

regular places for the meeting together of Friends to unite in devotion, is that an occasion for helping others is afforded. Friends who maintain a meeting solely for their own spiritual comfort derive but little benefit from it, and deserve less. Every established meeting must be a center from which an awakening, regenerating, and converting influence is sent out upon the world, or it will languish and soon or late come to the death it merits.

This influence may be felt in a silent meeting, but a meeting that is always silent will lose its power. This influence may be exerted upon those who do not attend through those who do. But a meeting that is satisfied to do its work always in an indirect way, will be satisfied with doing very little. Every Friend, whether he attend an Indulged Meeting or any other, is responsible for two things: first, the life of the meeting; and second, the size of it. If he do nothing to make the meeting worth attending, and nothing to increase the attendance, he is unworthy of the privilege of attending. He will do neither, however, so long as he tries to do either. What he must try to do is to show to others the reasonable, satisfying, inspiring religion that he enjoys, and he must do it for their sakes, and not for the sake of the Society. If we valued our religion as we say we do—and think we do—we should be so filled with the desire to share it with others, that those of us who can speak would speak with life, and those who can only listen would bestir ourselves to bring in other listeners.

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At a recent meeting held to consider First-day school matters, the mission of the First-day school was defined in these various ways: To give the children a knowledge of the Society; to prepare them to be useful members of the meeting; to give them a place

in the organization; to give them a knowledge of the Bible; and to instill lessons of right living. This last is certainly the most important work of the First-day school, viz.: to help the children to form habits of cheerful obedience to the laws of right conduct.

A little girl, a member of a certain Sunday school, having become more gentle and helpful, told her mother that it was because of the talks Miss —— had given in the Sunday school class.

The admonitions reiterated at home, as they must be, even if given by wise and loving parents, often lose their force because of familiarity; while the First-day school teacher, an outsider, may put life into the homely teachings and make them more important by her interest in them. The parents' hands may be upheld by this aid from outside and the First-day school teacher be a real minister to the children and young people with whom he comes in contact.

The consideration of the harmful effects of demoralizing publications should always bring up the other side, the good effects of wholesome and uplifting literature. A person's taste in this direction is most easily formed in his childhood; hence, it behooves all parents to see that their children are provided with books and magazines of the right kind. And in doing this, one must take into account the voracity of young appetites. While children will read many times over a favorite story if nothing new is to be had, they should be provided with enough that is wholesome and good, to keep them from making an effort to get that which is not. A good children's magazine, such as "The Youth's Companion," "St. Nicholas," or "The Harpers' Round Table," should be considered a necessity in a family where there are children, and these can be saved and reread when there is nothing new to be had. The traveling libraries are making it possible for Friends in isolated places