
Office of the National Missionary Council, 48, Ripon Street, Calcutta.
NATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL.

Members, 1917

ANDERSON, Rev. Herbert, 48, Ripon Street, Calcutta.
AH SYOO, Rev. L. T., Moulmein, Burma.
BEXELL, Rev. D., Church of Sweden Mission, Madura, Madras.
BOMBAY, The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of, Bishop's Lodge, Bombay.
BROWN, Rev. G. W., Ph.D., Jubulpore, C.P.
CAREY, Rev. William, Barisal, Bengal.
CHOTA NAGPUR, The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of, Bishop's Lodge, Ranchi, Bihar.
COLLIER, Rev. A. E., Monghyr, Bihar and Orissa.
DORNAKAL, The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of, Sengereni Collieries, Deccan.
DATTA, Dr. S. K., Lahore, Punjab.
FINDLAY, Rev. W. H., M.A., Bangalore, S. India.
GEEVERGESE, Father, The College, Serampore, Bengal.
GOUGH, Rev. C. M., Lahore.
GREENFIELD, Miss M. Rose, Naulakha, Lahore, Punjab.
GRISWOLD, Rev. H. D., Ph.D., Saharanpur, U.P.
GULLIFORD, Rev. H., Mysore City, S. India.
HENSLEY, Canon E. A., M.A., Jubulpore, C.P.
HOBBINS, Rev. E. S. M., 33, Amherst Street, Calcutta.
INDIA, The Most Rev. the Metropolitan of, Calcutta.
LAL, Rev. J. Waiz, M.O.L., Daryaganj, Delhi.
MADRAS, The Right Rev. the Bishop of, Madras.
MUKERJI, Prof. S. C., M.A., B.L., The College, Serampore, Bengal.
PAUL, K. T., Esq., B.A., 6, Chowringhee Lane, Calcutta.
ROBINSON, Bishop J. W., M. E. Mission, Bombay.
ROBINSON, Miss Ruth, Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, U.P.
SMITH, Rev. Ray C., Fatehpur, U.P.
SWIFT, Miss E., Madura.
TUBBS, Rev. N. H., M.A., St. John's College, Agra.
TUCKER, Commissioner F. Booth, Simla, Punjab.
WANLESS, Dr. W. J., Miraj, Bombay Presidency.
WARNE, Bishop F. W., Lucknow, U.P.
VICKERY, Rev. W. S., Shan States, Burma.
YOUNG, Rev. A. Willifer, 23, Chowringhee Road, Calcutta.

Executive Committee.

Chairman .......... The Most Rev. the LORD BISHOP OF CALCUTTA and Metropolitan of India.
Vice-Chairman ...... S. C. MUKERJI, Esq., M.A., B.L.
Hony. Treasurer ... Rev. A. WILLIFER YOUNG.
Secretary .......... Rev. HERBERT ANDERSON.
Proceedings of the Third Meeting
of the
National Missionary Council
held at
Jubbulpore, Central Provinces,

The third meeting of the National Missionary Council was held at Jubbulpore, Central Provinces, on 27-31 October, 1916. The Metropolitan of India presided. The first session was held on Friday, October 27th.

Introductory Statement by the President.—The President in a short introductory statement expressed gratitude to God for His goodness during the past year. The happy experiences of Matheran had brought the members of Council together on this occasion in a spirit of confidence in the growing worth and widening sphere of co-operative effort. In God’s Holy Presence we had met to continue our united efforts for the spread of His Kingdom and the doing of His will. Many in India were looking to the decisions of this Council for guidance on important issues, a guidance which he trusted would, by the gracious leading of God’s Spirit, be given. He also welcomed all new members to the Council.

Members Present.
The following members of Council were present:—

Elected Members or Substitutes—

Madras .. Rev. Dr. W. L. Ferguson, Rev. D. Bexell.
Bombay .. The Right Rev. The Bishop of Bombay, Rev. Dr. R. A. Hume, Canon Joshi as substitute for the Rev. Dr. Mackichan.
Mid-India

Canon E. A. Hensley, Rev. Dr. G. W Brown, Mrs. A. H. Holland.

United Provinces


Punjab

Rev. R. Maxwell, Rev. F. Lawrence as substitute for the Rev. C. M. Gough.

Bengal and Assam

Rev. William Carey, Professor S. C. Mukerji, Rev. A. Willifer Young.

Bihar and Orissa

The Right Rev. The Bishop of Chota Nagpur, Rev. A. E. Collier.

Burma


The following members of the Council wrote to say they were unavoidably absent through illness or other causes: Rev. L. T. Ah Syoo, Dr. Miss K. M. Bose, The Hon’ble the Rev. Dr. A. Campbell, E. J. John, Esq., Rev. J. Waiz Lal, Rev. Dr. Mackichan, Miss Ruth Robinson, Miss E. M. Swift, and Dr. W. J. Wanless.

The roll-call of members present was taken, which showed that 20 of the 24 elected members of Provincial Councils or their substitutes, and 14 of the 18 co-opted members, were present.

Minutes of the Fifth Executive Committee.—The Secretary reported that the minutes of the fifth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council, held in Calcutta on August 18th, 1916, had been circulated and ratified.

I. Preliminaries.

1. Hours of Session.—It was agreed that the Sessions for business should be

8-30 to 10-45 A.M.
12-30 to 3-30 P.M.

the afternoon and evening being reserved for committee work.

2. Devotional Arrangements.—The President on behalf of the Committee appointed by the Executive to make all arrangements for services of worship and prayer, reported that the
daily devotional Sessions from 7:45 to 8:30 A.M. would be conducted by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Chota Nagpur, Bishop F. W. Warne, Rev. W. H. Findlay, M.A., and the Right Rev. the Bishop of Dornakal, and that two special services to be held on Sunday, October 29th, would be led by the Rev. Dr. J. H. Moulton.

These arrangements were approved.

3. Appointment of Business Committee.—Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee the following were elected a Business Committee:—


4. Procedure in Discussions.—Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee the following rules of procedure were adopted:—

(1) That all substantive resolutions must be submitted in writing.

(2) That the Business Committee be empowered to decide the order of subjects at each session, and if necessary the time to be allotted to each, with the limitation to opening and subsequent speakers.

(3) That recommendations and resolutions by Standing Committees or individual members shall first be submitted to the Business Committee for its approval in regard to the form in which they shall be presented to the Council, except in cases of resolutions arising in course of debate.

(4) That the acceptance by the Council of the Reports of Standing Committees implies the approval of the Reports as to their general substance, but the Council holds itself responsible only for those resolutions that are passed by it.

(5) That substitutes for representatives of Provincial Councils take their place on Council meetings only and not as members of the Standing Committees to which the representatives belong.

5. Arrangement re Visitors.—Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee it was decided:—

(1) That the Rev. Dr. James Hope Moulton, C. Franklin Angus, Esq., M.A., and the Rev. E. G. Abbott, President Mid-India Council, be invited to sit with the
Council throughout its meetings, and to take part in its deliberations, without right of vote.

(2) That all members of Standing Committees of the Council be permitted to be present, but not to take part in the deliberations of the Council, except with the permission of the Chair.

(3) That the admission of local visitors to the sessions of the Council be dealt with by the President and Secretary.

II. Constitutional Matters.

1. The Secretary announced that the following members of the Council had resigned:—

Dr. A. Lankester and E. C. Carter, Esq. Also that Commissioner F. Booth-Tucker and the Rev. Dr. H. D. Griswold had been co-opted by the Executive Committee.

2. Memorial Minute re Rev. J. Cooling, B.A.—The Council rose while the President read the following Minute re the death of the Rev. J. Cooling, B.A., of Madras:—

The Council records with sincere regret the death of the Rev. James Cooling, B.A., which occurred suddenly on Thursday, December 2nd, 1915. Mr. Cooling arrived in India early in 1877 and the whole of his missionary life was spent in the city of Madras, where for 30 years he was head of the Wesleyan Mission. Though his main strength was devoted to the interests of his own Church, he shared in every interdenominational enterprise in that City, giving freely valuable service to those societies that are helpers of all the Churches. In those movements that have a wider outlook and seek to unify the labours of all Missions he took a prominent part, and was ever ready to adopt whatever gave promise of help in the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ in India. It was largely due to a suggestion made by him that the Representative Councils were formed, and he was the first Secretary of the Madras Council, while he attended as a delegate the first two meetings of the National Council. His knowledge and experience of all phases of Mission work were great, and these were placed unreservedly at the disposal of all. The Council is grateful to God for the services rendered to India by Mr. Cooling, and hereby expresses its deep sympathy with the bereaved family.

3. New Representative Members of Council.—The Secretary reported that he had received from the Secretaries of Provincial Councils concerned the intimation of the election of the following new members:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>New Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madras</td>
<td>Miss Eva M. Swift in place of Miss Christlieb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rev. D. Bexell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bombay</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Hume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-India</td>
<td>Mrs. A. H. Holland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Miss Rinman.
4. Appointment of Nomination Committee.—Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council appointed a Nomination Committee consisting of the representative members of Provincial Councils elected for a period of two or three years, with the Executive Committee, to make nominations and report at a later meeting on—

(2) Officers of the Council for 1916-1917.
(3) Executive Committee of the Council for 1916-1917.

5. Amendment of the Constitution.—The Council considered various amendments of which notice had been duly given, and which after discussion were adopted.

The Constitution as thus amended reads as follows:—

NATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL.

I. Constitution.

(1) Name:—

The Council shall be called the National Missionary Council of India.

(2) Objects:—

The Objects of the Council shall be—

(a) To co-operate with the Provincial Councils in the carrying out of their objects.

(b) To be in communication with the Continuation Committee of the Edinburgh Missionary Conference regarding such matters as require consideration or action from the point of view of the Indian Mission field as a whole.

(c) To take into consideration such other questions affecting the entire Missionary field as may seem to it desirable.

(d) To make provision for the convening of an All-India Missionary Conference when such is in the opinion of the Council desirable.

(3) Methods:—

In furtherance of the above objects the Council shall—

(a) Hold an annual meeting.

(b) Consider all matters referred to it by any
Provincial Council and take such action as it may deem best.

(c) Receive and consider the annual reports of the said Councils.

(d) Appoint from its own membership or otherwise occasional or standing committees to deal with subjects demanding special consideration.

(e) Appoint an Executive, which shall ordinarily meet midway in time between the annual meetings of the Council for the consideration of matters referred to it by the Council and such other matters as may seem to require immediate attention, the decisions of the Executive in the case of the latter to be presented to the Council for ratification by correspondence.

(4) **Membership** :

(a) The membership of the Council shall be constituted as follows:—Three members elected by each of the following Provincial Councils; (i) Madras, (ii) Bombay, (iii) Central Provinces and Central India, (iv) The United Provinces, (v) The Punjab and Rajputana, (vi) Bengal and Assam, (vii) Bihar and Orissa, and (viii) Burma; and members co-opted to bring the total membership up to forty-two.

(b) Members shall be elected to serve for a period of three years; one-third shall retire by rotation each year, but members so retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(5) **Amendment.** —The Constitution may be amended by the Council at its Annual Meeting, provided (1) that notice of the proposed amendments be given in writing to the secretaries not less than two months before the date fixed for the Annual Meeting, and submitted by them to all the members not less than one month before the same date; and (2) that not fewer than two-thirds of those present support the amendment.

*Note.*—The Provincial areas shall be subject to such re-arrangement as may be suggested by the National Council in conference with the Provincial Councils.

*Note 2.*—The functions of the Council shall be solely consultative and advisory and not legislative or mandatory.

*Note 3.*—In election and co-option, care should be taken to secure that the Indian Christian community and the various forms of Mission work, both among men and women, be, so far as possible, adequately represented.
II. Bye-laws.

1. The Annual Meeting of the Council shall ordinarily be held in October, on or about the fifteenth day of the month. It may be held at different centres, the place for each meeting being determined by the Council at its previous meeting. The precise date shall be determined by the Executive, which shall also have the power of altering the place if the arrangement made by the Council should for any reason become impracticable. The Executive may also summon a special meeting of the Council if this step should seem urgently demanded. Notice of the precise date of all meetings shall be sent to each member not less than one month beforehand.

2. The Annual Reports of Provincial Councils should reach the secretaries not less than one month before the date appointed for the Annual Meeting, and should be submitted by them to the members of the Council not less than fifteen days before the same date.

3. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Council at its Annual Meeting:

   (1) Co-operation and Unity.  (8) The European and Anglo-Indian Community.
   (2) Survey and Occupation.    (9) Finance.
   (3) The Indian Church and Indian Christian Leadership.  (10) Public Questions.
   (6) Medical Missions.  (13) Work among Young People.

4. The Council may also from time to time appoint Special Committees for special purposes.

5. The Conveners of all Standing and Special Committees shall be chosen by the Council from its own membership, but in the case of other members of the Committees the choice shall not be thus limited.

6. The Standing Committees shall be in communication with any similar standing committees or affiliated organizations connected with Provincial Councils and with the Standing Committees of the Edinburgh Conference Continuation Committee; but (except in such matters as have been expressly remitted to them by the Council) they shall not take definite action without the consent of the Council. Standing Committees shall have power to add to their number, the number so added not to exceed one-third of the number elected.

7. Vacancies in Standing or Special Committees arising through furlough or other cause shall be filled by co-option.

8. The officers of the Council shall be a president, a vice-president, two secretaries and a treasurer. They shall be
elected by the Council from its own membership, and shall hold office till the close of the Annual Meeting subsequent to that at which they are elected.

9. The Executive shall consist of the above-named officers, together with six or seven others to be chosen by the Council at its Annual Meeting from its own membership.

10. In the event of a decision of the Executive being presented to the Council for ratification by correspondence in accordance with Art. 3(e) of the Constitution, it shall be open to any member of Council to move an amendment, and to state his reasons for doing so, such amendment and statement being sent so as to reach the secretaries not later than fifteen days from the issue of their circular. The president and secretaries shall decide whether such an amendment is of sufficient importance to be submitted to the whole Council by a further circular; if submitted, the statement of reasons shall accompany it, and members shall be asked to vote for or against the amendment, the matter being decided by a majority vote.

11. At meetings of the Council eighteen, and of the Executive four, shall constitute a quorum.

12. The Chairman shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.

13. Provincial Councils in making their elections shall in the first instance elect one member to serve for one year, one for two years and one for three years, and thereafter shall each year elect one to serve for three years. In the event of an elected member of a Provincial Council being unable to serve, either through absence on furlough or any other cause, the Provincial Council shall decide whether to appoint a temporary substitute for the period of absence or to fill up the vacancy by a fresh appointment, but in either case such substitution should not hold good beyond the period of the original appointment. Membership (except in the case of those elected to fill vacancies) shall be reckoned from the end of the Annual Meeting immediately succeeding the election.

14. In accordance with Art. 1 (1), the Council shall co-opt annually eighteen additional members.

15. Any co-opted member of Council or any member of a Standing or Special Committee who is absent from India for any cause for more than six months shall be taken to vacate his membership: and any convener of a Standing or Special Committee absent from India for any cause for more than three months shall be taken to vacate his position. It shall lie with the Executive Committee to fill all vacancies in the co-opted membership of the Council or in the Convenership of any Standing or Special Committee.
16. The bye-laws may be amended by the Council at its Annual Meeting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment be given to the secretaries not later than two months before the date fixed for the Annual Meeting, and submitted by them to all the members not less than one month before the same date: the acceptance or rejection of the proposed amendment shall be decided by simple majority.

6. Request to Provincial Councils in regard to the Election of Representative Members.—The Secretary was requested to communicate with the Secretaries of Provincial Councils explaining that the election of representative members by their Councils should take effect from the end of the Annual Meeting of the National Council immediately succeeding the election. Only in this way can the personnel of the Council remain the same for each year.

7. Appointment of Half-time Secretary and Joint Secretary.—Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was

Resolved:—

1. That the Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society be approached to give the services of the Rev. Herbert Anderson as half-time Secretary of the National Missionary Council until the end of the year 1917.

2. That in view of the resignation of Mr. E. C. Carter as Joint Secretary, and the difficulty of making a satisfactory recommendation at the present time, it be left with the Executive Committee to nominate a successor and to place the matter before the Council for confirmation.

III. Annual Report of the Secretary for 1915-16.

The following Annual Report was presented by Mr. Herbert Anderson:

The Secretaries have pleasure in submitting the third Annual Report of the National Missionary Council of India, covering the period from November 1915 to October 1916.

The Matheran Council Meeting.

