

ways and means are being devised by which more satisfactory results may be attained.

There are many difficulties in connection with this work. Our country is being depopulated, fields are not growing in numerical strength, and the prospect of becoming self-supporting congregations is recognized as out of the question. Then with the intensity of the struggle for existence we are brought into competition with other denominations, a spirit of criticism is induced, and oftentimes the main idea is not to be out done by our neighbors. Externalism is developed and spirituality declines. Then again lack of numbers, long vacancies and want of continuity make organization and effective work extremely difficult. There is need for the church to take the cause of Home Missions very much to heart, to think and pray and plan over it till better days dawn. We want more than faithful work on the part of catechists and people. We want the very best plans and methods of work as well. If one method fails why not try another? Are we not to grow wiser from our experience? We need men who will take a statesman-like grasp of the situation, and formulate some policy which not only sounds well in theory but works well in practice.

We are convinced of the importance of this work. To have results which are on the whole satisfactory is not enough. God has signally blessed the church's efforts, results have been far out of proportion with the time and thought expended and the means employed. But the very fact that the coffers are not only empty but the Home Mission Fund deeply in debt is an evidence that many have forgotten their obligations in this respect. And although we do not regard the state of the funds as a supreme test, yet we feel sure that men are not giving their sympathetic interest and prayers. Let us bring in all the tithes and we may rest satisfied that a new era will speedily come in this department of the church's work in which more tangible and lasting results shall be obtained.

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#### *CLAIMS OF COLLEGE SOCIETIES.*

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**W**HY is the attendance at our college societies so small? Can it be that the associations of the room we meet in are not inviting. Does our class bell create in us a less pleasing sensation