

# The Teachers' Monthly.

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## SUMMARY OF THE REPORT OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 1894.

Sixteen Presbyteries give complete returns. The Schools reported number 1,888, (an increase of 84) or about 90 per cent. of the total number of Schools. In order to conserve space, our reference to the various sections of the tabulated report will be as brief as possible.

1.—ATTENDANCE. 17,527 teachers, and officers (an increase of 563), have under their care 153,013 scholars, a gain of 9,851. Of the former, the average attendance is 83 per cent., and of the latter 66 per cent. 1,238, (or slightly over 66 per cent.) of the 1,888 Schools reported, are "evergreen," the average number of months for the rest is eight.

2.—RECITATIONS. The number memorizing the Scriptures and the Shorter Catechism is on the increase from year to year, while those repeating the whole Catechism are 578 fewer than last year. The satisfactory increase of 9,271 pupils who prepare lessons at home, is doubtless due to the introduction of the Home Study series of lesson helps so ably prepared by our Conventer. We regret that the number of teachers' meetings for the study of the lesson shows a decrease of 12.

3.—CHURCH RELATIONS. In this section all the columns indicate an increase but one. The Elders engaged in Sabbath School work are 2,626, or 123 more than last year. The number of scholars attending public worship in the sanctuary is 59,055, a gain of 1,819. 4,943 scholars sat at the communion table for the first time during the year, while the total number in full communion is increased by 1,171. Showing that a large number of communicants must have ceased attending the Sabbath School. Surely this ought not to be.

4.—CONTRIBUTIONS. \$82,008 were raised in the Schools, a decrease of \$3,029. Of this amount \$45,749 were expended on the Schools themselves; \$28,987 were given to the Schemes of the Church, being \$1,111 less than last year. Of the schemes supported, Foreign Missions have the lead with \$8,428, Home Missions come next with \$7,556, French Evangelization closely follows with \$7,270, while \$5,146 were given to other schemes. "Other objects" received \$7,183, an increase of \$752. Congregations contributed \$11,590 to the support of their Schools, being an increase of \$184.

5.—HIGHER RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION. In this department a steady advance is marked during the year. The work, preparatory to the examinations, was taken up by 60 schools, while from 40 others applications were made for diplomas for catechism recitations; so that at least 100 schools participated to some extent in the benefits of the scheme. From these 60 schools came applications for 1,375 examination papers, compared with 932 for last year. The severe storm prevailing through the Dominion on the day appointed for the annual examination, kept many candidates from presenting themselves; yet 385 took part in the examination, as compared with 306 of last year. Of the 385 attempting the examination 266 have been successful, 194 receive diplomas, 57 have been awarded prizes, and 16 have won medals. The interest in the Shorter Catechism steadily increases, as seen in the awarding of 169 diplomas for correct recitation of all the questions, as compared with 124 last year.

6.—PUBLICATIONS. The circulation of the *Home Study Leaflet* has increased greatly during the past year and now reaches 17,000 as compared with 11,500 at the time of last report. It will in future more than pay its own expenses. The publication of the *Home Study Quarterly* was undertaken, beginning with last January. It has now over 4,000 subscribers and, excepting the cost of extra sample copies, has from the first more than met its own expense.

The *Home Study Teachers' Monthly* grows in favor. In our last report the circulation of the *Teachers' Preparation Leaflet*, whose place the *Monthly* takes, was stated to be only 500, the *Monthly* now has 1,600 subscribers, and the list is increasing every week.

7.—CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENT. Receipts from all sources, \$3,623.67; expenditure, \$3,580.51. To meet the deficit of past years and carry on their work, the committee

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