

**Selected Documents in the History of
the Rural Sociological Society**

**Organizing the 1st World Congress
of Rural Sociology**

*The Beginnings of the
International Rural Sociological Association*

For Display Only

Organizing the 1st World Congress of Rural Sociology: The Beginnings of the International Rural Sociological Association

This publication is one of five display volumes created for the
75th Anniversary of the Rural Sociological Society.

The idea for the volumes came because of a request from the conference program chair, Keiko Tanaka, that artifacts from the history of the Society be on display during the 75th Anniversary celebration. Given the fragile nature of the original documents and a need to contextualize their importance, a decision was made to create this series of display volumes.

Most of the documents included herein were originally copied from the RSS Archives for the 6-part series on the history of the Rural Sociological Society written by John Holik and Edward Hassinger for the 50th Anniversary of RSS. The series was published in *The Rural Sociologist*.

“The Rural Sociological Society: Its Beginnings.”

1986. 6(5):331-340.

“The RSS: Coming to Formalization.”

1986. 6(6):407-420.

“The RSS: Ties that Bind.”

1987. 7(1):3-18.

“RSS During the Depression and World War II Years.”

1987. 7(3):154-165.

“RSS in Midlife: 1950-1962.”

1987. 8(1):5-31.

“The RSS: Reaching Outward and Inward, the 1960s and 1970s.”

1987. 8(5):385-404.

Complementing the archive documents are copies of documents from the RSS Historian’s Files and selections from journals including the *American Journal of Sociology*, the *American Sociological Review*, *Sociologia Ruralis*, and *Rural Sociology*.

In addition to these volumes, posters with photographs of past presidents, editors of *Rural Sociology*, editors of *The Rural Sociologist*, Distinguished Rural Sociologist award winners, previous archivists/historians, and a 75-questions trivia game were also created and displayed during the 2012 conference.

Organizing the 1st World Congress of Rural Sociology:

The Beginnings of the
International Rural Sociological Association

*By seeing and reading the words of those who created our history,
it is hoped that these documents will help to bring
our organization's history to life.*

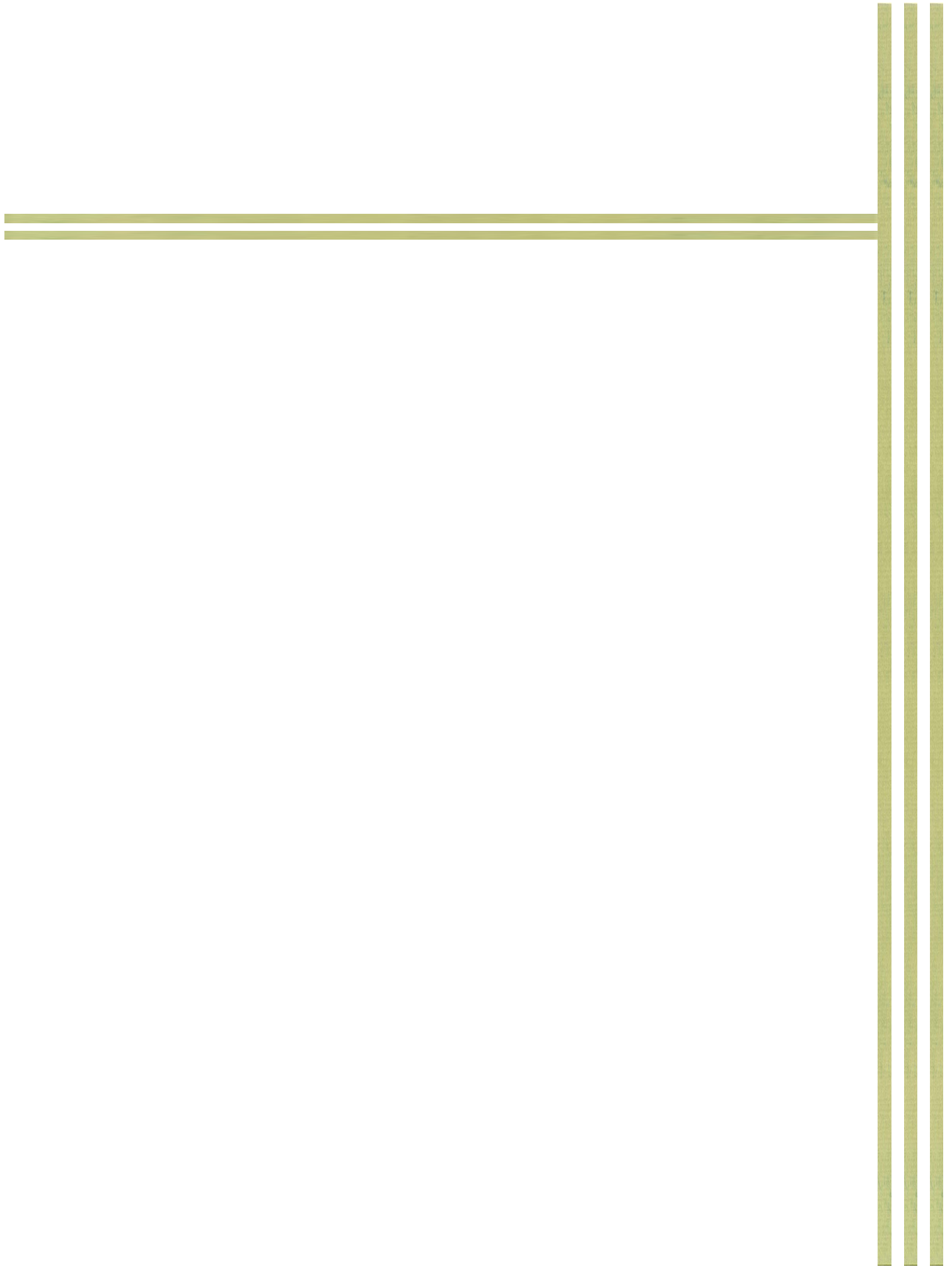
This booklet is for display purposes only.

