The World Dominion Movement advocates informed Continuous Co-ordinated Evangelism crach 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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## Current History

MILIAN YAROSLAVSKY, president of the Society of the MILIAN YARUSLAVSKI, president of collective Militant Godless, says that ten years of effort have failed to uproot religion in RUSSIA. Thirty-four per cent. of collective farmers and more still of individual farmers remain religious. Forty thousand small communities maintain churches. A Moslem paper published in Aleppo reports that Moslems in Russia are severely persecuted. Moslem students are not admitted, it is alleged, into Government schools unless they state that they do not believe in the existence of God. If students mention God's name, even inadvertently, they are expelled after suffering insult. A Moslem cannot perform his prostrations at prayer, for he is stoned by Russians. Religious lectures, articles, or propaganda lead straight to Siberia, with the probability of being murdered on the Owing to decline in membership of the League of Militant Godless, a fresh drive has been made. The nominal membership of the League is five million.

The International of Communist Youth is to make a great push in order to attract youth in colonial countries and educate them in a spirit of hate for their Imperialist oppressors. 'Love your enemies' is the antithesis of this. A recent writer on Russia, speaking of his experiences there, says, 'Russian communism makes the mistake, common to immature minds, of confusing mechanization with civilization, pedantry with culture. . . It is floundering in the morass of Victorian materialism, which it thinks it has discovered, and from which we are beginning to escape!'

In ESTONIA, Sunday-School work is gradually becoming one of the most vital parts of the religious life of the land.

The Times has drawn attention to the fact that in FRANCE, 7,004 persons, according to a French newspaper, disappeared from Paris during 1935, leaving no trace behind, and remarks that this suggests conditions which lie beneath the surface life of this great cosmopolitan city of curious and perhaps tragic interest. There are several thousands of North Africans earning a living in Paris. Many are buying Scriptures and Christian books. This must be encouraging to the missionaries in the hard fields of North Africa.

In GERMANY, the Nazi régime, by its policy of persecution, is producing an uncontrollable number of refugees; about one-and-a-half million people are being crushed, against whom the sole charge is that they are not what the National-Socialists regard as 'Nordic.' There is a movement in Germany to enrol every child at ten years of age, and at the age of fourteen to draft them into the Hitler Youth Organization. Whether the Roman Catholic and Protestant Youth Associations will be allowed to exist side by side with the official

#### CURRENT HISTORY

organizations remains to be seen. As a result of persecution in Germany and other countries, it is estimated that since the War, one million Jews have been scattered.

The Confessional Movement in the German Evangelical Church is threatened with destruction by the Reich Minister for Church affairs. But its Pastors' Emergency League now comprises more than half the pastors in Germany. The conflict is one between the Christian Churches, which are sound on fundamental principles, and the new German religion which has the National-Socialist philosophical outlook. Indian students in Germany are being subjected to treatment not entirely dissimilar to that meted out to the Jews, and are prevented from having fellowship and association with German students. This is but another development of the non-Aryan problem, which will cut Germany off from association with other countries. State employees in most parts of the country have been given the choice between losing their employment and withdrawing their children from Confessional youth organizations.

In SPAIN, the 'George Borrow Bible Car' had visited after six months' work, 1,500 centres of population. It has planned to tour the whole of Spain in two years. The Roman Catholic Church is displaying greater efforts than it has shown for many years. It is vigorously prosecuting social and educational work, but complains that since the proclamation of the Republic, about two thousand parishes are without regular priests.

In ITALY, the *Pre-Balillas* is the most recent youth organization, and is composed of boys under six years of age. To these, the *Balillas*, who are from six to fourteen years of age, will rank as veterans. The province of Milan has already enrolled 10,000 *Pre-Balillas* and aims to secure 130,000. Fifty thousand of these child warriors still attend the kindergarten.

The ALBANIAN Evangelical Mission with seven missionaries and one Albanian worker has been distributing leaflets and selling Scriptures. The Albanian Orthodox Church lacks vitality. The Roman Church is vigorous, although it is regarded with a certain amount of disfavour by the Government. The modern youth of Albania are to some extent breaking away from old traditions.

The Ta Kung Pao of Tientsin says that, 'the greatest question in East Asia is bound up in the good fellowship between the Chinese and Japanese peoples; on this is founded the peace of East Asia.' CHINA looks forward to the day when, her national unity and strength restored, the advantages snatched by Japan in the hour of her weakness will prove to have been a mistake. Japan and Russia are competing for domination in Mongolia. Missionaries, too, are busy; twenty of these, from ten border stations, are evangelizing

the Mongols. There are about 260 mission hospitals in China, served by 859 doctors, 532 of whom are Chinese, and by 1,329 graduated nurses, of whom 1,057 are Chinese. During 1934, China bought 9,706,818 copies of the Scriptures.

