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GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON MIGRATORY LABOR

1960 - 1963

# Progress Report

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Governor's Committee on  
**MIGRATORY LABOR**  
 Indiana

7817



The Honorable Matthew E. Welsh  
 Governor of Indiana  
 Indianapolis, Indiana

Dr. Laurence T. Hostie,  
 Vice-Chairman

William L. Davis,  
 Secretary

I am privileged to transmit herewith the first Report  
 of the Governor's Committee on Migratory Labor.

In this report we have endeavored to portray progress  
 made by the Committee, not only during 1963, but also during  
 the past four years.

Among the important accomplishments have been not only  
 the development of improved housing and living conditions  
 of the migrant workers, but also in the operation of the  
 program, the fine way in which agencies represented on the  
 Committee have worked together in a cooperative approach to  
 certain key problems and have coordinated their efforts in  
 the solution of those problems.

On behalf of the Committee, I am pleased to submit this  
 report and send again to you our great appreciation for the  
 opportunity to be of service.

Very truly yours,

*Arthur H. Noble*  
 Arthur H. Noble, Chairman  
 Governor's Committee on  
 Migratory Labor

- Andrew Ramsey
- Lt. Gov. Richard Ristine
- Gerald F. Smith
- Rabbi Allen Weitzman
- Father Paul Wellman
- W. A. Williams
- William Zandstra

Dr. Andrew C. Offutt

Al Martinez

Henry Higer

Caroll Dickinson

Lucille De Voe

George Colwell

Robert P. Butler

Rev. W. J. Briggs, D. D.

During the past four years the committee has considered many of the problems encountered by the migrants. Some of these problems, not necessarily in their order of importance are the lack of community acceptance, public health and welfare services, educational opportunities for children and adults, continuity of employment, adequate housing and sanitary facilities, safe transportation and protection under numerous laws intended to safeguard the rights of workers. In its search for information about and possible solutions of these and other problems, the committee has consulted and worked with many groups, committees, organizations, governmental agencies and individuals. Information

During 1962, it was found that several of the members could not devote the necessary time to this committee. It was also felt that additional members were desirable to broaden the committee. Accordingly some resignations were accepted and some new members appointed. Membership of the reorganized committee is shown on the preceding page.

With the advent of a new administration the committee was left floundering for most of 1961. Since its members were not appointed for any definite term, and since Indiana had a new Governor, the committee did not know whether it was in existence or not. Due to the pressure of his office, Gov. Welsh did not reappoint the committee until January of 1962. Several new members were added at that time.

The first consideration of the committee was concerning housing. Minimum standards of other states were reviewed. In cooperation with the State Board of Health and the State Fire Marshal a set of "Recommended Minimum Standards for Migratory Housing" were published in September 1960. The committee asked that the Governor make special funds available to the Board of Health to hire personnel to check on migrant housing. This was done, and two full time sanitarians were employed in December of 1960. Since that time the housing conditions have steadily improved.

The committee recognized that seasonal farm workers from other states are needed during periods of peak harvest since Indiana is a highly industrialized state. Workers who perform "stoop work" are not available in sufficient numbers from local sources. Farm mechanization has caused farm population to decrease and members of farmers' families are not available for seasonal work as they were at one time. This makes the farmer all the more dependent on migrants if his crops are not to be lost, and much of his investment sacrificed. Although living and working conditions were found to be comparatively good the committee recognized that much remained to be done about the needs of these nomads who are so necessary to the agricultural economy of Indiana.

This committee was first appointed by Gov. Harold Handley in January of 1960, and held its first meeting February 5, 1960. It was appointed to study the problems connected with migratory farm labor in Indiana, and to make recommendations to various private individuals, employers, and to governmental agencies involved.

has been sought from and given to such groups as; the President's Committee on Migratory Labor, Indiana Citizens' Committee on Migrant Labor, Bishop's Committee for Migrant Workers, Indiana Migrant Ministry of the Indiana Council of Churches and others. Some of these groups have representatives on the Governor's Committee, while others were asked to attend specific meetings of the committee. The committee intends to be a source of information to those in a position to act. Through continued investigation and study of the problems of the migrants, it hopes to be in a position to initiate or support action to solve them.

At the beginning of 1963, it was felt that subcommittees should be formed to study more intensively the various problems of the migrant, and then report their findings and recommendations to the full committee. Accordingly, the following committees were appointed:

#### Community Services

Rev. W. J. Briggs, Chairman  
Rabbi Allen Weitzman  
Carol Dickinson  
Father Paul Wellman  
Paul Shaw  
Al Martinez  
W. A. Williams

#### Education

W. A. Williams, Chairman  
Rev. W. J. Briggs  
Father Paul Wellman  
Paul Shaw  
Al Martinez  
Andrew Ramsey  
Lucille DeVoe

#### Employment and Transportation

William Davis, Chairman  
Robert Butler  
George Colwell  
Henry Hilger  
Ralph Osborn

#### Health, Sanitation and Housing

Dr. Verne K. Harvey, Chairman  
George Colwell  
Ralph Osborn  
Gerald Smith  
William Zandstra  
Andrew Ramsey

Help to provide a climate in Indiana agriculture which will draw dependable and satisfactory workers to the State.

To assist the State Board of Health and local agencies in seeing that decent sanitary conditions be maintained not only in housing, but in every other facet of the health program provided where possible for these workers and their dependents.

