

SOCIOLOGY OF ROUVILLE  
COUNTY. QUE.



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THE SOCIOLOGY OF ROUVILLE COUNTY,

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC, CANADA.

A Thesis for the Degree of

Master of Arts

By

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THE SOCIOLOGY OF ROUVILLE COUNTY, PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.



# SOCIOLOGY OF ROUVILLE COUNTY

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## INTRODUCTION



## INTRODUCTION

### Purpose of the Study

Sociology has been defined as, "an attempt to account for the origin, growth, structure and activities of society by the operation of physical, vital, and psychical causes working together in a process of evolution." 1. "Sociology treats of the phenomena of society arising from the association of mankind. It includes a body of classified knowledge relating to society and a number of principles and laws. It investigates causes and effects, discovers social forces, and formulates laws of control, or rules of action." 2.

Our purpose has been as far as possible to study and interpret the social life of the county along sociological lines. We have attempted to study the county scientifically, in the first place by collecting as many facts and data as we have been able, and thereby relating them together in their proper place, so as to bring out the laws of development which are at work, and the social forces which are shaping the county life. In the concluding chapter, using the knowledge which we have gained, we have attempted to show the reader how certain trends in development, allow for a certain amount of prediction in

1. Giddings - Principles of Sociology - page 1

2. Blackmar and Gillin - Outlines of Sociology, page 14.



regard to the county's future social developement.

This is in no sense to be considered a study of geography, history, industry, or economics, nevertheless these are all conditioning factors in social relations and social change, and must be studied for that reason. We have attempted to give each one its proper place and attention in so far as it may have social importance, and depending, of course, upon the amount of information obtainable.

Area defined: The area chosen for our study is Rouville County in the Province of Quebec. This county is situated in what is known as the St. Lawrence Lowland region, extending eastward from the Richelieu river. Neighbouring counties are Chambly and Vercheres counties on the West for a distance of seventeen miles approximately. The counties of St. Hyacinthe and Bagot are on the North; Brome and Shefford counties on the East; Missisquoi and Iberville are on the South. The county is a rather peculiar shape, and it may be said to lack any form of regularity in its boundaries. The only natural boundary to be spoken of is the Richlieu river. Political gerymandering has been an important factor in giving the county its present shape. At one time it was joined up to St. Hyacinthe county but in 1921 it was separated from it again. The average length of the county is twenty miles and the average width about thirteen miles but

it is half as wide in the centre as it is at either end .

The total area of the county is 152,472 acres, of that amount 560 acres is covered by the one town Marieville, which also serves as the county centre.

Method of Study: The conclusions arrived at have been reached after considerable investigation, both on and off the field. For two years the writer lived in the county during the summer months, and in winter kept in touch with county matters by visits to it each week. He travelled about, visiting practically all the community centres, and a general knowledge and plan of the county was thus obtained. During the time spent in the county the writer stopped at various homes and had conversation with the farmers and business men about their work and their ideals. Old residents and representatives of old families interviewed, have given valuable information about county history and development. Interviews were obtained with school teachers, religious leaders, railroad agents, and business men, which were advantageous. Meetings of various kinds were attended, socials, cornroasts, operatics, surprise parties, church services, demonstration lectures, Pomological Association meetings, etc.

In ways such as these, knowledge was obtained on the field, but there was considerable information collected off the field. Letters were sent to School Inspectors, Government



Inspectors and Agents, asking for information. The various departments of the governments, both at Quebec and at Ottawa were called upon to supply information of a statistical nature. Pamphlets dealing with various industries of the county were read carefully, and manuscripts and records were looked up and gone into. And materials relative to physical characteristics, and the seigniorial system, which were general to this county as well as to others, were read upon.

The results of our investigations are presented under the following heads:

1. Physical Factors.
2. Occupational Interests.
3. Distribution of Population.
4. Social Institutions.
5. Conclusions.

## CHAPTER 1

### PHYSICAL FACTORS

#### Geological and Geographical Divisions

In any study of a social nature we must take account of the influence of the physical features of a country upon civilization. The soil formation, the mountains, lakes and rivers all play their part in determining the industries of a country, the land settlement, and the form of contacts which shall take place among the people. They leave their mark upon the thinking of the people and the social institutions which shall spring up within the country. It is necessary that we have at the outset a physical basis for our study.

The Province of Quebec is divided into three main geological divisions, each one remarkably distinct and overlapping little upon the other. They are the Laurentian Plateau, the Appalachian, and the St. Lawrence Lowland Regions. The St. Lawrence Lowland region interests us most closely in this study. It is bounded on the North by the Southern edge of the Laurentian Plateau, which follows a line joining the cities of Ottawa and Quebec. To the South it abuts against the great Champlain - St. Lawrence fault which follows a line from the foot of Lake Champlain to Quebec City.



CHAPTER 1

PHYSICAL FACTORS

The St. Lawrence Lowlands are underlain by gently dipping beds of sandstone, shale and limestone, of paleozoic age, which succeed one another without break or unconformity. In a general way it may be said that the various divisions of these rocks occur in bands, of successively younger formations roughly paralleling the edge of the ancient crystalline rocks on the North. Owing to the level character of the Lowlands and the undisturbed character of the rocks, the superficial deposits are thick and outcrops are very infrequent.

The plain of the St. Lawrence Lowlands is characterized by a uniformity of level and may be spoken of as quite flat. But this uniformity is broken by several hills of igneous rocks which rise abruptly from the level plain, and constitute striking features of the landscape.

This part of the Province was subjected to glacial invasion of the Labradorean ice-sheet. At the close of the Glacial epoch there was a subsidence which resulted in an invasion of the sea along the valleys of the St. Lawrence, and Ottawa rivers. During this period of submergence heavy mantles of marine clays and sands were deposited, which in the Province of Quebec attain their greatest developement in the Lowlands region. The clay which is heavy and usually blue in color is called the Leda clay from a prevalent marine shell found in it. The sand is the saxicava sand. This is very rich soil and at one



time thick vegetation, dense forests, and great swampy tracts, covered the country. But clearing of the soil and draining of the swamps has produced such wealth in agriculture as is found nowhere else in Canada.

Rivers: As might be expected in a comparatively level country the number of rivers of any considerable size in this region is very small. There are several small rivers and streams though and a few fairly large rivers. The largest river in Rouville County and the one of greatest importance to her history, her transportation and land settlement is the Richelieu. A study of Canadian history will reveal the fact that it stood second only to the St. Lawrence in importance to the French in their early settlement and domination of Canada. It was important as a water route from Lake Champlain to the St. Lawrence and still is to this day. Bouchette, the historian, writing in 1832 speaks of the great amount of trade which was carried on over the Richelieu river. It was then the main thoroughfare between Canada and the United States, and now during the summer time there is not a day passes but some barge with timber or pulpwood passes either to or from the United States. As a means of travel it is no longer of great importance because of the developement of the railroad. The river Hurons drains a large stretch of country and is a tributary of the Richelieu river, emptying into the Chambly Basin.

The river second in importance to the Richelieu is the

Yamaska. It is about sixteen miles east of the Richelieu river and runs nearly parallel to it draining a large stretch of country. The Barbue river is its most important tributary in Rouville County.

These rivers in each case were determining factors in early land settlement and left their influence upon the history of the County. They were practically the only means of communication, and so the farms of the early French settlers faced on the river and were laid out in long strips running back from them. Fish was one of the chief foods of the early settlers and these were easily obtained when they were near to the river. The three seigniories which were established in the County were along the shores of the Richelieu and the Yamaska rivers. On the rivers and streams seigniorial mills were established at some rapids or waterfalls. Bouchette says there were seven on the Richelieu alone, above the rapids at Chambly. Of more recent years the importance of the land along the rivers is coming to be recognized as most suitable for the highly specialized and scientific tobacco industry, and so we find much of the industry carried on in these parts. The rivers of the County have played their part and are continuing to do so in her social life though perhaps less to-day than formerly.

Mountains: In the Western portion of the St. Lawrence Lowlands is to be found one of the three groups of hills or mountains of the Province. The general name monteregian is derived from

Mount Royal at Montreal. From the top of Mount Royal all these hills can be seen in the plain to the East. Three of the largest of this group are in Rouville County. Comparing their altitude with Mount Royal there are; Mount Royal 769 feet above sea level, St. Hilaire (or Beloeil) 1437 feet, Rougemont 1250 feet and Yamaska 1470 feet. These mountains are of volcanic origin and the craters of old volcanoes are in some cases the containers of mountain lakes. On St. Hilaire there is one, and on Yamaska there are two such lakes. They are of commercial value because the great number of springs and small streams which come from them, are harnessed by the surrounding farmers and villagers. In this way they have a water supply in their house and buildings with natural pressure. The mountain peaks are covered with thick woods and a great supply of wood is cut yearly to supply the farmers' needs. Some timber is taken each year from them. The abundant growth of maple trees gives a large yearly crop of maple syrup and sugar. But these mountains are of particular importance as selective and social forces because the soil at their base is peculiarly suited to fruit and apple growing and here the greater part of the fruit industry of the Province is carried on. The grandeur of the scenery which these mountains present would seem to leave its impress upon the inhabitants, near at hand, From youth upward they are all essentially lovers of beauty.



### Lines of Communication:

In a study of physical forces we must give some attention to the various lines of travel and communication which are present in the county and which affect its social developement. These lines of communication affect travel and social contact within the county. They define what direction it shall take and the amount that shall be carried on. They direct land settlement and later developement of community centres and trade bases. Such lines of communication will do much to decide whether the break between communities shall be distinct and definite, with each community having a definite interest of its own, or whether they shall overlap one upon the other. We cannot afford to overlook the importance of these forces for communication in relation to points outside the county. Upon these lines will depend the amount of outside trade; community standards and customs will be affected; and the outlook and ideals of the people will be broadened.

Communication factors within the county are of two kinds; those original and natural and those which have been constructed and developed through human effort. Of the former class we have spoken somewhat under the heading of rivers. They were practically the only means of travel and communication which the early settlers had when they came to the country and hence all settlement was made upon river fronts and whatever community centre

there might be was to be found near some river or stream.

It was a brave man indeed who went back into the forest to found a home, since it meant that he had not only to clear the land, but he had also to lay down a road of some sort to each the community centre. The result was that many of these early settlers lived lives apart from civilization, and often with their family made a world all their own. When they found it necessary to go out to the store they often went by footpath through the woods, and many long journeys were made in this way.

Roads: A great improvement has taken place from that day to the present with its macadamized roads, its steam and electric railways, and its telephone and telegraph lines. Even as late as 1832 Bouchette refers to the roads in this part of the country as bad. In 1847 the first Government road made of macadam and planks was built from Longueuil to Granby. Toll gates were placed every eight or ten miles apart to collect money for repairs. In time the toll gates were removed, and this road which is now known as the Victory Highway came to be kept up by Government grants. Such villages and community centres as Richelieu, Marieville, Rougemont, St. Caesare, and Abbotsford, are in the line of this highway. These centres had been established before near mountains and rivers, and this road served to connect them all up with one another and with outside parts. The improvement of this thoroughfare has given increased status to the five centres of

trade mentioned previously. In the summer season a continual stream of heavily laden truck pass to and from Montreal and conduct a trade with Montreal and Sherbrooke. Automobiles of every make, and from every part of Canada and United States, carry tourists through this beautiful country which all tends to broaden the scope of the peoples vision. There has been some trouble keeping graveled portions of this road in shape, but this year a Fordson tractor has been added to the road equipment and with a drag the road has been put in good condition. Year by year the amount of macadamized surface is being added to. Last year about four miles of macadam was laid.

In 1914 and 1915 the Government gave money grants towards gravelling the country roads which connect up with the main highway. They are now much improved and in fairly good shape for travel. According to the Municipal statistics for 1923 there are 289.18 miles of public roads in this county, 61.49 are improved earth roads, 33.69 are macadamized roads and 83.15 are graveled roads.

Generally speaking there has been a decided improvement in the roads of late years. The invention and increase in the number of automobiles and trucks has made this necessary. In early pioneer days travel on foot demanded only a pathway through the woods. The horse and buggy as a means of travel meant the building of corduroy and earth roads and with these the inhabitant was content to get along, but modern conveyances demand better

lines of travel, and so we have the high road bed with its graveled and macadamized top and its blazed fences. This improvement in the roads has all made for greater mobility in travel even among the settlers themselves, and many neighbourhoods which may possibly have existed in the past have broken down in movements to larger centres.

Railroads: But perhaps the greatest influence in the break up of the old community centres established on rivers or road corners has been the railroad. These smaller communities are come more and more to be dependent upon the larger centre, it may be within the county, but more noticeably is it true outside the county. It is the great agency making for transportation and through it the farmer has a connection with the firms and the markets to which he ships his produce and whence he buys goods. It has increased the amount of travel both between centres within the county and with the larger centres outside. It has made possible a decrease in the postage rate, and the amount of letters received and sent, the newspapers, daily and weekly read, have all increased. The regularity of the service has certainly gone a long way from the time when it was carried twice a week on horse back. It is very noticeable the number of people there are who for no apparent reason or purpose hang around the railway stations at train time. There seems to be a craving for contact with the larger world which the coming and going of the train supplies. To them the coming of the train is an important event.



The Champlain and St. Lawrence Junction from St. Guillaume to Stanbridge (narrow gauge) opened for traffic in 1879, was the first railway built in the county. In 1881 this road was widened and track laid with heavier rails to standard gauge. In 1889 it became part of the Canadian Pacific railway system. This railroad was of great benefit to Abbotsford and L'Ange Gardien, both centres in Rouville County, because it offered them connection with Montreal and Sherbrooke through Farnham.

The Grand Trunk Intercolonial railway, an old line, runs through St. Hilaire and connects it up with the markets at Montreal and St. Hyacinthe.

The Delaware and Hudson railway runs from St. Johns to Sorel. It passes in a northerly direction through the villages of Rougemont and St. Angele. This railway was originally of considerable importance to these two villages but now what little trade there is over it is with St. Johns. It is of greatest importance as a through thoroughfare.

The Montreal and Southern Counties railway (electric) opened their line for traffic from Granby to Montreal on April 29, 1916. It passes through all the important towns and villages which are along the Montreal to Sherbrooke highway, and the two run side by side through the county, at least they are never far apart. This is by far the most important railway of any to the County, and is of great convenience. It gives<sup>a</sup> service of three daily passenger

trains each way, and one freight train each way. In the summer season extra trains are run to meet the special needs. It covers a longer distance of electric service than any other line in the Province of Quebec, and carries on the greatest amount of trade of any railway in the County.

