

providing of a series of lessons for the schools of the church, with such explanations and illustrations of them as they could get printed in the *Record* month by month. After mature deliberation as to the best course of lessons for the year, your Committee agreed to adopt the "National Series," published by the Sunday School Union of America, the series used by nearly all evangelical churches in all parts of the United States. Half the lessons for the year are from the Old Testament and half from the New. And they have reason to believe that these lessons are generally acceptable, and are very largely taught in our Sabbath schools. In proof of this we may state that of the 5000 copies struck off at the first of the year not one now remains, and admitting that all the schools took them that would be an average of 14 for every school in the church.

Your Committee hope too that the notes printed month by month in the *Record* are of service to teachers who may not have access to good Sunday school papers—such as the *Sunday School World*, nor to Commentaries. A page or two of every *Record* has also been devoted to illustrations of the lessons, and your Committee feel that did space permit they would like to give more prominence to this feature of the work, for they believe that illustration is indispensable to successful Sabbath school instruction.

To accomplish their work with anything like satisfaction to themselves, and to promote the interests of the Sabbath Schools of the Church as they would like to do. Your Committee feel that they should be able to meet now and again with leading Sabbath School men from different sections of the Church, to talk over the best and most approved methods of teaching, to compare the results of experience and to discuss the whole subject of Sabbath School work.

We may be permitted to say that the Sabbath School Associations of Halifax and Dartmouth, held such a gathering in Poplar Grove Church in March last, what was very well attended by the leading Sabbath School workers in the city. Practical questions were discussed, and classes were conducted, one consisting of teachers to illustrate how a teachers' meeting should be sustained, the other an ordinary class of boys, to show how a Bible lesson should be taught. All who were present enjoyed the exercises, and doubtless profited by them.

Your Committee would recommend that as far as possible, Sabbath Schools throughout the Church should keep up teachers' meetings. In not a few Schools they are regularly sustained, and the teachers in those Schools, so far as Your Committee are aware, all bear testimony to the advantage they derive from them.

It is not always easy to obtain men and

women for the work of Sabbath School instruction, who are as well qualified as could be desired, and until we have something like a Model School in which to train our teachers, (which it is feared is a long way off) Superintendents and teachers cannot do better than meet together weekly, if possible, to exchange thoughts in the lesson to be taught, to give each other the benefit of their experience, and to consult as to the best means of promoting the good of the School generally, the Pastor being present, if he possibly can be.

Your Committee fear that in too many instances, Sabbath School work is regarded as work extraneous to the church, with which the Pastor has little to do, and with which he does little. There could be no greater mistake. Every Pastor who desires to fulfill the injunction of his Lord and Master "feed my lambs" will take special interest in the Sabbath School, and be present at its meetings just as often as he can. Moreover your Committee would suggest that Pastors throughout the church pay more attention to the matter of sermons to children. Once a quarter cannot be too often to preach to the young of the Congregation.

More care too, your Committee feel should be given to the selection of the books and papers that the children of the church read. Much of the current Sabbath School literature is positively trashy, and it is to be feared that not a few young persons acquire a taste and a love for noval reading by perusing the books that they obtain from the Sabbath School. Indeed so far has this evil gone that some Schools have dispersed with libraries altogether. It becomes every Pastor, therefore to examine as far as he can the books that are placed on the shelves of the libraries of the School under his charge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALLAN SIMPSON, *Con. Com., ou S.S.*

Our Foreign Missions.

NEW HEBRIDES MISSION.

Presentation to Captain W. A. Fraser.

BY REV. H. A. ROBERTSON.

A public meeting was held at the Presbyterian Assembly Hall, Collins street, Melbourne, on the evening of Monday, March 4th, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Captain W. A. Fraser, late of the mission vessel *Dayspring*, on the occasion of his return to Nova Scotia. There was a very large attendance. Dr. McMillan, in the absence of the Rev. Dr. McDonald,