

early rivulets of English Christianity that have broadened, not only into the vast current of religious life of the English speaking peoples of America and the British Commonwealth of Nations, but into the majestic river of their world-wide missionary enterprises in Asia, Africa and the islands of the sea.

So there fell to the International Missionary Committee which held its first meeting at the Old Palace at Canterbury during the last week-end in July, the unique and truly wonderful experience—that within those walls of Augustine's house they looked, first, back to the early source of their common missionary work; then all over the world to the Church's missions among races of whose very existence Augustine hardly dreamed; and, lastly, forward into the mists of the future that hold and hide such supreme possibilities of Christian victory.

Last year the International Missionary Council which links the home churches and their mission boards and the mission field churches of Africa and Asia into a living and practical fellowship, met at Lake Mohonk, N.Y. Out of its own membership this Council appointed a small Committee to transact any necessary business ad interim and arrange for the next biennial meeting of the Council. At the generous invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Davidson this Committee met at the Old Palace on the evening of Thursday, July 27, and remained in residence until Monday the 31st.

The group of some 20 members varied widely in nationality,—Canadian, American, Dutch, French, English, Irish, Scotch—and in denominational attachments; but the men and women facing world-wide issues in Canterbury were one in spirit and aim.

A noteworthy group of American missionary leaders were present. Dr. Ar-

thur J. Brown (Presbyterian) Dr. James H. Franklin and Mrs. Henry W. Peabody (Baptist), Mr. Fennell P. Turner (Secretary of Foreign Missions Conference of North America), Dr. Charles Watson of Philadelphia (now President of the American University of Cairo) and the Hon. Newton Rowell, K.C., of Toronto. Baron von Boetzelaer came from Holland and Pastor Couve from Paris. The British members were Bishop King (Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) Sir Robert Williams (President of the Church Missionary Society) Dr. Forgen of Aberdeen (of the United Free Church of Scotland), Dr. Ritson (Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain and Ireland), Mr. Kenneth Maclellan (Secretary of the British Conference.)

Mr. J. H. Oldham and Dr. Warnshuis (the Secretaries of the International Committee) sat on either side of Dr. John R. Mott of New York, its Chairman. It was significant that past and present members of the legislature of three countries were among those engaged in the study of the larger aspects of missionary work.

Morning and evening prayers and mid-day intercession were, by special permission of the Archbishop, conducted by various members of the Committee in the beautiful and exquisitely restful Chapel of the Old Palace.

The business to which the Committee bent its almost incessant energies through the mornings, the late afternoons and evenings (with, I fear, subcommittees remorselessly encroaching on the midnight hours of sleep!) was of an interest at once vivid and vital.

Momentous affairs of missionary development that mark the opening of a new epoch in the story of the Christian-