Unless otherwise indicated, documents included herein are from
the Archives of the Rural Sociological Society.

Located at the University of Missouri,
the collection is managed by the State Historical Society of Missouri.

<http://shs.umsystem.edu/manuscripts/descriptions/desc-socsci.html>

**Contents should not be used without
proper attribution**



Organizing the 1st World Congress of Rural Sociology: The Beginnings of the International Rural Sociological Association

This history is summarized from “The Establishment of the International Rural Sociology Association: A Brief Account” by Glenn V. Fuguitt and Alvin L. Bertrand. January 25, 1999

http://irsa-world.org/aboutus_history.html

Recognized as the first international conference on rural sociology, the First World Congress of Rural Sociology was held in 1964 [Tab 1]. The conference was organized by the Committee for International Cooperation in Rural Sociology which contained representatives from both the Rural Sociological Society (RSS) and the European Society for Rural Sociology (ESRS) [Tab 8].

The Committee for International Cooperation in Rural Sociology had been formed two years earlier in 1962 [Tab 7]. At that time, the goal was to develop a multi-national conference on rural sociology. The Committee’s first members were:

Chair:	E. W. Hofstee (the Netherlands)
Vice-Chairman:	Olaf F. Larson (U. S.)
Members:	H. Kotter (Federal Republic of Germany)
	H. E. Bracey (Great Britain)
	Harold Kaufman (U. S.)
	Robert. A. Polson (U. S.)

In 1969, the Latin American Rural Sociological Association (ALASRU) was formed and representatives from that association were added to the Committee for International Cooperation in Rural Sociology.

At the 1970 meeting of the ESRS, a Preparatory Committee was appointed to develop a Constitution and begin the process of forming an international association. Members of the Preparatory Committee included the presidents of the three existing regional societies: Odd Grande from Norway (ESRS), Glenn Fuguitt from the U.S. (RSS), and Jose Pastore from Brazil (ALASRU).

At the 3rd World Congress in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, additional members were sought from nations where no professional organizations existed. As a result, Bruce Crouch from Australia (representing Oceania), Gelia Castillo from the Philippines (representing Asia), and E. B. E. Ndem from Zambia (representing Africa) were added to the Committee.

In August of 1976, the 4th World Congress was held in Torun, Poland. In the months leading up to the conference, a Constitution was drafted and ratified by the regional societies. The 5th World Congress of Rural Sociology held in Mexico City, Mexico was the first Congress organized by the International Rural Sociology Association

This year, 2012, marks the 13th World Congress of Rural Sociology. It will be held in Lisbon, Portugal.



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First World Congress for Rural Sociology

August 16-20, 1964
Dijon, France

Second World Congress for Rural Sociology

August 5-10, 1968
Enschede, The Netherlands

Third World Congress for Rural Sociology

August 22-27, 1972
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA



Fourth World Congress for Rural Sociology

August 9-13, 1976
Torun, Poland

Fifth World Congress for Rural Sociology

August 7-12, 1980
Mexico City, Mexico



International
Rural Sociology
Association

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Reprints

Tab 1. Selections from the special issue of *Sociologia Ruralis* devoted to the First World Congress of Rural Sociology (1964. Volume 4. Issue 3/4.).

