

The new Teacher Training Course, the four books of which we have just issued, should help mightily to provide trained teachers and trained leaders. With the additional help, by way of examinations and diplomas and general encouragement, given by the S.S. and Y.P.S. Board, our teachers and leaders have themselves to blame if they remain in the helplessness of the untrained.

What's the Use

The most faithful teacher often wonders whether his work is counting for anything. There seems to be little interest on the part of scholars or parents. Or if some interest is shown, there are few apparent results. Is all this preparation of the lesson and actual teaching having any effect?

When a person actually believes that he is cooperating with vast potentialities, his confidence and hope are increased. For this reason the teacher will take heart when he remembers that religion is absolutely essential to the maintenance of morality.

Perhaps there will be no spectacular manifestation of interest on the part of any scholar. But the habitual teaching of religion is keeping him somewhere in the right direction. The other day, Mr. H. W. Foght, of the United States Bureau of Education, said:

"This I know, that in the United States we have found that when religion is divorced from the teaching of morality, morality fails."

Such a statement from such an authority ought to help the teacher to take heart. He is putting into life a background, a motive which is necessary to keep it wholesome.

"If They Are Not There"

In the midst of a discussion of methods by a company of earnest Sunday School workers during the meeting of the General Assembly, one of those present interposed the very pertinent reminder, that the very best methods will not do the children any good at all "if they are not there."

The speaker touched upon the very first essential of Sunday School success,—to get the children, the boys and girls and the young people into the School and develop in them the habit of regularity and punctuality in attendance. Whatever method is adopted—and there are many methods which have proved successful—no School should be satisfied unless all those who ought to be in it are actually there.

The New Standard Teacher Training Course

BY REV. W. J. KNOX, M.A.

It is a truism to say that the young are the hope of the nation, but it is a truism so apparent that it fails to impress the mind as it ought. If the rising generation pass out of the years of childhood and youth without high ideals, without a conviction of duty and a consciousness of the sacredness of life's privilege, as a nation we shall perish.

There is no greater need in our church to-day, than a large body of men and women trained to conduct efficiently the work of religious education among the young. This need was recognized some years ago when a set of textbooks was issued which has been of great value in training those who taught in our Sunday Schools. Partly as a result

of the study of these textbooks such a high ideal of the Sunday School was created that a demand gradually took shape for a more thorough and complete system of teacher training.

After careful consideration on the part of the Sunday School Council of Evangelical Denominations, representing thirty churches in North America, a scheme has been devised which provides a three years' course of training for those who are to bear the responsibility for the religious education of the young. The first year's course is now available and comprises four books: The Pupil; The Teacher; The Teacher's Study of the Life of Christ; The School.

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