

**THE CASE FOR THE
HENLEY & GRANGE BASEBALL CLUB
INC.**



**A CLAIM FOR ADMITTANCE
TO
MAJOR LEAGUE 1966**

- FOREWARD -

THE HENLEY AND GRANGE BASEBALL CLUB INCORPORATED WILL MAKE AN APPEAL IN THE COMING SEASON FOR ADMITTANCE TO MAJOR LEAGUE.

THE DECISION OF YOUR CLUB OR ASSOCIATION TO SUPPORT OR REJECT THIS APPEAL IS ONE WHICH SHOULD BE MADE ONLY AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF ALL THE FACTS.

THE MAIN QUESTION TO BE ANSWERED IS - "WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT ON BASEBALL IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA" - AND RELEVANT TO THIS ARE A MYRIAD OF SIDE EFFECTS AND SUBSIDIARY QUESTIONS SOME OF WHICH ARE LISTED OVER-LEAF.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOUR DECISION WILL BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF BASEBALL.

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QUESTIONS TO BE
CONSIDERED

1. IS THERE A NECESSITY FOR ANOTHER MAJOR LEAGUE CLUB AND IF SO WHAT QUALIFIES A CLUB TO FILL THE GAP.
2. WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT ON KINDRED CLUBS AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO BOUNDARIES AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO PLAYERS INVOLVED IN BOUNDARY CHANGES.
3. WHAT QUALIFIES HENLEY AND GRANGE TO FILL THE GAP IF IT EXISTS.
 - (A) IS HENLEY AND GRANGE STRONG ENOUGH
 - (B) WHAT ARE THEIR ASSETS AND FACILITIES
 - (C) WHAT IS THEIR PAST RECORD
 - (D) WHAT HAVE THEY DONE FOR BASEBALL IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
 - (E) WHAT WILL THEY DO IN THE FUTURE
 - (F) A WORD ABOUT STAGNATION

These we feel are pertinent questions to which we will attempt to supply our answers, which will at least provide the case for Henley and Grange and to which in your consideration you can add your own criticisms.

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IS THERE A NECESSITY FOR ANOTHER
MAJOR LEAGUE CLUB? AND IF SO,
WHAT QUALIFIES A CLUB TO FILL THE
GAP.

The population expansion in Adelaide since the war is reflected in the expansion of sport generally and in particular in this case in the growth of the S.A.B.L.

The Town Planner's Report predicts the population of Metropolitan Adelaide to double in 30 years from 1961 with increases over the intervening years as shown in Figure I.

Forward planning for Urban Development and its associated services, water, sewerage, power, gas, transport and roads, etc., will avert a chaotic situation in the future.

Social facilities such as sport will expand to meet demand and there is little doubt that the demand for baseball as for other sports will increase proportionately.

A glance at extracts of the Town Planner's Report, Table I and Figures II and III show that if we plot population increases for what we generally assume as Metropolitan Adelaide today, i.e., the Metropolitan Council Areas, Zones 1 to 7 and do the same thing for what will eventually be embraced as Outer Metropolitan Adelaide, i.e., the District Council Areas, Zones 8 - 15 from Gawler to Sellicks Beach, expansion of the latter will dwarf expansion of the former. These increases are plotted on Figures IV and V.

Our argument is then this - You can't just pluck out one Zone and say "This is our next Major League Club" because there will be at least four other outer district zones of equal size with equal rights to the position; and at this stage the League will certainly have to think of reorganisation of the whole system.

We contend that there is little doubt that there is

plenty of room for another Major League Club and there is room for one now!!

The current system of a bye and a double header every weekend could well be reorganised to a double bye on Saturdays, eliminating the double header with two teams playing the Sunday and providing additional umpires to meet the demand on Saturdays.

The Club to fill the gap must have numerical strength, a strong following, a working junior development programme, financial soundness, good permanent grounds and Clubrooms, a past record of success and development, the ability to survive lean periods and an assured future.

