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JUN. 20 1978

## Oklahoma City Site of New Boom

**A** WHILE back a national survey showed that more than one-third of the nation's big city residents wanted to move elsewhere.

The way new houses and business buildings are being constructed in and around Oklahoma City, it looks like a pretty good number of them may be moving here.

City construction activity was up 35 percent over a year ago, leading some 70 other major metropolitan areas in a recent review of business conditions.

Oklahoma City also showed a 10.8 percent increase in factory workers' incomes over a year earlier, non-farm employment was up 8.5 percent, and the extent of unemployment was one of the lowest in the nation at 3.8 percent.

Oklahoma City is growing like an oil field boom town, but not with flimsy boom town construction. Shopping centers, office buildings and factories are being built for permanence and growth.

Residents taking an afternoon

drive in any direction from the central city may be amazed by the number of new housing developments and shopping centers that have sprung up.

New roofs are sheltering substantial homes equipped with comforts and conveniences sought by people who have a desire to settle down and stay. Houses are not low in price and few are being cheaply built.

For persons who want to be free to move or to escape house maintenance and yard care, clusters of apartments, town houses and condominiums are rising, row on row, in unexpected places.

But not everyone wants to move. A national firm specializing in moving executives estimates that as many as half of those asked to move to new locations will object. Ten years ago, the proportion of refusals was only one-fifth as high.

Workers apparently are placing more value on peaceful living in wholesome communities with minimum crime and congestion.

The Gallup Poll early this month reported that the American people are far more satisfied today than they were only three years ago. Main points of dissatisfaction included standard of living and present employment.

Work isn't everything. Interviewers in Bethany and Warr Acres found that 89 percent of 40 employees in that area had outside interests which they considered to be more important than the means by which they earned their living.

Perhaps no locality is absolutely perfect as a place to live. All communities have problems, but since the dawn of history a certain proportion of mankind has been on the move, looking for better places to settle down.

That was the goal of pioneers who made "The Run" into Oklahoma Territory in 1889. A lot of people obviously still are looking for better places to live, and many of them expect to find what they are looking for in Oklahoma!