



**COMMUNITIES IN WASHINGTON  
WITH STUDY PROGRAMS  
1950 - 1958**



## ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The program of community development assumes that everyone feels a responsibility for the welfare of his community and desires an opportunity to share in its over-all improvement. Each person in the community has important contributions to make to this development. Since the program is basically designed to strengthen democratic processes, the emphasis is on citizens and citizenship.

The idea of citizens working together in a direct democratic way is nothing new. There are numerous examples on record of the solution of problems through concerted and cooperative effort on the part of citizens. There are many communities where projects are started but they never materialize, primarily because good problem-solving methods are not used. The community development approach is an educational procedure or method which has been used by several communities to discover their problems, to analyze them, and in many instances to carry to successful conclusion programs of their own making. Community development is based on the assumption...

that many communities require help in "coming together" to solve their problems. There are numerous resources available to communities which often go unrecognized and unused. One available resource is the University.

that frank and friendly discussion in town meetings and participation in citizen fact-finding committees is a highly effective way to learn about one's community. Failure of citizens to get together is often the only deterrent to solving community problems.

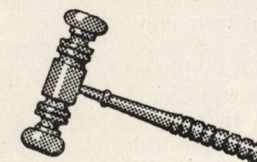
that communities are made up of many parts which need to be surveyed and studied together to see their relationship to each other and to the community as a whole. When these parts and relationships are seen in their proper perspective, insights are deepened and understandings broadened.

that one of the greatest needs today is a return to grass-roots democracy, not a turning back of the clock, but community cooperation within the framework of the modern scene by the people themselves. Communities of informed people are necessary to maintain the vitality and strength of a democracy.

## Democracy In Action In An Inland Empire Community . .



Colfax "Town & Country" meetings every Monday in the elementary school draw crowds.



## Colfax Folks Talk Over How to Better Town

By Judy Ree

COLFAX community nestled in the wheat-producing hills of south central Whitman county is engaged in a massive movement to regain the cooperation, civic responsibility and community pride once typical of American towns in colonial and pioneer days.

The modern day approach is termed "community development." In Colfax community, the third in the Inland Empire to undertake such a program, the development is popularly referred to as "Town & Country."

Dayton and Clarkston were Inland Empire predecessors in community development study.

ALREADY some 400 to 500 of the Colfax community's plus-5000 people are in active contact with the movement, and "Town & Country" are everyday words as are "survey,

questionnaire, buzz session, recorder and reports."

The 22-week program is in its third week. By now, scores of married couples have made "Monday their night out."

Typical are Mr. and Mrs. Bob Luft. Luft, a 19-year-old mechanic who was born and reared in Colfax, represents the "forgotten age" on the recreation committee. His wife, the former Jo-Ann Peterson, who came to Colfax from Walla Walla as a grade school youngster six years ago, is helping on the social agencies committee.

VERN THOMAS, chairman of the recreation committee, said his group is writing questionnaires to learn the recreational needs and desires of the grade school children and their teachers, teen-agers, adults and senior citizens.

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**More Than 500 Livewire Citizens Gather in Roundtable Sessions This Fall and Winter to Study The Ways to Make Living Easier**



Colfax, with 2956 population, is one of the state's oldest cities. It is situated on the Palouse river.

General Chairman Don Schmick calls his board together. From left, Mrs. Lawrence Hickman, the Rev. Rudolph Mensch, Mrs. W. A. Elliott, Vilma Golde, Gordon Kauffman, Schmick, Mrs. Adrian DeVries.

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Continued . .

## Colfax Looks To Tomorrow With Wise Planning Today

Thomas' committee launches its work from the broad definition that "recreation is the antithesis of work—it's anything that's not work for a certain individual."

An almost unanimous comment from buzz sessions was "lack of recreational facilities."

One segment of the recreation com-

view of library facilities and extent of use; review of churches, number of denominations, number of people served by each, and the role they play in the community.

After a Christmas recess, Town & Country will resume its "graphic picture" reports of education, recreation, youth-parent relationships, govern-



In the library of the new Colfax elementary school a "buzz group" goes over civic report.

what and why, and one among business houses to determine capabilities of sales personnel, general appearance and attractiveness of the store, pay rolls, number of people employed, etc."

"We expect some constructive criticisms from consumers, but we realize that the consumer is free to buy where he chooses," he commented.

Several buzz groups mentioned shortage of certain merchandise; other comments pointed out the problems of the small town merchandiser.

Trades and service committee has 15 active members, including business men, employees and housewives. "But we need some farmers in our group, too," Endsley added.

THE vital interest of many in education is evidenced by the 25-member education committee, headed by Lloyd Schmick, farmer.

