the ways of their parents and friends. They are dropping out of school. In Poinsett County, only about

seventy-eight per cent of the population fourteen to seventeen years of age was in school in 1960.¹⁵⁴ This shows a high dropout rate for that county. In fact, only three of the twelve counties in SEA 7 had a higher percentage of this age group enrolled than did the United States as a whole.¹⁵⁵

Action is being taken in some of the counties to try to keep more of the youngsters in high school. One approach is the provision of more vocational training classes for those boys who do not anticipate going to college, but who would like to find a steady job after leaving high school. Also, several vocational schools have been established and are being planned for use by adults who did not complete high school and who must acquire a certain degree of skill in some field to obtain full employment.

The Area Redevelopment Act was proposed by President Kennedy and passed by Congress in 1961. Its purpose is to help "hard-hit" communities where existing skills have become obsolete and employment opportunities have been curtailed. In short, it is designed to help the unemployed and underemployed prepare for new jobs. Various local, state, federal and private agencies work together to examine the needs, experience, and skills of local persons;

¹⁵⁴Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 5.

¹⁵⁵Bogue and Walker, op. cit., pp. 51-65.

to determine the type of training or retraining that will probably lead to a job; and to see if resources are available or can be made available to provide this training. The Walnut Ridge area has been determined as eligible for this assistance and the program has begun.¹⁵⁶

Another effort being made to keep young people in high school and to train them for some type of work is carried out by local branches of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). Nearly all of the workers in this federally-sponsored organization are vitally interested in the well-being of these persons. In many cases, the OEO Neighborhood Youth Corps coordinator, who works directly with young dropouts, is a young man himself and thus better able to achieve rapport with his clientele.

One such individual is Clift Lee, a college graduate who is personally concerned with the problems that face the teenager who sees little hope for a bright future. Mr. Lee works with about half of the 100 to 125 dropouts in Greene County. He states that the main reason many of the boys drop out is that they are not accepted by their peers in school. Many of the parents are illiterate. Fifty-six per cent of the families from which they come are on welfare. Thirty-seven out of fifty-five families have an

¹⁵⁶Arkansas Department of Labor, Economic Base Report: The Walnut Ridge Labor Market Area: Lawrence County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 27.

annual income under \$2,000. By working part-time with local merchants and industries, many of these young men are now able to finish high school on a work-study program. The student generally attends classes in the mornings and works in the afternoon at a trade or job which may well become his future occupation.¹⁵⁷

The Effect of the Tax Structure

Other problems in education still face this region. Many of these involve the lack of money. School districts are commonly confronted with insufficient finances. Lawrence County represents the type of difficulty facing much of the Area. Its schools are on the verge of undergoing extensive change. The lack of an adequate tax base has made it necessary to consider adopting larger administrative units in order to provide the students with sufficient educational opportunities. The recommendation has already been made to enlarge the high school at Walnut Ridge so that all students in the county in grades nine through twelve can attend the same school.¹⁵⁸

A low tax base results in low expenditures per student and low salaries for teachers. In Monroe County,

¹⁵⁷ Interview with Mr. Clift Lee, Neighborhood Youth Corps coordinator for the Office of Economic Opportunity in Greene County, February, 1967.

¹⁵⁸ A Survey of Public Schools in Lawrence County Arkansas. Final Report, op. cit., pp. 48, 55.

for example, the annual cost per student is \$239.00. This is far under the average of \$533.00 for the nation. This situation will persist "until a more realistic approach is taken on assessment of taxes and property equalization."¹⁵⁹

The average salary for a teacher in Monroe County is \$4,435.00. This salary is certainly high in comparison with that paid for other positions in the county, but nevertheless is low for a college graduate. The average salary of teachers in SEA 7 is far under the national average of \$6,900.00. Teachers' salaries in this region have long continued in the low-income bracket.¹⁶⁰ Although the state will increase the salaries of teachers by \$500.00 for each of the next two years, this will fall short of closing the salary differential between this region and the average for the nation as a whole. In fact, the maximum salary for teachers in Jonesboro, Craighead County, is only about equal to the beginning salary for teachers in many communities in Michigan and other northern states. The low pay often has the effect that SEA 7 counties lose the better-qualified teachers to other parts of the state and nation.

¹⁵⁹Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Monroe County, Arkansas, op. cit., pp. 10, 18.

¹⁶⁰Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Monroe County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 18.

Education of the Negro

The general educational problems which face the white population of SEA 7 are multiplied many times for the Negro. The "separate but equal" doctrine adopted for public education throughout the South has been followed carefully in this region. The Negro, however, has never been able to receive the quality of instruction that has been made available for most whites.

The practice of school segregation has greatly harmed the South. The system which was instituted to better the educational opportunities for whites has served instead to threaten those advantages. Instead of using the available school funds to provide first-class facilities and teachers for all children, the communities have divided this money between the whites and Negroes, which has resulted most often in second-class schools for the former and third-and fourth-rate schools for the latter. This process has enabled the white community to maintain its educational and economic advantages over the Negro, but has also produced a drag on the economy of regions such as SEA 7.

The white man in this Area has too long been content to pay for his vain attitudes with hidden drains of increased welfare costs and the stagnant economy from which he suffers. The white community, nevertheless, continues an attempt to show that many of the Negro schools are newer,

and therefore better, than the white ones. Moreover, discussion with some whites on this topic often results in their saying that if the Negro and white children were to attend the same school, the latter would get an inferior education. When asked how this can be possible if the Negro schools are equal to, or better than, those of the whites, anger frequently overtakes these men and the interview is brought to a quick and decisive conclusion.

Some progress in providing the Negro with a better education is being made. The first major step was taken by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1954 in the Brown vs. the Board of Education case. The decision stated that separate schools for whites and Negroes are "inherently" unequal, and therefore, would have to be discontinued. This overruled state laws in most southern states where integrated schools had been unlawful. Since 1954, the federal government has continued to put increased pressure on communities to end segregation in the public schools. Meanwhile, southern communities have rather effectively used generally lawful measures to avoid full implementation of desegregation.

The most effective means of delaying school integration in SEA 7, and undoubtedly in many other areas, has been the "freedom of choice" plan. Every Negro and white student can choose the school which he wishes to attend the following year. Naturally, the white children

all select the white school. Also, the vast majority of the Negroes desire to stay with their own friends in the Negro school. No drive is carried on in the Negro community to convince as many children as possible to go to the white school. Unfortunately, many of those who do attend the white school for a year return to the Negro school largely because of the social pressure of being ostracized by nearly all of the white students and because of the tremendous disadvantage of having to compete with students who have previously had better training.

In 1968, however, the communities in SEA 7, and in the rest of the South, may be forced by the federal government to completely integrate the public schools. Although there is much resistance to this change, the type of action against integration seems certain to be much more sensible in this region, and in all of Arkansas, than in Alabama.

Perhaps the most unfortunate circumstance in SEA 7 today is that so many of the community leaders retain a post-Civil War philosophy in regard to race relations and the underprivileged. One minister who was interviewed expressed attitudes about poor whites and Negroes directly opposite from what one might expect. He showed a great deal of prejudice toward these two groups, but no compassion. He mentioned several times their apathy, laziness, and waywardness in matters concerning the church, but

failed to express concern for their well-being even once. When asked if he thought integrating the schools next year would be good, since this would probably raise the educational level of the Negro and thus provide him with better employment opportunities, he became angry and said sardonically that he would never permit his wife to teach Negroes, if she were a teacher. Furthermore, he was strictly opposed to any "socialist" program sponsored by the federal government.

The Negro who reaches the eight grade often has the equivalent of a sixth grade education for a white student. This situation is particularly harmful when one realizes that the average educational level of the Negro is only about the sixth or seventh grade. Since the Negro receives an inferior education, he is usually not capable of finding work that demands a high degree of training. Thus, he has difficulty supporting a family and often must depend on public relief. Although the educational system supported by the white community results in a generally low level of education and high rate of unemployment and welfare assistance for Negroes, the white man continues to blame the Negro entirely for his status in life. Several business leaders and county officials state that most of the Negroes on welfare could be employed but that they do not want to work. This opinion is held by these men even though the overall unemployment rate is rather high and a white person would certainly have the advantage in

obtaining a good job. One very prominent community leader feels that the Caucasian has inherent motivation, while the Negro has to be taught this quality. However, he does not know how the Negro can ever be motivated.

The federal government has also been responsible for other actions taken to help the Negro and the poor white. One of these projects is Operation "Head Start." This program provides children of low income families with schooling before they enter the first grade and with additional training for several weeks during the summers while they are in the elementary grades. In this way, government officials hope the disadvantaged children will be able to keep up with the others in school and therefore not drop out before reaching high school. This program also requires integration, and thus many local leaders refuse to support it.

The Office of Economic Opportunity also provides assistance to the Negro, since he is almost always a member of the low income group in this region. In addition to working with school dropouts, the OEO tries to help persons who know little except farm labor work and are unable to find work any longer. The Negro of SEA 7 has long been a poorly educated, unskilled farm worker. When mechanization forced him out of his job, he was often left without employment or a place to live.

Whereas several communities have worked with the OEO in most of its programs, examples of resistance have been reported. In one of the counties, for example, a county official asserts that federal workers from OEO tried to set up a Community Action Agency in one of the towns, but that when they said that a certain number of Negroes and low income persons had to be placed on various committees, the county and municipal authorities refused to cooperate and the men soon left the county. He states that only low income people want OEO--"just those who want something given to them." Thus, a program which might possibly have helped the Negroes and other low income people was never begun because of the pretentious attitudes of the county and local leaders. Another county official in the same office strongly resents the federal government sending numerous questionnaires to be filled out concerning various characteristics of the people. Both these officials were hesitant to answer questions when interviewed and, in fact, spent most of the time criticizing the Negro and the federal government rather than answering the few questions asked.

The varied programs underway to raise the educational level of the Negro will undoubtedly be of great help to him. But the main question that remains is whether this assistance will be sufficient to permit more of these people to enter the socio-economic mainstream of middle-class America.

Housing

The mechanization of agriculture not only cost the small farmer his job, but very often his dwelling as well. Many families who previously lived on farms have been moving to nearby towns where the wife or husband, or both, have become employed in some industry or business. Furthermore, many elderly couples have moved into the towns to retire. Finally, Negro families have moved from farms into towns. This movement has put increased pressure on the housing market in many of the communities.

The housing shortages, however, are not caused solely by the influx of persons from the surrounding rural areas. Much of the problem is a consequence of the deterioration of a large percentage of the dwellings to, or near, a point of dilapidation. In Monroe County, for example, approximately sixty per cent of the houses are considered to be deteriorating or dilapidated. About eighty per cent of these were built before 1950, and forty-six per cent before 1930. Thus, the age of the structures is a factor in their degree of soundness. Although one might surmise that most of the deteriorating or dilapidated houses are in the farm areas, this is not necessarily the case. The two largest towns in the county, Clarendon and Brinkley, have seventy-three per cent and fifty-five per cent, respectively, of their housing units so classified.¹⁶¹

¹⁶¹Ibid., p. 20.

Most of the housing need is for low and middle income families, that is, Negroes, poor whites and the elderly. Since one or two counties in the southern part of the region have abnormally high average incomes because of the high profits made by a few rice farmers, communities there cannot take advantage of federal assistance for low and medium income housing projects. Some counties, on the other hand, do have towns which have taken advantage of urban renewal projects.

