

Africa, the Near East and the Pacific, have all of them close relation to religious freedom of worship and of witness.

A wonderful record was given at Canterbury of quiet work in this connection which steadily pursued over many months has been influential in securing freedom of conscience and will have a permanent influence on the world history of Christianity. How varied the work of relationship with government is today may be illustrated by the fact that no less than eighteen different problems had been dealt with touching twelve countries or colonies under half a dozen different governments. These matters, intricate as they are and often confidential in their nature, intensified the impression that the work of Christian Missions has now found its true place in the central stream of national and international life.

The interest and vitality of these and the other subjects discussed gave emphasis to the importance of having an interim session of this Committee held between the larger biennial meetings of the International Missionary Council itself. That Council has been invited by the British members to meet in Britain next July and the invitation has been accepted.

A series of regional conferences around the Moslem rim of the Mediterranean are also being planned for, to be held probably in 1924, leading up to a general Near East Conference on the Christian Movement in relation to the Islamic world.

The long perspective which came to the Committee at Canterbury looking back from the world-wide missionary enterprise of to-day across the centuries to those small beginnings from which such great things have developed, gave to the members of the Committee and should carry to others in all the fields a new conviction of the expanding purposes of

God in the world and of the inevitable triumph of the Gospel of Christ.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Link Readers,—I have often though I'd like to tell you something of a short visit to Egypt which it was my privilege to make last spring. But the Link has been so full of interest, that I felt my letter could wait indefinitely. Now that I am about to write I scarcely know where to begin and what parts to pick upon to put in a short space.

Logically, then, I commence with the climate. It is serene, there is a clear sky, sunshine almost all the time, and practically no rain. This dry atmosphere has helped to preserve the wonderful structures and treasures which are thousands of years old. It helps, too, to preserve the health of the people. They tell you there, that Egypt is the greatest health resort in the world. The Egyptians are themselves large, strong people, despite their poverty.

Not only is the physical atmosphere different, so also is the mental (and we might add the sentimental). One starts to dream in Egypt, dreams of the early civilizations of mankind, and thousands of years of history. One too, soon finds oneself riding donkeys and camels instead of street cars or autos; and taking the keenest interest in the tombs and pyramids of the Pharaohs of three or four thousand B.C. Walking through the ruins of Karnac and Thebes one is fairly dazed with wonder and interest, amazed at the tremendous largeness of the architectural and structural work, one might say structural feats, and at the labor and wealth which must have been at their command. One feels overawed to stand in the columned temples and walk the roads, that have seen more than a hundred generations come and