



A study of the factors that may affect the leisure time of rural homemakers in Montana
by Blanche Metheney Kuschke

A Thesis submitted to the Graduate Committee in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree
of Master of Science in Home Economics

Montana State University

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Abstract:

In this study, the following Indications have been noted* 1. The total average work period per week for the rural homemaker In amounts to about 65 hours, with 54 hours per week devoted to all homemaking activities, and 10 hours, to farm work.

2. The time spent In all homemaking and each of its types of activities corresponds very closely to the results obtained by similar studies in Washington, Oregon, and Rhode Island.

3. Leisure time is usually affected by the amount of time spent in work. As work Increases, leisure tends to decrease.

4. The type or size of farm does not seem to effect the homemaker's liesure time to any noticeable degree.

5» from the data available, no relationship could be seen between the annual farm income and the homemaker's leisure time.

6. The size of the household did not appear to show any preceptible effect upon the time left for the homemaker's leisure.

7* When the family contained small children under six years of age, this caused an Increase In the home working time and reduced the homemaker's leisure period. Similar results were obtained In the Oregon study.

S. The use of electricity in the rural home shows a tendency to reduce the time for home work and Increase the leisure time.

9. The use of such equipment as a sink with drain In the kitchen does not seem to Influence the leisure time, although the homemaking time was reduced.

10. Listening to the radio plays a part in the leisure of the rural homemaker.

11. The automobile contributes a definite share to the period of leisure.

12. The managerial ability of the homemaker is an Important factor In determining the amount of her leisure.

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A Thesis submitted to the Graduate Committee
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IN
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	1
HISTORY	3
EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE	6
Securing Time Records	6
Handling Time Records	6
RESULTS	9
Use of Time by Individual Homemakers	9
Average Use of Time	10
Time Spent in All Work	21, 24
Time Spent in Homemaking Work	21, 24, 28, 29
Activities Included in Homemaking	21
Time Spent in Farm Work	21, 31
Time Spent Away From Home	21, 31, 32
Time Spent in Personal Activities	21, 32, 34
Time Spent in Sleep	21, 33, 36
Time Spent in Eating	21, 33, 36
Time Spent in Care of Self	21, 33, 37
Time Spent in Leisure	21, 33, 37, 38
Kinds of Leisure	41, 42, 44
DISCUSSION	46
Factors Affecting Leisure	46
Work	46, 47, 49
Homemaking work	47
Farm work	47

Type of farm	Page 50
Size of farm	50
Income	51
Size of Household	52
Number of children	52
Electricity	54
Sink and drain	55
Radio	55
Automobile	55
Managerial ability	56
SUMMARY	57
CONCLUSIONS	59
BIBLIOGRAPHY	60
APPENDIX	62

A STUDY OF THE FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT
THE LEISURE TIME OF RURAL HOMEMAKERS
IN MONTANA.

INTRODUCTION

In the plan of life, man has been endowed with certain possessions and privileges. To merely satisfy the physical needs, nature has supplied him with air and water, and the ability to secure food, clothing and shelter. To stimulate mental activity, he has been given the finer senses to aid him in making careful discriminations regarding his surroundings. All of these, however, would be of little value, if he failed to receive another gift,- the gift of time, his life's span.

From this standpoint, it would seem that life is actually the expenditure of a certain amount of time, and as a component of life, time then becomes an extremely valuable possession. If this fact is recognized, time is also adopted as a medium of exchange and the spender is most vitally interested in the value received.

An analysis of the use of a twenty-four hour day at once reveals the fact, that practically every person spends almost a third of this period in sleep. As this demand on time is made by nature, man rarely questions the expenditure for he feels that full value is received through a refreshed body and mind. The use of the remainder of the day, however, is determined voluntarily by each individual. If he lives under normal conditions, about one-half of this time will be devoted to work and the other half, to such personal activities as eating, care of self, coming and going, and leisure.

The term leisure is used here to denote freedom from regular occupation and time spent as one chooses.

There has been a steadily growing feeling that in this busy world, too much time has been given over to work and too little, to leisure. As a result, many new mechanical devices and efficiency experts have been introduced into business establishments for the purpose of economising time as well as reducing cost of operation. These have led to the shorter working day and freedom to develop in other ways.

Very gradually, some of the methods used in business are being adopted in the home, but as an institution, it has been slow to feel the need of time and energy conservation. The regular routine of family life has seemed more or less fixed as the result of established habits, and changes have more often been the natural outgrowth of conditions than of well developed plans for improvement.

Only as the homemaker, herself, begins to comprehend the relative values of work and leisure time, will she develop a more business-like method in her home. She will understand that hours spent in household work contribute to the physical well-being of her family, but that those, devoted to a wise use of leisure, prepare her for the greater task of homemaking. To place the right evaluation on all duties and rate each one for its real contribution to the whole plan of managing the home, determines what portion of the day she shall have for her leisure hours.

So little is known about the present distribution of homemakers' time, that the question is beginning to attract the attention of home economists and other leaders in home education. As it is commonly believed that the

rural homemaker is obliged to spend more time in work and less in leisure than the one in town, it has been especially interesting to obtain some definite data about the use of time by the rural homemakers in Montana.

HISTORY

The idea of studying the use of time in the home is not entirely new. This has been one of the underlying principles in the development of the work in home economics. In the earliest records of the Home Economics Association may be found various references to the need for a more satisfactory use of time. At the meeting in 1901, Miss Caroline Hunt (1) of Lewis Institute, Chicago, presented an article concerning re-valuations of work in relation to time, thus showing the trend of thought at that date. Mrs. Mary Wade (2) also spoke about the time spent in food preparation. She said, "It is a great waste of time to spend several hours preparing an elaborate dish, which will be eaten in fifteen minutes and after that makes the partaker no happier. Time spent in cooking food in a better, more palatable, and economical manner is time well spent."

In 1902, still another phase of time value was considered by Mrs. Alice Norton (3) from the University of Chicago. She discussed what should be done with time set free by modern methods, showing that thought was being directed toward the use of leisure time.

Since that time many other suggestions have been given through the records of the national meetings of home economists, that indicate the interest in time conservation and the true value of leisure.

Other individuals have devoted their efforts to the placing of

homemaking on a more business-like basis. Some have been interested in shortening the time of the working period by a more careful arrangement of the working area in the house as well as the equipment that is to be used. Georgie Boynton Child (4) in her book, "The Efficient Kitchen", gives the results of her own personal experience as a housewife in efficient working arrangements and has been a real guide to other homemakers. Mrs. Lillian Gilbreth (5) makes another contribution along this line in her book, "The Homemaker and Her Job". This is based entirely upon her own experiences in making a home for a large family and on the knowledge gained through her contact with business efficiency methods. She believes that time for leisure may be increased through elimination of waste motion while working.

Many valuable suggestions for both country and city women, regarding the use of their time, may be gained from Mary Meek Atkeson's book, "The Woman on the Farm". (6) She suggests that every woman should actually know how much time she spends each day in various activities. She advocates the use of a daily time record as pictured in Fig. 1. Some reports on house-keeping experiments are found in "The Business of Home Management" by Mary Pattison, (7), based on some research conducted at an experiment station in Colonia, New Jersey. Here, again, an attempt was made to reduce waste in the working time in the home by making time and motion studies.

Another type of information has been developed through investigations made by economists. They have studied the use of time in connection with the whole plan for home management. Taber, in "The Business of the Household" (8) and Andrews, in "Economics of the Household" (9), give attention to equipment, house arrangement and budgeting of time to secure the greatest economic returns. "The time element in house work", is discussed at length in

"Successful Family Life", by Abel (10). Under this title, she considers the different factors which determine the use of time, such as, choosing exactly what has to be done; the re-adjustment necessary in the house to save time; well-arranged equipment; labor-saving devices; well planned work; and family cooperation.

Another factor that affects the use of time in the home is the income, and by income is meant more than the dollars and cents of the net income. Energy, ability, experience and time are the four things linked together to make up what the economists call, "the labor income". Lord (11) says, "The labor income must be considered with the money income in the establishing of the home on a real paying business basis".

As the research work in home problems has begun to develop throughout the country, the study of the use of time by homemakers has already been given special consideration. The Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture has been collecting data on this subject for several years and seven of the state experiment stations have been working in cooperation. As their time is largely spent in dealing with rural problems, it is to be expected that the first reports would include principally the records from rural homemakers. The experiment stations of Nebraska (12), Oregon (13), Rhode Island (14), Washington (15), and South Carolina (16) have recently completed bulletins pertaining to the use of time. As Montana is one of the cooperating states, the material here presented will eventually form a part of a nation-wide study.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

In order to secure definite information regarding the use of time by farm homemakers, a special study was carried on. This followed the plan of the more extensive study made by the Bureau of Home Economics, United States Department of Agriculture. The blanks used for the collection and arrangement of data were provided by that department.

In the first place, seven representative rural districts in various parts of Montana were selected for the study. One woman, in each of the seven communities, was then appointed as field agent and it was her duty to select homemakers who would keep the records and supply any additional information that was necessary.

After the group was organized, the field agent assisted each of the cooperating homemakers to fill out a survey blank containing about two hundred questions, which gave a rather complete picture of each individual home. Some of the questions that had a special relation to the use of the homemaker's time were: the type of farm; size of the farm; amount of stock and poultry; annual income from all sources; size of the house; list of all home equipment and conveniences; size of the family and age of each member; distance from town; and opportunities for social contacts.

The homemaker then kept her time record covering a period of one week (seven consecutive days including Sunday). A week was selected which would probably be typical of daily and weekly activities. For each day of the week, one daily time record was filled out as reproduced in Fig. 1. It consisted of the two clock faces that represent the twenty-four hours of the day. Each hour division was subdivided into twelve five-minute periods.

