

CONCERNING BOYS

(By H. Fiddes, Captain 5th Vancouver Coy. Boys' Brigade)

What is a boy? A mine of undiscovered possibilities.

A WORD TO BUSINESS MEN.

How many boys do you employ on your staff? Have you ever thought it worth while to interview these lads to ascertain what their ambition in life is? If not, do so NOW, and you will be amazed to find how few boys have the remotest notion of what they intend to follow when they grow up. They are like ships without a rudder. Why not study the lads, and give them some sound advice. IT COSTS NOTHING, and may have far reaching effects. Try to direct the lads' thoughts along definite lines. It will help to raise the standard of Canada; save much wasted energy, and will add to the esprit de corps between yourself and your employees, resulting in better work and more satisfaction.

A CATECHISM FOR PREACHERS.

What are YOU doing for the boys in your congregation? We do not mean what are your WORKERS doing, but what are YOU doing? Do you realize that if you hold the youth and the boy, you grip the man?

How many boys in your community attend YOUR services voluntarily?

How often have you PREACHED to them? How often have you PLAYED with them?

When the boys see you, do they run TO you or FROM you?

How often have they heard you LAUGH?

Do the boys know you for a MAN or a PREACHER merely?

Is your knowledge of boys gained from your STUDY or from the football field?

Don't you think the misconceived, but much too prevalent idea of preachers being "kill-joys" could be eliminated by more personal contact with the rising generation?

Do you address the boys, "My dear young lads," or "I say, Fellows?"

Try both and watch the difference in the attention of the boys.

A QUESTION OF RELATIVE VALUES.

Which is the more valuable: A hall nice and clean, with rows upon rows of nicely varnished chairs, plus TWENTY boys on the streets, or a dusty hall, with scratched and perhaps partially disabled chairs, plus TWENTY boys INSIDE the church hall, shouting and laughing and enjoying an evening's clean healthy fun? Consider the value of each of the TWENTY boys at the value of YOUR OWN boy.

IS CHARTING PRACTICABLE?

While heartily endorsing the very excellent work of the C. S. E. T. Movement, which has for its aim the four-side development of boys, we are inclined to question the value of "charting" boys. To make a chart genuine, a leader must have the implicit confidence of a boy, and must learn the WHOLE TRUTH about his life, spiritually and morally, as well as physically and intellectually. If the WHOLE TRUTH is not told the chart is worthless. How many boys are prepared to tell EVERYTHING. We believe the percentage very low, as a boy is naturally reticent on such matters. If the scheme can be worked out successfully, it deserves every encouragement. It would be interesting to hear reports of leaders on this question.

HOW TO HOLD THE BOY

The problem of how to maintain the interest of young lads is one that taxes the ingenuity of many leaders, more especially where the accommodation is limited, and equipment and funds conspicuous by their absence. With a view to being of practical service to such organizations, the following indoor games are suggested:

Parlour Football.

Divide your class into groups of from sixteen to twenty boys. Arrange them on chairs in two rows, facing each other. Secure a toy balloon for each squad. (Balloons may be had for 10 or 15 cents from any toy shop). Throw the balloon in the air in the centre of the boys. No boy must leave his seat, but as the balloon falls he tries to strike it over the heads of the opposing side, making it land beyond their reach. Goals are reckoned by the number of times the balloon passes over the opponents' heads and lands on the floor behind them.

Blow Football.

The equipment required for this game is a large table, four books, a ping-pong ball, and a number of wildly enthusiastic boys. Select two teams large enough to surround the table. Place them, kneeling, around the table, boys from opposing sides being placed alternately. Arrange a goal, with the books flat on the table, about 12 to 18 inches apart. Place the ball in the centre of the table and on the word "Blow" each side tries to blow the ball through their opponents' goal. It is advisable to place the boy with the best lungs in goal. Hands must at all times be kept off the table. A free kick is given for an infringement of this rule. There are few games which create so much laughter, and form such healthy exercise for the lungs, as this simple game. Try it.

Boys Have You Initiative?

Do you ask, "What's that?" Well, here is a chance to learn and also use it—then you'll know!

The B. C. M. is ready to enlist reliable boys, with other workers, in its circulation-extension campaign. Liberal commission will be paid to the right type of boys.

Remember, this is "B. C.'s" own magazine, and should be in every home. It will make a splendid "All-the-year-round" Christmas gift.

This is a genuine opportunity for boys to serve the community and incidentally add substantially to their Christmas savings. Indeed a group of the right type may be kept among our representatives permanently.

If you are in the country write to, and if in Vancouver or neighbourhood, call upon THE BUSINESS MANAGER, 204 Winch Bldg., Vancouver, B. C.

Should Citizens League?

(Continued from page 17)

ployees class, it seemed to him that *we are all workers here*. What we needed was a belief in each other's honesty, and a genuine desire to settle fairly difficulties or differences that might arise.

Not a Strike-Breaking Body.

Dr. Procter held that it could not be too strongly emphasized that the Citizens' League was not a strike-breaking association. It was a League composed of citizens who had not the slightest desire to interfere with the legitimate aspirations of Organized Labor.

It was full time for the average citizen, who belonged to no particular class, to wake up and get busy in the interests of our common community life. The average citizen had been far too long asleep so far as such questions were concerned.

It will thus be inferred that President Procter is in favor not only of the continuance of the Citizens' League, but that he believes the time is ripe for development of an organization which shall be of real and lasting influence in connection with local and national government, and social progress generally.