"Our work starts with a questionnaire survey of all educational facilities and their use by the people of the community," said Schmick. "This, in addition to schools operated by Colfax school district, includes private

as an individual group or in cooperation with other groups; age group represented and restrictions as to membership.

Church Sunday schools and church organizations will come under the church committee's study, headed by Chet Fields. Every denomination has been invited to take part in the committee study.

In addition, clergymen serving Colfax community churches are taking turns giving the invocation at each Monday "Town & Country" meeting.

The agriculture group, headed by Gordon C. Kauffman, will prepare information on the role of agriculture in the community and statistics as to the extent of services available and utilized by farmers. "It will not concern itself with problems of a national scope, but will outline the conditions of farming in this area," Kauffman explained.

ONE hundred reams of mimeograph paper are being ordered to be used in disseminating the facts "dug up" by the various committees.

The "mimeo'd books" on Colfax are distributed each Monday night, a week before the report will be discussed by buzz groups.

"Committees are to make recommendations on the basis of the facts they uncover," Chairman Schmick explained. "After that we all discuss the statistics and recommendations or may come up with recommendations of their own."

"More teen-agers, business men and farmers are needed to take an active part in committee work, and in 'buzz sessions,'" Schmick added. "Our experience to date is that many who may have come to a first meeting out of curiosity become so interested they don't want to miss a meeting."

Already, the movement of "democracy in action" in Colfax community is drawing scores of residents away from their TV sets, and several organizations, including the PTA, which formerly met Monday nights, have revised schedules to permit members to take active part.

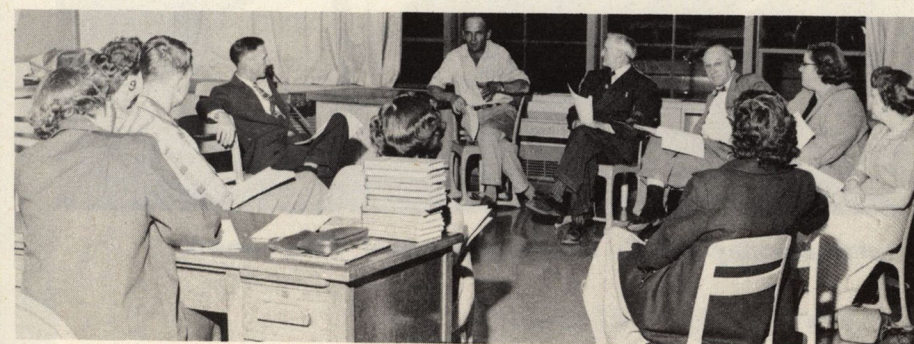


Education committee prepares Colfax survey questionnaires.

schools, the county extension service and the library."

Every service, fraternal and civic organization is being invited to have a representative on the organizations committee, Wallace Nicley, chairman, said. The questionnaire on organizations includes how many members, how many active members, how many officers, purpose of organization, projects which they might consider,

Mimeographing and assembling a report for one of the meetings. Already 12 reams of paper have been used for reports.



This group is discussing sports and how they help Colfax progress.



Young and old get together in the Colfax "Town and Country" sessions.

mittee will survey current facilities. These include the theater, private clubs, golf course, church-sponsored recreational groups, juvenile fish pond, parks and outdoor swimming pool, school and Legion-sponsored sports activities and a city-sponsored summer recreation program.

THE 22-week agenda, as outlined by Don Schmick, general chairman, includes a participation and leadership workshop; discussion of population report, showing proportion of people in each age group; study of social agencies, including services provided by state agencies, Red Cross and what need there is for Community Chest; study of housing, types of homes and availability of housing for young couples and new families; re-

ment, beautification, health, history and economic development, including agriculture, industry-labor and trades and services.

