new water plant with an ample well supply which assures complete fire protection. There is a volunteer fire department which boasts of a new truck, a pumper with a large capacity.

Citizens of Duson are also provided with free garbage collection.

The town has two doctors who take care of the area's medical needs.

There is a large Catholic church and Protestant services are held in a private home under the sponsorship of local Baptists.

We're concentrating right now on a slow but permanent growth,” Hanks said. “We don't expect to double our population overnight and don't really want to. We have a nice community and we want the people who move into our town to like it and want to stay here.”

Duson Active Away From Highway 90

DUSON — Duson is unlike most small towns which sit astride main highways that divide their business districts in half. The traveler, to see Duson, must get OFF the highway.

While still a small town, Duson is deceiving to the average person who merely cruises through the area. On Highway 90, one sees a few service stations, one or two business establishments and several houses.

Located, however, just a few blocks from the highway is a sizeable residential section which gives Duson its 1960 population of 1,013 citizens.

“We're still a small town but we aren't stagnating,” grocer Merlin Hanks, mayor, said. “We gain a few people every year but we're handicapped in that we don't have any major industry. Most of the people who live here work in Lafayette, Rayne or Crowley with a large number of the men working in the oil fields.”

The main industry, during the season, is the Barnett Cotton Gin but the Hutchinson Lumber Company is the largest year-round employer.

“One of our drawbacks in not getting industry here is that we have no sewerage system,” Hanks said. “We're hoping that in the future we can levy a one-cent sales tax for the purpose of installing sewerage and also for street improvement.”

Street Paving

The paving of two miles of streets in Duson has been underway and the work is to be finished shortly. Blacktop will be applied on South A and First and Fifth streets.

New structures in town include a modern and large drug store facing U. S. 90, and a washerateria on Fifth St.

Many people do not realize that Duson has its own elementary school, set back several blocks from the highway on a residential street where traffic is light and where the young pupils can attend classes without traffic danger. There is no high school, however, and prep school age students attend the high school in Scott with regular bus service provided.

Many of Duson's residents are engaged in farming. Some have rice interests in Acadia parish. Others are engaged in the raising of cattle.

The town provides several services for its citizens. There is a town marshal with two deputies providing around-the-clock police protection.