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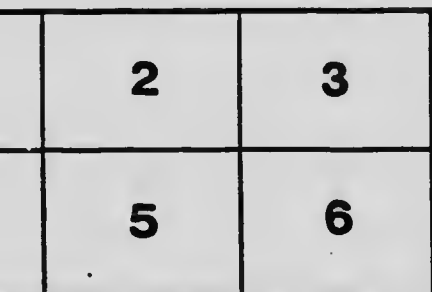
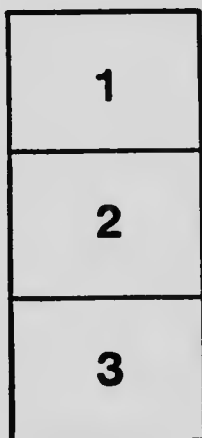
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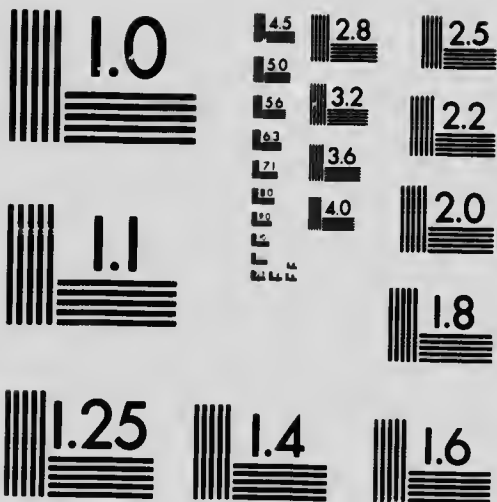
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The

High School Boy

and the

Ministry

UNITED CHURCH  
ARCHIVES



1910

By

REV. ALFRED GANDIER, M.A., D.D.

Principal Knox College, Toronto

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## **The High School Boy and the Ministry**

UNITED CHURCH  
ARCHIVES

The High School boy of to-day should seriously consider the work of the ministry, because—

1. In no other profession does a man have the opportunity of speaking so frequently to his fellow-men upon the highest themes. In his own congregation and elsewhere, he is the recognized teacher of morals and religion, and never are people so responsive as when gathered for worship in the house of God.

2. It is the high privilege of the Christian minister week by week to lead the worship, suggest the religious thought, comfort the heart, educate the conscience, influence the will, and inspire the conduct of a whole congregation.

3. The Christian pastor has access to people at the most critical periods of their lives, and, if he is a man of God, with a warm and sympathetic heart, people will love him and trust him and open up their lives to his influence as they do to no other.

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4. In this day when Canada is in the making, and when the great nations of the East are turning to Christendom for light, the call for missionaries is loud beyond all precedent, and the opportunities of service great beyond our wildest dreams.

5. If ever this sin-cursed world is to be redeemed, it will not be through the soldier with his rifle and bayonet, but through the Christian Missionary with his Bible and his Christ.

6. The Christian Ministry is the highest calling because the minister and the missionary deal with the highest kind of raw material—human personality—and aim at producing the highest kind of product—a full-grown man according to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Jesus Christ.

#### WHAT KIND OF MEN ARE NEEDED?

For a calling so high and holy, a task so subtle and difficult, it is evident that we need—

1. Men of wholesome, healthy bodies, and natural ability.

2. Men of education, to whom the educated men in their congregations can look up with respect.

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3. Men who have natural gifts as public speakers, or have trained themselves to be good teachers.

4. Men who know Christ as their personal Saviour, and who believe that the greatest need of all men is to have Christ as their Saviour.

5. Men who are noble in character, true in speech, ready to spend and be spent for the unworthy and the unthankful.

6. Men who love their fellows, who love even the unlovable for Christ's sake, whose sympathies go out to the needy, the suffering, the weak, and the fallen.

7. Men who seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and find in the command of Jesus to preach the Gospel to every creature, their supreme ambition in life.

#### **WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF EARLY DECISION?**

1. Early decision enables a boy to shape the whole course of his education in such a way as to lose no time and make the best preparation for his work.

2. It helps to keep him from alliances and friendships and occupations that

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might weaken his influence as a Christian minister in the future.

3. It keeps him all through the years of his student life in touch with the Church, and those persons and influences most likely to familiarize him with the work and possibilities of his chosen profession.

### WHAT HIGH SCHOOL COURSE IS NECESSARY?

1. The regular High School course leading to University Matriculation, with Latin and Greek.

2. Special attention should be given to Reading, English Composition, and English Literature.

3. Latin Grammar and Composition are important, as no other study gives one the same mastery of the construction of language.

4. Wherever possible Greek should be taken, as that is the language of the New Testament, and no one is a fully qualified minister of Jesus Christ who cannot use his Greek Testament. It is an immense advantage for a student who has the ministry in view, to matriculate in Greek.

5. Some one Science is important, not

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only for the knowledge of the subject, but because every minister should know the scientific method and be in sympathy with the scientific spirit.

### WHAT ARTS COURSE IS RECOMMENDED?

The required course for any young man who matriculates in Arts between the ages of seventeen and twenty-one, is a regular four years' Arts course leading to the degree of B.A., followed by the regular three years' course in Theology. This seems a long course, but is about the same length as the course required of fully trained lawyers and doctors. The minister is expected to be the leader of the religious, moral and educational life of the community, and must not fall below any class of the people in education and training. Ever since the days of John Knox, the Presbyterian Church has stood for an educated ministry.

The Arts course should include Latin, Greek and Hebrew, with special attention to English Literature, History and Philosophy, including Psychology, Ethics and Economics. Honour courses in English and History, in Classics or in Philosophy, are recommended.

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