The bibliography presents 275 citations (some with annotations) dealing with Mexican Americans in a migrant labor setting. Dates of the bibliographic entries range from 1928 to 1967. Materials are grouped under 9 subject categories. These include cultural characteristics, education, employment, health, migrant farm labor, minorities (minority groups in America), social change and adjustment, social welfare, and youth. Within each subject category materials are presented alphabetically under two classifications: (1) books, and (2) articles, reports, proceedings, and theses. (TL)
BIBLIOGRAPHY

THE MEXICAN AMERICAN
IN THE MIGRANT LABOR SETTING

By

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I. Cultural Characteristics

Books


Edmundson, Munro. Los Manitos. New Orleans: Middle American Research Institute, Tulane University, 1957.
   A study of the values of the Spanish-speaking people in New Mexico.

   A generalized survey of the social and economic problems of the Latin population.

   An expose of injustices suffered by Mexican-Americans.

   Includes medical belief section.

   An analysis of conflicting cultural attitudes toward disease with recommendations for implementing public health attitudes toward disease with programs in Hidalgo County, Texas.


   The study describes the process by which the Mexican-American and Anglo-American ethnic groups have adapted to each other over the course of time. Particular attention is given to intergroup relations in the small city of New Lots, which from its very inception has been split into two clearly demarcated, socially and culturally distinctive neighborhoods facing one another across the railroad tracks.
The manner in which the "chicanos" of today understand the nature of their social environment and the traditional techniques they use in coping with that environment are discussed by the author in chapters dealing with family life, peer groups, political behavior, participation in formal organizations, and attitudes toward the cause and treatment of illness.

Sanchez, George. Forgotten People. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1940.


Articles, reports, proceedings, and theses.


Stereotypes of the Anglo and self-images were obtained from 280 U.S.-born and Mexican-born MA college students and community residents of East Los Angeles and San Gabriel, California. Fifty MA's were asked
to free associate on what they felt constituted the personality, appearance, and physical features, mannerisms, family and religious life, intelligence, educational experience, SES, ambitions and activities of the Anglo-American Mexican American populations. The words which appeared in at least 10% of the students free associations were presented to 200 community residents (selected from random from city directories) who were asked either to agree or disagree with each of the words. In order to guarantee that the Mexican American public would spontaneously think of these words, thus demonstrating that they were in fact the popularly held stereotypes and self-images, a group of 30 community residents, randomly selected, gave their free associations. The students and the community residents agreed on the same stereotypes and self-images. Significantly more foreign-born students (who had recently come to the Spanish-speaking ghetto from Mexico) held favorable stereotypes and self-images than did native-born s's (who had lived in the same Spanish-speaking ghetto all their lives). Findings were attributed to the difference in the group's definition of their present situation as influenced by whether they employed the SE condition of the Anglo or their prior SE condition as a standard of evaluation.


Many Mexicans in the U.S. are a folk people with a common body of tradition shaping the lives of each generation. 45 families were selected (15 in each of the three generations) in a Mexican parish. Interviews and 7 years of observation served to create validity in observations. The 1st generation has an age span of 51-76 years; 2nd, 26-50 years; and the 3rd, under 26 yrs. Changes in 4 areas are detailed: 1) Family roles-1st generation (largely born in Mexico) show adherence to traditions, disapproval of change, 2nd generation shows conflict (some rebellion from wife who objects to strong M dominance 2nd generation showed some conflict also in 2) courtship and marriage (chaperonage after engagement, ambivalence on sex education of children). This generation also sees 3) education as the way to raise the status of the people, but it differs little from the 1st generation in religious practices (also little change in recreational or soc life). 4) Folk medicine is evidenced in all generations, but some scientific medicine is accepted by 2nd (vaccinations, med person vs. midwife at births). 3rd generation desires smaller families, more education and social opportunities, resistance to domination by parents. Pre-marital counseling was desired but none received it. "Anglo" dating and marriage are considered disloyal by all. Most conflict of desires was found in 3rd generation. Acculturation is slow with retarding factors, such as residential isolation and easy access to Mexico.


This bulletin is useful to persons interested in migratory agricultural laborers. It concentrates on the presentation of data, with little attempt at interpretation. Data presented, for the most part,
were collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in a supplement to the Current Population Survey (February, 1961) which covered all 14 years of age and over who did any farm work at any time during 1960. The special characteristics of workers in the U.S. with a Spanish language background reported in this bulletin, include: numbers and location, migratory status, sex and age, country of birth, education, type of work, earnings by color, region and sex, earnings in migratory labor, income distribution, and amount of work and unemployment.

