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### Twenty-Five Years Of Kingdom Building Through The United Christian Missionary Society 1919-1944

The United Christian Missionary Society

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# TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF KINGDOM BUILDING



*through*

THE UNITED CHRISTIAN  
MISSIONARY SOCIETY

1919

1944





# TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF KINGDOM BUILDING



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## *Beginnings . . . HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION\**

The first general Missionary Society among the Disciples of Christ, organized in 1849, took the world as its field. The name proposed by the Committee on Constitution was the "Christian Home and Foreign Missionary Society." The name adopted was the "American Christian Missionary Society." Though the name was changed, the purpose remained the same. The object of the Society was to promote the preaching of the Gospel in destitute places in this and other lands.

Under the auspices of the American Society the Gospel was preached in Jerusalem, Liberia, Jamaica, and also in Philadelphia, Buffalo, Chicago and many other destitute places in the United States and Canada. The work abroad was interrupted by the financial disturbances growing out of the Civil War and by other causes; the work at home was continued without interruption. At the Silver Jubilee of the Society the historian of the occasion said that in "the wide foreign fields destitute of the gospel, we do not have a single herald of the Cross." Jerusalem and Jamaica were abandoned; Liberia was forgotten.

The explanation of the discontinuance of the work abroad was stated over and over again—"an empty treasury." The officers of the Society were in fullest sympathy with foreign missions. Year after year resolutions calling for a renewal of that work were adopted. The Board was instructed to begin one or more foreign missions. With an empty treasury the Board was helpless.

In the convention of 1872 it was stated that the Jamaica Mission had been almost abandoned for two years for want of means to maintain it. The annual report suggested that the Mission be committed to a new and untried agency—"the sisters of some of our states." The following resolution was adopted: "That the Jamaica Mission be revived, and that we recommend the Board to commit the financial interests of the Mission to our sisterhood in Indiana, under the direction of the State Board, in cooperation with the General Board." The suggestion of the annual report was the germ out of which the Christian Woman's Board of Missions grew in 1874.

The Foreign Society was organized in 1875 because the American Society was not prepared to engage in any work in the regions beyond. The convention of 1872 said that we owe it as a duty to God and to our race to renew the work of the foreign missions as soon as practicable, and to the extent practicable. The leading spirits in the American Society were entirely willing and even anxious that a new Society should be organized, and afforded the friends of that cause every facility and encouragement in their power. In 1875 a committee was appointed to see what could be done in the way of forming a Foreign Missionary Society that would in no sense be in the way of the General Convention, but rather supplement its work. The General Convention promised part of its

\*Adapted from the 1919 Volume of *World Call*.



time to the Foreign Society to present its work and to make its appeal. It was agreed that both should meet at the same place, that their reports should be published together, and in all other cases they should cooperate in the most friendly manner.

The convention of 1876 at Richmond, Virginia, unanimously adopted two resolutions, which are as follows:

(1) "That we welcome as co-workers in the cause of missions the 'Foreign Christian Missionary Society' and the 'Christian Woman's Board of Missions,' both of which propose to occupy the foreign field, and bid them Godspeed, rejoicing with them in the work already accomplished, and believing that under God there is a brighter future before them."

(2) "That we most cordially invite these organizations to a close alliance with the General Christian Missionary Convention (American Society) in every practical way; and still we look forward hopefully to the time when such general cooperation of the churches shall be secured as may enable us to resolve all these organizations into one, efficient for domestic and foreign mission work."

These resolutions were drawn up by A. I. Hobbs, J. C. Goodrich, and James Challen.

For more than thirty years the three Societies conducted their work separately but in peace and harmony. To be sure, in places and at times, some friction developed. The friends of one interest thought the other interests were getting more than their share of support. Complaints of competition and too many appeals were occasionally heard. There was a growing conviction that if the Societies could be unified the work could be prosecuted more effectively. Because of this growing conviction, in 1906, a committee known as the Calendar Committee, was appointed. The duty of that committee was to consider all our organized interests and to report a new and better scheme of taking offerings among the churches. That committee, not being able to reach any satisfactory decision, was superseded by a Committee on Unification. This new committee was to take into serious consideration the reconstruction of our organized missionary and philanthropic work, with a view to unifying all the work under one or two boards with central headquarters.

The Committee on Unification worked at the problem for five years. The General Convention of the Churches of Christ was devised as a method for effecting what the committee had in mind. In the Preamble to the Constitution that was adopted for such a convention at Louisville, it is said that there is a widespread feeling among the Disciples of Christ that they need a closer unification of their various missionary, educational and benevolent organizations. In the second article it is said that one object of this convention shall be to promote unity, economy and efficiency among all the philanthropic agencies of the Churches of Christ. The constitution proposed in 1917 at Kansas City for a United Christian Missionary Society speaks to the same end. One of the objects of the convention was declared to be to promote cooperation, economy and efficiency among the various general agencies of the brotherhood. The

resolutions adopted at Kansas City refer to the fact that the Christian Woman's Board of Missions, Foreign Christian Missionary Society, and the American Christian Missionary Society have been successfully cooperating in carrying on their work in some fields, and have been considering the closer unification of all their work, not only in the field, but in the administration at home. The Convention especially commended these agencies in their plan to have equal representation of both men and women in the management of the missionary matters, thus becoming the pioneers in the full and complete unification of men's and women's work. "Believing that this plan will not only hearten our missionaries upon the field, but will thrill our churches in the homeland with greater zeal for the cause of our Lord, therefore we recommend that it (the Committee) be continued until, as soon as practicable, there shall be complete unification of our missionary interests, to the intent that we may secure the largest results possible for the Kingdom of God, and that we may exemplify before the world that unity which we plead and for which our Master prayed."

The Christian Woman's Board of Missions and the American Christian Missionary Society had long been assisting the work in more than thirty states. In India the Christian Woman's Board of Missions and the Foreign Christian Missionary Society had been in close cooperation from the beginning. In recent years there had been one advisory committee on the field, one treasurer and one annual convention. Both organizations were working together in China and on the Congo.

It should be stated that the pressure from the fields for a United Society was even stronger than the demand at home. The missionaries believed that the best interests of the work required one mission in each field and not two, the one mission to be supported by the united prayers and gifts of the churches at home.

At the Kansas City convention (1917), one of the largest gatherings of Disciples of Christ, the proposal to unite the three missionary societies into one was presented for approval. The proposal was presented six different times and voted on six different times, three times in the Board meetings, and three times in the conventions. Each vote was unanimous and enthusiastic. The written report was supplemented by oral statements showing that the union contemplated was a complete union and that the united staff would work together under the same roof. The authors of the report said: "We propose that the joint committee, following the leadings of the spirit, and the lessons of experience, submit plans to their respective Boards and their constituencies in annual convention, which shall look toward the complete unification of our home and foreign missionary work. In harmony with the present-day trend of thought and action, and in view of the success that has attended the labors of our women, both in missionary administration and in service, we would suggest that whatever unified organization may in the future result, it include equal representation of men and women."

