

TASKS DONE BY 100 IOWA STATE COLLEGE FRESHMEN WOMEN  
LIVING ON FARMS DURING 1942 IN IOWA  
AND SURROUNDING STATES

by

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Signatures have been redacted for privacy

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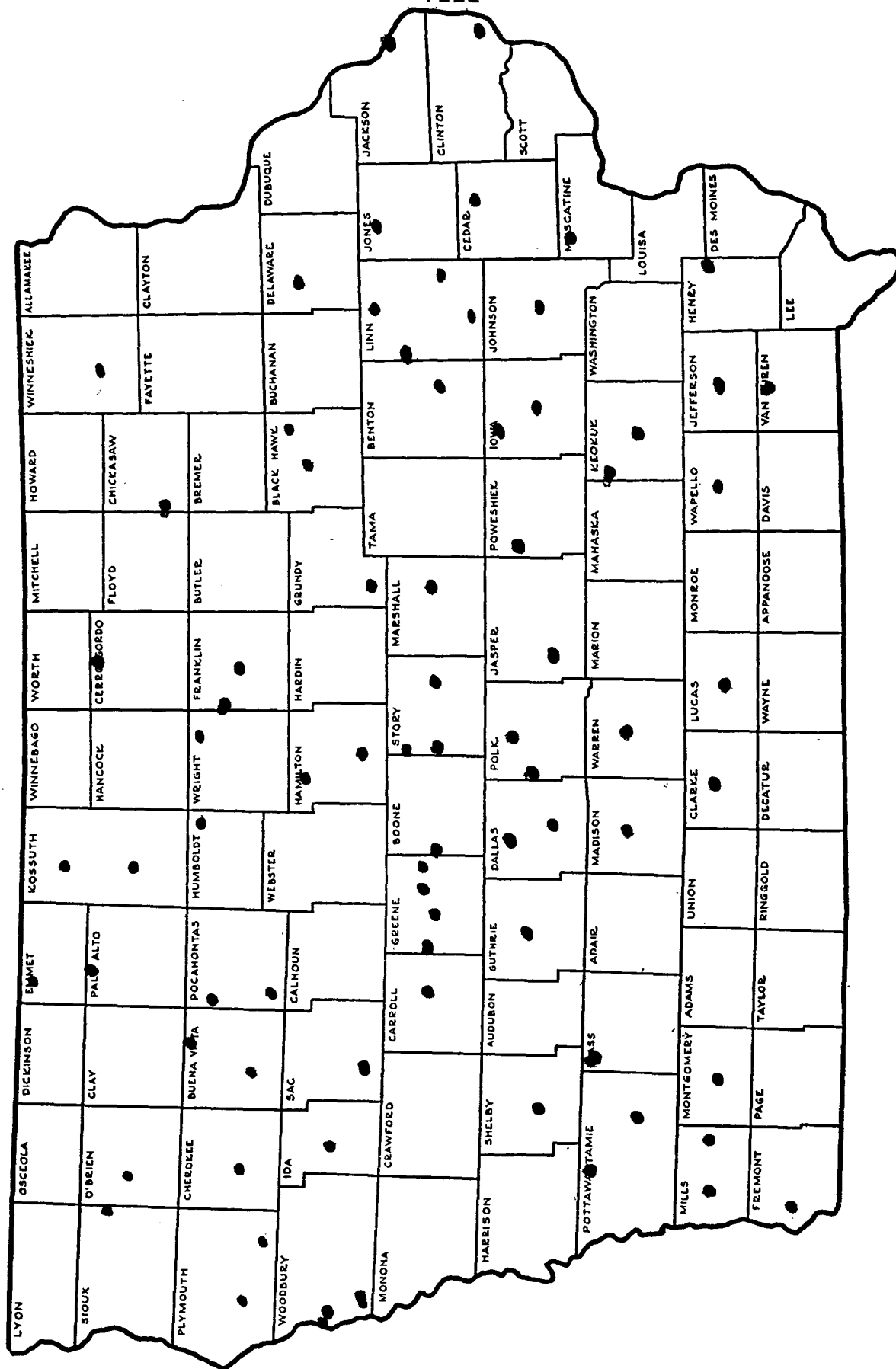


Fig. 1 Map of Iowa Showing Location of Home Farms of 92 Girls Studied Living in Iowa



## I INTRODUCTION

At the present time the farm labor shortage is a major problem in this country. Many men and women have left farm communities for the armed forces and urban employment. New sources of labor must be found if the farms in Iowa and other states are to meet their production goals.

Labor from many sources might be used. Plans have already been made to move labor from farming areas which are not productive into those areas which are. Adults on vacation and school children are other possible sources of labor.

This thesis is concerned with the use of woman power on the home farm and more especially with tasks designated as farm work or closely connected with it which are performed by young college women on their home farms.

Tasks designated as farm work, or closely connected with it, performed in 1942 by young college women were studied, as well as their statement of plans for 1943 and factors which might affect their participation in farm work. Among these factors were the tasks done by the mothers, existence of a labor shortage, major source

of income, brothers at home, and attitude towards farm tasks. Adjustment made in the use of leisure time necessitated by increased farm responsibility was also studied.

## II. REVIEW OF OTHER STUDIES

Early in 1942 the U.S.D.A. Extension Service realized that farm labor problems would become more acute in the latter part of the year, and serious in 1943. In anticipation of assistance they might give farm families, a federal extension committee was appointed in July, 1942, to study the situation. Inquiries were sent to the home demonstration staffs in each of the 48 states.

This study reports some interesting changes in the work done by farm women and girls throughout the United States in 1942.<sup>1</sup> Twice as many women did farm chores in 1942 as in 1941. According to the estimates of the home demonstration staffs in the 31 states reporting, twice as many worked in the fields, and three times as many operated tractors and other power machinery. Women and girls engaged in all kinds of field work were reported by 21 states, dairy activities by 16 states, and tractor operation by 15 states.

The increase in the percentage of farm women and girls operating power machinery in the central states, which includes Iowa, was greater than in other regions. For 1941

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<sup>1</sup> U.S.D.A. Extension Service. National summary of inquiry into changes in the work of farm women and girls caused by war labor shortages. Extension Service Circular No. 395. November, 1942.

it was estimated that 60 per cent of the farm women in Iowa helped with chores. For 1942 the estimate was 80 per cent. Also in Iowa, the proportion assisting with field work increased from 10 to 35 per cent; the proportion operating power machinery, such as tractors, increased from 5 to 40 per cent.

A survey of the extent to which Iowa farm women carried on certain household tasks was made in 1940 by Margaret Tiffany Wilcox.<sup>1</sup> Three groups of families were represented: 203 families where the woman did home projects in the home economics extension program, 76 Farm Security Administration families with tenant-purchase loans, 111 families selected at random over the state. The three types of farm tasks studied were gardening, care of poultry, and churning of butter. In all three groups of families the care of the garden was primarily the responsibility of the housewife. She had sole responsibility in 46.6 per cent of the families for the tenant purchase group, 46 per cent of those families selected at random, and 36 per cent of the families in the extension group. In one-fifth to one-third of the families, the whole family was responsible, and to a somewhat lesser degree, in other families, the husband and wife together were responsible. (Table 1)

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<sup>1</sup> Wilcox, Margaret Tiffany. Information on household tasks of Iowa farm women. Unpublished data. 1940.

TABLE 1 Responsibility for Care of Garden by Groups of Iowa Farm Families, 1940<sup>1</sup>

| Persons Responsible          | Percentage of Total Families |        |        |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                              | Extension                    | F.S.A. | Random |
| Wife                         | 36.0                         | 46.6   | 46.0   |
| Whole Family                 | 30.0                         | 18.7   | 21.6   |
| Husband and Wife             | 15.3                         | 22.7   | 11.7   |
| Wife and Children            | 4.9                          | 5.3    | 4.5    |
| Husband                      | 5.9                          | 2.7    | 9.0    |
| Other                        | 3.0                          | 1.3    | 4.5    |
| Husband and Children         | .5                           | 0      | .9     |
| Total Families having Garden | 95.6                         | 97.3   | 98.2   |

<sup>1</sup> Unpublished data made available by Margaret Tiffany Wilcox

TABLE 2 Responsibility for Feeding and Care of Poultry by Groups of Iowa Farm Families, 1940<sup>1</sup>

| Persons Responsible           | Percentage of Total Families |        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
|                               | F.S.A.                       | Random |
| Wife                          | 73.7                         | 78.4   |
| Husband                       | 25.3                         | 18.0   |
| Children                      | 1.3                          | 10.8   |
| Whole Family                  | 5.3                          | 5.4    |
| Total Families having Poultry | 100.0                        | 99.1   |

<sup>1</sup> Unpublished data made available by Margaret Tiffany Wilcox

The major responsibility for taking care of poultry was assumed by the wife in 78.4 per cent of the randomly selected families, 73.7 per cent of the F.S.A. families. No information was given on care of poultry in the extension group of families. (Table 2) In view of the fact that a high percentage of young families occurred in the F.S.A. group, it is not surprising that there were relatively few families where children assumed responsibility. In the extension group of families 27.3 per cent churned their own butter for home use. In the Farm Security Administration group, 42.7 per cent, and in the families selected at random 53.2 per cent churned butter. (Table 3)

TABLE 3 The Churning of Butter by Three Groups of Iowa Farm Families, 1940<sup>1</sup>

| Families  | Percentage |
|-----------|------------|
| Random    | 53.2       |
| F.S.A.    | 42.7       |
| Extension | 27.3       |

<sup>1</sup> Unpublished data made available by Margaret Tiffany Wilcox

### III. INVESTIGATION

#### A. Sample

One hundred Iowa State College freshmen women were chosen for this study. Freshmen women were selected because of their having been on farms from January to September of 1942. Freshmen farm women contacted who had not been on the farm during the summer of 1942 were excluded from the study. Freshmen women from farms other than in Iowa and nearby states were excluded because of the probable dissimilarity of their farm problems. The author wished to keep the group as homogeneous as possible.

