

talks. A neighbor of mine has given a series of talks on the birds and animals of the Bible. A little imagination can bring the greatest truths in very real fashion before the young worshippers.

A fruitful means of turning the attention of the children,—and we believe of the adults, also—to the scriptures, is to tell the story of some Bible incident, withholding the names of the leading characters. The section of the book in which these names may be found, is indicated and the Juniors are asked to find them, bring in their answers on paper to Sunday School in the afternoon. Thus may be told the story of: The rich man who lost everything but his trust in God; The three friends who came to visit him; The three little girls God gave to his home; The story of the runaway slave; The lad who fell asleep in church; The two persons with whom the great traveler and missionary got a job; will usually provoke interest that leads to Bible knowledge.

In a congregation of 160 to 180 we have from 30 to 35 replies sent in each Sunday from children of early years. Sunday School

teachers, by a little attention, may greatly stimulate the interest in these studies.

Good use may also be made of the Church Attendance League, and, where they receive any encouragement from home, the juniors always respond well. They don't want to miss the "punch" in their card. Those who attend two thirds of the Sundays in the year constitute our honor group, which is photographed and an enlarged copy hung in our Church Hall. Those who attend 45 Sundays or over receive the Church Attendance Diploma.

Variety is needed with the children; but any one who is true to the Bible and the special conditions of his own church and community, will never lack for new turns which will keep the interest well sustained.

In the teen ages special effort is directed to bringing Junior School scholars into full membership with the church when they engage, among other things, to be "faithful members of their church." The habit of church attendance established before the teen age arrives will not be easily broken.

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THE DEVELOPING CHILD

By Rev. W. J. Knox, M.A.

One truth has been made clear as a result of the careful study of the child in recent years, namely, that he does not merely grow, he develops. The child is not the man in miniature. His life history is not simply the enlarging and strengthening of existing faculties. As he passes on from infancy to manhood, new faculties, new passions, new tendencies come to the surface which previously were only latent possibilities, "which day by day were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

These new powers which come into being as the child develops are not imposed upon him from without, but arise from within as the personality unfolds under the influence of his surroundings. To adjust this influence so as to further this progressive fulfilment of the divine purpose in every young life is the aim of religious education. This aim should

be cherished by every worker among the young. If he is to realize this educational ideal, he should know at least the main characteristics of the child's nature at the various stages of his development, and know also how to control the influence that plays upon him so as to secure the desired results. If the teacher has to do, for instance, with children from nine to twelve years of age, he should know the outstanding features of a normal Christian development which should be manifest at that time. There is danger that he may underestimate and misconceive the capacity for religion of a boy of that age and there is also danger that he may look for manifestations of the Christian life which can be real only at a much later period.

This implies the principle of grading which determines the material of study, the School organization and equipment, and the method