

receiving from these other two agencies and just where the Sunday School "comes in" for the most effective carrying out of the common purpose. This point, therefore, receives careful consideration in the new handbook.

Secondly, Dr. Robertson's book will help the teacher by showing him the methods and equipment which are necessary if the Sunday School is to attack its objective, to use once more a term from military tactics. It is obvious that there must be some kind of organization if there is to be successful teaching; there must be programmes (Dr. Robertson says "programs," but that is because his book was prepared for the United States as well as for Canada) and standards; there must be a suitable building and proper apparatus. The Sunday School teacher should know what he needs in these particulars, in order to do his best work. He will then be in a position to present these needs to the

proper authorities and to press intelligently for the provision which they demand.

In the third place, this new Teacher Training Book will help the teacher to understand the special needs of scholars at the various ages represented in the membership of the School. It is important that the teacher should be master of the materials of instruction; it is equally important that he should know the characteristics of the School, whether Beginners or Primary or Intermediate or Senior, with whom he has to deal. Light is thrown upon these matters of so great moment, and, besides, there are helpful chapters on the Adult Department and the Home Department, and upon Training for Leadership.

Multum in parvo,—"much in little"—is a phrase which aptly describes this excellent little manual, in the reading of which the Sunday School teacher and, as well, all others interested in the religious education of the young, will find both profit and delight.

The School's Minimum Equipment

By REV. JOHN W. LITTLE, B.D.

The saying has often been quoted, that if you put Mark Hopkins, the famous United States educator, at one end of a log and a student at the other you have a college. When Jesus "appointed twelve that they might be with him," he organized a Sunday School class with all the essential features present. Given only the teacher and the child, with the Bible for the textbook, and most effective work can be done. In the modern Sunday School, however, equipment has a very important place as an aid to the teacher in his work.

Lesson Helps are almost indispensable. In the Primary Department the leaflet with the lesson story carries the work of the teacher into the home and gives the parents the opportunity to review it with the child during the week. Only when the child reproduces the story on the following Sunday is the educational process complete. In the Junior Department home work and preparation for the following Sunday is made possible through the Quarterlies. Every pupil who can read should be furnished with a hymn book that he may join in the service of praise.

In the Beginners Department the Picture Roll is very effective, and either a blackboard or sheets of blank paper may be used in the higher grades. The appeal to the eye reinforces the appeal through the ear, rivets the attention, deepens the impression made, and helps the memory and imaginations. The

blackboard also furnishes an avenue for expressional activities by the pupil. The most useful map is one drawn in outline by the scholar before the class.

In overcrowded rooms or where attention is difficult to secure, curtains to separate the classes and secure more privacy are a great help. Many of the usual distractions of the teaching period may thus be shut out and the teacher enabled to get closer to his pupils.

The efficiency of a School depends much on the accuracy and completeness of its records and the use made of them to check up attendance, to indicate lines of activity in securing new pupils or looking after the careless, and to judge the effectiveness of the work being attempted. Class record books and record books for the superintendent and secretary have a vital place.

Midweek activities for older boys and girls are possible without any extra equipment. All they require is a room to meet in where a space can be cleared sufficiently large for group games. If the church is seated with chairs this is simple. If not, then a basement room may do, or a hall or vacant house. One class of boys fixed up a room in the tower of their church, with a ladder for stairs. Another excavated a basement, organized their fathers to draw stone, and raised money to build the walls and make it habitable.

While equipment is very important, the kind of leadership given is far more important,