The work of the Council at its second Annual Meeting held at Matheran last November has deepened the sense of mutual dependence and obligation, and has shown the growing value of a united policy and corporate action in foreign missionary effort. The Secretary of the China Continuation Committee, the Rev. E. C. Lobenstine, in forwarding the Minutes of the Fourth Annual Meeting held at Shanghai in the beginning of May, 1916, wrote: "You will note in the reports on Forward Evangelistic Movement, and on Survey and Occupation, our sense of indebtedness to work which is being done in India. It is very gratifying to me to see how your National Missionary Council and the Continuation Committees of Japan and China are tending to create a deeper interest than has existed in the past, on the part of most Missionaries, in that which is being done in neighbouring
countries, and a more earnest desire on their part to profit by the experience which those facing similar problems in other countries are gaining."

Provincial Councils which have met in annual session during the past year gave careful consideration to the resolutions of the Matheran Council, and that portion of the Statement on Comity among Missions in India that was approved has already, with a few minor modifications, been adopted for application in Provincial areas. A summary of the Proceedings of the Council which appeared in the *International Missionary Review* in April, 1916, and the decision of the Editor, Mr. J. H. Oldham, to devote a few pages in each issue of the Review to a summary of the Proceedings of Representative Missionary Organizations in foreign fields point to the growing value to administrators on Home Boards of the results of the co-operative movement among Christian forces in all mission lands. From America also correspondence from leaders in reference to the Proceedings of the Matheran Council reiterate the strong conviction that much progress in Christian unity and missionary co-operation is being made, and the promotion of genuine fellowship among Indian and Foreign workers augurs well for further union in heart, as well as in policy and method.

**Standing Committees.**

The Conveners of the Standing Committees of the Council will furnish reports of their doings. The Committee on Co-operation and Unity decided to await the approval of the Council to the latter portion of statement on Comity among Missions in India before turning their attention to the preparation of a list of Co-operative Christian Institutions in the Indian Empire. The Director of Survey and Occupation has had to confine his work to the Madras Presidency, and in these initial stages of an effort the magnitude and importance of which are growingly felt, this Committee has thought it wise to go slowly. The services of Survey Committees of other Provincial areas will be enlisted in due course, but the factors are too uncertain to give any indication of the dates of the different Provincial surveys. It is hoped the Survey of Southern India will be completed in a few months' time. The Indian Church Committee called a gathering of Indian leaders at Allahabad in December last when a helpful conference on some of the problems and responsibilities of the Indian Church was held. The discussions were based upon resolutions of this Council, and aimed to forward the independence of the Indian Church. Provincial Councils are dealing sympathetically with the subject of the devolution of responsibility from Missions to the Indian Church. The Committee on Christian Education has sought information from different parts of India in reference to the high percentage of illiterates among Christians in Mass Movement areas. It is also bringing to the attention of this Council the subject of a Conscience Clause in Indian Schools and Colleges. The Government of India will undoubtedly value our considered judgment upon this important matter. The Committee on Christian Literature has been active. The Matheran resolutions were forwarded to Home Boards, from whom replies have been received. The subject of Literature in Foreign Missionary Fields has been receiving much careful attention in both Great Britain and America, and it is clear that a larger place and more financial help will be given to this branch of work than formerly. The unifying of agencies for publication and distribution as well as for the creation of suitable literature in English and the vernaculars is a hopeful sign of progress. Circumstances have prevented the
Committees on Medical Work, The European and Anglo-Indian Community, The Training of Missionaries, and Women's Work from reporting any special effort during the past year. The Public Questions Committee has dealt with the important matters referred by the Motheran Council to it, and the present meeting will be asked to express its views on the revision of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, and the legal status of married converts from Islam. And finally the Committee for Work Among Young People held an important meeting in March last and has already begun, through Bible Study Circles and recommendations to Provincial Councils, to co-ordinate the work of such organizations as the India Sunday School Union, the Christian Endeavour Union, the Epworth League and other Young People's Societies or Guilds. On the general subject of the work of Standing Committees, experience would suggest that India might, with profit, follow China in giving definite instructions, annually, to all Special Committees, of important matters with which they should deal. Some questions will take years to solve and Standing Committees should be directed on what particular department of their investigations or work emphasis should be placed.

PROVINCIAL COUNCILS.

A reference to the minutes of the Annual Meetings of Provincial Councils of 1916 will show that the National Missionary Council's cooperation and leadership has been useful. The Madras Council has had a busy year, special prayer and emphasis being placed on the Evangelistic Forward Movement in that Province, which has secured the services of the Rev. H. A. Popeley as full-time Convener. The great success of the Women's Christian College, which has over seventy students, and is maintained jointly by twelve Missionary Societies in Great Britain and America, has been the latest example of successfully conducted co-operative effort. The Bombay Council has recently held its Annual Meeting, and among the subjects of importance dealt with were Language Schools, Literature, and Educational matters. The Mid-India Council has also just met. The National Council is grateful for the invitation that has enabled it to meet in Jubulpore under such helpful conditions. The United Provinces Council met in April. Mass Movements and educational questions bulked largest in that Council's discussions. Important decisions were also reached on the problem of Christian teachers, the strengthening of Indian representation on the Council and the approval of a scheme for a sanatorium for male consumptives. The Punjab Council met in March. It gave due consideration to the objection raised by this Council to the conditions of its membership, making adherence to its Comity standards binding on all Missions, but resolved that it could not recede from the position it has been impelled to adopt. The Council appointed a committee to build up a strong Christian weekly newspaper, and decided to accept the "Nur Afshan," one of the oldest and most widely circulated Christian papers in the Punjab, for this purpose. The Bengal and Assam Council also met in March. Education questions—primary and industrial—being fully considered. An exhaustive report on the position of the Indian Church in Bengal was presented and considered, and a question of Mission Comity in Assam between the Church of England and the Welsh Presbyterian Missions was referred to a Conciliation Committee. The Committee dealt with the matter on the basis of the Comity standards passed at the last meeting of this Council, and an agreement satisfactory to both parties was reached. The Bihar and Orissa Council met in
August. The subjects of the Gossner Mission in Chota Nagpur, a Christian College in connection with Patna University, a Conscience Clause in Mission schools, and other educational questions received consideration. The Burma Council has also met and came to a decision upon certain rules for the promotion of Comity among Missions. Most of the Provincial Councils have followed the lead of the National Missionary Council in accepting the Harvest Field as their semi-official organ. In several particulars the experience of one Provincial Council is proving of great help to another, and this mutual helpfulness will increase as the years go on.

GERMAN MISSIONS.

The present world situation continues to affect our enterprise in many different directions. The Resolution of this Council at Matheran in regard to German Missionaries was forwarded to the Imperial and Provincial Governments of India and duly acknowledged. As reports in regard to the general position of German Mission work in India are to be presented, it is not necessary to say more than that efforts have been made, both in Madras and Bihar, to maintain the principal activities of the Missions concerned, to give counsel and spiritual help to the Indian Christians affected, and to save the work of German Missions from decay or destruction. The Committee appointed to watch the situation on behalf of this Council has not had any occasion to meet.

WELCOME TO THE NEW VICE ROY.

A letter of welcome was sent on behalf of the Council to the new Viceroy, Lord Chelmsford, upon his arrival in India in February last, commending him to the gracious guidance of God.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH HOME ORGANIZATIONS.

The Secretaries have continued to maintain close correspondence with Dr. J. R. Mott and Mr. J. H. Oldham and have been kept informed of the steps taken to promote helpful fellowship between the Home Organizations interested in co-operative movements on the foreign fields. Substantial financial support has again been received—to which the Hon. Treasurer will doubtless make reference. The Committee of Reference and Counsel of North America has not only contributed to the regular budget of the National Missionary Council, but has sent generous donations for the relief of Continental Missions, and for the work of the Survey. From Britain also, through Mr. Oldham, a donation of £300 for Survey expenses has been received. Your Executive Committee on behalf of the Council has sent grateful acknowledgments for these welcome gifts.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL.

Reference must be made to the death of one only of the members of Council who met with us at Matheran. It was very shortly after the Council that the Rev. J. Cooling, B.A., of Madras received the home call. The Council has also lost the helpful services of Dr. A. Lankester, who has joined Government service that he may continue his valuable investigation into the spread of tuberculosis in India. The Council through its Executive Committee has co-opted and welcomed Commissioner Booth-Tucker of the Salvation army to its membership.
CONCLUSION.

The spirit of India awakes. Aspiration has laid hold upon her. The demand upon the spiritual resources of the Church in India to meet the present need is vital. Many are hearing a special call to utilize the gift of united intercession. The Forward Evangelistic Movement, the longing for which begins to throb in every Provincial area, demands more prayer. The working forces of the Church are still latent. The training of Christian workers for personal evangelism is an urgent need. The ideal of the present evangelistic movement—that every member of every Church should take some part in personal service for Christ—must be emphasized. January 28th to February 4th, 1917, has been set aside for a special week of evangelism in China. To link ourselves in effectual intercession with the dynamic forces of God's Holy Spirit, and the life of the Church of Jesus Christ on earth will mean a great increase in power for dealing with the large problems, and availing ourselves of the splendid opportunities which confront us in this land. A special call to prayer was issued in February last and the day appointed widely observed throughout India, and the National Missionary Council of India might in 1917 make it its chief aim to unite the forces of the Indian Church and Missionary Societies still further in the practice and power of prayer.

IV. Annual Report of the Provincial Councils.

The Annual Reports of the Provincial Councils (see Appendix I, 1-8) were presented by the following members:

- Mid-India . . Rev. G. W. Brown.
- Punjab Miss Rose Greenfield.
- Bengal and Assam Rev. A. Willifer Young.
- Bihar and Orissa Rev. A. E. Collier.

Upon the presentation of each Report the Council gave brief consideration to any special subjects arising from them.

V. Reports of Standing Committees of the Council.

1. Co-operation and Unity.—The following Report of the Committee on Co-operation and Unity was presented by the Convener, the Rev. Herbert Anderson.

This Committee desires to bring before the Council the latter portion of the "Statement on Comity among Missions in India" which was reserved for consideration at the last Meeting of the Council.

The Central Court of Arbitration, appointed by the Madras Decennial Conference in 1902, of which the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer was the Rev. J. S. Chandler, M.A., of Madura, has decided that in view of the creation of the National Missionary Council and its Standing Committee on Co-operation and Unity the Board of
Arbitration is no longer needed. Mr. Chandler has therefore made over to the Hon. Treasurer of the Council the sum of Rs. 1,675—fees received from various Missionary Societies in past years—with the request that this sum be used for purposes of arbitration and conciliation between Missions at any future time. The Council will doubtless express its approval and gratitude for this decision, and issue any instruction it desires as to the disposal of this fund.

Should the Council approve the rest of the Statement on Comity at this Meeting, the Committee on Co-operation and Unity hopes to begin an investigation of the missionary institutions and organizations in India in which the principles of co-operation are in force. Their number is comparatively few, but it might be useful to the missionary force of India to have full particulars about them. In such matters as the tenure of property used by co-operating Missions, denominational teaching within co-operative institutions, etc., difficulties arise regarding which the National Council should be able to give helpful advice. Conditions at the close of the War may also make it desirable to consider further possibilities for co-operation in many parts of the Field.

**Resolved:**

II. That the Council expresses its gratitude to the Central Court of Arbitration appointed by the Madras Decennial Conference of 1902, for its decision to hand over its duties and funds to the National Missionary Council. It will be glad to use the sum of Rs. 1,675 so handed over for purposes of arbitration and conciliation, as occasion arises.

Careful consideration was then given to the remaining paragraphs of the Statement on Comity among Missions in India. The full Statement as approved reads as follows:

**STATEMENT ON COMITY AMONG MISSIONS* IN INDIA.**

Introduction.—The subject of Comity is part of a wider subject. The primary task which lies before the Indian Church and the Foreign Missionary Societies at work in India is the evangelization of that land. For the accomplishment of this task the proper interrelation of the forces and methods employed is scarcely less important than their adequacy and suitability. Such interrelation has two principal branches:

(a) Co-operative efforts.

(b) Hearty agreement and mutual considerateness with regard to separate efforts.

(a) Under co-operative efforts would be classed the union of ecclesiastical bodies, or steps taken towards such union, and co-operation between Missions in particular works or kinds of work, educational, medical, literary, etc.

With such efforts, important as they are, the present statement will deal only incidentally, but it is right always to bear in mind their close connection with the other side of interrelation.

(b) The interrelation of efforts which are made separately is the subject of this Statement on Comity. Comity may be defined as the spirit of considerateness and fair dealing which is the fruit of Christian courtesy and common sense. The object of this statement is to

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* It is understood that Church Organizations which are in a position to take independent action should be regarded as Missions for the purposes of this Statement.
set forth the principles of Comity and their application to Christian work in this country.

The Statement is not to be regarded as a standard imposed on any Provincial Council, but as a series of recommendations framed by the National Council after a long period of consideration. In suggesting that Provincial Councils should take definite steps in the matter of Comity, the National Council puts before them this Statement as its contribution to the subject.

I. Arbitration and Conciliation.

The happy interrelation of Missionary Societies one with another is the normal condition of work in India. When matters of dispute between Missions arise the consensus of opinion favours their settlement by arbitration. The Madras Decennial Conference in 1902 appointed a Board of Arbitration which has been in existence ever since. It is now proposed by this Board that the National and Provincial Representative Councils should take over and seek to develop the work of arbitration and conciliation between Missions.

It is agreed:
1. That the principle of arbitration should be applied as widely as possible to all matters of dispute between Missions, provided that the fundamental principles of the ecclesiastical bodies concerned be not thereby called in question.
2. That Provincial Councils should be ready to act in the matter of arbitration and conciliation, and should make arrangements by which those matters can be dealt with between the sessions of the Council.
3. That in all cases of disagreement the Missions concerned should first attempt a settlement between themselves, and that reference should be made to a Provincial Representative Council of Missions only after such attempts have failed.
4. That a Provincial Representative Council should arbitrate only when any case is referred to it by the official representatives of both the Missions involved in any dispute. But in case one party declines arbitration, it shall still be open to the other party to appeal to the Council to use its friendly offices to bring about a settlement.
5. That the decision of a Provincial Representative Council or its appointed representatives will be advisory or final as shall be agreed by the parties concerned before the case is heard.
6. That for the settlement of any dispute, the appointed representatives should include an equal representation on behalf of each of the Missions directly concerned, chosen by themselves, preferably from the membership of the Provincial Council, it being left to the Council to appoint an additional member or members, whether of its own body or not, having regard to the nature of the subject upon which arbitration is sought.
7. That a Provincial Representative Council may seek the aid of the National Missionary Council in any matter affecting arbitration between Missions.
8. That any award or agreement arrived at after arbitration or conciliation should be reduced to writing.

II. Territorial Arrangements.

(Cases in which two or more Missions are working or proposing to work in the same area).

The history of Comity in past years has shown that there are some Churches and Missions which do not see their way to enter into any
arrangement regarding territorial divisions, and there are other Churches and Missions which, while they have no such difficulty in regard to the delimitations of territory, insist upon certain restrictions with regard to the application of the principle. Experience has proved that even such difficulties are not always insurmountable.

No attempt has been made to define what may be regarded as the effective occupation of any sphere. Effective occupation depends upon the particular stage the work has reached. To make Christ known to all the people is the ideal in the early stages of evangelization. To equip the Indian Church for permanently dealing with that task constitutes the need of the later stage of development. In the earlier stage conditions differ so widely that neither the ratio of a geographical area, nor the numerical ratio of population, to staff employed can be regarded as a satisfactory criterion. It must be left to the judgment of some local co-operative Missionary body to decide how far any area in any Province can be said to be effectively occupied.

It is agreed:

1. That in the event of any Mission wishing to enter a new and unoccupied sphere in any Provincial area, consultation with the Representative Council of Missions for that sphere should precede any definite steps for occupation.

2. That wherever a Mission is already working in a district in which another Mission, for any reason, contemplates operations, the former should be apprised of the fact and consulted before any steps are taken to begin work.

3. That any Missions proposing to make any further advance in the opening up of new stations or sub-stations in areas already partially occupied by other Societies should consult with them before doing so.

4. That in areas in which different Missions are at work in close proximity to one another and under circumstances that are conducive to co-operative efforts, the different Missions should from time to time consult with one another as to the possibility of co-operation in institutional work (educational, medical, industrial, etc.), and no institutional work likely to affect the work of another Mission should be initiated without consultation, and if possible agreement, with the other Missionary organizations occupying the same area.

5. That in areas in which two or more similar institutions (educational, medical, industrial, etc.) now exist in such proximity to each other as to cause overlapping, it is desirable that negotiations be opened to see whether they could be united, or be utilized for different departments of the same work.

