

# WORLD DOMINION

The World Dominion Movement advocates Informed Continuous Co-ordinated Evangelism to reach everyone at home and abroad. Its basis is belief in the Deity and Atoning Death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the World's Only Saviour, and in the Final Authority of Holy Scripture.

Editor: THOMAS COCHRANE.

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sham of his own faith were obvious to him. He seemed to be waiting for the opportunity to find something more satisfying. As he turns the pages of the New Testament and reads what God has prepared for him in Christ may he discover his soul's quest and be willing to surrender and forsake his spurious exaltation!

With the exception of one other, this is the only lama to whom we have spoken so candidly, and who reciprocated with such unwonted frankness; still among many other lamas it has been occasionally evident that some suspect the falsity of lamaism. But exalted position, power, influence and wealth hold them fast. At present these pseudo-saviours are accessible and are either reading the literature, or hearing the Christian message from the missionaries as the latter travel from place to place and meet them in camps, villages and temples. While we pray for the Tibetans let us not forget their deluded and pride-encrusted lamas. As we envisage the future of Tibetan missions we can see these scarlet and yellow-robed lamas also coming to Christ Who alone has 'the words of eternal life.'

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## On the Indian Tibetan Frontier

SURVEY EDITOR

THERE is a wild, mountainous country in the north of the United Provinces, situated at the junction of the latter with Nepal and Tibet. This frontier district attracted few missionary pioneers. Dr. Budden, the founder of the London Missionary Society's work in Almora, visited these parts fifty years ago, but it was not till 1894 that Dr. Martha A. Sheldon opened up permanent work there. At Dharcula, among the towering mountains and grim passes, she worked for eighteen years, but she passed away in her prime and lies buried among the massive rocks. Even after twenty years her name among the peoples of the hills is one with which to conjure.

Seven passes from Tibet and Nepal open into this district, and the whole traffic passes through Dharcula to flow towards the plains of India. On the roads beyond Almora the writer has often encountered groups of Tibetans, Nepalese, and natives coming and

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going. Hindu and Mohammedan traders have also settled in the area and so it has become a great racial melting pot.

The people of the place are of a distinctly Mongolian type, and are probably an admixture of Chinese and aboriginal mountaineers. They are friendly to outsiders, only the Tibetan section shows any suspicion of the foreigner. The relations of Tibet with the outside world have been unfortunate and doubtless partly account for this suspicion. To the Tibetans, the foreigner has usually been the ruthless conqueror, and even the foreign traveller has been guilty of abusing their hospitality. Hence to-day, when permits to enter the country are given, it is most important to observe the conditions imposed. If ever the barrier against the entry of missionaries is to be removed suspicion must give place to confidence. True friendliness will alone open the door.

Progress in the area has been slow, but Christians have been won from all the five sections of its population. What has been accomplished by the Rev. E. B. Steiner and his wife, who after twenty years have been following up Dr. Sheldon's work, is a good augury for the future. Dr. Steiner has a great vision of how to evangelize the country. He would place out-stations at distances of every ten miles throughout the territory. Christian workers placed at these centres would reach the settled population.

To reach the nomadic Tibetan traders (the Kambas) he would attach evangelists to their caravans as they proceeded towards India. These traders make long halts of five to seven days every five miles or so, and the opportunities which such an evangelist would have are unlimited. Dr. Steiner would like to see many native Christians penetrating Tibet and Nepal as silent witnesses. They, by their Christian lives, would proclaim the power of a new life. For this purpose a good Bible School is one of the great necessities of evangelism.

Naturally medical work is a big asset in such a district and dispensaries are powerful evangelistic centres. Such medical work as can be done on tour is also a great help in disarming suspicion. In the villages of Nepal the opening of the medicine chests is the signal for the first real interest in the missionary's presence. This often leads to invitations to visit the homes of the sick and it is not unknown to be asked to partake of a meal.

Dr. Steiner is a strong believer in indigenous development of the Church. He feels that only a living, growing Church will solve the problem of the evangelization of the western parts of Tibet and Nepal. The district is the key to these two closed lands. They are open now to the printed word and they cannot shut the door to the Spirit of Christ to be seen in the Christian who may sojourn amongst them. The unfinished task is great but not too great, for, as Dr. Steiner remarks, the task is His, not ours.