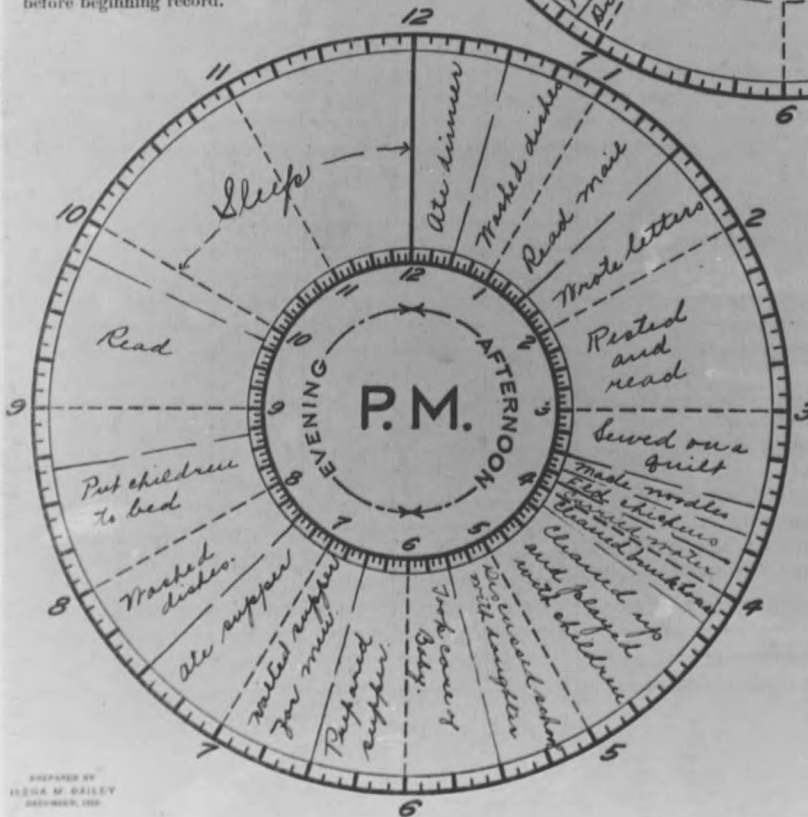
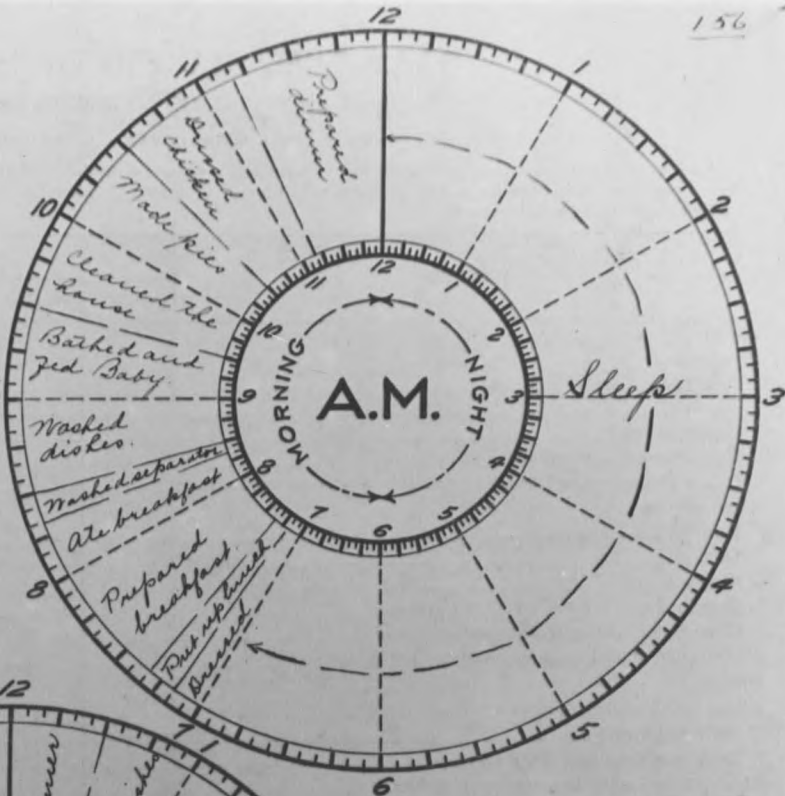
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF HOME ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DAILY TIME RECORD OF HOMEMAKER

Name Mrs. John Brown
Address R.R. #1
Nelva Montana
Day of week Monday
Date Feb 9, 1929

Each small space between the hours on the "clock" represents five minutes. Begin this day's record by drawing a line on "A. M. clock" from outer to inner circles at time of arising. At end of time given to the next activity draw another line, and in space between lines describe this activity. Continue in this way changing to "P. M. clock" at noon and accounting for all of the 24 hours of the day.

Read separate "Instructions" carefully before beginning record.



NUMBER OF PERSONS

	Lodging	At meals (including lunches put up)		
		Breakfast	Dinner	Lunch or supper
Family	5	5	5	5
Guests				
Boarders and roomers				
Household help				
Farm help	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	6	6	6	6

NOTES

FIGURE 1.

This permitted activities requiring five minutes or more to be entered on the dial. Special request was made that each activity should be recorded soon after its performance and that the entry should state just what was done. It was also desired that as many as possible of these homemakers would repeat the keeping of time records during another week, about six months later.

All the data collected on these records was then assembled and classified under the following major headings:

I. Time used for homemaking work.

1. Foods - preparing, serving, clearing away.
2. House - its care and maintenance.
3. Clothing - making, mending, care.
4. Care of members of the household.
5. Home management - planning for home.

II. Time used for farm work.

1. Dairy, poultry, garden, etc.

III. Time used for other work.

1. Paid work.

IV. Time used for personal activities at home.

1. Sleep.
2. Eating.
3. Care of person.
4. Leisure.

V. All time away from home.

VI. Miscellaneous use of time.

From this classification, it was possible to make a careful study of the daily and weekly distribution of time and the factors affecting the amount of leisure.

RESULTS

As the result of this study, forty-seven rural homemakers kept the time records for the period of one week, each. Of this number, twenty-six individuals filled out a second week's record about six months later. A majority of the seventy-three records was kept during spring or fall months, thus omitting data from the very busy summer season and making the results a more normal average for the remainder of the year.

These forty-seven homemakers were located in the following seven counties of Montana: Gallatin, Fergus, Lewis and Clark, Missoula, Sanders, Valley and Yellowstone. The types of farms they represent have been divided into two main classes,- (1) dry land farms, (2) farms where irrigation is carried on. Thirteen women reported from the first type of farm while thirty-four, from irrigated districts.

In Tables I and II will be found the distribution of a week's time for each of the forty-seven homemakers, who kept the first record. This distribution is based on the classification previously described. Table I shows the time devoted to the three classes of work. Table II presents the time devoted to personal activities, time spent away from home and miscellaneous time. In both cases, the average or mean time per week and per day has been determined for each division in the time record.

In Tables III and IV, similar data is shown for the twenty-six homemakers that kept the second week's record. As the data is presented, hours will be denoted by one apostrophe (') and minutes, by two apostrophes (").

TABLE I. TIME SPENT IN ALL TYPES OF WORK BY FORTY-SEVEN INDIVIDUAL
HOMEMAKERS.

Farm No.	Homemaking Work					Farm Work	Other Work	Total Work
	Food	House	Cloth- ing	Care of others	Home Mgt.			
17	21' 20"	9' 55"	16' 30"	7' 45"	-' -"	3' 40"	-' -"	59' 10"
18	20 10	8 10	17 05	0 15	0 55	4 30	- -	51 05
20	31 35	9 00	8 55	- -	- -	31 05	- -	80 35
22	29 05	10 00	10 25	0 30	0 35	2 00	- -	52 35
25	30 40	8 00	18 35	1 00	2 30	13 35	- -	74 20
26	31 10	4 10	12 35	0 25	3 40	25 55	- -	77 55
27	25 25	5 15	20 25	11 15	- -	4 45	- -	67 05
29	27 10	12 15	- -	- -	- -	3 15	- -	42 40
31	33 00	10 40	21 15	6 00	- -	11 20	- -	82 15
32	28 15	8 15	17 15	3 35	0 55	14 15	- -	72 35
33	32 50	7 00	6 55	7 35	0 50	8 30	- -	63 40
39	32 10	10 40	13 50	- -	- -	15 25	- -	72 05
40	27 25	17 50	25 25	0 20	- -	6 45	- -	77 45
41	22 10	15 40	12 30	- -	- -	4 30	- -	54 50
44	30 05	6 35	31 05	0 35	- -	7 25	- -	75 45
47	22 35	11 20	8 40	33 15	- -	2 25	- -	78 15
48	23 25	14 40	14 50	26 05	1 30	- -	- -	80 30
51	29 25	13 35	9 10	10 50	- -	9 25	- -	72 25
52	29 15	10 55	9 40	5 40	- -	6 30	- -	62 00
55	25 10	8 30	7 50	- -	0 45	1 15	11 40	55 10
61	24 25	11 50	23 55	9 40	2 00	4 30	- -	76 20

Table I (Cont'd)

Farm No.	Homemaking Work					Farm Work	Other Work	Total Work
	Food	House	Cloth- ing	Care of others	Home Mgt.			
65	21' 45"	8' 30"	6' 15"	16' 50"	0' 30"	3' 25"	-' -"	57' 15"
68	23 55	12 30	14 45	7 05	0 10	2 25	- -	60 50
70	27 15	12 15	14 00	0 45	0 30	8 55	- -	63 40
71	19 25	8 15	13 20	4 20	0 15	9 50	- -	55 25
76	19 00	6 15	4 45	2 30	0 30	25 15	- -	58 15
78	24 15	9 05	10 15	8 25	0 30	7 40	- -	60 10
79	27 30	8 25	3 15	5 10	- -	26 10	- -	70 30
80	12 20	7 35	6 50	0 25	- -	12 15	- -	39 25
83	26 20	12 20	6 00	1 45	6 15	8 05	- -	60 45
85	27 15	7 15	7 15	3 20	- -	8 20	- -	53 25
86	34 40	9 45	10 15	3 45	1 00	12 35	- -	72 00
94	17 45	4 20	5 40	- -	- -	22 40	- -	50 25
96	25 50	8 20	11 50	- -	- -	1 30	- -	47 30
98	30 45	9 15	13 00	- -	- -	5 30	- -	58 30
99	26 05	4 35	6 05	11 40	1 50	4 35	- -	54 50
106	21 45	18 50	9 00	- -	1 30	11 25	- -	62 30
107	38 25	7 40	4 55	4 20	- -	5 45	- -	61 05
108	34 40	11 15	14 40	- -	5 00	7 45	- -	73 20
109	22 25	6 10	18 25	- -	1 15	39 05	- -	87 20
110	32 25	5 50	6 10	5 25	- -	14 10	- -	64 00
111	21 25	9 05	10 35	3 45	1 15	11 25	- -	57 30
112	26 15	4 35	18 25	17 30	- -	6 30	- -	73 15
113	26 00	5 15	18 55	13 45	2 15	9 55	- -	76 05

Table I (Cont'd)

Farm No.	Homemaking Work					Farm Work	Other Work	Total Work
	Food	House	Cloth- ing	Care of others	Home Mgt.			
114	32' 05"	7' 45"	17' 25"	1' 40"	1' 30"	23' 55"	-' -"	84' 20"
117	33 55	7 45	8 00	- -	2 00	6 00	- -	57 40
121	28 10	6 00	17 40	3 25	- -	20 05	- -	75 20
Total	1258' 20"	433' 05"	584' 30"	240' 35"	39' 55"	496' 10"	11' 40"	3064' 15"
Ave. per wk.	26' 45"	9' 15"	12' 25"	5' 05"	0' 50"	10' 35"	0' 15"	65' 10"
Ave. per day	3' 50"	1' 20"	1' 45"	0' 45"	0' 07"	1' 30"	0' 02"	9' 20"

TABLE II. TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN ALL PERSONAL ACTIVITIES, TIME AWAY, AND MISCELLANEOUS USE OF TIME BY FORTY-SEVEN INDIVIDUAL HOMEMAKERS.

Farm No.	Personal Activities				Time Away	Misc. Time
	Sleep	Eating	Self Care	Leisure		
17	61' 15"	6' 50"	6' 55"	11' 25"	20' 30"	1' 55"
18	63 15	6 40	5 50	30 40	10 30	- -
20	58 55	7 50	3 35	11 35	5 30	- -
22	52 50	7 35	4 50	11 05	31 30	7 35
25	59 00	11 50	4 40	7 50	10 20	- -
26	55 15	7 40	2 45	15 55	8 30	- -
27	65 45	9 55	3 15	22 00	- -	- -
29	63 25	13 10	2 50	35 55	10 00	- -
31	50 45	12 10	3 40	13 55	5 15	- -
32	62 45	5 45	4 15	19 35	2 25	0 45
33	56 40	9 15	6 40	9 25	22 20	- -
39	51 10	11 10	3 25	14 10	16 00	- -
40	53 30	6 05	4 15	24 25	2 00	- -
41	63 00	9 10	2 15	36 45	2 00	- -
44	53 35	9 25	3 55	10 50	14 00	0 30
47	51 40	8 55	5 55	18 30	4 45	- -
48	62 35	8 45	4 40	11 10	- -	0 20
51	60 15	6 45	5 25	13 10	8 55	1 05
52	57 30	9 30	5 00	17 30	16 30	- -
55	62 30	9 45	4 00	25 15	10 40	0 40
61	62 05	10 10	2 35	16 05	- -	- -

Table II (Cont'd.)

