

tributed yearly by lot and worked and used in common. How is this socializing to take place? In brief it must be by evolving a new sense of the dignity and national importance of agriculture and rural life. Who are to be its apostles? Unquestionably in addition to the coöperating farmers themselves it must be the clergy, the physicians and teachers. Even though often inexperienced and untaught in these duties, they are still the people's leaders. It is, however, interesting to note that in Quebec many of the clergy in their "Community Houses" are amongst the leaders both in the practice and theory of agriculture; while no doubt many cases exist where the rural clergy interest themselves directly in the practical problems of their people. But this has not been the practice in other communities, and too often the clergymen never gets close even to the public school pupils, nor meets his people except on Sunday, and then in his capacity as their spiritual adviser. The country doctor often comes much nearer to the interests of his community and may at times become actually a leader in practical rural affairs. He would become still more so if, as an all time medical health officer, he could with an equipped laboratory come into close practical relations with this farm life. For instance, the counties are establishing gradually, at least in Ontario, sanatoria for tuberculosis. Here might well be the starting point. Every county has still five to ten such cases per thousand of population, and through the practising physicians the county officer would come to deal not only with tuberculosis but also other problems. The outbreaks of acute contagions in cattle would at once be diagnosed through laboratory tests; the movements of the officer through his district would bring early to his notice fungous and insect diseases of plants, while his practical oversight of the surroundings of cheese factories and creameries would be but a step to his investigating and suggesting improvements in the methods of cheese making and butter making from the bacteriological standpoint. With the careful rural taxpayer I know of nothing which would so soon gain his approval of a progressive public health organization as the practical interest which a trained bacteriologist would take in actual rural production. When a great American industry can afford to set apart half a million annually for investigations in science, it must surely appear essential in an industry like agriculture, whose very future depends upon the application of the knowledge gained in every field of science that organized methods for this purpose be developed. Already these have begun through the appointment of agricultural demonstrators in some of our counties and in the