

BERTRAND (ALVIN LEE) PAPERS

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SUMMARY

Size.	1 linear foot.
Geographic locations.	Louisiana.
Inclusive dates.	1942-1988.
Bulk dates.	1957-1980.
Languages.	English, Spanish, French, Romanian.
Summary.	Addresses, reports, and writings on rural sociology in Louisiana, the United States, and worldwide by LSU Boyd Professor of Rural Sociology Alvin Lee Bertrand.
Organization.	I. Addresses, 1957-1988 II. Reports, 1947-1977 III. Writings, 1949-1987
Source.	Acquired 2001.
Related Collections	Alvin Lee Bertrand Oral History Interview, Mss. 4700.0524
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Stack designation.	43:65

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Alvin Lee Bertrand was a rural sociologist at Louisiana State University from 1946 until retirement in 1978. He was born in China (or Cheno) community near Elton in southwestern Louisiana on July 6, 1918, and was the oldest of nine children. Bertrand's family moved to DeQuincy, Louisiana, in 1924 after heavy rains ruined his father's rice crop. The family later moved to Perkins, Louisiana, where Bertrand's father resumed farming and raising livestock.

Bertrand began college in the fall of 1935 at Southwestern Louisiana Institute (now University of Louisiana-Lafayette) in Lafayette, Louisiana, where he studied agriculture. After one year, he left for Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and received his Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural economics in 1940 and immediately accepted a graduate assistantship at the University of Kentucky in the farm economics and rural sociology department. While there, he conducted field interviews with farmers in connection with government subsidy programs. These interviews became part of his master's thesis. Bertrand received his Master of Science degree in rural sociology in 1941.

After receiving his master's degree, Bertrand was offered a job as an instructor and research associate at LSU in the agricultural economics department, and returned to Baton Rouge in June 1941. He married Mary Nic Ellis on August 29, 1941. In May the following year, Bertrand volunteered for the U.S. Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet. He received training in navigation and as a bombardier, and in 1943, he was awarded the rank of 2nd lieutenant and became an instructor with the 83rd Bomb Training Group. In 1944, Bertrand was ordered to take part in radar training as a combat flight crewman aboard B-29 bombers. He was promoted to 1st lieutenant the following year. His outfit, the 463rd Bomb Squadron, never saw combat. Bertrand's squadron took part in a "show of force" exercise over the *U.S.S. Missouri* in Tokyo Bay during the surrender ceremony ending World War II. Bertrand was stationed on Okinawa until April of 1946 when he was ordered back to the States for discharge.

Bertrand returned to Baton Rouge and LSU to work on his Ph.D. which he received in 1948, and became a professor in the sociology department shortly afterward. He taught some undergraduate level classes but was mostly involved in the graduate program. The author or co-author of 15 books on sociology, Bertrand's *Rural Sociology*, published in 1958, gave him national and international acclaim. He performed extensive research under the auspices of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station and in 1974, became the first Boyd Professor (the highest academic rank at LSU) from an agriculture discipline and the Agricultural Experiment Station. Bertrand was also a visiting professor and guest lecturer at many universities and delivered addresses at sociology conferences worldwide. Bertrand retired in 1978.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Addresses, reports, and writings of Alvin Lee Bertrand, author and professor of sociology at Louisiana State University. Addresses consist of speeches and addresses given at sociology conferences in the United States and around the world. Reports consist of information to study the effects of industrialization, settlement, development, and the social impact of a proposed navigation system on rural populations. Writings consist of academic papers for publication and presentation at conferences and article drafts.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

I. Addresses, 1957-1988

Addresses are filed chronologically and consist of speeches and addresses on rural sociology and agricultural economics given at conferences throughout the world devoted to these issues. Addresses cover such topics as employment security, the elderly, rural industrialization, rural education and healthcare, veterinary medicine, and other social issues affecting rural populations.

II. Reports, 1947-1977

Reports are filed chronologically and contain information pertaining to settlement, rural industrialization, rural development, and the social impact of a proposed navigation system. Reports pertain to the above issues in the American South and, in particular, Louisiana. These reports were compiled for the Institute for Religious and Social Studies and for agencies of the Louisiana and United States governments.

III. Writings, 1949-1987

Writings are filed chronologically and consist of papers presented at sociology conferences and for publication, and article drafts. Writings cover such subjects as politics, rural poverty and development, land tenure, family patterns, the elderly, and the differences between developed and developing nations. These writings pertain to the above issues worldwide.