As much as they contribute to the economy of Indiana, we feel the community owes them an obligation. Our subcommittee's specific function, as we see it, is to foster healthy attitudes toward and ministry to the migrants on the level of the local community. It has sought to so serve this past season, functioning at least in six counties. One of these was in an emergency situation. On the state level, the representatives of the three faiths, Jewish, Roman Catholic, and Protestant, are working closely together on the committee, for right functioning relationships. An independent of this committee, representing the Bishop's Committee (Roman Catholic), and the Indiana Council of Churches (Protestant), are seeking the same ends, from the inter-faith angle itself.

Migrants bring prosperity to many of our communities, and yet they do not belong to these communities while they live there. They are denied many services which local residents have. They have been segregated, avoided, and sometimes feared. This new subcommittee was appointed in June. While not identical in either respect, it very nearly coincides in personnel, and overlaps in function, with the subcommittee on education. It works closely with that committee.

Report of the Subcommittee on Community Relations  
 Rev. Dr. W. J. Briggs, Chairman

These subcommittees met periodically during the latter part of 1963, and presented their findings at the regular monthly meetings of the full committee. Reports of the subcommittees will be found on the following pages.

To consider the public assistance of migrants in financial difficulties in Indiana. To clarify when they are eligible for assistance, to consider and cooperate with any local groups in establishing day care services for the migrant children and do whatever else possible to promote higher living standards among the migrants.

- William Zandstra, Chairman
- Laurence T. Hostie
- Rabbi Allen Weitzman
- Henry Hilger
- Lucille Devoe

Public Welfare

To keep track of National Legislation and channel it to the respective committees that it affects, as well as planning proposed legislation for our own state. Discuss the legislation needed in our own state and prepare any needed legislation before the next General Assembly.

- Gerald Smith, Chairman
- Arthur Noble
- William Davis
- Robert F. Butler
- George Colwell

Legislation

During 1963 work was carried out by 20 paid staff members and 1,227 volunteers in 191 camps serving some 9,200 migrants. The various county committees had 181 members. There was approximately \$20,000.00 expended by the local and state committees for the migrant ministry.

There are also, in some counties, sewing classes for the ladies and English classes for all ages. There is also some educational work being done with some of the children to help them. And, in a few of the counties a very good health program is being carried on by capable medical persons.

Sometimes a small snack (cookies and drink) may be served. Films are shown with a time of devotions following.

- FOR CHILDREN - Organized Play
- FOR YOUTH - Organized Games (ball, checkers, games, etc.)
- FOR ADULTS - Visiting, puzzles, checkers, etc.

The evening program is designed for the complete family.

- Period of Free Play.
- Organized Play.
- Story-time - Singing.
- Flannelgraphs are often used. Stories with good moral emphasis. Chalk drawings, etc.
- Bible Stories.
- Craft - Hand Work.

The morning program is carried on similar to a daily vacation Bible school program:

GENERAL PROGRAM

MIGRANT MINISTRY - INDIANA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Much of the organized activity of the community in relationship to migrants is carried out by the Catholic and Protestant churches. The Migrant Ministry of the Indiana Council of Churches and the Bishop's Committee for Migratory Labor each carry out a program in the areas where the migrants are located. A description of their activities follows.

At least once it was called to the committee's attention that better community relationships were needed. An employer started to build a new camp at the cost of many thousands of dollars. The community objected vigorously, to the point of stopping construction by filing an injunction against him. Due to the untimely death of this employer, the matter never came to a definite show-down. Now to help work out a major problem in one area where friction did develop. 1963, though there have been some rough problems. The committee is seeking a second to the community. Community attitude in our state has been good in possible films on Indiana migrant work, one to be beamed to the migrant, and also, the committee proposed, and the education committee is implementing. Local community, which we hope will spark similar good in other communities. Examples in our state where there are good items relative to migrants and the committee proposed, and is seeking to gather material for a pamphlet on

AREAS OF WORK

ADAMS COUNTY - Husband and wife staff working in approximately 32 different camp locations. Morning, afternoon and evening program. Many volunteers working.

ALLEN COUNTY - Six camps, not many migrants, but committee is active. No paid staff. Volunteers carrying on program.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY - Only one large camp in county. This is served by five different denominations in Columbus, Indiana.

DELAWARE COUNTY - Nine migrant camps served by paid staff person. Carrying on a morning and evening program.

GRANT COUNTY - Seventeen camps served by two paid staff reaching approximately 1,000 migrants with a morning and evening program. About 50 volunteers being used.

HENRY COUNTY - Three camp locations. Approximately 1,700 migrants reached by program carried on by two paid staff. A large tent is placed on grounds to carry on program. Many volunteers are used.

HOWARD COUNTY - Paid staff of two persons reach 28 camps with help of volunteers. This county uses church adoption plan. A plan in which a church adopts a particular migrant camp.

HUNTINGTON COUNTY - 35 camps. One member of paid staff. The lay people help in evening program.

JOHNSON COUNTY - One paid staff and 15 camps. Reaching about 750 migrants. New county to migrant ministry.

LAKE COUNTY - Two paid staff carrying on a morning and evening program to 20 camps. Also helping many settling migrants in the East Chicago area. Running a survey for Purdue University.

MAHSHALL COUNTY - 11 camps. A day care center in operation. Staffed with four persons and a licensed nurse. Also an evening program in camps.

MIAMI COUNTY - Program being carried on in one camp by volunteer workers.

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY - Three camps. Program is shared with Marshall County Day Care Center. Also evening programs in camp by volunteers.

SHELBY COUNTY - Two paid staff. Nine camps. Carrying on a very extensive program. Volunteers are being used.

TRI-COUNTY (Tipson, Hamilton and Madison) - 12 camps served by one paid staff person. Carrying on a morning and evening program.

