MINUTES

OF THE

Seventh Meeting of the
Bombay Representative Council of Missions
Bombay

10th and 11th September, 1918.

AND

ANNUAL REPORT

For 1917-1918.

BOMBAY:
PRINTED FOR REV. JOHN MCKENZIE, M.A., CHOWPATI
BY M. G. JOSEPH, AT THE BOMBAY GUARDIAN MISSION PRESS, GIRGAUM.
BOMBAY REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL OF MISSIONS.

President ... ... ... ... ... THE REV. C. B. HILL.
Secretary ... ... ... ... ... THE REV. JOHN McKENZIE.

REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS.

Amer. Marathi ... ... REV. DR. HUME ... ... Ahmednagar.
                ... ... REV. H. FAIRBANK ... ... Ahmednagar.
                ... ... REV. R. C. RICHARDSON ... ... Mivaj.
                ... ... REV. E. M. WILSON ... ... Kodoli, Kolhapur.
Amer. Presbyterian ... ... REV. H. R. COVENTRY ... ... Bavamati, Poona Dist.
Bible Society ... ... MR. R. A. ADAMS ... ... Bombay.
Chr. & Miss, Alliance ... ... REV. M. B. FULLER ... ... Akola, Bevar.
Church of the Brethren ... ... REV. J. M. PITTENGER ... ... Dahanu, Thana Dist.
                ... ... REV. W. B. STOVER ... ... Anklesvar.
Church of Scotland ... ... MISS MACMICHAEL ... ... Poona.
C. M. S. ... ... ... ... REV. C. W. THORNE ... ... Bombay.
Irish Presbyterian ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ...
                ... ... MISS COLHOUN ... ... Surat.
Meth. Episc. ... ... ... ... REV. H. W. STEPHENS ... ... Poona.
                ... ... REV. C. B. HILL ... ... Baroda Camp.
                ... ... MISS AUSTIN ... ... Baroda Camp.
Mission to Lepers ... ... REV. F. OLDRIEVE ... ... Poona.
M. S. U. W. ... ... ... ... MISS CROSTHWAIT ... ... Bombay.
Mukti Mission ... ... ... ... REV. W. W. BRUERE ... ... Poona.
Nat. Miss. Soc. ... ... ... ... MR. P. BUNTER ... ... Sacha Piv St., Poona.
P. & I. V. Mission ... ... REV. C. F. REEVE ... ... Nasrapur.
S. P. G. ... ... ... ... REV. J. C. WINSLOW ... ... Ahmednagar.
Swed. Alliance ... ... ... ... REV. A. J. SELIN ... ... Taloda, W. Khandesh.
Tract & Book Society ... ... REV. J. SMITH ... ... Kaldadevi, Bombay.
U. F. Ch. of Scotland ... ... REV. A. ROBERTSON ... ... Poona.
                ... ... MISS L. C. SUTHERLAND ... ... Bombay.
Wesleyan Mission ... Rev. A. Garland ... Bombay.
Y. M. C. A. ... Mr. W. B. Smith ... Bombay.
Y. W. C. A. ... Miss Wingate ... Bombay.
Z. B. & M. M. ... Miss Hamling ... Manmad.

Co-opted Members.

Mr. B. N. Athavle ... Bombay.
The Bishop of Bombay ... Bombay.
Rev. A. Darby ... Bombay.
Rev. R. B. Douglas ... Bombay.
Rev. J. F. Edwards ... Bombay.
Rev. W. Hazen ... Bombay.
Rev. Canon Joshi ... Bombay.
Dr. Gurubai Karmarkar ... Bombay.
Rev. Dr. Macnicol ... Poona.
Rev. J. McKenzie ... Bombay.
Rev. Dr. Mackichan ... Bombay.
Rev. A. A. Parker ... Bombay.
Bishop J. W. Robinson ... Bombay.
Rev. Dr. Steele ... Broach.
Dr. W. J. Wanless ... Miraj.

Representatives on National Missionary Council.

1919-1921 The Rev. Canon Joshi.
1918-1920 The Right Rev. The Bishop of Bombay.
1917-1919 The Rev. Dr. Mackichan.
MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING

OF

The Bombay Representative Council of Missions.

The Bombay Representative Council of Missions met in the Bowen Hall, Lamington Road, Bombay, on Tuesday, 10th September, 1918, at 10 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Steele, President, in the chair.

The meeting was opened with devotional exercises, conducted by the President.

1. Roll call.—The roll was called, and it was found that the following members were present:—


Apologies for absence were intimated from Miss Colhoun, Miss Austin, Mr. P. Bunter, and the Rev. F. Oldrieve.

2. Minutes.—The Minutes of the Sixth Meeting having been printed and circulated, were held as read, and confirmed.

3. Comity.—In accordance with Minute 22, Resolution (1) of the Sixth Meeting of the Council, the Statement on Comity prepared by the National Missionary Council, was laid before the Council. The Secretary reported that the Statement had been submitted to contributing Missions for their
opinion, and replies had been received from the Secretaries of fourteen of these. The following intimated their approval of the Statement:—American Marathi Mission, Christian and Missionary Alliance, Church of the Brethren, Church of Scotland Mission, C. M. S., Irish Presbyterian Mission, Methodist Episcopal Church, M. S. U. W., Mukti Mission, United Free Church Mission, Y. W. C. A., and Z. B. & M. M. The American Presbyterian Mission and the S. P. G. had not yet been able to discuss it.

*It was resolved:—*

That the Council give its assent to the Statement on Comity as presented to it, as a fair and reasonable basis of co-operation between Missions.

4. **Language School and Examination Committee.**—The Report of the Language School and Examination Committee was presented by the Convener, the Rev. A. Robertson, and was received.

5. **Educational Board.**—The Report of the Educational Board was presented by the Convener, the Rev. J. H. Robinson, and was received.

*It was resolved:—*

(1) That the Educational Board be requested to approach Government with regard to objectionable passages in Vernacular School Readers, giving with their objections a statement of the principles on which the objections are founded, and taking care to treat the Gujarati and Marathi Readers on the same principles; and that a draft of the proposed representation to Government be circulated in confidence to each member of the Council before it be sent in, so that an opportunity may be given to the Board to consider any views which members of the Council may wish to urge upon them.

(2) That the Educational Board be requested to forward the following Resolutions to Government:—In view of the objections of the people of India, which are increasingly finding public expression, towards revenue derived from the licensing of the sale of spirituous liquor, the Bombay Representative Council of Missions respectfully urges upon Government, that:
(a) In any future revision of the Vernacular School Readers, issued under the authority of the Education Department, adequate Scientific Temperance lessons be introduced showing the deleterious effect of alcohol upon the human system, and the social and economic loss it so often entails upon the individual and the community. This Council will be glad to present through the Board a series of such lessons to the Text Book Committee if invited to do so.

