

be substituted. In Alberta complete prohibition, in accordance with the vote of the people on July 21 last, will go into effect on July 1, 1916. A strong campaign is being organized for provincial prohibition in British Columbia. In Newfoundland there are no licenses save in St. John's City. A vote of the people is to be taken this month to determine whether total prohibition shall go into effect on July 1, 1916.

The Sunday School has always been a powerful factor in the temperance movement. Superintendents and teachers have a unique opportunity of educating and inspiring those whose ballots and influence will, in a few years, determine the national policy in relation to the liquor traffic. Now that the day school, the best and most powerful section of the press, the medical profession, organized industry and military science, stand shoulder to shoulder with the church and Sunday School as never before, every temperance worker should be encouraged to make redoubled efforts, that one of the most destructive evils in our land may forever be driven out.

### With Teen Age Boys

AN EXPERIMENT

By H. E. Coe

In our experiment with the Canadian Standard Efficiency Tests,—a programme of study and activities for the fourfold development of Canadian boys—my group of boys, of the age of twelve to thirteen years, numbered fifteen at the commencement; but owing to the rival attractions of the Boy Scouts, I finished the season with eleven only. My experience has convinced me that the best work cannot be done with a large group. It is my intention this coming season to limit the number to twelve, and I feel that by so doing I shall be able to get better results.

We organized our class, under the name of The Knights of Westminster (the name of our church), with our war song, "Fight the good fight, with all thy might;" also the following officers: president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer; and as the group was divided into two teams, we appointed a captain for each team.

We met every Thursday evening, and our programme was made up as follows:—6.30 p.m., supper; 7.15 p.m., Scripture Talk; 7.30 p.m., Practical Talk; 8 p.m., the "tests" of the various things done in the Efficiency Tests, under the Intellectual, Physical, Spiritual and Service Standards; after which we had group games until 9. The supper was provided by the boys themselves, and they also prepared the table and cooked the meals, as far as possible. This is where the two teams came in, as each team was responsible for the supper (the preparing and the washing of dishes) on alternate nights.

The Scripture Talk, of course, was always given by the "mentor," or, I should say, led by the mentor, as I am glad to say that the boys themselves not only answered questions, but kept things lively by asking them. I received a rather unique answer one evening. The lesson was a character sketch of Jacob, but before proceeding, I asked if any boy could tell me anything about Jacob. Immediately, without hesitation, a boy answered, "That's the guy who pinched Esau's birth-right, and beat it." That was certainly a "Revised Version."

It was splendid to see the interest the boys took in the Practical Talks. The way they would propose and second a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and the president put it to the meeting, would shame some adults I have known. These little courtesies help to develop the character of boys in the right direction.

The question has been asked me often, "Do the results obtained justify the amount of time and energy which it is necessary to give to carry out such an elaborate programme?"

Now, while I am fully aware that the greatest results in this, as in all spiritual work, are not immediately discernible, yet there are results which are discernible in the conduct of the boys, both at home and in class. The mother of one boy stopped me on the street and told me "that her boy was wonderfully improved in his conduct at home since joining the class." The father of another boy said, "My boy is far more reasonable and I can see a marked improvement in him." And yet another case, of a boy who was ringleader in