

masters and teachers of all grades of schools, from bonnie Nova Scotia to the far famed pine Province of British Columbia. The railways will give the best possible rates to carry the members to whatever spot is decided upon as the best place for such an important gathering. Let us hear from all parts of Canada on this question: our columns are open for interchange of opinion on this matter.

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At the Annual Sunday School Convention, which this year met at Kingston, the fact was made public, and very emphatically lamented, that from statistics collected by the officials of the Association, it could not be said that one-half of the children in Ontario of school age attended Sunday School. Not one-half of the children in Ontario of school age attend Sunday School! If not one-half, how many? We would put the number at about 40 per cent. That is of those able to attend the schools of the country, taking 100 of them, only 40 attend the Sunday School. What say the Christian people of Ontario to this unpleasant statement? Would our readers take the trouble of thinking for a little of the circumstances of a very large proportion of our school population. Usually the Sunday School has its session in the church or in some part of the church building; the scholars live at varying distances from the church; those living within a mile may attend, but at a greater distance than a mile not many will attend, especially in winter, of which we in Ontario have each year three or four months. How many miles apart are churches in Ontario, even in the well settled parts of the province? We know Ontario pretty well, and when we project such a question and think of the truth in regard to it, we feel that there is great

room for improvement. Have we a church on an average for every ten miles? In Quebec, where the Roman Catholic Church is so powerful and so zealous, we are inclined to the opinion that it strives to have a parish church in every five or six miles distance. Whatever the truth may be as to distance, we ask our people what facilities do they offer to their children for attending school on Sunday? For obviously this has a very important bearing upon the question raised.

The teachers in our Sunday Schools are deserving of great praise on account of the work they do for the country; many of them are first-class men and women as regards their preparation and teaching power and those special qualifications are intensified by their zeal and devotion in the work which they so ardently love, and for the promotion of which they spend and are spent so willingly. But the above description does not apply to all our teachers in the Sunday School. All are zealous, but all are not well equipped. All may be willing, but all are not experienced, and never will be. In order to meet with any degree of fitness the serious problem before the country, the people must consider the question, devise liberal measures, and make proper provision for the training of the coming generation in the only knowledge which enables a citizen to do his duty, both to his country and to his Creator. The right answer to the question demands sacrifice—all good does—involves strenuous exertion and patient endurance, implies the purest and most enlightened patriotism. To give the question the satisfactory answer lays under contribution the love to the race, the love to our country, the supreme regard and devotion we give Him, whose we are and whose presence is our joy. Let no one be worried over the question,