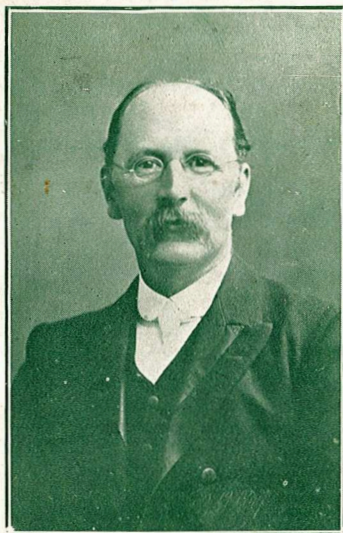


SOUVENIR
OF
Mr. NEWTON JONES'
VISIT.



1861

1911.

Twenty-One Years' Evangelist
OF
The Sunday School Union.
1890 - 1911.

MOORE COLLEGE
LIBRARY

NEWTON JONES.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE MAN AND HIS MISSION.

by the

Rev. C. S. HULL.

NEWTON JONES is *par excellence* a young people's evangelist. Among Christian circles throughout the British Isles his name is a household word, and his "praise is in all the Churches."

He happily combines a wisdom born of a ripe and varied experience, with a child's heart; this together with brightness, versatility, vivacity and an inexhaustible fund of energy and good spirits, has made him one of the most popular and successful evangelists for children and young people of recent times.

He has "a way with him" which not only arrests the attention of his audience and enlists their sympathies, but wins their confidence and makes it to appear the most desirable thing in all the world to enter the service of the Lord Jesus.

Added to his natural gifts are great spiritual endowments. He is a man of faith and optimistic to his finger tips. A thorough believer in the possibility of child conversion, or as he prefers to call it "child regeneration," he labours with this object in view, and labours sanely, spiritually, and successfully.

During his twenty-one years of evangelistic effort, he has witnessed multitudes of young people yielding themselves to the Saviour and entering His service.

Many of his most earnest helpers to-day are those who through his ministry were won for Christ during the most impressionable years of their youth.

He is a firm believer in the Bible and a diligent student of it. Having proved its power in his own life, he has unbounded faith in its potency to transform and enrich the lives of others. Of its inspiration and inerrancy, of its infallibility as the Word of the Lord, of its absolute necessity for the growth in grace of Christians both young and old,

he has not the shadow of a doubt. He never tires of proclaiming its evangel, and is never so happy as when uplifting the Saviour as the one and only hope of salvation, as the One who coming into the heart by faith, can alone make the life answer to the divine purpose, and radiant with the joys of heaven.

A man of faith, steadfast purpose, and of settled convictions; gifted with a splendid voice, clear, tuneful, and telling; possessing withal the saving grace of humor, and the power of adapting himself to his audience whether youthful or otherwise, Mr. Newton Jones easily takes his place in the front rank of those honoured servants of God who have been so graciously used by Him in the winning of souls.

He is a great believer in the personality and power of the Holy Spirit. An "eighth of Romans man" is he, rejoicing in the love and light and liberty of the Spirit of God; and finding in that, his power and inspiration for service; and in the helping ministry of the Spirit, his comfort and hope respecting the future of the young disciples who truly put their trust in the Lord.

His visit to the Antipodes will be followed with prayerful interest by many thousands in the home-land, and by none more so than by his colleagues at The Sunday School Union. That God will abundantly own and bless his labours in the lands of the Southern Cross, is the heartfelt prayer of all whose privilege it is to know him and call him friend.

It was on the last day of May in the year 1861 that Newton Jones first saw the light. His father was a West End tradesman of some considerable standing, and was known to a large number of friends and acquaintances as a man of sterling worth and genuine piety. His mother, to whose prayers and loving concern Newton Jones attributes his conversion, was a woman remarkable for the spirituality of her life, the strength of her faith, and her belief in the power of prayer.

In an atmosphere generated by such influences Newton Jones spent the first years of his life, and though there were wild days and wayward ways which befell him before his conversion, the home influence never left him, and indeed is with him to-day as one of his most precious memories.

After school days were over young Newton entered business life, part of which was spent with his father, and part in connection with a tea business in Mincing Lane, in the interests of which he eventually undertook the responsible position as commercial traveller.

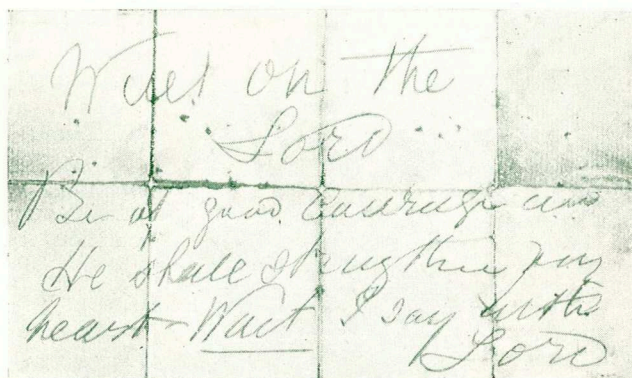
This calling brought him in contact with men of the world whose chief joys and recreations consisted of dancing, card playing, theatre going, and drinking; and being of a bright, frank, and joyous disposition, it was

only natural that the inevitable result should follow. Knowing nothing of the higher joys of religion, and being without the restraints of the Gospel, Newton Jones was drawn into the circle, and was soon taking his share in the sinful pleasures and pursuits of his godless companions.

