

particularly that of the Primaries and Juniors. In some Sunday Schools scholars of these Departments stop attending for the winter. What is the teacher to do?

Two things are possible. With reduced numbers there can be an intensive education which is impossible with large numbers, and yet which is the best kind of education, leaving ineradicable impressions. Individual attention can be given to the needs of a scholar when he is one of a small number, such as cannot be given when he is one of a large number. The teacher who looks upon her reduced number of little ones in this light may find the winter's work of more actual worth than that of the summer.

The second possibility lies through the home. These may be visited, the Quarterlies or Leaflets given to the parents and their interest aroused in taking up the Sunday School lesson each Sunday with their own little ones. Reduced numbers in the Sunday School in winter gives the teacher a splendid justification for asking parents to take up Bible study at home. The teacher may in this way do more for the real progress of her scholars than anything she may ever do in class.

A Novel Sentence

Two boys, not long ago, were charged with some offence before a magistrate at Kincardine, Ont., who passed upon them a novel sentence. They were ordered to attend church services and Sunday School regularly for a year. If they failed to do this and were brought into court again, the magistrate said that he would send them to the Reformatory.

The magistrate's sentence was a high tribute to the Church and Sunday School. It recognized the powerful influence of these institutions in promoting obedience to law. Except the home, no agencies do more than these to keep boys and girls and men and women in the right path. Regular attendants at church and Sunday School are not likely to fall into the grip of the law or find their way to prison.

"Preventive medicine" is receiving much attention in these days. People have come to realize that it is better, by proper methods, to keep disease away, than to cure it after it has been contracted. The Sunday School is a great preventive institution. It safeguards its scholars against the moral contagion which threatens them on every side. The medical health officer who wards off from a city an epidemic of physical disease is worthy of high praise. The Sunday School teacher whose instructions render his scholars immune against the diseases which attack the soul deserves similar commendation.

Temperance Teaching

There will always be need for temperance teaching in the Sunday School.

No matter how advanced temperance legislation becomes in any country, it will not accomplish its best results unless it is backed by a solid body of intelligent conviction in the minds of the citizens. Such conviction can be produced and maintained only by constant education in the principles of true temperance. It is largely through education that the temperance forces have won their triumphs in the past, and education will be the chief means of holding the ground gained by hard and persistent fighting.

Moreover, it is not the highest form of temperance which is compelled by law. The temperate person, in the truest sense, is the one who abstains from strong drinks not at the command of any external authority, but at the bidding of his reason and conscience and will. And all these faculties must be educated if they are to function at their best.

So far, therefore, from giving up the teaching of temperance, where prohibition is in force, the Sunday School should redouble its efforts, so that the law may reach the highest point of effectiveness.

Working for Conversions

No religious education can be adequate which does not take into full account the differences in the spiritual experiences of little children, of boys and girls, and of adolescents, and