

Because of the desire of the Church, as expressed through the General Assembly. It is to be remembered that the following resolution was unanimously passed last June: "The Assembly expresses satisfaction that the Book of Praise has been so generally adopted, and hopes it will soon displace all the other hymn books now used by young or old in any of the Sabbath or week-day services of the Church." We have noted this reason last, that we may not seem to press it unduly. Yet it is to be remembered that, while the Church would not on any account compel, but simply recommends, and expresses its hope, the desire of the Assembly, unanimously expressed, calls for most earnest consideration.

It now remains with ministers, superintendents and teachers to consider whether it may not now be well to advance the service of praise in church and school alike by the adoption of the Book of Praise.

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week-night meeting early in the fall, to be held, perhaps, at the teacher's home or where most convenient. These officers should include a president—a recognized leader among the boys; a secretary, a treasurer, and a librarian, and many of the members may be placed on committees. For instance, a Christmas committee will work well. A little practical philanthropy forms a splendid object lesson for young men, and the purchase of some food, and the taking of it by the committee to the homes of a few worthy people in need, will serve a double purpose. A committee for absentees is a necessity, deputing a certain member to look up a certain absent one. New members may be secured by the same means. Speaking of absentees, it is a good idea for the teacher, president, or secretary to write a Christmas class-letter to those who have removed to other places during the year. The replies always form an interesting feature of a class session.

A literary and debating circle I have found to be much valued, and the benefits there received in speaking or in essay writing will speedily be shown in the class-room on the Sabbath afternoon. An occasional joint debate with a Y.M.C.A. circle, or the young people's society of the church, will also help in making such a branch of organization successful.

I repeat, give something to do to as many pupils as possible—place some responsibility, or assign some duty, and ninety per cent. will respond, if the task be assigned with some regard to the tastes and capacity of the youth; and this necessitates a study of the individual pupil by the teacher. Most of the lessons permit of a short historic, biographical, or geographical paper, and this idea may be enlarged for some of the reviews, when ten or more pupils could each deal with one of the lessons of the quarter, either through a written paper or orally.

An invaluable method of developing an *esprit de corps* in a class is by means of occasional social week-night reunions, preferably at the teacher's home. He may also do much in this direction by calling on the boys at their homes, or having them spend an hour with him. It is the only way of really knowing one's class individually. It is a great point gained when the pupils speak of *our* class, and all the above suggestions will tend toward that result.

THE PROBLEM OF THE BIBLE CLASS

BY FRANK YEIGH

THE problem of the Men's Bible Class is still with us, in all its complexity; how to maintain a successful class at all; how to make the young man of this nineteenth century, with all its secularizing tendencies, believe that Bible study is educative, is mentally and spiritually profitable, and may be thrillingly interesting; how to hold the lad who graduates from a junior class with the idea that the Sabbath-school is after all but an affair for juveniles, of whom he has ceased to be one; that it is not for the young man whose face is set toward the enlarging interests of life.

Problems all are they. But I intend to confine myself to but one phase of the subject, viz., how to hold a men's Bible-class together in a city in the face of the antagonistic forces at work, such as the Sunday bicycle run, the secular atmosphere that is creeping into the Lord's Day, and, not least, the indifference of many parents as to how their boys use the day of days.

Wise organization is the pith and point of the matter, a subdivision of duty and work that will give something to do to as many members as possible. To this end a set of officers should be nominated and elected by the class itself, at a