

are really moulding our lives. As the apostle Paul expresses it, "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Woodstock, Ont.

Prayer as a Force

By Rev. Robert Johnston, D.D.

[The second of a series of articles by Dr. Johnston on topics connected with the spiritual life of the Sabbath School teacher as it affects his work.—EDITORS.]

Two of our Lord's parables were spoken to illustrate particularly the compelling power of insistent and persistent prayer,—the parables of the Importunate Widow and the Unjust Judge, and of The Friend at Midnight. In both our Lord emphasizes and illustrates the truth which at another time He plainly declared, that "the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force".

The Source of all power is God. It is faith that makes Him mine. Prayer is the expression of that faith, its utterance, its cry.

The marvelous work of the "Year of Grace" in Ireland, one of the most remarkable spiritual movements the world has known, was traced to its inception in a little prayer-meeting, where a few young men had gathered once a week to pray for a revival of God's work in their land. Jonathan Edwards' historic sermon, under which strong men were moved to cry to God for mercy, was preached on a day following a night, the hours of which some of his friends had spent in prayer for power to attend his message. And, to turn from great and historic events, the writer was led to the conscious acceptance of Christ in a remarkable revival that came to the town where he lived, after several of the fathers of the town, his own father one of them, had continued to meet weekly for many months to seek God's blessing upon the community.

The mightiest power in the world to-day is the power of prayer. The ends which we see to be so desirable, but which we cannot

accomplish, God can accomplish; the interest that we cannot arouse, He can arouse; the hearts that we cannot touch, He can mould to His will; the message that to us seems so ineffective, He can make to burn with compelling power; and the pathway for unto that Source of all power is the pathway of prayer.

Fellow teacher, Pray! Pray! Without ceasing, pray! Before the might of prayer there is nothing impossible.

Montreal.

The International Association

By R. Douglas Fraser, D.D.

The Twelfth International Sunday School Convention will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, June 18-23, of the present year. It represents the whole North American continent, with delegates from Britain and elsewhere abroad. The accredited delegates reach well nigh the 2,000 mark, and embrace the leaders in Sunday School work of all the churches. The Association is interdenominational, works cordially with all, and is a sort of clearing house for new ideas and methods in Sunday School work. Perhaps the one most important function of the Convention is the appointing and instructing of the Lesson Committee, which, in conjunction with the British section, have the say in the choice of the Lessons to be used by 14,000,000 teachers and scholars, on this continent alone. Canada supplies three out of the fifteen members of the Lesson Committee. The late Rev. John Potts, D.D., of Toronto, was long a member and chairman. Rev. Principal Rexford, of the Church of England Theological College, Montreal, and Rev. Principal Patrick, of Manitoba College, Winnipeg, are the other Canadians. These need no word of praise. It so happens that the President of the Association is also a Canadian, Hon. Justice MacLaren, of Toronto, the teacher of an Adult Bible Class of well nigh half a thousand men.

The two most prominent figures in the working force of the Association are Mr. W. N. Hartshorn, of Boston, and Mr. Marion Lawrance, long of Toledo, Ohio, now of Chicago, which has become the headquarters.

Mr. Hartshorn came to the front twenty years ago in connection with Primary work,