### Community Organization and Disorganization

There is a continual process of organization and disorganization going on in the various centres throughout the country. An old community or neighbourhood is broken up and a new one is formed, upon a new basis, physically and mentally. We have seen how early communities were really isolated settlements upon some river or stream. The centre was the store or the parish church. There were other centralizing bodies like the blacksmith shop or perhaps the little log school house, but community centres did not exist then as they do now. The needs of home were produced on the farm, their clothing was made at home, and their social life was obtained in the home or among their neighbours. And so the early community was little more than a large neighbourhood where the people lived together. Within these communities there were certain neighbourhoods where the people had some particular interest in common, it might be family ties, or it might be merely the fact of living together. But the improvement of roads meant the break up of these neighbourhoods and the joining of interests at the larger community centres. And so

to-day as we travel throughout the county we hear such names, as Jackman road, Darcy corner, Papineau and others, which at one time were names for certain neighbourhoods, which are now no longer existent.

The coming of the railroad has made for the break up of certain communities in the trend to centre business on the railways. There is disorganization in the one case but reorganization in another. In Rouville County eight of the largest centres, Richelieu, Marieville, Rougemont, St. Caesare, Abbotsford, L'Ange Gardien, St. Angele and St. Hilaire are on the railroad. And there are only three centres off the railroad line. All three are situated on rivers and are parish centres. St. Jean Baptiste, the only village among them, is five miles North of Marieville. Notre Dame de Bonsecours and St. Mathias find nearest connection with the railroad at St. Hilaire. But not all the members of the community are agreed on this and some may go to Marieville or Richelieu which denotes the divided interests of the Community. The whole trend is toward the railroad centres, and away from the points outside, even though at one time they may have held an important position in the days of the river as a means of communication.

Communities may be studied from their functional basis as well as their physical. Galpin would define a community upon a trade basis, and perhaps in modern community life that is the surest basis to go on. There is no doubt that trade is the motive

behind the movement to larger centres and the change in the condition of the community. But we have in this county our evidence of the power which religion may have making for community stability in the midst of change. People religiously minded whose thoughts are of eternal things rather than temporal will tend to hold close to the old centre of the religious community. That is why St. Jean Baptiste can continue to have any importance at all with the trend generally towards Marievalle.

But the size of the country communities is bound to grow. Goods can be obtained cheaper in the centres, roads are being improved and automobiles are being used more and more. More and more the farmer is becoming dependent upon the business man and the trader for the necessities of life. And so we are bound to see this process go on with increasing amount in the future years. Even now the introduction of the railway has meant an increased amount of trade in cities outside the county altogether, and if the inhabitants choose to do business in other places then the local business man must give up. And so we see this movement throughout from individuality to neighbourliness, then to community life, and smaller communities growing in size with the extension of the trade basis, and the result is the establishment of very large centres of trade like Montreal.



CHAPTER 11

OCCUPATIONAL INTERESTS

## CHAPTER 11

### OCCUPATIONAL INTERESTS

The occupational interests of a people are important forces to condition the social life. The economic factor conditions the standard of living, the amount of leisure time, the type of person engaging in the occupation, and the ideals fostered. In industry there is a selective process at work which directs different types of persons to different jobs. The occupational and economic factor conditions the mental development and recreational life. It determines whether the child shall be sent to school for seven months in the year or for ten, whether the school will be modern and suitably equipped or of tumbled-down sort unfitted for the housing of children. It is this factor determines whether the man shall drive an automobile or an old fashioned buggy. We ask a man what he does, what his occupation is, and by his answer, we know at once the thing which affects him most, what it is that supplies meaning and purpose to his life.

## Pomology

The three mountains of the Monteregian Mountain group, which are in Rouville County, are of particular interest to us in this study because of the suitable condition which they supply for the developement of the apple industry. Indeed it is along the sloping edges of these mountains near their bases that the most of Quebec's apple industry is carried on.

Conditions necessary to successful growing of apples are, protection from the snow, sufficient drainage to carry away the water in thawy weather, a rich loamy soil, gravelly or stony rather than sandy but with a pervious sub-soil, a north-western slope to a hill-side, and protection from the fall and winter winds. These conditions of successful fruit-growing, are all more or less to be found at the base of the mountains in Rouville County. 1.

T.H. Springle, Esq. in a report to the Montreal Horticultural Society about the year 1880 says, "It may, I think, be claimed for the Province of Quebec that the apple has been cultivated there for a longer period than in any other part of North America. Its earliest settlers came from one of the foremost fruit-growing countries of Europe, and they were not slow in giving practical effect to the pomological predilections of their forefathers. The collections of fine fruit, which even at that early date were quite extensive in France, were familiar to many of the learned and zealous men of the religious orders who

subsequently made Canada their home, and who immediately turned their knowledge to good account, by introducing and planting many varieties of apples, pears and plums, long before such varieties were known in many countries of Europe."

Climatic conditions in Quebec are especially suited to the industry, and so fruit-trees may be grown from seeding. But there are certain varieties more hardy and more adapted to the climate than others and so one of the tasks of the fruit-grower has been to weed out the less hardy varieties and give himself to a cultivation of a hardy and healthy stock of trees suited to the climate.

It would be hard to place a definite time when the industry was first introduced to the County of Rouville and carried on to any extent. But we are at least safe in saying that it goes back to the early part of the last century. We know that in 1822 there were orchards of natural fruit at St. Hilaire.

At Abbotsford the southern and western slopes of the Yamaska Mountains are almost wholly given over to the growing of apples and small fruit. Along the eastern side of the Mountains there are some smaller orchards. For many years Abbotsford has taken a prominent place in the fruit industry of the Province. The first bearing orchard (seeding) began bearing fruit in 1812. The first grafted trees were brought from the Spalding nursery, Shefford Mountain in 1810. Grafting was introduced in 1823 by



Samuel Jackman, and budding in August 1846. Commercial nurseries were established in 1857 and thousands of trees were sent out to various sections of the Province.

Various organizations have arisen in connection with the fruit industry. Indeed the industry could only reach its present stage of developement through cooperation in study methods, mutual helps, and marketing.

In 1873 the Montreal Horticultural Society was organized, first as a local society, but later in 1877 as a provincial body. This society included in its membership leading fruit-growers and gardeners from all parts of the Province, and among them leading citizens of Rouville County. Mr. Charles Gibb of Abbotsford is most worthy of mention. This society concerned itself not only with matters referring to fruit but also to flowers and gardening. It was the first really scientific approach made by the fruit-growers to the questions at hand. Reports were heard from different parts of the Province as well as from outside parts upon the success of their work from an experimental standpoint. Professors and authorities on the industry were heard in papers on methods of fruit culture, etc. A fruit committee was organized and reported in 1875 upon the best varieties of fruit as being specially adapted to the country, to climate and soil, for marketing qualities, and for keeping. They had horticultural exhibitions and sent samples to other exhibitions. The work of this society is of special importance to us because

of the very full reports of meetings and investigations which have been left to us in bound form.

In December 1874, the Fruit-Growers Association of Abbotsford was organized. It was the first society of its kind in the Province. Its interest was specially centred in the fruit industry and it included in its scope different parts of the County. The Brome and Shefford County Societies were inspired by this society. A committee was appointed, which issued letters of enquiry, and gathered information from the experience of over one hundred growers in the Province outside Abbotsford, and in 1875 their findings were published in a "Fruit List for the Province of Quebec". In 1876 the Association held its first exhibition in the local cheese factory in the village at which 179 plates of apples were on display besides flowers and vegetables. This collection embraced seventy varieties of apples and seventeen of crabs, besides others locally known and less prized. Twenty-three varieties of grapes, the finest display ever shown in the Province were shown. At first this association had no Government grant of any kind, but was entirely due to the active interest taken in the work by its members, but in 1879 it received its first Government grant of \$50.00 (which several years later was increased to \$100.00), and has continued to hold its annual exhibition until 1921, with the exception of two years when there was no exhibition. This society has done a great deal for the developement of the fruit industry of the Province. If at

its formation there was any local significance, it soon proved its worth to the whole province. Fruit growing came to be studied as a science, and much experimental work with new varieties was undertaken by the members and carried out. And these new varieties when root-grafted were distributed throughout the province.

In 1894 the Pomological and Fruit-Growers Association of the Province of Quebec was organized at Abbotsford in the Methodist Church. The meeting was well attended and a constitution drawn up, and the president elected was an Abbotsford man. Since that time this society has played a very important part in the developement of the fruit industry of the Province. It holds a summer and winter meeting annually in different parts of the Province, when important questions relating to the selection and cultivation of the best varieties of fruits, flowers and vegetables suitable to climate and soil conditions are heard and discussed. An annual report, in French and English is published and distributed to the members, which is of great help to them. At its meetings matters relating to "Selection of location, of varieties, of culture such as pruning and spraying, of harvesting and packing, are discussed and almost reduced to a science". The summer meeting which is generally held during August affords an opportunity for the members to visit the different orchards in the district, and hear demonstration lectures on grafting, pruning, spraying, etc. as well as seeing other orchards. Fruit shows are held from time to

time. During the week of Nov.3,1925,a fruit show was held in the Windsor Hotel,Montreal,at which fruit was shown from all parts of the Province. About 115 prizes went to Rouville County. The Association has given much worthy advice to the Government on matters affecting the fruit industry. It is the fruit-growers agency for expression. In its meetings an opportunity is given every man for free discussion,and the measures passed represent the combined opinions of all fruit-growers.

We may possibly give some consideration of the fruit industry from a cooperative point of view. The Pomological Society is a cooperative body in the sense that it means a sharing of information,discoveries,and ideas,connected with the industry,and it means shared responsibility to raise the grade,that the best market may be obtained. The fact that the fruit-growers have thus learned to work together may be given as a very large reason for their success in the industry. In the Province of Quebec there is no cooperative marketing as in British Columbia. This matter has been discussed from time to time but has always been turned down. Fruit can be sold in carloads,or small truck loads to buyers in Montreal,St.Johns,Sherbrooke,Three Rivers,and Quebec. Twenty-five percent of the population of the Dominion is within easy reach of the grower and ten percent is in Montreal alone. In order to combat the importation of American fruit,which comes into Canada duty free,the Canadian producer seeks to improve the quality and grade.

At the farmers' suggestion fruit inspectors paid by the Dominion Government visit the farmers' orchards and find out the prospects for the year, the attention trees are receiving, and the grade of apples that are produced. Proper grading according to size, shape, colour, and appearance, is important since the farmer seeks to create a permanent market. Proper packing is essential that the apples be not bruised or injured in any way and that they look well. Barrels and hampers have been used but this year boxes also have been introduced to increase the consumption of small buyers. Extensive advertising campaigns are carried out to increase the apple consumption. The value of the apple as a food is taught in the schools, and during apple week posters bearing the slogan "an apple a day keeps the doctor away" are displayed. Meetings of the Society are reported to the newspapers. A committee on advertising works out a program which is paid for by the different members of the society. The fruit shows and demonstrations are good advertising media. The whole idea is to get everybody using fruit as part of their food, and to have the apple in every Canadian home.

Tobacco: In Rouville County tobacco growing is an industry of some importance. It is grown to a certain extent, in small amounts throughout the whole county, but it is along the rivers and streams that it is grown to greatest success. Near St. Caesare it is carried



on most extensively, and has reached its highest developement.

The selection of soil is an important factor in tobacco-growing and decides largely where it shall be grown and who shall carry it on. All soils are not equally suited to the growing of tobacco. Rich and light soils containing a good supply of vegetable matter will yield the best results. Soils deprived of humus, however rich they may be in mineral elements are not suitable. Tobacco suffers from a protracted drought. A deep soil, which retains moisture, can be hilled up, and easily drained, is preferable. The soils of hillsides with gentle slopes, as on river valleys, generally yield excellent results. The best soils are those which contain a sufficient proportion of clay and humus to enable them to retain a good supply of moisture and which are known generally as "loamy soils". Stiff clay soils are the least suitable. The colour of soils influences the colour of the tobacco grown thereon. Light-coloured tobacco is obtained more easily from light-coloured soil.

Although the tobacco remains on the land a comparatively short time (from seventy to one hundred days according to variety) the farmer who takes up the industry must to be successful, give his attention to it for a much greater length of time. The seed beds are made in the early part of April, and from that date until the crop is sold, or is in such condition that it may be kept without risk, say by January or February the following year, the tobacco must receive intelligent and

constant care. There must be such care to obtain a good crop and to prevent its deterioration, and a continuation of such care after the crop is harvested. The delicate nature of the tobacco plant itself is an important factor in the industry.

Great importance must be placed upon land preparation. The soil must be rich and frequently manured. Commercial fertilizers are used with the spring manures and should be ploughed in at last ploughing. Only well decomposed manure is suitable. The soil is ploughed twice in the fall and in the spring.

In view of the smallness of the tobacco seeds, and the need of sheltering the young plants during the first period of their growth, the use of covered seed beds is necessary. Sowing is done in hot, semi-hot or cold beds. In most cases the use of semi-hot beds can scarcely be dispensed with. Plants are set out when three, or three and a half, inches in height. They are set out in the quincunx system where the plants in each row are set to face the open space between the plants in the next row. A mixture of Paris green and bran is set about the plant to protect it against insects. Cultivation is done by a horse cultivator soon after setting out, but to complete the work each plant must be hoed around by hand. Tobacco plants require to be harvested as soon as they are ripe. This is done by cutting the stalks or stripping the leaves. It is taken in special carts to barns where it is

hung up, and doors in the sides opened for ventilation, and tied up in bundles. When it is not soon to be marketed it keeps best when fermented.

The cultivation of tobacco in Canada goes back to the earliest French settlement of the country under the Seigniorial system. Tobacco was one of the first and most important industries developed to any extent by the French habitant. "Many habitants grew their own tobacco and cured it for use." 1. "It was smoked everywhere, and even its malodorous strength did not always deter the women of New France from using it." From that time down to the present tobacco has been an important product of the Province and the industry is confined almost entirely to the French inhabitants. It is an industry for which there is always a market. The amount of tobacco used by people to-day is very great, particularly during this last ten years, and the prices paid for it have gone up quite a bit.