The names of all freshmen women living on farms were obtained from admission blanks in the personnel office. A total of 176 women were contacted but only 100 fulfilled the above qualifications.

The distribution of the farms according to states was as follows: Iowa 91, Illinois 5, Minnesota 2, Missouri 2. Fifty-five of the ninety-nine counties in Iowa were represented by the ninety-one cases. A map is included showing the location of these farms.

(Figure 1.)

### B. Method of Procedure

Each freshman woman was contacted by the investigator and an appointment made for an interview. The investigator personally interviewed all 100 women, filling out the schedules in their presence. The interviews varied in length from 20 to 30 minutes.

This method of investigation was chosen in order to secure uniformity of interpretation. An explanation of some of the questions was necessary. This would have been impossible had the questionnaire method been used.

### C. Discussion

One factor seemed to be the most important throughout in influencing the farm labor practices of the women studied. This was the statement as to whether or not there was a labor shortage on their farm during 1942. It was also thought that presence of brothers who could assume responsibility for farm tasks would be important. Therefore, the women were grouped according to this classification:

| <u>Group</u>                                 | <u>No. in<br/>Group</u> |
|--|-------------------------|
| I No labor shortage, no brothers 14-20 years | 9                       |
| II No labor shortage, brothers 14-20 years   | 12                      |
| III Labor shortage, no brothers 14-20 years  | 50                      |
| IV Labor shortage, brothers 14-20 years      | 29                      |



In most instances Groups I and II together were compared with Groups III and IV; thus the 21 women who reported no labor shortage on their home farm were contrasted with the 79 women who reported a labor shortage. The influence of some factors on the freshmen women's share of farm tasks, other than labor shortage and presence of brothers 14-20 years of age, has also been investigated.

#### IV. PRESENTATION OF DATA

##### A. Some Facts About the Farm Families Included in This Study

##### Age of family members

The freshmen girls interviewed were very similar in age. Although the range was from 16 to 21 years of age, 59 per cent of the girls were 18 years of age. The mode was 18 years.

TABLE 4 Age of Girls

| Age        | Number |
|------------|--------|
| 16         | 1      |
| 17         | 23     |
| 18         | 59     |
| 19         | 9      |
| 20         | 5      |
| 21         | 3      |
| Mean 18.03 | 100    |

The range in fathers' ages was from 38 to 65 years, and in mothers' ages from 38 to 64 years. Only 12 fathers were over 55 years of age, only four mothers. Four fathers were over 60, and one mother was over 60 years of age. The mean of fathers' ages was 48.62 years. The mean of mothers' ages was 46.07 years.

Home Economics training

Ninety-one per cent of the girls had taken home economics courses in high school, the most frequent number of years being two. The range of years was from one to five. Only 15 girls had had more than two years of home economics, however.

TABLE 5 Home Economics Training

| Years | Percentage |
|-------|------------|
| 0     | 9          |
| 1     | 30         |
| 1.5   | 4          |
| 2     | 42         |
| 2.5   | 2          |
| 3     | 11         |
| 3.5   | 0          |
| 4     | 1          |
| 4.5   | 0          |
| 5     | 1          |
| Total | 100        |

Averages for those having had home economics training:

Mode 2      Mean 1.67      Median 2.14

4-H Club Membership

Seventy-five per cent of the girls interviewed either belonged or had belonged at some time to a 4-H club.

Twenty-five per cent had never belonged.

A total of 111 projects were done by the 75 girls

belonging to clubs. Over one-third of these projects were done in tasks included in this study with the largest number, 23, or 20 per cent, concentrated on canning. Fourteen girls, or 18.6 per cent of those doing projects, did gardening projects. Three per cent of the projects were done in stock-raising. The number of projects done is much smaller than the number of girls actually carrying on these tasks. (Table 6)

TABLE 6 4-H Club Projects Dealing With Farm Tasks Carried on By Girls

| Project                 | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------------|--------|------------|
| Canning                 | 23     | 20.7       |
| Gardening               | 14     | 12.6       |
| Raising livestock       | 4      | 3.6        |
| Total of these projects | 41     | 37         |

Health of family members

Ninety-six per cent of the girls stated they were in good health. Seventy-nine per cent of their mothers were reported to be in good health, and seventy-two per cent of their fathers. Fair health was claimed for 17 per cent of the fathers. Only three fathers and two mothers were said

to be in poor health. Three fathers and two mothers were no longer living.

Since most girls and their mothers were in good health, the effect of health on farm tasks undertaken has not been studied.

Size of families

The size of the families represented varied from two to twelve members. The family of two consisted of the father and 18 year old daughter, the mother being dead. Families of four occurred most often, there being 29 such families.

TABLE 7 Family Size

| Number in Family | No Labor Shortage | Labor Shortage | Total Number |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 2                | 0                 | 1              | 1            |
| 3                | 1                 | 23             | 24           |
| 4                | 7                 | 22             | 29           |
| 5                | 5                 | 13             | 18           |
| 6                | 4                 | 11             | 15           |
| 7                | 1                 | 7              | 8            |
| 8                | 1                 | 1              | 2            |
| 9                | 2                 | 0              | 2            |
| 10               | 0                 | 0              | 0            |
| 11               | 0                 | 0              | 0            |
| 12               | 0                 | 1              | 1            |
| Total            | 21                | 79             | 100          |
| Mean             | 5.5               | 4.5            | 4.98         |
| Median           | 5.38              | 4.7            | 3.86         |

Size of farms and sources of income

The farms varied in size from 32 to 1160 acres, with the average size being approximately 290 acres. The two smallest farms, 32 and 40 acres, were part-time farms; that is, the fathers had full-time jobs away from the farms and the families raised only enough food for their own needs. Another farm, located near Kansas City, Missouri, was primarily a truck farm. Outside of these three unusual cases, the farms listed grain, livestock, dairy products, poultry, and eggs as most important sources of income. Forty-eight per cent of the farms raised livestock primarily. Forty-two per cent of them raised grain primarily.

Farms with and without labor shortage

A labor shortage was reported for 79 per cent of the farms; for 21 per cent no labor shortage was reported. There seemed to be several factors contributing to this.

The average size of families stating they had a labor shortage was smaller than those who had no shortage. The modes were three and four respectively; the means, four and a half and five and a half respectively. This one additional member of the family to assist with farm work may have been the reason for the non-existence of a labor shortage among some families. (Table 7)

The average size of farms with a labor shortage was approximately 300 acres. Farms without a labor shortage averaged approximately 250 acres. Using the t-test this difference was not significant. (Table 8)

TABLE 8 Average Size of Farm, Farms Classified by Age of Girls' Brothers and Existence of a Labor Shortage

|                                | Size of Farm<br>(in acres) |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| No Labor Shortage              |                            |
| No brothers 14-20 years of age | 251.00                     |
| Brothers 14-20 years of age    | 236.00                     |
| All                            | 242.00                     |
| Labor Shortage                 |                            |
| No brothers 14-20 years of age | 303.00                     |
| Brothers 14-20 years of age    | 303.66                     |
| All                            | 303.39                     |
| Total Average                  | 290.55                     |
| Range                          | 32-1160.00                 |

Another difference was found in the major source of income. For two-thirds of the farms reporting no labor shortage grain was the most important source of income; only one-fourth of these farms specialized in livestock. More than one-half of the farms reporting a labor shortage listed livestock as the most important source of income; grain was most important for only 35 per cent of these farms. (Table 9)

TABLE 9 Most Important Source of Income

| Most Important Source of Income | No Labor Shortage |                   | Labor Shortage |                   | Total      |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
|                                 | <u>Number</u>     | <u>Percentage</u> | <u>Number</u>  | <u>Percentage</u> |            |
| Livestock                       | 5                 | 23.8              | 43             | 54.4              | 48         |
| Grain                           | 14                | 66.7              | 28             | 35.4              | 42         |
| Dairy                           | 1                 | 4.7               | 5              | 6.3               | 6          |
| Poultry and eggs                | 0                 | 0                 | 1              | 1.3               | 1          |
| Truck garden                    | 0                 | 0                 | 1              | 1.3               | 1          |
| Part-time farm                  | 1                 | 4.7               | 1              | 1.3               | 2          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>21</b>         | <b>100.0</b>      | <b>79</b>      | <b>100.0</b>      | <b>100</b> |

The parents on farms where a labor shortage was reported were slightly older than those on farms where no labor shortage was reported. The differences were too slight to be significant. (Table 10)

TABLE 10 Average Age of Parents

|                   | Average Age of |               |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
|                   | <u>Mother</u>  | <u>Father</u> |
| No labor shortage | 45.7           | 45.7          |
| Labor shortage    | 46.18          | 49.39         |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>46.07</b>   | <b>48.62</b>  |



Reasons reported for labor shortage

Various reasons for the labor shortage were reported by the girls interviewed. Eighty-six per cent of those stating there was a shortage gave no seasonal help available as a reason. The second most frequent reason reported for the labor shortage was expanded production. (Table 11)

TABLE 11 Reasons Reported for Farm Labor Shortage

| Reason                           | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------|
| No seasonal help available       | 68     | 86.0       |
| Expanded production              | 44     | 55.7       |
| Hired man left                   | 21     | 26.6       |
| No hired man available           | 16     | 20.2       |
| Elderly hired man                | 10     | 12.7       |
| Family members drafted           | 7      | 8.9        |
| Hired man incompetent            | 6      | 7.6        |
| Family members working elsewhere | 1      | 1.2        |
| Total reporting labor shortage   | 79     | 100.0      |

The reasons reported for the farm labor shortage by girls living on grain farms differed very slightly from reasons given by girls living on livestock farms. Seven families on livestock farms had a member of the family

drafted, while no member of a family on a grain farm was drafted. Both groups most frequently reported no seasonal help as a reason for the shortage, 82 per cent of the 28 grain farms reporting a labor shortage, 88 per cent of the 43 livestock farms reporting a labor shortage. (Table 12)

TABLE 12 Girls Reporting Reasons for Farm Labor Shortage, Farms Classified by Major Source of Income

| Reason                                | <u>Grain</u> |            | <u>Livestock</u> |            |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|------------|
|                                       | Number       | Percentage | Number           | Percentage |
| No seasonal help available            | 22           | 82         | 38               | 88         |
| Expanded production                   | 16           | 57         | 23               | 53         |
| Hired man left                        | 9            | 32         | 10               | 23         |
| No hired man available                | 6            | 21         | 8                | 18         |
| Elderly hired man                     | 4            | 14         | 5                | 14         |
| Family member drafted                 | 0            | 0          | 7                | 16         |
| Hired man incompetent                 | 1            | 3          | 3                | 6          |
| Family member working elsewhere       | 0            | 0          | 1                | 2          |
| <b>Total reporting labor shortage</b> | <b>28</b>    | <b>100</b> | <b>43</b>        | <b>100</b> |

Girls having jobs

The girls were asked if they lived at home during the summer of 1942, but worked away from their home farm.

