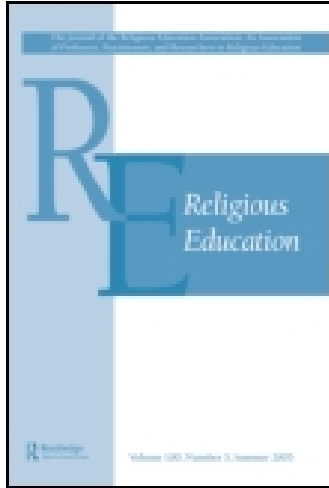


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### BOSTON TEACHER TRAINING MOVEMENT

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## **BOSTON TEACHER TRAINING MOVEMENT.**

Another advance step in Teacher Training is begun by the Boston Sunday schools. A course of open lectures followed by two classes is announced under the joint auspices of

Boston University School of Theology  
Congregational Sunday School Association  
Massachusetts Baptist Sunday School Association  
The Graded Union  
Board of Sunday Schools of the Methodist Episcopal Church  
The Presbyterian Church of Greater Boston  
Boston Young Men's Christian Association  
to be held on Saturday afternoons in Ford Hall.

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## **DES MOINES SUNDAY-SCHOOL INSTITUTE.**

The second year of the Des Moines Sunday School Institute opened with a meeting on the afternoon of Sunday, October 6, at which Dr. Henry F. Cope was the speaker. The Institute united all the Sunday schools of Des Moines in a thorough-going, united effort for the training of teachers. Fifteen different courses of study are offered in classes meeting at the same time in the Y. W. C. A. building and taught by a faculty from the University and the schools. The forty-five minutes of class work is preceded each night by a forty-five minutes general lecture period for all students. The general lectures include ten on biblical subjects, ten on psychology and pedagogy of religion, and ten on organization and management of the school. The following are the courses of instruction:

1. Work for teachers of Beginners.
2. Work for teachers of Primary.
3. Work for teachers of Junior Department.
4. Work for teachers of Intermediate Department.
5. Work for teachers of Senior Department.
6. Work for teachers of Adult Department.
7. Work for supervisors on management.
8. Work on Child Psychology and Pedagogy.
9. Work on Boy Training.
10. Social Service Problems.
11. Stories and Story Telling.

13. Old Testament.
14. New Testament.
15. Life of Christ.
16. The Graded Curriculum.

The Institute is a result of the work of Professor Walter S. Athearn, Professor of Religious Education, Drake University. The plan of organization may be seen in the following statement published by them:

#### ORGANIZATION.

##### I.—BIBLE STUDY COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL.

The Des Moines Sunday School Institute shall be conducted under the general direction of the Bible Study Committee of the Inter-Church Council. This committee shall sustain substantially the same relation to the institute as a board of education holds to the administration of a system of public schools.

It shall be the duty of this committee to elect a director of the institute, approve the faculty, secure suitable quarters for the institute, and to have general supervision of its work.

##### II.—DIRECTOR AND FACULTY.

The director of the institute shall be the executive officer of the Bible Study Committee in so far as its relation to the institute is concerned. With the approval of the committee he shall select a faculty, determine courses of study, text-books, recitation schedules, rules and regulations for students, etc. The administration of the institute shall rest with the directors and faculty. Monthly faculty meetings shall be held.

##### III.—ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

The superintendent of each Sunday school in Des Moines shall, by virtue of his office, be a member of the Advisory Committee of the institute. As a member of this committee, each superintendent will be the medium of communication between his school and the institute.

##### IV.—GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council shall consist of the Bible Study Committee, the director and faculty and the Advisory Committee. This council shall meet at least four times during the institute year. The meeting of the council shall be for free and frank discussion of the policies of the institute and for the projecting of new and improved methods of work.

The General Council may be convened at the call of the director or of the chairman of the Bible Study Committee. The chairman of the Bible Study Committee shall be the presiding officer of the council.

PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Des Moines Sunday School Institute is to provide instruction and training for the Sunday school workers of Des Moines and vicinity. The scope of the work includes all phases of religious education. It is not the purpose of this institute to supplant teacher-training classes in the local schools. The institute hopes to train leaders for such classes, and to offer opportunity for training to teachers in schools where no training classes have been established. The institute also offers opportunity for specialization which is not possible in the local church.

This institute is a *school of instruction*. Our pupils are expected to work. Regular lessons are assigned and students must study, recite, and pass examinations just as they do in all standard schools. The courses provided in this institute will require hard work and much time, but *they will make trained teachers*. It has not been our purpose to draft courses that could be taken without effort by teachers who feel the honor of diplomas, stars, badges or seals. We have endeavored to outline courses of training that are within the reach of the average teachers, but which require time, energy, money, and whose chief incentive is the desire to become efficient in the teaching services of the church.

Teacher-training is not the memorizing of lists of answers to drill questions. It involves more than Biblical knowledge, which, of course, is of prime importance. In order that the child may come to know the Book as a source of inspiration to the religious life, the training of the teacher must include a study of the *child* as well as a study of the *Book*.

Teacher-training is serious business. Upon its success depends the future of the Church and Christianity. Pastors must demand trained intelligence on the part of Sunday-school workers. They must stimulate a desire for more efficient teaching; they must lay the problem of the children upon the official church boards, and they must become willing to lead their forces to heroic efforts, and financial sacrifices, to the end that

the children may be nurtured in the knowledge and the admonition of the Lord.

The church must come to see that it is not so much its mission to *save sinners* as it is to *save pure and spotless boys and girls* from sinning. This mission can only be accomplished through trained teachers and adequately equipped Sunday schools.

It is to aid in such high service that the Des Moines Sunday School Institute has been established.

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### GENERAL NOTES.

An anonymous gift of \$10,000 to the library of Oberlin College will be used in part to secure a complete collection of the recent publications on Eugenics.

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The Annual Conference of Church Workers in State Universities is to be held at the Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas, February 4-6, with the topic "Co-operation of the Forces in Religious Work at State Universities."

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Holland, like most European countries, insists upon religious training in the public schools, but her system is described as "omnid denominational." Definite religious instruction is given, but the children are not allowed to be separated according to "confessions." Sectarian schools exist, but they are essentially private institutions, and make no claim on the state for support.

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George Peabody College for the Training of Teachers, at Nashville, Tennessee, is attracting wide attention in its effort to raise a million dollars for its endowment fund. The college is conspicuous for its high aim. Believing that "the most urgent educational need of the South is trained leadership," it seeks to furnish that leadership. It seeks to do for teaching in the South "what Harvard and John Hopkins have done for medicine, and what Teachers College of New York has done for teaching." The amount needed for the new undertaking is \$1,500,000, and the trustees of the Peabody fund have offered \$500,000, provided the college will raise the million.

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Fifteen thousand dollars is at the disposal of the National Association of Audubon Societies to be used during the school