6. That agreements in regard to territorial arrangements already existing, or which may in future be arrived at in any way, should be reduced to writing, and carefully preserved.

7. That while the right of Christians to the ministration of their own Communion is recognized, and while congregations or small gatherings of Christians isolated from their own Communion should be expected to engage in evangelistic work on a voluntary basis, such ministration and efforts should not be regarded as warranting isolated congregations in undertaking Missionary operations that would in any way conflict with the work of the Mission or Missions occupying the field.

By sub-station is meant a place in which a Mission has a resident worker.
8. (a) That cities where the population (as in the Presidency cities and a few others) is of great extent and diversity, may be regarded as open to the effort of any Society. But a Society desiring to enter, especially if it proposes to work among a special class or classes, should act on the principle laid down in Rule 1 above, with a view to the avoidance of overlapping.

If the question should arise as to whether a particular city belongs to this class, the Provincial Council of the area should determine the matter.

(b) That in smaller cities or towns, where the population is comparatively homogeneous and a Mission or Missions already have an extensive work, any other Mission contemplating entrance should act on the principle laid down in Rules 2 and 3 above.

(c) That when the Mission so contemplating entrance into a city or town of this class is at work in the area of which that city or town is the recognized centre, and desires a footing in the town for the sake of its work in the area, that consideration should be recognized as one of much weight.

III. Transfer of Mission Agents.

It is agreed:

That no agent or ex-agent of one Mission should be employed by another Mission without full preliminary consultation with the Mission with which the agent is or was formerly connected. Consultation ought to include such matters as the personal character of the agent, and the question whether he is under any obligation to the Mission with which he has been connected. In cases where such obligation is financial, as, for instance, in the case of an agent who obtained his education on the definite understanding that he would serve the Mission for a certain time, arrangements should be made in the event of a transfer taking place for a discharge of the obligation as may be mutually agreed upon.

The principle of this section shall apply also to the case of pupils in a Mission school whom a representative of some other Mission may propose to receive.

IV. Salaries of Mission Agents.

It is agreed:

1. That the adequate remuneration of all grades of agents in a Provincial area, and especially the need of revising salaries in view of changing economic conditions, are suitable subjects for the consideration of Provincial Councils, and are deserving of their careful attention.

2. That while there seem to be great difficulties in standardizing the salaries of all Missionary agents, educational, medical and evangelistic, it is important that Missions should endeavour to cut off all occasions of jealousy and misunderstanding that may arise from inequalities in the remuneration of agents whose work and qualifications are similar.

V. Treatment of Mission Agents Under Discipline.

It is agreed:

1. That the disciplinary censure of one Mission for clearly established fault in character and conduct should be respected by another.

2. That agents dismissed on such grounds by one Mission should never be employed by another without previous consultation with the authority dismissing them. In case of disagreement reference should be made to the Secretary of the Provincial Council, who may, if necessary, arrange for arbitration.
VI. Relation of Churches to Members of other Churches.

While it is agreed that it will conduce to the interests of the Kingdom of Christ in India that all Churches which can unite without compromising their own principles should do so, and also that any Churches which can enter into a federation without compromising their own principles should do so, the following three recommendations are offered to such Churches as can, consistently with their own laws and principles, adopt them, though they may not at the present time be able to advance either to corporate union or to federation:—

**It is agreed:**

1. That Churches should do their best to give spiritual opportunities and assistance to members of other Churches who stand in need of them.

2. That Church members from one area temporarily visiting the sphere of another Church organization should bring with them certificates of membership, to be recognized for such period only as the visit lasts.

3. That Church members settling in the sphere of another Church organization should be given a certificate enabling that Church, if it see fit, to receive them into its fellowship.

VII. Baptism and Admission to Church Membership.

**It is agreed:**

1. That it seems desirable for Provincial Councils to consider the possibility of a more uniform standard regarding baptism and the conditions of admission to Church membership.

2. That no Church or Mission should baptize or admit to Church membership, or accept as a candidate for baptism or admission to Church membership, any person who is already receiving regular preparatory instruction, or is an admitted catechumen in another Church, without first consulting with the officials of that Church, but the final choice of the Church which he will join must rest with the candidate.

VIII. Treatment of Church Members under Discipline.

**It is agreed:**

1. That different Churches should mutually respect each others' discipline.

2. That when no certificate is brought by the member of one Church applying for membership in another Church, enquiry should always be made into his conduct and standing in the former.

3. That when a member of one Church desires admission into another, if on enquiry it proves that he is under discipline, or has rendered himself liable to discipline, for a grave fault against the moral law of Christ, his admission should not, as a general rule, be considered, until he has given evidence of repentance and reformation, and if discipline has been imposed, has completed the term of discipline in the Church which has imposed it.

4. When a member of one Church desires admission to another, and after enquiry from the former it appears that there has been no grave moral delinquency, but that the difference between him and his Church is one of doctrinal or practical principle, on which the views of the two Churches also differ, the Church approached may proceed to deal with the applicant according to its own laws, whether it be on his own initiative or in consequence of action taken against him by his Church that the applicant came to desire to change his Communion.
Conclusion.

In commending this statement on Comity to its brethren, the Council adds that all such rules of Comity as those which it has drawn up will be kept easily and loyally in proportion as missionaries and members of different Churches live on terms of Christian fellowship with one another. They should strive to meet not only when matters of difference arise, but in ordinary friendly intercourse and in consultation over the work of their lives, and thus to learn what each others' views and aspirations are. The Council rejoices that of late years men and women who formerly seldom saw each other have begun to meet in conferences and councils and language schools. The Council would add that besides taking all opportunities for acquaintance and consultation, the leaders and members of different Churches should from time to time seek opportunities of joining in common worship in such ways as their laws and principles may permit, being well assured that nothing will be so full of blessing for the cause that Churches and Missions have at heart as the common offering of thanks and praise to the Author of all good, and the common seeking of light and guidance from the Author of all wisdom.

2. Survey and Occupation.—The following Report of the Committee on Survey and Occupation was presented by the Rev. W. H. Findlay, Director of Survey:

The Committee has held two meetings during the year, the first on the eve of the Council meeting, the second in an interval of its sessions. Nine of the fourteen members were present. The only subject engaging its attention was the All-India Survey, regarding which the following Report was presented by the Director of Survey and approved by the Committee.

To THE CONVENER, NATIONAL SURVEY COMMITTEE.

Bangalore,
9th September, 1916.

DEAR MR. ANDERSON,

In view of the approaching meetings of the National Survey Committee and the National Missionary Council, I submit the following report of the prosecution of the Survey since the meeting of the Council at Matheran last November.

According to the direction of the Committee endorsed by the Council I came from Matheran to Bangalore immediately after the Council to continue the Survey of the Mysore State, already tentatively begun; and have made Bangalore the headquarters of the Survey up to the present.

Necessity soon arose of departing in one particular from the letter of the directions of the Council. A Resolution (No. 7) adopted by the Council indicated “that he (the Director) should first complete the Survey of Mysore and then..., should proceed with the Survey of the other parts of the Madras Province.” For reasons which the National Survey Committee has approved, it was found advisable to modify this course of procedure to the extent of dealing simultaneously with the whole of the Madras Provincial area, and deferring completion of the Mysore Survey until the work in the other parts of the Madras area should be considerably advanced.

In consultation with the Madras Provincial Survey Committee, the Province (total population, 66 millions) was divided into six Sections with populations varying from 16 millions in the largest to 6 millions
in the smallest. The first step taken toward the Survey was to secure
in connection with each Mission working in each Section an authorized correspondent through whom I might receive the necessary information relating to the Mission. The total number of such correspondents secured for the Madras Province is 54. I am happy to report that only in the case of one sub-division of a minor organization have I found it impossible to secure such co-operation. In general the request for co-operation has been received with complete cordiality.

Happy relations with the Missions and Missionaries of the area have been promoted, I believe, by the opportunities that have presented themselves during the period of conference with several representative bodies. I have had the privilege of discussing the Survey with—

The South India District Committee of the L.M.S.;
,,,,,, Provincial Synod of the W.M.S.;
,,,,,, Conference of the M.E. Mission;
,,,,,, Corresponding Committee of the C.M.S.;
,, Bangalore Missionary Conference;
,, Madras Provincial Council, and
,, Kodaikanal Conference of the S.I.M.A.

These occasions have been fruitful of suggestion to me and have contributed much to general knowledge of the Survey and interest in it among the missionary body of South India.

By arrangement with the Editor of The Harvest Field I have also contributed monthly notes regarding the Survey to that magazine.

The Madras Provincial Survey Committee, in accordance with the suggestion of the National Missionary Council, was increased by the Madras Provincial Council from five members to ten for co-operation in the Survey. Beyond a gathering of those members of the Committee who were at Matheran last November, there has been no meeting of the Committee; but it has rendered indispensable service by correspondence. More onerous and important co-operation will be called for from it when the collection of Survey material for the Province is complete, and the Reports of the several Sections are under preparation. In four of the six Sections of the Madras Province Sub-Committees of Survey have been formed; in the other two the Madras Committee endorsed my view that such Sub-Committees were unnecessary or unadvisable.

The general course of procedure planned for the Survey contemplates three main stages: 1st, the collection of information (when it is not given in published reports) from authorized correspondents of the Missions; 2nd, the correction and completion of such information, where necessary by local visitation; and 3rd, the preparation of the reports from the materials so obtained.

The method which I have been led to use in gathering information by correspondence is that of sending out printed forms of return, accompanying each with full “Explanations and Directions” designed to eliminate misunderstanding and to secure uniformity of standard. Four such forms have so far been issued. They aim at ascertaining—

1. the area of operation claimed by the Mission, with particulars of delimitation agreements with neighbouring Missions;
2. the distribution of the work of the missionaries under various branches of work;
3. the distribution similarly of the work of Indian workers; and
4. the extent to which the area of operation claimed by the Mission may be regarded as ‘regularly’ or ‘occasionally’ evangelised.
Other forms, in course of preparation, will seek to ascertain—
(5) the geographical distribution of the Indian Christian community, and the extent to which it may be regarded as indigenous in the localities where it is found;
(6) the character, condition, status, and especially the evangelistic spirit, of the Christian community.

Further forms will relate to educational, medical, literary and other branches of specialised work.

Some scores of the forms issued have already been returned; and I am encouraged to believe that the methods followed will satisfactorily furnish the information required.

In view of the great extent of the All-India Survey task, and of the importance of carrying through the work as rapidly as possible, the Committee may not improbably feel concerned that nine months’ work should have so little apparent result. In explanation, and for guidance as to future prospects, the following considerations may be mentioned:

(1) Much initial difficulty and delay had to be faced in securing and training a suitable office staff for work of so novel a character.

(2) The problems presented by the Survey—both in regard to the exact kinds of information that should be sought, and the machinery for securing it with a maximum of accuracy and a minimum of trouble to the Missionary body—involved protracted study and much experiment. When once methods and machinery have been evolved, a rate of progress may be anticipated many times more rapid than has been possible in these preliminary months.

(3) But I have to report that the work has also been seriously retarded by my own recurring ill-health, which has from time to time been so disabling as to make me question whether I ought to continue to sustain the responsibility of the Survey. It was, therefore, with the greatest possible satisfaction that I received in July news, cabled from America, that the hope expressed by the National Missionary Council has been fulfilled, and an Associate Director is now on his way to India in the person of the Rev. W. H. Hannum, of the American Presbyterian Mission. This strengthening of the Survey staff may confidently be expected, not only to bring greater wisdom and efficiency to the prosecution of the work, but to justify confidence regarding the future rate of progress.

It deserves note that two privates in the Territorial Brigade now stationed in Bangalore, desiring to “do their bit” for the missionary cause, have given me most helpful service in their leisure time. One has spent many hours in preparing statistical tables from Census Reports, and the other, a skilled stenographer, has done invaluable service in his line—of which the present document is the latest illustration.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. FINDLAY.

1, Trinity Road, Bangalore.

RESOLVED:—

III.—1. That the Council is glad to learn that substantial progress has been made with the survey of the large South India Provincial area. It recognizes that in an undertaking of a pioneer character, and of such dimensions, the preliminary processes of determining lines of enquiry and framing machinery must needs occupy considerable time. It is thankful for the evidence of care and thoroughness in these preliminary processes; and notes with satisfaction the prospect that the
time so spent may be expected to bear fruit in rapid prosecution and completion of the work.

2. That the Council has heard with great thankfulness that provision has been made in America, through Dr. J. R. Mott and the Chairman of the American Section of the Continuation Committee’s Standing Committee on Survey and Occupation, for the appointment of an Associate Director of Survey, such as was requested by the Council last year; and that the services of the Rev. W. H. Hannum, lately of the American Presbyterian Mission, have been enlisted for the position. The Council hereby appoints Mr. Hannum Associate Director of its all-India Survey, and extends to him a hearty welcome.

3. That the Council desires to express its gratitude for £300 received from Great Britain through Mr. J. H. Oldham toward the expenses of the Survey.

4. That the Council learns that the expenditure upon the Survey for the coming year, apart from expenditure relating to the newly appointed Associate Director, is estimated to amount to Rs. 11,500, and that the credit balance of the Survey Fund, including the gift of £300 from Great Britain, is not more than Rs. 4,800. With lively gratitude for the help already given, the Council is compelled to appeal to the home base leaders in co-operative Missionary effort to obtain such further financial provision for the Survey as will enable it to be vigorously prosecuted and carried to completion.

5. The All-India Survey and Provincial Survey Committees.—It has become clear, first, that the co-operation of any Provincial Survey Committee in the All-India Survey will only be required while that Survey is engaged within the Committee’s area; and second, that the programme of the All-India Survey must necessarily exclude many Survey matters of great local importance. The Council therefore directs the National Survey Committee to advise the Provincial Survey Committees as soon and as clearly as possible as to the scope and limits of the All-India Survey, so that they may be free, if they so desire, to prosecute such supplementary local Surveys as are outside the scope of the All-India Survey.

3. The Indian Church.—The following Report of the Committee on the Indian Church was presented by the Convenor, Mr. K. T. Paul:—

One of the responsibilities entrusted to the Committee on Indian Church by the Matheran Council was to bring to the notice of Indian leaders the findings of the Calcutta Conference of 1912 on the Indian Church and Indian Christian Leadership. Advantage was taken of two All-India Conferences of Indian Christian leaders which took place in Allahabad at Christmas time, and a very interesting debate was held on the question of the devolution of responsibilities from Missions to the Church. It is regretted that it was not possible to hold similar conferences in other parts of India during this year.

It was also agreed at Matheran that the Indian Church Committee should present to the National Council an account of the most outstanding and promising developments of the Church throughout the country. We select for presentation at this time two matters of this kind—

(1) The advance made by the Church of England in the direction of its organization.

(2) The further development of the Evangelistic Forward Movement.
I. As regards the Church of England, the Committee is not in a position to make a detailed statement, but to say that encouraging reports have reached us that in several Dioceses progress has been made in the closest association of the Clergy and Laity and government of the Church,—a movement that will exercise considerable influence upon the development of the Indian Church as a whole.

The Evangelistic Forward Movement was initiated in India by the South India United Church in September, 1914, under the impulse of the work in China and Japan, and practically through the letters from Mr. Eddy describing his meetings in the cities in China. After a year’s preparation of the Churches, through Bible Study and Prayer Circles, the South India United Church arranged for a special week of evangelism in September, 1915, to be carried on simultaneously by the whole of that Church. That week was a great success. About ten thousand workers, at least six thousand of whom were voluntary, took part in the work, and about as many were enquirers. For the first time in many Churches and in the hearts of many members a definite desire for special evangelistic work was aroused and expressed itself in more or less definite effort.

After that, a series of meetings were conducted for Christian workers with a view to inspire them to greater personal service and devotion.

These were followed by a series of intensive efforts in the three cities of Vellore, Madura and Palamcottah. These efforts had been especially prepared for, in some cases months beforehand, by a band of trained workers, and in every case arrangements were made to follow up the work. It must be admitted, however, that the preparation was not in every case long enough and thorough enough, and that many of the results could not be gathered in, because the workers were not ready to do the necessary work. It is clear that in order to conduct such an intensive campaign in any large city like Madura one year’s preparation is quite necessary. The meetings resulted favourably both to the Churches and the non-Christian middle classes. An atmosphere of sympathy and interest was produced among these cities. Bible classes were formed among Hindus and carried on for some months after the campaign, and some of these are still continuing. The Christian Church has now definite points of contact with many people of the Hindu middle classes in these cities.

