

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES.

THE CHURCH S. S. MAGAZINE, for November, referring to a remark of the Dean of St. Paul's that "in most Sunday schools the teachers are very inferior, in their power of imparting instruction, to the trained teachers of the day schools," says that during the last quarter of a century upwards of 10,000 teachers drawn from all parts of England and Wales have submitted to an Examination in the Bible and Prayer Book, and in the art of teaching; and this is probably not a third of the Church people who have attended the classes and received the advantages of a systematic course of Bible and Prayer Book teaching, as a result of the work inaugurated and carried on by the Church of England Sunday School Institute.

At Zion College, London, on Saturday afternoon, October 14, some 600 prizes and certificates were awarded to successful candidates in the last Teachers' Examination of the C.E.S.S.I.

Sunday, Nov. 19th, is the jubilee of the Church of England Sunday School Institute, and sermons in its behalf will be preached in several hundred parishes of the thirty-two dioceses in England and Wales, and the offertories will be devoted to the Institute Jubilee Fund. It is to be hoped that the day will also be observed in Canada, and that this noble Church Society may not be forgotten in the "craze" for Undenominational societies and work.

The Church S.S. Magazine for November contains the Lesson Notes for the first four Sundays of the second year of the Five Years' Course of "Bible and Prayer Book Teaching" of the C.E.S.S. Institute. Lesson I on the English Prayer Book is admirable. This will be continued every month. It is to be wished that all S.S. teachers of the Church of England in Canada would use the same Course and the children receive the same instruction.

The teaching on the Prayer Book is well prefaced by the following quotation from Principal Tulloch (Presbyterian): "Is it possible to deny that the English Prayer Book has been, for clergy and people alike, the vehicle of as real and living devotion as the human heart has ever breathed into the ear of the living God? Is it possible to doubt that the worship of Anglican Christendom has been for generations as hearty and spontaneous as was ever offered, or ever will be offered by imperfect human creatures?"

It is claimed that there has been a gain in Sunday school membership in the United States during the past three years of 1,191,289, and of 94,150 in the British American Provinces. It is also stated that there are in the U.S. 121,797 Sunday schools, 1,303,254 teachers and officers, and 9,688,506 scholars. New York State leads with 8,558 schools,

122,299 teachers, and 1,050,738 scholars. In the percentage of population Delaware leads with 28.4 per cent. The average in the United States is 17.5 per cent., and in Canada 13.5 per cent. The total for the world is given as 227,496 Sunday schools, 2,239,674 teachers, and 20,158,134 scholars. Rev. Mr. Duhring, a delegate from the S.S. Association of the Diocese of Pennsylvania to the Convention held in Minnesota in September last, claimed 23,000,000 as the number of teachers and scholars. "Let them march (he says) in street parade ten abreast, they would make a line 2,000 miles long, that would require one hundred days to pass a given point at fair marching speed. In Indian file the line would reach around the world, and take nigh three years to march past a given point."

The American Church Sunday School Magazine, now in its twelfth year, is full of interesting reading for S.S. Teachers. The November number contains condensed reports of several of the papers read at the Minnesota Convention. It also says that the Special Days of Intercession for Sunday schools, appointed by the Church in England and America (15th and 16th Oct.), "have certainly been very generally observed."

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