WELLS COUNTY - Carrying on a very extensive program, morning, afternoon and evening completely with volunteers.

Bernard Morgan  
Diocesan Migrant Director

This is a brief summary, Father, I believe it is sufficient for your purpose. If you need any other information, just let me know. I do have access to a stack of reports on the work this past year, but they are all over in the Bishop's office. But all they would do would be to give more exact details. What I have outlined above is quite accurate outside of being in round figures.

I have also worked with Father James Doherty in the Indiana Citizens' Committee on Migrant Labor. The purpose of the Citizens' Committee is to propose legislation that will help protect the migrant worker and to do anything else it can do in this matter to help the cause of the migrant workers.

The above is a general summary of the work being done in the diocese of Lafayette. Father Larson, I believe, is in the charge of the migrant work in the Fort Wayne diocese. If you want to know anything about the Indianapolis diocese, Father James Doherty of the Cathedral Latin School could give you the necessary information. I know nothing of what is being done in the dioceses of Gary and Evansville.

The work we do, of course, is mostly spiritual; validating invalid marriages, preparing children and adults for First Communion and Confirmation, instructing teenagers in the fundamentals of the faith which they have pretty well forgotten. We do a lot for them materially; holding rummage sales to provide them with inexpensive clothing, some of the parishes provide health instructions and first aid kits through trained nurses, also picnics and fiestas. Generally speaking, we also try as much as possible to encourage these people to enter into the life of the parish and integrate themselves into the life of the community.

We have in the diocese over 250 migrant labor camps with a peak population of from five to ten thousand migrants. The peak population season is August, September and early October. There are approximately 20 priests, about a dozen seminarians, ten nuns, and about fifty to a hundred lay people who work in this field. The Bishop provides us annually with a ten-thousand dollar budget to work with.

The Bishop passed on to me your request for a summary of the diocesan migrant work for the Governor's Committee Report. Herewith is a brief summary of the work done in the Lafayette diocese.

Dear Father Wellman:

Rev. Paul Wellman  
St. Joseph College  
Rensselaer, Indiana



Fr. Robert W. Contant, Director  
Migratory Worker Apostolate  
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Sincerely,

In the year 1963 we expended \$1,258.26 from the budget of our  
Migratory Worker Apostolate besides various other expenditures by  
parishes and their organizations working at the local level.

was carried on by the pastor and lay people of the parish.  
conditions, etc. In less populated areas work among the migrants  
sacraments) we also cooperated in projects for bettering health  
larger camps, instructing the children for the reception of the  
parish churches, offering Mass and hearing confessions in some of the  
(visiting in the camps, acquainting the people with the services of  
population of the area. Although the work was primarily spiritual  
and Wells) which accounted for one-half of the migratory worker  
Our greatest area of activity was centered in two counties (Marshall  
area covered by the Diocese with a peak worker population of 2,899.  
During the past season there were 58 Migratory Worker Camps in the

Your request to Bishop Pursley for a report on the Migratory Worker  
Apostolate of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend under date of  
February 6 has been referred to me for answer.

Dear Father Wellman:

Rev. Paul Wellman, C.P.P.S.  
St. Joseph College  
Rensselaer, Indiana

I can summarize Indianapolis Archdiocesan work. The Archdiocese is almost all south of Road 40, and there are relatively few camps. At the Brooks Camp at Mount Summit there was religious instruction three times a week given by nuns of St. Anne Parish, New Castle, and students of Sacred Heart High School, Indianapolis. A group of twelve children made their first Holy Communion in September, and about 30 children attended classes regularly. Mass was offered in the camp every Sunday evening, and religious films in Spanish were shown.

Through the Citizens' Committee, the Migrant Ministry of the Council of Churches and the Catholic Migrant Apostolate have come into close and friendly contact. I believe this is the most encouraging effect of the committee yet.

Since then committee activity has been focused on Federal Legislation. We have distributed detailed information about the extension of the Bracero program and encouraged letters to Hoosier Congressmen about this measure. We were especially active opposing the second proposal, the one year extension which has become law. (As you undoubtedly know, the two year extension had been defeated on June 29 in the House.) This encouraged us to hope we were working on something which might very probably be obtained, and there was a great deal of activity by the committee during the summer and early fall on this.

As you know, at the beginning of 1963, Citizens' Committee efforts centered on supporting two bills in the Indiana General Assembly: (1) state licensing of migrant camps and (2) a legislative study committee for future legislation in the migrant area. The license bill passed the House and died in the Senate; the study committee bill stayed in the House Agriculture Committee.

In reply to your letter of inquiry on behalf of the Governor's Committee on Migrant Labor, I am glad to try to summarize activities of the Citizens' Committee and the Indianapolis Archdiocese I have been involved in.

Dear Mr. Noble:

Mr. Arthur H. Noble  
 Ray Brothers and Noble Canning Co., Inc.  
 Hobbs, Indiana

At Austin the pastor and a Spanish speaking seminarian took census and made regular visits to the camp, very successfully encouraging attendance at the Catholic Church at Scottsburg.

At Sunman there was little organized work except the showing of some religious films in Spanish.

In Johnson County the Catholic parish at Franklin takes part very fully in the local Migrant Ministry Program, and the Migrant Ministry Program there is quite free of sectarianism. This happy arrangement is not always to be found. It is hoped that in the 1964 season it will be possible to prepare some of the Johnson County children for their first Holy Communion.