But the God of his father and mother was watching over him, directing his steps though he knew it not. A great impression was made upon him one night in finding in



his bag a piece of paper on which was written in his mother's hand-writing, the text of scripture "Wait on the Lord, be of good courage and He shall strengthen thy heart, wait I say on the Lord." Following soon upon this, a providential meeting with a fellow commercial was the means of leading him to the Saviour. The place where these two met was at Coleford, in Gloucestershire, and the date, October 21st, 1887, where and when the great decision was made, though it was not until the following year that he entered into the joy and liberty of a fully surrendered life.



It was during this year that Newton Jones began work for his Master by holding evangelistic services at Margate. These were held in company with some young men from the Cornhill Y.M.C.A., and were so signally blessed, that it became evident that this was the sphere in which he would find his opportunity for his life's work. Numerous applications were made for his services, and in many directions he was enabled to bear his testimony to what the gospel had done for him. The good hand of his God was upon him all the time, guiding him with unerring wisdom, eventually directing him to what was destined to be a fruitful sphere of happy and life-long service. After being associated with Mr. Russell Hurditch in his gospel mission work, the "call" came to him in the summer of 1890 to become the Evangelist of The Sunday School Union.

Time and space would fail to tell of all that God has wrought by him during the twenty-one years he has been

connected with this great organisation. In ways both attractive and spiritual, in methods suited alike for the young and the old, in making the appeal to every part of the nature of the child and the man, Newton Jones has reached and influenced multitudes of all ages and classes, and it is not too much to say, that in thousands of cases he has been the honoured instrument of the Lord in leading them into the light and liberty of the Gospel.

Wherever the ground has been well prepared the missions conducted by Mr. Jones have been greatly blessed, so



At Margate.

much so that invitations to repeat the visits have been almost the invariable rule.

Like the great Apostle who emphasised the strategic value of the centres of great populations, Mr. Newton Jones has laboured assiduously in large towns and cities, and, in doing so, has not only been the means of great blessing to the young people who have crowded to hear him, but has also strengthened the hands of Sunday School workers. Many of these have received new ideas, and have been made familiar with new methods, which cannot fail to make them

more thoroughly furnished unto the good work to which they have been called.

While thus engaged, Mr. Jones has not been unmindful of the claims and needs of the Sunday School workers who are bravely working for the Saviour in the hamlets and the villages of the land. Almost entirely through his own efforts a fund is raised each year, which enables him to devote some of his time to evangelistic work in the country districts. In these places he has made many friends, through the presentation of the gospel has won many converts, and has heartened many a tired and disappointed worker.

He is equally at home at the sea-side, for his Sand-Services are a national institution. These are a delight to the children, and an inspiration to Christian workers. There are many families who every year choose Margate for their holiday resort, simply because of these services, which always prove a source of spiritual uplift and re-invigoration, and a happy memory until summer time comes round again. In connection with these meetings, there are not only solo and chorus singing, the presentation of the Gospel by speech, song, lime-light, and blackboard demonstrations, but Bible readings, text-making competitions, museum services, excursions into the country, sports and games, swimming races, and last but by no means least a Harvest Festival service. All this variety tends to interest the youthful mind, and all alike aims at the one supreme object of leading the lad or the girl to the Saviour.

During these many years Mr. Jones has been greatly assisted by a loyal band of workers, and among them by none more so than by his beloved wife and her two sisters the Misses Topping. Each week of the season a visit from a Missionary is an important feature of the meetings, and when in the summer of 1907, the Rev. Charles Padfield from the Congo was the deputation to the services, what more natural than that he should find among the earnest band of seaside workers one who would be a helpmeet for him when he returned to continue his labours among the benighted sons of Congoland.

Acquaintance with Miss Topping soon ripened into friendship and love, the result being that the happy pair were married at the Countess of Huntingdon's Church, Brighton, on July 14th 1910, and are now helping one another in the work of the Lord in that great mission field where so many have kept and still are keeping the flag of the Gospel flying.

An interesting link between the Sand services and far off Congo is the fact that Margate and Ramsgate unite in supporting a native teacher : in this way good is done both there and here, for such a link as this stimulates the interest of the children of the sand services in Missionary enterprise.

From Margate this work has spread to Ramsgate, Broadstairs, Eastbourne, Saltburn, and other places, in each place the meetings affording a counter attraction to the not always high class "nigger" and "pierrot" form of entertainment, and proving the power of the gospel to gather, hold, and interest youthful audiences.

And now that Mr. Newton Jones is contemplating an evangelistic tour in Australia and other places far removed from the home-land, it is confidently believed by all who know him, that the blessing of God will go with him, and that the work he may be privileged to do, will be attended with results similar to those which have crowned his efforts during the past twenty-one years. It is a far cry from Margate to the Antipodes, from London to Melbourne, but human need is the same everywhere, and the gospel in every land is



