

unknown thing in many congregations, and the church suffers accordingly. To some extent the visit of the Home Department worker retrieves the loss. It brings to its constituency the assurance that the church takes thought for her less privileged members—the shut-in, the remote, the invalid, the aged, the over-taxed. Such simple solicitude arouses or renews a genuine affection for the church to which the Sunday School belongs. One can scarcely overestimate the value of an institution that can help to bring men and women into fuller sympathy with the God-appointed nursery of the soul.

The quarterly contribution is a means of grace. Love leads to giving; giving also leads to love. The cause to which we contribute becomes our cause, and the work we help to promote assumes a new importance and takes on a new glory to our eyes. The Home Department worker can truly say, "We seek not yours, but you"; let him also realize that through the giving of the lesser things the soul may be helped to that utter surrender, which is its highest achievement and fullest realization.

Mitchell, Ont.

What the Congregation Gets From It

By Rev. D. L. McCrae, Ph.D.

What does the Congregation get from the Home Department? Much, every way. Chiefly, a new interest in the Sabbath School and its all-important work, a new interest in the systematic and intelligent study of the scriptures, with all the blessings that inevitably follow.

In practically all the homes of a congregation there is one or more who cannot attend the regular sessions of the Sabbath School. The introduction of the Home Department, and the putting of the QUARTERLY into every home, brings the whole congregation into the Sabbath School, and carries into effect the motto of all the Sabbath School institutions of this continent, "All for All". All the church for the Sabbath School, and all the Sabbath School for the church. All the Sabbath School in the church, and all the church in the Sabbath School.

The regular visitation of the homes by the

workers, who deliver the QUARTERLY, is, in itself, of the greatest benefit to the whole congregation. It keeps the Sabbath School before the people, and makes them feel that it is interested in them, and that they all have a place and an interest in it. The Home Department also helps to make the Bible the factor it should be in the home life of the congregation. The family, and not the individual, is God's unit of society. "The home is the unit of the world's complex social organism." As the home life is so is the life of the church and the nation.

Wherever the Home Department has been introduced and faithfully carried on, the results in the congregation have been most encouraging. The Bible is read in the homes systematically and intelligently. A new interest is awakened in all the means of grace. The Daily Readings are found to be wonderfully appropriate and helpful for the circumstances of the family. There is daily family devotion, in some sort, where there was none before. Altogether there can be little doubt that, if the Home Department were taken hold of as it might be, in all our congregations, the happy day would soon come when the members of every family would from childhood know "the sacred writings which are able to make wise unto salvation".

Wilton Grove, Ont.

How the Home Department Helps the School

By Rev. W. J. Fowler, B.D.

The Home Department enlarges the Sabbath School work. It reaches two classes of scholars heretofore without the pale of the School, namely, those who cannot attend, and those who will not attend, the weekly session of the School. The shut-ins, the indifferent, the careless, the lapsed, are to be found in almost every congregation in greater or less numbers. The systematic study of the scriptures by these means much to themselves, to the attainment of the Sabbath School ideal, and to the life and work of the church.

A great need to-day is the prayerful study of the scriptures by the people generally.