In Madura especially the meetings for women were remarkable, as many as one thousand women attending meetings four days in succession. This result is due to the thorough preparation, careful organization, and to the steady following up of the work. It is quite clear that it is possible to get large numbers of middle class Hindu women to attend distinctively Christian meetings and to respond to Gospel addresses in a very remarkable way.

In the Syrian Churches, also, conventions were conducted, and a promising movement has been initiated. In some of the Churches a number of Forward Movement Secretaries have been appointed, and in many parts of Travancore and Cochin a special week of evangelism has already been held. Social Service among the Depressed Classes has been started, and it is quite clear that among the Church members themselves and among the clergy there is a new vitality and a movement towards a sustained evangelistic effort.

In February, 1916, the Madras Representative Council at its meeting decided to appoint a special Evangelistic Forward Movement Committee ‘in order to act as a central bureau of information, a
clearing house of methods and ideas, for the Forward Evangelistic Movement, and an advisory body to aid the various Missions and Churches in any way which they desire help in promoting the movement in their respective areas.' A full-time Convener also was appointed for the Committee. This Committee is representative of many of the Missions and Churches in South India, and has been able to come in contact with nearly all of them. The Committee has studied various aspects of the Forward Movement, and has placed the results of its studies before the Churches in its bulletins and in other pamphlets. It has also arranged for the publication of Bible Study books and various other literature for the Churches.

In other parts of India also the movement has developed considerably during the year, and various Churches are prepared for aggressive evangelism. In connection with at least one of them a wide spontaneous movement has sprung up which is full of the richest promise. The Bombay Representative Council and the Representative Council for Mid-India have decided to inaugurate similar work in their areas.

The results of the movement in the Churches in general may be noted as follows:

(1) Expectancy for great results for the Church and for India.
(2) Growing desire in the Indian Church to take up full responsibility for this work.

The following seem to be the principal conditions of success:—

(1) The Churches and Missions must realize the absolute necessity of thorough and continuous preparation which should be related to the normal everyday life and activities of the Church. Such preparation should include the coming, results.
(2) There must be an increasing emphasis upon personal, individual work by both men and women.

It may be noted here with thankfulness that the Indian Churches have contributed towards the expenses to a remarkable degree.

Every one who knows anything of the work of this movement must echo the words of the Metropolitan of India:—

"The conviction is, I believe, rapidly deepening that we are living in a great day of the Lord, and that He is in loudest tones calling upon His Church throughout the world to awaken from its apathy, its worldliness and sin, and to enter into the power of His Holy Spirit on a new and higher life of truer conformity to the mind of our blessed Lord and Master Jesus Christ and of a more consistent and genuine discipleship.

And in no way can a better or more effective response be made by the Church to this call than by addressing herself promptly and in some really adequate degree to the discharge of this great trust, originally committed to her by her Lord, of being the instrument in His hand of winning the world to Christ.'

RESOLVED:—

IV. That the Council, recognizing that if the permanence and progress of the Christian enterprise in India is to be secured, the work and organization must necessarily centre in the Church rather than in the Mission, draws the attention of the Provincial Councils to the fact that this end can best be attained through organized evangelistic efforts in which, as far as possible, whole congregations are enlisted.
4. Christian Education.—The Report of the Committee on Christian Education was presented by the Convener, Dr. J. C. R. Ewing:—

In pursuance of Res. iv. 2 of last year's Council inquiries were addressed to the Provincial Councils and elicited the information that in those areas in which mass movements are taking place, the Provincial Councils have the matter of the urgency of the need for Primary Education among Christians prominently before them.

A reference from the United Provinces Representative Council of Missions regarding what is known as a proposed Conscience Clause has been placed in our hands. After such consideration as we have been able to give to this matter we suggest to the Council the following action.

The action suggested was debated by the Council at three sessions and the following Resolutions were finally adopted:—

RESOLVED:—

V.—1. That all education given by Missions or Missionaries must be radically Christian, centring in the revelation of God in Jesus Christ, and including instruction in the Bible as the greatest of books for the teaching of truth and the building of character, and at the same time as a book necessary to the understanding of the history and literature of Christian peoples.

The Council therefore claims a definite sphere in which Missions may give practical expression to this conviction.

On the other hand, Christian principle requires both respect for rights of conscience and the exercise of fairness and justice.

The problem of reconciling these two aspects of Christian duty has always engaged, and still engages, the attention of Missionaries, and it is essential that they should solve it for each new set of conditions by their own spontaneous action.

2. That a careful memorandum should be prepared by the Educational Committee and sent to the Home Boards and Provincial Councils on the subject of the Conscience Clause in single school areas, stating (a) the different arguments which have been adduced as bearing on this subject, and (b) the facts about single school areas, their numbers, conditions, etc. And the Home Boards should be invited to give attention to the subject without delay.

3. That a statement of the Council's policy in regard to the question of a Conscience Clause be postponed till further information is available.

4. That the Council, while commending the subject to the careful study of Provincial Councils, and, through them, of Missionary Societies, urges these bodies to take no independent action without the fullest consultation with this Council through the Educational and Executive Committees.

5. Christian Literature.—The following report of the Committee on Christian Literature was presented by the Convener, the Rev. H. D. Griswold, Ph.D.:—

were also invited to attend, were unanimously co-opted members of the Committee.

The Convener reported that favourable replies to circular letters sent out dealing with the resolutions passed at Matheran had been received. These had reference specially to the question of arrangements by which men of suitable literary gifts might be set apart by their Missions from time to time to produce literature.

It was reported that the following Provincial Councils had definitely accepted the Harvest Field as their semi-official organ: Bengal and Assam, Bihar and Orissa, Madras, Punjab, the United Provinces and Mid-India.

It was reported that no progress had been made in the promotion of a Christian Monthly Magazine for non-Christians, or in the scheme for a Young People's Magazine.

Resolutions upon literature matters from Mid-India, the United Provinces and Madras were read and considered, and it was reported that the Bombay Provincial Council had appointed the Rev. R. B. Douglas as a part-time Literature Missionary for the Marathi area.

Statements were made by Messrs. Passmore, Mukerjee and Clark which showed that progress was being made in effecting a closer relationship between the Tract and Literature Societies and Missionary Societies in the various Provincial areas.

The Report on "Christian Literature in the Foreign Field" by Dr. J. H. Ritson, Chairman of the Special Literature Committee of the Edinburgh Continuation Committee, was also in the hands of members of the Committee, as well as copies of Resolutions agreed to by a Conference of representatives of missionary societies in Great Britain summoned by the Literature Committee of the Continuation Committee on May 30th, 1916. A copy of "Memoranda concerning literature work in the Foreign Field," issued by the American Section of the Literature Committee of the Continuation Committee, was laid on the table by the Convener.

Mr. Passmore also communicated to the Committee the report of a Committee on Literature submitted to the Foreign Mission Conference of North America in January, 1916.

In view of the situation indicated by these documents, Mr. Anderson suggested that the work of the Literature Committee should be subdivided in harmony with the original proposal of the National Conference held by Dr. Mott, which was that the work of such a Committee be sub-divided into four sections to deal with (1) Correspondence, (2) Investigation of the needs of India in the matter of literature, (3) the production of literature, and (4) Publication and distribution. (See pp. 24, 25 of Findings of National Conference, Calcutta, December, 1912).

It was resolved to recommend to the National Council that Dr. H. D. Griswold be appointed Convener of the Literature Committee. It was decided to carry on the work of the Committee on the following lines:

(1) Publication and Distribution.—Mr. Passmore, Convener; Bishop Walker, Messrs. Mukerjee, Guliford, and Jas. Smith;
(2) Production.—Dr. Macnicol, Convener; Messrs. Brown, Clayton, Ahmad Shah, and Mrs. Shome;
(3) Investigation.—Mr. Poley, Convener; Messrs. Greaves, Datta, Butler, and Mrs. Sinclair Stevenson.

It was agreed that the Convener of the Literature Committee should be authorized to ask the National Council for an amount estimated to cover the cost of office and travelling expenses.
The Committee considered various reports, such as Dr. Ritson's Report, the Report of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, and of a Conference of Representatives of the Missionary Societies of Great Britain. (See Resolutions I-V, which have been suggested by the Reports.)

RESOLVED:—

VI.—1. That the National Missionary Council is greatly encouraged to learn of the action of the American Section of the Literature Committee of the Edinburgh Continuation Committee in accepting responsibility for soliciting and disbursing funds for co-operative work in Christian literature in the Mission Field. It rejoices to learn that in spite of war conditions representatives of Missionary Societies in Britain are seeking to attain the same end, and that there are reasons to hope that after the war the Societies in Britain may make subsidies for literature work through the British Section or some adapted form of it.

2. That the Council believes that such authoritative bodies as the above-mentioned Sections will have most influence with the Boards and Committees at home, and are best fitted to receive and disburse funds to the various fields, while at the same time this method will interfere less than any other with the efforts of special Literature and Tract Societies to secure financial support.

3. That the Council believes that in India the administration of money remitted from the Home Boards in this way must be through some authoritative, impartial and central body on which the varying requirements of those who plan and write and of those who bear the responsibilities of publishing shall be represented, and it is suggested that for this purpose the National Missionary Council is most likely to secure efficient and economical use of such funds.

4. That the Council requests its Literature Committee at the earliest possible date to arrange, with the co-operation of the Provincial Councils, for the preparation of a clear and full statement of the problems of literature in India, showing the literature that is available, what classes of Tracts, Books, Newspapers and Periodicals are required, and what is the order of urgency, and in order to meet the cost of the preparation of such a statement applies to the Committee in America and Britain interested in literature for the sum of £500.

5. That the Council in view of the growing importance of Christian Literature in India would welcome the appointment as soon as possible of an experienced worker for its Literature Committee to assist in the investigation contemplated and to serve the cause in any way possible.

6. That the Council determines that any steps taken for the appointment of Literature Missionaries for special Language Areas for the production of vernacular Literature should always be taken through the Provincial Councils concerned, and not immediately by the National Council.

7. That the Council has heard with pleasure of the projected federation of Literature and Tract Societies, and believes that such a federation will lead to the more efficient publication and distribution of Christian literature in India.

8. That the sum of Rs. 750 be budgeted for office and travelling expenses for the year 1916-17.

6. Medical Missions.—In the absence of Dr. W.J. Wanless, the Convener of the Medical Standing Committee, the Secre-
tary said that he had no report from the Medical Committee to submit, and that no special action had been called for during the past year. It had been suggested, however, that the subject of Sanatoria for tuberculosis patients should receive the consideration of Provincial Medical Committees.

The following Resolution was adopted:—

RESOLVED:—

VII. That the Council desires to commend to Provincial Councils and their Medical Standing Committees the need of Sanatoria for consumptives in different parts of India, especially to meet the requirements of the Indian Christian community. It would suggest co-operation between Provincial Councils for the opening of such institutions, and would appeal to Medical Missionary authorities in Europe and America to supply special funds for providing Sanatorium treatment where urgently needed.

7. The Training of Missionaries.—The following Report of the Committee on the Training of Missionaries was presented by the Convener, the Bishop of Tinnevelly:—

Owing to the war and the consequent shortage of recruits from Europe, and the closing of a large number of training institutions at home, no question has arisen during the year and the Committee have not met. draft Report from the American Section of the Continuation Committee on Training of Ministers has come into the hands of a member of the Committee, and though the Report has not been sent to the Committee officially, they propose to consider and report on the suggestions contained therein.

From the Provinces of India, only the school at Landour, Mussoorie, U.P., has sent a report, which shows that 81 students attended the language school as compared with 68 last year. The work has been carefully organized and plans adopted for next year. No question is referred to the National Council.

The Calcutta School was closed in February as sufficient students were not available.

8. The European and Anglo-Indian Community.—The Convener reported that no meetings of this Committee had been held.

9. Public Questions.—The following Report of the Committee on Public Questions was presented by the Secretary, S. C. Mekerji, Esq., M.A., B.L.:—

The National Missionary Council at Matheran referred the following matters to the Public Questions Committee, viz.:—

(1) The question of the Divorce Memorial addressed to the Government of India, signed by a number of Missionary Bodies, praying for a new Divorce Act. (Vide pp. 28 and 52 of the last Report, and the Council Bulletin of 1915, where the Memorial has been printed in extenso.)

(2) The legal status of married converts from Islam. (Vide last Report, p. 36.)

(3) Certain cases arising under the Indian Christian Marriage Act referred to the National Missionary Council by a reso-
olution of the Episcopal Synod held in Calcutta in 1915. (*Vide last Report, p. 36.*)

(4) The Council at Matheran also appointed a small sub-committee consisting of the Metropolitan of India, Rev. Herbert Anderson and Prof. S. C. Mukerji to go through the Indian Christian Marriage Act of 1872 and submit to the next meeting of the Council their report, stating what amendments, if any, are necessary in the said Act.

1. Shortly after the Council Meeting at Matheran, the Government of India gave the following reply to the Divorce Memorial:—

"That the Government of India have very carefully considered the Memorial, and appreciate the motives of the memorialists as set forth in paragraph 3 thereof. They regret, however, that for reasons stated below they are unable to accept these proposals. They explain that as a result of the Memorial of the South India Missionary Association in 1907, the law has already been amended (*vide Act further to amend the Indian Divorce Act X of 1912*) so as to give relief where both parties are Christians and where the cause for divorce arises after conversion. Having so recently considered the various points concerning the law of divorce in the case of Indian Christians, the Government of India are unprepared further to amend the law, and consider that the other proposals of the memorialists would involve interference with the civil condition of persons who are married to Christians but have not become Christians themselves. The Government of India also deem it undesirable to confer further facilities in regard to Court costs, the jurisdiction of Courts, or the period within which remarriage is permissible, which would be likely to render dissolution of marriage more easy and more prevalent, and they consider that it is open to parties in poor circumstances to sue *in forma pauperis*. They further explain that the matter of fees is one which is properly dealt with by the High Courts."

In view of the reply given by the Government of India, the Public Questions Committee felt no useful purpose would be served by reopening the question at this stage. It may be mentioned here that the same view was also taken by the All-India Conference of Indian Christians at Allahabad last year.

2. The question of the legal status of married converts from Islam has been considered by the Public Questions Committee of the National Missionary Council and also by some of the Provincial Councils themselves.

The question at issue is whether the marriage status of a Mahommedan husband and wife remains intact in the event of their embracing Christianity simultaneously. There is no doubt whatever as to the fact that a Mahommedan marriage is *ipso facto* dissolved by the conversion of one of the parties to the marriage to Christianity. In such a case the partner who has become a Christian is free, so far as the law of the land is concerned, to marry again immediately, no legal formalities whatever being required as preliminary, while if the other partner to the original marriage subsequently becomes a Christian, there is no question that they would need to be remarried as Christians. The uncertainty arises only in the case of both man and wife becoming Christians simultaneously.

In the face of this uncertainty, two courses have been suggested:

(1) To obtain an authoritative judicial pronouncement on the question by a competent Court. It is suggested that a test case should be instituted and carried forward to the highest judicial tribunal to get a final ruling on the subject.
(2) To get such converts re-married immediately after baptism according to the Christian rites. The Executive Committee of the Madras Council is of opinion that whether the previous marriage is valid or not, the ceremony should be conducted again (after the conversion) according to the Christian rites.

In view of the above uncertainty and also in view of the fact that the Public Questions Committee have not been able to make any final report on the subject, the Metropolitan has been requested to introduce the subject to the Council.

3. The Episcopal Synod which met in Calcutta in 1915 passed the following resolution requesting the Metropolitan to bring the matter referred to therein before the National Missionary Council:

"Resolved: That the Metropolitan be requested to bring before the National Missionary Council the desirability of a common understanding between the Christian Bodies in this country to the effect that the authorities of each Body will refuse to solemnise a marriage between members of any other Body which would not be allowed in the Body to which the parties belong."

The Metropolitan wrote a letter to Mr. Anderson embodying the above resolution and explaining the reasons which had led the Synod to pass such a resolution.

For want of time the Council could not take up the matter at Matheran last year.

The members of the Public Questions Committee present at this Council have considered the question very carefully and feel it is contrary to the principles of Comity for a minister of any Church to perform a marriage between parties one or both of whom are and desire to remain members of another Church, if the said marriage is forbidden by the law of their Church.

4. The Sub-Committee appointed to go through the Indian Christian Marriage Act has prepared a draft Report suggesting what changes are necessary in the Marriage Act. The Report has been circulated among the Public Questions Committees of the various Provincial Councils and also among the members of the Public Questions Committee of the National Missionary Council.