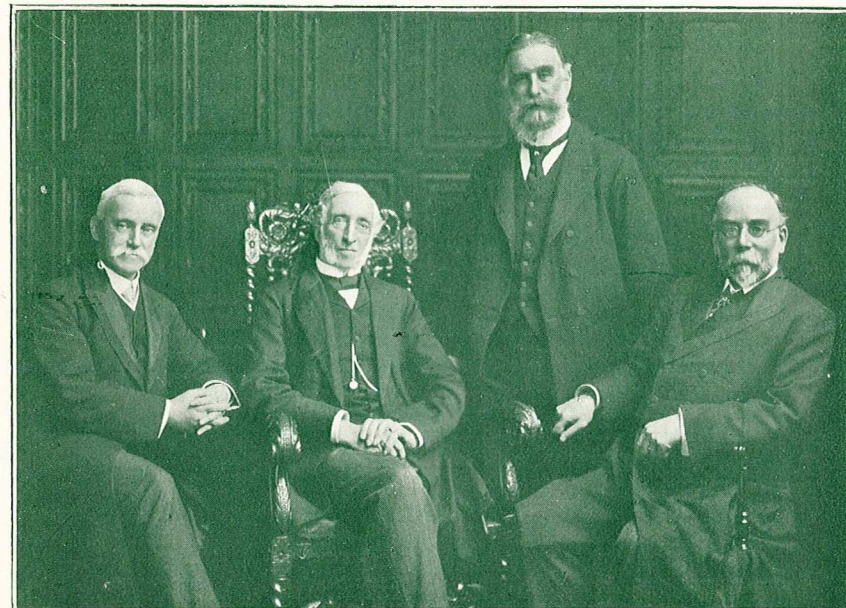
Mr. Newton Jones and his Family.

the divine panacea for all the spiritual and social ills of life. It is the gospel of the grace of God, the gospel of the power of the living Christ, the gospel of the transforming energy of the Holy spirit that Newton Jones has to proclaim. He himself has felt its power, and knows something of its worth. He has witnessed what it can do in bringing young and old into the enjoyment of the life beautiful; and in the work that awaits him on the sunny side of the world, there is a confident expectation that he will have good success, "many souls for his hire, and many seals to his ministry."

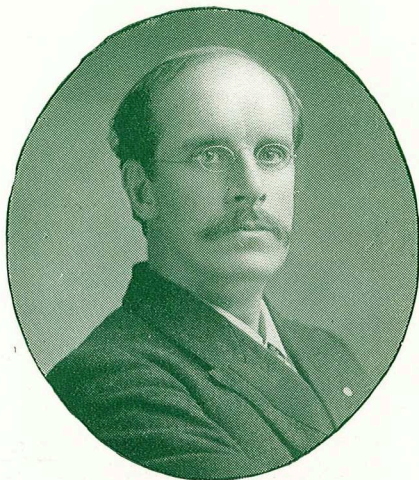
A firm believer in the power of prayer, and fully conscious of his need of spiritual equipment for the grave responsibilities he is undertaking, Mr. Newton Jones will greatly value the prayers of the people of God. Brethren pray for him, that this man of God who comes from the "old country" this little isle "set in the silver sea," who comes burdened with the message of the Eternal, may be so helped and strengthened to proclaim the good news, that everywhere he goes "the Word of the Lord have free course and be glorified."



Sir Francis F. Belsey, J.P.
Chairman of The Sunday School Union Council.



Honorary Secretaries of The Sunday School Union.
Messrs. J. S. Crowther, W. H. Groser, T. G. Ackland and F. Clements.



Rev. Carey Bonner.
General Secretary of The Sunday School Union.

The Sunday School Union, with which Mr. Newton Jones is connected, is the oldest British Sunday School organisation, having been founded in 1803. It is world-wide in its scope, having enrolled 22,708 Sunday Schools, 248,727 Teachers and 2,627,812 Scholars, including 1,092 Schools, 11,700 Teachers, 112,000 Scholars in various British Colonies, and 11,429 Schools, 16,456 Teachers and 442,490 Scholars in India.

A brief outline of some of the departmental work of The Sunday School Union is given in the following pages, and Mr. Newton Jones is prepared to add fuller information concerning any branch of the Society's operations.

During the past 20 years its Presidents have included the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Aberdeen ; The Rt. Hon. Lord Kinnaird ; Sir Geo. Williams ; The Most Noble The Marquis of Northampton, K.G. ; Sir Albert Spicer, Bart., M.P., Mr. George Cadbury ; Mr. Jos. Storrs Fry ; and the Revs. J. Monro Gibson, M.A., L.L.D., G. Campbell Morgan, D.D., R. F. Horton, M.A., D.D., The President for 1911 is Sir Robert Laidlaw.

The Cradle Roll

is an integral part of the Primary or Infant Department work.

ITS PURPOSE

is to bring the superintendent of the Primary Department very near to the home of the children. To keep the Church



and Sunday School in close touch with the child from its birth, and to ensure that efforts are made to bring it into the Sunday School as soon as it is of age to attend.

The Home Department.

WHAT IS IT?

A plan of extending the usefulness of the Sunday School by bringing into association with it parents and friends of the children, those who through ill-health, distance, domestic arrangements or other causes cannot attend the school or any who are willing to read and study the Sunday's lesson for at least half-an-hour during the week, if this cannot be done on the Sunday.

WHY SHOULD YOU ADOPT IT?

Because there are many—parents, servants, the infirm, etc.—who cannot attend regularly at church or school who would be glad to avail themselves of this means of grace.

Because you can keep in touch with those leaving your school and neighbourhood.

Because it will interest the parents in the work of the school.

Because, particularly if yours is a country school, many children probably live too far from the school to attend.



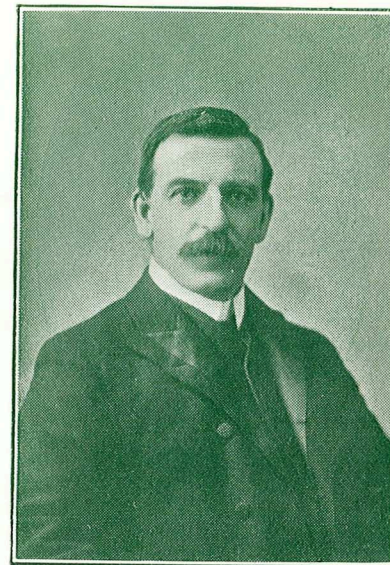
The Grading of the Sunday School.

