



Twelfth

Sunday

School

Convention

OF

Nova Scotia,

1896.

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TWELFTH

Sunday School Convention

OF

NOVA SCOTIA,

HELD AT

TRURO, N. S.,

OCTOBER 22ND, 23RD AND 24TH, 1896.

Published by the Executive Committee.

HALIFAX, N. S. :
PRINTED BY WILLIAM MACNAB, 3 PRINCE STREET,
1896.

Programme.

Thursday Morning, Oct. 22nd, 1896.

PRAISE SERVICE.
COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS, ORGANIZATION.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.
STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS.
REPORTS FROM COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS.

Thursday Afternoon.

PRAYER AND PRAISE.
FIELD SECRETARY'S REPORT.
DISCUSSION.
TOPIC: "How I was benefitted by a Normal Course."
DISCUSSION.
CONFERENCES:—
COUNTY WORKERS, conducted by CAPT. WINN.
S. S. SUPERINTENDENTS, " " E. D. KING.
PRIMARY WORKERS, " " MISS DICKIE.
ADJOURNMENT.

Thursday Evening.

PRAYER AND PRAISE.
WELCOME ADDRESS.
RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF CONVENTION.
EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AT BOSTON.
C. H. LONGARD, JAS. THOMPSON, J. GRIERSON.

Friday Morning.

DEVOTIONAL.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS, RESOLUTIONS, ETC.
TOPIC:—
Supplemental Lessons, E. D. KING.
"S. S. Discipline," CAPT. J. WINN.
ADJOURNMENT.

Friday Afternoon.

PRAISE SERVICE.
Primary Methods Illustrated, MISS BERTHA A. VELLA,
S. S. Temperance Work, Primary Sec'y, Mass.
ADJOURNMENT. REV. D. STYLES FRASER.

Friday Evening.

DEVOTIONAL HALF HOUR.
Address, MISS VELLA.
"The Sunday School Idea," H. M. HAMILL.
ADDRESS. International Field Worker.

Saturday Morning.

PRAISE SERVICE.
S. School Teaching, H. M. HAMILL.
Equipment of Primary Teacher, MISS VELLA.

Saturday Afternoon.

DEVOTIONAL HALF HOUR.
Primary Teaching Illustrated, MISS VELLA.
House to House Visitation and Home Department.
How to maintain the Interest, H. M. HAMILL.
ADJOURNMENT. B. J. MESSENGER.

Nova Scotia Sunday School Association.

President.

CAPT. J. WINN, R. E. Halifax.

Vice-Presidents.

ANNAPOLIS	H. O. WHITMAN	Annapolis.
ANTIGONISHE	C. B. WHIDDEN	Antigonishe.
CAPE BRETON	J. W. INGRAHAM	North Sydney.
COLCHESTER	REV. D. S. FRASER	Springside.
CUMBERLAND	J. W. PRIEST	Spring Hill.
DIGBY	N. R. WESTCOTT	Barton.
GUYSBORO'	REV. J. GARDINER	GuySBORO'.
HALIFAX	CAPT. J. WINN, R. E.	Halifax.
HANTS (WEST)	J. NALDER	Windsor.
" (EAST)	REV. W. H. HARDING	West Gore.
INVERNESS	REV. R. MUTCH	Hawkesbury.
KINGS	A. A. PINEO	Kentville.
LUNENBURG	JUDGE CHESLEY	Lunenburg.
PICTOU	PETER FRASER	Pictou.
QUEENS (NORTH)	S. HUNT	Greenfield.
" (SOUTH)	C. WRIGHT	Liverpool.
RICHMOND	REV. A. McMILLAN	West Bay.
SHELburnE	T. F. BOWES	Lower Ohio.
BARRINGTON	ARNOLD DOANE	Barrington.
VICTORIA	MURDOCH McASKILL	Baddeck.
YARMOUTH	REV. E. D. MILLER	Yarmouth.

Recording Secretaries.

J. E. WOODWORTH Berwick.
 MRS. D. GUNN Truro.

Treasurer.

SHERburnE WADDELL 253 Hollis St., Halifax.

Field Secretary.

JOHN GRIERSON 51 Charles St., Halifax.

Executive Committee.

E. D. KING, Q. C., Chairman, Halifax.
 CAPT. J. WINN, Vice-Chairman, Halifax.

W. T. KENNEDY	Halifax.	CHAS. H. LONGARD	Halifax.
JOHN McKEEN	Amherst.	JAMES ROY	New Glasgow.
WILLIAM CUMMINGS	Truro.	JAMES THOMPSON	Pictou.
PETER FRASER	Pictou.	REV. MR. WHITE	Annapolis.
J. E. BURCHILL	Sydney.	REV. D. S. FRASER	Springside.
P. G. ARCHIBALD	Musquodoboit.	MISS M. McLEAN	Shubenacadie.
J. L. OXNER	Bridgewater.	C. M. DAWSON	Truro.
G. H. WALLACE	Wolfville.	W. A. BENNETT	Newport.
REV. W. F. PARKER	Yarmouth.	GEORGE A. BURBIDGE	Halifax.
J. F. SAUNDERS	Digby.		

MISS LENA M. MORINE, Secretary, 95 Hollis St., Halifax.

Nova Scotia Sunday School Conventions.

No.	Place.	President.	Corresponding Secty.	Date.
1.	Windsor	W. H. BLANCHARD	CHAS. H. LONGARD	Oct., 1885.
2.	Granville Ferry	H. H. CROSBY	"	Oct., 1886.
3.	Pictou	HERBERT BARRIS	"	Aug., 1887.
4.	Oxford	WILLIAM OXLEY	J. S. SMITH	Sept., 1888.
5.	Truro	J. B. CALKIN, M. A.	J. PARSONS	Sept., 1889.
6.	Bridgewater	REV. J. F. DUSTAN	"	Oct., 1890.
7.	Halifax	CHAS. H. LONGARD	JOHN GRIERSON	Oct., 1891.
8.	Kentville	J. F. SAUNDERS	"	Oct., 1892.
9.	Westville	JAS. ROY	"	Nov., 1893.
10.	Amherst	CHAS. SMITH	"	Sept., 1894.
11.	Windsor	A. P. SHAND	"	Oct., 1895.
12.	Truro	CAPT. J. WINN, R. E.	"	Oct., 1896.

County Organizations.

- Annapolis.*—President, H. O. Whitman, Annapolis; Secretary, E. F. Armstrong, Middleton.
- Antigonish.*—President, C. B. Whidden, Antigonish; Secretary, J. Brough, Antigonish.
- Cape Breton.*—President, J. W. Ingraham, North Sydney; Secretary, Miss A. L. Beaton, Sydney.
- Colchester.*—President, Rev. D. S. Fraser, Springside; Secretary, Miss Laura Dickie, Upper Stewiacke.
- Cumberland.*—President, J. W. Priest, Spring Hill; Secretary, J. McKeen, Amherst.
- Digby.*—President, N. R. Westcott, Barton; Secretary, H. B. Sabean, Tusket.
- Guysboro'.*—President, Rev. J. Gardiner, Guysboro'; Secretary, Mrs. S. Munroe, Ingonish.
- Halifax.*—President, Capt. J. Winn, Halifax; Miss M. M. Bell, Halifax.
- Hants (West).*—President, J. Malden, Windsor; Secretary, W. A. Bennett, Newport.
- Hants (East).*—President, Rev. W. H. Harding, West Gore; Secretary, Miss M. McLean, Shubenacadie.
- Inverness.*—President, Rev. R. Mutch, Hawkesbury; Secretary, Miss E. Smith, Port Hood.
- Kings.*—President, A. A. Pineo, Kentville; Secretary, Mrs. A. V. Parker, Berwick.
- Lunenburg.*—President, Judge Chesley, Lunenburg; Secretary, Mrs. C. H. Barnaby, Bridgewater.
- Pictou.*—President, Peter Fraser, Pictou; Secretary, J. Thompson, Pictou.
- Queen's (North).*—President, S. Hunt, Greenfield; Secretary, B. L. Telfar, Caledonia.
- Queen's (South).*—President, C. Wright, Liverpool; Secretary, J. Creed, Mill Village.
- Richmond.*—President, Rev. A. McMillan, West Bay; Secretary, Rev. J. A. Greenlees, St. Peter's.
- Shelburne.*—President, F. F. Bower, Lower Ohio; Secretary, Miss M. W. Allen, Shelburne.
- Barrington.*—President, Arnold Doane, Barrington; Secretary, J. W. Smith, Port La Tour.
- Victoria.*—President, Murdoch McAskill, Baddeck; Secretary, Miss J. B. Taylor, Baddeck.
- Yarmouth.*—President, Rev. E. D. Millar, Yarmouth; Secretary, — Hermes, Yarmouth.

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PROCEEDINGS
 OF THE
 Twelfth Annual Sunday School Convention
 OF THE
 PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Provincial Sunday School Association met in Immanuel Baptist Church, Truro, on Thursday, October 22nd, and opened at 10.30 a. m , by a service of praise led by REV. W. H. HARDING of West Gore, Hants Co. At 11 o'clock E. D. KING, Chairman of Executive Committee, took the chair, in the absence of the President, A. P. SHAND of Windsor. "All hail the power of Jesus' name," was sung. A portion of the sixtenth chapter of John was read and JOHN GRIERSON, Field Secretary, led in prayer. After which the 12th Annual Convention of the N. S. Sabbath School Association of Nova Scotia was declared open.

The following were appointed a Nominating Committee :—

J. THOMPSON, Pictou ; J. E. WOODWORTH, Berwick ; S. LINDSAY, Musquodoboit ; WM. CUMMINGS, Truro ; A. DAVISON, Amherst ; C. E. CREIGHTON, Dartmouth ; H. K. McLEAN, Parisboro.

Reports from County organizations were called for and as none of the Secretaries were present, it was decided to continue the praise service while the Nominating Committee were deliberating.

CAPT. WINN, President of Halifax County, referred to the work done there He said, "We have a committee meeting every month, and four quarterly conventiens each year. Halifax is the first county to have duly qualified S. S. teachers. We now have, in Halifax, 35 who have taken a Normal Course, and in addition several in country districts have taken up this work, and are studying at home. We have had more scholars join the church than in any previous year. Out of 8000 scholars, 350 have taken this step."

The Nominating Committee reported, recommending the following as officers of the Convention :

President, CAPT. J. WINN, R. E., Halifax.

Recording Secretaries, J. E. WOODWORTH, Berwick, and MRS. DANIEL GUNN, Truro.

Treasurer, S. WADELL, Halifax.

On motion the report was adopted and CAPT. WINN installed in the chair.

The report of the Executive Committee was read by MR. E. D. KING. This report had been printed and circulated in Convention.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Four Quarterly meetings of your Committee have been held during the year, namely, one at Wolfville, one at Halifax, and two at Truro, the last one having been held this morning, immediately prior to the assembling of Convention. In addition to hearing reports from the Field Secretary and arranging for his work and other ordinary work of the Association, public meetings have been held both at Truro and Wolfville in connection with these meetings, for discussion, and for the imparting of information in connection with our work. These meetings were well attended, and the sympathy and interest manifested have been most encouraging. Besides these quarterly meetings, members of Committee residing in Halifax have met frequently for the discussion of such business as the work demanded.

For the first time in our history as an association, we are able to report Nova Scotia as a Banner province, Yarmouth county having been organized inter-denominationally since our Annual Convention at Windsor a year ago. We have now 21 associations reporting directly to the Provincial Association, —three more than the number of counties in the province, the counties of Hants, Queens and Shelburne having each two County Associations. Six of these Associations are "banner associations," namely, Halifax, Colchester, Cumberland, Pictou, East Hants and East Shelburne, each having completed its district organization. There are now in these counties 40 districts all fully organized. These associations have all done well during the year, but the palm must be given to Halifax, whose earnest and enthusiastic President and efficient, energetic Secretary have accomplished a great work, placing the metropolitan county in the very front rank of Nova Scotia's S. S. Army. The importance of District organization cannot be over-estimated; for without it, and the denominational co-operation, which though it is brought to bear upon S. S. effort, our best and most glorious triumphs can never be won. Without it there can be no divine afflatus reaching out to every hamlet. No thorough house to house visitation, with its invitation to old and young, to every form of Christian Service is possible, and a great loss results to the Sunday School, the Church and to the community generally.

Our County Associations are taking hold of this work with vigor and earnestness, and already 11 of the 15 who are now without complete district organization have determined to press forward this work, and have applied to your Committee for assistance.

Your Committee is constantly sensible of weakness, and of consequent loss, from lack of some suitable means of communication between the Committee

and the county organizations. Some appropriate channel for a mutual expression of ideas and sentiments would be very stimulating and educative, and by enlarging our vision and sympathies would, in many ways, prove helpful to our work. An attempt in this direction has been made during the year in the publication by your Committee of the "Sunday-School Worker," a small periodical of which so far two numbers only have appeared. Your Committee is not satisfied with this small effort, but want of funds has deterred it from attempting greater things. Quite recently an offer has been made by the publisher of the *International Evangel* in this direction which commends itself to your Committee, and which is herewith presented for your consideration. The offer is as follows, viz.:—

PROPOSAL.

1. The *International Evangel*, containing 4 pages of supplement, bearing the name of the Province, and edited by the Executive Committee, will be sent to all who may subscribe therefor, within the Province, to the extent of 1500 for one year, for \$15.00 per month, in addition to the ordinary subscription prices of such subscribers on the condition hereinafter mentioned.

2. To assist the Executive Committee in paying this \$15.00 per month, the publisher will grant the following privileges and allowances to the Committee:

(1.) The Committee may employ, at most, one page of supplement for paid advertising, and retain to its own use 50 p. c. of the revenue to be derived therefrom.

(2.) The publisher will remit back to the committee 15 p. c. of all cash received for subscriptions, on which no other commission has been paid.

3. The following are the conditions referred to:—

(1.) The special Provincial Edition shall be made the ORGAN of the Provincial Association.

(2.) The fact shall be published on programmes, and other printed matter of the Association, and subscriptions shall be urged thereon.

(3.) The paper is to be canvassed for at all Conventions where the Association is represented.

(4.) The Committee is to work with County and Township Associations to secure canvass for the paper at their Conventions.

(5.) The Committee is to furnish proper "copy" in good season.

(6.) The Committee is to furnish list of names of all S. S. officers, teachers and friends, likely to become subscribers, that Committee can obtain, in order that sample copies may be sent to them to assist in building up the circulation of the paper.

(7.) The Publisher is to have the privilege of arranging with workers in Counties and Townships to work for the paper on commission, where such arrangement is not made directly by Committee.

The *International Convention* held at Boston in June last was the great event of the year, and was attended by a full delegation from Nova Scotia, including several members of your Committee. Addresses touching prominent features of that grand gathering will be given this evening. The reports and speeches were instructive and stimulating in a high degree; enthusiasm abounded; and a great and far-reaching work was there accomplished. Every S. S. worker who desires to consecrate his time and talents to the Master, intelligently and effectively, should procure a copy of the full report now issuing from the press.

