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ARMOURDALE

A City Within a City

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ARMOURDALE

A City Within a City

THE REPORT OF A SOCIAL SURVEY OF ARMOURDALE A COMMUNITY OF 12,000  
PEOPLE LIVING IN THE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT OF KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Foreword	5
History of Armourdale	7
Population	IG
The Government	18
Public Utilities	20
Health and Sanitation	28
Housing	33
Food Inspection	36
Methods of Handling Milk	40
Industry and Labor	42
Legal Restrictions and Regulations	49
Recreation	59
Clubs and Societies	70
Education	74
Remedial and Corrective Agencies	81
Religious Activities	86
Conclusions	90

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Myrtle M. Young

Those who did special work in securing data and field work.

(4)

FOREWORD.

This study was made at the suggestion of Mr. Wilson of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. He very kindly offered the use of some valuable data which the Chamber of Commerce had gathered and which was found to be of very great service in preparing this report. Reverend Brown, of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Armourdale, likewise furnished some very valuable data and many of the pictures included in this report. The house to house canvas was made by students in the class in social survey, and the study of specific problems was made by the class in community organizations, in the spring of 1919. Members of the class during the summer session, helped in

compiling the data secured. Officials and persons in charge of various lines of work which effect the activities of the people in Armourdale were very kind and helped and have made this study possible.

Manuel C. Elmer.

(5)

SHAWNEE PARK.

HISTORY OF ARMOURDALE, KANSAS.

ARMOURDALE is a district of Kansas City, Kan., situated on the north bank of the Kansas river about a mile south of its junction with the Missouri river. Its total population numbers 12,825.

As the town is an integral part of Kansas City, Kan., and as the history of Kansas City, Kan., is intimately associated with the history of Kansas City, Mo., it will be necessary, in the first place, to sketch briefly the history of these great and growing cities of the Middle West.

Kansas City, Mo., was founded in 1800 by several French families who came to the mouth of the Kansas river from the French village of St. Charles. The settlement began to grow and take on new life after 1820 because of the strong tide of emigration from Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina.

Westport was established in 1833 as a trading point in the state from the Indians west of the border. In the early forties the steamboat trade and the Mexican trade over the Santa Fe trail amounted approximately to \$5,000,000 a year. At first Independence and Westport were rivals of Kansas City, but the superiority of the landing soon became recognized and the establishment of a new city in a short time became an assured fact. The depression caused by the war was partially removed by the protection given by the government to Santa Fe

traders, and business boomed at once. As a result of this government protection and new business prosperity, in 1867, the Hannibal and St. Joseph bridge was built at Kansas City, Mo., an enterprise in which she was victorious over her rival, Leavenworth. Wyandotte and Quindaro, having recovered sufficiently from the border strife, began to take on a new growth, and new towns started up in the Kansas river valley. Kansas City, Kan., began to sound its pregnant note of existence about this time. The town was laid in 1857, and in 1868 the Kansas City Town Company was formed and later lots were sold. In October, 1872, the city of Kansas City, Kan., was incorporated and in 1881 the governor of the state proclaimed it a municipality of the second class. In 1875 a movement among the citizens of Kansas was begun for the building

(7)

8 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

of a great city on their side of the river, and delegates came from all over the state to sanction this attempt. It was contended that the reasons for such a center were that the railroads which spread all over Kansas started from Kansas City,

Kan., that the mass of trade would follow these railroads down to the wealth of the Kansas river, and then would be sent on to Chicago or St. Louis, since all eastern railroads have connections at this point, Armourdale was laid out in June, 1880, by the Kaw Valley Town Site and Bridge Company, which was composed of Boston capitalists. The company owned a tract of land not included in the town site, which they sold for manufacturing

purposes. The town was named after Armour, the great Chicago packer. In the spring of 1882 it had a sufficient population to be incorporated, and in 1883 the street railway was extended to connect Kansas City, Mo., Kansas City, Kan.,

Armourdale and Wyandotte, thus making the towns practically one as far as transportation and business interests were concerned. The year 1886 marks the end of Armourdale and Wyandotte as separate municipalities, as it was in this year that both are incorporated into Kansas City, Kan. In 1910 Argentine became a part of the new city, and later Quindaro, Midland Park and Chelsea Park were added.

Kansas City is one of the greatest manufacturing centers of the Middle West. It ranks second only to Chicago in the meat-packing industry. There are all sorts of industries in the city — stockyards, slaughterhouses, meat-packing plants, grain and flour mills, soap factories, barrel and box factories, structural steel, railroad iron, car wheels, scales, foundry products, implements, cement, oil refineries, zinc and chemical companies, baking company, ice, and tent and awning manufactories. In Armourdale alone there are 29 factories: Sinclair Oil Co., Ismert-Hinke Milling Co., Austos Milling Co., Proctor and Gamble Soap Co., Butte Milling Co., Southwestern Milling Co., Badger Lumber Co., Silicia Plant, Rock Island shops, Gun Stock factory, Baska 'Wet Wash Laundry, Clippinger Manufacturing Co., Union Pacific shops. Standard Oil

Co., Morris and Co., Kelley Cooperage Co., Ruddy Packing Co., Uncle Sam Oil refinery, Peet Bros. Soap Co., Griffin Wheel Works, Santa Fe terminal shops, Rock Island elevator, Alpine Ice Co., Wilson Packing Co., Swift and Co., Kansas City Fiber Armourdale — A City Within a City. 9

Box Co., Cudahy Packing Co., Kansas City Soap Co., and N. A. Kennedy Supply Co. Natural resources have also played no small part in the development and progress of Kansas City. There are four types of soil found in the district — clay loam which produces wheat, sandy soil which produces vegetables, loess on which



alfalfa can be raised, and alluvium which yields vegetables and fruits. Limestone is found in the vicinity for making Portland cement and for building purposes. The Quindaro water works pumps from the Missouri river, and in 1909 the city bought the Metropolitan Water Works. The natural drainage is south to the Kaw river by several creeks, the largest of which is Jersey creek. Kansas City has many natural scenic advantages, which include an one hundred acre city park, bluffs and rivers. One very advantageous and commendable feature is that there is no monopoly on these natural resources.

Armourdale, as a portion of this large metropolis, has had a very unchecked career since its corporation with Kansas City, Kan., in 1886, with the exception of the flood of 1903, which damaged all Kansas City to the extent of \$34,000,000, and hindered the growth of Armourdale particularly. After the flood the city spent millions of dollars to widen the river channel and build dikes, \$1,750,000 of which was spent on the Armourdale dikes. This system of dikes, when properly managed and taken care of, affords ample protection to the town in flood times. The general character of the district is residential in spite of the fact that a great deal of land in the beginning was sold for manufacturing purposes and that there are 29 factories in the district. Armourdale is bounded on three sides by the river and on the north by the Rock Island and Union Pacific railroads. The factories and industrial plants follow the river and railroads, and thus form a ring of industrial plants around Armourdale which is distinctly a residential community. Most of the people are dependent in some way upon these industries,, although thousands of workers from other parts of Kansas City work in Armourdale industries. Armourdale is a "city

within a city."

10 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

## POPULATION.

### DISTRIBUTION AND DENSITY OF POPULATION.

Armourdale is a unit within a city, which is in turn a part of a greater city. If it were not for this fact it might itself be a city with its 12,825 people, nearly one-seventh of the population of Kansas City, Kan. But because of its territorial restrictions, it is on the whole much more thickly peopled, as these figures show:

Population . Population

City/. 1915. Jefferson Ave.

Kansas City, Kan 93,122 8 . 31

Armourdale 12,825 13 . 9

However, the greatest area of congestion in Kansas City is not in Armourdale but farther north, where the 27 blocks west of the Missouri river, and within the streets Reynolds, Seventh, and Ann, there lived in 1915, 5,175 people. Still there is one block in Armourdale, the one within Kansas avenue and Twelfth, Scott, and Valley streets, where there were 250 people living at the time of the survey. The areas of congestion lie in the blocks running north and west between Osage and Miami. The few negroes living in Armourdale are grouped north of Kansas avenue and east of Fifth street, and south of Miami and east of St. Paul street. The conditions arising from these facts of congestion will be discussed in a later section.

Statistics were gathered from 1,400 families in regard to their length of residence in Armourdale. The answers given ranged from, "Long enough to get a shoe shine" to "Ever since Armourdale began." Nevertheless, interesting and significant facts may be gained

from their study. Only about one-half of the families reported, but these 1,400 may be considered a fair sample. And the things that are true of them will be true proportionally of the whole.

#### LARGE PART OF POPULATION SHIFTING.

Over fifteen percent have lived in Armourdale less than a year, one-third less than three years, while over one-third have lived there 10 years or more. It is small wonder that this transient population takes little interest in civic improvement. But better living and working conditions would keep these people in Armourdale for a longer residence.

In the table given below the figures are but relatively true after the eighth year, as will be noted. This is due to the Armourdale — A City Within a City. 11

tendency of the people to give their length of residence in round numbers ; that is, in multiples of five. Note how few give 29 years as compared with the number giving 30.

#### TABLE SHOWING LENGTH OF RESIDENCE OF 1,400 FAMILIES IN ARMOURDALE.

Tears No. Years Nn.

residence. families. residence. families.

Total 1,400

Armourdale's population is increasing at a very commonplace rate. From 1910 to 1918 the percentage of growth was

18.6 ; while in Kansas City, Kan., as a whole, it was still less,

13.1. There are no separate figures for Armourdale previous

to 1910. But the growth of Kansas City may be traced back

to 1880, where we note a phenomenal increase during the ensuing ten-year period, exceeded only in the United States by

that of Everett, Wash. Note the table below :

#### TABLE SHOWING POPULATION AND GROWTH OF KANSAS CITY AND ARMOURDALE

Kansas City, Percent Percent

Date. Kan. t/roirth. Aninovrdolr. growth.

1880 3,200

1890 38,316 1,097 .4

1900 51,418 34.2

1910 82,331 60.1 10,812

1918 93,121 13.1 12,825 18

NINETY PERCENT NATIVE AMERICANS.

The population of Armourdale has been increasing, due to the development of industries incident to the Great War and on account of the comparatively low rents. On the other hand is the outstanding fact that more people come from outside  
12

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

this district to work in its factories than it itself furnishes.

This is without doubt due to the congestion. Contrary to common belief, foreign immigration seems to be a small factor in growth. As a matter of fact, 90 percent of the inhabitants are native born ; only wards three and seven in Kansas City have a higher percentage.

Notwithstanding the large number of deaths resulting from the "flu" epidemic and from pneumonia developments, the number of births in 1918 slightly exceeded the number of deaths. (See table 4.)

Because of the development of factories within the borders, Armourdale is peopled almost exclusively by an industrial  
'J'IIK HOPE OF KANSAS. GIVE THEM THE BEST.

class of people. These people are simply sandwiched in between the river on one side and the railroad tracks on the

other. The excess of factories and the resulting high rents

in the southeast part of the district tends to throw the population toward the north and

west. But after all, Armourdale is much the same throughout.

The statistics for births and deaths gathered in the survey proper were incomplete, but for the families reporting show 137 births and 123 deaths for 1918, On account of the shifting population, as shown above, the city depends not upon births primarily but upon the influx of new citizens for its size.

Hence our attention was turned to a more careful consideration of the deaths. The statistics given in tables 4 and 5 were secured from the State Vital Statistics Department at Topeka.

13

It will be noticed that the death rate of Armourdale is slightly greater than that for Kansas City. There are, however, three other facts of greater significance to be obtained from the first table. Note the very excessive death rate from pneumonia. Since influenza was the contributing cause for perhaps one-half of the pneumonia deaths, let us combine the rates. The results are : Kansas City, 822.5 ; Armourdale, 990.2. Here is a difference great enough to give us some concern. Why did more deaths result from these two in Armourdale than in Kansas City proper? The answer is not far to seek. Improper home conditions ; lack of medical care — and the "flu" case too often developed into the deadly pneumonia.

There are many other variations, but the two, diseases of early infancy and the puerperal state, being excessive, may well be studied. Combining them, the respective rates for Kansas City and Armourdale are: 101.9 and 226.1. Or taking data from table 5, the infant mortality (under two years

A MUCH USED ALLEY.

old) for the two cities is 4.2 and 5.9 per one hundred. The causes for these facts may be found in the living conditions and the lack of education among the mothers.

14

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

The fact that the figures for both homicide and suicide, and syphihs favor Armourdale, is highly complimentary to that section of the city. It shows that the people there are certainly not morally degenerate.

TABLE 4.

TABLE SHOWING DEATHS IN KANSAS CITY, KAN., AND ARMOURDALE IN 1918.  
(Ijisted according to the most common diseases.)

Dviease.

Pneumonia

Influenza

Tuberculosis

Diseases of the heart.

-Kansas City, Kan. Rate per

\o. deaths. 100.000.

Armourdale — A City Withm a City. 15

Especially noticeable is the fact in the above table that 25 percent of the deaths in Kansas City as a whole, including Armourdale, are of children under ten years of age. In Armourdale alone, thirty-six percent of the deaths tvere of children under ten years of age.

TABLE SHOWING THE FOREIGN POPULATION OP KANSAS CITY, KAN.

Couitrii. 1910. 1915.

Austria 2,993

Belgium 152 ....

Canada 368 344

Denmark and Sweden 1,018 9276

England 668 605a

Germany 1,853 1,625

Greece	210	....
Hungary	274	....
Ireland	1,054	880
Russia	995	1,915
Scotland	135	117
Switzerland	102	....
Mexico	102	465
Italy	272	
France	47	
Spain	4	
Other foreign countries	460	
Total	10,384	7,201

a. Enderland and Wales.

b. Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

The 1910 report was obtained from the national census. The 1915 statistics are from the report of State Board of Agriculture, which gives none for Austria Hungary, Belgium and Greece, while the national census gives none for Italy, France and Spain. The latter may be included in some others or else omitted.

