

# World Missionary Conference, 1910

*(To consider Missionary Problems in relation to the Non-Christian World)*

## THE HISTORY AND RECORDS OF THE CONFERENCE

TOGETHER WITH  
ADDRESSES DELIVERED AT THE  
EVENING MEETINGS

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**PART III**

**THE CONTINUATION  
COMMITTEE**

## THE CONTINUATION COMMITTEE

IN one respect—and that of great significance—this Conference stands distinguished from all preceding international conferences. It appointed a Committee to perpetuate its idea and continue its work. No previous Conference was so constituted as to be able to do this, for in none was there a proportionate representation by official delegates from Missionary Societies, and consequently a suitable basis of authority was lacking. Moreover, no previous conference had assembled to take in hand a definite task such as was set before this Conference in the Reports of the eight Commissions, namely, a co-operative study of the common outstanding problems in their common missionary enterprise with the view of helping one another to solve them and achieve together the evangelisation of the world. This task was far from being completed at the Conference: it was in fact only begun. The more clearly the task was apprehended by the Conference, the more manifest became the need for fuller investigation of the situation in various directions, and for the most careful as well as diligent maturing of plans and methods for such further co-operation as was practicable. All that was attained in the Conference was that the Societies came into touch with one another, and in so doing realised their underlying unity and realised also a reciprocal regard, confidence, and love which made it morally and spiritually impossible for them not to be desirous of ascertaining what further measure of co-operation might be agreed upon by them severally. This was the basis of the appointment of the Continuation Committee.

The authorisation of the Committee and the purposes of

its appointment are recorded in the Minutes of 21st June on pages 95-7. The Committee consists of thirty-five members, ten from America, Britain and the Continent respectively, and one each from Australasia, South Africa, Japan, China, and India. Their names are recorded in the Minutes of 22nd June on pages 101-2.

The Continuation Committee held a brief meeting on the afternoon of Thursday, 23rd, three prolonged meetings on Friday, 24th, and another long meeting on Saturday, 25th June.

It elected Dr. John R. Mott as Chairman, Dr. Eugene Stock and Dr. Julius Richter as Vice-Chairmen, and Mr. Newton W. Rowell, K.C., of Toronto, as Treasurer. It was decided that these four officers, together with Sir Andrew L. Fraser, Rev. R. Wardlaw Thompson, D.D., Rev. Arthur J. Brown D.D., Rev. James L. Barton, D.D., and Count Moltke should form the Executive Committee. The Continuation Committee appointed Mr. J. H. Oldham as its Secretary, to devote his whole time to the work.

In the rules of procedure provisionally adopted, it is provided that at least five countries should be represented on the Executive Committee, and that the members of the Executive hold office until the close of the next regular meeting. Further, that the next regular meeting of the Continuation Committee shall be held in 1911, and thereafter the Committee shall meet biennially; fifteen members shall constitute a quorum, provided that at least six different countries are represented. Special meetings, however, may be called by the Executive, who may also call meetings of members in different countries or groups of countries for special purposes. Meetings of the Executive shall be held at least annually, a majority of the members constituting a quorum, provided that at least three countries are represented. A vote of the Executive may, however, be taken by correspondence, but for a decision a majority of two-thirds of all members of the Executive, including four countries, is necessary. Minutes of all the meetings of the Executive are to be sent to all the members of the Continuation Committee, together with such other

information from time to time as may help to keep them in touch with the work. It is also provided that special Committees may be appointed, composed wholly or partially of members outside the Continuation Committee, to secure information and to carry out the other purposes of the Committee, but wherever practicable the Chairman of such Committees shall be selected from the Continuation Committee.

The Continuation Committee made arrangements for the due circulation of the Messages from the Conference to the Christian Church in Christian and in non-Christian lands. They also agreed to prepare and issue a letter to missionaries in the mission field conveying to them the deep appreciation of their contribution to the work of the Conference, and informing them of the plan and constitution of the Continuation Committee.