Humphrey, Norman D. "The Cultural Background of the Mexican Immigrant." 
Rural Sociology, XIII (1948), 239-255.

Jones, Robert C. "Ethnic Family Patterns: The Mexican in the United States." 


On the basis of a detailed examination of available literature and field work of the author in San Miguel and Mora Counties of northern New Mexico, recent changes in the structure of the Sp-speaking fam of northern N.M. are delineated, with special reference to the changes in status roles of husband, wife, and children. The term S-A's is used to describe the Sp-speaking inhabitants of northern N.M., southern Colo., and northwestern Arizona. It is suggested that the term be limited to these people and no others. An econ and soc background of the villages of these S-A's is presented. The traditional primary soc unit has been the extended patriarchal fam with 3 or 4 generations living in one fam system and with the grandfather as the head. M's were dominant over F's in every age grouping beyond childhood. The wife in her own home was subordinate but not subjugated. The structure of the S-A fam, enshrined in tradition and religion and protected by physical and cultural isolation, was seriously weakened by the destruction of the subsistence village agricultural economy in the 1950's. Goes on to discuss role reversals.


The typological, or theoretical, approach to the influence of traditional customs on productivity used in this analysis includes the mental construct or model of the "perfectly integrated group." The functionally integrated community or society with high productivity achieve efficiency through the allocation of human and physical resources in such a manner as to attain the highest profit combination with attention paid to least cost combinations. In the Latin American area under consideration, ascriptive characteristics appear predominant, i.e., who one is, not what one can do, is the main consideration, and this situation tends to emphasize other ends than maximum productivity. It is maintained that ascription and familism will wane as industrialism and urbanism become the basic pattern of social and economic activity. Achievement orientation will then become more dominant, work teams and nations more important as systems, and the family less important.


The MA population group is the 2nd largest minority group in the U.S. This report analyzed poverty among this group in the urban areas of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. The incidence of poverty is compared with that among Anglos and non-whites. The report identifies the extent of poverty among the three subpopulations. It examines the problem of poverty in the individual states, and then analyzes some of the special characteristics of the poor. The report discusses the relationship between family size and poverty among the MA's and compares it to others. The base period for data used was 1959 incomes reported in the 1960 Census.


A consensees of selected impressionistic class typologies of the M-A has been operationalized into a quantitative model which may be used for inter-community or inter-ethnic comparisons. Initially an area random sample survey (N+147) of a M-A community in S. California was carried out to study the interrelations as measured by the C of the key economic and cultural variables. Indices were derived from clusters of these variables and class levels were established which were congruent with the inter-r's of variables and descriptions of R's. These classes correlate strongly with occupation, income and residential area, and less strongly with generation, schooling, language preference, age and class self-placement. It is therefore suggested that though acculturation may be the primary process by which minority group persons achieve status in the general class structure, economic factors are the major indices of such status.


A study of the social bonds severed by moving from a Catholic society into a Protestant church and of the adjustments made to the new life. A move toward Protestantism does not always mean a move toward the mainstream of U.S. life. Its normal result is separation from the Catholic community and poor acceptance by the Protestant. This study suggests that some sort of vigorous and responsible sponsorship relation between Spanish and English churches should be directed toward more complete cooperation and assimilation at this time.

Titodai, Ted T. "Migration and Kinship Contacts," The Southwestern Social Science Quarterly, 6 (September, 1965), 149.
EDUCATION

Books


Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses


National Education Association. The Invisible Minority. A report of the NEA Tucson Survey on the Teaching of Spanish to the Spanish-Speaking, Department of Rural Education.


Salem, Oregon, State Department of Education. Study of Migrant Education in Oregon Public Schools, April, 1960, 53 p.


EMPLOYMENT

Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses


IV. HEALTH

Books


An intensive study of a Mexican-American neighborhood in San Jose, California. A detailed examination of the socio-economic, religious, and folkloric characteristics bearing upon the problems of health and illness is presented.


An account of a concerted effort to heal the breach between society and psychiatrically disturbed children of poverty stricken migrants.


Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses


Magee, Elizabeth S. "Agricultural Migrant Workers in Ohio." Ohio's Health, 6 (October, 1954).


