

To Make Sunday Schools Successful

Following is a paper on "Some Ways by which we can Make Our Sunday Schools a Success" read by C. A. McBride, county secretary, at Wilmot District Convention held on March 18:

1. Cultivate the Spirit of Giving. Anything that makes a demand upon the pocket book is a pretty good test of a person's Christian spirit. A great many of us are chronic grumblers when it comes to a question of giving to the church, the preacher, the Sunday school or any religious work. We are continually forgetting that we are all being blessed with manifold gifts from God's hands every day of our lives, and in comparison with these, how little we give in return! The great World War has stirred up the generosity of the people of all lands as nothing else has ever done. Why should we not be as generous as giving to the work of the Sunday school as we are for patriotic purposes?

How often do we hear of an individual contributing \$5 to the work of the Sunday school? Why not get the habit of always putting in something larger than a cent into the collection plate or class envelope? Let us make a determined effort to break away from this narrow, selfish habit which is hindering, not only the growth of the Sunday school, but our own growth and influence also. Let us try the five to 25 cents plan of giving every Sunday, and I am sure we will be well repaid for our efforts.

2. Be on Time. How would you expect any business system or organization to succeed if as little attention was paid to time as is done in some of our Sunday schools? Why should the Superintendent wait for all teachers to arrive before opening the school? Let the Superintendent begin on time, whether the teachers are on time or not, and those not there will probably soon become ashamed of being late and make an effort to arrive in time for the opening next Sunday.

3. The secretary of the school should have a business system of keeping a record of attendance and finances. According to Bible teaching God keeps an exact record of everything, even to the hairs of our head—Does he not expect to keep exact records of our Sunday school work? Every school secretary should have a suitable record book, so arranged that every three months a summary can be given, for the quarter, of the standing of the school, and at the end of the year make out a statement of attendance and finances for the whole time the school has been in session. Every teacher of children and young people under 21 should ascertain the ages of all in their classes and keep a record of it. Then when the annual report card is sent out, they will have no difficulty in answering the questions in regard to those of a certain age in the school.

I am sure your district secretaries and county secretary will appreciate very much any efforts made along this line of work.

4. Have music adapted to the Sunday school. Some Superintendents select hymns that do not interest and have no meaning for the children. Good music and singing are the life of the school. Do not be afraid to learn something new occasionally. Learn to sing something that has vigour, vim, vivacity, volume and variety to it! Make it home-like, make it attractive, and see if it will not drive away some of the monotony of our Sunday school work and give it such an interest and attractive power that our young people will not want to miss attending the school.

5. Attend Sunday School Conventions and Rallies. It is surprising how little interest some Sunday school workers take in conventions! Here are some reasons why we should attend:

(a) We will be able to discuss together any problems we may have in our school.

(b) We will find out what other schools in the district are doing and the needs of the district along the lines of Sunday school work.

(c) It will help to get us out of some of the ruts we have travelling in, which have been hindering our usefulness.

(d) It will help our province, county and district officers to do their work more efficiently. None of us are so wise we do not need to learn. Let us confess our ignorance and come to these conventions and get an insight into work, means and methods of successful, systematic and spiritual Sunday school work. The door of opportunity stands open. The avenues of knowledge are awaiting our entrance. Wisdom crieth in the streets. Shall we heed the call? May God help us all to do so!

Our Future Agriculturists

The fact of having this army of boy workers on the farm just at the age when likes and dislikes are formed will mean a great deal to the Dominion when, in later years, the life work of the present day is being decided.

The "back to the land" movement has always been a serious question, but it is more and more important as time goes on, and every possible means must be taken to encourage the utmost interest in the promotion of agriculture in all its phases; and particularly with regard to settling of all available land as soon as can be. The boy who, today, works on the farm; sees the opportunities that the land offers and does his share in helping the nation at this crisis will, in a great many instances, ever remember his experience and when the time comes to settle down, the probability is his choice will be farming.

