

"O LORD, SEEK US, O, LORD, FIND US"

session at Kansas City, little groups gathered for prayer in various parts of the convention hall, and each day cards were distributed urging the observance of the Morning Watch, so that the convention was constantly praying for itself. And by special agreement there were many praying for it in all parts of the world. In his masterly address on "The Power of Prayer," which so deeply moved the hearts of his hearers, Doctor Horton said that if he was wielding any power it was not his own. The secret of it lay in the fact that by previous agreement, at that very hour, carefully computed as to time, there was a band of praying men and women on their knees in London, pleading with God to bless the message of their pastor across the sea in this far-off city.

Solving Financial Problems Through Prayer.

During the past five years the Church Missionary Society has been accumulating a debt which last year amounted to \$370,000. Dismayed by the vast proportions it was assuming, a conference was called at Swanwick, England, to carefully investigate the matter and decide what to do. Not only the officers and leaders of the Society were invited, but all who had the interests of its work at heart. At the conference more time was devoted to prayer than to plans and methods. Note the result. Before the end of the year the entire debt had been wiped out and nearly \$100,000 had been added to the permanent income of the Society! Instead of the retrenchment all along the line that had seemed the only way out, great enlargement has now become possible.

At the close of 1912, the China Inland Mission found itself in sore financial straits. The income had been the smallest for sixteen years, and only by shaving salaries and postponing furloughs was heavy debt avoided. But, true to its practice of asking God, not man, for funds, the China Inland Mis-

sion betook itself to prayer. Ere long a gift of \$50,000 from a living giver and a legacy of \$250,000 from the estate of Mr. William Borden came to their relief, and enabled them to enter upon the advance movements that had been planned.

The Lack of Public Prayer.

Mr. Benjamin Starr, a layman of Homer, New York, has been investigating the amount of prayer offered in the average church for the spread of the Gospel. Having recently made the rounds of a number of churches, visiting their Sunday and regular mid-week services to see what they were praying for, he gave the results of his investigations at a conference of the United Missionary Campaign at Schenectady, N.Y.

"I have found," he said, "that in the majority of churches I visited there was almost no time spent in prayer for the salvation of the world. In some of these churches there was no mention whatever of the cause of missions in the prayers. In one the whole matter was disposed of in a single petition: 'God bless the missionaries and their ministries.' The praying was all selfish. 'The Lord bless our church; our pastor; our prayer-meeting; our Sunday school; our homes; our children; our sick; our city'—all selfish. Anyone who will take time, as I did, to visit the churches and analyze the prayers, will be grieved to find how little public prayer there is for missions."

At Silver Bay, last July, the Rev. George F. Sutherland, Secretary of the Department of Missionary Education of the Methodist Church, spoke along the same line. "If the prayer we hear in public is equal to that offered in private, the total is pitifully small," he said. "And the public prayers we hear are altogether too vague. We ask God to bless the heathen and the missionaries, and stop there. But that is not praying for missions. Real praying for missions