

A STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN WELS  
(ARE THE 60'S AND 70'S REALLY OUR "GLORY" YEARS?)

By

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## A STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN WELS

So much has been said about the synod's growth and expansion over the last 15-20 years that a false or misleading impression has been given many people concerning these "glory" years. Before I began this study I have to admit that I was under the impression that the years previous to 1960 just could not compare in growth to the outstanding growth of the 60's and 70's. That was hardly the case. While it cannot be denied that the 60's and 70's have been the era of unparalleled home mission expansion into almost every state, the overall growth rate is very similar to the years before 1960. I think our fathers and grandfathers have received unfair criticism in this matter. They didn't establish that many new home missions because they didn't need to since "big sister" Missouri was still in the picture. Perhaps it's a little surprising that the number of adult confirmands during those years are very close to the number during the post-60's.

I think a sobering review of the 60's and 70's will review a number of trends that are not so good. It is the intent of this paper especially to focus in on the negative statistics, not for the sake of standing in judgment of certain weaknesses but to alert one to possible weaknesses that one might have easily overlooked. Of course, one must always be very careful in the handling of statistics, since they can so easily be misused. For example, dramatic declines in inner city churches as compared to rapid growth in suburban churches don't necessarily say anything about the missionary zeal or pastoral concern of the pastors involved. The same thing needs to be applied to the comparison of the statistics of each district. Just because one district is called

"mission," it doesn't mean that its members are more mission-minded than others or even that more mission work with the unchurched is being done. Therefore, before one looks at statistics one must remember that the Lord works where and when it pleases Him. Those who plant and water might not be the ones who reap the harvest. As far as statistics go, this might mean that the one who ends up with impressive figures wasn't the one who did the initial planting and watering. One should not forget about all the outside factors at work. At a time when church attendance and membership is down as a whole, the fact that a church body is able to record even the slightest growth could be highly significant. Finally it must be re-emphasized that our synod's members are not just statistics; they are precious souls. If a statistical study like this one can remind us of the souls who have not yet heard about their Savior, if it alerts us to those who are weak and in the greatest danger of falling away, if it alerts us to areas where we need greater concern and zeal, or if it alerts us to ways in which we can improve the overall kingdom work, then it has served a useful purpose.

I stated that there are some areas of concern. That doesn't mean that we haven't experienced great blessings from the Lord. The graph on synod growth shows good, steady increase in the number of souls and communicants. The graph on the number of congregations, pastors, and Christian Day Schools shows dramatic climbs which began only a few years after our withdrawal from the synodical conference. CDS enrollment and the number of CDS teachers have also increased considerably. Even our contributions (cp. the somewhat misleading graph on contributions by district with the chart entitled "Have Contributions Kept Pace with Inflation?") have increased a little

faster than inflation. We thank the Lord for all of these things.

Nevertheless there are reasons for concern even in these areas. For one thing, our overall growth has not kept pace with the U.S. growth (except for 1940-50!). On the other hand, there has been a 50% drop in the birth rate just like the drop in the U.S. birth rate. Baptisms have had a dramatic decrease from a high of 10,759 in 1956 to 7811 in 1976 and 8331 in 1978 (cf. chart on district baptisms). This in turn has meant a decrease in non-communicants from a high of 117,369 in 1959 to 99,233 in 1978. We haven't been that low since 1951. It means that less than one out of four of our total souls are non-communicants. In the very near future this will have a tremendous effect on our communicant membership.

The dramatic increase in congregations and pastors have sometimes been used to show synodical growth. That can be very misleading. All it really shows is that the "average" congregation and number of souls/pastor has gone down. The average congregation has gone down from a high of 440 in 1967 to 360 in 1978. Not since 1948 has the average congregation been that small. The number of souls a pastor serves on the average has dropped from a high of 570 in 1964 to 429 in 1978. Not since 1930 has a pastor served so few on the average. To be sure we're happy that the number of pastors has increased in this way. Still I'm reminded of what took place in the high school office where my mother works. When she started in 1961 there were only two secretaries. Now there are five secretaries and a full-time business manager to do the same work. The same thing could happen to us. Especially at this time when we are so quick to start home missions, we have to be a little cautious lest we become disproportionate in our work. For example, in 1978 a

pastor served 640, 557, and 562 souls respectively in Northern Wis., SEW, and WW while a pastor served only 205 souls in A-C, 167 in P-N, and 126 in S-A. If we put this in terms of percentage, we find that NW which was 19.8% of the synod had only 14.4% of the pastors. Likewise SEW (19.6% of synod) and WW (19.6%) had only 15.1% and 13.8% of the pastors. On the other hand, A-C (4.7%), P-N (1.2%), and S-A (0.7%) had 9.9%, 3.2%, and 3.2% of the synods' pastors respectively. What's especially significant is that the three Wisconsin districts actually averaged more adult confirmands per pastor (3.44, 3.89, and 3.24) than A-C, P-N, and S-A (3.22, 3.37, and 3.37).

I'm certainly not against the establishing of home missions. But the fact of the matter is that work with the unchurched is being done in every district and in every type of congregation. In fact, of the 56 congregations which had more than 10 adult confirmations in 1978, 32 were in congregations with over 1000 souls.

Analysis of those congregations which were organized after 1960 is quite revealing. Almost two out of three of those congregations averaged less adult confirmations per year than the synod average. In fact, there are quite a number that have a downright poor record as far as adult confirmations go. In most cases growth in these newer congregations is for the most part the result of people moving in, internal births, and people received by affirmation of faith. There are only a few examples of growth due mainly to adult confirmations. These outstanding and consistent examples show that successful evangelism is possible. While there no doubt are areas that can be very difficult to work in I think it is fair to ask whether many a mission congregation and mission pastor are misnamed because of poor, ineffective, or perhaps even non-existent evangelism

techniques.

At the same time that we need to re-evaluate our outreach to the unchurched, we also need to seriously consider how to keep those we have. It's rather frightening to compare the baptisms--deaths gain to increases in souls or total confirmands to increases in communicants for each year. For example, in 1978 there were 4641 more baptisms than deaths and yet only an increase of 1337 souls. There were 10,025 total confirmands and yet only an increase of 1990 communicants. When you compare the net gain of baptisms/deaths, adult confirmands, and those received by affirmation of faith to the synod's total growth, it means that 10,667 people must have left our synod in 1978 for one reason or another (that's  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times the adult confirmands we received). Here then is another area where great effort and concern must be shown. Some of these losses just can't be helped. I suppose that it could be argued that today's immoral society will cause these losses, but similar losses have been taking place every year. It's just another reminder that we have to make the most effective use of our congregation's educational organizations in order to equip our people for today's challenges, especially our youth. Since we all realize this it is so surprising that Sunday School enrollment has taken such a big downturn. Although as we said before the number of non-communicants has gone down, that still doesn't account for the big downturn in Sunday School enrollment. In 1978 only 42.1% of our non-communicants were enrolled in Sunday School, the lowest it has been for the last 40 years. Increase in number of CDs's no doubt has had an effect, but that didn't stop the Sunday School enrollment from impressive growth up until 1959.



One other figure is especially perplexing. Throughout the years three out of every ten to one out of five of those who were once baptized were never confirmed. Our pastors are well aware of the problem with post-confirmation drop-outs. I wonder if they realize that there is this high attrition rate before confirmation, too.

MISCELLANEOUS POINTS OF INTEREST

The two decades of the synod's greatest growth (souls) were 1930-1940 and 1940-1950.

Up until W.W. II the synod had a higher rate of marriages than the U.S. as a whole. After 1950 the synod's rate has been less, probably due to the smaller % of divorces in our congregations.

The synod's death rate has always been higher than the U.S. rate which probably means that our congregations are a little older in make-up than the national average.

The number of pupils/CDS has decreased from a high of 112 in 1966 to 88 in 1978.

Our CDS teachers will be happy to hear that the number of pupils/teacher has decreased from 34.7/teacher in 1953 to 21.3/teacher in 1978.

While we gained 33,560 communicants from 1970-78 and 35,044 communicants from 1960-70 as compared with 21,648 from 1950-60 and 22,042 from 1940-50, part of the reason for the impressive numbers for the 60's and 70's goes back to the post-W.W. II baby boom. Those babies didn't become communicants until the 60's. Just the opposite is true when you compare decades according to gains in souls. In the 40's and 50's we gained 45,162 and 45,347 souls respectively as compared with 28,758 in the 60's and 22,589 in the 70's. So which decades have the greater growth? It depends on your point of view.

Which of the districts had the greatest % of the synod's growth in each of those decades? in the 70's Ar-Ca (23.7%) but "non-mission" district WW wasn't far behind with 19.6%; in the 60's MI with 33.0% and NW with 26.9%; in the 50's MI with 24.4% and NW with 17.4%; and in the 40's WW with 31.0%

The districts with the greatest % of non-communicants are Ar-Ca, S-A, and P-N; lowest in WW.

The district with the highest % of children in CDS is SEW; lowest - DM.

The highest average enrollment/school is in WW; lowest - NE (33)

The highest % of children in S.S. - S-A (62.6%) and DM (55.2%); lowest - the three WI districts (32.3% to 36.6%).

The district with the highest marriage rate is P-N (17.7); lowest - MN.

The district with the highest death rate in 1978 was S-A (12.6), probably of the retired in Florida.

Mi had the highest number of adult confirmands in 1978; DM, PN, and S-A the least.

1946 was the year that the number of female teachers surpassed the number of male teachers.