"Grading" is essential to efficient work. In addition to introducing ordered methods into our Schools according to the child's mental and spiritual growth, it provides those openings for service that it is essentially the duty of the Church to initiate.

In a graded school the Infant Class gives place to the Beginners' and Primary Department, and a fundamental change of method is involved. **The smaller the child the smaller the class.** The ideal class has not more than four scholars. Young teachers direct the children's activities and tell the Bible story for the day. Instead of one or two Teachers for sixty infants, twenty, or more, now help in various ways. Young people just merging into manhood and womanhood, with the memory of their own childhood still fresh, welcome this opportunity of teaching the little ones.

The conditions that should govern a Primary Department are:

1. Separate accommodation from the rest of the School, with separate opening and closing exercises.
2. Special furniture adaptable to the Primary order of service.
3. Lesson material graded to suit the needs of the children.
4. The use of "expression" exercises.
5. Small classes under the charge of young teachers.
6. A weekly Training Class for Teachers; preferably held on an evening during the week. Attendance at this training class to be a definite condition of teaching on the Sunday. The Committee lay *special emphasis* on this point.



Mr. George Hamilton Archibald,
An Extension Lecturer of The Sunday School Union.

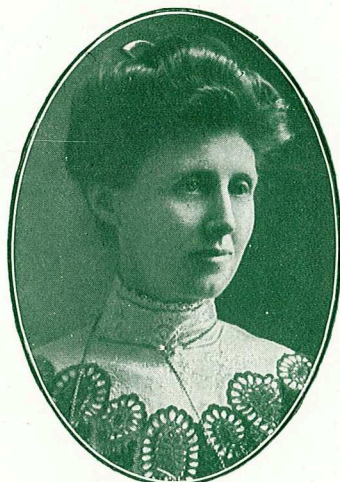
THE JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

When a child begins to lose interest in kindergarten methods, it is time to promote him to the Junior Department. This is usually necessary from 8 to 8½ years of age. Small

classes, of about five scholars, are still advisable. Here is abundance of opportunity for young teachers trained in Primary Department methods.

Several changes are, however, necessary both in the character of the preliminary work and in the lesson. Printed orders of worship of a simple character may be used.

Continuity in lesson material may now be aimed at, and in place of the simple story, Bible history, biography, manners and customs may be used. Memory work should find a growing place, and map drawing and model work be attempted.



Miss Emily Huntley
An Extension Lecturer of The Sunday
School Union.

THE INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

Into which scholars are promoted about the age of 11 years, consists of those who have arrived at later childhood. Larger classes are now permissible, and classrooms will be found an aid to effective work. Here again Orders of Worship are valuable. Class blackboard work, models for illustrative purposes, &c., are of the utmost advantage.

THE INSTITUTE OR SENIOR DEPARTMENT.

The Senior Department is composed mainly of young people who have gone to work and whose outlook on life is changing. Here all possible care and skill are necessary. The opening and closing exercises should be conducted apart from the other sections of the school. Our recommendations are :

1. That the older portion of the Sunday School should be re-organised and called an institute.
2. That out of this should spring an institute for young people during the week.

The principles that should govern this development are :

1. The formation of a separate department for young people over 14 or 15 years of age.
2. Comprehensive provision for the growth of healthy and well-balanced Christian life.
3. Co-ordination of all young people's work with the Sunday Institute or Bible School at its centre.
4. Service for Christ and membership of the Church as essential features of the teaching.



The Life Brigades.

One of the periods of a boy's life most difficult to deal with is that between the ages of twelve and fifteen. It is then that he begins to have stirring within him feelings and aspirations which point to dawning manhood. His restless activity, his desire for change, his love of approbation, and his wish to be treated differently from his younger brethren all point in this direction. He feels himself no longer a child, but an individual worthy of consideration. Contact with the world will probably reduce him to a humbler frame of mind, but meanwhile his condition requires special treatment. **In itself the Sunday school does not seem sufficient to meet his needs, however efficient the teaching, or sympathetic the teacher.**

To get a real hold of such boys they must be provided during the week with a field for their activities, and a training ground for their higher faculties. This the BOYS' LIFE BRIGADE endeavors to do. Its aims are briefly as follows :

"To lead boys to the service of Christ ; to train them for an active, disciplined, and useful manhood ; and to promote habits of self-respect, obedience, courtesy and helpfulness to others, and all that makes for a manly Christian character."

These aims it is sought to realise chiefly by means of drills **of a life saving character**. Each Company of the Boys' Life Brigade must be attached to some religious community, and is under the command of a Captain, assisted by Lieutenants. Boys from twelve to seventeen years of age are eligible for membership. A simple uniform of cap, belt, and haversack is worn, and there is a system of stripes for promotion and good conduct. Besides marching drill, four main branches have been taken up in different Companies : (1) physical exercises ; (2) ambulance work and stretcher drill ; (3) fire drill ; and (4) swimming and drills teaching rescue and release from drowning.

Some Companies also have reading and recreation rooms and evening classes, the latter occasionally worked under Government inspection, and earning grants. A band of some sort is a useful adjunct. In most cases a Bible class is attached, meeting on Sunday or otherwise. Where this is not the case, the members are obliged to attend some Sunday school (not necessarily connected with the Company).

