

Young People's Societies.

THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE'S "PLAN OF STUDY."

Conducted by Rev. R. D. Fraser, Convener.

The monthly Topics are so arranged as to be adapted to the various sorts of Young People's Societies. They are set down for the second weekly meeting of each month and the Topic is treated in the "Record" the month preceding, in order that Societies may have the materials for the meetings in hand well in advance.

The special "Topic Card" for the Presbyterian Y. P. S. C. E. Societies has been issued as before. It embraces the "Uniform" Topics, the Monthly Topics of the Plan of Study, and the Questions on the Shorter Catechism for each meeting throughout the year. Price \$1.00 per 100.

"Booklet containing the same matter, and also Daily Readings for the whole year, price \$1.50 per 100. Societies may have local matter printed on one page of cover of Booklet at extra cost of \$1.50 per 100.

Orders and remittances for Topic Cards and Booklets to be sent to

REV. R. D. FRASER,
592 Markham St., Toronto.

For 1899.

The Monthly Topics of the Plan of Study for the New Year follow naturally upon those of the two years preceding. They take up fresh periods in our Presbyterian Church History, as well as some of our own mission fields not previously discussed in detail. The Book of Praise gets two meetings. One meeting is devoted to the important question of Church Membership, another to "Our Own Society," and still another to the General Progress of the Work of Our Church and its Outlook for the Future.

THE REMAINING TOPICS ARE AS FOLLOWS.

February—The marks of a Good Hymn, illustrated from the Book of Praise.

March—Our Work in the West Indies.

April—Presbyterianism in Ireland; its origin struggles, characteristics, influence.

May—Church Membership, definition, privileges, duties.

June—Thomas Chalmers and his times.

July—The work of our Woman's Missionary Societies.

August—A great Scottish Hymn Writer, Horatius Bonar, and his Hymns in the Book of Praise.

September—Our own Society; the deepening of its life, the strengthening of its work.

October—What our College Students do for Home Missions.

November—Dr. Duff, and Missions in India.

December—Our own Church; the Old Century and the New.

Topic for the week beginning March 12.

Our Work in the West Indies.

Psalm, 97 : 1-9.

LITERATURE.

Reports of the Foreign Mission Committee in the General Assembly Minutes from year to year, also *The Message* published by the Woman's For. Missionary Society, Eastern section, and the PRESBYTERIAN RECORD, especially the March issues, which usually give a review of the work of the year in Trinidad. (See next issue).

PROGRAMME.

A map of South America with Trinidad adjoining will be found very useful. Some one should be prepared to give a description of the Island of Trinidad which is the main mission field, its physical features and climate.

The industries of Trinidad. The present condition of the sugar industry might be found a very interesting topic.

The East Indian in Trinidad.

The origin and general features of our missionary work.

The names of the missionary staff. (See page 153, General Assembly's Minutes for 1898).

The various agencies at work, day school, Sabbath school, preaching and college.

PARAGRAPHS.

I. Trinidad, an island belonging to Great Britain, and the most southern of the West India Islands, is about fifty miles long and varies in breadth from about thirty to thirty-five miles. It was discovered by Columbus in 1498 and named by him Trinidad, because of the three mountain summits which were first seen from the masthead when discovered. It has been in the hands of British since 1783. It is not so mountainous as the Caribbean Islands generally. The mountains are clothed with stately forests and their margins are fringed with over-hanging mangroves dipping into the sea. The island has several good harbors, and some large rivers. Its chief town is Port of Spain, one of the finest towns in the West Indies. Its most important exports are cocoa, sugar, and other tropical products. It is a Crown Colony.