

### The Satisfaction of a Teachers' Meeting

"I get more satisfaction out of my teachers' meeting than from any one other thing in my work. We meet every Wednesday night after prayer meeting and discuss the Sunday School lesson for the next Sabbath. The teachers seem to enjoy it. They simply love to take part in the discussion. They also claim it is a great help." This testimony was given by a minister who enjoys the varied activities of a large Western congregation. He also teaches in one of our theological colleges.

Because of its supreme importance the work of the Sunday School teacher is worthy of time for consideration. Because of its varied and numerous methods, such work may be made easier by mutual consultation. Whether it be questions of teaching or problems of organization that are discussed, each teacher has a quota of experience to contribute. Such a systematic, serious effort, as is afforded by the regular teachers' meeting, is bound to increase the spiritual life and efficiency of the Sunday School. Ultimately it will benefit the whole congregation.

"The tie that binds" those engaged in the same work, also, is especially true in this case. Teachers' meetings afford one of the best opportunities for the joys of human fellowship,—and of a human fellowship that is of the highest quality.

### The Magic of Sympathy

It was an overseas Y.M.C.A. worker amongst soldiers who said that returned soldiers respond to those who have been with them "over there," as to no others. The sharing of the experiences of trench warfare, with all its horrors, creates a bond of sympathy of no common strength and closeness. Men who have fought side by side in the Great War understand one another as no home stayer can understand them. The wearers of khaki have secret confidences amongst themselves with which no stranger can intermeddle.

Some such sympathy the true teacher strives to establish between himself and his scholars. In no more effective way can this be done than by the teacher's sharing the scholar's experiences outside the class. The scholar is absorbingly interested in certain games and sports. If he knows that the teacher enjoys similar recreation, a link of common understanding not soon easily broken will be forged between the two.

There is a wonderful magic in sympathy, and the teacher should see that it has full play between himself and his scholars. It will add greatly to the joy, as well as the effectiveness of his teaching.

### The Sunday School a "School"

Dr. Lyman Abbott, of the New York Outlook, was recently questioned by a correspondent about the place of the Sunday School in the church. One of the main points in his reply was that the Sunday School is a "school."

A school is a place where the scholars receive an education. It is the business of the Sunday School to provide a religious education for the children, the boys and girls, the young people and the adults who attend it.

There are three elements in a well rounded religious education,—instruction, worship and training. The scholars in every Sunday School should acquire adequate religious knowledge, they should learn to worship intelligently as well as sincerely, they should gain the ability to give suitable expression to religious feelings and convictions.

The materials and methods of religious education in the Sunday School should be graded to meet the interests and needs of all the scholars. Beginners, Primaries, Juniors, Intermediates, Young People and Adults,—to use the classification in common use—should each receive instruction, guidance in worship and training in expression, carefully adapted to their various ages and capacities.