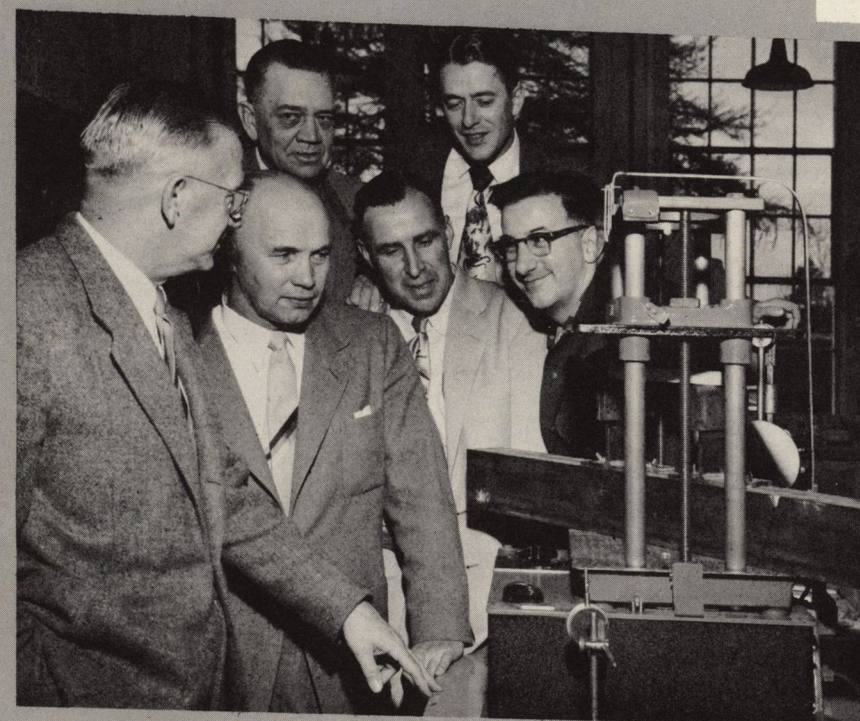
Report of the history committee on how the town was founded and what bearing historical events have on today is the last report. "This is because it takes a long time to dig up history and more is constantly added," Vern Koenig, U. of W. community development consultant, said.

"THE trades and services committee," said Rome Endsley, local business man, "is approaching its phase of community life with the realization that the business section is the prime drawing card. We are conducting two surveys—one among consumers asking them where they buy,

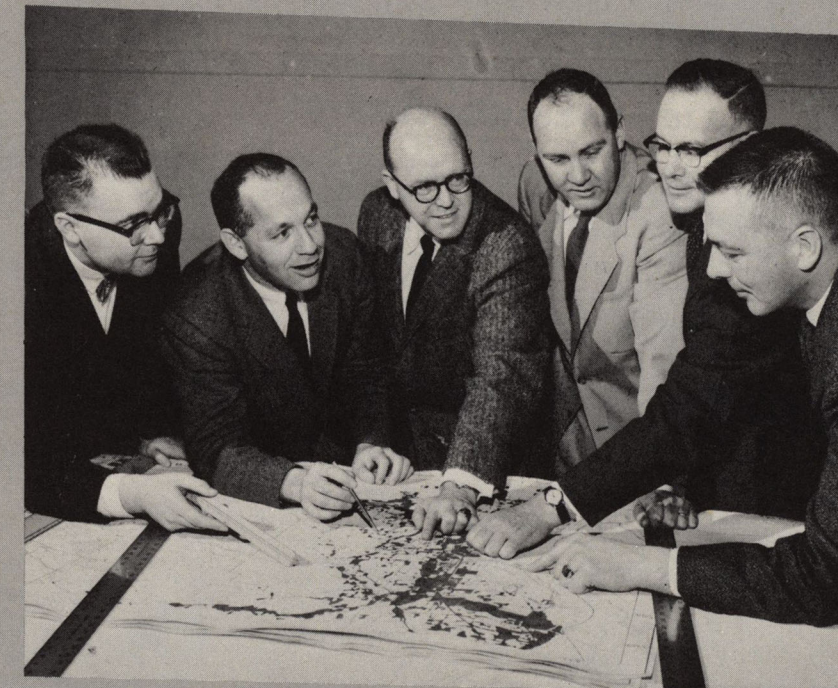


This group, made up of plumber, school superintendent, housewife, attorney, title company employee and poultry raiser, discusses how Colfax gets along with neighbors.

Resource people from the University assist communities with their problems.



Professor Gordon D. Marckworth, Dean of the School of Forestry at the University of Washington, discusses forest problems with citizens from Packwood.



A group from Lake Stevens analyzes a map of the area with Professors Myer R. Wolfe of the College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and John C. Sherman, Department of Geography.



Television studios assist in presenting community development to the public. Verne Koenig, Bureau Consultant, talks with community leaders in the foreground. In the background are Dr. Laura Crowell, Professor in the Department of Speech, with Frank Anderson, Bureau Director. Gordon Tuell, Production Manager of Educational TV (KCTS), is at the camera.



Campus workshops are part of the Community Development program. Citizens from Woodland met in a community committees workshop with Bernard Burke, Bureau Consultant.



Workshops are also held off-campus. Three University professors conducted discussion workshops. From left, Dr. Gale Richards, Dr. Laura Crowell, Dr. Thomas Nilsen.