V. MIGRANT FARM LABOR

Books


Since Mexicans have not been separately classified since 1930, at present it is not known how many there are in the country. They are, however, our most rapidly growing minority. From 1910 to 1920 their numbers doubled and from 1920-1930 they doubled again to a total of 1,422,533, or 1.2% of the population. From 1930 to 1938 their numbers doubled once more, according to the National Resources Planning Board estimate. Almost all Mexicans now living here are concentrated in the States near Mexico; New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, California, and Colorado. Almost half of the Mexicans in the U.S. live in Texas, where they make up at least one-eighth of the population.


A detailed account is given of work simplification procedures which are demonstrated for a number of vegetable crops. Many new labor-saving machines are described and procedures for supervising farm laborers and selecting and training foremen are discussed. A few tables with labor output data for vegetable crops are appended.


A description of the various migrant streams which uses case histories to point out the inequities and types of people who are migrants. Bibliography included.


A college professor takes her sabbatical by moving into a trailer and following the migrant stream around the U.S. to work in the fields.


Gives case histories of migrants to illustrate the injustices and living conditions of these people. Also, substantiates its story by the use of statistics and other empirical evidence.


Examines the daily life of migrant farm workers and their exploiters. To improve conditions among stoop laborers, certain legislative remedies are recommended.

Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses

MIGRANT FARM LABOR


The people who work on farms are described. They are not protected by the National Labor Relations Act. Legislation in existence and that needed are discussed. The main lines of essential action are presented.


Mexican of foreign birth work in range livestock, fruit, truck and mixed farming and cotton areas.


Map distribution of migrant employment in Ohio. Subcommittee reports on (1) Community services; (2) Education; (3) Employment and transportation; (4) Health, sanitation and housing; (5) Legislation; (6) Public welfare; (7) Church groups; a) United Church Women of Ohio; b) Catholic church.


The adjustments in farm organization considered the techniques to grow, harvest and handle the fruit, the use of the operator and hired labor, and the use of capital and land.


Administrative organization. 2. Production trends affecting farm labour demands. 3. Mechanization. 4. Farm employment. 5. Farm labor supply. 6. Recruitment and placement. 7. Transportation. 8. Foreign labor program.


MIGRANT FARM LABOR


As a result of an analysis of the market for farm labor in Florida, it was concluded that the public, the farmers, and the workers would benefit in the long run if the domestic migrant agricultural labor force was drastically reduced as soon as it is possible to direct migrants into other occupations. The preventive approach here advocated has been developed in the light of the following 4 propositions: 1) that the rate of employment among migrant farm workers is increasing; 2) that while unskilled workers are annually encouraged to enter the migrant stream, the demand for labor-hours per man is declining; 3) that the elimination of poorer workers from the migrant farm labor force and the discontinuation of migrant labor recruitment would be more desirable and the consequent unemployment less expensive than the social costs incurred by the perpetuation of the migrant farm labor force; and 4) that the size of the migrant farm labor force can and should be substantially reduced, without impairing crop production, through the use of increased amounts of off-shore workers who constitute a superior substitute for domestic migrant farm labor. The preventive approach advocates the education and training of the labor surplus created by increasing technological advances, in order to make farm workers eligible for alternative employment. It also suggests a plan whereby the supply of labor can be better controlled in a seasonal market so that the annual labor surplus and shortage can be eliminated through the use of imported workers.


Statistical analysis of the social background and occupational commitment of some 1.2 million male wage workers aged 20-64 years (i.e. whose longest job in 1961 was farm wage and salary work) emphasized that the main characteristics leading to above-average rates of recruitment to farm wage work include youth, non-white color, rural residence in adolescence, lack of geographical mobility and low levels of education and training. Men with a combination of such social disadvantages appear in disproportionate numbers in farm wage work, with its low level of remuneration and opportunity. However, despite strong evidence supporting the view that low farm worker income poses an acute social problem, many individuals are clearly able to move out of this job category. Only a small minority are apparently destined to poverty almost from birth by their color or by the economic status or occupation of their parents.

Willard Wirtz Dec. 30. Limitations on foreign nationals, the bracero ban in 1965, cut pickle crop by 1/3. He concedes that it may be necessary to bring in Mexican workers for pickle harvest.


The first part of this article is a statement by Secretary of Labor Wirtz concerning the ending of Pub Law 78 (bracero) and the improving plight of the migrant farm workers. A journalist's eye-witness account of the conditions existing in California migrant farm labor camps is included under the heading of "facts and figures." Data are presented about changing the size of the U.S. farm, child labor in the fields, union activity, and sharecroppers.


