

leading part in the social and political, as well as the religious life of their adopted lands. From being indifferent, the churches have developed a far-reaching enthusiasm. It was once thought that those men who promised to be of only indifferent use at home, were sufficiently strong for work in heathen lands. But now the churches send as many as possible of their strongest men. The missionary enterprise is occupying a place of honor, not only among the churches, but even among men at large, many of whom now look upon it as one of the greatest achievements of men on behalf of their fellows.—The Foreign Mission Journal.

MISSION WORK FOR MOSLEMS.

A noticeable fact in all missionary activities to-day is the growing sense that we must make far greater efforts to win for Christ those who now follow the faith of Mohammed. This is to-day by far the strongest organized opponent of Christianity, and "this alone, among the religions of the world, can claim to have met and vanquished Christianity."

We are apt to think of the Moslem world as meaning Turkey, with perhaps Arabia and Persia. But that idea is entirely inadequate. "Islam in its present extent embraces three continents and counts its believers from Sierra Leone in West Africa to Canton in China, and from Tobolsk, Siberia, to Singapore and Java. . . . At the time of the annual pilgrimage Mecca has a population of about sixty thousand, and among them are representatives of every nation under heaven." King Edward rules over eighty million Mohammedans in Asia and Africa, and other Christian sovereigns over as many more. We in the United States must count at least three hundred thousand Moslems in the Philippines as our fellow-citizens. The Sultan of Turkey reigns over less than sixteen million, and all other Moslem rulers control only twenty-three million. So that the overwhelming balance of power over these fierce "faithful" ones is in the hands of Christians.

They feel this, and their leaders are very bitter, and make the task of those who rule over them in India and Africa very perplexing. They threaten to take the sword again in behalf of their faith, and outbreaks here and there are common.

They are sending out missionaries too, and are taking possession of many districts once pagan. Ten million low-caste people in Bengal

have become Moslem in the last few years, and on the west coast of Southern India many have adopted that faith. Their missionaries are active in Borneo and the East Indies, and in both East and West Africa they have had great success. "They form societies to defend Islam, they establish presses to send out literature to propagate their faith, and copy missionary methods and engage Moslem preachers to counteract the work of Christian missions." Many of these missionaries are laymen, merchants, travellers and artisans; indeed in a sense the laity are all preachers. They proclaim their creed from the housetop and carry their Koran everywhere, though 80 per cent. of them are illiterate. All ranks of society are propagandists. They do this for Mohammed, shall we not do as much for our Saviour in the spread of Christianity? When we remember that it is far harder to bring a Moslem than a heathen to accept Christ, is not all this a challenge and a stimulus?

Many facts give us cheer. In God's good providence the Bible is already printed and widely distributed in twenty languages spoken by Moslem peoples, whereas the Koran is practically confined to Arabic, and read by comparatively few. Medical missions bring numberless openings for telling the gospel, and thousands of Moslems are dissatisfied with their old faith.

In 1906 sixty-two missionaries for twenty-nine societies in Europe and America gathered at Cairo to confer concerning the Mohammedan world. They sent out an appeal asking that more laborers specially trained go out, that more literature be distributed among Moslems, and that systematic plans be made for opening new centres of work. The women delegates sent an additional appeal to Christian women in behalf of their one hundred million Moslem sisters, saying in view of their physical, mental and spiritual suffering, "each part of the women's work needs to be widely extended, trained and consecrated doctors, teachers, workers in the villages, an army of those with love in their hearts to seek and save the lost."—Life and Light.

MISSIONARY RESULTS ON THE CONGO.

Twenty-five years ago there was not a native Christian in all Kongo; now there are over 2,500 baptized members of the native churches,