The report of the committee states that such unification of our home and



foreign missionary work, if accomplished, will thrill our churches, bring new life to our missionaries, reduce the number of our problems at home and abroad, increase our receipts and add to our efficiency.

One society carrying on all our missionary work was the ideal from the beginning. The United Society is simply the realization of the ideal of the fathers and their successors, and is not a new thing that has sprung up in these more recent years.

For four years all the organizations contemplating union cooperated in the Men and Millions Movement, and with the happiest results. Working together they achieved what they could not have achieved working separately.

In the April, 1918, War Emergency Drive, the state organizations cooperated, and the results of the campaign were unprecedented in our history.

Following the Kansas City convention (1917), the question of merging the National Benevolent Association and the Board of Ministerial Relief in the proposed United Society was under consideration and was submitted to the Cincinnati convention for action, where their admission was unanimously approved.

The men and women who worked out the proposed constitution and by-laws for the United Society were these: F. W. Burnham, G. K. Lewis, G. W. Muckley, R. M. Hopkins, R. H. Miller, Mrs. Anna R. Atwater, Mrs. Effie L. Cunningham, Mrs. Josephine M. Stearns, Miss Daisy June Trout, Mrs. Ellie K. Payne, A. McLean, S. J. Corey, Bert Wilson, A. E. Cory, R. A. Doan, J. H. Mohorter, Lee W. Grant, I. R. Kelso, W. R. Warren.





THE  
S. M. S.  
CHORUS  
1900

## *First Meeting of Board of Managers* THE UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The following responded to roll call in the first meeting of the Board of Managers of the United Society:

*Arizona*—Mrs. R. E. Dunlap; *Arkansas*—B. P. Kidd, Mrs. Clio Harper; *Alabama*—R. N. Simpson, Mrs. J. H. Crawford; *Colorado*—C. L. Dean; *Florida*—J. T. Boone; *Georgia*—Mrs. Stanley Grubb; *Idaho*—W. A. Moore; *Illinois*—W. F. Rothenburger, Edgar DeWitt Jones, Stephen Fisher, Mrs. P. J. Rice, Mrs. Maude Ferris, Mrs. C. S. Weaver; *Indiana*—A. B. Philputt, Z. T. Sweeney, Mrs. L. O. Hamilton, Mrs. T. W. Grafton, Mrs. E. A. Cole; *Iowa*—Keith Vawter; *Kansas*—W. S. Priest, J. N. Haymaker, Mrs. R. A. Schell, Mrs. George Lyons; *Kentucky*—I. J. Spencer, J. T. Brown, J. W. Porter, Joseph Hagin, Mrs. Ida W. Harrison, W. Hume Logan; *Louisiana*—Mrs. Brown Funk; *Maryland-Delaware-Washington, D. C.*—E. B. Bagby, Mrs. Earl Wilfley; *Michigan*—Mrs. F. T. Hicks; *Minnesota*—Dr. D. O. Thomas; *Missouri*—C. M. Chilton, George A. Campbell, Langston Bacon, Fletcher Cowherd, Mrs. Frank Scott, Mrs. R. S. Latshaw, Mrs. E. E. Elliott, W. P. Clarkson; *Nebraska*—Mrs. Henry Fishbach, Mrs. William Oeschger, W. A. Baldwin; *New England*—F. A. Higgins; *New Mexico*—A. O. Kuhn; *New York and New Jersey*—A. U. Chaney, B. S. Ferrall, Mrs. Laura A. Craig, Mrs. P. F. Jerome; *North Carolina*—A. E. Stuart, Mrs. Richard Bagby; *North and South Dakota*—George O. Marsh, Mrs. W. U. Smith; *Ohio*—M. Y. Cooper, A. M. Harvout, C. M. Roderfer, Mrs. F. A. Cramer, Mrs. L. C. Fillmore, F. A. Henry, L. N. D. Wells; *Oklahoma*—M. E. Dutt; *Oregon*—Mrs. D. C. Kellems; *Pennsylvania*—I. S. Chenoweth, Mrs. Walter Kidd; *Tennessee*—Mrs. Lee Glass, Mrs. N. L. Carney; *Texas*—Graham Frank; *Utah*—Chester Snyder; *Washington*—Russell Thrapp; *West Virginia*—W. H. Sheffer.

*Members of the staff of the Society were also present for the picture.*





F. W. BURNHAM  
*President 1919-1929*



S. J. COREY  
*President 1930-1938*



ROBERT M. HOPKINS  
*President 1939- —*



## *Twenty-five Years in Kingdom Building*

The story of twenty-five years of The United Christian Missionary Society is a story of light and shadow, of achievement and failure. In fact, it is a story of life with its weakness and strength; it is a story of the blessings of God laid upon a people to carry out His will. During these twenty-five years, God has richly blessed the activities and the workers of the United Society throughout the world. The records speak for themselves, not in terms of dry statistics, but in terms of transformed life, the power of love, the results of consecration, and the dedication of life to the end that the Kingdom of God might come.

The following record does not attempt to list or catalogue the activities or events of the twenty-five years. It is, rather, a brief review of a quarter of a century in which persons come and go within the United Society, financial foundations rise and fall, and the spirit of God glows brightly through the lives of devoted men and women throughout the world. We invite you to read it understandingly and with sympathy because it is a story of human endeavor wrought with high purposes, and its very shadows are highlighted against the successes of the years.

During this twenty-five year period the affairs of men throughout the world have completed a great cycle. The United Society began with the close of World War I; the passing of twenty-five years finds the Society working in a world that is again plunged into another world-wide conflict. It went through a cycle of prosperity, and of depression. It has suffered the agonies of reduced receipts and retrenchment of work, and has been challenged by the renewing of confidence and increasing support until it again looks forward to attempting great things for God. Leaders have passed on and have been replaced by others. Missionaries and workers have pushed back the frontiers of paganism at home and abroad. It has struggled under a benumbing burden of debt. It has thrown off this crushing yoke and today stands unfettered financially. The United Society closes a twenty-five year period and faces a new day with courage and conviction.



**1919** *In 1919, June 28, the peace treaty of World War I was signed at Versailles, France. The war time Prohibition Law became effective on June 30 and, as if forecasting later events, three United States navy planes spanned the Atlantic.*

In October, 1919, The United Christian Missionary Society was voted into being at the Cincinnati International Convention. F. W. Burnham was elected president; Archibald McLean, first vice-president; and Mrs. Anna R. Atwater, second vice-president. C. W. Plopper was elected as treasurer of the Society. Just a few days following the convention, F. M. Rains, long secretary of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, passed to his reward. 1919 marked the first year of publication of *World Call* and the tenth anniversary of organized religious education work. During this year the foreign fields called upon the brotherhood for the enlistment of 156 new recruits for missionary service in order that we might serve more effectively in the post-war world. Dr. A. L. Shelton wrote to the brotherhood from the mountains of Tibet that the way was open to Lhasa. He said, "I have received a reply to the letter I sent to the Dalai Lama in Tibet in March stating that if there is nothing in existing treaties to keep me from coming to Lhasa, he will put no hindrance in my way."