(b) While it is recorded with gratification that the Physiological effects of alcohol have been referred to in the Text Book—"Physics and Hygiene for Standard V," used in the V Standard of Anglo-Vernacular Schools, this Council is of opinion that the subject should be given larger and more specific treatment in future editions of the Text Book referred to.

(3) That whereas Minute 9 of the Second Meeting of the Council, in which the Constitution of the Board is laid down, is ambiguous, the Council declares that the following is the sense in which it understand the said minute:

"The Council shall elect annually twelve members of the Board, of whom five must be members of the Council. These twelve persons may co-opt additional members to the number of not more than twelve from among such persons in Western India as shall be deemed best qualified for the purposes of this Missionary Educational Board. It shall be the duty of the Board to consider any subjects submitted to it by the Council, and to report to the Council at least yearly on its proceedings. But in other respects the Missionary Educational Board shall be free to take such action as it may deem advisable without seeking the sanction of the Council. Vacancies occurring among the nominees of the Council shall be filled by the Executive Committee of the Council. Vacancies occurring among the co-opted members of the Board shall be filled by the Board itself."

(4) That the Council agrees that it is not desirable at
present to take any steps in the direction of providing a series of Christian Vernacular School Readers.

(5) a. That the Council instructs the Educational Board to consider the question of co-operation between Missions in the education of Christian boys.

b. That Missions within the area of the Council be requested to send in Memoranda to the Educational Board on the whole question of the education of Christian children.

On a reference from the National Missionary Council, the Council considered the resolutions on the Conscience Clause passed by that Council in 1917, and passed the following Resolution, which the Secretary was instructed to communicate to the N. M. C.:

(6) That the Council is satisfied that the question of the Conscience Clause has been sufficiently treated by the resolutions passed at the Fourth Meeting of the National Missionary Council, and should not be re-opened this year.

6. Committee on Indian Church.—The Report of the Committee on the Indian Church was presented by the Convener, the Rev. Dr. Hume, and was received.

It was resolved:

That, in the opinion of the Council, Indian Christians should be encouraged to meet together to consider the problems of the Indian Church of the future.

7. Literature Committee.—The Report of the Literature Committee was presented by the Convener, the Rev. J. C. Winslow, and was received.

It was resolved:

(1) That the Council express satisfaction that the Statements on Marathi and Gujarati Christian Literature have been prepared and are now available in print.

(2) That the Council regrets that it has not yet been found possible to secure the services of a half-time Literature Missionary for Gujarati; but for the present it appoints the
Rev. H. R. Scott to supervise the work of the production of Christian Literature in Gujarati, in the hope that circumstances may soon permit of his being appointed a half-time Literature Missionary; and it requests the Executive Committee to furnish him with such grants as are available from the Literature Missionary Fund for this work.

(3) That the Council is specially gratified at the measure of success which has attended the efforts of the Literature Committee to encourage original work by Marathi Christian writers, and looks with interest to the further development of this branch of work.

(4) That the Council re-affirm its interest in the proposal to make the Dnyanodaya an inter-Mission paper. It hopes that the measure of co-operation already promised may increase the usefulness of the paper, and commends this matter to the sympathetic consideration of all Missions in the Marathi area.

(5) That the Literature Committee be now divided into two sections—Marathi and Gujarati, each with its own Convener. These sections will normally meet separately, but may have united meetings by the joint action of their Convener if it be thought advisable.

(6) That the Council repeat its appeal to Home Boards to make grants for the production of Literature proportionate to their appropriations for Elementary Education.

(7) That the Council strongly urge all missionaries to make provision for the sale of books in connection with every school in their care, as well as through all catechists and preachers.

8. Committee on Evangelistic Effort.—The Report of the Committee on Evangelistic Effort was presented by the Convener, the Rev. R. B. Douglas, and was received.

*It was resolved:—*

(1) That the Council has heard with satisfaction of the special evangelistic efforts which are being made at various places within its area. It expresses its prayerful interest in the proposed visits of Mr. Eddy and Mr. Buchman, and hopes
that, wherever possible, missionaries and other Christian workers will avail themselves of the services of these brethren.

(2) That the Council finds that the lines on which the Western India Evangelistic Forward Movement Committee has been working are consistent with its own desire to refrain from any interference with the spontaneity of the Evangelistic Forward Movement or with the liberty of Churches to work along their own lines. In the interests of economy of effort it instructs its Committee on Evangelistic Effort to consult the Western India Evangelistic Forward Movement Committee as to whether the two Committees can be amalgamated and act together as a Committee of Counsel and Reference representing this Council.

9. Committee on Public Questions.—The Report of the Committee on Public Questions was presented by the Convener, the Bishop of Bombay, and was received.

It was resolved:—

(1) That the Council endorse Resolution XI of the Fourth Meeting of the National Missionary Council with the following amendment:—That for the words “that they are man and wife,” there be substituted the words “that they are still man and wife.”

(2) That Dr. N. Macnicol be requested to correspond with the Bishop of Madras in all matters in which his Committee on Temperance requires information from the area represented by this Council, and that he be asked to propose to the Executive Committee the names of persons who might be asked to assist him in obtaining such information, if this should prove to be a laborious task.

(3) That the Council refer the questions of the desirability of giving trial to the experiment of transferring the power of licensing from the Excise authority to selected Municipalities, and of taking action in regard to the importation of foreign liquor during the war, to Dr. Macnicol and the Temperance Committee associated with him, for investigation and necessary action, in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Council, during the year.
(4) That a Committee of persons resident in Bombay and Poona be appointed to investigate the conditions of Cinema Shows, and, if they consider any representations to Government or Public Authorities advisable, to report to the Public Questions Committee, who are requested to take such action as they may think most suitable; and that the Missionary Conferences of Bombay and Poona be asked to suggest to the Executive Committee the names of suitable persons to serve on this Committee.

10. Committee on Work among Young People.—The Report of the Committee on Work among Young People was presented by the acting Convener, the Rev. A. A. Parker, and was received.

It was resolved:—

(1) That the Standing Committee on Work among Young People be continued.

(2) That the findings of this Committee with reference to the nature and work of the organizations for young people within the Presidency be brought up to date and printed.

(3) That the Council endorse the plan of holding a Training Conference for Christian workers and Indian leaders.

11. Financial Statement.—The Treasurer presented the following Statement of Accounts, which had been audited by Mr. R. A. Adams:—

I. General Fund,

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at date of last</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting ... 421 6 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Contributions for 1917...</td>
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<tr>
<td>... 35 0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions of Missions for 1918 ... 655 0 0</td>
<td>Stationery ...</td>
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<td>Postage and Telegraphs 36 8 0</td>
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<td>Sundries ... 11 4 0</td>
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<td>Balance in hand ... 416 9 9</td>
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<td>Total Rs... 1,111 6 9</td>
<td>Total Rs... 1,111 6 9</td>
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II. Literature Missionary Fund.

