## The Teachers Monthly

The urgent need for more efficiently trained leaders was met in the appointment by the Board of Rev. A. J. W. Myers, Ph.D., as Educational Secretary in 1912. His three years' postgraduate work in Religious Education, following a successful pastorate of four years in an important rural congregation, have specially qualified him as a leader in this work. Since his appointment he has been giving courses of lectures on Religious Education in five of the Theological Colleges, also in the Deaconess Training Home, and in a great many Summer Schools, both East and West. Dr. Myers has also given considerable time to the work of the Commission on Religious Education, which was appointed by the General Assembly of 1912 to make a scientific survey of the whole field of Religious Education in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The findings of this Commission, which are of considerable permanent value, and with which the names of President W. C. Murray, Saskatoon, as Chairman, and Rev. W. J. Knox, London, as Secretary, should also be associated, are printed in full in the Minutes of the General Assembly for 1913 and 1914.

## II. ENROLMENT

The General Assembly's Board has for some years been striving that the Sunday Schools should aim to reach and help every member of every home of every congregation. With this aim in view the Cradle Roll was promoted, for all too young to attend; the regular School for all who can attend; and the Home Department for all the rest.

The progress made is as follows, for the last nine years, the figures for 1914 not being available when this was written :

Total Number of Sunday Schools in 1905. 2,993 ; in 1913. 3,604, an increase of 611 Total Enrolment Sunday Schools in 1905. 197,790 ; in 1913. 292,574, an increase of 94,784 Number on Cradle Rolls.....in 1905. \_\_\_\_\_ ; in 1913. 35,758, an increase of 35,758 Number in Home Departments. in 1905. 7,109 ; in 1913. 11,205, an increase of 4,096

## III. EFFICIENCY

A Course in Teacher Training was prepared as early as 1902. This has been developed by the addition of further handbooks, making eight in all, and a second more elementary Course of five booklets has been prepared in cooperation with other denominations and the Provincial Sunday School Association. During the past ten years, an average each year of about 1,500 have been reported as studying one or more of these books. About 500 examination papers have been received each year from candidates taking the regular quarterly written examinations. Plans are now under way for a careful revision of all Teacher Training work, in order that it may still more fully meet the present requirements.

Sunday Schools have been promoted in all the Synods of the church. That they are meeting a felt need is shown by the fact that last year there was a record attendance of more than 500 Presbyterian students at the various Schools held throughout Canada.

For the local Sunday School, probably the most important event in the last ten years has been the introduction of Graded Lessons. Their use, especially in the smaller Schools, has been greatly facilitated by our Publications Committee, which has provided the complete series arranged departmentally, for all the under-teen scholars. It is earnestly desired by the Board that very soon all our Schools will be using Graded Lessons. For the teen age scholars some provision has been made in the Organized Classes, which it is hoped may also very soon have Graded Lessons of their own. For the boys, further provision for a programme of activities has been provided in the Standard Efficiency Tests. Something similar is also being planned for the girls.

The expressional side of the work for all young people is now fairly well met by the unified Topic Card for all Young People's Societies, and a similar series of Topics for Junior Societies.

The Adult Bible Class movement has resulted in a largely increased enrolment of adults in the Sunday School. Through the programme of service which it provides, a larger number

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