The Shoe industry in West Tennessee

The Shoemakers and the shoe industry in general have played a significant role in West Tennessee's history. The industry not only provided employment and economic benefits but also evolved with the times, adapting to new technologies and changing market demands.

CONCLUSIONS
Several possible reasons for the differences in barren population values for the test sites are: (1) sampling dates, (2) use of resistant varieties of corn, (3) use of insecticides, (4) possible migration of borers, (5) tillage management, and (6) climatic factors.

Climatological data was analyzed and correlated with the corn borer data. There was a coincidence that drought conditions occurred during the survey in July and August of 1969. This might be a possible explanation for the decrease in the number of borers.

LITERATURE CITED

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF SHOE PLANTS
The New England area of the United States has long been the concentrated center of shoe manufacturing. In fact, it dominates the industry until mechanization, the system of leasing machinery, high labor costs and difficulties with unions fostered decentralization. The movement was largely from New England into the Middle West, though not to the exclusion of the Pacific Coast, the Midwest, the South and the Middle South.

Bay Bee Shoe Company. Bay Bee Shoe Company, located at Dresden, Tennessee, is native to West Tennessee and manufactures children's shoes on a contract basis for various companies. Covering an area of 100,000 square feet, the Dresden plant is the single largest shoe manufacturing establishment in West Tennessee.

Genesco. Genesco or General Shoe Company, with the home office in Nashville, Tennessee, has 15 plants in Tennessee. Most of the plants are located in Middle Tennessee. Only one plant is located in West Tennessee, at Camden in Benton County. The plant at Camden began production in 1950 and in 1963 expanded to the present size of 78,000 square feet. The plant is reported as the largest air conditioned shoe establishment in the South. Most of the Company's production goes to Sears Roebuck and Company.

Brown Shoe Company. Of the three different shoe companies operating in West Tennessee, Brown Shoe Company of St. Louis, Missouri has a total of eight plants. The Union City plant, which began production in 1923, is not only the oldest shoe plant in the area but also the oldest active plant in West Tennessee.

The shoe industry in West Tennessee is a testament to the region's industrial history and its continued evolution. The challenges faced by the industry, such as changing labor conditions and technological advancements, have shaped the way shoes are produced and distributed today.

Figure 1. Location of Shoe Manufacturing in West Tennessee.

Tennessee in 1923. The next Brown Shoe plant came to Dyer in Gibson County in 1941. Between 1941 and 1963, Brown Shoe and other companies have continued
to locate plants with no more than three-year interval between plants. However, no plant has located in the area since 1963.

RELATED AUXILIARY INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing linkages between non-shoe manufacturing establishments in the study area are insignificant. This factor, in part, accounts for the lack of shoe plants within an 85-mile radius of Memphis, which is the only important industrial city in West Tennessee.

There are only three shoe-related industries operating in the area. Brown Shoe Company operates a plant at Kenton, which produces shoe heels. The company also operates a warehouse covering 477,502 square feet, at Trenton. Throughout the Middle-South, Brown Shoe ships shoes to the Trenton warehouse for further distribution.

Amoray Leather Company at Bolivar, Tennessee, accounts for the third related industry. In 1969, Amoray, with home office in Kennasaw, Wisconsin, purchased the tanning factory from International Shoe Company. The plant produces finished leather for the upper parts of shoes. Most of the leather goes to St. Louis, Nashville or Cincinnati for wholesale distribution.

RECENT TRENDS IN THE SHOE INDUSTRY

From 1965 to 1970, the shoe industry remained one of the major sources of industrial employment in West Tennessee. However, to indicate the significance of two major trends between 1965 and 1970, data were compiled concerning production and employment.

Production. Approximately 124,221,200 pairs of shoes were produced in 1965 in twelve plants in West Tennessee. During 1970, approximately 105,801,200 pairs were manufactured by ten plants. However, Brown Shoe Company increased its annual production in West Tennessee by 436,000 pairs during the same time period. Consequently the smaller companies experienced the decline in production.

Genesco production declined but the most significant decline was experienced by Bay Bee Shoe Company and Martin Shoe Company. The Dresha Company, a branch of Bay Bee Shoe Company, in Paris, Tennessee, terminated its production in 1970 due to foreign competition. Presently, the Dresha building is used as a warehouse for Bay Bee Shoe Company.

Between 1957 and 1968, Martin Shoe Company, located at Martin, Tennessee, was an active, native, West Tennessee company manufacturing children's shoes. It covered an area of 28,000 square feet and employed forty-five people. The Martin plant was the smallest shoe manufacturing establishment in the area. According to plant officials, production was terminated in 1968 due to inability of the company to economically compete with other establishments in the production of inexpensive shoes.

