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# THE COUNTRY CHURCH

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C. O. GILL AND GIFFORD PINCHOT



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## THE COUNTRY CHURCH



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TORONTO

# THE COUNTRY CHURCH

THE DECLINE OF ITS INFLUENCE AND  
THE REMEDY

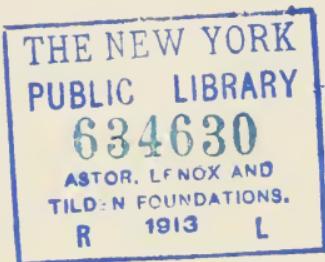
BY  
CHARLES OTIS GILL  
AND  
GIFFORD PINCHOT

PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE  
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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Several hundred individuals have given valuable assistance in this investigation. Many men and women have spent hours at the tiresome task of going over long lists of names in the work on church attendance. In addition to these, church clerks, treasurers, and pastors have done much in looking up and correcting statistical data. So large is the number that all who have helped cannot be mentioned by name, and it is hoped that they will accept this as an expression of the authors' appreciation and gratitude.

To the late Prof. D. Collins Wells, of Dartmouth College, the authors are particularly indebted for his assistance in determining the changes in the cost of living in the different towns and for many valuable suggestions.



## INTRODUCTION

The investigation whose results are here set forth had its origin in the work of the Commission on Country Life. The study of rural conditions conducted by the commission emphasized the importance of the country church as nothing else has done, and led at once to the inquiry whether in size and power it is growing or declining, and whether it is doing effectually the work which belongs to it. That inquiry could not be answered merely by collecting opinions. Many men whose conclusions were entitled to respect were found to believe that the country church was losing its hold upon the people and failing to fill the place it ought to occupy. Others whose judgment was equally entitled to consideration maintained that far from failing to perform its mission, the country church was as prosperous and efficient in rural communities as the city church in the towns, and that no extraordinary or unusual need could be shown for its improvement.

There is no single factor in the advancement of righteousness and civilization which can be more influential and effective than the country church. Therefore the

sharp divergence of opinion as to its working condition, among men who ought to know, called for prompt and serious attention, and all the more because these differences often concerned the same States, the same counties, and even the same rural communities. Since authorities disagreed it was obvious that the first step toward solving the problem of the country church must be to learn the facts about its past and present condition, its needs, and the needs of the people whom it serves.

Only a little study of existing records was required to show that these facts had never been brought together and that an investigation was badly needed. Accordingly, the present study of the country church was planned during a series of conferences between Charles Otis Gill and the writer of this preface, beginning in the summer of 1909. It was based on the evident proposition that the first step is to establish the facts, and that the remedy cannot be found until the true nature of the difficulty has been disclosed, and it proceeds on the theory that exact results are more important than generalizations less firmly established.

In order to be thorough the investigation was thus undertaken within an area no larger than two counties, one in Vermont, the other in New York. The facts it

presents were ascertained, and are here given, in some detail, and the effort is made to let them speak for themselves, with as little explanation or comment as the nature of the case will allow.

The shares taken by Mr. Gill and myself in the work were as follows: Both were concerned in the preparation of the general plan. The field work was done entirely by Mr. Gill or under his immediate supervision, and the method of ascertaining the facts needed to compare past and present church attendance and expenditures was developed entirely by him. He also worked up in the office the results of his studies in the field. During the progress of the work my part was that of adviser, and I am responsible for the final revision of the manuscript for the press.

Mr. Gill's peculiar fitness for the work of this investigation arises in part from his long and intimate personal acquaintance with the problem of country life. For fifteen years he has been a country minister. One of his tasks was to establish a church in a country community in Vermont which had been without one for more than twenty years. When Mr. Gill came to it, the moral and social laxity of the whole community was flagrant. Disbelief in the existence of goodness appeared to be common, public disapproval of inde-

cency was timid or lacking, and religion was in general disrepute. Not only was there no day of worship, but also no day of rest. Life was mean, hard, small, selfish, and covetous. Land belonging to the town was openly pillaged by the public officers who held it in trust; real estate values were low; and among the respectable families there was a general desire to sell their property and move away.

Then a church was organized. The change which followed was swift, striking, thorough, and enduring. The public property of the town, once a source of graft and demoralization, became a public asset. The value of real estate increased beyond all proportion to the general rise of land values elsewhere. In the decade and a half which has elapsed since the church began its work, boys and girls of a new type have been brought up. The reputation of the village has been changed from bad to good, public order has greatly improved, and the growth of the place as a summer resort has begun. It is fair to say that the establishment of the church under Mr. Gill began a new era in the history of the town.

It was with such a record of practical success in the country church that Mr. Gill undertook the study whose results are here set down.

GIFFORD PINCHOT.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS . . . . .	v
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	vii

### I. RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION

1. THE NEED OF FACTS . . . . .	3
2. THE PLAN OF THE INVESTIGATION . . . . .	7
3. SUMMARY OF RESULTS . . . . .	11
4. CHURCH ATTENDANCE . . . . .	19
5. A METHOD FOR STUDYING ATTENDANCE . . . . .	23
6. COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES . . . . .	24
7. MINISTERS' SALARIES . . . . .	28
8. EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT OF MINISTERS . . . . .	31
9. A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH . . . . .	33
10. REMEDIES . . . . .	37
IMPROVEMENT OF COUNTRY LIFE . . . . .	38
SCHOOLS . . . . .	41
A PROGRAM OF SOCIAL SERVICE . . . . .	42
AN EFFECTIVE COUNTRY MINISTRY . . . . .	46
CHURCH COOPERATION . . . . .	50
ORGANIZATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICE . . . . .	52
II. ORGANIZATION IN VERMONT . . . . .	53

### II. WINDSOR COUNTY

1. THE LOCALITY AND THE PEOPLE . . . . .	63
2. MEMBERSHIP . . . . .	72
3. ATTENDANCE . . . . .	74
RECORDS OF ATTENDANCE . . . . .	84
THE GILL METHOD . . . . .	98
THE METHOD TESTED . . . . .	101
4. ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP COMPARED . . . . .	110

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
5. INCOME AND EXPENDITURES . . . . .	115
THE CHANGE IN PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING . . . . .	115
TOTAL EXPENDITURES . . . . .	122
BENEVOLENCES . . . . .	128
MINISTERS' SALARIES . . . . .	133
OTHER EXPENDITURES . . . . .	138
6. EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT OF MINISTERS . . . . .	139
7. ACTIVITIES OF THE DENOMINATIONS . . . . .	140
8. OVER-CHURCHING . . . . .	143

## III. TOMPKINS COUNTY

1. THE LOCALITY AND THE PEOPLE . . . . .	147
2. MEMBERSHIP . . . . .	152
3. ATTENDANCE . . . . .	156
4. MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE COMPARED . . . . .	163
5. INCOME AND EXPENDITURES . . . . .	166
THE CHANGE IN PRICES AND THE COST OF LIVING . . . . .	166
EXPENDITURES . . . . .	170
BENEVOLENCES . . . . .	175
IMPROVEMENTS . . . . .	179
MINISTERS' SALARIES . . . . .	183
DONATIONS . . . . .	186
6. EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT OF MINISTERS . . . . .	189
7. ACTIVITIES OF THE DENOMINATIONS . . . . .	190
8. LARGER VILLAGES COMPARED WITH SMALLER VILLAGES AND THE OPEN COUNTRY . . . . .	193
MEMBERSHIP . . . . .	196
ATTENDANCE . . . . .	198
INCOME AND EXPENDITURES . . . . .	200
INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES . . . . .	204
RURAL ATTENDANTS OF RURAL CHURCHES AND RURAL ATTENDANTS OF LARGER VILLAGES . . . . .	206
RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF RURAL CHURCHES AND CHURCHES OF LARGER VILLAGES . . . . .	209
9. OVER-CHURCHING . . . . .	211
10. THE CHURCH ON GOOD LAND AND ON POOR LAND . . . . .	214

# THE COUNTRY CHURCH

I

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION



# THE COUNTRY CHURCH

## I. THE NEED OF FACTS

The ability of a nation to maintain the integrity and vigor of its rural population is the real test of its vitality. It was to the decadence of country life, not of city life, that the fall of Rome was due; and it is the rush of the best people of the country to the town that to-day presents the fundamental question of rural life as affecting the welfare of the whole nation.

The rapid growth of our cities has brought us two great sets of problems: — the first concerned with the social and industrial conditions of city life; the second with the country, both for its own sake and as the source from which the city draws not only its supplies of the raw materials of food, clothing, and shelter, but also the vigorous manhood and womanhood from which its power is chiefly derived. The removal of the best young people from the country to the city necessarily produces a decline in the quality of the country population which must be followed by a decline in its social

and industrial life. This in its turn accentuates the relative attractiveness of the cities, and so the evil grows.

Among the institutions available for the great task of restoring country life to its proper and necessary place in the life of the nation, the country church holds or should hold the commanding place. It should vitalize all the forces of education, experience, and social and industrial organization for the general good. It has done so in the past, and it can do so again. Historically the country church has exerted a determining influence upon the religious, moral, and social life of rural communities in the United States during whole periods in our national development. This was notably true during the century which followed the landing of the Pilgrims in New England.

At times not only the intellectual and moral leadership, but the agricultural and industrial leadership as well, have belonged to the country church, and it has been the most important agency in promoting civilization in rural life. This is no longer entirely true. From being an active uplifting force it has become a conserving influence merely. What the rural church is now doing cannot be measured by positive advance, but only by the amount of deterioration which it helps to prevent. This is a condition that cannot lightly be

suffered to continue. The country church must be restored to its old-time vitality and influence as an indispensable condition of the revival and continuance of a wholesome life in the open country. The penalty for failure to do so will be the continued general decadence of rural life.

If, then, the country church is an important institution, whose prosperity is essential to the welfare of country people and yet is in question, its situation when this study was begun called for investigation:

First, because knowledge of the facts must precede knowledge of the best way to meet them. No investigation of the facts of rural life could be complete without a knowledge of the country church. Any survey of rural life would be fatally defective if it failed to include a study of the country church, and any study of the country church which treated it merely as one of many things to be investigated would not be thorough enough to meet the actual needs of the present situation.

Second, because available statistics as to the condition of the country church were found to be misleading, inconclusive, or altogether lacking. The facts as to membership, expenditures, and income needed to be understood with a degree of exactness which was

not possible in the absence of an investigation such as is here described.

Third, because there was no general consensus of opinion as to the actual condition of the country church, or as to the causes which operate upon it.

An effort to learn the condition of the country church from the best known authorities established at once their failure to agree as to the facts, while the difference of opinion as to remedies required was equally radical. Pastors of successful and influential churches were found to believe, as a rule, that all was well. Some of their parishioners agreed with them. Pastors of unsuccessful churches and members of country churches generally held the opposite view. Officials of home missionary societies were usually confident of the flourishing condition of the country church, while officers of the Y. M. C. A. were equally firm in the contrary opinion. Some who held that the country church was losing ground attributed its retreat to economic conditions, others to racial decline, still others saw in it the result of an inferior ministry, while some assigned as its cause a general lapse in religious faith. The remedies proposed were equally various.

This disagreement as to the facts and the needs has made it impossible for the church generally to realize

that the condition of the country church constitutes an emergency, and thus has altogether prevented concerted action to meet the actual situation. No effective united action in favor of the rural church can be expected until the essential facts as to its condition and its necessities have been established beyond dispute.

## 2. THE PLAN OF THE INVESTIGATION

To ascertain whether the country church is increasing or decreasing in effectiveness, a basis of comparison between its present and its past conditions must be found. This basis should be of such a character as will show not only the relation between the present and past of the church itself, but also between present and past conditions in the community of which the church forms a part. The church does not exist for itself; it is an agency for the service of social needs, and must not be considered as though it stood alone. The important question is how effectively it produces results.

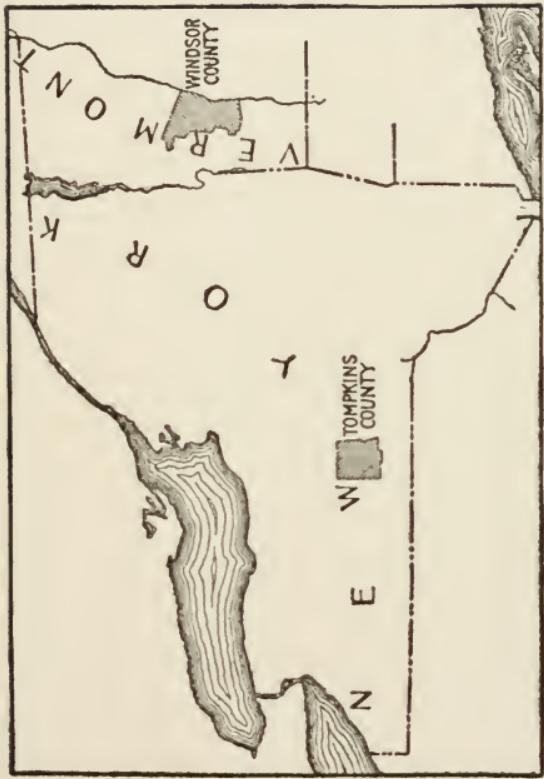
Any attempt to answer this question for the whole country church at once would necessarily result in mere generalities. Hence it was decided to limit the inquiry to a single county at a time, and thus make

possible a knowledge of the situation sufficiently detailed and exact to supply a sound foundation upon which conclusions might safely rest.

The first county chosen was Windsor County, Vermont. It was selected because it is typical of agricultural New England, and because Mr. Gill was already well enough known to its people to make them willing to coöperate with him in the difficult early stages of the work. Tompkins County, New York, was chosen next, because its northern and southern portions are representative of large areas in northern and southern New York, and because a careful agricultural survey of the county by the Agricultural College of Cornell University had just been completed.

The natural question to ask first was: How effective is the church in the lines of activity upon which the church itself places most emphasis?

All doubt as to what these lines of activity are was removed by obtaining from the ministers of Windsor and Tompkins counties answers to printed questions and by personal interviews with many laymen. The church in these counties lays most emphasis upon (1) membership, (2) expenditures and activities dependent upon them, (3) attendance and activities dependent upon it. The latter includes attendance at



NEW YORK STATE AND VERMONT

Sunday Schools, church societies, and other gatherings as well as at regular church services.

Available statistics for Sunday Schools and young people's societies in the two counties are so incomplete, and in many localities so clearly misleading, so different from the results of observation and inquiry, that it was decided to eliminate them entirely from the stated conclusions of the investigation. Nevertheless, such facts as could be learned by personal interviews were gathered in each county.

This volume presents the results of a careful study of the facts as to gains and losses, over a period of twenty years, in attendance, expenditures, and membership, first in Windsor County, Vermont, where every Protestant Church was covered, and next in Tompkins County, New York, where every Protestant Church outside of the city and township of Ithaca was included. Certain other facts necessary for an understanding of these results are presented also.

The specific points upon which information was gathered were as follows:

1. The changes in church attendance and membership in twenty years.
2. The change in contributions, measured both in dollars and in purchasing power, in twenty years.

3. The change in ministers' salaries, measured both in dollars and purchasing power, in twenty years.
4. The equipment of ministers for their work.
5. The effect of too many churches upon the general activities and prosperity of the country church.
6. A comparison of churches in the smaller communities with the churches in the larger towns and villages, and of churches in regions of good soil with churches in regions of poor soil.
7. A special inquiry into the methods of work of the more successful churches.
8. Changes in the population (including Protestants and non-Protestants), and in the agricultural and industrial conditions of the two counties, in twenty years.

### 3. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In the investigation thus originated and planned, the conclusions from the earlier study in Windsor County are confirmed by those of the later study in Tompkins County. The results so checked and supported are believed to be accurate. If true, they are certainly important. They show that in these counties the country church has suffered a decline which proves beyond question that it is losing its hold on the community.

The statistics which were already available at the beginning of the investigation did not point to this conclusion. Neither did certain preliminary figures secured in each county. The actual facts were found only after special methods of research had been devised and applied. These methods are described on pages 23 and 24.

In making the comparison of conditions at the beginning of an interval of twenty years and at its end, for Windsor County the years 1888 and 1908 were chosen; for the later study in Tompkins County the years 1890 and 1910. Tompkins County has nine townships. Except where otherwise stated, the figures for that county do not include the city of Ithaca and the township in which it lies, but only the eight rural townships of the county.

To compare expenditures for any two particular years twenty years apart might well be misleading, because of accidental variations in one or both of the years selected. Therefore, figures were gathered for two five year periods twenty years apart and the average for one period was compared with the average for the other. For Windsor County these two periods ran from 1885 to 1889 inclusive, and from 1905 to 1909 inclusive. For the later study in Tompkins County,

the periods 1886 to 1890 inclusive and 1906 to 1910 inclusive were chosen.

The principal facts developed by the investigation are briefly as follows:

Church membership in Windsor County increased in the twenty years 4 per cent, and in Tompkins County 2 per cent. These figures on their face point to hopeful conclusion concerning the churches, which further study shows to be unwarranted. One of the important results of the investigation was to show the wholly misleading character of statistics of membership as a measure of vitality for the churches in Windsor and Tompkins counties. The truth of this statement appears the moment we compare membership with expenditures measured in purchasing power and with attendance.

When expressed in dollars, the expenditures of the churches in Windsor County increased 23 per cent, and in Tompkins County 7 per cent in the twenty years. But when measured in purchasing power, or in their ability to produce results, church expenditures in Windsor County declined 2 per cent, and in Tompkins County 9 per cent in the twenty years. This decline is still more significant when it is contrasted with the rapidly increasing scale of expenditures in nearly all departments of human life, and with the further fact

that in the two counties there is a general feeling of good will toward the churches, which results in money contributions for their support by those who are identified with them in no other way. In Windsor County, also, important contributions are made to the churches by summer residents and by non-residents.

The churches of both counties are giving less and less pay to their ministers. Reckoned in dollars, there was an increase of 16 per cent in Windsor County, while in Tompkins County the increase was less than 1 per cent. Reckoned in purchasing power, less real pay was given in each county during the second period than in the first. The amount of real pay declined 7 per cent in Windsor and nearly 16 per cent in Tompkins County. In Windsor County 64 per cent and in Tompkins County 72 per cent of the ministers were receiving less real pay in the second period than were their predecessors in the first period. In Windsor County 34 out of 53 ministers, and in Tompkins County 21 out of 29 ministers received in purchasing power smaller salaries than those of twenty years before.

In view of such facts as these it is but natural that in both counties the educational equipment of the ministry should be inadequate to meet the needs of the present day. In Windsor County 75 per cent and in

Tompkins County 85 per cent of the ministers have never had a full course of seven years' preparation in college and theological seminary. In both counties the proportion of ministers who are foreign born is so great as to raise the question whether enough American young men enter the rural ministry. In Windsor County 25 per cent, and in Tompkins County 33 per cent are either foreign born or sons of foreign born, yet in both of these counties the Protestant population is of nearly pure American stock.

But it is neither membership nor expenditures, but attendance, which furnishes the best measure of the hold of the church upon its people.

It is true that attendance at Sunday worship is not the main object of the Christian religion. Nevertheless, there is no other index of the place of the church in the life of the people so reliable as the attendance. Our investigation has abundantly confirmed the truth of this statement. Men and women go to church because it is their duty or because they want to. In either case, it is the hold of the church and what the church stands for which supplies the motive power.

Church attendance in Windsor County fell off in twenty years nearly 31 per cent, and in Tompkins County 33 per cent. Making allowances for the de-

cline in Protestant population, the loss in Windsor County was more than 29 per cent, and in Tompkins County more than 19 per cent. Furthermore, there is evidence that church attendance in Windsor County has been declining in relation to membership for fifty years. This is doubtless true in Tompkins County also, but we lack sufficient records to prove it except for the last twenty years. In the twenty year period in Windsor County, out of 49 churches for which the facts were learned as to both attendance and membership, it was found that in no less than 37 the attendance had declined in proportion to membership, while in Tompkins County out of a total of 36 churches all but two were similarly affected, so that in the two counties together the attendance declined in proportion to membership in 71 churches out of 85.

But the situation is more serious than even these facts would lead us to suppose. The investigation shows that the condition of the churches in the strictly rural districts is very much worse than in the large villages, although there is reason to fear that in a decade or two the condition of the churches in these larger communities also will become acute.

In Tompkins County there is a gain in the churches of the larger villages of 9 per cent in membership, a

gain of 8 per cent in expenditures reckoned in purchasing power, and a loss of only 12 per cent in attendance, while in the churches of the smaller communities there is a loss of 3 per cent in membership, 20 per cent in expenditures, and 40 per cent in attendance. In the strictly rural districts in Windsor County there is a loss in church attendance of no less than 53 per cent. In a very large part of the churches of both counties, the congregations have been decreasing so rapidly and are now so small as to make the conditions and prospects most disheartening to the church-going people.

Statisticians do not commonly make distinctions between the two classes of communities here considered. Thus in the figures of the United States Census, towns of less than 2,500 inhabitants are grouped with the strictly rural districts. It is evident, therefore, that the country church problem and the country life problem for the area investigated is far more acute than statistical data would have led us to suppose.

In both counties the church encounters little or no hostility, and in most communities enjoys the more or less passive good will of the people. Yet it has been losing in prestige and influence, while the persons identified with the church as a rule constitute a less influen-

tial part of the population than was the case twenty years ago.

The great decline in church attendance in the open country is the most alarming fact developed by the investigation.

Important evidence was found to show the evil effect of over churching. In the smaller communities the more numerous the churches the greater the loss in attendance in the last twenty years. In the two townships in Windsor County which had each but one church, each of the two has held its own in the twenty year period better than the churches in other townships.

In the smaller villages and open country of Tompkins County, in almost every case it is true that each church which has a field to itself now prospers better than competitive churches in other communities. Thus in the small communities with only one church there has been a loss of total church attendance of 30 per cent in twenty years, while in the small communities with two churches there was a loss of 50 per cent and where there were more than two churches a loss of 55 per cent.

To sum up: While in the twenty years church expenditures in the two counties expressed in dollars indicated a gain, when expressed in purchasing power they showed a loss. While membership was making a

trifling gain, church attendance was suffering an alarming reduction. In a word, the vitality and power of the country church in these two counties is in decline.

#### 4. CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Before the present investigation was made there existed no considerable amount of recorded evidence bearing upon recent changes in church attendance. Such records as could be found bear out, however, the conclusions reached through the investigation. In Vermont, the ministers of such Congregational and Baptist Churches as are assisted by their state home missionary organizations, commonly count their congregations and make reports. Of the seven aided Congregational Churches of Vermont for which there is a record of attendance for periods of about twenty years, in all but one attendance has fallen off. The loss for the seven is from 64 to 45, or an average of 35 per cent. The aided Baptist Churches, more than twenty in number, are shown by the records to have sustained a loss in attendance of 37 per cent in 14 years.

During the investigation in Windsor County, records for counted congregations were secured for 34 different churches. Of these only 9 gained in attendance,

while 25 lost. Seven of the records do not extend into the period of the investigation and may be disregarded. Since 1888, or the closest year preceding or following that date for which attendance was recorded, the records show 4 churches which gained in attendance as against 23 which lost.

Records of church attendance and membership in Windsor County were found in considerable number for the years 1856 to 1864. During these years the average congregation was invariably larger, and as a rule very much larger, than the membership. In 1860 for example, the average membership for 36 Congregational Churches was 46, while the average congregation was 99, or more than double the membership. In 1865 the total membership of this denomination for the State was 17,136, while the average attendance was 22,274. In that year the total Congregational membership in Windsor County Association was 2,788, while the attendance numbered 3,380. In 1874 the attendance was less than the membership. In nine years attendance had changed from 17 per cent greater than membership to 3 per cent less, while in the State the corresponding change was from 29 per cent greater to 6 per cent less. Reports of aided Baptist Churches of Vermont from 1886 to 1902 show the same tendency.

Records to show a similar state of facts for Tompkins County are lacking except for the twenty years covered by the investigation, but the belief that the facts are the same is practically universal among the old church members throughout the county.

We have seen that out of the 85 churches in the two counties the attendance in no less than 71, or  $83\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, has declined in proportion to their membership. One church in Windsor County with an average attendance of 75 had an enrolled membership of 271, of whom only 186 were finally found to be living. In another church the actual count for a period of six months showed only 10 per cent of the resident members attending church.

In one community in Tompkins County, where the three existing churches taken together are not as strong now as any one of them was twenty years ago, the total membership has increased 48 per cent, while one of these churches, whose average attendance has dwindled to about 10, and which is about to die, has increased its members on the rolls 283 per cent in the last twenty years, which increase is accompanied by a decline in attendance of 69 per cent.

In 20 out of 23 towns in Windsor County (the 24th town, Baltimore, has no church), and in all

the 8 towns considered in Tompkins County, the loss in attendance is greater than the loss in membership, while in 19 out of the 23 towns in Windsor County, and in a majority of the towns in Tompkins County, the membership is increasing while the attendance is falling off.

It has been urged that the discrepancy between membership and attendance might be laid to the non-attendance of non-resident members, but Table II (page 113) disposes of this contention. Out of 32 churches in Windsor County for which the necessary figures exist there are 26 in which resident membership has increased in proportion to attendance, and only 6 in which attendance has gained in proportion to resident membership.

It has already been stated that there has been a marked decline in church attendance for twenty years in both counties, both absolutely and in proportion to the Protestant population. It appears now that this loss has been in progress for at least fifty years, and that the tendency to stay away from church exists not only in the community in general but in church members as well.

## 5. A METHOD FOR STUDYING ATTENDANCE

The method devised by Mr. Gill by which church attendance in a given year was compared with church attendance twenty years later is set forth in detail in Part II (page 97). It was applied first in Windsor County for the two years 1888 and 1908. Briefly it was as follows:

In 1888, there were 30,364 Protestant people in Windsor County; in 1908, 29,785. From the tax list of the county and by other methods, fairly complete lists were obtained of all families living in the county in 1888, and again in 1908. Carefully chosen persons in each church were then invited to go over the lists, and to record the church-going habits of every member of every family in each of the two years. Those who went to church were divided into three classes,—occasional attendants, who went to church from one-sixth to one-third of the time; frequent attendants, who went from one-third to two-thirds of the time; and regular attendants, who went more than two-thirds of the time. Through the generous and earnest coöperation of several hundred people in the county, it was possible to assign the whole Protestant church-going population to these three classes.

While the investigation was in progress records of counted congregations were found for 35 churches. By the use of these records it became possible to compare and check the results of the investigation with actual recorded counts in the case of about 40 per cent of the churches. Usually the agreement was close. In some cases the results of the counts showed a greater loss in church attendance than did the investigation, while in only two cases did the investigation indicate a greater loss than the count, and in both of these the differences were very slight. Accordingly it is clear that the facts may be worse than the investigation indicates. They are certainly not better.

#### 6. COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES

It is not sufficient, in making a comparison between the expenditures of two periods twenty years apart, to ascertain merely the number of dollars contributed and spent. This is true for two reasons. First, the average expenditures for nearly all purposes have greatly increased in the United States since 1888. Even when a church spends the same amount now as it did twenty years ago, its expenditures, when compared with the higher plane of spending on which men live

to-day, will have fallen off in spite of the fact that the number of dollars remains the same. Second, the purchasing power of the dollar now is smaller than it was twenty years ago. In order to produce the same results the church must spend more money now than it did then.

Prices and the cost of living have risen in twenty years. Therefore any instructive comparison between church expenditures at the two periods must take into account the change in the purchasing power of the dollar. Hence it became necessary to ascertain the relative purchasing power of the dollar in the two years compared. In order to do so, those items were selected for comparison which the reports of the Department of Commerce and Labor indicate as most important in household expenditure. Accordingly prices were sought and found for each of the years on beef steak, ham, salt and fresh pork, lamb, chickens, eggs, fish, milk, butter, cheese, lard, sugar, potatoes, flour, rice, beans, coffee, tea, kerosene, wood, coal, and rent.

This list was taken into the general stores and meat markets of the different townships, old day books and ledgers were hunted out, and from them the different prices of the articles were ascertained. Rents were found from rental values of parsonages and other

records. Articles of clothing under the same general name were found to be of such different quality and price in the same year that it was impossible to make reliable comparisons.

For Windsor County, prices were ascertained for any one year from 1875 to 1880, any one year from 1880 to 1884 inclusive; any one year from 1885 to 1889 inclusive, for 1890, 1893, 1895, 1898, 1900, 1903, 1905, 1908 and 1909. Fairly complete results were obtained in 20 out of the 23 townships in which there were churches.

For Tompkins County prices were ascertained for any one year from 1875 to 1879 inclusive; any one year from 1880 to 1884; for the years 1886, 1888, 1890, 1893, 1895, 1898, 1900, 1903, 1905, 1906, 1908, 1909, and 1910. Nearly complete results were obtained from all the 8 townships.

Having completed the list of prices for the different years, the prices of one particular year were taken as 100, and all prices for other years were reduced to percentages of the prices in that year. Then these percentages were given relative weight in accordance with the proportion of the family income spent for each article in the average household, as indicated by a report of the Department of Commerce and Labor for 1903. Since figures for Vermont were not included in this

report, those for New Hampshire, which bounds Windsor County on one side, were used for that county. In this way a table was made of the relative cost of living in the different years.

An example will make plain the rest of the process. Suppose that a minister's salary during the first period averaged \$1,000 a year, and in the second period twenty years later averaged \$1,200. The cost of living in the first period is taken at 100. By comparison, in the second period it is found to be 130. The purchasing power of the dollar in the first period is taken as 100, and in the second it is 100 divided by 130 or .769. The real or purchasing value of the salary, which was \$1,000 in the first period, in the second period would be \$1,200 multiplied by .769, or \$922.80. Thus in spite of the increase in the number of dollars paid him, the minister in the example would actually be poorer in the second period than in the first.

When the results of the price comparisons thus ascertained were worked out it was found that in the twenty towns of Windsor County for which data were available the average increase in the cost of living during the twenty year period was 24 per cent. The greatest increase was 48 per cent in the town of Hartford; the smallest increase is 7 per cent in the town of Weston.

Hartford is at the junction of three railroads, while Weston is shut off by hills from railroad communication. In Tompkins County the greatest increase was 28 per cent in the township of Groton, and the least 14 per cent in the townships of Ulysses and Enfield while for the county as a whole the increase was 19 per cent. The towns of Tompkins County vary less in size and accessibility to markets than those of Windsor County, which explains the smaller variations in the cost of living.

#### 7. MINISTERS' SALARIES

It is unquestionably true that the way to secure a country ministry composed of men of character and efficiency is to make the work large enough and broad enough to attract such men. On the other hand, the character and efficiency of the country church will be greatly affected by the type of men who enter it. It is true that men who are seriously considering the ministry as their profession are not likely to be actuated by mercenary motives. Nevertheless a life unduly limited on the material side does not attract the best men. Moreover, a low standard of pay deters men already in the ministry from advising the best young men of their parishes to take it up. The same cause has driven

many men of intellectual capacity and high character out of the ministry in order to secure the necessities of life for their families and themselves.

More than in former years the ministers of the present are dependent on their salaries for their support. In the earlier days, when the minister came to the parish he was received as a member of an intimate community, and the people felt responsible for the supply of his needs. When killing animals for food the farmers gave him part of the meat. A part of the harvest was his also, and money and food supplies came to him in formal donations. In Table 39 (pages 186, 187) it is shown that "donations" to ministers in one set of churches in Tompkins County declined more than 60 per cent in twenty years. Reports from other churches point to a similar change, as does also the common testimony of the older people of the communities investigated.

In the Baptist Churches in Vermont it was once thought improper for ministers to preach for money or to take pay for their services. At first this was a matter of conscience, later a matter of parsimony. Later still the minister came to accept his salary with his office as a matter of course. At present, beyond paying the amount agreed upon, a parish does not ordinarily assume responsibility for the support of its

pastor. This may be an improvement on the old way, but it can be so only when the minister receives a salary of adequate purchasing power.