Our Normal Department has accomplished excellent work since last Convention. Teacher Training classes have been in operation at Dartmouth, Halifax, Windsor and Shubenacadie, and elsewhere, and good fruit has already appeared. Dartmouth has led the van, and in April last 35 members of her class having passed the requisite examination,—several of them "with high distinction"—secured the beautiful diploma of our Association, and were admitted to the degree of Q. T. in course. A good beginning has been

made, and we are assured that the interest in this department is extending. The graduating class of '97 should be large and enthusiastic.

For quality and quantity of work done, the year now closing has, we believe been the best in our history. Our weak point is in the matter of finance. The amount of money needed to carry forward the work efficiently is not large, and we have felt great regret and disappointment, that we are again obliged to report a deficit. Many of our County organizations have done nobly, but others have failed to respond, as we were led to anticipate, and we are in debt. The Treasurer's statement, which will be read to you, shows a balance against us. What will you do about it? It cannot be that the good work will be allowed to die, or languish even, for want of funds to carry it forward, but your Committee does not feel at liberty to incur obligations unless it can rely upon your full financial support and sympathy.

The circular letter of the London S. S. Union, which for twenty-three years past, has called annually for universal prayer for Sunday-schools has been received by us again this year. With gratitude for the reminder, we have endeavored to have the days suggested suitably observed by our Sunday-schools throughout the province, according to the programme submitted by the Union. "Pray without ceasing" is a divine injunction, and the command with promise is, "ask and ye shall receive." A devout and faithful observance of seasons of prayer by our Sunday-Schools, is in accordance with the divine will, and will surely be followed by seasons of blessing.

Your Committee has been fortunate in securing the presence of distinguished visitors from the United States, at this Convention. Professor Hamill, International Field Worker of Illinois, and Miss Vella, Primary Secretary of Massachusetts, have each a well-earned international reputation as leaders in their several departments of Sunday-School work. You will give to them a most hearty welcome, and as they have permitted their names to appear on our Convention programme, you will, we are assured find their visit both pleasant and profitable.

The outlook in connection with our work for the coming year is hopeful. There have been hindrances and discouragements in the past, that have, one by one, almost entirely disappeared. We have been called "undenominational," and represented to be iconoclasts, when our only and best efforts have been put forth to build up and strengthen the Sunday Schools in connection with the various Evangelical denominations. It is cheering to record words of commendation and sympathy. Rapidly the mists are passing away, and everywhere our interdenominational character is being recognized. The following from the report on Sunday Schools of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces, recently held at Berwick, fully illustrates this changed sentiment: "It is worthy of mention that a large number of our Schools have connection with the Provincial Inter-denominational S. S. Associations, and receive much stimulus, and learn many helpful and practical lessons as a consequence of that relation. * * * Your Committee would recommend that every School within the bounds of Convention should seek connection with one or other of these organizations." Surely we may "thank God and take courage," and press forward the work with renewed energy during the year now before us.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWIN D. KING, *Chairman.*

TRURO, Oct. 22nd, 1896.

After some discussion the REV. D. S. FRASER moved that the report be received and discussed clause by clause, seconded by MR. E. D. KING, and passed. REV. F. W. PARKER moved that the first two paragraphs be adopted, seconded by MR. S. B. CALKIN, and passed.

REV. W. H. HARDING moved, seconded by MAJOR THEAKSTON, that the clause regarding the provincial organ be referred to a special committee. The President therefore nominated REV. W. H. HARDING, MAJOR THEAKSTON, MR. J. B. CALKIN, E. D. KING and REV. D. S. FRASER for said committee. The clause regarding Interdenominational Convention at Boston, adopted. Normal work referred to a committee of four nominated by the president, viz.: MR. C. E. CREIGHTON of Dartmouth; MISS McLEAN, Shubenacadie; J. B. CALKIN, Truro; W. T. KENNEDY, Dartmouth. The clause relating to the question of finance was referred to the committee appointed to consider the matter of the Provincial Organ. The last clauses were adopted as they stand.

The report of the Treasurer was read by CAPT. WINN, in the absence of MR. WADDELL. On motion this was also referred to the same committee as was appointed to consider the Provincial Organ and the matter of finance.

The Nominating Committee reported the following names for a business committee, viz.: MR. PETER FRASER, Pictou; MR. E. D. KING, Halifax; MR. JAMES THOMPSON, Pictou; REV. J. FAULKNER, Truro, and MAJOR THEAKSTON, Halifax.

Session adjourned by the benediction pronounced by REV. D. S. FRASER.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The Convention opened at two o'clock by a prayer service led by MR. J. THOMPSON of Pictou. At 2.30 the President took the chair and the Convention resumed business. Hymn 178 was sung, minutes of morning session were read and approved. Field Secretary GRIERSON then read his report, as follows:--

FIELD SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1896.

Another Sunday School year has come, freighted with blessings, and gone leaving us advanced as never before in every department of our Sunday School organization. Yarmouth county having fallen into line, we are now for the first time able to report every county in the Province organized more or less perfectly. Three of our eighteen counties being divided into two Associations each, gives us twenty-one Associations for the whole Province. We are also able to report six of our Associations with every district organized, namely: Halifax, Cumberland, Barrington, Pictou, Colchester, East Hants, with one District of Guysboro', making a total of 41, under the supervision of

a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, in every one of which from one to four meetings have been held during the past year. And while I cannot tell from reports received that every school in every district has contributed towards County and Provincial work, I can say the Associations and Inter-which they belong always pay what they promise toward Provincial and International work. Of the remaining 15 Associations, 11 of them have, by Conventional resolution or otherwise, requested the Provincial executive to co-operate with them in the organization of their district. The Associations referred to, are: Inverness, Victoria, Cape Breton, Guysboro', Hants West, Kings, Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne and Queens, making about 53 New Districts. The four remaining Associations will come in later,—one, perhaps two, scarcely need more than their present organizations. In Nova Scotia we are just beginning to see the advantage of District Organization, by this means, and so far as we know by this means alone, can we expect to reach the individual school and improve its organization; find the lonely discouraged teacher and help him into better methods and grander results; discover the neglected locality, and families, and secure their being looked after. From our Banner County and District Associations we are this year receiving prompt and full reports. House to house visitation, home department Bible study and normal classes are either in operation or are being arranged for. This 1896 will be a bright and blessed era in the glad memory or so many of us as had the privilege of attending the Great Boston International Convention; and, in a second-hand way, to millions more who will hear of it; but surely, thrice blessed were the eyes that saw, and the ears which heard that representative host of consecrated men and women who by their lips and by their lives have illuminated every grade of Sunday School activity in every part this North America of ours. While it might be difficult, indeed dangerous, even to attempt to name one prominent worker in each of the many departments of Sunday School organization, out of the assembled thousands, yet, if only one Department is to be mentioned by name, it surely must be the Primary. For even some of us who have been watching and helping in Sunday School progress during the past thirty years and more were filled with astonishment as we looked upon what has been done, not in the past 15 years but in the past 5 years. Just as the Summer Sun waxes and wins the bud into bloom and beauty and fragrance, so accomplished workers in the Primary Department have learned how to fascinate the mind, to enkindle and guide the imagination so grandly that even thoughtless little ones become thoughtful, and thus are easily interested in helpful, healthful study, as the bee and the butterfly feed and feast upon flower and fragrance in the early mornings; so now in the modern Primary very little children are delightedly led in the most winsome ways into early and intimate acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures. Doctrine and dogma are relegated to more advanced departments, and the child mind is now planted wisely and well with holy precepts and principles, presented and represented in sensible simplicity as they become visible in the real every day lives of Godly men and women, and children and thing, but chiefly from the one only perfect patron life suited alike to impress the babe and the philosopher, yet notwithstanding the attractive and decorative in method, the most spiritual teaching in our Sunday School to-day is to be found in the Primary Department.

While the Sunday School is becoming no less a work for the children and youth of our land, it is every year being more clearly recognized as one of the indispensable factors in retaining and qualifying our adult membership for intelligent and aggressive church activity. The churches that fail to qualify and use their adult membership, are not, cannot, be growing churches. "The Sunday School," "The Bible School," "The Church College," or whatever other name the twentieth century may finally fix upon, is already being recognized as a system of education beyond the powers of the pulpit to supply, and we rejoice to see that many of our most successful pastors are acknowledged

leaders in this most modern form of Sunday School development, demanding a new church architecture with distinct and separate departments, unified by intelligent superintendence and pastoral supervision. Our co-operative work has been by many, but little understood; indeed it has been misunderstood, instead of being regarded as truly Interdenominational, we are called by some superficial critics undenominational and to many that means anti-denominational. So much is this so that many good and true members of the church think that true denominational loyalty is best safe-guarded by keeping clear of us altogether, or coming to our Convention half-heartedly, watching for something to happen, and sometimes it does happen. But bless the Lord hundreds of thousands of christian men and women are thus getting so near to one another in Him, that already it is being recognized that our Lord and Master's prayer, "That they all may be one," is already answered in the only way, likely, it ever will be answered.

Finance is beginning to receive more intelligent attention at our County Conventions, especially is this true in our best organized association, the better they understand our work and perceive the good results, the more may they be relied upon for their proportion. Yet up to now it would be true to say that only one-half of our counties have contributed anything. According to our present plan of operation 1000 dollars are more than we need for all purposes; but suppose we doubled our work—and it should be doubled—2000 dollars would only be \$1.50 per school, or \$2.00 per church, in no other way could so little money do so much to advance Home Mission work.

"The plague *slowly* abates, in this dear land of ours, is the best I can say about the pernicious practice of using lesson helps during teaching time in Sunday School. "This kind goeth not forth but by prayer and fastings," is both true and appropriate, especially in so far as it suggests the devilish origin of the thing, for surely no one thing within the limits of our S. S. operation is so much hind-ering improved methods in teaching, so much making Sunday School teaching a farce, whereby teachers and scholars lose respect for each other and their work.

REMARKS ON COUNTY REPORTS.

Halifax County sends the most complete report, with greatest increase in schools and scholars, (386 added to the church). Have a report from every one of these 95 schools. Is the only county whose executive hold monthly meetings.

Barrington, though amongst the smallest association, being (like Menassah only half a tribe), yet they had the greatest number of sessions and by far the largest attendance, and send in a report from every school. Is the only association with every school open all the year. President Arnold Doane of Barrington and Capt. Winn of Halifax are the only County Presidents who attended every one of the District Conventions.

Cumberland.—This year is well to the front. Every one of their eleven districts held their annual Convention, with increased interest. Best methods are used in the best way by one of the best Secretaries in the Province.

Pictou County Convention attendance was second largest; also the greatest number of Pastors present, 15, also the highest average of teachers attendance, but also they show the lowest Provincial average of scholars, A.H. 53. No Secretary visits so many schools as the Secretary of Pictou, and with such strong pastoral support, Pictou county is safe and so are their Sunday Schools.

Antigonish has the fewest Sunday Schools. The highest average attendance, 75 for scholars, with the lowest attendance of adults on the roll, 11.

Annapolis has seen better days, but their last Convention was the best for many years, and it took a forward step.

Cape Breton County is ready to take a foremost place in Sunday School work. But in the other three counties of the Island, settlements are so far apart that County Conventions are discouraging. But District organization will, in some measure, overcome that.

In *Digby County*, the great work is left to the very few, but they are tried and true. Their beloved Secretary, whole hearted for God and the children, wrote his last letter and report from amongst the shadows looking towards the brightness and the blessedness on the other shore. May the Chief Shepherd spare him yet a little longer with his clear head and his warm heart, and his whole-souled devotion, till we get Digby County Sunday School work helped forward.

Queen's, North and South, are enthusiastic Sunday School workers; no more pleasant and profitable Conventions are to be found in all the land, this is especially true of South Queens. And they are the people who know how to get a lot out of the question box by putting lots of good sense into it. They have suffered the loss of an excellent secretary, every one of the last three years, but they can afford it, for the last seems to be always the best.

Guysboro', had their very best Convention this year in the county town. The spirit of the Lord was present to refresh and bless the gathered workers from first to last. Eleven Pastors of five different denominations illustrates our oneness in Christ.

Hants West suffered much at the Convention by the absence of both President and Secretary.

Hants East, is well looked after, they know where to find every school and how to help it.

Shelburne County Conventions are always pleasant and profitable for which a big measure of thanks is due to the whole-hearted County Secretary,—who does not believe in anything second best in her county work. They show just one less than the highest adult attendance on their roll.

Colchester report this year is not complete. The figures we use are last years. They have this year secured for their County Secretary an enthusiastic young lady, now finishing her training in Springhill, we are looking for bigger and better results next year, especially when they have got such an experienced President at the helm.

Kings is rich in wise and devoted S. School men and women, and although their report this year does not do them justice, the work has been well done, especially in the Valley no better in all the land. We hope their new Secretary and the District Organization to be effected will give us next year the double harvest report.

Lunenburg County Convention has been held since our Provincial, and though late, with fewer delegates than usual, was a profitable season. With their new and experienced Executive, together with their District organization arranged for by Convention, this grand old county will give a good account of itself.

Yarmouth has just fallen into line, and will be satisfied with no second place in the most advanced Sunday School work. You will be pleased as you read our tabulated statistics, though not complete as we hoped, yet both in schools and scholars and spiritual results, there is shown a cheering increase. Last year 15 counties reported 955 scholars having joined the church, this year the same counties report that 1,431 have publicly professed the Lord Jesus Christ.

Total Public Meetings Attended.....	74	Attendance	7,051
“ Sunday Schools visited, addressed or reviewed.....	58	“	4,427
“ Sessions of 96 District Conventions ...	103	“	7,440
“ 21 County Convention.....	54	“	7,694
	289	Attendance	26,612

This does not include visits to public schools where I often have the privilege of speaking a word of encouragement, and occasionally give a lesson on Scriptural Geography. Neither does it include my attendance at the late International or Provincial Conventions.

During our year ending Oct. 30th, I travelled 8,566, miles, over 2,500 miles more than last year, caused by the disorder in which our county Conventions were held, for which the Provincial Executive was not to blame. If our County Convention had been held according to the original plan much time and expense might have been saved, we hope for the coming year to recommend a program of County Conventions, that will be acceptable to all the different counties for the good of the whole work, the few ought to be willing if need be to approve the Provincial Executive arrangement of dates for County Conventions.

Hoping our small and imperfect beginning will be crowned with blessed and complete success.

I remain,

JOHN GRIERSON, *Field Secretary.*

The business committee reported recommending that E. D. King, preside at the Conference of Superintendents in place of Rev. Mr. Wilkinson, who was not present.

County reports were called for, Colchester report was read by Miss Dickie ; Cumberland by President Winn ; Halifax by Mr. Creighton Pictou by Mr. Thompson.

The committee who were appointed to consider “ the Evangel ” or Official Organ, reported as follows :—

“ 1st. Your committee fail to see their way clear to recommend the International Evangel. 2nd. Your committee recommend the continuation by the Executive of the publication of the “ Sunday School Worker,” as a monthly publication, having one page for advertisements, and that a number be sent to Superintendent for distribution. Edition not to exceed 3000 copies.”

D. S. FRASER, made some explanatory remarks, showing the reasons for the finding against taxing the Evangel and for having the S. S. Worker continued. He said the risk of the expense was too great for the convention, the publishers taking no risk themselves. Sufficient subscriptions would not be secured, and he thought that the S. S. Worker would bring the Association into closer touch with the Schools.