Clayton Chaney Smith, pioneer in race relations and brotherhood service among our Negro Churches, died January 9, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. C. Manly Morton were located in Paraguay, the new field of Latin America, to begin our work there. Home missions, faced with the post-war situation, issued a challenge for the brotherhood to enlarge its work in the war production areas and undergird it for its general war emergency task. The report of the achievements of the Men and Millions movement was received with gratitude and pride. This report contained the assignment to the participating causes of \$6,300,000. On December 30, 1919, the first meeting of the Board of Managers of the newly constituted United Christian Missionary Society met in St. Louis.

**1920** *On January 10, 1920, the League of Nations came automatically into existence under the treaty of Versailles. There was much rejoicing across the nation when on August 26 the 19th Amendment gave suffrage to women and was proclaimed in effect.*

The brotherhood was shocked to receive cables on January 3 reporting that Dr. A. L. Shelton had been captured and was held by bandits near Yunnanfu. He was later released on March 12. The month of June marked the first young people's conference under the direction of the United Society, which was held on William Woods campus, June 21-28, with seventy young people enrolled. This conference, the forerunner of many hundreds of others, was under the direction of Cynthia Pearl Maus, pioneer young people's superintendent. On July 4, 1920, Mark Njoi was ordained in Africa, the first of our nationals to be so dedicated to God. The Bible School Department of the American Christian Missionary Society completed its merger into the new United Christian Missionary Society becoming the department of religious education. The United Christian Missionary Society took up its new offices in St. Louis in the fall of

1920 at 15th and Locust Streets, and in October of 1920 the transfer was made from the operation under the old boards to departmental operation in the new United Christian Missionary Society.

Archibald McLean, beloved national leader of world missions, died suddenly at the Battle Creek sanitarium in Michigan on December 15. He was born September 6, 1849, so that his life had spanned the entire period of brotherhood organization. He graduated from Bethany College in 1874 and went at once to Mt. Healthy Church in Cincinnati. He was elected secretary of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society in 1882, president in 1900, and served in this capacity until the creation of The United Christian Missionary Society, when he was elected its first vice-president. He was the chairman of the Men and Millions movement from the first.

**1921** *The President of the United States signed a joint resolution, passed by the House on June 30 and the Senate on July 1, which declared that the United States was at peace with Germany and Austria. The first of a series of limitation of armaments conferences met in Washington on November 11, 1921.*

The brotherhood papers pointed out that the reaction following the war had already set in and that the consequent lack in morals and standards was obvious. This statement warned that the days of the roaring twenties were already on the way. The department of evangelism launched a five-year campaign to enlist one million converts. The campaign for the underwriting of the Inter-Church World Movement was launched. The total to be raised was \$600,000. The brotherhood was shocked by the tragic death of one of its missionaries, Bertha Merrill, head of the work of the Disciples Community House in New York City. She was killed by an automobile on December 24, 1921.

The largest number of foreign missionaries ever sent out in one year were commissioned in 1921—a total of 52.

**1922** *The fourteen Republics of Russia combined in a convention at Moscow to become the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on December 20, 1922.*

The entire brotherhood plunged into mourning upon receipt of the cable announcing that Dr. Albert LeRoy Shelton was killed February 17, 1922, by bandits near Batang. In 1921, Dr. Shelton had said, "The price has not all been paid yet. How many more payments we do not ask to know. Long before we shall all gather up yonder at the foot of the cross with Dr. Loftis, Dr. Rijnhart, and with all those whose lives have been a part of the price and with those whom they shall bring with them, the Tibetan's prayer, 'On Mani Padne Hom' will have become 'Our Father Who Art In Heaven'."

There was held in China on May 2, 1922, a very significant meeting of the National Christian Churches in China at which time plans were laid for larger cooperation of church bodies working in China. It was out of this meeting that later discussions arose as to the participation of the missionaries of the



United Society in larger union enterprises in China. The Winona Lake International Convention, September, 1922, was the occasion of much heated discussion on the report of John T. Brown to the convention concerning his observations in China. 1922 marked the merging of the interdenominational Sunday School forces in North America into the International Council of Religious Education. Dr. Robert M. Hopkins was elected first chairman of this newly merged body. The first standard teacher training graduates of the department of religious education received their diplomas in July of 1922.

**1923** *An earthquake, followed by fires and tidal waves, on September 1 destroyed parts of Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan. 99,331 were killed. A revolt in Germany organized by General Ludendorff and Adolph Hitler ended on March 9. When the Beer-Putschist marched on Munich, Ludendorff was captured but later was paroled. Hitler was captured November 12 and imprisoned.*

The executive committee of The United Christian Missionary Society authorized the raising of a sum of \$100,000 to be known as the Shelton Memorial Fund. The offering was made on Sunday, February 18, 1923. The launching of a simultaneous evangelistic campaign as an emphasis of the five-year program of revival was carried out in February. The first year of the campaign, 2,234 churches reported 118,252 additions, and the second year, 4,313 churches reported 150,498 additions. The "Life and Labors of A. McLean," by W. R. Warren, was released from press, and a copy was sent to all student ministers of the brotherhood throughout the United States. The United Christian Missionary Society moved its offices from Fifteenth and Locust Streets to 425 DeBaliviere Avenue, St. Louis. The Japanese earthquake had the brotherhood very anxious as to the safety of its missionaries. Reports were received by cable that all had escaped injuries although considerable property was lost. The Colorado Springs International Convention voted that the Jubilee Celebration of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions would be observed in Cleveland, October 14-20, 1924. Stephen J. Corey and Samuel Guy Inman were delegates from the United Society to attend the first International Missionary Council executive meeting held in England following the war.

**1924** *Nickolai Lenin, age 54, head of the Soviet Union, died January 21 of apoplexy. The ZR-3 dirigible "Los Angeles" left Germany for a successful flight to New York. The Allies and Germany, in agreement in London, accepted the Dawes Reparation Plan.*

The United Christian Missionary Society launched a brotherhood-wide program of Every Church Visitation. The executive committee voted that arrangements be made to send President Burnham to visit such of our mission field abroad as was deemed wise to get their needs clearly before our churches, and that particularly Russia and China be included in the itinerary. The *Survey of Service* authorized in the International Convention of 1922 was launched in the year 1924 under the direction of a general survey committee. The task of the

survey was to analyze the total missionary and educational work of the brotherhood and made recommendations. The Golden Jubilee aims of the missionary organizations were as follows: 500 new societies; 50,000 new members; 10,000 Jubilee gifts; 50,000 new *World Call* subscriptions; 5,000 new *Kings Builders* subscriptions; and 50 new buildings. The Golden Jubilee Convention was held in Cleveland and the million dollars for the Golden Jubilee Fund was announced raised. The home department of the United Society, through its connections with the American Christian Missionary Society, launched the Diamond Jubilee program of evangelism at the Cleveland Convention in honor of seventy-five years of home missionary service.