The needs of life to-day are greater than those of twenty years ago. The general standard of living is higher, and men commonly spend more now than they did then. The minister needs not only better, and so more expensive, preparation, but he needs also more books and periodicals. The country minister needs money to attend conferences and to keep in touch with other ministers and with students of the public welfare. The cost of feeding his horse is very much greater than it was. He must furnish his own equipment in other lines also, and pay for the wear and tear.

The average minister in Windsor and Tompkins counties does not receive a living salary; much less does he receive a working salary. It is small wonder that those who assist churches in getting their ministers report a scarcity of good men available, or that many good men have been leaving the ministry who would much prefer to stay if they could do so and still support their families. One successful minister in Tompkins County graduated from a leading Theological Seminary in a class of twenty-five. Twenty-five years after graduation it was found that only six members of his

class were still in the ministry. The cause assigned was the lack of a living salary.

The decline in the support of the ministry in Windsor and Tompkins counties is so serious a matter that the country church problem in this area can not be solved without better salaries for the country ministers.

#### 8. EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT OF MINISTERS

The demands of modern thought call for an educational equipment on the part of the ministry far greater than has been necessary in the past. It is important to know whether the ministers have prepared themselves to meet these demands. Letters inquiring as to length and character of courses taken in college and seminary were sent to all of the ninety-one ministers of the two counties, and answers were received from seventy-nine.

From these answers it appears that only twelve ministers in Windsor and Tompkins counties completed the regular college and seminary course of seven years which a high standard of preparation requires. Thirty-four had received either college or seminary training, or both together, of from three to six years. Ten had taken the course in reading and study pre-

scribed by Methodist Episcopal Conferences; while forty-seven (or more than half) had received no training which could be regarded as adequate for a minister of the present day. These forty-seven had received less instruction in institutions of learning than the least that it is customary for physicians to receive in the counties investigated.

While it may not be possible to say, in any individual case, that a fixed amount of training in college and seminary is indispensable for good service in the ministry, it is certain that on the average a low standard of preparation will produce a low standard of work. In the long run the qualities which lead a young man to demand for himself a thorough preparation as a student will also make him demand of himself a high degree of efficiency in his work as a minister.

Long ago the leaders of modern religious thought began to apply the scientific method to their study of religion. The readjustment of religious doctrine in accordance with the scientific method calls for religious teachers of better equipment than we now have in the country. The lack of them leads at times to a striking discrepancy between what is taught in the country churches and what is taught in seminaries and universities. This discrepancy in turn leads to confusion and

misapprehension as to what the church stands for and what is essential to its teaching. The repetition of old expressions and old modes of thought does not satisfy the needs of modern people. Higher intellectual standards for the ministry are indispensable to insure progress.

The scarcity of well-equipped men, willing to accept country parishes under present conditions, prevents the denominations from raising their standard of ministerial training. But much more depends upon the kind of men the ministry attracts to its ranks than upon their educational equipment. What is chiefly needed is to make the work of a country minister better worth doing. When that is accomplished it will be easy to find better men, and better trained men, to do it.

#### 9. A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH

The most successful church in Windsor County has a conception of its mission essentially different from that of most of the others. Both in conducting its own affairs and in its relation to the community, its work is based on broad principles of democracy and social service, and the object of the work is the community rather than the church itself.

This church is actively interested in the work and

play of the community as well as in its ethical welfare. It renders its services without regard to what it may gain for itself as a result of them. Although it is the originator and promoter of various movements which are not conducted in the name of the church, it does not seek credit for the good work accomplished. Thus, by the church's initiative, a civic league was formed, which has become an important factor in awakening public sentiment and creating a demand for the reasonable enforcement of law. The result is a general improvement in the morals of the township and greater coöperation among public-spirited citizens for the betterment of conditions in the villages which compose it.

Better influences are brought to bear on the boys, in part through a boys' club under the supervision of the minister. As a result the streets of the village have been freed from profane and unclean language, the boys are acquiring wholesome ambitions, more of the older ones attend high schools or academies, and there is a marked lessening of the number of youthful loafers. By suggesting a system of athletic games and assisting in its establishment, the minister has helped to bring about an important improvement of discipline in the schools, with better habits of study on the part of the pupils.

Work for the girls has made good progress also, and the best women of the community, without regard to denomination, are now coöperating in it. Their homes are thrown open for young people's gatherings, and a concerted effort is made to supply the opportunities for healthy amusement and the maturer influences that are so much needed in a young girl's life.

There is community coöperation for the benefit of boys as well, and they too are invited into the best homes, while at the suggestion of the church the library has set apart special shelves for the use of the Boys' Club, and for the girls, as well as books relating to subjects discussed in the church meetings.

A successful women's club has been established which offers escape for tired women from the narrowing influences of daily drudgery, and exercises an important function of its own in their lives.

Instead of a Christmas Tree given by the church, as in former years, there is now a community tree, in which, regardless of creed or race, all have a share. In this way a considerable sum of money is yearly raised and expended in useful presents for the young people under the direction of a special representative committee appointed to ascertain their needs.

The program of the church is well rounded in its rela-

tion to the general welfare, and the effect of its wider view appears in its hold upon the community. Many intelligent persons who were on the verge of leaving the church because its activities did not appeal to them are now enthusiastic church workers, and lend their energy to the promotion of its enterprises. Although mid-week services in most of the churches in Windsor County are poorly attended or do not exist, in this church they are well attended and successful. Once a month the mid-week service becomes a conference for social and civic betterment, whereby a wholesome and effective public sentiment is created or increased.

Until within two years the attendance upon Sunday services from the farmers was small as compared with that of twenty or thirty years ago. But when the minister and the church began to realize the country life movement and their relation to it, the farmers of the congregation began to attend more regularly, and others came also with new interest in the services of the church and new appreciation of its relation to the man on the farm. Contact with the country life movement and participation in it gave the church a new vitality and a new appeal.

Because of all this, the influence of the church has extended beyond its own community, first into the

township, and then into the county, and it has already taken a strong part in originating a state-wide movement for the betterment of life in the open country.

While all this work was done because it was needed rather than for the purpose of building up the church, the result has been to strengthen the church in every way, to improve the attendance and the preaching, and to increase the general interest in the church and its work.

The most successful church in Tompkins County does not supply so striking an example. Nevertheless, its interest in the country life movement during the past two years has been followed by a marked increase in its attendance and in the value of its work.

Under present conditions in Windsor and Tompkins counties it is evident that the church narrowly devoted to its own interests can not succeed. So far as these two counties are concerned, intelligent devotion on the part of the country church to the general interests of the community is a pre-requisite for successful service.

#### 10. REMEDIES

There is no single solution for the problem of the country church. The remedies here proposed embody

the conclusions of this investigation, and are suggested to meet the conditions which were found to exist in Windsor and Tompkins counties. They may or may not be altogether applicable to other localities.

The same confusion of mind as to the condition of the country church, which was discovered to be prevalent, exists also as to the causes of its decline and as to possible remedies. The reasons assigned for the decline were so numerous and so various that they could not all be true. Discouragement was common, practicable suggestions rare, and many persons were found to believe that nothing could be done to improve the present conditions. Yet we know that a few country churches in different parts of the United States have recently shown renewed virility and effectiveness as the result of applying new principles and methods to their work, and we are safe in concluding that remedies exist, since they have been successfully applied.

*Improvement of Country Life.* The most obvious cause for the growing weakness of the country church in Windsor and Tompkins counties is the general decline of rural population, both in numbers and in vigor. The centralization of industries in larger communities and the call of the cities has drawn away from the country the most ambitious young women

and young men. Farm machinery has reduced the number of hands formerly necessary on a given area of land, while the agricultural development of the West brought a new and sharper competition upon the New York and New England farmers. Too large a share of the farmers' product goes to the middleman and the country people get less than their share of the general prosperity.

School, press, and even the country church itself, have helped to direct the attention of the country boy and girl to the city as the place of success. It is still accepted as the part of wisdom to leave the farm. Those who are left after the stronger and more enterprising have gone away can not supply the best material either for ministers or for teachers, nor can they furnish the vigorous population which is indispensable if local institutions of a high standard are to be established or maintained.

With the present depleted country population and the disinclination of the farmers to combine even for their own good, the organization and strengthening of life on the farm will be difficult. Without the help of the church, that difficulty will be multiplied many fold, for in the coming reconstruction of country life there is no other agency that can fill its place. Under

church leadership, successful coöperation in the production and marketing of crops, in buying supplies, and in milling and banking, has been brought about in certain localities outside the two counties, where without the religious motive it would apparently have been impossible. The Scotch-Irish Presbyterians and the Pennsylvania Germans are said to be the only Protestant churches not affected by the decline of country life, and that because they have been able, through coöperation, to create and maintain effective economic organization in the open country.

The country church can not hope for prosperity apart from the improvement of country life. Whatever tends to produce a lower standard of living in the country, necessarily and immediately affects the country church. If there were no other and weightier reasons, as a mere matter of self-preservation the church could not afford to hold itself aloof from the struggle to secure the conditions of successful life upon the land. It can not hold itself free from responsibility for the continuance of bad economic conditions and expect to thrive in the midst of them.

In Windsor and Tompkins counties, bad farming and weak churches go together. In Tompkins County in particular a poor soil means likewise a poor church.

The country churches must recognize it as an integral part of their work to promote better farming, better business, and better living on the farm. The country church can not prosper unless it is deeply, intelligently, and effectively interested in agricultural production, in securing for the farmer a fairer share of what he produces, in improving the social life and recreation of the community, and in the physical and intellectual, as well as the moral, development and health of the boys and girls, men and women, of its charge. To promote economic coöperation among farmers is an indispensable task of the country church.

*Schools.* There can be no vigorous and animated life in the country, no solution of the country life problem or the country church problem in the two counties investigated unless certain important changes are made in the schools. They must be fitted to direct the attention and the interest of their pupils toward country life instead of toward the cities, and designed to cultivate in them the power and the habit of appreciation of the farm. The effectiveness of country schools properly directed in changing boys and girls from their desire for city life to a taste for country life and occupation has already been amply shown in other localities. An agricultural school has been established near the border

of Windsor County, and leading teachers in Vermont are already awake to the fact that the improvement of the schools is necessary to any successful progressive movement in the State.

In Tompkins County the situation is less fortunate. There a large proportion of the boys and girls who attend school after the lower grades go to the city of Ithaca. Here their interests are naturally diverted away from the farm and the country, and toward city life and city occupations. In this county at least one agricultural high school, preparing boys and girls for life in the country, is badly needed.

While the organization of the country church is not at present adapted to doing some of the things here suggested, it should not on that account feel less responsible for their being done. Where it is not prepared to deal with the immediate and vital interests of country life, it must reorganize itself for that purpose, and it should stimulate not only its members, but others also, to bring the help required.

*A Program of Social Service.* The church in the country needs a new program. With the whole world turning to combined or coöperative action as the basis of efficiency, the program of the country churches

continues to deal wholly with individuals, and hence remains defective and one-sided.

Apart from the pastoral work of the country ministers, they ordinarily seek the common welfare exclusively through worship and religious instruction, and they assume that instruction and worship, acting on the individuals of their congregations, will solve the problems of the times. It has become evident that they are mistaken.

In Windsor and Tompkins counties the country churches are far behind those of most foreign missions in the breadth of their conception of their work. They are not working directly for the development of progressive Christian communities, while too often their standard of goodness is merely negative.

For the most part the rural churches of these two counties perpetuate tradition, but give no living message. Thus the effort spent hitherto on the revival services which have actually been held in the two counties has generally been meager in result, often of doubtful value, and sometimes positively harmful. In a small village in Tompkins County a revival in 1890 produced two hundred converts. Of these but a single one became and remained a regular attendant and member in good standing, while the churches in the community have

been depressed and struggling ever since. It is evident that this revival has proved a lasting injury to these churches. The most successful recent revival reported to the investigator served merely to bring into church membership a certain number of regular attendants who, in the opinion of their pastor, would have joined the church a little later.

The only type of revival reported as really successful is that conducted by a pastor who continues in the field of his labor after the revival period is over. But to this type, as to the others, the response of the people has been growing less and less. Whether or not this is due to the weak condition of the churches or because the traditional revival method is not adaptable to present day conditions, the authors have no sympathy with the opinion most often expressed by the ministers and other church members, that it is the fault of the people or of the times.

On the other hand, the most successful ministers and churches are more nearly in accord with the conception of religion which appeals most strongly to the men and women of to-day. They regard the common welfare not as a by-product, but as a direct and essential object of the church's endeavor. Work for the individual and work for the community, in their view, are parts

of a single task, because the highest welfare of men and women can not be found apart from social service and the common good.

The desire to render social service is the master Christian impulse of our time. The country church needs social service to vitalize it as much as social service in the country needs the help of the church. Although less attention has been given to it, social service is as important for the health of the community in the country as in the city, while results in the country are far more easily accomplished. Nothing is more evident than the fact that the country church must be organized for other service in addition to the work it is doing now. Once the duty of social service is recognized by the country church and the responsibility for it frankly accepted, there will be no insuperable difficulties in the way.

The country churches in Windsor and Tompkins counties are too often out of sympathy with the best prevailing religious sentiment of the present day. In recent years a profound change has taken place in the religious thinking of the Protestant people. Whether this change represents an important advance, as the authors believe, or whether it does not, it is at least true that the churches in the two counties have lagged

behind in adapting themselves to the change. We have no desire to belittle theology, but the fact remains that the most powerful religious feeling is no longer concerned mainly with doctrinal discussions, but seeks expression in unselfish living and in social service. Men think less about dogma and more about service. This feeling the great majority of these country churches fail to realize or to assist. As a rule, their teaching is aloof from the daily interests of the people, and the application of Christian doctrine to the actual conditions of life is too often neglected.

*An Effective Country Ministry.* The country minister needs a more lasting interest in the country parish. In Windsor and Tompkins counties the average country minister does not regard his task as permanent, but rather as a temporary stopping place on the road toward a larger church. The value and significance of the service open to him as a country minister often escapes him, and the success he seeks lies elsewhere. Among the acquaintances of a single person were fifteen ministers of one denomination in Tompkins County, all of whom admitted they were not in their present field to stay. Another resident of the same county testifies that in more than thirty years he has never known a minister of a small parish in that

region who regarded it as his permanent work. Under such conditions it is evident that no continuous policy or sustained plan of work can be followed long enough to produce results proportionate to the effort expended.

The country ministry in these two counties is weak because it has little to do with the vital needs of the people. As a rule it is out of touch with the essential problems which control the welfare not only of country life but of the church itself. The essential fact is that the minister is often aloof from the real concerns of the people. Too often he has no intelligent appreciation of whole fields of human interests that are rightly of prime importance to his parishioners. The country minister needs special training for work in the country. For lack of such training many of his chief interests are artificial and technical, while those of his people are essential and practical. Without a knowledge of the fundamental interests of rural life he can not hope to succeed. His education should include courses in rural economics and rural sociology of a practical sort, and at least so much instruction in agriculture as will enable him to understand the work by which his parishioners earn their living and his own.

On the side of doctrine also the country ministry is not equipped intellectually to meet the needs of the

present day. Many a country minister has been so poorly educated that his ability is limited to the championing of his own denominational peculiarities of belief, while he lacks the power to set forth and discuss the fundamental truths which underlie the whole structure of the church. Most of the ministers in the two counties are in need of instruction to supplement their training in college and seminary. This need may be met in part by summer schools, such for example, as have been held in Amherst, Mass., at Ithaca, Hamilton, and Auburn, N. Y., and elsewhere.

The nature of his work and the demands upon his intellectual resources also are such that the country minister needs frequent supplies of information to meet the conditions of his service. The books which now come most often to his attention fail to supply his needs, while too often they direct his attention to matters of slight concern to his people.

Most country ministers in the two counties are insufficiently acquainted with their own parishes. They are familiar with the roads, and with the people whom they meet, but the essential facts as a rule they have not yet discovered. The country minister needs a deeper and more sympathetic understanding of his community and of the conditions and needs of the

people whom he serves, and this he can not get by ordinary methods of observation, but only through special studies directed to that end.

Furthermore, as we have seen, the salary of the average country minister in Windsor and Tompkins counties is not a living wage. Such under-payment necessarily keeps him out of touch with the progress of his profession by depriving him of books and journals. It debars him from the knowledge and uplift which conventions supply, and it creates a condition of restlessness which not only kills his own effectiveness in his work, but rightly prevents him from advising the vigorous and ambitious young men of his acquaintance to enter the ministry. The country ministry will not be better until it is better paid.

One of the urgent needs of the country minister in the area covered by this investigation is contact with a world larger than his parish. The conditions of his work make necessary a greater knowledge of facts and methods than he can get by himself. It must be made easier for him to draw from the fund of valuable experience that has already been accumulated upon various phases of country life, and to keep in touch with the new methods which are developing for the work of the country parish. These needs should be

met and supplied in part by the employment of State or County secretaries in contact both with the country ministers and with the developments of rural social service, and in part by attendance at conferences and summer schools. The country minister too often feels lost in a backwater of the main stream of progress, and sees himself as engaged in a solitary struggle with small, discouraging, and unessential problems, while, as a matter of fact, his place upon the stage of civilization is very near the center, and no one has a better right than he to all the enthusiasm of those who are employed in the most vital of tasks.

*Church Coöperation.* In the villages of Windsor and Tompkins counties, the more numerous the churches the greater the loss in attendance in the last twenty years. In these over-churched communities, the support of the churches is obviously more difficult, and the religious bodies are losing ground so rapidly that for some at least it is only a question of time when all but one in each community will become extinct. Like any other army, the Christian church can most easily be defeated in detail. Sectarian rivalries weaken the churches. Lacking the spirit of coöperation, they hinder each other rather than help, and their standing in

the community is lowered, while their power and desire for service is greatly reduced.

The long period of the death struggle of superfluous churches presents the serious problem of securing a sound community life in the face of dwindling religious institutions. Under such circumstances, consolidation or federation of the churches is the obvious remedy. To bring it about, however, is seldom easy. In nearly every church there are some members who oppose consolidation, and are usually able to prevent it. Their position is all the more harmful for the reason that for the most part in Windsor and Tompkins counties denominational divisions have ceased to be matters of principle or of theological difference, and have become matters of social grouping, based on custom or association, on petty jealousies, personal hostility, and the desire to retain minor church offices.

There is but one solution for the problem of over-churching which seems to offer reasonable hope in the two counties concerned. This lies along the line, not of doctrinal union, but of common effort in the cause of the common welfare. When people work together for a better community, they are the more likely to work together for a better church. Divisions in the churches may often be bridged over by setting the

members of hostile groups working together for the common good.

*Organization for Social Service.* The country churches of Windsor and Tompkins counties are each too small as units of organization to be able to carry on the work of social service with efficiency. A larger and more powerful unit is necessary before the churches can take their reasonable part in the work for the general welfare. Just what form such an organization should take may be open to discussion. The form it has taken in Vermont is described on page 53.

Whatever form is accepted should rest on the principle that the needs of the community should determine the work of the church. Such an organization must of necessity be more widely extended than the boundaries of village or township, because only thus can the necessary broader view be acquired or the necessary paid experts be employed, and only thus is a policy or plan of work likely to be adopted and continued long enough to be made effective.

One of the important results of church organization for social service is that the work becomes more varied in character, accordingly appeals to people of a greater variety of interests, and so strengthens the church; while the church in action gives point and carrying power to

its teaching, and makes its message more comprehensible and effective.

It is hardly to be questioned that the church is the natural body to lead in rural social service. It is found everywhere, the doors of every home are open to its ministers, its buildings are the meeting places in which men, women, and children are accustomed to assemble, and its ministers speak to some of the people at least once every week. The country life movement could ill afford to neglect the coöperation of an organization already rooted in the field of country life. In Vermont at least, the religious bodies have already done enough to make it clear that to them belongs the position of leadership.

## II. ORGANIZATION IN VERMONT

The most significant movement in church organization in Vermont is what has come to be known as the Hartford Forward Movement, which owes its origin to facts disclosed by this investigation. The pastor of the successful church described in Section 9 had been in charge of it for three years when the results of our investigation made him aware of a serious decline both of his own church and the churches of the rest of Wind-

sor County. Thereupon, with a broader and clearer view, he began to study the needs of the community, and to determine the most effective ways to supply them. It soon became evident that the wants of his parish could not be met by themselves alone, but that the movement must extend throughout the whole township. Later on even the township was seen to be too small, and it became evident that to be successful the movement must be county-wide, and then state-wide, that persons not connected with the church must be induced to take part in it, and that it must include the coöperation of all forces working for social betterment.

Before long nearly a hundred of the most influential men and women of the township, organized in seven groups of public-spirited citizens, were actively engaged in promoting the public welfare, while each of the seven formed part of a central body. These groups held themselves responsible for the promotion of better farming, for the improvement of the schools, for the organization and supervision of recreation, for uniting the efforts of different organizations engaged in charitable and social work, for making the town more attractive, and for securing the reasonable enforcement of the law.

Part of the work of the Hartford Forward Movement

was done in coöperation with the Windsor County Y. M. C. A., which for a number of years has been active in the county, and has already done excellent service in making the occupation of the farmer more interesting for him as boy and man. Public appreciation of the Y. M. C. A. work is shown by the increase in its annual budget from \$1,700 to its present amount of \$6,000 with eight hundred subscribers. This amount does not include the coöperative assistance of the United States Government in paying one-half the cost of an agricultural expert, nor \$500 per year given by the Grain Growers Association, nor \$500 appropriated this year by the Legislature of Vermont for the holding of a State corn show for which the Y. M. C. A. is responsible.

The Windsor County Y. M. C. A. has made itself one of the most potent factors in Vermont for the improvement of agriculture, while in its work with boys, in promoting more and better recreation, and in its varied program of social service, it has demonstrated, as no other social force has done, both the need and the possibilities of county organization.

For the past few years the idea of making a better Vermont has been agitated through the State, and this agitation increased the public interest in the Hartford

Forward Movement. One of the results was the organization of the Greater Vermont Association, another was the formation of the Bennington County Vermont Improvement Association, which ultimately adopted a broad program of general betterment, and which, like the Windsor County Y. M. C. A., receives help from the U. S. Government and from the Grain Growers Association. Its annual budget, including these contributions, is about \$8,000, while the total expenditures in the county due to its initiative amount this year to \$25,000. Under the leadership of this association the people of Bennington County are being rapidly organized into township leagues, which are component parts of a county league of farmers, whose business it is to increase the prosperity of the county through coöperation in producing and selling crops, and in buying supplies.

Chittenden County has adopted a similar organization, while several other counties in Vermont are about to employ county agricultural experts. Hampden County, Massachusetts, has followed the same lead, and the promoter of the Hartford Forward Movement has been employed for its work.

We have seen that the Hartford Movement began in the church, but spread beyond it when the church

came to understand that not one of the interests of the community were foreign to it. When the other country churches awake to the same realization, the effect will be to strengthen enormously the movement for the reorganization of country life. That such an awakening is imminent is indicated by the broad program just adopted by the Interchurch Federation of Vermont. This body was formed seven years ago. It includes nearly all of the Protestant churches of the State. Until 1912 its principal effort was to persuade the churches to consolidate, or live together as good neighbors. In 1912, however, under the influence of the Hartford Forward Movement, it adopted and published the following remarkable program, through which it accepted responsibility for the general betterment of conditions in Vermont.

“1. We propose to take for our first endeavor the economic, social and intellectual, and religious, improvement of the small towns of the State.

“2. We pledge our help to communities of this kind, especially in securing for them an efficient religious leadership:

“(a) By the promotion of summer conferences for instruction and inspiration for religious work in the open country.

“(b) By extension work, including correspondence courses in the country church, and in modern agriculture.

“3. We agree to outline plans for the uplift of certain districts, to assume the task through a common effort to be made under the leadership of a committee to be chosen under the separate churches of that district, and further requesting that these churches become responsible for the special field assigned, and labor for its uplift by all possible means, but including:

“(a) The approach of the people on the side of the work whereby they earn their daily bread, and the endeavor to stimulate better farming and better living, so that Vermont boys may realize that they have a chance in Vermont.

“(b) The organization of towns for recreation and common social amusement to cure the ills of isolation and neighborhood jealousy.

“4. We believe that each religious body represented in Vermont should work first for the welfare of Vermont, and should subordinate its own promotion to that end.

“5. We promise to lay to heart the condition of our rural schools—teachers underpaid and frequently changed, insufficient books and supplies, inadequate buildings and grounds,—and we pledge our coöperation

in any movement looking to the equalizing of educational advantages between country and city children."

The Interchurch Federation proposes, through the establishment of a summer school and conference for ministers, to promote the coöperation of the Protestant denominations for the general welfare, and there is strong hope that through the unifying power of social service the concerted action of all Protestant Christian forces in Vermont can be secured.

Not one of the movements here enumerated can do its best work alone. Thus it is doubtful whether the Hartford Forward Movement can be permanently successful without the support and reënforcement of corresponding movements in the County and State. The Interchurch Federation of Vermont, in its turn needs the coöperation and assistance of the church on a national scale. The success of the movement for a healthier church in the open country must depend, as we believe this investigation, within its limits, goes far to show, on a working alliance of the churches for social service throughout the United States.



II

WINDSOR COUNTY



## I. THE LOCALITY AND THE PEOPLE

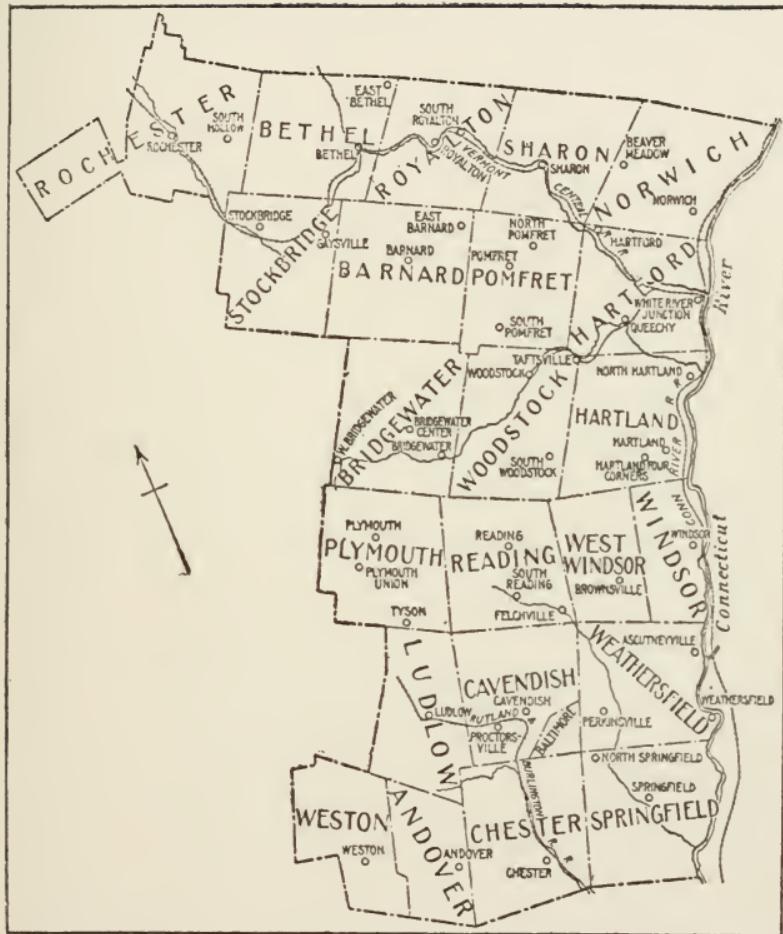
Windsor County lies just south of the center of Vermont along the Eastern border of the State. North and South its extent is about fifty miles; East and West nearly forty. There are hills everywhere, roughest and most numerous in the Western part. Its many streams run southeasterly into the Connecticut River. Its arable soil produces good crops of hay and of forage corn and oats, while its pastures are for the most part fertile and well adapted to dairying. The railroad station nearest the center of the county is about 170 miles from Boston, which offers one of the best markets in the United States for agricultural products. In summer the climate is delightful. The winters are long and cold, but the atmosphere dry and invigorating.

Windsor is a rural county and agriculture is its principal industry. Its largest township has less than 5,000 people, and only three have more than 2,500. Less than half its townships have factories of any kind. The United States Census reports supply the following statement of changes in population.

The settlement of the county began after the close of the French and Indian Wars in 1760. In 1790 there were already 16,000 inhabitants. These increased to 27,000 in 1800, and to more than 40,000 in 1830. From 1850 to 1890 the population steadily declined. From 1890 until 1910 it grew from 31,706 to 33,625, an increase mainly due to the growth of the manufacturing industries in Springfield, Windsor, and other towns.

Among the causes to which the previous decline in population was due are the fall in the price of wool in the years following the Civil War, competition with the free lands of the West under modern conditions of transportation, agricultural mining of the soil (due to bad methods of farming), the clearing and settlement of lands which should have been devoted to forestry rather than to agriculture, the tendency of small manufacturing industries to give way before the larger concerns of the cities, and the superior attractions of the larger centers of population for young men and young women.

It should be noted that a part of the loss of population is probably due to a centralization of schools and their consequent removal to a greater distance from the back farms. Just as the modern system of caring for roads often results in the neglect of the back roads,



WINDSOR COUNTY

while it greatly improves the main highways, so centralized schools may have a similar result. Children sent to them are at a greater distance from the supervision of their parents, who often object to having them exposed to possible bad influences in the village, especially during the noon hour.

Windsor County contains 24 townships or towns, which are not villages but portions of the county generally containing villages, of which one township or town may include several. The 4 townships which have not declined in population since 1840 contain the largest and most important manufacturing villages. All the strictly agricultural towns have lost in population.

As compared with other States the population of Vermont is of an exceptionally pure native stock. The county was settled by a very vigorous class of farming people, chiefly from Connecticut, but partly also from Massachusetts and New Hampshire. For more than seventy years steady streams of Vermonters have gone to the West and to the eastern cities, while on the other hand Vermont has had a smaller immigration of foreigners than most of the other New England States, and Windsor County less than most of the other counties of Vermont. The people who have moved

away from Vermont have usually been of so excellent a quality that their emigration has resulted in a most serious loss to the State. Windsor County is now suffering from this long continued drain upon its vitality, a drain which is not supplied by the substitution of an inferior population for the former vigorous aggressive inhabitants, whose ideals, ambitions, and abilities were of a high order.

The close relation between the prosperity of the country people and the condition of the country church is self-evident. There can be no progressive country church where agriculture is decadent. Therefore some information as to the tendencies in agriculture is essential.

The surface of Vermont is rough and hilly, but no State in the Union has so many cattle per acre, or in proportion to population. In the fertility of its soil it compares favorably with other New England States, yet the Census figures for 1900 and 1910 show little progress in the agriculture of Windsor County. The total acreage of farms in 1900 was 547,817, and in 1910, 537,912, or a loss of about 10,000 acres. The total acreage in crops in the ten years fell off slightly. There were 58 more farms in 1900 than 1910, more farms of less than 50 acres in size, less farms of from 50 to 200

acres, with an increase in the number of still larger farms. On the other hand, the value of farm land and farm buildings increased \$3,559,958 during this ten year period, although if allowance is made for the purchasing power of the dollar the increase was less than half of that sum.

In an agricultural township selected as typical the assessed property continuously declined in value from 1870 to 1900, but since 1902 has been on the rise. During the past five years farms have been sold at greatly advanced prices. This fact, however, does not necessarily indicate an increased agricultural prosperity, nor a larger income to the farmer.

In portions of the county land is farmed improvidently, while the removal elsewhere of enterprising families has doubtless had as unfavorable an effect upon agriculture as it has had on the church. But while the agricultural situation is not altogether satisfactory, it will doubtless improve, in part because of the increasing demand for farm produce in the city markets.