Texas Mexicans are often badly instructed in their Catholic faith. In general then, we spend much of our time in simply giving talks, showing films, and getting people back to the reception of the sacraments. I spend most of August in this work, and then two days a week after school starts. Last summer I spent most of my time at Mount Summit, but I hope to include Johnson County next season.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. James Doherty  
Latin School of Indianapolis

During 1963, Indiana's use of seasonal agricultural and food processing labor declined some 17 per cent from the number used in 1962. Out-of-area labor dropped some 16 per cent. This decline in labor used resulted in part from a reduction in tomato acreage of at least 20 per cent. Another major reason for the decline in labor needs was the unseasonable weather which prevailed throughout the harvest season. Cool weather prevailed throughout the entire season and record low temperatures were recorded in August. This affected the labor needs for tomatoes in particular, as they did not ripen as they normally would. While this reduced the over-all labor needs, it also complicated the problems of the migrant workers. A comparatively small per cent of the tomato crop was harvested in August, and the migrants were hard pressed as they were not employed full time. However, on the whole the employers did an excellent job of assisting these workers who had entered Indiana, many without funds. The short cherry crop in Michigan and Wisconsin helped to accentuate this problem. In many instances the migrants' problems were further complicated by this lack of full-time employment in August. Because of the migrants' economic standing it is necessary for the family group to rely in part on the earnings from summer employment of the children from the age of about fourteen years on up. Frequently migrant families will not have money to enable these youth to attend school when they return home if they are denied the opportunity to earn money during the summer months. In 1963 their opportunity to accumulate these needed funds from picking tomatoes occurred after September 1, when it is illegal for those under sixteen years of age to work during school hours. While this restriction on the employment of youth is intended to protect them and encourage their school attendance, the enforcement of this law may well, in some instances, defeat its own purpose.

Report of Subcommittee on Employment and Transportation  
 William L. Davis, Chairman

This subcommittee has explored the feasibility of getting a surplus trailer from the government and converting it into a traveling school. Quite a lot of work has been done on the possibility of making a film or films for the education of the migrants, and/or the educating of the community concerning migrants. Mr. Fleming of Indiana University appeared before the committee and discussed the feasibility of this. It was decided to review several films from other states. After this was done it was decided that due both to lack of funds, and to the availability of present films nothing would be done at the present time.

The work of the subcommittee on education closely parallels that of the committee on community relationships. At present no funds are available for state support for education for migrant children. This would of necessity come in the summer months. The committee has recommended that funds be made available for both child and adult education. So far this has not been done. There is need and it is being partially filled by the church related committees, but both remedial summer schools for children, literacy and other adult programs are needed badly.

Report of Subcommittee on Education  
 W. A. Williams, Chairman

The method of transportation used by the migrants has been changing in recent years. At one time most of the migrants traveled in trucks which were ill-equipped to haul passengers. The bed of the truck was equipped with a rack covered with a tarpaulin, and the passengers sat on bedding or other paraphernalia. Some of the migrants still travel by truck, but the Interstate Commerce Commission has in recent years enforced regulations requiring seats for the passengers and many safety features. Perhaps in part as a result of these regulations many more migrants now travel in private automobiles or busses. Trucks are still needed to haul bedding, cooking utensils and other paraphernalia, and the crew leader usually must have an opportunity to use his truck to haul products harvested by his crew in order to earn money to maintain and operate his truck. Most of the inspection of vehicles used by the migrants by necessity occurs in his home state, but there is a need for continued inspection and policing of these in the states of employment, as they are frequently used to move workers to and from the fields. The employer as well as law enforcement officials has a responsibility to see that equipment is in safe condition.

Basically this data covers employment in perishable fruit and vegetable crops plus the detasseling of hybrid seed corn and some other minor activities, such as peonies and Christmas trees. The employment involved in general farming, the production of grain crops, livestock and dairy products is not included, as these activities do not utilize out-of-area workers. All data given refers to workers only and does not include the numerous nonworkers who travel with out-of-area workers. To arrive at a total figure which indicates the magnitude of the migrant labor problem, it is necessary to take into consideration the sizeable number of migrants that move in and out of the state without ever being employed or counted, plus a considerable turnover in those that are employed. It is conservatively estimated that the number of migrants employed or seeking employment at some time during 1963, and the nonworkers that were with them would total at least 15,000 individuals.

The use of foreign labor continued to decline during 1963. The maximum number used was down 41 per cent from 1962, and the man-weeks worked was down some 56 per cent. With the exception of 46 Mexican Nationals used in the tomato harvest during the first two weeks of October, the use of foreign labor was restricted to the harvest of pickles and peppers. There was a decline of only 10 per cent in the number of workers coming from Florida and Missouri, but the number from Arkansas, Kentucky and Tennessee declined some 38 per cent. The following table showing the home state of the migrant workers and the number employed by semi-monthly periods appears to be in disagreement with the chart showing the peak number of such workers by county, particularly the Spanish speaking group. The some 1,700 more workers shown on the chart by counties as compared to the state total on the table is due to the movement from one county to another as work becomes available. Some of the same workers are included in the peak number of more than one county as the employment peak does not occur in each county at the same time. Nearly all Spanish speaking migrants originally came from Texas, but in recent years many of these Texans report their homes as now being in some other state. In 1963 several hundred of them indicated their home as other than Texas.

