



# TARGET AREA

## For Families on the Move

V. A. Christopherson

America is a nation of families on the move. Thousands of families each year feel more strongly the attraction of occupational opportunities, beneficial climates, and new surroundings than the pull of their home communities containing friends, kin, and old established ties. Geographic mobility has emerged as one of the most char-

### Rapid Growth of Tucson

In 1950 Tucson ranked 261st in size among the nation's cities. In 1960 it ranked 54th. This jump in size ranking is the greatest in the nation for cities of comparable size. The state's population gain during the decade from 1950 to 1960 was approximately 75 percent, with the 1960 population numbering 1,302,161. The population of Maricopa county increased from 331,771 in 1950 to 663,510 in 1960. Pima county increased from 141,216 to 265,660.

The two largest cities, Phoenix and Tucson, had spectacular increases in the 1950-60 decade. Phoenix increased from 106,818 to 439,170, or 311 percent; Tucson during the same period increased from 45,454 to 210,016, or 362 percent—a rate of growth second nationally to Anaheim, Calif., home of Disneyland.

### Personal Income Growth

Arizona's farm and ranch income in 1960 was more than \$435 million, with cotton and cattle ranking very high in

production of total dollar income. Arizona led the nation in personal income growth from 1946 to 1961 with a 323 percent gain. Florida and Nevada were second and third, respectively, with 270 and 255 percent gains.

Even though Arizona is frequently characterized as a mecca for the senior citizens, actually people over 65 years of age constitute only 6.9 percent of the state's population. By contrast, the individuals in the up to 24 age group, constitute 50.4 percent of the total.

While the "over 65" age group is relatively small, numbering 90,225, it represents an increase of 103.9 percent during the last decade. This gain is second only to that of Florida which has a gain of 132.9 percent. Approximately 19,308, or 21.4 percent, of the older age group live in rural areas in Arizona.

### They're On Their Own

The new arrivals in the state could be characterized as "neolocal families", or, literally, new location families. By and large they have left all but the immediate family members behind. They also are known as "nuclear families", meaning father, mother, and offspring. Such fam-

acteristic qualities of the contemporary American family.

The Southwest, and Arizona in particular, is that part of the United States that ranks at the very top in migratory activity. In percentage gain, Arizona has led the nation in the post World War II years.

There are a number of theories concerning the whys and wherefores of population migration. Some believe the large-scale migration in post-war years can be explained as a result of a tendency for ex-military personnel to move to those localities which struck their fancy while in the service.

Others hold that our affluent economy in the last decade has permitted a migratory adjustment among our nation's families that was long overdue. There is probably truth in these and other similar explanations. Some of the facts related to this migratory phenomena are:

ilies in a very real sense are on their own. Many have burned their bridges behind them and do not have friends and relatives to fall back on should their fortunes fail to prosper.

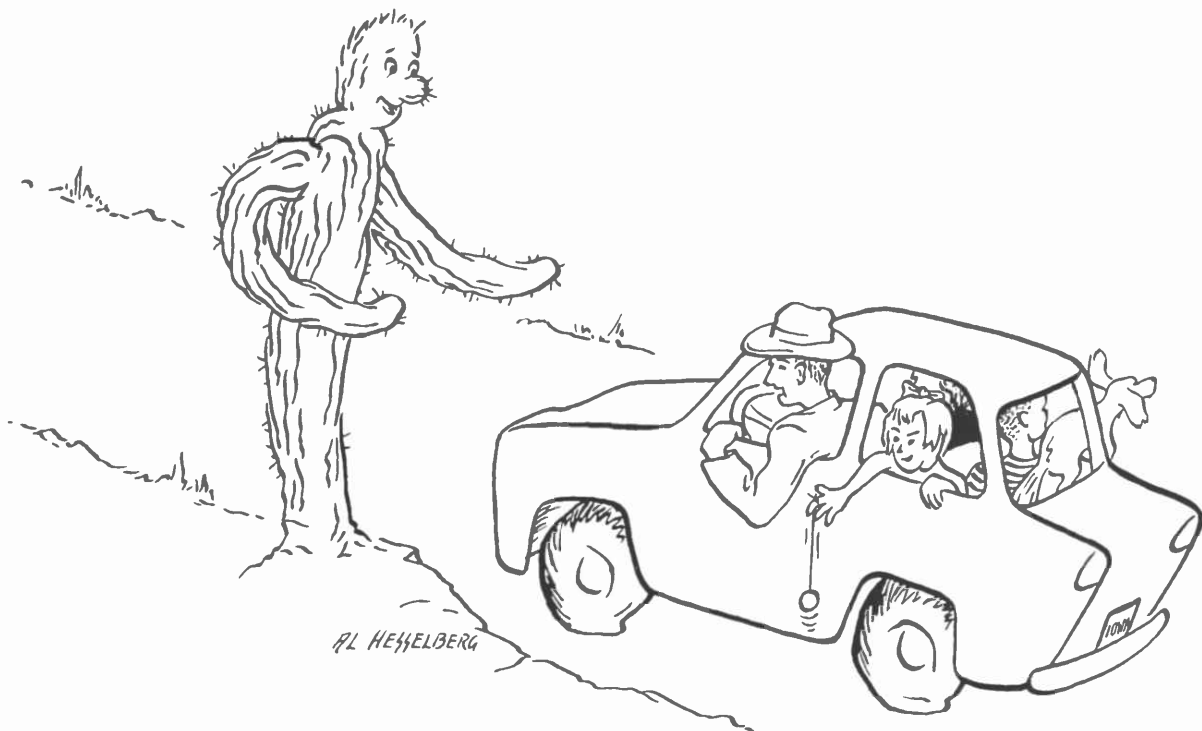
In areas having a large influx of families there is generally a need for well organized community services and resources to substitute for the extended "kinship family" so abundant in the recent past. Such services and resources often spell the difference between success and failure for the temporarily floundering family—an inevitable concomitant of high migration rate. Fortunately, both Tucson and Phoenix have fine agencies, coordinated by community councils, available for such assistance.