Twenty girls replied "yes" to this question. The majority of these girls having paying jobs worked in stores or offices in nearby towns. Two girls did housework in town and four girls helped with work on farms other than the one on which they lived.

#### B. Tasks Done in 1942

##### 1. By girls

Types of tasks done. Information was obtained as to the kind of help girls gave for 13 types of tasks, some of them distinctly farm tasks, others like canning and churning closely related to farm tasks. Each girl was asked whether she assisted or whether she had major responsibility. Grouping the assistance and major responsibility together, the girls helped with tasks in the following order of frequency:

1. canning of fruits and vegetables
2. gardening
3. field work apart from operating the tractor
4. running errands
5. care of chickens
6. washing the separator
7. running the tractor
8. care and feeding of livestock

9. canning meat
10. churning butter
11. milking
12. marketing farm products
13. keeping farm records

Over 50 per cent of the girls interviewed helped with the first six tasks listed above.

Full responsibility for tasks. More girls were given full responsibility for washing the separator than for any other one task studied. Fifteen per cent had full responsibility for running errands, 13 per cent for the care of chickens, and 12 per cent for the canning of fruits and vegetables. (Table 13)

TABLE 13 Girls Assisting and Carrying Full Responsibility for Various Farm Tasks in 1942

| Task                                    | Assisting | Full Responsibility | Total |
|---|-----------|---------------------|-------|
| Canning fruits and vegetables           | 80        | 13                  | 93    |
| Gardening                               | 78        | 6                   | 84    |
| Field work apart from operating tractor | 66        | 1                   | 67    |
| Running errands                         | 49        | 15                  | 64    |
| Care of chickens                        | 47        | 13                  | 60    |
| Washing the separator                   | 32        | 26                  | 58    |
| Running tractor                         | 40        | 1                   | 41    |
| Feeding livestock                       | 30        | 1                   | 31    |
| Canning meat                            | 21        | 1                   | 22    |
| Churning butter                         | 18        | 2                   | 20    |
| Milking                                 | 17        | 1                   | 18    |
| Marketing farm products                 | 9         | 3                   | 12    |
| Keeping farm records                    | 8         | 1                   | 9     |

Assistance with tasks. The largest percentage of girls, 80 per cent, assisted with the canning of fruits and vegetables. Seventy-eight per cent assisted with gardening, and 66 per cent assisted with field work apart from operating the tractor. Only one girl reported full responsibility for field tasks such as haying, shocking, harvesting, and detasseling corn. Forty-nine per cent of the girls assisted with errand running, and 47 per cent with care of chickens. Forty per cent of the girls assisted with running the tractor. Only one girl was responsible for this job. (Table 13)

Hours worked. The girls were asked at which farm activity involving field tasks apart from operating the tractor they had worked the longest hours per day. Of the field tasks at which girls worked the longest hours per day haying was most often mentioned. Forty-eight girls, or 89 per cent of those doing field work apart from operating the tractor, reported this task done. For 17 girls their longest days at field tasks involved help with threshing, and for nine girls it involved shocking oats. (Table 14)

The girls were also asked to give for the peak season the average number of hours they worked at field tasks apart from operating the tractor. One girl reported she worked an average of 12 hours a day, but the majority of girls reported an average of eight hours a day spent at

TABLE 14 Girls Performing Field Tasks Apart From Operating Tractor at Which Longest Hours Per Day Were Spent

| Activity   | No Labor Shortage |            | Labor Shortage |            | Total (number) |
|--|-------------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
|  | Number            | Percentage | Number         | Percentage |                |
| Total number of girls                            | 21                | 100.0      | 79             | 100.0      | 100.0          |
| Haying   | 8                 | 38.1       | 40             | 50.6       | 48             |
| Threshing  | 1                 | 4.8        | 16             | 20.2       | 17             |
| Shocking oats                                    | 4                 | 19.0       | 5              | 6.4        | 9              |
| Cutting oats                                     | 1                 | 4.8        | 5              | 6.4        | 6              |
| Combining  | 1                 | 4.8        | 4              | 5.0        | 5              |
| Husking corn                                     | 3                 | 14.3       | 2              | 2.5        | 5              |
| Weeding corn                                     | 1                 | 4.8        | 2              | 2.5        | 3              |
| Detasselling                                     | 1                 | 4.8        | 2              | 2.5        | 3              |
| Gardening  | 0                 | 0          | 3              | 3.8        | 3              |
| Sowing   | 0                 | 0          | 1              | 1.2        | 1              |
| Tomato Ripening                                  | 0                 | 0          | 1              | 1.2        | 1              |
| Total number of tasks reported                   | 20                |            | 81             |            | 101            |
| Total number of girls                            | 11                |            | 56             |            | 67             |
| Average number of tasks per girl reporting tasks | 1.8               |            | 1.4            |            | 1.5            |

these tasks. The lowest average number of hours worked by any girl was two. The median number of hours per day for the 67 girls doing field tasks was eight and one-fourth, and the mean was seven and one-third. (Table 15)

TABLE 15 Average Number of Hours Worked Per Day at Field Tasks apart from Operating the Tractor During Peak Farm Seasons

| Number of Hours | Number of Girls Reporting |                       | Total |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------|
|                 | <u>No Labor Shortage</u>  | <u>Labor Shortage</u> |       |
| 2               | 1                         | 2                     | 3     |
| 3               | 1                         | 0                     | 1     |
| 4               | 1                         | 8                     | 9     |
| 5               | 1                         | 3                     | 4     |
| 6               | 2                         | 7                     | 9     |
| 7               | 1                         | 2                     | 3     |
| 8               | 2                         | 15                    | 17    |
| 9               | 0                         | 9                     | 9     |
| 10              | 0                         | 6                     | 6     |
| 11              | 2                         | 3                     | 5     |
| 12              | 0                         | 1                     | 1     |
| Number of girls | 11                        | 56                    | 67    |
| Mean            | 6.45                      | 7.50                  | 7.21  |
| Median          | 5.75                      | 8.40                  | 8.15  |

Girls who reported that they ran the tractor stated the longest number of hours spent in one day at this task. The number of hours most often reported was eight. The range was from two hours to fourteen hours spent in one day at running the tractor. (Table 16)

TABLE 16 Greatest Number of Hours in One Day Spent Running Tractor

| Hours Spent   | Number of Girls Reporting |                | Total       |
|---------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
|               | No Labor Shortage         | Labor Shortage |             |
| 1             | 0                         | 2              | 2           |
| 2             | 0                         | 1              | 1           |
| 3             | 1                         | 1              | 2           |
| 4             | 1                         | 4              | 5           |
| 5             | 0                         | 2              | 2           |
| 6             | 0                         | 3              | 3           |
| 7             | 0                         | 0              | 0           |
| 8             | 3                         | 9              | 12          |
| 9             | 0                         | 3              | 3           |
| 10            | 0                         | 5              | 5           |
| 11            | 1                         | 1              | 2           |
| 12            | 0                         | 3              | 3           |
| 13            | 0                         | 0              | 0           |
| 14            | 0                         | 1              | 1           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>6</b>                  | <b>35</b>      | <b>41</b>   |
| <b>Mode</b>   | <b>8.00</b>               | <b>8.00</b>    | <b>8.00</b> |
| <b>Mean</b>   | <b>7.00</b>               | <b>7.46</b>    | <b>7.39</b> |
| <b>Median</b> | <b>8.33</b>               | <b>8.50</b>    | <b>8.46</b> |



Tasks done by girls reporting a labor shortage compared to those done by girls reporting no shortage. In general a smaller percentage of the girls reporting no labor shortage on their farms helped with the tasks studied than did those where a labor shortage was reported. A relatively high proportion of girls on farms having a labor shortage reported the performance of the following tasks: field tasks apart from running the tractor, running the tractor, feeding livestock, running errands, care of chickens, churning butter. (Table 17)

TABLE 17 Girls Doing Specified Tasks

| Task                                   | No Labor Shortage |                   | Labor Shortage |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|  | <u>Number</u>     | <u>Percentage</u> | <u>Number</u>  | <u>Percentage</u> |
| Canning fruits and vegetables          | 18                | 86                | 75             | 95                |
| Gardening                              | 18                | 86                | 66             | 84                |
| Washing separator                      | 14                | 67                | 44             | 55                |
| Field tasks apart from running tractor | 11                | 52                | 56             | 71                |
| Running errands                        | 11                | 52                | 53             | 67                |
| Care of chickens                       | 10                | 48                | 50             | 63                |
| Running tractor                        | 6                 | 29                | 35             | 44                |
| Milking                                | 6                 | 29                | 12             | 16                |
| Feeding livestock                      | 4                 | 19                | 27             | 34                |
| Churning butter                        | 3                 | 14                | 20             | 26                |
| Canning meat                           | 4                 | 19                | 18             | 23                |
| Marketing farm products                | 1                 | 5                 | 11             | 14                |
| Keeping farm records                   | 1                 | 5                 | 8              | 10                |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>21</b>         | <b>100</b>        | <b>79</b>      | <b>100</b>        |

Fifty-two per cent of the group reporting no labor shortage did field work apart from running a tractor, whereas 70 per cent of the group reporting a labor shortage did some field work. However, using the chi-square test, this difference was not found to be significant.

