

The Teachers Monthly

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Don't forget PATRIOTIC SUNDAY, the last Sunday in June. This has become very popular throughout the church. Each year more Sunday Schools are observing it. The topic for this year is "Strangers Within Our Gates". The Order of Service is printed in colors, with a striking illustration, and is mailed at 50c. per 100. Send orders at once, with remittance, to us, addressed Presbyterian Publications, 60 Bond St., Toronto.

The Strength of Our Sabbath Schools

Sab. Schools (including 418 Union) -	3,325
Officers and Teachers -	24,930
Scholars, not including Bible Classes	173,458
Membership of Bible Classes -	45,918
On Cradle Roll -	18,663
In Home Department -	10,419
Taking Teacher Training Course -	1,629
New Communicants during year -	7,357
S. S. Scholars in full communion -	36,594
By S. Schools for self-support -	\$99,590
" " Children's Day Fund	\$11,779
" " other Schemes of Church	\$40,294
" " other purposes -	32,336

The above are advance figures from proof sheet of Report of the Sabbath School Committee to the General Assembly Meeting in Halifax this 1st day of June, and cover the year 1909.

A Heavy Loss

The readers of the *TEACHERS MONTHLY*, and especially the teachers of Bible Classes, will be exceedingly grieved to learn of the death of Rev. H. R. McCracken, who, from the beginning of the present year, had supplied the Teaching Hints for their use in the *TEACHERS MONTHLY*. He was suddenly called away in the month of April from the midst of his duties as minister of Alexandra

Street Church, Brantford, Ont. A pathetic interest attaches to his material in the present and one or two following issues of the *TEACHERS MONTHLY*, at it was a part of the very last work he did on earth.

Mr. McCracken was only thirty-four years of age, and was one of the most gifted of the younger ministers of our church. He was a scholar. His successful College course culminated in his winning, in 1906, the Traveling Fellowship at Knox College, Toronto, which enabled him to pursue post-graduate studies for a year abroad. The year was spent mostly in the Scottish and German universities. Returning to Canada, he became minister of his first and only charge in the beginning of 1908.

Whilst giving himself with unstinted energy to his pastoral duties, he continued to be an ardent student, especially in lines of Biblical investigation. He was a man of deep and sure insight, and of wide sympathy with human experiences, and an exceptionally skilful writer; and thus, by a variety of gifts, was unusually well qualified for aiding teachers, as exemplified in his work in the *TEACHERS MONTHLY*. The Editors mourn his loss as that of a personal friend and co-worker, and the Sunday School constituency is greatly the poorer that this promising and devoted life has so soon closed.

Marvels God's Commonplace

By Rev. Professor Robert Law, B.D.

As a child gazes with astonishment at the ordinary feats of a grown man, as the commonplace of civilized life is nothing short of a miracle to the untutored savage, and as it is only natural that this should be the case, so ought we to expect that in a world created and conducted by God, we shall be constantly