

## Young People's Societies.

### THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE'S "PLAN OF STUDY."

CONDUCTED BY THE REV. R. D. FRASER, COVENER.

The present topic concludes the series for 1897, and the Committee desires to express its gratitude to the writers who have furnished articles upon the Topics for these columns. The articles have been of true merit, and have proved of great assistance to the very wide circle of young people who have followed the course of study from month to month during the year.

With the "Record" for December will begin the series of Topics for 1898. A circular containing full information has been issued, and copies sent to the ministers and secretaries of Young People's Societies throughout the church. Y.P.S.C.E. Topic Cards, embracing the Plan of Study for 1898, are being issued by the "Record." Application for specimen copies and orders for full supply should be made to the Editor, Rev. E. Scott, Y. M. C. A. Building, Montreal. The cards, which are similar in form to the ordinary Y.P.S.C.E. Topic Cards, are furnished at 60c per 100, and Booklets containing the same matter, with Daily Readings, will be supplied at \$1.00 per 100. Any Society using either the Topic Card or Booklet will be fully equipped for all the meetings of the year.

Topic for Week beginning December 12.

#### WHAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE MAY DO FOR THE CHURCH.

Psalms 122; Luke 2. 72-52.

#### Points For The Programme.

The meeting should be practical. It might be well to consider first, in some detail, what the church has done for the young people, under such headings as—What the Pastor and Elders do; What the Sabbath School has done; What the Public Service has done; What the Missionary Societies have done; What the Presbyteries and General Assemblies have done.

Then there might follow in similar fashion a discussion of the point—What the young people may do for the Church; As Sunday School scholars; Through their various Societies; In the home; In social life; In special individual work.

A very interesting series of short papers might be written upon the work done by the young people for the Church last year. Where congregational reports are published, these would supply material; and the vari-

ous Assembly Reports on Missions, Sunday Schools, Young People's Societies, will be found quite rich in facts in regard to work accomplished. The suggestive paper by Mr. McLaren which follows, supplies an excellent outline for the meeting. The points of his paper will each repay amplification and illustration.

#### WHAT THE YOUNG PEOPLE MAY DO FOR THE CHURCH.

BY REV. E. D. McLAREN, B.D., VANCOUVER.

The church's prosperity is essential to the nation's well-being. Patriotism and religion go hand in hand. The best citizens are always those who recognize that their "citizenship is in heaven." It can never be to the disadvantage of a country to have amongst its inhabitants people who "desire a better country, that is an heavenly." The men whose lives have been most helpful to the world, and whose influence for good has been most far-reaching and permanent, have been Church men, men of deep religious convictions, men whose loyalty to God and truth has made them loyal servants of their fellow-men. It is to the Church of God that the world owes—directly or indirectly—all its most cherished possessions.

To seek the Church's good is, therefore, the wisdom of men of the world, as well as the privilege of followers of Christ. And it ought to be a matter of great satisfaction to those who look at the subject only from this selfish, material point of view, as it certainly is a cause of deep gratitude to God on the part of those whose outlook is wider and whose aspirations are of a loftier character, to find so many thousands of young people earnestly considering how they can employ their talents to the best advantage "for Christ and the Church."

#### What Can Our Young People Do For The Church?

1. They can give their ministers and the other office-bearers of the Church the invaluable assistance of their loyal, appreciative sympathy.

We may sometimes find it impossible to take upon ourselves even the smallest fraction of the burden of our friends' weary toil; but we can always nerve them to more patient and brave endeavor by some indication of our hearty appreciation of their efforts. Far more precious than the actual help that a tired mother may receive from a lovingly thoughtful child is the stimulus of the comfort she experiences as she follows, with grateful look: