

Temperance in the Sunday-school.

Our whole country has been marvelously stirred by the great temperance campaign which has just closed. Our ministers, teachers, and schools have been thoroughly alert in this regard. The following item from the Belleville Intelligencer indicates the kind of work that has been done in scores, if not hundreds, of these schools.

"The superintendent of Bridge Street Sunday-school, Mr. Wm. Johnson, referred to the plebiscite and expressed the earnest hope that all parties and creeds would unite in supporting prohibition. He asked all teachers and officers who were in favour of prohibition to range themselves around the platform, and every one present responded to the request. He then asked all the scholars present who were in favour of the measure to stand up, and this request met with the same unanimous response. Those present describe the sight of the whole school, teachers officers and pupils, declaring themselves so unanimously on the question as a most inspiring one."

The campaign has only begun. Each of us is enlisted for life in the war against intemperance, which is such a lawless, God-and-man-defying institution that not even the most rigid prohibitory law will not altogether prevent its outrages. The Sunday-schools may do incalculable service by getting every scholar enrolled in the temperance pledge book. The class books issued from our Book-Rooms contain this pledge. Let every teacher see to it that all his scholars' names are in it. The temperance Sunday, 27th of November, will be an admirable opportunity. We beg to call attention to the following communication to Sunday-school superintendents from the Woman's Temperance Union of Canada:

APPEAL TO SUPERINTENDENTS.

We often hear it said that the teachers of the public schools are doing more towards the solution of the temperance question than any other agency—that the 593,840 scholars now passing through the Government schools of Ontario, and obtaining, wherever the law is observed, a knowledge of scientific temperance, are

forming a great phalanx of conscience voters that will render possible in our province enforced prohibition. We rejoice in this educational factor. It promises much for the future of temperance in Canada. We believe with Mary Hunt—the woman whose foresight and faith discovered and utilized it first, and whose one absorbing passion is to-day the further extension of the good work—that "the star of hope hangs over the school house." But we are also constrained to feel that the church school is just as chargeable with the faithful temperance education of the child as the public school.

The last provincial report of the Sunday-school Association shows us that in the Protestant schools alone there are 423,646 pupils. As Bishop Baldwin said recently, "It means a great deal to have the seal of the approval of God and the church so unmistakably placed upon the temperance reform, that from earliest childhood our young people will look upon the crusade against intemperance as a part of church work."

In addressing you, we feel that it will not be necessary to spend much time in convincing you either of the need or value of temperance teaching in the Sunday-school. A great change in this respect has taken place in our city during the last few years. Yet it is felt that an unusual effort should be made to provide interesting programmes in connection with the temperance lessons. It is also thought that if a uniform plan were adopted, there would be more likelihood of its successful working. The following method, therefore, tried with great success in other places, is suggested:

That on the quarterly temperance Sunday the usual exercises be dispensed with and the older or Bible classes in each school be in turn made responsible for presenting the theme of the day. For example, the young men's class would undertake one programme, provide a ten-minute Bible talk on the assigned verses, and follow this with a couple of five-minute papers or addresses on such topics as Canada's drink bill. Why this country needs prohibition. The value of the pledge. What a young man can do to further temperance, etc. A good recitation, and a song or two, that could be secured from amongst the younger scholars if necessary, would also come in appropriately.

Next quarter the adult Bible class could take the lead, depending perhaps on the infant class for the lighter ele-

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