OUR PERIODICALS.

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The most popular and the mos

Sunday School Banner

Halifax, N.S.

Montreal, Que.

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1902

Canada Honored.

GAIN Canada is honored by the re-election to the highest position in the Sunday School world of our own Dr. Potts. He succeeded Dr. John Hall on the death of that great and good man, as Chairman of the Sunday School Lesson Committee, and at the Denver Convention he was re-appointed to the same high office. He is now, we believe, the Dean of the Committeethe one who has served more years than any other in the important work which he performs—twenty-six years, we think. No man is heard with greater deference in its councils, no one speaks with more commanding influence at the national and international Sunday School assemblies. In the honor thus paid Dr. Potts, honor is done our Dominion, which he loves so well and has served so long.

Sunday School Statistics.

E have pleasure in presenting the statistical report of our Sunday Schools for the last year, and comparative report for the quadrennium, as compiled by the Rev. Dr. Cornish, the painstaking and accurate statistician of our church. Few persons can understand the amount of labor involved in tabulating in a single page the multifarious statistics of our church as Dr. Cornish for many years has done.

It will be observed that in almost every respect there is marked progress during the year and during the quadrennium. though not to as great an extent as we could desire. The increase of eighty schools does not quite keep pace with the increase of ninety-four preaching appointments. There are a good many union schools in which our church lends important aid which are not included in this increase. Neither is the increase in scholars what we would desire, although other denominations report a decided increase.

The slight decrease in the missionary givings of the schools may perhaps be explained by the generous givings of our Epworth Leagues, in which many of the scholars are enrolled, which amounted last year to \$24,568, and during the quadrennium, we believe, to about \$70,000. This is almost entirely a new feature in the missionary efforts of our young people. It is very significant that during the past quadrennium over half a million of dollars have been raised for school pur-This does not sound much like the decreased interest in this agency of the church such as Mr. Bok announced a few years ago.

Another encouraging feature is that the last year has been the best year of the quadrennium, indicating marked advances in almost every respect. The marked increase in our periodical literature is also very gratifying as well as the increase of 490 which are being kept open the whole year. The increase in membership for the year is 2,733, for the quadrennium 11,358, since the union of 1883 122,092, This is cause for profound gratitude to God, but it is not cause for complacent and idle satisfaction. merely an incentive by God's grace to accomplish greater things than these.

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