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<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rs. A. P.</td>
<td>Rs. A. P.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance at date of Last Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Paid to Literature Committee</td>
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<td>... 610 14 0</td>
<td>... 2,000 0 0</td>
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<td>Z. B. M. M.</td>
<td>Balance in hand</td>
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<td>... 300 0 0</td>
<td>... 1,019 14 0</td>
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<td>U. F. C. Mission</td>
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<td>... 450 0 0</td>
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<td>M. E. (Men's)</td>
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<td>Church of Scotland Mission</td>
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<td>American Marathi Mission</td>
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<td>Church of the Brethren Mission</td>
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<td>Swedish Alliance Mission, for 1917 &amp; 1918</td>
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<td>Y. M. C. A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>M.E. (Women's)</td>
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<td>American Presbyterian Mission</td>
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<td>Total Rs... 3,019 14 0</td>
<td>Total Rs... 3,019 14 0</td>
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</table>

Examined and found correct,
R. A. ADAMS,
Hon. Auditor.

It was resolved:

(1) That the Report be adopted.

(2) That in view of the increased expenditure incurred by the Council, for the coming year expenses be not paid out of the funds in the hands of the General Treasurer, to members of Committees travelling to attend meetings of the Committees.

12. Annual Report of Council.—The General Introduction to the Annual Report of the Council was presented by the Secretary, and was adopted.
It was resolved:—

That the General Introduction to the Annual Report, together with the Reports of the Committees, be printed as the Annual Report of the Council.

13. Co-opted Members.

It was resolved:—

That the following be co-opted as members of the Council for 1918-1919:

Mr. B. N. Athavle, the Bishop of Bombay, Rev. A. Darby, Rev. R. B. Douglas, Rev. J. F. Edwards, Rev W. Hazen, Rev. Canon Joshi, Dr. Gurubai Karmarkar, Rev. Dr. Macnicol, Rev J. McKenzie, Rev. Dr. Mackichan, Rev. A. A. Parker, Bishop J. W. Robinson, Rev. Dr. Steele and Dr. W. J. Wanless.

14. Representative on National Council.—It was intimated that the term of appointment of the Rev. Dr. Hume, as a representative of this Council on the National Missionary Council, ends this year. Attention was drawn to Resolution xxvi of the Fourth Meeting of the N.M.C.:—“That each Provincial Council be requested to elect one Indian on the Representative Membership of the N. M. C.”

It was resolved:—

That the Rev. Canon Joshi be appointed to represent this Council on the National Missionary Council for three years (1919-1921), and that Mr. B. N. Athavle and the Rev. J. McKenzie be appointed as alternates for the 1919 meeting of the National Council in the order in which they are named.

15. Office-bearers and Executive Committee.

It was resolved:—

That the following be appointed Office-bearers and Executive Committee for 1918-1919:—

President:—The Rev. C. B. Hill.

Secretary and Treasurer:—The Rev. John McKenzie.
Executive Committee:—The President and Secretary (ex-officio), Mr. B. N. Athavle, the Bishop of Bombay, Rev. J. F. Edwards, Rev. Dr. Steele, and Miss Sutherland.

16. Committees for 1918-1919. *It was resolved:—*

That Committees of the Council be appointed for 1918—1919, as follows:—

**Language School and Examination Committee.**—Miss Bissell and Rev. Dr. Macnicol, for three years; Rev. A. Robertson and Rev. W. H. Stephens, for two years; Rev. H. Fairbank and Rev. J. C. Winslow, for one year; these to have power to co-opt three additional members. (Rev. Dr. Macnicol, Convener.)

**Committee on Survey.**—Mr. R. A. Adams, Rev. J. McKenzie, Rev. W. H. Stephens, and Rev. W. B. Stover, (Mr. R. A. Adams, Convener).

**Educational Board.**—Miss Austin, the Bishop of Bombay, Miss Greensields, Mr. H. R. Hamley, Rev. C. B. Hill, Rev. J. Mckenzie, Rev. Dr. Mackichan, Rev. J. H. Robinson, Rev. Dr Steele, Miss Sutherland, Rev. Dr. Wiley, Miss Wilson. (Rev. Dr. Mackichan, Chairman, and Mr. H. R. Hamley, Secretary.)

**Committee on Work among Young People.**—Miss Bissell, Rev. L. Henry Gates, Rev. H. W. Lea-Wilson, Miss Lorimer, Rev. A. A. Parker, Miss Wingate. (Rev. A. A. Parker, Convener.)

**Committee on Public Questions.**—Mr. B. N. Athavle, the Bishop of Bombay, Miss Ruth Cowdrey, Rev. Dr. Hume, Bishop Robinson, Rev. Dr. Steele. (The Bishop of Bombay, Convener.)

**Committee on Evangelistic Effort.**—Mr. B. Bhaskare, Mr. P. Bunter, Rev. R. B. Douglas, Rev. R. Henderson, Rev. Dr. Hume, Rev. J. Lampard, Rev. A. Padghalomal, Mr. S. Paul, Rev. D. B. Updegraff, Rev. D. A. Yardi. (Rev. R. B. Douglas, Convener.)

**Literature Committee (Marathi.)**—Mr. R. A. Adams, Miss Bissell, Rev. H. Fairbank, Rev. J. H. Lord, Rev. Dr. Macnicol, Rev. E. W. Simpson, Rev. J. Smith, Rev. N. V. Tilak, Rev. J,
C. Winslow, and the Literature Missionary, ex-officio. (Rev. J. C. Winslow, Convener.)

Literature Committee (Gujarati).—Rev. J. M. Blough, Rev. C. H. Conley, Rev. Dr. H. R. Scott, and three members to be nominated by the Gujarat Missionary Conference. (Rev. Dr. Scott, Convener.)

Committee on Indian Church,—Mr. A. L. Bose, Rev. J. F. Edwards, Rev. R. Henderson, Rev. Canon Joshi, Rev. J. Malelu, Rev. W. B. Stover, (Rev. Canon Joshi, Convener.)

17. Committee of Nomination.—With a view to expediting the business of the Council, it was resolved:

That the Executive Committee along with the Conveners of Standing Committees, should meet together annually before the meeting of the Council to prepare a list of names for submission to the Council for co-option to the membership of the Council, and for membership of the Standing Committees of the Council.

18. Failure of the Rains.—The attention of the Council was drawn to the seriousness of the situation created by the failure of the Rains. Discussion followed, in which a large number of members took part.

It was resolved:

(1) That in view of the serious prospect of famine, this Council urges all the Missions to express their willingness to assist Government, as in former famines, by co-operation in measures of relief; and, further, in view of the absence this year of many of the younger members of the administrative branches of Government on War Service, and of the fitness of many members of the Mission staffs owing to their knowledge of the people and language to take up famine work, the Council instructs the Secretary to ask each Mission whether in addition to general co-operation it would be willing to place suitable members of its European and Indian staffs definitely at the disposal of Government for famine work (the answers to be sent in before the first of November), and to communicate the answers which he receives to Government.

