

LAYMEN'S MISSIONARY MOVEMENT.

Policy for 1909-1910.

1. Encourage and secure in every centre inter-denominational action, and the appointment of an inter-denominational Co-operating Committee.
2. Recommend the promotion of the Movement in cities and towns with as little organization as possible, that the work may continue a movement rather than an organization.
3. Secure names of men acceptable for public addresses at different points.
4. Push literature now available and watch carefully for new, with the idea of putting out some new, up-to-date material several times in the course of the year.
5. Co-operate with New York International Committee in the Laymen's Conference on Lake George, September 7-9, by urging the attendance of laymen from Canada.
6. In co-operation with the Denominational Committees and their Secretaries, plan a series of District inter-denominational Conferences at important centres, to be located by Canadian Council in consultation with Co-operating Committees.
7. In each of these places the burden of securing delegates to rest with Local Co-operating Committee, and all expenses, except those of Laymen's Secretaries, to be met by said Committee. Said Committee and local clergy to arrange to have all congregations, so far as possible, addressed on Missions the Sundays immediately preceding and following the Conference.
8. Each Conference to cover two or three days, the day sessions to be largely educational and the evening sessions inspirational, with one or more addresses by men familiar with actual conditions on the Home and Foreign Field, each denomination, if possible, to be represented on the programme; denominational conferences to be held each forenoon during the Conference.
9. Each district covering one or more Conference centres to be, for two or three weeks preceding the Conference, under the supervision of a Denominational Secretary or Secretaries, as may seem best. The selection of the Secretary to be sent to the several districts to be regulated, so far as possible, by the strength of the different communions in the section to be covered. The Secretaries to become familiar with men and conditions, and so co-operate with Local Committee that ample preparation will be made for the Conference. They should communicate with the clergy and laymen and secure, where possible, the appointment of a Men's Missionary Committee in each church, who shall be the special representatives of that church at the Conference.
10. The educational work at the Conference should be strong and definite, so that the delegates may carry out the details in their own churches in co-operation with the Mission Board and Laymen Secretaries.
11. The National Missionary Policy to be presented for ratification at each Conference.
12. The follow-up work to be done by the District Co-operating Committees in the endeavor to see that the details of the National Missionary Policy are worked out in each church, so far as possible.
13. The Canadian Council invites the Denominational Committees to arrange that the Denominational Secretaries shall co-operate with each other and the General Secretary of the Canadian Council in carrying out the above Policy.

There are today in the Barnardo system of homes, 8,000 children, 600 of whom are blind or deaf or suffering from incurable diseases. At Barking, beside there are 66 cottages for girls, surrounding a tasteful park, with private hospital, school, church, and laundry. The beloved founder, "the father of nobody's children," who rested from his labors in 1905, lies in the midst of his great home. It is stated that from the time the ten-year street child touched the heart of the young medical student till his death, he had rescued not less than 60,000 children, and the work goes on.

THE CONGO.

Great Britain is evidently stirred on the question of Belgian misrule in the Congo. After a private conference held at Lambeth Palace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Moderator of the United Free Church of Scotland, the Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, the president of the Wesleyan Conference, the president of the Congregational Union, and other distinguished churchmen affixed their signatures to a statement calling attention to the fact that a year and eight months have passed since the appeal to the nation issued on Nov. 7, 1907, and that the last published Foreign Office paper shows how ineffective the endeavors to bring an end to this almost inexpressible wrong have been. "The recent White-book proves beyond question," the statement continues, "that at this moment a system which involves many of the worst features of African slavery, or even exceeds it in horror, is prevailing throughout a territory of nearly one million square miles." The signatures urge that there is nothing accidental about the evil deeds now being committed, which are the necessary accompaniment of a deliberate claim on the part of the European ruler of that great country to its natural wealth and its human labor, a claim which is enforced with pitiless severity. "Virtually the whole land has been monopolized for the benefit of European investors, and the native inhabitants are excluded from any share in the benefits accruing from the exploitation of their soil. Men, and even women, are forced into a life of endless and unpaid toil, to which death alone brings release. Inhuman punishments prevail. Disease and famine, following naturally in the wake of tyranny and violence, are sweeping whole districts bare of inhabitants." The basin of the Congo is today, adds the statement, the scene of as cruel a tyranny as exists on earth.