There does not seem to be any association for educational lines along tobacco-growing <sup>in</sup> the county. But there are lecturers from MacDonald and Oka Colleges give lectures from time to time on scientific methods, and some of the younger men go away for education along these lines. At St. Caesare the Yamaska Cooperative Association was founded in 1911, originally as a marketing agency, but now it concerns itself with curing and grading of tobacco, the removing of stems, and the making of cigars. It has to-day a membership of 322, paid-up capital of \$40,639 and a solvency for 1923 of 121,840.

1. Canadian Seigniorial System - Munro.

## Maple Sugar

Canada is the land of the maple and the district included by this county its most favoured home. While in other parts of the Dominion this magnificent tree flourishes, climatic conditions do not everywhere combine to make it useful as well as ornamental. The latter quality it everywhere possesses, tall, usually straight and of splendid foliage. Special weather conditions during the months of March and April however are required for the production of the maple sap, which by the boiling process is converted into the far famed maple sugar. A frost at night and rising temperature of from forty to fifty degrees during the day is the maple sap requirement. This is the weather feature of this country during the latter part of March and the first week or two of April.

The making of maple products is here an industry of some importance, and profit. The number of trees used by the farmer vary from a few to several hundred. In the French country the land is cut out of wood and so there is not much maple sugar, or syrup produced. But near the mountains there are many valuable sugar bushes.

The farmers here are fortunate in their maple sugar season. It comes at a time when other farm operations are not pressing. Winter is passing and spring is at hand. The snow is disappearing and the land is not ready for the plough, harrow, or seed. Here are three or four weeks when the farmer is entirely

free to turn his hand to some special money-making job.

"Sugaring" is the opportunity. There is probably no other time in the year when he can make money so quickly.

The average yield of maple sugar is from two to three pounds to the tree, according to the season. As a general rule a tree is tapped at only one point, but it is not uncommon for a large tree to carry two vessels or even three, which is quite exceptional and not recommended. So great is the demand for maple syrup that many farmers dispose of practically their whole output in this form. If the farmer has the reputation of making a first class article syrup is more profitable than sugar.

Sugar making from the maple, which is confined entirely to this continent had a very early beginning. Before the advent of the white man the Indian had learned to extract and concentrate the sap of the maple tree. Trees were gashed with the tomahawk in slanting direction, and beneath the opening made, was inserted a wooden chip or spout to direct the fluid drop by drop into the receptacle resting on the ground. The sap was caught in a birch bark dish and boiled in earthen kettles. The small quantity of dark, thick syrup thus made was the only sugar available to the Indians, and is stated by early writers to have been highly prized.

For perhaps a century the white man followed very closely the primitive methods of the Indian, save for the substi-

tution of iron or copper kettles for vessels of clay or bark. In the early days before the timber acquired much value the axe continued to be used for tapping the trees. The sap was caught in wooden troughs and conveyed in buckets on the shoulders to a central point to be boiled. Snowshoes were frequently found necessary in gathering the sap. The boiling was done in large iron kettles suspended from a pole in the open woods in a sheltered location. There was no protection from the sun, rain, snow or ashes, falling leaves, moss and bits of bark driven about by the wind. Maple products made thus were strong in flavour, dark in colour, and variable in quantity.

Until about fifty years ago there was little improvement in the methods of sugar makers, but since that time the advance has kept pace with that in other branches of Agriculture, until it has become a more or less highly organized commercial industry. The auger took the place of the axe in tapping, coopered buckets took the place of birch bark "casso" or hewn sap trough, while the kettle gave way to the evaporating pan which has in later years developed into the modern evaporator with corrugated bottom and separate compartments. Not alone for the conservation of the life of the tree, but also for cleanliness in sugar making, the wooden spout has almost disappeared in the most advanced sections, in fact the tendency now is toward the use of metal in every article of equipment with which the sap, syrup, or sugar comes in contact.



Genuine maple products of fine quality have entered the class of luxuries that are called for more and more as people become better off. There are various mixtures put out by the candy maker. These imitations are more injurious to the industry than maple sugar of a poor quality which can always be sold to the confectioner at a price that appears to satisfy the indifferent maker. It is not through the regular commercial channels that the first grades of maple sugar command the highest prices. The private customer is the best outlet for the superior article, of which the wide awake maker seldom has enough to go around. When one has taken the pains to make a first class product, it is worth his while to seek out the best paying customers.

Before the sugar season begins, buyers, some of them local men, others from outside towns, visit owners of sugar bushes and take contracts from the farmers to sell all their maple products to them. There are some farmers who will not contract for syrup but prefer to come later in the season and sell to the buyer, or directly to the city consumer. The buyer advertises in farm papers and gets in touch with merchants and dealers in other parts. One man who has a large trade in maple products showed the writer a book containing the names and addresses and occupations of several hundred former customers. In this book he had also recorded the amount of their trade and the prices obtained from year to year. In this way he is able

to carry on his business without having too much risk from poor organization. His customers are in Montreal, some *in* cities and towns of Ontario, some in United States, and many in the Western Prairie Provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

An association has been organized with headquarters at the Department of Agriculture, Quebec, known as the maple syrup and sugar makers association of Canada. This association replaces the association organized in 1913 under the name of the Pure Maple Sugar and Syrup Cooperative Agricultural Association.

The object of the association is to improve the product and promote sales. Any person may become a member by paying an annual fee of one dollar. It markets goods at little expense, and satisfactory prices are obtained. The association uses a distinctive label which is calculated to guarantee genuineness.

Since 1914 the Quebec Department of Agriculture has carried on systematic instruction in the manufacture of maple sugar and syrup. This work has been carried on by funds supplied by the Dominion Government. For a few years, three to four schools were operated in charge of skilled sugar makers. Owing to small attendance the number of schools was reduced to one. The students assist with the work and receive their board and lodging as well as instruction. Travelling instructors, drawn

from the students of the school, are employed to give practical instruction on sugar-making throughout the Province. Government officials connected with the industry, and dealers in maple tree products, state that the quality of sugar and syrup produced in the Province is year by year improving.

#### AGRICULTURE

Under this head we include the growing of such field crops as wheat, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, corn, flax, hay and vegetables, along with livestock production.

A study of the physical background of Rouville County reveals the fact that, with the exception of a few mountains here and there, the land surface is a level plain. Indeed it is so flat that there has been a considerable problem to drain it so as to be free from water early enough in the spring to sow the seed. To secure drainage, ditching and tileing has been done quite a lot. This helps to carry the water into the various creeks and rivers which cut across the country, and leaves the land suitable for agriculture. But as there is much of the land under water until it is too late in the spring to grow anything but late crops quite a lot of hay and oats are grown. This soil is very fertile and requires little manure or fertilizer and so it is naturally suited to agriculture. For this reason the farmers keep <sup>few</sup> stock of any kind perhaps six or seven cattle, a few pigs and two or three cattle.

Champlain, and the twenty-seven settlers which accompanied him, were the first to try out the fertility of the soil, along the St. Lawrence river for agriculture, and in 1609 he gathered corn, wheat, rye and vegetables in his garden of New France. These farmers were merely transient and did not become attached to the soil they had discovered. But the true pioneer of this most important industry of the Province was Louis Hebert who settled in Quebec in 1617 without any other implement but a spade. The developement of agriculture was slow and continuous and in proportion to the growth of the population.

The Seigneurs were the pioneers of Agriculture in Rouville County though we know that they did not take to agriculture so easily as they did to war. Prof. Munro tells us that there was slow developement in Agriculture here. The land was good but the fur trade offered a livelihood more fascinating to the young Frenchman. But, nevertheless, it was the Seigniorial system of letting the land which settled it, and finally led to the conquering of the forest, and the developement of agricultural life.

The methods of Agriculture were crude as were the implements used, yet the habitants made the land yield good harvests because of its unusual fertility. Wheat was grown almost everywhere, but peas, oats, rye, and barley were also raised, and some adopted the practice of the Indians of growing corn. The fields were

ploughed but once a year, and the work was poorly done. Fertilization was entirely neglected, but it was customary to burn the stubble before the fields went under the plough. Rotation of crops was practically unknown but some land was usually left to be fallow, from time to time. There was little drainage on the farms though they much needed it. Roots and vegetables such as cabbages, pumpkins and melons were grown, and under the stimulus of official encouragement there was the culture of flax and hemp. In no case however was the cultivation carried on with much science, or care. The hay meadows furnished fodder in abundance, and the raising of cattle and horses was an important part of French-Canadian husbandry.

Agriculture in the County has of late years made marked developement along with the other industries, and is now carried on upon a scientific basis. We have seen the development of specialization in industry at various points throughout the County. Physical and climatic conditions here as in other parts decide the farmers occupations. This country, which at one time was an area of mixed farming, with each farmer growing his own supplies and self-sustaining, and each family a community in itself, is now more and more becoming influenced towards specialization, and losing much of its mixed character, and greater interdependence to take the place of the former individualism.

Ploughing, cultivating, and harvesting, is done by the latest machinery and in a scientific manner, where formerly system was lacking in the choice of the land for crops, now it is understood and practiced. The land is manured where necessary, crop rotation is sought after, and an increasing amount of ditching is being done.

There has been a marked increase in the amount of hay, clover, and oats produced in the County of late years. In 1916 there were 1,280 pounds of clover grain produced and in 1922 there were 5,860 pounds. In 1921, according to the Dominion census report, 56,435 acres in hay and forage and 61,914 tons were produced; 22,282 acres in oats and 541,792 bushels were produced. Formerly hay produced in the County was used at home, but increased transportation facilities, and the growth of large cities, have supplied a market for hay, as well as oats, outside the County. During the winter months the hay and straw are pressed and shipped to Montreal, Toronto, British Columbia and to the Southern States of United States. This outside market has tended to lessen the number of stock raised at home. The farmers tell us that the increase in the use of trucks and automobiles is affecting their industry, by lessening the demands, along with the lessening in number of horses.

There is no cooperative marketing, but it is carried on in much the same way as the other specialized industries of the



County, like the fruit industry. Buyers, sent out by large firms like the T. Eaton Company or by some feed company in the city, go about and buy up the produce from the farmer, and relieve him of any responsibility after shipment.

The agricultural societies of the Province are local institutions formed for the purpose of helping agriculture and teaching the principles of rural economics. In a general way these societies study methods of cultivation, of improving livestock and of promoting agricultural development. The societies must number at least 40 members. Their sphere of action may extend to include the whole County.

In Rouville County there is one such society, with membership in 1924 of 358, and the profits derived from its yearly activities amounted to \$645.10. The methods and actions of this society are along various lines. They discuss theoretical and practical questions having to do with agriculture and rural life. They have lectures from outside and inside speakers. They seek to give aid to farmers in the choice and importation of registered stock into the County. They organize competitions and exhibitions from year to year and grant prizes to farmers. The autumn county fair is held each year at Rougemont. Farm produce of every sort, grown in the County, is entered in competition. Other societies like the "Abbotsford Fruit Growers" have given help at various times in the way of making this exhibition more of a success. In no sense can we look upon this

exhibition though as a popular affair. It is a County exhibition and is confined mostly to field crops and live-stock, and produce of a strictly agricultural nature. Hence tobacco-growers, fruit men, or dairy-men do not take a great deal of interest in it. While it is a County affair the interest taken in it is from the side of agriculture in its very strictest sense.

Dairying :

There is quite a large dairy industry carried on throughout this County which is deserving of special mention. According to the 1921 census report there are 10,911 milch cows in the County, which are owned by 1,398 farmers. The total number of farmers for the whole County is 1,825. This report is sufficient to show that dairying of some sort or another is carried on by a very large percentage of the farmers of the County.

On the low flats, commonly known as the French Country, as we have mentioned before, hay and feed is grown extensively. Naturally we would expect to find quite a number of stock. There are certain small stretches of land here and there where bush is still remaining, where drainage has not been carried out, or which is too rough or stony for cultivation, or it may be simply waste land. Anyway this land is of no value to the farmer for agricultural purposes, and so if he would make any use at all of it, he must use it for pasture, and very often it makes good pasture.

The cattle are let run on the pastures in the summer, and in winter they are fed on ensilage made from fodder corn, which is grown extensively for feed. The cattle are mostly of Holstein or Ayrshire breed. The general run of farmers have small herds of five or six cows, or even less and they are mostly grade stock. But there are some large dairy farms near the railroads where the herds amount to twenty or thirty cattle. Some of these are milked during winter and some during summer only. These are generally well bred cattle sired from a registered bull.

Grading and testing of milk is carried on by these larger dairy men. It is tested for butter fat and a chart is kept for each cow covering the amount of milk produced, the butter fat and the revenue derived. In 1920 the total amount of milk produced in the County amounted to 48,590,908 pounds with a valuation of \$1,075,147. The amount of milk sold was 33,566,652 pounds, and there were 6,275 gallons of cream sold, and 275,778 pounds of butter fat sold. There were 22,129 pounds of butter made on the farms and 10,532 of this was sold of the farms.

The farmer finds a market for his dairy products in two ways, within the County and points outside. His market within the County is within the various cheese and butter factories which are to be found. There are eleven creameries, thirteen cheese factories and one factory producing both butter and cheese. The butter factories are run by steam, electric, and gasoline power

but chiefly steam. There are 768 patrons on an average during the year and 6,649 cows and 4,568,740 pounds of milk and 2,285,884 pounds of cream are delivered at these factories. The average price paid the farmer for milk is \$1.28 per hundred pounds and for cream \$10.82 per hundred pounds. The average number of employees in these factories for the year were 22 and the butter produced was worth \$340,407.

In the cheese factories steam power alone is used. There are 469 patrons and 3,022 cows supplying milk. From 8 factories the whey is returned to the patrons pasteurized and from 5 it is not. On an average the farmer received \$1.49 per hundred for his milk. There are on an average 23 employees per year, and the cheese produced is worth \$228,371.

In the factory where both butter and cheese are made, steam and electric power are both in use. There are 55 patrons and 653 cows. The milk is converted into cheese and the cream into butter. This factory operates all the year round with 2 employees.

Government inspectors visit these factories from time to time, to test the milk and cream as to grade and cleanliness, to inspect the factories and the grades of cheese and butter which they produce. In this way the health of the consuming public is protected, and the grades of the products improved.

