

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1916

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE FORTHCOMING SITUATION IN AGRICULTURAL WORK—II¹

ONE year ago, at the first meeting of Section M, it was my privilege to speak on some of the tendencies in the great public agricultural movements in the United States, particularly on the educational side, and to express my conviction that the processes set in motion by the Land-Grant Act and subsequent enactments are safeguarding the foundations of our democracy. I approached my subject mostly from the point of view of our present public-service or public-welfare institutions for agriculture; I said that I should discuss the other or non-public phases of the problem one year hence. And now, after twelve months of unrepentance, I come to resume my theme. In continuing the discussion I shall be obliged to reaffirm some of the positions that I urged a year ago.

It is now some seven years ago when I wrote in a book that there may be need of a kind of agricultural work that can best be done in an institution independent of direct state support and not at once responsible to popular will.² That statement, or its equivalent, had been made many times theretofore in public ways. I have never taken the privilege, however, to enlarge upon it to any degree: this opportunity is reserved for to-day.

Fortunate it is for us that our educational and to a large extent our civic and welfare work for agriculture have been founded on public funds, thereby committing the state to the necessity of furthering the interests of our basic industry and of

¹ Retiring vice-presidential address, Section M.

² "The Training of Farmers," page 225.