with bathrooms and thirty-nine with telephones. Although the
community is rural it cannot be said that it does not have the modern
conveniences of the urban area.

The homes of these people are of many different sizes and types.
Many of them are of some of the most modern styles but some are old
type family homes. The largest home listed thirteen rooms and the
smallest listed two. Three homes had three rooms, twenty-four had
four rooms, thirteen had five rooms, nine had six rooms, four had
seven rooms, four had eight rooms, one had nine rooms, two had eleven
rooms, one had twelve rooms and one had thirteen rooms.

On the whole the families seemed content with the public
utilities and services except for the water and trash collection.
(It must be noted that there has been an improvement in the water
system since this survey was made.) Most of those persons interviewed
stated that improvements were being made in the water so that it could
be made better. Thirty-five listed sewage as a community need. A
few thought the electricity, mail service, streets and sidewalks
might be improved. One suggested cleaning the ditches as a service
the community could render.

Shopping places for the citizens of Broussard include Lafayette,
New Iberia, St. Martinville, Shreveport, New Orleans, Youngsville,
Maurice and some shop by mail order. Fifty-two of the group buy
their groceries in their home community because it is more conven-
ient and they want to help their own merchants. But fifty-four
said they prefer to come to Lafayette where groceries are cheaper
and they have a greater variety of foods to select from.
Graph V
Public Utilities

Utilities

Own Homes Rent Homes Electricity Gas Running Water Room Telephone

11 39 61 63 67 68 69
Stores in Broussard are not sufficiently stocked with clothing to satisfy the demand of its people. Only thirteen reported that they bought all of their clothing in Broussard. Fifty-three named Lafayette because of its large clothing stores and its convenience as their shopping place for clothing. One named New Iberia, two named New Orleans, two listed Shreveport and two stated that they ordered their clothing from mail order houses.

The number buying furnishings in Broussard and the number buying them in Lafayette was almost equal. Thirty buy in Broussard and thirty-three buy in Lafayette. Five go to New Iberia to purchase furnishings and a few others listed New Orleans, Shreveport, and Port Arthur.

Movies in Broussard keep most of the people in their home community when show time comes. Fifty-eight attend movies there but thirteen said they attended movies in Lafayette theaters. The same is true of cokes and sodas.

Broussard does not have a doctor who has a permanent practice in the community. For one or two days a week a doctor visits the community from a near-by town. Therefore, most of the people have doctors in other places. Forty-eight use doctors, hospitals and clinics in Lafayette. Twenty go to St. Martinville for medical treatment and one listed doctors in Maurice and Youngsville. Asked why the community did not have a doctor and clinic most of the interviewees said that there were not enough people who would use a doctor in the community. They preferred to go out of town to specialists and to the better doctors. Graphs 6 and 7 show number of people shopping for different things in different towns.
Graph VI
Towns Where Broussard Residents Buy Groceries, Clothing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Broussard</th>
<th>Lafayette</th>
<th>Mail Order</th>
<th>New Iberia</th>
<th>New Orleans</th>
<th>Shreveport</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Groc</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cl</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of People

Gr—Groceries
Cl—Clothing
Graph VII
Towns Where Broussard Residents Buy Furnishings

Broussard
Lafayette
Mail Order
New Iberia
New Orleans
Port Arthur
Shreveport

- 29 -
Broussard is a predominately Catholic community. Of the seventy-two families interviewed all were Catholics except eight. The only church in the community is the Catholic Church. Most of the organizational and recreational participation is centered around the Church. Even the educational system is centered around the Church. There is no high school in Broussard except the Convent. There is a public and parochial grade school. For organizational participation and the number participating consult the following list.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizations</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ladies Alter Society</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broussard Social Club</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent-Teachers Association</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Demonstration Club</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Name Society</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodman of the World</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Legion</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers Club</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recreational choices were ranked first, second, third and fourth place. Radio ranked highest in total choices for first, second, third and fourth places. Ten ranked it as first choice, nineteen ranked it as third choice and three listed it as fourth choice. Ten also listed shows as first choice but only three, four and eight listed it as second, third and fourth choice, respectively. Reading ranked high as a third choice. Thirteen listed it in that place.

To the question "Are there enough recreational and social activities in your community?" twenty-seven answered in the affirmative and forty-five in the negative and two gave no answer at all. It was observed that the majority of those answering in the affirmative were in the older age group. Some of these said that for
themselves they considered the recreational opportunities sufficient. One man believed there were too many. Very few expressed any suggestions for improvement. By some, a youth center, chaperoned parties and dances, parks and playgrounds were suggested.

