

THE S. S. AND Y. P. S. BOARD

The space in this department is at the disposal of the General Assembly's Board of Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies, of which Rev. J. C. Robertson, D.D., and Rev. C. A. Myers, M.A., Confederation Life Building, Toronto, are the Secretaries, and is devoted to the plans, policies and work of the Board.

The General Assembly's Recommendations

The following recommendations were presented to and approved by the General Assembly at its recent meeting (London, June, 1918), and constitute the special programme of work to be promoted throughout the church during the year by the Board. It is hoped that every congregation will earnestly stress these important phases of work this year in hearty cooperation with the Board. This number of the *TEACHERS MONTHLY* will deal specially with the *TEACHER TRAINING DRIVE*. Succeeding numbers will take up the other recommendations in turn.

1. *Extension Work*.—That in view of the urgent need of providing adequate Christian instruction and training for the rising generation of Canadian children and youth :

(1) All congregations be urged to make a definite and systematic effort to seek out and enroll in the church and Sunday School all for whom they are responsible.

(2) All ministers, missionaries and Christian workers seek to cooperate in every way possible with Presbytery conveners and committees, in an effort to reach every community with Sunday School service.

2. *Curriculum*.—That every congregation make a careful study of the outline curriculum prepared by the Board with a view to its introduction and use in the Sunday School, and that any suggested improvements be promptly reported to the General Secretary of the Board.

3. *Teacher Training*.—That training for leadership be provided through the use of the new Teacher Training Course. (1) For present teachers through a worker's training class. (2) For prospective teachers by seeking out a number of young people and enrolling them in a normal class in the Sunday School.

4. *Young People's Work*.—That the challenge of the times for a Forward Movement among our young people for Christian leadership be provided for :

(1) In the local church through a unified programme of religious instruction,

worship and training as outlined and approved by the Board.

(2) In Presbyteries through Presbyterian rallies of the young people for inspiration and training in citizenship and Christian service.

5. *The Home*.—That all congregations be requested to cooperate heartily with the Board in making its proposed survey of home conditions as thorough and complete as possible as a basis for a forward movement in Christian nurture in the home.

6. *Representative on the International Sunday School Lesson Committee*.—That the General Secretary, Rev. J. C. Robertson, be reappointed as representative on this Committee.

The Task of Training Leaders

"That training for leadership be provided through the use of the new Teacher Training Course." (1) For present teachers through a workers' training class. (2) For prospective teachers by seeking out a number of young people and enrolling them in a normal class in the Sunday School."—Assembly's recommendation, June, 1918.

With the growing recognition of the fundamental need of religious education has come a deepened sense of the responsibility of the teacher. He holds a position of strategic importance. The only essential of successful work here is that the teacher be a teacher.

The making of teachers is therefore one of the urgent tasks of the local church. To help every congregation to meet this need for trained leadership the Protestant forces of Canada and the United States, as represented in the Sunday School Council of Evangelical Denominations, are cooperating in the production and promotion of the New Standard Teacher Training course. Previous courses have been very largely "content" courses, outlines of facts, dates and principles. This course aims rather to guide the teacher in his use of these facts and principles, as he faces his class. It seeks to help the teacher to acquire the art of teaching. The books have all been carefully prepared and are well fitted to accomplish this purpose.

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