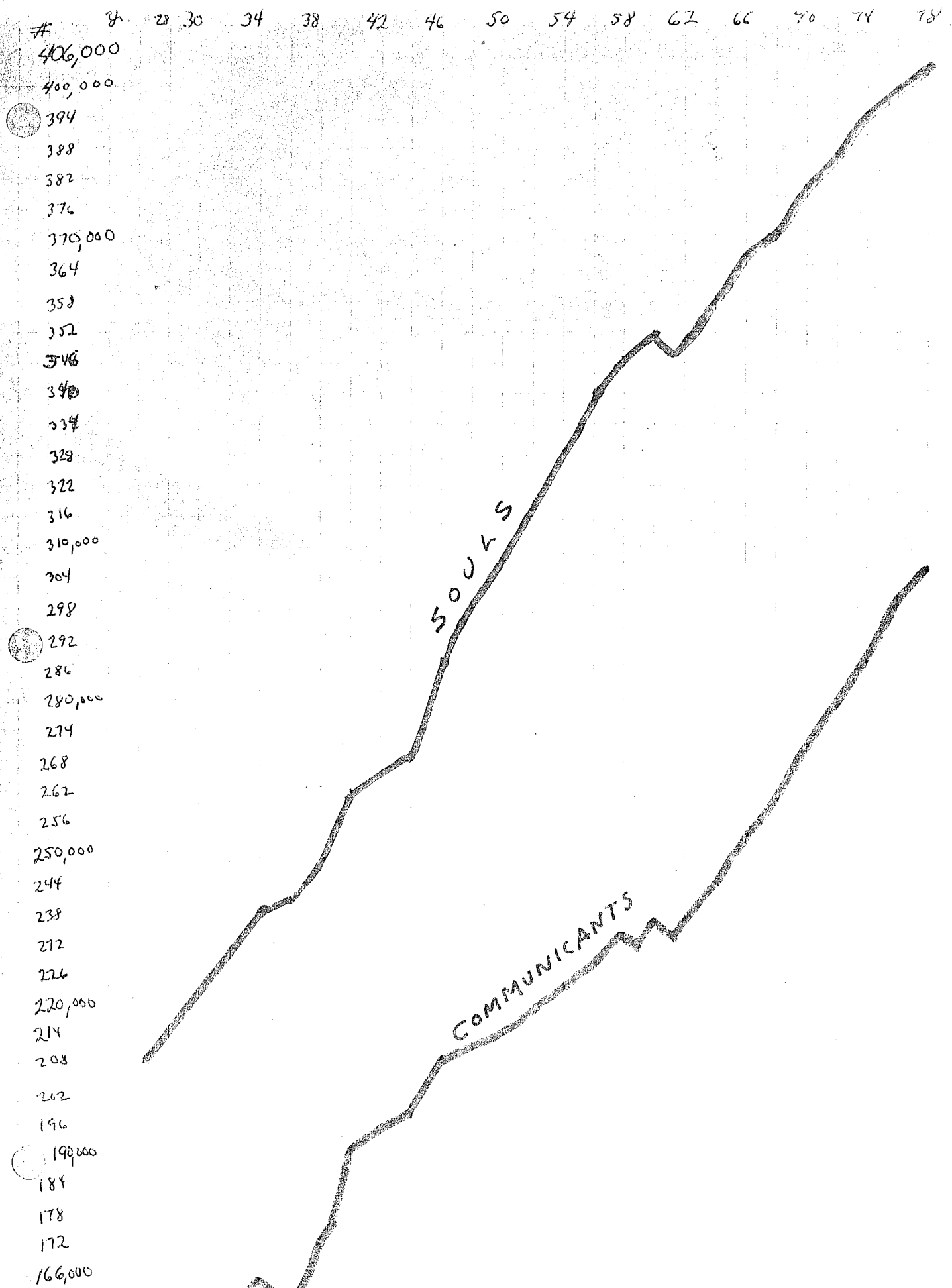
For more than 12 years WW led the districts in souls but had a dramatic loss in the early 60's.

Ar-Ca is the only district to have a steady climb in S.S. enrollment.

MI and Ar-Ca have had dramatic increases in the number of pastors starting in 1960.

S-A, A-C, and P-N lead in per communicant contributions.

(All statistics taken from the WELS statistics)

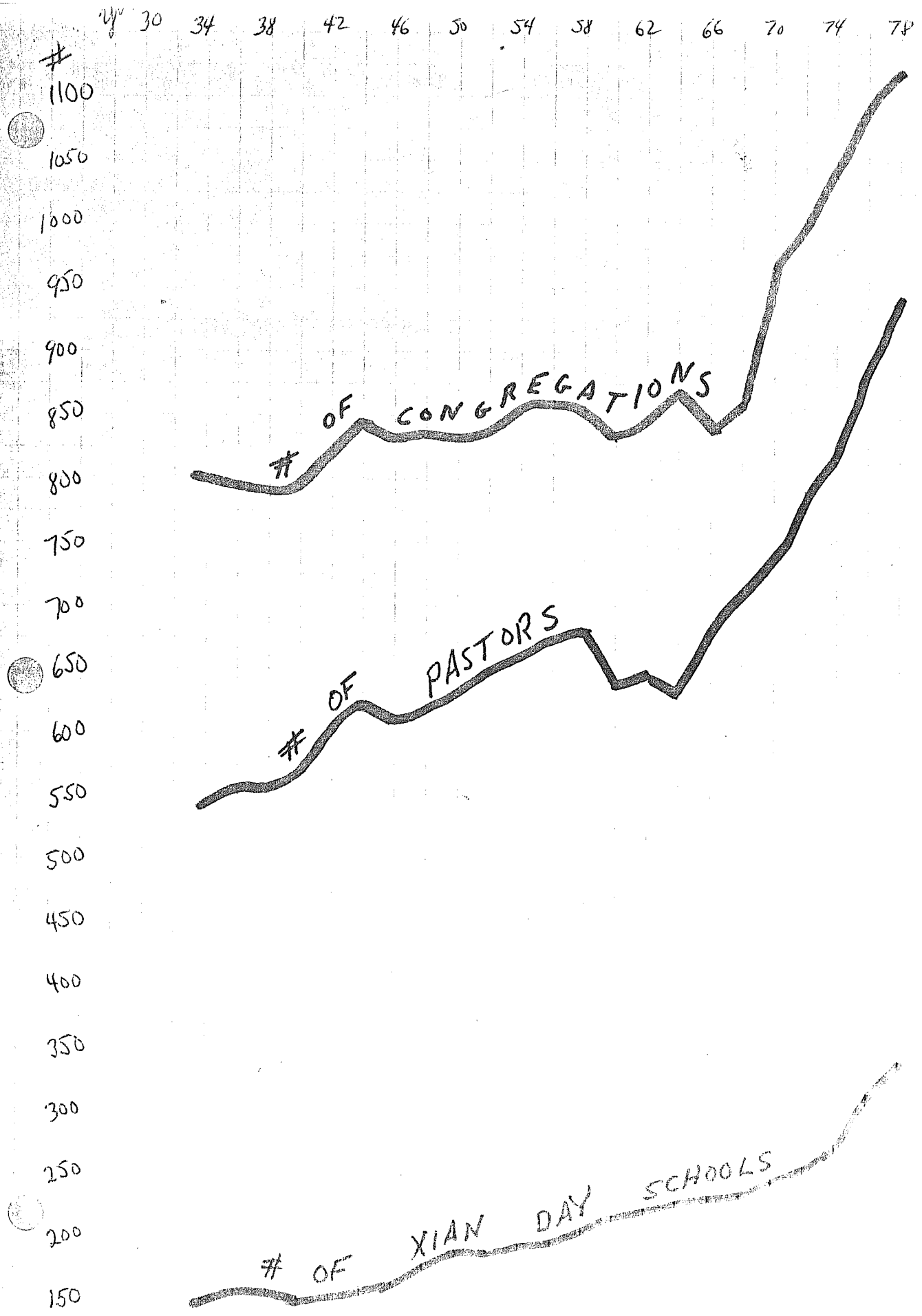


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SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

DAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

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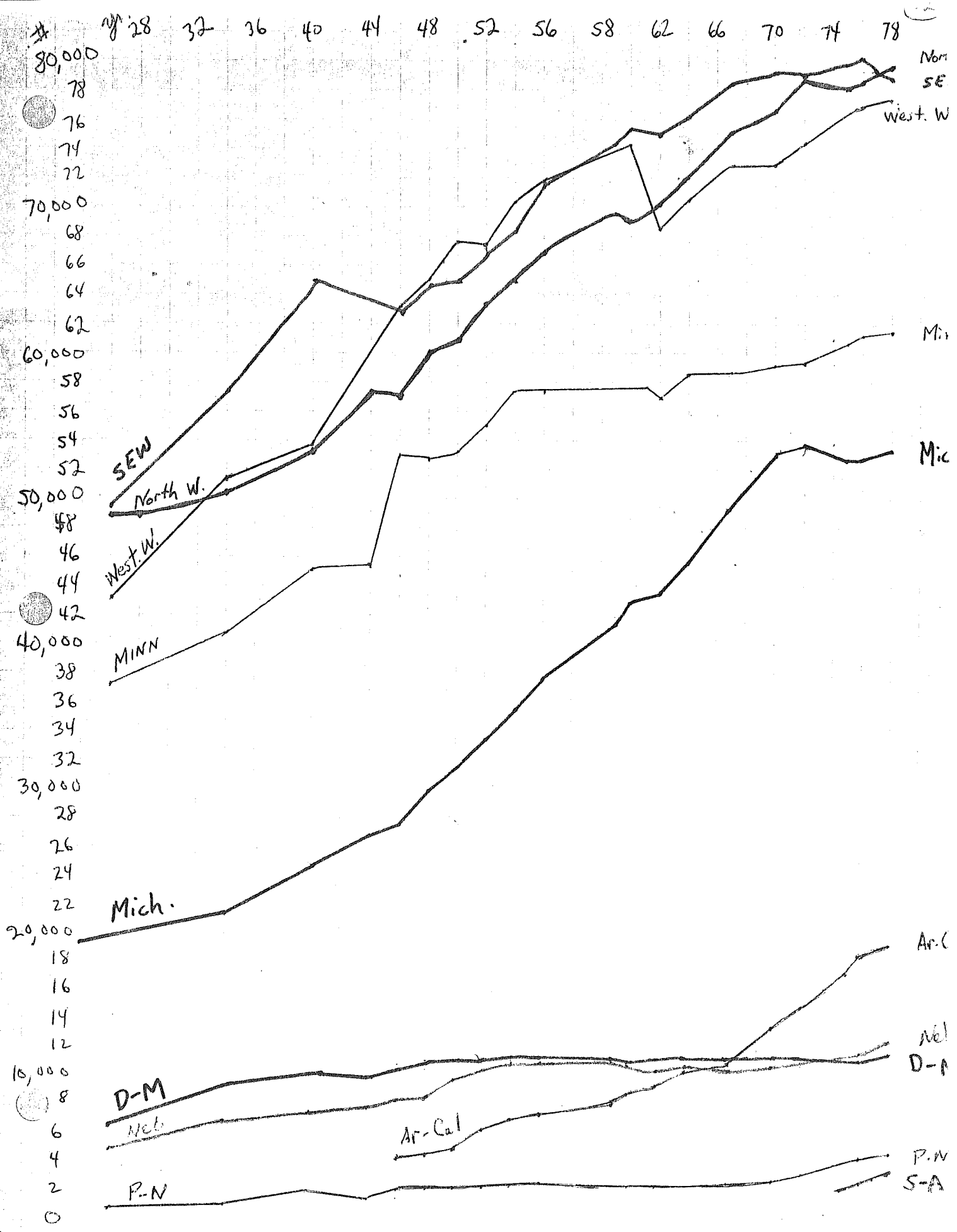
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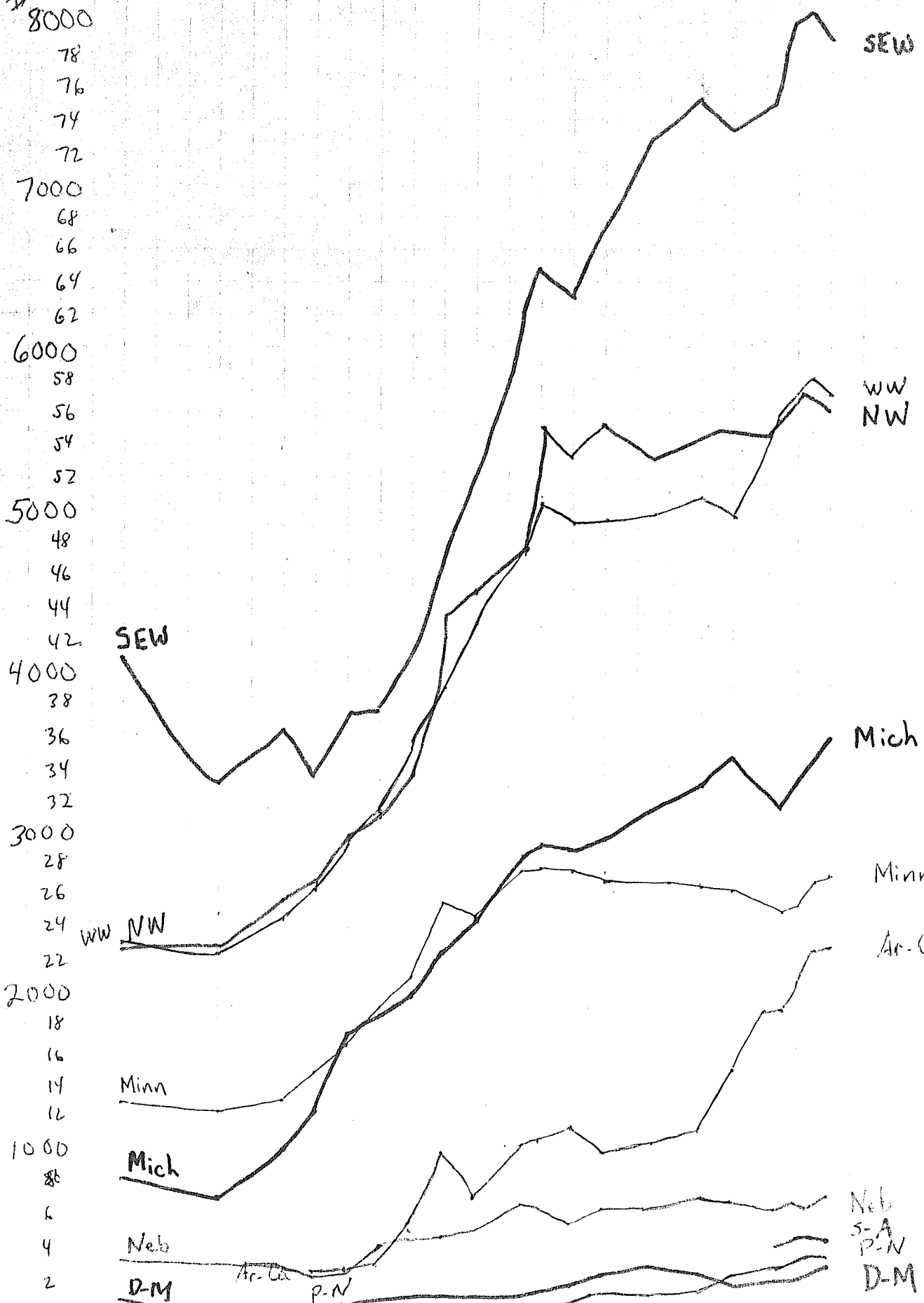
FEMALE TEACHERS

MALE TEACHERS



# DAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

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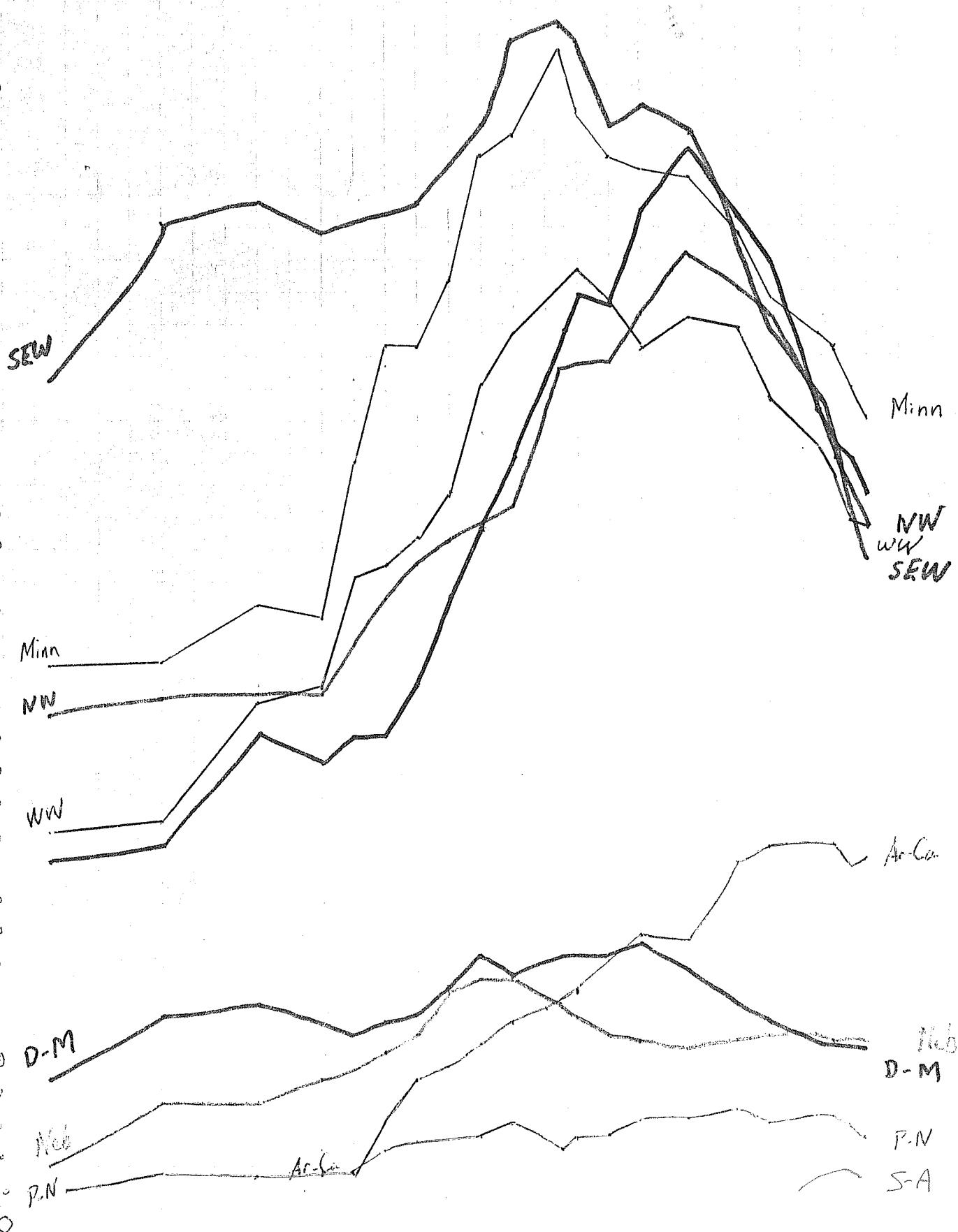
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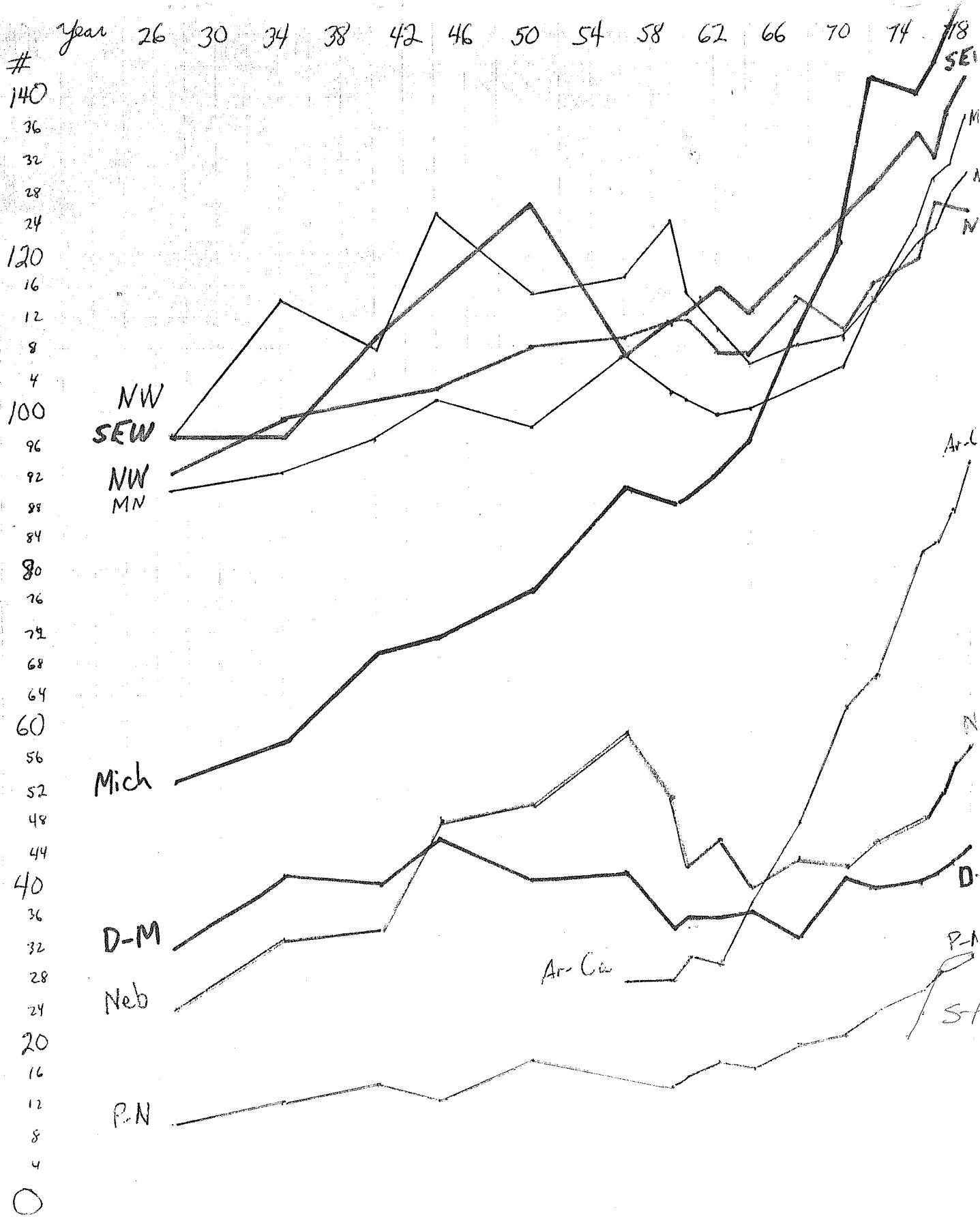


# SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (DISTRICT) 14

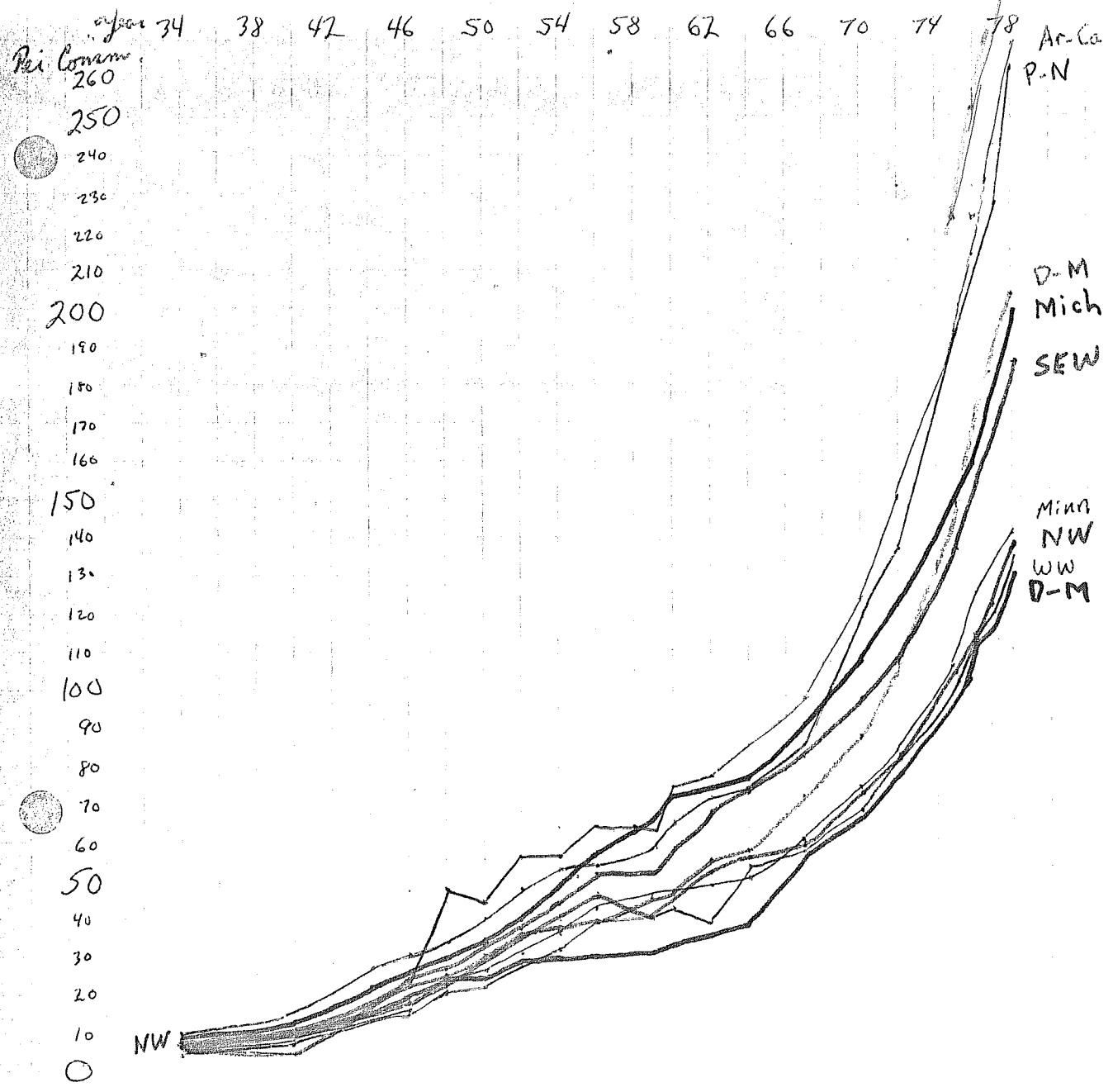
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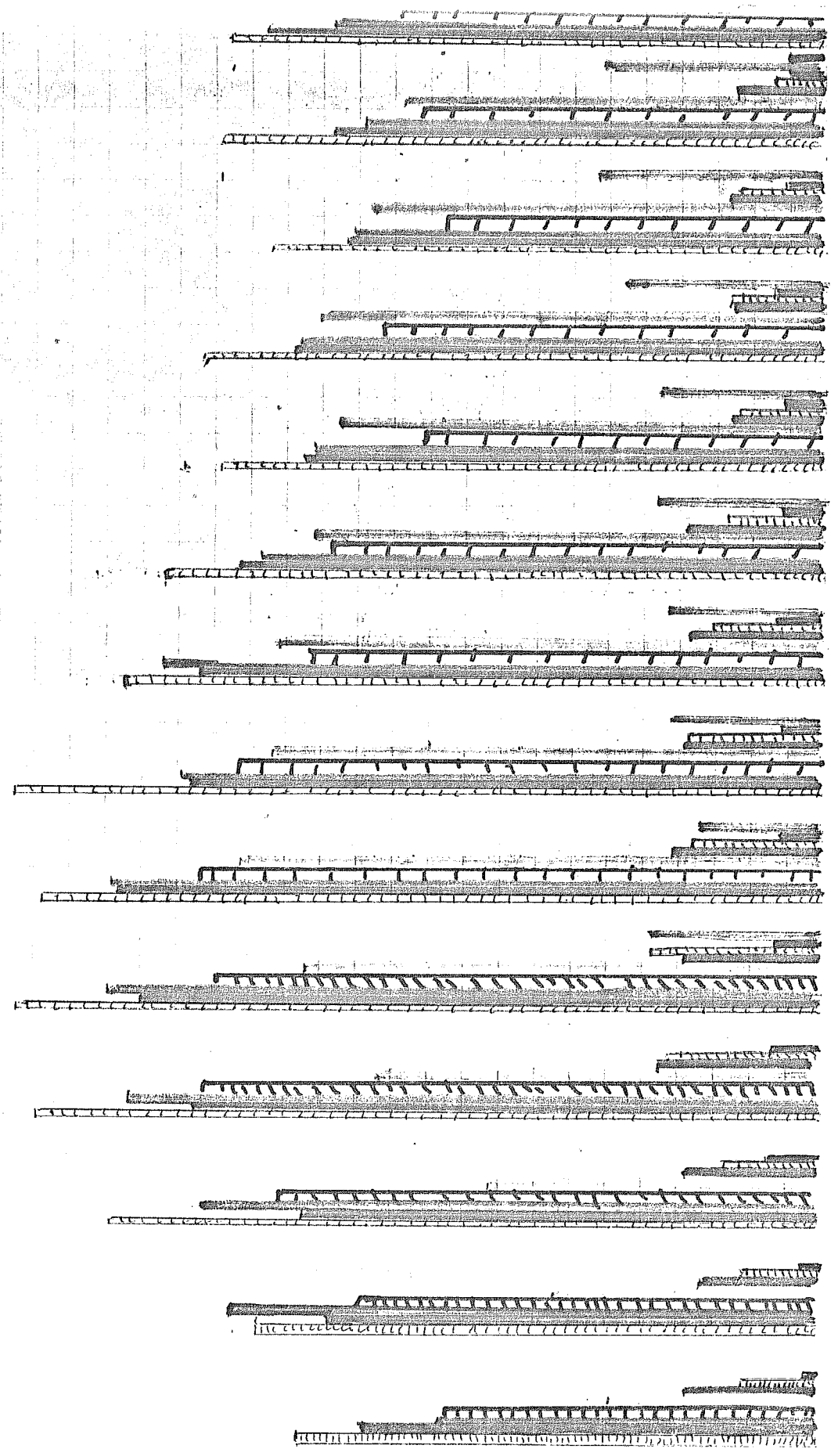