Encouragement is given where possible to the formation of cricket and football clubs, and when these can be supervised they tend to train in habits of usefulness and self-control. The summer camp plays an important part in the life of a Company ; not only is it a means of improving the boy's physical health, but a week in close comradeship with his fellows and officers may do much for his mental and spiritual welfare.

The Girls' Life Brigade attempts for girls what the Boys' Life Brigade endeavours to do for boys. Companies are officered by women, and good conduct stripes and promotion are awarded to merit. Physical exercises and life saving drills are included in curriculum ; and ambulance, sick-nursing and hygiene instruction are given.

For further information as to Organisation, Literature, etc., address : The Life Brigade Secretary, 56, Old Bailey, London, E.C.



A Member of The Boys' Life Brigade.



A Member of The Girls' Life Brigade.

Continental Mission.

The aim of The Sunday School Union Continental Mission is by means of the Sunday School to win the children of Europe for Christ. From its earliest days the Union displayed practical interest in Sunday School work on the Continent, but it was not till 1864 that definite systematic work was organised. The new movement began with the support of two missionaries who travelled in Germany to spread the Sunday School idea, and this developed to such an extent, that the Mission now aids some 25 missionaries who labour in France, Italy, Bohemia, Russia, Holland, Norway and Sweden, while by grants for literature it is helping in Spain, etc.

The question naturally arises, however, in the mind of a reader unacquainted with the condition of Europe, why is such work needed, especially in that part of Europe which is Protestant? Will the reader look at a map of Europe? He will see that about half the area of Europe is occupied by Russia, a Country in which the Orthodox Greek Church is supreme: there superstition and ignorance are rampant, not only among the people, but among the priests also. Russia is, however, realising the need of a purer faith, and the Sunday School Missionary who travels often at great risk, ever finds a welcome. Central and Southern Europe (Austria, Italy, France, Belgium, Spain and Portugal) is still Romanist, or, having rejected Rome, and knowing no other Christianity, has drifted into atheism or agnosticism. But in these Countries, too, the human heart still responds to a faithful presentation of truth. In Norway and Sweden, the population is Protestant, but the Protestantism too often is indifferent to the best interests of the children, and so in the other lands the missionaries travel seeking to rouse and quicken a practical interest in the Sunday School and instruct in methods of teaching. Holland too, has shared in the work of the Mission and in Germany it has so prospered, that each of the great evangelical Churches now has its own Sunday School agent, and now looks to us for fellowship and counsel only.

The Sunday Schools are spreading abiding blessing in every land where they are established. The doors are open more widely to-day than ever, but advance is hampered by lack of funds, and yet there is scarcely a more promising and hopeful field in the world.

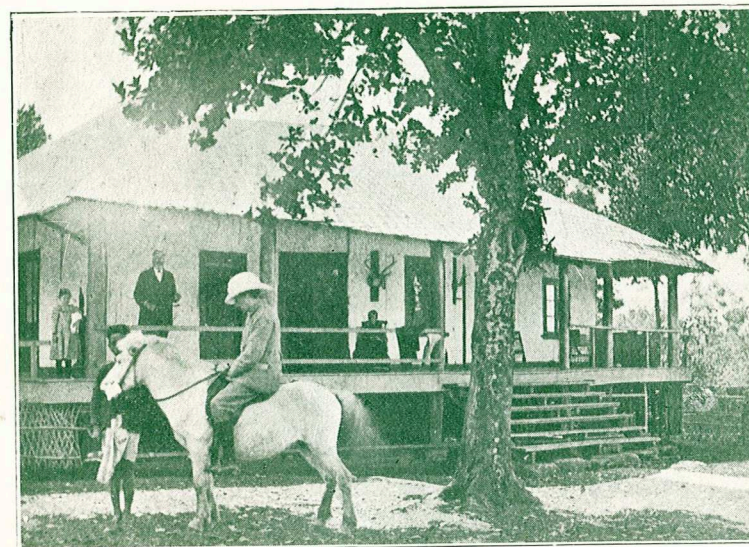
The Indian Sunday School Union.

A PRÉCIS OF ITS WORK.

The Indian Sunday School Union was founded in Allahabad 34 years ago, though the first Sunday School in India was started in 1803.

Covers Southern Asia and embraces 25 Auxiliaries.

Centres in Jubbulpore and directs its operations through 40 Committees.



Rev. R. Burges, Indian S.S.U. Secretary.

Claims only about 1-50th part of the World's Sunday School membership though the area of its operations sustains one-fifth of the world's people and three-fourths of King George's Empire.

Embraces an actual Sunday School membership of 458,945. The estimated membership is 650,000, which means one Sunday School member to every 453 of the whole population. In the British Isles and U.S.A. it is about 1 in 5.

Holds Conventions, Conferences, etc., chiefly for teachers ; also Children's Missions.

Stands for the best in Bible instruction, equipment and management.

Magnifies teacher-training. Directs a Correspondence College for Bible teachers. Grants certificates and diplomas. Cultivates systematic Missionary giving.

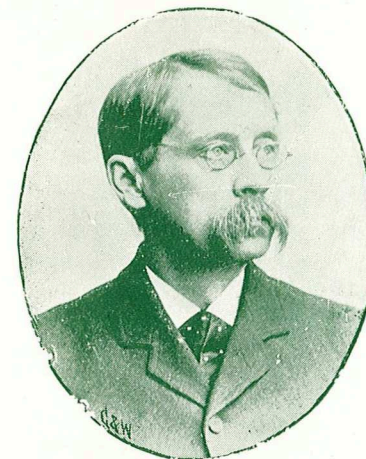
Publishes or fosters the annual issue of 10,000,000 English and vernacular pages of Scripture Illustrated Expositions, nearly all based on the International Syllabus. To meet the needs of Sunday Schools in 50 languages there are about 50 weekly editions of "helps" and in 20 languages.