The total population in Kansas City, Kan., in 1910 was 82,331. In 1915, 91,685. These statistics are not complete, but taking that fact into account and interpreting the statistics, it is very significant that in 1910 the foreign population in Kansas City is a very small percentage of the entire population. In 1915 the percentage is still lower.

The state report gives the following not included in the above table: Colored, including Chinese and Indians, 9,675; others north of Europe, 206 ; others south of Europe, 4,991.

16

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

ARMOURDALE HAS SMALL FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION.

TABLE SHOWING THE FOREIGN BORN IN ARMOURDALE, NATURALIZED AND UNNATURALIZED.

Coinifrii. Naturalized. Unnaturalized. Total.

Ireland ' : 153 38 191

Russia 10 154 164

Mexico 22 320 342

England 34 19 53

Wales 7 ... 7

Norway 5 ... 5

Belgium 10 10

Canada 13 ... 13

Bulgaria 10 10

France 3 3

Serbia 5 5

China 1 2 3

Turkey 1 ... 1

Rumania . 1 1

Germany 93 43 136

Greece 2 218 220

Italy 17 39 56

Hungary 1 2 3

Switzerland 5 ... 5

Denmark 11 1 12

Sweden 8 ... 8

Austria 3 ... 3

Scotland 9 ... 9

Total 396 853 1,249

— I.-.

VIADUCT AND PACKING PLANTS.

The total population of Armourdale is 12,825. From the statistics just given it shows the population of Armourdale is



from 10 to 12 percent foreign born, or the population may be summed up: Native born, 90 percent, of which only about 3 Armourdale — A City Within a City.

17

percent are Negro; and having foreign or mixed parents, 10 percent; foreign born, 10 percent.

The figures just given on Armourdale were obtained by the survey made by the Kansas City, Kan., Chamber of Commerce in 1918. This shows that in 1918 about 34 percent of the foreign population of Armourdale are naturalized. The 1910 census report shows that of the foreigners of voting age 48 percent are naturalized. The same report shows that out of the seven wards of Kansas City, Kan., wards one, two, four and five have a higher percent of foreign born than Armourdale.

OSAGE AVENUE.

SUMMARY.

Armourdale is a community which is having a steady growth. The growth is due, not so much to births over deaths, which is small, as to the influx of peoples from the outside.

The foreign population is very small, approximately 90 percent being native born, and of the foreign born, about two-thirds are naturalized. Consequently any problems found in the community are primarily American problems, and cannot be answered with the general statement that the conditions are due to the foreigners.

2 — K. U. Bui. — 109: ^.

18 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

THE GOVERNMENT.

ARMOURDALE community is known as the sixth ward. It is a part of the political unit, Kansas City, and has a general charter. A change was made nine years ago and the

commission form of government was adopted. The requirements for suffrage are that a person must be a legal voter of Kansas. The largest number of voters polled by any one nationality is polled by the American born, since they constitute practically the entire population.

The chief political parties are republican and democrat and are very evenly divided. It is said that 80 percent of all the foreigners are democrats. There is a small number of adherents to the socialist party but their influence is comparatively small. The number of naturalized citizens who voted at the last national election was 3,389.

#### LOCAL POLITICAL ORGANIZATION.

Local elections are held each year on the first Tuesday in April. As has been said before, there is the commission form of government with five elective officers who are elected at large. These elective officers are :

1. Mayor.
2. Commissioner of water works plus electric light.
3. Commissioner of parks and public property.
4. Commissioner of finance and revenue.
5. Commissioner of streets and public improvements.

The departments in the local government are:

1. Street department.
2. Sanitary department.
3. Park department.
4. Fire department.
5. Police department.
6. Water and light department.
7. Finance.
8. Public buildings and grounds.

The council is composed of three working men and two business men, and there are no

lawyers or any officials representing special interests.

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

TAXES.

19

The tax rate is 77.5 per \$100. The assessed value on the basis of full value was \$93,730,145. It has not been necessary to borrow capital to pay current expenses of the local government. In the last five years park and street improvements have been made on borrowed capital. There is a special improvement fund of \$1,675,596 for this.

JOHN J. INGALLS SCHOOL.

STATEMENT OF TAX LEVY.

(Levied in 1916, available for 1917.)

Tax rate

■ , per, \$100, Amount  
fund. cents. levied.

Protection of life and property 28.5 \$257,757.90

Highways ' 9.5 131,222.20

Health and sanitation 4.5 46,865 . 08

Recreation 3.4 31,868 . 25

Bond, sinking 15.0 105,915 . 06

Bond, interest 8.6 89,043 . 63

Park bond, sinking 3.0 21,557 . 93

Park bond, interest 4.0 37,492.07

Judgment 1.0 4^686150

Total levy 77.5 \$726,408.62

AMOUNT APPROPRIATED FOR THE FOLLOWING DURING 1918.

Tax rate Amount

per \$100. levied.

1. Schools \$734,379.98

2. Sanitation ) amount

3. Health j 4.5 46,865.08
4. Streets 9.5 131,222.20
5. Civic Improvement 10.4 90,918 . 25  
20

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

PUBLIC UTILITIES.

STREETS.

THE STREETS of Armourdale are to a very large extent paved. There are 10% miles of various kinds of paving. The amount and kind of paving found in Armourdale are as follows :

Sheet asphalt 29,250 feet.

Brick 44,875 feet.

Bituminous concrete 1,000 feet.

Bituminous asphalt 1,875 feet.

Rock asphalt 500 feet.

Plain macadam 2,500 feet.

Hessam 6,500 feet.

Total (feet) 86,500 feet.

Total (miles) 10% miles.

RAILROAD YARDS.

All the streets are laid out by the mayor and council in keeping with Kansas statutes covering this phase of public utilities. There is no stated width of streets, but in all cases they

have been found to comply with the demands of the locality.

All of the streets in localities needing it are provided with suitable parking space, which adds materially to the appearance

and convenience of the streets. There are in the way of

bridges, two made of wood and one of concrete, besides a concrete viaduct. The bridge of wood at Seventh street is in Armourdale — A City Within a City.

demned most of the time and should be replaced with a more substantial one of something besides wood. Wood is the most expensive material in the long run of which a bridge or walks can be made.

Street cleaning is not of the best. The streets at definite times are sprinkled with a water wagon and this is supplemented by men with push brooms. After the street sweeper has swept the refuse into piles, he puts it into carts and disposes of it. The streets are not cleaned often enough to meet the demands of the local situation, and because storm sewers are inadequate the streets are often very muddy and covered with filth.

The ordinance applying to the laying out and caring for streets applies to alleys also, but they are not enforced, hence the alleys are complained about by a large number of citizens. Fifty percent of the alleys need repairs and a general cleaning up.

22

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

It can be safely said that the street railways and other methods of transportation are adequate, but from the standpoint of operation are not satisfactory. If they met the demands of the ordinance (864) governing them it would be better for all parties concerned. The street railways are entirely owned and operated by private concerns. The taxicabs and other livery service are controlled or regulated by the municipality. During rush hours the street-car service does not meet the needs. This gives rise to much dissatisfaction, and often causes great inconvenience to the laboring people.

#### HOMES OF FACTORY WORKERS.

#### SEWERAGE AND GARBAGE DISPOSAL.

In the first place, sewers do not cover all parts of the district,

which is always a cause of much complaint. It would be very much to the interest of Armourdale citizens if they had an ordinance requiring all buildings to be connected with the sewer, but this cannot be done until sewers are extended so as to make it possible.

The garbage that is not disposed of properly by reason of the absence of a garbage disposal system is thrown into the alleys, burned, or sometimes saved for some one's chickens.

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

23

This has already in numerous cities proved its unworthiness and is recognized as a source of flies and disease. It would help matters greatly to have the city collect the garbage regularly. There are individuals who collect garbage for personal

gain if it is kept in good condition. This practice of casting refuse, sewage, and garbage into the alleys till such time as the individual sees fit to dispose of it means that most of the alleys must of necessity be in a questionable condition.

DOING MY BEST TO CLEAN UP.

Sewage proper should be disposed of by a sewage-disposal plant, but unhappily the city does not have one, consequently the sewage is dumped into the river. While this does not endanger the water supply, which is taken from above the city,

still it creates an offensive stream and jeopardizes the health of those living near the stream. Upon reliable information it can be stated that petitions for the placing of sewers have been pending for four years without action being taken on them.

24 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

There are no catch basins on Osage street below Twelfth street, and Osage is one of the chief business streets of Armourdale. Armourdale has a drainage tax in addition to the

regular tax of Kansas City, Kan., but such a small number of property owners live in Armourdale that the interests of the community are apt to be neglected.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

Armourdale secures its water from the Missouri river above the points where the sewers empty into the river. It can be said to the credit of Kansas City that the water plant is owned and operated by the city. Due to the excellent water provided, about 75 percent of the people are water subscribers, but only 44 percent, or 1,408 out of 3,126, homes have water connections, and because of the lack of sewers and of a law compelling owners to connect wherever possible, only 330 homes, or about 10 percent of homes are connected with sewer\*

The water is pumped from the river at Quindaro by centrifugal pumps to the plant, where it is allowed to settle in a series of settling basins. It is purified here by sedimentation through the aid of sulphate of alumina and lime. From these basins it is passed through rapid sand filters and is then sterilized by using liquid chlorine. The laboratory shows that this produces very good results. There is no bacilli count, and the water gives a very high test.

The water is pumped from the plant to an elevated reservoir in Argentine by fly-wheel steam pumps. The capacity is 19 million gallons. The consumption of water by Kansas City, Kan., Argentine, and Armourdale is 17 million gallons per day.

The water commissioners estimate 75 percent of the residents of Armourdale are water subscribers. Water mains do not extend to all parts of Armourdale. This makes it impossible to maintain the best standards of sanitation.

#### FIRE PROTECTION.

The fire protection of Armourdale is good, which indeed

speaks well for the city. Next to water supply the fire protection should be considered as being of great importance.

There are two companies. Company 3 is a triple station, consisting of three automobiles, a hook and ladder wagon, a steamer, and a hose car. The whole is manipulated by a force

\* Statistics gathered by Chamber of Commerce, Kansas City, Kan.

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

25

of twenty men. Company 6 has a combination chemical and hose car run by eight men.

While Armourdale has more units than most cities of its size, the addition of others would be a profitable investment because of the presence of numerous factories. During two months there were 37 fires due to defective flues, and 32 false alarms from one packing plant. These two features both result in loss and expense and should be met.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

HEAT AND LIGHT.

Armourdale secures its heat and light from a natural gas source, owned by a private corporation, and an electric light plant owned by the city. The cost of gas and electricity as compared to other cities is as follows :

Electricity. — Armourdale rate, 6 cents, minimum, 75 cents ;

Lawrence, 30 K. W., 10 cents, minimum, 75 cents.

Gas. — Natural gas is available, but the price has been raised recently. Litigation over the legality of this increase in the cities of this region is now in progress. The franchise calls for lower-priced gas, but at a hearing a higher rate was allowed and the rates quoted are now being contested and the 35

cent rate demanded : Armourdale, 80 cents ; Kansas City, Mo.,

80 cents ; Lawrence, 80 cents ; and Fort Smith, Ark., 25 cents.



There are no municipally owned heating and power plants.

26

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

COMMUNICATION.

The needs of the city are adequately met by the mail service.

The mail is brought from the central station and delivered by

postmen. The telegraph service is very satisfactory. There

are two telephone systems, namely the Bell and the Home.

As shown later on in this report, the proportion of unskilled

laborers in Armourdale is very large, consequently, the proportion of telephone

subscribers is much less than in the average city the size of this community.

MORSE SCHOOL.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Armourdale is poor in so far as public buildings, markets,

and rest rooms are concerned. Nothing is existant except the

small shelter in the park. This is used mainly by the children

and is not in the best of condition. Nothing is being done to

promote these necessary features of urban life. There is some

discussion of an institutional church by the Methodists, and

that may be the beginning of a series of needed features.

The city is in immediate need of comfort stations, rest rooms

and baths. There is not in existence any organization to enArmourdale — A City Within a

City.

27

courage the construction of the above desired features, neither

is an attempt being made to improve the general appearance

of the city except by some more or less spasmodic individual

efforts. Armourdale can proudly point to the fact that telephone posts, lamp posts, and

bill boards are not occupying conspicuous places where they would mar the appearance

of the

locality. The bill board law is enforced.

While nothing is being done in the way of tree planting, parking and beautifying in general, still it was learned that the commissioner of parks contemplated the building of considerable pavements, the location and nature of which has not been definitely decided.

Armourdale is so situated that it might easily become a real beauty spot. This can only be brought about, however, through community action. Its location is such that persons engaged in the great industries of Kansas City find it convenient to live there. If the community is made a desirable place in which to live and establish a home, the adjacent industries will always be assured, a dependable and permanent supply of high-class laborers and the best class of people will continue to live there.

#### A GOOD RESIDENCE SECTION.

28 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

#### HEALTH AND SANITATION.

WITH defective sewer system, privy closets unconnected with sewers, cisterns and dug wells, livestock, dirty alleys, no definite plan for garbage disposal, one must expect health and sanitation to be anything but good. While Kansas in many respects has desirable health laws, still lack of conscientious enforcement makes the whole plan of prevention something of a failure.