The direct connection with Montreal, which the Montreal and Southern Counties Railway offers, has meant the establishment of several good sized dairy farms, along the road with high grade stock. The produce from these farms is shipped to the various milk firms in Montreal. The railroad has endeavoured to meet the needs of the farmer by putting on a special milk train. It leaves Granby early in the morning and collects milk and cream cans all the way along the line, stopping at milk stands near to the track, and delivering the milk in Montreal shortly after eight o'clock. All shippers to Montreal are compelled to have their herds tested from time to time by special veterinaries for tuberculosis, and their milk houses and barns must measure up to certain sanitary standards. The barns are generally painted a white colour within. In a few cases milking machines are used but generally the milking is done by hand, and the cows are milked regularly each day, at a given time. The increase in the amount of milk which is being consumed by people in the city each year, is working for improvement in this trade outside the County.

The Montreal milk producers cooperative association was organized in 1919. It contains in its membership those farmers and dairymen who ship their milk to Montreal, with members in other counties besides this one. The price of membership is a nominal fee, but on special occasions members may be called upon to pay extra. The purpose of the association is to protect the interests

of the farmers in their dealings with the milk concerns and consumers in Montreal, and to get people more into the way of drinking milk, which would mean an increased market for the farmer. It was found necessary to form such an association because, previous to this, farmers had been shipping in milk from different parts of the Province and, acting alone he was compelled to accept the poor prices which the milk interests offered. A few years ago the milk men of Montreal sought to cut the price paid to the farmers for their milk. This union called a strike, with the result that they refused to ship their milk to Montreal until the old price was established again and things went on as before. The association has a paid secretary in Montreal to carry out their work of advertising and increasing the market.

#### Small Rural Industries:

There are certain smaller farm industries which though they are not carried on to any considerable extent are nevertheless deserving of special mention.

1. Beekeeping: In a county where fruit-growing is carried on to such an extent as it is in Rouville County, as we would expect, beekeeping is an industry of importance. In the parts where fruit is grown beekeeping is carried on as a secondary industry of necessity. The bees are necessary for the pollination of the blossoms, and the keeping of bees is advised as an



aid to fruit-growing in this way. In fruit districts there is a law against the spraying of trees during the blossoming period lest the spray kill the bees. The fragrance of the apple blossom attracts the bee in search for nectar, and as it travels from blossom to blossom the pollen is carried about and the fruit is fertilized. The honey obtained in such districts is of a very pure quality. In 1920 there were 88 farmers in the County who kept bees, 798 hives, 60,843 pounds of honey and 1,070 pounds of wax produced and a valuation of \$15,305. All the honey is sold individually by the different producers to some merchant or trader in the city, or some private buyer in other parts.

2. Poultry: In certain parts of the County, particularly at the base of some of the mountains there are strips of light sandy soil. This soil is of very little use for anything in the way of farming, or stock raising. But it offers a very suitable condition for poultry raising. The hens require a certain amount of sand and grit both for their feathers and for their crop. They do much better on sandy soil than on soil that is more heavy, so at points near the railroad, like Abbotsford, farms have been set up for egg-producing and chicken raising.

Houses are built for the hens of the most modern and convenient kind, with lights, nests and roosts, all properly arranged. Hens of the best laying types are selected mostly white Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks. Sometimes the eggs are crated and

sold directly to egg dealers in Montreal. But incubators are used quite a lot, and hundreds of chickens are hatched and sold as broilers. At certain times in the summer, as high as 35 cents per pound may be realized for these chickens. They are shipped regularly according to a specified amount each week.

In 1921 there were 1,397 farms in Rouville County with poultry of some sort. There were 94,903 hens, 1,703 turkeys, 925 ducks and 2,678 geese. During that year, the eggs produced amounted to 333,368 dozen with a valuation of \$165,005. There were 185,752 dozen sold and 45,177 chickens raised.

The following table gives us a numerical comparison of the importance of these Occupational Interests:

OCCUPATIONAL INTERESTS NUMERICALLY COMPARED

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Acreage</u>	<u>Number Producing</u>	<u>Amount of Production</u>	<u>Valuation</u>
Fruit					\$ 186,219
Tobacco		1076		1,115,991 lbs	119,436
Maple Products			360,512 trees	38,531 gals. 21,701 lbs.	72,103
syrup					
sugar					
Agriculture		89928			1,878,424
(Hay)		(56435)		61,914 tons	(964,174)
Dairying	1398		10,911 cows		
				48,590,908 lbs.	1,075,147
Beekeeping	88		Honey	60,843 "	15,305
			Wax	1,070 "	
Poultry	1397		eggs	333,368 dz.	165,005

Taken for Dominion Census for 1921

## Control

We can look upon these occupational interests of the County as illustrating various forms of social control. There is control exercised upon those who engage in the industry, from outside sources, through Government service as in the case of inspectors of fruit and dairy farms, or in grants to Agricultural societies. This outside control also is shown in the increasing importance which the scientist, or the trained instructor plays in industrial life. Young men now must attend some school or agricultural college to be trained for ~~their~~ job. And new knowledge is passed on from time to time in public lectures. This means only one thing, increasing dependence upon the scientist.

There is control arising by a cooperative society seeking to develop certain standards and demand such. This is illustrated in the demand for better grades and standards set by the Pomological Society. The formation of the Maple products Cooperative Association was with the same end in view. This control, which comes from within the ranks of the farmers, shows that they are learning to think collectively and along scientific lines.

We have another form of control expressed in terms of rivalry at fruit shows and fairs. It supplies an outlet through which a man's ambition and pride in beating his fellow man may be used to the advantage of the group as a whole. It supplies a

necessary form of release from the monotony of his daily task and gives him pride in his occupation.

And there is the control of practices handed down from the past. People are naturally conservative, especially rural minded people. Their surroundings and their occupations make them that way and they are slow to change. They get a certain amount of pleasure in doing things the same old way. It is a satisfaction to them to tell you how their ancestors did things and they glory in the good old days more or less. All this makes it hard for some people to change their methods of labour and life. It is quite a thing to throw over the old hand spray for the power sprayer or duster to some fruit growers. To give up the old wooden spout and trough for the metal ones was quite an advance for the sugar maker. The same control affects the business methods of many men. Even yet they have not learned to cooperate, to have a system of accounting, or method to their labour. The methods, learned in childhood, handed down from past experience, exercise an enormous control over the individual or group.

Contacts: We may think of peoples occupations in terms of social contacts through trade and economic activity. There are various centres of trade within the County, something like ten in all, mentioned before as community centres. These centres of trade, along with the church, define the boundaries of the various communities, and the direction of travel within the

County. They make for certain community interests and loyalties common to the people of one group apart from the people of another community.

Each one of these centres has a bank, one or two blacksmith shops, a barber shop, a milliner, garage, and gasoline station, several general stores, perhaps a cheese or butter factory, bakery, butcher, possibly doctor, notary or lawyer, church and school. And each one of these businesses and professions presents a cause for a man travelling in that direction at some time or another. All the personal needs and requirements of life are met and satisfied within the community itself, and in that sense each community is a separate entity as apart from every other community. There is little trade between communities but mostly with the larger centres like Montreal, Granby and Sherbrooke. This may be explained because there is little manufacturing within the County, and what there is, is almost wholly shipped to points outside for distribution. Again all the wholesale houses from which supplies are to be obtained are outside the County. The easy connection which the railroads offer has made for increased travel to larger centres with the result that much trading is done in the larger centres that otherwise would be done in the local store.

The industries of this County being specialized are limited to certain parts, which means that the produce is shipped away from the County. This means contact with dealers of large city

firms. So we have the farm products shipped from the County, and the necessary groceries and clothing imported into the County communities. All this makes for independence on the part of one community to another and greater dependence upon the larger community. More and more the scope of inside trade is lessening and that outside increasing. There is the continual exchange of commodity. This all means considerable turn over in money each year. It is this trade factor in the country which inspires much of the effort and struggle of daily life. The underlying forces are those of competition, inspired by a desire to get on in the world, and make a decent living.

CHAPTER 111

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION



## CHAPTER 111

### DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION

Land settlement and the distribution of population throughout the County is an important social factor in County history. We have pointed out different physical forces in the County background, and how various rural industries have been selected out and developed upon the basis which these forces offer. These various industries are to the people so many occupational interests. And it is our purpose in this chapter to show how the physical background, the occupational interests of the people, and the national history have affected the distribution and selection of population within the County.

In our developement of the facts we shall have to call on points of historical importance to bear them out. We must recognize that as well as being a victim of his environmental conditions man is also more or less a creator of his future environment. Circumstances and influences exercised upon the individual or group at some particular time will serve as a cause for some future condition. So herein we shall take account of certain matters of history in so far as they affect the process of County developement.

Name:           Rouville County gets its name from Sieur Hertel de Rouville an officer, at old Fort Pontchartrain (later known as

Fort Chambly) on the west bank of the Richelieu river, on Chambly Basin. From here, Hertel de Rouville planned and carried out the dreadful massacres of Haverhill, Massachusetts, and Deerfield, New Hampshire. In the midwinter of 1703-1704, he with two hundred French, and one hundred and fifty Indians, marched two hundred miles on snow shoes to the little town of Deerfield. They laid it in ashes, and of its inhabitants, forty-seven bedabbled the snow with their blood, and one hundred and twelve were dragged with inhuman torture through the wintry woods to Canada. Again in 1708 De Rouville not yet weary of slaughter, fell at daybreak on the sleeping hamlet of Haverhill. The tragedy of Deerfield was repeated. For his part in these massacres Hertel de Rouville was decorated by the French King, and given the large seigniory on the east side of the Richelieu, which still bears his name and makes up the North-Western portion of Rouville County.

Population : As an ecological study might lead us to expect a very large percentage of the Dominion population is situated in the St. Lawrence Lowlands region. Indeed this is perhaps the most densely populated part of the Dominion, as well as being one of the wealthiest. Among the counties of the Lowlands, Rouville stands high in the number of inhabitants per acre. The 1921 census report gives 2,361,199 as the population of Quebec. Of that number the County of Rouville with a total area of 152,472 acres has a population amounting to 13,656 persons. There are 4,341, or

nearly 1/3 of the population live in incorporated towns and villages. There is one town, Marieville, the County seat with a population of 1,748, and there are five incorporated villages and a number not incorporated. A comparison of the population for the various census takings gives us 13,407 in 1901; 13,131 in 1911 and 13,656 in 1921. The male population of the County is 6,852, and the female 6,804. A classification of the population of Rouville County according to their principal racial origins gives us the following:

English	394	Scandinavian	2
Irish	65	Other Europeans	3
Scotch	88	Chinese	1
Welsh	2	Syrian	7
Belgian	5	Other Asiatics	4
German	7	French	13,067
Italian	3	Unspecified	5

Polish 3

This classification is sufficient to show that the population is overwhelmingly French in character. All other races taken together only amount to 589, while the French population totals 13,067. With the exception of a few settlements of English at Abbotsford and Rougemont it is essentially a French County and its history is that of French Canada.

## Land Settlement

A study of land settlement in the province of Quebec must begin, with a recognition at the outset of two distinctly different programs and methods of land settlement and land tenure. Our greatest interest in this study is centred around the early French schemes for land settlement and feudal tenure, for to French rule we owe much of the pioneer settlement of this County. It was they who spied out the land, penetrated the forest, blazed the trails, brought under subjection hostile Indian tribes and set up, first in isolated parts but later on a broader scale the early beginnings of home and civilized life in this County and the Province as a whole.

But British rule meant an influx of British settlers, with new schemes of land settlement and tenure, new religions, language and customs. And we find in many parts throughout the Province small settlements of British born, springing up among the larger French settlements. This was true in the County of Rouville where English settlements were made at Abbotsford and Rougemont. In many cases these settlements have been hemmed in, and cramped and finally closed out altogether by the larger and more rapidly increasing French population. Nevertheless they have played a part in affecting a change in the system of land tenure from feudal to free-hold, which is of importance in the study of Rouville County.

A. French Settlement - Seigniories: The County of Rouville is not to be included among the so-called Eastern Townships, as is

sometimes done. But it is included in territory which made three old French seigniories of the district of Montreal. These are the seigniories Rouville, Monnoir and St. Hyacinthe, And the settlement of this County dates back to early French colonization of the old regime.

For the early French settlers of Canada, the Richelieu river was a gateway to the South, which demanded adequate protection from marauding Indians and the attack of an English army. We know that General Haveland's army followed this route in the conquering of Canada. It was also of value as a trade route. So along its banks at suitable places forts were established. The most important of these were Sorel, Chambly, and St. Johns.

In 1667 the banks of the Richelieu were settled with soldiers from the Carignan regiment, according to a plan of the intendent in Canada at the time. Generous tracts of land were given to such officers in the regiment as might consent to become seigneurs in the colony, and these officers in turn were to induce non-commissioned officers and men, by liberal sub-grants of land, to remain as permanent settlers in Canada. The hope of the intendent in this was that the disbanded soldiers, once settled on the land, would be quite as serviceable to the colony as any detachment of regular troops, even more so since they might be counted upon to show zeal in defense which characterizes men who fight for protection of their homes. The title-deeds of land given, pledged

owners, and their sons over sixteen years of age, to be trained in military service. The establishment of the Carignans gave an impetus to the seigneurial system and to agriculture, though the military officers, did not as a rule make successful pioneers.

Among the military seigniories established on the Richelieu was the Chambly seigniory, granted to Captain Philippe de Chambly of the Carignan regiment. He grew tired of the country and went to France. The seigniory passed through many romantic channels into the hands of Francois Hertel, and he became progenitor of the family Hertel de Chambly. They were raiders whose duty it was to govern at Fort Chambly. Hertel de Rouville from whom the County derived its name was a son of this family.

Rouville Seigniory was granted by Messrs. de Frontenac and de Champigny in the name of the French King to J.B. Hertel de Rouville on the 19th of January, 1694, in recognition of his exploits in the New England Massacres. The nature of the *tenure* was, (*titre de fief et seigneurie, haute, moyenne et basse justice, chasse, peche, traite avec les savages*), a deed of fief and lordship, of high medium and low justice, of hunting, fishing, and trade with the Indians. Reservations and conditions of granters were fealty and homage, and other dues and services according to the *Coutume de Paris*. These seigneurs task was to guard the Southern gateway. They were good soldiers but poor

pioneers, and their seigneurial properties did not undergo much improvement. Frequently the King granted them money from his privy purse. In various border raids the Hertels played a conspicuous part. New England hated them bitterly and with good reason for they streaked her borders with blood at every opportunity.