After more discussion which was carried on by several of the brethren

ren, the Rev. D. S. Fraser moved, seconded by Mr. Thompson, that the report be adopted as presented. Passed.

MISS LATHERN, of Dartmouth, read a highly instructive paper telling us how she was benefited by a Normal course. She said last winter's course had three benefits:—1st. A *real* "instructor," in the person of Mr. W. T. Kennedy. 2nd. A class, the enthusiasm of numbers being a great help. 3rd. A course of study. Such a study shows there is a good and *better* way to teach. Normal training is a benefit in practical work, the teacher selects out of the lesson truths suited to each scholar, holding the rest in reserve. It is beneficial as an aid to asking and answering questions.

In discussing this paper, Mr. E. D. King said by all means have "Q. T.'s," qualified teachers in the S. Schools. The question was asked as to what constituted a Normal course. President WINN answered that it meant a course of study to teach teachers how to teach "Dr. Hurlbut's Normal Lessons," being the text book taken for a number of weeks under a qualified teacher. At the end of the series an examination of 25 questions is given by the ablest men in Nova Scotia. 50 per cent correct answers gives a diploma. If 75 per cent or over are answered correctly, a special certificate of honorable mention is also given. Mr. Grierson gave an outline or syllabus of the work of a Normal Class.

SYLLABUS OF DR. HURLBUT'S "REVISED NORMAL LESSONS."

I. THE BOOK AND ITS BOOKS.

1. The Book.
2. The Old Testament Books.
3. The New Testament Books.

II. BIBLE HISTORY.

1. Old Testament History,—3 lessons.
2. New Testament History,—2 lessons.

III. BIBLE GEOGRAPHY.

1. The Old Testament World.
2. The New Testament World.
3. The land of Palestine,—3 lessons.

IV. BIBLE INSTITUTIONS.

1. The Altar and its Offerings.
2. The Tabernacle.
3. The Temple.
4. The Synagogue.
5. The Sacred Year.

V. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

1. The History of the Sunday School.
2. The Definition of the Sunday School.
3. The Sunday School and the Home.
4. The Sunday School and the Church.
5. The Organization of the Sunday School.

VI. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER.

1. The Teacher's Qualifications:
2. The Teacher's Preparation.
3. The laws of Teaching.
4. Questioning.
5. Illustration.

VII. THE PUPIL.

1. The Pupil's physical nature.
2. The Pupil's mental powers.
3. The Pupil's Spiritual nature.
4. The Pupil's week-day surroundings.
5. The Pupil's characteristics.

The Convention now divided into conferences, one of county workers, conducted by President Winn; one of S. S. Superintendants, conducted by E. D. King; and one of primary workers, conducted by Miss Dickie, of Stewiacke.

 THURSDAY EVENING.

At 7.30 Convention was opened in First Presbyterian Church by a praise and prayer service led by Mr. Peter Fraser, of Pictou. At eight o'clock business was resumed, minutes of afternoon session were read and approved. Mr. J. B. Calkin welcomed the delegates most heartily as follows:—

Our Guests and fellow-workers in the Sunday School:

I have been asked by the superintendents of Truro to greet you this evening with words of welcome. I appreciate the honor and my feeling of satisfaction over this mark of their confidence is intensified by the almost unqualified

freedom which they have given me in this matter. I am restricted by one limitation only. The Superintendents have assumed that if left to myself I would welcome you to their homes, their hearths, and their hearts with such fulness and whole-heartedness as would be assuring to our guests and would do honor to themselves. The single limitation by which I am restricted, is that of brevity. I shall then try to be brief.

I desire to bid you welcome because I feel assured of many considerations which entitle you to the best we have to offer.

The work of the Sunday School is a labor of love. It is, from the ordinary point of view, without reward and often with little appreciation. The cause which you, as delegates, represent and which you come here to advance is most important and honorable. It is not to be estimated by the standard of the world's judgment.

Education, of which Sunday-School work is one phase, is a many-sided thing, and there are many factors employed in its prosecution. The Sunday-School is an effective instrument for the rounding out into completeness of the knowledge and character of those who are soon to become the chief actors on the stage of life. Although our week-day schools do not teach religious creeds and catechisms, I am not prepared to admit that they are Godless institutions. In their own sphere their influence is salutary and ennobling, and through their impress our children are being led into the possession of higher intellectual and moral power. They do, however, leave a high function for the Sunday School. Your work, embracing as it does the responsible duty of teaching our children the doctrines and duties which are revealed to us of God, persuading them to accept these truths and fulfil these duties, influencing them to follow the higher life, renders you our worthy and honorable guests.

You are here that you may become the better equipped for this noble part which you have undertaken. The teachers of our week-day schools recognize the value of special agencies for their better equipment. The teacher in the Sunday School cannot afford to take a long course of training in a Normal School. To many, no doubt, the expense connected with attendance at such a convention as this is felt to be a burden.

Conventions of persons engaged in the same kind of work are frequent in our day, and they may be made a valuable means of improvement. Here we may compare our ideas and our methods, and stimulate each other to greater effort and higher achievement. A few days ago the farmers and mechanics of our Province assembled in this town for the purpose of comparing their products and thereby learning useful lessons from each other.

In like manner last week the week-day teachers, and the so-called secular educationists held their Convention in Truro, and we may believe with most beneficial results.

It occurs to me that nothing could be more profitable for the Sunday School teachings than sitting at the same desk with the week-day teachers. I mean to say that it would be profitable to attend their Associations, and visit their schools, and study their methods. The subject matter of your teaching is different, but the underlying principles of the work, and the methods by which success is to be secured are the same. Like them you must know what to teach, and like them you should study how to teach. There is a third aspect in which there are common necessities. Success in both fields is alike conditioned on a thorough knowledge of the child. The worker in wood or in metal, needs to know the nature of the material in which he works in order that he may be able to convert it into a thing of use or of beauty. So should each child become an object of special study, if we would meet his case and fashion him into all that he is capable of becoming. Class teaching has its advantages, but there is need for care that our teaching does not become mechanical, and that we do not deal with the scholars as if we were making pins by machine, turning out each exactly like his fellow. The well-taught Sunday School scholar is *hand-made*; the individuality of each scholar is studied and cared for. The Sunday School is not a machine.

On account of the difficulties he has to overcome, the Sunday School teacher deserves our sympathy and our best words of cheer. How often is he cast down, discouraged, and almost ready to abandon his work because of its apparent unfruitfulness. His efforts seem to be wasted. They may indeed seem so, but it cannot be other than seeming. We may not talk of wasted effort in God's service. Such effort never is wasted.

"If it enrich not the heart (and the life) of another, its waters returning
Back to their springs, like the rain, shall fill them full of refreshment.
That which the fountain sends forth returns again to the fountain,
Patience, accomplish thy labour, accomplish thy work of affection."

Fellow-teachers, take courage; be hopeful. Your labour shall not be in vain. It shall be like the rain that stimulates the plant to an abundant fruitage and returns again to its fountain. Your labour shall be twice blest, blessing him who gives and him who takes.

We welcome you to-night as co-laborers with the Master in uplifting the world to its highest and best destiny, and in bringing the dear children to his outstretched arms and to his loving heart. We dare not do otherwise than welcome you as God's messengers and as fellow-workers with Him. Let me ask you to magnify your office. You may say:—

"My work is mine,
And heresy or not, if my hand slacked
I should rob God.
I say not God Himself can make man's best
Without best men to help Him.

* * * *

'Tis God gives skill,
But not without men's hands. He could not make
Antonio Stradivari's violins
Without Antonio."

MR. E. D. KING replied in fitting words on behalf of the Convention, to this address of welcome. He spoke of the importance of the work to be done by the Convention, also of the fact that it is not *un-denominational*, but *inter-denominational*, each loyal to his own denomination, but working together in the one great cause.

Hymn, "To the work," was sung, and then as those who were to speak of the Boston International S. S. Convention were not present MR. JAS. THOMPSON of Pictou told us something of it. He said there were 2800 delegates there from north, south, east and west. He told us of Mr. D. L. Moody leading the devotional exercises, and gave us a synopsis of his address as follows:

"It is not more eloquent preaching that is wanted, but more earnest prayers to open the gates of Heaven. If we would be successful teachers, we must be filled with the Spirit, we must be emptied of self, but in order to be thus emptied we must be so filled with the Spirit that self will be crowded out. We must study our bible, first we must read it, and that as we would a letter from home, take for instance the gospel of John, find out who he was, to whom

he wrote and what he wrote about. We must put on the whole armor of God and to be complete, we must take the sword of the Spirit. Teachers, for your own soul's sakes, and for your scholars' sakes, use all the helps you can get, but never take one into your class."

MR. C. H. LONGARD, of Halifax, who also had attended the Convention, referred to the address of Dr. Lorimer, and quoted therefrom. Also from Hon. John Wanamaker on Sunday schools from a business man's standpoint, and in closing gave an extract from an address on Primary Work by Miss Mabel Hall of Chicago.

"There is sunshine in my soul to-day," was sung by the Convention, after which MR. GRIERSON said:—

"The grandest impression made on his mind at the Boston Convention was the wonderful meeting of the International Executive Committee on the Sunday afternoon with the twenty-first chapter of John before them, with Brother Jacobs leading, and so many others of the eminent men sitting at the feet of Jesus, and a meeting of the Nominating Committee to appoint the Committee on the lessons. There was much prayer and not a man nominated on that Committee without diligent enquiry and earnest assurance of his fitness. There were fifteen different denominations in that grand gathering of three thousand, all sitting together in a glorious Pentecost, a blessed oneness in Christ. The increase of Sunday Schools in three years was equal to nine every week day and eleven for every Sunday."

A quartette was then very acceptably rendered by Miss Clara King, Miss Floyd Carter, Mr. Lewis Rice and Mr. Robert Crowe. Miss Bertha Vella, Mass. State Primary Worker, having arrived, she was welcomed by the Chatauqua salute, she then came to the platform and spoke a few words of help and encouragement. "Work for the night is coming," was sung while the collection was being taken up. The benediction was pronounced by the REV. J. FALCONER, and the meeting adjourned.

FRIDAY MORNING.

The Convention opened at 9.30 a. m., in Immanuel Church by devotional meeting led by REV. MR. FALCONER.

At 10 o'clock the President took the chair, and the Hymn, "Hark, the voice of Jesus calling," was sung.

The minutes of the previous Session were read and approved.

The Business Committee reported that in the absence of PROF. HAMIL, MR. E. D. KING give a supplementary lesson from 10.30 to 11 o'clock, that CAPT. WINN address the Convention from 11 until 11.30, and that the time after that be taken up with Primary Work.

The Nominating Committee reported the names of the Executive ; also, the following as a Credential Committee :—Miss Maggie McLean, Rev. Mr. Harding, Mr. Murdoch McLeod and Miss Lena B. Murray.

While waiting for the report of the Financial Committee, the President spoke very emphatically of the necessity of keeping the Field Secretary's salary paid up. MR. WILLIAM CUMMINGS also referred to the same subject. MR. HARDING gave the report of the Committee on Finance. It was recommended that at each District Meeting a collection and personal pledges be taken in addition to the amounts contributed by S. Schools. Also, that all monies be paid the County Treasurers, and that the amount due the Field Secretary be paid at once. After considerable discussion it was moved and seconded that this resolution lay on the table until to-morrow morning, so as to give more time to consider it.

Hymn, "Praise, Brethren, praise," was sung. MR. E. D. KING then gave a supplemental lesson on the Life of Solomon. Hymn, "Jesus is coming," was sung, and after a short prayer, CAPT. WINN addressed the Convention on "S. S. Discipline." He said :—

"The weakest point in our Sunday Schools is want of reverence. One thing is want of punctuality on the part of Superintendent, teachers and scholars. God is a God of order, and punctuality is vital to the proper conducting of a school. The Superintendent should be there at least ten minutes before time. Scholars coming late should be kept out until a proper time for coming in. It is not necessary to say anything—simply keep perfectly quiet until they are in their places. Propriety or order is the next thing requisite. How to get it—first ring the bell and wait ; teachers should at once stop talking and set an example to scholars. If there is noise the Superintendent should simply wait after ringing the bell once, he should not ring it several times. They will wonder what the wait is for and soon come to order. You may have to wait the first day for three or four minutes, but not so long the second. They will soon learn. Teachers and Superintendent are both responsible for order. Teacher should stand behind the class. Prayer is the next necessity. Do not try to pray until you have perfect silence, and then let the prayer be cut short at both ends, filled in the middle with fire and sent right up to God, as if you expected God to hear and answer. If there is a noise during prayer stop short, call attention to it, and speak of the want of reverence. Praise is the next point. Every boy and girl should have a separate hymn book and learn to sing, and eventually the congregation will learn to sing, and there will be an end to hired singers and paid

quartettes. Every class should have a box in which hymn books are kept, but not bibles. Every scholar should carry his own bible. Superintendent and teachers should be united in preparation. When classes take their places do it quietly. Interest your class so that they may not be inclined to think or do other things. A church or ordinary school room can be divided up into class rooms by the use of screens, so that each class can be shut off and not see what is going on in the others. Lesson helps were spoken of as excellent things in their place, for the preparation of the lesson, but not for teaching it. They are not the things from which to serve the bread of life to perishing souls. They are like pots and pans, useful in preparing a meal, but not suitable to place on a well laid dinner table. School should be dismissed orderly when parting time came. Each class should be asked to rise and leave in turn."

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. FRASER, and Convention adjourned.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The afternoon session commenced at 2 o'clock by a praise and prayer meeting led by Mr. FRANK DAWSON, of Pictou.

At 2.30 o'clock the President took his place and the minutes of morning session were read and approved.

Hymn, "I love to tell the story," was sung, and the Convention addressed by the Rev. D S. FRASER, of Stewiacke, on "Temperance in the Sabbath Schools."

TEMPERANCE WORK IN THE SABBATH SCHOOLS.

"The old-fashioned Temperance Pledge, spread it out in every home, at every public meeting, on every communion table." To these words of Dr. Talmage I would add: Spread it before every Sabbath School, and before every Christian Endeavour Society, so that, as far as possible, we may make every child and every young man and every young woman a total abstainer. In the success of that effort lies the salvation of our land from the thralldom of the liquor traffic.

"Do any object that the children cannot understand the nature of the pledge? I have not found it to be so in my experience of nearly twenty years. Take the little trouble necessary to explain what the pledge means, and that is not at all a difficult thing to do, and the little child who will then sign the pledge, it may be with the aid of some one to guide the little hand in making the signature, will be pretty sure to keep it as a principle of life. This is particularly true if the pledge is taken in the Sabbath School, for it is then connected with Christian teaching, and total abstinence becomes, as it was with Paul, a principle of Christian life, and a safe-guard from a multitude of the worst temptations and evils of our day.

" I want to

EMPHASIZE THE PLEDGE,

for in it, connected with Christian teaching, I recognize one of the chief instruments we have to fight the battle of Temperance and Prohibition. We cannot afford to let it be shorn or any of its importance, for with all other agencies we may or must use, the "old-fashioned pledge" must long continue to lie at the very root of this great reform.