Brinkley, in Monroe County, and Newport, in Jackson County, are two communities that have undergone urban renewal and now have low-rent public housing. In Brinkley, the housing units are built in four different locations. One area is for the elderly and two are for Negroes. Although federal housing is supposed to be integrated, the Negro units have no white residents and are located in the more heavily concentrated Negro parts of town. Nevertheless, these units do represent a big improvement over the slums in which some of the occupants had lived before.

Newport has handled the problem of integrated public housing in a very shrewd way. All of the low-rent units of this kind have been constructed in the same area, and a certain percentage of them have been rented to Negroes. The cunning of the white leaders is vividly demonstrated, however, in the presence of a six to seven foot high steel fence which extends the width of the housing project through

the back yards of one section of back-to-back white and Negro units. The reason given for the fence by one official is that it protects the white youngsters from unsanitary conditions which might result if the Negro children played in the apartments of the whites. Obviously, this is only part of the real reason for the fence.

When federal housing projects have been unable to meet the needs of some part of the region, farmers who could no longer afford to work the land have frequently moved old "rent houses" and farm houses into nearby towns. This has generally lowered the value of houses already in the communities. Some of the towns have taken action to prevent the continuation of this practice and are making greater efforts to supply low-cost housing for those who need it.

Although housing is a problem in many of the towns in SEA 7, it also affects the rural areas. Many of those persons who work in manufacturing industries of the region still live in the country and commute to their jobs. The desire of these families to stay out of town has increased the need for housing in rural areas. The Farmers Home Administration has been giving loans to many of these families so that they can construct new, but modest, houses in the country. This action is helping to increase the proportion of rural-nonfarm residents at the same time the percentage of the urban population is growing.

A great deal more work needs to be done to supply low-rent housing for the people who are leaving the farm, for families living in substandard housing, and for the elderly.

Highways

Highways in SEA 7 present many problems to the economy and the people. The region has a few fairly good two-lane roads, but less than thirty miles of four-lane divided highway. The latter extends from about two miles north of Hazen, in the central part of Prairie County, to the western boundary of Lonoke County. Probably within a year another twenty-five miles will be added to this highway to the east through Monroe County, near Brinkley. This is part of Interstate 40, which when completed will be a major east-west route extending from Greensboro, North Carolina, to Barstow, California, less than 125 miles from Los Angeles.

Poor highway transportation is certainly a negative factor in attracting industries to the Area. When Interstate 40 is completed between Memphis and Little Rock, towns such as Brinkley, Hazen, Carlisle, Lonoke, and others near the highway will be aided greatly in their attempts to obtain more industry. The asset of good railroad transportation should be noted, historically, as having been important in attracting industry to many communities in the region.

The lack of good highways has been felt increasingly by the people who live and work in SEA 7. Since the number of commuters from rural areas to jobs in towns has increased rapidly over the past several years, the traffic on the two-lane roads has become very heavy at peak hours. The problem of poor roads for commuters will probably not be solved in the foreseeable future because the commuters criss-cross counties in highly complex, irregular patterns. Since industries are located in numerous small towns throughout the Area, commuters do not necessarily stay on the major arteries. Thus, when driving through the region, one usually sees the heaviest traffic between 6:30 and 8:00 a.m. and again between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. Moderate amounts of traffic occur after 5:00 p.m., but very few vehicles of any kind are observed during the remainder of the day, except on the few major access routes. Therefore, since large numbers of commercial or other vehicular traffic do not use most of the roads to a great extent throughout the day, the chance of their being improved is diminished. Finally, perhaps the principal difficulty in getting better roads lies, as many problems do, in the tax structure of the counties and the state. Each county must fund its own road improvements, and when a county does not have the money it certainly can do little about this problem.

Good highway transportation is desirable for commuters and for farmers who now come to town more frequently

than in previous years, but is almost imperative if the region is to attract much new industry. Although this is obviously true today, it was also recognized in a report issued by the Arkansas State Highway Commission in 1956.

A part of the report stated that:

Mobility is the keynote of the mid-twentieth century economy, and an immobilized economic area or region is as incapable of effective function as an immobilized automobile or truck, as a strike-bound industrial plant or a boycotted business house. It can only exist, submarginally, in a sort of economic quarantine.¹⁶²

Agriculture

The farmers in SEA 7 also have problems which impede agricultural success. One of these is the poor drainage in many parts of the region. Heavy rains often cause fairly widespread flooding in the many low-lying sections. This can mean the loss of part of a cotton or soybean crop. Improved drainage would help to alleviate this danger. It would also enable farmers to plant additional acres of soybeans, thus increasing their income.

The change in farm size and types of farming operations caused by mechanization and the lower per-unit value of cotton appears likely to continue because of the new federal minimum wage law. This law requires, in part,

¹⁶²Committee on Roads and Highways, Arkansas Legislative Council. The Public Roads of Arkansas and Their Use. Prepared by the Arkansas State Highway Commission, 1956, p. 14.

that farm laborers be paid a minimum of \$1.00 per hour. Cotton farmers and some others have previously worked parents and children of poor white and Negro families in the summers for from \$.25 to \$.80 an hour. With the new minimum wage law effective in 1967, an increasing number of marginal farm laborers and their families will be out of a job. This means more unskilled and poorly educated adults will be looking for work, which all too often will not be available. Many of these will go to cities in other states but others will become welfare cases and an extra burden on the counties and the state.

A call is being made for more highly-skilled farm workers. Men are needed who can drive tractors and operate new and complicated farm machinery, for which they also earn higher wages. The Negro cotton choppers and pickers will probably soon disappear from the landscape of SEA 7 and the South, closing an epic chapter on American cotton farming stretching over approximately 350 years.

Individual County Problems

Each county has its own problems, some of which are not regional in nature. Whatever problems occur, steps need to be taken to solve them. Most of the counties have low enough per capita incomes and severe enough problems to be eligible for the Area Redevelopment Administration program of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Almost all

the counties have formed individual county development councils which work toward solving the social and economic ills within their respective boundaries. The funds are supplied by the federal government.

Since the structure, purpose, and function of these councils are so similar, an example of one can serve as a general illustration. Exerpts from the beginning pages of The Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Jackson County indicate the basic ideas related to this program.

The Jackson County Development Council was organized at a public meeting on April 16, 1962. This council is an elected body, having been nominated by a Nominating Committee, and elected by popular vote, to represent the entire area of Jackson County. The purpose of the County Development Council is to make a study of the existing economic and social situations of Jackson County, and to develop an effective course of action planned and undertaken by the people within the county. It is to extend over a period of years and is to be designed to improve the living conditions and income opportunities of the people residing in the county. Therefore, it includes both economic development and social improvement. . . .

The Jackson County Development Council . . . members represent a cross-section of business, agricultural, professional, industrial, and homemaker leaders. The different geographic centers of the county are represented so that the entire county has representation.

The Jackson County Development Council is not incorporated. It does not have authority to collect, borrow, receive, or disburse monies. The Council is an advisory group of county leaders, acting as a planning and coordinating body in relation to other organizations such as improvement districts, development corporations, and incorporated towns that do have legal authority to act on financial matters. The Jackson County Development Council did prepare this program, in the interest of the economic and social improvement for the people of Jackson County. The legal organizations,

both public and private, will receive and disburse any funds that might become available to them through the Area Redevelopment Act or any other source of assistance or aid.¹⁶³

These county development councils have already begun to make an impact on the region. The activities of the councils are not concentrated in just one or two aspects of community life, but rather are involved in many areas comprising the wide range of problems, both regional and local, which influence all of the people. The major areas of concern generally involve agriculture, education, employment, family living, health, industry, public utilities and public improvements, recreation and tourism, and youth work.

Much more needs to be done to improve the social and economic conditions of large numbers of people in SEA 7, but at least most of the counties have begun to bring about these improvements.

¹⁶³The Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Jackson County, Arkansas. Prepared by the Jackson County Development Council, September, 1963, pp. 1, 3.

CHAPTER VI

FUTURE PROSPECTS

One of the greatest difficulties in studying the population of regions is predicting the future. Accurate projections for small towns and counties are even more precarious because the opening or closing of only one manufacturing firm can make a prediction invalid. Therefore, instead of attempting to forecast the number of inhabitants for the various counties and towns in SEA 7, an effort is here made to indicate the general economic and population trends that should occur in the near future.

Agriculture

The outlook for agriculture in SEA 7 is generally bright. More acreage is being planted every year, and the total income from farming has also been increasing. The acreage cultivated should continue to expand slowly until about 1970, when it will probably reach its peak. Yields are expected to rise as more scientific and technological developments are implemented. Total farm income is subject to fluctuations because of changes in government allotments, market demand, and climate, but the higher yields and greater acreages planted should permit the farmer to make more money for at least the next five to ten years.

Indications are that soybeans will continue to gain in relative importance both by value and by acreage. Cotton allotments have become so restrictive as to drive many growers out of business. The climate has recently had an added discouraging effect. In Craighead County in 1966, for example, an early cold wave damaged the crop, resulting in a yield far below that of the previous year. In 1965, the yield per acre was 621 bales and the value per bale was 28.5 cents, whereas in 1966, the yield was 358 bales and the value had dropped to 21.5 cents.¹⁶⁴ Many farmers became so discouraged that they did not plant cotton in 1967, but rather accepted government payment for not growing the crop on their land. During the spring planting season in 1967, heavy rains had a disastrous effect, endangering the success of the cotton crop for much of the region. Since most farmers had to plant for the third time, many will certainly think carefully before planting cotton again.

Another change that seems certain to affect cotton farming in 1967 is the new federal minimum wage law. County agents and other leaders in cotton growing counties believe that the new \$1.00 per hour minimum wage which must now be paid farm laborers will result in dozens of marginal, unskilled workers and their families being forced off the

¹⁶⁴Agricultural Industry--Craighead County. Prepared by the Agricultural Service of Craighead County, January 3, 1967.

farm. This will, in addition to increasing the unemployment and welfare problems, undoubtedly result in more skilled labor needs, a higher level of management, larger capital investments, larger operations, and greater mechanization of cotton farming.

The Negro unemployment problem in eleven counties in eastern Arkansas, including several in SEA 7, was the topic of a meeting on April 25, 1967, in Washington, D. C., between members of the Arkansas congressional delegation and Mr. Glenn L. Jermstead, director of the state Office of Economic Opportunity, and Mr. Fred McKinney, administrator of the Arkansas Employment Security Division. Mr. Jermstad stated that cotton pickers are losing their jobs at a rate of 500 to 1,000 per month because the federal minimum wage law has forced farmers to mechanize harvesting of the crop. Mr. McKinney related that Governor Winthrop Rockefeller proposed a survey of the extent of the problem in the eleven counties.¹⁶⁵

Industry and Employment

Most community and county leaders believe that industrialization will continue to increase in their respective counties. The introduction of new industries and the expansion of old ones will probably increase in the

¹⁶⁵The Jonesboro Sun, April 26, 1967, p. 1.

more industrialized towns, such as Jonesboro, and along the major transportation routes, especially along new Interstate 40 on which the towns of Brinkley, Hazen, Carlisle, and Lonoke are located. Officials of nearly every town that has some manufacturing in it report that at least one firm from outside the region has expressed an interest in locating there. However, while the names of the companies were frequently withheld, the information given about the firms indicated that the same ones had been discussed in relation to site selection in two or three different towns.