To the above question adults interviewed gave answers such as "I don't know because I am not familiar with the youth." "Yes" and "No" to the question, "Do youth have enough leaders among themselves?" But the majority answered yes to the question.

Questions about the community in general were the last questions asked in the survey. Five people said there were taverns and road-houses too close to their community. Three listed the Casino Club and one listed the Negro clubs in the Negro addition. Several said there were none in the community at all. Others said no on the question.

Some of the adults felt that the youth have fit places to meet such as the "Y" (a public meeting place in town frequented by many young people), the homes, the community center and school activities but a larger percentage said the youth did not have sufficient recreational facilities to say that they were fit for the youth.

The Sisters, teachers, coach, priest, P. T. A., mayor were all listed as helping youth the most in the community. The greatest percentage thought the Sisters and priest were the most helpful.

There was an almost unanimous answer in the affirmative that the Church was doing the most. About three answered in the negative. One reported alcoholic beverages being served at parties and felt that
it was not a good practice. Another felt that the Church could provide more social gathering.

A few suggested improvements in buildings, playgrounds and educational programs but most of the people said the schools were keeping up with the times.

Many of the group did not know whether the local government was meeting local needs. They were not aware of the functions of the local government. Fifty-six believed the local government was doing all it could for its people. Eight gave no answer at all.

"What do you like most about your community?" was an easy question for the interviewees to answer. They usually said "I just like the community in general" but some were more specific and stated that they like their friends, their church, the small community, schools and their homes. But, one said he did not care for the community because it was unfriendly and another said he liked it only because all his relatives lived there.

Public utilities that needed improvement were considered the things liked least in the community. Gossip and unfriendliness and dusty roads were also listed as items disliked.

Three persons said they did not want their children to live in the home community. They listed the lack of good educational facilities, no opportunity for employment and another just didn't like the community. Several did not give an answer to the question but the majority answered "yes."

Only eleven of the seventy-two felt there should not be more industries and business establishments. They gave as their reasons
the community's nearness to Lafayette and that Broussard was just too small. A few did not answer the question but all others said "yes" to the question. They suggested canneries, department stores, larger grocery stores, a cotton gin, a bakery, and other factories which would meet the demands of the community for products and employment.

A new church was considered by fifteen of the people to be the community's greatest need. About as many expressed the need for a resident doctor as the community's greatest need. Better water facilities also ranked high. Others listed community employment, improvement in other public utilities and a need for activities for the youth as the community's greatest need. Cooperation was suggested for getting all of these except for improvement in public utilities. Many recognized the need for higher taxes if improvement were to be made.

In general the people interviewed in Broussard were very enthusiastic and cooperative in giving information necessary to make the survey. The greatest number were interested in doing something to better the living and social conditions of the community.
Chapter V
A Survey of the Farm Life Around Broussard

It was found that no one interviewee was aware of any number given their farms or name for their farms. This is natural as very few people do name farms as they do ranches etc.

The roads in the outlying territory of Broussard are all either dirt or gravel. From observation and comment they seem to be pretty well kept.

The country around Broussard, very surprisingly, is hilly and rolling. It is a lovely area and very suitable for crops.

Broussard was named as the home community on all the questionnaires. It seems that there exists no little neighborhood groups in this area.

It was found that sixteen years is the average number of years the people have been farming their particular farms. The farmer, however, has been farming for fifty-one years, another farmer has only been farming for three months.

The average number of years these people have spent in Broussard itself is larger, though. It is twenty-two years. The range for the time spent in the community is from seventy-one years to four months.

The farmers around Broussard own a total of 6,306 acres of land. Most of these are fair sized farms; the largest having 1,100 acres and the smallest six acres. This is quite a wide range but most of the farms fall in the one-hundred to two-hundred acre group. 2,984 of the acres are cultivated; 2,012 of the acres are in pasture land, 320 acres are woodland and thirty of waste and forty lying idle.
A surprising number of people volunteered to give the interviewers their income. This income ranges from $16,000.00 to $400.00 a year. Some of these do not make their entire living from their farm produce. Some of the other means of support mentioned were: service manager, salesmen, teacher, carpenter, and some were living on old age pensions.

The major farm enterprise for this area seems to be sugar cane with sixteen of the farmers raising it. Potatoes is the second place crop with thirteen of the farmers raising them. Eleven farmers raise corn, eight raise cotton, four raise pepper and three are dairy farmers. These people raise the pepper plants that the Louisiana Red Hot Sauce Company uses to make its sauces.

The largest number of horses found on any farm around Broussard was four. Evidently Broussard farmers are no longer using horses, but are using machinery instead.