The appeal concludes with an expression of the belief that there is a deep and growing sense that things cannot without dishonor be left where they are. "The very principles of liberty, for which the British people have contended for a hundred years, are now at stake. If the members of the Christian Churches of the land will make their voices heard, the statesmen, not of England only, must needs listen, and the best instincts of every civilized country will respond. We have been reminded by our foremost official spokesman upon foreign affairs that 'British Treaty Rights and British interests' justify separate action on the part of Britain. In our judgment the greatest by far of Britain interests is the maintenance of the moral force of the nation, and the greatest of all risks which the nation can run is the abandonment of its moral obligations."

To those who remember what a colossal figure Henry Ward Beecher was in the religious life of the United States a generation ago, it seems strange how largely he has disappeared from memory and even from allusion. Some of those who knew him and honored him have recently erected a memorial in his honor, jointly with his sister Harriet Beecher Stowe, in the town of Litchfield, Connecticut. In this town Mr. Beecher and his sister were born, and the monument stands where formerly stood the church in which their father, Lyman Beecher, preached for some years. The memorial takes the form of a native boulder, in the face of which is embedded a bronze medallion with life size portraits of the sister and brother, and bearing a suitable inscription. It was erected by an organization of college alumni.

If there are ten commandments, keeping nine of them involves a miss; and according to the final standard, a miss is sin.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

China is to have a new navy, and \$100,000,000 is to be raised for that purpose.

Boston and New England are planning a World's Fair for 1920, to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims.

Mrs. Martin, a first cousin of Grace Darling, has died at Bamburgh, aged 84. She was born in the same house as the Longstone heroine and owned furniture which had belonged to her famous cousin.

"In Bathnal Green twenty years ago every church but two was empty," said the Bishop of London at St. Peter's Church, Bayswater. "To-day nearly every church is crowded with a reverent and worshipping congregation."

The distress following the massacres in Asia Minor is appalling. The British Consul at Adana says that over 22,000 persons are receiving aid. At least \$1,500 a day is needed to keep the people from starving.

The Missionary Review of the World gives seven watchwords of missions: Go, Give, Tell, Pray, Love, Trust and Rest.

The Laymen's Missionary Movement is now arranging for fifty Men's Missionary Conventions to be held within the next six months, and culminating in a National Missionary Congress in April, 1910.

The "Indian Witness" says there are forty thousand Hindustani people in the Fiji Islands. Two Wesleyan missionaries visited India last December to get some Hindustani workers for their mission in Fiji. They went to Karachi and secured five theological students in response to their appeal.

The Bible to-day, is the most popular book in the world, and more copies are sold than of any other hundred books combined. The Oxford Press turns out 20,000 Bibles in a week. More than 40,000 sheets of gold are used in lettering the volumes, and the skins of 100,000 animals go into Oxford Bible covers each year.

Have you heard of the London Spectacle Mission Society? The work of this society is among the aged and poor whose eyes need attention. During the past year 2,915 persons have asked for spectacles, and since the work was begun there have been 25,000 applicants. With few exceptions these needs have been met. When patients suffer from complicated defects they are sent to a hospital where they are treated. Glasses of various kinds are also sent to the leper settlements in South America, where the people suffer much from the glare of the sun.

One thousand delegates, including 600 from the United States and other foreign nations, attended the twelfth International Anti Alcohol Congress in London.

The Presbyterian Church of England added four new congregations last year and communicants have increased to 86,421, a gain of 647; the preceding year there was a loss of nineteen. The total income of the church was 289,926 pounds sterling of which 44,597 pounds were for missions.

In an earthquake in southern Greece twenty persons were killed and one hundred injured in one village, Havari, and at least three hundred people lost their lives in the province of Ellis.

Rain and cold weather have caused heavy damage to the wheat and grape crops in France.

It is announced that Lord Kitchener has accepted the invitation of the Government to visit Australia, and advise upon the defence of the Commonwealth.

Contrary to expectations, since the Boxer insurrection in China last year was 428,000 copies.

During the first year of America's rule in the Philippines, 10,700 Bibles were distributed there.