(2) That it be remitted to the Executive Committee
to take any measures which may appear necessary in view of the probability of famine conditions, and in particular to prepare a statement of needs which may be communicated to Mission Boards in Europe and America, drawing their attention to the urgent necessity for relief which will arise, should famine conditions definitely prevail; and for this purpose the Executive Committee be authorised to co-opt such other members as it may desire.

(3) That the Council request that on Sunday, 15th September, special prayers be offered in all congregations for rain, and that the following Tuesday be appointed a special day of prayer for rain; and that, in view of the probable imminence of famine, all be urged to continue in fervent prayer that such a calamity may be averted.

19. World Conference on Faith and Order. *It was resolved:*—

That this Council expresses its sympathy with the efforts which are being made in many parts of the world to prepare for the World Conference on Faith and Order, and it believes that the time is ripe for the formation of groups of members of all Churches to discuss together the many facts and problems which need to be thoroughly investigated and understood, before a World Conference could be summoned with the hope of arriving at important results; and it therefore appoints a Committee to co-operate with the members of Commissions resident in the Presidency in the formation of such groups; the Committee to consist of the Bishop of Bombay (Convener), Rev. R. M. Gray, Rev. W. Hazen, and Rev. A. A. Parker, with power to add to their number.

20. Date and Place of Meeting.—Submitted a letter from the Secretary of the Gujarat Missionary Conference, conveying the suggestion of the Conference that the Annual Meetings of the Council should be held on a fixed date. It was also suggested that a quieter place might be found for the Annual Meetings.

*It was resolved:*—

That the matters of the time and place of meeting be referred to the Executive Committee.
21. Recruiting. *It was resolved:* —

That this Council has been gratified to know that the Missions in its area have given the matter of recruiting for the combatant and non-combatant services their cordial support and assistance; and it earnestly hopes that this important subject will continue to receive their encouragement and co-operation.

22. Furloughs of Women Missionaries. *It was resolved:* —

That this Council recommend the National Missionary Council to approach Government regarding the passages of Women Missionaries desiring to proceed on furlough or to return from furlough.

23. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Shumaker for his help in connection with the Council meeting.

The meeting was closed at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 11th September, with the singing of the Doxology, and the Benediction.
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1917-1918.

I. GENERAL.

The dark shadow cast by the War has lain upon us and our work throughout another year, but we can record with thankfulness that light has arisen out of the darkness. The conflict that has been prolonged for four years in three Continents has brought home to many the impossibility of speedily vanquishing a strong, well-equipped enemy, and there are indications that the supporters of Missions are, in consequence, realizing more clearly the difficulties in the way of the final victory of the Christian cause in a land like India. At the same time, the appalling results of the rejection of the spirit of our Lord's teaching have convinced many of the necessity of vigorously propagating the gracious message of the Prince of Peace. The Churches and Missionary Societies of the West seem to have responded more liberally than before to the Missionary appeal, and in our united efforts to publish the glad tidings of our Saviour's love to a suffering world, we have increased reason to believe that we are supported by the prayers and offerings of God's people.

The exigencies of the War have hindered the arrival of new workers from Europe, and, in the case of women, have imposed grave restrictions on return from furlough leave. This has made it difficult to carry on the work of some departments, more especially in the absence of missionaries who have volunteered for war work. We rejoice, nevertheless, that it has been possible for missionaries to assist in work connected with the prosecution of the war in so great a variety of ways. And at a time when the missionary force has been reduced there is much ground for gratitude in the indications of increased energy and devotion in the Indian Church. During the weeks devoted to the activities of the Evangelistic Forward Movement a very large proportion of the membership of some of our Churches are known to have shown marked zeal and efficiency as voluntary helpers.

During the past year we have observed welcome signs of a growing desire on the part of Christian people throughout
the Presidency for the healing of the divisions of the Church. In accordance with a Resolution of the National Missionary Council, endorsed by the Executive Committee of this Council, the Week of Prayer for Unity in connection with the World Conference on Faith and Order was widely observed (January 18-25). It is fitting also that mention should be made here of the fact that at the close of the Week of Prayer, on the 26th January, a United Meeting for Prayer for Unity was held in St. Thomas’ Cathedral, Bombay, and a similar joint meeting was held in Poona on the same day. Christians of many denominations joined in these services, which were conducted in English and the vernaculars. Services on similar lines for intercession in connection with the War were held in Bombay and Poona on the 3rd of August, the eve of the War Anniversary.

The Executive Committee approved a proposal that a Mission Industries Stall should be organised for the display of products of Industrial Missions at the Exhibition of Food and Household Requisites held in Bombay last November. Eight Missions sent exhibits, and these Missions have found that the Exhibition has done much to make their work known.

The Literature Missionary Scheme is reported on separately, but notice may be taken here of the effort which the National Missionary Council and the Continuation Committee of the World Missionary Conference are making to deal with the problem of vernacular literature as a whole. Statements of the needs of the Council in connection with Marathi and Gujarati literature have been prepared and transmitted to the National Literature Committee.

One new Mission has joined the Council since last annual meeting—the Australian Disciples of Christ. The Mission to Lepers, which was unrepresented for two years owing to the departure from India of the General Secretary of the Mission, is now represented by the new General Secretary. The Council regrets that the Basel Mission is no longer in a position to send a representative.

The Council has heard with deep regret of the death of the Rev. M. B. Nikambe, which took place on the 11th of June. Mr. Nikambe had been a co-opted member of the Council since 1916. He was a man of strong religious convictions
and of humble and sincere Christian character, a faithful pastor and a true friend.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS.

1. Language School and Examination Committee.

The Committee as appointed by the last meeting of the Representative Council co-opted Miss Emily Bissell, the Rev. D. B. Updegraff and the Rev. W. C. Whiteside. The rules of the Language School and the Syllabus of Examinations were revised in accordance with Minute 5 (ii and iii) of the last meeting of the Council. These changes were published. A copy of the new syllabus is appended.

The work of the Language School was carried on at Poona, with a branch at Baramati, during the monsoon and cold season months, and at Mahabaleshwar during the months of April and May. Fifteen students attended classes or employed pandits at Poona. There were five pupils taught by a school pandit at Baramati. The students who registered for the Mahabaleshwar school numbered twenty-three. The Committee thanks Miss Bissell, Mr. Coventry and Mr. Garner for valuable help rendered at Mahabaleshwar.

Examinations were conducted according to regulations in November, 1917, and in June, 1918. At the November examination 14 first year candidates appeared and 11 of them passed in all subjects. Nine second year candidates appeared and all passed. In June 1918 five candidates took the first year examination and four passed. Five sat for the second year examination and four passed. No candidates appeared for the third year examination. The Committee thank the examiners who helped.

At the date of report the funds of the Committee show a credit balance of three hundred and twenty rupees. The Mahabaleshwar classes were run at a loss. The November examination fees exceeded the amount of expenditure, but the June fees were less than the expenditure, though the expenditure was less than the November figure.

