

faction. These facts were set forth by an Arvin mother, who went on to say:

The worst hardships of all are the discrimination that is made against local students (bus students) and their inability to participate fully in extracurricular activities because they have to go home by bus immediately after school is over. The school authorities try to put all the rural students into agriculture because they feel that they are all going to be farmers or laborers. They tried to put my sons into agriculture, and I went down not once, but twice, to have the schedule changed, because I want them to have a college preparatory course. The labor parents are not in a position to protest; if they do have the interest, they are licked by the fine surroundings and their own shyness.

The absence of a high school is a deprivation not only to the students but to the entire community. The high school in Dinuba is a rallying place for community action, a center of cultural activities such as lectures and musicals, and a source of leadership. In addition, it furnishes the town a playground, gymnasium, and auditorium. Arvin, lacking a high school, is also lacking in these.

SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Both communities have institutions which have grown up in response to local needs and the natural desire of persons to have social contacts. In Arvin there is relative poverty of such institutions, their functions are more limited, and fewer people have access to them. In Dinuba the more numerous organizations are active, and many people participate.

In Arvin there are the following formal organizations: The Booster Club, the Lions Club, the Farm Bureau center and Farm Home center, a chapter of the State Guard, and the Parent-Teacher's Association. In nearby Weedpatch, but with only a few Arvin participants, there is a Grange. This is a complete list of the formalized organizations by means of which Arvin residents get together for social functions or for any other kind of secular associated activities.

The Boosters is a local civic service club for men which meets once a month in the evenings. It was organized in 1921 as a civic improvement group and since that time has performed many useful community functions, largely as a group which induced the county to provide services. Among its first projects were obtaining a county road to the community and getting the area resurveyed. Its activities were largely responsible for getting a community hall, those street lights that are in Arvin, and the WPA-built sewage system. It has helped in two regular community events: The flower festival and the glider meet. The flower festival is a chamber of commerce activity which has publicized the famous Kern County wild flowers. In the spring the unplowed semidesert fields are transformed into a purple and gold carpet by the lupin and California poppies, and they attract thousands from Los Angeles and elsewhere. Some of the best fields are around Arvin, and the Boosters sponsored concessions and aided in the county-wide festival. The slopes east of Arvin have air currents favorable to gliding, and the Boosters aid a glider society in Los Angeles in staging a meeting once a year. These events have been curtailed by the war. Recently the group has directed its attention to alleviating local problems, such as petitioning Federal agencies for more wholesale gasoline. Aside from regular monthly dinner meetings, the club has occasional social functions.