

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

The Opportunities of the Rural School

In rural schools the summer presents opportunities surpassed by no other season. Days are long, the roads are at their best, and stormy days are infrequent. By diligent effort interest and attendance may be brought to the maximum. This is a favorable time of year to carry on a campaign for an increase of members. Let a committee on new members be appointed and set to work, or other appropriate means for gaining new recruits adopted. Many small rural schools may increase their membership by twenty-five, fifty, or even one hundred per cent. this season if a summer campaign is well organized and earnestly carried out.—The Sunday School Journal

Shepherding and Training

Not only is the winning of the pupils to Christ wrapped up in the Sunday School teacher's work, but also their growth in grace and their training to become winners of others. Through his work by teaching and example, those under his tutelage are to be inspired to make use of their privileges as children of God and grow thereby to become strong Christian men and women. While passing through this wonderful process of transformation and growth, they are also to be enlightened and trained so that their knowledge and love and energy will be expressed in actual Christian service.—Rev. W. E. Schell, D.D., in The Otterbein Teacher

Keeping out of Ruts

In a way the Sunday School teacher's work is monotonous. He must meet about the same set of scholars, in the same place, at the same time, and his lessons are always from the same book. To a poor teacher this becomes wearisome; and, after plodding for a while through the routine, he gives up his work in disgust. But a good teacher finds endless and fascinating variety. Each lesson is a fresh road, whose windings present novel delight at every turn. "Getting into ruts"—that is a prime peril of pedagogy. The wagon drags. The wheels are up to the hubs. It is poke, poke, poke, and it is creak, creak, creak. The driver is lucky if a wheel is not wrenched off or an axle broken. To get out of ruts if one is in them, or keep out of ruts if one has thus far avoided them, is

one of the first desires of any teacher that knows his business.—Amos R. Wells, in Sunday School Essentials

The Theological Graduate of the Future

The graduate of the future theological school will be expected to know how to conduct a service of worship effectively not only for adults, but also for children of all ages. It will be required of him that he be able to present the gospel message in scientifically trustworthy terms. His preaching will be informational as well as inspirational. His church will become the most influential single institution in the community where it is located, for it will be intelligently in sympathy with, and a vital part of, the programmes of community betterment, at the same time undergirding them all with adequate religious motives. Under his guidance the local church will once more regain its rightful place of leadership in the community.—The Christian Educator

The Value of Sunshine

The teacher's own character, his own life, is a strong and dominating influence. He must be able to create a certain moral sunshine in the light and good cheer of which his pupils will thrive spiritually as they cannot thrive under any other influence.

I think that we sometimes overlook the value of real moral sunshine. It is a great thing when it fairly radiates from a teacher. It is a powerful and persuasive force. Probably not a boy or girl in the class could exactly define it. It had entered into the soul of the little girl who said to her mother:

"Our Sunday School teacher is awfully good."

"What makes you think that?" asked the mother.

"Well, you just sort of feel it."

"In what way do you feel it?"

"Well, you feel as if you would hate to do anything bad and have her find it out because it would make her feel bad; and, somehow or other, you feel as if you would like to be like she is—real good, but real happy."—Paul Creighton, in The Baptist Teacher