**1925** *John T. Scopes was found guilty of having taught evolution in the local high school in Dayton, Tennessee, and was fined \$100 and costs on July 24. William J. Bryan, chief counsel for the prosecution, died in Dayton on July 26. The two Nine Power Treaties of the Washington Arms Conference were ratified in Washington by the United States, France, Japan, Italy, Great Britain, China, Portugal, Belgium, and Holland, on August 5. Germany ratified the Locarno Treaty, November 27.*

The executive committee of the United Society was much disturbed concerning the growing deficit of the Society. Efforts were launched in 1924-25 to reduce this indebtedness, but the cost of the operation of the work and the feeling that our brotherhood would lift its giving in proportion to the needs contributed to the growth of this burden upon the Society. Representatives from the United Society attended the World Conference of the Churches in Stockholm in August, 1925. The One-Day Conventions which proved so popular throughout the years were launched in 1925. There was great advance in young people's methods and procedures in this year which also saw approval for the four-fold fidelity Christian Endeavor standard.

**1926** *The Sesquicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia opened on May 31, 1926. The assembly of the League of Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, September 8, unanimously admitted Germany to a permanent council seat in the League.*

1926 marked a number of changes in the total life of the United Society. A rather stormy International Convention was held in Memphis, Tennessee, November 11-17. The executive committee of the United Christian Missionary Society had appointed Robert N. Simpson, John R. Golden and Cleveland Kleihauer as a commission to visit the Orient. This commission sailed January 22 and returned in August and made its report to the convention at Memphis. The Quadrennial Convention of the International Council of Religious Education and the Sunday School Council of the Evangelical Denominations was held at Birmingham, Alabama, which resulted in the completion of the merger into the International Council of Religious Education. The Youth Convention of Disciples of Christ was inaugurated at Memphis with 428 registered delegates. It was reported to the Convention that a number of buildings had been erected



from the Golden Jubilee Fund. The report of the Society's Commission on the Ministry looked forward to the completion of the Pension Plan and was received enthusiastically at the Memphis Convention. 1926 saw a number of deaths. Beloved Mary Kingsbury died in India. George W. Muckley, head of the Department of Church Erection, died on January 30. Mrs. Elizabeth Ross (Mother Ross) died September 12. W. R. Warren was on a trip around the World to visit the mission fields. Dr. Elliott I. Osgood made a very interesting and revealing report of his trip to Tibet.

**1927** On January 6, 600 U. S. Marines landed in Nicaragua. During 1927 a civil war was raging in China. Charles A. Lindbergh flew the "Spirit of St. Louis" to France in 1927. A tornado swept St. Louis killing 87, injuring 1,500, and destroying 1,000 homes.

The missionaries in China reported that because of the rising tide of revolution many of them had had to leave their posts, many lost all their personal possessions. Property loss suffered by the Society was heavy, and the missionaries were evacuated to Manila and Japan; we suffered no casualties. 1927 witnessed the launching of the National City Christian Church drive. The Lausanne Conference on Faith and Order was held in Switzerland in 1927. The brotherhood was saddened by the deaths of Mrs. Affra B. Anderson and Mrs. Ida Withers Harrison.

**1928** In 1928 the Pan-American Conference held in Havana, Cuba, was opened by President Coolidge, on January 16. Germany began a series of Zeppelin trips from Germany to United States. Soviet Russia inaugurated a five-year plan of Agricultural and Industrial Expansion. President-elect Herbert Hoover and wife and party made a tour of Latin America.

The Ministerial Pension Plan under the Commission of the Ministry launched its program at the Columbus, Ohio, Convention. The executive committee of the United Society recommended that the offices of the United Society be moved to the College of Missions building in Indianapolis. This was approved at the Columbus Convention. The complete *Survey of Service* report was received by the International Convention. 1928 marked a most significant meeting of the International Missionary Council at Jerusalem. The World Sunday School Convention met at Los Angeles, July 11-18, 1928. A new home for the College of Missions at Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Connecticut, was voted in August, 1928.

**1929** President Hoover, on July 24, proclaimed the Kellogg-Briand Anti-War Treaty in effect under which sixty-two leading Nations pledged themselves to renounce war as an instrument of National policy. Late in October, prices of stocks began to go down, continuing throughout the rest of the year. The decline of stock values in 1929 reached fifteen billion dollars. Between 1929 and 1931, stock losses affected twenty-five million people and losses amounted to over fifty billions of dollars.

During 1928 the brotherhood was thrilled with the story of the hazardous

journey of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Duncan and their two children, and Mr. and Mrs. R. A. McLeod and their three children from Batang, near Tibet. The Duncans, while home, prepared a noteworthy book entitled, "A Mountain of Silver Snow." All the China missionaries returned to their fields of labor. President Burnham returned March 20 from a seven-months trip to the mission fields. The brotherhood was called to an observance of Self Denial Week, April 28-May 5. F. W. Burnham was not reelected as president of the United Society at the Seattle, Washington, Convention. W. A. Shullenberger, of Indianapolis, was elected but declined to serve. S. J. Corey, first vice-president, was asked to become acting president. The standarization of the young people's conference movement was established. Miss Alma Evelyn Moore, secretary of missionary organizations, was killed in an automobile crash in Missouri. J. H. Mohorter died in his office in Indianapolis. He was head of the department of benevolence. The Pension Fund was preparing for its campaign to raise eight million dollars.

**1930** *The London Naval Reduction Treaty was signed in London on April 29, 1930. The last French soldiers of the Army of Occupation were withdrawn from the Rhine in 1930.*

Stephen J. Corey was elected president of the United Christian Missionary Society, in Washington, D. C. I. J. Cahill, state secretary of Ohio, was called as first vice-president. The first World Convention of the Disciples of Christ was held in Washington, D. C., immediately following the International Convention. The campaign for the eight million dollar Pension Fund was launched in the fall. In September, 1930, the United Christian Missionary Society called together sixty representative men and women to face the financial crisis upon the Society.

**1931** *President Hoover proposed a one-year moratorium on inter-governmental debts. Great Britain, on September 21, suspended the gold standard.*

The United Christian Missionary Society was going through deep waters with severe budget reductions and the recall of workers and the closing of work. A one hundred seventy-five thousand dollar reduction was made in the budget for 1931-32. This involved reduction of salaries of all field and headquarters staffs in the United Society, releasing of a number of workers, economy of operations, the withdrawal of support from seventy home missions churches, and a severe cut in religious education, missionary education, missionary organizations, promotion, and other departments. This cut meant the withdrawal of missionaries from Tibet and Jamaica, nearly all missionaries from the Philippines and Japan. President Stephen J. Corey issued a call to the brotherhood for the churches to stand by. C. M. Yocum was sent to the field to interpret the need. At the Wichita Convention the plan of Unified Promotion was presented and approved.