" This is all true as thus looked at from the point of view of the Christian worker ; and I want to show that it is also true if looked at from the point of view of the politicians. Mr. Foster, ex-Minister of Finance, in speaking in his place in parliament when moving for the late Royal Commission, pointed out five things that stood in the way of Prohibition from the side of it at which the politicians had to look. They were the Power of Appetite, the Power of Custom, the Revenue, the Power of Money, and Vested Interests. As Christian workers we have to do with only the first two of these difficulties, —the Power of Appetite and the Power of Custom. We have nothing to do with the question of Revenue, as some people would try to make us think. With that question the men who rule us and represent us in the government have to deal. We elect men to do right, and to raise our revenue from clean and pure sources. How that is to be done is not our business but theirs. They have no right to come and try to lay the responsibility on the temperance people. That responsibility is not ours, and we threw it back to where it rightfully belongs, and we have a right to demand that they devise ways and means of raising the necessary revenue from sources that will not compromise this country with one of the greatest evils with which civilization and christianity have to contend, and in such a way as will not make us all, whether we will or not, partners in that evil.

" But with the Power of Appetite and the Power of Custom we have to do. These are things that the Christian people have to fight, and these are the things that they can most effectively fight. And how ? By striving to have the Temperance pledge universally adopted by our children and youth. See how it will work. Suppose we could to-day induce every child and youth under twenty to sign and keep the total abstinence pledge, where would the Power of Appetite be in the course of a generation ? The answer is very manifest ; and is sufficiently encouraging to stimulate every one who has influence with the young to do all possible to make this supposition as nearly a reality as can be.

" Look at the grand army of total abstainers we already have in this land ! Many thousands strong. The Presbyterian Church is committed to this principle by means of its " Plan of Work," whereby it seeks as far as possible to have the children and youth in its Sabbath Schools and C. E. Societies enrolled as total abstainers in connection with Christian Instruction. I am sure that I am quite within the mark when I say that there are not less than fifty thousand children in Presbyterian Sabbath Schools that are pledged total abstainers. Already under the " Plan of Work " that is under my care there are but little short of twenty thousand enrolled, and it has been in operation only about three years, and I am confident, from returns that I have had in my hands, that this does not represent any more than one-third of whole number so enrolled. I have reason to believe that some other churches are not far behind us in this respect. Sabbath School workers, arise ! and take heart for the work ! See ! how the awful power of appetite is vanishing before you as you struggle on to victory ! Raise aloft the pure banner of total abstinence as a principle of Christian life, and, conscious of being " on the Lord's side," press forward ! press forward !

" But, what about the power of custom ? That goes down with the power of appetite. You surely see that total abstainers at once form a new set of

customs that, whatever else they may include, certainly do not include drinking habits, nor drinking customs. Things have greatly changed for the better in this respect within the last twenty years or so. A few years ago a woman in one of our provincial towns told me that about twenty years before no family of any pretence to social position could entertain company without wine. 'Now,' she said, 'it is all the other way, no one thinks of offering wine to guests now.' And so the leaven works.

"Not long ago Lord and Lady Aberdeen were in Halifax, Lady Aberdeen gave a reception, and, be it said to her credit, she had no liquors for her guests. Nearly all the papers had something to say about it. Some commented favorably, but a few regarded it as a rather objectionable innovation, and criticised it adversely. Why? Simply because she had departed from what has been the custom of people in her position. That was all. Now, suppose that at some of the Alumni gatherings we sometimes have at the Presbyterian College, Halifax, the ministers and students there were to have different kinds of liquors on their table. What would happen? Every paper in the land would condemn it; and why? Because it would be a serious departure from established custom. But it was not always so. Yes, thank God, customs in this respect are happily changing for the best. The day grows brighter, the sky is brightening with hope, the tide is running to the full. Christian workers, let us take this rising tide that it may carry us on to fortune.

"I have not spoken of the power of money, and of vested rights, nor need I speak of them. When the power of appetite and the power of custom, shall have vanished before the rising generation of total abstainers that is growing up under our training in our Sabbath schools and elsewhere, then there will be such a grand moral and religious power in the land that no money power, that no vested rights in the liquor traffic will be able to stand before its sweeping tide. They must go under.

"The day is happily coming when this country can save herself from the nefarious partnership with the drink evil, and can hold aloft to high heaven clean hands regarding the liquor traffic. This is our brightening hope. As God is true it must be realized.

"Fellow-workers put your hands to the plough, and look not back! Bend your backs again to the task, and *never give up*. The battle is the Lord's, and the victory will be sure, whether we may live to see it or not. Let this hope inspire our prayers, encourage our hearts, and fire our zeal, until we be indeed consumed in this work of the Lord who lays upon us such weighty responsibilities."

MR. LONGARD read a letter to the Convention from Mrs. Crafts, Superintendent of Sunday School Department of the World's W. C. T. U.; also a resolution that the schools should make use of the quarterly temperance lesson; also that the World's Temperance Sunday in November be observed. He also read a letter from Mrs. C. H. Longard, Superintendent of S. S. Department of the Provincial W. C. T. U. :—

Dear Mr. Longard :—

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Oct. 2. 1896.

"I enclose some resolutions on Temperance that I wish might be brought before the Provincial Convention of Nova Scotia. I do not need to urge their importance. I am sending them to all of the Provincial and State Conventions in turn. Manitoba voted on them last spring, and several of the States. You know, of course, that the movement for a World's Temper-

ance Sunday originated with the London Sunday School Union, and I am pleased to say that working with them the W. C. T. U. has secured its adoption by the Presbyterian General Assembly, United Presbyterian Assembly, Congregational General Council, and Methodist General Conference.

"When signed by your Convention, kindly send it to my address at Clifton Springs, New York, where I will be for the most part of October.

"Let me assure you that I have a deep and abiding interest in the Sunday School work of Nova Scotia, and my earnest prayer is for God's blessing on your Convention."

Yours sincerely,

MRS. W. F. CRAFTS.

THE S. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE
UNION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

OCTOBER 22nd, 1896.

Dear S. S. Workers:—

"The S. S. department of the W. C. T. U. of Nova Scotia, greet the Provincial Sunday School Association of Nova Scotia, now in session in Truro, and earnestly solicit their co-operation, in making a call for a Universal Temperance Sunday.

"This movement has received the endorsement of the London S. S. Union, the Presbyterian General Assembly, the United Presbyterian Assembly, the Congregational General Council, and the Methodist General Conference of the United States. We are therefore reminded, that the fourth Sunday in November of each year, is henceforth to be known as the 'World's Temperance Sunday.' This year the date is November 22nd, and it will be observed that no Bible Temperance Lesson is provided for that Sunday, as the movement for the observance of it annually, was not inaugurated, and did not receive the endorsement of the leading organizations, until after the lessons for the quarter were submitted, by the International Lesson Committee.

"We would therefore urge the recommendation made through the 'International S. S. Evangel,' that the S. S. lesson for November 22nd, and that for December 13th, change positions. This change can be made without affecting the historical connection, and would give us the lesson for December 13th, 'Cautions against Intemperance,' (Proverbs 23rd, 15-25th) Golden Text, 'For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty,' for our study on the Temperance Sunday, and the 'Rewards of Obedience,' (Proverbs 3rd, 1-17) would come in logical connection after the lesson on 'Solomon's Sin' on December 6th

"Desiring to keep pace with every aggressive step in the great S. S. movement your co-workers in the W. C. T. U. would invite attention to a new opportunity which is afforded of extending the influence of Temperance S. S. Work, through the Home Department, which is growing in importance, and is being more and more enthusiastically adopted, by securing the co-operation of the visitors of that department, in an effort to introduce wherever and whenever practicable a family pledge in each home.

"We hope that this will aid in arresting thought, overcoming prejudice, and magnify the great principle of 'Total abstinence in our homes'

"We have reason to believe that less than one-half of our S. S. scholars throughout this province are returned as pledged against intemperance, and while encouraging progress is being made among the young, more prayer, purpose and persistent effort is needed along this line.

"The Sunday School in whose primary department the pledge is presented, explained and enforced, and in whose intermediate, adult, and Home Depart-

ments the work is continued by the most improved methods, is sowing seed that will spring up, and bear precious fruit in human lives, and will extend and strengthen the temperance sentiment throughout our province.

"The undersigned will be pleased to correspond with any S. S. worker who may wish information with reference to special temperance lesson helps, etc."

"MRS. M. A. LONGARD,

"Provincial Supt. S. S. Dept. W. C. T. U. of Nova Scotia."

The resolution was adopted by the Convention.

MR. FRASER explained how the temperance work is carried on in his church. They have a committee appointed. A pledge card is given to each scholar to take home, to sign with the consent of his parents. This is returned the next Sunday, a record is kept of it, and the card signed by the Pastor is returned to the scholar.

Hymn, "Shall we gather at the river" was sung, and then MISS VELLA gave her talk on "Primary methods illustrated:"

"There are thousands of little children throughout the land who are totally ignorant of the 'Great White City' and how to find it, and there are hundreds of mothers who are ignorant and unable to show them the way. In order to teach successfully, 1st. Each teacher must have perfect attendance of the children if possible. There are a great many different devices used in different schools to great advantage, viz.: illustrated flags, cards, banners to which bright stars are attached for every day present are some of them.

"2nd. It is necessary to have the attention of the children. We must interest them if we are to instruct them. The teacher must be in her place before the time of opening in order to welcome each child, and the child must be taught he is needed in the class and missed when away. It is a good plan to write welcome letters, and to remember each scholar's birthday and always write him a birthday letter, also write to those absent two Sundays. Write letters to parents of a new scholar who comes to the school, also to the parents when preparing for a concert and get them interested. In concert exercises have nothing memorized but what is of the best. Have a rally Sunday for which the parents are invited, call it parent's day. There are many devices to increase the amount of collections. Teach the children to realize the benefits they receive. A great deal of use should be made of the blackboard, every teacher can use it, and by simple marks illustrate plainly the lesson. The grading of classes is very advantageous in pushing forward study. A graduation service is held once a year; a diploma is given with seals for every thing in which they have done well, viz.:—one seal for each quarter's perfect attendance, one for Bible verse learned every day, etc. We must have constant growth and continual progression. We must arouse their interest, devotion, enthusiasm and love. The teacher must get the attendance and attention, the pupil in time will see the blessings and benefits, the school will have constant growth and continual progression, we will have the interest, devotion, enthusiasm, ambition and love, and so will find our work real."

As Miss Vella spoke she placed upon the blackboard the words she wished to emphasize, and at the close filled up with the words

shown in small type (shewn in red), and thus formulated an object lesson—in giving a lesson in such a way as to fix it on the memory.

If Teachers get

ATTENDANCE } and
ATTENTION }

The scholars will see

BENEFITS } and
BLESSINGS }

The school will have

CONSTANT } growth
 } and
CONTINUAL } progression

And then we will have the

Interest,
Devotion to School,
Enthusiasm for School,
Ambition,
Love.

MISS VELLA give a lesson on the map illustrated by a traveller's song. An opportunity was given for any one to ask Miss Vella any questions.

The Executive Committee recommend a most excellent little book entitled, "Song of Study for God's little ones," containing songs, Bible studies, opening and closing exercises, etc. Price 25 cents. Published by R. R. McCabe & Co., Chicago.

FRIDAY EVENING.

At 7.30 p. m. Convention met in the First Presbyterian Church. A praise service was held, led by REV. DR. WHITTIER. Messrs. RICE and CROWE sang a duett very acceptably. At 8 o'clock business was resumed. After singing "Praise ye the Father," Mr. C. E.

CREIGHTON, of Dartmouth, presented the report of the Committee on Normal Work as follows :—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NORMAL TRAINING.

Your Committee desire to express their gratification at the very substantial beginning that has been made in Normal work in the past year, and they would urge upon this Convention to recommend the formation of Normal classes generally throughout the province. Where schools are isolated, let there be a class in connection with each school; but where it is possible, as in towns and villages, let all the schools co-operate in one central class, so that the inspiration of numbers and a fuller interchange of ideas may be enjoyed.

Your Committee would also recommend, that in the next issue of the *Worker*, full and detailed information be given by some person appointed by this Committee for the purpose, as to the steps that should be taken in order to organize a training class with particulars of the text-book used, and where it can be procured.

And your Committee would further recommend, that in connection with the examination for diplomas, a special blue star be placed on the diplomas of those who are certified by the Field Secretary, the Chairman of the Provincial Association, or any other person acceptable to the Committee on Normal Work, as having not only the theoretical knowledge which is evinced by passing the written examination, but also practical skill on teaching a class.

For those who have already taken certificates and who desire to pursue a post-graduate course, your Committee recommend for this year the somewhat advanced Normal Lessons in Mr. Dunning's Normal Course, and for supplemental reading: "Stalker's Life of Christ," and that for graduates passing an examination on these, either an additional diploma be provided, or a red seal properly marked be placed on the diploma now held.

Respectfully submitted,

C. E. CREIGHTON, *Chairman Com.*

It was moved and seconded that this report be adopted.

After singing, "Oh, where are the Reapers," MISS VELLA spoke on Primary Work. She said :—

"As parents and teachers, we are very much interested in child study—ignorance is ambitious that its children should be wise, and sin is seldom so sinful as not to wish its children stainless. The child lives in a *world of observation*. He gets sixty per cent. of his knowledge from observation, therefore, pictures and objects for children should be carefully selected. They observe *us*, and think more of what we *do* than of what we *say*. They begin to observe at a very early age.

"The little ones live in a *world of imitation*. The *do as we do* not as we *say*. We can see how they imitate us in their games at play, and through these we can see how we may guide them.

"Children live in a *world of imagination*. The responsibility is ours, that we give the right kind of ideas. They live in a *world of reason*, and in a *world of moral conflict*. Let us give them the credit and all the help and sympathy that we, from our larger experience can give. Children also live in a *world of love*. If they give you a bit of their love, try to understand them,

and give them love in return. In order to be the best Christians, we must cultivate the child character. Children live in a *world of sorrow*. Their sorrows are real, let us do what we can to help them bear these troubles, which to them are so real. The seeds of truth we sow sometimes seem to bring forth nothing but weeds and thistles, but sometime God's fires will sweep over them and consume the weeds and the flowers will spring up. Each teacher is responsible for his own class and has a work no other can do."

"To the Work," was sung, and then PROF. HAMIL addressed the Convention on "The Sunday School Idea:"

"An idea is a strange thing, it cannot be classified nor labelled. The highest symbol of power in old times was brute force, then came a change in the ideas of men: gunpowder was invented, also movable type and the power of steam was discovered. These made liberty both necessary and possible. There are some great ideas that dominate the world, but there is no nobler idea in the Church than that which relates to childhood. The motto to set before us is: 'All the school at church and all the church at school.' I would like to see the old fashioned family pew still in vogue. It is nice to see the whole family under the eye of the mother, from the tall stalwart young man to the infant. Then the sermon should be short and concise. A sermon addressed to a child, having in it the essence of spiritual things, is suited to the grown up hearer. The Holy Spirit presents the things of God in the simplest manner. I appeal to the business men. First. Is not the tendency of the average business man to neglect the old fashioned study of the word of God? Second. Is not the missing link between the school and the church the absence of the young man and big boy? This is because we have allowed the Sunday School to degenerate. The Sunday School is the church engaged in the study and teaching of God's word. There is a tendency to neglect the reading of God's word in our families. Every man should put himself in the way of the regular systematic study of God's Book in the International lessons. The Sunday School should be a great Bible school with the oldest and youngest in the community studying God's word.