We feel that the Henley and Grange Baseball Club Inc., is foremost with these attributes.

WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT ON KINDRED
CLUBS AND BOUNDARIES AND WHAT WILL
HAPPEN TO PLAYERS INVOLVED IN THE
BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Town Planner's Report shows the predicted population increases in the Metropolitan Council Areas in increments of 10 years over the 30 years from 1961. These are shown on Figures II and III as relative population densities.

These figures we feel in the long range view do not favour our proposal. We are equally convinced that these figures will indicate the necessity of a review of the whole grading system.

We do feel, however, that in the short term view, i.e., the next 10 years, that short term population increases combined with present Club status are the criteria for consideration of another Major League Club.

We draw your attention to Figures II and III (and incidentally the reproduction does not emphasize the inner Metropolitan increased densities as clearly as the

original) and show that increases in population indicate an increase in the Henley and Grange area and increases in neighboring Council Areas on both sides. Statistics indicate that urban industrial areas (refer Figures I to V) will increase in population on an equal basis with outer areas over the next few years. These increases therefore would favour creation of a district boundary for Henley and Grange without depleting from the population content in zones of neighboring Clubs. The above facts we feel must be considered along with a consideration of present Club strength and past development, which we emphasise is a major prerequisite.

Henley and Grange feels that existing neighboring Major League Clubs have the prerogative concerning players involved in boundary changes with regard to the questions 1 or 2 below.

1. Preserve status quo
2. Allot players according to any boundary changes.

THE CASE FOR HENLEY
AND GRANGE.

(A) IS HENLEY AND GRANGE STRONG ENOUGH

The question is directed straight at the current position of the Club in its past season and facts are listed below for clarity.

Registered players - 60

Teams - 5

Minor A - Minor premiers with 38 points, winning the last 18 games in a row in the Minor Round - eliminated in the preliminary final. We realise that a Premiership is considered a necessary criterion by some but you can't win them all.

Minor B - Third in the minor round with 24 points, eliminated in the preliminary final.

Minor D - Second in the minor round, with 24 points, and

eliminated by Wattle Park Teachers College in the Grand Final. W.P.T.C., a team out of its class in its 37th consecutive win.

Minor F - Second in the minor round with 23 points, defeated in the preliminary final.

Little League - Fifth in the minor round with 9 points.

Coaches - Five playing and non playing coaches in the lower grades, each with 20 years experience.

Minor League Club Champions - winners of the Mount Barker Shield with 118 points, 47 points clear of the nearest competitor.

Table II shows team strengths of all Clubs in 1965.

(B) WHAT ARE THEIR ASSETS AND FACILITIES

The Club has always held a strong and increasing cash balance. It has £600 invested in the Grange Oval Clubrooms as a third shareholder with a combined Council £600 subsidy. These Clubrooms feature a spacious hall, changerooms, toilets, showers and kitchen/bar, with facility for planned expansion. Funds for construction were raised by a debenture issue to Club members who were repaid by money raised to the full amount of £600 in two years.

This investment in permanent Clubrooms assures the Club of an unchallengable use of its home ground, the Grange Oval an excellent playing area extremely well kept, capable of comfortably carrying two diamonds and comparable with most playing areas in use today.

(C) WHAT IS THEIR PAST RECORD

The Henley and Grange Baseball Club was formed in 1945 and has continually expanded. Figure VI shows the number of teams fielded over the years and Figure VII the number of registered players. To summarise the Club has fielded 68 teams and has had 37 teams in the final four and has won 8 premierships, winning the Minor League Club Championship, the Mount Barker Shield 7 times.

(D) WHAT HAVE THEY DONE FOR BASEBALL IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

In approx. 1952 we introduced baseball in the Henley Primary School and over the years have provided coaches and umpires. After a short lapse this service has continued. In approx. 1954 we introduced baseball to Findon High School. In approx. 1958 we started Henley High School and in cooperation with West Torrens Baseball Club we still coach teams at this school. In 1965 we have introduced baseball in the Grange Primary School, after lengthy opposition.

