

The Synod of Toronto and Kingston is the first of the three central Synods to resolve upon the appointment of a Field Worker within its bounds. This action was taken at its meeting last October, and was influenced largely by the urgent demands of the Forward Movement as this affects work in Sunday Schools and amongst young people.

It is worthy of note that the most effective Sunday School workers in the Synod were the most insistent upon the need of such an appointment. These workers, who had been doing their best to promote Sunday School work in their own congregations and throughout the Synod, realized how vast and important this work is, and how impossible it is to overtake it without the help and inspiration of some thoroughly qualified leader who can give to it his whole time and undivided energies.

### "Selected," "Inspected," "Neglected"

There was a keen edge to the saying quoted by Rev. C. A. Myers at a recent gathering of church workers: "We live in an age of selected wheat, inspected hogs and neglected children."

It is not, of course, true to the same extent as formerly that children are neglected. Much more attention is being paid by the state to their physical and intellectual well-being than at times well within the memory of comparatively young people. The Church is making vastly better provision for the religious training of the young than in the days of our fathers.

But, while all this is true, there is still far too many neglected children amongst us. The state is not yet doing all it might do, especially for under-privileged children. The Church is not yet doing its full duty to the young in her membership. So long as there are 100,000 boys and girls in Canada outside of Presbyterian Sunday Schools, who ought to be in them, our Church dare not slacken its efforts for the salvation of young lives and their enlistment in the service of Christ and their fellows.

And, of the home, where the basic training—or lack of training—of the child originates, may it not be said that a new value is being placed on the child and a new sense of obligation for training in whatsoever things are true, pure, lovely, and of good report, is taking possession of parents, who, by God's own all-wise design, have been committed the initial shaping and guiding of the life of each new generation?

### The Teacher's Preparation

Nothing can take the place of assiduous care in preparation on the part of the teacher. Time and pains spent in getting ready to meet the class on Sunday will bring a reward which can be obtained in no other way and which is denied by a law not less unchangeable than those of the Medes and Persians to the unprepared teacher. There is no pedagogical beatitude for him who is careless and slovenly in his preliminary thought, or who neglects opportunities of fitting himself to meet the demands of his important weekly task,—a task which, like all tasks worth while—has its special difficulties to be overcome.

The work of preparation cannot be commenced too early in the week. Many of the best teachers start on the Sunday evening to make ready for their class session of the following Lord's Day. Each day of the week, from Monday until Saturday, they do some work on the lesson. The familiar motto of the artist: "No day without a line" is theirs.

In the best sort of preparation for teaching much more is included than work on the lesson immediately in hand. If his teaching is to be the most effective possible, the teacher must be trained in the art of instruction. He must know the most approved methods of imparting instruction and of class management. In short, he must be a trained workman, able to use his tools with skill and accuracy.

It is obvious, also, that the teacher's preparation must include a knowledge ever growing in thoroughness and sympathy with his scholars. He must know them and see the interests of their daily lives if he is to be to them the teacher who will influence them most powerfully.

No easy task, to be sure, is that of the teacher. But when was anything easy that is of real and lasting value? It is always true that only by those who are ready to put forth strenuous effort the stars are reached.