Farm No.	Personal Activities				Time Away	Misc. Time
	Sleep	Eating	Self Care	Leisure		
65	59' 50"	10' 55"	3' 15"	23' 50"	12' 55"	-' -"
68	69 35	10 35	3 35	19 40	3 45	- -
70	66 15	8 20	4 45	10 00	15 00	- -
71	59 35	13 50	5 35	14 20	19 05	0 10
76	69 15	8 20	4 25	16 45	11 00	- -
78	65 15	9 20	3 00	18 30	11 45	- -
79	63 45	9 50	3 20	13 20	7 15	-- -
80	60 35	9 10	7 10	15 40	36 00	- -
83	58 45	11 10	3 30	19 35	14 15	- -
85	69 15	12 10	4 50	14 55	13 25	- -
86	51 30	10 15	5 05	12 35	16 35	- -
94	67 40	7 55	6 25	20 50	13 30	1 15
96	60 15	10 25	6 00	15 55	27 55	- -
98	62 30	9 00	4 30	16 30	17 00	- -
99	62 05	11 05	6 10	21 05	10 15	2 30
106	57 45	6 00	1 40	28 05	10 15	1 45
107	54 40	15 05	3 15	26 50	7 05	- -
108	54 10	10 00	5 55	21 50	2 45	- -
109	50 00	7 20	3 10	15 55	4 15	- -
110	67 20	12 10	2 35	16 50	5 05	- -
111	66 00	3 50	1 00	21 30	18 10	- -
112	58 50	10 20	3 20	22 15	- -	- -
113	59 05	9 10	3 45	12 10	7 45	- -

Table II (Cont'd.)

Farm No.	Personal Activities				Time Away	Misc. Time
	Sleep	Eating	Self Care	Leisure		
114	58' 15"	9' 45"	2' 20"	9' 35"	3' 45"	-' -"
117	53 10	9 40	3 00	43 55	0 35	- -
121	62 10	9 45	3 40	11 30	5 35	- -
Total	2815' 10"	443' 45"	195' 55"	861' 50"	496' 35"	18' 30"
Ave. per wk.	59' 55"	9' 25"	4' 10"	18' 20"	10' 35"	0' 25"
Ave. per day	8' 35"	1' 20"	0' 35"	2' 40"	1' 30"	0' 04

TABLE III. TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN ALL TYPES OF WORK BY TWENTY-SIX INDIVIDUAL HOMEMAKERS, WHO KEPT A SECOND RECORD.

Farm No.	Homemaking Work					Farm Work	Other Work	Total Work
	Food	House	Cloth- ing	Care of others	Home Mkt.			
17	17' 00"	3' 45"	31' 00"	-' -"	1' 50"	14' 50"	-' -"	66' 25"
18	30 30	2 15	3 30	1 00	0 30	0 15	37 30	75 30
20	27 15	10 30	13 50	0 45	1 00	12 55	- -	66 15
22	30 20	15 10	8 45	- -	1 30	12 55	11 00	79 40
25	24 00	14 05	14 00	0 55	1 10	17 10	- -	71 20
26	30 20	9 20	4 35	1 10	0 30	16 30	- -	62 25
27	25 00	6 05	6 25	0 15	- -	6 35	- -	44 20
31	26 40	9 20	10 30	6 15	1 35	1 15	- -	55 35
32	25 25	7 55	9 10	12 35	- -	2 10	- -	57 15
39	20 45	3 50	23 10	- -	- -	7 25	- -	55 10
44	29 00	10 35	17 25	2 35	- -	- -	- -	59 35
47	17 15	11 05	7 05	15 25	- -	6 05	- -	56 55
48	34 45	12 25	9 25	12 30	1 50	- -	- -	70 55
61	20 25	6 10	6 00	6 10	0 45	4 25	- -	43 55
65	18 25	9 55	10 55	9 20	- -	5 35	- -	54 10
68	26 10	8 20	8 30	19 25	- -	1 40	- -	64 05
70	21 50	7 40	12 00	0 45	- -	17 20	- -	59 35
71	10 30	8 25	4 50	3 25	0 50	15 35	- -	43 35
78	25 40	8 45	14 25	6 20	- -	12 50	- -	68 00
80	23 55	10 45	5 35	3 05	- 30	11 50	- -	55 40

Table III (Cont'd.)

Farm No.	Homemaking Work					Farm Work	Other Work	Total Work
	Food	House	Clothing	Care of others	Home Mgt.			
85	23' 55"	12' 40"	12' 55"	5' 45"	-' -"	11' 00"	-' -"	66' 15"
106	22 55	12 55	7 45	- -	2 00	10 50	- -	56 25
111	20 45	12 55	11 00	3 00	0 50	7 20	- -	55 50
112	24 50	11 10	14 05	19 10	1 30	6 15	- -	77 00
113	19 45	6 45	20 25	14 55	4 30	8 40	- -	75 00
121	20 05	6 00	12 25	1 05	- -	27 50	- -	67 25
Total	617' 25"	238' 45"	299' 40"	145' 50"	20' 50"	239' 15"	48' 30"	1610' 15"
Ave. per wk.	23' 45"	9' 10"	11' 20"	5' 40"	0' 50"	9' 15"	1' 50"	61' 55"
Ave. per day	3' 25"	1' 20"	1' 45"	0' 50"	0' 07"	1' 20"	0' 15"	9' 00"

TABLE IV. TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN ALL PERSONAL ACTIVITIES, TIME AWAY, AND MISCELLANEOUS USE OF TIME BY TWENTY-SIX INDIVIDUAL HOME-MAKERS, WHO KEPT A SECOND RECORD.

Farm No.	Personal Activities				Time Away	Misc. Time
	Sleep	Eating	Self Care	Leisure		
17	59: 45"	10: 40"	5: 10"	11: 25"	12: 35"	-: -"
18	59 25	5 00	4 50	7 30	15 45	- -
20	67 40	10 15	1 30	18 50	3 30	- -
22	50 15	8 45	5 10	15 20	7 35	1 15
25	61 00	11 15	4 20	9 30	10 35	- -
26	69 00	10 25	3 50	19 20	3 00	- -
27	73 15	8 45	3 30	19 25	18 45	- -
31	59 55	8 00	5 10	14 10	24 40	0 30
32	71 15	5 15	2 10	18 55	13 10	- -
39	55 15	10 00	2 35	26 15	18 45	- -
44	59 55	8 10	3 00	37 20	- -	- -
47	60 50	8 20	5 15	24 40	12 00	- -
48	63 00	10 35	7 25	8 20	7 45	- -
61	59 25	15 00	4 00	29 45	15 40	0 15
65	58 40	10 35	3 30	20 30	19 55	0 40
68	57 40	12 25	4 05	27 00	2 45	- -
70	64 00	10 25	3 25	16 40	13 55	- -
71	62 30	13 15	3 50	13 45	23 35	7 30
78	62 10	7 45	4 40	20 25	5 00	- -
80	52 00	10 35	4 50	20 55	23 45	0 15

Table IV (Cont'd.)

Farm No.	Personal Activities				Time Away	Misc. Time
	Sleep	Eating	Self Care	Leisure		
85	68' 55"	9' 30"	3' 00"	8' 10"	10' 05"	2' 05"
106	60 00	6 30	0 45	29 15	12 05	3 00
111	61 10	4 25	4 05	24 20	17 55	0 15
112	56 30	9 10	4 05	16 45	4 30	- -
113	59 00	10 10	3 40	9 00	10 40	0 30
121	64 25	5 25	4 00	10 45	16 00	- -
Total	1596' 55"	240' 35"	101' 50"	478' 15"	323' 55"	16' 15"
Ave. per wk.	61' 25"	9' 15"	3' 55"	18' 25"	12' 30"	0' 40"
Ave. per day	8' 10"	1' 20"	0' 35"	2' 40"	1' 45"	0' 06"

From the detailed data recorded in Tables I and II, the first interesting facts are found in the average or mean time spent by the forty-seven homemakers per week in each type of activity. A summary of this information follows in Table V, while Table VI shows the same information as derived from the second records, shown in Tables III and IV.

In order to illustrate more clearly the proportional distribution of average time usage during a week, a chart has been prepared in Fig. 2 showing that 38% of a week's time is spent doing work; 6.5% in all time away and miscellaneous time; while 54% constitutes the portion used for personal activities, including sleep.

Fig. 3 presents a chart showing the same information about the twenty-six homemakers who kept the second record. Here, 36% of the week's time is spent doing work; 7.8% in all time away and miscellaneous time; and 55% for personal activities.

A comparison of Figs. 2 and 3 shows so much similarity in the average rate of time distribution, that only the forty-seven individual records will be considered in the following analysis.

From the preceding figures, it may easily be seen that the homemaker's time naturally falls into three divisions. They will be considered in the following order:

1. Work.

The work day of the rural woman often involves a greater variety of activities than is carried on by the town homemaker. One reason may be found in the fact that most farms raise large flocks of poultry and it has become

TABLE V. AVERAGE TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN EACH TYPE OF ACTIVITY BY FORTY-SEVEN HOMEMAKERS.

Type of Activity	Time Spent per Week	Percent of Time Spent per Week
I Homemaking Work		
1. Foods	26' 45"	15.9%
2. Care of House	9 15	5.5
3. Care of Clothing	12 25	7.4
4. Care of Others	5 5	3.0
5. Home Mgt.	0 50	0.5
Total	54' 20"	32.3%
II Farm Work	10' 35"	6.4%
III Other Work	0 15	0.1
Total Work	65' 10"	38.8%
IV Personal Activities		
1. Sleep	59' 55"	35.7%
2. Eating	9 25	5.6
3. Self Care	4 10	2.5
4. Leisure	16 20	10.9
Total Pers. Act.	91' 50"	54.7%
V Time Away	10' 35"	6.3%
VI Misc. Time	0 25	0.2
Total Week	168' 0"	100.0%

TABLE VI. AVERAGE TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN EACH TYPE OF ACTIVITY BY TWENTY-SIX HOMEMAHERS, WHO KEPT A SECOND RECORD.

Type of Activity	Time Spent per Week	Percent of Time Spent per Week
I Homemaking Work		
1. Foods	23' 45"	14.1%
2. Care of House	9 10	5.5
3. Care of Clothing	11 20	6.7
4. Care of Others	5 40	3.4
5. Home Mgt.	0 50	0.5
Total	50' 45"	30.2
II Farm Work	9' 15"	5.5%
III Other Work	1 50	1.7
Total Work	61' 50"	36.8%
IV Personal Activities		
1. Sleep	61' 25"	36.6%
2. Eating	9' 15"	5.5%
3. Self Care	3' 55"	2.3%
4. Leisure	18' 25"	11.0%
Total Pers. Act.	93' 00"	55.4%
V Time Away	12' 30"	7.4%
VI Misc. Time	0 40	0.4
Total Week	166' 00"	100.0%

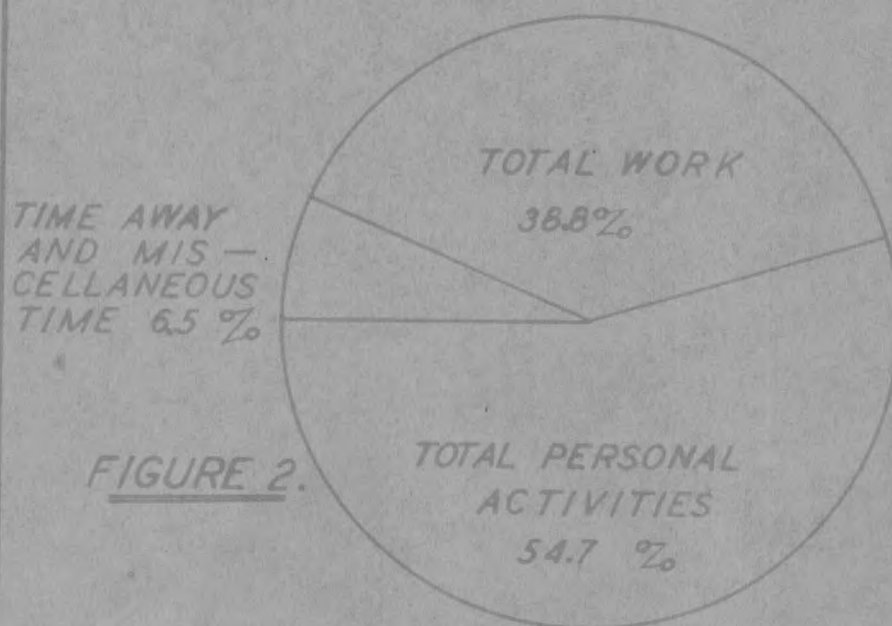


FIGURE 2.