Apart from this aspect of the matter, the time spent by these Soldiers of the Soil on the farms throughout Canada will increase their health; broaden their vision; give them a fuller appreciation of what an important part in the world's welfare the farmer plays, and furthermore these boy workers of the nation will return to their studies better fitted in every way—morally, physically and mentally—than if they had spent their vacations working in the cities or loafing at a summer resort.

Mrs. Thomas Parker

The death at Norton of the wife of Rev. Thomas Parker came as a great shock to the young woman's relatives and friends at Greenfield, where she was born and where she lived up to the time of her marriage about a year ago. She was Miss Lena Ritchie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ritchie of Greenfield. In her home district she had been a popular girl, and a year ago was happily married. Last week she died, leaving beside her husband, an infant daughter. The remains were brought from Norton to Greenfield on Saturday and the funeral services were held by Rev. J. R. Belyea of Andover. A very large gathering met on the sad occasion. Much sympathy is expressed for those who are left behind to mourn.

Paper Pants

Somebody says the Germans are wearing trousers made of paper. If the price of paper should ever come down in this county the men here might be able to afford paper pants, too. —Houston Post.

Bought More Coal

We suppose that Eastport man who found a wallet containing \$280 in a barrel of soft coal took the money and went out to see if he could buy another ton. —Port land Press.

Suggests an Bureau of Market Information

Editor of The Observer:

The market price of hay and potatoes, two foremost of our farm products, is in sharp contradiction to the prediction of last fall. You will recall that last season the potato crop of this province was very light and the popular notion was that prices would be high but we find opposite the case. On the other hand hay was an unusual heavy crop and the general notion prevailed that there would be but little sale. Instead the demand for hay is good and at a fair price. There is only one conclusion and that is that the crops of this province affect but little the law of demand and supply in the world's market.

Now, Sir, I have a proposition to submit to you for consideration, that you, and all others interested, may use your influence to have it brought in force, which proposition is as follows: Let a Bureau of Information be established in connection with the local Department of Agriculture, and have at the head of such Bureau a competent official, whose business is to study the market. He would be supposed to gather reliable information on the farm production of the eastern part of this continent, and also travel extensively during the latter part of the season, then make reports to all the local papers of the market for farm produce. In this way thousands of dollars would be saved annually to this province that to day go to other localities that have better facilities for knowing the true state of production.

I believe that this notion will find favor with many people and I take this opportunity of placing it on record and before the public with the hope that perhaps it may be of some benefit, and if not, no harm at least has been done.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT L. SIMMS
Woodstock, Mar. 21.

Lower Brighton

Mrs. William visited relatives in Houlton last week.

Mrs. Wallace Noble is confined to her bed.

Rev. A. E. Trites delivered an excellent sermon Sunday morning to the congregation at the United Baptist church.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brooks, Waterville, spent Friday at Stephen Nixon's.

Mr. and Mrs. Byron Brown were calling on friends in Jacksonville Thursday.

Miss Sarah Tedlie visited friends in Hartland last week. J. B. Nixon is slowing improving after a severe attack of heart trouble.

Mr. and Mrs. Milford Noble of Houlton are visiting relatives in this place.

Mrs. Stephen Nixon spent Sunday at Dolph Nixon's at Wakefield.

Miss Mabel Nixon has gone to Woodstock to work in the Farmer's Telephone office, as substitute for one of the employees, who is taking their vacation.

A party of young people from Hartland were pleasantly entertained last Thursday evening at Beecher Brown's.

Delivery of Liquor

It is officially announced that the order-in-council bringing prohibition into effect on April 1 has been amended by the government in respect to its provisions governing the shipment of liquor from one province to another.

The amendment provides that intoxicating liquor actually shipped before April 1 may be delivered in prohibited areas by common carriers in such periods of time as are required by such common carriers under ordinary business condition but not to extend beyond May 1.

It is also provided that prohibited areas will include areas where the sale of native wines is permitted.

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