Two counties in which large increases in employment are expected within one or two years are Lawrence and Craighead. The major increase in Lawrence County will be in manufacturing. Approximately 400 new industrial jobs are forecast for the county in 1967.¹⁶⁶ This will be an increase of about sixty-five per cent and will ease greatly the unemployment problem in the county and in many adjacent communities.

The employment gain in Craighead County will be both industrial and service oriented. The Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce recently endorsed an Act 9 industrial bond issue to expand three existing industries in the city. On May 9, 1967, the people of Jonesboro voted to support the bond issue. The money will be used to enlarge the facilities of the companies and will result in forty more jobs at Hytrol Conveyor

¹⁶⁶The Times Dispatch (Walnut Ridge, Arkansas), February 2, 1967, p. 1.

Company, 100 more at Colson Corporation, and between 100 and 200 at the Alton Box Company.¹⁶⁷ On May 1, 1967, the Jonesboro City Council had voted to buy 298 acres at a cost of \$171,500.00 for a new industrial park. This land can be used to attract new industry to Jonesboro.¹⁶⁸

In addition to more industrial jobs, many new positions are expected to develop in service industries. A new mental hospital is to be constructed in Jonesboro and will employ about 350 persons. Also, three new shopping centers are planned and are expected to supply between 500 and 700 jobs. One of these shopping centers is already under construction.¹⁶⁹ Arkansas State University will, of course, continue to add to its faculty and staff as enrollment grows.

Improved education and more industrial training is needed to attract high-skill, high-wage industries. Although steps are now being taken in several countries to provide this higher level of education and training, the majority of new industries that will enter SEA 7 will probably employ low-skilled persons and pay relatively low wages.

The new federal minimum wage law will definitely have an effect on the workers, on industries already in the

¹⁶⁷The Jonesboro Sun, May 10, 1967, p. 1.

¹⁶⁸The Jonesboro Sun, May 2, 1967, p. 1.

¹⁶⁹Interview with Mr. Bob Haroldson, director of the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce, March, 1967.

region, and on the ability of communities to attract new manufacturing firms. The new law forces most of the industries to pay a minimum of \$1.40 per hour. This naturally raises the income of the workers in the region and increases their buying power. Industries, on the other hand, can be hurt by such a law. For example, the labor union at the Lepanto Garment Company, in Poinsett County, made a contract with the firm for a wage of twenty cents above the federal minimum wage. In 1966, this company announced plans to double the size of its building, its output, and the number of employees within twelve months.¹⁷⁰ One year after the announcement, no additional construction has occurred, and output and the number of employees have been cut by from one-third to one-half. Furthermore, there are indications that the plant may be closed entirely within a few months. A representative of the management states that the major difficulty was the new minimum wage, plus the union wage guarantee, which made it difficult for the company to make a profit from the operation. He also states that the better workers earned their pay, but that many others worked too slowly and talked too much for the company to make a profit at the higher wages. Thus, instead of 200 new jobs, within a few months there may be none. The higher federal minimum wage in this case not only hurt

¹⁷⁰ Preliminary Overall Economic Development Program for Poinsett County, Arkansas, op. cit., p. 10.

the company, but also the people in the surrounding area. They will have to search for new jobs in a region where jobs are not plentiful.

Whether or not this firm is forced to close, the ever-present danger that similar plants could close at any time must be considered. The Lepanto Garment Company is an example of the so-called "footloose" industries which have very little capital or heavy equipment invested in the plant and can therefore leave a community with relatively little difficulty. The possibility of these industries leaving one or more communities in the future makes detailed employment and population predictions risky.

Nevertheless, industrial employment should grow at a moderate rate in most of the counties for the next five to ten years. It is doubtful, however, that the number of new jobs needed in many of the counties to reduce unemployment and underemployment to the national average can be supplied. Employment will doubtlessly increase in some towns and counties at a faster rate than their populations. New jobs will draw people from the surrounding areas, thereby reducing the number of new residents who would otherwise move into the region to obtain the positions.

Population

The prospect for SEA 7 during the next ten years is for an increasing, rather than a declining, population. However, the rate of increase should be slow since a net out-migration is also expected, at least during the early part of the period. Mechanization and the "cost-squeeze factor" will continue to cause families to move off the farm for several more years. The farm population will probably become fairly stabilized by 1972, thus curtailing sharply the future out-migration and unemployment problems.

Although some industrial workers will move into the major towns in the various counties, most will remain in the rural areas and commute to their jobs. The transition from a rural-farm to an urban-industrial area will continue, while the rural-nonfarm sector will comprise a growing proportion of the total population.

The numerical growth for the next five years will be slow in most of the counties, but should be somewhat more rapid thereafter. Counties that have emphasized cotton growing will probably have a greater out-migration rate than those in which rice has been the principal crop.

High school graduates who go to college are often not considered to be leaving the county permanently, but indeed many of them do not return to their homes, or even to the region. Thus, they are lost in the tide of out-migration

that continues to take many of the best-educated young people out of SEA 7. Until employment opportunities can be provided for these persons, they will continue to leave the Area.

The greatest numerical population growth will certainly occur in Craighead County. The growth of manufacturing and commerce in Jonesboro will provide many new jobs, thereby increasing the population of the city and the county. Another significant factor in the growth of Jonesboro will be the expected doubling of enrollment at Arkansas State University to 10,000 by 1972.

The future of SEA 7 is not one of rapid industrial and population growth, but rather of slow, steady progress which will lead to improved income, education, and general living standards for most of the people of the region. Certainly, it will be an improvement over the trends of the 1940's and 1950's and a continuation of the progress made since 1960.

CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The mobility of the population of the United States has become an integral aspect of American life. The migration of persons into or out of an area is often the result of internal social and economic conditions, but also may be caused by various external forces. In turn, migration usually affects the population characteristics of the region.

The study of population structure and mobility provides a focus for examining the economy of a region. Population decline has a profound effect upon the people remaining in an area. Depopulation is generally caused by a greater out-migration flow than an in-migration movement, rather than by more deaths than births. The investigation of regions experiencing losses in numbers of residents can help to illuminate the reasons for changes occurring in the population and the economy. Nevertheless, too few studies have been made on this subject.

Arkansas State Economic Area 7 is one of the regions in the United States that have experienced an increasing rate of decline in population since the 1930's. This change is indicative of that associated with many other

1

predominantly rural-agrarian sections of the nation. During the 1940's, and even to a greater extent during the 1950's, mechanization and other scientific advances in agriculture caused thousands of families to leave their farms. The lack of industrial employment opportunities in SEA 7 caused a sharp rise in the unemployment and underemployment levels and put a heavier burden on the counties and the State for welfare funds.

A large percentage of the displaced farmers were attracted to job opportunities which they heard existed in the North and the West. The movement to towns in SEA 7 and to the large cities of Arkansas and other states has been part of the national rural-urban trend. The migration out of the region and out of Arkansas reflects the overall emigration from the South to the North and West. Many of those who left the Area were Negroes. These persons were part of the mass movement of the Negro from the rural South to the urban centers in the South, North, and West.

Between 1950 and 1960, SEA 7 lost 46,848 people, or 14.6 per cent of its population. Since the natural increase was about 53,000 during this period, the net out-migration was nearly 100,000, or 31.1 per cent. Poinsett County lost the greatest number of residents, while Woodruff County experienced the highest rate of decline. These two counties held the same respective positions for net out-migration. Arkansas County had the smallest decrease in number and per cent of total inhabitants.

Although the number of rural-nonfarm people showed a gain in every county in SEA 7 during the 1950's, the rural population declined by 22.6 per cent. While many poorly educated persons moved out of the region, most highly educated young people also left because of the lack of jobs which required, and paid for, the training which they had acquired.

The net out-migration rate was higher for nonwhites than for whites. The age group with the highest net out-migration rate for whites was that from twenty to twenty-four, while the one with the highest rate for Negroes was from twenty-five to twenty-nine years. Thus, whites migrate at younger ages than nonwhites, probably because the former can save enough money earlier and learn about outside opportunities sooner than the latter.

Females had higher net out-migration rates than males for the age groups ranging from five to nineteen years and sixty years and over, both for the total and white populations. Nonwhite females, however, migrated at higher rates than nonwhite males for age groups ranging from five to twenty-four years and forty years and over. Nevertheless, for all ages combined rates for males and females in the total, white, and nonwhite populations in SEA 7 have a difference of less than one per cent. The most significant differences in migration rates are those based on age selectivity, age selectivity by sex, racial selectivity, and racial selectivity by age and sex.

In only a few cases was there a net in-migration. This occurred only in the groups of zero to four years and those over sixty-five years of age. The gain in the former occurred in only one county, while that of the latter happened several times and reflected the effect of retirement and the lesser desire to migrate.

Between 1955 and 1960, nonwhites had higher inter-county mobility rates than whites, while whites experienced greater interstate in-migration rates. Net out-migration was much lower during this period than in the preceding five years. Nearly two-thirds of the out-migrants over five years of age were under the age of thirty.

Of the total in-migrants to SEA 7 between 1955 and 1960, over forty per cent were from Arkansas, while of the nonwhite in-migrants during this time, over sixty per cent were from other SEAs in the state. SEA 8, bordering SEA 7 on the west, SEA 3, to the east of SEA 7, and SEA A, the Little Rock SMSA, provided 83.5 per cent of the in-migrants from the state.

Although in-migrants came from every state except Vermont and North Dakota, most were from Missouri, Michigan, Illinois, California, and Tennessee. Seventy-eight per cent of the in-migrants came from these five states and Arkansas. Most nonwhite in-migrants were from Mississippi, Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, and Michigan. Nonwhite in-migration from other SEAs in Arkansas and from these five states

accounted for over ninety per cent of the total. Many of the white and nonwhite in-migrants are returnees to the region after having become disappointed in their new homes or after having heard of new jobs available near their old homes.

Approximately one-third of the total out-migrants from SEA 7 went to other parts of Arkansas, while over two-fifths of the nonwhite out-migrants moved to other SEAs in the state. All states in the nation, except Vermont, received migrants from Arkansas between 1955 and 1960. Most of these out-migrants went to California, Missouri, Illinois, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Michigan. Seventy-eight per cent of all out-migrants moved to other SEAs in Arkansas or to these six states. Nonwhite out-migrants to other states went mainly to California, Illinois, Missouri, Indiana, and Michigan. About eighty-three per cent of the nonwhite out-migrants moved to other sections of Arkansas and to these five states.

Major migratory flow patterns, therefore, are to the West, primarily to California, to the North Central States, and to the states adjoining Arkansas.

In 1960, SEA 7 had nearly 274,000 inhabitants. By far the most populous county was Craighead. Also, the largest city in the Area was Jonesboro, which is located in Craighead County. Prairie County had the smallest population. Craighead County had the highest population density, while Prairie County had the lowest.

Although urbanization has continued for many years in the region, only 27.9 per cent of the people in SEA 7 were classed as urban in 1960. This was approximately forty-two per cent under that of the nation. The two most urban counties were Arkansas and Craighead, while Prarie and Woodruff had no residents in this category.

The nonwhite proportion of the population was 15.4 per cent in 1960. However, racial composition varied greatly throughout the region. Monroe County had nearly fifty per cent nonwhite, whereas Clay, Greene, and Lawrence counties had less than one per cent each. The primary reason for this wide range is that the area around Monroe County is in the heart of the older cotton plantation section, while the other three counties are the farthest removed from the influence of cotton.

