Teachers Monthly

Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, D.D., Editor Rev. J. M. Duncan, D.D., Associate Editor

Vol. XXI.

Toronto, June, 1915

No. 6

THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE AND ITS WORK

The Publications Committee was appointed by the General Assembly of 1898 to take charge of the Sabbath School publications of our church,—the Teachers Monthly, for the teachers, and the Home Study and Primary Quarterlies and Leaflets, for the scholars, with the expectation that these periodicals should be improved and enlarged and their number added to as the growth of the church and the requirements of the Schools should demand. The total combined circulations of these five periodicals was at that time 75,039.

The initial purpose has been kept steadily in view during the seventeen years that have since elapsed. We now issue nineteen periodicals—for the teachers, scholars, and young people, with a combined circulation, at present, of some 320,000.

THE SUCCESSIVE NEW PERIODICALS

It may be of interest to indicate the order in which the successive new periodicals emerged, and the circumstances which led to their issue.

Jewels: For the Little Ones, and The King's Own: For the Boys and Girls, were the first. Both began in 1900, the latter continuing the Children's Record, up to that time published by the Presbyterian Record Committee in Montreal.

East and West: A Paper for Young Canadians, followed two years later,—a very heavy undertaking, considering our slender resources at the time, but an undertaking which has fully justified itself. East and West now enjoys a continental reputation, has attained a very large circulation, and, besides the hospitality it has given to Canadian authors and illustrators, and the promotion of National and Imperial sentiment, it has helped to train two or three generations of growing young people in a knowledge of and zeal for, and systematic giving to, missions. No issue of East and West, since its very first number, has been without its original missionary article (usually illustrated) from, or about, one of our own church's mission fields at home or in foreign lands.

In 1903, the little French paper, LE RAYON DE SOLEIL, was issued, with the cooperation of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee. It still holds on in its useful career. It is now edited and printed in Montreal, whilst continuing its previous relations to the Publications and Sabbath School Committees.

In 1907, the Intermediate Quarterly and Intermediate Leaflet were begun, to supply the need of more suitable teaching material for the boys and girls of from ten to thirteen.

The rapid development of the Adult Bible Class movement began, about this date, to demand a periodical in its interests. This demand was met in 1910 by the issue of the BIBLE CLASS MAGAZINE, which, in 1913, when the Assembly's Committees on Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies were amalgamated, was enlarged to embrace also Y.P.S. studies and methods.

The heaviest undertaking of all, in the way of new periodicals, which has fallen to the lot of the Publications, has been the launching, at last New Year, of the series of Departmental Graded Teachers' and Scholars' Lesson Helps, seven in number, and covering the Beginners,