Twenty-eight per cent of the girls reporting no labor shortage drove a tractor in the summer of 1942. Forty-four per cent of the group reporting a labor shortage drove a tractor. Again, using the chi-square test, this difference was not found to be significant.

For all but two tasks, the percentage of girls helping with the various tasks studied was greater on those farms reporting a labor shortage than on those where no labor shortage was reported. The two tasks which were performed by more of the girls reporting no labor shortage were milking and washing the separator. Two girls of the 21 girls reporting no labor shortage gave no help whatsoever for any of the 13 specific tasks on which information was gathered. All girls in the group reporting a labor shortage helped with at least one of the tasks.

Girls in the group reporting no labor shortage tended to assist more than to carry the whole responsibility for the tasks studied. Only in the canning of fruits and vegetables, care of chickens, running errands, and washing the separator did any girl in the group reporting no labor

shortage carry the responsibility. For all 13 tasks investigated some girl in the group with a labor shortage carried the responsibility. The difference was, however, not significant.

Effect of major source of income. Thinking some factor other than the existence of a labor shortage might have influenced the tasks done by freshmen girls, the author classified them by the major source of income on the farm. Few farms in any other class than grain and livestock were included in the study; hence only girls living on grain and livestock farms were considered. (Table 18) For each type of farm approximately the same percentage of girls ran errands, took care of chickens, and helped with field tasks apart from operating the tractor. Nineteen girls on grain farms ran the tractor; eighteen girls on livestock farms ran the tractor. These were 45 and 37 per cent of the total number in each group respectively, a slight difference. More girls in the group living on livestock farms fed livestock and milked cows than did the girls in the group living on grain farms. Forty-nine per cent of the girls from livestock farms fed livestock, while 24 per cent of the girls on grain farms did this task. In milking cows 23 per cent of the girls on livestock farms assisted, 12 per cent of the girls on grain farms assisted. The differences in performance of these tasks between the

two groups of girls according to source of income are not significant. (Table 18)

TABLE 18 Girls Doing Specified Tasks Classified According to Major Source of Income

| Task                                     | Grain  |            | Livestock |            |
|--|--------|------------|-----------|------------|
|  | Number | Percentage | Number    | Percentage |
| Field tasks apart from operating tractor | 28     | 67         | 32        | 67         |
| Running errands                          | 27     | 64         | 32        | 67         |
| Care of chickens                         | 26     | 62         | 31        | 64         |
| Running tractor                          | 19     | 45         | 18        | 37         |
| Feeding livestock                        | 10     | 24         | 19        | 49         |
| Milking                                  | 5      | 12         | 11        | 23         |
| Total                                    | 42     | 100        | 48        | 100        |

Effect of brothers fourteen to twenty years of age on tasks done by girls. A comparison of the tasks done by girls with brothers fourteen to twenty years and those without such brothers was made only in the group of 79 girls reporting a labor shortage. (Table 19) Twenty-nine of these girls did and 50 did not have brothers 14 to 20 years of age at home. A larger percentage of girls without than with brothers 14 to 20 years of age at home reported doing milking, errand running, marketing of farm products, farm record keeping, feeding of livestock and field work apart from running the tractor. Approximately the same percentage helped with washing the separator.

TABLE 19 Girls on Farms Where a Labor Shortage was Reported Assisting and Carrying Full Responsibility for Various Farm Tasks, Classified According to Presence of Brothers

| Task                          | No Brothers 14-20 yrs. |             |                       | Brothers 14-20 yrs. |             |                       | Total N | Total % |    |    |    |    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------|---------|----|----|----|----|
|                               | Assisting N            | Assisting % | Full Responsibility N | Assisting N         | Assisting % | Full Responsibility N |         |         |    |    |    |    |
| Gardening                     | 36                     | 72          | 4                     | 8                   | 40          | 80                    | 24      | 83      | 2  | 7  | 26 | 90 |
| Field Work other than tractor | 35                     | 70          | 1                     | 2                   | 36          | 72                    | 20      | 68      | 0  | 0  | 20 | 68 |
| Care of chickens              | 24                     | 48          | 7                     | 14                  | 31          | 62                    | 14      | 48      | 5  | 17 | 19 | 65 |
| Running errands               | 25                     | 50          | 10                    | 20                  | 35          | 70                    | 15      | 52      | 3  | 10 | 18 | 62 |
| Washing separator             | 20                     | 40          | 8                     | 16                  | 28          | 56                    | 4       | 14      | 12 | 41 | 16 | 55 |
| Running tractor               | 20                     | 40          | 1                     | 2                   | 21          | 42                    | 14      | 48      | 0  | 0  | 14 | 48 |
| Feeding livestock             | 17                     | 34          | 1                     | 2                   | 18          | 36                    | 9       | 31      | 0  | 0  | 9  | 31 |
| Milking                       | 10                     | 20          | 1                     | 2                   | 11          | 22                    | 1       | 3       | 0  | 0  | 1  | 3  |
| Marketing farm products       | 6                      | 12          | 2                     | 4                   | 8           | 16                    | 2       | 7       | 1  | 3  | 3  | 10 |
| Keeping records               | 5                      | 10          | 1                     | 2                   | 6           | 12                    | 2       | 7       | 0  | 0  | 2  | 7  |
| Total                         |                        |             |                       |                     |             |                       | 50      |         |    |    |    | 29 |

More girls with brothers at home 14 to 20 years of age than those without did gardening, ran the tractor, and took care of chickens. Except for milking, the differences in help given were slight. In the case of milking, 22 per cent of the girls with no brothers 14 to 20 years old at home milked cows, while only three per cent, or one girl of the group with brothers at home, milked cows. Using the chi-square test this last difference was significant. (Table 19)

Girls follow mother's example. The pattern of work done by girls followed quite closely the work done by mothers. In most families, more mothers than girls did most of the tasks studied. However, more girls than mothers ran the tractor and helped with field tasks apart from operating the tractor.

## 2. By their mothers

The kinds of tasks done by the largest percentage of girls also tended to be the tasks done by the largest percentage of their mothers. The mothers were relatively high in the percentage doing canning of fruits and vegetables, gardening, care of chickens. (Table 20) For these tasks a large percentage had full responsibility. Four times as many mothers as girls kept farm records and three times as many mothers as girls did marketing of farm products.

The task studied with which fewest mothers helped was running the tractor. Only eight out of the 99 did this.

Other tasks with less than 20 per cent of mothers helping with feeding of livestock, field work apart from operating the tractor, and milking.

In all but four kinds of tasks studied more mothers than daughters helped. Twice as many daughters as mothers did feeding of livestock, four times as many helped with field tasks, five times as many operated tractors. More daughters than mothers did errand running. (Table 20)

TABLE 20 Mothers Doing Specified Tasks in 1942<sup>1</sup>

| Task                                      | Assisting | Full Respon-<br>sibility | Total<br>Helping |
|---|-----------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Canning fruits and<br>vegetables          | 5         | 92                       | 97               |
| Gardening                                 | 9         | 81                       | 90               |
| Care of chickens                          | 9         | 66                       | 75               |
| Washing separator                         | 4         | 52                       | 56               |
| Keeping farm records                      | 23        | 27                       | 50               |
| Running errands                           | 35        | 7                        | 43               |
| Marketing farm products                   | 18        | 8                        | 36               |
| Canning meat                              | 0         | 32                       | 32               |
| Churning butter                           | 0         | 27                       | 27               |
| Milking                                   | 14        | 3                        | 17               |
| Field tasks apart from<br>running tractor | 14        | 1                        | 15               |
| Feeding livestock                         | 12        | 1                        | 13               |
| Running tractor                           | 8         | 0                        | 8                |

<sup>1</sup> Two mothers were deceased. In one family an aunt did the work ordinarily done by the mother, making a total of 99 "mothers" included in the report.

C. Changes in Tasks Done From 1941 to 1942

1. By girls

Several types of changes took place in tasks done from 1941 to 1942. Entirely new tasks were taken on by some girls. More responsibility was taken on by other girls. (Table 21) In other cases girls did more housework in order that their mothers would have time freed for outside farm tasks.

Additional farm tasks undertaken. Washing the separator was the only task which was not mentioned as being new for at least one girl. Twenty-one girls drove a tractor for the first time in 1942; this was 51 per cent of the total number driving tractors. Twenty girls helped with field tasks apart from operating a tractor for the first time in 1942; this was 30 per cent of the total doing these tasks in 1942. Canning fruits and vegetables was a new activity for only five girls. Milking was a new activity for only four girls, although these constituted 22 per cent of those reporting that they were doing any milking in 1942.

The largest number of girls increased the help given in the canning of fruits and vegetables. This was probably due to several causes, chief among them being the victory garden and canning program. Forty-five girls helped more with the canning of fruits and vegetables, many of them stating that the family canned larger amounts of food than formerly. Thirty-six girls did more errand running, and



34 girls did more gardening. A rather large proportion of girls, 43 per cent of the 60 girls who took care of chickens, assisted more with this task in 1942 than they had in 1941. Eight out of the 12 girls who did milking in 1941 reported that they helped more with the milking in 1942.

TABLE 21 Changes from 1941 to 1942  
in Tasks Done by Girls

| Task                                      | New in<br>1942 | Helped<br>more in<br>1942 | Total new<br>and helped<br>more | Percentage<br>of total<br>girls doing<br>each spec-<br>ified task <sup>1</sup> |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Canning fruits and<br>vegetables          | 5              | 45                        | 50                              | 54   |
| Field tasks apart from<br>running tractor | 20             | 21                        | 41                              | 61   |
| Running errands                           | 3              | 36                        | 39                              | 60   |
| Gardening                                 | 2              | 34                        | 36                              | 43   |
| Running tractor                           | 21             | 11                        | 32                              | 78   |
| Care of chickens                          | 1              | 26                        | 27                              | 45   |
| Washing separator                         | 0              | 15                        | 15                              | 26   |
| Milking                                   | 4              | 8                         | 12                              | 67   |
| Feeding livestock                         | 3              | 8                         | 11                              | 35   |
| Canning meat                              | 2              | 7                         | 9                               | 41   |
| Marketing farm product                    | 1              | 7                         | 8                               | 67   |
| Keeping farm records                      | 3              | 3                         | 6                               | 67   |
| Churning butter                           | 1              | 4                         | 5                               | 25   |

<sup>1</sup> See Table 13 for total number doing task

If the number of girls who did a task for the first time is added to the number who assisted more, the greatest increase in number of girls helping with a particular task was in the canning of fruits and vegetables. The second

highest increase was in the field tasks apart from operating the tractor.

