

**THE INTERMEDIATE
WORKER
AND HIS WORK**

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The Intermediate Worker and His Work by Edward S. Lewis

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EDWARD S. LEWIS

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WORKER
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COURSES OF THE BOARD OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS

THE INTERMEDIATE
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HIS WORK

By
EDWARD S. LEWIS

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PREFACE

As education is becoming the dominant interest in society, religious education is coming to its own in the Church. Her own children are at once her first responsibility and her only hope. She can not lose these and win anything. If she saves these she can save the world.

The new life in the modern Sunday-school is the expression of this deepening conviction. We are coming to see that no sacrifice is too deep and no expense too great for the winning of our youth to Christ and building them up in Christ. Their responsiveness to skillful training is a moral wonder. With the decline of the feeling of hopelessness engendered by an over-estimate of heredity, there has come into our work a new confidence based upon the teachings of science as to the priority of environment. Oppenheim says, "The human being, in the first part of his existence, is much more unformed than is generally thought. The determining factors are not as parents usually consider them." He adds that the effects of heredity are not settled facts, but that "the qualities of goodness and virtue are purely functional, the result of friction, social interaction, environment." This means that by supplying the right environing influences we may win and hold all the children we desire.

The promotion of Teacher Training follows as a matter

of course. It is the thing of first importance just now, and especially for those who are charged with the care of young adolescents. These are in the grand crisis of life, whose skillful treatment is imperatively needed and which brings astonishing harvests that are "unto life eternal."

The object of this little manual is to help those who would help the Intermediates. The success of the Correspondence Method in Teacher Training will doubtless induce large numbers of our teachers to take advantage of it.

EDWARD S. LEWIS.

New York, May 1, 1911.