In 1960, Monroe County had the highest percentage of persons under eighteen years of age, whereas Clay and Greene counties had the lowest. This corresponded with the nonwhite proportions in these counties. Craighead County had the greatest percentage between eighteen and sixty-four years of age, while Clay County had the largest proportion sixty-five years of age and over.

Even though females outnumbered males in ten of the twelve counties, the former were not most numerous in all the age groups for any of the counties. Males generally were predominant in the age groups from zero to nineteen,

and females tended to be most numerous from twenty to forty-four. Neither sex was dominant in a substantial majority of the counties after forty-four years of age. This pattern corresponds closely to age-sex selectivity in migration. Females had a higher net out-migration rate in the age groups from five to nineteen and fifty-nine years of age and over, while males had a higher rate for age groups from twenty to fifty-nine years of age.

None of the twelve counties had as much as twenty per cent of its population twenty-five years of age and over with four years of high school completed, or as much as six per cent with four years or more of college. Craighead County had the highest percentages in both cases, while Poinsett County had the lowest in the former and Prairie County the lowest in the latter. Low educational levels throughout SEA 7 hinder the counties in their attempts to attract high-wage industries which require educated and skilled workers.

The low educational levels in the counties are reflected in low incomes. The annual median family income for the nation was \$5,620.00 in 1960, but the average income for all counties in the region, except Craighead and Arkansas, was below the poverty level of \$3,000.00. In addition, the two counties named were the only ones with less than fifty per cent of their population below the poverty level.

The changes in population which occurred between 1950 and 1960, and the characteristics of the inhabitants in 1960, presented a rather bleak outlook for the future of SEA 7. However, while some of the trends have continued since 1960, several of them have been reversed enough to permit a re-evaluation of the future of this region.

Mechanization has continued to displace large numbers of rural families. Farms have become even smaller in number, but larger in size. The number of acres in farms and the proportion of land in farms has increased in every county except Arkansas and Poinsett. Therefore, agriculture is still expanding within the Area.

The major crops--cotton, rice, and soybeans--have been undergoing a change in relative importance within many of the counties. Cotton, which has long been the dominant crop in most of the region, has steadily lost ground to soybeans and rice. Dropping market prices, decreasing government allotments, and poor weather for the last two years have resulted in a sharp decline in cultivated acreage of cotton and in income from cotton farming. Craighead and Poinsett counties lead in cotton production in the region.

Although government allotments also control the production of rice, there has been an increase in the number of farms producing it, in the acreage under rice cultivation, and in the number of bushels harvested.

Some cotton farmers have begun growing rice along with cotton, or instead of it. The two major rice-producing counties in the Area are Arkansas and Prairie.

Soybean production, which is not under government control, has increased rapidly in acres cultivated and in bushels produced. Soybeans have become the number one crop in acreage, and sometimes in value, in several of the counties within SEA 7. The two leading producing counties are Poinsett and Craighead.

Whereas three of the counties in SEA 7 lost population during the 1930's, ten during the 1940's, and all twelve during the 1950's, only two had a decline between 1960 and 1965. This was true even though the movement of families off farms was still great. An increase in population from 1960 to 1965 in ten of the twelve counties, however, did not prevent net out-migration from occurring in every county, except Craighead. The net in-migration of Craighead County was small and resulted chiefly from the increase in the student body at Arkansas State University.

Most of the towns of over 1,000 population have increased in number of residents since 1960. The rural-nonfarm population has also grown, as many of the former farmers and their families have chosen to continue living in their old farmhouses or to build new houses in the rural areas.

Opportunities for employment in manufacturing have increased considerably within most of the counties since 1960. Many new industrial installations have been established and several plants already in the region have expanded their operations. Although most of the new jobs have been mainly for women, employment opportunities have been sufficient to stabilize the population in most of the counties. The population increase generated by these jobs and new ones in trade and commerce ranged from 0.4 per cent in Lawrence County to 8.9 per cent in Craighead County. The gain in manufacturing jobs in many towns, together with the tendency for many families to stay in rural areas, have resulted in a great deal of commuting both within and among the various counties.

Only Jackson and Greene counties lost population between 1960 and 1965. The major reason for the decline in these two counties appears to be that in each case the movement of families off the farms was greater than the ability of new and expanding industries to supply enough jobs to meet the needs of these people.

The people of SEA 7 have had to face many socio-economic problems during the last two or three decades. Some of these problems have been eliminated in varying degrees, but others still remain as a hindrance to progress in the Area.

Mechanization and various other scientific advances, which displaced thousands of families from their farms, resulted in large numbers of persons being unemployed and underemployed. Low income levels impeded economic growth in local businesses, and the narrow tax base reduced greatly the public improvements that could be made. Many of the people had to depend on public welfare, while still more left the Area and the state to seek employment elsewhere.

Out-migration and unemployment became so great during the mid-1950's that local and state leaders decided to take action which they hoped would draw industry into the various counties and the state. If sufficient industrialization were to occur, depopulation and employment problems could perhaps be largely overcome.

Since 1955, the state has passed several legislative measures to help communities finance industrial sites which will help to attract manufacturing firms. Of these measures, Act 9 of 1960, which allowed municipalities and counties to issue special obligation revenue bonds for obtaining new industries, has been the means of industrial financing most often used. In addition, the State had previously passed the Anti-Violence Act of 1943 and the "Freedom to Work" Amendment Number 34 to the Arkansas Constitution in 1944. Both of these measures were enacted to favor management over labor.

Most of the industries attracted to the region have been those paying low wages. Therefore, the strong economic growth that would probably accompany high-wage firms has not been produced. Furthermore, many of the new industries have received state and local tax exemptions for up to seven years. Thus, tax funds for public improvements have not met the immediate needs of the towns and counties.

The low levels of education and training have resulted chiefly in the attraction of low-skilled, low-wage industries to the region. Thus, most of the newly educated young people have had to leave the Area because of the lack of jobs that need, and adequately pay for, these persons.

Although more students than ever before are finishing high school and college, dropouts remain a problem in SEA 7. The Office of Economic Opportunity's Neighborhood Youth Corps is active in some of the counties. Work-study programs are devised for boys who drop out of school because of a lack of money or interest. In this program, boys are able to complete their high school education and develop a trade at a local business establishment. In addition, displaced farm workers and others are able to receive retraining for new jobs through Area Redevelopment Act programs.

The low tax base has been detrimental to education in the counties, resulting frequently in the need for consolidation of schools, in low teacher salaries, and in low educational expenditures per student.

The group at the bottom of the educational ladder is the Negro. The segregated school system--which continues in everything but name--has long had a detrimental effect on the educational standards of both the white and the Negro, but particularly the Negro. The "freedom of choice" plan used in most of these counties only keeps the Negro from having an opportunity to achieve the education, employment, income and status which he must have in order to lift him from poverty and despair to a functional role in American society. As yet, the lack of good education and training prohibits most Negroes from obtaining good jobs. Operation "Head Start" and the introduction of completely integrated schools could be the beginning of a long journey for the Negro toward social stability and economic progress.

The displacement of rural people and the increase of industrial employment opportunities in many of the towns, together with the dilapidated condition of many of the houses, have generated a serious housing problem in several of the counties. Towns are the hardest hit with this problem. Federal urban renewal programs have been of some help in alleviating this problem, but a great deal

more will have to be done before it is anywhere near solution. One of the difficulties associated with the problem is the position of the Negro in trying to obtain decent housing at reasonable cost.

Poor highway transportation retards the more rapid development of industries in SEA 7, and also reduces the desirability of the region as a tourist area. The increase in number of daily commuters from rural areas to towns also demonstrates the need for better highways.

Problems in agriculture are mainly the need for better drainage of farm areas and the continuing "cost-squeeze factor" that reduces profits and results in a movement of farmers from the land. The latest force causing farm workers to lose their jobs is the new federal minimum wage law of \$1.00 per hour for farm labor. This law is resulting in greater mechanization, especially on the cotton farms.

County development councils have been organized in most of the counties. They are under the Area Redevelopment Administration and work with local organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce, the city councils, and the county Agricultural Extension Service branches in attempting to improve employment, income, and living conditions.

The future prospects for SEA 7 are rather bright, especially considering the population structure and the changes which occurred during the 1940's and 1950's.

Agricultural production should increase its contribution to the economy. Soybeans and rice will continue to increase in importance, while cotton will experience further decline. The movement off the farm will also continue.

Industrialization and employment will increase, as will income and general economic prosperity. Craighead County will retain its lead as the most industrialized county. "Footloose" industries may leave two or three communities, but the general increase in manufacturing will probably satisfy most of the need for employment.

The population will increase at a slow to moderate rate in nearly all of the counties. However, out-migration and off-the-farm movement should continue to be a very important factor in population change for the next five years. The farm population should become fairly stable by 1972. Jonesboro will remain the largest city and the industrial and educational center for the region. Its population will grow at a steady rate.

The educational levels of the young people will rise, but most of them will leave the Area because of the lack of job opportunities. Only when good jobs can be provided will they stay in the region.

Although the future of SEA 7 is not filled with prospects for rapid industrial, economic, and population growth, it will be one of improved employment opportunities and income levels, of higher standards of education and

training, and of better living standards for most of the people. At least, the outlook for the future of the region is much brighter than most people anticipated in 1960.

APPENDIX A

PERSONS INTERVIEWED OR CONTACTED
THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE

Windell R. Adams, research consultant for the Arkansas
Industrial Development Commission

J. O. Porter, director, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Arkan-
sas State Board of Health

Joe H. Jones, associate director, Bureau of Business and
Economic Research, College of Business Administra-
tion, University of Arkansas

William R. Halfacre, acting director, Arkansas Planning
Commission

Henry P. Jones, manager, Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce

Garner Allen, news editor, The Daily Leader, Stuttgart

Judge John L. Peterson, county judge, Arkansas County

Henry Z. Holly, county agent, Arkansas County

Mrs. Mary Louise Wright, secretary, DeWitt Chamber of
Commerce

Mrs. Catherine Conner, secretary, Piggott Chamber of
Commerce

Judge Carl L. Ermert, county judge, Clay County

Troy Cox, county agent, Clay County

Joe Landis, president, Rector Chamber of Commerce

Bob Haroldson, director, Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce

Mrs. Johnston, case work supervisor, Craighead County
Welfare Department

Lieutenant Wayland Speers, Criminal Investigation Division,
Arkansas State Police

Herbert Russell, county agent, Craighead County

A plant official, Lepanto Garment Company

J. R. David, vice-president, Bank of Caraway

Marl Carter, assistant cashier, Bank of Caraway

W. M. Courtney, editor, the Wynne Progress

Mrs. Betty Urfer, secretary, Wynne Chamber of Commerce

Jack Fiscus, associate director, Office of Economic Opportunity, Cross County

Mrs. Vivian Pitts, secretary, Office of Economic Opportunity, Cross County

A minister in Cross County

Doyle Washington, county clerk, Greene County

Bob Yopp, director, Office of Economic Opportunity, Greene County

Lawrence Hamilton, field coordinator, Office of Economic Opportunity, Greene County

Clift Lee, Neighborhood Youth Corps coordinator, Office of Economic Opportunity, Greene County