Replies have been received only from the U.P., Mid-India and Madras Public Questions Committees, and from the Bishop of Rangoon. The prevailing feeling in the U.P. Committee was that the question was of so great importance and so great difficulty that more time should be given for its consideration, and suggested that the subject should be considered by the various Provincial Councils and not by Sub-Committees only. They are further of opinion that the N.M.C. in consultation with the Provincial Councils should draw up a rough draft of an entirely new law setting forth the minimum requirements in the interests of morality and order, and leaving all points that savour of ecclesiastical requirements to the various denominations to determine.

The Madras Public Questions Committee also feel that the whole Act needs to be recast and made more explicit.

The Mid-India Committee sent only a few suggestions with the remark that they had not sufficient time or data to enable them to prepare a full report or form a proper judgment regarding all the changes proposed.

The Bishop of Rangoon as Chairman of the Executive Committee sent his own views on the draft report of the Sub-Committee, but the
Secretary has not received the views of the other members of the Executive to whom the report has been sent.

No replies have come from Bengal, Behar and Orissa, Bombay and the Punjab.

In view of the fact that the draft report of the Sub-Committee has not yet been considered by all the Provincial Public Questions Committees, and that none of the Provincial Councils had an opportunity of going through the Indian Christian Marriage Act in the light of the changes proposed, and in view of the extreme importance of the subject, the Committee feel that the wiser policy would be to wait for another year so as to give the Provincial Councils and their respective Public Questions Committees a full opportunity of going through the Act and of examining the draft report of the Sub-Committee.

If such a course be adopted, the Public Questions Committee of the National Missionary Council will gather the views of the Provincial Councils and will then be in a position to report next year on the best way of dealing with the Marriage Act.

**RESOLVED:**

VIII. 1. That in view of the reply given by the Government of India to the memorial forwarded by various Missionary Bodies in 1915 praying for a new Divorce Act, this Council feels no useful purpose will be served by re-opening the question at present.

2. That the Council remits back to the Public Questions Committee for further consideration the subject of the legal status of married converts from Islam.

3. That in the opinion of the Council it is contrary to the principles of Comity for a minister of any Church to perform a marriage between parties one or both of whom are and desire to remain members of another Church if the said marriage is forbidden by the law of their own Church.

4. That the question of the Amendment of the Indian Christian Marriage Act or the preparation of a new Act be postponed till next year for fuller consideration, which the Provincial Councils are requested also to give to it during the interval.

10. **Mass Movements.**—The following Report of the Committee on Mass Movements was presented by the Convener, the Rev. J. Aberly, D.D.:

Mass Movements continue to present the unparalleled opportunities to which the Report of the National Missionary Council at Calcutta in 1912 called attention. Statistics have been gathered to show that for the five years from 1910 to 1914, these movements brought into the Church in India no less than 420,000 people. It has also been ascertained that while from 1901 to 1910 converts in Mass Movement areas were baptized at the rate of 160 per day, from 1910 to 1914 inclusive nearly 350 per day have been received into the Christian Church.

Mass Movements also continue to present the problems, especially along educational, which the Report at Matheran in 1915 set forth and which were emphasized by a special resolution of the Council at that time.

It is not the purpose of this Report to go over the matters discussed in previous Reports, but rather to point out some new developments since the last meeting of the National Council a year ago. The past year is conspicuous for the earnest efforts to meet the needs and solve the problems of these large Mass Movements.
First among these efforts we place the special Conference on Mass Movements held in connection with the Representative Council of Missions of the United Provinces. The Mass Movement Committee of that Council held two-day sessions twice during the year, to which visitors were invited. It issued printed Reports for each session. Some of the chief problems connected with Mass Movements were considered. Following this discussion, the Provincial Council by special resolution requested the National Council to establish a Bureau of Information on Mass Movements for all India.

Secondly, we call attention to the work of the Commission on Mass Movements appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church. This continues its vigorous campaign to waken up its constituency to the urgency of the Movement. The call has gone forth for a large increase of Missionaries to meet this urgent need. The Mass Movement Era is a publication which may be held up as a model for those who desire to arouse the Home Church to a sense of its duty in this great opportunity.

In the third place we call attention to a very carefully prepared survey by the Rev. C. G. Mylrea, of the Mass Movement Fields of the Church Missionary Society in the United Provinces. This clearly shows the great opportunity that faces that Society and is another proof that the Churches are awaking to a sense of the magnitude of this work, and that very special efforts must be made if this day of opportunity is not to be neglected.

The Committee also had before it the Report of the Madras Provincial Council’s Committee on Mass Movements, which reports a continuance of the work in the various parts of the Telugu field as also a remarkable new movement in the Nizamabad District where over 3000 were baptized during the past year by the Wesleyan Mission. This Mission is now training an emergency class of workers and is making special provision to foster this movement. The difficulty of securing the needed workers in newer Mass Movement, led the Madras Committee to suggest to Missions that they might render a real service to the Kingdom of Christ if they would help each other by supplying workers, and at least put no obstacle in the way of those of their own workers who might volunteer for service in such Mass Movement areas.

The various Mass Movement areas have been described as quiescent, active or potential. There are areas, for instance in the Tamil country, which have been reported as quiescent ones. The Evangelistic campaign in South India has revealed the fact, however, that as the Churches awake to a sense of their responsibility, these fields may again become active and large numbers may be gathered into the Church. This is a result of work that needs to be recorded for encouragement, no less than the active or potential movements which as a rule make a stronger appeal to the Churches.

The problems considered in the United Provinces Conference centred chiefly around persecution, caste, and an information Bureau or whole-time Secretary. Persecution everywhere accompanies the beginning of a movement. The consensus of opinion seems to be that it is best that it be endured for Christ’s sake and that only rarely should recourse be had to the courts for justice. In some of the older fields of the South the Church is faced by the serious problem of the persistence of cleavages in the Church along caste lines. The problem in areas where the movement is newer is how to avoid the same cleavages there. These are questions which must be considered by those who thoroughly know local conditions and so are best left to the Mass Movement Committees of Provincial areas.
The question of an Information Bureau on Mass Movements, or a Secretary who may become an expert, and helps in this work, is one, however, that is directly referred to his National Council for consideration. The Council should also, as representing the work of Indian Missions as a whole, support with all the influence and power it can command the efforts made by the various Societies to meet the needs of Mass Movements. The great need everywhere is for labourers to be thrust into the harvest, and all that this involves. To face this movement and train the 20,000,000 children among the masses within the next 15 or 20 years is a problem of supreme importance for India's salvation.

RESOLVED:—

IX. 1. That the National Council recognizes, with gratitude to God, the special efforts that are made by the various Societies to bring before the Churches that support them the greatness of the opportunity that Mass Movements continue to offer for the extension of Christ's Kingdom in India.

2. That this Council considers that the supreme need of Mass Movements is more labourers, Indian and European, and that the Indian Churches and the Home Societies be urged to spare no efforts in order that this need may be adequately met.

3. That this Council further appeals to the Indian Churches and the Home Societies not only to provide the men and means needed at the beginning of such movements, but also to make adequate provision for their needs as they grow and develop.

4. That the National Council desires to establish an All-India Bureau of Information on Mass Movements, whereby the experiences of one field may be available for other fields, and that the Standing Committee on Mass Movements be instructed to make plans and estimates for the same and submit them to the Executive with a view to an appeal, if necessary, to the Continuation Committee in Great Britain and America for the funds that may be required to start and maintain such a Bureau.

11. Women's Work.—Miss Greenfield, the Convener, informed the Council that the Committee had corresponded upon several matters but that there was no necessity to submit any report.

12. Work among Young People.—The following Report of the Committee on Work among Young People was presented by the Convener, the Rev. William Carey:

1. Transfer of Charge.—The Committee met during the year and formally took over the affairs of the United Council on Work among Young People in India.

2. Scope of Work.—During the ten years of its existence, the United Council did very valuable work in preparing Mission-study and Bible-study literature, while all along contemplating a wider range of effort. To quote its own words—

"Much remains to be done before we can be satisfied that our young people are being systematically guided in Bible study, wisely led into fields of Christian activity, sufficiently taught the value of prayer, duly impressed with the duty of Christian stewardship, made to realize the proper place of personal evangelism, and satisfactorily trained to become enthusiastic
leaders in a great Missionary Movement. The need is not of further organization, but of a more systematic effort to inspire life into our present organizations and to build up an indigenous leadership among our young people."

3. Relations with Existing Organizations.—The Standing Committee felt that, in trying to meet this need, it should not identify itself with existing organizations, though cultivating intimate relations with them; still less should it attempt to exercise any sort of control, but should simply strive, by a service of stimulation and encouragement, to help them in their work. Its special object should be to promote the more effective religious training of the young people of the Church, with a view to getting them to realize their personal responsibility for the evangelization of the world. Such cooperation as is practicable in this effort will tend to unify the aim and increase power and efficiency.

4. Formation of Provincial Committees.—Steps have been taken with a view to the formation of Provincial Committees to work in association with this Committee and to carry out in their own areas and vernaculars the policy thus laid down. Such Committees have been appointed by the Councils of the United Provinces, Bengal and Assam, Mid-India, and Bihar and Orissa. The Bombay Council has empowered its Executive to appoint a Committee if recommended to do so by the National Council. The Madras, Punjab and Burma Councils have the matter under consideration.

5. Work of Provincial Committees.—It is suggested that Provincial Committees seek to encourage activities along the following lines:—

(i) The initiation of work among young people wherever it may be necessary and desirable.
(ii) The development of work already begun.
(iii) The arranging for Conferences of leaders in this work, especially of Indian leaders.
(iv) The emphasizing of the value of Bible-study Circles, Mission-study Circles and Teacher-training Circles.
(v) The cultivation of the idea of raising up, among our young people themselves, an adequate and continuous supply of trained workers.

6. Expenses of Meeting.—The expenses of the meeting of the Standing Committee during the current year have been met from funds handed over by the United Council.

7. Financial Statement.—The Committee presents the following accounts for 1916, and the Budget for 1917.

**ACCOUNTS, 1916.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Payments</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rs. A. P.</td>
<td>Rs. A. P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount received from the United Council</td>
<td>Expenses to Oct. 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,295 1 5</td>
<td>1,392 10 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Balance in hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,295 1 5</td>
<td>1,902 6 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,295 1 5</td>
<td>3,295 1 5</td>
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**BUDGET FOR 1917.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meetings of Sub-Committees</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>A.</th>
<th>P.</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>600</td>
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<td>Stationery</td>
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<td>Postage and Telegrams (Convener)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical Assistance</td>
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<td>120</td>
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<td>Postage and Telegrams (Sub-Committees)</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
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**TOTAL** = 1,690 0 0

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Council expresses its appreciation of the work done by the 'United Council on Work among Young People in India,' and is grateful for the funds placed at the disposal of the Council for the carrying on of this work by its Standing Committee.

2. That the Council has heard with pleasure of the generous grants made to this work in the past by the Missionary Education Movements in America and Britain, and, with a view to securing the continuance and expansion of such sympathy and support on behalf of its Standing Committee, appoints the Revs. B. T. Badley, M.A., J. Drake, B.A., B.D., and A. E. Collier to represent this interest during their stay in the Home Lands.

3. That the Council approves of the lines upon which the Standing Committee proposes to carry on its work, and votes a sum of Rs. 600 for the expenses of a meeting in 1917.

4. That the Council, realizing that great advantages to Christian work in India both in the Vernaculars and English have resulted from the International Uniform Series of Sunday School Lessons, expresses the hope that a uniform series may be continued.

**VI. Finance.**

The following Financial Report was presented by the Hon. Treasurer, the Rev. W. E. S. Holland:

The situation revealed by the Financial Statement hardly differs from last year's report, except for the appearance for the first time of a considerable sum contributed by friends in Britain, and forwarded by the Edinburgh Continuation Committee. It seems impossible during the continuance of the war to expect any marked advance in the amount provided from Indian sources towards the support of the Council's work. We must still continue to be dependent on the generosity of friends in Britain and America. The British contribution is in excess of our Budget requirements for 1916, and will probably be available as a balance to the credit of the Council at the beginning of the new financial year. The remainder of the sum at present to our credit will probably have been expended in meeting the cost of the Council's meeting, and our ordinary working expenses. The only point that appears to call for comment is the fact that owing to the withdrawal of the German Missionaries from Bihar, the Bihar and Orissa Provincial Council have not seen their way to contribute more than Rs. 300 towards the expenses of the N.M.C. There is much to be said in favour of an assessment of each Council at a sum proportionate to the number of missionaries at work in the Province, but the adoption of this principle would seem to carry with it that of proportional representation also. It is satisfactory to be able to...
report that, with the exception of Burma, all the Provincial Councils now contribute their quota to the National Council’s Funds.

The case of the Survey account calls for special attention. Had it not been for a contribution of £300 from friends in Britain recently forwarded by the Edinburgh Continuation Committee, the funds in hand provided by the Committee of Reference and Counsel in America, for expenditure on Survey, would have been exhausted by the close of the present financial year. There are, we believe, grounds for thinking that the Committee of Counsel and Reference means to make possible the continuance of this work during the coming year. We shall now open with a credit balance sufficient to see us through six months’ work, but in default of further help from friends in Britain and America, we shall then have to close down all expenditure on Survey operations.

In regard to both the Council’s ordinary account, and the special account for Survey, there is, so far as the Treasurer is aware, no ground to do otherwise than repeat our Budget of last year, with the exception that the anticipated opening credit balances will reduce the sum for which we must still look to help from abroad, if we are to continue our work.

Nothing can indicate more strongly the Council’s debt of gratitude and obligation to those who have contributed so generously to its support than the simple fact that, but for that support, the Council could not have continued its work. Sir George Macalpine has generously expressed his readiness to contribute a sum of £50 to the Council if required, in addition to a sum of £100 already sent us.

The Council’s funds available for the relief of the Gossner Mission will be exhausted next month. It will be for the Council to determine the steps to be taken in this regard in the future. There has been no appeal for help from friends in India this year.

The Council now holds at its disposal for purposes of Mission arbitration the sum of Rs. 1,675-12-9 handed over to it by the Decennial Conference’s Board of Arbitration.

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.**

**January 1 to October 31, 1916.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
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<td>Rs. A. P.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance in hand</td>
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<td>Committee of Reference and Counsel 4,887 15 0</td>
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<td>Travelling 275 0 0</td>
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<td>Interest 37 14 2</td>
<td>Annual Meeting of Council 23 0 0</td>
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<td>Meeting of Executive Committee 116 6 0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Literature Committee 529 2 9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Indian Church Committee 11 9 9</td>
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<td>Auditor’s fee 32 0 0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Interest and bank charges 46 15 11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 11,326 13 2</td>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 6,863 6 9</td>
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### BUDGET FOR 1917.

**Receipts.**

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<tr>
<td>Per Provincial Councils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per Donation promised</td>
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<td>Grant to be solicited from the Committee of Reference and Counsel</td>
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**Expenditure.**

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<td>Half rent of Secretary's house</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting of National Council</td>
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<td>Meeting of Executive Committee</td>
<td>250 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling expenses (Secretary)</td>
<td>500 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing and stationery</td>
<td>700 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office expenses</td>
<td>800 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special visits</td>
<td>200 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young People's Committee</td>
<td>600 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Movements Committee</td>
<td>600 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature Committee</td>
<td>750 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Committee</td>
<td>600 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingencies</td>
<td>240 0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 11,300 0 0

---

### SURVEY ACCOUNT.

*January 1 to October 31, 1916.*

**Receipts.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs. A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance in hand</td>
<td>8,512 5 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>4,500 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>335 4 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenditure.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs. A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary's personal allowance</td>
<td>4,500 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office—on account</td>
<td>2,000 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty expenses</td>
<td>13 5 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 13,347 9 7

---

### BUDGET FOR 1917.

**Receipts.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs. A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance in hand</td>
<td>4,800 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required for 1917</td>
<td>6,700 0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenditure.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs. A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stipend of Director</td>
<td>6,000 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office staff</td>
<td>2,100 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office accommodation</td>
<td>500 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling</td>
<td>600 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>1,500 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and maps</td>
<td>250 0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, postage and miscellaneous</td>
<td>550 0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 11,500 0 0

*N.B.—This budget does not include provision for the newly appointed Associate Director of Survey.*
ARBITRATION ACCOUNT.

Received from Arbitration Committee of Decennial Conference

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
& \text{Rs.} & \text{A. P.} \\
\hline
\text{Less—Bank commission} & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & 433 \\
\hline
\text{Total} & \ldots & 1,675 & 12 & 9 \\
\end{array}
\]

GOSSNER MISSION ACCOUNT.

