

Yes, and if the meetings keep on there will be lots more fellows hit the same trail."

Results! Hear the words of one of the married men: "I haven't been such a bad character, but I'm going

to do better. Tell the Secretary to keep on with the meetings. We need them. They do us good."

We leave the rest with God — and with common-sense Canadian Christians.

✓ The Boys' Industrial School Revelation

By E. W. Wright

ABOUT two months ago there came the first intimation that all was not well with the management of the Boys' Industrial School. Evidently, upon information received, Hon. J. W. de B. Farris and Mrs. Ralph Smith visited the school and found the reports substantially correct—boys, for certain offences, were punished with solitary confinement and a bread-and-water diet. Mr. Farris immediately issued instructions that the bread-and-water diet should cease.

Since then there have been published the findings of the grand jury, and the whole city appears to be inexpressibly shocked at the appalling state of affairs. Not only do the buildings seem to be in disrepair, ill-lighted, ill-ventilated and altogether antiquated, but the teaching staff is sadly inadequate for the needs of such a school.

Apart from these things, that which cries out for remedy is the management of the school. Inefficiency, brutality and refined cruelty would appear to be rampant. Some people wondered why boys tried to escape. If the allegations as to treatment be true, there is no longer need to wonder. They have only to read of the methods of correction administered. Boys at the age of eleven and thirteen are not

hardened criminals, but the punishment of solitary confinement as meted out to two lads mentioned by the grand jury would tend to make them so.

Naturally, it is not the cream of our boyhood which is sent to the Industrial School, therefore a large amount of misbehaviour can be expected. No doubt the school in question gets its full share of difficult cases, but the capacity for handling the situation seems to have been lacking.

It is useless to argue that ninety or ninety-five per cent. of the boys "make good." They would probably "make good" in any case. What is wanted is the reformation of the other five or ten per cent. It is they who need the extra care and guidance of a man kind and sympathetic and yet withal "a good disciplinarian," which phrase has a vastly different meaning from that which seems to have appealed to the management of the Industrial School.

The time for a change is overdue. What is the government going to do about it? The Attorney-General abolished the bread-and-water diet. Why did he not also abolish solitary confinement? He again refers to the delinquencies of the late government in that they used the money in the treasury to build expensive peniten-