INDEX TERMS

Agriculture--Social aspects--Louisiana.

Agriculture--Social aspects--Southern States.

College teachers--Louisiana--Baton Rouge.

Communities--Louisiana.

Rural development--Louisiana.

Rural elderly--Southern States.

Rural population--Southern States.

Sociology, Rural--Louisiana.

Sociology, Rural--Mexico.

Sociology, Rural--Southern States.

CONTAINER LIST
(for full citation, see bibliography)

Location Box Folder Contents

I. Addresses

43:65	1	1	“Agriculture Looks at Employment Security.” International Association of Personnel in Employment Security. 11/8/57
		2	“The Social Setting for Aging and the Aged.” Conference on Aging, Southeastern Louisiana College. 6/7-9/60
		3	“Rural Social Changes as They Effect Extension Education.” Annual Conference of Georgia Agricultural Extension Workers. 9/7/60
		4	“The Changed and Changing Socio-Economic and Socio-Cultural Situation in Rural America.” Conference of the Department of Rural Education, NEA. 10/7-8/60
		5	“Trends in Rural Life and Community Organization in the United States.” Conference of Indiana Vocational Agriculture Teachers. 7/12/61
		6	“A Sociological Approach to the Problems of the Aged.” Institute in Hospital Accounting. 11/16-17/61
		7	“The Meaning of the Population Explosion.” First Southern Advanced Institute, American College of Hospital Administrators. 11/29/61
		8	“Selected Aspects of Louisiana’s Human Resources.” Louisiana Association of Agronomists. 3/12/64
		9	“The Contemporary Setting for the Study of Problems of the Aging and Aged of the United States.” Conference devoted to Home Economics Curriculum Development for the Aging. 6/9-11/66
		10	“Rural Economic Development in a Sociological Perspective.” Committee on Agriculture of the Systems Research Advisory Committee of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. 10/30-31/69
		11	“A Social, Ecological, and Cultural Perspective for Planning Crisis Intervention Centers in the Non-Metropolitan Mid-South.” Mid-South Conference on Crisis Intervention. 1/7-9/70
		12	“A Perspective for Understanding Cultural Differences and Their Relevance for Teaching and Learning.” In-Service Workshop, East Baton Rouge Parish School Teachers. 8/25/70
		13	“The Evolving Social Climate and Its Implication for Programs in Vocational Agriculture.” Agricultural Education Division, NVATA. 12/7/70
		14	“The First Days of a Cross-Over Teacher.” Northeastern State College. 5/4/72
		15	“An Improved Community Health Delivery System as a Growth and Survival Strategy for Veterinary Medicine.” Conference on Public Health Veterinarians. 7/19/72
		16	“Outdoor Recreation Facilities Appeal to Urban Users.” Rocky

- Mountain Sociological Association Meeting. 4/26/74
- 17 "The Integrated Development of Human and Natural Resources."
Fourth World Congress for Rural Sociology. 8/8-14/76
- 18 "Sociological Horizons for Veterinary Medicine." National Association
of State Meat and Food Inspection Directors and the American
Association of Food Hygiene Veterinarians. 10/20/77
- 19 "Social Traps: The Achilles Heel of Sociology and Sociologists."
Presidential address, Mid-South Sociological Association. 11/1-4/78
- 20 "The Swift Transformation of the South from a Rural to an Urban
Region." Christopher Newport College. 11/19/80
- 21 "Investiture: The Beginning of Tomorrow." Investiture Ceremony for
the graduating class of the Louisiana State University School of
Veterinary Medicine. 5/17/88
- 22 "La Sociologie Rurale." Address to Haitian government officials and
students of the CHISS Program. undated

II. Reports

- 43:65 1 23 "Group Adjustments" 10/47
- 24 "The Effects of Industrialization on Rural Louisiana" 1/58
- 25 "Sociological Factors Related to the Persistence of Low Levels of
Living in Rural Areas" 1/13-15/60
- 26 "A Review and Evaluation of the Social Impact Studies of the
McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System" 7/77