Mr. E. A. Annett.
S.S.U. Missionary, India.

Promotes the I.B.R.A. and thus helps to maintain habitual, systematic and daily home Bible study. The registered membership in 13 Indian vernaculars and English is about 14,000.

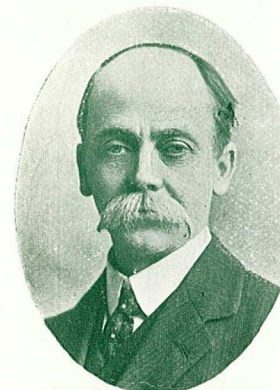
Grants about 16,000 illuminated certificates annually to successful candidates in a well-organised Scripture examination. Since 1896 over 150,000 candidates, the majority being of non-Christian parentage, have voluntarily presented themselves, and 103,000 passed those for 1910. 78 silver medals were also awarded last year, and the average marks obtained by each medalist was nearly 90 per cent.



Dr. Phillips.
Mr. Burges' predecessor.

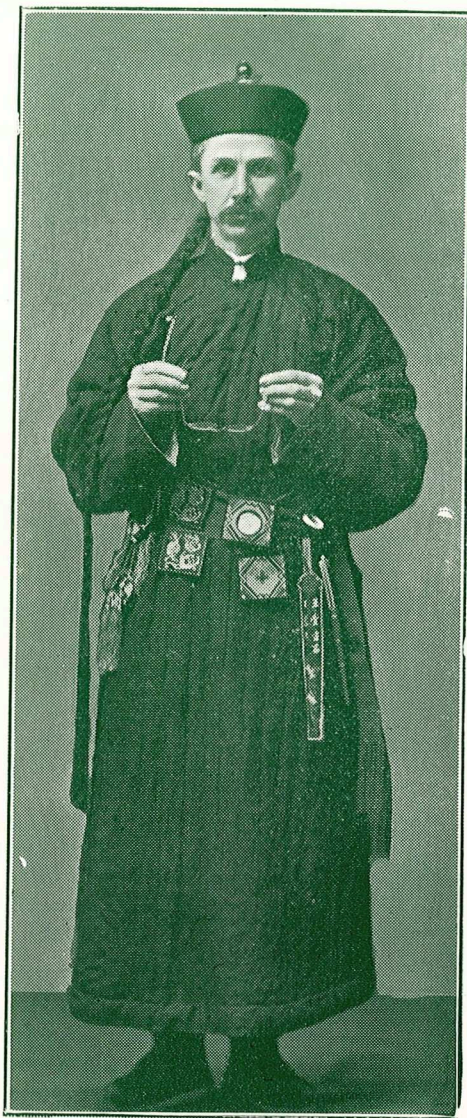
Directs its own affairs. The I.S.S.U. General Secretary has been supported by the S.S.U., London, since the year 1890.

In the final analysis is an Indian, national, inter-denominational Missionary Society to the children : a character building and Bible teaching agency,



Mr. W. H. Stanes.
Children's Missioner.

Sunday School Work in China.



Rev. E. G. Tewksbury.

As an outcome of a united and representative conference of Missionaries held at Shanghai in 1907, a China Sunday School Organisation has been formed, having representative Committees in Shanghai and Great Britain. At the request of the World's Sunday School Association a British Committee has been organised by the Council of The Sunday School Union to undertake the financial responsibility of about £1100 per year and the general oversight of the work.

The Rev. Elwood G. Tewksbury has been appointed Secretary, and he will work through the Shanghai Section of the Committee. Lesson notes are issued in the Chinese language for the guidance of native Sunday School teachers, and applications for these helps are being received from all parts of the Empire. In addition, the Committee have vigorously carried out both organising and literary work, and now an Editorial Secretary has been appointed, who, with the help of a Native Translator will superintend the issue of needful literature.

Missions and Seaside Services.

COMMITTEE'S STATEMENT.

During the past twenty-one years Mr. Newton Jones, The Sunday School Union's Evangelist, has been engaged in many parts of the country, England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, in visiting cities, towns and villages conducting Missions and carrying the gospel Message to young people principally, amongst whom his work has been rich in results which have stood the test of time. Many who in the earlier days were led to decision for Christ through his ministrations, are now earnest workers in Sunday Schools, Churches and Mission Fields.

He has also been much used of God in stirring up the workers in the places visited, the Missions, as a rule, being preceded by prayerful and careful preparation, and commenced by a Meeting of Teachers and others who, in many cases have been led to realise more fully the importance of the work and the greater need for increased earnestness, and whole hearted devotion to it.

He has worked loyally with preachers and pastors of all denominations many of whom have placed their pulpits at his disposal for the Sunday services.

For twenty-four years Mr. Jones has, during the month of August conducted, at Margate, Seaside Services which, although intended mainly for young people, have been very largely attended by appreciative audiences comprising all ages. The Text writing on the Sand and the Bible Museum Competitions have been very popular, and the services made bright and attractive by plenty of singing, with and without choruses and by interesting addresses by day, and lime-light talks at night. Cricket and other sports have been organised, and, the work generally carried on in such a way that the Margate Service are eagerly looked forward to by a considerable number of Visitors. The work thus commenced by Mr. Newton Jones is now carried on under the auspices of The Sunday School Union Missions Committee not only at Margate but also at Broadstairs, Ramsgate, Eastbourne and Saltburn by able and experienced Missioners, and there is abundant reason to believe that it has been productive of much good.