Economic conditions alone, however favorable to agriculture, will not, as we know, suffice to keep a fair proportion of the best young people and the best families on the farm. Good returns for farm products must be supplemented by good schools, by an attrac-

tive social life and an efficient church, or the process of rural decay, leading directly to national inefficiency and decline, will continue unchecked. Good industrial and social conditions, combined with an intelligent enthusiasm for the country and for the farm, can and will counteract the lure of the city. Without them there is little hope that men and women who will insure the conservation of soil fertility and maintain efficient schools and efficient churches can be induced to live in the open country.

## THE COUNTRY CHURCH

TABLE I  
POPULATION OF THE TOWNS OF WINDSOR COUNTY, 1790 TO 1910  
(From the U. S. Census)

Town	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870	1860	1850	1840	1830	1820*	1810	1800	1790
Andover.....	234	372	418	564	588	670	725	877	975	1,000	957	1,016	275
Baltimore.....	54	55	64	71	83	116	124	155	179	204	207	174	...
Barnard.....	737	840	918	1,191	1,268	1,487	1,647	1,774	1,881	1,691	1,648	1,336	673
Bethel.....	1,943	1,611	1,448	1,693	1,817	1,804	1,730	1,880	1,667	1,318	1,041	913	473
Bridgewater.....	874	972	1,124	1,084	1,141	1,292	1,311	1,363	1,311	1,125	1,154	781	293
Cavendish.....	1,203	1,352	1,172	1,276	1,823	1,509	1,576	1,427	1,498	1,551	1,295	922	491
Chester.....	1,784	1,775	1,789	1,901	2,052	2,126	2,001	2,305	2,320	2,493	2,370	1,878	981
Hartford.....	4,173	3,817	3,740	2,954	2,480	2,396	2,159	2,194	2,044	2,010	1,831	1,494	988
Hartford.....	1,316	1,340	1,393	1,598	1,710	1,748	2,063	2,341	2,503	2,552	2,352	1,960	1,652
Ludlow.....	2,215	2,042	1,708	2,005	1,827	1,568	1,619	1,363	1,227	1,144	877	410	179
Norwich.....	1,253	1,303	1,304	1,471	1,639	1,759	1,978	2,218	2,316	1,985	1,812	1,486	1,158
Plymouth.....	482	646	755	1,075	1,285	1,252	1,226	1,417	1,237	1,112	834	491	...
Pomfret.....	709	777	805	1,139	1,251	1,376	1,546	1,774	1,867	1,635	1,473	1,106	710
Reading.....	530	649	749	953	1,012	1,159	1,171	1,363	1,409	1,603	1,565	1,120	747
Rochester.....	1,317	1,250	1,257	1,362	1,444	1,507	1,493	1,396	1,392	1,148	911	524	215
Royalton.....	1,452	1,427	1,433	1,558	1,679	1,739	1,850	1,917	1,893	1,816	1,758	1,501	748
Sharon.....	585	709	737	1,012	1,111	1,240	1,371	1,439	1,431	1,363	1,158	569	...
Springfield.....	4,784	3,432	2,881	3,144	2,937	2,958	2,762	2,025	2,749	2,702	2,556	2,032	1,097
Stockbridge.....	737	822	894	1,124	1,269	1,264	1,327	1,418	1,333	904	700	432	100
Weathersfield.....	1,092	1,080	1,174	1,354	1,557	1,765	1,851	2,081	2,213	2,301	2,115	1,944	1,146
Weston.....	632	756	804	987	931	932	950	1,032	972	890	629	...	...
West Windsor.....	567	513	570	690	768	924	1,002	...	...	...	...	...	...
Windsor.....	2,407	2,119	1,844	2,175	1,699	1,669	1,928	2,744	3,134	2,956	2,757	2,211	1,542
Woodstock.....	2,545	2,557	2,545	2,815	2,910	3,062	3,041	3,315	3,044	2,610	2,672	2,132	1,605
Saltash.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	...
Benton Gore.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...
Total.....	33,625	32,225	31,706	35,196	36,063	37,193	38,320	40,356	40,623	38,241	34,877	26,938	15,748

\* The figures in this column were taken from Walton's Register.

TABLE 2

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS IN THE TOWNSHIPS OF WINDSOR COUNTY IN 1910 COMPARED WITH THE YEARS OF THEIR MAXIMUM POPULATION

<i>County and Townships</i>	<i>Year of Maximum Population</i>	<i>Maximum Population</i>	<i>Population in 1910</i>	<i>Decline per cent from Maximum</i>
County.....	1830	40,623	33,625	17
Andover.....	1800	1,016	234	77
Baltimore....	1810	207	54	74
Chester.....	1820	2,493	1,784	28
Reading.....	1820	1,603	530	67
Weathersfield	1820	2,301	1,092	53
Hartland.....	1820	2,552	1,316	48
Barnard.....	1830	1,881	737	61
Norwich.....	1830	2,316	1,253	46
Pomfret.....	1830	1,867	709	62
Sharon.....	1830	1,459	585	60
Windsor.....	1830	3,134	2,407	23
Bridgewater..	1840	1,363	874	36
Plymouth....	1840	1,417	482	66
Royalton....	1840	1,917	1,452	24
Stockbridge ..	1840	1,418	737	48
Weston.....	1840	1,032	632	39
Woodstock...	1840	3,315	2,545	23
West Windsor	1850	1,002	567	43
Rochester....	1860	1,507	1,317	13
Cavendish...	1870	1,823	1,203	34
Bethel.....	1910	1,943	1,943	..
Hartford.....	1910	4,173	4,173	..
Ludlow.....	1910	2,215	2,215	..
Springfield ...	1910	4,784	4,784	..

## 2. MEMBERSHIP

Membership data are available for fifty-five churches for the years 1888 and 1908. These data show an increase from 4,688 in 1888 to 4,889 in 1908 or 4.28 per cent. The United States Census gives the membership for 1890 as 6,130 and for 1906 as 6,422, or an increase of 4.8 per cent in sixteen years.

No membership data for 1888 were found for the churches of the Universalist denomination. The published figures for several of the Methodist Churches include members of other churches outside of the county with which they are yoked. As there was no way of determining what proportion of these members were in the churches of Windsor County it was necessary to omit them all.

In Table 3, the figures are given for the individual churches and charges.

TABLE 3

MEMBERSHIP OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES (GROUPED BY DENOMINATIONS AND TOWNSHIPS) FOR THE YEARS 1888 AND 1908 AND THE PERCENTAGE OF GAIN OR LOSS

		Members		Per cent Gain (+) or Loss (-)
		1888	1908	
Totals . . . . .		4,688	4,889	+ 4.28
Springfield Congregational . . . . .		283	340	+ 20
Hartford " . . . . .		182	176	- 3
Quechee " . . . . .		101	79	- 22
West Hartford " . . . . .		71	70	- 1
Wilder " . . . . .		21	67	+ 219
Woodstock " . . . . .		211	176	- 17
Windsor " . . . . .		128	110	- 14
Ludlow " . . . . .		108	176	+ 63
Bethel " . . . . .		85	76	- 11
Chester " . . . . .		160	178	+ 11
So. Royalton " . . . . .		61	96	+ 57
Royalton " . . . . .		73	59	- 19
Hartland " . . . . .		65	69	+ 6
Rochester " . . . . .		118	86	- 27
Norwich " . . . . .		187	174	- 7
Weathersfield Ctr. " . . . . .		54	46	- 15
Bridgewater " . . . . .		43	56	+ 30
Stockbridge " . . . . .		48	25	- 48
Pomfret " . . . . .		31	74	+ 139
Weston " . . . . .		37	30	- 19
Sharon " . . . . .		92	71	- 23
Plymouth " . . . . .		17	23	+ 35
Springfield Baptist . . . . .		132	120	- 9
Windsor " . . . . .		143	74	- 48
Ludlow " . . . . .		216	224	+ 4
Bethel " . . . . .		18	9	- 50
Chester " . . . . .		157	169	+ 8
Cavendish " . . . . .		46	76	+ 65
Weathersfield " . . . . .		85	100	+ 18

TABLE 3 (*Continued*)

		Members		Per cent
		1888	1908	Gain (+) or Loss (-)
Weston	Baptist.....	67	42	— 37
Sharon	" .....	54	15	— 72
Reading	" .....	62	9	— 85
Andover	" .....	28	26	— 7
Springfield	Episcopal .....	9	53	+489
White River Jct.	" .....	37	49	+ 32
Woodstock	" .....	48	90	+ 88
Windsor	" .....	70	83	+ 19
Bethel	" .....	46	43	— 7
Chester	" .....	77	43	— 44
Royalton	" .....	26	19	— 27
Springfield	Methodist Episcopal	193	234	+ 21
White River Jct.	} " .....	74	152	+105
Quechee				
Woodstock	" .....	173	152	— 12
Windsor	" .....	36	100	+178
Bethel	" .....	..	59	...
Ludlow	" .....	76	102	+ 34
So. Royalton	" .....	81	93	+ 15
Hartland	" .....	76	36	— 53
Rochester	" .....	142	77	— 46
Cavendish	" .....	48	50	+ 4
Reading	} " .....	64	55	— 14
Weathersfield				
Barnard	" .....	91	99	+ 9
Weston	" .....	72	78	+ 8
West Windsor	" .....	65	101	+ 55

## 3. ATTENDANCE

The final results of the investigation show a decline in the number of regular and frequent attendants, or

those attending services on at least one Sunday in three, from 8,003 in 1888 to 5,537 in 1908, or nearly 31 per cent. After making deductions for the decrease in the Protestant population, the relative loss is 29.4 per cent. More than 26 per cent of the Protestant population attended church regularly or frequently in the year 1888 and less than 19 per cent in the year 1908. The loss for the individual townships was from 11 per cent in the town of Pomfret to 75 per cent in the town of Andover. The change relatively to the Protestant population varied from a gain of nearly 14 per cent in the town of Pomfret to a loss of 58 per cent in the town of Andover.

To determine what were the figures which would show the loss in attendance in its relation to the Protestant population, it was necessary to find not only the figures for the total population in 1888 and in 1908 but also for the non-Protestant population.

According to the U. S. Religious Census there were in Windsor County, in 1890, 1,470 Catholics while in 1906 there were 3,430.\* Using these figures as a basis for computation it was found that there was a relative

\* NOTE. The actual numbers given in the census reports are 1,250 for 1890 and 2,916 for 1906; but these numbers exclude children under a certain age, or about 15 per cent of the Catholic population.

loss in the attendance of the Protestant churches of 27 per cent. But it was learned that the number of Catholics reported in the census for 1890 must have been very much too small. The figures given included only those who rented pews and members of their families. In view of this fact it was thought advisable to get more accurate information as to the number of Catholics in the counties in the two years compared. To this end the lists of the families of the county for 1888 and 1908 were used to determine the number of Catholics in the townships in each of these years, in consultation with Catholics who resided in the different towns in each of the two years. Accurate information was thus obtained as to the Catholic and other non-Protestant part of the population.

It was learned in this way that there were at least six hundred more Catholics in the county in 1890 than were reported in the census. In six of the smaller towns the exact figures could not be obtained, but the people interviewed agreed either that the number was so small as to be a negligible quantity or that the number was less in 1908 than it was in 1888. Whatever possible errors there may be, they must be such as to make the final estimate of 29 per cent, (the relative loss in attendance in Protestant churches, allowance being made

for changes in Protestant population) less rather than greater than the actual relative loss.

TABLE 4

PERCENTAGE OF PROTESTANT POPULATION ATTENDING CHURCH  
IN 1888 AND IN 1908 ONE-THIRD OF THE TIME OR MORE

Regular and frequent attendants, 1888.....	8,003	..
" " " " 1908.....	5,537	..
Loss in regular and frequent attendants in twenty years	2,466	..
Loss per cent in regular and frequent attendants in twenty years.....	....	31
Relative loss per cent after making deductions for decrease in Protestant population .....	....	29
Per cent of Protestant population attending church regularly or frequently in 1888.....	....	26
Per cent of Protestant population attending church regularly or frequently in 1908.....	....	19

TABLE 5

## SHOWING HOW RELATIVE LOSS IN ATTENDANCE IS RECKONED

Non-Protestant population, 1888.....	2,040	<sup>1</sup>
"        "        1908.....	3,560	<sup>1</sup>
Total population in county, 1880.....	35,196	<sup>2</sup>
"        "        1890.....	31,706	<sup>2</sup>
"        "        1900.....	32,225	<sup>2</sup>
"        "        1910.....	33,625	<sup>2</sup>
Gain in total population, 1900-1910.....	1,400	
"    "    "    per year.....	140	
Loss in population, 1880-1890.....	3,490	
"    "    "    per year.....	349	
Estimated total population, 1888.....	32,404	<sup>3</sup>
"    "    "    1908.....	33,345	<sup>4</sup>
Protestant population, 1888.....	30,364	
"    "    "    1908.....	29,785	
Protestant attendance, 1888.....	8,003	<sup>1</sup>
No. of Protestant attendants in 1888 constituted following per cent of Protestant population .....	26,356	<sup>5</sup>
Normal Protestant attendance in 1908 (26.356% of 29,785) .....	7,850	<sup>5</sup>
Actual Protestant attendance, 1908 .....	5,537	<sup>1</sup>
Loss per cent in attendance from 1888 to 1908 relative to Protestant population.....	29.47	<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Determined by the work of the investigation as previously described.<sup>2</sup> According to U. S. Census reports.<sup>3</sup>  $31,706 + (349 \times 2) = 32,404$ .<sup>4</sup>  $33,625 - (140 \times 2) = 33,345$ .<sup>5</sup> The attendance in 1888 is assumed to be normal.<sup>6</sup>  $\frac{7850 - 5537}{7850} = 29.47\%$ .

In Table 6, showing the relative losses in attendance in the individual townships, the same methods of estimating are used as for the county in Table 5.

TABLE 6  
LOSSES IN ATTENDANCE IN INDIVIDUAL TOWNS

Township	Attendants		Loss Per Cent	Population		Estimated Population		Per Cent of Population who were Attendants in 1888
	1888	1908		1890	1910	1888	1908	
County . . . . .	8,003	5,537	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Andover . . . . .	61	15	76	418	234	447*	262*	13.65
Barnard . . . . .	184	118	36	918	737	973	758	18.9
Bethel . . . . .	531	347	35	1,448	1,043	1,497	1,877	35.5
Bridgewater . . . . .	166	86	48	1,124	874	1,166	894	14.2
Cavendish . . . . .	230	163	29	1,172	1,203	1,193	1,233	19.3
Chester . . . . .	434	363	16	1,789	1,784	1,810	1,782	24.
Hartford . . . . .	856	578	32	3,740	4,173	3,583	4,102	23.9
Hartland . . . . .	360	207	43	1,393	1,316	1,434	1,321	25.1
Ludlow . . . . .	536	448	16	1,768	2,215	1,815	2,180	29.5
Norwich . . . . .	367	227	38	1,304	1,253	1,337	1,263	27.5
Plymouth . . . . .	80	37	54	755	482	819	515	9.8
Pomfret . . . . .	110	98	11	865	709	920	723	12.
Reading . . . . .	170	74	56	749	530	790	554	21.5
Rochester . . . . .	345	181	48	1,257	1,317	1,278	1,304	27.
Royalton . . . . .	382	333	13	1,433	1,452	1,458	1,447	26.2
Sharon . . . . .	191	101	47	737	585	792	610	24.1
Springfield . . . . .	794	668	16	2,881	4,784	2,934	4,514	27.
Stockbridge . . . . .	326	143	56	894	737	940	754	34.7
Weathersfield . . . . .	310	198	36	1,174	1,092	1,210	1,076	25.6
Weston . . . . .	225	90	60	864	632	889	657	25.3
West Windsor . . . . .	108	92	15	570	567	594	556	18.2
Windsor . . . . .	438	388	11	1,844	2,407	1,912	2,349	22.9
Woodstock . . . . .	799	582	27	2,545	2,545	2,599	2,547	30.7

\* In estimating numbers in this column the figures in Table 1 were used.

TABLE 6 (*Continued*)

Township	*Nor- mal No. At- tend- ants 1908	Per Cent Gain or Loss Rel- ative to Total Popula- tion	Non- Protestant Population		Protestant Population		Per Cent of Pro- testant Popula- tion who were At- tendants in 1888	**Nor- mal At- tend- ants 1908
			1888	1908	1888	1908		
County .....	..	..	2,040	3,560	....	....	....	....
Andover .....	36	-58	10	10	437	252	13.96	35
Barnard .....	143	-17	....	50	...	....	....	....
Bethel .....	666	-48	81	208	1,416	1,669	37.5	626
Bridgewater ..	127	-32	....	....	....	....	....	...
Cavendish .....	238	-32	55	65	1,138	1,168	20.21	236
Chester .....	428	-15	...	22	....	....	....	879
Hartford .....	980	-41	553	990	3,030	3,112	28.25	879
Hartland .....	332	-38	135	145	1,299	1,170	27.71	326
Ludlow .....	643	-30	281	419	1,534	1,761	34.94	615
Norwich .....	347	-35	....	32	....	....	....	...
Plymouth .....	50	-26	....	....	....	....	....	...
Pomfret .....	87	+13	....	....	....	....	....	...
Reading .....	119	-38	....	....	....	....	....	...
Rochester .....	352	-49	12	62	1,266	1,242	27.25	338
Royalton .....	379	-12	38	36	1,420	1,411	26.9	380
Sharon .....	147	-31	40	24	752	586	25.4	149
Springfield .....	1,219	-45	319	812	2,615	3,702	30.36	1,124
Stockbridge ..	262	-45	....	....	....	....	....	...
Weathersfield ..	275	-28	....	58	1,210	1,018	25.6	261
Weston .....	166	-46	35	35	854	622	26.35	164
West Windsor .....	101	-9	....	....	....	....	....	...
Windsor .....	538	-28	319	321	1,593	2,028	27.5	558
Woodstock ...	782	-26	162	271	2,437	2,276	32.79	746

\* Per cent of total population in 1908 equal to per cent of total population who were attendants in 1888.

\*\* Per cent of Protestant population in 1908 equal to per cent of Protestant population who were attendants in 1888.

TABLE 6 (*Continued*)

Township	<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent in Relation to Protestant Population</i>	Township	<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent in Relation to Protestant Population</i>
County.....	—29	Pomfret.....	+13
Andover.....	—57	Reading.....	—38
Barnard.....	—17	Rochester.....	—46
Bethel.....	—45	Royalton.....	—12
Bridgewater.....	—32	Sharon.....	—32
Cavendish.....	—31	Springfield.....	—41
Chester.....	—15	Stockbridge.....	—45
Hartford.....	—34	Weathersfield.....	—24
Hartland.....	—37	Weston.....	—45
Ludlow.....	—27	West Windsor.....	—9
Norwich.....	—35	Windsor.....	—30
Plymouth.....	—26	Woodstock.....	—22

TABLE 7

ATTENDANCE OF INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES BY DENOMINATIONS  
AND TOWNSHIPS

			<i>Regular and fre- quent attendants</i>	<i>Gain (+) or Loss (-)</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
			1888	1908	
Totals.....			8,003	5,537	— 31
Springfield	Congregational.....	317	200	— 37	
Hartford	" .....	248	153	— 38	
Quechee	" .....	121	73	— 40	
West Hartford	" .....	92	64	— 30	
Wilder	" .....	46	61	+ 33	
Woodstock	" .....	194	163	— 16	
Windsor	" .....	196	73	— 63	

TABLE 7 (*Continued*)

			Regular and fre-	Gain (+)
			quent attendants	or Loss (-)
			1888	Per cent
Ludlow	Congregational.....		113	+ 12
Bethel	" .....	130	62	- 52
Chester	" .....	177	152	- 14
So. Royalton	" .....	133	141	+ 6
Royalton	" .....	98	88	- 10
Hartland	" .....	94	59	- 37
Rochester	" .....	137	75	- 45
Norwich	" .....	244	195	- 20
Weathersfield Ctr.	" .....	42	14	- 67
Weathersfield Bow	" .....	...	25	....
Bridgewater	" .....	49	36	- 27
Stockbridge	" .....	58	40	- 31
Pomfret	" .....	108	98	- 9
Weston	" .....	43	26	- 40
Sharon	" .....	102	73	- 28
Plymouth	" .....	63	23	- 63
Springfield	Baptist.....	65	77	+ 18
Windsor	" .....	119	63	- 47
Ludlow	" .....	198	133	- 33
Bethel	" .....	12	17	+ 42
Chester	" .....	154	105	- 32
Cavendish	" .....	73	63	- 14
Weathersfield	" .....	100	58	- 42
Weston	" .....	81	22	- 73
Sharon	" .....	62	28	- 55
Reading	" .....	60	23	- 62
Andover	" .....	61	15	- 75
Springfield	Episcopal.....	25	53	+ 112
White River Jct.	" .....	27	44	+ 63
Woodstock	" .....	109	149	+ 37
Windsor	" .....	57	72	+ 26
Bethel	" .....	79	54	- 32
Chester	" .....	61	40	- 34
Royalton	" .....	32	12	- 62
Norwich	" .....	12	11	- 8

TABLE 7 (*Continued*)

			<i>Regular and fre-</i>	<i>Gain (+)</i>
			<i>quent attendants</i>	<i>or Loss (—)</i>
		1888	1908	<i>per Cent</i>
Cavendish	Episcopal .....	17	..	....
Springfield	Meth. Epis.....	191	194	+ 2
White River Jct.	" "	126	91	— 28
Quechee	" "	53	...	....
Wilder	" "	37	51	+ 38
Woodstock	" "	134	85	— 37
Windsor	" "	...	100	....
Bethel	" "	134	159	+ 19
Ludlow	" "	96	106	+ 10
So. Royalton	" "	119	92	— 23
Hartland	" "	88	54	— 39
No. Hartland	" "	51	24	— 53
Rochester	" "	125	63	— 50
Norwich	" "	111	21	— 81
Cavendish	" "	71	63	— 11
Weathersfield	" "	34	37	+ 9
Gaysville	" "	33	16	— 52
Stony Brook	" "	114	18	— 84
Barnard	" "	136	61	— 55
East Barnard	" "	48	57	+ 19
Weston	" "	101	42	— 58
Reading	" "	64	22	— 66
West Windsor	" "	108	92	— 15
Springfield Universalist .....		154	128	— 17
White River Jct.	" .....	106	41	— 61
Woodstock	" .....	130	40	— 69
Ludlow	" .....	129	82	— 36
Bethel	" .....	176	55	— 69
Chester	" .....	42	66	+ 57
Hartland	" .....	127	70	— 45
Rochester	" .....	83	43	— 48
Cavendish	" .....	69	37	— 46
Gaysville	" .....	54	33	— 39
Reading	" .....	46	29	— 37
Sharon	" .....	27	..	....

TABLE 7 (*Continued*)

		<i>Regular and frequent attendants</i>		<i>Gain (+) or Loss (-) per Cent</i>
		1888	1890	
Woodstock Christian	.....	174	107	— 39
Windsor	Unitarian.	66	80	+ 21
Springfield Advent.	.....	42	16	— 62
Bridgewater	" .....	117	50	— 57
Taftsville	Union.....	14	12	— 14
Stockbridge	Union (Univ. & Meth.)	67	36	— 46
Pomfret	" " "	2	..	....
Plymouth Notch	" " "	17	14	— 18
So. Woodstock	" " "	44	26	— 41
Ascutneyville	" (Cong'l & Meth.)	134	64	— 52

*Records of Attendance.* The tendency for church attendance to decline is shown also by the records of counted congregations. Records for more than one year were found in the case of 34 churches. These records appear in Table 8, in the last column of which the figures are reduced to percentages, 1888 being taken as the index year.

From this table it appears that reckoning from 1870, or the nearest year following for which a record exists, only 9 churches out of 34 gained in attendance. In the case of most of these 9 the records cover a period of a few years only. In the case of 5 they do not extend later than 1882. Reckoning from 1888 or the nearest years preceding or following for which attend-

ance was recorded, only 4 indicate a gain whereas 20 show a loss.

The figures of this table are used as the basis of Diagram I, pages 92-97.

TABLE 8  
RECORDS OF ATTENDANCE

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Bridgewater Congregational	1870	80	123
	1877	150	231
	1880	80	123
	1887	80	123
	1888	65	100
	1890	90	139
	1895	91	140
	1900	100	154
	1904	50	77
Stockbridge Congregational	1870	100	167
	1875	53	88
	1880	50	83
	1885	50	83
	1888	60	100
	1890	50	83
	1895	49	82
	1900	29	48
	1904	27	45
	1907	37	62
	1908	40	67
Andover Baptist	1870	70	175
	1874	60	150

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Andover Baptist	1888	40	100
	1890	36	90
	1895	35	88
	1900	40	100
	1905	30	75
Hartford Congregational	1870	220	138
	1874	225	141
	1880	176	110
	1885	190	119
	1888	160	100
	1890	206	129
	1905	108	67
	1909	99	62
Hartland Congregational	1870	111	139
	1876	65	81
	1881	70	88
	1885	75	94
	1888	80	100
	1889	90	113
	1890	80	100
	1895	75	94
	1900	65	81
	1905	67	84
	1908	40	50
	1909	40	50
Springfield Congregational	1870	307	140
	1875	310	141
	1880	270	123
	1888	220	100
	1901	205	93

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Springfield Congregational	1904	187	85
	1910	138 *	63
Reading Baptist	1888	60	100
	1895	56	93
	1898	45	75
	1900	40	67
	1905	24	40
Cavendish Baptist	1888	75	100
	1890	68	91
	1895	35	47
	1900	40	53
	1905	30	40
Windsor Baptist	1888	160	100
	1895	100	63
	1900	60	38
	1906	49	31
Weston Congregational	1870	60	100
	1875	75	125
	1880	40	67
	1885	95	158
	1888	60	100
	1890	56	93
	1895	80	133
	1900	70	117
	1905	40	67
	1909	40	67
Ludlow Methodist Episcopal	1888	75 **	100

\* Counted September 1910—February 1911.

\*\* Counted last six months of 1888 and 1908.

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Ludlow Methodist Episcopal	1889	89	119
	1908	74 *	99
Weathersfield Baptist	1888	75	100
	1893	54	72
So. Royalton Congregational	1868	75	83
	1870	85	94
	1875	80	89
	1880	102	113
	1885	90	100
	1888	90	100
	1890	95	106
	1892	98	109
Bethel Congregational	1870	67	74
	1875	60	67
	1880	80	89
	1886	82	91
	1888	90	100
	1889	100	111
	1890	100	111
	1891	85	94
Plymouth Congregational	1870	75	214
	1876	75	214
	1885	35	100
	1890	35	100
	1896	38	109
	1900	32	91
	1906	32	91
	1909	45	129

\* Counted last six months of 1888 and 1908.

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Windsor Congregational	1870	180	162
	1875	140	126
	1880	123	111
	1882	150	135
	1892	85	77
	1895	100	90
	1900	60	54
	1904	60	54
	1906	49	44
East Weathersfield Cong'l	1867	80	146
	1869	60	109
	1871	70	127
	1873	85	155
	1900	31	56
	1901	23	42
White River Junction Univ.	1903	53	70
	1904	37	49
	1908	31	41
	1909	23	31
Woodstock Congregational	1870	230	146
	1875	175	111
	1880	167	106
	1908	135	85
	1909	137	87
Weathersfield Congregational	1870	60	80
	1873	50	67
	1876	50	67
	1880	65	87
	1889	75	100
	1890	56	75

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Weathersfield Congregational	1895	51	68
	1900	31	41
East Bethel Baptist	1872	60	133
	1880	50	111
	1885	48	107
	1890	30	67
	1894	40	89
Norwich Congregational	1870	194	146
	1875	206	155
	1880	180	135
	1882	140	105
	Ave. 1889-1903	123	92
Pomfret Congregational	1867	98	140
	1869	115	164
	1870	75	107
	1875	70	100
	1880	75	107
	1882	75	107
Royalton Congregational	1870	125	176
	1874	75	106
	1880	108	152
	1882	76	107
Rochester Meth. Epis.	1901	85	100
	1902	80	94
	1905	63	74
	1907	60	71
	1908	72	85
	1909	55	65

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>
Chester Congregational	1870	220	133
	1875	150	91
	1880	185	112
	1882	175	106
Sharon Baptist	1871	33	66
	1875	55	110
	1880	60	120
	1885	85	170
	1887	50	100
	1890	65	130
	1894	40	80
Windsor Episcopal	1895	53	93
	1900	50	88
	1905	41	72
	1907	51	90
Weston Baptist	1883	40	89
	1896	50	111
	1900	35	78
	1905	50	111
Ascutneyville Congregational	1871	80	86
	1875	75	81
	1880	125	134
	1882	93	100
Sharon Congregational	1870	75	107
	1875	80	114
	1880	85	121
	1881	80	114
	1882	75	107

TABLE 8 (*Continued*)

Name of Church	Year	Attendance	Percentage of Attenda- nce in 1888
Rochester Congregational	1870	108	108
	1875	105	105
	1880	89	89
	1882	117	117
Ludlow Congregational	1870	80	89
	1875	105	117
	1880	82	91
	1882	90	100
Quechee Congregational	1870	75	75
	1875	150	150
	1880	120	120
	1882	130	130

## DIAGRAM I

## RECORDS OF ATTENDANCE

The figures at the left of the cuts indicate percentages of the average attendance in the year 1888, while the figures at the bottom indicate the years.