Since about 1959, economic forces (including technological change as well as increased government regulations on foreign labor) have been causing a rapid shift from foreign to domestic labor, i.e. even before the cessation of Public Law 78. Details of the impact of such shifts on individual crops and areas throughout the U.S.A. are briefly analyzed.

Social Change and Adjustment

Influence of mechanization on cotton labor. Specialization of workers. Local labor force is the main element in labor supply. Mechanization has virtually eliminated immigration. 1961-62 one-half of the families in Kern County applied for welfare grants. 40% of seasonal workers want to remain in seasonal farm work. Impediments to readjustment of displaced farm workers within agricultural economy are status feelings and ethnic prejudices. There is a need for training, programs to upgrade farm work, special training for youth, guidance into other types of employment.

Metzler, W. H. "Farm Workers in a Specialized Crop Area, Stanislaus County, California." Research Report California Agricultural Experiment Station. Berkeley, No. 289, 90 p.

A localized survey of fruit and vegetable workers revealed considerable under-employment although 3/4 of them had also worked elsewhere during the year. American farm workers averaged 129 days work a year and Mexican migrants 119 days, the average annual earnings were $1410, about 1/3 that of non-farm employment.


"Michigan Farm Labor Report, 1964". Prepared by the Farm Placement Section. Contains sections on administration (farm placement), employment and operational data, major crops and activities, recruitment, housing, wages and earnings, scientific and mechanical developments, human relations, migrant health, entertainment programs, community relations.


1) Harvesting the crops--need 55,000 migrants per year. 2) Recruiting and employment--there should be a nationwide system of government agencies and employer groups which are licensed. 3) Mobility of migrants--they are affected by slack periods and weather. Unnecessary mobility could be prevented by farmers with crop diversity. 4) Housing facilities are very poor to very good. Growers with better housing say the expenditure is worthwhile. Legislation may be needed to improve conditions. 5) Health and welfare. The disease incidence is higher in this group than among the total population. Group hospitalization insurance should be available. 6) Earnings. Asparagus 2t/lb.; Blueberries 6-8¢/lb.; Apples 15-20¢/lb.; Strawberries 6¢/qt.; tart cherries 50-60¢/lug; Sweet cherries 36¢/lb. 7) Migrant children and education--important problem, the children are retarded as early as 1-3 grade in skills. 8) Adult recreation, education and community organization. No opportunity for adult education; programs needed.

MIGRANT FARM LABOR


This pamphlet answers the charges by the Florida growers that Americans, recruited to fill the jobs formerly held by braceros, are unable or unwilling to do the work and do not remain on the job, that labor shortages exist everywhere and crop losses are enormous. Each charge is answered separately in an attempt to show the value in ending the foreign labor program to provide work for American farm workers who are out of work because of farm mechanization.


Description of the grape-growing industry of Delano, California. Reasons for the grape strike and strike tactics. The two unions involved in the strike which began September 8, 1965 are the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee and the National Farm Workers Association. Community reactions to the strike are given.


New York State Interdepartmental Committee on Farm and Food Processing Labor. Migrant Labor in New York State. 1953.


Panger, Daniel. "The Forgotten Ones." The Progressive. April, 1963, Reprint by the National Advisory Committee on Farm Labor, 112 E. 19th St., New York. Describes the experiences of Mr. Panger on a trip through the San Joaquin Valley of California to view the conditions under which the agricultural migrant workers live and work.


MIGRANT FARM LABOR


Includes demographic and behavioral characteristics, recruitment and decision-making processes, past work experience, satisfactions, aspirations, and other aspects of style of life.


As a result of poor work conditions many agricultural workers seek employment in industry, thereby increasing labor shortages and causing more Mexicans to be imported. This causes the native farm force to be composed, to a continually greater extent of those workers incapable of qualifying for industrial employment. Consequently the farm labor policy is producing one of the largest and most severe skid rows on the west coast, if not in the nation.


Since 1953 the numbers of workers increased, the dependents decreased, the 45 and over age group grew, the majority of increase was from southern Negroes. Single workers increased, family groups decreased, high turnover and lack of previous experience. Most workers specialize in one or two crops. Processes of entering and leaving migrant stream can be analyzed in terms of a) economic motivation, b) state employment services, crew leaders and informal recruiting contacts, c) kinship and friendship ties and aspirations for non-farm work.


Wisconsin migrants walked 90 miles to state capitol to demand better working conditions.