The Committee resolved, in pursuance of the terms of its appointment, to carry further in certain directions the investigations begun by the Commissions of the Conference, and to undertake certain fresh investigations which the proceedings of the Conference showed to be desirable. For this purpose special Committees were appointed, in accordance with the provision above mentioned, to deal severally with the following subjects. In the cases in which the composition of the special Committee in respect of the appointment of members from outside of the Continuation Committee is not yet completed, only the names of the Chairmen are mentioned.

I. *Unoccupied Fields.*—Chairman, The Rev. Charles R. Watson, D.D. The Executive Committee to be in America, with an Advisory Council in Europe.

II. *Formation of a Board of Study in Great Britain for the Preparation of Missionaries.*—The Committee to consist of the British members of the Commission of the Conference on the Preparation of Missionaries. Chairman, Mrs. Creighton.

III. *Development of Training Schools for Missionaries.*—Chairman, Dr. H. T. Hodgkin. The Executive Committee to be in Great Britain, with an Advisory Council in America.

IV. *Christian Education in the Mission Field* (with the special purpose of continuing the study of the educational situation with reference to particular mission fields, and of considering the means of fostering co-operation and co-ordination in educational missionary work). Chairman, Sir Andrew L. Fraser. Vice-Chairman, President J. F. Goucher, D.D. The Committee to work in two co-operating sections; the European section to consider specially the educational situation in India and Africa, and the American section to give special attention to the educational situation in Japan, China, and the Levant.

V. *Christian Literature* (with special reference to the promotion of co-operation in the production and circulation of Christian Literature in the mission field, especially in the vernacular). Chairman, the Rev. George Robson, D.D. The Executive Committee to be in Great Britain, with an Advisory Council in America.

VI. *The Securing of Uniformity in Statistical Returns.*—Chairman, Dr. Julius Richter.

VII. *The Formation of an International Committee of Jurists to draw up a Statement of the Recognised Principles underlying the Relations of Missions to Governments*, as suggested in the Report of Commission VII. Chairman, Mr. Newton W. Rowell, K.C. The Executive Committee to be in America, with an Advisory Council in Great Britain.

VIII. *The Best Means of Securing a Larger Place for Missionary Information in the Secular Press.*—Chairmen, Dr. Eugene Stock, for Great Britain and Ireland; The Rev. James L. Barton, D.D., for America; Dr. Julius Richter, for the Continent. The three sections to work as independent Committees in close touch with one another.

IX. *To confer with Societies and Boards upon the Advisability of creating some Organ or Body for dealing with Questions arising between Missions and Governments.*—Chairman, Dr. John R. Mott. The Committee to consist of the members of the Executive, together with the Bishop of Southwark.

A small Committee, with the Rev. J. N. Ogilvie as Chairman, was also appointed to consider the possibility of

publishing in whole or in part the evidence received by the Commission on the Missionary Message.

The appointment of further special Committees was left over for consideration at the next meeting of the Continuation Committee.

From this statement it will be seen that the charge committed to the Continuation Committee is of no small importance. The work to be done along the various lines of action in view must needs be arduous; it demands prudence and patience as well as industry; but it is fraught with possibilities of incalculable gain to the missionary enterprise. The co-operation of many efficient and devoted workers in the cause of missions is being sought, and their united labours may, by the blessing of God, contribute materially to the realisation of the vision which rose before the hope of the assembled Conference of a new era in the history of the missionary enterprise of the Church. But this will only be if the whole work is kept and carried forward under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and in His power. To all who have prayed for the Conference and have witnessed in it with thankful hearts the answer to their prayers, to all who through the Conference have received enlargement of faith and hope and love in the service of Christ, to all who have won a new vision of the unity of His Church and the coming of His Kingdom throughout the world, the appeal is made for earnest prayer that the Holy Spirit Himself may direct and energise and make abundantly fruitful for His own ends the whole work of the Continuation Committee and of all the Special Committees appointed by it.