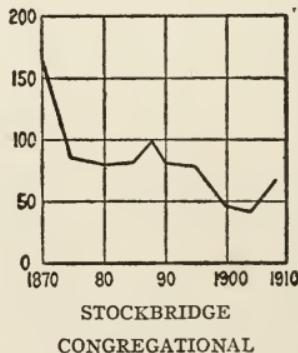
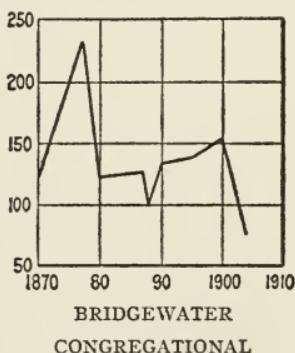


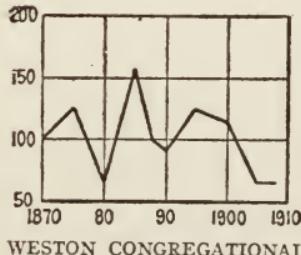
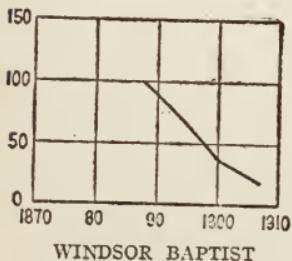
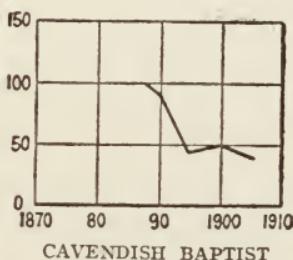
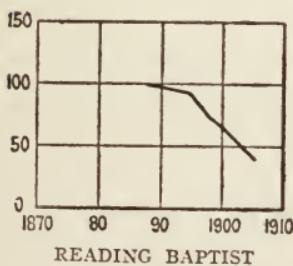
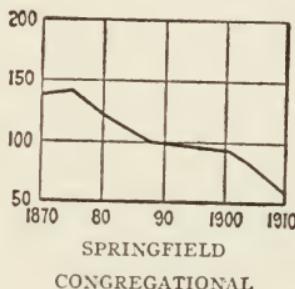
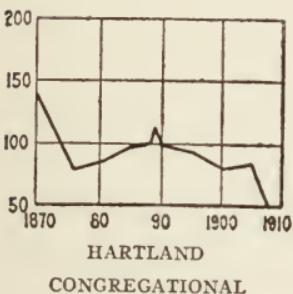
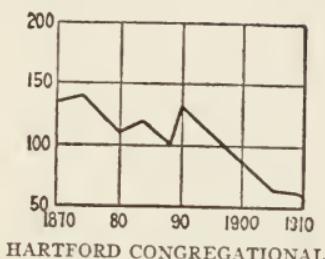
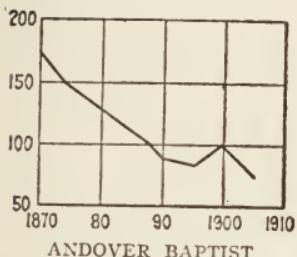
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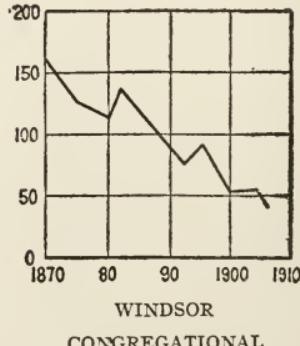
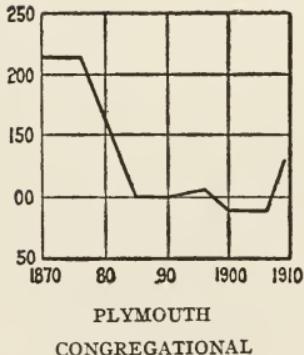
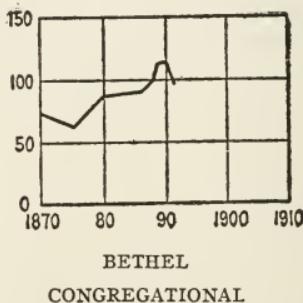
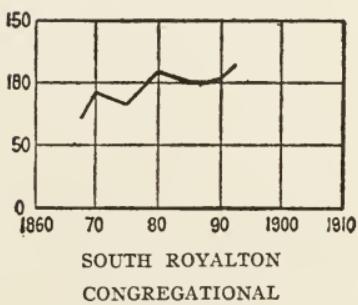
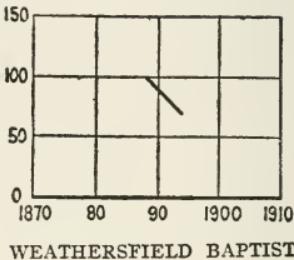
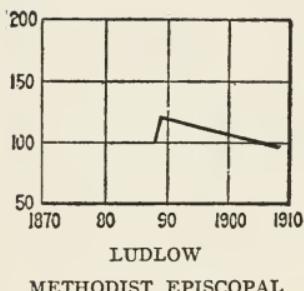
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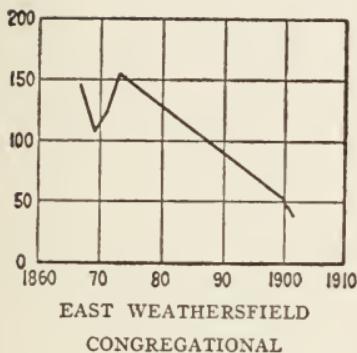
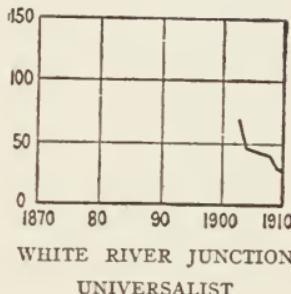
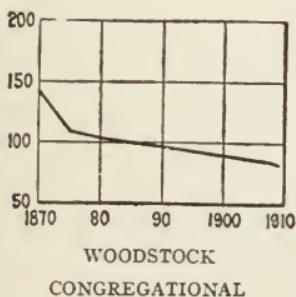
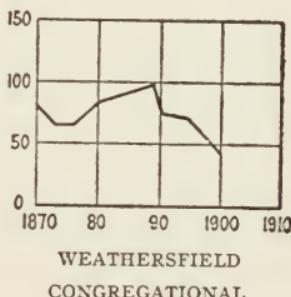
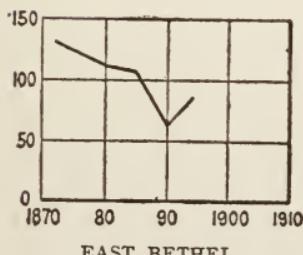
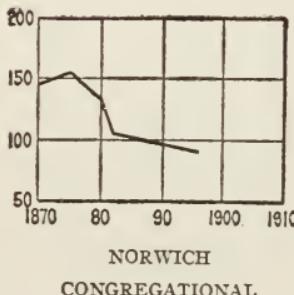
DIAGRAM I (*Continued*)EAST WEATHERSFIELD  
CONGREGATIONALWHITE RIVER JUNCTION  
UNIVERSALISTWOODSTOCK  
CONGREGATIONALWEATHERSFIELD  
CONGREGATIONALEAST BETHEL  
BAPTISTNORWICH  
CONGREGATIONAL

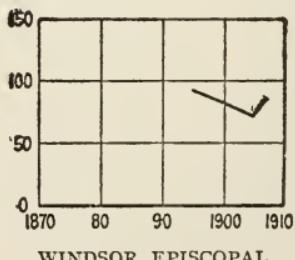
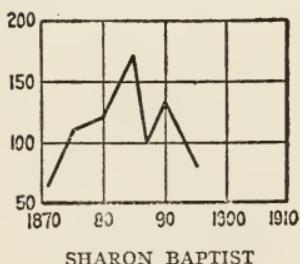
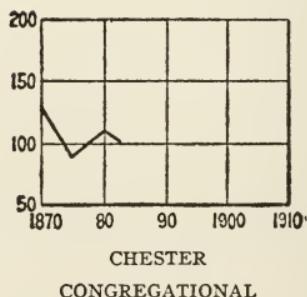
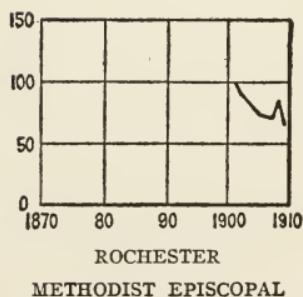
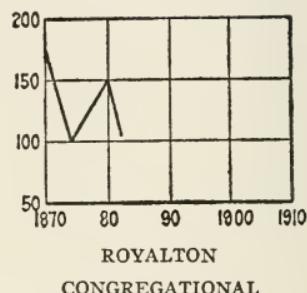
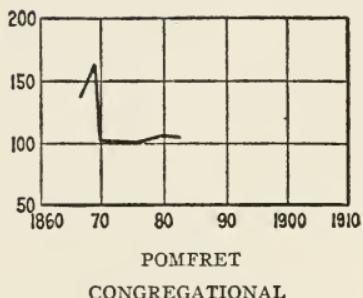
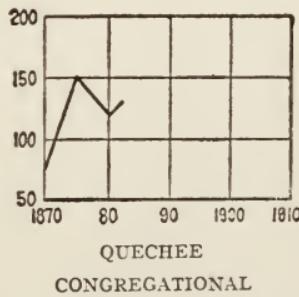
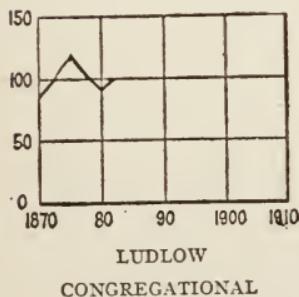
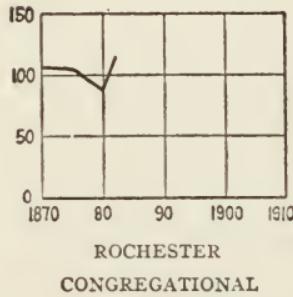
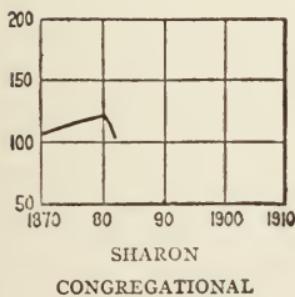
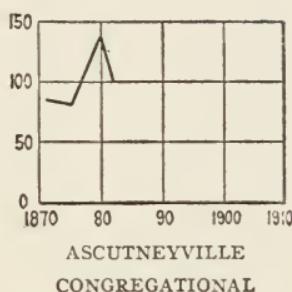
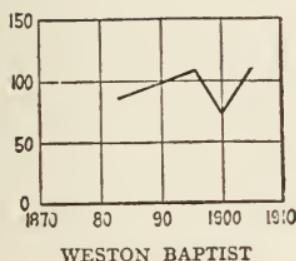
DIAGRAM I (*Continued*)

DIAGRAM I (*Continued*)

*The Gill Method Used in Ascertaining Church Attendance in 1888 and 1908.* A more detailed account than that in Part I is required for complete understanding of the method of ascertaining church attendance for two years twenty years apart. The following description is based on the method as first applied in Windsor County, Vermont. Elsewhere difference in public records might entail small changes in the application of the method.

The problem was to determine the change made in the number of church-going people in Windsor County during the twenty year period from 1888 to 1908.

Two or more copies of the lists of taxpayers for each of these two years were secured, and the names were arranged in groups according to place of residence in each town. For this the old school districts were taken as a basis, and copies of maps of the districts were prepared for each town. The list of taxpayers comprised nearly every family in each town, and in each school district of each town, for the two years.

The next step was to ascertain the names of the persons still living who regularly attended each Protestant church in the year 1888. From them were selected the best witnesses, that selection being based on interest in the church, age, memory, habits of mind, and ac-

quaintance with and interest in the people. If any persons had moved into the town in the year 1888 and had become regular church attendants, their names were ascertained, and generally they were found to be most efficient in settling cases of doubt as to the attendance of individuals in that year. Next the investigator called on the witnesses selected, awakened their interest in the work, explained its methods, and invited their coöperation. In some cases it was possible to interest a whole family of regular attendants of different ages, who increased the probable correctness of the work by participating in it.

Church-goers were divided into three classes,—occasional attendants, who were present from one-sixth to one-third of the time; frequent attendants, present from one-third to two-thirds of the time; and regular attendants, present from two-thirds to all of the time.

The witnesses selected were cautioned against the danger of confusing any other year, such as 1887 or 1891, with the year 1888, and were urged to declare their uncertainty in every doubtful case. The name of the pastor in the year 1888 had previously been ascertained, and in all cases was given to the persons interviewed.

Then came the tedious task of going over the names

on the list of taxpayers, recording the number of church-goers from every family, and marking the names as to which the witness was doubtful. Later the witness was questioned carefully as to whether any names had probably been omitted, and whether the facts as written down were surely correct. Opinions were then asked as to the tendency in church attendance in the twenty year period, and estimates were secured as to numbers in the congregations of 1888 and 1908. In many cases it was found that the persons interviewed had been in the habit of actually counting the congregations.

The tax lists for 1908 were then treated in the same way. The process here described was repeated with other witnesses. Any divergences were then discussed with the first witnesses, and the repetition was continued until the investigator had satisfied himself that his figures were reasonably accurate. It is not always possible to find competent witnesses on the first trial. In Windsor County there are one or two such in nearly every church.

The coöperation freely given in this part of the investigation was of peculiar value, and acknowledgment is here repeated of the unselfish and indispensable assistance so generously rendered.

*The Method Tested.* Confidence in the truthfulness of the conclusions resulting from this method is based chiefly on the thorough testing to which they were subjected by comparison with records of counted congregations. In most cases it was comparatively easy to ascertain the average attendance in 1908. Where records of actual counts were not available, it was usually possible to find church members who had been in the habit of counting congregations although not of recording the count. In a surprisingly large number of cases in Windsor County it was found that two-thirds the number of combined frequent and regular attendants, that is, of those who were in church at least one Sunday out of three, coincided closely with the average congregation as shown by the record of counted congregations, and by the estimates of persons who had been in the habit of counting. In order to make certain that the figures for 1908 did not fall below the actual attendance at church these estimates were checked against two-thirds of the number of combined frequent and regular attendants as found by the Gill method. If the estimates were larger than the number found by the Gill method, the estimate was used. If the number was larger the number was used. By this uniform method of choice all possibility of an unfair selection of the result to

use was avoided and a conservative figure was made certain.

Columns 6 and 7 of Table 9 show that the average change in attendance in counted congregations was a decline of 41 per cent, while the average change for the same congregations by the Gill method was a decline of only 33 per cent.

Of course it does not follow that in all cases the change in the relative number of people who attended church more than one-third of the time in two given years will correspond exactly with the change in the average congregations of the two years, but in determining the tendency in church-going the two sets of data coincide so closely that the truthfulness of both sets is confirmed.

In more than one-third of the churches, therefore, the method is tested. It is not unlikely that hereafter records of counted congregations in other churches may be discovered, and it is possible that these may show that in some churches the loss in attendance is overestimated, but it is scarcely possible that enough overestimates have been made to offset the underestimates which have been proved.

TABLE 9

SHOWING THAT THE LOSS IN ATTENDANCE MAY BE GREATER BUT CANNOT BE LESS THAN THAT STATED IN THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE INVESTIGATION

Year	Attendance According to Records of Counted Congrega- tions *	Number of Regular and Frequent Attendants Determined by Gill Method	Percentage of Attendance in 1888		Percentage Lost or Gained Com- pared with 1888	
			Counted Congre- gations **	Gill Method	Counted Congre- gations	Gill Method
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Average loss in 20 years, (a) Excluding the churches for which the members are estimated for 1888.					—43	—34
(b) Including the churches for which the members are estimated for 1888 **					—41	—33
Hartford Cong'l	1886	190	...	119	...	
	1888	160	248	100	100	
	1889	165	...	103	...	
	1890	206	...	129	...	
	1908	99	153	62	62	—38
Hartland Cong'l	1888	80	94	100	100	
	1889	90	...	113	...	
	1890	80	...	100	...	
	1908	40	59	50	63	—50
	1909	40	...	50	...	—37
Ludlow Meth.	1888	75	96	100	100	
	1908	74	106	99	110	—1
Springfield Cong'l	1888	220	317	100	100	
	1901	205	...	93	...	
	1904	187	...	85	...	
	1908	133	200	61	63	—39
	1910	138	...	63	...	—37

TABLE 9 (*Continued*)

Year	Attendance According to Records of Counted Congrega- tions *	Number of Regular and Frequent Attendants Determined by Gill Method	Percentage of Attendance in 1888		Percentage Lost or Gained Com- pared with 1888	
			Counted Congre- gations **	Gill Method	Counted Congre- gations	Gill Method
I	2	3	4	5	6	7
Stockbridge Cong'l	1888	60	58	100	100	
	1908	40	40	67	69	-33
Weston Cong'l	1888	60	43	100	100	
	1890	56	..	93	...	
	1905	40	..	67	...	
	1908	35	26	58	61	-42
Andover Baptist	1888	40	61	100	100	
	1908	10	15	25	25	-75
Bethel Cong'l	1888	90	130	100	100	
	1908	41	62	46	48	-54
Bridgewater Cong'l	1887	80	...	123	...	
	1888	65	49***	100	100	
	1890	90	...	139	...	
	1908	50	36***	77	74	-23****
	1910	40	...	62	...	-26
Cavendish Baptist	1888	75	73	100	100	
	1908	55	63	73	86	-27
Chester Cong'l	1882	175	...	106	...	
	1888	...	177	100**	...	
	1908	102	152	62	86	-38
Chester Baptist	1888	125	154	100	100	
	1908	70	105	56	68	-44
Queechee Cong'l	1882	130	...	130	...	
	1888	...	121	100	100	
	1908	47	73	47	60	-53
						-40

TABLE 9 (*Continued*)

Year	Attendance According to Records of Counted Congrega- tions *	Number of Regular and Frequent Attendants Determined by Gill Method	Percentage of Attendance in 1888		Percentage Lost or Gained Com- pared with 1888	
			Counted Congre- gations **	Gill Method	Counted Congre- gations	Gill Method
I	2	3	4	5	6	7
West Hartford Cong'l	1882	70	...	108	...	
	1888	...	92	100	100	
	1908	43	64	66	70	—34
White River Jct. Univ.	1888	...	106		100	
	1903	53	...	70	...	
	1904	37	...	49	...	
	1908	31	41	41	39	
	1909	23	...	31	...	
North Hartland Meth.	1888	55	51	100	100	
	1908	16	24	29	47	—71
Ludlow Cong'l	1882	90	...	101	...	
	1888	...	113	100	100	
	1908	85	127	95	112	—5
	1910	100	...	112	...	+12
Ludlow Baptist	1888	140	198	100	100	
	1908	89	133	64	67	—36
	1910	63	...	45	...	—33
Norwich Cong'l	1875	206	...	155	...	
	1880	180	...	135	...	
	1882	140	...	105	...	
	1888	...	244	100	100	
	1896	123	...	92	...	
	1908	...	195	...	80	—20
	1910	100	...	75	...	—25
Reading (Felchville) Baptist	1888	60	60	100	100	
	1906	30	...	50	...	

TABLE 9 (*Continued*)

Year	Attendance According to Records of Counted Congrega- tions *	Number of Regular and Frequent Attendants Determined by Gill Method	Percentage of Attendance in 1888		Percentage Lost or Gained Com- pared with 1888		
			Counted Congre- gations **	Gill Method	Counted Congre- gations	Gill Method	
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Reading (Felchville) Baptist	1908	16	23	27	38	-73	-62
Rochester Cong'l	1882	117	...	117	...		
	1888	...	137	100	100		
	1908	50	75	50	55	-50	-45
Rochester Meth.	1888	...	125		100		
	1901	85	...	100	...		
	1902	80	...	94	...		
	1905	63	...	74	...		
	1907	60	...	71	...		
	1908	72	63	85	51		
	1909	55	...	65	...		
S. Royalton Cong'l	1888	90	131	100	100		
	1908	94	141	104	108	+4	+ 8
Royalton Cong'l	1880	108	...	152	...		
	1881	100	...	141	...		
	1882	76	...	107	...		
	1888	...	98	100	100		
	1908	59	88	83	90	-17	-10
Sharon Cong'l	1880	85	...	121	...		
	1881	80	...	114	...		
	1882	75	...	107	...		
	1888	...	102	100	100		
	1908	49	73	70	72	-30	-28
	1910	40	...	57	...		
Sharon Baptist	1885	85	...	170	...		
	1887	50	...	100	...		
	1888	...	62	100	100		

TABLE 9 (*Continued*)

Year	Attendance According to Records of Counted Congrega- tions *	Number of Regular and Frequent Attendants Determined by Gill Method	Percentage of Attendance in 1888		Percentage Lost or Gained Com- pared with 1888	
			Counted Congre- gations **	Gill Method	Counted Congre- gations	Gill Method
I	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sharon Baptist	1890	65	...	130	...	
	1895	40	...	80	...	
	1908	19	28	38	45	—62 —55
Springfield Baptist	1888	100	65***	100	100	
	1908	83	77***	83	119	—17 +19
Weathersfield Baptist	1888	75	100	100	100	
	1893	54	...	72	...	
	1908	39	58	52	58	—48 —42
Weathersfield Center Cong'l	1880	65	...	87	...	
	1888	...	42		100	
	1889	75	...	100	...	
	1895	51	...	68	...	
	1900	31	...	41	...	
	1901	28	...	37	...	
	1908	...	14	..	33	
Weathersfield Cong'l & Ascutneyville Meth.	1880	125	...	134	...	
	1882	93	...	115	...	
	1888	...	134	100	100	
	1908	43	64	53	48	—48 —52
Weston Baptist & Meth.	1888	160	182	100	100	
	1908	43	64	27	35	—73 —65
Windsor Cong'l	1882	150	...	111	...	
	1888	...	196	100	100	
	1895	100	...	74	...	

TABLE 9 (*Continued*)

Year	<i>Attendance According to Records of Counted Congregations *</i>	<i>Number of Regular and Frequent Attendants Determined by Gill Method</i>	<i>Percentage of Attendance in 1888</i>		<i>Percentage Lost or Gained Compared with 1888</i>	
			<i>Counted Congregations **</i>	<i>Gill Method</i>	<i>Counted Congregations</i>	<i>Gill Method</i>
I	2	3	4	5	6	7
Windsor Cong'l	1890	60	...	44	....	
	1904	60	...	44	...	
	1906	49	...	36	...	
	1908	49	73	36	37	-64 -63
Windsor Baptist	1888	160	119	100	100	
	1906	49	...	30	...	
	1908	42	63	26	53	-74 -47
Windsor Episcopal	1888	...	57***		100	
	1895	53	...	93	...	
	1900	50	...	88	...	
	1905	41	...	72	...	
	1907	51	...	90	...	
	1908	82	72***	144	126	
	1909	72	...	126	...	
	1910	61	...	107	...	
Woodstock Cong'l	1880	167	...	106	...	
	1888	...	194	100	100	
	1908	135	163	85	84	-15 -16
	1909	137	...	87	...	

\* In column 2 figures which are reckoned in the manner described on page 100 are italicised. The rest of the figures represent actual counts.

\*\* In column 4 the italicised figure stands for the number for 1888 estimated from the counts for the nearest years for which counts are recorded. All other figures represent actual counts.

\*\*\* Does not include attendants whose residences are in other townships.

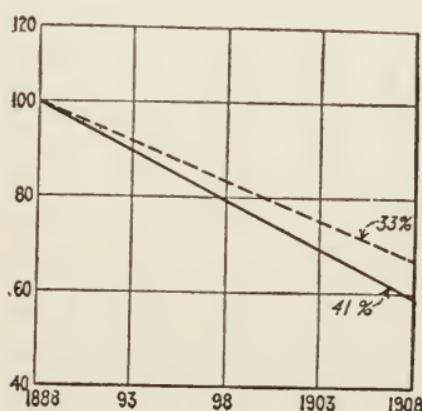
\*\*\*\* It will be noted as compared with the year 1887 the loss is 37 per cent and as compared with 1890 it is 44 per cent.

Diagram II, based on the figures in Table 9, shows also that the loss in attendance may be greater but cannot be less than that stated by the conclusions of this investigation. The unbroken line represents the average decline of 41 per cent shown by the records of counted congregations of those churches for which such records were found, while the dotted line shows for the same group of churches a decline of only 33 per cent indicated by the results obtained in the use of the Gill Method.

## DIAGRAM II

COMPARISON OF THE RESULTS OF THE GILL METHOD WITH  
RECORDS OF COUNTED CONGREGATIONS

(Dotted line represents the former, the unbroken line the latter.)



## 4. ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP COMPARED

For fifty years in Windsor County there has been a tendency for church attendance to decline in proportion to membership. Table 10 gives membership and attendance figures for every church in the county for which both sets of facts are available for the twenty year period 1888-1908. Of the 49 churches compared, the attendance has gained in proportion to membership in 12, while in 37 it has lost. In the last two columns the figures are reduced to percentages.

In these 49 churches there is a decline in the total church membership of less than 1 per cent, while in attendance there is a decline of nearly 28 per cent. The same tendency is also shown by comparing the figures which have already been given for membership and attendance in the county. While for the county, membership has increased 4 per cent, attendance has declined 30 per cent.

TABLE 10

NUMBER OF MEMBERS AND ATTENDANTS COMPARED FOR 1888  
AND 1908 (CHURCHES ARRANGED IN ORDER OF RELATIVE IN-  
CREASE OR DECREASE OF ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO MEM-  
BERSHIP)

		Enrolled Members		Attendants		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
		1888	1908	1888	1908	In Member- ship	In Attend- ance
Totals.....		4,493	4,456	5,320	3,834	— 1	—28
Springfield	Epis.	9	53	25	53	+489	+112
Pomfret	Cong'l	31	74	108	98	+139	— 9
Plymouth	"	17	23	80	37	+35	—54
Cavendish	Baptist	46	76	73	63	+65	—14
West Windsor	Meth.	65	101	108	92	+55	—15
Barnard	Meth.	91	99	136	61	+ 9	—55
Andover	Baptist	28	26	61	15	— 7	—75
Weston	Meth.	72	78	101	42	+ 8	—58
Weathersfield	Baptist	85	100	100	58	+18	—42
Springfield	Cong'l	283	340	317	200	+20	—37
Bridgewater	"	43	56	49	36	+30	—27
Windsor	"	128	110	196	73	—14	—63
Weathersfield Ctr.	"	54	46	42	14	—15	—67
Woodstock	Epis.	48	90	109	149	+88	+37
So. Royalton	Cong'l	61	96	133	141	+57	+ 6
Hartland	"	65	69	94	59	+ 6	—37
Ludlow	"	108	176	113	127	+63	+12
Bethel	"	85	76	130	62	—11	—52
Weston	Baptist	67	42	81	22	—37	—73
Royalton	Epis.	26 (1887)	19	32	12	—27	—63
Chester	Baptist	157	169	154	105	+ 8	—32
Ludlow	"	216	224	198	133	+ 4	—33
Hartford	Cong'l	182	176	248	153	— 3	—38
So. Royalton	Meth.	81	93	119	92	+15	—23
West Hartford	Cong'l	71	70	92	64	— 1	—30
Bethel	Epis.	46	43	79	54	— 7	—32
Woodstock	Meth.	173	152	134	85	—12	—37
Chester	Cong'l	160	178	177	152	+11	—14

TABLE 10 (*Continued*)

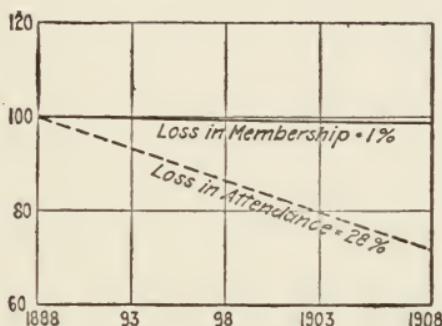
		Enrolled Members		Attendants		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
		1888	1908	1888	1908	In Member- ship	In Attend- ance
Ludlow	Meth.	76	102	96	106	+34	+10
Weston	Cong'l	37	30	43	26	-19	-40
Rochester	"	118	86	137	75	-27	-45
Springfield	Meth.	193	234	191	194	+21	+ 2
Quechee	Cong'l	101	79	121	73	-21	-40
Norwich	"	187	174	244	195	- 7	-20
Cavendish	Meth.	48	50	71	68	+ 4	- 4
Sharon	Cong'l	92	71	102	73	-23	-28
Rochester	Meth.	142	77	125	63	-46	-50
Woodstock	Cong'l	211	176	194	163	-17	-16
Windsor	Baptist	143	74	119	63	-48	-47
Windsor	Epis.	70	83	57	72	+19	+26
Stockbridge	Cong'l	48	25	58	40	-48	-31
Royalton	"	73	59	98	88	-19	-10
Hartland	Meth.	76	36	88	54	-53	-39
Chester	Epis.	77	43	61	40	-44	-34
Sharon	Baptist	54	15	62	28	-72	-55
Reading	"	62	9	60	23	-85	-62
Springfield	"	132	120	65	77	- 9	+18
White River Jct.	Epis.	37	49	27	44	+32	+63
Bethel	Baptist	18	9	12*	17*	-50	+42

\* Attendants resident in neighboring townships excluded in both years.

Diagram III, based on the figures in Table 10, shows graphically that in the churches for which both sets of facts are known membership has declined only 1 per cent while attendance has declined 28 per cent.

## DIAGRAM III

## COMPARISON OF LOSS IN MEMBERSHIP AND LOSS IN ATTENDANCE



The decline of attendance in proportion to membership has been explained as due to the retention of non-resident members on church rolls. That this is not true is shown by the figures for 32 churches given in Table II, in only 6 of which the attendance has gained on the resident membership, while membership has increased over attendance in 26.

TABLE II

NUMBER OF RESIDENT MEMBERS AND ATTENDANTS IN THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES IN THE YEARS 1888 AND 1908 AND THE GAIN AND LOSS PER CENT (CHURCHES ARRANGED IN THE ORDER OF THE PERCENTAGE OF LOSS IN ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO MEMBERSHIP)

		Resident Members		Attendants		Gain or Loss Per Cent	
		1888	1908	1888	1908	Resident Members	Attendants
Totals.....		2,324	2,180	3,761	2,553	— 6	—32
Pomfret	Cong'l	27	63	108	98	+133	— 9
Plymouth	"	14	18	80	37	+29	—54
Cavendish	Baptist	37	61	73	63	+65	—14
Andover	"	16	12	61	15	—25	—75
Weathersfield	"	54	45	100	58	—17	—42
Springfield	Cong'l	235	245	317	200	+ 4	—37
Bridgewater	"	25	37	49	36	+48	—27
Windsor	"	104	85	196	73	—18	—63
Weathersfield Ctr.	"	39	23	42	14	—41	—67
So. Royalton	"	50	77	133	141	+54	+ 6
Hartland	"	56	55	94	59	— 2	—37
Ludlow	"	60	133	113	127	+122	+12
Bethel	"	68	61	130	62	—10	—52
Weston	Baptist	30	32	81	22	+ 7	—73
Chester	"	113	120	154	105	+ 6	—32
Ludlow	"	160	145	198	133	— 9	—33
Hartford	Cong'l	147	116	248	153	—21	—38
West Hartford	"	48	48	92	64	....	—30
Weston	"	26	24	43	26	— 8	—40
Chester	"	116	119	177	152	+ 3	—14
Rochester	"	94	66	137	75	—30	—45
Quechee	"	79	51	121	73	—35	—40
Norwich	"	150	138	244	195	— 8	—20
Sharon	"	67	38	102	73	—43	—28
Woodstock	"	166	149	194	163	—10	—16
Windsor	Baptist	91	41	119	63	—55	—47
Royalton	Cong'l	51	47	98	88	— 8	—10
Sharon	Baptist	32	15	62	28	—53	—55

TABLE II (*Continued*)

		Resident Members		Attendants		Gain or Loss Per Cent	
		1888	1908	1888	1908	Resident Members	Attend- ants
Stockbridge	Cong'l	39	19	58	40	-51	-31
Springfield	Baptist	74	79	65	77	+7	+18
Reading	"	42	9	60	23	-79	-62
Bethel	"	14	9	12*	17*	-36	+42

\* Attendants resident in neighboring townships excluded both years.

## 5. INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

A description of the method of determining the increase or decrease in the amount of expenditure by the churches is given on page 24.

*The Change in Prices and the Cost of Living.* Tables 12 and 13 show that the greatest increase in the cost of living, comparing the period 1885-1889 with the period 1905-1909, was 48 per cent in the township of Hartford; the least increase was 7 per cent in the township of Weston. Comparing the year 1909 with the average for 1885-1889 the least increase was 10 per cent in Weston, while the greatest was 57 per cent in Hartford.