SA (315 in 78)



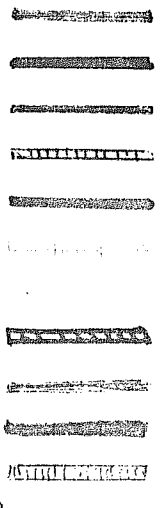
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# BAPTISMS



SYNOD'S GROWTH COMPARED WITH U.S. GROWTH

<u>Synod</u>		<u>US</u>	
		1920	105,711,000
		1930	122,775,000
262,054		1940	131,669,000
307,216	17.2%	1950	150,697,000
352,563	14.8%	1960	179,323,000
381,321	8.2%	1970	203,235,000
403,910	5.9%	1978	217,700,000
			16.1% increase
			7.2% increase
			14.5%
			18.5 %
			13.3%
			7.1%

<u>BIRTHS/1000</u>		<u>MARRIAGES/1000</u>		<u>DEATHS/1000</u>	
<u>Synod</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>Synod</u>	<u>US</u>	<u>Synod</u>	<u>US</u>
25.6		11.5	10.4	11.9	
27.7		15.8	12.1	12.5	
36.2		10.2	12.2	12.7	
32.1		11.4	11.1	10.4	
31.7	24.6	8.9	9.3	10.0	9.3
29.1	23.7	7.8	8.5	9.6	9.5
22.7	19.4	8.0	9.3	9.6	9.4
22.5	18.4	9.4	10.6	9.7	9.5
19.6	14.9			9.8	9.4
20.2	14.8	9.3	10.1	9.2	8.9
19.5	14.8	9.3	10.0	9.7	8.9
20.6	15.3	9.3	10.1	9.3	8.8
20.6		9.2		9.1	

	Increase in souls	Incr %	Net Gain (Bapt- deaths)	Increase in comm.	Incr %	Adult Conf.	#/ Past	Child Conf.	Total Conf.	# of soul that left
1977-78	1337	0.3	4641	1990	0.7	2942	3.1	7083	10,025	10,667
1976-77	2372	0.6	4544	4073	1.3	2946	3.2	7424	10,370	109383
1975-76	3656	1.0	3917	4632	1.6	2972	3.4	7565	10,537	7850
1974-75	6517	1.7	4359	6349	2.3	2977	3.5	7655	10,637	5147
1973-74	1617	0.4	4015	3748	1.4	3840	4.7	7624	11,464	6238+A
1972-73	2167	0.6	3811	4646	1.8	2826	3.5	7824	10,650	4470+A
1971-72	2981	0.8	4012	3739	1.5	2833	3.6	7464	10,297	3864+A
1970-71	1942	0.5	4730	4383	1.8	2560	3.4	7749	10,309	5318+A
1969-70	5002	1.4	4811	6048	2.5	2740	3.7	7446	10,186	2549+A
1968-69	4517	1.3	4374	5615	2.5	2601	3.5	7531	10,131	2458+A
1967-68	754	0.3	4199	2678	1.3	2309	3.2	7462	9771	5754+A
1966-67	3089	0.9	4655	3326	1.5	2502	3.6	7152	9654	4068+A
1965-66	4859	1.4	4763	5829	2.8	2473	3.6	7436	9909	2377+A
1964-65	4634	1.5	4741	3745	1.9	2437	3.7	7274	9711	2544+A
1963-64	3626	1.1	5520	3562	1.9	2506	3.7	6994	9500	4400+A
1962-63	4859	1.6	6056	3910	2.0	2434	3.8	6848	9282	3631+A
1961-62	1797	0.6	6228	2777	1.6	2137	3.3	6976	9113	6566+A
1960-61	-4379	-1.4	6368	-2446	-1.3	2611	4.1	7468	10,079	13,351+A
1959-60	3838	1.1	6886	4717	2.0	2479	3.9	6425	8904	5527+A
1958-59	1935	0.6	6356	-2881	-1.2	2661	4.0	6017	8688	7082+A
1957-58	3739	1.1	7130	5613	2.5	2736	4.0	5867	8603	6069+A
1956-57	3887	1.1	7312	-385	-0.2	2503	3.6	5946	8449	5928+A
1955-56	4131	1.2	7716	2380	1.1	2610	3.9	6333	8943	6195+A
1954-55	6006	1.8	7267	2887	1.3	2622	3.9	5859	8381	3883+A
1953-54	6022	1.9	7163	1962	0.9	2732	4.1	5346	8078	3873+A
1952-53	6108	1.9	6919	2380	1.1	2577	3.9	5257	7834	3388+A

	Non-Comm.	% of Non-Comm. in CDS	# of pupils per school	# pup./teacher	% of Non-Comm. in S.S.	% of Bapt. Conf.	% of Comm.	Souls/ Congr.	Souls/ Pastor
1978-	99,233	29.9%	88	21.3	42.1%	78%	75.4%	360	429
1977-	99,886	29.7 %	90	21.7	43.5%	78.7%	75.2%	364	441
1976-	101,587	28.6%	93	22.3	44.6%	78.1%	74.6%	367	452
1975-	102,563	26.9%	94	22.3	45.9%	77.0%	74.1%	373	463
1974-	102,395	26.1%	98	22.6	46.4%	74.3%	73.7%	376	474
1973-	104,526	25.4%	101	23.0	46.9%	72.8%	73.1%	381	476
1972-	107,005	24.7%	103	23.6	46.8%	70.6%	72.3%	388	491
1971-	107,763	24.6%	105	24.6	47.3%	72.8%	71.9%	388	506
1970-	110,204	23.8%	106	24.9	48.1%	69.0%	71.1%	394	520
1969-	111,250	23.3%	107	25.6	48.2%	70.9%	70.4%	399	509
1968-	111,848	23.3%	110	26.4	49.0%	72.0%	69.9%	433	523
1967-	114,272	22.4%	109	26.7	48.1%	69.7%	69.2%	440	535
1966-	114,509	21.8%	112	27.9	48.0%	70.5%	68.9%	438	542
1965-	115,479	21.8%	109	27.8	45.9%	73.0%	68.2%	447	548
1964-	114,590	21.7%	109	28.5	47.5%	71.0%	68.0%	413	570
1963-	114,526	21.5%	110	29.2	47.1%		67.7%	416	548
1962-	113,577	21.7%	110	29.9	47.1%	71.0%	67.5%	413	539
1961-	114,557	21.2%	107	30.4	46.6%		67.1%	415	549
1960-	116,490	21.1%	111	30.9	47.0%	73.0%	67.0%	425	553
1959-	117,369	19.6%	105	31.1	46.1%		66.3%	414	527
1958-	113,433	19.9%	105	32.4	46.1%	62.6%	67.3%	407	513
1957-	115,249	18.9%	105	33.0	44.7%		66.4%	408	494
1956-	110,977	18.3%	102	32.5	45.8%	75.8%	67.3%	394	503
1955-	109,226	18.5%	103	32.5	45.2%	78.0%	67.4%	391	498
1954-	106,107	18.3%	101	33.9	46.2%	73.6%	67.7%	385	499
1953-	102,047	18.9%		34.7	45.4%	76.3%	68.4%	380	486
1952-	98,319	16.5%	87	33.3	44.2%	72.8%	69.0%	379	487
1950-	92,791	15.8%	76	33.4	43.0%	76.1%	69.8%	371	487
1948-	86,892	15.9%	78	34.3	43.5%	82.6%	70.8%	358	481
1946-	79,361	15.2%	72	33.8	44.2%		72.5%	348	472
1944-	61,670				53.1%		76.2%		417?
1940-	69,671	14.5%	67		43.8%		73.4%	332	461