Farther down the Richelieu river on its East side and on the South-West corner of Rouville County is another military seigniory. The seigniory Monnoir of the district of Montreal was granted by Messrs. de Vaudreuil and Randot to Sieur de Ramesay, March 25, 1708, as a, "titre de fief et seigneurie, haute moyenne et basse justice, chasse, peche, traite avec les sauvages". The terms were to give lands for roads, fealty and homage and other dues and services according to the Coutume de Paris, to preserve oak trees, to keep and cause to be kept, feu et lieu to settle property after the war, and the reservation of land for forts. This seigniory was augmented in 1739 and agreement "conceder a leur tenancier avec cens et rentes accoutumes". Hon. J. R. Rolland the owner in 1842 offered the last fealty.

As we mentioned before the second largest and most important river affecting this County is the Yamaska. It is important for much the same reason as the Richelieu in that it played an important part in early land settlement. The St. Hyacinthe seigniory, on this river, was originally granted in



September 23, 1748, and confirmed April 30, 1749, by Messrs. le Marquis de Galissonniere and Bigot in the name of the French King, to Sieur de Vaudreuil. The nature of the tenure was as with the others, "a titre de fief et seigneurie, haute moyenne et basse justice, chasse, peche, traite avec les sauvages". Reservations and conditions of granters were fealty and homage, and other dues and services, according to Coutume de Paris. Preservation of oak trees, disclosure of mines, feu et lieu on pain of reunion. Reservation of ground for forts, Representatives in 1842 at the time of last fealty and break up of seigniorial system were Marie Delorme and Hon. Jean Dessaulles.

In the granting of lands in large tracts to certain seigneurs, it was expected that he would do all in his power to open it up, and induce settlers to take it up and work it. The land along the Richelieu was given out in fief to different soldiers of the Carignan regiment. Shiploads of girls and young women were brought out and married to these settlers as many as thirty at a time. In spite of this wholesale system of marriages they seem to have worked fairly well. A tax was placed upon any man who had failed to marry at a certain age, and a bonus was given a couple who had a certain number of children. The Norman French immigrants seem to have been more suited to Canadian climates than that of their own country and they increased very rapidly with very large families.

The houses of the settlers were sometimes built of stone, but more often of rough-hewn timber. Long rambling structures they were, as a rule, little more than a dozen feet in height, with two or three spacious rooms on the floor below and low attic bedrooms above. The houses were built always close to the highway with no lawn or garden in front of them and no trees to shade them. The living room had a fireplace. The furniture was rough-hewn and much of it had been brought from France. The daily food of the habitant was grown on the farm. Pea soup was the chief dish. Tea was seldom used as it was too expensive, but many of them drank wine even to excess which came from abroad.

As we have mentioned before the first settlement of the land was made along the rivers. They gave an opportunity to travel and carry on transportation, they offered defense, and were the source of a fish supply. The grants were generally one hundred arpents, or French acres, in size, having a frontage on the river and running back about a mile and a half. According to the custom of Paris, lands were divided equally among all the children. Each demanded a frontage on the river, and so in time the country was divided into small strips some not over one hundred feet wide. The result of this was the front was tilled and crop rotation went on while the back end ran waste. An ordinance was passed to prevent this, by prohibiting the building of a house on land less than 288 feet wide, but in time this

ordinance was disobeyed. The agriculture of the country developed slowly, the land was good but the fur trade had greater attraction to the French settler. And in spite of laws forbidding it the young men often left the farm and took to the woods as Coeur de Bois. This must be said for the Coeur de Bois they were the first among the white men to penetrate the forest, which held unknown dangers and hardships. Where there was no road they blazed a trail and opened the way for later land settlement in the large tracts back from the river frontage.

For his land the settler was asked to make no initial payment when he chose his land but he had to pay certain small charges annually and perform certain services. The cens et rentes were small annual money payments. Or the rentes might be in terms of produce. The amount of the rentes was stipulated by the seigneur when he made a grant of land, and usually called for annual payments in grain or poultry. When money was scarce the seigneurs in some cases seem to have insisted upon money instead of grain or poultry. When farms changed hands the lods et ventes, a payment of one-twelfth of its estimated value, was paid to the seigneur. This seldom happened. The Canadian seigneur had the rights to build mills, and all his dependents were obliged to bring their grain there to be made into flour. There were seven or eight of these mills near Chambly on the Richelieu, and some throughout the country run by windmills. They were usually

,built of stone and might be used as protection from Indian attacks. The Seigneur had a right to a toll of one-fourteenth but it was never regarded as a burden. They were crude clumsy affairs,which often did little more than crack the grain. The seigneur could extract corvee,or up to six days labour per year from the habitant. But as he had to feed him on those days,he was often let off. The cens et rentes were paid on Nov.11, St.Martin's day. It became a day for celebration when the habitants came together to gossip. In 1854 an Act of Parliament abolished the feudal system and provided for holding of land in free-hold tenure. The seigneur was to have his land in free-hold and the habitant had the right to pay his annual quit-rent in a lump sum to the seigneur. The amount of annual rental to be paid by each tenant was to depend in a general way upon the nature and amount of the dues and services which the seigneur had been entitled to receive prior to 1854. The habitants were expected to take advantage to compound their annual quit-rents by paying a lump sum. They did not however and today most of the old encensive holdings remain subject to the yearly rente which the habitant pays each November to the agent of the seigneur at some appointed place. There are quite a few of the later English settlers however have taken advantage of this act to commute their seigneurial tax,while there are others who hold their land under the old system.1.

The Canadian habitants regarded the arrangement under  
1. The Canadian Seigneurial System - Munro.

which they held their land in a friendly way. Throughout the old regime there is no evidence that they regarded their relation to the seigneur as in any sense humiliating or oppressive. They rendered obeisance to the seigneur and certain maypole ceremonies were provided May 1st in his honour at the manor house. They all appeared, the young decked out in bright attire, and performed many dances. When the festival was ended the seigneur was expected to show his appreciation by providing refreshments. The seigneur had the privilege of hunting with hound and falcon over the fields of his tenants. He had the right to one fish in eleven caught by the habitants. In 1709 it was provided by colonial ordinance that the seigneur should have a special pew in the parish church. In all religious processions the seigneur was to have precedence over all other laymen of the parish, taking his place immediately behind the Cure. At the sacraments and special fetes he was to be given similar rank, and on his decease he was to have the honour of interment beneath the church floor. The seigneur was as a rule a highly respected member of the Community and his dependents accorded him deference. In Rouville County much of the old feeling of the habitant for the seigneur is gone. He has little more significance to them than a land-owner to whom they pay taxes. Whatever contacts they may have with the people are through agents and very few of the people ever even saw the seigneur. The present seigneur at St. Hyacinthe, Hon. Mr. Dessaulles is a Dominion Senator

and Mr. Campbell the present owner of Rouville Seignior is a prominent real estate man in Montreal.

B. English Settlements: <sup>The</sup> Only English settlements of any importance made in the County were, Abbotsford and Rougemont. At Abbotsford among the earliest English-speaking settlers there were the names of Frazer, Fowler, Blinn, Collins, Comstock, Bullock, O'Dwyer, Fisk, Whitney, Darrell, Eaton, Evans, Buzzell and others. At Rougemont the Standishes have long been a very prominent family. Probably most of these people were of United Empire Loyalist stock who came to Canada after the close of the Revolutionary War of 1777, with others coming later about 1800 from Scotland and England.

Both settlements are near the foot of the Rougemont and Yamaska Mountains. Probably this land was higher, more easily cleared and drained than the surrounding country, which reason is a sufficient one to lead them to choose such a place to settle. We know that throughout the County at large, indeed throughout the Province as a whole, when settlement took place back from the river front it was always on some high soil.

Rougemont receives its name from the mountain which presents a reddish hue, and so the early French spoke of it as Rougemont, or red mountain. Abbotsford was not named from Sir Walter Scott's home, as some might think, but received its name in 1830 from the union of the names of its older families, Abbott, and Bradford. Archdeacon Mountain (afterwards bishop of Quebec), in a

manuscript report written in 1829, stated that he made the suggestion to Rev. Mr. Abbott that as there was a fordable river near the settlement (the Catfish river), Abbotsford, would be a suitable name. Previous to that it was known as "Yamaska Mountains" and was settled by English-speaking families early in the nineteenth century.

Great privations were endured by the early settlers in subduing the forest. The trees were cut and burnt and the ashes converted into potash or salts, which were sold or exchanged for necessities of life. As soon as a home was established it was stocked with a yoke of oxen, cows and sheep. Oxen were used for farm work in place of horses. Wool from the sheep and home grown flax was carded or prepared, spun and woven into cloth for family use. And the garments were all made at home. Boots and shoes for male and female were made by the local shoemaker on his annual visit to each family. In the earliest days no machinery was in use. Grain was harvested with the sickle, or scythe cradle, bound and threshed with a flail, and winnowed by the hand-fan. Horse power threshing machines were in use about 1846; mowing machines and wheel horse-rakes were in use about 1852. Much of the work, like raising of log or frame barns or husking corn, or apple paring, was done cooperatively in what was known as bees. Some of these farmers took the opportunity to release themselves from feudal tenure when the opportunity came but a great number accepted the feudal system and still pay the feudal tax as do the French.

### Population Selection:

We have given some attention to the history and process by which the land of the County was settled and the population distributed about. It all came about in a gradual way and along lines in harmony with the pressures which physical and historical forces exerted upon the peoples' movement. But there have been certain lines along which the County has been developed and a certain amount of population selection, which we must point out, because of the social significance which they bear.

There are various ways in which a population may be selected out. It may be according to race, or occupation, or type, or it may be along cultural lines, or it is possible that all four influences work together to bring certain groups together.

Selection according to race is not a very important factor to be considered in this County since it is so overwhelmingly French. But as we pointed out before there are two English settlements which continue to keep their identity more or less. There is racial pride, though perhaps there is not so much antagonism to-day as there once was, since they have learned the art of refraining from interfering in the affairs of the other people. Race is still an important factor though in keeping people apart, and there is comparatively little intermarriage or social contact between the two peoples. Though the French are



continuing to advance and ~~hem~~ in the English people, they keep together and resist to the last all forces making for their ejection from the County. But it would seem to be for them a losing fight, for these English settlements are becoming fewer in numbers, and sooner or later it would seem as if they must go.

Another important factor to be considered in population selection is that of occupation. Perhaps this factor more than any other has served to keep the English settlements at Abbotsford and Rougemont. Here along with St. Hilaire, we have the great apple industry. The English took this industry from the early French settlers of the country and developed it to a very high standard. They settled this land in the first place as we suggested for its dryness. But they saw the possibilities of fruit and now when they have orchards and fine homes they do not intend to go away if they can help it. Another factor which enters into this matter of English interest in the fruit industry is one of type. It would seem that a certain special type of man one with a strong business capacity and some education is necessary to direct this work. The same is true of the dairy industry, while tobacco growing and agriculture may be carried on by men with a purely farm knowledge. In our study of types of farmers and fruit growers, etc. we must recognize that there are differences in temperament which affect a man's choice of occupation.

The occupation itself is a selective factor since at one place there is fruit growing, at another tobacco growing and at another agriculture. These different occupations determine the interests of the people, and where the people shall live who wish to engage in them, and what people shall belong to the different groups.

Specialization in industry has made for special training of the men who take part in the work. In our large factories today each man has some job to perform, for which he is specially suited. This is equally true to-day in rural occupations. This County presents an example of specialization in industry seldom found elsewhere. Each industry has been developed to the point of being a science and demands specially trained men to carry it on, at least to direct the work. Hence some are agriculturists, others tobacco growers, or dairymen or fruit growers. And each knows that job better than any other. This is illustrated by the words of a certain man who said, "You know I am by training an Agriculturist and a stock-man, but the day of those industries is past in these parts, but my son is trained for the fruit industry, which has now become important here. He understands that work, likes it and makes a success of it where he would fail in any other line of work". This conclusion which we must reach from our study of population selection is that less and less race is to be a factor of importance distinguishing the peoples of the county but that occupation, temperament and training are to play an increasing part in dividing up the County into various occupational groupings with their own set of interests, temperamental traits, and culture patterns.

CHAPTER 1V

SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

## CHAPTER IV

### SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The various ecological forces, which we have sought to take account of, all serve a part in colouring the thought and life of the individual. Forces of communication and trade condition the contacts of the people; physical forces determine the occupational interests; and communication, industry, and history each play a part in land settlement and population selection. The contacts of the people, the occupational interests, and physical proximity serve to create certain modes, and customs which we have later formalized as institutions. These institutions are a very important part of our study since they give definition to the trends in society life.

"An institution according to Sumner, consists of a concept and a structure. The concept defines the purpose, interest or function of the institution. The structure embodies the idea of the institution, and furnishes the instrumentalities through which the idea is put into action. Structure here is not physical but belongs to a category in which custom produces continuity, coherence, and consistency so that the word structure may properly be applied to the fabric of relations and prescribed positions with which functions are permanently connected. Just as every individual member of a community participates in the process by which custom and public opinion are made, so also he participates in the creation of the structure which when it embodies a definite social function we call an institution".<sup>1</sup>

1. Park and Burgess - Introduction to the Science of Sociology  
page 797.

In our study we must recognize that there are certain ideals and sets of values which have grown up in the minds of the people, and these they endeavor to realize and retain in Social Institutions. We shall study the institutions of Rouville County under four main heads.

- (1) Family and Home Life
- (2) Educational, Including Schools, Libraries and Newspapers.
- (3) Religion
- (4) Recreations and Amusements.

THE FAMILY: It is one of the fundamental institutions.

It is the chief of the primary groups where the most intimate social life takes place. It has been suggested that humanity itself grew up out of the family. It is certainly the most important rural institution. There are economic, social and sentimental bonds making for unity in the rural family, which are no longer present in the same degree in the urban family.

In Rouville County we find that among the French Canadians the families are quite large, it being not uncommon for one set of parents to have from twelve to fifteen children. The size of the English families is not nearly so great. The French Canadians are very healthy and by temperament are suited to Canadian climate and soil. For this reason it has been found from the time of earliest French settlement that procreation takes place more rapidly here than in France, and among the French than among the English. In this County the French child is an economic asset more so than among the English. All take part in the work about the farm, and each one from the youngest to the oldest has a part to play in support of the home. When they get old enough they may find a job with some neighbour, either whole or part time, so earning money to support the family unit.

