

# The "Question on Missions"

By Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, M.A.

*What is it?* It is the method proposed by the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee, and approved by the General Assembly, of giving instruction on Missions in our Sabbath Schools.

*In what does it consist?* It consists of a Question, with its Answer, each Sabbath.

*Where are these to be found?* They are printed in ALL our own Teachers' and Scholars' Lesson Helps. Every teacher and scholar has them thus in his hand, as part of the Lesson for the day.

*What is the object aimed at?* To impart a thorough and systematic knowledge of missionary principles, and especially of the work in the mission fields of our own church.

*What is the character of the Questions?* They are brief and in simple words, so that even the very young children may readily understand them; whilst, at the same time, they are capable of expansion by teacher, superintendent, or minister.

*When did they begin?* They began with January of the present year.

*What is the general plan?* The plan is to take a particular subject or field continuously each Sabbath for a Quarter, leaving the last Sabbath of the Quarter free for review.

*What ground has been covered during the year?* For the first Quarter, the beginnings of missions, from the giving of our Lord's great commission onward to our own time and country; Second Quarter, the Home Missions of our church; Third Quarter, our missionary work in the New Hebrides; Fourth Quarter, our work in India.

*What is proposed for 1906?* For the First Quarter, Home Missions in the Maritime Provinces and in Quebec and Ontario; for the Second Quarter, French Evangelization; for the Third Quarter, Trinidad and Demarara; for the Fourth Quarter, Formosa; and so on, from year to year, till the whole range of our work has been covered.

*How are the Questions to be taken up?* (1) The scholar should be encouraged to learn them, as he does his Catechism. (2) The

teacher should "ask" them in the class. (3) The superintendent or minister should call for them in the Review. (4) As there may be time, both in class work and the Review, interesting additional information may be given: the scholars should be encouraged to search out the facts for themselves.

*How much time should all this take?* Try what three minutes per Sabbath in the class, and three minutes from the desk, will do.

*Where may "additional information" be found?* In THE TEACHERS MONTHLY, beginning with January, 1906, a paragraph containing such information will be furnished for each Sabbath's Question.

*What success has attended the plan?* It has taken hold; and has been followed in many schools with much interest and profit. Will you not try it in the coming year?

*What should be its outcome?* A generation growing up that will have been won already in childhood for the missionary cause.

Toronto

## A Home Department in the West

By Rev. Thurlow Fraser, B.D.

In 1898 a Home Department was organized in connection with a mission school under the care of Knox Church, Portage la Prairie, and continued to work with success until it was merged into and became one of the districts of the Home Department of the main Sabbath School.

Between two and three years ago the existing organization came into being, with sixteen districts, later increased to seventeen, by the union with the Home Department already in operation in the mission school.

The visitors call on all the members of the Home Study classes in their respective districts, at the end of each quarter, collect the Quarterly Reports, and give out the Lesson Helps for the coming quarter; and encourage by personal contact, conversation and sympathy, those who are endeavoring to carry on this systematic Bible study at home.