If the increase in help is based on the percentage of change rather than the number of girls changing, the greatest increase in help for a single task studied was in running the tractor. The number of girls operating a tractor changed from 20 in 1941 to 41 in 1942, a 105 per cent increase. Thirty-two girls either operated a tractor for the first time in 1942 or did it more than in 1941. This was 78 per cent of the total 41 girls stating that they ran a tractor in 1942. Other tasks showing a high proportion of increase in help were milking, marketing of farm products, and keeping farm records. The numbers of girls helping with these tasks in both years was small, however. (Table 21)

## 2. By their mothers

Very few mothers took on new farm or closely related to farm tasks in 1942. (Table 22) Neither did the mothers change from assisting with a task to full responsibility for it--according to the statements of their daughters. The author did not try to measure the change in amount of any one task done, or the number of hours spent doing it. Without a doubt many farm women had larger flocks of chickens, had larger gardens, and did more canning in 1942 than in 1941. However, a few women took on new tasks. In 1941 in

contrast with 1942, six more women helped with field work other than operating the tractor, five more women fed livestock, and five more ran the tractor. In five of the eight families where the mother ran the tractor, the girl also ran the tractor. In twelve of the fifteen families where the mother helped with field tasks apart from running the tractor, the girl also helped. (Table 22)

TABLE 22 Number of 99 Mothers Doing Specified Tasks in 1941 and 1942

| Task                                     | Assisted with task | <u>1941</u><br>Responsible for task | Total Doing Task | Assisted with task | <u>1942</u><br>Responsible for task | Total Doing Task |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Canning fruits and vegetables            | 2                  | 93                                  | 95               | 5                  | 92                                  | 97               |
| Gardening                                | 12                 | 82                                  | 94               | 9                  | 81                                  | 90               |
| Care of chickens                         | 9                  | 70                                  | 79               | 9                  | 66                                  | 75               |
| Washing separator                        | 2                  | 65                                  | 67               | 4                  | 52                                  | 56               |
| Keeping farm records                     | 23                 | 26                                  | 49               | 23                 | 27                                  | 50               |
| Running errands                          | 35                 | 8                                   | 43               | 35                 | 7                                   | 42               |
| Marketing farm produce                   | 18                 | 8                                   | 26               | 18                 | 8                                   | 26               |
| Canning meat                             | 0                  | 29                                  | 29               | 0                  | 32                                  | 32               |
| Churning butter                          | 0                  | 27                                  | 27               | 0                  | 27                                  | 27               |
| Milking                                  | 15                 | 3                                   | 18               | 14                 | 3                                   | 17               |
| Field tasks apart from operating tractor | 8                  | 1                                   | 9                | 14                 | 1                                   | 15               |
| Feeding livestock                        | 7                  | 1                                   | 8                | 12                 | 1                                   | 13               |
| Running tractor                          | 3                  | 0                                   | 3                | 8                  | 0                                   | 8                |

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D. Changes in Housework Done From 1941 to 1942

With a view to finding whether their participation in household activities had any influence on the girls' sharing in tasks studied, the girls were asked whether they had done more or less housework in the summer of 1942 than in 1941. Sixty-two per cent of all the girls said they did more housework in 1942, while 38 per cent said they did the same or less.

The existence of a labor shortage seemed as if it might be a factor cutting into housework. Two-thirds of the girls who reported a labor shortage on their home farm did more housework and one-third did the same or less. The same proportions were found in the group of girls reporting no labor shortage.

It seemed probable that the performance of certain tasks by the girls interviewed would have a special influence on the amount of housework done by them. Girls were classified in the following five groups:

| Group   | <u>No. in</u><br><u>Group</u> |
|---|-------------------------------|
| I Girls who both ran the tractor and did other field work   | 39                            |
| II Girls who ran the tractor or did other field work or did both  | 69                            |
| III Girls who did one or more of the five tasks of running the tractor, other field work, feeding of livestock, milking, or taking care of chickens | 84                            |

| (group)   | (number) |
|---|----------|
| IV Girls who did one or more of six tasks which included gardening in addition to the five tasks in Group III | 93       |
| V Girls who did no field tasks including running the tractor  | 31       |

Group I, which included those girls who both ran the tractor and did other field tasks, had a larger percentage of girls doing the same amount or less housework in 1942 than any of the other groups. The tasks in Group I took a relatively high proportion of hours in any one day, according to the report of those girls doing them, and would therefore be expected to take time away from household tasks. Group V, which included those girls doing no running of the tractor or field tasks, had a lower percentage of girls doing the same or less housework than any of the five groups, and conversely, had the largest percentage of girls doing more housework in 1942. (Table 23)

For the group of girls studied, the performance of field tasks, including running the tractor, definitely tended to reduce the amount of housework done. Girls who performed these tasks did less housework; those that did not perform them did more housework. The difference, however, is not significant.

The girls interviewed were asked to give reasons why they helped either more or less with housework in 1942 than in 1941. Sixty-two girls stated they had done more housework and 29

TABLE 23 Girls Reporting a Specified Relationship of Housework in 1942 in Contrast with 1941, Classified According to Tasks Performed

| Type of Tasks Performed      | Girls Who Reported Doing |                      |                               |                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
|                              | More Housework Number    | Housework Percentage | Less or Same Housework Number | Housework Percentage |
| Group I                      | 18                       | 46.0                 | 21                            | 54.0                 |
| Group II                     | 39                       | 56.5                 | 30                            | 43.5                 |
| Group III                    | 48                       | 57.1                 | 36                            | 42.9                 |
| Group IV                     | 55                       | 59.1                 | 38                            | 40.9                 |
| Group V                      | 23                       | 74.2                 | 8                             | 25.8                 |
| All girls reporting in study | 62                       | 62.0                 | 38                            | 38.0                 |

TABLE 24 Girls Reporting Specified Reasons For Doing More Housework in 1942

| Reason   | Number | Percentage of those Doing More Housework |
|--|--------|--|
| Relieve mother for outside work                    | 26     | 41                                       |
| More work to do                                    | 15     | 24                                       |
| Mother not well                                    | 10     | 16                                       |
| Girl older   | 9      | 14                                       |
| More interest                                      | 8      | 13                                       |
| No hired girl                                      | 6      | 9  |
| Sister not home                                    | 4      | 6  |
| Relieve mother for other duties                    | 2      | 3  |
| Mother deceased                                    | 1      | 1  |
| Total number of girls doing more housework         | 62     | 100                                      |
| Total number of reasons given                      | 81     |  |
| Average number of reasons given per girl reporting | 1.3    |  |

stated they had done less.

The reason most often given for doing more housework was to relieve the mother for outside work, usually gardening. (Table 24) Twenty-six girls mentioned doing more housework in order to relieve their mothers for outside work. Fifteen girls said they helped more because there was more to do, canning primarily.

The reason most often given for doing less housework was work on the farm outside of the house. (Table 25) Twenty-one girls stated they helped less with housework in order to help more with farm tasks. Seven girls helped less with housework because they had full-time jobs, five in store or office work, two at other farms. These same girls, however, helped with many other tasks such as gardening, care of chickens, field work apart from operating the tractor. One girl stated that both she and her mother had less to do in 1942 because they had a better hired girl.

TABLE 25 Reasons Reported for Doing Less Housework in 1942 by the 29 Girls Who Did Less Housework

| Reason                     | Number | Percentage |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|
| Work on farm outside house | 21     | 72         |
| Job                        | 7      | 24         |
| Good hired girl            | 1      | 3          |
| Total                      | 29     | 100        |

A group of 11 girls stated they had always helped with housework and had continued to do so in 1942.



E. Attitudes of Girls Toward Farm Tasks  
and Payment for their Work

1. Like and dislike for farm tasks

Most of the girls interviewed stated that they liked farm work in general. Seventy-two girls replied "yes" to the question, "Do you enjoy farm work?" Twenty-five girls replied "no" and three girls said they were indifferent. Many of those girls who said they disliked farm work generally, liked some specific task; gardening, for example, was mentioned by several girls.

The attitude toward farm work in general seemed to affect the tasks done by the girls. Among the girls expressing dislike for farm work in general, more girls reported weeding and caring for the garden than doing any other task carried on outside the house. Ten girls, 40 per cent, disliking farm work generally, helped with care of chickens. The same number (10) helped with field work other than running the tractor, while only five girls, or 20 per cent, ran the tractor, and none milked cows or fed livestock. (Table 26)

Of the 72 girls who stated they liked farm work generally, 88 per cent did gardening, 75 per cent helped with field work, 67 per cent cared for chickens, and 48 per cent ran the tractor. Among those who liked farm work generally the percentage of girls helping with specific

tasks is greater for every task than the percentage of girls helping who disliked farm work. (Table 26)

TABLE 26 Girls Performing Specified Tasks, Classified According to Their Attitude Towards Farm Work in General

| Task                                       | <u>Like</u>     |                     | <u>Dislike</u>  |                     |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|  | Number of Girls | Percentage of Girls | Number of Girls | Percentage of Girls |
| Gardening                                  | 64              | 88                  | 17              | 68                  |
| Field Work Apart from<br>Operating Tractor | 54              | 75                  | 10              | 40                  |
| Care of chickens                           | 48              | 67                  | 10              | 40                  |
| Running tractor                            | 35              | 48                  | 5               | 10                  |
| Feeding livestock                          | 31              | 43                  | 0               | 0                   |
| Milking                                    | 18              | 25                  | 0               | 0                   |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>72</b>       | <b>100</b>          | <b>25</b>       | <b>100</b>          |

The difference in percentage of those helping with specified tasks between those who expressed a like and those who expressed a dislike for farm work in general was significant for running the tractor, and highly significant for the feeding of livestock.