The Club can say without fear of contradiction that it has been the backbone of support and organisation for the Minor League Interstate Series, both in billeting and social provision since the inception of the series in 1954.

We have had 49 players selected in the 12 teams since the series began.

(E) WHAT WILL HENLEY AND GRANGE DO IN THE FUTURE

At this stage we think the past speaks for the future and need to say very little.

Perhaps our programme in one avenue is indicative of the rest. As a Major League Club, Henley and Grange would apply for the responsibility of full organisation and supply of personnel to conduct the Primary Schools Competition in the Western Zone which is currently without an organising body.

(F) A WORD ABOUT STAGNATION

More than one Minor League Club that was, exists no more. Two of the strongest to come to mind are Railways with a team that could have held its own anywhere, and Edwardstown, one of our old contemporaries, at one time well on its way to the top. Loss of such Clubs is a bitter blow to baseball and should never have occurred.

We feel that a similar stagnation is the reason that Henley and Grange Minor A has been "always a bridesmaid, never a bride". After winning three premierships in a row, we have been in the four over the last nine consecutive years without a premiership, and yet Henley and Grange have shown that it has the Club strength to hold top billing and gain further in Club strength.

We are confident that if admitted to Major League this Club strength will eventually hold in good stead so that in the not so far distant future we will be able to give Major League competition the shake that we have given Minor League over the years.

TO SUMMARIZE

A Club admitted to Major League must be strong with a continuous record of growth and prosperity.

Our claim is based on current strength, past record and predicted suburban development over the next ten years.

Urban development and population increase in the areas to the North, North-East and South of what we now know as Metropolitan Adelaide may result in the formation of as many as four or five strong Clubs with a demand for re-organisation of the district system if and when their strength is assured.

