

cautions, then, are necessary: first, see that the meaning of the lesson is clear; secondly, base appeals to feelings upon the child's experience, and attempt, wherever possible, to deepen and broaden that experience. Teaching which is mere "gush" is sure to fail of its purpose. At the same time, it must not be forgotten that the most effective way of calling out the emotional values of words is through the human voice. Sympathetic reading of the lesson, and the earnest and vivid presentation of the lesson story, are the first essentials.

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Music in the Sabbath School

By Rev. P. M. MacDonald, M.A.

V. THE TEACHER AND THE SINGING

The teacher has a high calling, higher than the statesman or the sculptor. The statesman works with a mass of people, and at best can only make a general impression, which is apt to evaporate. The sculptor works on marble, and when done with his task, has only a lifeless figure. The teacher, on the other hand, deals with the soul, and, by kind contact, may give it sight and uplift and direction that will always find satisfaction in God. In the important department of the praising of God, in the School, the teacher can do unspeakably good work:

1. *By joining heartily in the singing.* The teachers might very profitably regard themselves as the choir, distributed through the schoolroom. This is the method in some large congregations, where congregational singing is desired. The members of the choir sit far apart and give a leading voice to the people about them.

The teacher's behavior is copied by the scholars, when the platform may be ignored. But what if the teacher cannot sing? Then the infirmity should be confessed to the class, for when the leader calls upon all to join, and the teacher is wrapped in silence, the critical crowd around him notes the disobedience, and finds in it encouragement to a like dumbness.

2. *By making much of the singing.* Let it be understood that silence during prayer, joining in the responsive reading of the

Lesson, and having the hymn book open at the right time and heartily joining in the singing are equally necessary. If the "place" is hard to find, let the teacher help the little hands that fumble the pages. That help is always taken as a touch of kindness and polite attention, and is gratefully remembered. The etiquette of the teacher towards the class is, in the long run, apt to be the etiquette of the class to the whole School. Constant interest in them, endeavor to get them to play their part in the exercises, will give a tone and life to the entire company. The Sabbath School hour is a time for catching ideas, not flies, and especially is this true of the moments when "music, the sacred tongue of God", is calling.

3. *By warm praise of the class when they have sung heartily.* This is a point to be carefully noted. What sunshine is to the morning-glory, what rain is to the mown meadow, judicious, honest praise is to children. Repression is blighting, and ought to be sparingly used on youth. Encouragement when effort has been made, is the means of securing larger effort and improvement. A teacher of classics whose students took first place in the colleges they went to after leaving him, made it a rule never to chill the translating ambitions of his pupils. It was a wretched line that got anything less than "Thank you, that was very well tried", and the word sent them to do better. Let the class hear it from the teacher's lips, that it is to God's praise they sing, let him watch with expectation for an increase in their worshiping power; and when he sees it, thankfully make it known. It will not puff them up, but it will build them up.

Toronto

Primary Work in Trinidad

By Miss Adella Archibald

Shortly after the organization of the Trinidad and Tobago Sunday School Association, it was decided to establish a Scholars' Examination Department. Three successful examinations have been held, the last in July 1908, on the Second Quarter's International Lessons. Of 94 Schools within the Union, 68 were examined, sending up altogether 1,184 pupils. The results of this examination