In name of the Committee,

Alexander Robertson,
Convener.
2 EDUCATIONAL BOARD

One meeting of the Educational Board was held during the year, matter for consideration having been sent round to the members, and the following business was done:

1.—Vernacular Training College in Bombay.

The urgency of the need for a Vernacular College in Bombay for training teachers was brought to the Board by the Sub-committee appointed to investigate the matter and the board after discussion wrote to the Director of Public Instruction asking if Government would be prepared to aid such an institution and what aid they would give.

The Director of Public Instruction replied saying that no new school could be taken on to the aided list in the present financial stringency. No grant could be given at present, but if the proposed College was found to satisfy the conditions of the grant-in-aid code, it might be recognised.


The matter of (1) References to the Hindu Religion and (2) Passages of an objectionable character, found in the series of Vernacular Readers put forth by Government for use in Schools was carefully discussed, and with regard to the Marathi series the Board examined various passages in them which had been pointed out by the Rev. Canon Joshi, but felt that the matter was so very important that it ought to be referred to the Council. They therefore forward the list of passages from the Marathi books for consideration and action.

The list of passages in the Gujerathi Books is being prepared and will be presented by the Gujerath and Kathiawar Missionary Conference.

3.—Scientific Temperance Teaching in School Readers.

The Board suggests a special Resolution on this subject. (See Min. 5, Res. 2.)
4. **Christian Vernacular Reading Series.**

The Board considered the question of providing a series of Christian Vernacular Readers for use in schools, but as different and varied opinions were expressed about the matter they felt it would be better to refer the matter to the full Council.

5. **Co-opted Members.**

The Board revised the list of Co-opted members according to the plan proposed in 1916, whereby, in order to have continuity, the co-opted members were divided into groups, each group to serve for three years, so that the list stands at present as follows:—

- **1916. 1917. 1918.** Dr. Benson, Mr. D. C. Churchill, Dr. Macnicol and one Member of Gujerath Missionary Conference.

- **1917. 1918. 1919.** Miss Wheeler, Miss Seiler, Miss Latham and one Member of Gujerath Missionary Conference.

- **1918. 1919. 1920.** Mrs. Wilkie Brown, Miss Nelson, Miss Paxton and one Member of Gujerath Missionary Conference.

J. H. ROBINSON,  
Convener.

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3. **COMMITTEE ON THE INDIAN CHURCH.**

I.—The most important feature of the churches which form the Indian Church in the area of the Bombay Representative Council is their spiritual condition. It is the belief of your Committee that in general these churches are growing in their understanding of Christian principles and in living by such principles, through the help of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. It may be said that the spiritual condition of these churches is, in general, moderately good.

Hindrances.—Considering first the hindrances to spiritual growth we mention the following:—1. Wide-spread, in-
juriously, easy misunderstanding in the minds of a very large number of members of the Christian community that everyone who is born of parents that are called Christians thereby becomes a Christian, just as a child of Hindu parents thereby becomes a Hindu. 2. Injurious environment; old non-Christian assumptions; and the easy assumption that some outward rite (like baptism) actually makes every one, even a child, a true Christian just as circumcision makes one a Mohamedan. 3. The worldly-mindedness of parents and elders for the development and prospects of the young. Among the young, over-estimate of personal worth and of the highest good, resulting in very little of the spirit of self-denial and sacrifice. 4. Unsatisfactory housing, unsatisfactory financial condition and the deteriorating environment of many Christians. 5. Temptations to intemperance and extravagance, 6. Lack of discipline.

Needed Helps.—1. Distinct, definite Christian instruction in churches, schools, homes, and in Christian literature; careful use of special occasions like baptism, confirmation, covenanting with the church, sickness. Proper discipline. 2. Clear, forceful teaching about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit. 3. Great effort by churches and Missions for helpful environment of all Christians: for the social and financial uplift of all in perplexity. 4. Occasional special efforts like Retreats, Conferences, revival efforts.

II.—Activities of the Churches.—1. There is growth in efforts for self-support and self-development. The duty and privilege of self-support are more emphasized, understood and lived up to. Systemized benevolence is more taught and is somewhat practised. Compulsion in giving is more discredited, yet urgency of benevolence is emphasized. Some of the modes for stimulating benevolence are offertories at all services, monthly subscriptions, giving at special occasions like baptisms, marriages, harvest festivals; income from lands and buildings; gifts in kind as well as money; consecration and use of time as well as money,

2. There is growth of activity for non-Christians. (a) The Evangelistic Forward Movement; (b) added emphasis given to individual responsibility for others; (c) beginning of emphasis on the truth that the entire church and all its resources should be missionary; (d) more organized effort.
3. Yet in these churches on the whole there is a very inadequate sense of responsibility for self-support and self-propagation.

III.—Inter-Relation of the Churches and Missions.—These churches are beginning to appreciate that gradually they are more and more to assume and carry the responsibilities which have long been borne by foreign Missions. In some Missions and districts some churches have relieved Missions of the superintendence of Christian work in limited areas, and have assumed a considerable part of the financial support of such work. The Bombay District Church Council has taken over charge of the evangelistic and pastoral work of the C. M. S, in Bombay city and in the Western part of the island of Salsette, which adjoins the island of Bombay. That work includes 4 Indian ministers, 20 evangelists, and 3 vernacular schools. For the support of this work the Council receives part of the money from England, and itself secures part in India from their own members. In the American Marathi Mission one district is wholly superintended by a Committee of Indian Christians, with one advisory missionary; in other districts Indian Committees carry considerable responsibility for superintendence and finance. Some churches and individuals in that same Mission are deeply interested in the work and support of the National Missionary Society and its Mission in the Karmala district. Churches and Missions are beginning to realize that all Christian activities should be church-centric, instead of Mission-centric. In Gujarat the Irish Presbyterian Mission has a Sustentation Fund from which all pastors are supported. That Mission has also a Home Missionary Society which has undertaken all evangelization in the small State of Cutch. This Home Missionary Society is wholly controlled, financially supported and managed by the Indian members of the churches of the Mission with an advisory Committee of two missionaries. Its two chief missionaries are ordained Indian ministers.

In some Missions Indian Christians and churches are carrying some responsibilities which Missions formerly bore, e.g., some churches meet some of the cost for places of worship and for repairs; and own and care for cemeteries. In Bombay city the churches have arranged for the heavy cost of funerals by taking advantage of Municipal Regulations. A Christian may meet the entire cost, or part of the cost, or none of the
cost of a funeral in Bombay. According to its Regulations the Municipality meets the cost of the funerals of those Christians who do not have friends who feel able to meet such expense. In Ahmednagar the Church has a Church coffin, a decent box, painted white (rather than black to show that to a Christian death is not a terror) which is for the use of any Christian who is willing to use it for a relative. At the house the corpse is placed in this coffin, which is (whenever feasible) brought to the Church (where the funeral services for rich and poor are conducted alike). Thence the coffin is taken to the cemetery. The corpse is removed and placed in the grave. Then the coffin brought back, cleaned, and is available for further use.

