## Irregular Attendance : Causes and Cure



Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Martin and their children, Oakburn, Man.

## "The Superintendent and His Family"

Rev. A. H. Foster, B.D., of Oakburn, Man., sends us the photograph reproduced above, which Mr. Foster says, is spoken of as "The Superintendent and His Family."

Mr. W. B. Martin is superintendent of the Sunday School at Oakburn, Man. He lives five miles from the church, but attends regularly. Last summer, buying a new auto, he boug! t a large car in order that he might be able to take *all* his family to church and Sunday School. The photograph shows Mr. Martin, his wife and ten children, just as they are leaving for home after attending church service and Sunday School. Such an attendance was the usual thing during the summer.

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## Irregular Attendance: Causes and Cure

BY MRS. J. MACKIE NIVEN

In order to find a cure for a trouble it is important to seek for the cause.

There is in every School a great deal of unavoidable irregularity from such causes as the weather and sickness and home circumstances; but over and above these there is the very casual attendance of scholars who are uninterested and who need constant going after and coaxing to come along.

The Sunday School attendance, being entirely voluntary, it is quite necessary for the teacher to win the respect and affection of the scholar.

The teacher should make the acquaintance of the parents of the child and enlist their sympathy and help.

A School officered and taught by consecrated men and women whose motive is the winning of the souls of the scholars for Christ will have a minimum of irregularity.

There must be the exercise of common sense and tactfulness in winning and retaining interest and attention. The School must be interesting and attractive, and no School is attractive in which there is not discipline. The discipline must be harsh : it must be gentle and tactful and winning.

It is in dull, unready moments that the School gets out of hand. We have seen a superintendent labor for several minutes to get quietness and when he had succeeded he didn't know what hymn to announce, and he had to turn his back on the school to consult with the organist about the hymn. Of course disorder reigned once more. Children are long-headed; they see these things and carry an impression of "no good."

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