

The O. A. C. Where the Summer School was Held

wife have the right to be born in a good environment in order to become what they ought to be. To this end, sanitation and sociology should be taught.

"Second, the new kind of school must teach the new farmer to recognize his responsibilities in the larger social group. Under this head comes real live problems, such as elementary science and economics.

"The third step is vocational.

"The farmer must make a better living than in the past.

"Agricultural and domestic science must be taught.

"The fourth springs out of the third step.

"He will now have a margin of wealth to invest, and the new school must teach him to invest his wealth in the country in co-operative enterprises, in better houses, schools and churches. Out of this will come the new ethical and aesthetic kind of country life."

TOGETHER IN THE CHURCHES

THAT there has been too much stress laid upon doctrinal teaching in the country churches, and that this has tended to separate rather than to unite them was the big point brought out by the Rev. W. K. Shearer, B.A., of Drumbo, Ont., in his two addresses on "The Mission and Message of the Country Church." He advocated, in place of sectarian teaching, the preaching of the Kingdom of God—as covering all relationships of life.

An interesting address on the subject of the country church was also given by the Rev. Wm. Conway, B.A., of Auburn. He spoke of the work of the Sunday school and advocated uniting under it all the organizations among young people.

WHERE TO TEACH SOCIAL SERVICE

THERE should also be in connection with the Sunday school a Parents' Department for the teaching and training of men and women for social service.

Lively discussions followed these addresses. One was impressed by the broad-minded attitude of the ministers. There were representatives from the Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Anglican churches, but one and all seemed anxious to sink sectarian differences and get down to a basis broad enough for co-operation.

Indeed the keynote of the whole convention might be expressed in one word, "Co-operation." How to co-ordinate the various agencies—the church, the home, the school—working for the betterment of the community—that was the problem which was endlessly discussed.

The churches seem to appreciate more keenly than they have ever done that it is their mission to save the whole life of man, and that to do this they must work in harmony with the home and the school.

THE CRYING NEED IN RURAL LIFE

GETTING right down to the crying need of the average rural community, Mr. Alex. Maclaren showed that it lay in a greater spirit of co-operation among country people. From living far apart country people had become extremely individualistic.

Mr. Maclaren is the Lecturer in Rural Sociology at the Ontario Agricultural College, and it was on his initiative that this summer school was conducted. Two previous sessions have been held, but the high record for attendance was broken by a big margin this year—a significant fact, bearing witness to the progress of thought along the line of rural leadership.

WE NEED TO PLAY

MR. MACLAREN made it plan that we do not play enough in rural Canada. The taking part in good team games does more than anything else to draw people together. Good roads, rural free deliveries, telephones, magazines, books and farm journals were doing much to break down

the barriers of isolation in the country, but excessive individualism still persists. Mr. Maclaren advised rural leaders in church and school to study the Y.M.C.A. rules of game.

Athletics, team games, leagues, group games, hikes, relay races and pageants were all splendid sources of recreation.

The importance which Mr. Maclaren attached to games was practically demonstrated at the Summer School during the first week of the session. Five minutes of play between each lecture was the order of the day, and in all the games Mr. Maclaren was an enthusiastic leader. He never wearied. Despite the fact that he acted as chairman for all the lectures, speaking often and continuously, he was the first in the field—or rather the campus—to start some new, all-round game.

ASTONISHING RESULTS IN GRAIN

THE story of the introduction of two new varieties which had considerably increased the yield of barley in Ontario was interestingly told by Professor Zavitz of Ontario Agricultural College in a series of talks on Field Husbandry. These varieties are the Mandscheuri, which the College imported from Russia in the spring of 1889, and the O. A. C. No. 21, which was started from a single seed of the Mandscheuri barley at the College in 1903.

So great has been the increase in the yield of barley in Ontario from the use of these two varieties, that the entire cost of the College has been far more than paid back to the Province from this one source alone.