**1932** *Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected President of the United States. In 1932 the beginning of the China Incident was crystallized, as in Shanghai on January 15, Chinese gangsters killed a Buddhist priest from Japan. This was the first of a series of troubles which led to the landing of Japanese Marines in China on January 27.*

The new budget of the United Society for 1932-33 was cut \$308,149.31. The Society withdrew its support from the Negro academy at Piedmont, Virginia. The benevolent homes were placed on area-support. The last missionaries were withdrawn from Jamaica. Closer cooperation between the Christian Board of Publication and the United Society was facilitated by the removal of a large part of the staff of religious education to St. Louis. A call was issued to "hold the line for Christ" by equalling last year's total giving by June 30th. The Society deferred one-half of the salaries and expenses for January and February. During the International Convention in Indianapolis, two thousand visitors registered in the Missions Building.

**1933** *The United States Marines withdrew from Nicaragua on January 2. A bank holiday was declared in the United States beginning on February 14. The German Reichstag building in Berlin was destroyed by fire on February 27. The Century of Progress Exposition opened in Chicago on November 12. In Germany, on June 22, the Hitler government began to proscribe all political parties except the National Socialist Party and launched a campaign to reduce the number of Jews in government life, industry, and the professions. In Rome, on July 15, a ten-year peace pact was signed by Italy, France, Germany, and Great Britain. The repeal of the Prohibition Amendment was authorized in 1933.*

The report of the commission which had been appointed to study the policies and relationships of The United Christian Missionary Society was presented to the trustees and to the Pittsburgh Convention, and approved. This action provided for the organization as separate corporations of the Board of Church Extension and the National Benevolent Association, and also that the Society enlarge its scope of work in education which resulted later in the inclusion in the organization the Board of Higher Education and the Board of Temperance and Social Welfare. The budget of the Society was cut more than \$700,000 in two years. The total salary cut for the officers and others of the Society was a fraction less than 50 per cent, missionaries 25 per cent. The year 1933 marked the searching report of an interdenominational "laymen's inquiry" into foreign missions. The report was studied by the Society and it was thought that the report would have a marked effect on the total missionary enterprise.

**1934** *The United States granted the Philippine Islands their independence which was ratified by the Philippine Legislature to become effective in 1945, or soon thereafter. 1934 marked the beginning of a great drought in midwestern United States. The German people approved the consolidation of the offices of president and chancellor in the person of Adolph*

*Hitler. A general strike was called in Spain. The first clash between Ethiopian and Italian soldiers was on December 15, 1934.*

On January 1, 1934, the Board of Church Extension established separate existence. On June 30, the first time in years, the United Society was able to report a small increase in receipts. Constitutional changes were in effect in the organizations of the United Society. There was added to the title of the Society, "A Board of Missions and Education," and the Society was broadened to include the Board of Higher Education and the Board of Temperance and Social Welfare. The plan of Unified Promotion was approved in which all agencies might cooperate. Practically all accepted with the exception of the National Benevolent Association.

**1935** *The Saar territory taken from the Germans by the Versailles Treaty voted, January 23, to return to Germany. September 15, Jews in Germany lost their citizenship and political rights. The United States government applied economic sanctions against Italy. Congress passed a \$4,800,000,000 Work Relief Bill.*

The second World Convention of Disciples of Christ was held at Leicester, England, August 7-12. Patrick H. Moss, beloved Negro worker in religious education, died January 19, 1935. The first meeting of the cooperative council of Unified Promotion was held in Indianapolis, April, 1935. In this meeting it was voted that the operation of Unified Promotion start July 1, 1935. Much was said concerning the sending of a few new missionaries to the field. It was felt by many, that perhaps the tide had turned. Under the new constitution of the United Society adopted at the convention at San Antonio, the name of the executive committee was changed to the board of trustees.

**1936** *King George V of England, died January 20, at the age of 70. King Edward abdicated. On March 7, German troops began to re-occupy the demilitarized Rhineland zone. On July 17 there was a revolt in Spain.*

The National Preaching Mission, in which many of the staff of the United Society participated, reached twenty-five cities. Famine relief work in the China Mission became the order of the day; in the United States the conditions among share-croppers held the interest of the churches, and measures were taken for their relief. The Adult Conference movement was initiated. Lee Hou Fu, long associated with the American secretary in the conduct of the affairs of the China Mission, died. Toyohiko Kagawa visited the Missions Building and spoke before the assembled staff. In 1936, the Disciples took a significant peace poll. H. O. Pritchard, head of the department of higher education, died shortly after the merger of the Board of Higher Education with the United Society.

**1937** *Undeclared war was raging between China and Japan. January 20th, Adolph Hitler repudiated all obligations under the Versailles Treaty. George VI and wife were crowned King and Queen of England.*



*The Nine Power Treaty conference in Brussels adjourned indefinitely, on November 24.*

The disastrous flood of the Ohio and the Mississippi Rivers called the Society, with other national and state boards, to help meet the need for relief and rehabilitation of properties of churches affected. Under the International Convention, a committee called the Emergency Committee for the Relief of Flood Stricken Christian Churches was organized. The committee raised a large sum of money for the restoration of these churches. 1937 will long be remembered as the year of two great ecumenical conferences. The World Conference on Church, Community and State was held at Oxford, England, and the World Conference on Faith and Order in Edinburgh, Scotland. Grant K. Lewis, long secretary of the home department, died on February 22, 1937. The situation in China caused the Society grave fears as to the safety of its nationals and missionaries. Nantungchow and other stations were bombed and many national leaders and workers were killed, and the church membership scattered widely. In December, 1937, I. J. Cahill went to Jamaica for an *ad interim* period until missionaries could be secured.

**1938** *The war in Spain continued and became a testing ground for new weapons in anticipation of large scale war. Austria proclaimed political and geographic union with Germany. October 1, German troops crossed the German-Czechoslovakian frontier. October 21, Japanese troops marched into Canton. On December 4, Germany and France signed a pact for pacific and good neighborly relations.*

1938 was the year of the great International Missionary Conference held in Madras, India. The Society was represented by a number of the staff. Stephen J. Corey, president, resigned in April, 1938, to take effect July 1. He was called to the presidency of the College of the Bible, Lexington, Kentucky. Robert M. Hopkins, secretary of the World Sunday School Association, was elected president of the United Society, at the Denver Convention. C. M. Yocum visited Africa in 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Allen H. Huber, of the Philippines, were on the Dollar Liner PRESIDENT HOOVER when it crashed into a coral reef about seventeen miles east of Formosa, but were unhurt. The terrible days of Nanking and the story of the protection and feeding of the 250,000 refugees on the Nanking University and Ginling College campuses will be long remembered. President J. N. Ervin, of Jarvis Christian College, passed away on August 22. The Home and State Missions Planning Council was organized.

**1939** *On April 7, Italian troops entered Albania. The World War began to spread. On April 30, the New York World's Fair opened. On May 7, an open military alliance was signed between Germany and Italy. The King and Queen of England visited the United States. Germany and Russia signed a mutual non-aggression pact August 23. September 1, German troops entered Poland. September 3, a state of war was declared between Great Britain, France and Germany.*

Robert M. Hopkins was inaugurated as the president of the United Christian Missionary Society. W. F. Rothenburger had served for a few months as acting president. The organizing and launching of the Home and State Missions Planning Council was consummated. Samuel M. Masih, a minister of our mission in India, was visiting our churches during 1938-39. Relief supplies for China were collected by our missionary organizations and distributed by our missionaries. Miss Sarah Bird Dorman, of the service department, died May 23. She began work with the American Christian Missionary Society in 1896. The brotherhood was shocked at the sinking of the ATHENIA, but rejoiced in the report that Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Edwards and son, Don, of the Congo mission staff, were rescued.