These services entail considerable expense and in some of the Missions held in more remote and rural districts as

well as in the poorer Town areas, the inability of the friends of the localities visited to meet the whole cost of printing and other expenses incurred, make a severe strain on the limited funds at the disposal of the Committee, which is entrusted with the oversight of this work.

The Committee would therefore gladly and gratefully receive from sympathetic friends desiring to forward this good work, any contribution which will enable it to be carried on more extensively in these weaker and poorer districts.

Any such help will be thankfully acknowledged by the Hon. Secretary.



Mr. W. T. Robinson,
Secretary of Missions Committee.

The Sunday School Union Country Homes.

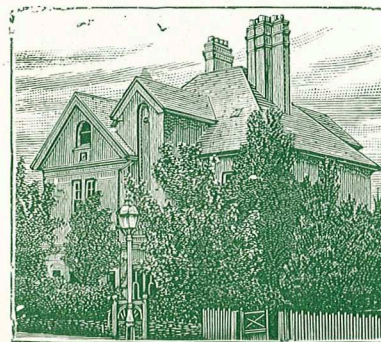
Twenty-five years ago when the Jubilee of the greatest and best of England's Sovereigns was about to be celebrated, and the nation was preparing tangible proofs of its love and loyalty on every hand, the Council of The Sunday School Union met together, with the all-important question before it—"What can we do to celebrate this great event?"



The Holiday Home for Children,
Clacton.

They were all men pledged to the service of the child, so their thoughts went out at once towards some fresh scheme for the child's welfare. Conscious of the grey limitations of the lives of some of God's little ones, they began to formulate schemes for leading them out into the sunshine, bringing them face to face with Nature in her freedom and gladness. The immediate outcome of the thought was the formation of the Children's Country Homes Committee.

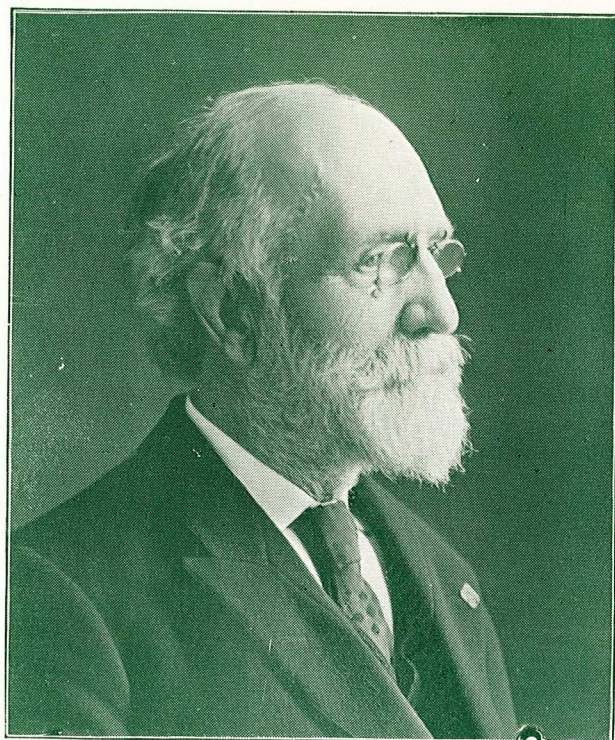
No better testimony to the work of the Country Homes Committee could be given than a glimpse at the Homes would afford on a summer afternoon, at the hour when the little folks, in various degrees of brownness, cluster round the tea-tables. They are real children there, some of them for the first time in their colourless lives. They are free from responsibilities too heavy for their years, are well fed and cared for, and the sunny days pass in joyous freedom,



"The House Beautiful,"
Bournemouth.

The International Bible Reading Association.

It is nearly thirty years ago since The Sunday School Union decided to adopt the suggestion of Mr. Charles Waters to form this Association, of which he was for 28 years



The Late Charles Waters.

subsequently the Honorary Secretary. The object of the I.B.R.A. (for as such it is more familiarly known) is to secure a more general acquaintance with the Bible, by means of selected passages for daily reading. It does not claim to be

the only plan of Bible Study, but that by creating interest it will lead to other and fuller methods. The subject for study each week is the International Lesson for the following Sunday, and the daily portions selected bear some relationship to it, either in illustration, or confirmation. By this means Scripture is allowed to interpret Scripture, and often, thereby, the student is led to consider the topic in an altogether new aspect. Through the readings of the Association, the "Family Altar" has been set up in many households, and very numerous are the testimonies borne to the value of this method of Bible Study in the development of the spiritual life of the individual. So greatly has its objects and methods been appreciated that there are now

NEARLY A MILLION MEMBERS

in no less than 90 different countries, whilst the readings are printed in nearly 50 foreign languages, and there are in connection with the I.B.R.A. more than Ten Thousand Voluntary Workers.

It will no doubt be interesting to know that the Association's English Cards are also used in France, Germany, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, Ceylon, China, India, Persia, Syria, Singapore, Cape Colony, Cape Verde Islands, Egypt, Gold Coast, Mauritius, Morocco, Namagualand, Natal, Nigeria, Orange River Colony, Rhodesia, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, Transvaal, Zanzibar, Brazil, British Guiana, British Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Canada, United States of America, Newfoundland, Australia, New Zealand and Badu Islands, Darnley Islands, Mabinag Island, Yam Island, Antigua, Barbadoes, Bermuda, Cayman Brac, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Eustatius, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Thomas, Tobago, Trinidad, St. Vincent.