Wilson Underwood, deputy sheriff, Greene County

Mr. Shumaker, personnel manager, Emerson Electric Company, Paragould

Uvene Jones, a farmer from Rector

J. B. Malier, service station attendant, Marmaduke

Donald Cox, executive vice president, Paragould Chamber of Commerce

Mrs. Dorcas Jeffery, secretary, Newport Chamber of Commerce

Orville Richolson, editor, Newport Independent

John Coley, county agent, Jackson County

Lonnie Etheridge, director, Office of Economic Opportunity, Jackson County

Bill Smith, assistant director, Office of Economic Opportunity, Jackson County

O'Neal Kellim, circuit clerk, Lawrence County, and chairman, Lawrence County Industrial Development Council

W. A. Anderson, county agent, Lawrence County

Clay Weir, director, Employment Security Division, Lawrence County

Mrs. Sue Smith, secretary, Walnut Ridge Chamber of Commerce

Billy Thompson, tax assessor, Lonoke County

Fred MacDonald, attorney and chairman, Industrial Development Commission of Brinkley

Mrs. Patton, secretary, Brinkley Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Flynn Chivers, mayor, Clarendon

Kenneth Scott, assistant county agent, Monroe County

George H. Beale, associate county agent, Poinsett County

Mrs. Romona Ainsworth, secretary, Poinsett County Agricultural Extension Service

W. C. Barker, plant manager, Salant and Salant Garment Company, Trumann

Bob Maloney, manager, employee training and development, Singer Company, Trumann

J. B. Shults, plant manager, Salant and Salant Garment Company, Marked Tree

Dr. Travis Mathews, physician and member, Industrial Development Commission of Hazen

Dale Madden, city employee, Des Arc

Vernon Wills, county agent, Prairie County

Judge Rep Tucker, county judge, Prairie County

Mike Grady, deputy sheriff, Prairie County

Wayne R. Rupe, county agent, Woodruff County

Kenneth Smith, director, Employment Security Division,
Craighead and Poinsett counties

Harold Hicks, county agent, Greene County

Mrs. Beard, secretary, Arkansas County Agriculture Extension Service

APPENDIX B*

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960
ARKANSAS SEA 7: CROWLEY'S RIDGE AND ARKANSAS PRAIRIES

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-99,786	-50,108	-49,678	-80,661	-40,933	-39,728	-19,125	-9,175	-9,950
0-4	-3,003	-1,658	-1,345	-1,801	-1,001	-800	-1,202	-657	-545
5-9	-9,029	-4,512	-4,517	-7,021	-3,515	-3,506	-2,008	-997	-1,011
10-14	-11,251	-5,626	-5,625	-9,125	-4,603	-4,522	-2,126	-1,023	-1,103
15-19	-11,655	-5,631	-6,024	-9,836	-4,784	-5,052	-1,819	-847	-972
20-24	-17,175	-8,724	-8,451	-14,407	-7,420	-6,987	-2,768	-1,304	-1,464
25-29	-15,146	-7,696	-7,450	-12,234	-6,258	-5,976	-2,912	-1,438	-1,474
30-34	-8,548	-4,440	-4,108	-6,920	-3,633	-3,287	-1,628	-807	-821
35-39	-9,224	-3,187	-3,037	-5,219	-2,694	-2,525	-1,005	-493	-512
40-44	-4,371	-2,292	-2,079	-3,754	-1,973	-1,781	-617	-319	-298
45-49	-3,964	-1,975	-1,989	-3,333	-1,698	-1,635	-631	-277	-354
50-54	-3,172	-1,616	-1,556	-2,607	-1,412	-1,195	-565	-204	-361
55-59	-2,381	-1,193	-1,188	-1,824	-948	-876	-557	-245	-312
60-64	-1,546	-699	-847	-1,114	-505	-609	-432	-194	-238
65-69	-927	-328	-599	-707	-230	-477	-220	-98	-122
70-74	-480	-156	-324	-352	-101	-251	-128	-55	-73
75 & over	-937	-380	-557	-425	-162	-263	-512	-218	-294

*Gladys K. Bowles and James D. Tarver, Net Migration of the Population, 1950-60 by Age, Sex, and Color, I, Pt. 5.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960
ARKANSAS SEA 7: CROWLEY'S RIDGE AND ARKANSAS PRAIRIES

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-26.7	-26.9	-26.5	-25.8	-26.2	-25.5	-31.2	-31.0	-31.3
0-4	-9.1	-9.9	-8.2	-7.1	-7.8	-6.4	-15.4	-16.9	-14.0
5-9	-23.2	-22.7	-23.6	-22.8	-22.4	-23.3	-24.5	-24.1	-24.8
10-14	-26.3	-25.9	-26.7	-25.9	-25.5	-26.2	-28.3	-27.8	-28.9
15-19	-31.3	-30.1	-32.5	-31.2	-30.0	-32.3	-31.8	-30.3	-33.3
20-24	-53.4	-54.3	-52.6	-52.5	-53.7	-51.3	-58.6	-57.7	-59.5
25-29	-52.9	-54.5	-51.3	-50.6	-52.1	-49.1	-65.4	-68.5	-62.7
30-34	-37.2	-39.5	-34.9	-35.1	-37.3	-33.0	-49.5	-53.8	-46.0
35-39	-28.7	-30.4	-27.2	-27.5	-29.0	-26.0	-37.7	-40.8	-35.1
40-44	-21.7	-23.2	-20.2	-21.2	-22.6	-19.9	-25.0	-28.4	-22.2
45-49	-19.6	-19.6	-19.6	-19.0	-19.2	-18.7	-23.6	-22.3	-24.8
50-54	-17.7	-18.1	-17.3	-16.8	-18.1	-15.6	-22.9	-17.8	-27.2
55-59	-15.3	-15.4	-15.2	-13.8	-14.3	-13.3	-23.3	-21.7	-24.7
60-64	-12.9	-12.0	-13.7	-11.0	-10.2	-11.7	-23.5	-22.4	-24.5
65-69	-8.2	-6.0	-10.1	-7.5	-5.1	-9.6	-11.8	-11.0	-12.5
70-74	-5.7	-3.8	-7.5	-4.9	-2.9	-6.9	-9.6	-8.3	-11.0
75 & over	-9.0	-7.5	-10.3	-5.0	-3.9	-6.0	-26.4	-23.2	-29.5

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NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

ARKANSAS COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-4,967	-2,482	-2,485	-3,264	-1,707	-1,557	-1,703	-776	-927
0-4	-228	-128	-100	-15	-23	+8	-213	-105	-108
5-9	-485	-286	-199	-254	-144	-110	-231	-141	-89
10-14	-551	-260	-292	-385	-207	-178	-167	-53	-114
15-19	-628	-311	-317	-498	-263	-235	-130	-49	-82
20-24	-993	-526	-468	-742	-425	-317	-251	-101	-150
25-29	-726	-380	-347	-485	-256	-230	-241	-124	-117
30-34	-310	-124	-186	-159	-60	-99	-151	-65	-87
35-39	-293	-141	-152	-204	-98	-106	-90	-43	-46
40-44	-224	-116	-108	-203	-100	-103	-21	-17	-5
45-49	-168	-71	-97	-110	-44	-66	-58	-27	-31
50-54	-88	-50	-37	-68	-50	-17	-20	0	-20
55-59	-113	-45	-68	-58	-28	-30	-55	-17	-39
60-64	-87	-30	-58	-50	-19	-31	-38	-10	-27
65-69	-4	+17	-21	+3	+20	-17	-7	-3	-4
70-74	-11	+11	-22	-13	+12	-25	+2	-1	+3
75 & over	-58	-43	-15	-25	-23	-2	-33	-20	-13

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960**

ARKANSAS COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total		Female	Total		Female	Total		Female
	Total	Male		Total	Male		Total	Male	
All ages	-17.5	-17.7	-17.4	-15.7	-16.4	-14.9	-22.8	-21.5	-24.0
0-4	-7.9	-8.7	-7.0	-0.8	-2.5	+0.9	-19.9	-19.7	-20.1
5-9	-15.3	-17.7	-12.7	-12.1	-13.4	-10.6	-21.5	-26.2	-16.8
10-14	-17.8	-16.5	-19.1	-17.2	-17.8	-16.4	-19.5	-13.0	-25.5
15-19	-25.7	-25.5	-25.9	-27.7	-29.1	-26.2	-20.2	-15.3	-25.0
20-24	-45.8	-49.2	-42.6	-45.6	-51.9	-39.2	-46.7	-40.3	-52.2
25-29	-37.7	-40.4	-35.2	-34.0	-36.5	-31.6	-48.5	-51.9	-45.3
30-34	-18.7	-16.4	-20.6	-12.7	-10.2	-14.8	-37.4	-37.4	-37.4
35-39	-17.2	-16.8	-17.5	-14.8	-14.2	-15.5	-27.0	-29.1	-25.4
40-44	-13.7	-15.1	-12.5	-15.5	-16.0	-15.0	-6.6	-11.3	-2.7
45-49	-10.8	-9.0	-12.6	-9.2	-7.2	-11.2	-16.2	-15.0	-17.4
50-54	-6.4	-7.3	-5.5	-6.3	-9.2	-3.3	-6.8	0	-13.2
55-59	-9.2	-7.6	-10.7	-6.3	-6.3	-6.3	-17.7	-11.5	-23.1
60-64	-8.4	-5.5	-11.4	-6.0	-4.5	-7.6	-17.3	-9.2	-25.9
65-69	-0.4	+3.8	-4.4	+0.4	+6.0	-4.7	-3.1	-2.9	-3.2
70-74	-1.6	+3.2	-6.2	-2.4	+4.5	-8.9	+1.5	-1.2	+4.4
75 & over	-7.3	-11.4	-3.6	-4.2	-8.1	-0.6	-17.3	-21.9	-13.0

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

CROSS COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-9,564	-4,845	-4,719	-5,641	-2,873	-2,768	-3,923	-1,972	-1,951
0-4	-182	-101	-81	-53	-37	-16	-128	-64	-65
5-9	-881	-451	-430	-578	-291	-287	-304	-160	-143
10-14	-1,262	-644	-619	-724	-350	-374	-538	-293	-245
15-19	-1,170	-568	-601	-752	-349	-402	-418	-219	-199
20-24	-1,503	-783	-720	-964	-525	-439	-539	-258	-281
25-29	-1,261	-626	-636	-768	-385	-383	-493	-240	-253
30-34	-894	-449	-444	-527	-268	-258	-367	-181	-186
35-39	-534	-307	-227	-330	-195	-135	-204	-112	-92
40-44	-417	-207	-210	-233	-109	-124	-184	-98	-86
45-49	-346	-160	-186	-234	-109	-125	-111	-51	-61
50-54	-293	-136	-157	-154	-88	-65	-139	-48	-91
55-59	-303	-147	-156	-144	-74	-70	-159	-73	-86
60-64	-181	-104	-77	-61	-38	-23	-120	-66	-54
65-69	-121	-64	-57	-60	-22	-38	-61	-42	-19
70-74	-56	-18	-37	-21	-5	-16	-35	-14	-21
75 & over	-161	-80	-81	-40	-27	-13	-121	-33	-69