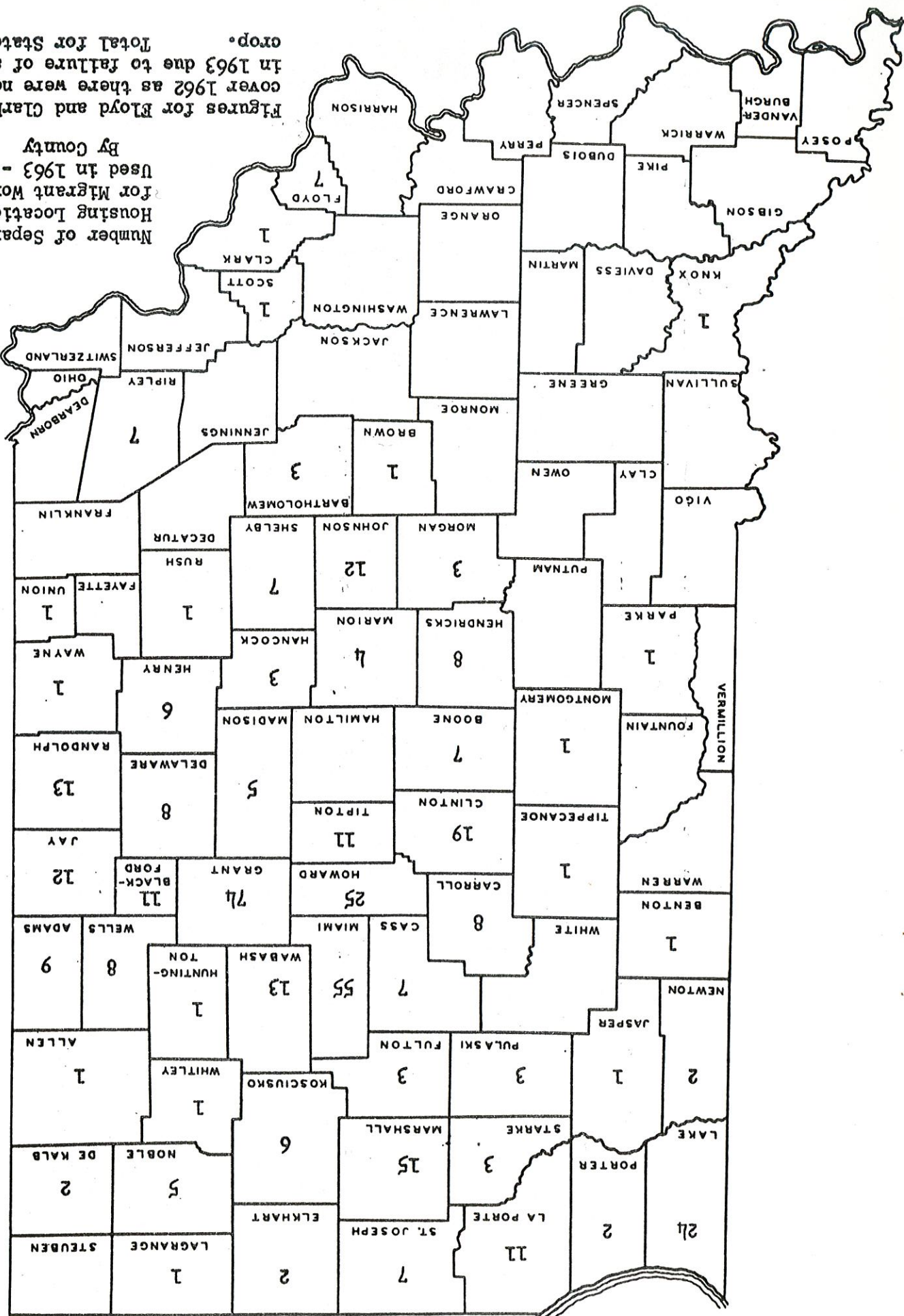
OUT OF STATE WORKERS EMPLOYED IN SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES  
 STATE OF INDIANA  
 BY STATE OR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN  
 May through October

Origin	May		June		July		Aug.		Sept.		Oct.	
	15	31	15	30	15	31	15	31	15	30	15	31
Texas	1963 933	1212	1842	1555	1596	1600	4269	6215	6409	6233	1170	289
	1962 946	1594	2281	2013	1415	2298	5206	6398	6350	4773	363	153
Arkansas	1963 27	51	47	55	27	38	300	875	894	801	317	9
	1962 32	184	108	117	87	297	902	1356	1447	818	88	0
Florida	1963 31	31	19	26	8	106	486	816	761	706	128	0
	1962 36	74	8	8	26	91	666	909	890	546	73	0
Kentucky	1963 30	30	51	49	26	125	260	442	520	452	59	13
	1962 35	69	61	43	37	338	570	754	820	663	38	0
Tennessee	1963 32	27	27	21	17	70	165	298	350	336	33	16
	1962 13	45	43	20	20	162	406	491	567	396	58	0
Missouri	1963 20	10	33	10	10	10	178	349	288	270	30	0
	1962 20	95	70	55	55	55	367	388	287	173	0	0
Other States	1963 5	8	21	16	16	19	44	48	115	177	25	10
	1962 0	100	20	0	31	17	206	172	212	136	15	0
Puerto Rico	1963 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1962 0	25	25	25	25	25	21	16	16	16	16	11
British West Indies	1963 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1962 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	439	439	0	0
Mexican Nationals	1963 0	0	0	0	0	357	357	336	14	1	0	0
	1962 0	0	0	0	244	432	355	197	160	162	51	0
Totals	1963 1058	1369	2040	1732	1700	2325	6063	9379	9351	8976	1762	337
	1962 1082	2186	2616	2281	1940	3715	8699	10706	11188	8122	702	164



Figures for Floyd and Clark Counties cover 1962 as there were no migrants in 1963 due to failure of strawberry crop.  
Total for State - 446

Number of Separate Housing Locations for Migrant Workers Used in 1963 -  
By County





Report of the Subcommittee on Legislation  
Gerald F. Smith, Chairman

The Legislative Committee was too late to take any positive action during the 1963 General Assembly. During this session four measures were introduced that affected migrants.