- i. Editorial Note.
- ii. Foreword.
- iii. Program of the First World Congress.

Tab 2. Announcement on the new task before the Committee for International Cooperation in Rural Sociology (*Sociologia Ruralis*. 1965. Volume 5. Issue 4.).

Tab 3. Selections from the special issue of *Sociologia Ruralis* devoted to the Second World Congress of Rural Sociology (1968. Volume 7. Issue 3/4.).

- i. Editorial Note.
- ii. Foreword.
- iii. Program of the Second World Congress.

Tab 4. E. W. Hofstee's opening address at the Second World Congress of Rural Sociology (1968. *Sociologia Ruralis*. Volume 7. Issue 3/4.).

Tab 5. Cover of *NEWSLINE* announcing the formation and first meeting of the International Rural Sociological Association (1976. Volume 4. Issue 5.).

Documents

Tab 6. Preparing to Organize

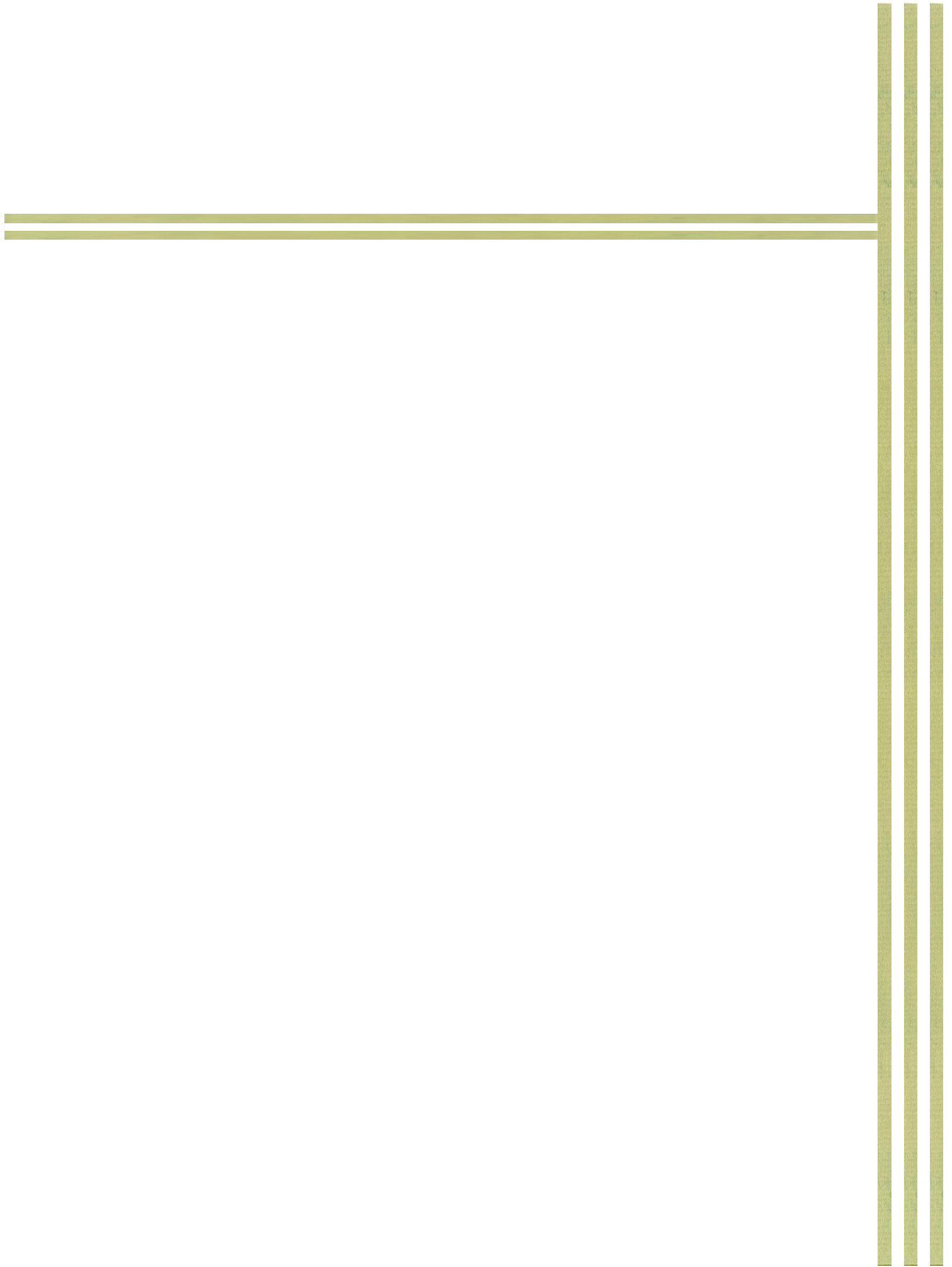
- a) Letter from Paul Jehlik. July, 1962.