The I.B.R.A. is an organisation, not a business. Its members are linked together in agreement to read God's word daily, and to pray for each other, thus uniting as in one great family many lands and languages.

Dr. Campbell Morgan says of it: "The dream of that great family reading the same portion is full of fascination. "To be a member of it in itself helps us to that absolute regularity in the study of the Scriptures, which is necessary "if we are to profit by the word that God has given us as the "very sustenance of our daily life." . . . I believe that if any-

"one joins this Society and follows these readings day by day, they will gradually come to a great consciousness of the unity of the Holy Bible."

If there is one way more than another in which Christians in England and her Colonies could write to show their love for their Lord and Master it is by joining the I.B.R.A., which in an especial manner makes them "fellow-labourers to the truth," and seeks to advance His Kingdom.

The small subscription of One Penny per annum, contributed through a "branch" which may be formed of ten persons, suffices to pay for the ornamental card of membership, the four Quarterly Letters, and the twelve monthly "Hints." If the fuller "Notes" (written by Dr. Alexander Smellie) are supplied, sixpence is charged. Individual members (supplied direct) are charged Twopence-Halfpenny and Eightpence, respectively. Branches exist in every Denomination in C.E. Societies, Guilds, Men's Meetings and many other Institutions. Mr. Newton Jones, the Union's Evangelist, is in hearty sympathy with the I.B.R.A., and will be prepared to afford further information of this truly wonderful and highly successful institution.

The Central Offices of the Association are at "The Sunday School Union," 56, Old Bailey, London, E.C.

The Publishing Department.

The Publishing department of The Sunday School Union came into being in the early days of the Union through the obvious need for special assistance to teachers in their task of instructing the Young. The Committee in their desire to provide suitable lessons for Sunday School Workers published a series of lessons which is now known as the International Lesson Scheme, this being used for afternoon lessons only. They also provided a series of lessons for morning school. "Notes on Scripture Lessons," containing a commentary and many suggestive hints to teachers in the preparation of their lessons, were first issued in 1844. These have been carried on until the present time, and are now under the able editorship of Frank Spooner, M.A., the

Director of Education for Bedfordshire, who with the assistance of a staff of expert writers provides notes on the Scripture Text, and Outlines of Lessons suitable for all grades of the modern Sunday School. In 1874 was started the issue of the "Sunday School Chronicle and Christian Outlook," a weekly journal for the assistance of the Sunday School Teachers. This paper has been carried on with an ever increasing circulation under the editorship of Benjamin Clark, H.S.B. Yates, Dr. Alex. Smellie, Mr. A. Melrose, and the present editor, the Rev. Frank Johnson. Among its present staff of writers are, Prof. John Adams, M.A., Prof. S. W. Green, M.A., Dr. W. L. Watkinson, Revs. R. Bruce Taylor, M.A., J. D. Jones, M.A., B.D., and J. W. Ewing, M.A., B.D.



Rev. Frank Johnson.

Books have been published on School Organisation and Management by such experts as Geo. Hamilton Archibald, the Extension Lecturer of The Sunday School Union, who deals with "The Sunday School of Tomorrow," "The Junior Department of the Sunday School" and the use of the Power of Play in Child Culture. Marion Lawrance in his "How to Conduct a Sunday School" on sale at the Union Book Saloon, gives many suggestions and plans which will be found helpful to all workers in the various departments of the School. He also provides a working manual for a successful Sunday School. Sir Francis Belsey contributes a manual of instruction and advice to Superintendents, and brief hints and helpful counsel to Sunday School Teachers.

Child Study and Teaching are also dealt with. Prof. A. E. Garvie, D.D. treats of Religious Education mainly from a psychological standpoint. Prof. Patterson Du Bois shows

the need of studying the Point of Contact in Teaching, Sir Joshua Fitch writes on the Art of Teaching. Many experienced teachers and educational experts deal with subjects interesting and helpful to all workers in the great cause of teaching the Young. The Rev. Albert Swift writes of the special department, which he has made his own, viz. "The Institute," while Miss E. J. Archibald and Miss W. A. Bone, deal with the Beginners and Primary Departments. Drs. Thos. Morrison and W. C. Murray and Messrs. W. H. Groser, A. W. Webster, R. W. Sindall, Miss E. Huntley and Miss M. H. Briggs, each takes for treatment a special sphere of work.

The Service of Praise has always had a pre-eminent place in Sunday School Service, and the Publishing Department has been the pioneer in providing suitable hymns and music for Young People to sing. The old Union Hymn Book served its purpose, and was succeeded by the Sunday Scholars' Hymn Book, The Songs of Gladness, and the Voice of Praise ; but

"The Sunday School Hymnary,"

edited by the Rev. Carey Bonner, is pronounced by experts as the best and most complete book for use in the Sunday School Service of Song. It has steadily made headway until in Schools of all Denominations it is acknowledged as the PREMIER MODERN BOOK. Mr. Bonner's "Child Songs" has been prepared for use in the Primary Department, as well as in Day Schools and the Home School Festivals are also provided for in "Sunbeams of Song," "Song Wings," "The Pilgrim and Minster Anthems," and "The Sunday School Choralist"

The Business end of a School has not been forgotten. The Twentieth Century Registers are provided for Class, Secretary and Superintendent's use.

The Publishing Department was removed in 1892 to 57 & 59, Ludgate Hill, and coming into this more prominent position on a leading thoroughfare in the City of London has been able more fully to meet the requirements of the Sunday School Constituency.