ORGANIZING ONE OF MANY STUDY  
COMMITTEES



MIMEOGRAPH COMMITTEE  
REPRODUCING REPORTS  
TO BE MADE AVAILABLE  
TO THE COMMUNITY



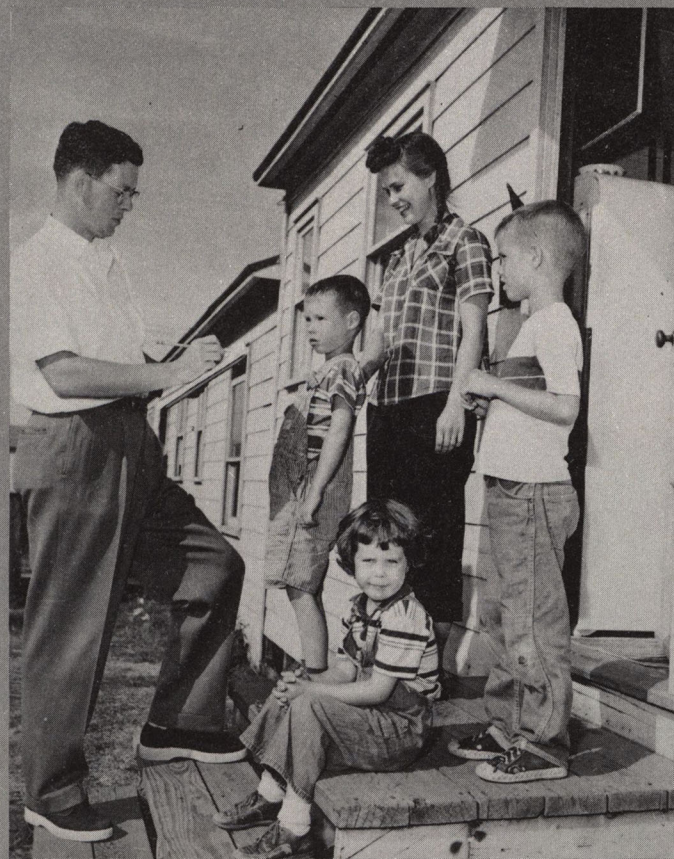
COMMITTEE RESEARCH



COMMITTEE REPORT  
BEING DISCUSSED  
IN WEEKLY TOWN  
MEETING



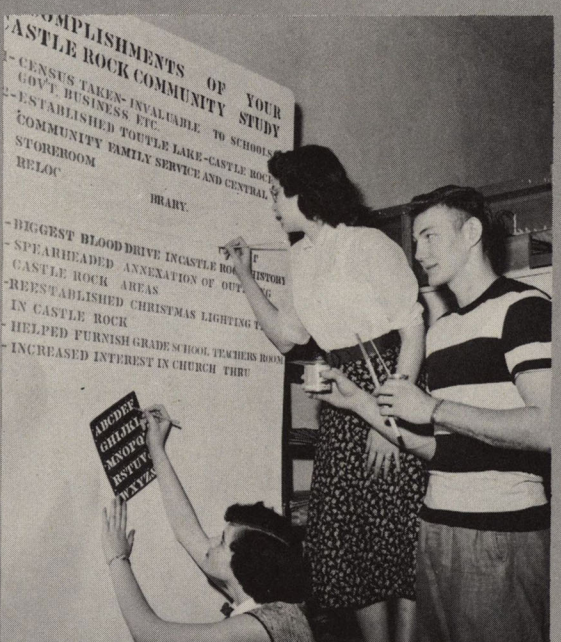
DEVELOPING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



A MEMBER OF A SURVEY TEAM GATHERING  
COMMUNITY INFORMATION



COMMITTEE REPORT TURNED INTO ACTION



COMMUNITY EVALUATION





# AROUND THE STATE

## IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### what is COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IS A SERVICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TO COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE. ON REQUEST, THE BUREAU OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS A LIMITED NUMBER OF TOWNS WITH YEAR-LONG STUDY PROGRAMS. CONSULTANTS PROVIDE GUIDANCE IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNITY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION AND STUDY OF COMMUNITY PROBLEMS. RESOURCE PEOPLE FROM THE UNIVERSITY AND ELSEWHERE ARE CALLED UPON TO PROVIDE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS REQUIRING SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE.

THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED SO THAT INDIVIDUALS MAY INFORM THEMSELVES ON ALL ASPECTS OF COMMUNITY LIFE. WRITTEN REPORTS PREPARED BY CITIZEN FACT-FINDING COMMITTEES ARE SUBMITTED TO TOWN MEETINGS WHERE FREE AND OPEN DISCUSSION TAKES PLACE IN SMALL GROUPS. THE TOWN MEETING METHOD PROVIDES A DIRECT DEMOCRATIC MEANS FOR FINDING SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS ON A COMMUNITY-WIDE SCALE:



### THE PURPOSE of this brochure

THIS BROCHURE HAS BEEN PREPARED TO ILLUSTRATE SOME EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AROUND THE STATE.



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BUREAU OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF ADULT EDUCATION AND EXTENSION SERVICES