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ESTIMATED DISTRIBUTION OF THE FUTURE
POPULATION

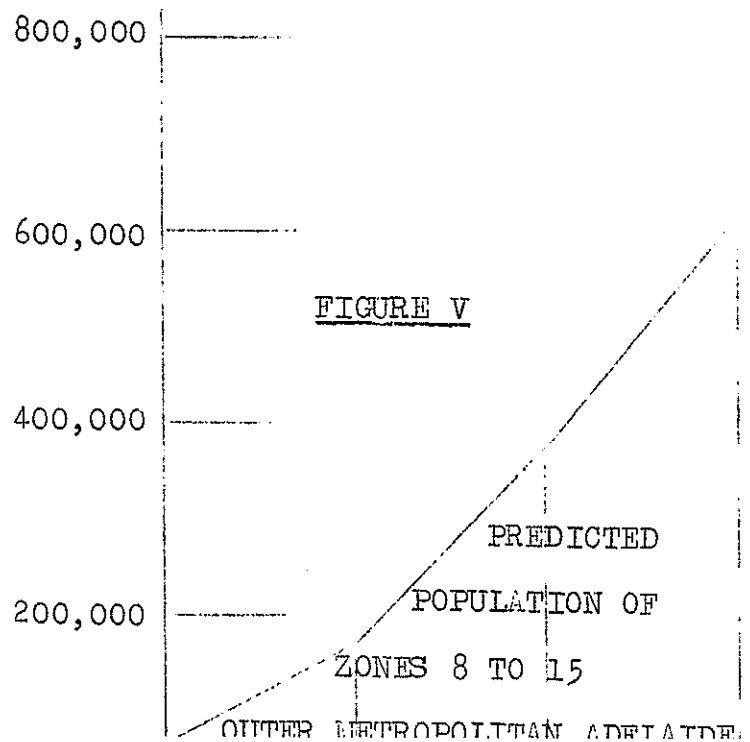
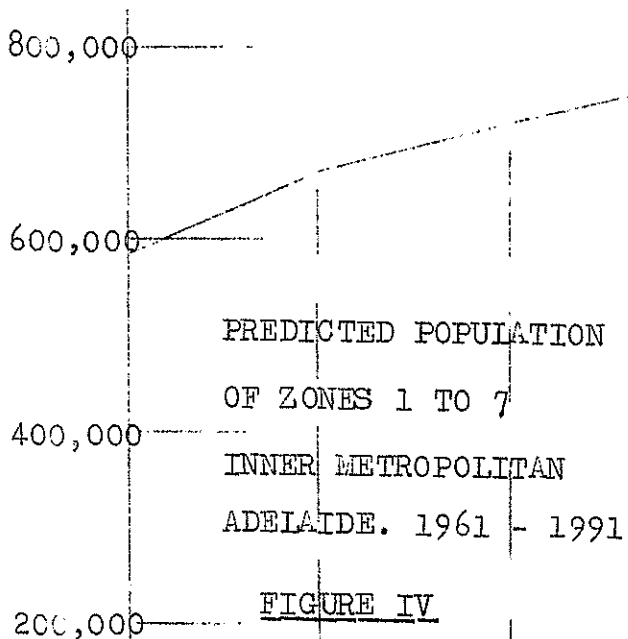
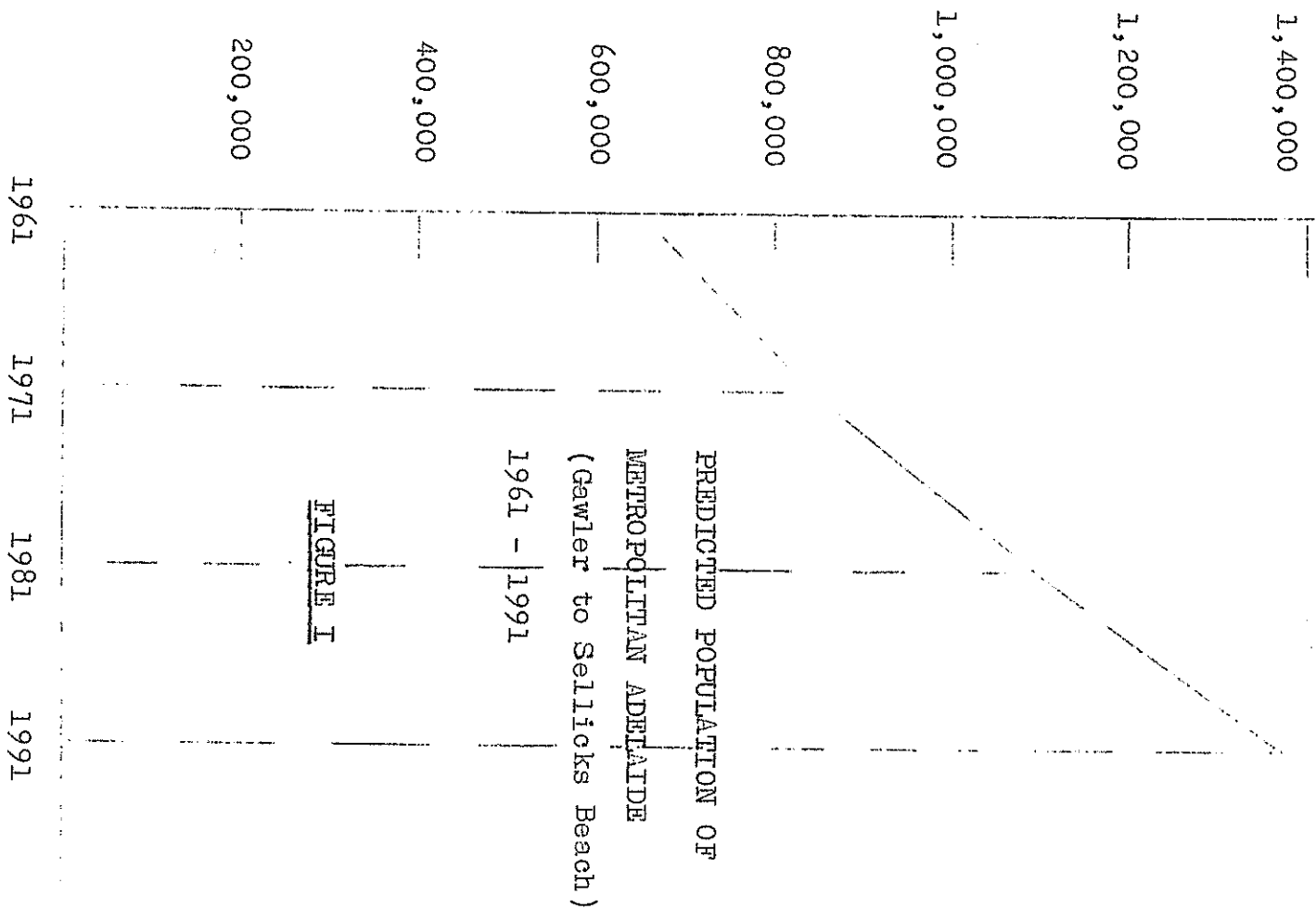
Metropolitan Adelaide 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991.

