

whole science of sight singing lies in the acquisition of this principle, and the actual knowledge of all the notes and intervals is unnecessary.

Utilize the talent in your school. There is in every school, no matter how small, some boy or girl, who, with a little training, could sing a solo quite acceptably. Seek out these scholars and introduce a solo some time in place of a regular hymn, perhaps having the entire school join in the refrain. Or, perhaps, some scholar plays well upon an instrument, if so, have an instrumental solo occasionally. Remember that the best sermons in life are not always expressed in words. I have seen great audiences melted to tears by the soulful playing of an instrument.

Create a spirit of good-natured rivalry between the boys and girls. Let each sing a verse alone once in a while, and compliment the one who does the best.

Observe all the great festival occasions. This will create an atmosphere of pleasant expectations, and the weeks of preparation along musical lines are always among the happiest of the year.

Have a good piano, if possible. No other instrument is quite as good for Sunday-school work. The piano, being an instrument of percussion, is more responsive than an organ. Whatever kind of instrument you have to work with, be sure and keep it in repair. A few dollars spent, once in a while, would keep an organ or a piano in good condition. We would not think of using the instrument in our homes that is used in the Sunday-school and church.—From an address by Isaac H. Meredith.

An Evangelistic Agency

More and more are we discovering in the Sunday-school a spiritual force. That it has failed measurably in the past, through lack of adaptation to methods and means, is patent. That it is rapidly measuring up to its opportunities and exerting an increasing beneficent influence is more evident. Perhaps the most marked development in the conduct of the Sunday-school has been in evangelism. There are increasing numbers from year to year who ascribe their conversion to this one influence. No longer is the Sunday-school only a convenient place for the young to congregate for a Sabbath afternoon hour, and, in a very unsatisfactory manner, impart a twenty-minute lesson. The school is a saving station. Our Church is realizing the value of this unworked field as a recruiting ground for the kingdom. Teachers are more and more being impressed with the larger responsibility of their position. They are to be shepherds of the young intrusted to their care. Already has the appeal gone forth from the leaders of our Church Sunday-school work in the interest of Decision Day. Palm Sunday has been designated as an eminently proper day for deciding for Christ in our schools. This appeal, sent forth to all Methodists, was published in last week's Western. In its suggestions are presented for the successful observance of the day which, if properly followed, will mean much to the Church.

Why should not the Sunday-school be evangelistic in character? Why should not our leaders expect the conversion of the children under the influence of this Sabbath hour? Just as in secular education the true teaching is that which comprehends not only the mere impartation of knowledge, but the additional and all-important inspiration for life and the direction of ambition and ideals, so with the Sunday-school. It not only exists to instruct in Bible facts and history, but beyond this there must be the definite pointing to Christ. There must be a conscious and intelligent decision for Him,

the choice of His way, and the direction of life in the beginnings of righteousness.—Western Christian Advocate.

The Pastor and the Sunday-School

Dr. P. S. Henson, minister at Tremont Temple, Boston, has solved the vexing question of the relation of the pastor to the Sunday-school in a very admirable way. All pastors feel that they ought to be in touch with their Sunday-schools; but the regular sessions are so brief that there is no time for the pastor to deal with the school as a whole without displacing the usual work.

In the great Temple school it has been arranged to give review Sunday to the pastor. Doctor Henson takes full charge of the school on that day, and gives an analysis and general survey of the lessons for the quarter, asking questions and giving light on obscure points until the whole school has a graphic, clear, and comprehensive idea of the chief points in the lessons for the quarter. This exercise is always full of life and interest.

For the training of the teachers, Doctor Henson has established a weekly Bible study on Tuesday evenings at half-past eight. There is a book to be studied and questions are asked and answered. The studies are not confined to the Sunday-school lessons, but are upon the general subject of the Bible, its origin, nature, intent, and scope. The class began with forty attendants, but quickly ran up to two hundred, meeting in Lormer Hall. A large amount of interest has been developed. While primarily intended for the training of the teachers in the Tremont Temple Sunday-school, the class is open to all who will do the work, and is sure to greatly increase the efficiency of those who pursue the studies with regularity and persistency.

Many pastors who have been puzzled

to know how to put themselves in touch with their Sunday-schools in the most helpful and effective way will take a hint from the above; but it must be understood that it means a good deal of additional work for the pastor.—The Watchman.

To Secure Order

"What is the best way to secure order at the opening of the school?"

The best way is to come to order yourself, and then wait quietly for everything else to come to order. Don't create disorder in order to secure order. Don't make a noise to secure quiet. As Schaeffer says, quiet can be had in every school, if you will only wait for it. "Calling aloud, 'Please come to order,' or repeated ringing of the bell, will avail nothing in this case. Wait quietly yourself, and in due time the school will recognize that you are waiting for them, and they will pay attention to your call." Schaeffer relates that the first time he tried this in a school where they had been accustomed to have the superintendent ring the bell two or three times and then call for order with his voice, he waited for five minutes. The school heard the bell, but they had been taught that the first bell did not really mean order, but that it was preparatory to a second, and that to a third bell, and that these were preliminary to a call, and then it was time enough to come to order. So they paid no attention to his first bell, waiting for a second. When at length the bell did not sound, and time passed, they all at once, as if by a magic spell, looked to see why the second and third bells were not sounded. "I then simply said, 'We have lost five minutes waiting for order. Turn to hymn 24. The next Sunday, they came to order much more rapidly, and in two or three weeks' time, as soon as the first and only bell struck, the whole school at once came to order.'—Push.

Veteran Sunday School Workers

V.—Mr. H. P. Moore, Acton.

IT may, perhaps, scarcely be considered fair to class a man not more than about fifty years of age among the Veterans, and yet few men have been connected with the Sunday-school longer than Mr. H. P. Moore. When a baby his mother carried him to Sunday-school, and he has been going ever since. At the age of sixteen he became a teacher, and about six years later was appointed librarian. A few weeks ago he was elected for the 21st time as Superintendent of the Methodist Sunday-school at Acton, which under his administration has become one of the most efficient in Canada. This school is noted for the absolute order that is maintained, although no bell is used, and very little is said on the subject. Every body seems to understand that good behaviour is the proper thing. Another feature worth mentioning is the high average attendance of scholars who seem to so appreciate the privilege of being at Sunday-school that absences are not frequent. Many who find it impossible to be present are in the habit of sending an explanation.

Mr. Moore has been Secretary and President of the Township, County, and Provincial Sunday-school Associations, filling these positions with marked ability. He has been a member of the past five General Conferences, and is always present at the Annual Conferences. As editor and publisher of the *Acton Free Press* he exercises a wide influence in his own town and county, but considers that the biggest and most important work he does is in the Sunday-school.

