

these industries offered much greater inducements than life upon the farm and there was a consequent trend of the younger generations toward the cities. Noting the successes which these men achieved in the cities, those who remained upon the farms urged their children to go to the cities, except, possibly, those who were not inclined to be very bright-minded, who in their parents' estimation, were not likely to make a success of anything; these were allowed to remain upon the farm. Rural school education was such as to kindle the child's desire for life in the city. He heard no mention of success to be achieved upon the farm, while the histories of the lives of men, who had become eminent in the cities were ever before his notice. The lessons he was forced to learn were those which would fit him for a city career. Is it to be wondered at, then, that Ontario's farms should have become depleted while her cities have grown with almost unbelievable rapidity? These conditions were predominant until very recent years, when the high prices of necessary food stuffs began to attract the attention of our deeper thinkers, and although, up to the present, no very definite "Back to the land" movement has been evoked, there is a tendency in that direction. The Department of Education has instituted a "Stay on the land" agitation in the teaching of Elementary Agriculture in our rural schools. In connection with this, school gardens and school fairs are coming into prominence. The Agricultural Colleges are gaining in favor among the people, as is evidenced by the increased attendance, during the past few years, at the Ontario Agricultural College, the only institution in the Province which teaches the Science of Agriculture. The advent of the District Representative

has been of inestimable value to the farmer of Ontario. The Representative has, at his command, all available information, relating to all branches of Agricultural Science; he has studied Agriculture, particularly as relating to mixed farming conditions in Ontario, from a scientific and from a practical standpoint, and it is his duty to distribute among the farmers of his district all the information which he possesses. The effect of the Representative's work may not be apparent among the older farmers of the Province, who are, as a rule, very conservative in the adoption of new methods, but among the younger men, its influence is beyond measure. They have not become set in their methods and ideas, as have their fathers, and they are open to the advanced scientific teachings which the Representative is able to bring them. And the fact that these younger men, as well as the children of the rural districts, see that men of education take an interest in Agriculture and consider it the equal of any vocation in the world, cannot fail to have an untold effect upon farming in Ontario before many years have elapsed.

One of the greatest drawbacks to Ontario's mixed farming industry, during the past decade, has been the lack of sufficient and competent labor. The exodus of young men from the country to the cities has left, as a rule, one man upon a farm of one hundred or sometimes two hundred acres of land. Thus, it has been necessary for the farmers to depend to a great extent upon hired help, and this has been, up to the present, increasingly difficult to obtain. But the responsibility for this condition of affairs rests, to some extent, upon the farmers themselves. Few farmers map out their work according to any system; they do not know how much to expect of a