

others are. The reason is not that the music is followed more closely, but that there is a depth of inspiration which is made a necessary part of the song. The music is not from the throat alone; it is from the soul, and it is poured out through the words of the song as well as the tuneful notes. So prominently is this the case that the words of the song strike the listener's ear with as much devotional force as do the notes with their rich melody. An instance of this was given in the Sunday school conference Sunday evening, when the great choir sang that beautiful children's hymn, "I our lovely Deseret." Hundreds of voices blended as one in a perfect accentuation; there was not a word, not a syllable that could not be distinctly heard by the vast audience, and a stenographic reporter in any part of the Tabernacle could have taken as perfect a report of the words (even if he never heard them before) as if they had been spoken by the most accomplished elocutionist. And singing is but a type of the instruction given in the Sunday schools in all departments of their work.

In this training of the heart and soul of the pupil, the Sabbath schools of the Saints are in advance of all other like organizations elsewhere. Naturally this should be the case, for the instructors are themselves inspired of God and blessed by Him to the work. There are engaged in the labor of the schools Apostles, Seventies, High Priests, Elders, Bishops and other Church officers. They have the law of the Gospel, and they have the inspiration of God to proclaim it in power. It is a holy, sacred calling to a great missionary field, not for the praise of man but the glory of the Lord and the salvation of His people. The key to the success of the great Sunday school movement in the Church is the fact of the divine inspiration which rests with its workers—their perfect harmony with the divinely constituted authorities of the Church. Systems of teaching may improve by changes according to circumstances, but the basis of progress and permanency is in strict conformity to the revelations of the Lord; and on this there is no limit to the good that is being and is to be accomplished. Upon that foundation is scope for increased energy and faithfulness in the Sabbath school cause.

A SUCCESSFUL LAW.

Notwithstanding the predictions of failure to follow its enforcement, and the ridicule which has been heaped upon its administration since it came into effect, the Raines liquor law in New York is proving a success. Of course it is not completely satisfactory to temperance people who would like to see the liquor traffic suppressed by more vigorous measures than this. In fact, it may be said that the Raines law has not reduced the consumption of spirituous and malt liquors; but it has reduced the number of opportunities for children to be led into the drinking habit, and in that way is laying the foundation for a serious forward upon drunkenness, and for consequent increase in the ranks of the anti-whisky population.

But it is in its revenue aspect that the law has shown its capabilities. When it was before the state legislature Mr. Raines urged its passage on the ground that it was a measure for the relief of the overburdened taxpayers of the state, and the short trial of it, in the city of New York, shows that it produced a large amount of revenue, even in times when revenues of all other kinds are failing off. Under the old law there were, in the city of New York, 10,118 saloons and drinking places, which yielded the city a revenue of \$1,790,530. Under the Raines law the number of drinking places has been reduced to 7,310, while the revenue received was \$4,857,918.25, of which one-third (or \$1,619,306) went to the state treasury and the remainder to the city treasury. This shows a reduction in the number of saloons of about twenty-seven per cent, while the increase of revenue to the city alone has been about doubled, to say nothing of the sum received by the state. As a partial offset to this it may be said that the law is more expensive to operate under than the old statute, but its increase of this regard is insignificant compared to the gain it makes to the public treasury.

The administration of the Raines law has been attended with much difficulty because of the opposition of the saloon element, but very officials have stood up to the task, and have proved that it can be enforced to the accomplishment of its object. In making the liquor traffic bear a greater burden than before of the expense which that traffic adds to government, the Raines law has gained many friends among those who were against it at its inauguration, and in its tendency to save the next generation from the degrading liquor habit it is now beginning to receive more general endorsement from temperance people, as an excellent measure as far as it goes.

WOMEN AT ELECTIONS.

The eastern papers are saying that "the women already have demonstrated that they are to be a forceful actor in this campaign," and point to the states of Wyoming, Colorado and Utah, where they have the franchise, and to other states in which women's clubs are working in the interest of their respective parties. It is notable that in these comments upon women at elections there is a general concession that the greater proportion of the fair sex, where they exercise the elective franchise, will throw their force in favor of candidates of high moral character rather than on the lines of partisanship. One class views this as an evidence that women do not reason on party policies and therefore should not be given the suffrage; while another sees in the same fact a proof that women will maintain good government by supporting candidates best qualified to promote that end.

In this State there is little doubt that the bulk of the woman vote will be cast for men whose integrity has given them high standing in the community, as against political tricksters and persons of unsavory reputation. This feature will make that vote of special importance in localities where objectionable officials have had greatest sway. It

may be added, however, that the woman vote will not cut near as much of a figure in this State as it might have done, in consequence of so many refusing to register, and in view of the further fact that many who have registered will not vote. It has been estimated that not more than half the women qualified to vote in this State will go to the polls; but that those who do so will vote in favor of a stable, economical government by an intuitiveness which political twaddle and excitement will not swerve from its high purpose. But as time goes on, and the strangeness of voting wears away and women come to realize their power in behalf of better persons and methods in administering public affairs, the proportion to act therein will not fall far short of that among the men.

INAPPROPRIATE APPLAUSE.

There was an incident in connection with one of the meetings in the large Tabernacle which suggests the necessity of a more rigid enforcement of rules of exclusion than heretofore, unless the trend of which the incident is an indication should be turned in another direction. At the Sunday evening meeting referred to, a very beautiful quartet was rendered, to the delight of the vast audience. At the close of the singing somebody began to applaud by the clapping of hands, and others, perhaps thoughtlessly for the moment, joined in; an officer of the meeting who had arisen to make an announcement raised his hand in deprecation of the outburst, when the clapping of hands was repeated and the presiding officer had to step forward and check it. Of those who engaged in the demonstration, it cannot be said that they were Church members who understood its order, for there would have realized at once, if they had made a mistake in joining in the applause in the first place, that the sign to cease was one to be obeyed instantly.

It is getting to be quite a habit in some parts of the country, even in meetings for regular religious worship, or the congregation to join in applause of something that pleases them. The incident we refer to was not in a regular religious service in the Tabernacle, but it was on a Sunday evening, and whatever may be allowed elsewhere, in a Latter-day Saints' house of worship the applause indulged in was wholly out of place. Those who attend Sunday assemblies in the Tabernacle are expected to abide by the rules of the house, which absolutely forbid demonstrations of that kind on the Sabbath day. The building is dedicated to the worship of the Almighty, and its character as a sacred edifice must be preserved. Those having the Tabernacle in charge have yielded to solicitations to give high class concerts in the building, and in these no restriction has been made on appropriate applause; but if the kindness which has permitted the use of the edifice for such purposes is to be abused by extending into Sunday assemblies a disturbing element, then the alternative would be to enforce rigidly a rule excluding everything that would incline to such a disagreeable effort as the one complained of.