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Receipts} & \text{Rs.} & \text{A. P.} \\
\hline
\text{Cash book balance as on 31-12-15} & \ldots & 1,707 & 3 & 0 \\
\text{Subscriptions} & \ldots & 716 & 0 & 0 \\
\text{Committee of Reference, etc.} & \ldots & 6,197 & 1 & 0 \\
\text{From fixed deposit} & \ldots & 6,000 & 0 & 0 \\
\text{Bank interest} & \ldots & 177 & 8 & 8 \\
\hline
\text{Total} & \ldots & 14,797 & 12 & 8 \\
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Expenditure} & \text{Rs.} & \text{A. P.} \\
\hline
\text{Per Rev. H. Anderson, Bishop of Chota Nagpur} & \ldots & 12,795 & 0 & 0 \\
\text{Father Bretandean} & \ldots & 150 & 8 & 0 \\
\text{Sundries} & \ldots & 10 & 15 & 0 \\
\hline
\text{Balance} & \ldots & 1,283 & 5 & 8 \\
\hline
\text{Total} & \ldots & 14,797 & 12 & 8 \\
\end{array}
\]

RESOLVED:

2. That the Accounts of the Hony. Treasurer, as above rendered, be passed, subject to audit.
3. That the Budget for 1917 be accepted.
4. That a sum of Rs. 400 for the expenses of the Council be asked from each Provincial Council, subject to such readjustments as the Executive Committee of the National Council may deem wise.
5. That the responsibility of providing a sum of Rs. 8,200 be allocated to the eight Provincial Councils.
6. That Provincial Councils not seeing their way to pay this allocation of Rs. 400 be asked to meet the travelling expenses of their own representatives to the meetings of the Council.

VII. German Missions in India.

The Bishop of Chota Nagpur presented the following Report and Financial Statement on the work of the Gossner Mission in Chota Nagpur:

Bishop’s Lodge, Ranchi, July 11th, 1916.

It is just a year since a change in Government policy led to the removal of the German Missionaries of the Gossner Mission and I assumed partial charge of the work. Some account of what has been done during the past year is due to those who have so generously supported me in maintaining the activities of the Mission as far as was possible. The task that I undertook was threefold: firstly, to maintain the educational work; secondly, to afford such advice, counsel and spiritual help as I could; and thirdly, to render such financial aid as appeared necessary. It will be convenient if I say a few words under each of these heads.
1. Educational Work.—At the present time this comprises 267 schools, of every grade from the High English School to the village infant school. I have been very fortunate in securing capable men to conduct the High School and it has been maintained, I think, without any diminution of efficiency. The number of boarders has been well maintained, though fees were raised by the Lutheran Missionaries before they left. Of the five Middle English Schools the staff of two was pronounced by the Inspector to be below the requisite standard, but this defect has been remedied. One situated in Purulia has been reduced to the U.P. standard. The school had never gained Government recognition and the staff was wholly inadequate for the work of a secondary school. The Training Class for female teachers had been amalgamated with that of our own Mission before the German Missionaries left, and the arrangement has worked well. The students live in their own Hostel in the Lutheran compound, attending the class as day scholars. The Training Class of male teachers has been maintained at Govindpur and has secured excellent results. One or two of the small village schools have been closed as the numbers attending were not sufficient to justify the expenditure of Government money on them. The staff of teachers has worked loyally and well.

2. Congregational Work.—The Pastors and Catechists have remained in charge of this. The Pastors held a gathering in March when they appointed a small committee to exercise control generally, with superintendents for special areas. Our Missionaries have attended the district panchayats and given advice and counsel as desired.

Before the German Missionaries left, in reply to a letter of my own I received an official letter from the Vorstand or Governing Committee of G.E.L. Mission, in which they said: We desire to emphasize that we are glad for any spiritual help which is being given to our native helpers. In accordance with this I invited some of the Pastors to Bible studies which I was giving, and those within reach gladly availed themselves of the invitation. During the present month summer schools for the teachers are being held in various centres for Bible study and technical instruction, and the opportunity has been afforded to the Pastors of giving such denominational teaching as they may desire. I would add that apart from a few girls who have married into families belonging to our congregation not a single Lutheran Christian has been received into our congregation.

3. Financial Assistance.—Direct financial assistance has been given in two directions. The educational work has been maintained by the ordinary and special Government grants, and the income from fees. The boarding fees had in every case been raised from those current in pre-war times; in some areas where the people were poor this has meant a diminution in the number of students, but in others it has meant that the Boarding houses have been self-supporting. The Catechists and Pastors have for the most part been receiving reduced salaries, but I have been at pains to discover any cases in which this entailed real hardship, and where this was found to exist I have endeavoured to remove it. I have given below a financial statement which will, I think, show the sources from which the income has been derived. I closed the Provincial Fund when it seemed that our needs would be met from the National Missionary Council's Fund. The cost of the Missionary staff has been provided from a fund which I have raised and which has been largely helped by funds contributed through the S.P.G. Only such part of the expenditure is given in the statement.
as has been incurred in India and does not comprise payments made in England, which include the cost of passages for four Missionaries. Nor does it include the salaries of four Missionaries who have been lent from other Dioceses. A special debt of gratitude in this connection is due to the C.M.S., who have lent three Missionaries, and to the S.P.G. at Cawnpore.

4. The Missionary Staff.—A word on the staff may not be out of place. Of the twenty stations under my care seven have been occupied by special Missionaries. In three others we have Missionaries normally resident or in the immediate vicinity, and the remaining stations have been visited every month.

Conclusion.—I cannot conclude without some reference to the malicious anonymous charges which have been made against the German Missionaries lately working in Chota Nagpur, for which every patriotic Englishman who values the national reputation for fair play must feel utterly ashamed. A movement developed during the past year among the Oraons, one of the tribes inhabiting the Ranchi Plateau. It was a movement largely agrarian in origin though it also contained a religious element. Because in the mantras used there occurred pro-German sentiments some persons at once inferred that it must have been the product of a seditious propaganda on the part of German Missionaries. There was absolutely no proof of this, and the Government repudiated the suggestion as did also our own Missionaries who had carefully studied the matter. Dissatisfaction with legal decisions rejecting the claims of the agitators and the rumours of German successes were quite enough to account for these sentiments without attributing to German Missionaries a part in an anti-Christian movement in an area in which only two of their 21 stations are situated, and which originated in villages 15 miles from the nearest Mission station.

Three other charges were made. First, that in all of their schools they had pictures of the German Emperor. I replied that at the outside not more than twenty such pictures would be found, but enquiry showed me that there was but one and that in the Ranchi school, where it had been placed under special circumstances. Next they were accused of having used as a text-book in their schools a Mundari book inculcating disloyalty. The book in question had never been used in any school, nor did it inculcate disloyalty, but was an appeal to Mundas to seek education. And lastly they were charged with having regularly prayed for the German Emperor in their public services, whereas the truth is that no such prayer is included in their liturgies, but one for the King-Emperor and those in authority under him in this land is regularly used.

If these German Missionaries are to be excluded from their work in India, at least let this policy be based on the exigencies of the international situation and not on false charges made against men whose record in India has been that of devoted Christian Missionaries.

F. CHOTA NAGPUR.
### Educational Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Grant-in-Aid</td>
<td>14,569</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Govt. Grant</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance due to Treasurer</td>
<td>322 3 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>45,891 3 0</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gossner Mission Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at Aug. 1st, 1915</td>
<td>2,993 7 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per N.M.C.</td>
<td>10,030 8 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.E.L. Mission</td>
<td>5,211 0 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subs. and Dons. per Bishop</td>
<td>1,696 2 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>602 3 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>20,433 5 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bishop’s Emergency Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>A. P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at Aug. 1st, 1915</td>
<td>594 3 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per S.P.G.</td>
<td>7,882 14 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subs. and Dons. per Bishop</td>
<td>8,884 15 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>1,236 14 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>18,598 14 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In speaking of the report the Bishop of Chota Nagpur emphasized his defence of German Missionaries from false charges that had been made somewhat recklessly against some of them, spoke of a recent movement among the Oraons towards the faith of Christ, and suggested that in dealing with the difficulty about finance, should no further help come from America, it was possible that so long as the German Mission retained responsibility for the work, its property might be mortgaged to Government, who had taken over charge of it.
The Rev. J. Aberly, D.D., then read the following report upon the situation in the South:—

**GERMAN MISSIONS IN SOUTH INDIA.**

The bodies that have had to deal with matters pertaining to German Missions in South India have been the German Missions Relief Committee of the Madras Representative Council of Missions, the Missionary Educational Council of South India and the Continental Missions Continuation Committee. The arrangements for these Missions are about the same as they were a year ago except as regards the educational work. Under the old arrangements it would have been impossible to draw grants for the schools, and recognition might have been withdrawn. The Missionary Educational Council of South India suggested to Government that the schools of each Mission be put under a Committee consisting of British and neutral subjects. The suggestion was approved and the Council was asked to nominate the Committees. The nominations were in almost every case approved, and the Committees were then asked to nominate correspondents for the schools. These have been for the most part accepted by Government. Even before all these arrangements had been perfected, Government agreed to pay over to these Committees the school grants for the year 1915-16. They also have sanctioned the grants for 1916-17. This has done much to relieve the financial burdens that, it was feared a year ago, might fall on those who have taken over the work of these Missions.

The transfer of the Leipzig Mission to the Church of Sweden Mission has been approved by Government. One of the Missionaries of the Rajahmundry Mission has been allowed to tour in the Schleswig-Holstein Field and has the general oversight of that Mission. There has been some delay in the appointment of an approved Secretary for the old Hermannsburg Mission. This delay was due in part to the hope that the Ohio Synod might take over all its work, as it had already taken over two of its stations. In view, however, of certain difficulties, a Missionary of the Guntur Mission has now been named as Secretary, and we have every reason to believe, will be accepted. The non-German members of the Basel Mission, principally Swiss, have been permitted by their Home Board to organize themselves independently. They are carrying on the work of this Mission.

The financial needs of these Missions have on the whole been met better than we had reason to expect a year ago. First of course comes the Government grant which, as already stated, gave much relief. The Rajahmundry Mission has taken over full financial responsibility for the former Schleswig-Holstein field, and looks forward to keeping this as a part of its own field. The old Hermannsburg Mission had funds on hand due to a transfer of stations to the Ohio Synod, and has been receiving money needed to carry on its work from the Ohio Synod. The Basel Mission has been allowed by Government to use the profits of the Industrial Mission, and these are sufficient to meet its financial needs. The needs of the old Leipzig Mission, however, can only be partially met by the Church of Sweden Mission which has taken over the work. Rs. 30,000 annually are realized from School grants. The Danish Mission contributes Rs. 1,500 monthly. Deducting these about Rs. 8,000 per month remains to be met by the Church of Sweden Home Board and by special Relief Committees.

It may be in place to state that since its formation, the Continental Missions Continuation Committee has received Rs. 59,302-2-9. Of
these Rs. 4,000 were given through the National Council from funds given by the Continuation Committee. Rs. 2,500 were given for the relief of distress through the Relief Committee of the Madras Provincial Council. Rs. 3,571-8-10 were given through the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Rs. 377-1-0 were given through the American Mennonite Mission. The balance of Rs. 48,853 was given chiefly through the Board supporting the Guntur Mission, while some of it was also contributed through the Board supporting the Rajahmundry Mission and by private individuals. A balance of Rs. 577-13-1 is now on hand.

The most serious problem relating to these Missions is no doubt that of missionary oversight. The United Theological College and the London Mission loaned the Rev. G. E. Phillips, B.A., for one year, but on the expiry of that period he has now returned to his own work. The former Leipzig Mission and the Basel Mission are, however, the ones best supplied with Missionaries. The former Hermannsburg Mission comes next, as one of their Missionaries has been allowed to remain and two others have been loaned for the work while the High School at Tirupati is given oversight by still another Mission. The old Schleswig-Holstein Mission has, on the other hand, visitations from only one Missionary.

This scarcity of Missionaries has in part been provided for by placing increased responsibility on the Indian workers in these Missions. While it has not been possible to do aggressive work, the work hitherto done has on the whole been conserved, and for this we are grateful to God. We are also grateful to the many who have helped in this crisis and especially to the Rev. J. H. Maclean, Secretary of the Missionary Educational Council of South India, who has rendered most valuable service. Though the matter of support for the old Leipzig Mission gives us some anxiety, we believe that the same Lord who hath provided hitherto will continue to care for and keep this work.

J. ABERLY.

The President called on the Rev. D. Bexell of the Church of Sweden Mission, who said:—

On behalf of the Continental Missions which at present are worked by other Societies or managed through some temporary arrangements, I beg permission to say a few words of appreciation and thanks at this our Annual Council Meeting. We gratefully acknowledge the truly earnest Christian spirit which has moved the Missionary Councils and individuals by words and deeds to encourage and strengthen the work in those Mission fields. You have in an impartial, broad-minded spirit given credit to, and for the sake of truth even defended, the previous work done by the Continental Missionaries. By your endeavours most valuable past assistance and substantial material help has been rendered, without which some of those Missions, humanly speaking, would have collapsed in a very short time. I need only to mention the names of the Gossner, Basel and Hermannsburg Missions in order to make one feel what a debt of gratitude we owe to the various Missionaries, Councils and individual fellow-workers.

In this way several Mission fields formerly connected with the Continental Missions have received help and encouragement.

We are the more grateful for all this assistance as it has been prompted by that love that seeketh not her own, but aims to preserve intact as far as possible the work thus taken over.
RESOLVED:—

XII. 1. That the above Reports be received and published in the Proceedings of the Council
2. That the Bishop of Chota Nagpur be advised, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Council, to take steps to secure the necessary funds for the maintenance of the work carried on under his superintendence.

VIII. Council for 1916-1917.

The Report of the Nomination Committee was presented by Mr. Herbert Anderson. It was

RESOLVED:—

XIII. That the Council in accordance with Bye-Laws of the Constitution elect the following eighteen co-opted Members, the Officers, the Executive Committee, and the Members of the various Standing Committees:

1. Co-opted Members for 1916-1917:

- Commissioner F. Booth-Tucker—Punjab
- Rev. Herbert Anderson—Bengal
- Rev. H. D. Griswold, Ph.D.—United Provinces
- Bishop J. W. Robinson—Bombay
- Rev. W. E. S. Holland, M.A.—Bengal
- The Metropolitan of India
- Father Geevergese—Bengal
- Rev. J. Aberly, D.D.—Madras
- Miss Rose Greenfield—Punjab
- Dr. W. J. Wanless—Bombay
- Rev. H. A. Popley, B.A.—Madras
- K. T. Paul, Esq., B.A.—Bengal
- Rev. W. H. Findlay, M.A.—Madras
- Rev. H. Gulliford—Mysore
- Miss Ruth Robinson—U. Provinces
- The Bishop of Madras—Madras
- Dr. S. K. Dutta—Punjab
- The Bishop of Dornakal—Madras

2. Officers of the Council for 1916-17:

- Chairman: The Metropolitan of India
- Vice-Chairman: S. C. Mukerji, Esq., M.A., B.L.
- Hon. Treasurer: Rev. W. E. S. Holland, M.A.
- Secretary: Rev. Herbert Anderson.


Standing Committees for 1916-17:


6. **Medical Missions**—Dr. W. J. Wanless, Convener. Dr. Goheen, Dr. J. M. Maephail, Rev. E. Muir, Rev. E. Neve, Dr. A. S. Wilson, Dr. Miss A. S. Kugler, Dr. Narayanaswami.

7. **The Training of Missionaries**—Rev. Dr. J. Aberly, Convener. The Bishop of Tinnevelly, Rev. Dr. H. D. Griswold, Rev. F. Kington, Rev. Dr. N. Macnicol, Rev. F. Goodwill.


12. **Women’s Work**—Miss Greenfield, Convener. Miss E. M. Swift, Mrs. Holland, Miss R. Robinson.


The request for the appointment of a Committee upon Industry and Agriculture was made by Commissioner Booth-Tucker, and recommended by the Executive Committee.
IX. Other Business.

1. World’s Conference on Faith and Order.—The Rev. J. H. Maclean M.A., B.D., reported that the request made at the instance of the Madras Provincial Council for the recognition of independent Churches on the mission field had been granted by the Committee of the above Conference, so that in accordance with this permission a commission of six members had been appointed to represent the South India United Church. A preliminary meeting of certain members of Missions who were resident in America had been held in January, 1916, at which progress was made in determining the lines along which the work of preparing for the Conference should proceed. The work of preparation had not been materially interrupted by the war, except in so far as it had hindered a number of Churches on the continent of Europe from appointing Commissions. In South India certain proposals had been made for a local Conference on Faith and Order, but all plans had been suspended on account of the war.