Plan. Dist.	Local Govt. Area	1961*	1971	1981	1991
1	City of Adelaide.	23,119	24,000	28,000	31,000
2	Hindmarsh Port Adelaide Woodville	12,919 38,906 71,020	11,000 48,000 82,000	10,000 54,000 86,000	10,000 59,000 88,000
3	Enfield Prospect Walkerville	72,379 22,190 4,464	83,000 22,000 5,000	85,000 23,000 7,000	87,000 24,000 8,000
4	Burnside Campbelltown Kensington and Norwood Payneham St. Peters	36,268 20,905 13,485 14,924 11,719	40,000 40,000 13,000 16,000 11,000	42,000 46,000 14,000 16,000 11,000	43,000 51,000 15,000 16,000 12,000
5	Colonel Light Gardens Mitcham Unley	3,670 43,086 40,205	4,000 49,000 43,000	4,000 54,000 46,000	4,000 58,000 49,000
6	Brighton Glenelg Marion	20,349 14,490 58,373	21,000 14,000 75,000	21,000 15,000 85,000	22,000 16,000 95,000
7	Henley and Grange Thebarton West Torrens	11,661 12,814 40,710	13,000 12,000 44,000	15,000 13,000 45,000	18,000 14,000 46,000
8	Salisbury	35,709	78,000	124,000	165,000
9	Tee Tree Gully	5,926	25,000	64,000	103,000
10	Munno Para	3,154	18,000	43,000	98,000
11	East Torrens	3,656	5,000	7,000	9,000
12	Stirling	7,052	10,000	21,000	30,000
13	Meadows Ø	1,500 §	5,000	20,000	29,000
14	Noarlunga	5,495	30,000	92,000	154,000
15	Willunga Ø	2,000 §	2,000	8,000	30,000
<u>TOTALS</u>		652,145 §	843,000	1,099,000	1,384,000