Reports from JAPAN to the Arabic press of Cairo and Jerusalem state that Japan is showing great interest in Islam and treating Moslems with marked consideration. Two years ago the Emperor was believed to be a Moslem convert, and this rumour is being revived. Japan seeks influence in the Near East, where Moslem peoples, inflamed by nationalism, resent European domination. The Osaka Asahi, writing of the conflict in Abyssinia, treats it as one between white and coloured peoples, with Japan as the protector of the latter, supported by all the coloured races of Asia.

In ARABIA, gold and oil, in paying quantities, are being obtained near Medina. These may help to pay for the motor-cars which the royal family appear to regard in terms of camels, individual members possessing eight or ten. The Hejaz continues hard and fanatical, but along the Persian Gulf converts to Christianity increase and are not regarded as so great a religious and social offence as formerly.

More than 20,000 Assyrians from IRAQ will be domiciled eventually in the Ghab region of Syria at a cost of over a million sterling. The pressure of Iraqi nationalism, which has expelled the Assyrians, has also been brought to bear upon the Yezidi Devil-Worshippers of Jebel Sinjar, near Mosul. Both these minorities are in a chastened mood and desire Christian teaching and service.

Sir Herbert Samuel says that PALESTINE can receive another million Jews. America hopes to contribute £2,000,000 and Britain £1,000,000 in order gradually to transfer 100,000 German Jews to Palestine. The money, eventually, will be refunded by the settlers. More than 47,000 Jews entered Palestine during the first nine months of 1935—the largest immigration on record.

EGYPTIAN students have been destroying too much Government property recently, and there is a reaction of an ingenious character. A conference of responsible officials propose to raise a special body of University police under the direct orders of the Rector. He will maintain order within University bounds. The student body in Egypt is largely responsible for the national disquiet, but, while meriting disapprobation for riotous behaviour, need our prayers and Christian help.

The hope of PERSIA is that the Persian Christian Church shall interpret Christ to the nation in terms which the hour demands. Persia, Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan and Saudi Arabia are coming together for commercial and defensive solidarity and for the favourable development of their nationalisms.

The TURKISH press is busy with religious and social problems.

#### CURRENT HISTORY

El Jihad is seriously concerned with the moral crashes and family suicides arising from premature freedom given to Turkish women. Writers, like A. Ibrahim, advocate the scrapping of Islam in the interests of nationalism. Cumhuriyat urges the immigration of Turkish groups from the Balkans; some of these are Christians, so that Turkey will soon have a Christian community of her own people.

SYRIAN nationalists are agitating for freedom from French control. Damascus and Aleppo are centres of mischief. The Wafdist leaders, through the Egyptian press, encourage the movement. The Syrian papers, Al Ittihad, Al Kabas and Al Ayyam condemn the Italian invasion of Abyssinia, fearing that it may widen the area of European domination even beyond the limits of Abyssinia.

The bid for Roman Catholic supremacy is evident throughout Africa. In BRITISH EAST AFRICA Roman Catholics increased last year by 88,569, and now total 271,087. In SOUTH AFRICA they number 412,970. In the FRENCH CAMEROUN, the Churches are troubled by a 'native' movement which is anti-foreign and draws members from those who have little Christian experience. Among the remedies proposed is training in self-effort, with the self-effacement of the missionary, who will inspire, but not rule. In South Africa, the Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian Churches are moving toward union. It is to be hoped that this movement will draw closer the Dutch Churches, so that a united Christian body may face native questions and solve them in a Christian spirit. The Methodist Conference in East London has passed resolutions dealing helpfully with the Native Bills now before Parliament.

ABYSSINIAN soldiers are eagerly receiving Gospels and simple reading primers and many instances of conversion are reported. Never was evangelical work so appreciated by the people. At Tlemcen, in Algeria, renowned for its Moslem scholars, French Protestants are co-operating closely with the missionaries and a place of worship has been dedicated for work among Arabs. A recent Conference held in ALGERIA marks a new responsibility of French Christians to evangelize Moslems.

In BELGIAN CONGO Catholic progress may be seen in 1,500 young native men preparing for the priesthood. The Catholic community, including that of Belgian Congo and Ruanda Urundi, is given as 1,232,018. The total Protestant community exceeds 1,000,000. In ITALIAN SOMALILAND the Italian authorities deported the last remnant of the Swedish missionaries, sixteen in number, on 30th November. In PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA there is a great demand for the Scriptures, says a report

from Lourenço Marques, and a small lorry is needed for their distribution.