From 1,805 families the following facts were gathered (see comparison between Kansas City, Kan., and Armourdale, under Population) :

Cases of sickness 1,776

Deaths 123

Births 137

The water supply of Armourdale is as follows :

City water 1,181

Well water 167

Cisterns 63

Total of families 1,421

This compares favorably with report of water commissioner that about 75 percent of the people use city water.

Families reporting livestock, including chickens, are as given below :

Horses 28

Cows 10

Hogs 41

Chickens 185

Goats, sheep, etc 3

Total of families 267

The existence of livestock in such a densely settled section as Armourdale demands the greatest care. Many of the places keeping livestock do not take any precautions, and consequently the premises and surroundings become infested with diseasebreeding flies.

#### SEWER CONNECTION.

An ideal residence community cannot be built up unless proper provision is made for the disposal of refuse. Here is a community of over 12,000 people living in a rather small area, surrounded by factories and industrial plants, and

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 29

adequate provision for sewage disposal. Due to the small number of persons living in Armourdale who are home-owners, the

houses are not connected with sewer even where the sewer is built. From records in the Kansas City, Kan., Chamber of Commerce, the following data were compiled :

Homes with sewer connections 330

Homes without sewer connections 2,796

REAR UK A H(.)TE1

These statistics speak for themselves, and this in a residence section of our great, prosperous and growing Kansas City.

The dry toilets are supposed to be emptied when vault is filled to within three feet of surface. But this law is not enforced. One can readily observe that health conditions will be remarkably improved when the above questionable conditions are righted.

30 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

#### QUARANTINE LAWS.

Below are given extracts of various quarantine laws of Kansas which apply to the community of Armourdale :

Quarantine of persons exposed to diseases: All persons exposed to, but evidently not sick with, a contagious disease shall be subject to the same rules as to quarantine as if they were sick with the disease to which they have been exposed, except as hereinafter specified.

Quarantine of doubtful cases: In all instances of doubtful diagnosis, as for instance where the physician or health officer is unable to distinguish positively between chickenpox, or between a diphtheria or severe tonsillitis, it is ruled that the public shall be given the benefit of the doubt, and quarantine restrictions which will protect the public against the more serious of the diseases suspected, shall be imposed.

Diseases not requiring strict quarantine: (a) In all cases of infections, contagious or communicable diseases which are not subject to regulations of quarantine as hereinafter specified, proper precautions shall

be maintained to prevent the infection of others. (6) Persons afflicted with the following diseases shall be subject to this rule: Actinomycosis, anthrax, continued fever lasting seven (7) days, dengue, dysentery, erysipelas, favus, glanders, hookworm disease, malaria, ophthalmia neonatorum, pneumonia, rabies, tenanus and trichinosis. — Bulletin of the

Kansas State Board of Health, Vol. XIII, August, 1917.

Births are required to be reported within ten days. We have no statistics showing how physicians comply with this

law. In answer to a questionnaire sent to the state and local boards of health we received word that in the state in general from 85 to 90 percent of the midwives report births regularly. In Kansas City 95 percent report regularly; also that in the latter place, which includes Armourdale, 20 percent of the births among the white population, and 35 percent among the colored population, are reported by midwives.

There is no law in Kansas requiring the licensing of midwives according to training, examination, etc. Under the vital statistics law of the state they are required to register annually and to report births within ten days. The board of health of Kansas City answered that they are required to be registered but not annually. We do not understand this exception from the state law, unless Kansas City, as in the case of New York City, makes its own health regulations.

There are no regulations in the state covering supervision of midwives.

Physicians and midwives are required to report cases of ophthalmia neonatorum ; the health officer is empowered to seArmourdale — A City Within a City. 31

cure attention for uncared-for cases ; free prophylactic outfits are distributed to physicians and midwives.

There is no law requiring the use of such prophylactic. We had hoped Kansas would introduce a law to this effect during the last session of the legislature.

The Division of Child Hygiene has prepared and widely distributed model blanks for physical inspection of school children. During the year 1918 demonstration examinations were conducted by the director of the division in 14 towns.

These demonstrations consisted of physical examination, assisted by local doctors of the children of one or more school

rooms, a demonstration lecture in afternoon, and a public health lecture at night. These school inspection demonstrations have been followed by the establishment of a system of school inspection in the majority of these towns and employment of school nurses in several.

Kansas City, Kan., has no school clinics and employs no school nurses. Clinics for school children are held in Bell Memorial Hospital, Rosedale, on Saturday afternoons. There is -strong possibility that these clinics will soon be followed by the establishment of a proper system of physical inspection of school children in some nearby school districts.

#### HEALTH AND SANITARY LAWS EFFECTING WORKERS.

Kansas State Board of Health — Ninth Biennial Report and Bulletins, 1918.

Washing facilities, with water, soap and towels, shall be provided in sufficient number and in accessible location to make washing convenient at all times.

' Work room floors and walls shall be kept clean and dry.

Dressing rooms with individual lockers shall be provided, making pos\_sible the changing of clothing and the care of the clothing outside the work room.

Ample lighting and so arranged that direct rays do not shine into the workers' eyes.

Heat and ventilation shall be ample at all times to keep the workers comfortable and well supplied with fresh air.

Drinking water shall be safe and fresh, cool and accessible, and individual cups or bubble fountains shall be provided.

Provisions shall be made for workers to eat their meals outside the work room in a clean, comfortable place.

A suitable seat shall be provided for each woman employed and its use encouraged so that the worker may perform her labor with convenience, comfort and efficiency. All seats shall have backs and foot rests

broad and firm enough to be convenient while working.

Risks from machinery and danger from fire and exposure to dust, fumes and other occupational hazards shall be eliminated.

32 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

The chief inspector, or deputy inspector, or agent, or officer of the State Board of Health, or any local board of health, or police officer of any city, shall have full power at all times to enter and inspect every building, room, basement or cellar occupied or used for the production or sale, manufacture for sale, storage, sale, distribution or transportation of foods and drugs, and all utensils, fixtures, furniture, and machinery used as aforesaid; and if upon inspection any food- or drug-producing or distributing establishment conveyance, employee, operative, employer, clerk, driver, or other person is found to be violating any of the provisions of chapter 230, Session Laws of 1909, or the rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, or if the producing, preparation, manufacture, packing, storing, sale, offering for sale, distribution of food is being conducted in a manner detrimental to health of the employees and operatives and to character or quality of food, therein being produced, the officer or inspector shall furnish notice of said violation to the offender, and shall file complaint with the county attorney of the county in which said violation occurs and notify the chief Food and Drug Inspector of such action.

#### MILK REGULATIONS.

1. Unlawful to sell any kind of milk that is "impure, unclean, diluted, diseased, unwholesome or adulterated or which contains any bacilli coli communis or other pathogenic bacteria."
2. Each cow, the milk of which is sold, must be properly tested for tuberculosis by a competent veterinarian.
3. No milk shall be sold which has been exposed to or contaminated or affected by any human beings or animals sick with any contagious or infectious disease.
4. No milk shall be sold which contains less than eight and seventyfive hundredths (8.75)

percent of solids, not fat, and less than three and one-quarter (3.25) percent of butterfat. No cream shall be sold which contains less than eighteen (18) percent butterfat.

5. If cream has been removed, can of milk must be marked with the words "skimmed milk."

6. All milk utensils must be thoroughly washed and sterilized.

7. All persons handling milk within city shall keep names of people or companies who supply milk, posted in a conspicuous place.

8. Duty of food inspector to visit, view and inspect all places and vehicles in which milk is sold, delivered, etc,

Oydiyance No HS78 — "The officer or inspector shall furnish notice of any violation to the offender, and shall file complaint with the county attorney of the county in which such violation occurs and notify the Chief Food and Drug Inspector of such action."

State Board of Health issues monthly bulletins for instruction. These are sent to physicians and any citizens who ask that it be furnished them.

The State Board of Health has equipped a so-called "health car" which is open to everyone, showing the essentials of Armourdale — A City Withm a City.

33

hygiene and sanitation, care of infants, and care and regulation of communicable diseases.

Recently there has been added to the educational program a number of publications regarding various aspects of social hygiene. These pamphlets are being widely distributed as a result of placing 1,200 war-measure posters in toilets of public buildings.

An active campaign is being carried on by representatives of the surgeon-general's office among health officials of counties, as well as municipalities. There is needed a more rigid enforcement of the law regarding



the reporting of communicable diseases.

Deaths are reported, but there is a lack of discussion of causes in the daily papers. No extensive work is done by the various societies for the prevention of diseases.

In the year 1918-'19 there were 1,334 cases of sickness in 1,342 families, as follows:

Meningitis 1

Nervous diseases 2

Neuralgia 10

Operations 16

3

68

1

Paralysis

Pink eye . . .

Pleurisy . . .

Pneumonia

Rheumatism

Rupture

Abscess

Accidents

Adenoids

Appendicitis 3

Asthma 5

Bad eyes 1

Bright's disease 3

Burn 1

Cancer 3

Chickenpox 2

Colds 7

Cholera 4

Diphtheria 3

Influenza 1,169

Gall stones 2

Goitre 2

Heart disease 4

Intestinal disease 1

Malaria 1

Measles 13

HOUSING.

Houses in Armourdale are chiefly of the one-family type and contain one, two, three and four rooms. Comparatively few owners live in Armourdale, in fact 78 percent are renters, and naturally there is little attempt at improvement. This is true in spite of the fact that over one-third of the families have lived in this community from 10 to 40 years, and less than 15 percent have lived here one year or less. The owners are interested in housing as a business proposition only, and spend no

Tonsilitis

Typhoid - . . .

Tuberculosis . . .

Tumor

Whooping cough

Killed in army. .

Other diseases .

3 — K. U. Bui. — 1093.

34

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

more than necessary for upkeep. The houses are built very largely on 25-foot lots, and often on less, so that the roofs almost touch and sometimes there is barely space between the

houses for a person to walk. This makes the houses dark, dingy and unsanitary, and illustrates the fact that even individual family houses may be most undesirable and unsanitary.

Conditions are not such as to encourage green lawns and flowers. Alleys are bordered with decrepit outhouses, drygoods boxes and debris. This is not a foreign section, but a

community composed of nearly 90 percent native born. They

HOMES OF WORKINGMEN. FRONT VIEW.

represent some of our best American stock, and hence we cannot leave the question as it is sometimes done by the statement, "Oh, these foreigners don't want better living conditions." Here are people who are living in unfavorable circumstances because they do not have control of the situation.

The following data gives us an indication of the housing situation.

Average size of family 3.5

Roomers, percent of population 4

Homes with sewer connection, percent 10

Homes without sewer connection, percent 90

Homes with water connection, percent 44

Homes without water connection, percent 56

Families owning or purchasing homes, percent 22

Families renting homes, percent 78

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

35

The statistics showing the very small number of homes connected with the sewer, and the comparatively small number connected with city water, give us a rather definite fact by which to judge of the housing situation. This, together with the fact that over three-fourths of the people are renters, shows us that the housing situation is not unfavorable because of the careless attitude of the citizens of Armourdale,

but because the owners of the rental property are able to get greater returns on money invested by permitting houses to remain in this unsatisfactory condition.

HOMES OF "U'ORKINGMEN. BACK VIEW.

RENTAL RATES.

The report of one of the investigators which is typical of the whole city gives a fair picture of the rental situation. The map and location of places spoken of are omitted.

"At district A a real estate dealer reported that the rent on two-room houses near there was \$10 and rent on four-room houses was \$14.

"In district B the rent on two one-room houses was \$9. Two two-room houses beside them rent for \$11.

"At D a house which is for sale for \$1,300, rents for \$11 per month.

The house is in good repair. Three rooms on a 25-foot lot facing south on a paved street within a stone's throw of the tracks.

"In the district at E the rent for two- and three-room houses is \$11 to \$12 per month. Lots are said to be selling for from \$500 to \$600. Specu36 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

lators think the railroad will be buying more land so are holding for a good price and are not paving or even building.

"Along Kansas avenue at F the two- and three-room houses are on 25-foot lots, some so close that the water from one roof will run in the eave trough of the adjacent house. Rent is \$12.

"All of these buildings have gas for heating and lighting and water in the yard. West of the tracks is restricted against negroes and Mexicans. The inhabitants point to this with pride.

"At H the second and third floor of a large brick store building is occupied by about sixty people. The rooms are about 10 or 12 by 14 feet.

There is no bath and but one toilet on each floor for the common use of all and is in a filthy condition. Rent is \$1.50 per week for one person or \$12 per month for the room.

"In the rear of some store buildings at K are several small two-room dwellings which rent for \$8 or \$9.

"All races and nationalities live in the district Y. Most of the buildings are long, narrow, three-room houses. The rent is \$9 in most cases.

Some of the Mexicans live in houses no better than hog sheds — not as good as a well-built hog house. The worst conditions are in the alley dwellings — places provided alongside the out-houses and privy vaults.

"Everyone says that rent is high. Houses are scarce. In many cases the rent has raised only one dollar and then when there was a change of occupants. It will be noticed that the rents are all about the same, ranging from \$9 to \$14.

The houses are small. Lots are small so there can be many small houses built."

#### FOOD INSPECTION.

The state food and drug inspector reports that no separate records of Armourdale are kept but that the conditions there were rather bad, at least worse than the rest of Kansas City. As Kansas City has its own inspectors who are quite efficient, the state inspectors do not go there unless especially requested.