**1940** *The Queen of Holland fled to England on May 13. May 17, Germany entered Belgium. May 28, the King of the Belgians surrendered to Germany. May 29 marked the retreat from Dunkirk. June 21, the negotiations for peace between France and Germany began. Germany, Italy, and Japan signed a ten-year pact. October 29, the first peace-time compulsory military training program was inaugurated in the United States. November 5, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected for a third term.*

The United Christian Missionary Society participated with other agencies in the Brotherhood Convocations. Seven missionaries received appointments. This was the largest number to receive appointment for over a decade. They were: Edith Clare Walden, India; Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Henderson, Africa; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Smith, China, and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin White, India. Alexander Paul was sent to China to help meet the emergency there. The first appeal for relief and support was made in 1940 for stranded missionaries of other communions who were cut off from home boards by the war. Dr. P. D. Sukhnandan, Indian doctor of our India mission, arrived in May to study in medical schools in the United States. Dr. E. I. Osgood, long a missionary to China and worker with the United Society, passed away on April 13, 1940. Dr. Charles T. Paul, president of the College of Missions, passed away on November 25.

**1941** *May 10, London suffered the worst air-raid of the war to date. May 21, the ROBIN MOOR, American freighter, was torpedoed by German submarine. June 14, President Roosevelt ordered immediate freezing of all United States assets of Germany and Italy. On June 16, United States ordered all German consulates closed by July 10. June 22, Germany invaded Russia without declaration of war. On July 7, United States Marines occupied Iceland on invitation of that country. November 10, Churchill told Tokyo that Britain would declare war upon Japan "within the hour" should United States have war with Japan. President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hull received special Japanese envoys to consider Japanese and American relationships. December 7, Japan declared war on Great Britain and the United States after a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor while peace conferences were being held in Washington with the Japanese envoys. On December 11, Germany and Italy*



*declared war on the United States, and the United States Congress immediately followed with unanimous declaration of war on them.*

February marked the evacuation of most of our women missionaries and children from China. The torpedoing of the ZAMZAM in the South Atlantic startled the world. Aboard were two missionary families of the United Society—Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Henderson and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Edwards, en route to Africa. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards were released and returned to the United States. Dr. and Mrs. Henderson were interned in Germany because they are Canadians. Miss Minnie Vautrin, pioneer in higher education for women in China, died in 1941. The Emergency Million was launched under the auspices of Unified Promotion to meet the emergencies of the brotherhood agencies in a warring world. The College of Missions was relocated at Yale University. The United Church of Japan was formed. The United Christian Education Advance was launched during 1941. All communications were broken with our missionaries in Japanese-dominated areas of China. There was projected a widespread program of religious work among men engaged in national defense and a program for conscientious objectors of Disciples of Christ. This year witnessed a marked evangelistic trend throughout the brotherhood; church membership in Belgian Congo passed 50,000; the "Growing Church in India" steadily increased; encouraging reports came from the Philippines and Latin America; church membership in China surpassed all records.

**1942** *Twenty-six nations at war with the Axis powers pledged themselves not to make a separate peace or armistice. It was in 1942 that America became acquainted with ration coupons for living necessities. 1942 saw the fall of the Philippines to Japan and the establishment of General MacArthur in Australia to become Commander-in-Chief of the South Pacific. Tokyo was raided by American planes. Japanese nationals and Japanese-Americans were evacuated from the Pacific coast. American forces entered North Africa. Madame Chiang Kai-shek arrived in the United States and later made a general visit among the American people. Wendell L. Willkie, in a trip to world battlefronts, discovered "One World." Battle areas in the South Pacific began to move into new phases of offensive warfare. The Alcan Highway to Alaska was being pushed to completion.*

The evacuation of the Japanese from the Pacific Coast due to the war situation caused the United Society to close its mission for the Japanese in Los Angeles. The brotherhood rejoiced at the release and repatriation of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. McCoy from Japan, Alexander Paul, J. H. McCallum and W. W. Haskell from China, and Mrs. A. G. Henderson from Germany. Despite the war, seventeen missionaries journeyed from America to their fields of service. Splendid advances were made in establishing a new church in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and a hospital in Aguascalientes, Mexico. The emergency work of the Committee on War Services on behalf of men in army camps and workers in industrial communities was well under way. The department of temperance and social welfare was changed to become the department of social welfare and

rural work. Due to Emergency Million, the United Society was able to pay in full its accumulated debt, as well as to meet its emergencies in both home and foreign missionary and educational work.

**1943** *Rationing of foodstuffs went into effect throughout the United States in March. On May 20, the United States extraterritorial rights in China formally disappeared upon the ratification of a treaty on January 11. May 22 in Moscow, the Comintern announced its dissolution which cleared the political situation considerably within the United Nations. June 21, a race riot in Detroit killed a number of Negroes and whites, and injured a great many others. On November 1 the New York dimout restrictions lapsed after being in effect eighteen months. The historic Cairo and Teheran conferences of leaders were held in December of 1943. The United States navy and amphibious forces entered the Marshall Islands.*

Edwin Marx and Miss Lois Ely were repatriated and returned on the GRIPSHOLM from China. Six missionaries were still interned: O. J. Goulter in China, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Huber and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Smith and little Freddie in the Philippines, and Dr. A. G. Henderson in Germany. Ten new missionaries and sixteen furloughed missionaries went to their respective fields; thirty-three accepted candidates were eager to go. The United Society, in cooperation with our Negro brotherhood in New York, secured a church property adequate to serve this vast metropolitan population. The Committee on War-Time Services serving both the United Society and the International Convention, made an outstanding record of work in industrial communities and in connection with men in the armed forces. The United Christian Education Advance continued to make a marked impression upon the total religious education problem and proved to be a great lift to the work of our own churches. The most representative gathering of the Board of Managers since the United Society was formed, met in extraordinary session for deliberation and challenging action dealing with acute problems confronting the Society in almost all its fields because of global war. The successful completion of the Emergency Million was received with great appreciation by the organized life of the brotherhood. The United Society held a large gathering including representatives from all departments of the Society for a refresher week of prayer and planning in August. The National Project was launched by adult missionary organizations for \$300,000 to train, equip, and send 150 new workers to the home and foreign fields and was received with enthusiasm. The Board of Trustees of the United Society considered and approved the enlargement of the work in Argentina and in the Belgian Congo through the establishment of new stations.