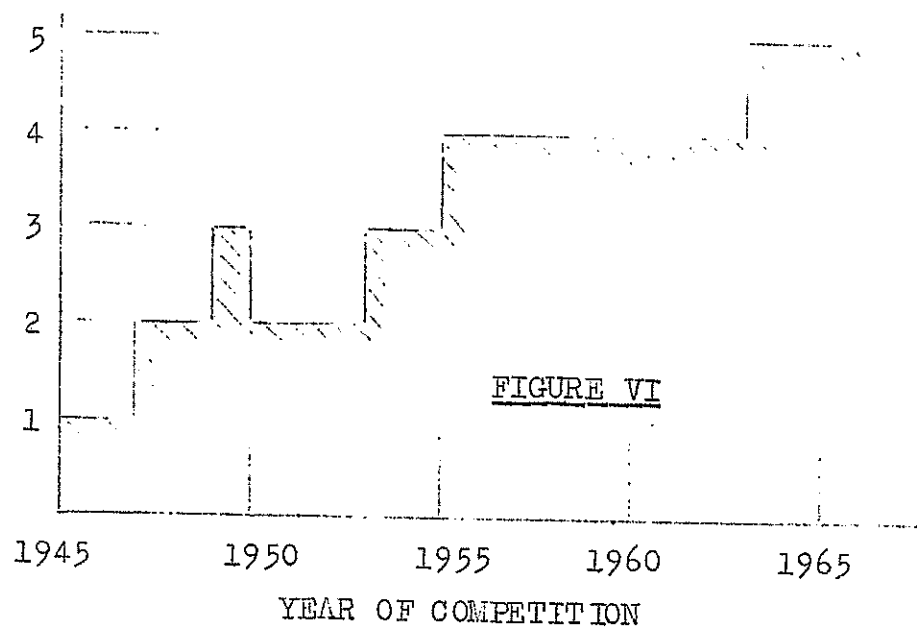
* Census June, 1961

Ø Part Only

§ Estimate by Town
Planners Office.