The greatest number of cattle was 550, these were to be found on the only ranch in the outlying area of Broussard. Some farmers only have one cow each.

Only one person has as many as twelve hogs, the least number possessed by anyone is one. One farmer has three sheep. One farmer has thirteen ducks and the least number was two ducks. Two people have two mules each.

The greatest number of chickens owned by any farmer is 380, the least number being three. The average is about seventy-five. Almost every farmer has some chickens no matter how small the number.
Graph VIII
Farm Produce

Crops
Peas
Beans
Dairy
Pepper
Cotton
Corn
Potatoes
Cane

Rank
8th
7th
6th
5th
4th
3rd
2nd
1st

Number of Farmers
1 3 4 8 11 13 16

-36-
According to the people questioned, twenty-three of them are land owners, seven are renters and eight are hired men. Some of these men have been in this tenure status for as long as forty years, others as short as six months or a year. The average time is about nine years.

According to observations the farmers around Broussard keep their barns and homes in fairly good condition. In regard to the barns and out buildings, thirteen were reported to be in good condition, one in excellent condition, four in fair condition and nine in a poor or run down condition.

In regard to the conditions and appearance of the homes; four were considered in good condition, three were considered in fair condition and ten were considered in poor condition. Of course the readers must recognize that these were opinions, not facts and cannot be considered as too accurate.

According to the survey the oldest farm operator is seventy and the youngest is seventeen. The oldest homemaker is sixty-eight and the youngest is sixteen. The two youngest who are mentioned are both children of the parents that own the farm, they are not themselves the owners. In the homes of the farmers only nine have men outside the immediate family staying with them, there were only five women.

The survey findings show that in the forty families surveyed there are thirty-six children under ten years old; there are eighteen between ten and fourteen; four between fourteen and fifteen and ten between fifteen and nineteen. There are six people between the ages of fifteen to twenty-four that are at home and out of school. The
Graph IX
Age Graph

Number of People

Ages

Under 10 10-14 14-15 15-19 15-24 out of school

-38-
survey does not give a clear representation of the families of the farm people because the questionnaire asked how many children are living at home, not the total number of children they have.

It was found that thirty of the people interviewed have the very poorest education, that is, the fourth grade or lower. Sixteen people have schooling up to either the fifth or sixth grade; eighteen to the seventh or eighth grade; eleven to the first or second year of high school; and twenty-six of them have finished high school. Ten of these people interviewed have college educations and eighteen of them have no education at all.

Almost all these people have cars which they use to get to and from town. Thirty-two out of forty have cars. The oldest model is an old 1916 Ford owned by an elderly caretaker couple. The eight families that do not have cars either walk to town, go with neighbors or friends or use cabs.

The houses are almost all average size houses with from four to six rooms in them. One, however, was reported as having ten rooms. Five of these homes have central heating system while the others have space heaters. It was found that almost all the homes have as many heaters as they had rooms. Two homes, however, have only one fireplace as their sole method of heating.

It was found that all of the homes with the exception of three have electricity in their homes. Thirty-two of the forty have running water, but only twenty-eight have equipped bathrooms. Evidently they either cannot afford this convenience or they just are not taking advantage of the running water. Only sixteen of the people have
Graph X
Number of Rooms in Houses

Number of Houses

Number of Rooms
telephones while twenty-four do not. Only four people do not have radios, three of these evidently are the people that have no electricity, therefore, there is probably only one that will really not have a radio.

The people around Broussard belong to quite a few clubs. Thirty-five of the females and thirty-six of the males reported belong to a church, nine people belong to the Farm Bureau; five women belong to the Home Demonstration Club; two men belong to a lodge of some sort; three belong to the Knights of Columbus; three to the Holy Name Society and one to the St. Joseph Society; one woman belongs to the DAR; one to the American Camelia Society and six belong to the Ladies Alte Society.

Twenty boys and eighteen girls were reported as belonging to the church. Five boys and four girls are in the 4-H Club; one boy is in the Boy Scouts; eight of them belong to some young peoples' church group.

Broussard is the main area where the farmers sold their vegetables, though very few farmers have vegetables to sell. Most of the farmers sell their live stock in Lafayette; both Broussard and Lafayette are the selling places for dairy products, poultry and eggs, while no forestry products are sold.

The majority of the farmers buy their fertilizer in Lafayette; their farm machinery in Lafayette; their hardware, household furnishings and their clothing in Lafayette. It seems that the people in this small town depend almost entirely on Lafayette for their store materials.
The majority of the people interviewed go to the movies in Broussard, some in Lafayette, New Iberia, St. Martinville or the "drive in." Almost all the people go to programs in Broussard while a few go to Lafayette. More of the people go to Lafayette for baseball games than to Broussard probably because the Lafayette baseball team belongs in a higher league and they can see college football and basketball games there.