TABLE 12

INCREASE PER CENT IN THE COST OF LIVING FOR THE YEAR  
1909 AND FOR 1905-1909 AS COMPARED WITH THE AVERAGE  
FOR 1885-1889

County.....	<i>Percentage of Increase in Cost of Living as Compared with 1885-1889</i>	
	1909 Per Cent	1905-1909 Per Cent
Hartford Town.....	31	24
Norwich    " .....	57	48
Bethel    " .....	46	40
Cavendish    " .....	42	35
Windsor    " .....	38	34
Ludlow    " .....	40	33
Rochester    " .....	41	32
Weathersfield Town.....	38	31
Stockbridge    " .....	35	28
Chester    " .....	33	25
Woodstock    " .....	30	25
Reading    " .....	31	23
Sharon    " .....	21	18
Bridgewater    " .....	29	17
Barnard    " .....	30	16
Royalton    " .....	22	16
Hartland    " .....	24	15
Springfield    " .....	24	14
Pomfret    " .....	20	13
Weston    " .....	15	9
	10	7

TABLE 13

INDEX FIGURES SHOWING THE CHANGE IN THE COST OF LIVING  
IN TWENTY TOWNS, AS COMPARED WITH 1885-1889

<i>Year</i>	<i>Hartford</i>	<i>Norwich</i>	<i>Bethel</i>	<i>Ludlow</i>	<i>Windsor</i>	<i>Caven-dish</i>
1875-1880			105			
1880-1884			102			
1885-1889	100	100	100	100	100	100
1890		101	95	108	96	
1893	110		97	108	106	
1895			93		105	
1898			94		105	
1900			93		112	
1903			119		105	115
1905	143	137	128	125	126	131
1908	148	139	139	134	136	135
1909	157	146	142	141	140	138
Ave. '05-'09	148	140	135	132	133	134
<i>Year</i>	<i>Rochester</i>	<i>Weath-ersfield</i>	<i>Stock-bridge (without rent)</i>	<i>Wood- stock</i>	<i>Bridge- water</i>	<i>Chester</i>
1875-1880	111		126		120	123
1880-1884	96		132		115	105
1885-1889	100	100	100	100	100	100
1890	114		106		105	101
1893	102		113		99	106
1895	100		101		86	101
1898	98		104		96	104
1900	113		109		105	104
1903	111		115		103	111
1905	126	120	119	118	109	119
1908	133	133	126	124	116	123
1909	138	135	133	131	130	130
Ave. '05-'09	131	128	125	123	116	125

TABLE 13 (*Continued*)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Sharon</i>	<i>Royalton</i>	<i>Hart- land (without rent)</i>	<i>Barnard</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Spring- field</i>
1875-1880	95		115			94
1880-1885	110		112			104
1885-1889	100	100	100	100	100	100
1890	96		98		86	102
1893	104		102			103
1895	100		97			102
1898	102		96			101
1900	108	101	102			102
1903	109		103			103
1905	111	111	107	113	116	107
1908	116	114	118	117	119	116
1909	129	124	124	122	121	120
Ave. '05-'09	117	115	114	116	118	113
<i>Year</i>	<i>Pomfret</i>	<i>Weston</i>				
1875-1880	105	115				
1880-1885	128	108				
1885-1889	100	100				
1890	104	100				
1893	102	103				
1895	107	100				
1898	97	97				
1900	104	105				
1903	103	108				
1905	101	105				
1908	113	109				
1909	115	110				
Ave. '05-'09	109	107				

Diagram IV shows the change in the cost of living in the different townships. The figures at the bottom

of the cuts indicate the years. The average for 1885–1889 being taken as 100, the lines show the increase per cent as indicated by the figures at the left of the cuts.

## DIAGRAM IV

## THE CHANGE IN THE COST OF LIVING IN THE DIFFERENT TOWNSHIPS

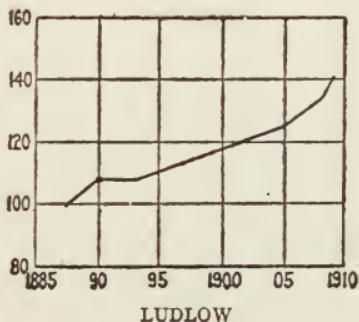
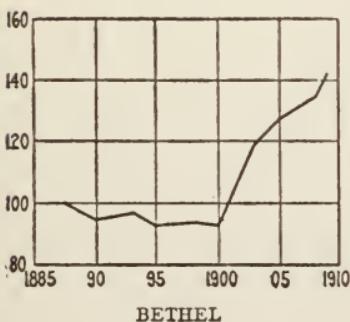
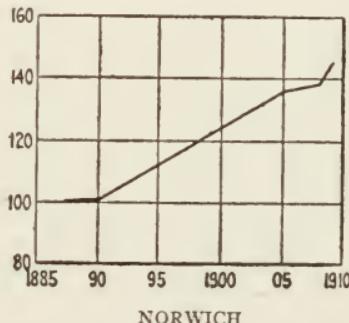
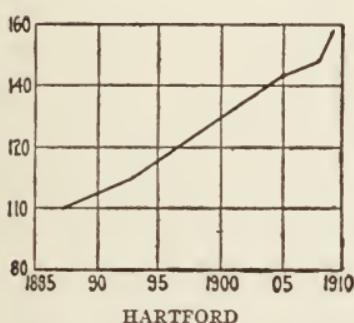
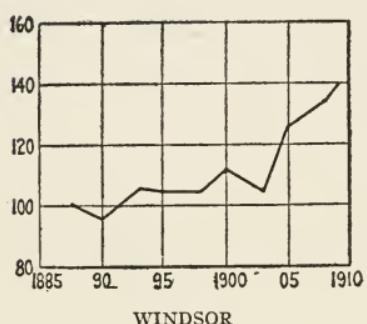
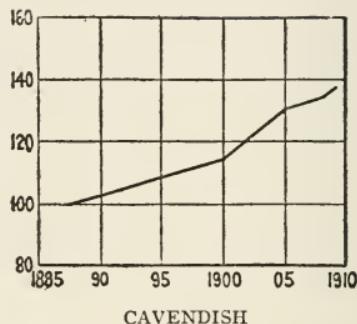
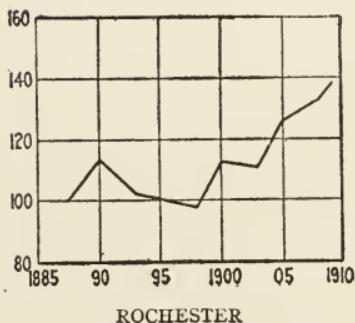


DIAGRAM IV (*Continued*)

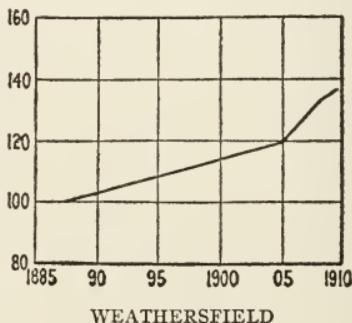
WINDSOR



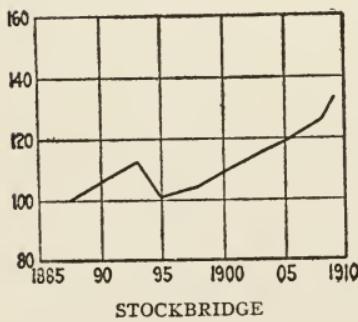
CAVENDISH



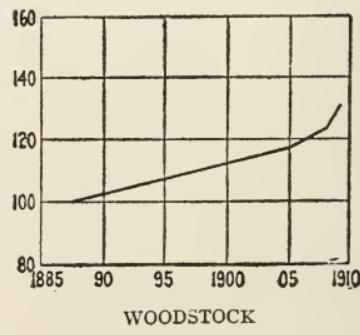
ROCHESTER



WEATHERSFIELD



STOCKBRIDGE



WOODSTOCK

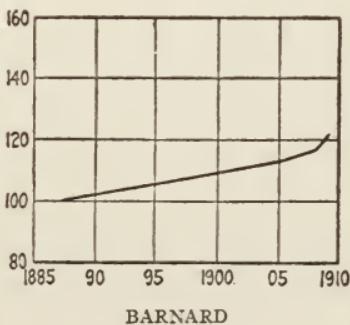
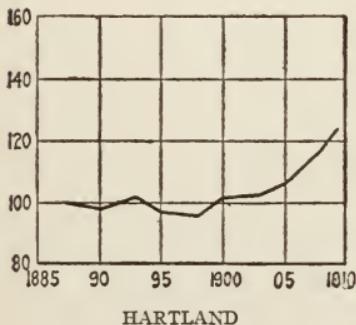
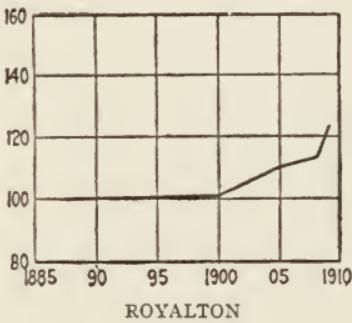
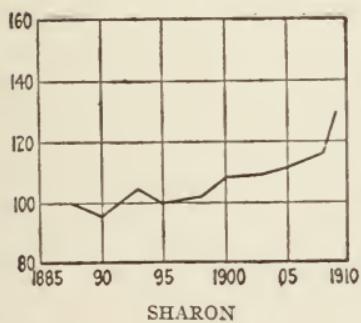
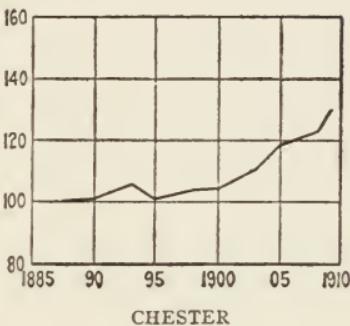
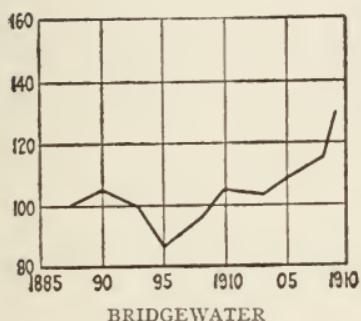
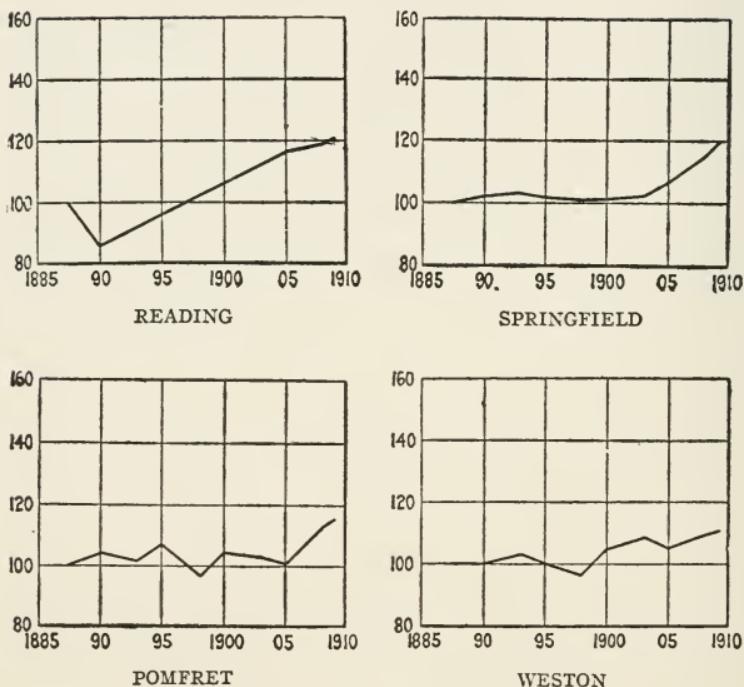
DIAGRAM IV (*Continued*)

DIAGRAM IV (*Continued*)

*Total Expenditures.* The following comparison (Table 14) of church expenditures in Windsor County deals with the average of the five years from 1905 to 1909 as compared with the five years from 1885 to 1889. It appears that all the churches in the county for which statistics are available taken together have increased their expenditures from \$50,931 in the first period to \$65,679 in the second, an increase of 29 per cent. The latter figure, however, includes more than \$20,000 ex-

pended in the second period for a church in Woodstock, more than three-fourths of the cost of which was contributed by summer residents and non-residents. If all the churches of the town of Woodstock are eliminated from the comparison, as it is fair they should be, the increase is from \$42,704 in the first period to \$52,419 in the second period, or an increase of 22.7 per cent. If we express these expenditures for the second period in terms of their actual purchasing power compared with expenditures in the first period, still eliminating the churches of Woodstock, we find them to amount only to \$41,855, or a loss of 2 per cent.

To express the matter differently, 34 churches in Windsor County have expended a greater number of dollars in the second period than in the first, while 19 have expended a smaller number. Measured in purchasing power, 27 churches have increased their expenditures while 26 have decreased them.

Among the churches whose financial statistics are not available there are in the county 14 churches of one denomination whose total attendance declined 50 per cent in twenty years. It is probable therefore that their expenditures in money have suffered a greater decline than did those of the denominations whose statistics are given. It is evident from these results

that the churches of the county as a whole are barely holding their own, although largely assisted by contributions from non-residents.

TABLE 14

AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENDITURES OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES  
1885-1889 AND 1905-1909

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>1885-89</i>	<i>1905-1909</i>		<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent</i>	
	<i>Dollars and Pur- chasing Power</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Pur- chasing Power as Com- pared with 1885 -1889</i>	<i>In Dol- lars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power</i>
Totals with Woodstock churches.....	50,931	65,679	52,635	+29	+ 3
Totals without Wood- stock Churches.....	42,704	52,419	41,855	+23	- 2
Springfield Cong'l...	5,373	4,225	3,732	-21	-31
Hartford      " ...	2,168	1,946	1,318	-10	-39
Queechee      " ...	1,523	1,449	981	-5	-36
West Hartford      " ...	568	727	492	+28	-13
Wilder      " ...	238	1,205	816	+406	+243
Woodstock      " ...	4,926	4,704	3,824	-5	-22
Windsor      " ...	1,661	1,520	1,144	-8	-31
Ludlow      " ...	619	2,291	1,739	+270	+181
Bethel      " ...	728	1,074	797	+48	+ 9
Chester      " ...	1,219	1,946	1,582	+60	+30
So. Royalton      " ...	864	1,506	1,394	+74	+61
Royalton      " ...	831	890	824	+ 7	- 1
Hartland      " ...	884	1,263	1,103	+43	+25

TABLE 14 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>Dollars and Pur- chasing Power</i>	1885-89	1905-1909		<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent</i>	
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Pur- chasing Power as Com- pared with 1885 -1889</i>	<i>In Dol- lars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power</i>	
Rochester	Cong'l...	816	1,200	913	+47	+12
Norwich	" ...	1,182	1,513	1,139	+28	-4
Ascutneyville	" ...	218	337	263	+55	+21
Weathersfield	" ...	160	125	97	-22	-39
Bridgewater	" ...	352	584	503	+66	+43
Stockbridge	" ...	344	281	207	-18	-40
Pomfret	" ...	463	809	745	+75	+61
Weston	" ...	362	466	434	+29	+20
Sharon	" ...	720	684	600	-5	-17
Plymouth	" ...	130	189	151	+45	+16
Springfield	Baptist. ...	1,078	984	869	-9	-19
Windsor	" ...	1,213	863	649	-29	-46
Ludlow	" ...	1,795	2,369	1,798	+32	..
Bethel	" ...	254	109	81	-57	-68
Chester	" ...	1,404	2,031	1,652	+45	+18
Cavendish	" ...	449	843	671	+88	+49
Weathersfield	" ...	718	760	593	+6	-17
Weston	" ...	3	131	122	..	..
Sharon	" ...	301	202	177	-33	-41
Reading	" ...	734	375	292	-49	-60
Andover	" ...	257	453	368	+76	+43
White River Jct. Epis..		558	615	417	+10	-25
Springfield	" ..	27	505	446	..	..
Woodstock	" ..	1,482	7,287	5,924	+392	+300
Windsor	" ..	1,157	1,868	1,406	+61	+22
Bethel	" ..	546	417	309	-24	-43
Chester	" ..	1,045	801	651	-23	-38
Royalton	" ..	.....	.....	....	..	..

TABLE 14 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>1885-89</i>	<i>1905-1909</i>		<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent</i>	
	<i>Dollars and Pur- chasing Power</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Pur- chasing Power as Com- pared with 1885 -1889</i>	<i>In Dol- lars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power</i>
Norwich Epis..	.....	.....	.....	..	..
Cavendish "	160	204	162	+28	+ 1
Springfield M.E. ....	1,662	2,566	2,267	+54	+36
Wilder "	....*	627	425	..	..
White River Jct. M. E. and Queechee "	1,891	1,987	1,346	+ 5	-29
Woodstock "	1,819	1,269	1,032	-30	-43
Windsor "	....**	752	566	..	..
Ludlow "	940	913	693	- 3	-26
Hartland "	811	1,020	891	+26	+10
Rochester "	1,500	1,288	981	-14	-35
Cavendish "	719	1,108	882	+54	+23
Barnard "	766	782	673	+ 2	-12
Weston "	564	468	436	-17	-23
West Windsor "	729	1,148	1,058	+57	+45

\* Did not report expenditures in 1888

\*\* Not holding services in 1888

TABLE 15

## AVERAGE ANNUAL CHURCH EXPENDITURES OF THE DIFFERENT TOWNSHIPS 1885-1889 AND 1905-1909

Name of Town	1885-1889	1905-1909	Gain or Loss Per Cent	
	Dollars and Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1885 -1889	In Dollars
				In Purchas- ing Power
Totals with Woodstock .....	50,931	65,679	52,635	+29
Totals omitting Woodstock .....	42,704	52,419	41,855	+23
Andover .....	257	453	368	+76
Barnard .....	766	782	673	+2
Bethel .....	1,528	1,600	1,187	+5
Bridgewater .....	352	584	503	+66
Cavendish .....	1,328	2,155	1,716	+62
Chester .....	3,668	4,778	3,885	+30
Hartford .....	6,946	8,557	5,795	+23
Hartland .....	1,695	2,283	1,994	+35
Ludlow .....	3,354	5,574	4,230	+66
Norwich .....	1,182	1,513	1,139	+28
Plymouth .....	130	189	151	+45
Pomfret .....	463	809	745	+75
Reading .....	734	375	292	-49
Rochester .....	2,316	2,488	1,894	+7
Royalton .....	1,695	2,396	2,218	+41
Sharon .....	1,021	886	777	-13
Springfield .....	8,140	8,279	7,314	+2
Stockbridge .....	344	281	207	-18
Weathersfield .....	1,096	1,222	952	+11
Weston .....	929	1,065	992	+15
West Windsor .....	729	1,148	1,059	+57
Windsor .....	4,031	5,002	3,764	+24
Woodstock .....	8,227	13,260	10,780	+61

*Benevolences.* Measured in dollars 32 churches in Windsor County have increased their gifts for benevolences while 21 have decreased them. Measured in purchasing power, but 25 churches have increased their gifts while 28 have decreased them. Taken as a whole the churches of the county have decreased their contributions in dollars from an average of \$10,986 in the first period to an average of \$8,625 in the second, a decrease of 21 per cent. If we eliminate the churches of Woodstock, as was done in the matter of expenditures above, they have fallen from \$7,585 in the first period to \$6,820 in the second period, or 10 per cent. Expressed in terms of purchasing power the churches of the county gave an average each year of \$10,986 during the first period and an equivalent of \$6,964 in the second, or a decrease of 37 per cent. If we eliminate the churches of Woodstock as before, they gave \$7,585 in the first period as against \$5,496 in the second, a decrease of 27 per cent.

TABLE 16

AVERAGE ANNUAL BENEVOLENCES IN THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES,  
1885-1889 AND 1905-1909

Name of Church	1885-89	1905-1909		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	Dollars and Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1885 to 1889	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
Totals with Woodstock .....	10,986	8,625	6,964	— 21	— 37
Totals without Woodstock .....	7,585	6,820	5,496	— 10	— 27
Springfield Cong'l ..	2,682	1,012	894	— 62	— 67
Hartford ..	618	235	159	— 62	— 74
Wilder ..	11	85	57	+673	+418
Quechee ..	200	51	34	— 74	— 83
West Hartf'd ..	28	29	20	+ 4	— 29
Woodstock ..	3,219	1,331	1,082	— 59	— 66
Windsor ..	294	127	96	— 57	— 67
Ludlow ..	181	283	215	+ 56	+ 19
Bethel ..	47	66	49	+ 40	+ 4
Chester ..	176	199	162	+ 13	— 8
So. Royalton ..	158	57	52	— 64	— 67
Royalton ..	173	155	144	— 10	— 17
Hartland ..	58	68	60	+ 17	+ 3
Rochester ..	86	100	76	+ 16	— 12
Norwich ..	273	166	125	— 39	— 54
Ascutneyville ..	37	82	64	+122	+ 73
Weathersfield Ctr.					
Cong'l .....	7	5	4	— 29	— 43
Bridgewater Cong'l	57	13	11	— 77	— 81
Stockbridge ..	29	7	5	— 75	— 83
Pomfret ..	14	49	45	+250	+221
Weston ..	45	34	31	— 24	— 31
Sharon ..	70	18	16	— 74	— 77

TABLE 16 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	<i>1885-89</i>	<i>1905-1909</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	
	<i>Dollars and Purchas- ing Power</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1885 to 1889</i>	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Purchas- ing Power</i>
Plymouth Cong'l...	16	6	5	— 63	— 69
Springfield Baptist .	75	114	101	+ 52	+ 35
Windsor " .	66	76	57	+ 15	— 14
Ludlow " .	518	884	671	+ 71	+ 30
Bethel " .	28	4	3	— 86	— 89
Chester " .	100	547	445	+447	+345
Cavendish " .	47	131	104	+179	+121
Weathersfield " .	91	129	101	+ 42	+ 11
Weston " .	3	23	21	+667	+600
Sharon " .	18	17	15	— 6	— 17
Reading " .	176	14	11	— 92	— 94
Andover " .	19	25	20	+ 32	+ 5
White River Jct.					
Epis. ....	25	84	57	+236	+128
Springfield Epis...		37	33		
Woodstock " ..	63	340	277	+440	+340
Windsor " ..	147	232	175	+ 58	+ 19
Bethel " ..	117	74	54	— 37	— 54
Chester " ..	62	54	44	— 13	— 29
Royalton " ..	24	42	39	+ 75	+ 63
Norwich " ..					
Cavendish " ..	5	15	12	+200	+140
Springfield Meth....	286	519	458	+ 81	+ 60
White River Jct.					
Meth. Epis.....	124	248	168	+100	+ 35
Woodstock Meth. ...	119	134	109	+ 13	— 8
Windsor " ...		57	43		
Ludlow " ...	81	104	79	+ 28	— 2
Hartland " ...	54	41	35	— 24	— 35

TABLE 16 (*Continued*)

<i>Name of Church</i>	1885-89		1905-1909		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	
	<i>Dollars and Purchas- ing Power</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1885 -1889</i>		<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Purchas- ing Power</i>
			<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Power as compared with 1885 -1889</i>		
Rochester Meth...	48	126	96	+ 163	+ 100	
Cavendish " ...	42	52	41	+ 24	- 2	
Barnard " ...	49	165	142	+ 237	+ 190	
Weston " ...	44	17	16	- 61	- 64	
West Windsor " ...	76	142	131	+ 87	+ 72	

TABLE 17

AVERAGE ANNUAL BENEVOLENCES IN THE DIFFERENT TOWNS,  
1885-1889 AND 1905-1909

<i>Name of Town</i>	<i>1885-1889</i>	<i>1905-1909</i>	<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>		
	<i>Dollars and Purchas- ing Power</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1885 -1889</i>	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Purchas- ing Power</i>
Totals:					
With Woodstock . . .	10,986	8,625	6,964	-21	-37
Without Woodstock	7,585	6,820	5,496	-10	-27
Andover. . . . .	19	25	20	+32	+ 5
Barnard. . . . .	49	165	142	+237	+190
Bethel. . . . .	193	144	107	-25	-45
Bridgewater. . . . .	57	13	11	-77	-81
Cavendish. . . . .	94	198	158	+111	+68
Chester. . . . .	338	800	650	+137	+92
Hartford. . . . .	1,007	733	496	-27	-51
Hartland. . . . .	112	109	95	-3	-15
Ludlow. . . . .	780	1,271	965	+63	+24
Norwich. . . . .	273	166	125	-39	-54
Plymouth. . . . .	16	6	5	-72	-69
Pomfret. . . . .	13	49	45	+277	+246
Reading. . . . .	176	14	11	-92	-94
Rochester. . . . .	133	226	172	+70	+29
Royalton. . . . .	355	254	235	-28	-34
Sharon. . . . .	88	35	30	-60	-66
Springfield. . . . .	3,043	1,682	1,486	-45	-51
Stockbridge. . . . .	29	6	5	-79	-83
Weathersfield. . . . .	135	216	168	+60	+24
Weston. . . . .	93	73	68	-22	-27
West Windsor . . . .	76	142	131	+87	+72
Windsor. . . . .	506	493	371	-3	-27
Woodstock. . . . .	3,401	1,805	1,468	-47	-57

*Ministers' Salaries.* The salaries of 53 out of the 57 ministers in the county are here considered. During the five year period (1885-1889) or the first year thereafter for which data are available, if the rental value of the parsonages be estimated and reckoned in as a part of the salary, five ministers received \$400 or less; ten received \$500 or less; twenty-three, \$600 or less; thirty-four, \$700 or less; thirty-seven \$800 or less; while the general average was \$710.

Twenty years later (1905-1909) two received \$400 or less; four received \$500 or less; fifteen received \$600 or less; twenty-one received \$700 or less; thirty received \$800 or less, while the general average was \$814.

It must be remembered that in purchasing power the salaries of the second period were from 7 to 32 per cent less than salaries of the same number of dollars twenty years before. For example, in the town of Hartford, a salary of \$636 during the first period was as good as a salary of \$1,000 in the year 1909.

The following figures cover all the churches in Windsor County which attempt to furnish support for a minister:

Of the 53 churches considered, only 7 gave less dollars at the end of the twenty year period than at the beginning. It is highly probable, therefore, that the

people in the great majority of these churches believe they are giving salaries at least as large as they were twenty years ago. The facts are otherwise.

In only 19 of the 53 churches is the purchasing power of the salaries now as great as it was twenty years ago. As a matter of fact, 64 per cent of the ministers are receiving salaries worth less to-day than were those of twenty years ago.

TABLE 18 A (SUMMARY)

## INCREASE AND DECREASE IN MINISTERS' SALARIES

	1885-1889		1905-1909		Increase or Decrease per Cent	
	Dollars	Purchasing Power	Dollars	Purchasing Power	In Dollars	In Purchasing Power
Received by ministers of churches for which data are reported for 1885-89 and 1905-09	27,756	27,756	32,721	25,871	+18	-7

TABLE 18 A (*Continued*)

	Year Nearest 1885-89 for Which Data are Reported		1905-1909		Increase or De- crease per Cent	
	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
Received by ministers of churches not reporting for years 1885- 89 . . . . .	8,690	8,402	9,547	7,744	+10	-8
<i>Totals</i>		<i>For Earlier Periods</i>		<i>For Later Period</i>		<i>In-</i> <i>crease or De-</i> <i>crease per Cent</i>
		Dollars	Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power	
		36,446	36,158	42,268	33,615	+16
						-7

TABLE 18 B

INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARIES  
OF MINISTERS—1885-1889 AND 1905-1909

	1885-89	1905-09	1905-09	Increase or Decrease Per Cent	
	Purchas- ing Power and Dollars	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as Com- pared with 85-89	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
Total. ....	27,756	32,721	25,871	+ 18	— 7
Springfield Cong'l .....	1,540	1,612	1,424	+ 5	— 8
Hartford     " .....	1,000	1,040	704	+ 4	— 30
Quechee     " .....	800+P	880+P	596+P	+ 10	— 26
Ludlow     " .....	1,000—P	1,150	873	+ 15	— 13
Bethel     " .....	900	901	668	+ 1	— 26
Chester     " .....	900	1,125	915	+ 25	+ 2
Royalton     " .....	600—P	387—P	358—P	— 36	— 40
Hartland     " .....	600+P	595+P	520+P	— 1	— 13
Rochester     " .....	685	805	613	+ 18	— 11
Norwich     " .....	500+P	684+P	540+P	+ 37	+ 8
Sharon     " .....	500+P	600+P	514+P	+ 20	+ 3
Springfield Baptist .....	780	580	512	— 26	— 34
Ludlow     " .....	900—P	1,030	782	+ 14	— 13
Cavendish     " .....	500	773	655	+ 55	+ 31
Perkinsville     " .....	500	575	448	+ 15	— 10
White River Jct. Epis.	538—P	900—P	680—P	+ 67	+ 26
Woodstock     " .....	1,150	1,320	1,073	+ 15	— 7
Windsor     " .....	706	1,030	775	+ 46	+ 10
Bethel     " .....	571	886	657	+ 55	+ 15
Chester     " .....	971	1,121	911	+ 16	— 6
Springfield Meth.	1,050	1,300	1,148	+ 24	+ 9
White River Jct.     " .....	906	1,100	712	+ 21	— 21
Woodstock     " .....	910	969	788	+ 7	— 13
Ludlow     " .....	645	750	569	+ 16	— 12
Bethel 1st     " .....	395	515	382	+ 30	— 3
Bethel 2d     " .....	370	746	554	+ 102	+ 50
So. Royalton     " .....	673	725	632	+ 8	— 6
Hartland     " .....	633	545	476	— 14	— 25
Rochester     " .....	695	745	567	+ 7	— 18

TABLE 18 B (*Continued*)

		1885-89	1905-09	1905-09	Increase or Decrease Per Cent	
		Purchas- ing Power and Dollars	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as Com- pared with 85-89	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
Norwich	Meth..	605	649	465	+ 7	— 23
Proctorsville	"	618	910	678	+ 47	+ 10
Perkinsville	"	538	502	391	— 7	— 27
Barnard	"	629	591	508	— 6	— 19
Gaysville	"	416	442	353	+ 6	— 15
Stockbridge	"	541	610	411	+ 13	— 24
Weston	"	430	547	510	+ 27	+ 19
West Windsor	"	614	740	683	+ 21	+ 11
Reading	"	347	581	453	+ 67	+ 31
Woodstock Christian	500—P	800—P	650—P	+ 60	+ 30	
Windsor Unitarian	600—P	960—P	723—P	+ 60	+ 21	

TABLE 18 C

INCREASE AND DECREASE IN MINISTERS' SALARIES IN CHURCHES  
NOT REPORTING FOR PERIOD 1885-1889

	<i>Dollars Given in Year Nearest 85-89 for which Data are Reported</i>	<i>Purchasing Power of Salary in Year Nearest 85-89 for which Data are Reported</i>	<i>Average Annual Salary in Period 1905-1909</i>		<i>In Increase or De- crease Per Cent</i>	
			<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power as Compared with 85-89</i>	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power</i>
Totals.....	8,690	8,402	9,547	7,744	+10	-8
West Hartford						
Cong'l	(93) 400—P	(93) 366—P	538—P	407	+35	+11
Wilder	" (93) 600	(93) 549	640	433	+7	-21
Woodstock	" (90) 1,200+P	(90) 1,162+P	1,400+P	1,180+P	+17	+2
Windsor	" (00) 1,000+P	(00) 897+P	1,020+P	768+P	+2	-14
So. Royalton	" (05) 700+P	(05) 712+P	740+P	726+P	+6	+2
Bridgewater	" (89) 600—P	(89) 600—P	725	624	+21	+4
Pomfret	" (05) 600—P	(05) 594—P	600—P	552—P	....	-7
Weston	" (98) 350—P	(98) 360—P	360—P	335—P	+3	-7
Windsor Baptist	(90) 600	(90) 627	670	504	+12	-20
Chester	" (95) 900	(95) 895	1,025	833	+14	-7
Wilder Meth.	(95) 450+P	(95) 445+P	410+P	278+P	-9	-38
Windsor	" (95) 690	(95) 655	819	616	+19	-6
Chester Univ. .	(03) 600—P	(03) 540—P	600—P	488—P	....	-10

—P indicates that no parsonage is provided by the church.

+P indicates that a parsonage is provided for the minister rent free in addition to the salary as here given.

Where not otherwise indicated, the figures in this table include the estimated rental value of parsonage.

*Other Expenditures.* In the survey of Windsor County no figures were gathered for classes of expenditures other than benevolences and ministers' salaries.

These constitute the only large classes of expenditures except those for buildings and improvements on church property. With so considerable a decline in benevolences and ministers' salaries, and so small a change in the amount of total expenditures there must inevitably have been an increase in the remaining expenditures, that is, for heating, lighting, janitor work, incidental expenses, and repairs to buildings. The church buildings as a rule are in good condition, and it is less difficult to secure money for repairs and permanent improvements on church properties than for ministers' salaries and benevolences.

#### 6. EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT OF THE MINISTERS

Information was obtained concerning the educational equipment of 48 of the 57 pastors of the county. Of these, 11 have received either college or seminary training of five or six years. Six others have privately pursued courses of study prescribed by the Methodist Episcopal Conferences. Less than two-thirds of the ministers have received what by any ordinary standard could be regarded as an adequate training, while only 12, or 25 per cent, have completed the full college and seminary course of seven years which a reasonably high standard of ministerial education requires.

#### 7. ACTIVITIES OF THE DENOMINATIONS

Table 19 shows that in number of attendants the Congregational churches rank first in the county, the Methodist Episcopal Church second, the Baptist churches third, the Universalist fourth, the Episcopal fifth.

