# Contents

19

32



INTRODUCT	TON			1:
SECTION I:	THE SUNDAY	SCHOOL	SCENE	TODAY

# 1 The Newest Innovation Is a Return to the Old Workable Methods The revival of the workable is sprouting up in many denominations. It is a trend that cannot be ignored. 2 The Small Personal Sunday School 26

The house of God should be a refuge, open only to God and intimate fellowship with other believers, say proponents of the small Sunday School.

3 The World's Largest Sunday School 29
To understand the phenomenon of the

world's largest Sunday School, it is necessary to understand Jack Hyles' unique abilities.

#### 4 The 100 Largest Sunday Schools

When Christian Life magazine began to compile statistics on the nation's largest Sunday Schools in 1968, only 12 averaged 2,000 or more a week. By 1975, there were 33. Will there be 100 in 1980, as predicted?

i	5 Fifty Fastest Growing Sunday Schools	50
	The beautiful thing about the nationwide "50 Fastest Growing Sunday Schools" contest is that anybody can win. This causes excitement to run high!	
	6 What Lies Ahead?	57
	Here are 50 exciting trends in Sunday Schools today. How many of these meth- ods is your church employing?	
	7 Answering 10 Criticisms against the Sunday School	62
	The Sunday School is under attack from many who want to revolutionize its existence and others who want to change its purpose. Sometimes change is proposed merely because of popular—but erroneous—opinions like these.	
	THE REMEMBERA	
SECTION II:	GETTING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ORGANIZED	
	8 The Pastor and His Christian Education Program	66
	Pastoral "island hopping" to put out "brush fires" in the various areas of Christian education is weakening churches. Here's how to make your church a true New Testament church.	
	9 The Board of Christian Education	72
	The reasons for establishing a local Board of Christian Education might be summed up in one word—success.	

10 Administrators	79
The DCE is not the <i>Christian educator</i> for the congregation; he is their <i>director</i> . The general Sunday School superinten-	
dent often is considered second in importance to the pastor. And departmental superintendents can be indispensable.	
11 Organization for Christian Education	87
The Church must be properly organized for its spiritual thrust, just as the military plans a new thrust into the territory of the opposition.	
12 Departments	97
Staff duties, age-group characteristics, materials, suggested sessions, teacher qualifications—all this and more is discussed here.	
13 Curriculum in Christian Education	111
While it is true that content or experience can be omitted or minimized, one of these must constitute the center around which the other revolves. Three differing views spark this controversy.	
14 Finances and the Church	118
Periodically, a church should determine whether it has the best possible program at the lowest possible unit cost. Here are helpful tips on both financing and budget- ing.	
15 Records	124
As you learn to read them, records can be an invaluable aid to measuring the spiritual temperature of your Sunday School—or class!	
16 The Church Library and the Sunday School	127
The key to unlocking the puzzle of how to set up your church library is Rudyard Kipling's "serving men": What, Who, Where, When How, Why.	



# SECTION III: FACILITIES FOR LEARNING

## 17 Buildings and Equipment

132

It is important that, as we think of "equipment" for Christian education, we think of the building in which the work is to be done.

## 18 Standards for Equipment

140

A good environment for learning is vital to the success of any department. While good work can be done in a room that is less than ideal, a church should strive for the best.



## SECTION IV: BUSES-ONE KEY TO GROWTH

## 19 The Indispensable Bus

155

The Sunday School bus ministry operates out of a deep conviction that Jesus commanded His followers to go after the spiritually lost and that He never commanded the unsaved to come to church.

#### 20 Essentials for Effective Church Bus Evangelism

160

Establishing and maintaining standard bus routes enables a church to grow as much as desired. Here are 13 factors which will guarantee success.

### 21 Recruiting Workers for the Church Bus Evangelism Ministry

167

Workers are far more important than buses. The pastor who fumbles the ball in this area will lose the game.

## 22 Why Sunday School Buses Fail

171

More than two dozen common, human factors often contribute to the failure of a Sunday School bus ministry. Evaluate your program (or proposed program) in light of these factors.



## SECTION V: PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT

## 23 The Sunday School Teacher

177

What is a Sunday School teacher? Surprisingly, the teacher has a role similar to the pastor's.

