

**COUNTRY LIFE AND
RURAL PROBLEMS;
A STUDY OUTLINE**

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Country life and rural problems; a study outline by Mary Katharine Reely

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MARY KATHARINE REELY

**COUNTRY LIFE AND
RURAL PROBLEMS;
A STUDY OUTLINE**

The Study Outline and Its Use

The series includes outlines on art, literature, travel, biography, history and present day questions.

The outlines vary in length. If more topics are given than the number of club meetings for the season, those topics that are more difficult to handle or on which there is less available material, may be dropped. If there are fewer topics than the scheduled meetings, certain topics may be divided.

Lists of books are appended to most of the outlines. It would be well for the club to own some of the recommended books. Others can be obtained either from the local public library or from the state traveling library. When very full lists are given it is not necessary for any club to use all the books, but the longer list gives more room for choice.

The best material on some subjects may be found, not in books, but in magazines. These may be looked up under the subject in the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*. Magazine articles and illustrated material may be obtained from the *Wilson Package Library*. For terms see fourth page of cover.

A list of the study outlines now in print will be found on page three of this cover. For later additions to the list write to publisher.

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COUNTRY LIFE
AND
RURAL PROBLEMS

A STUDY OUTLINE

PREPARED BY
MARY KATHARINE REELY

"The reason why the American people care so much for the ideals that are presented to us in the country life movement is that there is something very deep-seated and permanent within us to which these motives can appeal. We are a country life people."

—MARTHA FOOTB CROW.

THE H. W. WILSON COMPANY
New York, N. Y.
1918

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INTRODUCTION

This study outline takes up some of the social problems of the country community. It suggests a series of discussions on subjects related to the farm home, the country church, the rural school and the rural neighborhood. It is not concerned with the business of farming or with the profession of housekeeping. It does not touch on the economic problems of farm life. These subjects—marketing, farm labor, rural credits, the cooperative movement, etc.—may be covered in a later outline if it seems desirable.

HOW TO USE THE OUTLINE

Adapt the outline to your own community needs. There are five main divisions of the subject: The Farm Home; The Rural School; The Country Church; Community Life; and The Country Town. Give as much time to the discussion of each of these subjects as the needs of your community demand. Under each subject you will find topics for discussion. An entire evening or afternoon's program may be given to one topic, or several topics may be combined to make up one program. The subject of the rural school, for instance, if covered thoroly might occupy four, or perhaps five, programs. But if you already enjoy the advantages of school consolidation you will need to give less time to this subject.

HOW TO GET REFERENCE MATERIAL

Each subject for discussion is followed by a list of references for reading and study. These fall into three classes:

6 INTRODUCTION

(1) Books. Twenty-three books have been used as a basis. A complete list of these will be found on page 35. In the reference the name of the author and the paging are given. "Betts, p254-60" means Betts & Hall: "Better rural schools," pages 254-60.

To get the books: (1) Buy them if you can; (2) Apply to the nearest public library; (3) Write to the Library commission at the capital of your state. The library commissions of a number of states have said that they will gladly cooperate with clubs using this outline.

If you are limited in the number of books you may have, you will find those marked * most useful.

(2) Magazine articles. Articles have been chosen from recent numbers of popular magazines and from a few of the best-known farm journals. The public library and the library commission may again be able to help you, or you may rent magazine articles from the Wilson Package Library.

(3) Documents and bulletins. These may be obtained free of charge or may be purchased at a low price. Write to the address given.

A SUGGESTION TO NEW CLUBS

If you turn at once to the subject Organizations and Clubs on page 23 and make use of the references you may find helpful suggestions on organization.

This outline is planned for women's clubs, farmers' clubs, community clubs or other organizations of men and women who wish to come together for the study and discussion of live topics. It is to be hoped that the club making use of the outline will not remain content with discussion. Learn from what others have done and put the new ideas into practice.