

guide; or the need of courage; or the assurance of God's constant presence with His followers and servants.

It needs to be emphasized, that the teacher, to be thoroughly effective, must make all materials and methods his own, putting into them the force of his own personality.

Lesson Helps in the Class ?

By Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, D D.

A class is made up of the teacher and the scholars. The teacher is provided with the TEACHERS MONTHLY to aid him in lesson preparation; the scholar, with his QUARTERLY or LEAFLET. What about these Lesson Helps in the class ?

There can be but one answer—they have no business in the class, at all. One would like to make this more emphatic still—NO BUSINESS IN THE CLASS ! The Lesson Helps are simply aids to preparation. The class is not for preparation: that is to be made beforehand, by scholar and teacher alike. When the teaching period arrives, there should be no book in the class, but the one great, matchless book—God's holy Word. It is to get to know this Book better, that the class meets. Any other book or leaflet, beside it, in the class, is like fringes hung upon the sun. The minister does not bring his concordance or his commentaries to the pulpit. The people follow only with their Bibles. Anything else would be out of place; and equally so a Lesson Help in the hand of either teacher or scholar, in the class.

How shall the bad habit be broken up, where it exists ?

In the case of the teacher, one quiet half-hour's talk of pastor, superintendent, and teachers over the question, ought to settle it.

And if these are agreed, and firm, the problem is solved for the class also. Whether the Lesson Help shall or shall not be used in the class, is entirely a matter of discipline and good management. A very simple, but effective method, for example, prevails in some schools. The scholars are required to write the answers to the questions For Written Answers in their QUARTERLY or LEAFLET, at home; and when the class meets, the QUARTERLIES or LEAFLETS are handed to the

teacher to be marked, and are retained till the end of the teaching period, and then returned to the scholars. Along with this a show of Bibles is called for from the superintendent's desk; and only those classes receive a "perfect" mark in which every member has his Bible with him. It has even been known that scholars have taken strong measures, when school was out, with the careless ones, who had come Bibleless, and thus forfeited the standing of the class.

By all means use the Lesson Help—as the minister uses his commentaries—at home; but under no consideration use it, or permit it to be used in the class.

The Question on Missions

These three brief testimonies—"experiences" perhaps they should, rather, be called—not only give evidence of the value of the Question on Missions, a feature found in our Canadian Presbyterian Lesson Helps, and in none other; they afford hints of the different ways in which the Question may be used to profit.

I. IN A BOYS' CLASS

By their Teacher

The Questions dealing with the New Hebrides were appearing in the HOME STUDY QUARTERLY, when I began to take up the weekly "Question on Missions" with my class of restless, lively boys, ranging in age from 12 to 14. For the sake of quickly roused interest, it was fortunate that the questions for the Quarter were to deal with our first Mission; that its name began with the first letter of the alphabet; that it was on an island, and, above all charms to the boy heart, on a cannibal island. These were the three points at once recalled the next Sabbath, in answer to the teacher's brief review questions; and it was an easy step then to the first missionary,—little, but plucky; and, on later Sabbaths, to the wonderful work done by him and by his successors.

The boys did not always read over the Questions and Answers in their Quarterlies—there were various ready excuses for this sin of omission—but they did remember, week by week, the outstanding facts learned. As other countries were in turn taken up, the