An inspection of the city was made in March. About one out of every five necessary re-inspections made in Kansas City were in Armourdale. A majority of the business places in Armourdale had to be re-inspected at least once and often several times before they finally passed. However, the reports stated that usually after orders are given and proprietors given a specific time in which to clean up their premises they see that the orders are carried out before the time limit expires. Some of the objectionable features found most often

are : sleeping in the rear of the business place ; that is, having living quarters in the store room with no adequate partition between ; another is exposing such things as dried fruits, bread and other food products to the open air and flies.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 37

In many cases as many as three and four inspections had to be made before the places were finally passed. In looking over the card index it is noticeable that nearly every place of business in Armourdale, on Osage and Kansas avenues, had to be re-inspected before it could pass. If no re-inspection is necessary there is only the card filed, but when re-inspections are necessary as many slips as re-inspections are fastened to the original card.

#### MILK INSPECTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

It is now generally recognized that the health of a community is very greatly effected by the milk situation. Armourdale is fortunate in being a part of Kansas City, Kan., because the milk situation is better there than in many smaller Kansas cities. Some dairymen frankly admit that they are unable to meet the requirements of Kansas City, and hence sell their milk locally.

Most of the milk sold in Armourdale is sold through shops, stores and confectionaries. The amount sold is as follows.

55 stores, daily 1,721 quarts pastuerized.

1 store, daily 45 quarts raw.

Total 1,766 quarts bottled milk.

In addition to this, about 350 pound cans of condensed milk are sold daily. There is also a small amount sold by owners of individual cows.

Fifty-six grocery stores, confectionaries and restaurants were investigated. All stores buy of creamery or milk companies and sell to their customers. None are doing business on the commission basis. Two-thirds or more of the establishments reported upon are grocery stores. Practically all of the milk sold in Armourdale is handled through these stores. Condensed milk is sold in large and small cans. Few dealers could

tell very accurately how much they sold. But in all our calculations the amounts are given in equivalents of large cans, i. e., one pound net weight.

CITY ORDINANCE No. 14878.

Kansas City's milk ordinance was passed by her board of commissioners July 6, 1917. It is, however, quite complete and if fully put into practice would insure for the consumers in Kansas City a most excellent grade of milk.

38 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

It is far too long to try to give in detail, but we may note some of the more important provisions.

Section 2 provides that each cow from whom milk or products of milk are to be sold in Kansas City must be tuberculin tested by a competent veterinarian approved by city health department and each cow must be so tested once each year.

Section 3 provides that milk sold in Kansas City must test at least 8.75 percent of solids 'not fat, and not less than 3.25 percent butter fat.

Section 5 requires milk sold as anything but whole must be marked so plainly.

Section 6 requires all places of handling and keeping milk must be clean and free from contamination.

Section 8 requires registration of all persons selling milk in the city.

Section 10 requires all dairies from which these creamery companies purchase milk must be open to inspection at all hours of day or night.

Sections 12 to 16 define the grading of milk. Based on grading of dairies and bacteria count. Grade A must not have over 100,000 bacteria per cc. if raw. Grade A may have 500,000 bacteria per cc. before being pasteurized. The temperatures for cooling and keeping are stated. Grade A

pasteurized

milk must not have a bacteria count of over 50,000 per cc.

Section 22 provides that all milk offered or sold in Kansas City must come from plants that score 75 by dairy inspector.

Section 37 provides milk containers shall not be used for other purposes and then returned for milk containers unless sterilized. That as soon as the contents of any milk container is emptied that container must be thoroughly washed.

The ordinance goes into detail for handling milk, scoring dairies, testing milk and things pertaining to dairy work. For the enforcements of these sections and the maintenance of dairy standards, Kansas City, Kan., is fortunate in having a city milk inspector.

Up to the first of May, 1919, the responsibility for milk had rested with the city food inspector, but the first of May, Kansas City secured a city milk inspector, thus relieving a city food

inspector of the work and making possible adequate supervision

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 39

and inspection of the production, care, handling and sale of milk.

The milk inspector is a state agent not responsible to the city food inspector but to the state. His card says "State Deputy, Juvenile Beneficiary Department." He says he is working for no dairy or store but in the interest of the children and babies in Kansas City.

His position is secured

through civil service. He is furnished a Ford runabout to use in his work.

Although milk conditions are above what we find in many large cities, he is finding plenty to do and plenty to be recommended. He tries to be reasonable, but he is persistent and insistent and will enforce compliance with the law.



For consideration we might divide his work into three parts — inspection of milk companies, of the dairies and of milk being peddled. The milk companies were visited in company with the inspector. He inspects the building, the methods of handling, etc., making suggestions freely. At one plant he found an open flue up towards the ceiling. He asked that it be closed. He found their bottles dusty on the outside. They blamed it to the city water. He felt down in the bottom of their tank in which they pasteurize and found it muddy. They admitted it had not been washed for two or three days. One might guess longer.

In his inspection of dairies he finds some difficulties. One place visited recently he found a very fine milk house. Indeed, it was so fine that the proprietor had a hired hand sleeping in it. He made them move him out and clean up.

In another place he found the milk cans lying over on their sides free of access to chickens, pigs and what not. In general, conditions are far from ideal at most of the dairies, but he realizes that it will require constant effort to raise the standard.

He takes samples every day or two from the wagons as they are delivering. Recently he condemned a whole wagon load of milk because he found sediment in the bottom of the bottles. The samples are analyzed for percent of butter fat, solids and for specific gravity. It is occasionally necessary to test for watering.

40

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

TEST FOR APRIL AND MAY.

13.82METHODS OF HANDLING MILK.

We will include in this report a general statement of the methods used by three of the largest companies in handling

their milk,

Plafit 1. — "The only way to have good milk is to see that conditions are right at the dairies," is the way the manager of this company feels. Consequently, he has one man whose only business is to visit the dairies and farmers from whom he buys and see that things are kept right.

He buys from a good many dairies ; much of his milk comes from Lawrence, Lansing, Bonner Springs and Walcott, Kan. The night and morning milk comes in in the forenoon, and is pasteurized that day and taken out for sale the next day. So it is from 24 to 36 hours old when taken to the stores.

This plant has modern equipment. The milk is weighed and emptied into a tank to flow through automatic fillers. But the bottles are sterilized before use. They are put nose down on a slide (very open) where they go into a vat of steam coming off a caustic solution. From this they pass through a washing with "sweet water." Then they are placed in the filler and follow around a path while filling, at the end of which they are capped two at a time. They are placed in cases and put on a slowly moving rack where they start through the pasteurizer. It moves two inches a minute. They move through a rapidly increasing temperature till they get to 145 degrees, which section required 30 minutes to pass. Then they go through gradually cooling degrees till they come out at a cool temperature (about 50 degrees, I think). The Armourdale — A City Withm a City. 41

temperatures are automatically regulated. Thus the milk is pasteurized and is now ready for delivery.

The plant has its own refrigerating system.

Plant 2. — Instead of the thorough system of bottle washing they have brushes on revolving spindles over some warm water

in a trough where a young man stands washing bottles. From this washing they go to a bath of constantly changing cold water. The pasteurizing is all done in a large tank. When the milk is bottled, sealed and cased, then the cases are put in this tank first filled with tepid water which is gradually changed to 150°, and it is supposed to be kept at this temperature for 30 minutes, when they begin to run in cool water and cool it down to city water. The whole process requires nearly two hours. They plan to use ice in the tank for better cooling.

Plant 3. — They had their place all torn up, for they are remodeling, but it will be clean, white-walled when finished.

Their equipment is a little better than No. 2. They say they secure their milk from 21 dairies, and go and get it themselves.

They boast that every cow in these 21 dairies is tuberculin tested, which is merely in accordance with the city ordinance.

Their two tanks make a bit better system than the one-tank system. Between the two large tanks is a small one for cooling of water. There are coils of pipe down in this small tank, so for cooling the city water flows through these coils which are in ice-cold water. They say they keep the milk at 145° for 30 minutes, and that the secret of good pasteurizing is quick heating and quick cooling. The process requires over an hour and a half. The inspector says one company is installing modern equipment on a much smaller scale than No. 1.

The rest are using the tank method. He feels that they are experimenting with pasteurizing, but doubts the efficacy of their methods. The manager of one company said he believed the city should take charge of the milk business or at least the pasteurizing and distribution of it.

Kansas City is indeed very fortunate in having a full-time

milk inspector, -for he cannot only visit pasteurizing and distribution stations, but he can and does inspect the dairies and farms where the milk is produced. The milk standards at the dairies and everywhere should rise. Pasteurizing can help to keep good milk good, but it will not make bad milk good. It must be watched from its source to its very consumption. 42 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

#### INDUSTRY AND LABOR.

ARMOURDALE is a part of a great urban community — Greater Kansas City. The following clipping from the Kansas City Star June 29, 1919, gives an idea of the type of community it is:

Twice daily for three weeks there has appeared in The Star a sharp, brief appraisal of Kansas City. Here are resources thus measured or disclosed, the stuff out of which a great city is to be built:

Lumber — First in distribution.

Seeds — Chief distribution point.

Federal Reserve Bank — Most profitable outside New York.

Meat — Second in shipments.

Winter Wheat — Largest primary market.

Bank clearings — Fifth.

Flour — Third in production.

Postal receipts — Eleventh.

Railroad mileage — 26 percent of Nation's mileage in Kansas City's trade territory.

Motor cars and accessories — Third in distribution.

Union baggage station — Largest and busiest outside New York.

Railroad center — Second largest.

Hay mai-ket — World's largest.

Desirable office space — 100 percent filled.

Kafir corn and milo maize — Largest market.

Tributary trade — First.  
Agricultural implements — First in distribution.  
Volume of discount paper — Second only to New York.  
Tractors — First in distribution.  
News distribution — Center of largest Associated Press territory.  
Parks and boulevards — Largest connected system in America.  
Stock and feed cattle — World's largest market.  
Farming territory — First.  
Soap — Third in production.  
Horses and mules — Second largest world market.  
Telegraphic business — Third.  
Native born population — First.  
Residential sections — Finest in America.  
Motor car and tractor education — First.  
Schools — First in buildings and equipment.  
Purebred cattle — Hereford capital.  
Fruit and vegetables — Second in distribution.  
Tributary population — Ten million v<sup>^</sup>nthin ten hours' ride.  
Population— Half million in Greater Kansas City.  
Manufacturing — Tenth.  
Armourdale — A City Within a City.

43

Armourdale is an industrial community within Kansas City made up of good, hard-working, American people. It is a surprising fact that only 22 percent of the families own their homes, while 78 percent do not. Of the homes only 2 percent or 496 pieces of property are not encumbered, while 98 percent or 2,636 pieces of property are either encumbered or not owned by the occupant.

OCCUPATIONS OF HEADS OF FAMILIES.

The means by which the people obtain their livelihood is of

primary importance in the study of any community. The economic status of individuals, which is largely dependent upon RAILROAD SHOPS.

occupation, usually determines many other factors in community life. The following table summarizes the information

obtained in regard to the occupation of workers in Armourdale.

Occupation of 2,793 heads of families in Armourdale, Kan. :\*

Occupation. Number. Percent.

Skilled Labor 631 22.4

Unskilled\* Labor 1,598 56.9

Professional 38 1.3

Farmer 18 0.6

Business 188 6.6

Retired 35 1.2

Housewife 141 5.0

Merchant 141 5.0

Soldier 5 0.2

\* Chamber of Commerce records, 1918.

44

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

A comparison of this table with the percentages shown from the records of the voters registered in Armourdale shows a close approximation.

Occupations of 2,474 male voters in Armourdale, Kan. :

Occupation. Percent.

Skilled Labor 24 .

Unskilled Labor 43 .

Professional 1.0

Business and Merchants 9.4

These figures indicate a larger proportion of unskilled workmen than is ordinarily the case in a community the size of

Armourdale. This is due to the location within the district of  
PACKING PLANTS.

some very large industrial and manufacturing concerns that  
are great users of unskilled labor. The table is interesting as  
showing the eight largest firms in number of employees for  
the year 1918:

Men. \* iVometi.

Swift & Co., meat packers 3,200 250

Cudahy & Co., meat packers 2,000 250

Wilson & Co., meat packers 2,600 600

Morris Packing Co 1,700 300

Rock Island R. R. shops 1,082 ....

Union Pacific shops 750 ....

Peet Bros. Soap Co 470

Proctor Gamble Soap Co 400 ....

Total 12,202 1,400

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

45

It is estimated that 10,000 workmen resident outside of the  
community work each in Armourdale. A study of Armourdale shows that the greater part  
of the workers living in

Armourdale work there. An examination of 1,471 families

indicated chief wage earners in 1,131 as working in Armourdale, 272 elsewhere and 68  
out of work. The demand for labor

in Armourdale has at least until very recently been good. At

AN INDUSIKIAL .SKCTIUN.

this time (April, 1919) the demand for labor may be somewhat lessened because of the  
cancelling of large government

orders and the expectation of large amounts of purchased

army supplies such as meat, etc., being thrown upon the

market.

## WAGES IN ARMOURDALE.

The matter of wages is always rather difficult to determine as it is often considered a rather personal matter. With unskilled labor roughly receiving about 60 cents an hour we can

46 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

see that the 56 percent secured about \$28.80 per week of 48 hours. With steady work this is not as bad as one might find in many places.

There is considerable employment of women in some of the larger industries, as shown in the chart. Some of this labor was unskilled, doing such work as that in filling sausages, etc., at the packing plants and was paid at the rate of 33 cents per hour. A considerable amount of skilled female help is also used in such capacity as stenographers and typists. The average wage for experienced stenographers appeared to be about \$20 per week and the typist positions paid from \$10 to \$15 per week.

A great number of labor unions, local, are found in Armourdale and these in turn are represented in the Central Labor

Union of Kansas City, Kan. :

Local No.