		Incr. in Souls	Incr. in Comm.	Growth % in D.	% of Syn. Growth	% of Syn. Past	% of CDS Enroll	% of CDS in Distr.	% of CDS Teach.
1970-78	(% of) Synod	22,589	33,560	5.9%					
19.8%	NW	3244	5527	4.2%	14.4%	13.3%	19.0%	15.9%	18.8%
19.6	SEW	-215	3584	-0.3	-1.0	15.1	26.8	22.7	26.8
19.2	WW	4418	6426	16.0	19.6	13.8	19.2	12.4	17.5
15.2	Minn	2189	3878	3.7	9.7	14.6	9.2	10.9	9.9
13.2	MI	345	3276	0.7	1.5	16.3	12.1	15.0	12.0
4.7	Ar-Ca	5230	4476	37.7	23.2	9.9	7.6	10.3	7.8
3.1	D-M	592	904	5.2	2.6	6.1	1.0	1.8	1.0
3.0	Ne	1560	1584	14.4	6.9	4.7	2.5	6.5	3.0
1.2	P-N	1431	1271	39.9	6.3	3.2	1.2	2.4	1.4
0.7	S-A					3.2	1.5	1.5	1.8
1960-70	Synod	28,758	35,044	8.2%					
20.1%	NW	7739	8001	7.7	26.9	17.4	20.6	18.3	19.7
20.8	SEW	3609	4684	4.8	12.5	16.9	28.9	26.8	29.9
19.2	WW	-935	2098	-1.3	-3.3	14.9	19.3	13.8	17.5
15.6	MN	1973	4215	3.4	6.9	14.3	10.1	11.0	11.1
13.9	MI	9482	10,634	22.2	33.0	16.5	12.5	13.8	12.1
3.6	AR-Ca	4881	3909	54.2	17.0	8.5	4.5	6.5	4.7
3.0	D-M	77	816	0.7	0.3	5.5	0.9	1.6	0.9
2.8	NE	3	742	0.0	0.0	6.1	2.7	6.5	3.1
0.9	P-N	1089	775	43.6	3.8	2.7	0.6	1.2	0.7
1950-60	Synod	45,347	21,648	14.8%					
19.6	NW	7906	3521	12.9	17.4	17.5	22.5	17.2	19.9
21.5	SEW	5492	2566	7.8	12.1	17.7	26.3	24.0	26.8
21.0	WW	6407	2511	9.5	14.1	18.0	20.4	17.6	21.3
16.3	MN	4012	1779	7.5	8.8	15.9	11.3	13.6	11.7
12.1	Mi	11,058	5110	34.9	24.4	14.0	11.9	13.1	11.1
2.6	AR-CA	3867	2123	75.3	8.5	4.7	4.3	4.5	4.4
3.2	D-M	411	204	3.8	0.9	5.5	0.7	2.3	1.0
3.1	NE	822	672	8.2	1.8	6.6	2.6	6.3	3.5
0.7	P-N	240	126	10.6	0.5	2.4	0.2	1.4	0.5



		Incr in Souls	Incr in Comm	Growth % in D.	% of Syn Growth	% of Syn Past	% of CDS Enroll	% of CDS in Dist	% of CDS Teach.
1940-50	Synod	45,162	22,042	17.2%					
	19.9% NW	7704	4288	14.4	17.1	17.1	21.1	18.1	20.3
	22.8 SEW	4974	4794	7.6	11.0	19.9	28.2	26.6	31.0
	22.0 WW	14,018	8479	26.0	31.0	18.2	21.4	17.6	19.9
	17.4 MN	8155	5331	18.0	18.0	15.5	13.0	13.3	12.6
	10.3 MI	7288	5192	29.9	16.1	12.2	12.9	14.4	4.6
	3.5 D-M	611	1243	5.9	1.4	6.3	0.6	2.1	0.9
	3.5 NE	2189	1473	2.8	4.8	7.9	2.8	7.4	3.7
	0.7 P-N	223	243	11.0	0.5	2.7	0.1	0.5	0.2
(1940)	20.4 NW					?	22.6	21.3	31.8
	24.9 SEW					19.3	33.0	?	33.4
	20.5 WW					19.9	22.0	21.3	20.0
	17.3 MN					16.9	12.2	13.3	11.8
	9.3 MI					12.1	7.3	10.7	7.9
	3.9 D-M					7.0	-	-	-
	3.0 NE					1.7	2.9	5.3	3.0
	0.8 P-N					2.5	-	-	-

1978

	NW	SEW	WW	MN	MI	NE	P-N	D-M	A-C	S-A	SYNOD
Non-Comm-18,714	19,205	17,839	14,711	13,204	3247	1573	3002	6576	1161	99,233	
Comm %	76.6%	75.7	77.0	76.1	75.3	73.9	68.7	74.9	65.6	69.4	75.4
CDS Enroll/ Non-Comm	30.2%	41.4	32.0	18.6	27.2	22.6	21.9	9.8	34.1	38.6	29.9
Enro/school	105	103	136	74	70	33	43	49	64	64	88
Pup/Teacher	21.6	21.3	23.4	19.8	21.4	17.5	17.3	20.9	20.6	17.9	21.3
SS Enroll/ Non-Comm	35.0	32.3	36.6	51.0	51.3	50.4	52.8	55.2	51.2	62.6	42.1
% of 1964 Bapt. Conf.	91.0	77.3	84.9	77.4	62.2	73.2	65.6	51.5	77.0	--	78.0
Souls/Cong	530	569	462	375	324	150	143	162	172	115	360
Souls/Past	640	557	462	375	324	218	168	272	205	126	429
Bapt/1000	19.4	20.7	17.6	19.0	21.3	25.4	26.9	21.1	33.6	30.3	20.6
Marr/1000	8.8	9.0	9.1	7.8	10.7	12.4	17.7	7.4	13.1	8.7	9.2
Deaths/1000	9.5	9.3	10.0	8.3	7.9	9.3	9.3	8.9	8.5	12.6	9.1

## HAVE CONTRIBUTIONS KEPT PACE WITH INFLATION?

The 1979 World Almanac gives the following figures for the purchasing power of the dollar. Total contribution figures are translated accordingly.

1940-	\$1 was worth 238% a 1967 \$1. Contributions multiplied by 238% give a total of \$33.32.		
1950 -	139% = \$48.65	1973 -	75% = \$100.50
1955 -	125% = \$63.75	1974 -	68% = \$100.64
1960 -	113% = \$75.71	1975 -	62% = \$99.20
1965 -	106% = \$84.80	1976 -	59% = \$101.48
1966 -	103% = \$91.67	1977 -	55% = \$102.30
1967 -	100% = \$95.00	1978 -	52% = \$107.64
1968 -	96% = \$94.08		
1969 -	91% = \$94.64		
1970 -	86% = \$92.88		
1971 -	82% = \$95.12		
1972 -	80% = \$100.00		

Another way of looking at this is to compare total contributions to a manuf. worker's average weekly income.

1955-	Total contributions/communicant were 67.7 % a manuf. worker's average income of \$75.70/week.
1960-	74.4% of \$89.72
1965-	74.4% of \$107.53
1970-	80.8% of \$133.73
1973-	80.7% of \$166.06
1974-	83.9% of \$176.44
1975-	84.4% of \$189.51
1976-	82.9% of \$207.60
1977-	82.0% of \$226.89
1978-	84.1% of \$246.04

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COMPARISON OF GROWTH AND ADULT CONFIRMATIONS  
IN CONGREGATIONS ORGANIZED AFTER '60

(The figures are listed in this order: incr. in souls/communicants  
total adult conf - ave./yr. - line 2: yr organ. - net gain of bap-death  
aff. of faith - size of congr when organ.)  
(since '74)

Garden Grove, CA (61) 264 (43)	632/491 23/14	288	17.0	Coon Rapids, MN (63) 136 (59)	517/353 69/38	32	2.1
Citrus Heights, CA (65) 164 (105)	627/402 50/22	178	12.9	Brookfield (61) 98 (16)	438/308 24/14	38	2.2
San Jose (Apost), CA (66) 280 (67)	585/401 91/13	185	15.4	New Berlin (67) 57 (41)	376/263 30/16	19	1.7
San Carlos, AR (61) 239 (3)	569/177 52/14	58	3.4	Falls Church, VA (63) 134 (0)	273/187 66/38	41	2.7
Sussex (67) 87 (19)	441/250 117/60	38	3.5	Eau Claire (66) 70 (38)	251/164 43/30	28	2.3
Phoenix (St. Th) (66) 119 (41)	436/309 31/18	63	5.3	Dallas, TX (64) 89 (20)	251/158 24/12	30	2.1
Burnsville, MN (64) 158 (45)	432/270 39/22	51	3.6	Hubertus (70) 37 (55)	241/169 61/32	14	1.7
Grafton (65) 99 (10)	263/166 47/29	39	3.0	Brown Deer (65) 43 (26)	231/160 17/10	21	1.6
St. Charles, MI (65) 96 (58)	252/227 142/57	76	5.8	Houston, TX (Xt Ld) (66) 45 (38)	210/140 15/13	34	2.8
San Diego, CA (64) 116 (35)	250/173 105/61	84	6.0	St. L. Co., MO (67) 58 (79)	189/138 81/52	26	2.4
Schofield (64) 60 (10)	250/179 71/35	45	3.3	Willmar, MN (64) 85 (17)	182/113 40/26	32	2.3
Riverside, CA (72) 58 (23)	239/93 20/17	56	9.3	Palatine, IL (69) 40 (12)	179/108 31/20	13	1.4
Sterling Heights, MI (63) 96 (33)	224/161 43/19	60	4.0	Inver Grove Hts., MN (71) 45 (30)	176/107 55/34	16	2.3
Carlsbad, CA (69) 65 (35)	210/136 69/54	45	5.0	Scottsdale, AR (64) 29 (0)	175/152 31/18	18	1.3
Aurora, IL (69) 52 (30)	205/122 32/21	34	3.8	Brookings, SD (67) 39 (13)	171/127 42/14	30	2.7
Tucson (Holy Cr) (65) 54 (21)	203/135 21/9	44	3.4	Cedarburg (70) 41 (13)	167/125 64/40	11	1.4
Duncanville, TX (65) 79 (58)	202/149 18/11	53	4.1	Prairie du Sac (66) 46 (56)	165/119 60/28	15	1.3
El Paso, TX (69) 45 (50)	201/169 44/31	31	3.4	Ft. Wayne, IN (69) 44 (76)	163/119 55/36	21	2.3
Grove City, O (67) 86 (23)	192/131 54/21	63	5.7	Granger, IN (72) 34 (66)	162/111 32/25	15	2.3
Holiday, FL (69) 1 (89)	197/161 34/30	33	3.7	Midland, MI (72) 35 (26)	142/92 38/21	14	2.3
Spokane, WA (66) 62 (34)	182/130 18/13	39	3.3	Plover (71) 40 (50)	139/87 48/31	17	2.4

