

# The Modern Crusade

Addresses and Proceedings of the  
First General Convention of the  
Laymen's Missionary Movement,  
Presbyterian Church in the U. S.,  
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Edited by  
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### III. OUR WORLD FIELD.

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**The World Field of the Southern Presbyterian Church.**

**Dawn in the Dark Continent.**

**The Appeal of the East to the West.**

**Immediate Needs of Our Fields.**

## THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF OUR FOREIGN FIELDS.

By REV. JAS. O. REAVIS, D. D., *Nashville, Tenn.*

As a church we are grateful to God for the 260 missionaries who represent us in seven foreign lands, in ten missions and forty-eight principal stations. It would be difficult to find in all our church a group of men and women their superior in spirituality, mental training and real leadership. Our foreign missionaries compare favorably with the missionaries of any other denomination.

It is with a just pride also that we point to the contributions of our church for foreign missions. Our gifts for this cause last year were about \$1.20 per member. In proportion to our membership we have been awarded the honor of being one of the leading contributors to foreign missions among the denominations of the United States and Canada.

We are truly grateful also for our world field. The seven foreign lands in which our church is conducting her foreign missionary work are among the choicest portions of the unevangelized world. They are lands, as Dr. Chester has said, that are making history. They are strategic centers in the conquest for Christ. Our returning missionaries give us a foretaste of the fruit of the good land which the Lord our God has given us, and we hear the call to go forward at once and take possession of these lands for Him.

And yet, with these blessings, and many more that I might enumerate, we are called upon to-day to make a humiliating confession. We are far behind other denominations in providing for our missionaries to enable them speedily to evangelize the multitude assigned us. Mr. Ellis has told us that our missionaries measure up to the high attainments of the missionaries of other denominations, but that he found our mission stations more poorly equipped for conducting their missionary work than those of any other missions which he visited. In the past five years your Executive Committee has sent out almost a hundred new missionaries. These, together with others who have gone forth in former years, are being compelled to waste their energies and to endure great sacrifice for want of that material equipment which we have withheld from them. We are compelling them to make brick without straw; we have asked them to build for us

without tools. We have sent them forth to reap the fields white unto the harvest, but we have not furnished them the sickle with which to reap. Your Committee sent forth these missionaries by reason of the urgency of the calls for reinforcements. They were sent out through faith in God and His Church. We believed the day was close at hand when God's business men would come forward and consecrate their gifts to provide our missionaries with homes to live in and schools and hospitals and all the necessary equipment to enable them speedily to finish the task of giving the 25 million human beings assigned us the Word of Life. All through these lands to-day our missionaries are waiting to hear from the men assembled in this Convention. Some of the missionaries are without homes, with the exception of the uncomfortable native residences in which they are compelled to live. The need for school buildings in which to train the youth, and hospitals to furnish relief for the suffering, is appalling.

We have only time to call your attention to a few attractive investments, of the many we might mention, where the needs are immediate and imperative.

#### MEXICO.

Let us look for a moment to our mission in Mexico. We have one of the best chains of day schools that can be found among the mission schools in that republic, and yet we have no advance school for boys. We just get them started well in the primary grades and then we have to give them up. Many of them go to school no more. Others attend the Government schools and are almost always lost to the cause of Protestantism. Or they attend the schools of other churches and are largely lost to our work. Not only extension, but self-preservation, demands the school. We are here outstripped in equipment by the other missions by which we are surrounded. The Southern Methodists, for example, have ten advance schools, with property amounting to at least \$250,000. The Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., has about \$115,000 in gold invested in four boarding schools, and appropriates annually \$11,250 for the expenses of these schools, besides the salaries of the missionaries in charge. Now we need at once \$25,000 to establish this Industrial School for Boys. A Christian gentleman at Montemorelos has offered at a reasonable price 40 acres of land on which there are 1,200 orange trees. It is an admirable location for the school. Sometime ago I visited Montemorelos. I found 78 boys housed in

a small building. The seats were without backs and the floor was of dirt. I heard these boys recite the Catechism and portions of the Word of God. I was impressed, that from these boys we could train up ministers of the gospel to help in this generation in evangelizing the 500,000 people assigned us in Mexico, and that here we could train up Christian laymen also. The foundation for Christian homes and the very hope and life of our mission are dependent upon reaching these boys and training them for Christ Jesus.

