

**THE TWENTIETH-
CENTURY RURAL
SCHOOL**

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The twentieth-century rural school by E. E. Davis

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E. E. DAVIS

**THE TWENTIETH-
CENTURY RURAL
SCHOOL**

The Twentieth-Century Rural School

By

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PREFACE

This little volume has been prepared for county school superintendents, members of county boards of education, progressive rural and village teachers, the rural-school sections of teachers' institutes, and for classes in rural education in the state normal schools. Its theme is the relation the rural school should bear to the life and interests of the community.

I am convinced that the free school of the future must hinge more on the community-service idea. The successful teacher in the centralized rural high school of the twentieth century must possess the combined abilities of "community manager," "social engineer" and educator. He must be the social and industrial light as well as the intellectual light of the people he serves.

Many teachers have left the profession in despair. But I am not ready to give up. I am firm in the belief that a new era is about to dawn. There is still a chance for men and women of ability and training who know how to make their ways among people

PREFACE—*Continued*

successfully while engaged in the teaching profession. One of the richest opportunities for service and for attractive pay lies in our best rural and village communities. It is an opportunity overlooked by most of our educators. But few of our normal schools have ever seen it clearly. In the discussions that follow, I have tried to point the way to it.

I have endeavored to make this treatise as elementary and concrete as possible, taking most of the illustrations from rural and village schools I have taught and from things I have observed among schools taught by others. I have tried to prepare it from the view-point of the country teacher facing actual conditions at close range and not from the view-point of the college man interpreting rural data at long distance. I sincerely hope it will meet the need for which it is intended. E. E. D.

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