

While the Reports show an aggregate of about fifteen hundred preaching appointments in the various Circuits and Missions, there are but a little over seven hundred Wesleyan Schools in operation. Of this number, less than one-half are governed by the disciplinary constitution, while in more than three hundred the catechisms of our Church are not used; two hundred and sixteen Union Schools are reported, in which our people co-operate. The entire staff of Teachers amounts to nearly seven thousand, of whom more than two thousand are not members of our Church.

Your Committee would again call the attention of the Conference to the important subject of our Sunday School literature. The number of volumes in libraries this year is about one hundred and nineteen thousand, but of these considerably less than one-half are Methodist publications. Your Committee also observe that out of seven hundred and twenty-one schools only two hundred and fifteen take the Sunday School Advocate, representing a circulation of about seven thousand copies. They are convinced that if the matter was taken up heartily by our Ministers and Preachers, the circulation of that incomparable periodical might be increased fourfold. Seventy-one Schools are reported as subscribing for other papers.

It also appears from the reports that no effort has hitherto been made to supply magazines or papers for the use of our Sunday School Teachers. In connection with this subject it may be mentioned that your Committee have had before them a memorial from the Sunday School Committee of the Montreal Centre Circuit, urging the publication of a scheme of lessons for the use of our Sunday Schools, and, also, recommending that, if possible, brief notes on the lessons be published in the *Guardian* for the benefit of Teachers. In view of the whole case your Committee would recommend that the Book Steward be authorized, should he obtain sufficient promise of support, to begin the publication