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Sunday School Banner.

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., EDITOR.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1900.

The Home Department.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Northumberland County reports nine Home Departments with a membership of 173. The work is increasing. One superintendent reports that the Home Department has helped the Sundayschool numerically and financially. Another says: "Our Home Department brings our whole neighbourhood in touch with Sunday-school work,"

MANITOBA.

At the annual convention the Home Department secretary reported an increase in the number of Home Departments and in membership, the number now being 27 and the total membership 1,095. The largest department is in the Newdale Methodist school, the membership of which is 135, but the Brandon Methodist school follows hard after with an enrolment of 120.

WINTER HOME DEPARTMENTS.

At this season of the year, when many neighbourhood Sunday-schools are compelled to be closed on account of the severity of the winter, the plan of converting them into Home Departments for the season is worthy of consideration. This is done in some localities, and always with profit. It is an easy matter to supply the scholars with lesson helps for the winter months, and by the continuance of their studies they keep in closer touch with the work, and the way is open for resuming the school in the spring with greater interest. If there must be summer Sunday-schools, let there be an equal number of winter Home Departments.

A GOOD REMINDER.

A Home Department worker who is watching for opportunities to promote an interest in the work has printed, on slips of paper, the following, which he encloses in letters, or places in the hands of people as he has opportunity:

Is it your desire-

To interest adults in your Sundayschool ? s

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To interest parents in your Sundayschool ?

To increase attendance in your Sunday-school ?

To promote more Bible study in your Sunday-school ?

To secure a wider influence in your Sunday-school ?

To develop workers in your Sundayschool ?

To awaken new interest in your Sunday-school ?

Then start a Home Department.

HOW ONE PASTOR HELPED.

On a recent Sunday morning the pastor of the Lewis Avenue Congregational church, Brooklyn, N.Y., made an earnest appeal to all members of the congregation who do not attend Sunday-school in his church on Sunday afternoon to spend at least a half hour each week at home in the study of the regular lessons. Cards were distributed through the congregation, and all who were willing to become members were given an opportunity to sign the same. As a result of this movement over five hundred persons have already signed the cards.