"The Sunday School idea is an educational one. There is nothing good in scholar schools, normal or otherwise, but the Sunday School teachers and Superintendents are going to take into Sunday Schools. We want normal classes, primary unions and everything that will teach us. God puts no premium on wilful ignorance of His word, Paul said to Timothy at the close of his life, 'Now I say unto thee Timothy, study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.' Sunday School teachers are beginning to understand their responsibility. The organization of normal classes is one of the signs of the times. The old fashioned teacher is fast passing away. The greatest work in our world is teaching, and if there is a heaven on earth for a little child, it is a perfectly furnished, thoroughly equipped Primary Sunday School room."

The President spoke of the necessity of funds to carry on the Sunday School work, and appealed to the audience for a large collection in order to pay off the debt due MR. GRIERSON. He asked for voluntary subscriptions, he himself offering \$100.00. MR. THOMPSON of Pictou and MR. LONGARD each offered \$50.00. Pledges were passed round the audience to be signed for any amount they wished to give, these in addition to amounts volunteered and the general collection brought the sum up to \$279.00. Hymn, "I am thine, O Lord," was

sung while the collection was being taken up. Other remarks were made urging the necessity of having a clear sheet. MR. GRIERSON said the reason of the deficit was because of the failure of schools to send the amount they should, some schools not even sending one collection.

Guarantees from counties for the coming year were called for with the following results:—

Halifax	\$200 00	Colchester	\$ 75 00
Pictou	75 00	Cumberland.....	60 00
Hants, East.....	50 00	Hants, West.....	25 00
Kings.....	50 00		
		Total.....	\$535 00

The meeting then adjourned after the benediction was pronounced by the President.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The Convention met in Immanuel Baptist church and opened at 9.30 a. m., with the usual service of prayer and praise led by MR. THEAKSTON of Halifax.

Regular business was resumed at ten o'clock, the President occupying the chair.

The minutes of previous meetings of Friday afternoon and evening were read and approved.

The resolution of the Finance Committee laid on the table on Friday was again discussed. After considerable discussion it was moved and seconded,

“That the Executive Committee of this Association be authorized to pay the Field Secretary once a month.”

A show of hands being called for and counted, the motion passed.

FINANCE.

The resolutions passed at the Annual Convention of 1895 with regard to the finances are re-published, and the Executive Committee trust that all county officers will do their utmost to carry them out,

and also by appeals to individuals, largely to supplement the contributions from the schools. Contributions of individuals towards this most promising form of Home Mission Work may be sent direct to our treasurer, MR. S. WADDELL, 253 Hollis Street, Halifax, at any time, and will be credited to the county to which the donor belongs, in the annual record, and will be acknowledged in the *S. S. Worker* which appears monthly.

Resolutions passed at the Annual Convention, 1895 :—

"1. To avoid misunderstanding the accounts of the Provincial Treasurer to be closed and audited by Oct. 15th (or one week prior to the Convention if it met at an earlier date) and printed in year book as presented to the Convention.

"2. That with a view to raising the needed funds for the provincial work, all County Associations should appeal to all the superintendents of their schools to send a special school collection taken on the first Sunday of June to the County Treasurer, and that reminders should be sent to all schools who fail to contribute by the end of that month."

It was moved, seconded and passed that the constitution and by-laws of the Association be printed with the next annual report.

The business committee brought in resolutions of thanks, which were carried unanimously. They read as follows :—

"That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Arthur Gates, Charles Parker, Eddie Jamieson, John and Fred Dawson, and Charlie McLennan, all of Truro, who as pages assisted in the work of this Convention. To the trustees of the Immanuel Baptist, and First Presbyterian churches, and to the Y. M. C. A. for the use of their buildings. To the good people of Truro for opening their homes and hearts to the delegates. To railway and steamship companies for reduced rates, and to the press for printing reports of the doings of the Convention."

PROF. HAMILL then addressed the Convention on Sabbath School teaching :

"Teachers are inclined to lean too heavily on helps. It would be better for most teachers to have less helps and depend more solely on the Bible. The more we lean on helps the less efficient we become as teachers. We have the specific promise of the help of the Holy Spirit to every devout student of the Word of God, for the purpose of helping souls. There are certain things that must be attended to before you begin to teach. I call them *preliminaries*.

"1. Preliminaries—If a man has to do a good day's work he wants a good breakfast. If I am to teach next Sunday I must get ready. What is necessary to be done? Ans. by Convention: Get ready. The first piece of advice is very old fashioned. (Prof. Hamill put O. T. on the blackboard, which he said meant on time.) This will never wear out. The reason for this is very plain. The teacher who comes in behind time is irritable. He is conscious of being behind time. The scholars too become irritable, and they are in a bad condition for being taught. The battle is won or lost in the first.

five minutes after the school is opened. If the school opens at 9.30 you must be there at 9.20. You can then get everything in good condition. For instance, How many have been on time for every appointment? (Several rose up.) He thanked them. It is the little things that make the large success of failure of the teacher.

"Second preliminary is: Give every scholar a cordial greeting. (Mr. Hamill put C. G. on the blackboard.) Show friendliness to every scholar. Let him know that you are glad to see him. Cultivate the art of being glad. Here is a work of Scripture: "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly." Let there be an earnest striving after the art or grace of friendliness. I once had a teacher who was a good Bible scholar. But if he showed at any time any real gladness I fail to remember it. Try to make the boys feel at home. Some boys do not get much of that kind of thing at home. So all the more need that they should have it at school. I like to talk with a boy, with any boy. Cultivate a love for the boys. One way of renewing my youth is by coming in contact with boys.

"A third thing is C. S. (which the professor explained to mean, comfortable surroundings.) You are subject to conditions imposed upon you by the building in which you meet. But give the boys comfortable surroundings as far as possible. I have known a teacher to sit at the tail end of a row of eight or ten boys. Now these could have been made into two rows and he had better command of them. I would have a model school and would have a trap door under the platform, and when "Dr. Jeremiah Jones of the Fijian Islands" had exceeded the time that he could profitably employ I would press the button and let him drop out of sight and then go on with the work of the school. I would stand and teach. And if any boy is very mischievous I would place myself alongside of him.

"A fourth thing is the A. B. C. (which the professor explained to mean all books closed.) You must begin with A. B. C. You will stop until that is accomplished. This is the golden key for success. Teach for 35 or 40 minutes with the lesson leaves and books all closed. Having nothing at all in your hands but the Bible that you use. I would try to teach well without the constant necessity of reference to books. A book becomes a non-conductor. I believe in teaching without any waste of teaching power. Let ordinary helps be closed (Amen.) We are getting ready. This is the first step. Convention reviewed On Time, Cordial Greeting, Comfortable Surroundings. All Books Closed. (Prof. Hamill referred to the necessity of giving a cordial greeting by speaking of a visit to a girl belonging to his class who had scarlet fever. He found her up a second flight of stairs.) She was alone. And when asked if many people had been to see her, she said: 'Nobody but you and the kitten.' (Laughter.) I did not think that there was anything very remarkable in my going after her. But years afterward she came clear across the street and shook my hand and said that she was a teacher now. I like to recall that.

"II. You are now ready. Next comes test. Test the attention. (A.) You cannot tell whether they are really giving attention by seeing whether or not they are looking at you. The average Canadian or American boy can easily counterfeit attention by looking in the face. Unless you are mind-readers he can impose upon you. The way to test attention is by questions. Try a question in this direction and then in that. Question about last Sunday's lesson. Spring a question as How long was Solomon King? The bodies might be in an attitude of attention and not the minds. I would ask Brother Jones what he thought of the last proposition I had advanced. I have felt very much like doing that sometimes when I have been preaching.

"The next thing is test the H. S. (Home Study.) Find out how much home study has been done. It is difficult to get home study done well. But one of the very worst things is to go ahead in teaching and assuming that no home

study has been done. Soon there will be none if you assume that there is none done. Because if a boy does some and gets no credit for it he becomes discouraged. He goes home saying 'I had no chance. The teacher did not ask me anything.' And he shuts up like a clam.

"III. The third step is to have a plan. Do not teach more than O. T. (One Great Truth.) I will tell you that I think the International Committee wise in seeking to force the chief teaching of the lesson in one great truth. And the golden text is generally the key to the lesson. They generally make a selection of a passage, find out its chief truth, and then settle independently of each other on a golden text. Now, when sixteen of the brightest and best men have selected one text as the golden text there is mostly a great deal to be said in favor of it. I have often tried to teach too many truths. But you must remember that you are teaching from a standpoint of 35 or 40 years. But it is better to keep the minds of the scholars to one truth. My definition of knowledge is not what I remember, but what I cannot forget.

"To teach by Q. (question.) Do not do so much talking. I think that you should question the scholars and also be questioned by them.

"The fourth step is Reproduction--The disciples were commanded, saying 'As you go teach.' Each lesson may be taught in a different way from the rest. Try to get your scholars to tell you the lesson back in an O. (orderly) way. Go over it point by point. Ask Charles Jones to tell it. Perchance he does it bludgeringly. Then ask some one to do it orderly and in his own words. If he can do it it will be something for him to remember for many years.

"Then let it be done A. (accurately.) Try to get all the points as fully as you gave them. In this way they will learn something in every lesson.

"V. The last thing is the application. And this is most important. The Holy Spirit will do it. Prayer will do it. Meditation will do it. Study of the scholars one by one will do it. Here for instance is a boy whose father is a drunkard. The boy has no chance. If there is anything to help a boy like that I want to find it. And I am sure that there is something for him. I will pray that his heart may be touched and that he may be strengthened in what is good. The Holy Spirit will help me and impress it upon his heart. The teacher must pray for his scholars individually. Unless he does this he will not make much of a success in teaching. If I were an artist and chiseled out in marble the face of a little child, every part true to nature, with an exquisite life-like appearance every mother would admire it. But if I could turn it into living marble every mother would want to take it to her breast and kiss it. So you want to take your work and kiss it by the sunshine of your love and water it by the tears of your faith and it will succeed. You cannot depend so much upon your learning as the guidance to the Holy Spirit. Here is something—a nail. A carpenter must have a good nail. He cannot drive a nail until he gets one and it must be a good one. First get the nail. That is getting ready. It is the preliminary. A good nail is what? Convention: Getting ready.

"Next he sets the nail. He does not begin to drive at once, and that is home study. It is what? Convention: Home study. Now you are to drive the nail. How many nails at once? Convention: One nail.

"I might drive the nail by pushing it through a board. Cultivate the art of questioning. How drive it? Convention: By questions. But an expert carpenter proves the nail to see if it has gone through. It must go to its place. I must turn the boys round to see if they can tell me back in their own words, so that I may know whether the truth has gone home. If they can tell me I know it has reached the mark. The application is the clinching of the nail. This is done by the Holy Spirit, prayer and meditation." (Professor Hamill prayed at the close of the lesson)

He illustrated his remarks by the accompanying blackboard sketch:

I. PRELM.	O. T. (one truth.)
	C. G. (cordial greeting.)
	C. S. (cheerful surroundings.)
	A. B. C. (all books closed.)
II. The TEST.	AT. (attention.)
	H. S. (home study.)
III. The TEACHING.	O. T. (one truth) to his is
	G. T. (golden text.)
	Q. (question.)
IV. REPRODUCTION.	O. (original.)
	A. (accurate.)
Y. APPLICATION.	I. (individual.)
	S. (spiritual.)

Only the capital initials being placed on the board.

When finished the whole was rubbed out and then reproduced by the delegates.

MISS VELLA next spoke of the equipment the teachers had to work with :—

"We all possess ten points of equipment, five without ourselves and five within ourselves. Without ourselves we have :—

"1st. The Bible, the only book which teaches humanity the way to God. Each teacher should study it so as know it, and if possible should take a normal course.

"2nd. The whole world of Literature. Every book contains something to help us in our work and there are many books that take us right to the root of the teacher's art. Get good out of books by thinking, 'is there anything in this book I can use in my class.'

MISS VELLA then mentioned four books, which all teachers should absorb, and she strongly recommended none to be satisfied till they had studied them :—

Trumbull's, "Teachers and Teaching."
 Gregory's, "Seven Laws of Teaching."
 Mrs. Van Morter, "The Primary Teacher."
 Elizabeth Harrison, "A Study in Child Nature."

These books should be in every Sunday School library, with a copy of Schauffler's, "Ways of Working," for reference by the superintendent and teachers.

- 3rd. A pen or pencil, consecrate your pen or pencil to the work.
- 4th. A piece of crayon, in each class to be used on black-board or lap-board.
- 5th. A pair of scissors, to be used in cutting illustrations to bring into the class.

MISS VELLA showed the Convention by practical illustration how both crayon and scissors may be used to help on the work of the teacher.

The five points of equipment within ourselves are :—

First.—Our imagination, we all have imagination and we should use it for the children.

Second.—Our religious experience, do let the children know that while we are teaching them to do right, we have many a struggle ourselves.

Third.—Our love for the work.

Fourth.—A belief in child christianity. Let us realize that a child can be converted very young.

Fifth.—Prayer. God is living and just as ready to answer our prayers as he was those of Abraham.

At the conclusion of MISS VELLA'S remarks, which abounded with illustration, the benediction was pronounced and the meeting adjourned.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The usual praise service was commenced at two o'clock, led by REV. MR. FALCONER.

At 2.30 o'clock the President took the chair.

MISS VELLA took up Illustrated Primary Teaching in a practical way. Some sixty Primary Sunday School scholars, from 4 to 9 years of age were present in the front seats, and the first 30 minutes were occupied by MISS VELLA in teaching them a sample Sunday School lesson, using her various illustrative maps and attractive designs in connection with the black-board.

PRINCIPAL KENNEDY read a paper prepared by R. Messinger, entitled : "How to maintain the Interest."

HOW TO KEEP UP THE INTEREST.

Perhaps we could have no better subject on which to theorize than the above, and yet when we specialize we will endeavor to follow theory with practical applications which have been and will be found helpful. Our main object is, of course, to keep up the interest of the scholars, and to do this a

solid foundation of interest must be laid in the hearts of those with whom the scholars come in contact. We cannot believe that it is giving too strong a meaning to the word "interest" to call it the *life* of the school; its heart beats. As without the regular movement of the heart the man is dead, so without this pulsing God-life in our schools, the most machine-like regularity is ineffectual in true results.

As a foundation then we want this Christ-seeking soul-life in every individual whose influence may reach to the Sunday School.

What is this God-loving life? When we love any person there is no effort of will on our part. The emotion flows out to that one naturally. We cannot help it. We go out toward that other life and seek its best and highest good. We want that one to be honored by all as we honor him; we love to do all we can for him, to show our appreciation of the worth we have found in him; grateful to him for the blessings he has brought into our life, and anxious to *show* that gratitude.

In an infinitely higher scale is our love for God, and we show it by an outflowing of our life into His; in an upholding of His honor, a love to do His will, and a rejoicing service for Him.

Taken this meaning of the word we may say that just so far as this God-love is found in every person who comes in contact with, or influences the life of our Sunday Schools, just so near is it possible for us to reach to our ideal.