Among these was a bill requiring the licensing of all migrant labor camps. The Governor's Committee went on record not recommending this bill for the following reasons:

1. The Board of Health is doing an excellent job in getting conditions improved under the present setup. This is approaching the problem from a positive rather than a punitive angle.

2. There was no provision for fees in the bill. Therefore, more funds would have to be appropriated as the administrative cost would be considerable.

3. The committee would be in favor of a properly written bill if such action would help the Board of Health do its job more effectively.

This bill did not pass.

There was a concurrent resolution introduced to set up a special legislative committee to study the migrant problem. The Governor's Committee felt that this legislative committee should be composed of legislators only and pledged their wholehearted support. The resolution was defeated in committee.

Another bill would have required the registration of crew leaders. It was the opinion of the committee that this would be very desirable on the national level; it is practically done now on the state level, since most crews clear through the Employment Security office anyway. Additional registration would only add to the red tape. This bill did not pass.

Another bill would have prevented the working of any child under twelve in any agricultural occupation. The committee felt that this bill was poorly written, and asked the following questions before taking a position:

Would it disrupt neighborhood harvesting patterns?  
Would it disrupt family relations of migrant families by turning unsupervised children loose in camps?  
Since there are exceptions in all present child labor laws, would there be in this one? For example, domestic labor, newsboys, etc.  
Since no child under 16 can be in the field during school hours, is there any abuse?

This bill did not get out of the Legislative Committee.

The committee recommended that the Legislature appropriate \$15,000 for a rest camp. Due to the pressure of time this bill was never introduced. This will be pushed earlier in the next session according to present plans. We think this should be done because the Employment Service is handicapped in its efforts to assist the workers in finding employment, and the migrants suffer undue hardships because of the lack of such facilities.

The State Department of Public Welfare and the Marshall County Welfare Department believe that the center can be more successful, another year, if there is a broader base for community participation. It has been suggested that the local sponsoring committee be composed of persons from several churches, and several business and social groups in order that there be a greater understanding of the purpose of the project.

There was an enrollment of approximately 60 children during the three weeks the day care center was in operation.

The Marshall County Welfare Department utilized approximately \$875.00 of its grant to help pay staff and other expenditures entailed in operation of the day care center. The local migrant committee furnished some funds also. Teaching staff was obtained through the effort of the Indiana Council of Churches.

The Marshall County Department of Public Welfare Funds were furnished to Marshall County by the State Department of Public Welfare with a grant made from Federal Child Welfare Service Funds available to Indiana from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the purpose of strengthening services to children.

A day care center was established in August for the purpose of providing care for children while the parents were in the fields. The center was set up in a church in Plymouth and was financed through two sources, the Marshall County Migrant Committee of the Council of Churches and the Marshall County Department of Public Welfare, Mr. Ernest Annis, Director.

Much discussion and investigation has been made of the role of the community and state welfare agencies in relation to the migrant. Instances have been called to our attention of definite suffering due to local officials refusing to help migrants. Steps are being taken to correct this. The Welfare Department does have funds available to help in day care centers as illustrated by the following report by Miss Devoe:

Report of the Subcommittee on Welfare  
William Zandstra, Chairman

The committee proposed to have a definite program for the next Legislature to consider.

There should be a center where these people could wait a day or so while the Employment Service finds a job for them. This camp should have a laundry, toilet and bathing facilities and adequate sleeping and cooking facilities. The lack of such facilities has created a definite health hazard in recent years, when actually thousands of migrants have stopped, many of them overnight, at the farm labor information trailer operated by the Employment Service. A meeting was held with representatives of the Indiana Farmers Association discussing the possibility of constructing a camp. Also, Mr. Preston Riley of the U. S. Department of Labor discussed the possibility of government funds. So far nothing definite has come of these explorations. The committee tried to help the Employment Service in securing some land owned by the State Highway for this purpose but was again unsuccessful.

In the past year the Governor's Committee supported legislation to authorize the State Health Commissioner of Indiana to pay for the return of indigent, nonresident persons to their legal residence, or if no legal residence can be established, to pay for the treatment of the migrant until his tuberculosis is arrested.

Health problems other than in the environmental field have been considered by the committee. Examples of other health problems have been: (1) migrants with active tuberculosis and no means for treatment; (2) lack of information on the part of a number of migrants in personal health and hygiene practice; and (3) instances in which there were problems of obtaining and for paying for medical and hospital care in cases of emergency illness or injury. The committee has also been aware of the lack of information about the health problems of migrants on which services could be developed to meet the problems.

One of the first accomplishments of the Governor's Committee was, in cooperation with the Indiana State Board of Health, the development of a set of standards for agricultural migrant labor housing. The Governor's Committee, in turn, supported the request of the Indiana State Board of Health for personnel to carry out a program of camp sanitation and housing inspection, and a program to work with camp operators in the improvement of conditions not meeting standards. Two sanitarians were employed for the program.

The Governor's Committee supports the principle that the migrant laborer and his family working in Indiana are entitled to: (1) environmental conditions which protect his and his family's health and safety; (2) provision for meeting emergencies when sickness or accident occur, if he is unable to provide for himself; and (3) those preventive services - health education, immunization, dental, etc., in proportion to what is considered to be Indiana's fair contribution to the total needs for these services.