It is reported that in some parts of India the relations between some Indian leaders and some churches, with some Missions and some missionaries are strained. Happily in our area these relations are fairly harmonious. But it is of great importance that everyone should be thoughtful, sympathetic and appreciative of all others, and that occasional infelicities on either side be not much talked about.

IV. Co-operation and Union.—Regarding co-operation and unity, there is among Indian Christian leaders and churches a growing and strong desire for co-operation and even for union. Indian Christians feel that present divisions are not of their making, and they deeply regret that western separatist causes keep Indian Christians apart. These leaders strongly wish that all Missions should encourage their respective churches to make active efforts for co-operation and union. Some years ago the Home Committee of the C. M. S. sent out a circular in which it was said, If you see any tendency among Indian Christians towards the formation of a National Church, by all means foster that desire.

The war is promoting a desire and effort for co-operation and union. The bulletins of the Committee of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America on Faith and Order are encouraging this irenic spirit.

All denominational leaders should accord to all Indian Christians perfect freedom to get together to consider the problems of the Indian Church of the future.
The more that Indian Christians and missionaries think about and are responsive to the influence of the Holy Spirit, the more will the spiritual power, the activities, the relations and the unity of the Indian church be promoted.

In name of the Committee,

R. A. HUME,

Convener.

4. LITERATURE COMMITTEE.

It was stated in the Literature Committee's report for last year that a catalogue of existing Marathi Christian Literature had been prepared along with a statement of new books principally needed. Since then, the Literature Committee of the National Missionary Council, at the request of the Continuation Committees in Great Britain and America, has undertaken a complete survey and statement of needs for all India, and has requested provincial literature committees to prepare separate statements, consisting in each case of a general survey and catalogue, a programme of work, and requests for grants towards the expenses of this programme (including any requests for support of literature missionaries). The National Council's Literature Committee has decided to publish these statements. In the case of Marathi literature, it was felt that the statement of needs already drawn up was not full and detailed enough for the purposes of the Continuation Committees, and that the catalogue, being a mere tabulated list of books, ought not to be published till it was completed by the addition of brief notes on the contents of the books, which might serve to guide purchasers of literature to what they wanted. A fuller report on Marathi Christian literature with a statement of the needs of the Literature Committee has accordingly been prepared and published. It is presented along with this report, and copies are available for any who desire them. Mr. Douglas and Mr. Dhalwani have been engaged, as time permitted, in going over existing Marathi Christian books, in order to complete the catalogue as indicated above. It is hoped that this will be published shortly, and that thereafter it will be kept up to date, and revised.
-editions issued periodically. Incidentally this work provides an opportunity for examining both the style and matter of existing works, and notes are being kept of those which require revision in case of re-publication.

A good deal of time has had to be spent in going over the considerable number of MSS. sent in with a view to publication, in response to an advertisement in the "Dnya-nodaya," and books undertaken at the request of the Literature Committee or other bodies. The following books, among others, have been examined since last report was presented to the Council, and are likely to be published shortly:

1. "The Pilgrim's Progress," Part II, re-translated by Mr. R. A. Joshi, to be published by the Bombay Tract and Book Society. The translation of the verses which appear here and there in the book has been undertaken by Miss Venubai Kelkar, M.A.

2. "Kathekari Mai," a collection of stories and papers by Miss Bissell, Rev. N. V Tilak, and others. Accepted by the Bombay Tract and Book Society.

3. "Theosophy," an abridged translation by Mr. D. K. Dhalwani of the chapter on that subject from Dr. Farquhar’s "Modern Religious Movements in India." Accepted by the Bombay Tract and Book Society.

4. "Haridasi," a story of life in Bengal, translated by Mr. R. A. Joshi. Accepted by the Bombay Tract and Book Society.

5. "The Supreme Person and the Supreme Quest," by Dr. R. A. Hume, translated by Mr. R. A. Joshi. Accepted by the Bombay Tract and Book Society.

6. "Alcohol: a Menace to India," by Dr. Ethel Landon, translated by Mr. R. A. Joshi. Accepted by the Bombay Tract and Book Society.

7. "Bible Gems," compiled by Mr. E. W. Fritchley, edited in Marathi by Mr. D. K. Dhalwani. Published privately.
8. "Nature Stories," by Miss W. M. Hayne, translated by the late Mr. T. B. Thomre. Offered to the S. P. C. K. Mr. Thomre was a Marathi writer of much promise, who was known to many as the Bal Kavi. His tragic death, through an accident, in May, was a great loss to Marathi literature.

In response to the offer of prizes for the two best Marathi stories by Indian Christian authors, descriptive of Indian Christian life, five MSS were sent in. These have all been examined, and the first prize of Rs. 150 has been awarded to Mr. D. N. Tilak for a MS entitled "Tivra Zaniva." The second prize is not awarded.

In accordance with the action of the Council at its last meeting the Literature Committee has been in communication with the various missions represented on the Council, with reference to the proposal for an inter-mission Anglo-Marathi paper. The United Free Church Mission and the American Presbyterian Mission have approved of the proposal to make the "Dnyanodaya" such a paper, and of the draft scheme presented to the last meeting of the Council, and have undertaken to contribute Rs. 300 per annum each towards the cost of the paper. The Mukti Mission, the University Settlement and the Y. M. C. A. have expressed their sympathy with the proposal, but are not in a position to take an active share in the scheme. No adverse replies and no alternative proposals have been received. It is perhaps hardly possible for the Council to take official action till a larger measure of cooperation has been secured, but this matter should not be allowed to rest here. It is to be hoped that all the missions in the Marathi area will soon realise the advantage of having a strong, widely circulated and influential Anglo-Marathi paper as their common organ.

A report on Gujarati Christian literature, with a catalogue, has been prepared by the Rev. H. R. Scott, D. D., and is presented to the Council herewith. Copies are available for distribution. The thanks of the Committee are due to Dr. Scott for this valuable service. Unfortunately it has not yet been found possible to arrange for anyone being set free even as a half time missionary for the Gujarati area.

On the suggestion of the Rev. James Smith, the Literature
Committee co-opted as additional members the Rev. A. Robertson, Poona, the Rev. E. W. Simpson, Islampur, and the Rev. J. H. Robinson, Nasik, as missionaries who had been specially successful in the circulation of literature, and were therefore qualified to advise the Committee as to the kind of publications likely to prove successful.

As no financial statement was presented to the Council by the Literature Committee last year, an abstract of accounts from 1st Jan. 1917 to 31st July 1918, is appended to this report.

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In name of the Literature Committee,

J. C. WINSLOW,

Convener.

5. COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISTIC EFFORT.

The main purpose of the appointment of this Committee was to keep the Council in touch with the Evangelistic Forward Movement, and it has been expressly precluded from any action which would savour of assuming responsibility for the organization or direction of the movement in Western India. No circumstances have arisen throughout the year rendering a
meeting of the Committee desirable, nor has the Committee thought it necessary to add to the burdens of those actively engaged in evangelistic work by addressing enquiries to them as to the progress and results of their work. The Committee has thus nothing to report as to any activities of its own. It may, however, be of interest to the Council, and may be considered within the scope of the Committee's duty to state what has been done to promote the movement in this part of India during the year.

It was reported to the last meeting of Council that another Committee, called the Western India Evangelistic Forward Movement Committee, had been formed, not connected with this Council, but representative of most of the churches in Western India, to keep alive an active interest in the Evangelistic Forward Movement. The lines on which that Committee has worked are the following:—

1. To send out plans and suggestions for evangelistic work.

2. To prepare a statement regarding the possibilities of an evangelistic forward movement, with a view to stimulating the churches to greater effort.

3. To collect interesting and encouraging news about the movement, and send it out periodically.

4. Wherever desired, to co-operate with churches and missions in plans for special evangelistic work as, e.g., arranging for simultaneous evangelistic efforts during specified periods, organizing conferences and other meetings, etc.

5. Where desired, to arrange for visits to churches by individuals qualified to help them in this work.

It will be evident that in laying down the foregoing as its lines of work the Committee referred to was careful to avoid anything like an attempt to interfere with the freedom of each church to work along its own lines. It secured from the Y.M.C.A. the services of Mr. B. Bhaskare for one year. Mr. Bhaskare has endeavoured to get into touch with Christian workers throughout Maharashtra, and, where desired, has
furnished them with information and advice as to methods which have proved successful elsewhere. At the invitation of those in charge of churches or missions he has visited many centres in Western India, and from the reports it is evident that many have been encouraged and stimulated by his visits. He has issued a quarterly Marathi circular giving information about the movement, and has produced some other useful literature. In these and other ways he has been largely instrumental in keeping alive interest in the movement in Western India. His services are no longer available in this particular direction, but the Committee with which he has been working will, it is hoped, be able to continue the work in some degree along the same lines.

One important matter of which mention must be made here is the proposed visit of Mr. Eddy to India in 1919. In connection with his visit arrangements are being made to hold conventions of Christian workers at 4 centres in Western India. The places have not yet been fixed, but Kolhapur, Poona, Ahmednagar and a centre in Gujerat are suggested. The proposal is that Mr. Eddy should visit each convention for 3 days, and that his addresses should be given through an interpreter. It has been found elsewhere that given a good interpreter and careful attention to the best methods, practically nothing of the effect of the addresses is lost. It may be possible, if circumstances are favourable for local campaigns in or near the places of convention, to secure Mr. Eddy's services for three days following the convention for such work.

It is expected that Mr. Frank Buchman, with some others, will precede Mr. Eddy and prepare for his work by practical training of workers in personal evangelism. One great advantage of his method is that it does away with the necessity for advertisements and large public meetings.

In several centres special evangelistic efforts were engaged in during the months of February and March.

In name of the Committee,

R. B. Douglas.
Convener.
6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS COMMITTEE.

The Public Questions Committee of the Bombay Representative Council of Missions reports as follows:—

1. We have not met during the year.

2. Several questions which come under our purview have been referred by the National Missionary Council to the Bombay Representative Council for consideration, on which we would say a few words.

3. The Indian Christian Marriage Act. The Public Questions Committee draws the attention of the Council to Resolution XIII of the Meeting of the National Missionary Council at Coonoor, and submits that as the National Council's Public Questions Committee has not yet prepared its promised draft of an amended Indian Christian Marriage Act, no further action by your Committee or the Council is called for at the present time.

4. Your Public Questions Committee reports further that in pursuance of your instructions contained in Resolution 21 of your 1917 meeting, a schedule of five questions was sent out in October 1917 to authorities in various missions with a view to gaining a rough impression of the degree of similarity or diversity at present existing in the various missions about marriage questions.

Answers were obtained from representatives of the following missions:


3. United Free Church of Scotland.


5. Irish Presbyterian Mission.


Some of the answers which it seemed important to record are summarised here.

(i) On the first two questions, i.e.,

1. Does your Mission insist that marriages of Christians belonging to it shall be solemnized by a minister?

2. If the answer to question 1 is in the negative, by whom may a marriage be solemnized in your mission?

Nine of the missions insist on a minister performing all marriages; the Christian and Missionary Alliance says that so far they have been performed only by ordained missionaries; the Swedish Alliance says "by any authorized Christian Marriage Registrar"; the Methodist Episcopal Mission permits marriages by Registrar, but adds, "If by Registrar, our recognition would depend upon the attendant circumstances"; the Poona and Indian Village Mission answers that they "do not insist on performance by a minister, but allow marriages performed by the collector, or any other official authorized by Government."

(ii) The third question was "Please give the formula used in your mission for the consent of the parties, the one to the other, which is the essence of marriage."

The answers may be summarized as follows. All have some prescribed formula except the American Marathi Mission,
which in common practice uses one much like that of the Church of England.

Of the twelve, which have formulas.

(a) All make the pledge expressly binding until death, except the Swedish Alliance Mission, which has no reference to it.

(b) Seven are definite about forsaking all other, using those very words.

Two, viz., the Basel Mission and the American Presbyterian Mission have reference to mutual faithfulness.

Three, viz., the Poona and the Indian Village Mission, the Wesleyan Methodist Mission and the Swedish Alliance Mission, have no reference to this point.

(iii) On the questions of Prohibited Degrees the following is a summary of the answers.

(a) Church of England. United Free Church of Scotland. Swedish Alliance Mission, have definite tables which are either identical or closely resemble one another.

b) Basel Mission follows Leviticus xviii, and Government Rules.

Christian and Missionary Alliance. Leviticus xviii. and Encyclopædia Britannica.

(c) Wesleyan Methodist Mission leaves it to the discretion of the Superintendnet guided by the Law of the land.

Methodist Episcopal Mission follows the Law of the realm.

(d) Irish Presbyterian Mission follows Indian customs.

(e) The other five missions have no fixed rule.
N.B.—(i) Three Missions expressly state that they allow marriage with deceased wife's sister.

(ii) We are also warned that "Congregationalists would object to a Common Indian Marriage Law which required compliance with such a table of prohibited degrees as is in force in the Church of England."

(iv) The answers about marriage of divorced persons in the lifetime of the divorced spouse shew a similar diversity of custom, but they are not strictly relevant here.

Your Committee recommends these facts to the attention of those who are considering marriage problems in India. The essential questions seem to be

(a) Is it likely to benefit the Indian Christian Community, which we hope will grow more and more united, to have marriage customs of divergent types established in it?

(b) Is there any hope of drawing together the missions and Churches by further discussion into greater agreement on these matters?

