

MUST DISSOLVE FOREIGN LUMPS

Stirring Address on Home Missions at Methodist General Conference

LITTLE OVERLAPPING Home Base Must be Well Cultivated to Back Up Foreign Work

(Staff Correspondence of The Globe.)
Hamilton, Oct. 4.—"There are lumps of insoluble foreign material here in **Canada** and it is our business to get about it and get it into a soluble condition," said Rev. C. E. Manning, Acting General Secretary for Home Missions, in presenting the report of his department to the General Conference of the Methodist Church this afternoon.

Mr. Manning declared that most important home mission work at the present time was that among the European foreigners in **Canada**. He said, there were little Germanys, little Austrias, little Norways and many other little foreign nations in the Dominion, which must be dissolved. He condemned the perpetuation of Irish national peculiarities and grievances, and also those of English "John-Bullism." "What we want in **Canada** from one end to the other is the development of a great Canadian race, speaking one language, that shall have the best qualities of all races," said Mr. Manning.

"There must be no more taking of oaths of allegiance and no more granting of citizenship, if they are not going to be Canadians," continued Mr. Manning. "These people must quit cherishing a foreign life. The time has come when the Methodist Church must send out men inspired with Canadian ideals to teach in the schools in these foreign communities. We shall have Union after a while and then we may have sufficient ministers to devote themselves not only to preaching, but to teaching in such schools."

Motor Boat Mission in B. C.

Referring to the mission work on the coast of British Columbia Mr. Manning said the present single boat service was not sufficient to carry it on. It was proposed to co-operate with the Presbyterian Church in a motor boat mission service along the whole coast line. The cost of such a service would be \$40,000 per year. He said the expenditure would be worth while, as there were many people there who were not receiving the attention of any of the churches. It was as important as the work of Dr. Grenfell at Labrador.

Overlapping Nearly Eliminated.

Dealing with the question of co-operation Mr. Manning said there were at present few cases of overlapping between the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, and that the day was not far distant when there would be no overlapping in home mission fields.

There was a shortage of men owing to the war. Five hundred ministers and probationers had gone overseas. But he believed that the deficiency would be more than made up by the men who return.

Tribute to Dr. Allen.

Mr. Manning expressed regret at the circumstance that had made it necessary for him to present the report, owing to the death of the late General Secretary, Rev. Dr. James Allen. He paid a high tribute to Dr. Allen's work for home missions.

Home Missions Report.

The report shows a total of 514 English-speaking mission fields, 20 among foreigners. Ninety-eight have gone off the funds through co-operation, 108 have become self-supporting, 78 new missions have been organized. A total of \$1,074,341 had been expended on home missions. These figures cover the period of the last four years.

Cultivate the Home Base.

Rev. J. H. Arnup, Assistant Secretary for Foreign Missions, spoke on "The Cultivation of the Home Base." He said the Church should cultivate a Christianity that was nothing less than universal. There was need of a new conception of Christianity and the function of the Church. He said the fundamental basis of home activities should be the placing of emphasis in other directions beside the financial. They needed a revival of intercession for missions, the securing of volunteers for foreign service, and the securing of gifts and those who would put missions into their annual program of business.

What the Forward Movement Is.

Rev. Dr. F. C. Stephenson presented the case for the Forward Movement. He advocated reading of informative literature dealing with the life and conditions in foreign countries. Dealing with the object of

the movement Dr. Stephenson said: "The Forward Movement is not a drive for missionary money. It is an established missionary character builder. It has achieved permanence through prayer, missionary education and systematic giving. It is founded upon the principle of stewardship of prayer, time, talents, life and possessions. Its objective is to enlist the half-million young people of Methodism, and eventually the whole Church, to carry out the great commission—the evangelization of the world. The Forward Movement is always reaching down to the younger generations and graduating them into the adult missionary activities of the home church, or as missionaries in the home or foreign field. Like any other educational or missionary enterprise, its progress is limited by what is put into it. The latent possibilities in the Epworth Leagues and Sunday schools are so great that it has been a continual struggle to hold the movement down to the pace necessitated by the grant for carrying on the work of the department, the amount of which (until last April) has been the same for the past six years, and which, on account of the increasingly high cost of everything, has diminished from forty per cent. to fifty per cent. in its driving power."

Big Increase in Givings.

"The most optimistic," said Dr. Stephenson, "would not have prophesied that the missionary income from our Sunday schools, Epworth Leagues and juvenile offerings would total, for the quadrennium, \$496,757.01, an increase of \$63,793.84. Special relief funds also had been liberally contributed to, including \$35,000 given in 1918 to the Syrian and Armenian Relief Fund."