The Governor's Committee carries out this purpose in the areas of health, sanitation and housing by working with agencies having programs of services for migrants or which may have the potential for developing programs to meet the needs and problems of migrants.

The Governor's Committee on Migratory Labor has as one of its basic purposes the consideration of needs and problems of migrants in the areas of health, sanitation and housing.

Report of Subcommittee on Health, Sanitation and Housing  
Dr. Verne K. Harvey, Chairman

We would like to see more counties move into plans for day care centers for migrant children.

Also, the State Department of Public Welfare Staff has worked closely with the Migrant Committee of the Indiana Council of Churches, has attended their meetings and has tried to coordinate their efforts with our efforts so as to utilize ideas and skills in one direction, namely, better service for migrant families and children.

Many improvements have been made; however, many problems remain. Overcrowded housing still exists, perhaps not as severe as in the past. However, it is the "number one" problem; for as the overcrowding increases, the other environmental sanitation problems also increase. One cause of crowded conditions is the camp operator's inability to obtain the exact number of migrants he requests. For example, a camp operator needing ten workers may get ten workers with 25 dependents.

The overall condition of the camps within the state has improved since the program inception. The progress attained with the manpower available has been encouraging. The two additional sanitarians (part-time) employed under Migrant Health Project Grant No. MG-20 increased the inspection potential. However, it has not been possible to visit all migratory labor housing during the four to eight weeks' period the vast majority of the camps operate. Inspection and evaluation should be made at the time the camps are in actual use.

The State Board of Health cooperates in this program with the Employment Security Division. The Board certifies to the Employment Security Division as to the adequacy of housing available. The Employment Security Division then attempts to recruit labor from out of state for the camp operators. The Employment Security Division will not recruit labor for a particular camp until the State Board of Health has certified to the adequacy of the housing.

Minimum Housing Standards for Agricultural Labor Camps were developed by the Governor's Committee on Migratory Labor and were adopted by the State Board of Health and the State Fire Marshal. The standards are specific and comprehensive for the evaluation of housing facilities. The standards apply to physical facilities, operation, and maintenance.

The migratory labor camp program was established upon recommendation of the Governor's Committee on Migratory Labor in 1960. The environment in which the migrants are required to live is often unsuitable for human existence. Satisfactory environmental sanitation conditions must be made available for these migrants and their families while they are employed in the state.

The basic objective of the migrant housing program is to improve environmental sanitation facilities provided for migrants employed in the state of Indiana.

The following information relating to migrant housing and health education activities is from a report on the first year's operation of the migrant health project which was supported in part by a Migrant Health Project Grant from the Public Health Service.

The objectives of the project were to provide; (1) increased public health nursing services in camps; (2) survey of dental health needs; (3) health education programs in camps; (4) survey of the health of migrant families; and (5) for additional camp inspectors during the migrant season. This program was instituted for the 1963 migrant season.

In May 1963, Congress appropriated funds for extending and improving health services for migrants. These funds were to be allotted through the U. S. Public Health Service on a project basis. The Governor's Committee supported an application by the Indiana State Board of Health for funds for a project which was approved by the U. S. Public Health Service for funding.

Many camp operators have invested heavily in their housing facilities. Several have spent more than \$10,000 for improvements with additional expenditures pending. One camp has a program to improve its housing before the 1964 season that will cost in excess of \$25,000.

Data Summary, 1963:

I. Number of camps within the state	306
Continued operation	211
*New operation	162
Total camps	679
Total camps in operation, 1963	468
II. II. Camp inspections	1,332
III. Camp populations	2,477
Families	4,343
Men	3,051
Women	4,611
Children	<u>12,005</u>

\*New operation - new camp, initiated or resumed operation, or came to attention of State Board of Health.

It should be noted that the majority of migrants employed within the state bring their families with them and live as family units. Employment differs, of course; a notable instance is the migrants obtained under PL 78. In 1963, 403 Mexican Nationals were employed in the state. Of this total, 357 were utilized in the pickle harvest and 46 in the tomato harvest. There were no British West Indies' citizens employed within the state in 1963.

IV. Camp certification	36
Certified	363
Conditionally certified	69
Uncertified	

V. Migrants per camp	45
Migrants 0-4	60
Migrants 5-9	197
Migrants 10-24	119
Migrants 25-49	22
Migrants 50-74	13
Migrants 75-99	3
Migrants 100-149	7
Migrants 150-199	1
Migrants 200-299	0
Migrants 300-399	1
Migrants 400 plus	1
Total camps in operation, 1963	<u>468</u>

It is interesting to note that 64.5 percent of the camps had less than 25 migrants per camp.

The Migrant Labor Health Education Program was developed in 15 camps in Indiana in 1963, and, many times, workers from smaller camps in the vicinity participated in the program presented at the main camp. The health education program in Indiana was of about two months duration and four counties were involved; Henry, Howard, Tipson, and Miami. There was a great deal of cooperation on the part of owners and companies, and most migrant worker families were quite enthusiastic. There seemed to be few human relations problems encountered in approaching the families.

The most important factor concerning the solving of the language barrier was the problem of translation and interpreter services. Since this factor was not solved satisfactorily in past programs, the effectiveness of this year's program may be attributed to the use of the bi-lingual program. Many of the teenagers who spoke English volunteered to act as interpreters.

