

Sunday Afternoon Teacher Training

two widely separated workers are moving. The line is a practical one. Dr. Woodbury's experiment also demonstrates the immense possibilities of the Supplemental Lessons.

HOW IT MAY BE DONE

By E. A. Hardy, B.A.

One phase of the training of Sunday School teachers and officers deserves special attention, for it goes to the root of the matter. The source of supply for our future workers is the class of young men, or the class of young women now studying in our schools. To organize these classes of young men and women into Teacher Training classes is to provide the best possible means for the promotion of the efficiency of our Sunday School teaching and management.

My thought is simply this. Take your present young men's class, or young women's class, and set them to work on a regular Teacher Training course: that is, in place of studying the International Lesson on Sunday afternoon, they would study the course authorized for the diploma of the Training course.

This involves the choice of a course, a qualified teacher, and a willingness on the part of the class to take the course. All details as to examinations, text-books and fees can be easily settled by correspondence with those who have the work of Teacher Training officially in hand.

The course chosen may be Hamill's, or any other suitable course, but my judgment is that preference should be given to the official course of the denomination with which the Sunday School is connected, if such a course exists. These official courses are carefully prepared, are inexpensive, and lead to the diplomas of both the denomination and the International Sunday School Association.

As to teacher, there may seem to be some difficulty, but a man or woman who can successfully teach the International lessons should be able to teach the lessons of the Teacher Training class. They are fully outlined in the printed course, and with study and the aid of books on the topics treated, there should be no serious difficulty in presenting these lessons to the class.

The consent of the class to undertake this

work may need considerable attention. Personal work on the part of the pastor and superintendent, and much thought and prayer will be necessary in many schools, but the result is worth the effort.

Toronto

HOW IT HAS BEEN DONE

By Dr. Frank Woodbury

A Supplemental course of lessons seems to be about the only way by which the rank and file of Sunday School pupils can acquire the necessary foundations for the intelligent study of the Bible, and the orderly arrangement of material that will inspire young people to become in some sense trained teachers and Christian workers.

An interesting illustration of this has occurred in a school of about one hundred and fifty (150) members in Nova Scotia, where, some years ago, the graded supplemental course, known as the Nova Scotia Plan, was introduced.

A class of six young ladies of about seventeen years of age completed the Supplemental Lessons and received their diplomas. They asked that they might take up the Teacher Training Course of the Provincial Association in the School, using the same time each Sabbath that was consumed by the Supplemental Lessons.

They had discovered that the Supplemental Lessons really covered at least one quarter of the Teacher Training Course.

Consent having been given, the Course was completed in one year, and four of the students passed, with an average of more than 80%. Of course some home study was done.

This result suggested to the Superintendent the idea that the Teacher Training Course would be the very best supplemental lessons for advanced pupils that could be devised.

It was accordingly divided into a four years' course, and the graduates of the Supplemental Lessons were asked to take ten minutes each Sabbath for its study.

About twenty pupils undertook the work. Last spring the quadrennium was completed, and seven persons, or one third of the original number, passed their examinations and received Teacher Training diplomas. The work was not pushed with the vigor that