Bakery Salesmen 335

Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers 319

Barbers 185

Brotherhood of Local Firemen (2 lodges) 611

Brotherhood of Firemen and Engineers 330

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers (4 lodges) .... 2,199

Brotherhood of Reg. Carriers (4 lodges) 1,412

Carpenters (2 lodges) 697

Cigar Makers 345

Machinists' Helpers 864



Machinists 278

Cattle Butchers 208

Hog Butchers 215

Loading Stock Workers 280

Tank House Workers 336

Meat Cutters (2 lodges) 958

Mechanics 582

The above table gives the most important unions. However, there are various other smaller unions found in Armourdale, the total number amounting to 55. Another fact presented by the survey of very much importance in explaining the situation is that of the 22,000 union men in the entire city of Kansas City, Kan., 15,000 live or work in Armourdale; a very good illustration of the chief occupation and class of the citizens of Armourdale. Then we find that two very good results are seemingly the direct outcome of these labor unions.

First, they play an important role in determining the small number of unemployed found in Armourdale, and second, after a very detailed study, it was found that the wages paid union men were somewhat higher than those paid to nonunion men.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 47

The activities of the labor unions of Armourdale may be somewhat roughly classified as follows :

1. Better working conditions.
  - a. Reduce unemployment.
  - b. Secure better wages and homes.
2. Insurance.
  - a. Insurance benefits in connection with membership.
  - h. Also sickness and accident insurance benefits.
3. Social.
  - a. Various meetings.

b. Socials held in connection with them.

4. Publicity.

a. Labor Union Bulletin, regular sized newspaper, now being published by the Central Labor Union.

5. Political.

a. Agitation for a labor party.

b. Increasing tendency for the unions to enter politics.

Another thing which presented itself constantly was the fact that with the office men of the various concerns and industries from whom attempts were made to secure data there prevailed an unquestionable feeling of dislike for the labor unions. However, this was curbed by necessity, and the officials refused to openly discuss unions, but the undercurrent of opinions among them all struck about the same chord. With labor unions there seems to be the same feeling toward the official — one of dislike and distrust.

Regarding woman labor in Armourdale information was exceedingly difficult to obtain. Altogether, approximately 8,000 women were employed in three packing plants of Armourdale — Swift, Cudahy, and Wilson — during the war, but since, this has undoubtedly been considerably reduced. According to the best data obtainable approximately 85 percent of the women belong to labor unions; this compares very favorably with the number of men in labor unions. However, no doubt can be entertained but that the large number of women employed in these plants is a result more directly of war conditions than any other, and no doubt is an abnormal circumstance not found under ordinary conditions.

SUMMARY.

Armourdale is primarily an industrial community. The industries there not only provide work for most of the inhabitants, but also to thousands

of persons outside of the community. The majority of heads of families are unskilled laborers; in fact, the combined number of skilled and unskilled laborers constitute nearly 80 percent of the heads of families. Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

laborers constitute nearly 80 percent of the heads of families.

The working people are strongly organized, both the men and women belonging quite generally to some union. This insures them a better wage, and more dependable working conditions, as is evidenced by the higher wage scale than among unorganized labor. While the employers do not uniformly agree to the benefits of organized labor, many admit that better results are obtained from intelligent, organized groups than from ignorant and unorganized laborers.

J. FISKE SCHOOL.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 49

LEGAL RESTRICTIONS AND REGULATIONS.

CHILD LABOR LAWS.

THE welfare of a community or an individual is directly affected by its industry or wealth. The laws that govern the individuals and control the industries also have an important bearing. Kansas has a number of laws all tending to protect society and the individual without placing burdensome restrictions upon any line of legitimate business. Of first importance among these are the child labor laws. These were passed by the legislature in 1917, modifying very materially those that were in force before that time. They provide substantially as follows [see Session Laws 1917, ch. 227] : No child under 14 years of age is permitted to work in connection with any factory, workshop, theater, mill, cannery, packing house, or operating elevators, nor shall a child between the ages of 14 and 16 be permitted to work in any business when school is in session. They shall not be permitted to work before 7

a. m. or after 6 p. m., nor more than 7 hours in any day, nor more than 48 hours per week. Every employer shall keep posted in a conspicuous place near the entrance exhibit "A."

The superintendent of schools, or some one representing him, shall issue a work permit. The form prescribed is shown in exhibit "B."

Before he issues the permit, he shall receive, examine, approve and file the following papers: A written statement

signed by the person for whom the child expects to work, marked exhibit "C," the school record of the child signed by the principal showing that he has completed the elementary schools marked exhibit "D," evidence of the child's age, exhibit "E," if between 14 and 16 years of age, and exhibit "F"

if over 16 years of age. A child who has not completed the course of study may receive the school vacation work permit, marked exhibit "G." This last permit is issued only when all the conditions given above are complied with except that the child has not finished the common school course of study.

These laws and regulations clearly and definitely protect the child. For the protection of women and girls [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 1183, sec. 5947], proprietors of stores and other lines of  
4— K. U. Bui.- 1093.

50 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

business employing them are required to provide chairs or stools for their use when not actively engaged in performing their specific duties. The commissioner of labor is made responsible for the enforcement of these laws, although a record

of the permits to which reference was made above is kept on file in the office of the superintendent of schools. When the employer is through with the services of the child, the permit is sent to the commissioner of labor and filed in his office.

The child labor laws under which the children here are permitted to engage in factory, shop and other lines of industrial activity compare favorably with the laws of Massachusetts, Illinois, New York and Wisconsin [Child Labor, Education, and Mothers' Pension Laws in Brief] . Night work is universally prohibited. The work is generally confined to an 8-hour day and a 48-hour week, although there are some exceptions. In extra dangerous occupations, as mines and quarries, and cleaning machinery while in motion, children under 16 are prohibited altogether and in New York girls under 21. The chief difference is that in the older states the law is made specifically to apply to certain lines of industry. The law is very well enforced here, the only violations occurring where children cross the line into Missouri.

The state prohibitory law [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 1087, sec. 5498] is in force in Armourdale and is quite well enforced. No person is permitted to manufacture, sell or barter any spirituous, malt, vinous, fermented or intoxicating liquors. This law was passed many years ago, and generally the people here support it. Recently a law [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 1098, sec. 5541] has been enacted making a second conviction of the violation of the prohibitory law a persistent violation, and a persistent violation is declared to be a felony. This makes the bootlegger's occupation a very hazardous one and helps to free all the people from his menace.

Baudy houses and gambling dens are neither permitted nor tolerated. The state law [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 695, sec. 3624], reinforced by the city ordinances and upheld by public opinion, renders these practically unknown. Owners are not permitted to lease property to be used for these purposes, and if they do are subject to heavy penalties. This, together with the statutory provisions against the

proprietors or operators of these houses and gambling dens, keeps the town practically free from these destructive agencies.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 51

#### PROTECTION AGAINST ACCIDENTS.

The working people are further protected while at their work by the provisions of the law [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 1168, sees. 5886 and 5895] requiring all manufacturing establishments to provide safeguards and devices and fixing the civil liability of the individual or company for injuries that occur to the employees. All accidents are required to be reported to the labor commissioner, whose duty it is to investigate the cause of the injury or death and determine whether or not proper safety appliances had been installed.

Labor is easy to obtain here, as there is usually plenty of work to be done. The employment agencies are regulated by statute [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 1162, sees. 5858 to 5869 and sees. 5870 to 5872] in furnishing employers with persons to be engaged in manual labor, clerical, industrial, commercial or business pursuits and in securing employment for such described

persons. Eight hours is a day's work, so fixed by law for all public work, whether state, county or municipal. The plants here follow this statute and have fixed a day's work as 8 hours and pay for overtime.

There are no housing laws except those applying to hotels, rooming houses, and apartment houses. The plants here are as a rule provided with well-lighted and ventilated buildings, roomy enough so the work can be done without crowding.

#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

The workmen's compensation act [Gen. Stat. 1915, p. 1171 and following] applies only to the employer's trade or business on, in or about a railway,

factory, mine or quarry, electric, building or engineering work, laundry, natural gas plant, county and municipal work and all employments requiring the use of dangerous or inflammable materials. If death results in the employment and the workman leaves dependents they are entitled to recover three times his wages for the preceding year up to \$3,600, but not less than \$1,200. The wages are to be computed on the scale he was receiving 30 days previous to the accident, or would have been receiving if he had been at work. If the workman leaves no dependents, the compensation in no case shall exceed \$750. The law gives in detail the amount of compensation to be paid in each line of employment under any and all conditions.

52

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

58 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

EXHIBIT "G."

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO EMPLOYER.

This work permit is issued to the child named herein in accordance with the provisions of chapter 227, Session Laws of 1917, permitting the employment of said child by the employer named hereon only during the hours in which the public school is not in session in the district in which said child resides, subject to the following limitations of the act:

This work permit does not permit the employment of the child named herein by anyone except the employer named herein. Employment by anyone else is unlawful.

This child must not be employed before 7 a. m., nor after 6 p. m., nor more than 8 hours in any one calendar day, nor more than 48 hours in any one week.

The employer must keep posted in a conspicuous place near the principal entrance in the establishment where this child is employed, permitted or suffered to work a notice

stating the maximum number of hours such child is required or permitted to work on each day of the week, the hours of commencing and stopping work and the hours allowed for dinner and other meals. The form of such notice will be furnished by the Commissioner of Labor upon request. The employment of this child for a longer time in any day than so stated or at any time other than stated in said notice is unlawful.

The child named herein must not be employed, permitted or suffered to work at any occupation at any place dangerous or injurious to life, limb, health or morals.

This permit may be revoked at any time that it shall appear that it has been improperly or illegally issued, or that the physical or moral welfare of such child can be best served by the revocation of this permit.

The employer must keep this permit on file and accessible to any inspector or officer charged with the enforcement of this act, and upon the termination of the employment of such child this permit must be returned by the employer within two days to the official who issued the same.

The penalty for violating any of the requirements of this act or permitting or conniving at such violation is a fine of not less than twentyfive dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days.

P. J. McBride, Commissioner of Labor.

A full compliance with the Kansas Child Labor Law will also comply with the Federal Child Labor Law governing the shipment of products of Child Labor in Interstate Commerce.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 59

## RECREATION.

THE great criterion of the past decade has been work and financial gain, disregarding the essentials that contribute so largely to man's happiness, contentment and physical



health, namely, "Recreation." The term means more than mere amusement and past-time sports. It carries with it the finer and more systematized ideas of education, high-moral standards, organized and systematized instruction, training and initiative that gives ambition to the soul of man to live and thrive, not merely exist, and to encourage others to live. It instills the mind of the individual to action, therefore crowding out the baser and more degraded evils which so often wreck and ruin the life. It gives the mind an outlet and permits development and growth. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," is as true to-day as ever before.

These conditions are being rapidly realized, a new reformation is taking place. No longer can one be pessimistic, segregated from the social life of the crowd, take no part in the pace of advancement and be a factor in the settling of the great world's problems.

Now, let's turn to Armourdale and see what it has and is doing toward recuperating its individuals, the wide-awake boys and girls, and the young men and women on whose shoulders rests the great responsibilities of the future. Does it provide a playground for children, furnish amusement such as dancing, swimming, and social games for the young men and women? Does it maintain any public buildings for social events? These and many other questions will be treated, giving the facts as they have been compiled and such suggestions and recommendations as would be worthy of consideration in the following paragraphs.

#### ATHLETICS.

The people take no important part in athletics. There are sufficient reasons to justify those conditions.

#### WHAT IS PROVIDED.

The grade schools do a small amount of track athletics.

They have meets during the fall, winter and spring seasons at the track in Shawnee Park. The park has one baseball diamond with a backstop that insures safety to passers-by. 60 Bulletiyi of the University of Kansas.

All junior high school and senior high school pupils go over to Kansas City to attend school because there are no high schools in Armourdale, although the number attending is very small for a community of over 12,000 people.

There are no factory teams, town teams, or community teams in practice in this division.

V^HAT IS NEEDED.

The boys and girls of high-school age v^ork during the summer days. When these young people come from work they would not only enjoy some form of recreation, but would also find it very beneficial. Basket-ball, volley ball, tennis or croquet courts and a good swimming pool would serve the very best for evening recreation. Such recreation, an absolute change from their daily work, would be to them a wonderful value. Recreation every evening will result in more efficient labor. He will be better fitted for his job the next morning.

A continuance of that better work is bound to result in better wages. Then from better wages we can infer that there will be better living in the homes of Armourdale.

Recreation for the laboring youths helps the industrial end of Kansas City, but better than that, it gives to the individual better health ; stimulates vigor and energy, and all together resulting in a better youth and growing to become a better citizen.

Better citizenship, the real aim of our present educational system, will result in a better environment in which the next children can grow to manhood.

## PLAYGROUNDS.

Play is a social inheritance. The children of primitive ages gained the greater part of their education from play. Among the many valuable developments of the child life derived from play are imitation, initiation, and imaginative and constructive ability. Play develops everyone, especially the children, morally, mentally and physically. A child with the advantages of organized play unconsciously receives wonderful training of his mind and body, and is many times more in readiness to cope with the many deeds and demands of a healthy mind and body that arise in one's manhood or womanhood (as the case may be) . Such development is best derived from games, as basketball, baseball, volley ball, tennis, folk and singing games, relays, and a host of other valuable games for children which

Armourdale — A City Withiyi a City. 61

may be found in books of games and play. Two good authors of books for singing and plays are Marie Hofer and Elizabeth Burchnel.

The children of the present day have lost much of their imagination and idealism because they have lost some of their good old games which have been replaced by no new ones. Not only because games are the natural ways of child expression, but also because they are interesting, we select the playground as the best, most scientific recreative place.

