

of note, that the regular offering for current expenses was correspondingly increased, the amount raised for this purpose equaling that raised for missions.

Systematic weekly offerings, with a definite objective, is the ideal which is held up before the scholars of this School.

Toronto

How the Institute Helped

[Owing to the abundance of the material received on this topic, it has been found possible in the space available to give only the chief points of each article. It is the policy of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee to reach the teachers and officers of every Sabbath School in the church by Institutes, a policy in which the Conveners of Synod and Presbytery Sabbath School Committees and other workers have heartily cooperated.—EDITORS.]

Instruction Plus Inspiration

By Rev. David Iverach, B.D.

Some years ago, I remember talking with a friend about the Carnegie libraries, and the good they were doing. My friend argued, with a fair measure of reason, that much better work would be done if the philanthropist had taken steps to make sure the books would be read. It is one thing to put a book in a library, another to get it read. The supplement my friend suggested was a series of Institutes, where specialists could point out to readers the ways in which the books might be of greatest service. This is what Sabbath School workers are doing. By means of Institutes, we are bringing out the knowledge locked away in books and placing it at the disposal of our workers. The Institute helps as it increases our knowledge.

But knowledge is not the only requisite in teaching, nor can it even be counted the chief thing. Many well informed teachers fail, while others, apparently inferior in training, and in intellectual gifts, succeed. The cause of failure on the part of some is not want of knowledge, but of interest in the work, and of sympathy between teacher and taught. If, therefore, we can do anything to stimulate interest and quicken zeal and put the teacher in a more sympathetic attitude to the work, we have done good service.

It is chiefly through the inspiration it brings to the workers, that the Institute helps. Not much instruction can be given, even though the meetings occupy several days; but what teacher has attended even one session of a good Institute, without

catching something of the spirit of the meeting? Having been reached in this way, he goes back to work with higher ideals and new zeal. I cannot recall a single Institute where I have not been helped in this way. I feel encouraged both by the words of the leaders and by the presence of my fellow workers. In these ways the Sabbath School Institute helps.

Springfield, Man.

The Church's Interest

By Rev. Hugh Upham, M.A.

The Sabbath School Institute very helpfully impressed upon me the intelligent interest our whole Canadian Presbyterian Church has in each individual School within its bounds. When first these Institutes were suggested, we could scarcely believe it possible that our church could afford to send her skilled workers to the most isolated country districts. In fact, we doubted the expediency of such a move. But we soon learned that our church was more than willing to give her very best to help our officers and teachers in our more remote Sabbath Schools; and, we believe, with good results. For, as we met with the representatives of our three great church courts, Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, we felt, indeed, that we, as Sabbath School workers, were not alone in our divine task, but that the whole church was at our back.

This idea of the oversight of the church was still further emphasized as we had presented to us the work of the Cradle Roll and the Home Department. We were shown, by story and illustration, how the church