AVERAGE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPEND-
ITURE OF A WEEK'S TIME BY FORTY-SEVEN HOME-
MAKERS (TABLE V.)

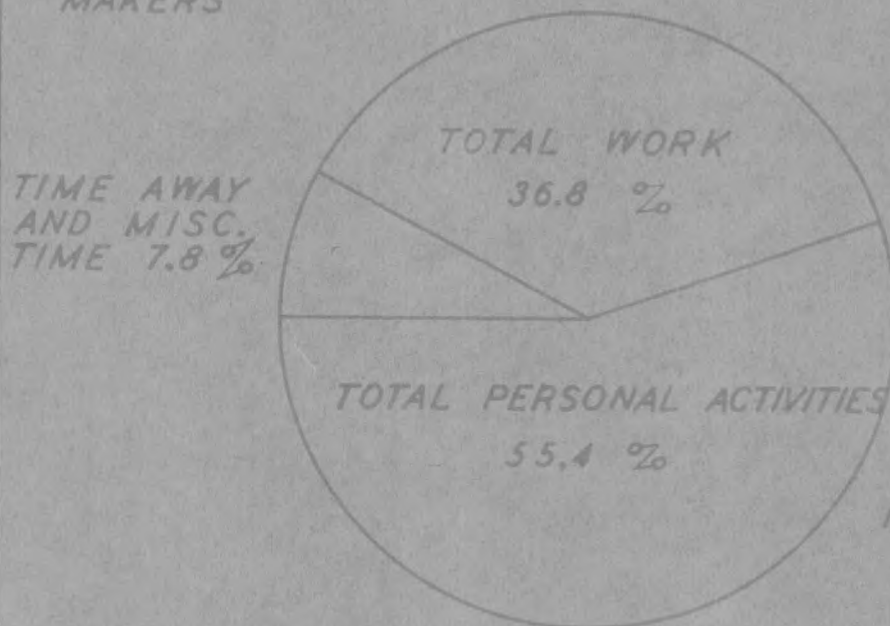


FIGURE 3.

AVERAGE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPEND-
ITURE OF A WEEK'S TIME BY TWENTY-SIX
HOMEMAKERS WHO KEPT A SECOND RECORD
(TABLE VI)

customary for the woman on the farm to assume this responsibility. The care of the vegetable garden and the grounds about the house frequently falls upon the housewife in many cases. Much of the work connected with dairy products is a part of her duty, such as, washing the milk separator and churning. Often, in addition to preparing regular meals, she must also put up lunches for hired help and her children in school.

From this study of the working time recorded by Montana rural homemakers, the total average working week was found (Table V) to be 65 hours and 10 minutes, which was divided into the three types of work, as follows: homemaking work, 54 hours and 20 minutes; farm work, 10 hours and 35 minutes; and other or paid work, 15 minutes. Fig. 4 represents the average percentage of all working time given to the three divisions of work.

While the above data represents the average working week of the forty-seven homemakers, further study of Table I reveals the fact that there is a wide variation among individuals. The shortest record was 39 hours and 25 minutes, while the longest was 87 hours and 20 minutes. This led to a desire for more information about the distribution of these homemakers within this wide range. Consequently, by using a scale of seven-hour periods, the forty-seven homemakers were grouped as shown in Table VII. A graphic illustration of this will also be found in Fig. 5. A feature of this graph that may prove significant, is the appearance of two peaks and the fact that the mean is not coincident with either of these peaks.

As might be expected, an average of 83% of the working week was spent in homemaking, amounting to 54 hours and 20 minutes. Again, individuals showed considerable variation, ranging from 27 hours and 10 minutes to 80 hours and 30 minutes. To present an idea of the way homemakers are

54 20"
Table VII

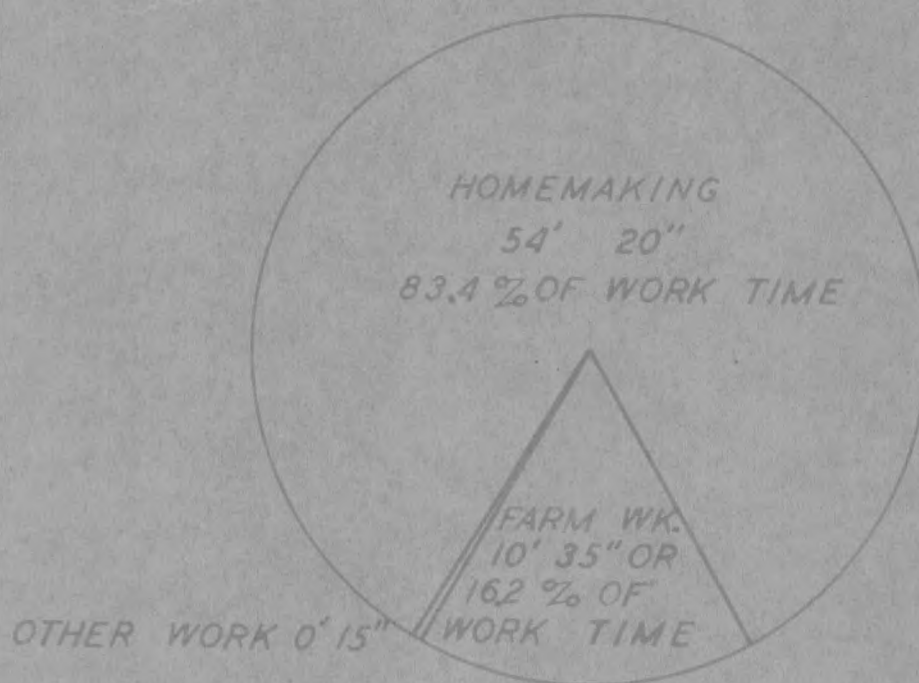


FIGURE 4.

AVERAGE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL
HOMEMAKER'S WORKING TIME

TABLE VII. VARIOUS LENGTHS OF TIME SPENT IN ALL WORK BY FORTY-SEVEN HOMEMAKERS.

Time spent in all work during Week	Homemakers		Average time spent during Week			
	Number	Percent	All Work	Home Mfg.	Farm W.	Other W.
Under 42 hours	1	2.13	39' 25"	27' 10"	12' 15"	-' -"
42 hrs. under 49	2	4.25	45 05	42 40	2 25	- -
49 " " 56	8	17.02	53 30	46 05	6 10	1 25
56 " " 63	12	25.53	59 15	51 05	8 10	- -
63 " " 70	4	8.52	64 50	55 30	9 05	- -
70 " " 77	12	25.53	73 40	61 20	12 20	- -
77 " " 84	6	12.77	79 30	66 35	12 55	- -
84 " " 91	2	4.25	85 50	54 20	31 30	- -

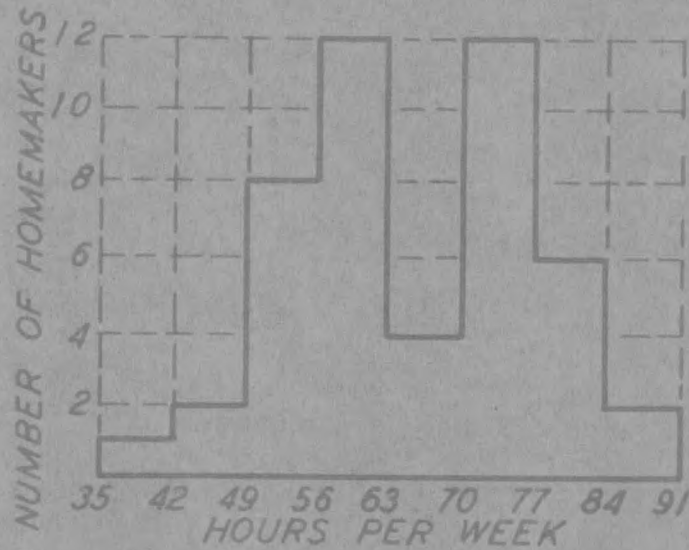


FIGURE 5. DISTRIBUTION OF HOMEMAKERS ACCORDING TO TIME SPENT IN ALL WORK (TABLE VII)

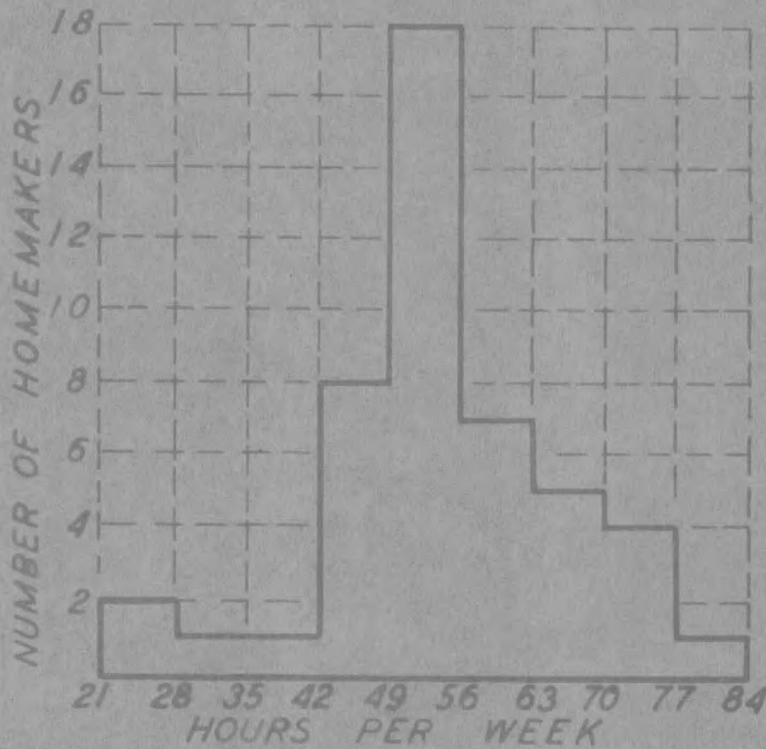


FIGURE 6. DISTRIBUTION OF HOMEMAKERS ACCORDING TO TIME SPENT IN ALL HOMEMAKING WORK (TABLE VIII)

distributed within this range, Table VIII has been prepared, and also Fig. 6. This time the graph shows a decided peak within the limits of 49 and 56 hours.

TABLE VIII. VARIOUS LENGTHS OF TIME SPENT IN ALL HOMEMAKING WORK BY FORTY-SEVEN HOMEMAKERS.