Tab 7. The Committee for International Cooperation in Rural Sociology

- a) Statement of Goals, Purpose, and Membership. No Date.

Tab 8. Organizing the First World Congress of Rural Sociology

- a) Olaf Larson Letter outlining status of organizing the First World Congress. July, 1963.
- b) Summary of meeting of the U.S. Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the Committee for International Cooperation in Rural Sociology. April, 1963.
- c) Memorandum to the Asia Foundation requesting travel grants for the First World Congress. No date.



**Copies of Archive
and other documents**

Archives of the Rural Sociological Society

State Historical Society of Missouri
Social Sciences and Humanities Collection Descriptions
<http://shs.umsystem.edu/manuscripts/descriptions/desc-socsci.html>
(List Downloaded: March 2012)

- Rural Sociological Society of America Archives, (WUNP4618)
2 linear feet. Addition. Development Committee materials, presidential papers of C. Milton Coughenour, and RURAL SOCIOLOGIST manuscripts for volume 4.
- Rural Sociological Society of America Archives, (WUNP4585)
2 linear feet. Addition. Includes material from Daryl Hobbs, Willis J. Goudy, 1983 program materials and copies of publications.
- Rural Sociological Society of America Papers, (WUNP4244)
2 linear feet. Addition to professional organization's archives. Detailed inventory in accession folder. Addition. Files on OUR CHANGING RURAL SOCIETY, edited by Tom Ford.
- Rural Sociological Society of America Papers, (WUNP4296)
1 folder(s). NEWSLINE, 1979 issues; 1979 annual meeting program; RSS annual meeting abstracts; preliminary program for 5th World Congress of Rural Sociology.
- Rural Sociological Society of America Papers, (WUNP4358)
2 linear feet. Addition. See accession folder for inventory.
- Rural Sociological Society of America Papers, (WUNP4463)
2 linear feet. Addition. Correspondence, committee and council meeting minutes, printed material from Society.
- Rural Sociological Society of America Papers, 1910-1973 (C3305)
Inventory: <http://shs.umsystem.edu/manuscripts/invent/3305.pdf>
MICROFILM
9.6 linear feet. 2 volumes, 2 audio tapes, 27 rolls of microfilm
The papers of the Rural Sociological Society of America contain presidential and committee correspondence and includes accounts of how some of the first rural sociologists became interested in the profession. Microfilm is available for Rural Sociology, the official quarterly.

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(List Downloaded: March 2012)

(continued)

Rural Sociological Society of America, Archives, (WUNP5646)

8 linear feet. INVENTORY. Addition of research project files; committee files; presidential papers; secretarial papers; annual meeting records; publications; endowment committee materials; audio and visual materials; histories; and miscellaneous.

Rural Sociological Society of America, Archives, (WUNP5223)

0.4 linear feet. INVENTORY. Addition of annual meeting materials, administrative records, publications and other materials.

Rural Sociological Society of America, Archives, (WUNP5071)

MICROFILM

1 linear feet. INVENTORY. Addition to records of the Society. Includes correspondence, photographs, meeting materials, publications, and records of the International Rural Sociological Assn.

Rural Sociological Society of America, Archives, (WUNP4971)

MICROFILM

0.8 linear feet. INVENTORY. Addition to the correspondence, records, and publications of the Society.

Rural Sociological Society of America, Archives, (WUNP4787)

MICROFILM

7.9 linear feet. INVENTORY. Publications, directories, programs, pamphlets, conference files, video tapes, photographs and minutes of the Society.

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The **Rural Sociological Society** is a professional social science association that promotes the generation, application, and dissemination of sociological knowledge. The Society seeks to enhance the quality of rural life, communities, and the environment.

For additional information and resources on the history of the Rural Sociological Society or Rural Sociology, visit the Historian's page at www.ruralsociology.org

This publication was created by
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Any questions, comments, or suggestions can be sent to:
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May, 2012

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The American Sociological Society's Section on Rural Sociology

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Creating the Journal: *Rural Sociology*

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Establishing the Rural Sociological Society

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Congress Strikes Again: The Era of the Big Chill

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