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960**

CROSS COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-32.9	-33.4	-32.3	-29.3	-29.5	-29.0	-39.9	-41.2	-38.7
0-4	-7.0	-7.7	-6.3	-3.6	-4.9	-2.2	-11.7	-11.7	-11.7
5-9	-27.6	-27.8	-27.3	-28.5	-28.1	-28.8	-26.0	-27.2	-24.7
10-14	-34.0	-33.8	-34.2	-30.0	-27.8	-32.5	-41.2	-45.4	-37.1
15-19	-38.3	-37.1	-39.4	-36.7	-34.4	-39.0	-41.4	-42.4	-40.3
20-24	-60.0	-61.2	-58.8	-56.9	-58.6	-54.9	-66.6	-67.2	-66.0
25-29	-60.1	-61.1	-59.1	-54.9	-55.7	-54.1	-70.4	-72.3	-68.7
30-34	-49.2	-52.2	-46.6	-42.0	-44.5	-39.7	-65.3	-70.2	-61.2
35-39	-33.1	-38.2	-28.1	-28.8	-33.3	-24.0	-43.7	-51.0	-37.3
40-44	-29.2	-29.5	-29.0	-22.8	-21.8	-23.8	-45.4	-48.7	-42.2
45-49	-24.4	-22.9	-25.9	-23.4	-21.3	-25.5	-26.9	-27.4	-26.5
50-54	-22.9	-21.5	-24.3	-17.3	-19.6	-15.0	-35.7	-26.4	-43.8
55-59	-24.5	-24.5	-24.6	-17.0	-17.5	-16.6	-40.7	-41.1	-40.4
60-64	-20.1	-23.5	-16.9	-10.2	-12.9	-7.6	-40.0	-44.3	-35.8
65-69	-14.5	-15.7	-13.4	-10.7	-8.1	-13.1	-22.3	-30.9	-13.8
70-74	-9.1	-6.0	-12.1	-5.1	-2.3	-8.0	-17.0	-13.8	-20.0
75 & over	-19.6	-19.9	-19.3	-8.1	-11.4	-5.0	-36.9	-32.4	-41.4

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

LONOKE COUNTY

Ages	Total		White		Nonwhite	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-7,501	-3,594	-3,907	-4,761	-2,322	-2,439
0-4	-243	-129	-114	-146	-90	-56
5-9	-637	-328	-309	-325	-165	-161
10-14	-803	-341	-463	-470	-195	-276
15-19	-1,026	-521	-505	-691	-374	-317
20-24	-1,485	-718	-767	-1,048	-508	-540
25-29	-1,123	-579	-543	-753	-398	-355
30-34	-579	-305	-274	-361	-196	-165
35-39	-423	-180	-244	-288	-120	-168
40-44	-301	-137	-164	-220	-106	-114
45-49	-263	-131	-132	-138	-74	-64
50-54	-240	-114	-126	-165	-97	-69
55-59	-156	-51	-105	-75	-1	-73
60-64	-128	-47	-81	-63	-23	-41
65-69	-73	-29	-44	-70	-26	-44
70-74	-12	-8	-4	-3	-4	+1
75 & over	-11	+23	-33	+54	+53	+1
				-2,740	-1,272	-1,468
				-97	-39	-58
				-312	-163	-149
				-333	-146	-187
				-335	-147	-188
				-437	-210	-227
				-370	-181	-188
				-219	-109	-110
				-136	-60	-76
				-81	-31	-51
				-126	-57	-68
				-74	-17	-57
				-81	-50	-31
				-64	-24	-40
				-3	-3	0
				-9	-4	-5
				-64	-30	-34

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960**

LONOKE COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-23.4	-22.8	-24.0	-20.3	-19.9	-20.7	-31.9	-30.8	-32.9
0-4	-7.6	-8.0	-7.2	-7.1	-8.6	-5.6	-8.5	-6.9	-10.1
5-9	-18.9	-19.2	-18.6	-15.1	-15.0	-15.2	-25.6	-26.6	-24.6
10-14	-22.1	-19.2	-24.8	-18.6	-15.6	-21.5	-29.9	-27.5	-32.1
15-19	-32.5	-32.4	-32.5	-30.4	-31.7	-29.0	-37.8	-34.4	-40.9
20-24	-55.2	-54.7	-55.6	-52.4	-51.6	-53.1	-63.3	-64.1	-62.7
25-29	-48.8	-51.4	-46.4	-43.9	-46.8	-41.0	-63.6	-65.6	-61.7
30-34	-32.6	-34.3	-30.8	-26.8	-28.4	-25.2	-50.4	-55.0	-46.6
35-39	-24.4	-22.4	-26.2	-21.0	-18.6	-23.2	-37.3	-37.8	-37.0
40-44	-17.9	-16.9	-18.8	-16.2	-15.8	-16.5	-25.2	-22.1	-27.5
45-49	-15.6	-16.0	-15.3	-10.4	-11.4	-9.4	-34.8	-33.3	-36.3
50-54	-15.4	-14.6	-16.2	-13.4	-15.5	-11.2	-23.4	-11.2	-35.1
55-59	-11.1	-7.6	-14.4	-6.8	-0.3	-12.7	-27.1	-33.6	-20.8
60-64	-11.8	-8.9	-14.5	-7.5	-5.4	-9.5	-27.3	-23.0	-30.7
65-69	-7.1	-5.9	-8.3	-8.7	-6.7	-10.5	-1.4	-3.1	0
70-74	-1.6	-2.3	-1.0	-0.4	-1.4	+0.4	-5.5	-5.6	-5.5
75 & over	-1.0	+4.6	-6.2	+6.9	+14.5	+0.2	-25.0	-22.8	-27.3

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

MONROE COUNTY

Ages	Total		White		Nonwhite	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-6,454	-3,280	-3,174	-2,836	-1,542	-1,295
0-4	-344	-200	-144	-152	-79	-73
5-9	-735	-345	-390	-349	-164	-185
10-14	-563	-317	-246	-225	-145	-80
15-19	-639	-337	-303	-333	-189	-144
20-24	-1,099	-533	-566	-526	-272	-254
25-29	-1,090	-551	-540	-390	-212	-178
30-34	-515	-294	-220	-213	-135	-78
35-39	-336	-159	-177	-160	-75	-84
40-44	-236	-131	-106	-122	-55	-67
45-49	-242	-128	-115	-125	-80	-44
50-54	-162	-82	-80	-70	-46	-23
55-59	-141	-45	-97	-66	-28	-38
60-64	-97	-52	-45	-26	-19	-8
65-69	-87	-29	-58	-48	-26	-22
70-74	-15	-5	-9	+7	+3	+5
75 & over	-153	-73	-81	-40	-19	-20
				-3,618	-1,738	-1,880
				-192	-121	-71
				-386	-182	-204
				-338	-172	-166
				-306	-148	-158
				-574	-261	-313
				-700	-339	-361
				-302	-159	-143
				-176	-84	-92
				-114	-76	-39
				-118	-47	-71
				-93	-36	-57
				-75	-16	-58
				-70	-34	-37
				-39	-2	-37
				-22	-8	-14
				-114	-53	-60

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960**

MONROE COUNTY

Ages	Total		White		Nonwhite	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-27.1	-28.1	-26.3	-24.2	-30.0	-30.0
0-4	-13.4	-15.5	-11.3	-14.3	-12.7	-9.4
5-9	-25.0	-23.2	-26.8	-26.9	-23.5	-25.0
10-14	-20.7	-23.4	-18.1	-17.2	-24.0	-22.8
15-19	-29.5	-31.3	-27.7	-30.6	-28.3	-28.1
20-24	-57.4	-58.5	-56.4	-54.8	-60.0	-62.4
25-29	-59.4	-62.0	-56.9	-46.2	-70.6	-68.9
30-34	-39.3	-46.2	-32.8	-30.5	-49.4	-43.9
35-39	-29.4	-28.9	-29.8	-23.7	-37.4	-35.8
40-44	-20.8	-24.3	-17.7	-18.8	-23.6	-14.7
45-49	-21.0	-22.4	-19.6	-18.7	-24.0	-26.4
50-54	-14.5	-15.0	-14.1	-11.6	-17.9	-20.6
55-59	-13.9	-9.2	-18.2	-12.3	-15.7	-22.1
60-64	-13.3	-14.6	-12.0	-7.4	-19.0	-18.6
65-69	-11.4	-7.8	-14.7	-12.9	-10.0	-17.9
70-74	-2.8	-2.0	-3.6	+2.6	-8.4	-11.3
75 & over	-21.2	-21.0	-21.4	-12.0	-28.8	-28.7

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

WOODRUFF COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-8,663	-4,375	-4,288	-5,002	-2,628	-2,374	-3,661	-1,747	-1,914
0-4	-549	-324	-225	-138	-98	-39	-411	-226	-186
5-9	-921	-476	-445	-473	-278	-195	-448	-198	-250
10-14	-928	-474	-454	-578	-310	-269	-350	-165	-185
15-19	-973	-458	-515	-640	-302	-337	-334	-156	-178
20-24	-1,460	-738	-722	-913	-482	-432	-547	-257	-290
25-29	-1,242	-655	-587	-695	-369	-326	-547	-286	-261
30-34	-588	-300	-288	-347	-173	-174	-241	-127	-114
35-39	-493	-259	-234	-324	-179	-145	-169	-84	-89
40-44	-340	-166	-174	-235	-122	-114	-105	-45	-61
45-49	-321	-159	-162	-216	-104	-112	-105	-55	-50
50-54	-285	-143	-142	-176	-92	-84	-109	-51	-57
55-59	-164	-70	-94	-78	-36	-42	-86	-35	-52
60-64	-114	-61	-52	-66	-34	-31	-48	-27	-21
65-69	-105	-48	-57	-37	-14	-23	-68	-35	-34
70-74	-71	-16	-55	-40	-19	-22	-31	+2	-33
75 & over	-110	-27	-83	-46	-18	-28	-63	-9	-54

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960**

WOODRUFF COUNTY

Ages	Total			White			Nonwhite		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-38.3	-39.0	-37.6	-37.9	-39.5	-36.3	-38.9	-38.4	-39.4
0-4	-26.2	-30.7	-21.6	-16.5	-23.2	-9.6	-32.6	-35.9	-29.3
5-9	-35.1	-35.8	-34.4	-36.7	-42.2	-30.9	-33.6	-29.5	-37.8
10-14	-34.3	-34.0	-34.6	-36.9	-37.7	-36.1	-30.6	-28.6	-32.6
15-19	-42.8	-41.1	-44.4	-45.1	-43.7	-46.4	-39.0	-36.8	-41.2
20-24	-71.0	-70.3	-71.7	-71.7	-71.0	-72.6	-69.8	-69.1	-70.4
25-29	-72.3	-76.0	-68.6	-69.7	-71.7	-67.5	-76.0	-82.4	-70.0
30-34	-48.5	-51.4	-45.9	-47.0	-49.0	-45.1	-50.9	-55.0	-47.1
35-39	-42.9	-47.8	-38.4	-41.3	-47.1	-35.7	-46.3	-49.5	-43.8
40-44	-29.9	-30.6	-29.3	-29.6	-31.4	-28.0	-30.5	-28.6	-32.0
45-49	-27.8	-28.4	-27.3	-27.9	-26.7	-29.1	-27.6	-32.0	-23.9
50-54	-27.4	-28.5	-26.5	-25.8	-27.0	-24.6	-30.5	-31.4	-29.8
55-59	-18.7	-16.0	-21.5	-14.2	-12.8	-15.7	-26.2	-21.5	-30.7
60-64	-15.9	-17.7	-14.2	-14.4	-15.2	-13.6	-18.5	-22.4	-15.2
65-69	-15.7	-15.3	-16.1	-9.5	-7.2	-11.8	-24.2	-27.7	-21.4
70-74	-13.9	-6.3	-21.3	-13.9	-12.7	-15.0	-13.9	+2.3	-29.3
75 & over	-16.3	-8.5	-23.1	-12.5	-10.0	-14.9	-20.8	-6.6	-32.5

