

At the Secretaries' Conference many questions were asked and answered respecting work among boys, and as some of the delegates at the Dominion Convention were very likely at New Haven, they will be able in the discussion that follows this paper to give the friends present any information required.

There seem to be so many ways in which boys have successfully been attracted, all—or, at any rate, most—of which are described in the several issues of the Young Men's Christian Association WATCHMAN of this year, that it will be unnecessary to take up valuable time now in attempting to describe them. In many of the American Associations, separate reading and amusement rooms are fitted up for the use of boys, admission tickets being given to boys willing to observe certain rules concerning the behaviour, dress, cleanliness, etc. In some instances ladies and gentlemen have given weekly entertainments of one kind and another, specially for the boys' department. In this way, the confidence of the boys has been won, and eventually much spiritual work in the shape of "Bible classes," "Boys' Prayer and Praise Meetings," have been successfully carried on. The leader of a boys' meeting once said to the writer: "I do not see why we should wait till they become young men, brother Fatt; why not commence with them as boys?" This is, it seems to me, sound logic, but how best to commence and continue the work is the great question. In Brooklyn a large boys' meeting is conducted every Lord's Day evening between 7 and 8 p.m. It was my privilege to speak to the members of this branch in June last, and the impression made on my mind with their bright intelligent faces has not yet been removed. Certainly *there is* material in that boys' department which will yet prove of inestimable benefit to the *Young Men's* work. Quite a few of the Associations on the other side have large boys' branches, numbering two to three hundred members. What is practicable there is, or ought to be, here.

In closing, permit me to offer the following questions for the consideration of the Convention:—Would it be deemed wisest to attempt separate work for the better class of boys, or to mix those going to school with the less fortunate ones who leave to go early in life to work in factories, stores, warehouses, etc. Would it be deemed wise to admit boys or youths to the privileges of the Young Men's Association in the event of not having room or funds to provide separate accommodation?

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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