

SURVEY FORM B.

THE RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

Departmental Divisions.

1. The Community and its Citizenship.
2. Agricultural Life: Rural Planning and Housing.
3. Living Conditions.
4. Public Health.
5. Education.
6. Recreation and Community Life.
7. The Church and its Community.

RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

The problem of the industrial community is primarily one of congestion of population; that of the agricultural community, on the other hand, arises somewhat from isolation of the individual, in the centre of his own lands, and further isolation of a number of individuals from a centre. The resources of modern progress are more or less reducing this segregation of the rural community, but the very nature of the farmer's occupation requires large open tracts separating him from his neighbor. In no vocation can a man succeed to the same degree without contact and co-operation with his brother worker, as in farming. With his home, and his laborers, the farmer may be more or less independent of external relations. This has made possible the development of great farming enterprises, from the pioneer settlements of Canada, but at the same time has retarded any parallel development of the farmer's interests in the national life. It is only recently that the farmers of the Provinces and of Canada as a whole have come to realize the incalculable benefits and power accruing to them as a co-operative and cohesive organization. The farmer did not recognize as early as the professional man, the tradesman, and the laborer, his part as a unit in his own class, nor the place of that class as a national factor in the activities of the Dominion. Now, with culminated force the United Farmers of Canada are sweeping onwards towards Ottawa and national politics. It is evident that one section of any agricultural survey must be devoted to a study of conditions related to or arising from this aspect of rural life.

On the other hand, there is the gradual ebb from the country towards the city. More evident and disturbing is this tendency within the Eastern Provinces. This has given rise to our so-called "country-life" movements which have aroused much criticism. Facing facts squarely, it must be admitted that this movement is a vital problem, as serious, if not more serious than, the present industrial situation. The latter in culmination might indeed destroy to some extent our national life and endanger our civilization, but the gradual sapping of rural life by city channels is more deadly,—it threatens the very roots of our existence, and is so subtle and gradual in its maturing that it cannot be attacked and alleviated, as can the contributory factors in the aggravation of industrial unrest. This aspect of the situation must also be constantly in mind in surveying the field in the rural community.

I. Community and Citizenship.

1. Report on the situation and physical nature of community; the size of community under survey; delineation of village and open country; general geographical information; situation of churches, schools, stores, etc.; average size of farms; and condition of roads.
2. History of the Community. This will include reports on the date and nature of the first settlement; nationality of citizens; nature of growth (village or large farms); any features of community development of interest in the survey.
3. The report on the present population should note:
 - Number in village;
 - Number in open country;
 - Number who are inter-related;
 - Number who are old settlers;
 - Relation of these last two to the whole population;
 - Population by the last five years;