III. Writings

- 43:65 1 27 "Factors Motivating Voting Behavior in a One-Party State" 1949
- 28 "The Impact of Industrial Development on Rural Levels of Living"
1957
- 29 "Community Health Improvement Activity Under the Rural
Development Program" 4/10-12/58
- 30 "Farmers' Expenditures for Health and Medical Care in the United
States" 8/24/58
- 31 "The Changing Power Structure in Agriculture as a Dimension of
'Agrijustment'" 1964
- 32 "Changes in Land System Tenure Systems and Their Social
Significance in the U.S.A." 10/19-23/64
- 33 "Cambios en el Sistema de Tenencia de la Tierra y su Significacion
Social en los Estados Unidos de Norte America" 10/19-23/64
- 34 "The Sociology of Confrontation" 11/22-26/65
- 35 "Sociologia de la Confrontacion" 11/22-26/65
- 36 "Perspective for the Diffusion of Innovations to Southern Families"
2/7/66

- 37 "Rural Communities under Confrontation by Mass Society" 4/26-28/66
38 "The Sociology of Confrontation" 3/30-4/1/67
39 "Approaches to the Study of Rural Regions in the United States" 8/5-10/68
40 "Social Implications of Increasing Farm Technology in Rural Louisiana" 8/12-15/68
41 "Some Reflections on Needed Research in Rural Society" 2/3/69
42 "Beyond the 'Revolution of Rising Expectations'" 1970
43 "Selected Aspects of Family Patterns in Louisiana" 3/19-20/71
44 "Definitii si strategii ale dezvoltarii rurale" 1972
45 "Farm Accidents and Their Victims" 2/4-7/73
46 "Adjustment to Aging as a Function of Social Structure" 3/22-24/73
47 "The Contrasting Social Milieu in 'Developed' and 'Developing' Nations" 7/23-28/73
48 "An Overview of Sociologists' Contribution to Social Action Systems" 3/27-30/74
49 "The Structural Dimensions of Roles as a Conceptual Framework for Analyzing Family Relationships" 3/27-30/74
50 "The Structural Characteristics of Low-Income Rural Families" 6/24-27/74
51 "Proposal and Elaboration for a Sociology of Development" 1975
52 "The Issue of Public Versus Private Control" 2/2-5/75
53 "A Sociological Perspective for Viewing the Adjustment Problems of the Rural Aged" 4/15-16/75
54 "An Elaboration of the Structural Dynamics of Norms and Rules" 4/6-10/76
55 "Social Science in Corps of Engineering Planning" 9/20-24/76
56 "Residence as a Factor in Longevity" 2/77
57 "Increasing Understanding of the Human Dimension in Natural Resource Planning and Development" 4/22-23/77
58 "The Process of Communication in Research Perspective" 11/77
59 "Environmental Impact Studies in a Social Science Perspective" 11/29-12/4/77
60 "The Dream of Rural Industrialization" 1979
61 "Some of the Crucial Roles of Managers, Officials and Other Leaders in the Competition for Industry Among Smaller Communities" 1980
62 "Rural Sociological Research in the South" 2/1-4/87
63 "Acadiana and its Cajuns" undated
64 "The Challenge of Sociology" undated
65 "Cultural Factors Related to Communication" undated
66 "A Decade of Change" undated
67 "The Demographic Impact of Agricultural Technology" undated
68 "Developmental Areas of Rural Sociology in Social Context" undated
69 "A Dilemma of Nursing" undated
70 "An Evaluation Perspective for the National Academy for Vocational Education" undated

- 71 "Hospitals Services in Louisiana" undated
- 72 "The Impact of Technology on the Rural Scene" undated
- 73 "Know Louisiana (and St. James Parish)" undated
- 74 "Louisiana: Wonderland of America" undated
- 75 "Nuclear Energy and Agriculture" undated
- 76 "Our Growing Population" undated
- 77 "School Attendance and Attainment" undated
- 78 "Selected Aspects of the Interrelationship of Agricultural
Mechanization and Farm Population Change in the Southwest Region"
undated
- 79 "Social and Societal Problems Underlying Health Conditions in
Louisiana" undated
- 80 "The Social Organizational Implications of Rural Industrialization in
the United States" undated
- 81 "A Sociological Perspective for Viewing the Adjustment Problems of
the Rural Aged" undated
- 82 "The Sociology of Development" undated
- 83 "Structural Analysis in a Sociological Perspective" undated

Appendix
Bibliography of Bertrand's Works, Arranged Chronologically
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