



## Taking the Offering in the Primary Class

By Miss B. C. JOHNSTON

The offering of our gifts to God is and should be an act of worship, and none realize this more fully or give more freely than little children if they are trained to so consider it.

This training is more important than the gifts brought, and will result in increased givings. The making of an offering gives the children an opportunity of expressing their love and thanks to God in a definite way, particularly if they are encouraged to bring gifts which would otherwise be used by them for pleasure.

It is our privilege to help the little ones realize that it is not merely a collection we are taking, but that they are bringing love gifts to their heavenly Father. To this end let us show them how good God has been to them in giving them their homes, their mothers, their fathers and all the wonderful things about them, so that their hearts will be filled with love for him. The natural re-

sult of such teaching will be a desire to show their love for God by doing something for him.

It is important that the children understand what the offering is used for. One way of doing this as well as showing how people who loved the Father expressed that love, is to have some special feature in connection with the offering service. For instance, on one Sunday we may briefly tell the story of the Widow's Mite, and on another we might tell them how the children of Israel brought their gifts for God's house. We might also occasionally show the little folk a picture of their own church and explain that this, too, is God's house and that their gifts are to help make it more beautiful or more useful.

All this might be done just immediately before the offering is to be received, and would likely be early in the programme of the day, as it is wise to have the children free from the care of the money as soon as possible. It