### A New Cultural Pattern

The families that come and stay are contributing to a new regional culture which is at once unique in its own right and also an amalgamation of religious, social class, ethnic, and other regional sub-cultures from all over the United States. Current estimates by the Board of

*(continued on next page)*

Dr. Christopherson is a professor of child development and family relations in the School of Home Economics.



## November

- 2-12—Arizona State Fair, Phoenix
- 15-16—Arizona Farm Bureau Convention, Casa Grande
- 16—Fall Field Day, Yuma Branch Station
- 16-22—National Farm-City Week
- 24-29—National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago
- 30—Annual Convention Arizona Soil Conservation Districts, Phoenix

## December

- 1—Annual Convention Arizona Soil Conservation Districts, Phoenix
- 1—Angus Field Day, Flag Angus Farm, Cottonwood
- 6-8—Arizona Cattle Growers Assn. Annual Meeting, Tucson
- 8—Angus Field Day, U of A Campbell Ave. Farm, Tucson

Trade names used in this magazine do not endorse products named nor imply criticism of similar ones not mentioned.

(continued from previous page)  
Education indicate that from 1,000 to 1,300 new families arrive in Tucson each month. A population influx of this magnitude, and likely to continue more or less indefinitely, raises both social and

technological problems which cannot be ignored until they become acute.

Research and planning are under way even now to help families headed for a new home in the Southwest to find that home in the best sense of the word.

## Plant Pathology Dept. Adds Nematologist

Awareness of the growing importance of nematodes as plant parasites has resulted in appointment of a nematologist, Edward L. Nigh, Jr., to the Department of Plant Pathology in The U of A College of Agriculture.



**Edward L. Nigh** U of A as an assistant professor and assistant plant pathologist. He has a background comparable to that of many research men with higher professional rating.

A native of Maryland, Mr. Nigh is married and father of two children. He was awarded his bachelor's degree at Colorado State University in 1952, his master's from the same school in 1956. He has a double major in entomology and nematology.

He served in the air force from 1952 to 1954, and for the past half dozen years has been technical director of Agrotecnica del Valle, S. A., at Mexicali, Baja California. There he was responsible for research investigations and extension work regarding all phases of agriculture, but particularly with disease and pest problems of cotton. Nigh is author of a

dozen publications dealing with his work, at least half of them reporting nematode problems, two of these written and published in Spanish. He is a member of eight professional and scientific societies.

Dr. George Gries, head of The U of A Department of Plant Pathology, selected his new staff addition because of the increased knowledge and importance of nematodes as affecting Arizona crops.

Nematodes—although few people have ever seen them—are among the most abundant forms of animal life. A square foot of earth may hold as many nematodes as there are people in the entire state of Arizona.

Some nematodes, tiny roundworms, are parasitic to animals, such as hookworm and pinworm nematodes. Some attack other nematodes, and therefore are valuable to men. Greatest concern is that group of nematodes which are parasitic on commercial crop plants, living on live plant tissue. When the host is a food or fiber crop plant, nematodes are harmful to man.

The knowledge of nematodes is comparatively recent, but it is growing. A few years ago only 100 plant parasitic nematode forms had been identified. Later the number increased to 200, and now it is 500. It is a field where much is yet to be learned. And it is a field of intense importance to Arizona cotton, citrus, cantaloup and other crops as well as landscaping plants.

George Gries sums it up: "I'm sure Ed Nigh will find plenty to do here."

## Southern Arizona Grass Bulletin Interesting

If you live in southern Arizona and have an interest in rangelands, you will enjoy "Forage Production on Arizona Ranges." This fifth in a series of Arizona range grass publications by Dr. R. R. Humphrey, professor of range management in The University of Arizona, offers much to enjoy. It covers the Pima, Santa Cruz and Pinal rangelands, but would be applicable to a wider area.

First of all, it has a full color cover, showing a typical southern Arizona outdoor view. Secondly, it has 40 half page photos showing typical poor, fair, good and excellent range conditions of various types. These are pictures taken by the author.

Seventy intricate line drawings by Lucretia Hamilton illustrate grasses, forbs and shrubs of southern Arizona, each drawing accompanied by the author's description. In fact, this becomes a natural science textbook for the area.

If you want this publication, ask your county agent for U of A Experiment Station Bulletin 302.