Dislike expressed for farm work in general undoubtedly related to some tasks more than others. Some indications of the difference can be seen by noting the percentage of

the girls doing a given task who expressed a like or a dislike for farm tasks in general. (Table 27)

TABLE 27 Girls Helping with Tasks Who Liked or Disliked Farm Work in General

| Task                                    | Total Number Doing Task <sup>1</sup> | Percentage |           |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
|   |                                      | Liking     | Disliking |
| Milking                                 | 18                                   | 100        | 0         |
| Feeding livestock                       | 31                                   | 100        | 0         |
| Running tractor                         | 41                                   | 85         | 11        |
| Field work apart from operating tractor | 67                                   | 81         | 15        |
| Care of chickens                        | 60                                   | 80         | 17        |
| Gardening                               | 84                                   | 76         | 20        |

<sup>1</sup> These figures are slightly different from those in Table 26 because they include the three girls who were indifferent to farm work in general.

No one who disliked farm work in general or felt indifferent about it either milked cows or fed livestock. Only 11 per cent of the girls who ran the tractor disliked farm work. Fifteen per cent of the total number helping with field work disliked farm work, and 17 per cent of the girls taking care of chickens. Twenty per cent of those girls doing gardening expressed a dislike for farm work in general.

2. Specific tasks liked and disliked

Each girl interviewed was asked to state which farm tasks she liked best and which ones she liked least. Some said they liked everything, others said they liked nothing, but most of the girls listed a few specific tasks which they either enjoyed or disliked particularly. (Table 28) More girls stated they liked to drive the tractor than any other one activity. Next in order of number of girls liking was gardening, followed by care of chickens. Gardening was mentioned as an activity least enjoyed by 26 girls; milking was least enjoyed by 25 girls.

TABLE 28 Girls Stating That Certain Tasks Were Liked Best and Least

| Task              | Number of Girls Liking Specified Task |                    |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                   | Best <sup>1</sup>                     | Least <sup>2</sup> |
| Running tractor   | 40                                    | 4                  |
| Gardening         | 34                                    | 26                 |
| Care of chickens  | 22                                    | 15                 |
| Feeding livestock | 15                                    | 7                  |
| Haying            | 15                                    | 7                  |
| Milking           | 6                                     | 25                 |
| Combining         | 6                                     | 0                  |
| Plowing           | 6                                     | 0                  |
| Shocking oats     | 2                                     | 7                  |

<sup>1</sup> 88 girls reported the tasks which they liked best

<sup>2</sup> 69 girls reported the tasks which they liked least

Three activities, running the tractor, care of chickens, and gardening, were analyzed to find what attitude toward them had been expressed in response to the question, "Which tasks do you like best and least?" Of the 41 girls who ran the tractor in 1942, 27 girls enjoyed doing it. One girl disliked the task, and 13 girls did not list it as a task they liked best or least. The greatest proportion of those girls running a tractor enjoyed doing it. (Table 29)

TABLE 29 Girls Reporting a Specific Attitude  
Toward Running Tractor

|          | Like Best | Like Least | No Mention | Total Girls<br>Doing Task |
|----------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Number   | 27        | 1          | 13         | 41                        |
| Per cent | 66        | 1          | 32         | 100                       |

Of the 60 girls taking care of chickens, 17 stated it was a task they liked best. Five girls stated it was a task liked least, and 38 did not mention it at all. This seems to show that the girls had no particular feeling of like or dislike toward taking care of chickens. (Table 30) If they had been asked specifically whether or not they liked taking care of chickens, an entirely different response might have been received, however.

TABLE 30 Girls Reporting a Specific Attitude  
Toward Taking Care of Chickens

|            | Like Best | Like Least | No Mention | Total Girls<br>Doing Task |
|------------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Number     | 17        | 5          | 38         | 60                        |
| Percentage | 28        | 8          | 64         | 100                       |

Of the 84 girls doing gardening, 26 stated it was a task which they liked best. Seventeen girls stated it was a task which they liked least, and 41 girls did not mention it at all. (Table 31) A smaller percentage of girls were indifferent to this task than to taking care of chickens; a larger percentage of girls both liked and disliked gardening than liked and disliked care of chickens. Half the girls who did gardening were indifferent toward it. Again it must be remembered that the girls were not asked whether they liked gardening, running the tractor, or care of chickens, but what farm tasks they liked best and least.

TABLE 31 Girls Reporting a Specific Attitude Toward Gardening

|            | Like Best | Like Least | No Mention | Total Girls<br>Doing Task |
|------------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Number     | 26        | 17         | 41         | 84                        |
| Percentage | 31        | 20         | 49         | 100                       |

### 3. Reasons for helping with farm work

Other attitudes of the girls interviewed are shown by the reasons they gave for assisting or not assisting with farm work. All reasons were entirely original with the girls; that is, the author made no suggestions during the interview. (Table 32) Forty-nine girls said they shared in the tasks because of the lack of help. Two of these girls had previously reported that they had no labor shortage on their home farm. No other reason for helping was mentioned by more than nine girls. Nine girls said they helped because they were older and were able to do more. Thirty-seven girls reported no reason for helping. Five of these 37 girls did no outside farm tasks.

Some of the reasons given by the girls for helping with farm tasks explain why they helped this year more than last. Examples are the following reasons: girl older, increased production, larger garden. Other reasons explain why they helped with farm tasks at any time. The specific question was, "What were your reasons for doing more farm work last summer?"

Factors interfering with girls giving more help with farm tasks. When the girls were asked what interfered or prevented them from helping more with farm tasks, various factors were enumerated. Thirty-eight girls said housework interfered with their helping more with farm work.

(Table 33) Jobs prevented 14 girls from helping more than

TABLE 32 Girls Reporting Specified Reasons  
for Helping with Farm Tasks

| Reason  | Number | Percentage |
|---|--------|------------|
| No help   | 49     | 77.7       |
| Older   | 9      | 14.3       |
| Increased production on farm                    | 6      | 9.5        |
| Larger garden                                   | 4      | 6.5        |
| Like to help                                    | 4      | 6.5        |
| Save family money                               | 3      | 4.7        |
| Brothers gone                                   | 3      | 4.7        |
| Earn money                                      | 2      | 3.2        |
| Inefficient hired help                          | 2      | 3.2        |
| Home more                                       | 1      | 1.5        |
| Father not well                                 | 1      | 1.5        |
| More interested                                 | 1      | 1.5        |
| Total number of girls reporting                 | 63     | 100.0      |
| Total number of reasons                         | 85     |            |
| Average number of reasons per<br>girl reporting | 1.35   |            |

TABLE 33 Girls Reporting Specific Factors that Interfered  
With Their Helping More with Farm Tasks

| Factor                                       | Number |
|--|--------|
| Housework                                    | 38     |
| Job  | 14     |
| Health                                       | 8      |
| Father's objections                          | 7      |
| Away part-time                               | 7      |
| Dislike of farm work                         | 5      |
| 4-H activities                               | 3      |
| Care of sick mother                          | 3      |
| Getting ready for college                    | 1      |
| Number of girls reporting                    | 70     |
| Total number of factors given                | 86     |
| Average number of factors per girl reporting | 1.23   |



they did. Only seven girls reported that their fathers objected to having them do farm work. Fourteen girls made no reply to this question.

Reasons reported for other girls helping more or less with farm work. The girls interviewed were also asked to give reasons which they felt determined the share of other girls in the neighborhood either helping or not helping with farm work. The investigator felt that important factors might in this way be revealed that the girls would not admit in explaining their own behavior. Eighty girls reported factors they felt determined why other girls helped with farm work, 84 reported factors they felt prevented other girls from helping with farm work. (Table 34)

The largest number of girls said others shared in farm work because of lack of hired help. This agrees with what they said of themselves. Twenty-five girls said others helped because they liked it, while only three girls said they did farm work themselves because they liked it. Ten girls said that other girls' families expected them to work at farm tasks.

When one combines the various reasons in Table 32 to match those given in Table 34, the order of importance of reasons is the same.

Twelve different reasons were given as to why other girls did not help more with farm work. (Table 35) No

TABLE 34 Girls Reporting Specific Reasons to Explain Why Other Girls Help With Farm Tasks

| Reason                                 | Number of Girls Interviewed Giving Specified Reason |
|--|---|
| No help                                | 57  |
| Like farm work                         | 25  |
| Family expects it                      | 10  |
| Be patriotic                           | 6   |
| Earn money                             | 3   |
| 4-H projects                           | 1   |
| Total number of girls giving reasons   | 80  |
| Total number of reasons                | 102   |
| Average reason per girl giving reasons | 1.21  |

TABLE 35 Girls Reporting Specific Reasons to Explain Why Other Girls Do Not Help More With Farm Tasks

| Reason                                       | Number of Girls Interviewed Giving Specified Reason |
|--|---|
| Dislike farm tasks                           | 30  |
| Have brothers home                           | 23  |
| Have hired help                              | 17  |
| Have jobs                                    | 17  |
| Too hard work                                | 11  |
| Parents' objections                          | 11  |
| Health                                       | 10  |
| Lazy   | 9   |
| Housework                                    | 9   |
| Do not know how                              | 6   |
| Have "not girl's place" attitude             | 3   |
| Lack of interest                             | 1   |
| Total number of girls giving reasons         | 84  |
| Total number of reasons                      | 147   |
| Average number of reasons per girl reporting | 1.75  |

one reason was given by as many as one-half the girls reporting. The girls did, however, think that dislike of farm tasks was the most important reason. (Table 35)

Although Table 33 and Table 35 are not based on identical questions, it is interesting to compare the results. Housework, which ranked at the top of factors interfering with more farm work by the girls reporting, comes near the bottom of the list as a factor thought to be interfering with other farm girls helping with farm tasks.