MIGRANT FARM LABOR MINORITIES


VI. MINORITIES

Books


Includes: "The Civil Rights Situation of Mexican Americans and Spanish Americans." by John Burma.


Excellent chapter dealing with history of Mexican migration, culture, and the problems of acculturation and assimilation.
Minorities
Social Change and Adjustment


Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses


VII. Social Change and Adjustment

Books


One chapter is concerned with the history of Spanish and Mexican migration from its inception to 1945. Treatment is excellent.


Goldstein, Marcus S. *Demographic and Bodily Changes in Descendants of Mexican Immigrants*. Austin, Texas: Institute of Latin American Studies, 1943.


Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses

SOCIAL CHANGE AND ADJUSTMENT


Bauder, Ward W. and Burchinal. "Farm Migrants to the City." Iowa State University, 1965.


Migrants interviewed in Van Buren County, Michigan did not appear to be "wanderer" or "hobo" types but rather "settlers" and "work seekers." Family patterns, length of home residence, infrequency of movement and brevity of migrancy parallel unfavorable attitudes to continuing mobility. Widespread desires by the families to stay permanently in Michigan suggest a general resettlement of migrants. It is predicted that agricultural migrancy will result in additional loss of population for Southern states.
SOCIAL CHANGE AND ADJUSTMENT


The project is to examine the socio-economic position of people of Mexican, Spanish or mixed Indian descent in urban areas of the SW of the U.S.


Through new leadership the problems of the Mexican-American community have been brought under national scrutiny. This article tells of the techniques and attitudes that have brought about change.


Schorr, Daniel. "Re-converting Mexican Americans." New Republic, CXV (September 30, 1941), 412-413.


Shannon, Lyle W. and Krass, Elaine M. "The Economic Absorption and Cultural Integration of Immigrant Mexican-American and Negro Workers." Iowa City: State University of Iowa, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, 1964.


Simmons, Ozzie C. "The Mutual Images and Expectations of Anglo-Americans and Mexican-Americans." Daedalus (Spring, 1961), 286-299.


VIII. SOCIAL WELFARE

Books

Social Welfare

Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses

Balmer, Donald G. "The Church, Migrant Workers and the Oregon Legislature." Religion in Life, 31 (1961), 94-98.

California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Housing. Housing Deficiencies of Agricultural Workers and Other Low Income Groups in Rural and Urban Fringe Communities. November 27, 1962.


Kurland, N. Traveling Communities with Mobile Community Services: A Possible New Approach to the Migrant Problem. September, 1964, 10 p.


Volunteers needed to visit camps, conduct classes, provide recreation, medical and health care, religious services, and distribute toys and clothing.


Casework alone is not enough, social action is needed.


The Bureau of Labor Standards has addressed this bulletin to agencies, organizations and individuals concerned with developing programs for domestic agricultural workers. It points out the chief needs of migrant workers and shows current trends in meeting these needs by citing examples of what is being done in some communities and to a limited extent telling how it is done. Certain trends are indicated. They include the fact that communities are becoming friendlier toward migrants, that an increasing amount of education, day care programs and health facilities are being made available and that labor camp codes and laws regulating practices of crew leaders are being developed. While real progress in improving conditions for migrants is indicated, the situation still is spotty and much remains to be done.

IX. YOUTH

Books


Articles, Reports, Proceedings, and Theses

Bogardus, E. S. "Mexican-American Youth and Gangs." Sociology and Social Research, 27 (September, 1943), 55-66.


YOUTH


The plight of migrant families as a whole is one of endless, and for too many, hopeless struggle against insurmountable odds. The total estimated number of U.S. agricultural migrant workers in the U.S. is 500,000. This figure has not decreased in the past 10 years, nor is it likely to in the foreseeable future. About 200,000 children under 18 migrate with their families. A similar number of children of migrant workers stay behind. Economically the migrant farm worker occupies the lowest level (131 days work in 1957 for $859.). Children of migrant workers have fewer educational opportunities than any other group of children in U.S. society. The children are trapped in a vicious circle of unending poverty and rootlessness which prevent their having or taking advantage of a better way of life. Nearly half of the counties affected by family migration do not have full-time child welfare services available.


Wisconsin Department of Public Welfare, Division of Children and Youth. Migrant Agricultural Workers in Door County. Madison, Wisconsin, December, 1951.

Several Abstracts were drawn upon to compile this Bibliography:

Educational Research Information Center
Poverty and Human Resource Abstracts
Sociological Abstracts
World Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Abstracts.