

ruary we had a special Cradle Roll Day. Invitations were written and delivered by the Primary teachers, and in this way our roll was brought up to date. The banquet was held in the afternoon, the Primary teachers being on hand to care for the little ones.

The babies were accommodated downstairs, the older children up-stairs. A special attraction was the playroom, where toys and sand trays were placed for their amusement; animal biscuits and milk were also provided. It was decidedly interesting to see how tightly the children clung to their mothers until they were brought into the playroom. Then the

mothers became secondary, and were able to slip away into the main school room where a short programme was provided for them. A lady addressed the mothers, and in addition several cradle roll songs and recitations were given.

After the refreshments were served, the children were brought in and the minister, together with the superintendent of the Sunday School, presented several certificates. The roll was called, and each child was presented with a beautiful souvenir in the form of a bird picture, colored and life size.

## KEEPING THE BIG BOY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

*By Charles H. Lerrigo, M.D.*

### I. A STUDY OF THE ADOLESCENT BOY

The boy is not a man in miniature. If he is very small indeed and you are very genial, perhaps you may address him as "little man" without securing a permanent position on his black list, but don't make the mistake of thinking that he is one. No normal boy is. He may be the father of the man, but he is not his miniature. He is no more a little man than he is a manikin.

His outlook differs from ours in one great respect,—it is all forward. Unless he has been pretty badly spoiled by the adulation of fond relatives he has no great conceit of his present day attainments, but he secretly entertains great expectations of the future. Notwithstanding this, he lives abundantly in the present, and is apt to be quite impatient of things merely prospective.

He is not commonly a suspicious animal. He takes things very much for granted, and he accepts ponderous truths on the simple word of the speaker, for all his life so far has been wrought on that principle. Yet he is very sensitive to impressions and is quick to condemn the oily one who says one thing and means another.

He is quite positive in his views of right or wrong,—a thing must be one or the other, there is no middle ground. He despises a compromise, even though quite willing to take advantage of it for his own personal benefit.

He is a great imitator. Such graces as he possesses he has acquired by imitating older people. He has therefore a natural impression that what older folks do is most admirable and what they have is most desirable.

This, in part, explains his desire to be considered grown up. Since the height of attainment is possible only to manhood he desires to be a man. He is impatient of boyhood long before he is ready to leave it. That trait may help to his marring or his making according to the ideals he is led to entertain. It is the thing that so often leads to smoking, swearing and gambling. It is also the thing that sometimes makes a hero out of a child.

He is very sensitive to impressions, and the likes and dislikes of early childhood are sure to cling in his adolescence.

He is an emulous creature. Let a companion achieve something, and he is eager to rival him. He loves applause, but he also loves achievement for its own sake, and especially is this true as he feels the mysterious impulses of approaching manhood.

He is usually sensitive to emotional appeal, but generally ashamed of it. If he is to acknowledge emotion, he greatly prefers that it shall be free from observation, especially from that of his comrades.

He dislikes to be made a show of,—cannot bear to be laughed at,—would rather be con-