Several reasons thought to be socially unacceptable by the girls interviewed were listed: farm work too hard work, girls are lazy, girls do not know how, farm work not a girl's job, girls lack interest. Thirty girls listed dislike of farm work as a factor affecting the amount of farm work done by other girls, whereas only five girls admitted that they themselves did not help more because of dislike of farm work. Nine girls thought other girls who did not help were lazy, but no girl admitted she herself was lazy if she did not help. Most of the girls interviewed thought that other girls would help more with farm work if it were really necessary.

#### 4. Attitudes towards pay for farm work.

All the girls were asked if they were paid for extra farm work and whether they thought they should be paid for

this work. Slightly less than one-fifth of the 98 girls who reported doing one or more of the tasks studied were paid for helping with them. (Table 36) Where payment was made it was for helping with specific tasks such as running the tractor, haying, or detasseling corn, rather than just for help in general. Many of the 82 girls who were not paid for helping stated that they considered the privilege of being sent to college their pay for helping out the family during the summer.

TABLE 36 Girls Receiving Pay for Tasks

| Task             | Number Doing Task | Number Paid     | Percentage |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Field work       | 67                | 8               | 12         |
| Running tractor  | 41                | 5               | 12         |
| Care of chickens | 60                | 1               | 2          |
| Milking          | 18                | 1               | 6          |
| Total            |                   | 15 <sup>1</sup> |            |

<sup>1</sup> Two girls were paid for measuring a field. One girl gave no information on what she was paid for.

The majority of the 18 girls receiving pay believed members of the family should be paid for doing extra farm tasks. Fourteen believed they should be paid; four believed they should not be paid. Forty-five per cent of the 82

girls not paid felt they should have been paid. The remaining 55 per cent were satisfied with no pay.

In the total group of 100 girls interviewed, attitude towards pay for farm tasks was quite equally divided, with 51 pros and 49 cons. The largest proportion of those in favor of pay wished it in the form of a daily wage. Twenty-five per cent favored a percentage of the proceeds, and 21 per cent a bonus at the end of the summer. (Table 37)

TABLE 37 Form of Payment Desired by 51 Girls Who Expressed a Desire for Pay

| Form           | Number | Percentage |
|----------------|--------|------------|
| Daily wage     | 18     | 35.3       |
| Percentage     | 13     | 25.5       |
| Bonus          | 11     | 21.5       |
| Other          | 5      | 9.8        |
| Monthly salary | 4      | 7.8        |
| Total girls    | 51     | 100.0      |

Five of the girls who were paid received a day or hourly wage. This varied from 40 cents an hour for de-tasseling corn to \$1.65 a day for picking corn. Five girls received a bonus. For two girls this was \$100 and \$500 in war bonds. These were the only girls receiving bonds as pay. One girl who took care of chickens received

50 per cent of the money from the sale of the chickens.

TABLE 38 Form of Pay Desired and Received  
by 18 Girls Receiving Pay

| Form                        | Received        | Desired         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Day wage                    | 6               | 4               |
| Percentage of sale receipts | 3               | 4               |
| Bonus                       | 5               | 3               |
| Salary                      | 0               | 2               |
| Other                       | 3               | 1               |
| Total girls receiving pay   | 17 <sup>1</sup> | 14 <sup>2</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> No information given on pay received by one girl

<sup>2</sup> Four girls receiving pay were not in favor of pay

The investigator feels that the girls interviewed were not very much interested in cash pay for farm work on their home farms. Even those who thought pay would be a good thing were not sure what form it should take. Rewards more in the nature of sharing seemed to interest the girls. Some of these rewards were being able to go to college, take trips, or have attractive clothes. The feeling of wanting to do something for their families in order to repay partially what the family had done for them was prevalent. This attitude was expressed many times during the course of the interviews.

#### F. Effect on Free Time of Tasks Performed

Each girl interviewed was asked this question, "If you helped out more in the house or on the farm, what leisure time activities did you omit or cut down?" Sixty-six girls felt they had less free time and gave 12 different types of activities which they did less in 1942 because of working more. Many of the girls were indefinite about the types of activity they had done less often, and had to be questioned further. Reading was the activity most often reduced because of less free time. Visiting friends was the activity mentioned by the second highest number of girls. A reduction in time spent on sewing was reported by 18 girls, and in time spent at various kinds of sports by 12 girls. Nine girls said they slept less, getting up earlier in the morning. None of the girls seemed to mind having less free time. Only one girl regretted somewhat that she had no time for music lessons last summer. (Table 39)

#### G. Plans for 1943

In view of the changes that have taken place since the summer of 1942, the investigator questioned each girl concerning her plans for the summer of 1943. Sixty-five per cent of the girls expected to go home to help with the farm work. Many of these girls said they would like to

TABLE 39 Girls Reporting a Cut in Specified Activities  
in 1942 Because of More Farm Work

| Activity   | Number | Percentage |
|--|--------|------------|
| Reading  | 32     | 48.5       |
| Visiting friends                                   | 23     | 34.8       |
| Sewing   | 18     | 27.5       |
| Sports   | 12     | 18.2       |
| Sleeping   | 9      | 13.6       |
| Playing piano                                      | 8      | 12.1       |
| Music lessons                                      | 7      | 10.6       |
| Listening to radio                                 | 2      | 3.0        |
| Going to town                                      | 2      | 3.0        |
| Movies   | 1      | 1.5        |
| Writing letters                                    | 1      | 1.5        |
| Dancing  | 1      | 1.5        |
| Total number of girls reporting                    | 66     | 100.0      |
| Total number of activities                         | 116    |            |
| Average number of activities<br>per girl reporting | 1.76   |            |



continue in college for the summer quarter, but expressed the feeling that it was their duty to help out on the farm. Thirty-five per cent of the girls said they would not be on the farm. Of these girls, eight planned to go to summer school, ten had jobs lined up, and one no longer lived on a farm. The remaining 16 girls were not sure whether they would take a job or go to summer school. (Table 40)

TABLE 40 Plans of 35 Girls not Expecting to Be on Farm in 1943

| Plans         | Number | Percentage |
|---------------|--------|------------|
| Job           | 10     | 28.6       |
| Summer school | 8      | 22.8       |
| Moved to town | 1      | 2.8        |
| In doubt      | 16     | 45.7       |
| Total         | 35     | 100.0      |

Eleven out of the 65 girls planning to be on the farm stated that they disliked farm work. Fifty-two out of the 65 girls, or 80 per cent, however, had stated that they enjoyed farm work. This was slightly higher than the 72 per cent who enjoyed farm work out of the total group of 100 girls studied.

Most of the 65 girls planning to be on the farm the summer of 1943 expected to do more work than they had done

the previous summer. (Table 41) Slightly more than one-fourth said they would do approximately the same amount of work they had done in 1942, since conditions on their home farms had not changed. No girl stated that she would do less work.

TABLE 41 Girls Giving Specified Reasons for Doing More Farm Work in 1943

| Reason                        | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Less help available           | 32     | 68         |
| Increased production          | 11     | 23         |
| Older and better able to work | 6      | 13         |
| Brother gone                  | 6      | 13         |
| Better health                 | 2      | 4          |
| Incompetent help              | 2      | 4          |
| Sister gone                   | 1      | 2          |
| Know more                     | 1      | 2          |
| Less machinery                | 1      | 2          |
| Total girls reporting         | 47     | 100        |

The forty-seven girls expecting to do more work most frequently gave less hired help available as the reason. Increased production was given as a reason second most frequently.

Girls who stated they would be on the farm in 1943 were asked to list the tasks they expected to do. The lists given were not very complete and were probably influenced by what the girl would like to do. Some of them did not know exactly what they would do, but would help out wherever they were needed most. (Table 42) Ninety-two per cent of the girls expected to help with canning and 89 per cent expected to help with gardening. Forty-one girls, or 63 per cent, stated they would take care of chickens. Many of these girls said they would have full responsibility for a large proportion of the chickens raised, while in 1942 they only helped. Half of the girls expecting to be on the farm said they would run the tractor and help with field work apart from operating the tractor. The percentage of girls who planned to help with care of chickens, gardening, and canning was approximately the same as the percentage that did these tasks in 1942. A slightly higher percentage of girls planned to run the tractor than did this task in 1942.

Of the 34 girls planning to run the tractor, 27 had done this task in 1942. The other seven would take it on as a new task. In checking on the 14 other girls who had run the tractor in 1942, the author found that only four of them expected to be on the farm. The other ten planned to be in summer school or at jobs.

TABLE 42 Girls Reporting Specified Tasks Done in 1942 and Plans for 1943

| Task                           | <u>1942</u> | <u>1943</u> |            |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
|                                | Number      | Number      | Percentage |
| Canning                        | 93          | 60          | 93         |
| Gardening                      | 84          | 58          | 89         |
| Care of chickens               | 60          | 41          | 63         |
| Field work (includes haying)   | 67          | 34          | 52         |
| Haying (specifically)          | 45          | 14          | 21         |
| Running tractor                | 41          | 34          | 52         |
| Running errands                | 64          | 22          | 34         |
| Care of livestock              | 31          | 12          | 18         |
| Total number of girls on farms | 100         | 65          | 100        |

A smaller percentage stated they would help with the care of livestock in 1943 than did this task in 1942, also with field tasks apart from operating the tractor, and running errands. The author suspects that many of the girls will help with these two latter tasks who did not mention it. All of the girls said they would help with housework.

## V. SUMMARY

The purpose of this study was to discover, for a group of Iowa State College freshmen from farms, the number doing certain tasks in 1942, to find what changes had taken place from 1941 to 1942 in their participation in certain tasks and some of the factors affecting their participation.

One hundred freshmen farm women at Iowa State College whose homes were in Iowa or surrounding states were interviewed for this study. The majority of them were 18 years old and all but four reported that they were in good health. Most of them were 4-H club members and had had home economics training in high school. One-fifth of the freshmen women studied had full-time jobs but lived at home during the summer of 1942. The jobs varied from work on another farm to store or office work in a nearby town.