The problem of how this state of hearty service can be approximated is one which takes a whole lifetime to solve; but for a little let us take a look into a good Sunday School, not a model one, for our ideas of a good school may differ materially, but one where the *interest* at least is maintained.

We are struck first with the size of the gathering, and not all children or teachers. Some of the parents must be there. There are also some here who have no children. What are they, or even the parents, doing here. We have always had an idea that only the teachers and superintendent, besides the little ones, frequented such places. Perhaps we shall see later why they are here.

Our general assembly room is, in this case, the main body of the church. We know that the financial state of the church will not allow of a separate hall for Sunday School work as we would wish, for our school is not this time in a wealthy town but in a country village, but we shall see that this drawback has been overcome in some degree.

We see on one side of the platform, a good sized portable, revolving blackboard, for general use. On one side of the board, one of those church members at whose presence we were wondering, and who from former experience in teaching is an expert with the crayon, has drawn out in colors an excellent illustration of the day's lesson plan, with the golden Text and little prominent points to help it stick in the memory.

The lesson is about the journey of Israel; and we find before the seats in which each class is to take its place, a good map of the Holy Land and surrounding countries, and a smaller blackboard for the use of each teacher. On the platform also, in sight of all, is a picture of Moses holding the tables and one of an Eastern Encampment.

On the organ, on the Pastor's desk and on the Superintendent's stand, are bunches of fresh flowers. There are other articles on this stand such as children's papers, yes and even inexpensive prizes.

The children are all looking at that large blackboard, and repeating over to themselves the points of the lesson. Although the classes are yet all together, each class is in a separate seat or seats with the teacher in the midst. There are some vacant places in each class, but these are presently filled by the more musical scholars, who have been in the vestry practising over new hymns with the choir.

We have for some time been watching the Superintendent, who has been busily engaged in different parts of the room, arranging for substitute teachers, welcoming visitors, speaking pleasant and encouraging words to the parents and teachers, etc., He is a man who certainly possesses this necessary soul-life. He has a genial smile and an air as if he could be father to every child in the room. His face has not that sanctimonious length that makes you think of gravestones, but a kindly interested, encouraging look that makes everyone smile back at him, and feel that he is a helpful friend. He moves quickly and with perfect ease, showing the scholars by his example and words, that where he gets his cheerfulness and interest they may get theirs.

The bell sounds and attention is directed toward the Superintendent. From the vestry the singers come and take their places among those in the seats. The pastor rises, and after a moment with bowed heads, he offers a short helpful prayer, (children cannot stand long prayers, they lose interest.) The Superintendent speaks a few bright words, and gives out an old hymn, in which all, knowing it, heartily join. This gives the timid ones courage and voice, to join in the newly practiced one which immediately follows. This is the beginning of the quarter, and the responsive reading in the quarterly is given. Another hymn is sung, the lesson of the day is read with a few explanations by the Superintendent. He sounds the bell again and the classes rise and take their places; the infant class going to the vestry.

We ask ourselves, "Will there not be confusion and lack of attention where there are so many classes in one room?" We look around, however, and find that each class is partly surrounded by an inexpensive portable folding screen which shuts out the view of the other classes, thus giving them practically a separate class room, where their attention is practically confined to their own teacher.

The pastor then gathers those present who have not classes and goes carefully over the lesson in such a way that the parents catch the enthusiasm and an inspiration that aids them in helping the children prepare the lessons at home.

We have grown very curious about the school, and we beckon the Superintendent as soon as we see him at leisure for a moment. He comes, and seems glad that anyone should take interest in his school. We ask, "What are so many of the parents doing here as well as those middle-aged people who have no children?" "Oh, they are all interested *practically* in helping the S. School. From some we select our substitute teachers; others again who, have no children, help on the good work by putting their hands in their pockets and paying for these helps. Those pictures on the platform have been brought from home for the day, while one of our carpenters has made us this black-board, and takes an interest in having the lesson presented from it. I cannot say too much in favor of this method of teaching. We all know that the mind is a picture book, upon which is printed with more or less clearness the form of everything we have ever seen, and to remember anything, we have to turn over the pages and bring up before the mind's eye the picture we wish. Everything thus gained forms an imaginative shape. The printed page comes up before us, and even the knowledge gained by oral instruction must form a conceptive picture similar to something we have already conceived. Retention of knowledge depends in a great measure on the vividness of its conception. Therefore, every child to retain knowledge clearly and for any length of time, must have gained that knowledge *objectively*, and this truth applies almost equally well to children of all ages, even up to three score. Even the Golden Text illustrated on the board, makes a deeper impress on the brain substance, than if merely mechanically learned from the Lesson Helps, while how much quicker and better a child will grasp the idea of a journey or an encampment of wanderers, if shown as more of a reality by the help of the chalk or a picture. I am an earnest advocate of this system

of object teaching," continues the Superintendent, "and I have labored successfully in instilling the same feeling into the hearts of the interested helpers as you will see by the maps, pictures or scenes similar to those of the lesson and the boards used by the teachers. These are all furnished by the persons you did not expect to find here."

"Then we have a committee appointed to look after all new-comers to the place, strays who have no particular place to go on Sunday, and who are much more prone to fall into paths of sin and Sabbath-breaking than to seek any place where they may obtain good. This committee also looks after and brings to the notice of our general helpers, the poor ones, whose parents are unable to clothe them with sufficient neatness to attend the school; and for these clothes and shoes are provided.

This committee has a vast deal of responsibility, and is composed of the most faithful of those whose talents for music and teaching are such as will not allow them to do good work in the classes or choir.

We are surprised that the proverbially unholy and frivolous church choir should have anything to do with keeping up the interest in the Sunday School; but the Superintendent assures us that this body is a most important factor in our school. "Every Sunday," he tells us, "the choir take from among the scholars and teachers, those who can sing or who have any aptitude in catching the air, and arrange for them to come early to practice over one or two new tunes before the school opens. When we open, as you noticed to-day, these take their places among those who have not practiced, giving them courage and helping them pick up the tune. You would be surprised to know how zealously the children try to learn the new one and how quickly they tire of them. In fact I find the most necessary motto to have before me as a Superintendent is the verb "Change." We must never have anything so often that it becomes mere form and conveys no meaning to the scholar. To-day we had responsive reading as it was the beginning of the quarter; but perhaps we will only have it as an exercise once or twice again. We vary it in different ways. Sometimes one of the deacons takes up the time with a short talk; sometimes we have a short story read or recitation given bearing on the thought of the lesson or a solo sung by one of the choir. We cannot have too much singing. No language can quicken the heart-strings or arouse the better emotions more powerfully than that of song. Yet in this as in everything else I have to keep my motto in sight. "Change, change continually."

In this way the scholars are continually looking out for something new and the wonder as to what treat is in store for them next Sunday keeps up their interest in attendance. This is also aided by prizes; inexpensive in themselves but nevertheless valuable in the eyes of the scholars for the distinction connected with the gaining of them. But we do not make the mistake of awarding them for cleverness or progress, for that would discourage the dull ones, but for merit in which each may equally share, such as, attendance, attention, obedience and good conduct. We try also to have some stranger come in and take part in some way in order to give the scholars the treat of a new face and voice. This afternoon we have the County Superintendent.

Time will not allow us to visit each class, but we must visit one advanced and one primary.

The advanced is a class of boys at the age "most difficult to manage," and who have a wholesale contempt for what they call *namby pambyism* in religion. But the teacher here seems fitted for the position. He is a man who, if he has not travelled, has read largely; and he comes before these incorrigible boys *not* with a lecture delivered in a whine about the evils of bad company and of using tobacco and strong drink, or the necessity of casting their burdens on the Lord—as if young fellows verging on manhood wanted to

be talked to in that way. No, he recognizes that they can reason for themselves and he is drawing from their fund of knowledge and giving an interesting account of that journey in the wilderness. He has picked out the route on the way helping in every way he has had a chance, not only in this but in every point of the lesson, by the use of the blackboard. He is describing some of the customs of those people, their temporal condition as well as the intricate difficulties and dangers of the march. He describes in detail the mode of march, the ceremonies with which the tents were struck in the morning and pitched in the evening; adroitly inserting a question now and then to determine if the boys are following. When he touches on the virtues and vices, he does so in such a way as to cultivate in the boys a desire for the first and dislike of the latter. When he speaks of the want of trust in the Israelites the boys recognize and despise their cowardise and ingratitude, or the boys gather from what he says about Moses, that the patience and nobility of that leader are worthy of emulation.

We go to the primary room and find everything full of life. Just now they are singing; indeed they do a lot of singing in here; and now for a change they are standing and accompanying the thoughts of the simple hymn with suitable gestures and enjoying it thoroughly.

Again we find a very suitable teacher but a very different one from the last one. In this case it is a mother whose own little ones have instilled into her heart a large love and sympathy for those under her charge. She is by far the *best, brightest* and *most talented* teacher in the school; and the one best calculated to understand child nature. She has made the most use of her blackboards, maps and pictures, of any teacher in the school. In fact she has spent almost all the time the class were not singing, at the board; filling it with drawings illustrative of the lesson, explaining, rubbing out and filling again. Just now we see a drawing of Moses standing, rod in hand, while the water gushed from the rock. She has drawn this to vividly shew forth the truth she has just been impressing on their minds; that of God's love and care for His children. She dwells principally on this truth, and also on the gratitude we ought to feel toward the Heavenly Father for that care, instead of grumbling at our lot.

The time has come for closing and the bell sounds for the classes to come together.

Again a hymn is sung, after which the primary class is allowed to leave; and we see as they go quietly out that each one has a profusely illustrated child's paper.

"Now," says the Superintendent, "we will not tire you by taking you over the lesson of the day again but our good friend, the County Superintendent will talk to you for a few minutes about last quarter's lessons." He does so in a way that makes one feel that the Convention has made a wise selection of their man. He turns another side of that large board and, if each scholar has not the title or subject of each lesson at once in his or her mind ready for answering, there is something quickly drawn or some sign made on that board which recalls it.

Then the County Superintendent tells them he has found out some things since school began which pleases him very much. He has found that the parents help the children at home; that the teachers make constant use of maps and boards; that there is a good-natured and wholesome rivalry among the classes, which makes it impossible for interest to flag. He has noticed too, that the teachers have no helps in their hands, but nevertheless in his round of the classes during the lesson hour he has found that each teacher has come before the class full of knowledge about the lesson, thus showing that each teacher has used helps, and lots of them, at home and *left them there*; the best use, by far, that could have been made of them.

"If I were a scholar," said he, "I would feel like paying very little attention to a teacher who was compelled to refer to a lesson help for every thought that came out of the lesson." It destroys the power of originality in the teacher, and weakens the influence over the class; for the eye should be free to catch every change of emotion or every variation of thought or attention shown on the faces of the pupils. I have also noticed by the report which the Superintendent handed to me, that during the last month a systematic grading has been carried on very much as in our day schools and that promotions to higher classes have been made by examinations which the scholars have passed on merit. This is excellent and goes far toward keeping up the interest in the lessons throughout the year. I was also pleased to notice that no scholars came in late to disturb the school.

After the County Superintendent had finished one of the young ladies of the choir sang a solo while the collection was being taken and the papers distributed. Then the school was dismissed; not as a whole, but class by class; thus avoiding confusion.

We lingered for a few minutes to have another talk with the Superintendent and were surprised to find that all the teachers had remained, and had taken their places in a class. The Superintendent told us that every Sunday after school the teachers gathered thus for a talk over the teaching points of the *next* lesson. Selecting one of the number as a sort of leader, they found the interchange of ideas a mutual benefit.

There were also frequent business meetings of the officers to discuss ways and means of keeping up the interests; every officer thus being made to feel the responsibility of the whole school's welfare.

We find also by the Superintendent that the teacher's work is not confined to the classes on Sunday, but that by frequent visits to scholars and parents, the bond of sympathy is strengthened. The children also take interest in giving their pennies for some specific purpose. At this time they were very much interested in the education of a little native in the mission field, and their spare cents were for that object.

After visiting this school it is scarcely necessary to resume the explanation of where our foundation of the God-life is developed. Children taught in such a school grow up *with* this life, and *in* it. But we are not called upon to deal with the spiritual life of our Sunday School, but only with the maintenance of *interest*.

R. J. MESSENGER.

A verse of "Nearer the Cross," was sung.

The President spoke of the portions of Scripture set apart as home readings in the quarterlies. He showed the cards on which the readings for each day are marked.* He spoke of the necessity of training the young to read the Bible.

Another verse of "Nearer the Cross," was sung, and then PROF. HAMILL spoke on "House to house visitation and the Home Department."

This is an old and faithful method of Sunday School work. Statistics show that 50 per cent only of the population of the United States and Canada, between 5 and 21 years of age, are in the Sunday School. House to house

* These cards of the International Bible Reading Association, I. B. R. A., can be obtained from Mr. J. S. Smith, Bland Street, Halifax, (3 cents a year.)

visitation is to reach those who are out, and is fast bringing them in. It gives work to any in the Church who want it. They should go in the old Apostolic fashion, two and two. The churches should be united in it, the visitors should be two from different churches. A record is kept of all families visited, and their denominational preference handed in to a general committee who sort them out and give the names to the church workers of the denomination they have mentioned, who then look after them. It is a return to Primitive Christianity and brings the Pentecostal blessing. Visitors should take with them Home Department pledges and get them signed by those who cannot go to Church or Sunday School. The Home Department includes all persons, who for any reason whatsoever, cannot go to Sunday School, but are willing to pledge themselves to study the International lessons for thirty minutes every week, Sunday if possible. Material for work in this department are, first, pledge cards and membership cards. The pledge cards are signed and handed in to the school and formed into the Home Department class. Visitors are appointed to visit the members. There is a Superintendent and Secretary for this department. Visitors must visit not less than once a quarter, and carry with them lesson papers and anything else a scholar is entitled to, also a small envelope divided into twelve parts, on which they can mark each week that they have kept their pledge, they can also place in it any offering they feel like giving.*

An invitation was extended by Cumberland County to hold the next Annual Convention at Spring Hill. The Convention was now brought to a hasty close, in order that delegates might catch their trains homeward bound.

A meeting had been advertised for the evening, but the Business Committee found that so many delegates had arranged to leave by the afternoon train, as it afforded the only opportunity for them to reach their homes before Sunday, and therefore considered it advisable to abandon the idea.

This failure to carry through the programme was greatly regretted by many, and effort will be made in future so to arrange the days of Conference that all may be able to stay to the end.

SUNDAY, OCT. 28TH.

MISS VELLA and PROFESSOR HAMILL journeyed to Halifax by special invitation, and on Sunday afternoon gave most practical addresses to a thoroughly representative meeting of S. S. Teachers at St. Matthews Church, and in the evening PROFESSOR HAMILL spoke at Brunswick Street Methodist Church after the church service.

* Circulars, entitled: "Normal Class Leaflet, No. 4," "Home Classes or the Home Department," which set forth its purpose and method, can be obtained free of charge on application to Timothy Hough, Syracuse, New York, U. S. A.

GREAT THINGS WROUGHT BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

PROFESSOR HAMILL, AT BRUNSWICK STREET CHURCH, TELLS OF THE
WONDERFUL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THIS FORM OF
CHRISTIAN WORK.