**1944** *Great sacrifices were made in the Anzio beachhead fighting in Italy, held after bloody attacks. In March the King of Italy promised to step down for Prince Humberto on the day the United Nations entered Rome. This promise was kept as he formally passed to Prince Humberto the throne upon the first day of the occupation of Rome, June 4. The long*



*awaited D-Day of the second front in Western Europe was opened the morning of June 6 by the landing of United Nations troops in Northern France. Tremendous drives by allied armies were liberating France and the Balkan states, and various forecasts were made for a rapid ending to the war with Germany. War in the Pacific approached a crescendo with attacks on Japanese island bases, the Philippines, and Japan itself.*

The June issue of *World Call* marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of this magazine, and contained considerable review of the work of those years. "Humanity Hungers" was the theme of the Week of Compassion, February 20-27, promoted under the direction of Unified Promotion. \$250,000 was the objective of this week to be used in relief and war service. The brotherhood oversubscribed the goal, raising \$325,315. Dr. A. G. Henderson escaped from a Nazi prison camp into Switzerland but was forced by Nazi domination of surrounding countries to remain in Switzerland, although given his freedom. The Drake Conference on "The Church and the New World Mind" was held in Des Moines, Iowa, with great success. Missionaries traveling to their fields arrived safely. The United Society participated in a second series of Brotherhood Convocations under the auspices of Unified Promotion. The China missionary group met for a two-day discussion of the future of the work in China. The discussion centered about relief and rehabilitation of China, reestablishment of the work, strengthening our Chinese leadership, and needs for a larger staff. Plans were made looking ahead to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the China Mission property. The closing of the missionary year on June 30 showed a gain in promotional receipts of \$247,938.53, or slightly under 28 per cent—a remarkable report.



## *Christian Education* 1919-1944

An average of 27 religious education workers has been maintained in the United States to assist churches.

The department of religious education has conducted 1,456 young people's conferences, or an average of 63 per year. This has involved 121,118 students, or 5,266 per year.

Leadership Training credits totaling 150,058 have been issued, an average of 8,341 per year.

The department of missionary organizations has served 4,378 missionary organizations per year on an average. The giving of missionary organizations in the 25 years has amounted to \$11,599,436.91, or \$463,977.47 per year.





## *Foreign Missions*

### *1919-1944*

The foreign missions division has maintained work on ten fields with 235 missionaries and 1,801 nationals each year.

Organized churches on the fields during this period have increased from 199 to 248.

Total baptisms have been 115,264, an average of 5,011 per year. Church membership has grown from 20,000 in 1919 to 75,214 in 1944.

An average of 461 schools have been maintained during the twenty-five years. These have had an average attendance of 15,477.

Two hundred and forty-seven National ministers per year have been in training on the mission fields.

Fourteen hospitals and 17 dispensaries have given 9,914,548 treatments, or 413,106 per year.





## *Home Missions* 1919-1944

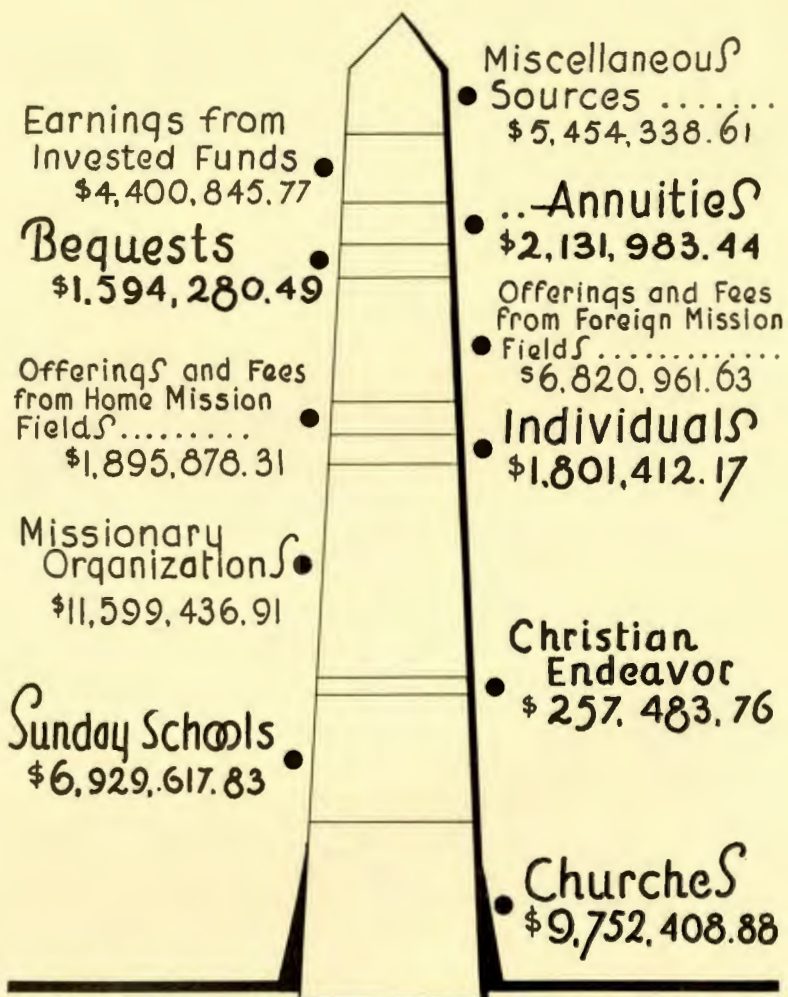
An average of 107 churches per year have been assisted to maintain a pastor and an effective church program. An annual program of evangelism has been provided for the churches.

A home missionary staff, averaging 158 per year, has been at work in churches and institutions of the United States and Canada.

Four schools and three mission institutes have been maintained, also immigrant and community house work intermittently during this period. There has been an average of 938 students per year in the schools.







**TOTAL RECEIPTS TO THE UNITED CHRISTIAN  
MISSIONARY SOCIETY FROM ALL SOURCES  
FOR THE TWENTY-FIVE YEAR PERIOD .....  
\$52,638,647.80**



## *Forecast for Christian Education*

Christian educators look to the future with enthusiasm. We see many developments that predict a richer and more effective program for guiding children, youth, and adults in Christian character growth.

The family is increasingly being recognized as a potent educational unit. Johnnie and Mary are strongly influenced by what "Dad" and "Mom" say and do, especially in religious matters. We are now providing more materials and guidance for richer family living. Churches are realizing they must serve the home and cooperate with parents in the Christian education of children and youth.

The concept of the ecumenical church is stretching the vision of Christian education. We are obliged to revise our missionary education materials with the concept in mind of the world-wide church. It also affects our teaching of the meaning of church membership and related subjects. We do our boys and girls an injustice if we fail to show them that by becoming members of the church on Main Street they thereby become members of the Church Universal.

There is a widespread hunger for Bible study and guidance in prayer and worship. Accordingly our curriculum is being enriched at these points. Furthermore, our Christian education program is giving greater emphasis to the ways in which God works in human lives.

We are waking up to the fact that whatever we would have in international and inter-group relationships, we must first put in our personal relationships. In other words, peace begins at home. Race riots come from individual prejudices. Consequently Christian education shoulders the task of guiding each person through Christian teaching into right attitudes and appreciations, and to accept and live by the teaching of Jesus—that everyone is a son of God.