The size of the families makes for a certain number of poor families, where the living is on a lower level than the average standard. The average standard of living among the French is lower than among the English anyway. The furnishings of the

home vary from extreme meagreness and poverty to conditions of wealth and ease. The statement has been made that "to furnish a French home it is considered sufficient by some to have a table, a few chairs, a stove, a few beds and, some pictures on the walls". This may be putting it rather badly but there is no doubt that many French homes are poorly furnished. On the other hand there are conditions of ease and comfort found here, particularly in English homes, that are seldom found in rural parts. The farmers have running water, central heating, telephones, radios, victrolas, electric lighting and beautiful furniture. It is probably safe to say that fifty percent of the homes of the County have the telephone and a very small percentage, not more than ten, have these other conveniences.

The rural family tends to be more self-supporting and independent than the urban family. Isolation is a factor of some importance in rural family life. We have in previous chapters shown how there is a change taking place in this respect and isolation is being broken down which results in greater economic dependence being brought about. Now the groceries, the clothing, the machinery and tools of labour are bought either from the village storekeeper or from some mail order house. Manufactured products of farm industry, such as tobacco, sugar, and woollen goods are among these goods purchased. All this denotes a change from the old days of rural family life when these things were produced at home. Still the rural family is less dependent economically

upon the rest of the community than the urban family. Simple food is generally eaten and that home grown. The meat is generally a pig, cow, or sheep raised, fattened and killed either by the farmer himself or some neighbour near at hand. Potatoes, peas and other vegetables are grown in the farmers garden. Pea soup is the favourite dish of the French Canadian. The English also grow their own food but as their occupation is of a specialized nature, having to do with fruit and vegetables, they have a greater variety of dishes than the French.

The occupational life of the people is an important factor conditioning family life. We have seen how the occupations of the people in this County are various and highly specialized. The nature of these occupations does leave a mark on the family organization. Naturally the educational factor and the mental outlook are affected. The job one works at develops and trains certain muscles of the body and adapts one to the use of special kinds of machinery. The fruit grower has apple picking and sorting down to a fine point of training, and knows how to use the sprayer; while the tobacco raiser knows how to use the planter; and the dairyman to milk with greatest speed and cleanliness. We have referred previously to the effect of the peoples occupation upon their way of thinking. The source of a person's livelihood is his primary interest in life, and other interests will have importance only in so far as they relate themselves to this primary interest. The family organization is affected in another way,



by the occupation upon which it is dependent. The occupation affects the family privacy and unity. In the fruit districts, at picking season, outside help is necessary to perform the work. In some cases it is necessary that the fruit grower take the help into his home to board, if not to sleep. And in many cases they are established about the grounds, eating their lunches, at meal time. On the other hand, fruit picking is one of the occupations upon which, certain small farmers in the French Country, and the sons and daughters in large families, depend from year to year for financial gain. They come from their homes in the morning and return again at night, bringing their lunch along with them. This is an influence tending to break up the home unity of the rural family and it creates a certain unsettled population which while acknowledging blood ties and relationship of sentiment nevertheless is broken up by the force of economic demands. So on the one hand there is the influence of the outsiders upon the home, and on the other the break up of the home through economic pressure.

Religion is an important factor making for family stability. The French population of this County is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a sacrament which cannot be broken. There are laws of separation and of annulments, but it is impossible to get a divorce in the Province, and as a good Catholic it is considered sinful to seek one. Again religion has a very strong hold on the personal

life of every member of the family. Shortly after birth the child goes through the sacrament of baptism which takes it under the care of the Church, as well as reminding the parents of their common duty to the child. And so in the Catholic homes perhaps more than in the Protestant homes there is a religious unity brought about in a manner such as this. Religious sanction is an important factor making for family stability, and divorce is an uncommon thing while it is true that there are several cases of desertion, largely due to the influence of outside occupations, temperamental differences, drunkenness and cruelty.

Health is an important factor to be considered in dealing with family stability and a normal home life. Where there is sickness the daily routine of work is affected; the one sick is a burden and responsibility to the rest of the family, and there is extra financial obligations to be taken care of, as well as emotional strain and worry. The health standards of the English are higher than of the French, though in neither case are they as high as they might be. The people need a lot of educating along health lines, on the proper use of fresh air, sanitation and hygiene. Many French people seem to think that if they open a door or window to let a little fresh air in that they will get their death of cold. Consequently French and sometimes English live in very poorly ventilated homes.

The annual report for the Provincial Bureau of

Health for the year 1924-1925 gives the total number of deaths for the year in Rouville County at 150. The rate of births over deaths in the health district of which Rouville County is a part amounted to 9% of the population. There were in all during the year 396 children born in the County. The rate of infant mortality per 1000 compared shows the following: In 1909 there were 90; 1915 had 105 and 1924 there were 98. A comparison of deaths from Tuberculosis gives the following; In 1909 there were 13; in 1915 there were 20 and in 1924 there were 12. A comparison of the number of cases of insanity gives the patients in hospitals: 1900 : 23 ; 1910 : 28; 1920: 26 ; 1925: 26. There is no record of any contagious disease reported to the Provincial Bureau of Health from this County for the year 1924 and there is only one case of typhoid reported from the County. Rouville County belongs to the St. Hyacinthe Health district and for purposes of supervision and education is divided into 16 health municipalities. A provincial enactment demanding vaccination and re-vaccination for small-pox has been accepted and made a by-law of the County.

The question which naturally comes to us as we study the farmer's family and home life is "In what way are his outlook, his thought and esthetic tastes affected?". Along what lines do they develop and find expression.

One of the first essentials in establishing a home, as well as <sup>for</sup> family stability is the proper physical background.

Where the farmer in most cases is ahead of the urban dweller in this respect, is the fact that he owns his own home. Ownership is very important in creating a sentiment and then the nearness to the land which is allowed him is an influence which creates a settled and contented mind conducive to home life. Until recent years wood has been the cheapest material obtainable for building purposes. Consequently the majority of the houses are of frame construction, though there are a few built of stone and brick. They are all more or less attractive from the outside, and bear a coat of paint and are protected by neat fences along the road. In the French Country the houses are poorer, smaller, and appear less attractive than near the village and community centres. Abbotsford and Rougemont, the English settlements of the County both for natural beauty and for beauty of farms, homes and grounds present a picture which can seldom be surpassed elsewhere in the province. The fruit industry and large orchards of these parts help to make the districts beautiful; but apart from that the farmers and settlers here take a special interest in the appearance of their place. There are several stone fences and attractive wooden and wire fences. The spacious lawns and grounds are carefully laid out and well kept. Flower gardens contain some rare and beautiful plants. When a farmer wishes to lay out or improve his grounds he gets advice from specialists on the subject, indeed he may have a man from MacDonald College plan his grounds for him.

There was a time when the farmer was spoken of as the "hay-seed" with unpolished manners and homespun clothing. Those days are fast passing away. To-day we find in rural parts a natural refinement and culture which would only be spoiled by the imposing of city manners and social standards. Roughness of manner is being worn away by increased contact with society, and the noble qualities of the heart are now finding expression in ways possible of appreciation. The farmer's wife is by nature and training hospitable and sympathetic and none, even though it be the neediest beggar is turned from the door unheard. The farmer of to-day takes pride in his dress and personal appearance. Where once he had only his daily clothing and his Sunday suit for church, now he has two or three suits of clothing of varying quality and of fairly stylish cut, bought from some tailor shop or mail order house. Many of the girls have been trained in the art of sewing at school. They, having sent away for patterns, make for themselves dresses stylish and attractive. The mail order houses also play a great part in providing ladies' wear. It is very noticeable how the French maidens seem to take to flashy colours. Now, the younger Frenchman takes pride in a smart driver and attractive buggy, and the more prosperous farmer has his automobile.

These changes in farm home life are bound to make a change in the outlook of the young people, and for greater content. They grow up on the farm, their minds turn to farm work,

they have been trained for it and have come to feel that it is their work. In the past there has been much discontent, which improvement in home surroundings and conveniences, better status in the country, and increased opportunity for self-expression and wish fulfilment, is doing much to break down.

## Education

The school institutionalizes the motive of inculcation. It is the mechanism by which the social heredity is passed on to the new generation. It is a specialization out from the home and the church. The length of the period of childhood is tied up with this school process. When education was a part of the home training or even had a religious background it was spontaneous and intimate. But when it became part of a separate institution then education became formal and artificial. And it is not always an easy matter for the rural child to grasp the significance of lessons which have a basis wholly outside his experience, indeed which may be taken from a city background. There is always this problem to be faced in rural education, both in the limitations of the text books and courses of study, and in the rural knowledge and training of the teachers.

When we come to study the educational system of Quebec Province we are faced at the outset with a problem peculiar to this Province alone, in the double system of Protestant and Catholic schools. As we travel throughout the Province we will discover parts where there are only Protestant schools, while in other parts there are only Catholic schools. But in many districts as in the English districts of Rouville County, Catholics and Protestants carry on side by side, with schools sometimes not far apart.

The influences at work to make such a system of education are perhaps two-fold. In the first place there is the matter of language and racial differences. While it is true that in the County of our study, many of the English settlers can speak French, indeed the most of them can, it is not so often that the French can speak English. The language of the Catholic schools is French while in most cases the language of instruction in the Protestant schools is English. In Rouville County we have one exception to this where the language of the Protestant school at Marieville is French. But we may take language as one of the chief barriers to common public school education.

Racial pride may, possibly, be cited as one of the causes working to keep up separate schools even under trying circumstances. For the English to see their schools closed up even locally, there is a very painful reaction. And all the old family pride and sentiment rebels against becoming a part of the school system of the majority which, they regard to a large extent as inferior. The Frenchman has his racial pride also. And since they are the oldest settlers of the Province and have the greatest numbers they naturally feel that any educational system not their own has little place in the Province. Indeed in the reports for education in the Province the Protestant schools are spoken of as those where dissension has taken place.

But religion is the most important factor making for



two systems of education and distinguishing them from one another, as their names would indicate. In Quebec, more than in any other Province, the schools and training in religion are closely knit together. In the Catholic schools, teachers of religion give considerable attention to instruction in the Catechism, creeds and prayers of their church. Very often it is the parish priest sets the school examinations and grades the children. This is in harmony with the whole principle under which the Catholic Church works; that education along secular lines can never be properly treated without taking into account religion and the authority of the church. And the power of the Catholic faith, as they would acknowledge themselves, is the early training given the children in the primary and elementary schools. The result is we have a scholastic system of education taken over from the middle ages, to be used in the present day, and which subjects the authority of science and human experience to the authority of church doctrines, and traditions.

It is also true, that in the Protestant schools of this Province there is more training in religion than in any of the other provinces. We would expect this since the schools are organized along religious lines. Courses of study are given throughout the year on certain passages of scripture and in some cases on the creeds of the church. The teacher may interest the children in Bible stories, or the Protestant minister in the district may come from time to time to hear the children on scriptures and set

examinations. The schools are opened each day with the Lord's Prayer. In the training in religion the Protestant schools are hindered in a way which does not affect the Catholic schools. According to the present way of reckoning all those who are not Catholics are Protestants, and their children must go to the Protestant schools. The result is that Jews and Unbelievers, whose children attend the Protestant schools are not inclined to favour the instruction in religion which is offered them.

In this Province there is no compulsory school attendance law, and so the percentage of school attendance is lower than, say, in the Province of Ontario. In 1922 the aggregate of school attendance amounted in Ontario to 87.13 % in the Public Schools, while in the Quebec schools the attendance aggregate amounted to 78.11% of the census population from 5 - 18 years. The children in Quebec Province have a great handicap under the present system in getting to school. Very often they are several miles from school and in not a few cases the Protestant child has to leave home altogether in order to obtain an education.

The 1922-23 report for primary schools gives the population of a school age, from five to eighteen years in the case of Catholics as 4,051 boys and girls. For Protestant children the population is given as 101. Practically all the Protestant children of school age attend school and 78% of the

Catholic children. The registration according to course was in the Catholic schools; elementary 2530, model 333, and academic 95. In the Protestant schools there was a total registration of 93 in the elementary grades. Others finish their education outside the County, concerning whom a full record cannot be given. The registration according to language was French 3491 and English 88, and according to religion Catholic 3566 and Protestant 94.

The County is organized for educational purposes into school municipalities with in some cases five and in others three trustees, depending upon the number of children and schools under supervision. These municipalities may in a few cases have a natural area related to the settlement and development of the County into various communities, but generally they have been formed by purely mathematical means with consideration being given chiefly to the amount of taxes and the number of children in need of education.

In the County of Rouville there are sixteen school municipalities, in five of which dissent has taken place, so that there are twenty-one school corporations. The annual report from these school corporations for the year 1924-25 gives 76 Catholic and 5 Protestant schools where primary education is given. The Catholic schools are found everywhere throughout the County, the Protestant schools are found at Abbotsford, Rougemont, Richelieu, St. Hilaire and Marieville. The first four of

these give education in English while in the last one French is the language of instruction.

The Catholic schools of Rouville County contain 95 class rooms. Of this number 6 have less than 100 cu.ft. of air per pupil, 23 have less than 150 cu.ft and more than 100, and 66 have over 150 cu.ft of air space. There are 383 maps in these schools and 68 libraries, 74 schools have an attendance register, a visitors register and a time table. In 47 schools French alone is the language of instruction, and in 27 both French and English is taught. There are five Protestant school houses in the County. One has from 100-150 cu.ft. of air per pupil and four have over 150 cu.ft. There are 36 maps, 5 attendance registers, visitors registers, and time tables. All teach in both French and English.

There are 100 teachers in the Catholic schools. There are 29 teachers with elementary diplomas, 38 with model certificates, 10 academy certificates and 2 with no certificate at all. There are 21 brothers and nuns teaching at Marieville, Richelieu, St. Cassare, St. Hilaire, and St. Jean Baptiste. The average salary of Catholic teachers is around \$350., ranging from \$250. to \$550. the salary paid the brothers. There are five Protestant teachers, 3 elementary, 1 model and 1 with a permit. The average salary is \$550, the teacher with a permit gets \$450. and the elementary teacher at Richelieu receives \$700.