There was a great gathering of the Sunday School workers of the city to hear eloquent Professor Hamill's address on the importance of Sunday School work and the best methods. The meeting was opened in Brunswick Street church at 8.30 p. m., with Captain Winn, R. E., president of the Provincial Association, in the chair. After a brief introduction, Professor Hamill began by saying that to-day the church holds the Sunday School teacher in higher esteem than she ever did before, and even her architects now exert their best talent and skill for the Sunday School room. He, as a delegate of the great International association, informed the audience of what this great organization has done. In his own country it has brought the two great antagonistic sections together. He himself, though the son of a strict abolitionist clergyman of the Methodist persuasion, had marched to battle in the army of Lee. Long after the cruel civil war had closed, did the feelings of hatred and antagonism exist, but foremost among the influences which have at last brought north and south into the harmony of brotherhood, has been that of the International S. S. Association. Out of the work too of this grand organization, has come a kinder feeling between the two great countries of America. Not long ago there raged through the land the shouts and howls of jingoism but the voice of the S. S. worker did not join the jingoistic refrain, but instead, resolution after resolution was passed as a unit in its condemnation. A few years ago

THAT HYDRA HEADED EVIL—THE LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY

was doing its evil work among the young men of our land. To-day it is gone and the men who organized and led the fight against it, were foremost in International Sunday School work. In temperance its efforts are now earnestly put forth and if anything will be accomplished it will be due to the combined efforts of the Sunday School workers. The International Association is not undenominational, but is interdenominational. One thing he had always noticed was that the most enthusiastic denominationalists are the greatest laborers in interdenominational Sunday School work. Who, he said, could be a stronger Baptist than the President, Mr. Jacobs, of Chicago, and who a truer Methodist than Bishop Potts. And yet the millenium may come, but the Calvinist will be a Calvinist still, and the Armenian will remain an Armenian; and it is best, he thought, that the soldiers of Christianity should be divided into brigades for better and more systematic work. In this organization are men and women representing the best trained and the ripest intellects of all denominations, gathered together, not because of harmony on nice points of church doctrine, but because interested in a common work.

FROM A SELFISH POINT OF VIEW

he thought the denominationalist should think it a good thing. For by joining with them he might gain for his church the best methods and the latest system, so that his church might continue as strong and aggressive as before. Every delegate who has been to Truro and has gained in inspiration, enthusiasm, or has acquired a better method of work will be the better member of

his own church. But a better and noble reason would be that the strong might by the same means be better able to strengthen the hands and supply the needs of weaker churches. His oft repeated proverb was this:—That he wished the whole world at the church, and the whole church in the Sunday School. The big boy will not go into the school where he sees only an adult or two teaching a band of little children, but if his seniors would go he would follow.

John Wanamaker, he said, had perhaps the best and shrewdest business intellect of any man of his age, but for every once he thinks of his business he thinks thrice of his Sunday School. Even when a cabinet minister of the United States, he travelled 200 miles by rail every Saturday night, that he might teach his regular class. God had prospered him and his example should be followed. But he had noticed that many whose enthusiasm had in their younger day been strong and living, had ceased to labor. This should not be, for the work of Sunday school teacher is the noblest in the world next to that of the ministry. Even if one influenced only one young life to good by house visitation or personal influence they would be doing the greatest deed of one's life. Sir Humphrey Davy acknowledged that his greatest discovery was Faraday and the man who influenced young Moody's life accomplished a mighty thing.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

NOVA SCOTIA SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION *in account with* S. WADDELL,
TREASURER.

1896.		DR.	
To J. Grierson, acct. Salary.....			798 67
“ Travelling and Postage			169 68
Mrs. Craft's expenses to Convention, 1895.....			33 00
Baptist Book Room.....			19 20
International S. S. Association, 1895.....			50 00
“ “ “ “ 1896.....			50 00
Printing Reports, 1895, etc.....			125 70
Freight and Postage Reports			4 55
Printing Circulars, Post Cards, etc			16 80
Postage, Telegrams, etc.....			10 28
Printing S. S. Worker, March '96			25 00
			\$1302 88
By Contributions:—		CR.	
Halifax County S. S. Association	260 73		
Capt. Winn	100 00		
C. H. Longard	40 00		
E. D. King	20 00		
J. Burgoyne.....	5 00		
Miss Mitchell.....	5 00		
Pictou County S. S. Association.....	100 00	430 73	
J. Thompson	50 00		
Hants County (West) S. S. Association	8 17	150 00	
W. H. Blanchard	25 00		
A. P. Shand, \$10; J. Nalder, \$10.....	20 00		
E. H. Dimock, \$10; A Friend, \$10.....	20 00		
Rev. H. Dickie, \$10; Mrs. A. D. Stewart, \$5...	15 00		
Dr. E. Young, \$5; G. H. Curry, \$5.....	10 00		
W. W. Robson, \$1; "A Friend," \$1.....	2 00		
Hants County, (East).....	3 31	100 17	
Annapolis County	1 97		
Antigonish	9 25		
Cape Breton	18 50		
Colchester	64 00		
Cumberland	67 71		
Digby	11 14		
Guysboro	30 00		
Inverness	2 60		
		208 48	
<i>Carried forward</i>			\$889 38

	<i>Brought forward</i>	\$889 38
Kings County	57 00	
Lunenburg "	3 74	
Queens (South) "	2 59	
" (North) "	3 96	
Shelburne "	20 85	
Victoria "	4 87	
Yarmouth "	3 66	
Collections at Convention, 1895	69 35	
" Meeting of Ex. Committee, Truro	8 00	
Advertisements in Reports, 1895	140 00	
Balance due Treasurer	104 48	
		413 50
		\$1302 88

WADDELL,

798 67
169 68
33 00
19 20
50 00
50 00
125 70
4 55
16 80
10 28
25 00

\$1302 88

BALANCE SHEET.

DR.

Due to J. Grierson, salary	213 76
J. E. Woodworth, S. S. Worker	25 00
S. Waddell, Treasurer	104 48
	\$343 24

CR.

Balance Kings Co. Pledge	18 00
" Colchester Co. Pledge	6 00
Unpaid Individual Pledge (3)	20 00
Balance Dr	299 24
	\$343 24

Oct. 25th, 1896.

Examined and found correct.

J. WINN, Capt R. E.

COUNTY CONVENTION REPORTS, 1896.

Date.	Association.	Place.	No. S.	N. S. S. Reporting.	No. Delegates.	No. Session.	Total Attendance.
May 19.	Inverness	Hawkesbury	34	6	14		
21.	Victoria	Baddeck	28	5	30	2	105
28.	Richmond	Cleveland	20	12	20	2	190
June 2.	Guysboro'	Guysboro'	44	40	31	3	56
4.	Antigonish	Lochaber	12	7	30	1	315
July 2.	Queen's, North.	Greenfield	16	11	30	2	190
9.	Shelburne	Jordan Falls	28	14	20	4	130
14.	Queen's, South.	Liverpool	23	12	30	2	450
17.	Digby	Weymouth	34	6	25	3	145
24.	Hants, West	Hantsport	20	12	30	2	175
30.	Hants, East	Shubenacadie	43	8	26	3	225
Aug. 6.	Cumberland	Springhill	80	34	37	3	167
11.	Pictou	Bridgeville	106	30	60	2	510
18.	Annapolis	North Williamston	80	20	50	3	500
19 & 20.	Barrington	Clark's Harbor	32	22	110	4	750
27.	Cape Breton	North Sydney	40	15	50	3	1550
Sept. 17.	Kings	Berwick	78	38	50	3	150
22.	Halifax	Halifax	95	95	94	2	525
24.	Yarmouth	Yarmouth	50	20	35	2	285
29.	Colchester	Middle Stewiacke	90	25	50	3	240
Dec. 1.	Lunenburg	Lunenburg	57	30	35	3	460
			1010	462	857	54	7568

DISTRICT CONVENTION AND S. S. TEACHERS, INSTITUTED 1895-6.

COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS.	Places.	Session.	Of Teachers Present.	Total Attend.
Annapolis	6	7	50	280
Colchester	6	6	66	390
Cumberland	11	11	148	416
Digby	9	9	59	648
Guysboro'	6	6	30	605
Halifax	12	12	143	933
Hants, East	5	5	71	330
Lunenburg	7	7	82	644
Queen's, North	5	5	24	185
" South	4	4	34	435
Shelburne	4	4	34	200
Barrington	5	10	221	845
Yarmouth	6	6	51	560
Kings	6	6	43	369
Pictou	4	5	100	600
	96	103	1156	7440

4	2	105
0	2	190
0	2	56
0	3	315
0	1	190
0	2	130
0	4	450
0	2	145
0	3	175
0	2	225
0	3	167
0	3	510
0	2	500
0	3	750
0	4	1550
0	3	150
0	3	525
0	2	285
0	2	240
0	3	460
0	3	450
54	7568	

280
390
416
648
605
933
330
644
185
435
200
845
560
369
600
7440

NOVA SCOTIA SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

NAME OF ASSOCIATION.	Total S. S. in County.	S. S. report- ed.	No. Scholars on Roll.	Scholars Average.	Schl'rs joined Church during year.	No. open all the year.	Officers and Teachers on Roll.	Teachers Average.	Normal Classes.	No. in Home Department.	Wkly Teachers Meeting.	No. Adults on S. S. Roll.	No. Schl'rs pledged against		
													Intox'g Liquor.	Tobacco.	Profane Language
Annapolis	80	28	966	.76	37	5	30	.66					223	142	142
Antigonish*	112	13	496	.75											
Cape Breton**	40				107										
Colchester	90		4000	.64	180		591	.67				.23	699	567	700
Cumberland	80	80	4940	.72	55	14	162	.79				.17	765	399	383
Digby*	33	21	1230	.71	53	21	120	.62			2	.25	222	118	97
Guysboro'	40	40	1661	.71	386	60	851	.68	3	52	8	.17	1239	647	705
Halifax	95	95	7190	.72	43	11	90	.72			2	.19	310	133	102
Hants (West)	23	13	372	.50	75	17	199				2	.10			
Hants (East)*	43	43	1787	.77											
Inverness†	34														
Kings†	80														
Lunenburg†	60														
Pictou	106	106	6175	.53	180	75	487	.75	1	144					
Queens (North)	16	16	537	.66	21	13	80					.20			
Queens (South)	23	23	1371	.69		10	217	.59				.29			
Richmond†	25														
Shelburne	28	28	1232	.67	3	21	157	.70				.33	262	254	254
Barrington	32	32	2000	.60	37	32	200	.37				.34	950	629	439
Victoria**	28														
Yarmouth**	50														

* No reports. ** Not reported—No reports. † Not reported.

LIST OF DELEGATES.

NAME.	DENOMINATION.	OFFICE.	PLACE OF RESIDENCE.
Archibald, Miss Melissa	Presbyterian	Teacher	Truro, Colchester Co.
Archibald, A. J.	"	"	Pembroke, "
Archibald, Edmund	"	Superintendent	Clifton, "
Aylesford, Miss Hattie	"	Teacher	Truro, "
Archibald, Clara P.	"	"	"
Archibald, W. P.	"	"	"
Archibald, Miss J.	"	"	"
Archibald, Mrs. W. T.	"	"	"
Archibald, Miss Emma	"	"	"
Archibald, Mr. Grassie	"	"	"
Adams, Rev. H. F.	"	"	"
Boak, Miss Mabel	Methodist	Pastor	"
Bryden, Miss E. P.	Presbyterian	Teacher	"
Blair, Miss Florence	"	Primary Worker	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Blair, J. K.	"	Scholar	Tatamagouche.
Barnes, Miss	"	Teacher	Oxford, Cumberland Co.
Blanchard, B. P.	"	"	"
Blair, Miss A. M.	"	"	"
Brixell, Mrs. J.	"	"	"
Barratt, Mr. F. E.	"	"	"
Bates, Miss Edith	"	"	"
Beattie, C. H.	"	"	"
Creighton, Mr. C. E.	"	"	"
Carter, William	Baptist	"	"
Cox, Emily H.	"	"	"
Clastard, Bell	"	"	"
Carter, Mrs C. J.	"	"	"
Clarkson, Mrs.	"	"	Dartmouth, Halifax Co.
Crowe, L. J.	"	"	Brookfield, Colchester Co.
	"	"	Upper Stewiacke, Colchester Co.
	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
	"	"	"
	"	"	"

Carey, Mrs. T.
 Canlin, I.

Upper Stewiacke, Colchester Co.
 Truro, Colchester Co.
 " "
 " "

Carey, Mrs. T.	"	Superintendent	"	"
Caulkin, J. B.	"	Teacher	"	"
Campbell, Geo.	"	"	"	"
Christie, Miss	"	"	"	"
Crowe, Miss Annie	"	"	"	"
Creighton, Miss M. B.	Presbyterian	"	Halifax, Halifax Co.	"
Crockett, Albert E.	Baptist	"	"	"
Coffin, Miss May	Methodist	"	Acadia Mines, Colchester Co.	"
Cummings, Miss Mabel	Presbyterian	"	Westville, Pictou Co.	"
Cummings, Rev. T.	"	Pastor	Truro, Colchester Co.	"
Cummings, F. W.	"	Teacher	"	"
Doane, Miss Maggie	"	"	"	"
Dawson, Frank	Methodist	Assistant Superintendent	Pictou	"
Donkin, L. R.	"	Teacher	Springhill, Cumberland Co.	"
Davidson, Arthur	"	Assistant Superintendent	Amherst	"
Dickie, Miss Laura	Presbyterian	County Secretary	Upper Stewiacke, Colchester Co.	"
Dunlap, Hugh	"	Teacher	Stewiacke	"
Downing, Lexie	"	Scholar	Lower Truro	"
Dalrymple, Capt.	"	Teacher	Truro	"
Dawson, C. M.	"	"	"	"
Dickie, Miss C.	"	"	"	"
Dalrymple, Miss	"	"	"	"
Edwards, Miss	"	"	"	"
Forrest, Miss Eva	Baptist	"	"	"
Fraser, Rev. D. S.	Presbyterian	Pastor	Halifax, Halifax Co.	"
Fraser, Mrs. D. S.	"	Teacher	Springside, Colchester Co.	"
Fraser, Even, Rev.	"	Superintendent and Pastor	Ferrona, Pictou Co.	"
Fraser, P.	"	"	Pictou	"
Fraser, D. A.	"	Teacher	Truro, Colchester Co.	"
Forbes, Harry	"	"	"	"
Fraser, Miss M. B.	"	"	"	"
Fraser, S. W.	"	"	"	"
Fraser, Mrs.	"	"	"	"
Fraser, Miss J. C.	"	"	"	"
Fraser, Mrs. D. R.	"	"	"	"

LIST OF DELEGATES—(Continued)

NAME.	DENOMINATION.	OFFICE.	PLACE OF RESIDENCE.
Fraser, Mrs. J.	Presbyterian	Teacher	Truro, Colchester Co.
Fisher, Mrs. H. C.	"	"	"
Fulton, Geo. O.	"	"	"
Fulton, J. B.	"	"	"
Falconer, Rev. J. W.	"	Pastor	"
Fraser, Hugh	"	Teacher	Elmsdale, Hants Co.
Gunn, Mrs. D.	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
Grant, Miss	"	"	"
Geggie, Rev. A. L.	"	Pastor	"
Grierson, John	"	Field Superintendent	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Henderson, Frances	"	Teacher	"
Henderson, L. P.	"	Primary Teacher	"
Hill, Amy	"	Teacher	Pictou, Pictou Co.
Harding, Rev. W. H.	Christian	Pastor	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Hulls, Elizabeth	Methodist	Primary Teacher	West Gore, Hants Co.
Hall, Annie	"	Teacher	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Hamill, H. M.	"	International Field Worker	Dartmouth,
Hattie, Miss J.	"	Teacher	Illinois, U. S. A.
Irvine, John A.	"	Secretary Jost Mission	Truro, Colchester Co.
Johnson, Miss Flora	"	Teacher	Halifax, Halifax Co.
King, J. M.	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
King, Miss Clara	"	"	"
Kemp, Miss E.	"	"	"
King, E. D.	Presbyterian	Vice-Pres. Inter. S. S. Asso.	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Kennedy, W. T.	Baptist	Super. Normal Work	"
Kelman, Harry	Presbyterian	Teacher	"
Lathers, L. B.	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
Logan, Samuel J.	Methodist	Superintendent	Dartmouth, Halifax Co.
	Presbyterian		Cross Roads, Colchester Co.