Time spent in all homemaking during week	Homemakers		Time spent during week		
	Number	Percent	Average	Highest	Lowest
Under 28 hours	2	4.2	27' 25"	27' 45"	27' 10"
28 hrs. under 35 hrs.	1	2.1	33 00	- -	- -
35 " " 42 "	1	2.1	39 25	- -	- -
42 " " 49 "	8	17.	45 30	48 15	42 15
49 " " 56 "	18	38.3	52 10	55 30	49 30
56 " " 63 "	7	15.1	59 25	62 20	56 40
63 " " 70 "	5	10.6	65 00	68 20	63 00
70 " " 77 "	4	8.5	72 25	75 50	70 55
77 " " 84 "	1	2.1	80 30	- -	- -

According to the original classification, all homemaking work was subdivided into the following: food, house, clothing, care of others, and home management. In Table IX, will be seen the average, highest, and lowest amounts of time spent during the week in these various activities. This data confirms the general opinion that food preparation and serving requires the major part of the homemaker's efforts. This is also quite evident in Fig. 7.

TABLE IX. AVERAGE, HIGHEST AND LOWEST AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT DURING WEEK
IN ALL HOMEMAKING ACTIVITIES.

Kind of homemaking activities	Homemakers		Time spent during week		
	Number	Percent	Average	Highest	Lowest
Food	47	100	26' 45"	35' 25"	17' 45"
House	47	100	9 15	18 50	4 10
Clothing	46	97.87	12 25	31 05	3 15
Care of Others	35	74.49	5 05	33 15	0 15
Home Management	25	53.64	0 50	6 15	0 10

Referring again to Fig. 4, farm work was shown to occupy an average of 15% of the working week of the farm woman, or 10 hours and 35 minutes. Individual variations are once more repeated ranging from no time at all spent in farm work, to 39 hours and 5 minutes per week. This data is arranged in Table X, and its graph occurs in Fig. 5. This illustration suggests that it is unusual for the farm woman to spend more than 14 hours in farm work.

As only one person in each of the two groups, keeping time records, spent any time doing other or paid work, the average of this item is too small to be given special consideration.

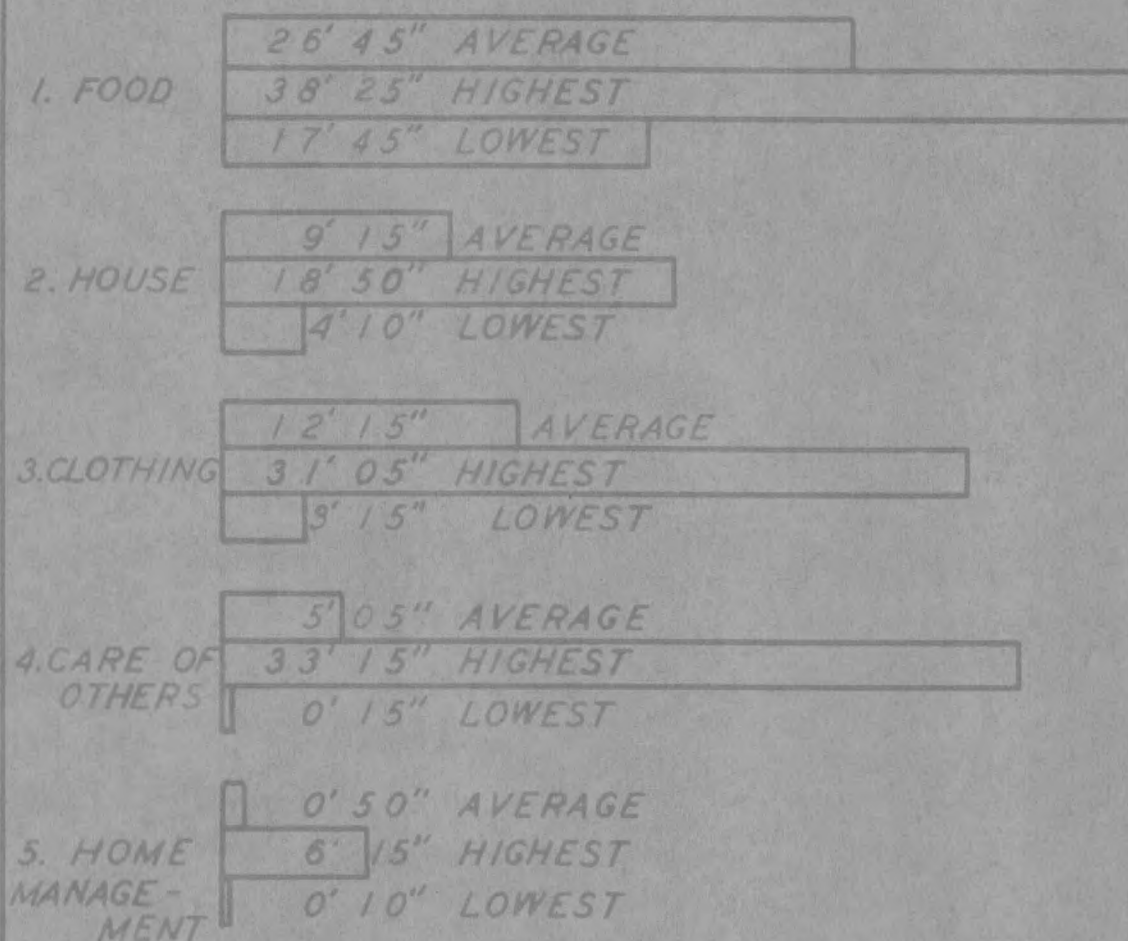


FIGURE 7.

AVERAGE, HIGHEST, AND LOWEST AMOUNT OF
TIME SPENT DURING WEEK IN VARIOUS HOME-
MAKING ACTIVITIES BY FORTY-SEVEN HOMEMAKERS
(TABLE IX)

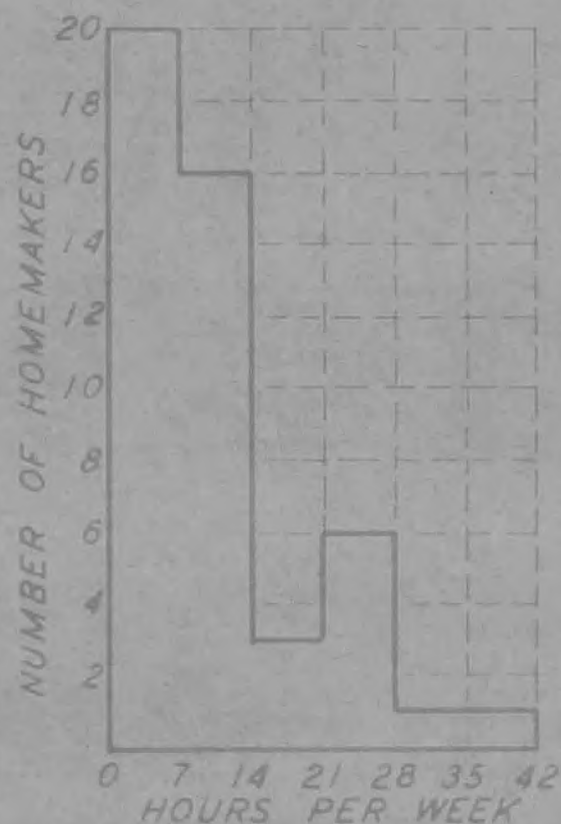
TABLE X. AVERAGE, HIGHEST, AND LOWEST AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT DURING WEEK IN ALL FARM WORK.

Total time spent in farm work during week	Homemakers		Time spent during week		
	Number	Percent	Average	Highest	Lowest
From 0 to 7 hours	20	42.6	4 ¹ 00"	6 ¹ 45"	0 ¹ 00"
7 hrs. under 14	16	34.1	9 55	13 35	7 25
14 hrs. under 21	3	6.4	14 40	15 25	14 10
21 " " 28	6	12.7	24 00	25 55	20 05
28 " " 35	1	2.1	31 05	31 05	31 05
35 " " 42	1	2.1	39 05	39 05	39 05

TABLE XI. AVERAGE, HIGHEST AND LOWEST AMOUNT OF ALL TIME SPENT AWAY FROM HOME.

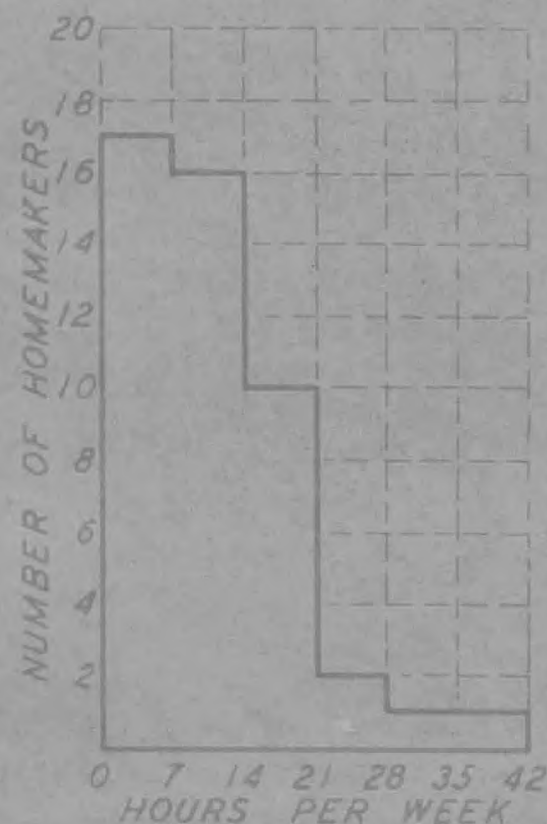
Total time spent away from home during week	Homemakers		Time spent during week		
	Number	Percent	Average	Highest	Lowest
From 0 to 7 hours	17	36.2	2 ¹ 50"	5 ¹ 35"	0 ¹ 00"
7 hours under 14	16	34.1	10 15	13 30	7 05
14 " " 21	10	21.3	16 45	20 30	14 00
21 " " 28	2	4.2	25 05	27 55	22 20
28 " " 35	1	2.1	31 30	31 30	31 30
35 " " 42	1	2.1	36 00	36 00	36 00

FIGURE 8.



VARIATIONS IN TIME SPENT
IN FARM WORK BY FORTY-
SEVEN HOMEMAKERS (TABLE X)

FIGURE 9.



VARIATIONS IN ALL TIME SPENT
AWAY FROM HOME BY FORTY-
SEVEN HOMEMAKERS (TABLE XI)

2. All Time Away and Miscellaneous Time.

With the coming of the automobile, the rural woman has been given an opportunity to get away from home more frequently than in the past. She may do her shopping, attend social gatherings, meetings and clubs. Of the forty-seven homemakers, only four reported no time spent away from home, two of which had no automobile. The remainder varied from 35 minutes to 36 hours per week. The total variation is shown in Table XI, as well as in Fig. 9.

It is recognized in this study that the period designated as "All Time Away" includes some time spent in leisure away from home. This point will be considered later in connection with leisure at home, that is classified under personal activities.

Miscellaneous time includes all other activities that could not be placed elsewhere.

3. Personal Activities.

The distinctive character of each day has its origin in the time given to personal activities. These are the things that bring a direct benefit to the homemaker. While through her work, she has satisfied certain physical needs for herself and her family, yet with the time spent in sleep, eating, and personal care, she has gratified additional needs of her own. Then, after all the necessities have been considered, there is the time left over for leisure or that which gives a touch of individuality to each day.

An examination of Fig. 2 would seem to indicate that a large portion of a woman's time is devoted to her personal activities. In this study, the average length of this period is about 55% of the week, or 91 hours and 50

minutes.. However, further data in Table XII points out the fact that about 80% of this time is used for the processes of sleeping, eating and self-care. This leaves an average of about 18 hours per week for leisure at home. As before, it is well to consider not only the average but the variations within the range of data and these are presented in Table XII and Fig. 10.

It is interesting to note the similarity in the lengths of the periods used for sleep. In Table XIII, it will be seen that the variation falls within three hours and the average is 8 hours and 35 minutes per day.