Play abolishes the compulsion idea, the work of the doing of it, when they are allowed (as they should in all play) to use individuality in their games and exercises. Play is vitally necessary — but it must be organized play. Play that is not organized is worse than no play, because it is for the rest and development of the body and mind, and inorganized play could do neither successfully. Even though the individual characteristics of pupils in games

must not be suppressed, all their play should be supervised.

The world is slowly awakening to the fact that thousands of little children are dragging about the streets and alleys from day to day all the year round without any kind of work, recreation, or amusement, whatsoever. Imagine the enormous amount of human energy that is going to waste, because the public home has not been able to see a need of a child's mind being occupied. Now, who is to blame, their parents? No! Their parents are working hard every day to maintain a mere living for their family. The parents have not taken time to think of the needs for child play and of recreative places for those children. Some of those parents were reared in a life even more crude than their children are being reared. Such children, grown up in idleness or shop grinding, have no concept of play. How can they be expected to provide a means of recreation without possessing any idea of their own of play? It seems as true as the saying, "You cannot give any one else the measles if you don't have the measles."

Children with no advantages of play cannot be fully developed. Persons not fully developed are not normal. It is no

wonder we have so many inefficient laborer's and criminals if we have not been giving them proper training. You cannot let a high-spirited horse run in the pasture until he is six years old, or old enough to work, and then suddenly hitch him to the

62 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

children's buggy and expect him to satisfy their demands so well as if he had been under training since he was two years old. He doesn't know what is expected of him, neither does the grown-up without having proper childhood recreation know what is expected of him.

More important than anything else needed in Armourdale is a suitable place to teach those children to be better citizens.

The opportune time is early childhood. The children of Armourdale are not getting the right kind of recreation. They are actually being "cheated out" of a part of their life which rightfully belongs in them. Armourdale is a large manufacturing center, a "city within a city." With its large number of factories running every day, its poor housing conditions and small yards, there has never been sufficient play facilities for the children. Play is the most serious thing to a child, hence it possesses supreme educational value. Many of the children in Armourdale are "standing around, loafing, loitering, or idling." Here is an interesting child welfare problem.

Should we allow that best part of our Armourdale population, those little boys, to drift into smoke houses, pool halls, or attractions in Kansas City, Mo. ? Let's put them at something to do — playing, gardening or otherwise occupying their minds in some practical and valuable way. They need a place in which to play. They have some small play places, but not nearly enough to supply the children of the entire section.

Some of the children are finding recreation in the yards of the four schools, the river, the steel yards and Shawnee park.

The remaining children seek enjoyment in the public streets.

The recreation afforded by the school yards is poor. The yards are bricked and children find them quite undesirable for the numerous bumps which go with play. The only equipment found in the public school yards are bean bags, few basketballs, and baskets to play basket-ball, but no other playground apparatus. Sand piles or boxes, a few slides, swings, teeters, bars and a volley ball net would improve them wonderfully.

Then the equipped yards could be used to an advantage after school hours and during the summer vacation. A Catholic

sister was seen taking her classes to the park and supervising their play during recesses.

The John J. Ingalls public school is a small, muddy, unequipped place which affords some recreation for a part of the

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 63

children. Many children play "down at the river." This seems

to be most dangerous from two standpoints ; first, that of drowning, and next, that of playing about in the sewage drain for the

city. It may also be morally dangerous, as there is no supervision of their play at the river.

There are no police restrictions regarding the time limit of street playing. It may begin as early and close as late as suits the wishes of the children.

The only park in Armourdale is Shawnee park, Shawnee park is a free park, comprising two city blocks and containing about four (4) acres. Fortunately, this beautiful little park is located in the center of this community. With its grass and trees it is as good a natural park as could be expected of it. In the park are a couple of lawn swings, slides, and bars in one corner; two tennis courts, and a shelter house in the center.

The play apparatus is sufficient to accommodate about twenty (20) of its hundreds of youngsters. Think what would happen should all the Armourdale children attempt to play in Shawnee park. The first children present get the swings, etc. The

later ones soon weary of the monopoly and leave, discouraged, for some other place of amusement. Here a playground supervisor could play a most important part. She could employ

those idle minds and muscles very profitably. She could be one of the winter-term teachers who chose to remain there during the summer months.

Any time during the day children may be seen within a block from the park, playing in the streets, but it's the only place they have to play.

In the center of Shawnee park is a very attractive, comfortable shelter house built of stone with a tile roof. This is open on all sides, porch effect, with a few good benches around the wall. In the center of this shelter house are two toilet rooms separated by a stone wall.

In the park house are shower baths. The baths are enjoyed by almost one hundred (100) children every day during the summer months. The bath house is cared for by a woman. No supervision is provided at the shower baths. Sometimes the water from the baths is turned out to form a wading pool for some of the smaller children, who eagerly seek that for entertainment.

With very little expense to the city this park could be made a real little oasis in the center of a desert of industry. It would  
64 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

attract the people because it would be a pleasant place away from the factory walls, brick pavements, crowded homes, and the din of the daily labor.

A valuable asset to the shelter house would be about three large rooms. While this is a municipal park, the board of directors are allowed no building or purchasing funds, and the city spends nothing for any playground equipment or recreative necessities. One smaller room could be utilized for books

for boys and girls. The books may be donated by private citizens, clubs, organizations, and, in addition, it could be made a

branch of the city library. They could be checked out by the children from the regular playground supervisor for a definite period — one week, or two weeks. A second room could be made large enough to be equipped for both manual training and cooking and sewing, or it could have a removable partition.

Older children would soon volunteer to assist the regular supervisor. A third room, the largest of the three, could be

used for kindergarten work, and a classroom for handicrafts, as drawing, weaving, etc. It could be used for indoor play, singing, folk games, story telling and other quiet games when the weather will not permit the use of the lawn and trees. This room could be quite valuably used as a community center for community sings, public lectures, stereopticons, good motion pictures, Sunday afternoon and evening musical concerts, community plays, pageants, and a general meeting place for community activities. It could be used for community fairs or

bazaars. In short, the location is ideal and the need very great for a community house, to meet the needs of the 12,000 people dwelling in Armourdale.

At present Armourdale has no public lectures. It has no place to give them outside of the churches. Lectures are educational, and any locality should have the opportunity of hearing some every year. There are public musical concerts given

in Armourdale every other Saturday night. Under the supervision of a playground instructor the children (older ones) could organize bands and orchestras.

Supposing, now, that we are to get such a park as has been suggested, we will consider some of the playground activities.

An organized recreative park should have a definite schedule of the days when to come to the park for special kinds of work or training. For instance, canning would probably be taught

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 65

from 2 p. m. to 4 p. m. every other day, and kindergarten work would be given from 8 a. m. to 10 a. m. and from 2 :30 to 3 :30 p. m. every day, etc. ; mornings are more preferably given over to athletics, games and sports and afternoons reserved for industrial vocations.

Kindergarten work should be given several times during the day, but only for short periods at a time.



Under a good supervisor various children should receive valuable working knowledge of canning, woodwork, leatherwork, metalwork, bead work, sewing, weaving, gardening (vegetables and flowers), health and sanitation, aids to injuries, good reading, clay-modeling, drawing and painting, designing, dramatics, and music. Of course all of this cannot be accomplished in two or three months, but the child who takes advantage of such a recreative park will at the age of twelve surprise many grown-ups with usable knowledge of most of the above mentioned activities.

Once a month or better, twice each summer, the kindergarten room could be used for a fair, or an exhibition of the work completed by the children. Nothing is much more delightful to a parent than the seeing of their child's name upon a product. Much more delighted are they when judges have been selected to determine prize winners and the parent sees a ribbon attached to his or her child's production. Such exhibits soon attract the attention of business firms, organizations, wealthy private people who will begin to offer prizes, and donate to the park such things as victrolas, pianos, benches, books, etc. Neither is it impossible to expect the usual Sunday movie enthusiast to change his habits to going to the park. The park could be a beautiful picnic grounds where baseball games and music concerts could be given Sunday afternoons.

Installment of a large swimming pool would be quite beneficial. Children, under supervision, could enjoy it during certain hours in the day, and working people could use the pool evenings and Sundays. Every one could use it in winter for an ice skating rink.

Some interested firms, clubs, or other organizations might donate fountains about which children could have concrete pools for water flowers and fishes, such as interest the general

public as well as the children. It is only natural that they crave a knowledge of plants and animals, but there being a fountain would serve a better stimulant for their interest.

5 — K. U. Hvil.--109:t

66 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

Sand piles and boxes, and work benches can be purchased or made by larger boys in the manual training room, for the smaller children, to whom they are of almost inestimable value.

These improvements should, and would tend to better the conditions of the community. The smoke house, the pool hall, and the traffic to the city proper for amusement would be failing in popularity, and the problems concerning them would

solve themselves. The "little mother" problem will begin to solve itself, for girls can take younger brother or sister to the park where he will be cared for by all. These progressive park activities soon would stimulate a movement for Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. organizations and buildings; for Boy Scout and Girl Scout organizations, mothers' clubs, girls' clubs and Camp Fire organizations.

PICTURE SHOWS AND DANCES.

On observing the conditions that exist in Armourdale, the location and the occupation of the people, one can readily see the type of amusement common to the mass of the people.

The moving-picture shows, although poor to mediocre in type and questionable for the elevating of standards, seem to thrive and increase in extremely rapid proportion with other places of recreation. Over 350 out of 1,805 families of Armourdale attend the movies as their place of entertainment.

The dance, another form of amusement, is commercialized in every instance, as far as the survey suggests, except the one

maintained and controlled by Peet Brothers soap factory. No pavilion or opera-house is provided for such amusement, therefore most of the people either go to Kansas City, Kan., or to Kansas City, Mo., for this sort of recreation. This seems to be very unwise. No one thing could do more for the uplifting of the people than to provide a pavilion where the young men and women could be royally entertained and at the same time could be kept out of the place where questionable institution exists. Other miscellaneous features of amusement are the bowling alleys, pool halls, billiard rooms and informal gambling stands. This form of amusement demands considerable attention by all classes of people. No other form can and does permit evil to crop in so easily. That being the case, all are concerned.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 67

Y. M. C. A. AND Y. W. C. A.

Armourdale, with its laboring classes, needs to have stronger recreational facilities, and by hearty cooperation, it may secure them. It has no Y. M. C. A. and no Y. W. C. A., and there is a great need for these organizations in furnishing recreation for the young of the community. Since Armourdale lacks not only these Christian associations but is also lacking in other recreational features, the young people must seek diversion at the cheap movies and the pool halls, or spend their leisure time in Kansas City, Mo., where they meet with immoral and degrading influences, where the places of amusement are questionable and where vice is wide-spread.

It is the business of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. to furnish recreation, and to satisfy the craving for amusement in the lives of the young people. Recreation, right or wrong, is so closely linked with the moral life of people, both young and old, that it must not be overlooked.

The Y. M. C. A. has in its power not only to furnish recreation to its young manhood, but to have its program the Boy Scout movement, which is such a vital force in the lives of the boys, instilling into them high principles and ideals, as well as providing methods of recreation.

The Y. W. C. A. may make constructive plans for the development of the Camp Fire Girls, thus fulfilling an important mission by helping the girls to find both romance and beauty in their domestic cares and duties, while provision is made for their physical development also.

We must all play if we accomplish our tasks as we should, and the Christian associations are vital factors in assisting in these problems by providing clean athletics, games, swimming pool, high-grade movies, and other high-class forms of amusement.

#### CHURCHES.

There is one mission and five other churches which are centers of many social functions. These often give ice-cream socials in the park. The churches now approve of any recreation, if supervised, but the dances.

Out of 1,805 families, 20 percent find recreation in the church.

Here is a great work for the churches. With the Sunday  
68

Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

schools and the young people's organizations as a medium, splendid forms of recreation could be afforded the people of Armourdale, thus invigorating their social and recreational life.

On Sunday, the people of Armourdale seek various methods of spending the day. A few attend picture shows, others attend church, some seek recreation in walking and car-riding,

J5APTIST CHUK(^H.

while many simply stay at home. A well-equipped library would be a suitable recreation for Sundays. Provision could be made for this in a community house, where also Sunday musicals and entertainments could be held.

CONCLUSION.

1. Armourdale needs a community building in which every one can have a place to seek pleasure. This could be easily done by appealing to the factories, people, clubs, property holders, and appeal to the city to levy a tax to keep it running.

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

69

2. A swimming or bathing pool in which every one may have the opportunity to participate.

3. A pavilion for social dancing and community bowling alleys.

4. The park to be revised for play work and yearly supervision.

5. Supervision of all the functions of the community house.

6. To organize clubs for the young people that they may be entertained and yet be of educational value.

7. To establish several musical clubs in order to appeal to the aesthetic side of life.

WE WANT SPACK 1X)U OUK I'LOWEUS.

70 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES.

ARMOURDALE, as a factory and manufacturing center, has poor housing conditions, streets crowded with traffic, unsanitary surroundings, and because of the packing houses, foul odors and impure air.

The people are a hardworking, honest group of people, who take no important part in recreation — not as much as they

should.

In compiling the statistics gathered in the social survey of Armourdale, the following table resulted. Families with members belonging to :

Fraternal organizations 226

Labor unions 194

Insurance orders 102

Ladies' auxiliaries 62

Mother's clubs 7

Total - 593

The above table shows that there are few clubs or societies in Armourdale maintained for purely recreational purposes.

Those belonging to labor unions, fraternal organizations and insurance orders, do so for the most part from the standpoint of self-protection and self-interest in their various lines of work, as insurance in case of accident, sickness or death.