NUMBER OF TEAMS



NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS

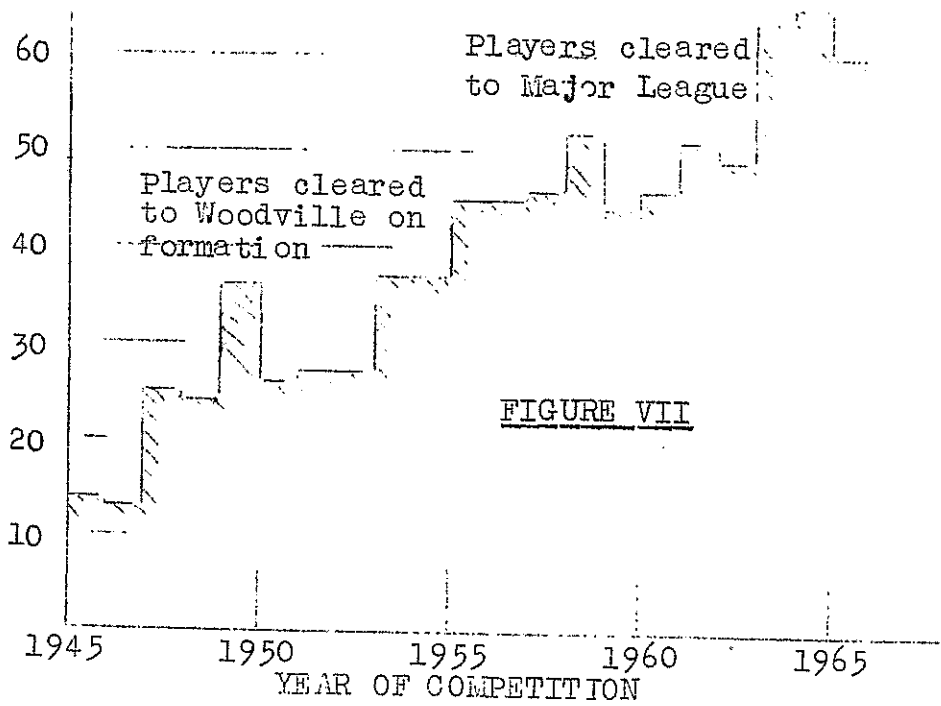
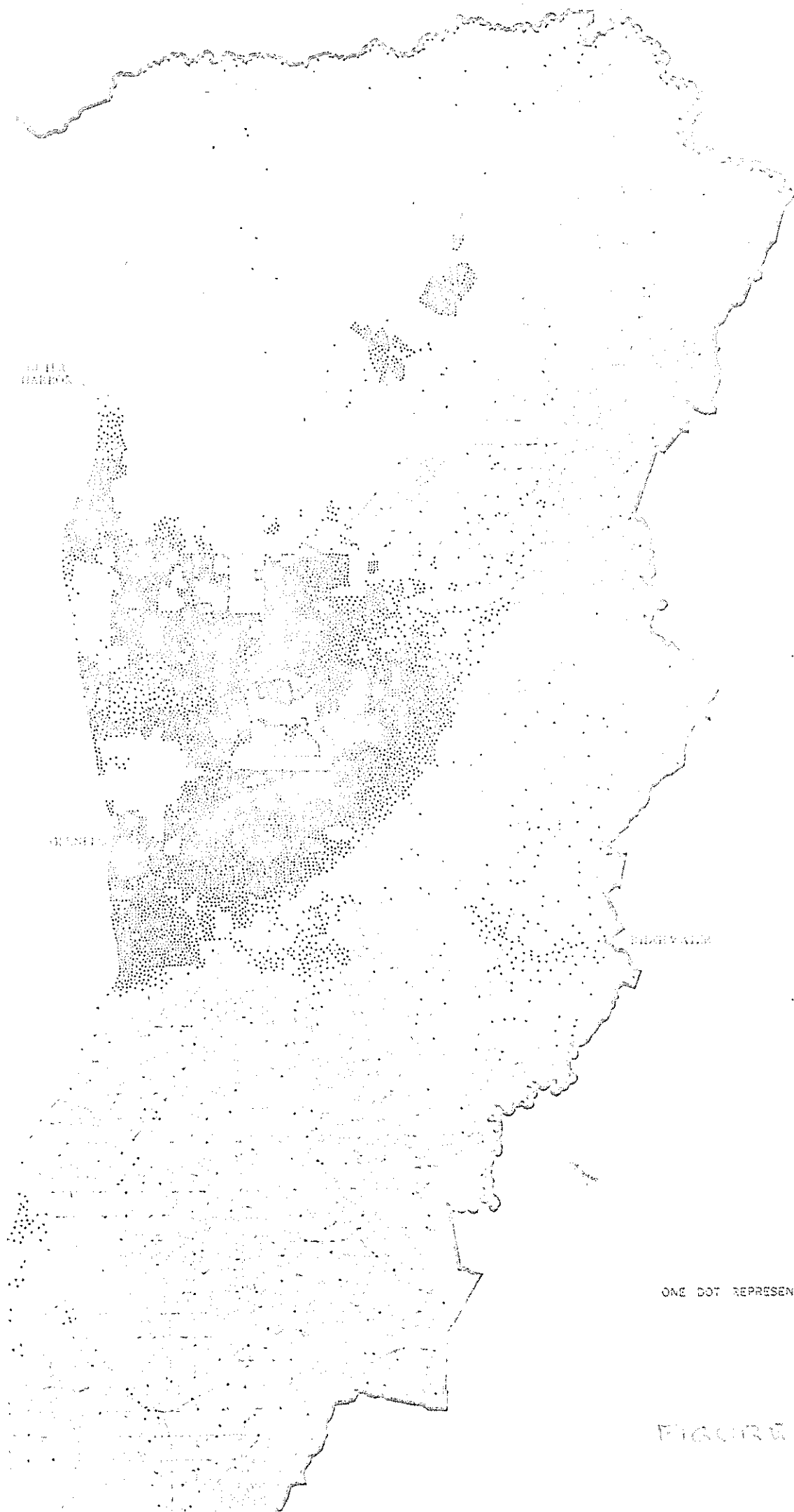


TABLE II

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>TOTAL MAJOR LEAGUE TEAMS</u>	<u>TOTAL MINOR LEAGUE TEAMS</u>
Goodwood	2	4
Port Adelaide	2	4
Sturt	2	4
Adelaide	2	5
Glenelg	2	8
East Torrens	2	5
Kensington	2	5
West Torrens	2	5
Prospect	2	4
University	2	5
Woodville	2	6
Marion		4
H & G		5
A.T.C.		3
Enfield		4
Central Districts		3
W.T.C.		2
Internationals		2
Burnside		2
W.P.T.C.		2
Y.M.C.A.		2
Western Youth		2

G U L F S T A T E S I N C E N T R I



ONE DOT REPRESENTS 50 PERSONS

FIGURE II