Longard, C. H. Methodist
 Longard, Mrs. C. H. Member Executive Com.
 Lindsay, S. Supt. S. S. Dpt. Prov. W. C. T. U.
 Halifax, Halifax Co.
 "

LIST OF DELEGATES—(Continued.)

NAME.	DENOMINATION.	OFFICE.	PLACE OF RESIDENCE.
McLeod, Mr.....	Presbyterian.....	Teacher.....	Westville, Pictou Co.
McKenzie, H.....	".....	".....	Truro, Colchester Co.
McLeod, H.....	".....	".....	".....
McCully, Miss Maggie.....	".....	".....	".....
McLeod, Miss Jean.....	".....	".....	".....
McDonald, Miss Annie.....	".....	".....	".....
McKenzie, Mrs. H.....	".....	".....	".....
Murray, D.....	".....	".....	".....
McCurdy, Nettie.....	".....	Primary Teacher.....	Halifax, Halifax Co.
McDougall, S. A.....	".....	Teacher.....	Ferrona, Pictou Co.
Murray, Miss Lena B.....	".....	Primary Teacher.....	Shubenacadie, Hants Co.
McKenzie, Miss May.....	".....	".....	W. North River, "
McDonald, Miss Mary.....	".....	".....	West Branch, Colchester Co.
McCallum, W. D.....	".....	Teacher.....	Truro, "
O'Brien, Miss.....	".....	".....	".....
Olive, Mr.....	".....	".....	".....
Olive, Mrs.....	".....	".....	".....
Piers, Harry.....	".....	".....	".....
Patton, Mrs. John.....	".....	".....	".....
Parker, Rev. F. N.....	".....	".....	".....
Patterson, Miss Grace.....	".....	Pastor.....	".....
Priest, J.....	".....	Teacher.....	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Patterson, Mrs. Grace.....	".....	".....	Spring Hill, Cumberland Cc.
Polson, Marion C.....	".....	".....	Truro, Colchester Co.
Rice, Mrs. Lewis.....	".....	".....	W. North River, Hants Co.
Rankin, W. B.....	".....	".....	Truro, Colchester Co.
Rettie, Miss M.....	Methodist.....	".....	Dartmouth, Halifax Co.
Rettie, Miss Ella.....	".....	".....	Truro, Colchester Co.
	".....	".....	".....

Spencer, Mrs. L.....
 Scott, Mrs. J. D.....
 Superintendent.....
 Superintendent.....
 Superintendent.....

rankin, W. D.
 Rettie, Miss M.
 Rettie, Miss Ella

Spencer, Mrs. L.	Presbyterian	Superintendent	"	"	Elmsdale, Hants Co.
Scott, Mrs. J. D.	"	Teacher	"	"	Dartmouth, Halifax Co.
Settle, Miss Eugenie	"	"	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
Smith, Miss Jessie	"	"	"	"	"
Suckling, John	"	"	"	"	"
Suckling, Mrs. J.	"	"	"	"	"
Stewart, Mrs. Emma	"	"	"	"	"
Smith, Frank	Methodist	"	"	"	"
Sandford, A. M.	"	"	"	"	"
Tupper, Mrs. A. N.	"	"	"	"	"
Thompson, J.	Presbyterian	County Secretary	"	"	"
Tullock, Miss Bessie	"	Scholar	"	"	Pictou, Pictou Co.
Theakston, Major	Methodist	Superintendent	"	"	E. Hants, Hants Co.
Tupper, A. N.	"	Teacher	"	"	Halifax, Halifax Co.
Turner, Daniel	"	"	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
Thorne, F. L.	Presbyterian	Superintendent	"	"	"
Thorne, Mrs. E. L.	"	Teacher	"	"	Dartmouth, Halifax Co.
Vance, Fred	"	"	"	"	Truro, Colchester Co.
Vance, Mrs. A. B.	"	"	"	"	"
Vella, Miss Bertha	"	"	"	"	"
Vance, S. C.	"	V.-Pres. Int. Primary Union	"	"	Boston, Mass.
Wilson, Mrs. Robt.	"	Superintendent	"	"	Folly, Colchester Co.
Wilson, Miss Minnie	"	"	"	"	"
Walker, Mr. A. J.	"	"	"	"	"
Walker, L. J.	"	"	"	"	"
Wood, Rev. J.	"	Pastor	"	"	"
Woodworth, J. E.	"	Teacher	"	"	"
Whittier, W. Scott	"	Clergyman	"	"	Berwick, Kings Co.
Woodbury, Frank, Dr.	Methodist	Superintendent	"	"	East Hants, Hants Co.
Wallace, Miss Bessie	Presbyterian	Teacher	"	"	Dartmouth, Halifax Co.
Winn, J. Capt.	"	County President	"	"	Halifax, Halifax Co.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Provincial Sunday School Association of Nova Scotia.

ART. I.—This organization shall be known as the SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ART. II.—The object of this association shall be to give increased efficiency to our Sunday Schools, and to advance by every practicable means the Sunday School cause generally within the limits of the organization.

ART. III.—This association shall be composed of all pastors of churches and superintendents of schools connected with the various Evangelical denominations within the Province, who shall be members *ex-officio*, and of delegates from all the Sunday Schools, Sunday School Societies, Sunday School Teacher's Associations, within the Province, each of which shall be entitled to be represented by one delegate.

ART. IV.—The officers of this association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President from each county in the Province; a Corresponding Secretary, two Recording Secretaries and a Treasurer, who, together with seven other members shall constitute an Executive Committee, all of whom shall be elected annually, in such manner as the convention may designate, immediately after its annual meeting shall have been called to order. These officers shall continue in office until their successors are appointed. Five members of this committee to constitute a quorum.

ART. V.—There shall be an annual meeting of this association to be held on the... day of..... or at such time and place as shall have been previously determined and designated by the Executive Committee, when the Secretary and Treasurer shall report, the officers shall be chosen, and any other appropriate business transacted.

ART. VI.—The Executive Committee shall have power to make bye-laws for their own government, provided that such bye-law be not inconsistent with this constitution.

ART. VII.—The annual reports of Sunday Schools connected with this association shall be made up to and include the last Sunday in June in each year, at which date the association year shall close.

ART. VIII.—This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

CONSTITUTION

Of the.....County S. S. Association.

ARTICLE 1.—This Association shall be called the.....
.....County Sunday School Association.

ARTICLE 2.—Any minister of the Gospel, superintendent or officer, teacher or adult member of any Sunday School in this county is a member of this Association, and being present at its meetings is entitled to take part in the same.

ARTICLE 3.—The object of the Association shall be the promotion of the interests of the Sunday Schools in this County, and the encouragement of their organization and maintenance by such means as shall best arouse the public to a sense of their value and importance.

ARTICLE 4.—The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, representing each district in the county, a permanent secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer and an Executive committee of two members, in addition to the President, Vice-Presidents, and permanent Secretary, who shall be "ex-officio" members of the Executive.

ARTICLE 5.—Each district at its annual convention shall choose its own president who, when so reported to the county Secretary and enrolled by him, shall be a Vice-president of the county Association. When any district shall fail to choose its president the county executive committee shall appoint one to fill that office in such district, and he shall in like manner be enrolled by the permanent secretary.

ARTICLE 6.—It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the Association, and in case of his absence the oldest Vice-president present shall take the chair.

ARTICLE 7.—The permanent Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, together with a list of the Sunday Schools in the county the name and post office address of the Superintendent, the number of teachers, scholars, etc., and shall make a report at each annual meeting.

ARTICLE 8.—The assistant Secretary shall write out the minutes of each meeting, and render the permanent Secretary such assistance as may be necessary.

ARTICLE 9.—The Treasurer shall keep a faithful account of all money collected and disbursed for the benefit of the Association, and report at each annual meeting.

ARTICLE 10.—The Vice-presidents shall have the general supervision of Sunday School interests in their respective districts, collect statistics and report to permanent Secretary, on or before the first day of the month preceding the annual County Convention in each year, forward the collections from the respective schools in his district, and report the same to the Treasurer before the annual meeting in each year. Each should visit semi-annually all the schools in his district. He should encourage schools already established, and organize schools in localities where needed; he should, as far as possible, awaken an interest in better ways of working; he should direct the minds of all to the necessity of the conversion of the pupils; he should urge the importance of teachers' meetings, and normal classes; he should inquire carefully how well the neighborhood has been canvassed for pupils; he should press the possibility and advantage of sustaining the schools throughout the year.

ARTICLE 11.—The Executive Committee shall arrange a program for the annual meeting of the Association, invite such persons from abroad as may add to the interest of the convention. They shall, previous to the meeting of the convention, appoint a local committee in the place where convention is to

meet, to provide and arrange all things necessary for the coming session of the Association. The executive committee shall advance the work in the county by all possible means during the entire year. They shall fill all vacancies of office caused by death or removal; they shall suspend any officer failing to do his duty and appoint an efficient worker in his place. They shall also appoint Vice-Presidents in any district which fails to choose them, as provided in Article 5.

ARTICLE 12.—All the officers of the Association shall be elected annually, excepting the permanent Secretary, who shall serve while his services are acceptable to the Association, or until he himself resigns.

ARTICLE 13.—At each meeting of the convention two committees will be appointed. First—To nominate a president, treasurer, assistant secretary and executive committee. Second—A committee on resolutions, whose duty it shall be to prepare a paper expressive of the sense of the convention on all subjects discussed by them.

ARTICLE 14.—This Association shall meet in annual convention at such time and place as shall be chosen by the convention or the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 15.—This Association is auxiliary to the Provincial Sunday School Association, and shall, by the permanent secretary, make an annual report thereto and be represented by delegates in the convention of the Provincial Association.

ARTICLE 16.—This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at any annual meeting.

CONSTITUTION

Of the District S. S. Association.

ARTICLE 1.—To promote the Sunday School cause in District, we hereby organize ourselves into an Association to be known as the District S. S. Association, auxiliary to the County S. S. Association.

ARTICLE 2.—Officers and teachers of Sunday schools, pastors and ministers, and all interested in Sunday school work in this district shall be regarded as members of the Association.

ARTICLE 3.—The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President and a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually.

ARTICLE 4.—It shall be the duty of the officers to take special interest in the Sunday school cause in the District, visiting the school from time to time, to recommend the organization of new schools where there is a demand for them, and doing what they can to keep the schools up with strength and interest through the entire year.

ARTICLE 5.—The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the meetings of the Association, and shall also keep a record of the statistics of each school in the township, in accordance with the blank form adopted by the Provincial Sunday School Convention, and shall report a summary of the same to the Secretary of the County Association at least two weeks previous to the annual meeting of the County Convention. "It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to receive and forward the annual contribution towards the Provincial Work from each school to the County Treasurer."

ARTICLE 6.—The Association shall meet in Convention Annually or Semi-Annually or Quarterly.

ARTICLE 7.—The Constitution may be amended by a majority vote at any annual meeting.

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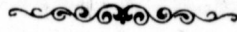
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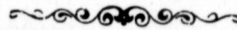
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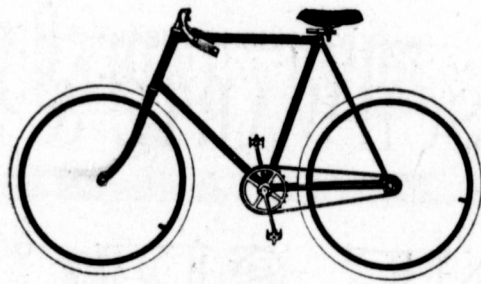
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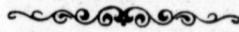
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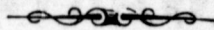
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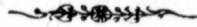
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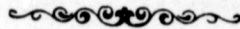
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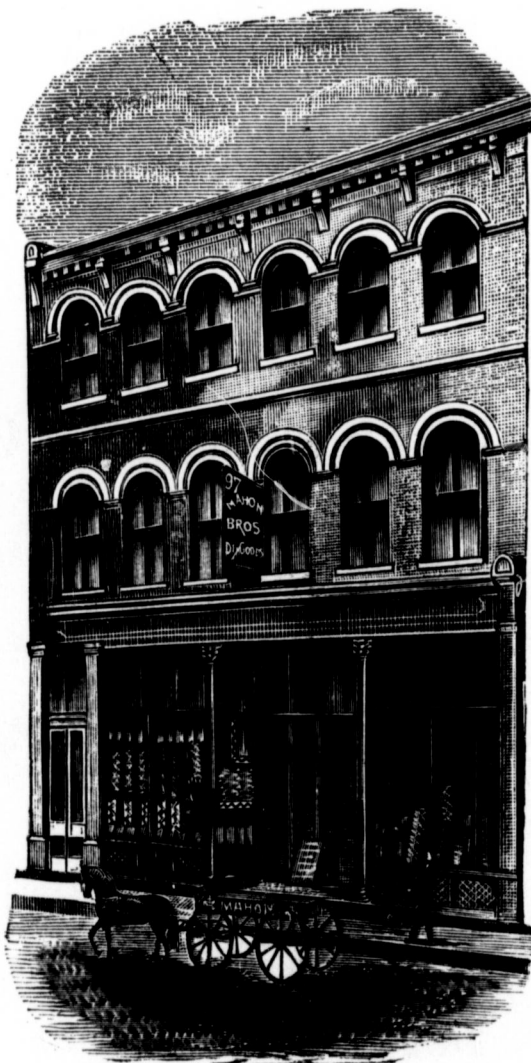
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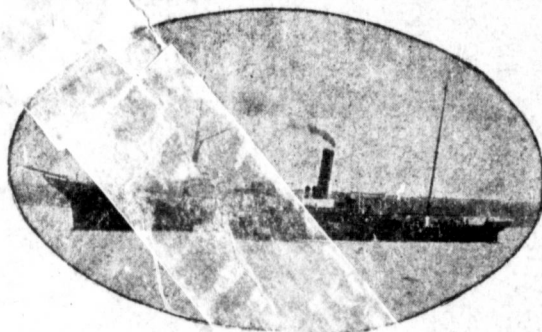
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