**Counties with 5,000 or more nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

CLAY, CRAIGHEAD, AND GREENE COUNTIES

Ages	Clay			Craighead			Greene		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-8,153	-4,129	-4,024	-10,946	-5,470	-5,476	-7,639	-3,887	-3,753
0-4	-154	-78	-76	+25	+14	+11	-115	-63	-52
5-9	-499	-251	-248	-1,065	-469	-595	-353	-154	-199
10-14	-904	-436	-468	-1,274	-693	-581	-693	-349	-344
15-19	-1,066	-507	-559	-696	-271	-425	-1,003	-549	-454
20-24	-1,798	-920	-878	-1,580	-795	-785	-1,503	-805	-698
25-29	-1,343	-734	-609	-1,952	-958	-995	-1,395	-738	-657
30-34	-711	-376	-334	-1,514	-797	-718	-526	-251	-276
35-39	-486	-264	-222	-903	-480	-423	-610	-267	-344
40-44	-347	-176	-171	-540	-313	-227	-390	-229	-161
45-49	-340	-156	-184	-479	-229	-250	-362	-211	-152
50-54	-218	-137	-81	-363	-167	-196	-240	-131	-109
55-59	-163	-85	-78	-282	-185	-98	-184	-81	-103
60-64	-87	-28	-59	-137	-61	-76	-124	-74	-50
65-69	-10	-8	-2	-92	-28	-65	-60	+17	-77
70-74	-16	+8	-23	-40	-31	-10	0	+31	-31
75 & over	-13	+20	-33	-53	-7	-45	-83	-34	-48

**Counties with less than 5,000 nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960**

CLAY, CRAIGHEAD, AND GREENE COUNTIES

Ages	Clay			Craighead			Greene		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-27.7	-28.1	-27.3	-18.8	-18.8	-18.8	-23.3	-23.7	-22.8
0-4	-7.3	-7.3	-7.3	+0.5	+0.5	+0.5	-4.6	-4.9	-4.2
5-9	-19.2	-19.0	-19.5	-18.6	-16.0	-21.2	-12.3	-10.5	-14.1
10-14	-27.9	-26.7	-29.0	-20.2	-21.3	-19.1	-20.0	-19.4	-20.7
15-19	-34.8	-32.7	-37.0	-12.5	-9.8	-15.2	-29.8	-31.2	-28.3
20-24	-64.0	-65.0	-63.0	-32.4	-32.1	-32.7	-52.8	-55.4	-50.2
25-29	-57.7	-61.4	-53.8	-41.3	-40.8	-41.8	-52.5	-55.5	-49.6
30-34	-39.1	-42.2	-36.2	-36.2	-37.7	-34.5	-26.8	-26.8	-26.7
35-39	-28.1	-31.1	-25.3	-24.5	-26.6	-22.5	-29.4	-27.3	-31.3
40-44	-21.5	-21.8	-21.1	-16.3	-19.5	-13.2	-20.9	-24.1	-17.6
45-49	-19.7	-18.2	-21.1	-14.7	-14.2	-15.2	-18.8	-21.6	-15.8
50-54	-14.7	-18.4	-10.9	-12.9	-12.0	-13.8	-13.9	-15.4	-12.4
55-59	-13.0	-13.6	-12.3	-12.0	-15.6	-8.4	-12.4	-11.5	-13.3
60-64	-8.8	-6.4	-10.6	-7.3	-6.8	-7.7	-11.4	-13.7	-9.1
65-69	-1.1	-1.8	-0.4	-5.3	-3.4	-6.8	-5.5	+3.4	-12.9
70-74	-2.1	+2.0	-6.0	-3.1	-5.1	-1.3	0	+7.8	-6.7
75 & over	-1.4	+4.4	-6.8	-3.5	-1.0	-5.9	-8.0	-6.9	-8.9

**Counties with less than 5,000 nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**
JACKSON AND LAWRENCE COUNTIES

Ages	Jackson			Lawrence		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-7,073	-3,601	-3,472	-7,181	-3,506	-3,675
0- 4	-277	-180	-97	-221	-79	-143
5- 9	-647	-344	-303	-773	-387	-387
10-14	-828	-434	-394	-886	-416	-470
15-19	-881	-417	-464	-879	-406	-473
20-24	-1,275	-707	-568	-1,109	-554	-556
25-29	-1,057	-511	-546	-1,086	-489	-597
30-34	-576	-282	-295	-650	-348	-302
35-39	-369	-174	-195	-505	-291	-214
40-44	-353	-185	-168	-323	-161	-162
45-49	-193	-98	-95	-303	-160	-142
50-54	-220	-98	-122	-235	-144	-91
55-59	-97	-46	-51	-136	-65	-71
60-64	-107	-44	-63	-56	-16	-40
65-69	-67	-19	-48	-38	+10	-48
70-74	-33	-9	-24	-12	-12	0
75 & over	-94	-55	-39	+30	+10	+20

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960

All ages	-23.6	-24.3	-23.1	-29.4	-28.8	-29.9
0- 4	-10.6	-13.6	-7.6	-11.0	-7.7	-14.5
5- 9	-20.5	-21.5	-19.6	-30.9	-30.3	-31.6
10-14	-22.8	-23.1	-22.4	-33.0	-30.8	-35.2
15-19	-29.7	-28.3	-31.1	-35.4	-32.2	-38.7
20-24	-51.3	-55.5	-47.0	-52.5	-53.1	-51.8
25-29	-47.9	-48.8	-47.1	-57.5	-54.3	-60.5
30-34	-31.9	-34.3	-29.9	-41.6	-44.6	-38.7
35-39	-20.6	-20.6	-20.7	-35.2	-41.2	-29.4
40-44	-20.6	-22.0	-19.2	-23.8	-23.7	-23.9
45-49	-11.8	-11.9	-11.7	-22.5	-23.7	-21.2
50-54	-15.1	-13.9	-16.3	-20.5	-24.2	-16.5
55-59	-7.9	-7.3	-8.6	-12.8	-12.5	-13.2
60-64	-10.9	-9.1	-12.7	-7.1	-4.3	-9.6
65-69	-8.0	-4.7	-11.0	-4.9	+2.9	-11.6
70-74	-5.1	-2.7	-7.6	-2.0	-4.0	0
75 & over	-12.0	-14.5	-9.7	+4.2	+3.2	+5.1

**Counties with less than 5,000 nonwhite population in 1950.

NET MIGRATION, 1950-1960**

POINSETT AND PRAIRIE COUNTIES

Ages	Poinsett			Prairie		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
All ages	-16,596	-8,391	-8,205	-5,046	-2,545	-2,501
0- 4	-579	-303	-277	-134	-86	-47
5- 9	-1,835	-920	-915	-194	-98	-97
10-14	-1,980	-962	-1,017	-573	-299	-275
15-19	-2,020	-960	-1,060	-674	-327	-347
20-24	-2,489	-1,218	-1,271	-879	-426	-453
25-29	-2,127	-1,088	-1,039	-743	-387	-356
30-34	-1,269	-705	-564	-415	-210	-205
35-39	-985	-504	-481	-288	-161	-127
40-44	-657	-350	-307	-239	-119	-120
45-49	-712	-353	-359	-234	-121	-113
50-54	-631	-316	-314	-201	-99	-102
55-59	-528	-300	-228	-116	-76	-41
60-64	-322	-161	-161	-106	-21	-85
65-69	-193	-97	-97	-73	-50	-23
70-74	-159	-92	-66	-56	-12	-43
75 & over	-113	-63	-49	-123	-53	-69

NET MIGRATION RATE, 1950-1960

All ages	-35.0	-35.1	-34.9	-32.4	-32.6	-32.2
0- 4	-13.4	-13.8	-13.0	-10.9	-14.0	-7.8
5- 9	-33.3	-32.8	-33.9	-14.9	-14.7	-15.1
10-14	-34.0	-32.6	-35.4	-32.7	-34.3	-31.2
15-19	-39.3	-37.6	-41.1	-42.1	-40.7	-43.5
20-24	-58.0	-57.8	-58.2	-62.9	-62.4	-63.3
25-29	-57.2	-58.9	-55.6	-60.2	-63.6	-57.0
30-34	-42.8	-46.6	-38.8	-44.8	-44.8	-44.8
35-39	-35.7	-37.5	-34.1	-34.2	-37.4	-30.8
40-44	-27.0	-28.8	-25.2	-28.3	-28.9	-27.8
45-49	-29.0	-28.7	-29.3	-26.1	-26.4	-25.8
50-54	-29.7	-28.9	-30.5	-23.9	-24.0	-23.8
55-59	-30.3	-32.8	-27.5	-16.9	-20.8	-12.6
60-64	-26.2	-25.8	-26.6	-19.1	-8.0	-29.4
65-69	-16.5	-16.5	-16.5	-13.6	-18.2	-8.7
70-74	-19.7	-22.4	-16.8	-13.5	-5.9	-21.2
75 & over	-12.0	-12.8	-11.2	-24.0	-21.0	-26.9

**Counties with less than 5,000 nonwhite population in 1950.

APPENDIX C*

POPULATION MOBILITY, 1955-1960
ARKANSAS STATE ECONOMIC AREA 7

State	Number of In-migrants by State of Residence in 1955		Number of Out-migrants by State of Residence in 1960	
	Total	Nonwhite	Total	Nonwhite
Ala.	270	4	519	20
Alaska	49	4	68	5
Ariz.	241	. .	913	9
Ark.	12,482	1,668	16,815	2,522
Calif.	1,521	69	5,875	699
Colo.	71	. .	185	7
Conn.	19	. .	15	. .
Del.	4	. .	12	. .
D. C.	13	. .	77	13
Fla.	366	16	1,066	39
Ga.	131	. .	236	14
Hawaii	45	4	75	5
Idaho	12	. .	21	16
Ill.	1,970	153	4,720	684
Ind.	723	8	1,428	173
Iowa	141	4	255	45
Kansas	417	14	478	70
Ky.	203	9	233	20
La.	442	12	789	55
Maine	41	8	17	. .
Md.	39	7	85	4
Mass.	41	. .	68	8
Mich.	2,670	107	2,281	163
Minn.	16	4	98	. .

State	Number of In-migrants by State of Residence in 1955		Number of Out-migrants by State of Residence in 1960	
	Total	Nonwhite	Total	Nonwhite
Miss.	855	278	1,106	73
Mo.	3,568	136	5,575	551
Mont.	7	. .	22	. .
Neb.	49	. .	137	78
Nev.	40	4	38	5
N. H.	4	. .	4	. .
N. J.	12	. .	179	8
N. M.	123	. .	385	4
N. Y.	65	8	158	54
N. C.	109	5	226	12
N. D.	. .	. .	4	. .
Ohio	271	21	379	113
Okla.	240	. .	908	55
Oregon	112	. .	181	. .
Pa.	54	8	111	23
R. I.	15	. .	4	. .
S. C.	67	. .	71	. .
S. D.	18	. .	37	. .
Tenn.	1,484	118	2,512	97
Tex.	864	41	2,310	40
Utah	8	. .	12	. .
Vt.	. .	. .	. .	. .
Va.	131	9	220	10
Wash.	42	. .	265	23
W. Va.	24	. .	4	. .
Wis.	57	8	164	37
Wyo.	15	. .	28	. .
Total	30,161	2,727	51,369	5,754

*U.S. Census of Population: 1960. Subject Reports,
Mobility for States and State Economic Areas. U.S. Bureau
of the Census.