Of the five larger denominations the Episcopal Church ranks first in percentage of gain in membership, with its increase in twenty years of 21 per cent. The Methodist Episcopal Church ranks second with 17 per cent, the Congregational churches third with a gain of 4 per cent, while the Baptist churches have lost 14 per cent.

In maintaining attendance the Episcopal Church again stands first, with a gain of 4 per cent. The Methodist Episcopal Church has lost 27 per cent, the Congregational churches 28 per cent, the Baptist churches 39 per cent, while the Universalists have lost no less than 50 per cent.

Table 20 shows that in real expenditures the Methodist Episcopal Church is the only denomination which has gained. When expressed in purchasing power the increase is 7 per cent. The Congregational churches have declined 2 per cent reckoning in purchasing power,

the Baptist 11 per cent, the Episcopal Church 11 per cent. These figures do not include those for the churches of Woodstock.

TABLE 19

## GAINS AND LOSSES IN MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE BY DENOMINATIONS IN WINDSOR COUNTY

	<i>Membership</i>		<i>Attendance</i>		<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent</i>	
	1888	1908	1888	1908	Member- ship	Attend- ance
Totals.....	4,688	4,889	8,003	5,537	+ 4	-31
Congregational ..	2,176	2,257	2,805	2,021	+ 4	-28
Methodist.....	1,191	1,388	1,974	1,448	+17	-27
Baptist.....	1,008	864	985	604	-14	-39
Universalist.....	....	....	1,143	624	..	-45
Episcopal.....	313	380	419	435	+21	+ 4
Christian.....	....	....	174	107	..	-39
Unitarian *	....	....	66	80	..	+21
Advent.....	....	....	159	66	..	-58
Union.....	....	....	278	152	..	-45

\* There is only one Unitarian church in the county.

TABLE 20

EXPENDITURES BY DENOMINATIONS EXPRESSED IN DOLLARS  
AND IN PURCHASING POWER FOR 1885-1889 AND 1905-1909

## TOTAL EXPENDITURES

	1885-1889	1905-09	1905-1909	Gain or Loss Per Cent	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	Dollars	Purchasing Power compared with 1885-89	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
Totals. ....	42,704	52,419	41,855	+23	- 2
Congregational.	21,423	26,230	20,974	+22	- 2
Methodist. ....	9,582	12,659	10,218	+32	+ 7
Baptist. ....	8,206	9,120	7,272	+11	-11
Episcopal. ....	3,493	4,410	3,391	+26	- 3

## BENEVOLENCES

Totals. ....	7,585	6,820	5,496	-10	-27
Congregational.	5,260	2,847	2,324	-46	-56
Methodist. ....	804	1,471	1,209	+83	+50
Baptist. ....	1,141	1,964	1,549	+72	+36
Episcopal. ....	380	538	414	+42	+ 9

TABLE 20 (*Continued*)

## SALARIES

	<i>Earlier Periods</i>		<i>Later Periods</i>		<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent</i>	
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power</i>	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power</i>
Totals. ....	36,446	36,158	42,268	33,615	+16	- 7
Congregational ..	14,475	14,265	15,802	12,750	+ 9	-11
Methodist. ....	12,155	12,115	14,196	11,174	+17	- 8
Baptist. ....	4,180	4,202	4,653	3,734	+11	-11
Universalist. ....	600	540	600	488	..	-10
Episcopal. ....	3,936	3,936	5,257	4,096	+34	+ 4
Christian. ....	500	500	800	650	+60	+30
Unitarian. ....	600	600	960	723	+60	+21

## 8. OVER-CHURCHING

There are 16 one-church communities in the county, for one of which we have no data. Of the remaining 15, 7 sustained a greater loss in church attendance than did the average church in the county. This shows that over-churching is by no means the sole cause of church decline. One of the remaining 8 has sustained a loss no greater than that of the average church, while the other 7 have all held their own in church attendance very much better than the average.

There are only 2 one-church townships in the county: In one of these, West Windsor, the relative loss in attendance is less than 9 per cent; the total expenditures have increased 45 per cent; the benevolences have increased 73 per cent; while the salary of the minister has also increased. This is the best record for any community or town in the county except that of Pomfret, the other one-church township. After making allowance for the numerical decrease in the population, Pomfret has made a relative gain of 13 per cent in attendance; the total expenditures have increased nearly 17 per cent; the benevolences have made a still greater increase; while the membership has increased nearly 139 per cent.

Among the smaller communities those with a single church are the only ones with a spirit of good cheer in church matters. The only township in Windsor County which has made a relative gain in church attendance, and has also gained in benevolences and in total expenditures is a one-church township, while another one-church township stands second in these respects.

III

TOMPKINS COUNTY



## I. THE LOCALITY AND THE PEOPLE

Tompkins County lies somewhat west and south of the centre of New York State. North and South its extent is about 26 miles, East and West about 23. The county consists of a high plateau, deeply cut by the valleys of the streams. The soil of the northern part is a rich loam, that of the southern half a silt loam, much less productive. The southern half was at one time a region of abandoned farms.

An agricultural survey of the county had just been completed by Cornell University, when this investigation began, according to which (pp. 393-394):

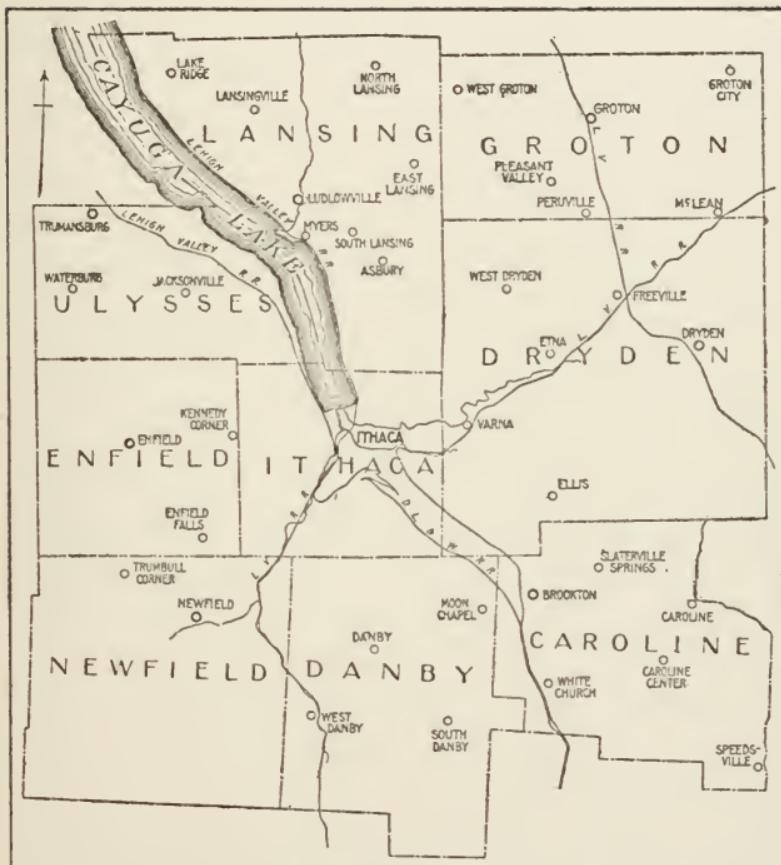
"Most of the agriculture is general farming. The most important products are hay, milk, oats, potatoes, eggs, corn, wheat and buckwheat. The crop yield averages a little above the average of the state and considerably above the average for the United States. The milk production per cow, and egg production per hen, are a little above the state average. On the whole, the county may be said to represent about the average of the state. The northern part of the

county is better and the southern part poorer, than the average."

With the exception of the city of Ithaca, which lies in the central township of the nine the county contains, Tompkins is a rural county. Besides Ithaca there are but three communities with more than 700 inhabitants. Agriculture is the chief industry.

The changes in population given in Table 21 are taken from the reports of the United States Census.

The people of the county are mostly the descendants of pioneers who came from Virginia, Maryland, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Massachusetts, and from the earlier settled portions of New York. The various townships were organized from 1799 to 1817. Settlement began in all of them about the year 1800. It will be observed that in the censuses from 1820 to 1850, the neighboring township of Hector was included in Tompkins County. If we omit the figures for Hector and for the city and township of Ithaca, it appears that the population reached its maximum of 26,646 in 1840. It has declined steadily ever since to its present level of but little more than half—17,577 in 1910. Every town but one attained its maximum population by 1850, and has declined in population since 1890, and also since 1900. The excep-



TOMPKINS COUNTY

## THE COUNTRY CHURCH

TABLE 21  
POPULATION OF TOMPKINS COUNTY (1820-1910) AND ITS SEVERAL TOWNSHIPS, VILLAGE  
AND OF THE CITY OF ITHACA  
*(Compiled from the United States Census Reports, 1820-1910)*

	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870	1860	1850	1840	1830	1820
Population of County omitting Hector and City of Ithaca.	17,557	19,178	20,480	23,247	23,071	24,566	25,785	26,646	26,063	
Population of City and Town of Ithaca.	16,090	14,652	12,443	11,198	10,107	6,843	6,909	5,650	5,270	
Total population of County.	33,647	33,830	32,923	34,445	33,178	31,409	38,740	37,948	36,543	20,681
Caroline Town.	1,646	1,938	2,092	2,171	2,175	2,345	2,537	2,457	2,633	
Speedsville.										
Danby Town.	1,235	1,449	1,707	2,065	2,126	2,261	2,411	2,570	2,481	
Dryden Town.	3,590	3,785	4,043	4,805	4,818	4,962	5,122	5,446	5,206	3,951
Dryden Village.	709	699	663	779	672					
Freeville.	318	440	312							
Etna.										
Enfield Town.	1,000	1,214	1,393	1,690	1,693	1,919	2,117	2,340	2,332	
Groton Town.	3,289	3,564	3,572	3,450	3,512	3,544	3,342	3,618	3,597	2,742
Groton Village.	1,260	1,344	1,280	913	863					
McLean Village.					405					
Hector.										
Ithaca Town.	1,288	1,516	1,364	11,198	19,107	6,843	6,909	5,650	5,270	
Ithaca City or Village.	14,802	13,136	11,079	9,105	8,462					
Lansing Town.	2,676	2,550	2,505	3,000	2,874	3,222	3,318	3,672	4,020	3,631
Lansingville.					67					
Luddlowville.										
Newfield Town.	1,500	1,902	2,214	2,608	376					
Newfield Village.	354	378			2,602	2,984	3,816	3,567	2,664	
Ulysses Town.	2,612	2,776	2,954	3,458	3,271	3,329	3,122	2,976	3,130	6,345
Trumansburg Village.	1,118	1,225	1,211	1,376	1,246					

tion is the town of Lansing, whose population has been increased by the establishment of two manufacturing industries.

It will be seen that the population of every town was smaller in the year 1910 than it was between the years 1880 and 1890. Every township of the 8 has declined 25 per cent or more below its maximum, and this in a county which is above the average in its agricultural productiveness, and in accessibility to markets for its products, Ithaca being but 275 miles from New York.

The settlement of Tompkins County was followed at a very early date by religious activities. The circuit riders of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the preachers of the Baptist, Dutch Reformed, and Presbyterian churches were early on the ground, and in several of the townships the establishment of churches antedated the organization of the town government. At the present time there are in the county nearly 30 preaching places of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where services are held at least once every two weeks, 9 Baptist, 1 Free Will Baptist, 1 Old School Baptist, 5 Congregational, 6 Episcopal, 2 Christian, and 2 Universalist churches. There is also 1 Society of Friends, and 1 Wesleyan Methodist Church. The Presbyterian churches are 3 in number with 4 preaching places. In

all there are 62 preaching places now as against 60 twenty years ago. There are also 3 Roman Catholic churches. These figures include none of the churches in the township or city of Ithaca.

Five Presbyterian churches, 4 Baptist, 2 Episcopalian, 1 Swedenborgian, 1 Dutch Reformed, and 1 Christian,—14 in all,—have become extinct.

TABLE 22  
DECLINE OF POPULATION IN TOMPKINS COUNTY

	<i>Year of Maximum Population</i>	<i>Maximum Population</i>	<i>Population in 1910</i>	<i>Decline per Cent</i>
County.*.....	1840	26,646	17,557	34
Lansing.....	1830	4,020	2,676	33
Dryden.....	1840	5,446	3,590	34
Groton.....	1840	3,618	3,289	9
Danby.....	1840	2,570	1,235	52
Enfield.....	1840	2,340	1,000	57
Newfield....	1850	3,816	1,509	60
Caroline....	1850	2,537	1,646	35
Ulysses.....	1880	3,458	2,612	24

\* Omitting Ithaca and Hector

## 2. MEMBERSHIP

Membership statistics were obtained for all but six of the churches in Tompkins County for the year 1890

and for the year 1910. Nineteen churches and charges have gained in membership, while 17 have lost. (All of the churches under one pastor are regarded as constituting one charge). Since membership is reported for charges rather than for churches, it was not possible to ascertain the membership of some of the individual churches. In Table 23, which gives membership by towns, the membership of each charge has been divided between the churches composing it in the ratio of attendance at the churches constituting the charge. This method is not strictly accurate; yet the charges which are composed of churches in different towns are so few that its results can not be far from correct.

In 5 of the 8 townships there has been an increase in the total membership of the church; in 3 a decline. The total membership was 4,039 in the year 1890 and 4,102 in the year 1910, or a gain in the twenty year period of 1.56 per cent.

TABLE 23

MEMBERSHIP OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES IN 1890 AND IN 1910  
AND THE GAIN OR LOSS PER CENT FOR EACH IN TWENTY YEARS

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
Total .....	4,039	4,102	+ 2
Churches of Caroline			
Slaterville Meth. Episcopal.....	124	98	— 21
Speedsville Meth. Episcopal.....	162	79	— 51
Brookton Baptist.....	100	66	— 34
Brookton Congregational.....	96	43	— 55
Slaterville Episcopal.....		30	
Speedsville Episcopal .....	22	8	— 64
Churches of Danby			
Danby and So. Danby Meth. E.	338	155	— 54
West Danby Meth. Episcopal..	50	65	+ 30
West Danby Baptist. ....	40	68	+ 70
Danby Congregational.....	97	109	+ 12
Churches of Dryden			
Dryden Meth. Episcopal.....	89	103*	+ 16
Freeville } Meth. Epis....	55*		
West Dryden } Meth. Epis....	43*	90	— 8
Varna Meth. Episcopal.....	80	105	+ 31
Etna Baptist. ....	49	63	+ 28
Dryden Presbyterian.....	147	219	+ 49
Dryden Episcopal.....	...	18	.....
Churches of Enfield			
Enfield Meth. Episcopal.....	90	117	+ 30
Enfield Baptist.....	71	93	+ 31
Enfield Christian.....	12	46	+ 283
Churches of Groton			
Groton Meth. Epis.....	142	113	— 20
McLean } Meth. Epis.....	56	7*	— 87
Groton City } Meth. Epis.....			
Groton City Congregational ...	...	62	.....
Peruville Meth. Epis. ....	17*	15	— 12
Groton Baptist.....	155	162	+ 5

TABLE 23 (*Continued*)

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
McLean Baptist.....	37	51	+ 38
Groton Congregational.....	252	191	- 24
West Groton Congregational.....	94	138	+ 47
Groton Episcopal.....	...	30	.....
McLean Episcopal.....	20	10	- 50
Churches of Lansing			
Ludlowville & Lansingville .....	146	132	- 10
Asbury                  Meth.	55*	...	.....
No. Lansing & East Genoa	47	...	.....
No. Lansing, Asbury and East Genoa    Meth.	...	98	- 4
No. Lansing Baptist.....	19	14(09)	- 26
East Lansing ".....	109	85	- 22
Ludlowville Presbyterian.....	38	58	+ 53
Churches of Newfield			
Newfield Meth. Episcopal.....	191	162	- 15
Newfield Baptist.....	...	94	.....
Newfield Presbyterian.....	65	...	.....
Newfield Christian.....	62	68	+ 10
Churches of Ulysses			
Trumansburg Meth. Episcopal ..	200	225	+ 13
Jacksonville Meth. Episcopal...	82	165	+ 101
Trumansburg Baptist.....	301	306	+ 2
Trumansburg Presbyterian .....	200	261	+ 31
Trumansburg Episcopal.....	86	80	- 7

\* Estimated by dividing reported membership of each charge according to the proportion of number of attendants of the churches constituting the charge.

TABLE 24

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHURCHES OF EACH TOWNSHIP IN THE YEARS 1890 AND 1910 AND THE GAIN OR LOSS PER CENT FOR EACH TOWN IN TWENTY YEARS

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
County . . . . .	4,039	4,102	+ 2
Caroline . . . . .	504	324	-36
Danby . . . . .	525	397	-24
Dryden . . . . .	463	598	+29
Enfield . . . . .	173	256	+48
Groton . . . . .	773	779	+ 1
Lansing . . . . .	414	387	- 7
Newfield . . . . .	318	324	+ 2
Ulysses . . . . .	869	1,037	+19

TABLE 25

TOTAL NUMBER OF FARMS AND TENANTS IN 1890 AND 1910

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Farms</i>	<i>Number Tenants</i>	<i>Per Cent</i>
1890	3,312	661	20
1910	2,988	640	21.4

### 3. ATTENDANCE

Better evidence was available as to the increase or decrease in church attendance for Windsor County than for Tompkins County, where the habit of recording congregation counts has not prevailed. Yet the accuracy of the method of ascertaining decrease in at-

tendance was so thoroughly confirmed by actual counts in Windsor County, and the general opinion of Tompkins County is so overwhelmingly in accord with the results obtained by the use of the Gill method, that they may be accepted as accurate. (For a description of the method see p. 97.)

It should be noted that in Windsor County the lists of taxpayers include all who paid poll taxes as well as all property owners, while the lists used in Tompkins County included only those who paid a property tax. This raised the question as to whether the work based on the lists for Tompkins County would give results as reliable as those for Windsor County. If, however, it could be shown that the number of taxpayers kept the same relation to the total number of families for twenty years, the difference in the tax lists would be without effect on the accuracy of the method. The United States census reports show that there has been only 1.4 per cent increase of tenants on the farms in the last twenty years, and therefore undoubtedly no appreciable change in the number of taxpayers' families in relation to the total population as shown by Table 25:

The results of the investigation in Tompkins County show that in all of the 8 townships outside of the

city and township of Ithaca there has been a decline in attendance of from 13 to 54 per cent, or an average of about 33 per cent for the period. There was, however, a decline of population in the various towns of from 8 to 32 per cent, or an average of 14 per cent in the twenty years. Making allowance for this change, the relative loss in church attendance varies from 1.5 to 42 per cent in the different towns, or for the county a total loss in relation to population of 22 per cent in the twenty years. These figures require to be still further modified, but very slightly, by allowing for the small number of non-Protestant people in the county. When such allowance is made the net loss varies in the different towns from 1.2 per cent to 42.1 per cent, or an average of 19.5 per cent for the county in twenty years.

TABLE 26

## RELATIVE LOSSES IN ATTENDANCE

	Attendance		Population		Gain or Loss Per Cent		Per Cent of Popula- tion Attend- ing Church in 1890
	1890	1910	1890	1910	Attendance	Popula- tion	
County...	4,304	2,878	20,480	17,557	—33	—14	21.02
Caroline . .	486	223	2,092	1,646	—54	—21	23.23
Danby . .	524	315	1,707	1,235	—40	—28	30.70
Dryden . .	662	488	4,043	3,590	—26	—11	16.37
Enfield . .	288	173	1,393	1,000	—40	—28	20.67
Groton . .	813	582	3,572	3,289	—28	—8	22.76
Lansing . .	432	305	2,505	2,676	—29	+ 7	17.25
Newfield . .	517	285	2,214	1,509	—45	—32	23.35
Ulysses . .	582	507	2,954	2,612	—13	—12	19.70

*Normal Attend- ance 1910	Number Less than Normal Attend- ance 1910	Percent- age of Decline Below Normal Attend- ance 1910	Non-Protestant Population		Protestant Population		
			1890	1910	1890	1910	
County...	3,690	812	22	635	867	19,845	16,690
Caroline . .	382	159	42	42	20	2,050	1,626
Danby . .	379	64	17	51	28	1,656	1,207
Dryden . .	588	100	17	62	17	3,981	3,573
Enfield . .	207	34	16	3	3	1,390	997
Groton . .	749	167	22	174	169	3,398	3,120
Lansing . .	462	157	34	80	368	2,425	2,308
Newfield . .	352	67	19	...	60	2,214	1,449
Ulysses . .	515	8	2	223	202	2,731	2,410

\* Same per cent of population as were attending church in 1890.

TABLE 26 (*Continued*)

	<i>Gain or Loss in Protestant Population</i>	<i>Per Cent of Prot. Pop. Attending Church in 1890</i>	<i>Normal Number of Attendants in 1910</i>	<i>Number Less than Normal Attendance in 1910</i>	<i>Per Cent Be- low Normal or Decline Relative to</i>
County....	—16	21.69	3,620	742	20.5
Caroline....	—21	23.7	385	162	42.
Danby....	—27	31.6	381	66	17.
Dryden....	—10	16.6	593	105	18.
Enfield....	—28	20.7	206	33	16.
Groton....	—8	23.9	746	164	22.
Lansing....	—5	17.8	411	106	26.
Newfield....	—35	23.4	339	54	16.
Ulysses....	—12	21.3	513	6	1.

TABLE 27

CHANGE IN ATTENDANCE IN THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES OR  
PREACHING PLACES

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
Totals.....	4,304	2,878	—33
Churches of Caroline			
Slaterville Meth. Epis....	140	46	—67
Central Chapel " . . .	40	9	—77
Caroline " . . .	....	30	..
Caroline Centre " . . .	53	24	—55
Speedsville " . . .	36	11	—69
Brookton Baptist .....	90	38	—58
Brookton Cong'l.....	68	44	—35
Slaterville Episcopal.....	....	14	..

TABLE 27 (*Continued*)

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
Speedsville Episcopal.....	32	6	—81
Union Valley Christian.....	41	....	..
Churches of Danby			
So. Danby Meth. Epis...	85	63	—26
Morris Chapel     " ..	48	43	—10
Smiley Hill     " ..	28	....	..
No. Danby     " ..	75	50	—33
Jersey Hill     " ..	14	....	..
West Danby     " ..	65	37	—43
West Danby Baptist.....	64	33	—48
Danby Congregational .....	167	109	—35
Churches of Dryden			
Dryden     Meth. Epis...	95	74	—22
Freeville     " ..	96	86	—10
West Dryden     " ..	59	39	—34
Varna     " ..	70	37	—47
Ellis     " ..	44	36	—18
Etna     Baptist .....	54	31	—43
Snyder Hill     " .....	44	18	—59
Dryden Presbyterian .....	138	153	+11
Dryden Episcopal.....	....	14	..
Churches of Enfield			
Enfield     Meth. Epis..	66	46	—30
Kennedys Cors.     " ..	36	32	—11
Enfield Falls     " ..	23	15	—35
Enfield Baptist.....	68	36	—47
Enfield Christian.....	71	22	—69
Churches of Groton			
Groton Meth. Episcopal...	101	79	—22
McLean     " .....	49	5	—90
Groton City Meth. Epis. } ..	35	39	+11
"     " Cong'l     } ..			
Peruville Meth. Episcopal...	30	9	—70
Groton Baptist.....	111	78	—30

TABLE 27 (*Continued*)

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
McLean Baptist . . . . .	46	25	—46
Groton Congregational.....	193	143	—26
West Groton " . . . . .	101	78	—23
Groton Episcopal.....	....	24	..
McLean " . . . . .	57	8	—86
McLean Univ. . . . .	64	62	— 3
Pleasant Valley Wesleyan ..	47	38	—19
Churches of Lansing			
Ludlowville Meth. Episcopal	77	35	—55
Lansingville " . . . . .	84	72	—14
Asbury " . . . . .	74	57	—23
No. Lansing " . . . . .	48	29	—40
Myers " . . . . .	....	15	..
Drake Hill School House...	25	...	..
East Lansing Baptist. . . . .	84	62	—26
Ludlowville Presbyterian ..	60	16	—73
Portland " . . . . .	....	10	..
Churches of Newfield			
Newfield Meth. Epis...	187	106	—43
Trumbulls Cors. " . . . . .	116	32	—72
Newfield Baptist. . . . .	....	85	..
Poney Hollow " . . . . .	....	18	..
Newfield Presbyterian.....	122	....	..
Trumbulls Cors. Christian ..	83	40	—52
No. Van Etten. . . . .	24	2	—92
Jackson's Hollow. . . . .	....	9	..
Churches of Ulysses			
Trumansburg Meth. Epis...	89	90	+ 1
Waterburg " . . . . .	37	25	—32
Jacksonville " . . . . .	80	85	+ 6
Trumansburg Baptist. . . . .	139	127	— 9
Trumansburg Presbyterian ..	149	124	—17
" Episcopal....	53	33	—38
Society of Friends. . . . .	29	22	—24

## 4. MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE COMPARED

In Tompkins County, N. Y., as in Windsor County, Vermont, there is a marked disposition for the attendance to decline in proportion to church membership. In Table 28, 36 churches and charges are compared, in only 2 of which is there a tendency for the membership to decline in proportion to attendance. The Enfield Christian Church shows an increase of 283 per cent in membership and a decline of about 69 per cent in attendance.

In these 36 churches there is a decline in the total membership of only 1 per cent while in attendance there is a decline of no less than 35 per cent.

The same tendency is shown also in Tables 24 and 27. There it appears that while the total membership for the county has increased from 4,039 in 1890 to 4,102 in 1910 or 1.56 per cent, the number of attendants has declined from 4,304 in 1890 to 2,878 in 1910, or 33 per cent.

TABLE 28  
ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO MEMBERSHIP

	Members		Attendants		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	1890	1910	1890	1910	Members	Attend- ants
Totals.....	3,955	3,916	3,864	2,511	— 1	—35
Enfield Christian .....	12	46	71	22	+283	—69
Ludlowville Presbyterian	38	58	60	16	+52	—73
West Danby Baptist....	40	68	64	33	+70	—48
McLean      " ....	37	51	46	25	+38	—46
Enfield      " ....	71	93	68	36	+31	—47
Varna      Meth. Epis.	80	105	70	37	+31	—47
West Danby      " ..	50	65	65	37	+30	—43
Etna      Baptist....	49	63	54	31	+28	—43
McLean Meth. Epis. }	56	69	84	44	+23	—48
Groton City Meth. Epis. }						
Groton City Cong'l						
West Groton Cong'l....	94	138	101	78	+47	—23
Jacksonville Meth. Epis..	82	165	80	110***	+101	+38
Trumbulls Cors. Christian	62	68	83	40	+10	—52
Peruville Meth. Epis....	17*	15	30	9	—12	—70
**Enfield Meth. Epis. ...	90	117	125	93	+30	—26
Trumansburg Presby....	200	261	149	124	+31	—17
Danby Cong'l.....	97	109	167	109	+12	—35
Trumansburg Meth. Epis.	200	225	126***	90	+13	—29
Newfield      } M. E..	191	162	303	138	—15	—54
Trumbulls Cors. }						
Dryden Presbyterian....	147	219	138	153	+49	+11
Dryden Meth. Episcopal.	89	103*	95	74	+16	—22
McLean Episcopal.....	20	10	57	8	—50	—86
Groton Baptist.....	155	162	111	78	+ 5	—30
Caroline      } M. E.						
Central Chapel }						
Slaterville	124	98	180	85	—21	—53
Trumansburg Episcopal..	86	80	53	33	— 7	—38

\* Estimated by dividing reported membership of charge according to the proportion of the number of attendants of the churches constituting charge.

\*\* Including Kennedy's Corners and Enfield Falls.

\*\*\* Including Waterburg Methodist Episcopal.

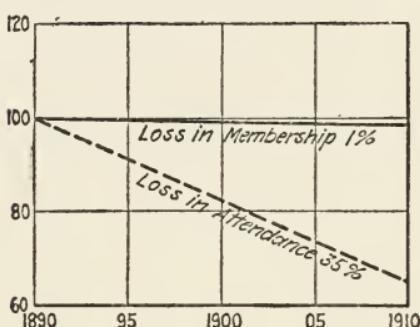
TABLE 28 (*Continued*)

	<i>Members</i>		<i>Attendance</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	
	1890	1910	1890	1910	Members	Attendance
No. Lansing } Meth. Epis.	102	98	122	86	— 4	—30
Asbury						
Brookton Baptist .....	100	66	90	38	—34	—58
Ludlowville }						
Lansingville } Meth. Epis.	146	132	161	107	—10	—34
Speedsville Episcopal....	22	8	32	6	—64	—81
W. Dryden }						
Freeville } Meth. Epis.	98	90	155	125	— 8	—19
Trumansburg Baptist ...	301	306	139	127	+ 2	—9
Speedsville Meth. Epis...	162	79	89	35	—51	—61
East Lansing Baptist ...	109	85	84	62	—22	—26
Groton Meth. Episcopal.	142	113	101	79	—20	—22
Groton Congregational...	252	191	193	143	—24	—26
Brookton " .....	96	43	68	44	—55	—35
No. Danby }						
So. Danby } Meth. Epis.	338	155	250	156	—54	—38

Diagram V, based on Table 28, shows that in the churches for which both sets of facts are known membership has declined only 1 per cent while attendance has declined 35 per cent.

## DIAGRAM V

## MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE COMPARED



## 5. INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

The method of determining the change in the income and expenditures of the churches is described on p. 24.

*The Change in Prices and the Cost of Living.* Tables 29 and 30 show that the greatest increase in the cost of living, comparing the average for the years 1886-1889 with the average for 1906-1910, was 28 per cent for the township of Groton, while the least increase was 14 per cent for the townships of Enfield and Ulysses. The increase for the year 1910 was considerably greater than for the average for the five years 1906-1910. It was 20 per cent for the township of Enfield, where the increase was the least, while for Groton, where

it was the greatest, it was no less than 41 per cent.

TABLE 29

INCREASE IN THE COST OF LIVING FOR THE YEAR 1910 AND FOR  
THE PERIOD 1906-1910 AS COMPARED WITH 1886-1890

	<i>Increase per Cent in Cost of Living as Compared with 1886-1890</i>	
	1910	Ave. 1906-1910
County.....	26	19
Enfield.....	20	14
Ulysses.....	21	14
Lansing.....	25	17
Danby.....	..	18
Newfield.....	21	19
Dryden.....	26	20
Caroline.....	27	21
Groton.....	41 *	28 *

\* Compared with 1890.

TABLE 30

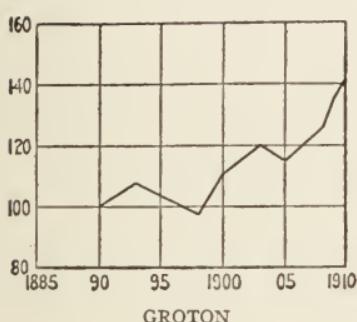
## INDEX FIGURES SHOWING RELATIVE COST OF LIVING IN DIFFERENT YEARS BY TOWNSHIPS COMPARED WITH 1886-1890

<i>Year</i>	<i>Enfield</i>	<i>Ulysses</i>	<i>Lans-ing</i>	<i>Danby*</i>	<i>New-field</i>	<i>Dry-den</i>	<i>Caro-line</i>	<i>Groton</i>
1876	...	...	...	...	...	112	...	...
75-79	109	97	...	...	92	...	107	...
1880	...	...	...	...	...	102	...	...
80-84	104	100	105	...	107	...	107	...
86-90	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1890	98	96	99	99	100	95	98	100
1893	103	95	107	104	100	101	104	108
1895	99	94	101	...	101	...	97	..
1898	102	94	106	94	104	98	95	98
1900	103	94	110	106	105	105	101	111
1903	108	99	109	102	110	107	108	120
1905	...	...	...	110	...	114	...	115
1906	109	108	112	...	113	...	112	...
1908	113	108	115	111	121	119	123	125
1909	116	123	120	122	121	125	128	135
1910	120	121	125	...	121	126	127	141
1911	...	...	...	147	...	132	...	...
06-10	114	114	117	118	119	120	121	128

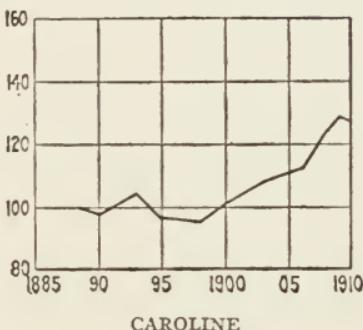
\* Rent not included.

