

The Home Study Quarterly

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Things That Count

Not what we have, but what we use,
Not what we see, but what we choose—
These are the things that mar or bless
The sum of human happiness.

The things near by, not things afar,
Not what we seem, but what we are—
These are the things that make or break,
That give the heart its joy or ache.

Not what seems fair, but what is true,
Not what we dream, but good we do—
These are the things that shine like gems,
Like stars in fortune's diadems.

Not as we take, but as we give,
Not as we pray, but as we live—
These are the things that make for peace,
Both now and after time shall cease.

—Outlook



Through the Tips of His Fingers

By Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, D.D.

Many a boy gets into "big business" through the tips of his fingers.

He has learned to write shorthand and use a typewriter and through this special knowledge and skill gets "next to the manager," as his stenographer or secretary. He has only to keep his eyes open and his brain working, to get by and by so into touch with the business and how it is carried on, that he becomes an essential part of it. The tips of his fingers gave him his entrance.

No boy need wait until he has reached a man's height or a man's years, to "try for" an entrance into the 'big business' of helping the other fellow, especially of helping the

little other fellow through the Sunday School.

The big work of this big business is done by minister and superintendent and teacher through the lessons and the practical activities of the School. Through these they seek to bring the minds and hearts and lives of the scholars into right relations with God: there is—there can be—no "bigger business" than this.

In this "big business" also, the minor things may lead to the major. There are minor things in it that are essential. If they are not well done, the accomplishing of the main thing will be hindered. And amongst these minor, but essential parts of the Sunday School work is the secretarial,—which includes the keeping track of attendance, memory work, givings, etc., from the Class Registers; the looking after the distribution of periodicals and other supplies; the work in the library, in receiving and giving out the library books; all these duties are secretarial—work for the tips of the fingers, with, of course, also a brain that is working, too.

They are things that often a boy of fifteen or sixteen may do admirably. He feels that he has scarcely the knowledge or experience to be a Sunday School teacher, but he can take up secretarial work of one sort or another and feel that he is quite equal to it.

At the first, possibly he thinks there is "not much in it." But to his surprise he speedily discovers that he has made a long step towards being really "a part of the concern." He gets close to teachers and superintendent and minister and to the real work of the School, not only at the Sunday sessions, but at the business meetings, and meetings for study for prayer. The work grows upon his imagination and he is likely so to be set on fire that he will become eager