

These methods of illustrating have been so freely and frequently spoken of, that, good and necessary as they are, more about them would be superfluous.

That the teacher's life shall illustrate her stories to the best of her ability, is taken for granted.

A few words on stories interpreting each other! Is the lesson on Samuel obeying God and obeying Eli? A story either before or after about the way the children themselves render obedience to father, mother, teacher, etc., would be in place. They will act and re-act upon each other and both be

made stronger. The story of Samuel will become more realistic and the need of obedience on their part will be emphasized and made clearer.

Each Bible story told to the little ones has its counterpart in daily life, if not in a similar incident, at least in the truth presented. Let them be so connected and illustrated that the children shall grow to feel the nearness, beauty, love and unity in it all, and thus remove the thought that some children in their early teens have, that Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Joseph, Paul and all the rest, were anywhere but upon this earth.

Primary Department Requisites

By Miss B. C. JOHNSTON

Children of the Primary Department are those from six to eight years of age. While these little people have more control and power of concentration than those in the Beginners Department still they do not measure up to those who are older. Hence, one of the first requisites after suitable lessons is a separate room where they may have a session programme of their own. Failing this, try separation by screens or curtains, but only consider it a makeshift until a room is available. In this room there should be plenty of sunshine and fresh air. Children love brightness and the teacher who adds to this by suitably decorating the room with pictures, flowers and window curtains, will be repaid by the happiness of the children.

Children in the Primary Department also require to be comfortable during the session. One reason for discomfort in some departments is that boys and girls are left to sit with their heavy winter wraps on, in a warm room. Some provision for the care of these outdoor clothes should be made. Another reason for discomfort is that the children are asked to sit on chairs which will not permit their feet to touch the floor or their backs to reach the back of the chair. Let us then make suitable chairs another of the first requisites and let us see to it that these are not fastened to each other in groups of twos or threes. Small tables of a height to correspond with the chairs and about which the children of a class of six or eight may gather, is with the most of us, an unrealized dream, but worth while working for.

A blackboard is one article of equipment of which every primary teacher thinks and rightly so, since we remember far more of what we see than of what we hear. Some of us have found it difficult to have even one of these, but let us not give up. Some teachers

have used a dark green blind as a substitute, while teachers of small groups might easily use a pad and pencil.

Pictures are another means of teaching through the eye. Primary children should have plenty of these and any which are hung in their class room should be low enough for them to see. Fortunately teachers are not dependent on pictures which have to be bought but may have a collection of their own gathered from many sources, such as magazines, calendars and advertisements. The teacher who is continually on the watch for such pictures of child interest to supplement those which are bought will never lack this kind of illustrative material.

A sand table is also of great assistance in making the stories really live to the children. Through it as through pictures, we have the opportunity of giving correct ideas of Eastern countries and customs. This article of equipment may not be as expensive as at first appears. One superintendent used a discarded kitchen table and with the assistance of a carpenter and tinsmith has now a splendid sand-table.

We must not forget to include among our requisites folders for the children to take home. These contain the lesson story of the day and are silent but effective messengers to the homes. We will also require record books, birthday cards, an offering plate or basket and several good song books. These books are most important, for no matter how complete our denominational Hymn Book may be, it cannot, because of the variety of its purposes, contain sufficient hymns for our Primary work.

Fortunate indeed is the Department which has all the equipment mentioned above, but most of it is in vain if there is not also the most important of all requisites, a sym-