



The Sunday School

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation."
Paul to Timothy.

The Teacher's Commission

"GIVE diligence to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth."

—2 Tim. 2:15. R.V.

Deserved Recognition.

The Sunday-school of Bridge Street Church, Belleville, did the handsome thing by their superintendent, Mr. William Johnson, by presenting him with the sum of \$700 to pay his expenses to the World's Sunday-school Convention at Jerusalem. This was a deserved recognition of thirty years of faithful work. We trust Mr. Johnson will have a good time, and return safely.

Reform or Resign.

"Our school," says a Sunday-school superintendent, "reminds me of what an Irishman said about his native country: 'Its greatest trouble is with the absentee; the whole land is full of 'em'! Our difficulty is with teachers who do not care enough for their work to be present, or send a substitute, or notify me. One, for instance, goes visiting every third Sunday, and comes up smiling when I meet her as if, 'Oh, I was away from home last Sunday!' were all the excuse needed. I wish she would either reform or resign."

Get a Good Start.

We are not in favor of Sunday-schools closing up for the winter, but many of them do it, nevertheless. There has been more justification for this during the past winter than perhaps ever before, on account of the severe weather and bad roads. Every effort should be made, however, to get the Sunday-school machinery in motion as early as possible in the spring. It would help greatly to have a Rally Day, say on the first Sunday in May, and commence the study of the Supplemental Lessons. The year's course could be easily completed before Christmas, and a special "graduation service" held.

Work in the Colleges.

At the close of the lectures on Sunday-school and Epworth League methods, delivered by the General Secretary, at Victoria and Mount Allison Universities, examinations were held, which were taken by forty-five of the students. The papers sent in by those who wrote were of a high order of merit, showing that more than a perfunctory interest had been taken in the lectures. It was no small task to decide who were entitled to the prizes, as several of the writers were very close together in their marking. The first prize at Victoria goes to Mr. Amos Thomas, who made an average of 97 per cent., and the second to Mr. S. A. Kemp, who had 96. At Sackville, the

young ladies carried off the honors, the first prize going to Miss C. E. Pridham, whose average was 94 per cent., and the second being captured by Miss Lavinia Hocken, with 90 per cent. We congratulate our young friends on their success, and hope that, both in theory and practice, they may find this department of work pleasant and profitable.

A Fine Idea.

New scholars are introduced into the Methodist Sunday-school at Brandon, Man., by means of an application card, like the following:

BRANDON METHODIST S. S.

I desire to become a member of the Brandon Methodist S. S. and will attend each session of the School unless hindered by circumstances over which I have no control.

Name.....

Residence.....

Introduced by.....

Brandon, 190..

To get scholars committed to regular attendance in this way, at the very commencement, is an excellent idea.

For Temperance Lessons.

It will be of little use to have regular temperance lessons in the Sunday-school, unless superintendents and teachers inform themselves, so as to be able to interest and instruct the scholars. Ringing the changes on old worn-out platitudes will not do. There must be something stimulating and fresh. Realizing this, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union publishes a quarterly "Temperance Lesson Leaf," devoted to the exposition and illustration of the temperance lessons, and is prepared by Rev. C. T. Scott, B.A., of London. It is really a splendid help for the study of these lessons and should be in the hands of all our teachers. The March issue pays special attention to the cigarette. It can be obtained from Mrs. Frank White, 437 Pall Mall Street, London, Ont., at 2 cents each, or 10 cents per dozen. Over 16,000 copies of the Leaflet are being circulated every quarter.

Training Class.

The Sunday-school of Zion Church, Rat Portage, conducts a Teacher's Training Class every week. The pastor, superintendent, and teachers take turns in leading it. Something of this kind should be carried on in every Sunday-school.

The Supplemental Course.

We are glad to report that considerable interest has been aroused in the Supplemental Course of Studies, which has recently been introduced into our Church, and which has been explained in recent numbers of this Journal. Several leading schools have made inquiries about the Course and have secured the leaflets. We hope to hear of many more.

Mr. Stewart Muirhead, General Field Secretary of the Nova Scotia Sunday-school Association, sends the following letter expressing his approval of the plan:

"I am very glad that your Church has adopted this practical Course of lessons for your schools. You will find it just the thing that is required to meet a real need in our Sunday-schools at the present time. I have had the honor and privilege of introducing the Course into most of the schools now using it in the Province, and therefore have practical knowledge of its working.

1. In the schools using it, the reports show that the scholars are very much interested in these studies. They give them definite work. The fact of their being progressive also makes them interesting to the scholars.

2. It is very easy for the teachers to manage the work. Of course the superintendent has much to do with this. In some schools, where the ten minutes have elapsed for this work, a bell is rung by the superintendent, which is a signal for all classes to take up the uniform lesson. If the school work is all planned carefully by officers and teachers, there is no difficulty in giving to this work its proper place.

3. The results of this work are very apparent, although we have only been using the lesson for two years.

4. The securing of regular study of the church catechism.

5. A higher regard for the school by the older scholars.

6. The placing of scholars of the same age in one class.

7. Memorizing of Scriptures. This has been neglected in the majority of our schools, and the Supplemental Lessons are getting into our schools again this most important exercise.

8. Making scholars acquainted with the Bible and its construction.

I cannot too highly recommend this work. I believe it will settle the question of graded lessons for the Sunday-school.

Uniform S. S. Records

A NEW series of Sunday-school Records, for general use in Methodist schools, has been prepared, which embody a number of new and valuable features.

THE CLASS REGISTER

provides a place for the scholar's name, age, residence, date of admission, whether member of church or not. Columns are supplied for recording "attendance," "church attendance," "hobbies brought from home," "home study," "verses learned," and "offering." Provision is also made for quarterly and yearly summaries. Altogether the book is the most comprehensive and up-to-date that has ever been issued.

Price, 75 cents per dozen.

SECRETARY'S RECORD

A Secretary's Record Book has been prepared to harmonize with the Class Register, which gives the fullest information concerning each session of the school, and is suitably bound in cloth, and will last for three years.

Price, \$2.00 each.

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