Greater differences are noted in the range of time spent in eating. These vary from 3 hours and 50 minutes per week to a maximum of 15 hours and 5 minutes. (Table XIV). The care of self (Table XV) does not prove to be quite so variable in nature. Here, a majority of the women spent one-half to three-fourths of an hour daily for this purpose.

As the principal motive of this study has been to learn more about that remaining period of time, that may be used for leisure, the following data is especially interesting. Table XVI indicates that the rural women in Montana spend anywhere from 7 to 44 hours per week in pursuits at home that should contribute to a greater individual development and a better preparation for homemaking. (Fig. 11).

Having classified all time away from home in one separate division, it was necessary to analyze this time and find how much of it was spent in leisure activities while away from home. This leisure period was then combined with the time spent in leisure, while at home, and their sum represents the total time spent in leisure pursuits by each individual. All of this is shown in Table XVII.

TABLE XII. TOTAL AVERAGE TIME SPENT IN ALL PERSONAL ACTIVITIES.

Time spent in all Personal Activities during the week	Homemakers		Average time spent during week				
	Number	Percent	Average all per.act.	Sleep	Eating	Self Care	Leisure
Under 77 hours	2	4.2	76' 25"	51' 25"	7' 30"	4' 00"	13' 30"
77 hrs. under 84	9	19.2	80 40	55 00	9 55	4 00	11 45
84 " " 91	10	21.3	87 15	59 50	8 20	4 45	14 20
91 " " 98	13	27.6	93 25	60 40	9 10	4 00	19 35
98 " " 105	9	19.2	100 50	65 20	10 45	4 20	20 25
105 " " 112	3	6.4	109 05	59 50	8 30	3 40	37 05
112 " " 119	1	2.1	115 20	63 25	13 10	2..50	35 55

where
15' 15"
Table XIV

FIGURE 10.

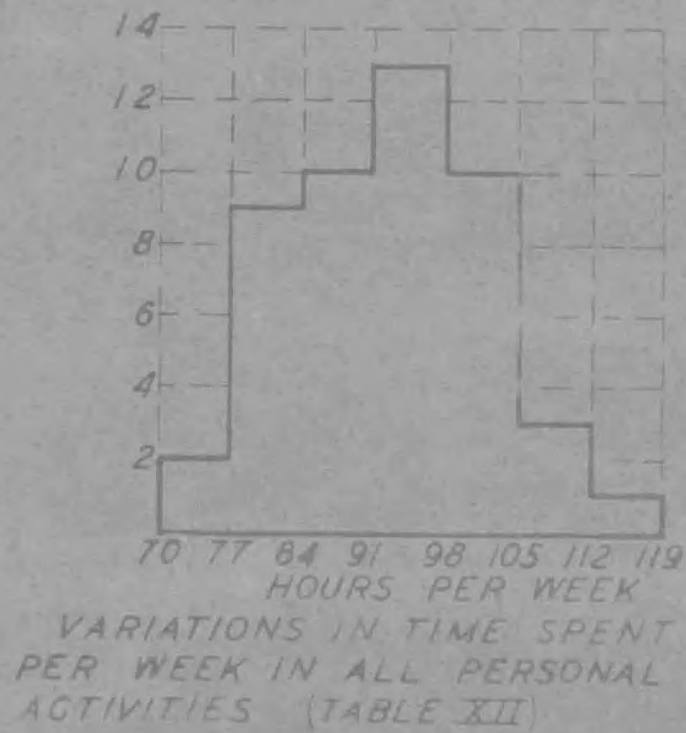


FIGURE 11.

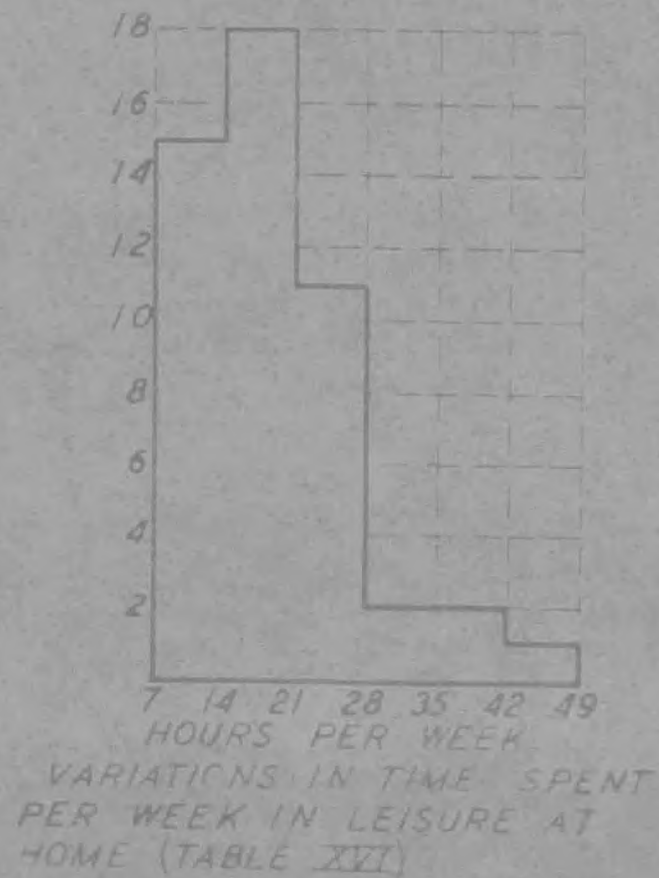


TABLE XIII. AVERAGE DAILY TIME SPENT IN SLEEP.

Average daily sleeping time (night)	Homemakers		Average
	Number	Percent	
Under 8 hours	12	25.5	7' 10"
8 hrs. under 9	21	44.7	8 35
9 " " 10	14	29.8	9 20
Total Average	47	100.0	8' 35"

TABLE XIV. AVERAGE TIME DURING WEEK SPENT IN EATING.

Average time spent in eating during week	Homemakers		Average
	Number	Percent	
From 2 to 4 hours	1	2.1	3' 50"
4 hrs. under 6	1	2.1	5 45
6 " " 8	10	21.3	7 05
8 " " 10	18	38.3	9 15
10 " " 12	11	23.4	10 40
12 " " 14	5	10.6	12 40
14 " " 16	1	2.1	15 05

TABLE XV. AVERAGE TIME SPENT DAILY IN CARE OF PERSON.

Average time spent daily in care of Person	Number	Percent
Under 1/4 hour daily	1	2.1
1/4 hr. and under 1/2	8	17.
1/2 " " " 3/4	27	57.5
3/4 " " " 1	8	17
1 " " " 1 1/4	3	6.4
Total	47	100.0%

TABLE XVI. VARIATION IN TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN LEISURE AT HOME.

Total time spent during week in leisure at home	Homemakers		Time spent during week		
	Number	Percent	Average	Highest	Lowest
7 hrs. and under 14	15	32.1	11' 20"	13' 55"	7' 50"
14 " " " 21	18	38.3	17 05	20 50	14 10
21 " " " 28	9	19.1	23 15	26 50	21 05
28 " " " 35	2	4.2	29 20	30 40	28 05
35 " " " 42	2	4.2	36 20	36 45	35 55
42 " " " 49	1	2.1	43 55	43 55	43 55

TABLE XVII. TOTAL LEISURE TIME PER WEEK.

Farm No.	Time spent per week		
	Leisure at home	Leisure away from home	Total leisure
17	11' 25"	20' 25"	31' 50"
18	30 40	7 20	38 00
20	11 35	1 00	12 35
22	11 05	8 55	20 00
25	7 50	7 20	15 10
26	15 55	2 45	18 40
27	22 00	- -	22 00
29	35 55	10 00	45 55
31	13 55	3 30	17 25
32	19 35	- -	19 35
33	9 25	15 30	24 55
39	14 10	12 35	26 45
40	24 25	2 00	26 25
41	36 45	1 30	38 15
44	10 50	12 45	23 35
47	18 30	4 00	22 30
48	11 10	- -	11 10
51	13 10	2 25	15 35
52	17 30	9 05	26 35
55	25 15	6 25	31 40
61	16 50	- -	16 50
65	23 50	4 50	28 40
68	19 40	1 00	20 40

Table XVII (Cont'd)

Farm No.	Time spent per week		
	Leisure at home	Leisure away from home	Total leisure
70	10' 00"	6' 35"	16' 35"
71	14 20	9 55	24 15
76	16 45	5 00	21 45
78	18 30	7 30	26 00
79	13 20	0 40	14 00
80	15 40	19 20	35 00
83	19 35	7 20	26 55
85	14 55	9 25	24 20
86	12 35	13 10	25 45
94	20 50	11 25	32 15
96	15 55	25 05	41 00
98	16 30	4 30	21 00
99	21 05	3 20	24 25
106	28 05	2 50	30 55
107	26 50	4 50	31 40
108	21 50	2 45	24 35
109	15 55	1 05	17 00
110	16 50	4 35	21 25
111	21 30	17 20	38 50
112	22 15	- -	22 15
113	12 10	7 45	19 55
114	9 35	3 15	12 50
117	43 55	- -	43 55

Table XVII (Cont'd)

Farm No.	Time spent per week		
	Leisure at home	Leisure away from home	Total leisure
121	11' 30"	5' 20"	16' 50"
Total	861' 50"	306' 20"	1168' 10"
Weekly	18' 20"	6' 30"	24' 50"
Daily	2' 35"	0' 55"	3' 35"

The focus of interest now centers on the manner in which this group of rural women employed the time designated as leisure. This time seemed naturally to fall into the following divisions: reading; meeting and study,- meaning the attendance at church, study groups, and all types of educational work; rest,- interpreted as time given exclusively to relaxation during the day and often including a day-time nap; listening to the radio; social life,- all time spent in talking, family gatherings, visiting, and social engagements, music, other than radio; letter-writing; outings,- such as picnics, etc. The distribution of leisure time among these divisions is shown in Table XIX and Fig. 12, based on the data presented in Table XVIII.

TABLE XVIII. DISTRIBUTION OF ALL LEISURE TIME INTO ITS VARIOUS CLASSES.

