

As samples of the Practical Talks, these taken at random from the November, December, January schedule are enticing :—The Older Girl and the Food Problem of the Empire, How to Choose a Vocation, A Visit to a Famous Art Gallery, The Story of Some Famous Hymns, Right Principles on Which to Choose Companions, An Older Girls' Interest in Her Own Community, Personal Habits in Relation to Others, The Older Girl's Relation to Church, and the Question of Church Membership.

The charm of the plan is its simplicity. The Sunday School class or department is the unit. This is organized, the officers being from the girls themselves. Their teacher will usually be the leader. Any competent person can be called in to help with the practical talks, physical drill, activities, or amusement. The plan can be worked out in any congregation or community, large or small; and certificates and diplomas are granted for specified attainments.

The Topic Card is issued by our Church's Sunday School and Y.P.S. Board, but the curriculum is one cooperatively prepared by the principal Canadian Protestant Churches, along with the Canadian Y.W.C.A. and S.S. Association.

We look for a fine start to be made this season in this Older Girls' Work.

The Dreary Month

"No sun—no moon—no morn—no noon,
No dawn—no dusk—no proper time of day,
No warmth—no cheerfulness—no healthful ease,
No road, no street, no t'other side the way,
No comfortable feel in any member—
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees.
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds,
November!"

Of course, Tom Hood wrote of England. It is only bits of our Canadian Novembers which answer to this description of gloom. But those bits are sufficient to rank November even in Canada as the dreary month of the year. Summer brightness, the glory of early autumn have departed, and the splendor of the winter has not yet come. It is a sort of natural waiting time.

Whether it is the climatic conditions, or not, that affects work and workers, it is frequently the fact that after the first rush of "getting together" and setting things going for the season, in October, November displays a sag—not a slump, but just a sag. Things go slowly: the brightness and freshness have evaporated.

It is good policy for the leaders to watch for these listless days, and to provide against them. A little more fuel on the fire is a great counteractive of November dreariness. The wise leader will have a reserve supply of fuel in the shape of additional suggestions, fresh plans, and above all, the personal incentive that comes from a cheery presence and hopeful outlook. The success of the season's programme of work, whether in School or Society, may be made or marred by the manner in which the leader handles it in the dreary November.

A Campaign for Two Great Objectives

Two great objectives are set before Sunday School workers by the S.S. & Y.P.S. Board. One is found in the Curriculum of Religious Education and the other in the new Standard Teacher Training Course.

The Curriculum of Religious Education is a statement, contained in five pamphlets issued by the Board at 3c. each or 5 for 10c., under the three headings of Instruction, Worship and Training, of the provision which should be made for the religious needs of Children, Juniors, Older Boys and Girls, Young People, and Men and Women. This curriculum, put into operation will give definiteness and completeness to religious nurture and training in the home, the Sunday School and the church.