

the old one, turned upside down and wrong side out. Lucy goes on the mountain trip, and mother stays at home and keeps house. Emily is tired of study, and must lie down in the afternoon; but mother, though her back aches, has no time for such an indulgence.

Dear girls, take good care of your mothers. Coax them to let you relieve them of some of the harder duties, which for years they have patiently borne.—*Intelligencer*.

Teachers' Weekly Meeting.

BY THE REV. A. ANDREWS.

"HELP us to help each other, Lord." All officers and teachers of the Sabbath-school should attend the weekly meeting for the study of the lesson; comparison of ideas on the doctrines and lessons to be taught, and methods of instruction.

Personal home study of the lesson by every teacher should always precede the teachers' meeting, to secure the best results.

Teachers' meetings afford regular opportunity for conversation in regard to classes, individual scholars, and other school matters. Here also we may arrange for quarterly reviews.

If adult scholars attend, it is well to dismiss them before school management is considered.

We cannot well overestimate the importance of teachers' meetings.

1. Teachers can there materially help each other in their work.

2. They create a common interest among the teachers.

3. Promote fraternal association

4. And ensure best possible results of school organization. However excellent that school may be without it, this agency would prove most valuable in accomplishing still greater good. I notice that in the excellent convention recently held in North York, the Hon. S. H. Blake spoke "of the importance of the regular weekly meeting, for the study of the lesson by teachers."

D. Fotheringham, Esq., P. I. S., was allowed fifty minutes to conduct a specimen teachers' meeting, and subsequently a resolution passed, "That a well-defined object and plan of studying in the teachers' meeting is important as a means of development in knowledge and power to the teachers themselves and to the wise and successful presentation of the living word to the scholars." See report. These are among the latest testimonies on this topic.

Who should conduct the teachers' meeting? The superintendent of the school has the responsibility for the whole machinery. But where the pastor is able to devote time to the work, he seems best qualified to instruct the teachers. Often the superintendent is himself the best adapted to do the work. In some cases he may wisely induce the more advanced teachers to take their turns with him from week to week.

Where should the teachers' meeting be held?

In a comfortable room, well lighted and warmed; where the members may be seated conveniently near each other and the leader; little can be done at long range. It may be the vestry of the church or the residence of the superintendent, the pastor, or one of the teachers. In some cases it passes round from house to house.

When to hold the teachers' meeting? Not early in the week. Let the teachers have opportunity of study first, and meet together about Friday or Saturday.

How shall the teachers' meeting be conducted? Many ways, each excellent, vary from time to time.

1. Sometimes call for a few leading thoughts on the lesson; then take the verses in their order. Always recognize the value of question and answer in teaching.

2. Another method. Let the class ask two questions on each verse, to be answered after all questions have been asked. The secretary writes these questions quickly, as the lesson advances, then a few miscellaneous questions also written down. Now let the class answer the questions as the secretary reads them out one after another.

3. Some take the verses as they come, or a paragraph consisting of several verses, and ask questions and receive replies as the lesson proceeds.

4. And still another method may be sometimes (not often) used; let the leader in twenty minutes give an address on the lesson, and then by questions reviewing his own address, to be followed by questions from the class; the leader answering as best he can any question not satisfactorily answered by members of the class.

There are only three ways of proper answer to a question in the class. 1. By obvious statement containing self-evident truth. 2. Quotation from parallel scriptures. 3. By frank avowal, I don't know. Discussion should be discouraged, it will kill any teachers' meeting.

Time. The lesson should rarely exceed forty minutes, often thirty minutes will be better.

All engaged. We must secure the co-operation of every one present, else they will not care to come very often.

DIFFICULTIES.

An old recipe for cooking a hare runs, "First catch your hare, then"—So here. Teachers' meetings are few; I fear there are fewer than there were some years ago.

1. It is hard to get a free night.

2. The teachers most needing help usually are most indifferent and irregular in attendance.

3. Then to get the suitable person to conduct it.

But desirous of a meeting, let any two or more teachers resolve to have one; let them have courage such as we spoke about recently. If a whole evening really cannot be secured, then half an hour after the prayer-meeting may be utilized, or half an hour before the school