Belvidere, IL (67) 52 (40)	85-58 90-57	48	3.8	Tucson, AR(Sh of H) (74) 7 (13)	76-55 19-14	5	1.3
Mitchell, S.D. (74) 18 (29)	83-53 18-11	16	4.0	Excelsior, MN (69) 30 (19)	75-49 42-27	22	2.4
Madison (St Cha) (66) 65 (11)	81-69 21-21	65	5.4	Largo, MD (70) 38 (40)	73-58 50-26	22	2.8
Fresno, CA (70) 37 (16)	78-57 40-28	26	3.3	San Antonio, TX (67) 24 (8)	73-47 14-12	13	1.2
Taylor, MI (72) 20 (9)	77-57 40-20	36	6.0	Sauk Rapids, MN (68) 28 (22)	72-43 14-12	16	1.6
Cuyahoga Falls, O (66) 46 (8)	76-52 22-11	50	4.2	Pittsfield, MA (68) 40 (25)	70-67 44-27	19	1.9
Virginia Beach (68) 72 (23)	73-52 63-31	35	3.5	Clifton Pk, NY (74) 5 (23)	67-49 73-52	7	1.8
Billings, MT (69) 83 (24)	72-76 229-133	42	4.7	Decatur, GA (70) 25 (25)	66-49 26-17	11	1.4
Bylas, AR (73) 95 (0)	71-31 451-174	32	6.4	St. Albert, Alb (66) 18 (12)	66-38 20-14	16	1.3
Las Vegas, NV (72) 24 (26)	71-58 60-35	26	4.3	Pierre, SD (70) 24 (20)	65-46 45-23	11	1.4
New Carlisle, O (63) 93 (6)	66-37 23-11	46	3.1	Reno, NV (75) 17 (26)	65-43 59-47	8	2.7
Mission Viejo, CA (73) 24 (41)	64-51 53-25	18	3.6	Lancaster, CA (69) 22 (20)	64-35 50-39	11	1.2
Renton, WA (68) 54 (25)	62-65 50-14	34	3.4	Great Falls, MT (64) 56 (0)	62-52 49-13	33	2.4
Lubbock, TX (75) 13 (38)	59-49 41-30	14	4.7	Grand Blanc, MI (71) 17 (33)	62-44 52-30	11	1.6
Abita Springs, LA (71) -1 (34)	57-47 26-20	36	5.1	Brainerd, MN (69) 9 (12)	61-47 19-14	4	0.4
Belmont, CA (63) 80 (18)	53-54 91-45	50	3.3	Yankton, SD (72) 24 (20)	60-45 45-26	13	2.2
Orleans, Ont (74) 16 (13)	52-38 30-18	12	3.0	Sacramento, CA (74) 5 (27)	60-40 70-55	1	0.3
E. Providence, RI (73) 12 (30)	47-31 26-14	36	7.2	Beverly Hills, FL (74) -5 (50)	59-51 32-29	6	1.5
Eagen, MN (76) 13 (2)	46-25 32-16	6	3.0	Lancaster (66) 20 (14)	58-46 19-16	6	1.0
Crown Pt., IN (75) 10 (14)	40-32 31-16	9	3.0	Spearfish, SD (68) 3 (10)	57-38 7-7	3	0.3
Willoughby, O (65) 57 (12)	33-40 53-20	43	3.3	Nampa, ID (74) 11 (19)	55- 84-56	5	1.3
Summerville, SC (76) 6 (1)	28-17 25-14	6	3.0	Westkiwin, Alb (65) -1 (19)	54-56 41-30	3	0.2

Maitland, FL (67) 24 (13)	182/131 50/27	33 3.0	Houston, TX (Ab Word) (70) 33 (8)	133/83 20 2.5 33/22
Howell, MI (69) 48 (42)	182/149 79/36	27 3.0	Concord, CA (67) 56 (17)	122/68 30 2.9 54/30
Wyoming, MI (63) 91 (21)	171/130 66.30	50 3.3	Friendswood, TX (70) 17 (39)	114/81 16 2.0 19/8
Forest Lake, MN (73) 19 (117)	150/96 92/62	17 3.4	Alexandria, MN (68) 30 (16)	112/85 13 1.3 25/16
San Jose (Mt Ca) (62) 107 (17)	125/96 30/13	47 2.9	Alma, MI (62) 57 (10)	110/? 36 2.3 110/?
Redding, CA (70) 23 (37)	123/90 78/45	27 3.4	Albuquerque, NM (66) 24 (72)	106/76 18 1.5 26/6
W. Newton, PA (71) 11 (32)	122/104 51/36	29 4.1	Portage, MI (67) 17 (17)	102/74 6 0.6 33/15
Baltimore, MD (67) 43 (23)	120/94 31/17	72 6.6	Davenport, IA (66) 43 (14)	101/72 28 2.3 31/22
La Mesa (65) 67 (39)	120/105 39/20	39 3.0	Sierra Madre, Ca (72) 9 (6)	96/62 4 0.7 9/9
Austin, TX (69) 33 (45)	119/74 15/13	34 3.8	Torrance, CA (70) 23 (21)	95/78 17 2.1 52/34
Salem, OR (67) 36 (42)	117/88 43/24	38 3.5	Indianapolis, IN (69) 34 (18)	93/61 12 1.3 52/34
Jacksonville, FL (70) 65 (69)	113/69 37/18	35 4.4	Ft. Worth, TX (70) 28 (37)	91/84 22 2.5 34/10
Tigard, OR (61) 81 (15)	112/94 130/30	88 5.2	Urbana, IL (74) 13 (65)	90/56 11 0.4 41/28
River Falls (71) 24 (17)	110/40 67/40	31 4.4	Sioux Falls (71) 35 (4)	89/53 15 2.1 27/16
Montrose, MI (68) 40 (11)	108/74 85/57	95 9.5	Thousand Oaks, CA (67) 20 (22)	88/52 16 1.5 25/16
Cincinnati, O (71) 37 (45)	104/75 50 33	41 5.8	Rochester, MN (76) 13 (13)	87/50 0 0 45/28
Madison, TN (71) 33 (14)	110/67 11/7	37 5.3	Jackson, MI (69) 38 (21)	86/62 22 2.4 60/40
Merritt Island, FL (64) 69 (22)	98/62 52/18	59 4.2	Ft. Collins, CO (70) 21 (41)	86/60 11 1.4 54/42
N. Ft. Myers, FL (71) 7 (39)	97/80 19/16	44 6.3	Santa Barbara, CA (74) 9 (6)	88/60 12 3.0 12/8
S. Windsor, CT (68) 49 (48)	97/64 54/37	44 4.4	Duluth, MN (67) 45 (49)	85/76 21 1.9 44/24
E. Brunswick, N.J. (66) 66 (20)	95/81 77/39	59 4.9	Birmingham, AL (69) 19 (36)	82/71 15 1.7 30/22
Escondido, CA (68) 75 (13)	93/82 57/28	35 3.5	Crystal Lake, IL (74) 9 (23)	81/53 5 1.2 33/17

Shawano (73) 15 (67)	234-190 23-17	39	3.3	Waupun (66) 39-17	160-119 44-19	16	1.3
Overland Park, <sup>0</sup> (66) 68 (64)	204-152 74-44	45	3.8	Tulsa, OK (70) 27-(51)	140-82 18-13	17	2.1
Lincoln, NE (62) 71 (34)	192-154 66-32	69	4.5	Westminster, CO (74) 13 (35)	121-79 83-50	7	1.8
Kent, WA (65) 99 (12)	181-123 55-29	106	8.2	Tomahawk (61) 13 (33)	111-92 23-16	18	1.9
Anchorage, AL (68) 124 (30)	155-109 37-20	84	7.0	Shiocton (76) 12 (29)	78-51 115-80	4	2.0
Little Chute (66) 43 (25)	153-119 56-24	48	4.0	Suamico (72) 10 (22)	75-65 29-15	6	0.8
Bremerton, OR (72) 16 (21)	109-72 31-25	33	5.5	Seward, NE (69) -1 (22)	62-52 24-21	3	0.3
Oklahoma City, <sup>0</sup> (74) 22 (35)	87-59 28-20	14	3.5	K.C. North, K.C. (75) 4 (17)	53-48 41-24	2	0.7
Alexandria, LA (73) 23 (64)	72-44 22-16	20	4.0	Rockford, IL (72) 28 (46)	50-31 55-27	10	1.7
Milw (Risen Sav) (74) 52 (15)	53-48 129-68	26	6.5	Burlington, IA (75) 6 (24)	49-33 37-26	5	1.7
La Habra, CA (64) 27 (69)	43-42 49-28	55	3.9	Grand Jct., CO (72) 19 (29)	48-27 36-21	9	1.5
Reedsburg (65) 86 (41)	37-13 85-63	63	4.8	Milw (St. Michaelis) (65) 4 (19)	49-49 31-26	1	0.1
S.E. KanCity, <sup>MO</sup> (77) 3 (0)	17-7 30-22	3	3.0	New Orleans, LA (70) 24 (19)	52-31 24-19	10	1.3
Eagle River, AL (76) 12 (2)	37-5 18-12	6	3.0	Memphis, TN (73) 13 (18)	51-28 23-17	10	2.0
Kettering, O (77) 2 (1)	11-6 28-20	3	3.0	Gainesville, FL (73) 12 (24)	55-46 31-20	10	2.0
Sarasota, FL (77) 2 (5)	10-9 35-24	5	5.0	Vancouver, WA (74) 4 (48)	50-48 84-56	2	0.5
Corpus Christi (73) 23 (3)	8-29 70-15	28	5.6	Christiana, DE (73) 7 (21)	46-38 24-13	7	1.4
Lawrenceville, (77) 4 (7)	6-5 57-28	5	5.0	Raleigh, N.C. (73) 10 (26)	45-33 27-16	4	0.8
Clinton, IO (77) 1 (2)	6-1 27-22	4	4.0	Owatonna, MN (75) 10 (35)	41-34 51-35	7	2.3
Parchment, MI (65) 45 (0)	1-1 67-40	45	3.5	Downers Grove, IL (76) 2 (16)	47-27 160-125	2	1.0
Modesto, CA (76) 5 (15)	0-1 57-40	9	4.5	Knoxville, TN (77) 1 (9)	41-10 34-23	0	0.0
East Fork, AR (74) 146 (14)	-4-52 335-150	43	10.8	Marquette, MI (72) 11 (26)	43-27 34-22	2	0.3