The 1923-24 report gives 5 superior schools for

academic education in the County. Two of these are for boys, one for girls and two mixed. And all of them are Catholic schools. In addition to these schools there are 8 elementary schools in the County which take a part of the work of the superior schools. There are 996 pupils registered in the superior schools and 573 pupils in the elementary schools registered in the superior course. There are in the superior schools 7 lay teachers with diplomas and a large number of religious teachers. As we have mentioned before the Protestant children take their higher education outside the County in neighbouring academies. There are others who take up commercial work, nursing, and many take courses in agriculture at the colleges throughout the province.

The rate of taxation is from 28 mills to 1 cent on the dollar. Marieville and St. Hilaire have the highest rate 1 cent, while St. Jean Baptiste and Notre Dame de Bonsecours have the lowest rate at 28 and 30 mills respectively.

Among the Protestant schools there have been some cases of consolidation. This has been made necessary at Abbotsford where the English population has been steadily decreasing with the encroachment of the French. The Parish was formerly divided into three school districts; school district number 1 was on the North road, district number 2 was on the East road on the South side of the mountain and district number 3 was on Jackman road and was at one time full, but as the present time not an

English speaking family is left in that part. Now all the children which would go to school number 2 are collected and drawn in a covered wagon to and from school number 1. In this way one teacher has to carry on the work which formerly it took three teachers to do. This is the third school house in this district and is in very good condition. The Government upon the recommendation of the inspector gives certain grants of money to aid schools, and Abbotsford has been among those receiving a Government grant from time to time.

As far as the writer has been able to find out there is little evidence that the schools serve a place of any importance as community centres. The schools seem to be so closely linked up with the religion of the County that, as we might expect, the church and not the school serves as the community centre. There are a few occasions throughout the year at school openings and closings when the parents of the children may by invitation come together at the school house to hear their children recite and entertain in a concert. Upon those occasions the success of the teacher's work is publicly reckoned with and she receives whatever congratulations the parents feel she deserves.

The teachers because of their position as leaders and trainers of the young minds have a place of some prestige outside of school hours. The child is interested in keeping her favour for the good effect it may have upon him, and because if the teacher happens to be of the right sort he

makes her a sort of heroine in his mind. The problem in this respect is that many teachers lack the proper understanding of the child nature and the sympathy necessary to make the contribution as social and moral leader they might. The teachers of the primary schools are overwhelmingly female which is a bad thing for the boy since he lacks the leadership in games and play life which a young man can supply and his nature craves. It is a cause for worry that this leadership is lacking to boys and girls in rural parts.

Mr. J. Eug. Lamarre, inspector, reporting for the Catholic schools which he visited in this County during the year 1921-22 says, " I am satisfied with the progress made in the schools of my district during the year which has just closed. The teachers displayed all the zeal and devotedness required by this noble calling. One must grant, however, that the majority of them are not sufficiently remunerated. There remains much to be done before they receive a becoming salary. There are still in some of the schools which I visit teachers who receive only \$225. a year. The school municipalities have to go a long way in raising salaries before they are entitled to grants made for the payment of minimum salaries. This is why they are not able to find qualified teachers, and have to open their schools in October, or November. Every year young girls quit the teaching profession wherein they were successful to engage in other and more remunerated work. We thus lose the benefit

of their talents and experience. The rate payer is the chief obstacle to the increase of salaries. He wants good schools but is against paying sufficient salary to retain the services of a good teacher". Again speaking of the school libraries he says, " I think that the volumes we distribute every year had better remain the property of the school. We would thus have a means of organizing in each district a library, composed exclusively of Canadian books, of developing in the child a taste for reading and of increasing his literary and historic knowledge. The volumes would be companions for "Enseignement primaire" which the authorities have to have bound and would be useful for the teachers. They would read these books of which they would have the guardianship and which they could not procure elsewhere without great cost".

Rev'd Ernest M. Taylor whose territory as inspector of Protestant schools includes Rouville County, reports for the year 1921-22, "The salaries of teachers have again advanced so that the average salary paid to female teachers has been \$468. The prevailing price per month paid to teachers holding diplomas has been \$60.00 (sixty dollars). The schools generally operate for only eight months in the year. Several boards have lengthened the school term to nine months. Each teacher is properly qualified and the schools are well equipped. The average percentage of daily attendance has slightly increased being about 73%. Where con-



solidation has taken place ( as at Abbotsford) and the pupils are conveyed at public expense, the average daily attendance is very high".

Reading : Among the French inhabitants of the County there is a considerable amount of illiteracy. There are a number of people who even in our day are unable much more than to write their own name. But the mass of the people are getting some education to-day and so are able to read. The newspapers are being subscribed for and read more and more by both French and English. The papers with the greatest circulation among the French of the County are La Presse, Le Canada, La Patrie, and Le Courrier de St. Hyacinthe, the local paper. Among the English papers read are, The Montreal Daily Star, The Montreal Gazette, The Sherbrooke Record, The Granby Leader-Mail and The St. Johns News. The last two are local papers and are published weekly. By means of the newspaper the outlook of the people is being broadened, they are being linked up with the thought and opinion of the day on public matters and they are led to think upon them and form an opinion of their own. They are no longer able to think in local terms only but in terms of the whole nation, whether it be a matter of politics, morals, or religion.

There is an increase in the amount of reading of what we might call popular literature . This increase is both

in the numbers engaging in the pastime and in the amount read by them. In at least fifty percent of the English homes, and a smaller percentage of French homes, we find good sized libraries stacked with books of various sorts, books of travel, theology, history and popular fiction. There is a habit of lending books among the neighbours which makes it possible for them to read a wide range of books at the minimum cost price. Magazines of different sorts are subscribed for. There are magazines related to the occupations of the people, The Farmers Advocate, The Country Gentleman, and The Fruit Growers Journal. There are magazines of travel like the National Geographic; and popular magazines, McLeans, The Woman's Home Companion, The Ladies' Home Journal, and The Youth's Companion. An interest in reading of this sort is a good sign since it helps to get the people interested in other things besides themselves and helps to stimulate their imagination.

Perhaps one cause for this increase in the amount of popular reading is the increased attention which the schools are giving towards the training of the child to read and select good literature. As we have mentioned before there are several school libraries in the County. There are also two public libraries in the County, one at Richelieu and the other at St. Hilaire. The total number of volumes in both is 1109, and reviews and newspapers number 369. There could be quite an increase in the number of public libraries throughout the County, though the lack is partially covered in the case of the more well-to-do by private libraries.

## Religion

A people's religion is an important factor to be considered in a social study. Religion is the emotionalizing of the ends and aims of life. In it the people's ideals, theories of life and wishes find expression. Religion is an attitude towards life, since it treats the world as friendly, and believes that somehow the aims and ends of man are cared for. It is one of the strongest forces for control which society contains. Such teachings as the love of God, the fear of Hell, and the hope of Heaven give sanction to morals and standards of conduct. The scope of religious influence enters into every field of human life and action.

Seldom shall we find, elsewhere, a religious system with greater influence over the lives of the people than the Catholic religion has in Quebec. We know that nowhere else in the world has the Roman Catholic Church the power which she has in Quebec. This power is not only exercised in a spiritual and idealistic sense but also in matters temporal and provincial.

There are various explanations for this authority which the church exercises. There is the authority which comes with age, reverence for a long established institution like the Roman Catholic Church. The fact that she has remained for so long a time is to some a sign of special authority and divine sanction. The Catholic religion undoubtedly does make for peace of mind to the devout worshipper. The power of imagery and the priestly ab-

solution are important factors in giving peace.

But the thing which has given the Roman Catholic Church her hold upon the French life of Quebec is the part which she has played in the history of New France from earliest times. When efforts towards colonization were put forward the Church gave her sanction and support to such efforts at once. The Seigneurs often had little interest in the settlement of the lands but the priests did whatever they were able to foster it, and often aided in selecting colonists. Their aim was to keep the people on the land once they were settled, where they could supervise their religious and moral life.

In some cases a parish and seigniory covered the same area, though a populous seigniory might contain several parishes. Until parish churches were built the religious services were often held at the seigneur's house, and not infrequently it was there that the Cure made his home. Often the Cure and the Seigneur became staunch allies and had great power in the community. In some cases the Seigneur gave land and money for the erection of churches, while smaller churches were built by days of corvee of the inhabitants. By an ordinance of 1699 it was made clear that where the Seigneur built a church he was to have the right of patronage, or presentation of the priest, but where this was not so the bishop made appointment. This relationship between the Cure and the Seigneur gave the former considerable authority and influence in civil affairs.

The fact that the civil law of the Province renders the church financially independent supports her authority. The Catholics of the Province have to pay a tithe to the upkeep of the Church. At first they had to give one-thirteenth of all the grain of the Province, and a decree passed by the sovereign council in 1663 made this obligatory upon all the inhabitants of New France. The rate was reduced to the present rate, one-twenty-sixth. Down to the end of the French regime these tithes seldom served to pay the priests salary, though it was a mere pittance. In assessing and collecting the Seigneur, and the priest often made a practice of working together and the inhabitants paid one when they paid the other. The British Government gave its sanction to this method of support for the Church and so we still find it in force in Quebec, though not in any other Province of Canada.

There are ten Roman Catholic Churches in the County of Rouville. These are Richelieu, Marieville, Rougemont, St. Caesare, Abbotsford, L'Ange Gardien, St. Angele, St. Mathias, St. Hilaire, and St. Jean Baptiste. These churches are all large brick, or stone, structures. They are built in a very imposing fashion, with high towering spires, and images carved or built in the front of the building. The church has always an attractive site, and the grounds are very beautiful, spacious, and well kept up, with high maples and evergreen trees and green lawns. The finest house in the parish is generally the dwelling of the priest, which is near

to the Church.

The interior of the churches are generally well seated and decorated with beautiful carvings and images representing the different saints and apostles. Candles are kept burning at points throughout the church. Everything is present to appeal to human imagination. On Sunday morning throughout the country the sound of the church bell may be heard announcing the hour of worship. And crowds of people may be seen passing along the road, either on foot, or with horse and buggy, on their way to worship. The service is of a formal and ritualistic nature. All worship is finished by one o'clock on Sunday.

The religious leader of the Catholic community is the parish priest, and he is a man of very great importance. He is the mediator acting between the people and God in worship. He makes vocal and articulate the experiences, ideas and longings of the worshipping group. He is their confessor and the one upon whom they depend for absolution from sin. He is their advisor in trouble and their friend in need. By meeting the people in their homes he keeps alive their religion in the midst of the routine tasks of daily life. He symbolizes in a living way the authority of the church, and thus is essential to the life of all who would find consolation in the fold of the Church. He appeals to their religious faith and zeal, and he threatens with punishment all who disobey the voice of the Church spoken through him.

The religion of the Catholic community leaves its mark on all the other institutions of the community. We have seen how religious sanctions make for stability in the home and family life, making impossible divorce and linking up every member of the family from birth with the Church. The future happiness of the departed friend is dependent upon the prayers and masses offered up by the priest in his behalf, for which the relatives must pay a stated sum. The education of the Province is carried on along religious lines and under the supervision of the Church. In this Province we have many public holidays not found in other Provinces, because of the influence of the religion and the church which set them apart as days having special religious significance. Religion has even played a part in the organization of the County for purposes of administration, since we have the parish taken as the unit of local rural Government. Much of the social life is carried on under church auspices. Every phase of French life shows the mark of religion.

Generally speaking there are two broad classes among the Catholics to-day. There are among the common people those who are simple-minded in their faith and devout in their worship, while on the other hand there are those who are inclined to be more critical and to question what is told them by the Church. They are more liberal minded than their brothers. More and more a cleavage is taking place between the devoutly religious and the nominal Catholic.

The attitude of the Catholic towards other religions in the community may possibly be described in the words of one of their number, who writing in *Le Courrier de St. Hyacinthe*, December 11, 1925, says in comment upon the statement of an Anglican clergyman, in the County some years ago, that the Anglican and Catholic are the two best churches, "As if our Saviour had not founded one church, as if the divine teacher did not reprove these divisions in his bosom, as if he who had called himself the Truth was to see with the same eye those who repeat, if I do not see I shall not believe, those who after the manner of Peter, You are the Christ, the Son of the Living Good, You have the words of Eternal Life. Moreover since you say it we believe it. He who rejects the teaching of Christ, who nourishes a doubt on even one of his words ceases to be a disciple".

Throughout the Province the coming of English settlers, mostly of Protestant faith meant the introduction of a new element into Quebec's religious life. Small and simple churches were established for Protestant worship, and exceptions had to be made in the law, by which the Roman Catholic Church had the right to collect tithes, for no Protestant wished to pay to the support of the Roman Catholic Church.

These churches were, many of them, built by community endeavour and supported then, as they are now, by subscriptions from their members and adherents. Often these Protestant communities were established in the centre of French districts. This meant a



break in the Catholic community and a new element of independence in religious thought, which has since affected the relationship of many Catholics to their Church.

In Rouville County there are only two English speaking centres of any importance, Rougemont and Abbotsford. There are four Protestant churches in the County. In connection with the Anglican parish there are two churches, St. Paul's at Abbotsford and St. Michels at Rougemont. There is at Abbotsford a church of the United Church of Canada, and at Marieville a French Baptist Church.

It is probable that about 1800 the English settlements were made at Yamaska and Rougemont Mountains. But it was not until 1822 that any Protestant church was built at Yamaska. It is possible and probable that there were Protestant missionaries in the settlement previous to that time, but up to the present we have no documents to prove it. Charles Collins and Cotton Fisk gave a piece of land measuring 3 arpents and 18 perches whereon the Church of England was built. This was the mother church of all other churches of the same denomination at Rougemont, Milton, Granby and Farnham.

It was a memorable occasion for the Protestants of the district when this church was opened, and the rite of baptism performed upon several children of the district. Previous to this, children had died without baptism and burials were made without the presence of a minister of religion. The Anglicans first

designated this St. Paul's Church at Yamaska Mountain, but later it became known as St. Paul de Abbotsford.

At the present time this church property includes, the church itself, with the cemetery to the south of it along the road. There is the rectory north of the church, and farther along past the rectory we find the Parish hall, also connected with the church.

