

debates in the Missionary Committee, and sharp reports from the missionaries in India, directed chiefly against the Editor of the *Times* and Dr. Lunn, who wrote the articles complained of. Recently, the question has been reopened by the Foreign Missionary Committee, as it has been decided to invite a deputation from the Indian field to meet the Committee in May next, to confer upon the question. Dr. Lunn and the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes have also been invited, and it is hoped there will be a satisfactory settlement of the dispute.

MISSIONARY Conferences seem to be the order of the day, and they indicate how deep and widespread is the interest in the leading question of Christendom, "How can the Gospel be most quickly and effectively preached to every creature?" The Inter-Seminary Missionary Alliance has been doing a grand work in arousing the enthusiasm of the student class, and at the same time in calling the attention of the Churches to the culpable slowness of present methods and the necessity for a new departure on bolder lines. Of the many who have volunteered for the foreign field, some will grow weary, and some will be found unsuitable; but apart from these will be found a little army whose hearts the Lord has touched, and who will work in dead earnest whenever and wherever they may be needed. One encouraging phase of the movement is the fact that so many young men, while preparing to enter the foreign field some years hence, are asking, "What can I do in the meantime to aid the world's evangelization?" They want to work at home until called to work abroad.

THE question of Christian education in India is attracting a large measure of attention. An educational system purely secular is bearing its legitimate fruits in the almost universal spread of infidelity among the educated Hindus. Modern science and philosophy have destroyed belief in their traditional religions, and made them sceptical in regard to all supernatural revelation. The remedy for this deplorable state of affairs is schools and colleges imbued with Christian teaching, and the wide diffusion of a Christian literature. From the time when Dr. Duff began his career in India, the Presbyterian Church has been more alive than other Churches to the importance of Christian education as an indispensable auxiliary in mission work. Recently, an Indian missionary, speaking of the assaults made upon the educational side of mission work, said, "It is the educational missionaries who have literally to bear the burden and heat of the day in India, and it is very much to be regretted that the Church which sends them out to the work, and in whose service they are spending

"their strength, should show them so little sympathy."

SOME new features are being developed in connection with the McAll Mission, which has its headquarters in Paris and its outposts at Marseilles, Lyons, and other towns. This remarkable work began years ago among the Communists of Belleville, and by its gospel spirit and flexible methods gathered many thousands into the halls in the *faubourgs*, and controlled a population among whom the police were comparatively powerless. More recently the work has reached an entirely different class, and at stations in the centre of Paris the meetings are crowded by well-dressed, intelligent men and women, "the greater number being young men." It is undeniable that in Paris itself there is a reaction from materialism and atheism toward religion, and the number who gladly listen to evangelical teaching is one of the remarkable signs of the times.

AFFAIRS in Japan are in a somewhat unsettled state, and there is no small degree of anxiety among foreigners in regard to the future. The promulgation of the new Constitution, and the preparations for a parliamentary election, have produced, as might be expected, a general ferment among the people, and have given an opportunity to the turbulent class, of which they are not slow to avail themselves. The opinion is gaining ground that the killing of Mr. Large was due to other causes than a desire for plunder; and attacks which have since been made on other foreigners—one a prominent Presbyterian missionary—shows a spirit of antagonism which, if widespread, forbodes serious trouble. Among the student class political sentiments of a very radical character are on the increase, and the fact that the actors in the recent attack on Rev. Dr. Imbrie have not been punished by the authorities has created further uneasiness.

MISSIONARY COMITY.

IN the Inter-Denominational Missionary Conferences that have taken place in recent years, a good deal of attention has been given to the subject of "Missionary Comity." As the agencies increase, and the Societies of different denominations occupy adjoining fields, or even cover the same territory, it is most important that friendly relations be maintained, and that such an understanding be reached as will prevent friction between the workers or the Societies, and also prevent the waste of money and effort in one small territory, while so vast a field remains unoccupied. To lay down rigid lines within which each Society must operate is manifestly impracticable. To accomplish this