#### 24 Leadership

183

How can one develop leadership ability?

## 25 The Sunday School Teachers' Meeting 186

In the final analysis, the power and potential of a Sunday School is either generated or dissipated in the teachers' meeting.

## 26 Enlist, Train and Retain Teachers

Your church's ability to maintain an adequate teaching staff depends on its procedures to enlist, train and retain teachers.

191



# SECTION VI: PROMOTION AND OUTREACH

PK	OMOTION AND OCTUBERS	
27	Laws of Sunday School Growth	198
	Specific principles seem to characterize growing churches.	
28	Why Sunday Schools Decline	214
	Just follow these five easy steps and watch your Sunday School decrease in attendance and effectiveness.	
29	Boost Sunday School Attendance: Yes! But What Are Your Motives?	217
	To what human motives do churches appeal when they utilize promotional methods smacking of Barnum and Bailey?	
30	Twenty Ways to Double Your Sunday School Class	221
	Hundreds of teachers have used these principles to double the size of their classes.	
3	1 The Visitation Program	225

Few Sunday Schools grow without a planned

visitation program.

#### 32 Promotional Contests

For decades Sunday School contests have generated controversy and packed out church educational facilities.

#### 33 Special Days

Sunday School programs for special holidays have not outlived their usefulness, not if they are done creatively.



### SECTION VII: CLASS IN SESSION

## 34 Using the Bible in Class

Need some new techniques to liven up your Bible study sessions? Try these.

#### 35 Team Teaching

Some of the nation's largest churches have revolutionized their Sunday Schools by changing to team teaching.

#### 36 The Lecture Method

Because oral presentation cannot be eliminated, it must be done with an understanding of the teaching-learning process.

#### 37 Discussion

256

239

243

250

229

234

Can you involve your Sunday School pupils in a case study? Can you set up a dyad, a symposium, a debate, or a colloquy? Here's how.

38	Storytelling	269
	People will remember a story when they have forgotten everything else.	
39	Visual Aids	273
	Visual aids greatly enhance learning, but aids vary in quality. This chapter will help the Sunday School teacher select and use visual aids more effectively.	
40	Slides, Filmstrips, Motion Pictures	286
	Here are some tips for using these valuable media effectively in the classroom.	
41	Correlated Handcrafts	290
	Handcrafts are not busy work. They should make the lesson truths more meaningful to pupils.	
42	Psycho-drama, Field Trips	297
	Every member of your youth group can participate in role play.	
43	Multi-media	301
	Many youth groups are experimenting with multi-media presentations to communicate the Gospel. Here's how to do it.	
44	Helpful Hints	305
	How can you set up a filing system that will save you time in your Sunday School work? How can you include missions education in your class work? What is the best way to plan a lesson? Here are some helpful suggestions.	
45	Music in the Sunday School	311
	"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," observed an English dramatist. Wise Christian workers will likewise recog- nize the power of music and utilize it in Christian education.	

46	How to Discipline
	The discipline problems of the past were simple compared to those of today.
47	Remembering
	The Word of God, hidden in a child's heart, can become the means God uses to keep that individual in His kingdom throughout a lifetime.

315

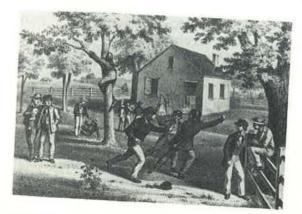
318

325

342

## 48 Special Ministries

The retarded, the deaf, the handicapped, shutins—these neglected people can be reached with the Gospel by churches which have the vision and are willing to learn how.



# SECTION VIII: ORIGIN OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

# The founder of the first Sunday School did not wait for his pupils to come to the meeting place. He went to their homes and brought them. If they did not have suitable clothing to wear, he bought it for them.

## 50 Jesus, Master Teacher

Jesus, the Master Teacher, built His lessons upon everyday things—wheat, a pearl, fish, lilies.



## SECTION IX: YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TOMORROW

51	Sunday School Standards	349
<b>52</b>	Evaluation	352
	Table of Sunday School Enrollment Among American Churches	390
	List of Charts	397
	Index	397