

places, and great efforts are being made for the reduction of chapel debts.

Letters received from the missionaries in China show that of late they have been greatly encouraged in their work. Though the opening of the mission is comparatively of recent date, the brethren have acquired the language, and are now regularly preaching the Gospel to thousands of the Chinese people. Having the beautiful province of Yunnan mainly to themselves, they occasionally visit a large number of places, preaching in the market-places and selling books, while in their halls they conduct regular religious services. One of the missionaries, on entering the city of Chao-Tung was greeted by a large company of young men shouting, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus," which he thought was not a bad sign. And along the streets children gathered in crowds, some calling, others singing, "Je-su ngai O, O hsiao teh," i.e., "Jesu loves me, this I know," etc. Thus from previous visits the children had learned to reiterate the very message he had come to deliver.

The degree of D.C.L. was conferred at the Oxford encenie on the Hon. S. J. Way, Chief Justice of South Australia. Professor Bryce, in his Latin speech, in presenting him for the degree described him as a learned and just judge, and a friend of letters in a region remote but dear to Englishmen. The Chief Justice is a son of a deceased Bible Christian minister.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH.

Two missionaries are to be sent to East Africa immediately, another returns to West Africa, and yet another goes to China for three years.

The missionary income is \$3,945 increase, and a net increase of 115 members is reported on the foreign missions. It is intended to establish a Centenary Fund extending over three years, with the hope that \$75,000 may be raised.

SOUTH AFRICAN WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

It is only ten years since the mis-

sions in South Africa were formed into a Conference. It is largely missionary and has missions established among various tribes. At the late Conference there was an increase of 3,771 in the membership. The ordinary missionary income was more than \$20,000 in advance, and \$10,000 of debt had been discharged.

THE IRISH WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

Methodism has always had to struggle against almost inseparable difficulties in Ireland. The late census returns however states that there are now 7,000 more Methodists than when the last census was taken. The Conference consisted of 300 members in equal proportions of ministers and laymen. Eight young men finished their probation and were ordained, five ministers had died, one of whom, Rev. Dr. McKay, had been in the ministry fifty-one years; six others were made superannuates, one of whom had travelled forty-one years.

The "open session" when a general review was made respecting "the work of God" was very edifying. The increase in the membership was 287, more than 2,000 members were received during the year, but the losses by emigration, deaths, etc., were 1,643.

Dr. McMullen, who attended the General Conference in Montreal last year, was presented with a gold watch and chain by the members of Conference, as a token of esteem on the completion of fifty years in the ministry.

NEW ZEALAND WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

This Conference was held at Auckland, the most northern town in the colony. Some of the ministers travelled more than 1,000 miles to reach the Conference.

The "Conference Lecture" was delivered by the President, Rev. H. R. Dewsbury, the subject was "Prayer in Relation to Natural Laws," which "was treated eloquently and exhaustively." It was agreed to extend the ministerial term to five years as soon as it can be done legally.