The Christian education movement began with the Sunday School. It still enrolls the largest number of pupils and is the most universally used means of teaching all ages. The methods and materials for making the best use of the sixty to ninety minutes on Sunday morning are constantly being improved.



We are rediscovering the superintendent and are providing more guidance for him and others who administer the educational program in the local church.

Furthermore we are making leadership training more practical with less emphasis on formalized earning of credits, and more guidance "on the job." Our laboratory schools help children's workers to learn to teach by teaching under expert supervisors. Our young people's conferences are now demonstrating how a youth program in the church should be planned and conducted. The adult conferences will probably move in this direction also.

The old bogey "summer slump" has been outmanoeuvred by an intensive and extensive use of summer vacation schools, camps and conferences. All are increasing in number, attendance and effectiveness, especially in training leaders. They now serve all age groups, from the youngest to the oldest. Your Christian education leaders are seeking to provide guidance that all such efforts will realize the highest educational and Christian values.

We realize that our task is not merely to improve our methods and skills. We must go into the highways and byways to reach the thousands now unreached by any religious training. The weekday school is reaching increasing thousands of children and youth, in some places as high as 90 per cent of all the children in a county are receiving regular weekday religious instruction. Neighborhood Bible story hours for children is a new plan that promises great possibilities as an outreach for the church. The United Christian Education Advance will probably be followed by another interdenominational effort that will continue and intensify the effort "to reach every person with Christian teaching."



## *Forecast for Home Missions*

The purposes of America's home mission efforts for the future will include those of 100 years ago as well as those of today; first, to reach each one of America's millions with the personal Savior, Christ, and to challenge him with Christian service through the church; second, to establish Christianity as the national pattern of public opinion and behavior.

But something new will be added. Recent history has demonstrated that there must be some nations who will lead the world into unity. Because of their Christian democratic foundation of ideals, with justice and freedom for all, the Americas, of all the nations of the world, are best fitted for this high place of leadership, since they have been planted in new soil without the conflicts and animosities of the old world. If they accept this leadership humbly and we, their people, can set their feet firm in the hard Christian way, we can make a new world. If we fail, a pagan world will continue to grow.

It is at this point of world leadership that home and foreign missions meet and join forces to build a Christian world with a Christian base at home.

How will the Disciples of Christ assume their part in these three great purposes? Briefly here are some areas in which to work:

1. *International Relations.* Recently the Disciples embarked on a study of America's place in a permanent world order. All Disciples should be enlisted in this movement toward understanding tremendous international issues and using their influence as world citizens to build a friendly cooperative world.

2. *Church Organization and Support.* We must help communities to build churches of power and outreach—the elemental field of home missions. Rural America is notoriously unchurched and within a few years our comparatively new rural emphasis should be regarded as one of our brotherhood's largest fields and must receive support toward that end. In that group there will be many minority peoples—Negroes, Mexican, and Oriental Americans.

Great industrial centers in all America, ebbing and flowing with the tides



of supply and demand, must have constant scrutiny to be sure Christ and His way are known to every one of them in meeting their tense life conditions.

3. *Institutions.* Our home mission institutions must soon be enlarged and improved as needed, or they will die. They have served a pioneer past well, they are good but not good enough for a brave new future. Some already are turning away those in need because of lack of space and staff. Others are already serving fewer than in the past because equipment does not meet present requirements.

Further institutional work will be required. Canada has practically no institutional home mission work carried on by Disciples. It will be to our everlasting discredit also in the United States if the future finds us doing no more than at present for the forty-five million Americans who are sub-standard in housing, food and health.

4. *Race Relations.* Only Christian reasoning can resolve the nation-wide growing race and group tensions. The church must gird herself and handle this dangerous emotional problem with the understanding and firmness that all emotional upheavals demand. Our nation must quiet race troubles or be involved in tumult, bloody and deadly.

5. *Industry.* Christian people cannot much longer stand aside from the turmoil of industrial relations. Both labor and capital, the controversial elements, need help, the Christian help none other can offer, to find a common way of economic life beneficial to them and their public patronage, on an unselfish basis, and therefore, a basis profitable to all.

6. *Interdenominational Action.* Much of American Christian action must be done cooperatively through interdenominational agencies. The great problems of great peoples are too unwieldy for any one group, or many groups, working singly to solve. It will take the united efforts of all of America's one hundred fifteen million, or more, Protestant Christians to untangle our un-Christian mazes. Home missions in our brotherhood must give better support to interdenominational home mission agencies in the future.

The future demands constant alertness to every national trend and need, and an unselfish dedication to our continent's great world obligation.



## *Forecast for Foreign Missions*

"Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." This was the personal program of Paul for attainment in abiding, abundant Christian character. The past quarter century has been a notable one in the program for the world outreach of the church. The next twenty-five years will be even more notable.

The day of national leadership in foreign missionary work, which day dawned within the past quarter century, is now in its ascendancy. Twenty years ago we had five nationals to each missionary; now we have twelve to one. And their growth in numbers is but indicative of their growth in quality and their advance in training. We now have nationals trained in our best schools on the fields and also those in America and Europe, men and women holding bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees. Within the next 25 years we will need to increase greatly the scholarship item in our budget to aid carefully selected nationals in their educational programs.

While the day of the national is in the ascendancy, the day of the missionary is still in its high noon. Such noted nationals as Dr. Chen, president of the University of Nanking, insist that more, not fewer, missionaries are needed. They are needed everywhere for supervision, encouragement, teaching, pioneering, relief and reconstruction, and to give to the new churches an international flavor. Twenty years ago we had 339 missionaries; now we have 183. We need 100 more at once.

These missionaries needed in the next quarter century must be even more carefully selected and more thoroughly trained than their predecessors. Better methods of selection and greatly improved disciplines are being developed. In talents, temperment and training the missionary of the future must be a superior person.

Ninety-five per cent of all foreign missionary work is now on a non-competitive basis and much of it is actively cooperative. The next quarter century



will see marked growth in methods of cooperation and in the comparative volume of such work. When the Christian movement is so definitely a minority movement (for example, fewer than one-half of one per cent of the Chinese are Christians) how futile to duplicate effort and to cross lines in wasteful competition! There are so many things that we can do well through cooperation that we cannot do at all, or much less effectively, by competition that common sense as well as Christian grace lead us to work together in peace.

Work of rural reconstruction will be accelerated and the task of teaching the illiterate 62 per cent of the world's population to read and write will claim closer application and a much larger proportion of our budget.

The next quarter century will see many more of our youthful churches come to self-support and self-direction. Our church membership on the foreign fields will double in numbers, multiply in effective service and deeply intensify in Christian spirit.

Because of the radio and the airplane the next twenty-five years will put us much closer to our brethren abroad and will bring them much more frequently into our churches and conventions. Within a much shorter time we will be within direct short wave radio reach of all of our own fields at all times. We will be no longer "foreign devils" in their lands, and they will be brethren in ours.

(C)

Thomas E. Jefferson, Bible  
ending, laid a stone at the sepulchre  
and departed.





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