

**S. S. Department**

(Conducted by M. W. BRABHAM,  
Field Secretary, Raleigh, N. C.)

OFFICERS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD:  
W. B. COOPER, Chairman, Wilmington  
C. F. BLAND, Secretary, Washington  
L. G. ROPER, Treasurer, Roper, N. C.

**HAY STREET CLASS CONTEST.**

The Men's Bible Classes of Hay Street Methodist, First Baptist and First Presbyterian Sunday-school of Fayetteville recently concluded an interesting and helpful contests. We called it an inter-class contest for short. The chief points of merit were attendance and enrollment of new members. The results were to be determined on a percentage basis, based on the attendance the first Sunday of the contest, which lasted four weeks through the month of October.

On the first Sunday the attendance was: Baptist, 55; Methodist, 45; Presbyterians 35. The number steadily increased to the fourth and last Sunday (observed as Bible Class Rally Day) when the attendance stood: Methodist, 212; Baptist 193; Presbyterians, 157. The total at the beginning was 135, at the close, 562, a gain of 427. Reports from each class were announced weekly through the local press, and interest grew with the progress of the contest.

The president and teacher of each class constituted a general committee in charge of the contest, with sub-committees on advertising and finance. Weekly meetings of the general committee were held and special advertising by newspapers, display window cards, bill boards, moving picture screens and was resorted to with good effect to awaken and enliven public interest.

A class banquet was to be the culminating feature, to be provided by the three classes, at which the winning class—the Presbyterian—should be the class of honor, and receive their blue ribbons and the greetings of their late rivals in well doing.

As a preliminary to the contest, a series of class visits were exchanged last summer between the three classes, with the teacher of the visiting teacher teaching; followed by union services at the three churches through the month of August, attended by the three classes in a body, who met at a central point (the old market house) and marched together by classes through the city to the Church.

The contest aroused new interest in the Men's Classes, led to the organization of new classes, and was followed by live meetings of the religious impulse among the men of the city.

The Men's Bible Classes of the city are now talking of raising a Belgian Relief Fund of \$500 as a practical exemplification of world-bothhood implied in the gospel of Christ.

Q. K. NIMOCKS.

Fayetteville, N. C.

**Annual Report of the Sunday School Board.**

Your Sunday School Board desires to submit the following report:

1. We appreciate the co-operation of all who have aided us in anyway in carrying out the work we had outlined for the past year. We are glad to report a steady increase in Sunday-school membership, organized Bible Classes, Teacher Training Classes and Standard Sunday-schools. There are approximately three hundred Wesley Bible Classes enrolled with the Wesley Bible Class Department, which have an enrollment

of over six thousand members. We have between three hundred and four hundred students who have been engaged in systematic Teacher Training work during the year.

2. We are glad to express to you our thanks for the increase in the special offering for Sunday-school extension taken on the fourth Sunday in January. The amount realized from this source was a little more than \$500. We sincerely trust that our pastors and Presiding Elders will aid us in increasing this amount to not less than \$1,000 during the coming January. The amount paid in this year was paid by less than one-third of our schools; if each school would do something, it would aid us materially in solving our financial problems. This fourth Sunday in January deserves to become a popular one and we believe that it will.

3. Briefly stated our goal for the next quadrennium for the Sunday-schools of our Conference is as follows:

A Federation of all Wesley Bible Classes of our Conference, with an annual meeting of the same.

Every District thoroughly organized with departmental officers.

Every Circuit holding an annual Sunday-school Institute under the direction of the pastor.

A net gain in Sunday-school membership of at least 4,000 each year.

An increase of 1,000 members each year in our organized classes.

An increase each year of 1,000 in the Cradle Roll membership.

An increase of 300 members annually in the Home Department.

An offering each year of at least \$5,000 for missions through the Sunday-schools.

A Children's Day and offering in every Sunday-school each year.

A definite effort to bring about the conversion of every one connected with our Sunday-schools and a deepening of the spiritual life of all our people.

4. It is our purpose to be of service in every way possible and we plead for a sympathetic and earnest response from each of you in our endeavor to carry out these plans. This may be done by helping us to get an offering from every Sunday-school on the fourth Sunday in January, as many of you have done for the past two years; by continuing the fine work you have been doing in behalf of Children's Day; by attending the institutes and conferences held for Sunday-school workers; by making use of our Field Secretary in every possible manner and falling in with the plans which he may announce from time to time. With the January offering increased to \$1,000 a year and the Children's Day offering brought up to about \$3,000 per annum, the finances of the Board will be sufficient to carry on the work as at present contemplated.

5. An announcement of great interest to all will be the great interests Trinity College through President Few is manifesting in Sunday-school work. Plans are maturing for some definite work at that institution on a larger scale than at present carried on. Our Field Worker is to move to Durham and through the kindness of Trinity will have an office and some office help. We believe that this step will eventually mean one of the greatest forward steps ever known in our work.

6. We also wish to say that we appreciate the aid of Trinity College in making it possible for us to have Drs. Hamill and Bulla with us for an institute last June. Our regret is that more of our people did not attend.

7. We invite the attention of all

to the new chapter on Sunday-school as found in the new Discipline.

8. The presence and address of Dr. Hamill at this Conference and upon our anniversary occasion, we appreciate greatly. We rejoice in the additional honor which has come to him during the past summer, that of being elected honorary head of the International Sunday School Association.

9. You have our sincere thanks for the splendid earnestness manifested by so many of you in behalf of Sunday-schools and pray that the spirit of achievement may continue and that the advancement of our Sunday-schools may always be in His name, for it is only in that Name that we can do the great work He has committed to us.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. B. COOPER, Chairman,  
C. F. BLAND, Secretary.

Holiness is not anything a man can do; it is the divine gift which he receives—the indwelling of God—Ex.

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