The migrant workers, copies of the pamphlets written in Spanish concerning health education for camps, migrant ministers from the Indiana Council of Churches asked us for also held prior to the day the dental health unit arrived. In some of the held the same evening. The job of interpreting the dental health program was migrants, and inviting the workers to the movies and general program to be work involved visiting the camps in the morning, introducing the staff to the concerning general health and dental histories. Some of the interpreters next year. Migrants were also given aid in filling out the questionnaires and hygienist. First aid was taught in some camps and should be increased city, a staff member who spoke Spanish was able to help the nurse, dentist Another communications problem concerned acting as interpreter. In this capacity,

cerned. strips were introduced in Spanish and related to the teaching objectives concerning, and recreation were utilized. All of these films with English sound first aid and safety, nutrition, maternal and child health, sanitation, room- nal and child health. Films concerning disease prevention, dental health, Simple posters were used in teaching about nutrition, dental health and mater-

and dental questionnaires. of media concerning immunization, dental health, nutrition, maternal and child health, and sanitation. Translations were also made of dental service cards Spanish, one of the media problems was the translation of available English pamphlets and leaflets into Spanish. Translations were made of these kinds Since most of the migrants were from Texas, of Mexican origin and spoke

available of various educational media. One of the first projects to be undertaken in connection with the 1963 Migrant Labor Health Education Program in Indiana was the preparation and making

months. permanent staff is implemented with part-time personnel for the full three In 1963 it was impossible to inspect all of the camps while they were in ac-

will require a more concentrated effort. The migrant camps have improved since the inception of the program. The camp facilities have improved steadily; however, the operation of the facilities

In the area of health programs, the Governor's Committee will (1) continue to study the problems of rendering necessary health services to migrant workers and their families, (2) encourage programs to meet the problems, (3) continue to bring to the attention of local committees and the public in general, the health problems of the migrant, and (4) promote the coordination of local, state and regional programs.

Among other things that the Committee has considered has been payment for hospitalization and medical care when the need for such has arisen. The Committee has taken steps to explore the possibility of insurance plans to cover hospitalization. One meeting was devoted to a discussion of coverage with representatives from a private hospitalization insurance program. Because of the nature of the employment and the movement of the migrant from place to place, insurance coverage, to a great degree, is a difficult program to administer. Further study in this area is necessary.

In many instances, local migrant committees were strengthened; however, this also seems to be a major area that will assure better programs for migrant workers.

Our experience would indicate that health education through health instruction and where possible in conjunction with day care centers, should be given high priority. In addition, personal contact was found to be very productive when problems were discussed, and facilities and services that may be available were brought to their attention.

This leaves 20 per cent of the migrants who are continually moving about the country. Statistics from the survey would indicate that the majority of the migrants are spending more time at home in Texas, therefore, are receiving more preventive medical services; and that the children are getting more schooling as the younger ones have a class standing comparable to their ages.

Information was obtained regarding certain facts about the health status of migrants, their level of education and from where they came and where they were planning to go.

Information relative to movement of the migrants indicated that approximately 40 per cent came directly to Indiana from their homes in Texas for the tomato season and would return to Texas when tomato season closed. In addition, another 40 per cent indicated they came to Indiana from Michigan and would likewise return to Texas from Indiana.

There was a total of 85 families from 15 camps interviewed which resulted in one family out of 20 being interviewed. Total membership indicated 79 fathers, 84 mothers and 372 children. Twelve families had nine children. Average size of families, six plus. Age breakdown - 37 under 1 year; 83 - preschool; 182, 6 to 16; and 163, 17 and over.

A primary objective of the first year's program was to gather information that could be used in program planning for subsequent years. A questionnaire was developed by a committee from the State Board of Health to collect this information and it was the responsibility of the Division of Health and Physical Education staff to interview migrant families.

*J. W. 1960-63*



## Education for Children of the Migrant Workers

THE annual harvesting and processing of the tomato crop at Mount Summit (Henry County) depends, to a large extent, upon the agricultural workers who travel to Indiana each year from the Southwest. This year, some 600 migrant workers picked tomatoes and/or helped to process them in the local cannery at Mount Summit. Since World War II, such agricultural workers have been traveling each year to Indiana, bringing with them their wives and children. While the migrant workers do not remain for long periods of time in a single community, it is necessary for the community to make arrangements, while they are there, to provide educational facilities for the school-aged children.

At Mount Summit this year, there were 77 children of migrant workers enrolled in the Mount Summit Elementary School. The school's total enrollment, excluding the migrant children, is 771, and according to Robert Beall, principal, "for the past several years approximately this number of children have been absorbed annually into the school population."

Mr. Beall said, "these youngsters have not presented any disciplinary problems—their personal appearance is good, and for the most part, they are good students."

Judy Wasson, student teacher, who represented the Indiana State Board of Health in camps for migrant workers this year, talks with some of the children about health.



The bulk of the children were absorbed in the classrooms of grades one through six, but there were also seven children of migrant workers in the seventh grade, and three in the ninth grade. It was necessary this year, Mr. Beall said, to set up a classroom for first and second grade children. Since there were no rooms available for this purpose, the cafeteria was used and a substitute teacher was employed. The children attended school for five to six weeks.

A small charge was made for book rentals for each student, and a school lunch was provided, with 90 percent of the children of migrants paying for their lunches. Churches in the community furnished morning milk for the youngsters.

Mr. Beall pointed out that there were language problems for some of the children, and additional time was spent with such children teaching them English. At the end of the six week period, the children of migrant workers were given a report card, and upon leaving the Mount Summit school, the records were sent on to the schools which they were to attend later in the year.

When asked if he had noticed anything outstanding about the migrant children, Mr. Beall said, "for the most part, they are just like the