Some of the divergencies (e.g., the omission of essential words in the marriage promises) may be due to oversight or inexperience. Others may be due to the adoption of traditions of the European or American homelands which might be abandoned in favour of a uniform rule more suitable to India. Others again represent real divergence of principle. It would prepare the way for further action if experienced missionaries and Indian Christians could consider into which of these classes their customs fall.

5. A question which might receive its solution in an amendment of the Indian Christian Marriage Act is raised by Resolution XI of the National Missionary Council at Coonoor. As a particular solution of this question was provisionally adopted by the N.M.C. we are of opinion that this solution should be discussed at the Bombay Representative Council's meeting this year. The Convener of the N.M.C. Public Questions Committee has specially asked that such a discussion should take place. We subjoin the terms of the Resolution referred to—
"That whereas it is uncertain whether in the eye of the law simultaneous admission into the Christian Church whether by baptism or otherwise of a Muhammadan married couple ipso facto dissolves their marriage, it is desirable that the Council should approach the Government of India with a request that it should pass legislation which would put an end to this uncertainty.

"The Council suggests the following as the line which such legislation might take.

"If a Muhammadan married couple who embrace Christianity together and are simultaneously baptized or otherwise admitted into the Christian Church, make before a minister who is permitted by the Indian Christian Marriage Act to solemnize marriages, at a public service, a solemn declaration that they are man and wife, and that they promise henceforward to live together according to the Christian laws of marriage, then this declaration shall be registered by the minister in his register of marriages, attested by himself and two credible witnesses, and shall be held by the courts to place beyond doubt the fact that the persons who have made the declaration are for all legal purposes validly married."

6. Certain resolutions dealing with Cinema shows and the sale of intoxicating liquors were also referred to your Public Questions Committee. We have been unable to make any progress with these, and we respectfully ask that they may be referred for investigation to new Committees, if the Council desires action to be taken.

7. The Temperance Question is of vital importance, and the National Council by Resolution XXXI. of 1917 asked the Bishop of Madras to form a carefully selected Committee on temperance to gather information. We suggest that this Council should associate itself with that Committee (See Min. 9, Res. 2.)

8. In respect to Cinema shows we suggest that if the Council wishes to take any action at all, it should pass a special resolution. (See Min. 9, Res. 4.)

We submit that the special duty of a Public Questions Committee is to give advice to the Council or to take action
on its behalf in questions which need reference to Government or Public Bodies, not to investigate any question which might be called Public.

9. Similarly, in reference to your Resolution 20 of 1917 and the National Missionary Council's Resolution XVIII of 1916, if a Vigilance Committee is now desired or may at any future time be desired, a special Committee for this difficult and important work should be appointed; but such a matter should not be referred to the Public Questions Committee unless it is deemed necessary to move Government or some public body to take action in the matter.

Signed—

On behalf of the Public Questions Committee,

EDWIN JAMES BOMBAY,

Convener.

7. COMMITTEE ON WORK AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE.

This committee consisting of Rev. A.H. Clarke (Convener) Miss Emily Bissell, Miss D. A. D. Lorimer, Rev. H. W. Lea-Wilson and Rev. A. A. Parker has done all its work by correspondence. Mr. Clarke, the Convener, left India for furlough early in January and A. A. Parker was made Acting Convener. A meeting was called in late April especially to discuss the question of a Training Conference for Indian leaders, but the time proved inopportune and no meeting was held.

The Representative Council at its last session charged this Committee with four special duties:

1. The gathering and dissemination of all available information in regard to organized work for young people now going on in the Presidency.
This information was gathered and compiled in a report which was sent to the Secretary of the Council and by him placed before the Executive Committee which has asked that it be submitted with this report. It is, therefore, herewith appended.

2. The development of co-operation between existing agencies.

The particular plan put forward by this Committee looked toward the holding of a Conference for the training of Indian leaders with departmental classes in methods of work, e.g., Boy Scout, Sunday School, Christian Endeavour, Epworth League, Bible Study, Physical Training; also devotional and inspirational services. The Committee took action requesting "The Rev. A. A. Parker to take measures for the conduct of a conference of leaders in work among young people at the earliest possible time." In considering this matter, Mr. Shumaker of the student Y. M. C. A. and Miss Wingate of the Y. W. C. A. were consulted. The difficulties in carrying out the Committee's wishes were principally two. First, war conditions have added burdens to our leaders both European and Indian, so that the securing of an efficient staff of leaders and teachers seemed difficult. Second, a place had to be found which would not only be adequate but available at a time when our young people would be free to attend such a conference. Both Lonavla and Nasik were considered, but neither seemed able to provide accommodation at the time considered most suitable for the Conference.

This is to be regretted, for the response from individuals and missions as far as received was unanimous in favour of the Conference. Your Committee, therefore, recommends that the holding of such a Conference be endorsed by the Council and the Committee instructed to arrange for such a Conference at as early a date as possible.

3. The laying down of broad principles which might help toward a demarkation of the spheres of work of the various organizations.

Inasmuch as no concrete cases of overlapping of any existing or proposed agencies came to the attention of the Co...
mittee it has not found it easy or thought it wise to attempt any statement of principles at this time.

4. The consideration of any need of Young People’s Work which is not being adequately cared for by existing organizations.

Two spheres of activity were specially suggested, Mission Study and Social Service. While we find very little is being done in the way of Mission Study, there are several organizations whose general programme of activities include such study and it would seem clear that no new organization is needed to promote this interest.

As regards Social Service, the Epworth League, the Christian Endeavour, the Y. M. C. A. and the Y W. C. A. are all organized with this as an essential aim, but perhaps the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides offer, for the time being at least, the best opportunity for directing the activities of our Young People in this direction. In the interest of the former Rev. L. Henry Gates of Sholapur has been most active and reports quite an interest shown in the Boy Scouts’ organization in Bombay Presidency.

A Scoutmasters’ Class for Training Leaders in this work was held at Mahableshwar during the month of May 1918 at which more than forty young Christian teachers representing six different Missions were present. Wilson High School and the American Mission High School, Bombay; the Wesleyan Mission School, Secunderabad; and the Kolhapur Mission are some of the Institutions in which these young men are organizing troops and acting as scoutmasters.

The American Marathi Mission has an active Boy Scout Council to regulate the movement in its own area; and this council will be very glad to answer questions or co-operate in a larger movement of its kind. This Mission has adopted Marathi translations of the Scout Law, Promise, and Requirements, and has adopted a uniform and badge.

The Y. M. C. A. is proposing to secure a man to organize Boy Scout work in Bombay Presidency. The scattered efforts
to form local organizations seem to call for greater uniformity such as only an association can secure. Such associations have been formed in Madras, Calcutta and Mysore.

The National Missionary Council sub-committee on Social Service has issued a small pamphlet giving information on Social Service and Boy Scouts.

In name of the Committee,

A. A. PARKER,

Acting Convener.