APPENDIX D*

CHANGES IN AGRICULTURE, 1959-1964 ARKANSAS STATE ECONOMIC AREA 7

County	Proportion of Land in Farms		Total Farms		Acres in Farms	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	67.9	63.8	1,213	951	449,712	422,372
Clay	72.6	81.7	1,904	1,694	297,242	334,838
Craighead	81.3	82.3	2,683	1,943	372,953	377,653
Cross	79.9	83.6	1,447	941	319,960	334,696
Greene	72.3	73.7	2,080	1,703	267,842	273,023
Jackson	85.6	89.5	1,235	888	348,913	364,699
Lawrence	73.7	77.7	1,434	1,213	279,132	294,227
Lonoke	73.8	83.2	1,814	1,492	377,698	425,783
Monroe	51.0	58.6	1,271	884	201,508	231,347
Poinsett	82.9	81.2	2,018	1,357	404,318	395,933
Prairie	59.5	63.3	910	648	256,528	272,959
Woodruff	70.5	72.7	1,063	658	267,116	275,356
SEA 7	**	**	19,072	14,372	3,842,922	4,002,886

**Information not available.

County	Average Size of Farm		Value of Land and Buildings			
	1959	1964	Average per Farm		Average per Acre	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	370.7	444.1	\$57,633	\$105,718	155.86	236.29
Clay	156.1	197.7	\$25,108	\$48,949	143.01	249.92
Craighead	139.0	194.4	\$29,342	\$63,149	237.62	329.35
Cross	221.1	356.0	\$28,314	\$97,573	145.56	280.51
Greene	128.8	160.3	\$14,432	\$41,427	123.91	255.61
Jackson	282.5	410.7	\$29,130	\$89,033	130.51	219.88
Lawrence	194.7	242.6	\$17,310	\$43,814	91.72	185.35
Lonoke	208.2	285.4	\$29,313	\$72,579	153.15	253.68
Monroe	158.5	261.7	\$15,107	\$52,010	118.52	196.37
Poinsett	200.4	291.8	\$34,839	\$95,163	193.43	327.64
Prairie	281.9	421.2	\$29,971	\$97,658	118.64	238.55
Woodruff	251.3	418.5	\$21,651	\$84,898	108.87	204.10
SEA 7	201.5	278.5	\$27,679	\$74,331	143.40	248.10

<u>Farm Operators</u>								
County	<u>Full Owners</u>				<u>Part Owners</u>			
	<u>White</u>		<u>Nonwhite</u>		<u>White</u>		<u>Nonwhite</u>	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	374	252	59	46	290	288	40	35
Clay	739	643	. .	. .	462	507	1	. .
Craighead	893	638	2	3	585	598	3	. .
Cross	368	265	58	32	289	257	21	17
Greene	876	732	. .	. .	491	511	. .	. .
Jackson	425	257	16	9	255	283	14	10
Lawrence	670	522	. .	. .	318	341	. .	. .
Lonoke	819	660	68	49	284	353	30	35
Monroe	191	107	193	100	128	162	71	89
Poinsett	442	326	9	8	382	358	2	2
Prairie	414	281	13	4	225	216	16	7
Woodruff	153	110	74	38	150	125	28	26
SEA 7	6,364	4,793	492	289	3,859	3,999	226	221

<u>Farm Operators</u>						
County	<u>Tenants</u>				<u>Proportion of Tenancy</u>	
	<u>White</u>		<u>Nonwhite</u>		<u>of Tenancy</u>	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	344	254	100	69	36.6	34.0
Clay	699	543	. .	. .	36.7	32.1
Craighead	1,191	697	1	1	44.4	35.9
Cross	414	237	290	126	48.7	38.6
Greene	712	460	. .	. .	34.2	27.0
Jackson	472	315	46	12	41.9	36.8
Lawrence	441	347	. .	. .	30.8	28.6
Lonoke	418	312	189	80	33.5	26.3
Monroe	268	171	415	250	53.7	47.6
Poinsett	991	605	170	52	57.5	48.4
Prairie	182	127	53	7	25.8	20.7
Woodruff	373	227	280	125	61.4	53.5
SEA 7	6,505	4,295	1,544	722	42.3	35.9

<u>Soybeans</u>						
County	<u>Farms Reporting</u>		<u>Harvested for Beans</u>			
			<u>Acres</u>		<u>Busbels</u>	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	802	719	144,372	173,350	3,775,499	4,034,771
Clay	1,262	1,190	92,599	137,976	1,675,576	2,699,339
Craighead	2,053	1,614	145,209	186,974	3,155,653	3,678,835
Cross	759	629	109,359	148,525	2,664,600	3,358,982
Greene	1,344	1,209	76,934	114,221	1,430,812	2,160,399
Jackson	904	736	131,382	186,818	2,470,006	3,319,216
Lawrence	767	728	63,677	105,073	1,113,291	1,981,422
Lonoke	721	698	72,936	122,317	1,746,470	2,523,188
Monroe	579	601	51,975	94,703	1,197,636	1,804,230
Poinsett	1,338	1,028	173,427	186,317	4,194,851	4,220,729
Prairie	489	450	68,766	107,041	1,643,409	2,473,158
Woodruff	594	506	74,735	127,188	1,703,394	2,491,816
SEA 7	11,612	10,108	1,205,371	1,690,503	26,771,197	34,746,085

County	<u>Rice</u>					
	<u>Farms Reporting</u>		<u>Acres</u>		<u>Bushels</u>	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	611	564	69,076	73,415	5,481,090	7,012,141
Clay	77	94	6,509	7,826	465,256	786,316
Craighead	184	184	15,184	16,575	1,260,693	1,750,093
Cross	318	312	34,339	36,730	2,770,999	3,668,323
Greene	53	74	4,034	5,149	326,474	498,410
Jackson	202	228	17,609	20,629	1,327,498	2,002,378
Lawrence	81	102	5,545	7,903	422,846	790,194
Lonoke	289	316	30,510	39,731	2,385,506	3,886,208
Monroe	103	110	10,515	15,401	753,820	1,456,060
Poinsett	285	275	33,059	36,197	2,678,757	3,840,132
Prairie	311	316	31,070	37,633	2,465,820	3,670,951
Woodruff	170	152	16,319	18,070	1,232,679	1,675,248
SEA 7	2,684	2,727	273,769	315,259	21,571,438	31,036,454

County	<u>Cotton</u>					
	<u>Farms Reporting</u>		<u>Acres</u>		<u>Bales</u>	
	1959	1964	1959	1964	1959	1964
Arkansas	456	288	8,307	7,541	8,145	7,825
Clay	1,525	1,291	38,928	37,753	44,871	41,879
Craighead	2,114	1,493	85,584	78,238	102,213	96,819
Cross	1,087	614	36,211	37,037	41,854	49,272
Greene	1,555	1,209	36,878	34,155	41,265	39,003
Jackson	942	666	39,343	40,818	43,937	37,350
Lawrence	754	637	17,031	18,481	18,121	18,528
Lonoke	1,091	620	49,945	49,063	51,889	58,968
Monroe	1,108	736	34,949	38,510	38,589	46,963
Poinsett	1,707	1,052	88,633	77,162	101,434	94,178
Prairie	379	145	8,268	7,337	8,153	7,573
Woodruff	936	545	36,294	35,289	40,830	39,531
SEA 7	13,654	9,296	480,371	461,384	541,301	537,889

*Source: 1964 United States Census of Agriculture,
U.S. Bureau of Census.

APPENDIX E*

LABOR LEGISLATION IN ARKANSAS

Anti-Violence Act 193

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person by the use of force or violence or the threat of the use of force or violence, to prevent or attempt to prevent any person from engaging in any lawful vocation within this State. Any person guilty of violating this section shall be deemed guilty of a felony and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by confinement in the State Penitentiary for not less than (1) year, nor more than (2) two years.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful for any person acting in concert with one or more persons, to assemble at or near any place where a "labor dispute" exists and by force or violence prevent or attempt to prevent any person from engaging in any lawful vocation, or for any reason acting either by himself, or as a member of any group or organization or acting in concert with one or more persons, to promote, encourage or aid any such unlawful assemblage. Any person guilty of violating this section shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by confinement in the State Penitentiary for not less than one (1) year, nor more than (2) years.

Section 3. The term "labor dispute" as used in this Act shall include any controversy between an employer and two (2) or more of his employees concerning the terms or conditions of employment or concerning the association or representation of any person in negotiating, fixing, maintaining, changing or seeking to arrange terms or conditions of employment.

Section 4. The provisions of this Act shall be cumulative of all other existing articles of the Penal Code upon the same subject and in the event of a conflict between existing articles and the provisions of this Act, then and in that event the provisions, offenses and punishment set forth herein shall prevail over such existing articles.

"Freedom to Work" Amendment No. 34
Constitution of Arkansas, Amendment No. 34,
Adopted November 7, 1944

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Arkansas:

Section 1. No person shall be denied employment because of membership in or affiliation with or resignation from a labor union, or because of refusal to join or affiliate with a labor union, nor shall any corporation or individual or association of any kind enter into any contract, written or oral, to exclude from employment members of a labor union or persons who refuse to join a labor union, or because of resignation from a labor union; nor shall any person against his will be compelled to pay dues to any labor organization as a prerequisite to or condition of employment."

"Enabling Act"
Act 101 of 1947

An Act for the enforcement of the provisions of
Amendment No. 34 to the Constitution, and for other purposes:

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State
of Arkansas:

Section 1. Freedom of organized labor to bargain collectively, and freedom of unorganized labor to bargain individually, is declared to be the public policy of the State under Amendment No. 34 to the Constitution.

Section 2. No person shall be denied employment because of membership in, or affiliation with, a labor union; nor shall any person be denied employment because of failure or refusal to join or affiliate with a labor union; nor shall any person, unless he shall voluntarily consent in writing to so do, be compelled to pay dues, or any other monetary consideration to any labor organization as a prerequisite to, or condition of, or continuance of, employment.

Section 3. No person, group of persons, firm, corporation, association, or labor organization shall enter into any contract to exclude from employment, (1) persons who are members of, or affiliated with, a labor union; (2) persons who are not members of, or who fail or refuse to join, or affiliate with, a labor union; and (3) persons who, having joined a labor union, have resigned their membership therein or have been discharged, expelled, or excluded therefrom.

Section 4. Any person, group of persons, firm, corporation, association, labor organization, or the representative, or representatives thereof, either for himself or themselves, or others, who sign, approves, or enters into a contract contrary to the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor; and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$5,000.00 and each day such unlawful contract is given effect, or in any manner complied with, shall be deemed a separate offense and shall be punishable as such as herein provided.

The power and duty to enforce this Act is hereby conferred upon and vested in, the Circuit Court of the county in which any person, group of persons, firm, corporation, unincorporated association, labor organization, or representatives thereof, who violates this Act, or any part thereof, resides or has a place of business, or may be found and served with process.

Section 5. This Act shall not apply to existing contracts, but shall apply to any renewals or extensions thereof.

Section 6. The provisions of this Act are severable, and the invalidity of one shall not affect the validity of the others.

Section 7. Labor controversies, the disruption of industrial and agricultural labor by labor disputes, the effort to force laborers to join, or to refrain from joining, labor organizations, are a menace to the peace, quietude, safety and prosperity of the people of the State; an emergency is therefore declared, and this Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

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