No.	Reading	Meeting & Study	Rest	Radio	Social Life	Letter writing	Outings	Total
17	4:45"	-	-	5:20"	12:25"	-	9:20"	31:50"
18	14 15	-	6:05"	-	15 25	2:15"	-	38 00
20	4 30	-	7 35	-	0 30	-	-	12 35
22	3 45	4:30"	1 40	0 40	9 25	-	-	20 00
25	3 15	-	1 35	-	10 20	-	-	15 10
26	2 05	-	16 10	0 25	-	-	-	18 40
27	4 55	-	3 35	7 55	4 45	0 50	-	22 00
29	7 25	-	3 35	-	33 35	1 20	-	45 55
31	1 30	-	4 00	-	9 40	1 30	0 45	17 25
32	7 10	-	2 10	-	9 05	-	1 10	19 35
33	2 25	-	2 45	3 15	11 15	0 20	4 55	24 55
39	0 30	-	3 40	-	20 35	2 00	-	26 45
40	14 30	2 40	1 00	-	5 10	3 05	-	26 25
41	20 45	-	3 30	2 30	9 30	2 00	-	38 15
44	5 25	2 30	-	4 30	7 45	0 40	2 45	23 35
47	6 20	-	0 50	2 30	10 20	2 30	-	22 30
48	5 50	-	-	-	2 50	2 30	-	11 10
51	7 00	-	0 15	-	5 10	2 35	0 35	15 35
52	7 00	-	6 05	2 00	10 30	1 00	-	26 35
55	5 50	-	4 00	6 15	15 15	0 20	-	31 40
61	10 35	-	-	-	1 30	2 40	2 05	16 50
65	7 00	-	1 15	-	18 20	2 05	-	28 40
68	9 50	-	4 20	-	6 30	-	-	20 40

Table XVIII (Cont'd)

No.	Reading	Meeting & Study	Rest	Radio	Social Life	Letter writing	Cuttings	Total
70	6'00"	-	2'00"	-	6'35"	-	-	16'35"
71	6 05	1 45	2 45	-	12 25	1 15	-	24 15
76	7 30	-	2 30	-	7 30	0 45	3 30	21 45
78	11 45	-	1 25	-	11 30	1 20	-	26 00
79	5 15	-	6 00	-	2 45	-	-	14 00
80	2 30	8 15	2 45	-	19 10	2 20	-	35 00
83	9 15	-	-	-	12 10	0 45	4 45	26 55
85	4 30	2 15	2 25	1 30	11 40	2 00	-	24 20
86	2 10	9 20	-	3 30	10 15	0 30	-	25 45
94	15 50	1 00	-	-	14 10	1 15	-	32 15
96	6 35	7 15	3 40	-	20 30	1 00	2 00	41 00
98	6 00	1 30	3 30	8 00	2 00	-	-	21 00
99	10 20	1 30	3 25	-	8 10	1 00	-	24 25
106	12 00	3 40	2 15	6 45	6 15	-	-	30 55
107	10 40	4 50	0 40	10 50	0 25	4 15	-	30 20
108	13 20	3 15	1 00	-	2 00	5-00	-	24 35
109	5 00	-	0 45	4 00	4 45	1 15	1 15	17 00
110	7 45	2 45	6 35	-	2 45	0 35	1 00	21 25
111	12 05	3 00	6 00	-	17 30	0 15	-	38 50
112	11 20	-	5 00	-	-	5 10	0 45	22 15
113	5 20	0 15	1 45	-	10 35	2 00	-	19 55
114	5 15	-	4 05	-	3 30	-	-	12 50
117	5 20	-	0 55	16 55	20 25	0 20	-	43 55

Table XVIII (Cont'd)

No.	Read- ing	Meeting & Study	Rest	Radio	Social Life	Letter writing	Outings	Total
121	11'30"	3'05"	-	-	2'15"	-	-	16'50"
Total	349' 55"	63' 20"	133' 30"	86' 50"	441' 05"	58' 40"	34' 50"	1168' 10"
Week	7'25"	1'20"	2'50"	1'50"	9'25"	1'15"	0'45"	24'50"
Day	1'05"	0'10"	0'25"	0'15"	1'20"	0'10"	0'06"	3'35"

TABLE XIX. AVERAGE, HIGHEST, AND LOWEST AMOUNT OF TIME SPENT IN ALL TYPES OF LEISURE DURING WEEK.

Total time spent during week in leisure activities	Homemaker		Time spent during week		
	Number	Percent	Average	Highest	Lowest
Reading	47	100.	7'25"	20' 45"	0' 30"
Meeting and Study	18	37.3	1 20	9 20	0 15
Rest	39	83.	2 50	16 10	0 40
Listening to Radio	17	36.2	1 50	16 55	0 25
Social Life	45	95.7	9 25	33 35	0 25
Letter-writing	34	72.3	1 15	5 10	0 15
Outings, etc.	13	27.6	0 45	9 20	0 45

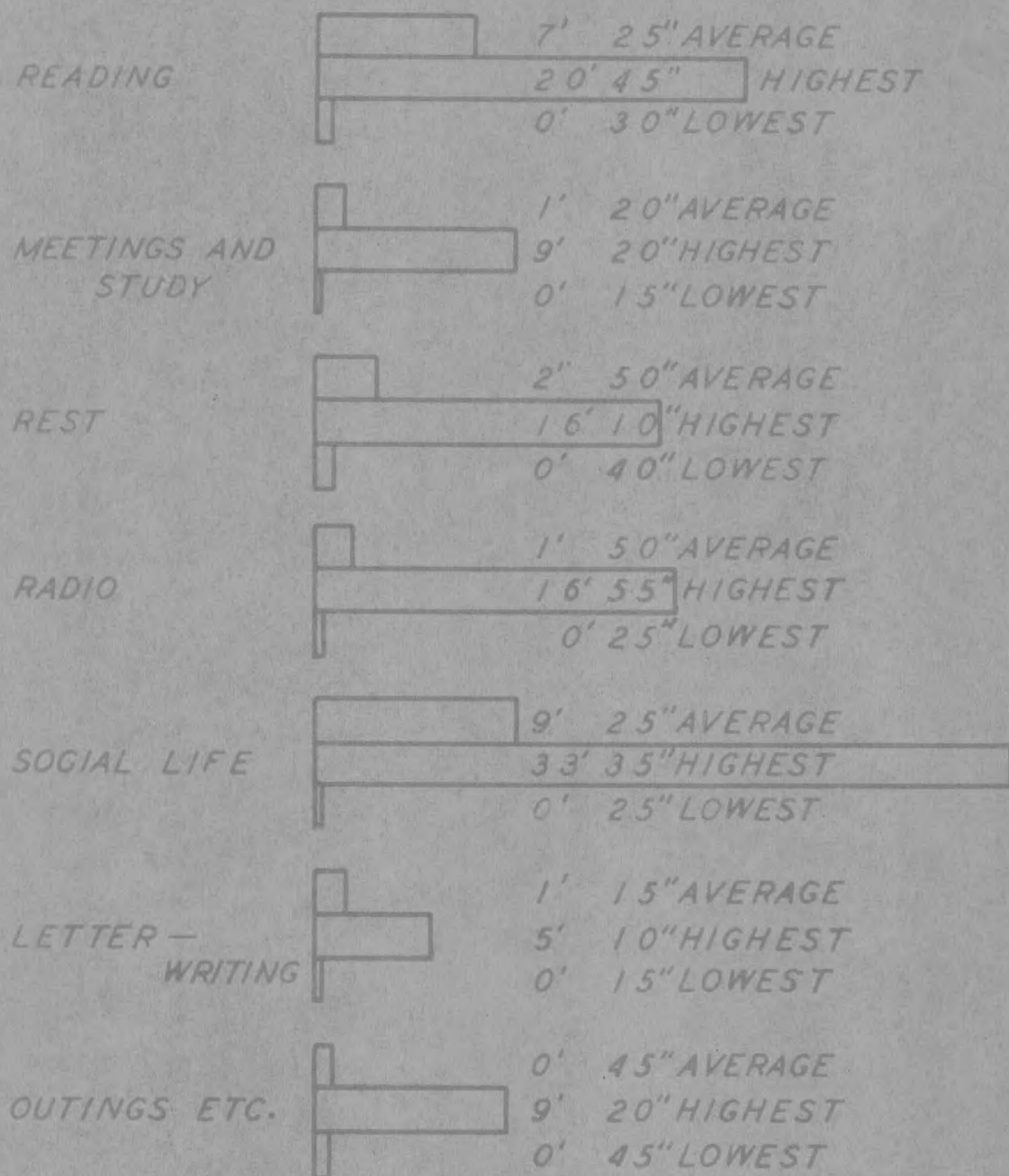


FIGURE 12.

AVERAGE, HIGHEST, AND LOWEST AMOUNT OF
TIME SPENT DURING WEEK IN TYPES OF
LEISURE

DISCUSSION

Although the chief interest of this study lies in the consideration of the rural homemaker's leisure period, it has been necessary to present a large amount of detailed data concerning the activities that have filled the remaining part of her time. As leisure is the period free from occupation, it evidently is affected by occupation. With an increase in the one, there comes a proportional decrease in the other. It is recognized that the homemaker's occupation includes many activities, and, using the preceding data, an effort will be made to show which of these activities seem to be the factors having the greatest influence upon her leisure time.

The first important fact to be noted is the average time spent per week in work by these forty-seven Montana homemakers. In Table I, this is shown to be 65 hours and 10 minutes. Included in this amount of time, are 54 hours and 20 minutes devoted to home work; 10 hours and 35 minutes, to farm work; and 15 minutes to other work. Allowing for additional time for sleep, eating and other personal activities, there remained an average of 24 hours and 50 minutes per week for all leisure. (Table XVII).

Comparing these figures with reports from Oregon (13), Washington (15), and Rhode Island (14), it is seen at once that the averages for Montana are quite similar to those from other states. This is summarized in the following Table XX.

TABLE XX. COMPARISON OF WORK AND LEISURE TIME OF MONTANA RURAL HOMEMAKERS, WITH RESULTS FROM OTHER STATES.

State	No. of records	Ave. total work per week	Ave. home work per week	Ave. farm work per week	Ave. other work per week	Ave. total leisure per week
Montana	47	65' 10"	54' 20"	10' 35"	0' 15"	24' 50"
Oregon (13)	288	64 00	52 00	12 00	- -	28 00
Washington (15)	137	63 00 ϕ	53 00	10 00	- -	not recorded
Rhode Island (14)	102	58 30	54 00	- -	4 30	30 15

Special mention should be made of the total work time per week for Rhode Island rural homemakers, in that it falls about 6 hours short of the time for western states. On the other hand the leisure for Rhode Island amounts to about 6 hours per week more than for Montana.

Another interesting fact may be pointed out in the close similarity of the hours spent per week in homemaking in all of the four states. This would indicate that homemaking demands a certain amount of time, thus being somewhat independent of varying conditions.

The way in which the average homemaking time is distributed among the types of activities might also be compared in the same four states, in Table XXI.

TABLE XXI. COMPARISON OF TIME SPENT PER WEEK OF MONTANA RURAL HOMEMAKERS, IN HOMEMAKING ACTIVITIES, WITH RESULTS FROM OTHER STATES.

State	Total home work	Average time spent in homemaking				
		Food	House	Clothing	Care of others	Home.mgt.
Montana	54' 20"	26' 45"	9' 15"	12' 25"	5' 05"	0' 50"
Oregon (13)	52 00	24 25	9 10	11 20	3 50	1 40
Washington (15)	53 00	26 30	8 30	12 10	3 00	2 00
Rhode Island (14)	54 00	24 20	9 40	12 30	4 15	3 20

Here, again, there appears a striking similarity in the division of homemaking work into its various kinds. In the comparison, food uniformly requires about 50 percent of the time; care of the house, about 15 percent; clothing, about 25 percent; and care of others, 6 percent.

While the above figures show the average conditions, there is still a wide variation in the work and leisure of different individuals. (Tables VII and XVI). The following summary (Table XXII) clearly demonstrates the relationship that exists between work and leisure. The only exception is found in the first group, where there was only one individual, and the fact that she employed a maid, caused her work period to be low. Otherwise, as the work period increased from 42 to 91 hours, the leisure time decreased from 43 to 15 hours.

TABLE XXII. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WORK AND LEISURE OF MONTANA RURAL HOME-MAKERS.

Variations in total work per week	Number of homemakers	Average total leisure
From 35 hours under 42 hours	1	35 hours
42 " " 49 "	2	43 "
49 " " 56 "	8	28 "
56 " " 63 "	12	28 "
63 " " 70 "	4	21 "
70 " " 77 "	12	20 "
77 " " 84 "	6	18 "
84 " " 91 "	2	15 "

In an attempt to find a cause for this great variation in individual work and leisure time, some other factors have also been considered. The question arises as to whether farm conditions affect the homemaker. Two types of farms have been employed in this study,- dry land and irrigated farms. These types have been compared as to their effect upon the homemaker's use of time (Table XXIII)/ There is a difference of four hours per week in the work time, but only one hour in leisure. The results are not sufficiently marked to warrant any conclusions, as these differences might be affected by other factors.

TABLE XXIII. COMPARISON OF TIME SPENT IN VARIOUS KINDS OF WORK AND LEISURE OF HOMEMAKERS ON TWO TYPES OF FARMS.