Employment. Total shoe employment has declined from 5,231 in 1965 to 4,089 in 1970. Nevertheless, shoe manufacturing is still the largest single industry in some counties and therefore employs the most people.

Brown Shoe Company has the only unionized plants. The employees are members of the Boots and Shoe Workers Union which is affiliated with AFL and CIO. Even though many plants are unionized, people are not seeking employment in the shoe industry as they formerly did. Instead, many are gravitating toward college or working in other industries that pay higher wages. For example, in 1965 there were as many people employed by the industry. Presently, the number of men and women decreased to 60 per cent women and 40 per cent men, indicating that other industries have drained some male laborers from the shoe industry.

FOREIGN SHOE IMPORTS

Shoe industries in other areas of the United States have been affected more than those of West Tennessee by foreign importation. This is due largely to the fact that the import pressure is primarily on the producers of high grade ladies' shoes and West Tennessee shoe plants manufacture children's shoes predominately.

Foreign countries produce shoes using cheap labor. For example, Taiwan pays its labor only thirty-eight cents an hour. This, in part, resulted in sixty plants in the United States terminating production. Only one of these, however, was Brown Shoe Plant and it was soon replaced by opening another plant.

CONCLUSION

West Tennessee's future industrial development should consist of those industries that are characterized by high value-added and high-wage such as the Goodyear Company at Union City, Tennessee, and the American Alumimum Company at Huntington, Tennessee. However, it is important to note that approximately half of the population in Tennessee now live in Shelby (18.4 per cent), Knox, Davidson, Hamilton, and Sullivan Counties. Therefore, it will be increasingly difficult for cities outside these industrial counties to attract heavy industry. Consequently, the shoe industry along with other low-wage industries will continue to be significant to West Tennessee but on a declining basis.

Many of the industrial characteristics of West Tennessee could be applied in general to Northern Mississippi, Eastern Arkansas, Southern Missouri, and Western Kentucky. Also, the Mid-South is going through a metamorphosis whereby many non-industrial areas are striving to attract industry. Therefore, it is the writer's opinion that additional studies should be made concerning the role of the shoe industry in the Middle-South's industrial economy.

JOURNAL OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

VOLUME 47, NUMBER 3, JULY, 1972

SEASONAL PLANKTON CHANGES AND PRIMARY PRODUCTIVITY IN BEECH RESERVOIR

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ABSTRACT

The Beech River drainage basin covers 302 square miles in west Tennessee and empties into Kentucky Lake at Tennessee River Mile (TRM) 136.0. Beech Reservoir, with a shoreline of 22 miles and a pool area of 347 hectares, is one of eight reservoirs located in this drainage basin.

In this study, phytoplankton productivity studies, phytoplankton standing crop and certain chemical analyses indicated that Beech is a more productive reservoir. Primary productivity values ranged from 85 mg C/m²/day in February to 5,563 mg C/m²/day in September. The annual primary productivity was 1,619 mg C/m²/year. Chlorophyll a concentrations ranged from 14 mg/m³ in August to 124 mg/m³ in March. Phytoplankton cell counts averaged 6,961,555/1. The major ionic change was shown when total iron increased in the hypolimnion during April. Iron concentrations reached a maximum in August.

INTRODUCTION

The Beech River watershed is located in west Tennessee near Lexington about midway between Nashville and Memphis (Figure 1). The topography of the watershed is gently rolling to hilly, and is dissected by many small streams which combine to form the Beech River.

CONCLUSION

The Beech Reservoir (Figure 3 and 4) is the largest of eight reservoirs in the Beech River Tributary Area watershed development project. The reservoir is situated on unconsolidated sediments of cretaceous age. Most of the basin is composed of these sediments which extend from the Mississippi River escarpment on the west to within 10 miles of the Beech-Tennessee River confluence on the east. These sediments consist of sands, clays and marls which underlie the unconsolidated surface waters and result in soils which are generally

Figure 1. Beech watershed located halfway between Nashville & Memphis, indicated by an asterisk.

Figure 2. Beech River watershed.

The river flows eastward across Henderson and Decatur counties to join the Tennessee River near Perryville, at an elevation of approximately 300 feet at Tennessee River Mile (TRM) 136.0. The Beech River drainage basin, about 22 miles long and 14 miles wide and lying within a 600-foot high rim, covers 302 square miles (Figure 2).