In ARGENTINA, missions, by withdrawing support too hastily from national workers among small congregations, may endanger the normal growth of the Churches. A Young Peoples' Interdenominational Movement is busy in multiple evangelical activities. The Toba Indians are receptive, and the South American Missionary Society hopes to commence a new mission among them. The BOLIVIAN Government has appropriated 1,000,000 bolivianos to establish sixteen Indian educational centres. The Bolivian Indian Mission needs a central Bible School for Bolivian students.

In BRAZIL the Confederation of Evangelical Churches has organized a Congress to be held in June, 1936. The Confederation is in touch with 250,000 Evangelical Christians, but it has yet to win the co-operation of the German-Brazilian and Baptist Churches. The stimulation of evangelical unity and common action in evangelism in this vast land of over three million square miles is the purpose of the Confederation.

The whole city of Lima has been occupied in celebrating the first Eucharistic Congress to be held in PERU, at which over 100,000 women have taken part. The central highway of Peru, starting from Callao, passing through Lima and climbing 15,890 feet to cross the Andes, thence descending to Oroya, is the first real motor road to cross the Andes. Alike for trade and evangelization it is a boon to the country.

The eight MEXICAN Archbishops have signed a Pastoral Letter attacking Socialist education and forbidding their people to send their children to Socialist schools. Catholic Action associations and religious publications are urged to spread Catholic teaching, and the wealthy are invited to provide funds.

In the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, President Roosevelt, speaking to the Joint Session of the two Houses of Congress, in the course of his message on neutrality, said he believes that world peace and goodwill are blocked by only ten or fifteen per cent. of the world's population.

1936 marks the centenary of the founding of permanent evangelical work in LATIN AMERICA. The British and Foreign Bible Society commenced work in Buenos Aires in 1818. The Moravian Brethren landed in GUIANA in 1735, more than a hundred years previous to the centenary celebrated this year, but the Guianas belong to the colonial area of America. Methodist missionaries from the United States of America arrived in Buenos Aires in 1836. The total evangelical community of Argentina is now 193,000, and of Latin America as a whole, 1,724,584.

# Divine blessing is following

the labours of Moravian Missionaries in East Central Africa. Because of that blessing a Communion Set was needed, and has been provided, for converts at Sikonge.



The inscription reads:

"To the Glory of God. Presented to 'Kidugalo' by friends of the London Association in aid of Moravian Missions, December, 1935."

Funds for further advance in this fruitful mission field will be most gratefully acknowledged by

Chairman and Hon. Sec., CHARLES HOBDAY, Esq.,



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President: Sir GEORGE H. HUME, J.P., M.P., L.C.C.

In CANADA a notable revival of evangelical religion is in progress in Montreal under Dr. Rahard, a converted Roman Catholic priest. Large numbers of French Canadians, hitherto lost to all the Churches, as well as some 3,000 Roman Catholics have been won. Persecution has followed, led by thousands of Catholic youth.

The Eskimoes have survived through years of care by Christian missionaries, otherwise they would have died out. Their total numbers are a little over 40,000. In Siberia there are 1,100; in Alaska 20,000; Canada 3,500; Labrador 1,000, and Greenland 15,000. They are of three main types: Mongolian, with flat face and nose and oblique eyes; Red Indian, with copper-red skin, Roman nose and hatchet features; Alpine type, with Slavonic physiognomy (Greenland).

They are intelligent, hospitable, peace-loving and, generally Christians.

### Facing Problems in Morocco

A conference has just been held at Tangier at which all the missions working in Morocco were represented. It met for four days and not only provided a spiritual impulse to workers faced with a hard problem, but it was able to deal with some of the practical difficulties which affect the work of all missions.

Work in Morocco is conducted mainly among the Moorish people, but something is also done for the poorer Spanish people in Tangier and Tetuan. A work among the Jews is carried on by several missionary groups in Tangier and there is a lady worker in Casablanca.

The two oldest missions are the North Africa Mission and the Southern Morocco Mission. The former has work in all the sections of the country—the International Zone, Spanish Zone and French Zone. Unfortunately outside of Tangier the North Africa Mission has only four men workers as against nineteen women workers. In Tangier there are five men and five women which is better distribution. The Southern Morocco Mission is better equipped with nine men and seventeen women.

The Bible Churchmen's Missionary Society has begun a wellorganized work in four stations, which promises well. There are four men and six women.

If medical work is to be continued in this area the missions will require to put qualified people in charge. There is a growing number of converts in a number of stations and in one station about twenty people form what could almost be described as a 'congregation.' The outlook is distinctly hopeful.