Type of farm	No. of farm	Ave. time homemaking work	Ave. time farm work	Ave. time all work	Ave. time all leisure
Dry Land	13	57' 05"	11' 05"	68' 10"	24' 30"
Irrigated	34	53 20	10 20	64 05	25 45

If the type of farm does not appear to affect work and leisure, the next condition might be the size of the farm. The area of the farms studied varies from 5 to more than 640 acres. A tabulation of work and leisure time, based on variation in acreage, will be seen in the following table:

TABLE XXIV. TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN WORK AND LEISURE BASED ON VARIATION IN SIZE OF FARM.

Variation in acreage	No. farms	Average time spent per week			
		Homemaking	Farm Work	All Work	Leisure
5 - 80 A.	4	42'	13'	55'	31' 30"
80 - 160 A.	8	56	12	68	23 25
160 - 320 A.	11	54	10	64	27 00
320 - 640 A.	12	57	7	66	21 60
More than 640 A.	12	57	10	67	24 05

From this table it looks as if the four homemakers reporting from

small tracts, had a very high leisure period with a correspondingly low work period, but the group is small and most of them owned electrical appliances. In all other cases, the size of farm had no apparent effect.

The next factor which might be considered as influencing work and leisure, is the amount of annual income. This was found to range from less than \$1000 to more than \$15,000 per year, and Table XXV places the distribution of work and leisure in relation to varied income.

TABLE XXV. TIME SPENT PER WEEK IN WORK AND LEISURE BASED ON VARIATION IN ANNUAL INCOME.

Variation in annual income	No farms	Average time spent per week			
		Homemaking	Farm Work	All Work	Leisure
Less than \$1000	2	53'	9'	63'	33'
\$1000 - \$2500	17	52	11	63	25
\$2500 - \$5000	15	56	11	68	23
\$5000 - \$7500	5	55	9	65	24
\$7500 - \$10,000	2	38	13	57	27
\$10,000 - \$12,500	1	80	0	80	11
\$12,500 - \$15,000	0	-	-	-	-
\$15,000 —	1	39	3	42	45

In this table, the groups with an income between \$1000 and \$7500 show great uniformity in the distribution of their time in work and leisure, and adhere closely to the mean in each one of these divisions. For those with incomes less than \$1000 or more than \$7500, the number of records is

so small in each case, that the results are colored by the individual.

An idea has been more or less prevalent, that as the size of the household increases, the amount of work for the homemaker also increases. To see whether this is true of this group, the next comparison was made in the time spent in work and leisure in relation to the number of individuals in the household. (Table XXVI).

TABLE XXVI. COMPARISON OF TIME SPENT IN ALL WORK, WITH LEISURE, WITH CONSIDERATION OF NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD.

No. in reporting	No. in household	Home work	Farm work	All work	Leisure
2	2	49'	14'	63'	29' 30"
8	3	57	8	66	24 35
10	4	57	13	70	24 25
14	5	55	9	64	21 00
8	6	52	10	62	21 40
3	7	55	11	66	23 40
-	8	-	-	-	-
1	9	33	25	58	21 45 (had help)
1	10	39	3	42	45 55 (had help)

In the few cases where there were only two members in the family, and in the two last groups, where help was employed, the homework ran considerably below the mean, thus somewhat affecting the leisure. In the remainder, however, the distribution of time was again quite uniform although

the number in the household ranged from three to seven. Thus it would seem that the size of the household does not have any definite affect upon either work or leisure time.

On the other hand, when studying work and leisure conditions in relation to the ages of the children in the family, a different situation arises. (Table XXVII).

TABLE XXVII. COMPARISON OF TIME SPENT IN ALL WORK, WITH LEISURE, CONSIDERING THE AGE OF THE CHILDREN.

No. of children in the family	Number Reporting	Home work	Farm work	All work	Leisure
No children	4	48'	17'	65'	29' 10"
No children under 6 years	20	50	10	62	26 30
Children under 6 yrs.	22	58	9	67	21 50

Here, there is evidence that the existence of children, under six years of age, in the family brings up the amount of time spent in home work, usually in the division designated as "care of others". In the above table, the home work for the women having young children was raised four hours above the mean, while leisure was reduced three hours below the mean. The results of the study made in Oregon (13) show much similarity to those obtained in Montana. For them, families with no children required an average of 45 hours per week for home work; with children over six years, 51 hours; and with children under six years, 63 hours.

Another factor which might contribute more leisure time to the rural homemaker, is the use of electricity. Numerous time-saving devices may be used in home work when electricity is available. Of the forty-seven homes in this group only ten were supplied with electricity and it is interesting to note how this has really affected work and leisure. (Table XXVIII).

TABLE XXVIII. WORK AND LEISURE COMPARED WITH REGARD TO THE USE OF ELECTRICITY.

Homes equipped with	Number	Home work	Farm work	All work	Leisure
Electricity	10	48'	8'	56'	29' 00"
No electricity	37	56	13	67	23 00

The conclusion may be drawn from this information (Table XXVIII), that electricity has a responsibility in the decreasing of all work time, and in so doing releases more time for leisure. All work in the above table is shown to be very much below the mean average, and leisure as 29'00" in comparison to 24'50", the average mean time obtained for leisure.

Another household convenience that is thought to save time is the sink with drain in the kitchen. In the group of 47 women, 24 reported having sinks with drain and 23 had none, this makes the comparison of their work and leisure time rather interesting. (Table XXIX).

TABLE XXIX. WORK AND LEISURE COMPARED WITH REGARD TO THE USE OF SINK IN KITCHEN.

Homes equipped with	Number	Home work	Farm work	All work	Leisure
Sink and drain	24	52'	8'	62'	23' 10"
No sink	23	56	13	68	25 30

Although the home working period is reduced in time when a sink is in the kitchen, the amount of leisure time does not apparently increase. This would cause the conclusion to be drawn that evidently leisure time is not necessarily controlled by the introduction of conveniences and equipment in the home.

(Much of the comparative data used in the preceding discussion will be found in detailed form in the appendix).

There is another type of equipment which contributes definitely to leisure, in that it inspires leisure. At the time this study was made 43% of the homes were supplied with radios. Many activities were carried on by the homemaker while listening to the radio, thus adding an outside interest to a routine task. The time spent listening to the radio exclusively has ranged from one-half hour to 17 hours per week, showing that the radio does play a part in leisure.

The automobile also falls into this class, and only three of the forty-seven homemakers reported that they did not have a car. The average of over ten hours per week spent in time away from home was no doubt largely determined by the use of the automobile, another incentive for leisure. Six hours of the time spent away from home was found to be given over to leisure activities.

There still remains one factor, whose influence on work and leisure time can scarcely be measured by time records or survey material,- this is the personal element. Every homemaker possesses certain ability, training and technique. She either organizes her activities, and her equipment, into a systematic routine, or she works away, doing her task at the will of circumstance, and snatches the intervening moments for her leisure.

There may be many reasons why there is such a wide variation in managerial ability, but regardless of these reasons, the fact remains that the homemaker's leisure time is largely determined by the manner in which she plans and performs her home duties.

SUMMARY

In this study, the following indications have been noted:

1. The total average work period per week for the rural homemaker in Montana amounts to about 65 hours, with 54 hours per week devoted to all home-making activities, and 10 hours, to farm work.
2. The time spent in all homemaking and each of its types of activities corresponds very closely to the results obtained by similar studies in Washington, Oregon, and Rhode Island.
3. Leisure time is usually affected by the amount of time spent in work. As work increases, leisure tends to decrease.
4. The type or size of farm does not seem to affect the homemaker's leisure time to any noticeable degree.
5. From the data available, no relationship could be seen between the annual farm income and the homemaker's leisure time.
6. The size of the household did not appear to show any perceptible effect upon the time left for the homemaker's leisure.
7. When the family contained small children under six years of age, this caused an increase in the home working time and reduced the homemaker's leisure period. Similar results were obtained in the Oregon study.
8. The use of electricity in the rural home shows a tendency to reduce the time for home work and increase the leisure time.
9. The use of such equipment as a sink with drain in the kitchen does not seem to influence the leisure time, although the homemaking time was reduced.
10. Listening to the radio plays a part in the leisure of the rural homemaker.

11. The automobile contributes a definite share to the period of leisure.
12. The managerial ability of the homemaker is an important factor in determining the amount of her leisure.

CONCLUSIONS

The leisure time of the rural homemaker in Montana seems to be affected by the following factors:

1. The amount of time spent in work.
2. Young children under six years of age, that increase the home-making time.
3. The use of electricity for home equipment, because it reduces the homemaking time.
4. The managerial ability of the homemaker, that largely determines the amount of time spent in work.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Farm No.	Type of Farm	Acreage	Est. annual Income	Number in household	Number children	Children above 6	Children under 6	Electricity in home	Sink with drain
17	Dry	720	2600	3	1	1	-	-	-
18	"	760	2900	5	2	2	-	-	Yes
20	"	1280	3200	4	1	1	-	-	-
22	"	920	1600	5	2	2	-	Yes	Yes
25	"	320	3400	5	2	1	1	-	-
26	"	1600	6000	7	5	5	-	-	Yes
27	"	1700	5200	5	2	2	-	-	-
29	"	2120	15200	10	4	3	1	Yes	Yes
31	"	3000	3400	6	4	3	1	-	-
32	"	1440	3800	4	2	-	2	-	-
33	Irr.	350	5900	6	2	1	1	-	Yes
39	Dry	600	990	4	2	2	-	-	Yes
40	"	160	?	2	0	-	-	-	-
41	Irr.	40	900	5	2	2	-	-	-
44	Dry	4000	1500	4	2	2	-	Yes	Yes
47	Irr.	120	4500	3	1	-	1	Yes	-

APPENDIX

Farm No.	Type of farm	Acres	Est. annual income	Number in household	Number children	Children above 6	Children under 6	Electricity in home	Sink with drain
48	Irr.	400	11300	5	2	-	2	-	Yes
51	"	450	4400	4	2	-	2	Yes	Yes
52	"	140	3400	3	1	-	1	-	Yes
55	"	480	8600	5	3	3	-	Yes	Yes
61	"	400	?	3	1	-	1	-	Yes
65	"	1067	7300	6	3	-	3	-	-
68	"	485	1900	7	5	2	3	-	Yes
70	"	112	?	3	1	1	-	-	Yes
71	"	492	4000	5	2	1	1	-	Yes
76	"	197	8100	9	5	5	-	Yes	Yes
78	"	480	6500	6	1	-	1	-	Yes
79	"	30	1250	5	3	2	1	-	Yes
80	"	160	2800	6	2	2	-	Yes	Yes
83	"	179	2100	5	1	1	-	-	Yes
85	"	420	2400	6	3	-	3	-	-
86	"	320	1200	4	1	-	1	-	Yes
94	"	9	1200	2	0	-	-	Yes	-

Appendix (Cont'd)

Farm No.	Types of farm	Acres	Est. Annual Income	Number in household	Number children	Children above 6	Children under 6	Electricity in home	Sink with drain
96	Irr.	5	7	3	1	1	-	Yes	-
98	"	150	2000	5	1	1	-	-	Yes
99	"	200	1100	3	1	-	1	-	Yes
106	"	160	1200	4	1	1	-	-	-
107	"	160	2600	7	5	3	2	-	-
108	"	130	4900	4	1	1	-	-	-
109	"	80	2100	3	0	-	-	-	-
110	"	80	1000	4	2	2	-	-	-
111	"	120	1800	5	3	2	1	-	-
112	"	160	1100	5	3	1	2	-	-
113	"	160	2100	5	3	-	3	-	-
114	"	640	3500	6	3	2	1	-	-
117	"	160	1600	4	2	2	-	-	-
121	"	160	4200	5	2	1	1	-	Yes

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