1909

The Teacher Training Course at Work

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There are many ways of working the Teacher Training Course. No one way can be called the best way. The special circumstances of each School and Congregation must be taken into account. These will fix the most suitable method in each case. In every case one thing is true : the way to work the Course is to work it. And, as the following accounts of its actual working show, the Course can be adapted to a great variety of circumstances, and everywhere it produces good results. As is generally known, our church provides a Teacher Training Course, embodied in six Handbooks, to which two others are shortly to be added; and an examination covering the Course in all its parts, and which is open, in their own locality, to all who wish to write, is held each May.

During the Lesson Period By Rev. J. W. McIntosh, M.A.

Since the Autumn of 1907, two classes in our Sabbath School,—one in the Senior, the other in the Advanced Grade,—have been studying the Teacher Training Course. These classes have a membership of sixteen, and are composed of young women. The School session lasts for an hour and a quarter, and ten minutes of the forty-five allotted to the Lesson, are devoted to the Teacher Training work.

In the Advanced Class, the International Lessons were dropped entirely for the six weeks preceding the General Assembly Committee's examination, and study was centred on the special Course. Three candidates wrote on the examination, and secured, respectively, First Class Honor, Second Class Honor, and Pass, standing.

The subjects studied thus far in the two classes have been, The Books of the Old Testament, The Books of the New Testament, and The Life and Times of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Most of the work is done at home, the class discussions being intended chiefly for explanation and review.

The classes consider this work quite as interesting as the International Lessons, and the teachers are gratified with the results.

If any pastor or superintendent desires to inaugurate Teacher Training in connection with his School, and has postponed action because no place could be found for an extra meeting, the method outlined above can be commended as a practical and satisfactory solution of the difficulty.

Mitchell, Ont.

A Success in the Prayer Meeting By Rev. Thomas McAjee

In the early part of last winter, the superintendent of the Sabbath School, the teachers, officers and pastor considered the question of Teacher Training. There was, however, the usual difficulty, the multiplicity of meetings. Could the work be done, and at the same time not add to the number of services ? Finally, it was decided that at prayer meeting a start should be made. The subject selected was a study of The Books of the Old Testament.

As a preliminary to this study, an address was prepared on, How we got our Bible. The diagram in J. Patterson Smyth's handbook on this subject was put on the blackboard, so that all were able to follow the stages through which the Word came to its present form. The interest manifested in this subject was very marked, and, at the request of the Brotherhood, the address was delivered to them at their meeting a week later.

As the approach to any subject is of first importance, this prepared the way for a more intelligent and sympathetic study in detail. The next evening was taken up with a general outline following the divisions given by Principal Scrimger in his Handbook on the Books of the Old Testament. The aim of the book was specially emphasized. Following this, each Book of the Old Testament was taken up, and a brief review of its authorship, subject matter, and religious teaching presented. Looking over the winter from the standpoint of the prayer meeting, it can be said with thankfulness that, because of this systematic Bible Study, it has been the best yet. Indian Head, Sask.

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After the Prayer Meeting

By Rev. J. W. Woodside, M.A.

Our initial problem was to find a suitable time to meet. Immediately after prayermeeting on Wednesday evening was found