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THE BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE.

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The Baptist World Alliance is a union in which the 8,000,000 Baptists of the various countries of this globe have representation and fellowship. The first meeting of the Alliance took place in London, England, in the year 1905. The second gathering has just closed its sessions, which met in Grace Temple, Philadelphia. The convention extended over seven days. Although the programme contained a fair variety of subjects, yet three-fourths of it was gathered around this central thought, "The Christianizing of the World." The first President of the Alliance was the prince of sermonizers, the late Dr. Alex. McLaren, of Manchester, England. After his death there was appointed as his successor the eminent leader of Non-conformity in England, Dr. John Clifford. The third president, elected at the Philadelphia gathering, is Dr. R. S. McArthur, who for forty-two years has been the pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, New York. Canadians will feel gratified at this appointment as the President is a native of our Dominion, being born in the little hamlet of Dalesville, that is hidden away among the Laurentian Mountains of Quebec.

It is impossible to give a satisfactory report of the Alliance meetings in this brief article. I shall be content merely to give rapid glimpses of three mountain peaks that rise in majestic grandeur in the proceedings and deliberations of the Alliance.

The Roll Call of the Nations.

This was the most picturesque session of the whole convention. This event represents the world in miniature. Over sixty different nations were represented. When the name of a country was called by the President the spokesman on the platform gave a brief summary of the work carried on by the Baptist Churches and missions in that land. Some of the spokesmen used broken English, others foreign languages that had to be interpreted. The delegates of each nation-

ality were grouped together on the ground floor of the Temple, and as the appointed representative closed his address the whole delegation arose in a body and sang a verse of a national air or a hymn in their own language. Prominent among these speakers was the one from Argentina, Rev. Paul Beson, who gave his message in Spanish, with a fierce ringing voice. For ten years in his country he had led in the struggle for religious liberty, the separation of church and state, the secularization of the marriage rite, and the registration of births. He is called the Martin Luther of Argentina. Like Peter the Hermit his fiery utterance awayed the vast assemblage. At the close of his speech the audience impelled by the militant spirit of the man, sang for him the song he could not sing for himself, "Onward, Christian Soldier."

Ireland with a grievance was represented by Rev. J. H. Boyd, of London, Ont., who was proud to speak for one of the smallest of the tribes of Israel.

The spokesman for Canada was Dr. C. J. Holman, who commented on the fact that his country dwelt side by side with her neighbor in peace. The Canadian delegation sang a stanza of the McMaster hymn and the National Anthem.

Some of these delegates had travelled more than three-fourths the circle of the globe—Rev. A. N. Marshall, late of Ontario, covering 18,000 miles from South Australia to Philadelphia, was surpassed by the delegates from New Zealand, who recorded 20,000 miles.

What a variety of race and color among the representatives—white, black, brown, yellow! What a Babel of languages—in number and varieties surpassing that of Pentecost.

The Roll Call in some degree may have been spectacular, but it was profoundly impressive, and showed in an objective manner that the Baptist message, which is the whole counsel of the Master, like a chain of gold, encircles the globe, binding people of all nations in one great brotherhood.