

what restricted. The family keep rather much to themselves—extra help when it is needed, being recruited from a class of labor which is best satisfied if left to itself.

Its [Modesto's] general appearance reflected the declining prosperity of the country upon which a strictly agricultural town must rely for its existence—rough, unpaved streets—muddy in winter and dusty in summer, its stores a collection of mostly one-story unpainted, rickety frame buildings, its water supply from private wells, its sewerage nil, its lighting system coal oil lamps, its population but a few hundred people. * * * (Pp. 15-17.)

In contrast is the postirrigation picture in which small units make for close association and the development of homes. The authors say:

Farming it is said, is a "mode of life." If this is so, then the real test of a section is to be found in the home building of its people. Applying this test, as a preliminary, to the Modesto district one soon finds full justification for all the time, thought, energy, and money spent in water development. For the outstanding feature which first strikes the investigator is that the district is essentially a home district. Pretty bungalows and tidy dwellings, lawns, vine covered porches, roses and old-fashioned flowers, shade trees and well-kept grounds are all strong testimonials that a home-loving people are settling in the community * * *. The small size of the holdings brings the houses rather close together, and a drive in any direction in the most fully settled sections unfolds a succession of pretty homes and a general spirit of contentment.

Today it would be hard to find a more prosperous, bustling town than Modesto * * *. [It] is essentially a "home" town. Civic pride is reflected in its flowers, its streets, its parks, its school system * * *. (Pp. 17-20.)

Finally, cursory examination of other communities in California's intensively cultivated agricultural areas substantiates this point of view. In general, the following are associated: new communities, the cultivation of row crops, and large-scale operations. Where they are so found, communities in the Arvin pattern are found. But where the former two are found with small-scale operations, these communities acquire most of the characteristics of Dinuba. On the other hand, none of the towns whose agriculture is made up predominantly of large-scale operations has these amenities.

The study of Arvin and Dinuba shows, therefore, that quality of social conditions is associated with scale of operations; that farm size is in fact an important causal factor in the creation of such differences, and that it is reasonable to believe that farm size is the most important cause of these differences.