

Character is the product of constant striving to realize in everyday life a high ideal—or a low one. Because adolescent boys are peculiarly susceptible at this period in their lives to leadership of one kind or of the other, it is vitally important, if Canada is to be kept inviolate for the discharge of her high mission among the nations of the world, that her boys, through helpful, trained, consecrated leadership should be assisted to a high standard of mental, physical, religious and social life.

The burden of national responsibility, which will surely be placed upon the boys of to-day within a very few years, will then not prove to be too heavy but will evoke a response which shall result in the protection of our country from the calamities of materialism, social injustice, political corruption, and insure for it a national type, strong, sane, virile and Christian—Report of Commission, Ontario Advisory Committee on Boys' Work



The Sunday School a Recruiting Ground for Lay Workers

By Rev. Geo. E. Ross, B.D.

There is a demand and a place to-day for lay workers as never before. And one of the best recruiting grounds for these is the Sunday School. We cannot all be ministers. It was not intended that we should be. But we can all have a part in Christian service and be a vital force somewhere in the life and work of the church.

The Sunday School is primarily a place for religious instruction. But closely related to religious instruction is practical training. The one finds expression in the other. In the Sunday School we not only *learn*; we also *learn to do*. And many of our leading lay workers in the church and various Christian organizations of to-day tell us that they got their first practical lesson in Christian work in the Sunday School.

In every well-conducted School there is an atmosphere of activity. Every scholar is conscious that this is an organization with a definite purpose to accomplish something, and he is made to feel that he is a constituent part of its working force.

The organized Bible Class, in a very special way, however, affords training. The president of the class occupies the chair and learns how to conduct a meeting. The secretary learns very quickly how to discharge his or her duties as such. Every member of the class committees has something to do. The membership committee constitutes a group of personal workers. Even if nothing more is acquired than a high sense of responsibility, this in itself is of priceless value. For this is just what so many office bearers in every

church lack. If the organized classes succeed in instilling into their members a sacred regard for the obligations of office, the future leadership of the church is certainly bright with promise.

No Sunday School is complete without a Teacher Training Class. And this is a rare opportunity for our young men and young women to learn how to do their work effectively. From this class teachers for the several departments are drafted. Ultimately scholars become teachers and thus the door of opportunity for lay work is thrown wide open. Not only so but they themselves are prepared to do the work.

More than teachers are needed. Officers are required. Many who may not be "apt to teach" are gifted as Secretaries, Librarians, Home Department Visitors, Cradle Roll Superintendents, assistants in various departments. And the never-failing source of supply is to be found in the young men's and young women's classes. Having received instruction they ought to grade into service. And the School that is doing the best and most systematic work will pride itself in having the majority of its teachers and officers home-grown.

Nothing is clearer than the fact that the leadership of to-morrow is in the Sunday School of to-day. Here is a recruiting ground we must in no way neglect. The elders and managers and strong men and women of every department of the church of to-morrow are with us in training now.

Montreal



Communicants' Classes

By Rev. F. W. Kerr, B.A.

Communicants' classes are of two distinct types: first, for prospective, and second for actual, communicants.

1. For prospective communicants.

The Sabbath School and Bible Classes are the best recruiting grounds for these. In collecting recruits for his prospective classes, the minister goes to a boys' class ripe for church membership, and during the regular session, firmly, urgently, presents the question of deciding for Christ. After the Sunday School session, a similar class of girls remains for a similar purpose. After the evening service, classes are held for adults for four successive Sabbaths preceding communion; while on some evening during the week, classes are held for the boys and girls invited through the Sunday School.

In order to interest the homes in these classes, the writer has tried with splendid results, the plan of six simultaneous cottage prayer meetings, held throughout the congregation, at which the elders presented the case