About 96 per cent. of all the barley that is now grown in Ontario belongs to the Mandscheuri, or to the O. A. C. No. 21 varieties, and the increase in yield per acre of barley for the last sixteen years as compared with the previous sixteen amounts approximately to \$35,000,000.00, or sufficient to maintain the Ontario Agricultural College for about one hundred and ninety years.

ROUNDING UP LEADERS

"WITHOUT vision the people perish."

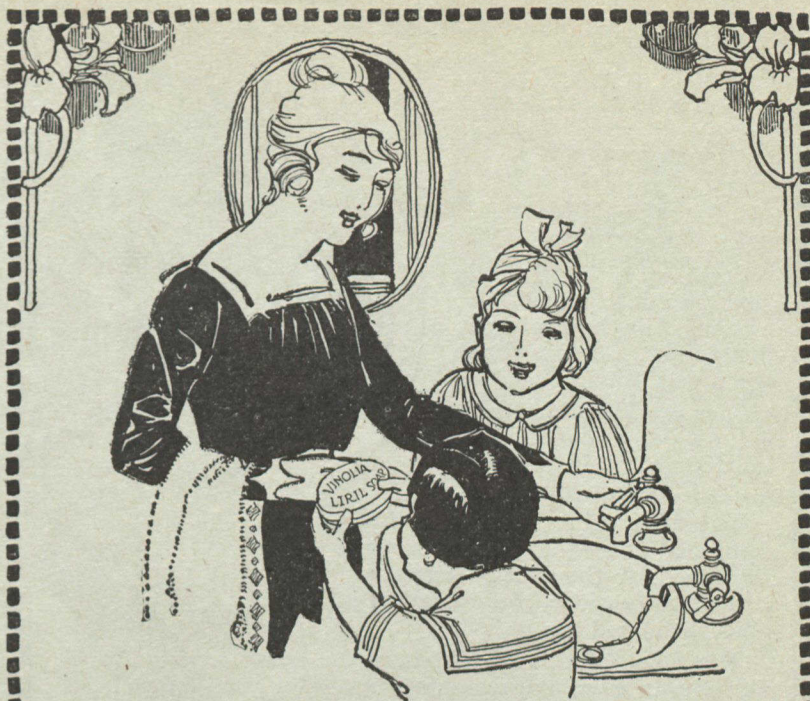
Through all his talks on leadership, Mr. Maclaren made it clear that leaders are necessary in each and every rural community, and the progressive community is always looking for better leaders—individuals with vision, imagination, sympathy, tact and love.

Out of apparently some of the most unpromising material, true leaders are being evolved. They are coming not only from among college and professional men, but from young men and women who have cultivated hobbies, from among tradespeople who have been specialists in their lines, and from others who are awake to the needs of the community in which they live—who have ideas and who have the courage of their convictions.

It was made abundantly plain that there is a place for everyone in any community and that a few should not be permitted to monopolize the positions of leadership.

A NEW RURAL MOVEMENT

AS a result of this year's Summer School, there was organized the Ontario Rural Community Life Movement. The purpose of this organization is to promote the highest ideals of rural community life, religious, social, educational, physical and economic. It has quite a large programme in view, but two of the outstanding features for this year are the promotion of four district community life conferences of two-and-a-half days' duration each, covering Ontario, and the approaching of the educational boards of the various theological colleges to try and have a more thorough course given in rural life interests, economic, social, etc., so that theological students may be more thoroughly prepared for the problems they will meet when they take a position in a country church.



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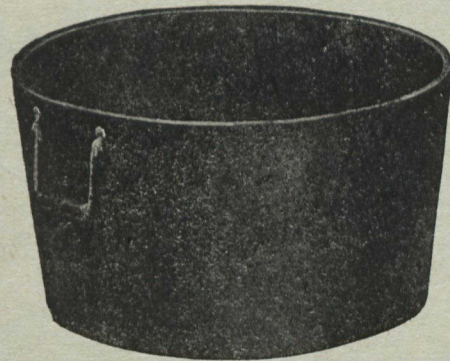
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