Of all the families interviewed only one child goes to school outside of Broussard; the same is true of the high school students. These two students go to Turtle Bayou School.

Eighteen people interviewed said that they were satisfied with the local school system, three said they are not satisfied and the others did not answer. Only ten of the people said they would be in favor of a larger consolidation though; three said they are not in favor of it, the others did not answer.

Only two changes were suggested, one, was to teach more courses; two, was to be more particular about the teachers they hire to do the job.

Of all the people interviewed, thirty-eight are Catholics, one is Baptist and two are Methodists. Thirty-seven of them go to church in Broussard while four go to Lafayette for church. The greatest distance any of them have to travel to go to church is nine miles.

Sixteen of the people interviewed said they like Broussard "excellent," sixteen others said they like it "good," seven said if is "fair" and one said it is "poor."
The three main reasons they gave for answers to the question "why" in regard to the preceding paragraph are: first of all, they like the people; secondly, they like the friendliness of the people; third, they like Broussard because it is their home, they were born and reared there.

In regard to the question: "What more could the town do for the country people?" these are some of the items mentioned: "Could have a doctor."; "Could fix the roads."; "Could have more delivery service."; "A recreation center"; "A credit grocery store"; "Buy some of the farmers produce"; "Could fix up a baseball diamond."

There are some of the answers to the question about what the farmers could do for the town: "Sell the crops"; "Reise a variety of crops"; "Sell produce cheaper"; "Organize a canning center"; "Contribute more to the church" and finally it was suggested that they all work together.
Chapter VI
Conclusion

In analysing the survey material we find the Broussard appears to be very friendly and somewhat prosperous community. Most of the town's citizens are satisfied and content and thought that no major changes needed to be made in their community. This point of view probably came from the previous generation who had lived in Broussard all of their lives and didn't realize the necessity for improvement within their community.

Once Broussard was a thriving boom town but now it has little to offer its people in the line of stores for food, clothing, furniture, and places of recreation. A majority of Broussard's citizens drive to Lafayette and surrounding communities to obtain these commodities and luxuries.

There seemed to be a definite lack of recreational facilities in Broussard. Most of the young people stated that they needed a good wholesome place in which to occupy their time. For special movies, dates and evening entertainment both the young and old usually go out of town. However, many of them do go to the "Y" organization downtown or spend their evening at home with "the gang." From all accounts it seemed that the Catholic Church has taken more interest in providing recreation than any other group in the community. For the welfare of their young people, Broussard appears to need community centers in which the teen-agers can gather.
The only high school in Broussard is a parochial school. The reason for this is that ninety-nine per cent of the population is Catholic. Both the school children and their parents seem to be well satisfied with this type of educational program.

Most of the high school students are undecided about continuing their education after graduation. Those that do plan to go to college are planning to attend Southwestern Louisiana Institute.

The greatest number of the people in the Broussard area are farmers and some are employed at the Louisiana Red Hot Sauce Company. The yearly income of the families ranges from $400 to $16,000 per year.

The country around Broussard has proven to be very successful farm land. Mechanization has taken its stand in the little community. The horses and ploughs are now replaced by modern tractors and cultivators.

The roads in and around the town are mostly gravel and from observation and comment seem to be fairly well kept. Almost everyone owns their own automobile, but seldom do extensive traveling.

Many of Broussard's citizens, especially the rural folk, know surprisingly little about the government of their town.

Among the improvements suggested for Broussard, those predominant were a better water supply and a fuller recreation program.

Though Broussard is small and has a large rural population, most of its people enjoy all the modern conveniences such as electricity, running water, and telephones.
Broussard is largely a French speaking community. However, all of the children are sent to school and are able to speak English fluently.

The people of Broussard seem to be very active in organizations. They belong to many clubs and are genuinely interested in bettering their community.

Almost everyone interviewed said that they were happy in Broussard because of the friendliness that prevailed there. Most of the young people are willing to continue to make their home in Broussard and to raise their families there.

Broussard represents a typical southern Louisiana town. The people are warm hearted and friendly and always eager to open their homes and share what they have with others. Like any other small town, Saturday night is the big night of the week because it is the only chance the hard working farmers have to get together. On every street corner may be heard the friendly call of "Comme sa va?"

Because of all data compiled it might be assumed that Broussard will remain a small town, but as long as the people are happy and content, growth is a secondary factor.