Oklahoma City, O (69) 41 (59)	151-115 31 3.4 71-45	Kennewick, WA (70) 8 (29)	72-69 9 1.1 36-16
		Bend, OR (71) 21 (19)	62-41 18 2.6 32-22
		Wichita, KN (66) 40 (24)	43-35 12 1.0 37-25
		Russell, KN (67) 6 (2)	42-26 4 0.4 25-16
		Lexington, KY (71) 13 (5)	39-32 4 0.6 29-13
		King of Prussia, PA (66) 21 (14)	39-43 14 1.2 27-11
		Springerville, AR (73) 6 (8)	39-16 2 0.4 34-14
		Columbus, O (70) 16 (27)	38-31 19 2.4 37-27
		Lake Orion, MI (74) 10 (3)	38-26 2 0.5 27-18
		Cheyenne, WY (73) 21 (18)	38-28 3 0.6 54-37
		Black Jack, MO (74) 21 (24)	37-24 6 1.5 66-44
		Clearwater, FL (72) 2 (11)	37-27 2 0.3 35-27
		Col. Springs, CO (73) 38 (13)	36-26 11 2.2 111-78
		Yucaipa, CA (65) 8 (0)	36-27 18 1.4 11-8
		Mobile, AL (74) 11 (7)	35-27 7 1.8 20-15
		Norfolk, NE (76) 3 (10)	35-28 2 1.0 33-22
		Indian River, MI (73) 8 (23)	35-31 4 0.8 45-31
		Columbus, NE (64) 15 (20)	34-26 1 0.1 12-6
		Bozeman, MT (72) 11 (2)	32-24 6 1.0 26-22
		Phoenix (Par Valley) (75) 7 (6)	32-17 0 0.0 43-28
		Cape Girardeau, MO (72) 1 (1)	31-19 9 1.5 21-16
		Pt. Huron, MI (76) 2 (4)	30-18 3 1.5 23-15

Portland, MI (65) 15 (10)	29-25 8 0.6 40-22
Ramsey, NJ (72) 14 (26)	29-22 7 1.2 22-12
Sun City, AR (72) -12 (15)	29-42 6 1.0 39-26
Kingman, AR (74) 0 (7)	30-21 1 0.3 22-15
Hillsboro, TX (65) 20 (5)	27-19 4 0.3 26-19
Washington, MI (74) 5 (7)	26-17 1 0.3 31-17
Greeley, CO (74) 4 (27)	27-27 1 0.3 30-21
Louisville, KY (74) 3 (2)	26-12 1 0.3 29-22
St. Joseph, MO (72) 2 (17)	25-20 2 0.3 24-17
Englewood, FL (75) 3 (25)	25-13 2 0.7 20-19
Granite Falls, MN (72) 8 (5)	25-14 4 0.7 37-24
McNary, AR (73) 17 (5)	25-19 6 1.2 48-19
Bemidji, MN (73) 10 (13)	40-32 14 2.8 20-14

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The following congregations had growth of less than 25 souls. They are listed according to year.

1961	Morenci, AR 17 (2)	10-8 3 0.2 44-25
1962	Monte Vista, CO 7 (0)	2-5 3 0.2 20-12
	Stockton, KN 31 (11)	34-24 6 0.5 15-8
1965	Benson, AR 8 (0)	-14(-2) 3 0.3 40-27
	Edna, TX 39 (8)	12-19 19 1.5 103-67
	Miami, FL 39 (16)	-20-2 26 2.0 83-29
	Twin Lakes 12 (2)	2-16 14 1.1 63-34



20

1967	Huntsville, AL	22-24 15 1.4
	18 (28)	24-10
1968	Freeport, IL	? - ? 7 0.7
	(35)	
1969	Angleton, TX	-7(-5)10 1.1
	18 (2)	44-31
	Marquette Hts, IL	21-14 7 0.8
	27 (10)	35-19
1970	Grant Park, IL	23-30 17 2.1
	10 (1)	96-70
	Poltimore, Que	2-3 2 0.3
	0 (0)	32-24
1971	McCook, NE	-4(-6) 8 1.1
	0 (4)	30-14
	Norton, KN	21-20 0 0
	0 (16)	50-36
	Honolulu, HA	8-7 18 2.6
	25 (4)	55-32
	Bethel Park, PA	16-3 14 2.0
	14 (0)	44-34
1972	Jacksonville, IL	15-6 6 1.0
	10 (4)	19-16
	W. Palm Beach, FL	22-19 10 1.7
	5 (20)	26-20
	Corvallis, OR	19-17 8 1.3
	16 (7)	41-31
	Salt Lake City, UT	22-20 6 1.0
	18	50-25
1973	Victoville, CA	14-12 0 0
	12 (32)	49-36
	DeSoto, TX	-14(-10) 3 0.6
	6 (33)	50-35
	Weslaco, TX	16-14 3 0.6
	9 (6)	21-19
	Huron, SD	14-18 1 0.2
	4 (6)	37-20
	Harrison, MI	9-14 10 2.0
	4 (14)	101-68
	Girard, O	23-19 7 1.4
	5 (7)	38-28
	Holland, MI	24-16 10 2.0
	12 (15)	33-25
1974	Bloomington, IL	23-8 6 1.5
	6 (15)	27-18

(1974)	Columbia, MO	5-2 0 0
	3 (3)	22-15
	Dix Hills, NY	16-11 2 0.5
	12 (12)	16-10
	Temple, TX	20-17 8 2.0
	15 (17)	49-33
	Fremont, CA	9-(-5)9 2.3
	11 (10)	46-35
1975	E. Wenatchee, WA	14-6 8 2.7
	5 (13)	32-17
	Fairbanks, AL	-1(-2)4 1.3
	8 (13)	56-38
	Lovelock, CA	4(-3)0 0
	1 (3)	30-25
	Petaluma, CA	-4(1) 3 1.0
	5 (12)	52-44
	Nashua, NH	18-11 5 1.6
	6 (4)	18-11
	Lansing, MI(Sh Hi)	1-2 2 0.7
	5 (0)	46-30
	Lakeville, MN	10-15 0 0
	6 (3)	63-34
	Wayne, NE	4-4 0 0
	3 (0)	16-11
	Bayonet Pt., FL	12-4 3 1.0
	4 (0)	32-24
	Elgin, IL	18-15 0 0
	3 (12)	22-11
	Kokomo, IN	-17(-11)0 0
	8 (1)	78-49
	W. Chicago, IL	22-7 3 1.0
	11 (17)	33-22
	Middleton	22-19 1 0.3
	5 (2)	51-35
	Dubuque, IA	22-19 2 0.7
	4 (3)	28-15
1976	Springfield, IL	12-9 0 0
	2 (5)	29-17
	Belleville, IL	23-8 6 1.5
	4 (14)	42-28
	Galesville	12-7 0 0
	6 (1)	53-33
	Ft. Wayne, IN	17-13 1 0.5
	5 (7)	22-17

Pullman, WA	19-? 4 2.0
5 (14)	29-18
Hudson, WI	-2(-1)2 1.0
2 (0)	90-52
Eden Prairie, MN	15-13 1 0.5
1 (4)	39-23
Cambridge, MN	23-10 1 0.5
10 (2)	44-30
Ashland, O	9-9 0 0
1 (4)	21-13
Altoona, PA	0(-5)0 0
2 (24)	24-18
Gaylord, MI	-7(-5)0 0
0 (0)	31-19
N. Syracuse, NY	17-12 0 0
1 (9)	23-18
Los Alamos, NM	18-13 0 0
3 (10)	36-24
Yorba Linda, CA	-2(-4)0 0
0 (6)	44-35
Fallbrook, CA	-10(-2)1 0.5
5 (13)	102-82
Sedona, AR	17-9 3 1.5
2 (4)	46-35
Plymouth	11-6 3 1.5
5 (2)	36-27
Antigo	0-0 0 0
1 (0)	27-18
1977	Scottsbluff, NE
0 (8)	-5(-6)0 0
	44-28
Taylor, AR	-2(6) 0 0
2 (4)	45-15
Chandler, AR	18-14 1 1.0
1 (15)	60-46
Harrisburg, PA	7-2 0 0
3 (2)	22-18
Grand Rapids, MN	7-6 2 2.0
4 (3)	55-34
Boulder, CO	8-10 0 0
1 (12)	36-29
Hdmen	8-10 0 0
5 (3)	53-27