

stamps for missions and sent them to Mr. Bartlett, Madoc. The Juniors got our superintendent a present of which she is very proud. We put it on the Christmas boat. We have had no interruptions in our meetings, except the time of diphtheria, but our leaders have always taken their meetings on the appointed day, and our work is progressing; but the best of all is God is with us."

They Practice What They Preach.

There is an organization in Orillia of Junior Epworth Leaguers in connection with the Methodist church. It is a very active organization and its work doesn't end with its weekly meetings each Wednesday afternoon after school, in the Methodist Sunday School room. It undertakes "great" things and always succeeds in accomplishing what its members undertake. When the *News-Letter* heard of some of the real good things it was doing a reporter investigated. There is an element of practical sincerity amongst a group of boys, whose ages range from 7 to 16, who will give up their play and spend the best part of a day in sawing and splitting wood for some poor woman who is alone in the world and unable to afford the luxury of hired help. But that is exactly the way in which the boys of the League engage themselves. When an occasion for such an undertaking arises there is a call for volunteers at a regular meeting, and invariably every hand goes up. The girls of the League are none the less active. They busy themselves in visiting and taking flowers to the sick, gathering old clothes for poor people, and collecting old papers and magazines for distribution amongst the lumber camps. This work is carried on continually without let up. The League is divided into committees. The function of one committee is to write a letter of congratulation to each member of the League on the day of the member's birthday. When the boys go out on a wood-chopping expedition they are followed by a committee of the Senior Leaguers with a basket of lunch, which is partaken of during a breathing spell.

The League has a membership of 119. It was organized by Rev. R. N. Burns. It is a Methodist organization, but children of other denominations are admitted to membership on the consent of their parents. The Juniors are in charge of a staff of superintendents. These are Miss Venner, Miss Annie Cameron, Miss Ida Venner, Miss Elliott, and Miss Belfry.—*Orillia News-Letter*.

A Simple Name Puzzle.

My first and my last five hundred express;
My third is four hundred and ninety-five less.
The first of all letters my second contains;
The first of all numbers my fourth one main-tains.
My whole is the name of a poet and king,
Whose grand compositions we oftentimes sing.

Who Was He?

His own name and his father's name are given together eleven times in the Old Testament. He and another young man showed their great faith in God, while all the rest of the Hebrews doubted Him. For this they narrowly escaped being stoned by the angry people. Forty-five years passed away, and this brave man, now growing old, received a present of a large tract of land as a reward of his faithfulness. Of him and his companion it is said "they wholly followed the Lord." Who was he, and what was his father's name?

If you want to know what the Missionary Stamp League is, and what it does, send your name and address to Rev. S. T. Bartlett, Madoc, Ontario.

The Sunday School.

Suggestive Hints for the Superintendent.

1. Is your school a department of your church? If not, why not?
2. Have you ever asked your pastor to preach upon the importance of the Sunday School work? If not ask him. Some who ought to teach may then clearly see their privilege and duty.
3. What provision have you made for teacher training? Look up the question of normal class instruction.
4. How is your Sunday School supported? Self-supporting? But should not a father provide for his child?
5. Is the preaching service more largely attended because of your Sunday School work? It should be, or some one has been negligent.
6. Has the church grown by additions from the Sunday School? "With the mouth confession is made into salvation." Look into this matter; it is worth your while.
7. What are your teachers teaching from Sunday to Sunday? Why not have a teachers' meeting, if you have none, and aid them in the selection and presentation of truth? It is essential to the best work.
8. Is the parish growing? Is your school growing proportionately? If it is not, there is need of a little more spiritual "fire" to produce greater missionary "zeal."
9. Has your Sunday School increased in power in the last year? If not, look within.—*Rev. W. Pease*.

Supply Teachers.

There are various ways of handling the question of supply or substitute teachers in the Sunday School. One method we know of is to secure pledges from persons who cannot teach regularly, but who like to teach when they can. The pledge is that they will teach one Sunday a month, and they designate what Sunday it shall be, first, second, third, etc. This list of names is handed to the proper officer, and during the week this officer sends notices to those who are due to teach as supplies on the following Sunday. The following is the form of notice sent:

SUPPLY TEACHER'S NOTICE.

Dear Friend,—This is to remind you that next Sunday is your day to act as supply teacher in our Sunday School if you are needed.

Do not fail to avail yourself of the benefit of the teachers' meeting on next Friday evening and come prepared to take a class on Sunday. The service rendered in this way by our corps of supply teachers is very helpful, and is fully appreciated.—*The International Evangel*.

The Merit System.

Mr. W. H. Parr, of Winnipeg, shows the following letter concerning a plan that has been adopted with good success in Grace Church: "The best feature of our school at present is the system of merit, which we have had in operation for over a year, known as 'The Loyal Sunday School Army of America.' Certificates are given once a quarter, and scholars securing four consecutive certificates during the year are awarded a 'diploma of merit.' On the right and left-hand corners of the diploma are places for stars, and one star is affixed when the record is maintained during the second year, and a golden star if the record is continued during the third year. Records are based on punct-

ual attendance, lesson preparation, and offering. From our experience here, we cannot commend the system too highly. The class books are in uniformity with the system. Also at the close of each session, 'star' and 'perfect' classes are announced from the platform. A 'star' class constituting every scholar present with Bible; a 'perfect' class, all present, lesson prepared, offering, and Bible. Perhaps you are already conversant with this scheme; if not, Mr. W. B. Jacobs, Chicago, would supply forms upon application. Why cannot the Methodist schools of the Dominion adopt this system? All the forms used now are American, which, as you can readily understand, is not satisfactory. A slight improvement could be made in the diploma form, allowing space for the local officers—pastor, superintendent, and secretary of the school—while at present there is only provision for the International secretary and local superintendent. This, with some other changes, could possibly be made."

Stamps for Missions.

Bring up the children in the way they should go—and, lo! the ideal church members are at hand!

The Central Methodist Sunday School, of Stratford, has determined to do its best to make the rising generation ideal, so far, at least, as the missionary spirit is concerned. To this end they have set apart every sixth Sunday as a "Missionary Sunday," when the collection is given to missions, and, generally, a missionary address is given after the lesson is over. The children are urged to earn the money they give, and many have been the schemes used by the different classes—sawing, baking, getting subscribers for such papers as pay cash commissions, holding horses, and numerous other ways that interested boys and girls devise. But the most satisfactory scheme of all—because it is within the reach of every child—has been the gathering of cancelled stamps, and sending them, ready washed, to Rev. S. T. Bartlett, of Madoc, who sends the money from their sale direct to the school. This scheme was started in the Central school last December, and by April 1st the children had earned \$8.25 by this means alone.

The prospects are that this sum will be but an item compared with what the Central will do in the stamp business in the future, for at first so many were sceptical as to common stamps being of any value; but now, that the first effort has proved such a financial success, the interest is growing, and the stamp gatherers are multiplying.

The Central Sunday School is very grateful to Rev. Mr. Bartlett for this chance, not only for the increase it has enabled them to make in their missionary funds, but also for the opportunity it presents for every member of the school, from the primary class up, to do something practical for missions.

The Waterloo District of the Montreal Conference continues its yearly examinations for the scholars of the Sunday Schools throughout the district. Examination papers are prepared for the junior, intermediate and senior departments. The results are made known, and prizes distributed at the summer picnic for the district which is held in July or August.

The American Sunday School Union, whose headquarters are in Philadelphia, will on May 25, celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary in Philadelphia. This is the oldest and largest Sunday School missionary society in America, having for its field of operations the whole United States, and has organized over one hundred thousand Sunday Schools during its seventy-five years of work.