2. The British and American Boards.—The Secretary read letters from Mr. J. H. Oldham and Dr. Charles R. Watson expressing the deepest interest of friends in Great Britain and America in the Council and its work.

Resolved:

XIV. That the Rev. J. C. R. Ewing, D.D., C.I.E., seek occasion during his coming furlough in America to represent the interest and work of the National Council before the Committee of Reference and Counsel representing the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.

3. Request from Bombay Council.—In reply to a letter from the Rev. J. McKenzie, M.A., Secretary of the Bombay Representative Council of Missions, referring to the National Council the question of the appointment of a Committee on Work among Young People, it was

Resolved:

XV. That as the National Council has a Committee on this branch of work, it recommends the Bombay Council to appoint such a Committee for its Province.

4. Time and Place of next Meeting.

Resolved:

XVI. That the choice of place and date of the next Annual Meeting be left to the Executive Committee, it being suggested that the second week of November and if possible some place in the Madras area be chosen.
5. Reference to Standing Committees of matters requiring their special attention during 1916-1917.

(1) The Rev. J. H. Maclean proposed that the Education Committee receive certain instructions in regard to its work during 1916-1917. The Secretary was asked to bring the matters suggested to the notice of the Convener of that Committee.

(2) Mr. Maclean also suggested that the Public Questions Committee might consider the preparation of a legal handbook giving the principal legal enactments and decisions affecting Indian Christians. After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

XVII. That the Public Questions Committee, after consultation with the South India Missionary Association, should consider the advisability of the issue of a Legal Handbook setting forth the principal enactments and legal decisions affecting Indian Christians, with notes and comments that shall make their application clear, and submit proposals to the Executive Committee of the Council.

6. Appointment of Vigilance Committees.—Commissioner Booth-Tucker suggested that the cinema picture shows and the drink shops of India were doing great and increasing harm to Indian youth and the people at large.

RESOLVED:

XVIII. 1. That the Council recommends to Provincial Councils some inquiry into the conditions of censorship under which Cinema Pictures and Exhibitions are allowed to appear.

2. That the Council would also urge upon Provincial Councils the consideration of the possibility of any action for securing, from Provincial Governments, a policy of further reduction in the number of liquor and drug shops.

7. Finance of Standing Committees.—Dr. Ewing said that the Educational Committee might have to meet during the early part of 1916, but had no funds for the purpose. Dr. Aberly said the same was true of the Mass Movement Committee. In the absence of the Treasurer the Secretary said that, though unwilling to increase the budget for 1917, it was clear that each year certain Standing and Special Committees must have sufficient money to allow their members to meet at least once. The Finance Committee had accepted the request of the Literature Committee for Rs. 750, and of the Young People’s Committee for Rs. 600. On behalf of the Finance Committee he would request the Treasurer to add the sum of Rs. 1,200 to the budget for the special expenses, amounting to Rs. 600 each, of the Educational and Mass Movements Committees during 1917.
8. Call to a Day of Prayer.

Resolved:—

XIX. That the Executive Committee arrange for the observance of a day of prayer for India, on the same lines as in former years, and that the Rev. W. H. Findlay, M.A., be requested to draft the call.

9. Votes of Thanks.—The President expressed on behalf of the Council its thanks to those friends who had so kindly received members of the Council as their guests, viz. Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Hallaran, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Downing, and the Rev. R. and Mrs. Burges; also to the Rev. Dr. G. W. Brown for his assistance in making the necessary arrangements for the meetings in Jubbulpore.

In a few concluding words the President said that all Council members must realize that the few days spent together in Jubbulpore had been of great value both to the work and to themselves. Fellowship had appreciably deepened and progress been made.

The proceedings terminated by the singing of the doxology and pronouncement of the benediction.

(Signed) G. A. Calcutta.

Herbert Anderson.
No detailed report of the activities of the Council for the past year is necessary, since full publicity has been given to all its proceedings in the two Bulletins which have been published, No. 2 in March, following the last Annual Meeting of the Council, and No. 3 in October, following the meeting of the Executive Committee. On the whole the year has been marked by progress; but at the same time it must be confessed that most of the period has been full of anxiety. The great war still goes on; but there has been in most respects considerable recovery from the shock and dislocation of work so apparent everywhere during the earlier months of the contest. The single exception to this statement is the missions of the various German Societies. A year ago when the Council met, most of the German missionaries were interned or under orders for internment. Military necessities have resulted since in the repatriation or internment of nearly the entire body of German missionaries.

There is in consequence quite a change in the membership of this Council, since the Schleswig-Holstein, the Hermannsburg, and the Leipzig Missions, as formerly known, have ceased to exist, their work having been transferred to the Rajahmundry, Ohio and Swedish Missions. The Basel Mission is undergoing reorganization. The immediately pressing question is in regard to the maintenance of the educational work of all these missions, particularly the high schools. The Missionary Educational Council of South India has the matter in hand and is working for a satisfactory adjustment.

All the committees of the Council have been active during the year, with the possible exception of the one on the Indian Church. The Committee on Mass Movements reported in time for the meeting of the National Council, submitting a very full and painstaking review of most of the questions connected with them. The Committees on Public Questions, Christian Literature, Comity and Co-operation, Medical Work and Survey and Occupation all have important matters to bring before the Council for action at this Annual Meeting. The Council is also to have a report of a special committee on the advisability of conducting a united evangelistic campaign in South India.

Special attention is called to the Proceedings of the Second Meeting of the National Missionary Council, Matheran, November 12-16, 1915, in which appear the reports of all the National Committees and Synopses of the Reports of all the Provincial Councils of India. The matter of financing the National Council is still a cause of grave anxiety. Funds, however, are on hand or in sight for conducting the survey and for continuing the present half-time service of a paid Secretary for the current year. In order to move forward strongly the National Council needs an assured income of considerable size, say Rs. 10,000 at least. At present this cannot be secured from provincial sources.

The Council records with deep regret the death of two of its most valued and experienced members, Dr. Wyckoff and Mr. Cooling. The former was Convener of the Committee on Indian Church and a member of the National Council at the time of his death, and the latter was the
first Honorary Secretary of this Council and the successor of Dr. Wyckoff on the National Council. We shall miss them from our deliberations to-day.

Respectfully submitted.
W. L. FERGUSON,
Hony Secretary.

Appendix I (2).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF THE BOMBAY REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

The annual meeting of the Council was held on the 15th and 16th September, when reports of the work of the various committees were presented. These dealt largely with matters of routine, but there were a few items of special importance.

The Council is glad that the Literature Missionary Scheme is now about to be brought into operation, at least in part. The contributions of missions have not come in as was expected, but the Executive Committee felt that a beginning should be made with the scheme on a smaller scale than was originally contemplated, in the hope that once the scheme was brought into operation, missions which held back might give it their support. The recommendation was accordingly made to the Council and adopted by it that the Rev. R. B. Douglas be appointed Marathi Literature Missionary for a period of four years without salary, the whole of the amount contributed by Missions to be devoted to the expenses of the production of literature. The United Free Church Mission has agreed to this arrangement. It is hoped that the part of the scheme which concerns the Gujarati area may, before long, be brought into operation.

The Council has followed with deep and prayerful interest the movement that has been started in this Presidency, as well as various other parts of India, for greater prayerfulness and more earnest endeavour in the work of bringing the Gospel to the people. On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Council appointed a Committee of information and reference on Evangelistic Effort. Also, on the evening of the 15th September, a well attended Conference was held in Bombay on the Evangelistic Campaign.

The Council had before it the subject of the proposed Conscience Clause in Indian Education Codes. No definite decision was arrived at as to the attitude of the Council to such a Clause. A resolution was adopted deprecating the insertion of a Conscience Clause, and another recommending that missions should not act independently but that they should take action only through the Council, and that in the meantime they should ascertain the attitude of their Home Boards to the question. A statement of the attitude of a number of the missions represented on the Council has been sent to the National Council.

JOHN McKENZIE,
Hony. Secretary.
Appendix I (3).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF THE MID-INDIA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

During the year the Council was able, through its Executive Committee, to afford some assistance to one mission in the area which was having difficulty in regard to the return of missionaries from furlough. Most of the work of the Council, however, has been carried on by the regular Standing Committees. In some cases, owing to changes in personnel and chairmen, the committees have not pushed on the work which was under way at the last meeting.

Along the educational line we have to report a definite scheme for the establishment of a union Normal School for male Primary Teachers at Hoshangabad. Details of the scheme have not yet been published, but the committee having the matter in charge is apparently working out a plan which will be satisfactory to the missions of the area.

A sub-committee of the Educational Union has worked out a graded course of Scripture lessons for primary schools. This course was presented to the last meeting of the Council, and a resolution passed recommending the course to the missions in the area. The Educational Committee is taking up the question of mission representation on the Text-Book Committee of the Central Provinces. At present missions are not represented on this committee.

Another matter which has been brought to the attention of the committee is the rate of fees charged in boarding schools to pupils coming from missions other than those conducting the schools. A committee has been appointed to draw up a uniform scale of fees to be presented at the next meeting of the Council.

The question of religious instruction in mission schools, and the agitation to hamper this instruction has also been before the Council. The following preamble and resolution were passed: "Whereas Religious Instruction is a fundamental principle of Christian education, the value of which is generally recognized, and (b) whereas we believe that the true progress of India is best furthered by the inculcation of Christian principles through the medium of religious instruction, and (c) whereas considerable sums of money have been and are being provided by the missionary societies for school buildings and teaching staffs under definite conditions imposed by Government, but also with the understanding that religious and moral instruction be given, and (d) whereas in our opinion the operation of this proposed restrictive clause will be disastrous to the successful imparting of such religious instruction."

"It is resolved: That this Council expresses itself as emphatically opposed to the introduction of such a restrictive clause under any form whatever in the Grant-in-Aid code: and is of the opinion that the introduction of such a clause would result in the relinquishment of grants-in-aid and in the consequent closing down of much missionary educational work."

The Medical Committee reported that a Tuberculosis Sanatorium for female patients, which will be available for all missions, will shortly be opened in Pendra Road in this area.

Correspondence with the North India Christian Tract and Book Society in Allahabad has resulted in the proposal by the Tract Society to
remodel its constitution in such a way that its affairs shall be governed by a representative body chosen from the missions supporting the Tract Society throughout the entire Hindu, Urdu-speaking area, excepting the Punjab. The Mid-India Council believes that this would be a step in advance and would contribute much to the cause of Christian literature.

For some time there has been a proposition to provide a union hymn book in Hindi. It was found impossible to get all the missions in the area to unite in this. Five missions, however, have united in the production of a hymn book which is now in the press and will be issued shortly.

A resolution adopted at the recent meeting of the Council urges the missions in the area to include in their budgets an annual appropriation for the North India Christian Tract and Book Society. It is becoming more and more felt that it will be necessary for missions to contribute to the financing of Christian literature.

The Committee on Indian Church and Indian Christian Leadership made an investigation into the matter of self-support and paucity of Indian leaders. It is found that there is a genuine growth in the matter of self-support. Numerous causes have been suggested in regard to the hindrances in developing Indian leadership in the Church.

The most important matter before the Council at its last meeting was the question of a United Evangelistic Campaign. While this movement has been prominent in other parts of India, it has just reached the Mid-India area. The members of the Council were in hearty sympathy with a joint campaign, and a committee has been appointed to have general oversight of the work. The plan to be followed will be largely along the lines which have been successful in other areas.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. WM. BROWN,
BASIL H. BACKHOUSE,
Joint Hony. Secretaries.

Appendix I (4).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS OF THE UNITED PROVINCES.

The Council held its last Annual Meeting at Bishop's Lodge, Allahabad, on April 12th and 13th, 1916. Of the 38 members of the Council there was an attendance of 28. Two of the absences were due to the withdrawal of the Y.M.C.A. and Salvation Army from representation on the Council. The plan of securing four representatives of the Indian Christian Community was not a success, proving too complex. The plan has been revised and the results of correspondence furnish hope that at the next Council meeting we may be able to welcome four such representatives. The Indian attendance was further curtailed by the necessary and much regretted absence of several co-opted members.

Because of the approaching furlough of our Secretary, the Rev. B. T. Badley, his resignation was accepted. The Council has thus lost, only
for a short time, we trust, an efficient officer who has done valiant service during the early years of the Council's life.

The Council was favoured this year with the first visit of the National Council's Secretary, the Rev. H. Anderson of Calcutta. Many of our discussions were greatly helped by his counsel. Another pleasant feature of our meeting was the "At Home" at the Christian Club at Allahabad, which gave us all a much coveted opportunity to meet the energetic Christian Community of Allahabad.

The Survey Committee was authorized to make a survey of the Chamar Caste. There are indications in several places in the Province that we are on the eve of a movement towards Christianity of large sections of this caste, and it seemed to the Council wise that we inform ourselves of the distribution of the various sub-castes, of the exact extent to which they have begun to move, of the nature of the people with their more distinctive beliefs and customs, and of the forces available for the work of gathering in these multitudes. The committee has already made a good beginning toward collecting information.

The Mass Movement Committee has held two conferences during the past year, to which a large number of missionaries and leading Indian workers have been invited. The Council at the suggestion of the committee adopted resolutions as to village primary schools, recommending that for half-time schools two hours and twenty minutes be given, the twenty minutes to be devoted to religious instruction; that the primary object of this religious instruction be the winning of children to Christ; and that the immediate aim of the secular instruction be to read the New Testament and Hymn Book. The committee has since given as their opinion that Roman Urdu is best adapted for this purpose, and has also suggested that text-books for village schools with the above aim in view should contain agricultural and other subjects relating to village life. While not opposed to the receiving of Government grants it was felt essential that schools be specially adapted to the needs of the village Christian community. Where regular school work is impossible, irregular methods of instruction should also be welcomed. Careful selection was urged before sending pupils to boarding schools for a general education. The necessity of much more provision for the teaching of women was emphasized, both in the way of reinforcements from the home lands and more careful consideration of women's work in the transfer of agents. The giving of financial aid to converts and inquirers was vigorously discouraged as calculated to make more difficult purity of motive in becoming Christian. The question of marriage as related to the village communities is being inquired into by the committee. The Council is much in favour of the establishment of a Bureau of Information on Mass Movements for all India, and the matter is warmly commended to the National Council for consideration.

The Educational Committee made an attempt to outline a plan for mission schools and succeeded in emphasizing the following points: That all missions be asked whether they are ready to adopt the scale of pay for Christian teachers in the American Presbyterian Mission; that Christian teachers especially in lower classes supersede as rapidly as possible non-Christian teachers, that greater relative emphasis be laid on vernacular schools up to the middle standard and increased facilities be created for preparing an adequate Christian staff thoroughly trained in the vernacular; that the position of such teachers be made more secure; that supreme emphasis be laid on the instruction of Christian children, especially in Mass Movement areas, and that such education be given a vocational turn, as for instance in the direction of elementary agricultural training. The committee asked that the Conscience Clause as applicable
to mission schools be considered, and presented a paper prepared by the Rev. J. A. Wood, M.A., of Peshawar on the subject. It was the opinion of the Council that mission boards will be inclined to withdraw their support from schools if a Conscience Clause operates. The matter was also referred to the N.M.C. and to the other Provincial Councils so that a consensus of missionary opinion may be secured for presentation to Government by those who may be inquired of.

The Medical Committee succeeded during the year in completing arrangements whereby a Sanatorium for Indian Christian male consumptives is to be established at Jagadri, near Ambala, in connection with the General Hospital conducted by the New Zealand Presbyterian Mission. The Methodist Episcopal Church has already promised one ward and encouraging replies have been received from other societies. The running expenses are to be met by fees.

The Literature Committee felt very strongly, and the Council agreed with them, that the pressing need at present is stable and sufficient funds. The North India Christian Tract and Book Society has manuscripts in hand that are in every way suitable for publication, and that will meet a felt need. The Council feels that the assurance that worthy manuscripts will be turned into books is an entirely worthy and potent inducement to good writers to devote their time and efforts to such work. The National Council is urged to place such information before the Churches in America and England as will secure financial aid for the Christian Tract and Literature Societies in India. The appointment of a Literature Missionary for the Hindi area is not now considered advisable, and when advisable the appointing power should be the Provincial Councils in conference with existing agencies. In view of the determination of the Educational Department to authorize but one series of vernacular readers the Council does not advise the publication of a Christian series for general school work, and has taken steps to draw the attention of the Department’s Text-Book Committee to certain things found in the existing series that contravene absolute religious neutrality. As a result of an appeal to the Missionary Societies working in the Province to contribute from Rs. 100 to Rs. 500 each to the support of the North India Christian Tract and Book Society, several societies have already made definite contributions.

