

Arvin lies just south of fairly extensive oil fields, and there is sufficient likelihood of finding underlying strata of oil to induce oil companies to maintain leases on mineral rights of Arvin lands. Most landowners in the community have lease contracts which pay \$5 per acre per year. Dinuba has no comparable source of revenue. Oil production does not materially affect the character of the community, however, since very few persons secure their livelihood from this resource, either as laborers in the oil fields or as a result of oil pumping. There are but two or three small productive wells within the community boundary.

The greatest differential between the two communities, other than the size of farming operations, is their history. Dinuba is 20 to 25 years older than Arvin. This difference was not avoidable, however, because of the history of land settlement within the State. During the early period of irrigation development there was a general tendency to break up holdings and sell them to settlers. After the turn of the century, and especially since World War I, larger landowners have tended to keep their holdings after acquiring irrigation water. Therefore the large farm communities tend to be younger than the small farm communities. In a later section the influence of the age of the community will be dealt with at greater length.

Finally, the ethnic composition was a matter of importance. For obvious reasons it was preferable to have a community made up of native white Americans. While there are foreign groups in each community, foreigners are not an important element in either town. There are a few Mexican families in each, a number of Negroes in Arvin, and some Koreans in Dinuba. There were formerly Japanese in Dinuba and Filipinos in Arvin, but the Japanese have all been evacuated and the Filipinos have left. A contingent of German Mennonites in Dinuba has had some influence upon the community but not an extensive one. The effect of alien cultures on the character of the two communities is negligible.

METHODOLOGY

A variety of methods, procedures, and techniques were used in developing the information in this study. Included are community delineation, interviews, schedules, analysis of club and church membership lists, and compilation of statistical data from a variety of sources. A group of three spent a month in each community to take the interviews and schedules. In addition, one person spent a few days to delineate the community boundaries. Details of procedure, together with a copy of the schedule used, are given in appendix A.