

existed, it would often be found of real practical utility to have the medical officer placed in charge, have the laboratory there, and so centralize and enlarge his work; (c) As the county contains a number of townships, towns and villages, which may have already a sanitary officer, these would become, as in England, automatically the local officers of the county officer, with duties defined under the law, such as reporting daily when necessary, all notices of contagious diseases, and carrying out routine inspection, disinfection and policing; (d) The medical officer would similarly receive directly from physicians, or through the local inspectors, reports of outbreaks of contagious disease, and from all practising veterinarians notice of contagious disease in animals, affecting the public health. (e) The medical officer would similarly be medical inspector of the schools of his district, and would naturally carry out the physical inspection of the school children, as well as the inspection of school buildings and the control of contagious diseases. (f) He would also put in force a systematic supervision, not only of the factories in towns, but especially of the rural factories as of cheese, butter and fruit canning. (g) He would likewise systematize, through the township inspectors, the examination of dairies and the supervision of public milk supplies. (g) He would especially through local veterinarians, discover herds where tuberculosis existed, and would gradually organize a meat inspection service through centralizing the slaughter of meat to be sold to the public."

It will be realized, perhaps, how such a scheme is all the more urgent in view of the decreasing rural populations in the township and village municipalities of the Eastern provinces. Thus the census returns for 1911 give the following results:

	1901	1911	Increase
Rural, for all Canada.....	3,349,516	3,924,394	17.16%
Urban.....	2,021,799	3,280,444	62.25%
Quebec, rural.....	992,667	1,032,618	39,951

	1901	1911	Decrease
New Brunswick, rural.....	253,835	252,342	1,493
Nova Scotia, rural.....	330,191	306,210	23,981
P. E. Island, rural.....	88,304	78,758	9,546
Ontario, rural.....	1,246,960	1,194,785	52,184

The actual situation as regards the decline of rural population may be understood when it is known that of 400,000 immigrants