The Public Questions Committee has since April considered several questions submitted to it by the N.M.C.’s Committee. So far as we are able to learn, the forsaking of the Mohammedan religion by one or both of the parties dissolves the marriage bond, and it would seem highly desirable that some law be enacted setting aside the operation of this law where both parties become Christians simultaneously. Regarding the alterations in the marriage law it is the opinion of our Committee that the N.M.C. in consultation with the Provincial Councils should draw up a rough draft of an entirely new law setting forth the minimum requirements in the interests of morality and order and leaving all points that savour of ecclesiastical requirements to the various denominations to determine.

The Hymn Book Committee has made considerable progress in selecting material for the Union Hymn Book. By previous arrangement several papers had been prepared. Two of these were on evangelism. One dealt with Personal Evangelism among non-Christian students in our mission schools and colleges. The other proposed a united Evangelistic Campaign. A committee was appointed to draw up a plan. This has since been submitted to the Executive Committee and has been approved, and the committee continued to carry
through the proposals. Two papers were read on the salary and transfer of Indian workers. The one dealing with men was referred to the Committee on Comity, while the one dealing with the salaries of women was referred to a special committee composed of women members of the Council. A fifth paper was read on Higher Education of Christian Women in the U.P. It was felt that the reading of these papers proved a helpful and interesting part of the programme of the Council.

Respectfully submitted.
RAY C. SMITH,
Hony. Secretary.

Appendix I (5).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF THE PUNJAB REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

The P.R.C.M. held its Fourth Annual Meeting in Lahore on March 31st, 1916. Twenty-nine delegates were present, and the Constitution was altered to raise the number of Representatives from 40 to 45. A question as to the qualifications of a Representative was referred to the National Council for discussion and advice.

The Education Committee having suggested the need of working out a course for the suitable education of Christian boys and girls in villages, a special Committee was appointed to co-operate with a similar Committee of the United Provinces R.C.M. on this subject.

The Council heartily approved of the suggestion of the Anglo-Indian Committee to open a Hostel for Anglo-Indian young men, and appealed to the Y.M.C.A. to carry it into effect as soon as possible.

The Resolution of the C.M.S. and the C.E.Z.M. to establish a Hostel for the Christian Women students of the Govt. Normal School met with general approval.

By an important resolution the Council opened the way for its Standing Committees to deal on their own initiative with any matters coming within their sphere of action.

The recommendation of the National Council that Provincial Councils adopt The Harvest Field as their semi-official organ was adopted, and the Rev. R. Maxwell has been appointed as our correspondent.

The Council reaffirmed its position with regard to Comity Standards already adopted. It also expressed its conviction that a strong Christian weekly paper was necessary to the vital interests of the Church, and recommended The Nur Afrhan edited by Dr. E. M. Wherry. It listened sympathetically to reports of the recruiting of Panjabi Christians, and sent greetings to the recruits; also to an account of new Christian Settlements on land granted by the Government in the Montgomery District. There has been no meeting of the Executive Committee since the Annual Meeting, and the activities of the Council have been the work of its Committees, and some correspondence with the National and Provincial Councils through its Secretary.

Respectfully submitted.
M. ROSE GREENFIELD,
Hony. Secretary.
Appendix I (6).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF THE BENGAL AND ASSAM REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

The Bengal and Assam Council held its third meeting in Calcutta, on March 22-23, 1916, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Watt, D.D. Twenty-five elected and twelve co-opted members were present. Eight members were unavoidably absent. After dealing with constitutional matters the Council received the reports of the various Standing Committees.

The Survey Committee has outlined a tentative plan for a Bengal Survey volume, but has not developed it, as Bengal, in common with other Provinces, is awaiting the results of the experiences gained in South India by the Director of Survey. The Council endorsed the resolutions of the N.M.C. on the subject of the Missionary Survey of India, and empowered its committee to give effect to the resolutions as soon as opportunity shall arise.

The Education Committee, working in three sections, has done important work. The Council received a report from the Higher Education Committee expressing the opinion that the recognition by Government of religion as an essential factor in education is not likely to be most wisely secured by the establishment of sectarian Universities. “A Hindu, or any other sectarian University is calculated to exercise a reactionary and retrograde educational influence and to retard the healthy growth of a united national life.” An alternative course would be the establishment in connection with existing or proposed Universities of additional colleges, founded on a religious and sectarian basis, and staffed by men sincerely anxious to promote the religious life and training of students under their care. Other matters considered were (a) the Serampore College Charter, (b) a Christian College at Dacca and co-operation in Higher Educational work.

The Council adopted the Primary Education Committee’s recommendations with reference to (a) Temperance Instruction, (b) English in Primary Schools, and (c) a First grade Teachership curriculum.

The Council also adopted the Industrial and Technical Education Committee’s report. This report expresses appreciation of the wise and sound ideals on which the syllabuses of studies for classes from the Infant Section to Standard VI (Government of Bengal, 1909) are based, but criticises both the text-books and the quality of inspection of village schools. The Council expressed the opinion that in addition to existing Technical Schools there is room in Bengal for Agricultural Schools for boys and a development of the teaching of simple domestic economy, sanitation and simple medicine among girls.

The Council heard with much regret of the closing of the Calcutta Language Study School, whose value has been fully proved. During the 2½ years the school has been open more than one hundred missionary students, belonging to twenty-five different societies, have availed themselves of the advantage offered and, throughout, the school has paid its own way. The Language School Committee is still to form part of the organization of the Council with a view to re-opening the school at the earliest possible date.
The report on the Indian Church aroused great interest. The encouraging statements made regarding advance in self-support, self-control, and self-propagation of Indian churches were cordially received. The Council noted with profound thankfulness signs of a spiritual revival of the Indian Church in Bengal and rejoiced to hear of the formation of a Bengal Evangelistic Campaign Committee.

The Statement on Comity, Sections I and II, was considered paragraph by paragraph. Section I, on "Arbitration and Conciliation," was adopted without discussion. In Section II, paragraph 7 provoked considerable discussion and was finally amended and adopted as follows:

"That while the right of Christians to the ministrations of their own communion is recognized, and while congregations, or small gatherings of Christians, isolated from their own communion and located in an area already occupied by some recognized mission, should be free to engage in any Christian work of which they are capable, the existence or activities of such congregations should not be regarded as warranting any missionary society in undertaking missionary operations in that field."

The Council empowered its Executive Committee to deal with all matters arising out of the adoption of the Statement on Comity between the sessions of the Council, all decisions to be reported to the Council for confirmation.

The question of taking effective action to improve the quality and increase the output of Christian Literature was referred to the Literature Committee.

The Council decided to make one year's trial of The Harvest Field as the semi-official organ of the Council.

A proposal that the Bengal and Assam Council should approach the United Provinces Council with a view to co-operation in the scheme for a Sanatorium for Consumptives drew forth the information that the Wesleyan Missionary Society is building a sanatorium for consumptives at Sarenga and will be prepared to offer accommodation to patients sent by other missions working in the Province.

The Council heard with interest of a proposal of the Bengal Conference of the B.M.S. to establish a Christian University Hall of Residence as an integral part of the Dacca University scheme. In the course of debate the facts emerged that such a "University Hall" would not be incompatible with the existence of an "Anglican College" of the type proposed by the Oxford Mission; also that there is no intention on the part of the B.M.S. to present the one as antagonistic to the other provided that, if only one Christian Institution be established, it should be broadly based and suited to serve the general interests of the Christian community concerned.

On this understanding the Council recommended to Government the favourable consideration of the scheme.

The Council had referred to it a matter involving the mutual interests of the Welsh Presbyterian Mission and the Anglican Church in Assam. The Executive Committee was instructed to arrange for the appointment of a Conciliation Committee and to act in harmony with the rules of the Council regarding Comity.

Subsequent to the meeting of the Council the Executive Committee has met twice. At its former meeting it made arrangements for the work of the Conciliation Committee. It worked out details relative to the Budget for 1916; Council Committees' expenses, and the Language Study Committee; and received the replies of the Government of India and the Educational Branch of the General Department of the Government of Bengal relative to the B.M.S Dacca Christian Hall of Residence.
At its later meeting the Executive heard with satisfaction that a solution had been found for the difficulty in the Khasi Hills as a result of the meeting of the Conciliation Committee.

Progress was reported by the Literature Committee, which made the important suggestion that there should be in Bengal one Committee, at least as regards personnel, for the Calcutta Christian Tract and Book Society, the Christian Literature Society, and the Literature Committee of the B. & A. Representative Council.

The question of a Conscience Clause in Indian Schools was raised but not discussed.

The above is a very brief summary of business done at the Council and Executive Committee meetings in 1916. For full details the B. & A. Council's Report and the printed Minutes of the Executive Committee meetings should be consulted.

Respectfully submitted.

A. Willifer Young,
Hony. Secretary.

Appendix 1 (7).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF BIHAR AND ORISSA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

The normal operations of the Bihar and Orissa Missionary Council have been greatly disorganized during the past two years owing to the war. The largest missionary society in these Provinces was the German Evangelical Lutheran; one-third of the European missionaries and about one-half of the Indian Christians were connected with that mission. It will be readily realized that the removal of so large a proportion of our missionary colleagues was bound to affect the development of the newly organized Missionary Council very seriously.

It was not thought desirable to hold the annual meeting of the Council last year; especially in view of the fact that the German members, who were then living in their stations and carrying on their work, were unable to travel and attend a meeting. The repatriation of the Germans has since changed the situation, and a meeting was held at Ranchi in August, the Gossner Mission being represented by an Indian Christian, who was appointed by the Pastors of the G.E.L. Church, and the Rev. R. Gee, M.A., Principal of their High School in Ranchi.

The work of the Gossner Mission in Chota Nagpur has been supervised by the Bishop, whose report has already been published in the Minutes of the N.M.C. Executive Committee. In the Bihar Section of the G.E.L. Mission the greater part of the work has been closed for the past twelve months. Since the internment of the German missionaries Messrs. Lorbeer Senior and Junior have had charge of the whole of what is called the "Ganges Mission." They being naturalized British subjects were not removed with the other members of the German Mission, and while living at Ghazipur in the United Provinces they visit the Bihar stations occasionally and superintend what remains of the work. They have recently been joined by Mr. Winkler.
Some of the activities of the Council have been suspended owing to the financial stringency due to the war. The building in connection with the Patna University scheme has been deferred by Government for the present, including the building of the Christian College. The representatives of the C.M.S. and B.M.S. have conferred together with regard to co-operation in the proposed Christian College at Patna. Their joint recommendations will be found in the proceedings of the B. and O.M.C. The matter is in abeyance till after the war. The proposed Training School for Teachers at Bhagalpur has also been deferred owing to the lack of necessary funds and reinforcements to the missionary staff.

The question of the Conscience Clause in mission schools was considered on the report presented by the Education Board. The report was adopted by a large majority of the Council; a minority desired that it should be recorded as the opinion of the Education Board. This report may be of sufficient interest to be given in full.

The Education Committee considered the question of what is known as the Conscience Clause, and unanimously agreed to the following principles as an expression of their Educational policy in the matter:

1. As those who have ever striven to inculcate in our pupils the duty of loyalty to conscience, we welcome the evidence of its growth in the people of this land, and we desire at all times to show the greatest consideration for genuine conscientious conviction, and to do nothing to cause men to ignore it.

2. We further desire to commend our work to all right-thinking men by the fairness and justice of the principles on which it is based. We are also convinced that the Christian personality has an attractiveness of its own which will always bring pupils to our schools.

3. Holding as we do that a system of education which is not based on religion is disastrously incomplete, we claim a definite sphere in which we may give a practical expression to our faith, and we are unable to surrender our right to impart a complete education on any other ground than a clear case of injury to a tender conscience.

4. While therefore we feel bound to grant to those parents in single school areas who have genuine conscientious convictions against allowing their children to attend Christian instruction, liberty to withdraw them from such instruction, on the other hand we claim the fullest liberty to teach the Faith which we believe to all those who of their own free choice attend our schools in those places where other schools are open to them.

It was reported that a very successful Convention for the deepening of the Spiritual Life was held at Bhagalpur, and also a Convention for Bible Study by women workers at Bankipore; both of these were attended by Indian workers from many different missions.

Proposals were made for co-operation with the Bengal Missionary Council in the opening of sanatoria for consumptives. It was stated that consumption is very prevalent in Bengal, but there are no suitable places for its treatment in that Province. There are, however, numerous sites on the uplands of Bihar and Chota Nagpur at elevations of between 2000 and 3000 feet, which is supposed to be the most suitable height for the treatment of tuberculosis. The matter was referred to the Medical Standing Committee for enquiry and possible action. A joint meeting of the Bengal and Bihar Medical Committees was held at Bamdah on 4th and 5th October, at which preliminary steps were taken with a view to co-operation in providing sanatoria for Christians in Bengal and Bihar.
The Joint Medical Committee adopted the following resolutions unanimously:—

1. That the provision of sanatorium treatment, especially for members of the Christian community in Bengal and Bihar, should be regarded as a matter of urgent importance by the various missionary societies at work in these Provinces.

2. That in this matter the co-operation of missionaries in Bengal and Bihar seems very desirable and practicable, owing to the fact that while there are very few suitable sites for sanatorium treatment in the former Province, many suitable places have been suggested in Bihar within easy reach of places like Calcutta, where tuberculosis seems to be most prevalent.

3. That while sanatoria in hill stations will always be necessary for the treatment of certain cases, it is very desirable that there should be local centres of sanatoria treatment, in suitable places, for the large number of cases which cannot possibly be sent to distant hill stations.

4. That the Medical Association has heard with much gratification that the Wesleyan Mission in Bankura has resolved to provide for sanatorium treatment in the new Mission Hospital in course of erection at Sarenga. This action is to be welcomed not only as providing much-needed relief, but as also affording an opportunity of testing how far the local treatment of consumptives is likely to be effective, and in this way furnishing guidance for future action, on a larger scale, by missionary cooperation, probably with Government help.

5. That in the meantime it is desirable to obtain the fullest possible information regarding:—

(a) the prevalence of tuberculosis in mission institutions, such as orphanages, boarding schools, hostels, etc., in Bengal and Bihar.

(b) the arrangements in force for the periodical medical inspection of school children where this is possible, and, where this is not at present practicable, for such safeguards as the periodical weighing of the children.

(c) the possibility of providing sanatorium treatment to a limited extent in connection with the various mission hospitals in the two Provinces.

The Statement on Comity, as passed by the National Missionary Council, was adopted with the following amendment of Section II, 7.

"That while the right of Christians to the ministration of their own communion is recognized, and while congregations or small gatherings of Christians isolated from their own communion, and located in an area already occupied by some recognized mission, should be expected to engage in evangelistic work, the existence of, or activities of, such congregations should not be regarded as warranting any external missionary society in undertaking operations in that area."

The following Findings of the National Missionary Council at Matheran were discussed and dealt with—on

The Indian Church referred to Standing Committee.
Christian Education " Education "
Christian Literature " Literature "
Medical Missions " Medical "
Work Among Young People " Standing "

Training of Missionaries, Resolutions XV and XVI adopted.
The Harvest Field adopted as semi-official organ of this Council.
A paper was read by Rev. H. Anderson on "The Modern National Spirit, the Indian Church and Missions." The matters dealt with in this paper were referred to the Indian Church Committee.

Respectfully submitted.

A. E. COLLIER,
Hony. Secretary.

Appendix I (8).

REPORT FOR 1915-16 OF THE BURMA REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

The direction of the activities of the Council has been committed for the most part to the Executive Committee. Three meetings of this Committee have been held during the year, and an effort made to carry on the work along the lines indicated by the list of nine standing committees appointed. Thus far activity has been confined largely to the Committee on Comity and Co-operation, and on the Christian Church in Burma, and the Committee on Public Questions. The former has drawn up a list of suggestions on the subject of comity which have been discussed in the Executive Committee and referred to this meeting for action. The latter amended and has circulated five hundred copies of the resolution on Sabbath Observance referred to it by the last meeting of the Council, and has taken into consideration a resolution submitted by the Wesleyan Synod on the subject of the increasing use of intoxicating liquors in Burma, on which subject it has been endeavouring to collect information.

The work of the Committee on Survey has been held in suspense pending the development of this project under the charge of the Rev. W. H. Findlay, the Director of Survey, secured by the National Missionary Council for a complete survey of India and Burma. Presumably the reports of the standing committees to be presented to-day will indicate other work done but not yet recorded.

Arrangements were made whereby Mr. Conyers Baker represented this Council at the Annual Meeting of the National Council at Matheran in November last, and his report of that meeting has been circulated to the members.

Respectfully submitted.

B. M. JONES,
Hony. Secretary.