In Diagram VI the figures at the bottom of the cuts indicate the years while the figures at the left indicate the percentage, the average cost of living for 1886-1890 being taken as 100.

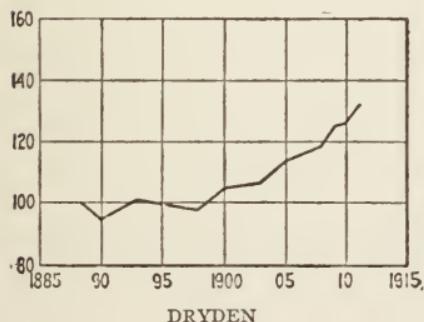
## DIAGRAM VI

CHANGE IN THE COST OF LIVING IN THE DIFFERENT  
TOWNSHIPS

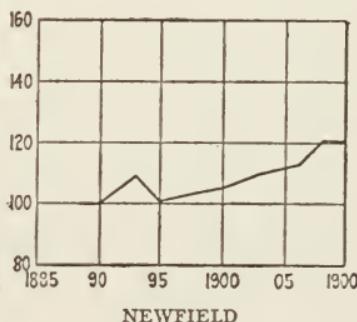
GROTON



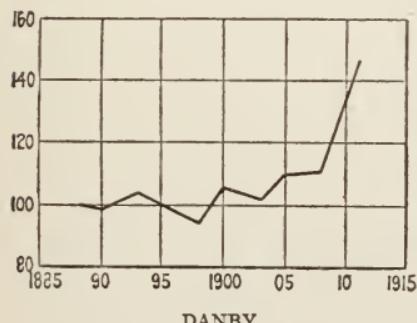
CAROLINE



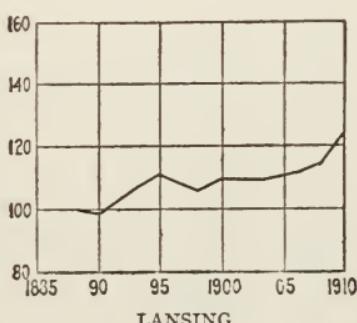
DRYDEN



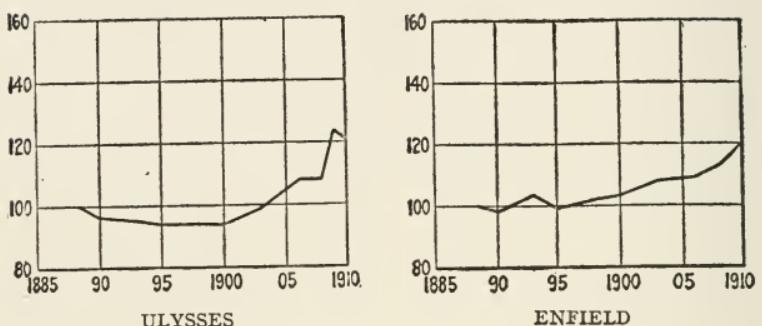
NEWFIELD



DANBY



LANSING

DIAGRAM VI (*Continued*)

*Expenditures.* The comparison of expenditures (shown in Table 31) was made between the annual average for the years 1886-1890 and twenty years later for the years 1906-1910, inclusive. The total average annual expenditures of the churches of the county for the first period was \$32,826. Twenty years later it was \$35,214, or an increase in dollars expended of 7 per cent. But the purchasing power of the \$35,214 expended in the second period was equivalent to only 29,803 of the dollars expended in the first period, or an actual decline in purchasing power of 9 per cent. These expenditures consist of ministers' salaries, and of contributions for church extension, for benevolences, and for buildings and improvements on church property.

Table 32 gives the expenditures for the two periods in the different townships. It shows that the expendi-

tures in dollars have increased in 5 townships and decreased in 3. When expenditures are expressed in purchasing power, this ratio is reversed, and the expenditures are seen to have increased in 3 townships and declined in 5.

Table 33 gives the expenditures for the individual churches taken from the published statistics of the denominations and from the work of church clerks and treasurers on their books. When a year is lacking, the average of the other four of the five year period is employed. It appears that of 33 churches or charges the expenditures of 16 when expressed in dollars have increased while 17 have decreased. But in purchasing power 13 have increased while 20 have decreased. Therefore slightly more than 60 per cent of the churches for which statistics are available have decreased their real expenditures.

TABLE 31  
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCHES

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Gain or Loss per Cent	
	Dollars and Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as Compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
Total Expenditures	32,826	35,213	29,802	+ 7	- 9
Benevolences . . . . .	2,821	5,271	4,446	+87	+58
Improvements . . . . .	6,430	3,522	3,013	-45	-53
Salaries . . . . .	17,128	17,194	14,415	+04	-16

TABLE 32  
CHANGES IN THE TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF THE CHURCHES OF  
EACH TOWNSHIP

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Gain or Loss per Cent	
	Dollars and Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as Compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
County . . . . .	32,826	35,213	29,802	+ 7	- 9
Caroline . . . . .	4,388	2,649	2,181	-40	-50
Danby. . . . .	2,539	1,529	1,298	-40	-49
Dryden . . . . .	4,744	6,335	5,257	+34	+11
Enfield. . . . .	1,513	1,712	1,505	+13	-5
Groton. . . . .	4,012	4,216	3,287	+ 5	-18
Lansing. . . . .	3,857	5,077	4,334	+32	+12
Newfield . . . . .	4,187	2,951	2,489	-30	-41
Ulysses . . . . .	7,586	10,744	9,451	+42	+25

TABLE 33

AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENDITURES OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES,  
1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

	1886-90	1906-1910	Gain or Loss per Cent		
	Dollars and Purchas- ing Power	In Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Pur- chasing Power
Totals . . . . .	32,826	35,213	29,802	+ 7	- 9
Churches of Caroline					
Slaterville Meth. ....	2,288	1,132	932	-50	-59
Speedsville " ....	1,110	843	694	-24	-37
Brookton Baptist ....	770*	283	233	-63	-70
Slaterville Episcopal..	....	273	225	...	...
Speedsville " ..	219	118	97	-46	-56
Churches of Danby					
Danby & So. D. Meth.	2,149	1,299	1,103	-40	-49
West Danby "	390	230	195	-41	-50
Churches of Dryden					
Dryden Methodist ....	853	1,171	972	+37	+14
Freeville " ....	575	858	712	+49	+24
W. Dryden " ....	461	389	323	-16	-30
Varna & Ellis Meth...	776	1,242	1,031	+60	+33
Dryden Episcopal.....	....	414	343	...	...
Dryden Presbyterian..	2,079	2,261	1,876	+ 9	-10
Churches of Enfield					
Enfield Meth. Epis....	755	1,072	942	+42	+25
Enfield Baptist ....	758	640	563	-16	-26
Churches of Groton					
Groton Meth. ....	971	1,356	1,057	+40	+ 9
McLean " ....	319	79	62	-75	-81
Groton City " ....	228	....	....	...	...

\* Average for 4 years.

TABLE 33 (*Continued*)

	1886-90	1906-1910		Gain or Loss per Cent	
	Dollars and Pur- chasing Power	In Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Pur- chasing Power
Peruville Meth. Epis...	180	211	164	+17	-9
Groton City Cong'l ...	....	379	295	...	...
Groton Baptist.....	1,724	1,421	1,108	-18	-36
McLean Baptist .....	351	400	312	+14	-11
Groton Cong'l.....	....	....	....	...	...
Groton Episcopal.....	....	146	114	...	...
McLean " .....	240	224	175	-7	-27
Churches of Lansing					
Ludlowville Meth.....	433	824	704	+90	+63
Lansingville " ....	473	1,049	895	+122	+89
Asbury " ....	578	1,106	944	+91	+63
No. Lansing " ....	774	507	433	-34	-44
No. Lansing Baptist ..	123	40	34	-68	-73
East Lansing " ..	760	865	738	+14	-3
Ludlowville Presby...	715	686	586	-4	-18
Churches of Newfield					
Newfield Meth. ....	3,136	1,611	1,359	-49	-57
Newfield Baptist.....	....	907	765	...	...
Newfield Presbyterian.	727	....	....	...	...
Newfield Christian....	325	433	365	+33	+12
Churches of Ulysses					
Trumansburg Meth...	1,685	2,358	2,075	+40	+23
Jacksonville " ..	938	1,845	1,623	+97	+73
Trumansburg Baptist.	1,297	1,670	1,469	+29	+13
Trumansburg Presby..	2,186	3,866	3,401	+77	+56
Trumansburg Epis....	1,480	969	852	-35	-42
Jacksonville " ...	....	36	31	...	...

*Benevolences.* Benevolences constitute about 8 or 9 per cent of church expenditures in the first period and about 15 per cent in the second. Under this head are included contributions for church extension at home and abroad, for promoting the sale of Bibles and other religious literature, for Sunday and other schools, for home and benevolent missions, and for sundry benevolent purposes.

Table 34 shows that the churches of the county have increased their benevolence from an annual average of \$2,820 in the first period to \$5,267 in the second, or 86.5 per cent. When the change in purchasing power of the dollar is allowed for, the increase is from 2,820 to 4,844, or 57 per cent.

Reckoning in dollars, 7 towns increased their benevolences while 1 decreased. In purchasing power 6 towns increased and 2 decreased.

Table 35 shows that in 36 churches for which data are available, 23 have increased their contributions in dollars, while 13 have decreased them. Allowing for purchasing power, 21 have increased, while 15 have decreased.

The increase of benevolences appears to indicate the increased importance attached to the achievement of practical results as well as to the increasing hold of

foreign missions on the country population. The gain made by the country churches of Tompkins County in this line of purely altruistic activity is a most encouraging sign, and indicates their continued vitality as a factor in the great world movement for better things.

TABLE 34

AVERAGE ANNUAL BENEVOLENCES OF THE CHURCHES BY TOWNSHIPS, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Gain or Loss per Cent	
	Dollars and Purchas- ing Power	Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as Compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Purchas- ing Power
County . . . . .	2,821	5,271	4,446	+ 87	+ 58
Caroline . . . . .	228	229	189	+ 0.4	- 17
Danby. . . . .	551	528	449	- 4	- 19
Dryden . . . . .	252	899	747	+ 257	+ 196
Enfield. . . . .	98	145	127	+ 48	+ 30
Groton. . . . .	500	828	644	+ 65	+ 29
Lansing. . . . .	283	626	535	+ 121	+ 89
Newfield . . . . .	147	471	397	+ 220	+ 170
Ulysses . . . . .	762	1,545	1,358	+ 103	+ 78

TABLE 35

AVERAGE ANNUAL BENEVOLENCES OF THE INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES,  
1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

	1886-90	1906-10		Gain or Loss per Cent	
	Dollars and Pur- chasing Power	In Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Pur- chasing Power
Totals . . . . .	2,821	5,271	4,446	+ 87	+ 58
Churches of Caroline					
Slaterville Meth. Epis...	111	102	84	— 8	— 24
Speedsville     " ....	43	28	23 *	— 35	— 47
Brookton Baptist . . . .	49 *	41	34	— 17	— 31
Slaterville Episcopal ....	...	40 *	33 *	...	...
Speedsville Episcopal....	25	18	15	— 27	— 40
Churches of Danby					
Danby & So. D. Meth...	135	146	124	+ 8	— 8
West Danby     " ..	39	20	17	— 49	— 56
West Danby Baptist....	29	58	49	+ 98	— 68
Danby Congregational ..	348	304	259	— 13	— 26
Churches of Dryden					
Dryden Meth. Epis.....	44	160	133	+ 264	+ 202
Freeville     " ....	28	66	55	+ 136	+ 96
W. Dryden     " ....	43	30	25	— 31	— 43
Varna }     " ....	27	135	112	+ 400	+ 315
Ellis }					
Etna Baptist . . . . .	67	138	114	+ 107	+ 70
Dryden Presbyterian....	43	286	238	+ 565	+ 453
Dryden Episcopal.....	...	84	70	...	...
Churches of Enfield					
Enfield Meth. Epis.....	46	115	101	+ 150	+ 120
Enfield Baptist . . . . .	52	30	26	— 42	— 50

\* Average of 4 years.

TABLE 35 (*Continued*)

	1886-90 <i>Dollars and Pur- chasing Power</i>	1906-10		Gain or Loss <i>per Cent</i>	
		In Dollars	Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1886 -1890	In Dollars	In Pur- chasing Power
Churches of Groton					
Groton Meth. Epis.....	70	111	87	+ 59	+ 24
McLean     ".....	18	11	8	- 39	- 56
Groton City Meth. Epis..	13	...	....	...	...
Groton City Cong'l.....	...	51	39	...	...
Peruville Meth. Epis.....	9	...	....	...	...
Groton Baptist .....	168	238	186	+ 42	+ 11
McLean Baptist .....	20	91	71	+351	+255
Groton Cong'l.....	65	97	75	+ 49	+ 15
West Groton Cong'l.....	117	86	67	- 26	- 43
Groton Episcopal.....	...	66	51	...	...
McLean Episcopal.....	20	77	60	+285	+200
Churches of Lansing					
Ludlowville Meth. Epis...	25	116	99	+361	+296
Lansingville     " ..	27	161	138	+496	+411
Asbury     " ..	54	103	88	+ 91	+ 63
No Lansing     " ..	28	48	41	+ 71	+ 46
No. Lansing Baptist....	19	7	6	- 63	- 68
East Lansing     " ..	104	177	151	+ 70	+ 45
Ludlowville Presbyterian	26	14	12	- 46	- 54
Churches of Newfield					
Newfield Meth. Epis....	124	308	259	+148	+109
" Baptist. ....	...	146	123	...	...
" Presbyterian ..	23	...	....	...	...
" Christian.....	(.38)	17	15	...	...

TABLE 35 (*Continued*)

	1886-90 <i>Dollars and Pur- chasing Power</i>	1906-10		Gain or Loss <i>per Cent</i>	
		<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power as compared with 1886 -1890</i>	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power</i>
<b>Churches of Ulysses</b>					
Trumansburg Meth. . . .	147	309	272	+ 111	+ 85
Jacksonville      “      . . .	62	212	186	+ 243	+ 200
Trumansburg Baptist . . .	132	299	263	+ 127	+ 99
“      Presby. . .	266	622	547	+ 134	+ 106
“      Episcopal.	155	103	90	— 34	— 42

*Improvements.* The money spent by the church for building, repairs, and improvements of church property constitutes about 20 per cent of the total expenditures from 1886 to 1890 and 10 per cent from 1906 to 1910. Reckoning in dollars, Table 36 shows that the average amount spent by the churches in the first period per year was \$6,430, against \$3,522 in the second, a decrease of 45 per cent. Expressed in purchasing power, the expenditure for the second period was equivalent to \$3,013 or a decline of 53 per cent. Whether we reckon in dollars or in purchasing power, 4 towns gained and

4 towns lost in their expenditures for improvements during the twenty years.

From Table 37 it appears that a slight majority of the individual churches increased their expenditures for improvements if we reckon in dollars, while the numbers are reversed if we take account of the purchasing power of the dollar.

TABLE 36

AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENDITURES FOR BUILDINGS, REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS ON CHURCH PROPERTY BY TOWNSHIPS, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	Dollars	Purchasing Power as Compared with 1886-1890	In Dollars	In Purchasing Power
County ...	6,430	3,522	3,013	- 45	- 53
Caroline . . .	1,458	212	174	- 86	- 88
Danby . . . .	657	148	126	- 77	- 81
Dryden . . . .	254	341	284	+ 34	+ 12
Enfield . . . .	78	240	211	+ 208	+ 171
Groton . . . .	702	203	158	- 71	- 77
Lansing . . . .	480	714	610	+ 49	+ 27
Newfield . . . .	1,906	403	340	- 79	- 82
Ulysses . . . .	895	1,261	1,110	+ 41	+ 24

TABLE 37

AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENDITURES FOR IMPROVEMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL CHURCHES, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	Dollars	Pur- chasing Power	In Dollars	In Pur- chasing Power
Totals . . . . .	6,430	3,522	3,013	— 45	— 53
Churches of Caroline					
Slaterville Meth. . . . .	1,168	78	64	— 93	— 45
Speedsville " . . . . .	252	69	57	— 72	— 77
Brookton Baptist . . . . .	30	37	30	+ 23	...
Slaterville Episcopal. . . . .	....	27	22	...	...
Speedsville " . . . . .	8	1	1	— 87	— 87
Churches of Danby					
Danby & So. D. Meth. . . . .	634	126	107	— 80	— 83
West Danby " . . . . .	3	....	....	...	...
West Danby Baptist. . . . .	20	22	19	+ 12	— 4
Churches of Dryden					
Dryden Meth. . . . .	100	74	61	— 26	— 39
Freeville " . . . . .	52	97	81	+ 85	+ 54
West Dryden " . . . . .	80	44	37	— 45	— 54
Dryden Episcopal. . . . .	....	34	28	...	...
Varna & Ellis Meth. . . . .	22	92	77	+ 318	+ 252
Churches of Enfield					
Enfield Meth. Epis. . . . .	30	133	117	+ 343	+ 290
" Baptist . . . . .	48	107	94	+ 124	+ 97
Churches of Groton					
Groton Meth. Epis. . . . .	78	130	101	+ 67	+ 30
McLean Meth. . . . .	39	5	4	— 87	— 90
Groton City " . . . . .	28	....	....	...	...

TABLE 37 (*Continued*)

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	Dollars	Pur- chasing Power	In Dollars	In Pur- chasing Power
Groton City Cong'l ...	....	7	5	...	...
Peruville Meth. ....	16	....	....	...	...
Groton Baptist .....	460	53	41	- 88	- 91
McLean " .....	....	2	2	...	...
Groton Cong'l .....	....	....	....	...	...
McLean Episcopal....	81	6	5	- 93	- 94
Churches of Lansing					
Ludlowville Meth. ....	42	168	143	+300	+240
Lansingville " ....	46	90	77	+ 96	+ 67
Asbury " ....	100	286	244	+186	+144
No. Lansing " ....	255	84	72	- 67	- 72
No. Lansing Baptist ....	....	3	3	...	...
East Lansing " ....	37	83	71	+124	+ 92
Churches of Newfield					
Newfield Meth. ....	1,906	146	123	- 92	- 93
" Baptist. ....	....	257	217	...	...
Churches of Ulysses					
Trumansburg Meth... .	336	555	488	+ 65	+ 45
Jacksonville " .. .	80	402	354	+403	+343
Trumansburg Baptist .	....	67	59	...	...
" Episcopal.	479	237	209	- 51	- 56

*Ministers' Salaries.* Table 38 shows that the churches of the county have increased the amount given for ministers' salaries from an annual average of \$17,128 from 1886 to 1890 to \$17,194 from 1906 to 1910, or 0.4 per cent. When the purchasing power of the dollar is allowed for, however, there is a decrease from \$17,128 to \$14,405, or 16 per cent. Reckoning in dollars 18 churches held their own or increased, while 11 decreased; but reckoning in purchasing power only 8 increased while 21 decreased.

In some cases where two or more churches shared the services of one minister in the first period the grouping of churches was different in the second period. The result of this is to cause the comparison of amounts received by ministers to differ slightly from the comparison of the amounts given by the churches; so that out of 29 ministers' salaries in dollars paid 17 in the second period were as large as those in the first, while 12 were smaller; but reckoning in purchasing power only 7 ministers received larger salaries than their predecessors, while the pay of 22 was less.

Excluding those ministers who did not give their whole time to the service of the church, and counting the rental value of parsonages as money received, the average salary in the first period was \$646, in the

second \$744 in dollars, or \$624 reckoned in purchasing power.

TABLE 38

INCREASE AND DECREASE IN ANNUAL AVERAGE MINISTERS'  
SALARIES FROM 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	In Dollars	Purch. Power Compar'd with 1886-90	In Dol- lars	In Pur- chasing Power
Totals . . . . .	17,128	17,194	14,415	+0.4	-16
Slaterville Meth. ....	767	611	503	-20	-34
Speedsville " ....	519	520	428	..	-18
Brookton Baptist ....	{ 683+P 733 }	401	330	-45	-55
Brookton Cong'l ....	562	308	254	-45	-55
Danby Meth. ....	638	701	595	+10	-7
Danby & So. D. Meth. }					
So. Danby Meth. ....	424	....	....	..	..
West Danby " ....	268	147	125	-45	-53
Dryden " ....	532	....		+18	-2
Dryden & McLean Meth. ....	....	626	519		
Freeville Meth. ....	467	....			
West Dryden & Freeville Meth. ....	....	724	601	+55	+29
Varna & Ellis Meth. ....	580	740	614	+26	+ 4
Dryden Presbyterian ....	1,020	980	813	-4	-20
Enfield Meth. ....	496	600	527	+21	+ 6
Enfield Baptist ....	658	498	438	-24	-33
Groton Meth. Epis. ....	551	637	496	+16	-10
McLean " ....	344	....	....	..	..
Groton City Cong'l ....	....	281	219	..	..

TABLE 38 (*Continued*)

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Per Cent Gain or Loss	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	In Dollars	Purch. Power Compar'd with 1886-90	In Dol- lars	In Pur- chasing Power
Groton Baptist . . . . .	800	825	643	+ 3	-20
Groton Cong'l . . . . .	1,000	1,200	936	+20	- 6
McLean Episcopal. . . . .	93	107	84	+15	-10
Ludlowville Meth. . . . .	574	851	735	+48	+28
Asbury & W. Dryden Meth.	631				
Asbury & No. Lansing Meth.	....	817	697	+29	+11
No. Lansing Meth. . . . .	369	....	....	..	..
East Lansing Baptist . . .	330	400	345	+21	+ 5
Newfield Meth. Epis. . . .	854	863	738	+ 1	-14
Newfield Christian * . . .	317	325	274	..	..
Trumansburg Meth. . . . .	771	855	739	+11	- 4
Jacksonville " . . . . .	575	840	726	+46	+26
Trumansburg Baptist. . . .	946	937	825	- 1	-13
Trumansburg Presb. . . . .	1,000	1,000	865	..	-13
Trumansburg Episcopal . .	300	400	346	+33	+15

\* The minister of this church for a part of the time received also some pay from another church the exact amount of which could not be determined.

TABLE 38

INCREASE AND DECREASE IN MINISTERS' SALARIES IN CHURCHES  
NOT REPORTING FOR PERIOD 1886-1890

	<i>Average Annual Salary received 1906-1910</i>		<i>Salary Received in Year Reported Nearest 1886-90</i>	<i>Gain or Loss Per Cent</i>	
	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Purch. Power</i>		<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Purch. Power</i>
Totals.....	1,194	990	1,650	1,624	-28 -39
Slaterville Epis.....(1893)	120	99	200	193	-40 -49
West Danby Baptist (1886)	205	174	250	257	-18 -32
Etna Baptist.....(1887)	(10)400	318	600	571	-33 -44
Groton Epis.....	69*	54*	...	...	.. ..
Ludlowville Presb...(1890)	400	345	600	603	-33 -43

\* Average for three years.

*Donations.* It appears from Table 39 that reckoning in dollars 13 of the Methodist Episcopal churches have decreased their donations while only 7 have increased them. The total average amount given in the first period was \$773 while in the second it was only \$291, a decline of 62 per cent. In Table 40 it appears that in every town in the county these churches have decreased

their donations. A similar decrease was reported in other churches but exact figures could be found only in the case of one or two.

TABLE 39

AVERAGE ANNUAL DONATIONS IN DOLLARS TO MINISTERS OF  
METHODIST CHURCHES, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

<i>Town</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Average 1886-90</i>	<i>per Year 1906-10</i>	<i>Loss per Cent</i>
Totals . . . . .		733	291	—62
<b>Churches of Caroline:</b>				
Slaterville	Meth. Epis. . . . .	146	6	..
Speedsville	" . . . . .	27	48	..
<b>Churches of Danby:</b>				
Danby	" . . . . .	48	...	..
South Danby	" . . . . .	42	71	..
Danby & S. Danby	" . . . . .	2	6	..
West Danby	" . . . . .	...	...	..
<b>Churches of Dryden:</b>				
Dryden	" . . . . .	86	...	..
W. Dryden & Asbury	" . . . . .	37	...	..
Freeville & Peruville	" . . . . .	59	...	..
Varna & Etna	" . . . . .	...	30	..
Varna & Ellis	" . . . . .	3	...	..
<b>Churches of Enfield:</b>				
Enfield & Kennedy's Cors.	" . . . . .	78	37	..
<b>Churches of Groton:</b>				
Groton	" . . . . .	17	...	..
McLean and Groton City	" . . . . .	49	...	..
<b>Churches of Lansing:</b>				
N. Lansing & E. Genoa	" . . . . .	36	...	..
Ludlowville & Lansingville	" . . . . .	...	42	..

TABLE 39 (*Continued*)

<i>Town</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Average 1886-90</i>	<i>per Year 1906-10</i>	<i>Loss per Cent</i>
Ludlowville+(Asbury 1906-1908 Lansingville 1908-09) Meth. Epis.	.....	...	18	..
No. Lansing+(Lansingville '06-'09 Asbury 1909-10) Meth. Epis.	.....	54	18	..
Churches of Newfield:				
Newfield & Trumbulls Cors. "	.....	47	15	..
Churches of Ulysses:				
Trumansburg "	.....	42	...	..
Jacksonville "	.....	...	...	..

TABLE 40

AVERAGE ANNUAL DONATIONS IN DOLLARS TO MINISTERS OF METHODIST CHURCHES, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

<i>County</i>	<i>1886-1890</i>	<i>1906-1910</i>
County. ....	773	291
Average for town. ..	97	36
Caroline. ....	173	54
Danby. ....	92	77
Dryden. ....	182	30
Enfield. ....	3	...
Groton. ....	95	37
Lansing. ....	85	60
Newfield. ....	54	18
Ulysses. ....	89	15

#### 6. EDUCATIONAL EQUIPMENT OF MINISTRY

There are 34 ministers in Tompkins County. Data as to their educational equipment was gathered in the case of all but 3. It is probable that these 3 had little preparation for the ministry.

Five ministers, including 2 pastors of the rural churches and 3 of the churches of the larger villages, have had a training of seven years in college and seminary. Two have had a five years' course, 3 a four years' course, 6 a three years' course. Six have taken the courses of reading and study prescribed by Methodist Episcopal conferences, while 7 have received only high school or common school education. One has taken, in addition to other studies, some special studies in agriculture at Brown University, 2 have taken some agricultural studies at the summer school in Amherst, Mass., while 5 have had some experience on farms. None has reported a fuller course in agricultural training.

As a whole this preparation is insufficient. It should be supplemented by courses in summer schools, at theological seminaries, agricultural institutions, or elsewhere.

## 7. ACTIVITIES OF THE DENOMINATION

In Tables 41 and 42 are given the figures for the attendance, membership, and expenditures of the different denominations of Tompkins County.

The Methodist Episcopal Church ranks first in the number of members and attendants. The Baptist churches are second, the Congregational third, the Presbyterian fourth, the Episcopal fifth.

Of these denominations the Episcopal Church has gained 38 per cent in membership, the Presbyterian Church has gained 20 per cent, the Baptist Churches 14, the Congregational 1 per cent, while the Methodist Episcopal Church has lost 12 per cent.

In the number of attendants the Baptist Churches have lost 19 per cent, the Congregational 22 per cent, the Episcopal 30, the Presbyterian 35, while the Methodist Episcopal Church has lost 37 per cent.

In expenditures reckoned in purchasing power, the Presbyterians have gained 3 per cent, the Episcopalian have lost 5 per cent, the Baptists have lost 10 per cent, and the Methodists 15 per cent.

TABLE 41

GAINS AND LOSSES IN MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE FOR THE  
SEVERAL DENOMINATIONS

	<i>Membership</i>		<i>Attendance</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	
	1890	1910	1890	1910	<i>In Member- ship</i>	<i>In Attend- ance</i>
Totals. ....	4,039	4,102	4,304	2,878	+ 2	-33
Methodist. ....	1,967	1,729	2,080	1,317	-12	-37
Baptist. ....	881	1,002	656	533	+14	-19
Congregational. ....	539	543	529	413	+ 1	-22
Presbyterian. ....	450	538	469	303	+20	-35
Episcopal. ....	128	176	142	99	+38	-30
Christian. ....	74	114	195	62	+54	-68
Universalist. ....	....	....	64	62	..	- 3
Freewill Baptist. ....	....	....	44	18	..	-59
Wesleyan Meth. ....	....	....	47	38	..	-19
Friends. ....	....	....	29	22	..	-24
Undenominational and attending out of County	....	....	49	11	..	-78

TABLE 42

## EXPENDITURES OF THE DENOMINATIONS FOR THE PERIODS 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910

## TOTAL EXPENDITURES

	1886-1890	1906-1910		Increase or Decrease per Cent	
	Dollars and Purchasing Power	Dollars	Purchasing Power as Compared with 86-90	In Dollars	In Purchasing Power
Totals. ....	32,826	35,213	29,802	+ 7	- 9
Methodist. ....	19,071	19,182	16,220	+ 0.6	- 15
Baptist. ....	5,783	6,226	5,222	+ 8	- 10
Presbyterian. ....	5,708	6,813	5,863	+ 19	+ 3
Congregational. ....	.....	379	295	...	...
Episcopal. ....	1,939	2,180	1,837	+ 12	- 5
Christian. ....	325	433	365	+ 33	+ 12

## BENEVOLENCES

Totals. ....	2,821	5,271	4,446	+ 87	+ 58
Methodist. ....	1,093	2,181	1,852	+ 100	+ 69
Baptist. ....	640	1,225	1,023	+ 91	+ 60
Presbyterian. ....	358	922	797	+ 158	+ 123
Congregational. ....	530	538	440	+ 2	- 17
Episcopal. ....	200	388	319	+ 94	+ 59
Christian. ....	.....	17	15	...	+ 37

TABLE 42 (*Continued*)  
MINISTERS' SALARIES

	1886-1890 <i>Dollars and Pur- chasing Power</i>	1906-1910		<i>Increase or De- crease per Cent</i>	
		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Purchas- ing Power as Com- pared with 86-90</i>	<i>In Dollars</i>	<i>In Pur- chasing Power</i>
Totals. . . . .	17,128	17,194	14,415	+ 0.4	— 16
Methodist. . . . .	9,369	9,532	8,043	+ 2	— 14
Baptist. . . . .	3,467	3,061	2,581	— 12	— 26
Presbyterian. . . . .	2,020	1,980	1,678	— 2	— 17
Congregational. . . . .	1,562	1,789	1,409	+ 15	— 10
Episcopal. . . . .	393	507	430	+ 29	+ 9
Christian. . . . .	317	325	274	+ 3	— 14

## IMPROVEMENTS

Totals. . . . .	6,430	3,522	3,013	— 45	— 53
Methodist. . . . .	5,267	2,579	2,207	— 51	— 58
Baptist. . . . .	595	631	536	+ 6	— 10
Presbyterian. . . . .	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Congregational. . . . .	.....	7	5	...	...
Episcopal. . . . .	568	305	265	— 46	— 53
Christian. . . . .	.....	.....	.....	...	...

