Teachers Monthly

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

Vol. XXIII.

Toronto, February, 1917

No. 2

EDITORIAL

Really Reaching the Boys

In one of our city Presbyterian Sunday Schools there is a class of 12 teen-age boys. The whole 12 were recently received together into full communion in this church on profession of their faith.

They had been well taught, of course, in their class and from the pulpit, not to speak of instruction in their homes. Then the Boys' Conference came, with its splendid gathering of nearly a thousand boys in their teens. These boys attended. Then, when the minister asked the class to meet with him for three Sundays, every boy was on hand; and when he invited any of them who wished to go forward to the Communion, to see him at his house, one by one, every boy sought an appointment, and when Communion Sunday came, every one of the 12 boys was at the Communion table.

The boys were from 15 to 18 years of age.

The incident has probably been duplicated many times during these last few weeks in the various churches all over Canada, for the Boys' Conferences reached from coast to coast, and ministers and Sunday School teachers have been on the alert to reap the results.

The Boys' Conference, now with several years experience of it, has shown itself to be very much more than an organizer of Boys' Work. It has always aimed to be much more than this. There has always been included in its programmes, the *direct appeal*. The boys have been challenged for high character, clean living, unselfish service, and, above all, for consecration to the great Lord and Master who alone can make these things possible. And the boys have responded to the appeal.

The minister of the church in whose Sunday School was the class of the 12 boys, demonstrated how advantage should be taken of this mass movement amongst the boys. In the first place, he put the boys in touch with the stream of influence which the Boys' Conference created. Then, when their hearts were touched, he took hold of them at once, and impressed upon them the privilege and duty of full commitment to Christ, as members of Christ's church.

Boys of 15 to 18, however careless they may appear to be, are, in their hearts, eagerly asking for the better way. Their teachers and their ministers are very wise to make use of every such movement as the Boys' Work to bring them on, and bring them in.

Planning for Giving

Is it too much to take for granted that every Sunday School has laid its plans for the year, for the School's giving, and that these plans are already, at the beginning of this second month of the year, working effectively? This is, at any rate, as it ought to be. The plans for the incoming year should be perfected, at latest in December, and should be set going the very first Sunday of January.

For any Schools which may have lingered, and which find themselves in February without