

An Italian Sunday School

By Rev. J. D. Byrnes, B.D.

Superintendent of Missions for Northern Ontario

There is perhaps no work among foreigners in Canada more interesting or important than that of the Sunday School. The value of this work was very strongly impressed upon me a few weeks ago while visiting our Italian School at Sault Ste. Marie.

The missionary is an Italian and of course preaches in that language. The School, however, is conducted in English. Mr. Deans, an elder from St. Andrew's Church, is superintendent, and associated with him is Miss McCrea, principal of the Italian Public School, and a faithful staff of workers.

The Italian children are learning the English language in our public schools and consequently can read and write as well as any of our own boys and girls. The Sunday School, which is held in an old store, was opened by singing and repeating the Lord's Prayer and the Twenty-third Psalm in unison. The superintendent then asked me to speak to the School. This I gladly did, telling them Bible stories and asking them Biblical questions. It was pleasing to hear their ready and accurate answers. It was also delightful to see them using our Book of Praise and enthusiastically singing such hymns as "When mothers of Salem their children brought to Jesus," "Do no sinful action," and other hymns which we love to sing. When they went to their classes one could not help but note the hum of interested activity as these children repeated their memory verses, read the scriptures, or asked and answered questions.

Looking into the happy faces of these young Italians that afternoon, I could not help but think of the thousands upon thousands of the children among foreigners in Canada who have no minister or teacher to tell them about Jesus. It is a great thing to be able to help by our pennies and our prayers to send some one to tell them about the good things which we know of our Father and his love.

North Bay, Ont.



Some Ways of Promoting the Church Attendance of Children

By Miss Elsie P. McIntosh

1. *The Influence of the Sunday School Teacher.* One of the duties of Sunday School teachers is to lead the child to see that the Sunday School and church are organizations so closely related, that, to make the whole organization successful, teachers and scholars must be interested and work for both. Our Sunday School scholars of to-day are to be

the workers of the future, and teachers the ones who must instruct them in the way which will lead to future service. A teacher, by personal example and invitation, can often encourage the members of his or her class to attend church. A word of pleasure at seeing a child at church goes a long way to ensure further attendance.

2. *Church Attendance Cards.* In St. John's Church, Winnipeg, we have a system of church attendance cards which has been very successful indeed. Any child may receive a card, and each Sunday he is at church he may have it punched, or in case of sickness, by sending his card he may receive credit as if he were present. Then at the end of the year, each child attending 45 out of 52 Sundays is presented with a little Testament. Last year about 115 obtained a copy.

A special children's service was arranged for the presentation of the Testaments, and it was an inspiration to see the number who had been so regular. No doubt those who fell short of the mark last year, will try harder than ever this year, and we are looking forward to a larger number than ever of regular attendants from amongst the children.

3. *The Cradle Roll.* The Cradle Roll of the church does much to get the child connected with the church at an early age. Once a year in our church we have a Cradle Roll service, and it is a Sunday looked forward to by all, for everything seems so bright when the children, even the tiniest tots, are at the service.

4. *The Children's Hymn and Sermonette.* What is most looked forward to in the Sunday morning service of our church is the children's hymn and sermonette. To hear the children's voices ring out in the hymn which they seem to feel is their very own does one good, and to watch the faces of the children during the sermonette is to settle once for all the doubt as to whether they are interested or not. The sermonette is so simple that the youngest child may understand, but the truths are such as inspire all present.

I know several children whose parents are not regular church attendants, who never miss a Sunday themselves, and, in addition, they call and bring other children who have not been in the habit of attending church. This example, if copied by the older members, would add considerably to the church attendance.

Winnipeg



The Sunday School and Temperance

By Rev. A. Macgillivray, D.D.

Every province in the Dominion of Canada but two have gone "dry." The sale of intoxicants is illegal. "The burden of the bar" has been lifted off the community. The