

public schools, who are not in sympathy with these laws, may realize that it is not optional with Boards of Education and teachers whether such instruction be given, the laws in our various States very generally specify that it shall be given all pupils in all schools supported wholly or in part by public money, and that this be withheld where there is a failure to comply with these provisions. Utilize the press that weak places may be strengthened by a knowledge of the law, then if its requirements are not met the subject should receive more emphatic attention; while liquor leagues are recommending free drinks to boys as a means of creating appetite it is needful that we make the most of the opportunity given by Scientific Temperance Instruction.

As a religious society one of our best opportunities for temperance work is through our First-day schools. Is it not possible for these to do more in the future than they have in the past toward shaping *definite, active* sentiment on the temperance question? for we must admit that even among men and women who have grown with our First-day schools there is yet need of an awakening. We believe such work as is outlined by temperance committees, in which our First-day schools can assist by co-operating, should, with the consent of the superintendent, be presented; thus both lines of work are strengthened and our young people are given an example of the application of Christian principles to present conditions.

We need more illustrated leaflets for general distribution even among adults, those not sufficiently interested to read the usual leaflet will unconsciously glance at a picture and the lesson in their minds.

Committee service, and in fact our temperance meetings, bring an individual responsibility. Are we always careful to meet this with due preparation, or are our meetings less effective than they might be because we have

not previously directed our thoughts toward the work desirable to be accomplished by the committee or the subjects to be considered at the meeting, taking with us matured thoughts and an awakened sympathy; have we not missed many important lessons and afterwards found ourselves poorly prepared for helpfulness because we have idly waited until the appointed time for service. Surely the inner light will guide us just as truly if we have previously utilized our gifts. One line of committee work that is oftentimes questioned is that of legislation; until we have Representatives previously pledged against the liquor power through State and national organization, the ideal course would be to have representative members of our Society at State and national capitals to urge the passage of such bills as will forward our work. Considering the uncertainty of legislative action such a course would require great expenditure of time and money. It was a noticeable fact at our last Philanthropic Union that nearly all reform legislation that had been attempted failed to pass legislative bodies. Was this labor lost? Are we to drop all official communication with Representatives, and stop sending memorials and petitions?

Whether or not we secure the end desired let us continue this work; it gives an opportunity to bring needed legislation before the home people, and obliges legislators to place themselves on record. If legislators smile when measures are introduced touching the morals of the people rather than their pocket books, it is proof positive that a grave mistake has been made somewhere.

Friends should be alive to the need of considering this question from a financial standpoint, but where it does seem needful to meet this phase of the question there is abundant evidence that the liquor interest is having the financial advantage.

Equal suffrage! That this has a direct bearing upon the solution of the