Seventy-nine per cent of the freshmen women interviewed reported that there had been a labor shortage on their home farm in 1942, seasonal help being the type of help most often lacking. Forty-eight per cent of the farms raised mostly livestock, 42 per cent raised mostly grain. The size of the farms varied considerably, but the average size was 290 acres. The families had from two to

twelve members at home, with an average of five members in the family living at home.

Information was obtained as to the kind of help girls gave for 13 types of tasks, some of them distinctly farm tasks, others closely related to the household but especially important on farms. Over 50 per cent of the girls interviewed helped with canning of fruits and vegetables, gardening, field work apart from running the tractor, running errands, care of chickens, and washing the separator. Forty-one per cent ran the tractor. The task for which they most often had full responsibility was washing the separator. For most tasks a very small percentage of girls had full responsibility.

Ninety-three per cent of the girls interviewed helped with canning of fruits and vegetables, and 84 per cent helped with gardening. Only two of the girls interviewed did none of the tasks studied.

Haying was the field task, apart from operating the tractor, done by the largest number of girls during peak seasons. The average number of hours worked per day at field tasks during peak seasons was eight.

Forty-one girls drove the tractor in 1942. The average for the 41 girls of the greatest number of hours in any one day spent at this task was approximately eight.

More girls who reported a labor shortage on their home

farm performed the various tasks studied than did those girls who reported no shortage. Especially was this true in running the tractor and performing other field tasks. The differences, however, were not significant.

There was very little difference in the percentage performing the tasks studied between those girls living on grain farms and those living on livestock farms.

The girls who reported a labor shortage on their home farm were divided into two groups, those having no brothers 14 to 20 years of age at home and those having such brothers at home. In the former group a larger proportion of girls did milking. The difference was significant. More of them did errand running, marketing of farm products, keeping of farm records, and feeding of livestock. Differences between the two groups of these tasks were not significant.

Mothers of the girls carried responsibility for tasks to a high degree, especially in canning, gardening, churning butter, washing the separator, and care of chickens. Very few mothers did milking, running the tractor, or other field tasks. Many more mothers than girls did marketing of farm products and keeping of farm records. More girls than mothers did feeding of livestock, field tasks apart from running the tractor, and errand running.

The tasks for which there was the greatest increase in number of girls helping in 1942 over 1941 were running the



tractor and other field work. The number of girls running the tractor more than doubled from 1941 to 1942. In contrast with the girls, very few mothers took on new tasks in 1942 over 1941.

Sixty-two girls said they did more housework in the summer of 1942 than they had done in 1941. Thirty-eight said they did the same or less housework. Among the girls who ran the tractor and performed other field tasks, a relatively large percentage said they did the same or less housework. These two kinds of tasks seemed to have more influence on the change in housework done than any other tasks.

The reason most often given for doing more housework was to relieve the mother for tasks outside the house such as gardening. Outside work was the reason most often given by the girls interviewed for doing the same or less housework in 1942.

Seventy-two per cent of the girls interviewed stated they liked farm work in general. A larger percentage of girls who liked farm work generally performed the tasks studied than did those girls who disliked farm work in general. The difference was significant for the feeding of livestock, and highly significant for milking cows.

Running the tractor was the specific task liked by more girls than any other one task studied. The majority

of the girls who ran the tractor liked to do it, while the majority of the girls taking care of chickens or doing gardening did not mention them as tasks liked either best or least.

The reason most often given by the girls interviewed for sharing in farm tasks was lack of help. The reason most often given for not doing more outdoor farm tasks was housework. When girls suggested reasons why other girls did not do more farm work, however, they placed dislike of farm tasks first. They stated other girls did farm work because of lack of help.

Very few of the girls interviewed were paid for doing extra farm tasks, only 18 out of 100. These 18 girls were paid for doing specific tasks such as care of chickens and running the tractor, rather than for help in general.

Fifty-one of the girls interviewed thought they should be paid for doing extra farm tasks, and 49 thought they should not be paid. None of the girls were very decided in their opinion, one way or the other. Most of them felt the privilege of going to college should be their pay for helping.

Sixty-six of the girls interviewed stated that they had less leisure time during the summer of 1942 because they helped out in the house or on the farm more than they had done previously. The two activities which more girls

cut down than any others were reading and visiting friends. None of them seemed to object to having less free time.

Only 65 of the 100 girls interviewed expected to be on their home farms in the summer of 1943; eight expected to be in summer school; ten had jobs; one no longer lived on a farm; and sixteen were not sure whether they would have a job or be in summer school.

Of the 65 girls planning to be on farms, 47 said they expected to do more work. The remaining 17 said they were already helping as much as they could. A somewhat higher percentage of these 65 girls liked farm work in general than did the 100 girls interviewed.

A larger percentage of the 65 girls expected to run the tractor and do gardening. A smaller percentage expected to do errand running, feeding of livestock, and field work. The lists given by the girls were not complete, and therefore, it is quite possible that the girls might perform tasks they did not state specifically that they planned to do.

Many of the girls who planned to be on the farm the summer of 1943 stated that they would like to go to summer school, but felt it their duty to help out at home this summer.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS

The main conclusion of this study is that freshmen women living on farms helped a great deal on their home farms in 1942. Most of them did either more housework or more farm work or more of both than they had done in 1941.

Other conclusions are as follows:

1. Girls are more likely to assist than to carry full responsibility for the tasks studied.
2. For the group studied, a larger percentage of girls on farms reporting a labor shortage performed the tasks studied than did those on farms having no shortage. Since the differences were not significant, a larger sample would be necessary to determine the extent to which this is true of Iowa girls in similar situations.
3. Even on farms where there is a labor shortage, there is some evidence that the presence of a brother at home, 14 to 20 years of age, reduced pressure on girls to share in farm work. Milking was the task most clearly affected.
4. Liking of farm work in general has an effect on the type of task carried on. In this study, the evidence was most conclusive for milking and

feeding livestock. These tasks are relatively important among girls who liked farm work in general.

5. The type of farm had little influence on the number or kind of tasks done by the girls studied.
6. With a few exceptions, the pattern of tasks done by girls follows the pattern of tasks done by their mothers. More girls than mothers ran the tractor, did field tasks apart from operating the tractor, and ran errands.
7. Although the majority of girls interviewed thought pay for farm tasks would be desirable, there was no dissatisfaction with present arrangements. There was much confusion and indecision as to the method and form of payment.
8. Increased farm or household tasks cut most into time girls formerly devoted to reading or visiting friends.
9. Only limited information was secured on girls' real attitudes toward farm tasks. Evidence was provided that some girls interviewed tended to rationalize their reasons for helping or not helping with farm tasks. Reasons which the girls interviewed interpreted as being socially unacceptable were given for other girls not helping

in farm tasks, yet did not appear as reasons giving failure to help more by the girls interviewed.

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VIII. APPENDIX



- 73 -  
QUESTIONNAIRE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Size of Farm \_\_\_\_\_ Major Source of Income \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. in Family \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Age \_\_\_\_\_ Health G F P Mother's Age \_\_\_\_\_ Health G F P  
 Boys' Ages \_\_\_\_\_ Girls' Ages \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other relatives & hired help and ages \_\_\_\_\_

Was there a labor shortage on your farm in 1942 compared to 1941? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, what were the reasons?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| _____ family members drafted           | _____ new hired man elderly                                     |
| _____ family members working elsewhere | _____ no full-time hired man available<br>(at what wage? _____) |
| _____ illness in family                | _____ no seasonal help available                                |
| _____ hired man left                   | _____ expanded production. In what line?                        |
| _____ new hired man incompetent        |   |

If any members of your family left to work in town, where did they go?

Did you live at home last summer but work off the farm? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
 If yes, was your job \_\_\_\_\_ work on another farm \_\_\_\_\_ store or office work  
 \_\_\_\_\_ housework in town

Did you take home economics in high school? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ No. of years \_\_\_\_\_

Have you belonged to 4H? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Projects in '41 & '42 \_\_\_\_\_

| Mother usu- ally does | Mother did in 1942 | Girl did in 1942 | New duty in 1942 | Helped more than in '41 |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 1. Cared for chickens.   |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 2. Milked cows.  |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 3. Took care of dairy equipment, washed separator, etc.  |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 4. Fed livestock.  |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 5. Ran tractor   |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 6. Other outdoor activities such as shocking grain, husking corn, running combine, tasseling, haying |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 7. Kept farm records.  |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 8. Marketed farm products.   |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 9. Ran errands to town.  |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 10. Weeded and took general care of family garden.   |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 11. Canned fruit and vegetables.   |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 12. Canned meat.   |
| a c                   | a c                | a c              |                  |                         | 13. Churned butter.  |

What is the largest number of cows milked on your farm at any one time last summer? \_\_\_\_\_ How many did you yourself milk regularly? \_\_\_\_\_

What was longest no. of hours in any one day you spent driving tractor? \_\_\_\_\_

During what farm activity did you work longest hours per day at farm work? \_\_\_\_\_

How many hours did you put in per day? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you enjoy farm work? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Which tasks do you like best? \_\_\_\_\_

Which tasks do you like least? \_\_\_\_\_

What were your reasons for doing more farm work last summer? \_\_\_\_\_

What things interfered with your helping more on the farm? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the reasons other girls you know don't do more farm work? \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons they do more farm work? \_\_\_\_\_

Were you paid for extra farm work? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ What jobs? \_\_\_\_\_

What amount? \_\_\_\_\_ How much in war bonds? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think parents should pay family members for extra work? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Which of these would you suggest?

\_\_\_\_\_ day wage \_\_\_\_\_ percentage of sale receipts \_\_\_\_\_ Other  
\_\_\_\_\_ monthly salary \_\_\_\_\_ bonus

Did you do more housework and child care last summer? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

What was the reason? \_\_\_\_\_

If you helped out more in the house or on the farm, what leisure time activities did you omit or cut down? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you expect to be on the farm during the summer 1943? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If on the farm do you plan to work:

\_\_\_\_\_ More, because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Same, because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Less, because \_\_\_\_\_

What tasks will you do? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Health of girl