North America Dry by 1920.

In the afternoon Rev. Dr. J. G. Shearer spoke as the representative of that council. He realized, he said, the danger of any social effort if it got away from a distinctively Christian basis. "It will be done on that basis," he added in reference to his recent appointment as the first paid Secretary of the Social Service Council of Canada, "or it will have to be done without me."

He expressed his satisfaction with the spread of prohibition in **Canada** and the United States. In the latter country it was not only war-time but permanent prohibition because it was constitutional. "That will make it easier for us in **Canada**," he commented, "to make our war-time prohibition permanent after the war. I don't need to be a prophet or the son of a prophet to predict that by 1920 the North American continent will be dry, to stay dry forever."

Three Points Stressed.

This year, he said, the Social Service Council was laying stress on three points: child welfare, public health and in particular the suppression of venereal diseases, and the abolition of political corruption. He expressed his gratification at the abolition of the patronage system. Regarding child welfare he stated that **Canada** was yearly sacrificing 35,000 child lives that could be saved. The suppression of venereal diseases was closely connected with this question. On this there had been a conspiracy of silence in which the preacher, the physician, the parent, the pedagogue and the publicist had had their share.

"We are bound to turn on the light," he exclaimed. "We'll not have to do it over the head of the soldier so much as over that of the civilian." Surgeon-General Fotheringham's report, he declared, ought to make us more proud of our men in khaki and less proud of our civilian population.

Dead-line Seventy Years.

The Committee on Memorials has overwhelmingly reported in favor of establishing a "dead-line" of the age of seventy years for Methodist ministers and officials. If this is adopted by the Conference, among those affected will be Rev. Dr. Briggs, the veteran Book Steward of the Church.

Book and Publishing Business.

Statistics showed a turn-over in the Book and Publishing House of \$3,292,849; Sunday school membership, \$454,908; money raised, \$165,802; total raised by deaconesses' institutions, \$200,222; Department of Social Service and Evangelism, \$127,678; Educational Fund, \$22,541; Missionary, \$3,115,107, and Women's Missionary Society, \$786,021.

Superannuation Fund.

The quadrennial statement of the Superannuation Fund of the Methodist Church, which will be taken up at the Saturday morning session of the Conference, shows a total of invested funds on July 31, 1918, of \$721,930.25, an increase during the quadrennium of \$104,283.26. During that period there was paid out to claimants, including special emergency grants, the sum of \$823,673.27. Of this, \$601,628.13 went to ministers, \$309,083.10 to widows, \$3,715 to children, and the remainder in emergency grants. Their salaries and general expenses of administering the fund (including legal expenses), \$23,643.32 was paid out.

Must Surrender Without Conditions.

"We are in this war until our foe is crushed," said Bishop Joseph F. Berry, D.D., LL.D., representing the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States, in an eloquent and stirring address at the evening session. "We shall listen to no peace proposals from Potsdam. We shall have peace only after the madman of Germany has been beaten to his knees. He shall accept terms which a triumphant allied army shall enforce. There must be no surrender to a Germany whose sword is dripping with 'Innocent blood'. They must surrender without conditions." (Loud applause.)

Speaking of the relations between **Canada** and the United States, Bishop Berry said the American colonies never fought their Mother; they fought their "Prussian grandfather," King George the III. He said that democracy was not the getting rid of Kings; nations had abolished Kings and raised up anarchy; democracy was the investing of the whole people with the greatness of Kingship. He congratulated the people of **Canada** upon having the sense and courage to banish the rum traffic, and said that the United States was following their example.

The Church in Politics.

"The Church has gone into politics," continued Dr. Berry; "that is what the liquor interests didn't want us to do. We preached and prayed and wept and protested against the drink, but they did not care. Now we have determined that this thing shall be hurled back into the hot hell from whence it came."

Dr. Berry said there was a movement toward a closer union of Methodism in America. He did not agree with those who said that denominationalism had had its day, and that the readjustments which must come at the close of the war will not tolerate creeds and sects. He urged more co-operation in the warfare against evil.

"Protestant Christianity looks to progressive leadership," said Dr. Berry in conclusion. "In the name of the new world with its open

doors, Methodists, get ready to strike for God and humanity as never before. Sons of Wesley, eager, earnest, lead the way."

Rev. Dr. Pretyman, Chaplain of the United States Senate, also addressed the Conference as a representative of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States.