Their membership in these orders therefore is in the nature of a financial investment, rather than for recreation. Consequently, it is obvious that the citizenship as a whole obtain

their recreation along other lines than what is usually known as recreational, social, educational or cultural organizations, leagues or clubs.

Aside from the small nucleus of seven women composing a mother's club, and a small club of sixteen girls organized by one of the teachers of the public schools, there seems to be no organization in this population of 12,000 people, except those within the packing plants themselves, that is designed to uplift, recreate, or educate.

There is a great need for such organizations in any congested factory district. By giving proper amusement, by furnishing wholesome entertainment of all kinds, by giving those things to which youth naturally turns, and which it must have ; by providing suitable opportunities and suitable environment

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 71

for the majority of the working girls and young men ; to develop that force of character and that breadth of view upon the problems of life which will enable them to withstand temptation when it comes, and keep their hearts clean, and unspotted from the world; by teaching them along the vocational lines of manual training and home economics, and preparing them for the holy vocation which they are finally to follow, that of motherhood and fatherhood, society will perform a duty which it owes to the young people of any community, when, by economic necessity, they are forced out of their schools and their homes into the industries. It is . a social service that will repay society many fold, and social workers are solving this big problem by finding out little by little how to inspire uplift and enthuse the small group. Miss Taylor, the Y, W. C. A. industrial secretary, realizes this need, and is working toward clubs among the industrial women.

A few years ago, Peet Bros., seeing the need, tried to organize clubs, but failed because they did not create a desire in the minds of the girls themselves for such an organization.

Proctor & Gamble had the same experience. At present noonday meetings are being conducted at Peet Bros., Proctor & Gamble, Wilson & Co., Morris, Fowler, Armour, and the Lee Mercantile Co. These meetings last from one-half to threequarters of an hour and consist of entertaining programs, music, reading and inspirational talks. Wilson & Co. and Peet Bros, send cars for the entertainers, and are also having various out-door activities, such as "hikes" for the girls, tennis courts, gymnasium, dancing and other activities; Peet Bros, and Wilson & Co. have one woman, who has classes for girls. The greater number of the girls live in Armourdale and are of American families.

The social survey made shows that ordinarily the form of

recreation sought is the "movie," and this is not of the highest type. This idea of recreation should be replaced by a conception of real recreation at its true value.

United States Commissioner of Education William T. Harris is reported to have once said that a nation's character

is largely determined by the things which affect the minds of its youth between the hours of dusk and bedtime. If those hours are spent in a high-minded, wholesome atmosphere, the nation would advance socially, morally, intellectually and

72 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

spiritually, but if spent in a way that tends to tear down and deaden the sensibilities to the finer things of life, the nation degenerates.

The people of Armourdale who are working in the factories have enough of the hard work, drudgery, and deadening monotony of life in their long hours of labor. Consequently, the hours of recreation should be of especial importance to them, as it is the only available time for many of them to have any privilege of obtaining some of the higher enjoyments of life.

For those who feel the need of and desire for music, orchestras and music clubs should be organized. For those who

wish to prepare themselves more fully for life's duties, classes in home economics and domestic art, in manual training, lecture courses along scientific lines, or, for the thinking, laboring man, courses in university extension work, on labor problems, economic conditions, or civic sanitation.

Tuberculosis once largely had its hold on Armourdale. Conditions are some better, but sanitary measures should be enforced and the people thoroughly interested in problems of

civic betterment. The factories and packing plants are realizing this and doing as much as they well can for the workers.

Miss Gladys Beck, a teacher, is helping the Proctor & Gamble



girls.

Peet Bros., soap factory, pays a good salary to a service woman, who, together with a popular girl from among the soap wrappers as assistant, to help the girls and to keep recorded information concerning each of the girls, obtained by interviewing them individually.

There is a service room provided

with books, easy chairs, swings, a victrola, and a piano. She is

having a course of lectures given, "first aid" work, "care, selection and purchasing of clothes," personal hygiene, home sanitation and moral questions. Seventy girls signified an interest

in such lectures, and also there were requests for educative recreation rather than mere amusement. This indicates the kind of recreation which should be provided for them.

The Wilson Packing Company also has a service woman to see to the needs of the girls.

At present there are no public lecture courses or evening classes given. Band concerts are given once a week during June, July and August. There are no local musical organizations, but there should be.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 73

The school buildings should be remodeled and equipped for social center uses and branch libraries established in each one.

Twentieth century civilization is moving at a tremendous rate. A complete social and economic readjustment is being brought about. Great trusts have been formed. The great manufacturing and business centers have called the young people from village and farm, and a new life in the environs of the city has sprung up. Such advance has been largely due to the inventive and courageous functioning of man in the invention and employment of gigantic machinery. In this great

and mad rush for commercial and financial gain, here and there among men and women are fine souls, not too busy with

the necessities and cares of business life to realize that these things of life which enhance courage and hope, which fortify honesty and integrity, which protect innocence and purity must be promulgated; in other words, even in a life of commercialism the spiritual forces of life must be taken into account, as they are the leaven that leavens the whole lump.

This

the organized club or league may help do.

KANSAS AVENUE.

74 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

EDUCATION.

THERE are 1,805 families from whom reports supplementing the regular published report of the schools were obtained living in the area comprising the district. In these there are 1,790 children between 6 and 16 years of age. In these families there are 983 children below 6 years of age.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Educational facilities for these children are furnished by four schools for white children, one for colored children. One school is a parochial school maintained by the Catholic parish.

Out of the 1,805 families, the Morse school serves 180 families, 668 pupils ; the Fiske school 173 families, 517 pupils ; the Ingalls school 148 families, 638 pupils; the Phillips (colored) 46 families, 69 pupils; and the St. Thomas (parochial)

125 families.

Children from 75 families attend the junior high school and from 21 families the senior high school.

Kindergarten schools are maintained in the three schools for white children with a total enrollment of about 70 pupils.

Educational activities are confined to the traditional school subjects taught in a manner common to such schools. There should be opportunity for those pupils who do not complete the regular school to take up trade education and at the same time

continue in the school. A night school is maintained in another part of the city and a central junior high school in which

sewing, cooking and wood work are taught, but the proportion of families (75 out of 1,805) is far too small. Especially significant is the fact that no industrial education is offered in this almost purely industrial and trade district of the city.

There is also need of socialization of the school work in home gardening and beautifying building and grounds. There should also be opportunity for vocational guidance. This last should be considered with vocational opportunities in the district and the school take over the problem of pupil employment. There is great need of recreational education in the district, in the form of community playgrounds under the control of the city schools. Motion pictures shown in school buildings as well as community pageants and theatricals.

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

75

It would seem that the truancy law of the state was efficiently enforced so that the most of the children were kept

regularly in school. The district is looked after by the truancy officer who is on duty ten hours daily. He is appointed by the superintendent of schools and paid out of the general fund of the school. Since the officers are constantly on duty there is seldom need for prosecution.

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL.

ADMINISTRATION.

The board of education consisting of six members is nominated and elected by the voters of the city at large. Three

members are elected at the general city election held in April of each odd-numbered year and hold their office for the term of four years and until their successors are duly elected and

qualified. The term of office begins on the first Monday in August succeeding their election. No member of the board of education receives any pay or emolument for his services.

76 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

There are six committees: (1) Finance and accounts, (2) teachers and salaries, (3) buildings and grounds, (4) purchase and supplies, (5) janitors and engineers, (6) public library and supplementary reading.

The clerk of the board is the executive officer pertaining to all business matters and performs all the duties incumbent upon him by statute and furnishes the board or any of its committees required information from the records under the authority of the board or proper committees.

The total expense of public education is given in 1916 as \$734,379.98. The total number students enrolled in grade and high schools, 15,368. The money for school fund is derived from taxes, loans, fines and private tuition. The amount spent for teachers and supervisors is given as \$365,265.99, and to building and equipment \$118,775.46. The total cost per pupil enrolled was \$47.78.

Text books are not furnished free to the pupils, but supplementary readers are used in the class rooms only.

EFFICIENCY.

The following tables show the enrollment by schools, enrollment by grades and the seating capacity of each school :

Armourdale — A City Within a City.

78 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

Reference to the above tables will show that conditions in the public schools are quite satisfactory as to the seating capacity. Contrasting the pupils belonging to the school with the seating capacity, in no instance do we find more pupils than seats. As to whether the rooms have more seats than

there should be is not indicated by the data. From the standpoint of current educational theory, in some instances there seems to be an overly large total enrollment per teacher. The average total enrollment of pupils per teacher is 42 ; the average daily attendance per teacher is 30. This indicates a possible lack of enforcement of the truancy law, an undue amount of sickness or a moving population. The figures given are only applicable to the first six grades ; the older children who are in school attend the junior high school, which is not situated in Armourdale. In one of the schools there seems to be a classification of the Mexican children into one group of forty. There is a vocation school in the John J. Ingalls school for the Americanization of foreigners, who are taught English, laws and customs and city government three nights per week. Deaf children are provided for by a school situated outside of the district. There seems to be no provision for mental defectives. It would seem that an unclassified room or some provision should be made for these people. There is a dental inspection once a year, presumably by a local dentist. The work for the schools is taken care of by the nurses association. Data is not available as to the number of children who repeated the grade last year. The low percentage of daily attendance would lead one to believe that there would be many pupils of this class. There are evening schools, but these are not in Armourdale. There are three kindergartens with a very small attendance, indicating a lack of interest on the part of the patrons. There is no kindergarten for colored children. Manual training and domestic science are taught to the pupils above the sixth grade in the junior high school, which is not in Armourdale. The course of study indicates that they are allowed a large freedom of elections in the junior high school, and these courses

are optional.

Teachers in Armourdale must be graduates of high schools, take one year of normal training course and substitute one year. If not trained in Kansas City they must have had at least three years of experience in other systems.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 79

School reports are issued monthly and are fairly comprehensive.

There is a lack of intensive supervision other than that given by building principals, especially in the colored school.

From the monthly report studied there were no visits from the supervisors to the colored schools and few to the others.

The report gives the indication of a good grade city school system for the poorer districts. More supervision, better playground supervision, a stricter enforcement of the truancy law

might add to its efficiency. This is further treated under scope of the schools.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

There is one private school in Armourdale, St. Thomas, which is supported by the Catholic people of the district, serving 125 families of the 1,805 reported upon.

This school suffers in comparison with the public schools of the district in every way. The building is poorly lighted and ventilated, rooms small, halls narrow and dark. There is no playground for play and recreation. Equipment was lacking. Taking the points into consideration that were mentioned in the care of the public school, it suffers by comparison with them.

LIBRARIES.

There is great need for some sort of library in Armourdale.

The only opportunities for reading are the periodicals purchased, the meager school libraries and the public library of

Kansas City, which is a long distance from this district. The school libraries are not for general reading, are not open to the public nor at other than regular school hours. This district should have at least a branch station of the city library.

One of the school buildings could be used to house it, as there are unused rooms. Such a branch could be made to serve the community by furnishing fiction, adult and juvenile and technical works on the industries of the district.

#### FINE ARTS.

Armourdale has no advantages in the lines of art and music.

The only opportunity given in this line is given by a very few private music teachers and the teachers in the public schools.

So little time is devoted to fine arts in the public schools that a community is unfortunate if there are no other means of

80 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

developing in this line. In this field there is a great opportunity for girls' and women's clubs, as discussed under the report on recreation.

#### THE PRESS.

Armourdale has only one local newspaper, the Armourdale Press. The Kansas City Star, Post and Journal are very widely read. These papers are in sympathy with civic improvements and take the lead in reform movements. Especially is this true of the Star in regard to all movements in education.

The following summary gives the number of homes reported on as reading newspapers and magazines :

Families.

Kansas City Star : 1,259

Kansas City Post 567

Kansas City Journal 26

Armourdale Press 102

Herald 66  
Pictorial Review 66  
Collier's 39  
Ladies Home Journal 46  
Saturday Evening Post 11  
Woman's Home Companion 18  
Woman's World 13  
American Magazine 15  
Railroad Magazine 10  
Needle Craft 10  
Twenty-two other magazines 10

From the table above we see that Armourdale is very interested in local conditions from the number of newspapers read in the homes. Also the housewives are doing as well from the number of magazines taken for the home. While this report does not cover every home, yet it tends to show the ratio of the various papers and magazines read.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 81

#### REMEDIAL AND CORRECTIVE AGENCIES.

ARMOURDALE has no organized association of its own, but comes under the supervision of Kansas City, Kan., organized charity association. A baby clinic is provided for during the summer months where children may be brought and cared for. Lectures are given on child care — all under the charge of a visiting nurse.

#### JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.\*

The amount of juvenile delinquency in Armourdale is not as great as in many parts of Kansas City, Kan. This is in part owing to the larger number of permanent residents. The larger proportion of offenders comes from certain classes rather than from any particular district. These classes are usually grouped around certain industrial plants, of which



there are several in every part of Kansas City. Ninety-five percent of the burglaries in Kansas City, Kan., are committed by children. Of these children the worst offenders are Mexicans and negroes. The average number of cases brought into the juvenile court in one year is 184.6. Of this number only 74 percent are delinquents, the remaining 26 percent being neglected and dependent children. Larceny, truancy, and trespass are the usual charges. Most of the delinquent children come from homes where the parents are divorced or one of them is dead. One of the main causes of delinquency is the deficiency of the child labor laws. These laws do not deal adequately with child labor on the streets. When children finish the common school before they are sixteen years old they cannot be compelled to attend the high school, neither can they obtain employment. The time spent in idleness between school and work leads to much crime.

Kansas City spends annually approximately \$2,233 in the juvenile court for salaries for probation officers, expenses and fees.

Municipal playgrounds with supervised play would go far towards the elimination of crime in this vicinity. Wholesome employment for boys and girls in their early teens is much needed.