The church is an attractive frame building with a tower and a bell on the front, and has a new coat of paint on the outside. The grounds are well kept in the summer time. The interior of the church is equally attractive though rather dark. The seating and furniture are all modern. The holy table, chairs and pulpit are of beautiful design and made of native oak. These, with the pipe organ, brasses on the walls and stained glass windows were given as memorials. There is considerable endowment on this church property which helps to keep it up. In connection with this parish there is also an attractive frame church at Rougemont. It is the only Protestant church in the settlement. The minister of this parish lives at Abbotsford and every Sunday during the year he travels either by train or by automobile to Rougemont where he conducts the worship. The preaching is along inspirational lines.

In connection with these churches there are Sunday schools, attended by the young people of the church but very few old people. Here the children are taught the catechism and the

scripture lessons. The Women's Auxiliary and the Women's Missionary Society are organizations of the women of the church for the purpose of fostering the work of the church locally and abroad.

A Methodist Church was built at Abbotsford Village at a date unknown, but it was burned down about 1840. A few years after this church was burned, a Congregational church was built nearly opposite the Anglican Church. Rev. Richard Miles gave the land for the church and cemetery and conducted the services there for a number of years. After he left Abbotsford it was used for an academy for three years and then deeded over to the Methodists, who have since used it for public worship. On June 11, 1925, it became the property of the United Church of Canada.

This is an attractive looking little colonial style church. To the side and back of it is the cemetery and some distance to one side is the church shed. A stone fence gives an attractive appearance to the front of the property. There is a tower and a bell. In the interior the decoration is not very good but the seats are cushioned and there is an open pulpit. The membership of this church is about thirty-five, and the congregation runs from a few people in winter to between fifty and sixty in the summer time. The services are conducted by a student pastor, who comes out from college in the winter time, and resides in the district during the summer. The preaching

tends to be of an evangelistic and inspirational nature.

There is a Sunday school held every Sunday morning after church service. The lessons for the day are read and discussed, and the children are given special instruction in the Bible. There is also a branch of the Women's Missionary Society here. This is a very live organization which meets once a month at the homes of the different members. The women discuss matters of missionary and social interest both at home and abroad, and they work out schemes to aid in the work of missionary societies and social agencies.

While in Protestantism we find different sects carrying on side by side, when we attempt to analyse their differences we find them so small that it cannot be attempted here. But between the exercise of the Protestant and Catholic religions there are differences which we can speak of easily. The fundamental idea back of Protestantism is freedom of thought and belief, and the right to worship in the way one wishes. This has made for denominationalism but it has also made for sincerity and independence in religious expression. In the Protestant church worship is a simple matter less ritualistic and more evangelistic than in the Catholic church. The most important consideration in a Protestant leader generally is "Can he preach?", while the Catholic leader is an advocate. The one is a prophet while the other is a priest. It means a fundamental difference in church organization. In the Catholic church considerable attention is given to symbolism

and acts in worship. The church government and services is almost entirely in the hands of a permanent priestly class. In the Protestant Church the layman has most to say, and the government and even the services themselves tend to be of a democratic character. We have seen how the Catholic Church still controls every phase of the Catholic community life. This is less so in the Protestant community. While the influence of the religion is deep and real, the organizations of school, home, social and recreational life all tend to be along separate lines and apart from the church's domination.

It would be impossible for us to discuss the particular religious beliefs of the different people in the County, any more than we have done generally. But we can group them together and give their numbers according to each group. According to the last Canadian census report the principal religions of the inhabitants of the County are as follows:

Adventists	10	Lutherans	3
Anglicans	299	Methodists	66
Baptists	136	Presbyterians	51
Congregationalists	6	Roman Catholics	13,030
Eastern Religions	1	Protestants	47
Greek Church	2	Unspecified	5

## Social Life : Recreations and Amusements

The Recreational and Social life of a community is an important factor in determining the trend of its development. The nature of the contacts and interplay among the people determine the community mind and opinion. The purpose in organizing recreations, where necessary, is to create a community mind. There is a spontaneous release for activities, of sentiments which are not being expressed in our work life. Where we have the recreational life organized we have the doing together of that which gives joy in the doing.

There are some who find temporary release for their pent up emotions through stimulants, so we find that in practically every community centre throughout the County there is a hotel. The owner has recognized this need of people and he abuses it to his own commercial advantage. While in theory drunkenness is a thing not allowed, seldom does the hotel-keeper refuse to sell the liquors to make people drunk. Hundreds of dollars are given into the hands of the hotel-keeper by those who cannot afford to pay, and many families suffer because the head is a slave to the hotel-keeper. Release of this kind is not so refreshing and enduring as play or art.

Social life in the country tends to be more intimate than in the city, but it is not so intimate to-day as it once was when there were barn raisings, bees, etc. and the work itself presented a social side all its own. Social life and amusements are

not lacking among the French inhabitants which settle the County. They are by nature gregarious and like to be in the company of one another. Prof. Munro tells us that in the early French settlements the families went from house to house, during the winter season, exchanging hospitalities which the church viewed as worldliness. They had pleasure-loving propensities and could make light of difficulties. They were complacent and had inordinate self-esteem, and were not rough or boorish in demeanour.

These informal contacts of social life, of which Prof. Munro makes mention in the early French community, are still a very important part of French life. The country store, the post-office, and the railroad station are the chief meeting places at the community centres. Here all the local news is discussed and community opinion is formed. Any great happening in the community whether it be a wedding, a death, or a case of murder, is in these collections of the inhabitants discussed either in bantering tone, or with hushed and abated breath as the case may be.

There are opportunities for social contact and cooperation in certain occupations of the inhabitants. While there is not the old community spirit which once expressed itself in barn raisings, corn huskings and paring bees, nevertheless it is impossible for man to work alone and succeed. There are jobs which he can perform only with the help of his fellow, and

so cooperation is necessary. During the fruit-picking season gangs of harvesters are collected both from inside and outside the communities. Hundreds of labourers are employed in this way. Road gangs and construction crews offer opportunities for contacts of the same sort.

The French women are as socially inclined as the men. The farm homes are all situated near together, along the main roads. The women visit one another during the day, giving and receiving advice on methods of cooking, canning and home management, and exchanging confidences of a personal nature. They have strong feelings and are capable of expressing sympathy for their neighbours in their problems.

There are social events of a more formal nature held at various times. During the long winter evenings card parties, dances and social events of various kinds are held in the homes. The Frenchman is a lover of music and he finds release in singing and dancing. He is by nature a gambler, and card parties and raffles are common among them. In connection with nearly every church there is a church hall wherein are held the various social events and amusements of the French religious community. These include card parties, dances, raffles, plays and pageants. It is the social centre of the community where all the events which are not of a strictly religious nature take place, but which are carried on under the supervision and control of the church.



9 The English communities in the County are smaller and fewer in number, and so it may be possible for us to give a more concrete description of their social life. What we have said generally of the French community holds true with them also. In connection with each Protestant community there is a hall where social events such as dances, operatics, conventions, lectures, socials and Christmas trees are held. Many pleasant hours have been spent at social gatherings of this sort. For several years operatics such as "The Mikado" and "The Chimes of Normandy" were put on by local talent at Abbotsford, and played with success in surrounding towns. Cooperative societies such as Pomological Society, and Fruit-growers Association meet here. The Christmas tree held each year is a great occasion for the children. Every child in the community receives a present of some sort and the neighbours exchange gifts generally. It is the children's night of entertainment and young and old do their best to sing their songs and say their pieces with the greatest success.

Visitation among the women, and sometimes the men, of the community is common. The churches have their various societies such as Women's Missionary Societies and Ladies' Auxiliary, which meet in the homes each month. At Abbotsford during the summer months the women of the community come together in a physical culture club where exercises are taken to music.

Picnics are held during the summer time. Sometimes

they are held in some bush or grove within the County, while on other occasions the people go to more favoured grounds outside the County. These are great occasions for release in games and amusements. Young and old come together and take part in the enjoyment. Football, baseball, quoits, swimming, jumping, and racing are indulged in. At meal time all gather in groups under the trees and eat their food sitting on the ground, exchanging jokes and good natured banter. At the close of the day all pile into their automobiles or hay cart and return home, tired out but with a feeling of peace and content in their heart.

A very attractive social event is the holding of a corn-roast beside some river or stream. Logs are piled high in tepee fashion and set on fire. Cob-corn and marshmallows are roasted and apples eaten around the blazing fire. Many superstitions come to light and weird tales are told under the influence of the surrounding darkness and the glare of the light. Generally the evening is brought to a close by a dance in a nearby farmhouse.

During the sugar-making season sugaring-off is a social event which affords rare enjoyment. There is the trip to the woods under the influence of spring and the camp fire, and the drinking of sap and syrup from a wooden spoon. There is about it all a romantic touch which appeals greatly to the youth of the community.

Rouville County has only one theatre at Marieville.

It is a small but attractive enough little place. The pictures shown tend to be wholesome enough and serve a place for education and amusement. The prices are within the reach of any who might particularly care to attend, ranging around 40 or 50 cents. But theatre-going is not, generally speaking, a favourite pastime of rural people. Often the type of picture shown has an urban setting and makes little appeal to the rural mind, and the proprietor endeavours to select pictures most suitable. There is comparative freedom of action among rural people and they have plenty of other things to attract their attention and are not compelled as in the city to go to a theatre to find a place to spend the time. Country people are a distance from community centres and cannot be depended upon to attend with sufficient regularity to make the business pay, consequently only a place as large as Marieville can afford one.

Play is an important influence upon the lives of the people. It solves many problems for young and old. There seems to be an idea in the minds of many rural people that time spent in play is wasted. Consequently we have unrest, discontent and delinquency. One of the ways by which concerted action is obtained in the community is by play. In it people learn to cooperate and work together. It educates the boys and girls in the rules of the game, and it gives them health by developing the finer muscles of the body and saving them from

becoming stale and discontented. It keeps their minds alert and their thoughts wholesome and clean.

Among the English people tennis is the most popular game, and for the French croquet has the greatest appeal. Quoits are played by both English and French. Baseball and football are played. But the games are poorly organized among the boys and girls in rural districts.

The rule of the Catholic Church which allows that Sunday afternoon be taken as a holiday, has made for a certain amount of commercialized recreation and amusements being held on that day. League games of baseball are held in some of the villages, and they collect from outlying districts to watch the play and shout for their team. One Sunday afternoon in the month, during the summer season, horse races are held at Marieville. There is much money spent in betting and drinking, and generally there is an air of hilarity and merriment.

We may say that the distinguishing feature of rural social and recreational life, is its comparative lack of organization and dependence upon the initiative of individuals and groups. As we have said before it is a cause for regret, that such a lack of leadership in social and recreational life exists among the young in the Country communities. The schools are not supplying this leadership because the majority of our teachers in the rural schools today are women who cannot supply the leadership which youth demands. Those young men in the community who might

possibly have the qualities fitting them for such a place  
~~are~~ very often the young men, who find good positions in the  
city and leave the country. The time must come, when attention  
will be given to this need by either the church or school au-  
thorities, and specially trained leaders be paid to organize  
the play and recreational life of country boys and girls.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

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### CONCLUSION

In this chapter it remains for us to make our summary and conclusions. Our study has been general and perhaps in some places, for lack of information, incomplete. So many factors have entered in which deserve attention in a social study of this sort that it is practically impossible to consider them all and do them equal justice. But we have been able to discover and relate a few of the main forces at work in the community and we are now in a position to make predictions.

We have seen how community organization is affected by various ecological factors such as geology, geography, occupations and the lines of communication which they create. There are human forces at work which have expressed themselves in history, social organization and institutional life, but which are based upon the ecology and the original nature of the people. Mountains, rivers and soil composition and formation, have determined the occupations, the land settlement, and the selection of population. Racial inheritance and temperament, as between French and English, has along with these other things made for difference in morals, ideals, religious sentiments and beliefs, and standards of living.

When we begin to make predictions it is well

for us at the outset to recognize the change in community life which is taking place. The increase in facilities for travel is making and is bound to make more and more for the break up of the old closed, self-supporting, and self-contained community and for increased participation in the larger life of the country as a whole. This is true not only in trade, but equally so in politics, education, and religion. It must mean a larger outlook on life and a greater sympathy for those in other communities, than has been the case in the past.

Specialization in industry has made necessary special training of the men who take part in the work. In our large factories to-day each man has his job to perform for which he is specially suited. This is true equally so in rural occupations to-day. This County presents an example of industrial specialization seldom found elsewhere. Each industry has been developed to the point of becoming a science, and specially trained men are necessary to carry it on, at least to direct the work. This is illustrated in the words of a certain farmer who said, "You know I am by training an agriculturist and a stock man, but the day of those things is finished in this part. But my son is trained for the fruit industry which is now the important thing here. He understands that work, likes the occupation, and makes a success of it where he would fail in another line". We are bound to see more and



more, specialization upon certain industries in different communities. This will make for a distinctive type of person in the different communities, fitted for the work of that community. These distinctive qualities will be brought about partly by selection according to temperament, and partly by adaptation and training.

There are certain temperamental and social characteristics of the French inhabitants which deserve mention here. They are trusting and make friends quickly. They are easily roused to fight but are warm hearted and tender when left alone. The wish for peace and security is very strong in them. A French Canadian once said to the writer, "Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise'. We believe that is true". How far he overstretched the sentiment of the French people, it is impossible to say here. But there is no doubt a feeling on the part of many that education and travel destroy their peace of mind and hence their happiness. And there is some grounds for such a feeling.

We have this same feeling expressed in another way. In November 1925 a cruel murder was perpetrated at Rouge-mont upon a highly respected citizen of the village and his wife, and to the present no clue to the murderer has been found. The respect in which the victims were held, the cruelty of the murder, and the mystery which still surrounds the crime, have in each case served to break down the sense of security and

peace of mind of the inhabitants, and where confidence and trust once reigned, now there is distrust and fear. The mayor reported to the newspapers to the effect, that a reign of terror existed since the murder, doors were double locked and lights glowed all night. He goes on to say that the reputation of the place is being ruined by rumours, and that only by finding the real murderer can the confidence of the people be restored.

The church has always endeavoured to foster this spirit of simplicity, peace and quiet. The church and school must learn to adapt themselves to new circumstances, for slowly but surely, whether they will it or not the people are getting about and seeing things, they are learning to read and to think for themselves, and are fast becoming a part of the new age which fosters anything but quiet contentment and simplicity of life. We cannot say what the mind of the people is to be in the future. But a proper exercise of the facilities which home, church, school, and recreations offer will ensure their mental, moral, and spiritual safety and bring about the new order with least resistance, and happiest results.

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