

of other communions. Christians are recognizing the necessity of emphasizing the essentials on which they are agreed rather than the peculiar tenets on which they differ. Of course this larger use of the Bible in our schools, for which I plead, could be introduced only in accordance with the will of the people; but it seems to be quite in harmony with the school law of the Province that, where people and trustees are willing, there might be far more provision made in this respect than at present exists in any of our schools. Probably if the ministers of different denominations in any section were quite agreed in this matter, they might, on a few words of explanation, find a glad assent from their people to a move in this direction; and if thus they could largely improve the moral training of the young, they would be rendering eminent service to the community.

But the minister's interest in education is not confined to the schools. In every community there should be a public library, so that none need lack for good reading. In towns and cities there is usually some provision made for this, but there are many villages and rural districts destitute of any such advantages. Some of our ministers are trying to secure congregational libraries that shall contain standard works for every-day reading, accessible to the older members as the the S. S. libraries are accessible to the children. In a recent lecture, to which we had the pleasure of listening, Prof. Walter Murray advocated very earnestly the effort on the part of ministers to secure this boon for their people. In some communities it might be well for several churches to unite their efforts. Where mines or factories exist there is frequently a Mechanics' Institute, a Y. M. C. A., or some similar Association, with library and public reading room; but often the library is very poorly equipped. It is fitting,—as, indeed, is usually found to be the case,—that the minister should be one of the foremost in helping an enterprise of this kind.

Notwithstanding the vast annual issue of books, there are still very many who read little more than the newspapers and an occasional magazine. Hence the gossip of our small towns is of the most empty and useless kind, mere personal details about one's neighbors, so that currents of thought from some of our better literature would be to such communities like the winds