\* Information received from judge of juvenile court.

6 — K. U. Bui. — 1093

82 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

NURSES ASSOCIATION.

There is no nurses association in Armourdale but Kansas City, Kan., has a large association, and by reporting cases to this association, any person or family in Armourdale can receive help. The organization started in Armourdale in 1913

with one nurse, and later moved to Kansas City. There are seven graduate registered nurses, two of whom are colored. The institution is supported by private subscription and a small monthly amount of \$20 from the county and \$16 from the city. Fees, from five cents to seventy-five cents per call, are collected where finances permit, but there are hundreds of visits made free of charge.

During the year 1918, the staff averaged four nurses who made 6,903 calls on 1,633 patients, and 1,038 visits were made during the month of March. These visits were made among the people from all walks of life, but the industrial workers formed a large part of this number. During the year 1918 they took care of 501 children, 116 of them infants; 39 prenatal cases and 134 maternity cases. This does not include the 150 calls made during the first influenza epidemic.

The institution is aiding the state in its fight against social diseases. Its special line is child welfare or prenatal work and tuberculosis. They receive their information through other associations, as Parent Teachers' Association, health officers, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., charity organizations, etc. They have a good system of card cataloging.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 83

FORM OF CARD: T. B.

(Visiting Nurse Association, Kansas City, Kan.)

District Nurse Case No...

Name Address Floor.

Age Sex Birthplace

Nationality: Father Mother

Length of residence Social status

Occupation

Physician Address

Source of call

Diagnosis Complications

Date first visit Date last visit No. visits...

(a) Up How long Home

(6) In bed sick first visit conditions.

Results Remarks

Doctor's orders

HISTORY CARD.

(Nurse's card, first visit.)

District Nurse Case No....

Name Address Floor.

Age Sex Birthplace

Nationality: Father Mother

Length of residence Social status

Occupation

Physician Address

Source of call

Diagnosis Complications

Date first call Home conditions

Policy No Date issue

Date last payment Agent

(a) Up Hovi^long Doctor's

(6) In bed sick first visit ; orders....

84 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

This association is the only agency in Kansas City organized to give bedside care by graduate registered nurses to the sick in their homes, and to instruct the families in hygiene and nursing. Their broad conception of the social and economic principles that are related to the home life of the industrial class enables them to help in the improvement of the living conditions.

Their work is of great value to the city in reducing the infant death rate and improving the health of the coming generation, therefore they should have all the aid necessary. They need a full-time health officer, the tax of one-fifth mill allowed all other towns, and a larger number of graduate nurses.

#### ASSOCIATED CHARITIES.

This organization employs only two persons, who do all the work such as home visiting, investigating and finding employment for the unemployed.

Common labor is all that most of the people who apply from Armourdale can do, so it is taken for granted that they will return if they do not secure the position for which they apply.

The citizens of Arnfiourdale prefer loans to grants and are loyal in paying back the money. There are very few calls either for financial aid or advice. The probable reason is that the people do not know of the work of the organization.

Report of 28 families, 1918, given aid in Armourdale :

Families. ,

Fuel 16

Groceries 15

Medical aid 2

Clothing 5

Rent 2

Reasons for aid. Oases.

Desertion by husband 4

Illness of father 6

Illness in family 6

Death of father 4

Inability to secure work 3

Various (poor management, coal shortage, divorce) . . 5

Report of 85 families last 5 years in Armourdale :

Reasons for aid. Percent.

Death of fathers 11.7 +

Illness of father 16.4 +

Family illness 18.8 +

Deserted by father or husband 11 . 8 —

Shiftlessness and drink 10.6 —

Inability to secure work 10.5 +

Other causes (old age, strikes, poor management) . . 20.0

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 85

The Salvation Army leaves all the work in Armourdale to the Associated Charities.

The Provident Association is in Kansas City, Mo., and does not answer any calls from Armourdale. They turn over all requests to the Associated Charities of Kansas City, Kan.

THE SOCIAL SERVICE EXCHANGE BUREAU.

The bureau is a general clearing house for all cases and makes duplications practically impossible because anyone may find just what agencies are helping a family or have helped it in the past.

They have 20,000 cases on file for the time since 1910. They had 50,000 cases before 1910.

RED CROSS HOME SERVICE.

At the time this survey was made, April, 1919, the Red Cross home service organization has aided one hundred and twenty (120) families, thirty-five (35) of whom were aided financially.

As far as the work of the home service office is concerned,

Armourdale compares favorably with the other parts of Kansas City, Kan. There are no employment records kept, as there is not enough help in the office.

UNITED STATES EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

This office is concerned in aiding the returning soldiers to find positions. The soldiers are asked to fill out cards regarding their need for positions,

just before they are discharged

from the service. These cards are sent to their home office, the secretary at the office writes to their homes asking whether they need any help in getting their old positions or new ones.

There were only three applications from Armourdale and employment was found for them.

The employment bureau has more positions to fill than they have men to fill them.

86 Bulletin of the Universitij of Kansas.

#### RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES.

THERE are five church buildings in Armourdale, the Baptist, Christian, Methodist, Catholic and Presbyterian all

having their ov<sup>n</sup> buildings. There are several other denominations represented, but, v<sup>ith</sup> the exception of the Life Line

mission, conducted under the auspices of the Free Methodist church, they do not have a place of their own in w<sup>hich</sup> to meet.

The population of Armourdale is a little over 12,000. The seating capacity of the largest church is 600, and the smallest is 250. The average is 360. The total seating capacity of all the auditoriums is 1,800. Only one-sixth of the entire population could attend church at the same time. There is one church

for every 2,400 persons. Comparing Armourdale w<sup>ith</sup> Law<sup>rence</sup>, which has practically the same population, there are

twenty-six churches, or one church for every 461 persons.

Lawrence is "over-churched."

The reported valuation of the church property, including buildings, grounds, and equipment of the five churches, is \$85,000. Of this amount, \$74,000 is invested in buildings and grounds and \$11,000 in church equipment. Three of the churches own parsonages at a total value of \$13,000. Thus Armourdale has a total investment in church property of

\$98,000. This is an average of \$8 per person.

The Sunday-school equipment is very inadequate. All of the churches are of the old type, and the class rooms are very few. Twenty-eight rooms are reported as screened off for the use of classes. Future church building committees will doubtless pay more attention to the church architecture which

should more adequately provide for the teaching function of the church. Sound-proof class rooms, sufficient in number for all the classes of a Sunday school, must be one of the first considerations in future church building enterprises.

Each of the churches is reported as having fair lighting facilities. They are all lighted with electricity. Three of the buildings have pitched floors and two levels. Each is heated by means of a furnace, four having hot air and one hot water.

They are ventilated with windows, with one exception, in which there is a ventilator. The exits of the churches are

such that they could be emptied in two minutes. Toilet facilities were inadequate at the time the survey was made, but two of the churches expected to install toilets in the near future.

All of the churches but one, of which we have no report, have dining room and kitchen equipment, which are used considerably in the social and recreational life of the church.

Most of the statistics concerning the churches were given with the understanding that they would be totaled with those of the other churches in the community. That will account for the general groupings. However, there are certain data which was secured in the house-to-house canvas, and was given unrestricted by the different people. Out of 1,805 families where definite data was secured, we have the following distribution :

City. 87

Church preference of 1,205 out of 1,805 families:

Families.

Baptist 343

Catholic 303

Methodist 230

Christian 156

Presbyterian 56

Lutheran 28

Christian Science 13

18 denominations with 10 families or less.

The total church membership reported is 2,632. From the membership and attendance statistics that we have, two striking facts are noted.

First. — With a resident membership of 1,724, 1,475 or about 80 percent attend church regularly on Sunday mornings, and 1,120 or about 65 percent attend church Sunday evening. In Lawrence, Kan., it is estimated that only 50 percent of the church membership attend on Sundays. The combined capacity of the churches is 1,800, and with an attendance of

1,475 at the morning service there are only 325 vacant seats or about one-sixth as compared with one-half at Lawrence.

The Armourdale churches are utilized almost to their capacity and on a dollar and cents basis would be considered a good investment, at least on Sundays.

Second. — The other striking fact is that about three-fourths of the population are not connected with any of the church organizations. Of the 12,000 population only 20 percent of them are church members, while the average in the United States is 40 percent. There are 9,400 who have no church connection in Armourdale.

From this one point the churches of Armourdale as compared with churches in other communities

88 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.



are not coming in contact with the people of that community, and herein lies one of the church problems of Armourdale.

The churches have demonstrated their effectiveness so far as their membership is concerned, but what about the threefourths that have not been brought under their direct influence ? By the methods employed the last two years, according to the reports secured, 289 were added to the church, or

#### CATHOLIC CHURCH.

about 145 each year. Statistics show that the number of deaths in this community in 1918 was 123, and the number of births 139, with practically an unvarying population. At this rate, by the addition of only 145 members a year it would take a long time to reach the 9,400 nonmembers. It would seem necessary to introduce some new methods.

Last year the several pastors reported seventy-two meetings held in shops and factories at which there was an average attendance of from 55 to 150. At these meetings religious literature was distributed. These meetings will no doubt prove helpful in reaching the men who have not been reached by the regular method and should be continued.

All the churches carry on recreational activities. One church reports eight free socials in 1918 with an average attendance of 150. Another church reports an athletic club for boys and another club for girls and frequent socials. Sunday-school classes and various church societies do considerable in fostering social life and recreation. Most of the churches have annual picnics or excursions. Paid dinners and bazaars are not

infrequent. One church gives a card party occasionally and has a dance hall where the young people may dance,

Armourdale being strictly an industrial community, we believe that the methods employed by other industrial communities would bring results here as it has there. We refer to the

daily vacation Bible school. These schools have been the means of giving pleasurable and profitable occupation to thousands of boys and girls who would otherwise be on the streets, and into mischief of all kinds for the lack of guidance. Many have joined the church as the result of these schools which last from five to six weeks. These schools can be operated at a small cost but with large results. Night classes in elementary courses of education could be provided that would prove attractive to young men and women who were forced to quit

school in their early teens. They would not only get the great benefit from the lessons, but the association of the sexes under proper supervision would be enjoyable and refining in its influences. A part of the evenings might be given over to games

and recreation. Our government, and especially the navy, demonstrated the value of community sings, where thousands of people congregated and sang songs, night after night. With a good song leader the churches could be filled one or two nights each week. "Music soothes the savage breast" and would have a softening and hallowing influence in the souls of men and put them in a condition to receive the divine message.

Community orchestras are proving a wonderful success and should be fostered by these churches. There are three moving picture shows in Armourdale which are well patronized.

Why not have a crowd like that at the church one or two nights each week? Some of the picture shows are of a high class and are helpful, some are of a degrading nature and have

90 Bulletin of the University of Kansas.

demoralizing effect, and offset the good work of the church.

For the cost of carriage and breakage the Extension Division of the University of Kansas, at Lawrence, will be glad to furnish slides or films that are of a very high character and are

educational in their nature. It would be a wholesome sight to see people, young and old, crowding into the churches as they do at the picture shows. All of these and many other means would form a point of contact between the church and the people and a great deal larger percentage of the community would be identified with the church.

#### CONCLUSIONS.

Armourdale, a community which is virtually a "city within a city," illustrates two phases of American life in industrial centers.

- a. The machinery of industry has been developed to its highest possibilities.
- b. The "business of living" has been considered of secondary importance and has not kept pace with the age.

The industrial institutions are among the best that money and labor can make possible.

The social institutions with but few exceptions have not kept up with the industrial progress, nor even with the activities and conditions for social well-being found in the rest of the city.

1. Population of Armourdale is of the best American stock. Ninety percent native born, and over 80 percent native born of native parents. They are of the people who "made America."
2. Over one-third of the population has lived here from 10 to 40 years. They are not transients. This is their permanent home. A home should have the best.
3. The people of Armourdale pay taxes in the same proportion, plus a drainage tax, as the rest of Kansas City.
4. The community has a very large percentage of paved streets. Paving on principal streets needs repairing and better method of cleaning.
5. Excellent city water, but only 44 percent of houses have water connections.
6. City has excellent sewer system but 2,796 homes out of 3,126 not

connected with sewer in Armourdale.

7. Death rate in 1918: Kansas City, 22.4, Armourdale, 23.3.

8. Twenty-five percent of deaths in Kansas City of children under 10.  
In Armourdale 36 percent.

9. Seventy-eight percent of dwellers in community are renters.  
Twenty-two percent own their homes.

Armourdale — A City Within a City. 91

10. Housing conditions unsatisfactory. Small houses, in need of repairs crowded too closely together.

11. Continual vigilance necessary over sale of food and the careful handling thereof.

12. Milk situation better and more carefully supervised than in many smaller communities.

13. Community largely composed of unskilled laborers and their families.

14. Opportunity for labor good. Wages above that of most communities.

15. Labor very largely organized.

16. Kansas has good labor and factory laws, which are well enforced.

17. Very little community recreation offered. Imperative need for greater opportunity.

18. Excellent educational system, but community needs vacation or night schools and library facilities.

19. Reports of remedial and corrective agencies favorable to Armourdale.

20. Armourdale does not begin to have standing room for its citizens in its churches. Neither has it any other place where its citizens may meet together.

Armourdale offers people who come there to dwell a good place to ivork, but not a good place to live. It is difficult for those who live there to see to it that conditions are changed, because it is only a part of one of the greatest and best urban centers in the United States. In fact, Kansas City is such a

great and excellent city that its citizens overlook this small unit of 12,000 people, largely laborers, who deserve the best the world can give for themselves and their children — the "Hope of Kansas."