8. LARGER VILLAGES COMPARED WITH SMALLER VILLAGES  
AND THE OPEN COUNTRY

There are three villages in Tompkins County with more than 600 inhabitants. These are Groton, with a population of 1,260, Trumansburg in the town of Ulysses, with a population of 1,118, and Dryden, with a population of 709. No other village of the county has a population exceeding four hundred.

By comparison between the activities of the churches of these three larger villages and those of the rest of the county it appears:

That in the smaller communities a very much smaller proportion of the inhabitants are church members than in the larger villages:

That while there is a considerable decline in the number of attendants at church services in the larger villages in proportion to population, the decline is much greater in the smaller communities;

That the contributions for church expenses are very much less per capita outside the larger villages;

That while in the larger villages the amount given per capita has substantially increased in twenty years, in the rural districts it has decreased;

That while 56 per cent of the churches in the larger villages have gained in at least two out of three lines of activity, namely, maintaining or increasing membership, attracting attendants to their services, and contributing money, 83 per cent of the other churches have declined in at least two of the three;

That the churches in the larger villages, while they are not holding the attendance of the rural population, are losing it much less rapidly than are the churches in the rural communities.

TABLE 43

MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCHES OF THE LARGE VILLAGES AND  
IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS, 1890 AND 1910

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
Dryden Meth. Episcopal.....	89	103	+ 16
Dryden Presbyterian.....	147	219	+ 49
Dryden Episcopal.....	...	18	..
Groton Meth. Episcopal.....	142	113	- 20
Groton Baptist.....	155	162	+ 5
Groton Congregational.....	252	191	- 24
Groton Episcopal.....	...	30	..
Trumansburg Meth. Episcopal.....	200	225	+ 13
"    Baptist.....	301	306	+ 2
"    Presbyterian.....	200	261	+ 31
"    Episcopal.....	86	80	- 7
Total Membership Large-Village churches.....	1,572	1,708	+ 9
"    "    in County.....	4,039	4,102	+ 2
"    "    churches of Rural Districts	2,467	2,394	- 3
Rural members of large village churches 1890 (estimated at 20.1% of total).....	316	...	..
Rural members of large village churches 1910 (estimated at 16.6% of total).....	...	284	..
Estimated Total members who live in large villages.....	1,256	1,424	..
Estimated Total members who live in Rural Districts.....	2,783	2,678	..

*Membership.* From Table 43 it appears that in the churches of the three larger villages the membership in 1890 was 1,572 and 1,708 in 1910, or a gain of 9 per cent in twenty years. The churches in the rest of the county, including those of the smaller villages and of the open country, had 2,467 members in 1890 and only 2,394 in 1910, a loss of 3 per cent in the membership of the rural churches.

In Table 44 it appears that the Protestant population of the three larger villages was 3,040 in 1890 and 2,947 in 1910, a loss of 3 per cent, while the Protestant population of the rest of the county was 16,805 in 1890 and 13,743 in 1910, a loss of 18 per cent.

But some members of churches in the larger villages live in the outlying or rural districts. Table 46 shows that in 1890, 215 or 20.1 per cent of the attendants of the churches of the larger villages lived in the rural districts, and 156 or 16.6 per cent in 1910. It was therefore necessary, in estimating the number of members from the larger villages, to subtract 20.1 per cent of the recorded members for 1890 and 16.6 per cent for 1910.

With this allowance made, Tables 43, 44, and 45 show that there were 1,256 church members in the large villages in 1890, or 41 per cent of the Protestant

## TOMPKINS COUNTY—VILLAGE AND COUNTRY 197

TABLE 44

## PROTESTANT INHABITANTS IN LARGE VILLAGES AND IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS, 1890 AND 1910

	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
Dryden.....	653	706	..
Groton.....	1,273	1,241	..
Trumansburg.....	1,114	1,000	..
Total in large villages.....	3,040	2,947	-3
Total in County.....	19,845	16,690	-16
Total in rural districts.....	16,805	13,743	-18

TABLE 45

## ENROLLED MEMBERSHIP IN LARGER VILLAGES AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1890 AND 1910

	<i>Large Villages</i>		<i>Rural Districts</i>		
	1890	Per Cent	1890	Per Cent	
Prot. Population.....	3,040	....	2,947	....	16,805
Members resident in larger villages.....	1,256	....	1,424	....	13,743
Members resident in rural districts.....	.....	.....	.....	2,783	....
Members constitute following per cent of Prot. population.....	41.3	....	48.3	....	16.56
Normal membership in 1910, i. e. same per cent of population as in 1890.....	.....	1,217	....	2,276	....
Increase above normal.....	.....	207	17	402	17.7

population, and 1,424, or 48 per cent of the Protestant population, in 1910; whereas in the rural districts there were 2,783 members in 1890, or 16.56 per cent of the rural Protestant population, and 2,678 members, or 19.5 per cent in 1910.

Table 45 shows that in the larger villages church membership gained 17 per cent above that for 1890 in proportion to population, while the membership in the smaller communities gained 18 per cent in twenty years.

It appears then that in the matter of enrolled membership the smaller communities have made a slightly greater relative gain than the larger villages, while in the larger villages a very much larger part of the population belongs to the Church than in the rural districts.

*Attendance.* From Table 46 it appears that the number of attendants of the churches of the three larger villages was 1,068 in 1890, while in 1910 it was 939, a loss of 12 per cent. In the churches of the more rural part of the county the number of attendants was 3,236 in 1890 and only 1,939 in 1910, a decline of 40 per cent.

But it has been shown that in 1890 there were 20.1% or 215 rural people attending the churches of the large villages, while in 1910 there were 16.6 or 156. Therefore in 1890 there were 853 church attendants in the

TABLE 46

## CHURCH ATTENDANTS IN THE LARGER VILLAGES AND IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS, 1890 AND 1910

	<i>Attendance in Large Villages</i>		<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
	1890	1910	
Dryden Meth. Episcopal.....	95	74	..
" Presbyterian.....	138	153	..
" Episcopal.....	....	14	..
Groton Meth. Episcopal.....	101	79	..
" Baptist.....	111	78	..
" Congregational.....	193	143	..
" Episcopal.....	....	24	..
Trumansburg Meth. Episcopal.....	89	90	..
" Baptist.....	139	127	..
" Presbyterian.....	149	124	..
" Episcopal.....	53	33	..
Total attendance in large villages..	1,068	939	-12
" " " County.....	4,304	2,878	..
" " " churches of Rural Districts.....	3,236	1,939	-40
Rural attendants in large-village churches.....	215	156	-27
Village attendants in large-village churches.....	853	783	-8
Total rural attendants in all churches	3,451	2,095	-39

large villages and 783 in 1910, a loss of 8 per cent; while in the rural districts there were 3,451 attendants in 1890 and only 2,095 in 1910, a loss of 39 per cent.

It will be seen in Tables 46 and 47 that in 1890, 28 per cent of the Protestant population of the larger villages were church attendants, and 26.6 per cent in 1910; whereas in the rural districts 20.5 per cent of the Protestant population were attendants in 1890 but only 15.2 per cent in 1910. Whereas we have hitherto seen that in all the churches together there was a decline in proportion to the Protestant population of 19 per cent in Table 47 it appears that for the larger villages it was less than 6 per cent while in the smaller villages and open country it was nearly 26 per cent.

In the period covered by the investigation, therefore, there was a very much greater loss in the rural districts both absolutely and in relation to the population.

*Income and Expenditures.* From Table 48 it appears that the total expenditures of the churches in the larger villages were 12,275 dollars in the first period, and the equivalent in purchasing power of 13,267 of the same dollars in the second, a gain of 8.1 per cent. In the rural districts the expenditures in the first period were 20,551 and 16,535 in the second, a loss of 19.5 per cent.

TABLE 47

PROTESTANT POPULATION AND NUMBER OF ATTENDANTS IN  
LARGE VILLAGES AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1890 AND 1910

	<i>Large Villages</i>				<i>Rural Districts</i>				
	1890	<i>Per</i> <i>Cent</i>	1910	<i>Per</i> <i>Cent</i>	1890	<i>Per</i> <i>Cent</i>	1910	<i>Per</i> <i>Cent</i>	
	1890	1890	1910	1910	1890	1890	1910	1910	
Population.....	3,040	....	2,947	....	16,805	....	13,743	....	
Attendants of churches of large villages.....	1,068	....	939	-12.1	....	....	....	....	
Rural attendants rural churches.....	....	....	....	....	3,236	....	1,939	-40.	
Village attendants in large villages.....	853	....	783	....	....	....	....	....	
Rural attendants in large villages.....	....	....	....	....	215	....	156	....	
Total rural attendants of all churches.....	....	....	....	....	3,451	....	2,095	-39.3	
Attendants constitute following per cent Prot. population....	....	28.1	....	26.56	....	20.5	....	15.24	
Normal number of at- tendants in 1910 (i.e. same per cent of pop- ulation as in 1890). .	....	....	828	....	....	....	2,817	....	
Loss below normal.....	....	....	45	5.43	....	....	722	25.63	

But as 20.1 per cent of the attendants of the larger village churches were from the rural districts in 1890, and 16.6 per cent in 1910, it was thought best to deduct from the expenditures of the churches 20.1 per cent in 1890 and 16.6 per cent in 1910, and treat the amounts deducted as contributions from people of the rural districts. This method is not strictly accurate, but it is the best available and its error is on the conservative side.

It will be seen in Table 48 that under this method of estimating, the contributions of residents of the larger villages were 9,808 dollars per year in the period 1886-1890 and reckoning in purchasing power 11,065 per year in the period 1906-10, a gain of 13 per cent; while the residents of rural districts contributed 23,018 in the first period and 18,737 the second, a loss in contributions of 19 per cent.

In Table 49 it appears that the people of the larger villages contributed 3.23 dollars per capita in the first period and again reckoning in purchasing power 3.75 in the second, an increase of 16.1 per cent, while the residents of the rural districts contributed only 1.369 in the first period and 2.363 in the second, making a decrease of .4 per cent.

TABLE 48

EXPENDITURES IN LARGE VILLAGES AND IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910, EXPRESSED IN PURCHASING POWER

		1886-90	1906-10	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
Dryden	Meth. Episcopal.....	853	972	.....
"	Presbyterian .....	2,079	1,876	.....
"	Episcopal .....	.....	343	.....
Groton	Meth. Episcopal.....	971	1,057	.....
"	Baptist.....	1,724	1,108	.....
"	Congregational .....	.....	.....	.....
"	Episcopal. ....	.....	114	.....
Trumansburg	Meth. Episcopal.....	1,685	2,075	.....
"	Baptist.....	1,297	1,469	.....
"	Presbyterian .....	2,186	3,401	.....
"	Episcopal.....	1,480	852	.....
Total exp. churches of large villages .....	12,275	13,267	+ 8.	
Total exp. churches in County .....	32,826	29,802	- 9.2	
" " " in rural districts .....	20,551	16,535	-20.	
Contributions of rural att. of large-village churches (estimated at 20.1 per cent of total exps. village churches) .....	2,467	.....	.....	
Contributions of rural att. of large village churches (estimated at 16.6% of total exps. village churches).....	.....	2,202	.....	
Contributions of residents of large villages.....	9,808	11,065	+13	
Contributions to all churches by residents of rural districts.....	23,018	18,737	-19	

It appears, therefore, that not only do the residents of the larger villages contribute very much more money per capita, but that they have made a substantial increase in their contributions; while the rural people have declined in their total contributions and in their contributions per capita.\*

*Individual Churches.* In the larger villages there are now 11 churches, but 2 of these have been established since 1890. Comparison of the condition in 1890 with the condition in 1910 can therefore be made in the case of only 9 of them. In the three lines of activity here treated (i. e. maintaining or increasing membership, attracting attendants, and contributing money), 1 church has gained in all three lines, 4 have gained in two, 2 have gained in only one, while 2 have lost in every one of the three lines of activity. This may be seen in Table 50.

Outside the larger villages, there are 24 churches for which data are available in all three lines of activity for the two periods. Of these 24 only 1 church has gained in all three lines of activity, only 3

\*Owing to the fact that statistics for total expenditures in a few churches are not available, actual per capita expenditures would be slightly greater than here indicated. Of the few churches omitted the expenditures for 1906-1910 were about equally divided between the large village churches and the others.

TABLE 49

EXPENDITURES PER CAPITA IN THE LARGER VILLAGES AND IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS, 1886-1890 AND 1906-1910, EXPRESSED IN PURCHASING POWER

	Total Contributions	Population	Contributions per Capita	Gain or Loss per Cent
Large Villages 1886-90 .....	12,275	3,040	4.04	.....
"    " 1906-10 .....	13,267	2,947	4.50	+11.38
Rural Districts 1886-90 .....	20,551	16,805	1.22	.....
"    " 1906-10 .....	16,535	13,743	1.20	1.64
Contributed by village people to churches of large villages 1886-90 .....	9,808	....	3.23	.....
Contributed by village people to churches of large villages 1906-10 .....	11,065	....	3.75	+16.1
Contributed to all churches by residents of rural districts 1886-90 .....	23,018	....	1.37	.....
Contributed to all churches by residents of rural districts 1906-10 .....	18,737	....	1.36	-0.7

have gained in two lines of activity, 9 have gained in one line of activity, while 11 have declined in all three lines. In other words, of 24 churches outside the larger villages only 4 have gained in two lines of activity, while 20 have lost in at least two lines.

Fifty-five and six-tenths per cent of the churches of the large villages have gained in two of the three lines, whereas only 16.7 per cent of the churches outside the larger villages have gained in more than one line of activity.

*Rural attendants of rural churches and rural attendants of churches of the larger villages.* From Table 52 it appears there were in 1890, 3,236 attendants of churches of the smaller communities while in 1910 there were only 1,939, a decline of 40 per cent; whereas in 1890, 215 residents of the rural districts were attending the churches of the large villages while in 1910 there were 156, a decline of 27 per cent.

Thus it is seen that while the churches of the larger villages are not holding their attendance of people of the rural districts, still they are more successful in this respect than are the churches of the rural districts.

TABLE 50

MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE, AND EXPENDITURES IN THE CHURCHES OF THE LARGER VILLAGES, 1890 AND 1910, EXPRESSED IN PURCHASING POWER

	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>		
	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>
Trumansburg Meth. Episcopal..	+ 13	+ 1	+ 23
"    Baptist.....	+ 2	- 9	+ 13
"    Presbyterian ....	+ 31	- 17	+ 56
Dryden    Meth. Episcopal..	+ 16	- 22	+ 14
"    Presbyterian ....	+ 49	+ 11	- 10
Groton    Baptist .....	+ 5	- 30	- 36
"    Meth. Episcopal..	- 20	- 22	+ 9
"    Congregational ..	- 24	- 26	- 10
Trumansburg Episcopal .....	- 7	- 38	- 42

TABLE 51

MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE CHURCHES OF THE RURAL DISTRICTS, 1890 AND 1910, EXPRESSED IN PURCHASING POWER

	<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>		
	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>
Jacksonville Meth. Episcopal...	+ 101	+ 38	+ 73
Varna and Ellis " ...	+ 31	- 36	+ 33
Enfield     "     ...	+ 30	- 26	+ 25
Newfield Christian.....	+ 10	- 52	+ 12
W. Danby Meth. Episcopal....	+ 30	- 43	- 50
Freeville     "     ....	- 8	- 19	+ 24
Enfield Baptist .....	+ 31	- 47	- 24

TABLE 51 (*Continued*)

	<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>		
	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>
McLean Meth. Episcopal.....	+ 23	-10	-81
" Baptist .....	+ 38	-45	-11
Ludlowville Meth. Episcopal . .	- 10	-24	+62
Lansingville     " . . .	- 10	-24	+89
Asbury         " . . .	- 4	-29	+63
Ludlowville Presbyterian .....	+ 52	-57	-18
Slaterville Meth. Episcopal . .	- 21	-53	-59
Speedsville     " . . .	- 51	-61	-38
Brookton Baptist .....	- 34	-58	-70
Speedsville Episcopal.....	- 64	-81	-56
Danby & So. Danby Meth. Epis.	- 54	-38	-49
W. Dryden         " . . .	- 8	-19	-30
Peruville         " . . .	- 12	-70	- 9
McLean Episcopal.....	- 50	-86	-27
No. Lansing Meth. Episcopal..	- 4	-29	-44
East Lansing Baptist .....	- 22	-26	- 3
Newfield Meth. Episcopal.....	- 15	-54	-57
Danby Cong'l.....	+ 12	-35	..
W. Danby Baptist.....	+ 70	-48	..
Etna Baptist .....	+ 28	-43	..
Enfield Christian .....	+283	-69	..
W. Groton Congregational.....	+ 47	-23	..
No. Lansing Baptist .....	- 26	..	-73
Brookton Congregational.....	- 55	-35	..

TABLE 52

RURAL ATTENDANTS OF RURAL CHURCHES AND NUMBER OF  
RURAL ATTENDANTS OF LARGE-VILLAGE CHURCHES, 1890  
AND 1910

	<i>Attendants in Rural Churches</i>			<i>Attendants Big Village Churches from Rural Districts</i>		
	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>	1890	1910	<i>Gain or Loss per Cent</i>
County. ....	3,236	1,939	—40	215	156	—27
Caroline. ....	486	223	..	...	...	..
Danby. ....	524	315	..	...	...	..
Dryden. ....	429	247	..	49	48	..
Enfield. ....	288	173	..	...	...	..
Groton. ....	408	258	..	79	36	..
Lansing. ....	432	305	..	...	...	..
Newfield. ....	517	285	..	...	...	..
Ulysses. ....	152	133	..	87	72	..

*Relative Importance of Rural Churches and Churches of the Larger Villages.* It will be seen from previous tables and from Diagram VI that the rural churches, as compared with the churches of the larger villages, are greater in number, that taken together they have more members, that they have a greater total number of attendants, that as a whole they contribute a larger amount of money, and that they have a larger number of people dependent upon their ministry.

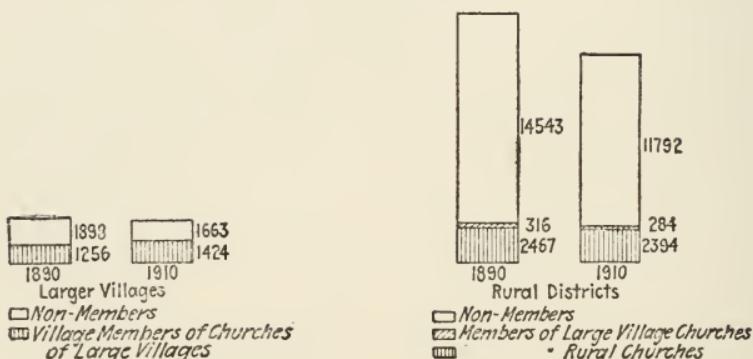
It is evident that the decline manifest in these

country churches is a matter of the gravest concern.

### DIAGRAM VI

#### COMPARISON OF LARGER VILLAGES WITH THE RURAL DISTRICTS

##### 1. Membership



##### 2. Attendance

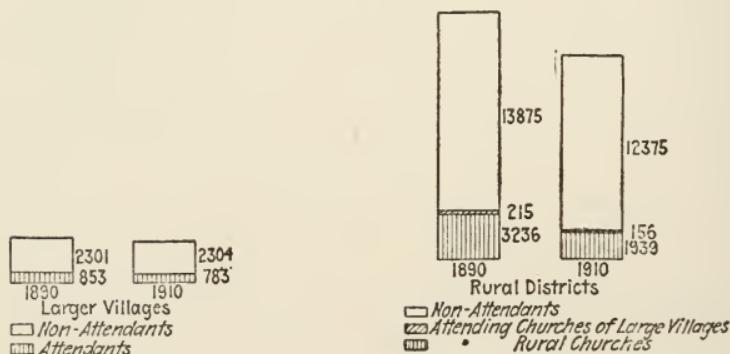
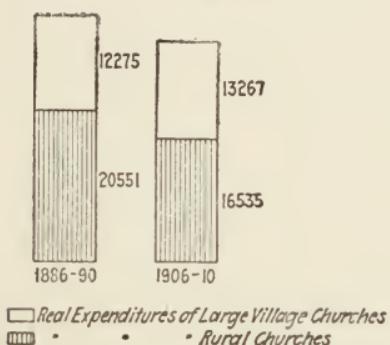


DIAGRAM VI (*Continued*)3. *Expenditures*

## 9. OVER-CHURCHING

The figures for attendance, membership, and expenditures gathered in Tompkins County indicate how very serious the evil of over-churching has become. Only four churches in the smaller communities in a twenty year period have increased their activities in two or more of the three lines of activity considered above. Three of these are in one-church communities. The fourth is a weak church. Its expenditures were small in both periods, and its apparent gain in membership is due to padded rolls.

Attendance figures afford the best indication of the effect of over-churching. In small communities with only one church there was a loss of 29 per cent in at-

tendance in twenty years. In small communities where there were two churches there was a loss of 50 per cent; while in the small communities of more than two churches there was a loss of nearly 55 per cent. (See Table 56.)

TABLE 53

LOSS IN NUMBER OF ATTENDANTS IN ONE-CHURCH-COMMUNITIES  
IN SMALL TWO-CHURCH COMMUNITIES AND IN SMALL COMMU-  
NITIES WITH MORE THAN TWO CHURCHES

	One-Church Com- munities		Loss per Cent	Two- Church Com- munities		Loss per Cent	Small Commu- nities with more than Two Chur- ches		Loss per Cent
	1890	1910		1890	1910		1890	1910	
Totals.....	1,675	1,182	29	1,072	536	50	489	221	55
Churches of Caroline									
Caroline Center Meth...	53	24							
Central Chapel " ..	40	9							
Slaterville " ..				140	46				
Caroline " ..		30							
Speedsville " ..							36	11	
" Episcopal ..							32	6	
Brookton Baptist.....					90	38			
" Cong'l ..					68	44			
Slaterville Episcopal....						14			
Union Valley Christian..	41	...							
Churches of Danby									
Danby Cong'l.....	167	109							
W. Danby Meth.....	75	50							
Jersey Hill " ..		14							

TABLE 53 (Continued)

		One-Church Com- munities	Loss per Cent	Two- Church Com- munities	Loss per Cent	Small Commu- nities with more than Two Churches	Loss per Cent
		1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910
S. Danby	Meth.	85	63	.....	.....	.....	.....
Smily Hill	"	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Morris Chapel	"	48	43	.....	.....	.....	.....
West Danby	"	.....	.....	65	37	.....	.....
" " Baptist		.....	.....	64	33	.....	.....
Churches of Dryden							
Freeville Methodist		96	86	.....	.....	.....	.....
Etna Baptist		54	31	.....	.....	.....	.....
Varna Methodist		70	37	.....	.....	.....	.....
West Dryden Methodist		59	39	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ellis	"	44	36	.....	.....	.....	.....
Snyder Hill Baptist		44	18	.....	.....	.....	.....
Churches of Enfield							
Kennedy's Cor. Meth.		36	32	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enfield Falls	"	23	15	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Center "		.....	.....	.....	.....	66	46
" " Baptist		.....	.....	.....	.....	68	36
" " Christian		.....	.....	.....	.....	71	22
Churches of Groton							
Groton City (Meth. 1890)		35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" " (Cong'l 1910)		.....	39	.....	.....	.....	.....
Peruville Methodist		30	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
West Groton Cong'l		101	78	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pl. Valley Wes. Meth.		47	38	.....	.....	.....	.....
McLean Methodist		.....	.....	.....	.....	49	5
" Baptist		.....	.....	.....	.....	46	25
" Episcopal		.....	.....	.....	.....	57	8
" Universal		.....	.....	.....	.....	64	62
Churches of Lansing							
Lansingville Methodist		84	72	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Lansing "		48	29	.....	.....	.....	.....

TABLE 53 (*Continued*)

	One-Church Com- munities		Loss per Cent		Two- Church Com- munities		Loss per Cent		Small Commu- nities with more than Two Churches		Loss per Cent	
	1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910
Asbury Methodist.....	74	57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
E. Lansing Baptist.....	84	62	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ludlowville Methodist.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	77	35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Presb. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Portland Presb. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Myers Methodist.....	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Drake Hill S. H. ....	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Churches of Newfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Poney Hollow Baptist....	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jacksons Hollow S. H. ....	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Vanettan.....	24	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Newfield Methodist.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	187	106	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Presbyterian....	.....	.....	.....	.....	122	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Baptist .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	85	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trumbull's Corners Meth. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	116	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" " Christian .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Churches of Ulysses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jacksonville Methodist..	80	85	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Waterburg     " .....	37	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Friends.....	29	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## 10. THE CHURCH ON GOOD LAND AND ON POOR LAND

The soil and the agricultural surveys of Tompkins County have pointed out the marked contrast between the good soil of the northern part of the county and

the poor soil of the southern part. The northern towns are also more accessible to markets and railroad stations. Ulysses, Lansing, and Groton constitute the northern tier of townships, while Newfield, Danby, and Caroline constitute the southern tier.

In Table 54 it will be observed that after making proper allowances for decline in Protestant population the churches in the southern or poor land tier compare very unfavorably with those of the northern or good land tier. In the northern tier the membership from the rural population has increased 19 per cent in proportion to Protestant population, while in the southern tier it has increased only 7 per cent. In the northern tier the attendance has declined 23 per cent, while in the southern it has decreased 26 per cent. Contributions per capita have increased 22 per cent in the northern tier, but have declined 26 per cent in the southern. In all three lines of activity the churches in the poor land regions compare unfavorably with those of the churches in the good land regions. The moral conditions and general character of the population are on the whole better in the northern than in the southern part of the county. The population on the poor soil declines faster in numbers, and in other respects also. The best people in the southern regions

are less hopeful as to the agricultural outlook and the rural prospects in general than their neighbors to the north.

TABLE 54

## DECLINE OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES ON POOR SOIL AND ON GOOD SOIL

	Gain per Cent in Membership Relative to Prot- estant Popula- tion in 20 Years		Loss per Cent in Attendance Relative to Prot- estant Popula- tion in 20 Years		Percentage of Gain or Loss in Expenditures per Capita in 20 Years	
Southern or Poor Soil Tier...	+ 7		—26		—26	
Northern or Good Soil Tier..	+19		—23		+22	
	<i>Membership</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>		<i>Member- ship in Churches of Larger Villages after De- ducting Rural Mem'ship</i>	
	1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910
Southern or Poor Land Tier . . .	1,347	1,045	22.4	.....	.....	.....
Caroline. ....	504	324	.....	.....	.....	.....
Danby. ....	525	397	.....	.....	.....	.....
Newfield. ....	318	324	.....	.....	.....	.....
Northern or Good Land Tier . . .	2,056	2,203	+ 7.15	.....	.....	.....
Groton. ....	773	779	.....	549	496	442
Lansing. ....	414	387	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ulysses. ....	869	1,037	.....	787	872	628
						+11.8

TABLE 54 (*Continued*)

	<i>Church Members Resident in Rural Communities</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	
	<i>Protestant Popula- tion of Rural Communities</i>	<i>Per Cent of Rural Members in Prot- estant Popula- tion</i>	<i>Normal Member- ship in Popula- tion</i>	<i>Actual Mem- ber- ship = Follow- ing per Cent above Normal 1910</i>
	1890	1910	1890	1910
Southern or Poor Land Tier				
Total.	5,920	4,282	22.75	974
Caroline.	2,050	1,626	....	....
Danby.	1,656	1,207	....	....
Newfield.	2,214	1,449	....	....
Northern or Good Land Tier				
Total.	6,167	5,597	15.98	894
Groton.	2,125	1,879	....	....
Lansing.	2,425	2,308	....	....
Ulysses.	1,617	1,410	....	....

TABLE 54 (*Continued*)

	Attendance from Rural Communi- ties		Per Cent Loss	Protestant Population of Rural Communi- ties		Per Cent of Population Attending Church 1890	Normal Attendance 1910	Less than Normal 1910 (Net Loss)
	1890	1910		1890	1910			
<b>Southern or Poor Land Tier...</b>								
Total.....								
Caroline.....	1,527	823	—46.1	5,920	4,282	25.8	1,105	25.5
Danby.....	486	223	.....	2,050	1,626	.....	.....	.....
Newfield.....	524	315	.....	1,656	1,207	.....	.....	.....
<b>Northern or Good Land Tier</b>								
Total.....	517	285	.....	2,214	1,449	.....	.....	.....
Groton.....	1,158	805	—30.5	6,167	5,597	18.78	1,051	23.4
Lansing.....	487	294	.....	2,125	1,879	.....	.....	.....
Ulysses.....	432	305	.....	2,425	2,308	.....	.....	.....
	239	206	.....	1,617	1,410	.....	.....	.....

Total Ex- penditures *	Total Ex- penditures		Total Ex- penditures		Total Ex- penditures	
	of Big Village Churches		Village Churches	Deducting Contribu- tions of Rural At- tendants	Big Village Churches	Total Ex- penditures from Rural Communi- ties
	1890	1910	1890	1910	1890	1910
<b>Southern or Poor Soil Tier...</b>						
Caroline.....						
Danby.....						
Newfield.....						
<b>Northern or Good Soil Tier ..</b>						
Groton.....	4,012	3,286	2,695	2,279	2,276	2,052
Lansing.....	3,857	4,334	.....	.....	.....	3,857
Ulysses.....	7,586	9,452	6,648	7,797	5,304	6,275

\* In purchasing power.

TABLE 54 (*Continued*)

	<i>Total Ex- penditures from Rural Communities</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	<i>Total Ex- penditures Including Large Villages</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>	<i>Per Capita Expenditure</i>		<i>Per Cent Gain or Loss</i>
	1890	1910		1890	1910		1890	1910	
Southern or Poor Soil Tier	11,114	5,968	-46.3	.	.	.	1.877	1.393	(-25.8)
Northern or Good Soil Tier	7,875	8,745	+11	15,455	17,072	+10.5	1.277	1.562	(+22.3)



## APPENDIX

In the following table the figures are given showing for a single township the changes in prices of various articles in different years. The securing of such figures as these is the first step of the process by which the change in the cost of living was determined. (See Part I, sec. 6.)

## THE COUNTRY CHURCH

## PRICES IN BETHEL, VERMONT

Year	'75-'80	'80-'85	'85-'90	'90	'93	'95	'98	1900	'03	'05	'08	'09
Beef Steak .	\$ .14	\$ .14	\$ ...	\$ .12	\$ .12	\$ .12	\$ .12	\$ .13	\$ .14	\$ .13	\$ .15	\$ .15
Salt Pork ..	.10	.10	.085	.08	.14	.10	.08	.09 1/4	.13	.10	.12	.12
Fresh Pork ..	.12	.12	...	.16	.16	.15	.15	.15	.17	.15	.20	.20
Lamb. ....	.15	.15	...	.16	.16	.15	.15	.15	.15	.16	.20	.20
Chicken. ....	.10	...	.12	.14	.125	.11	.10	.10	.14	.17	.15	.19
Eggs. ....	.15	.21	.19	.17	.21	.165	.15	.155	.22 1/4	.23	.24	.29
Fish. ....	...	.12	.10	.10	.10	.08	.09	.07	.105	.08	.10	.10
Milk. ....	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.05	.06
Butter. ....	.175	.225	.18	.185	.22	.19	.17	.20	.23	.22	.26	.30
Lard. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sugar. ....	.10	.09 1/4	.06 1/4	.07 1/4	.06	.05 1/4	.06	.06	.055	.07	.06 1/4	.06
Potatoes. ....	.75	...	.75	...	.50	.70	.90	.40	.85	.50	.10	.95
Flour. ....	7.00	7.00	5.50	5.75	5.00	4.25	5.75	5.00	5.00	6.50	6.00	7.00
Beans. ....	.04	.05	.03 1/4	.05	.03 3/4	.04 1/2	.05	.06	.05 1/2	.05 1/2	.05 1/2	.05 1/2
Coffee. ....	.40	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35	.35
Tea. ....	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50	.50
Kerosene. ....	.19	.15	.16	.15	.11	.13	.12	.14	.15	.15	.15	.16
Wood. ....	4.00	4.50	...	5.00	5.00	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
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