At Monterey we visited the school of the Disciples' Church, and saw the splendid building which accommodates 500 students. We visited the school of the Methodist Church, where there were 250 students in attendance. Our hearts were saddened to see the boys of our mission housed in little native buildings with dirt floors. Now, how long shall this reproach rest upon our Church? Shall not we, God's men, rise up in our strength and build this Industrial School for Boys? I am informed that from 250 to 300 boys would attend our school if we only had a commodious building with which to attract them. What a joy it would give that mission if we could wire them to-day to begin building at once; for the \$25,000 with which to purchase the land and to put up the building had been given by the men of this convention.

At Matamoros, our immediate need is for \$10,000 for the equipment of our Girls' School. Miss A. E. Dysart has labored there for over 25 years. There are now about 125 girls in attendance at that school. They are crowded together in an old residence, compelled to live in a rented house; for we have not provided a building for the training of these girls. Could we not send a message to the missionaries at Matamoros to-day saying that the men in the Laymen's Missionary convention authorized them, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to begin building at once, and that the \$10,000 needed is on the way?

#### CUBA.

Come with us for a moment to our mission in Cuba. At Cardenas you will find about 125 young men and young women in our school. Here again they are assembled in a rented house. We have no school building. We are told that nine young men in this mission are studying for the gospel ministry. We have no building in which to train them. At Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., the other day I met ten Cuban young men from the Provinces in which we are conducting our missionary work. These young men have had to come to the United

States to secure an education because we have not provided adequate equipment for training them among their own people. There would be rejoicing in Cuba to-day if we could send a message to our brethren there assuring them that \$10,000 has been provided by the men of this convention and authorizing them to go forward at once in placing the school building in the heart of our mission for the training of native ministers and Christian leaders.

#### BRAZIL.

The North Brazil mission reports that the work in that mission can be carried on more efficiently by the native missionaries than by foreign missionaries, provided there are enough foreign missionaries on the ground to exercise the necessary general supervision of the work and to carry on the educational work that is needed in training the native workers. \$15,000 is needed to provide proper equipment for the training of native ministers in this mission. Dr. G. E. Henderlite told me while in this country that he had found it necessary to give up all of his own home, with the exception of two rooms in which he and his family lived, to young men whom he was training to be ministers of the gospel. By denying himself and his family the comforts of home he had been able to train seven young men who are now ministers in Brazil. If he can accomplish these great results through such personal sacrifice, do any of you doubt that an investment of \$15,000 for a thoroughly equipped Seminary building would fail to bring large returns for the advancement of the Kingdom of God?

At Pernambuco, \$20,000 is needed for the building and equipment of our splendid Girls' School. Miss Eliza Reed for all these years has patiently toiled on in training Brazilian girls for the service of Christ. For years she was the only teacher representing our church in a territory as large as the Louisiana Purchase. Do we wonder that her health was broken when she came home for much needed rest? It was with a heavy heart that she returned again to her work, and we could give her no promise, that she would ever live to see a school building sufficiently commodious and attractive to enable her to give all the strength of her life in a large way to training young women for Jesus Christ. If she and other missionaries at Pernambuco are willing to give their lives, should we not be willing to save their consecrated energies by giving them that material equipment by which they may multiply their strength a hundredfold?

The supreme need of the West Brazil mission is an expenditure of about \$25,000 on two schools now being conducted at Lavras. In the Boys' School there are about 150 in attendance. In the Charlotte Kemper Seminary there are about 75 girls. Twelve of the young men are studying for the gospel ministry. Many of you heard Dr. S. R. Gammon recently here in the homeland. His plea was that, if the church would give them the \$25,000 to build these schools, with the blessing of God they would train enough native ministers to join with our missionaries in finishing the work assigned us in that land in our generation. He pictured the day in our own lifetime, on down the years, when the foreign missionaries will come home with a shout of victory, having trained a native ministry and entrusted to the native church the entire work of evangelizing the multitude for whom we are responsible in Brazil.

#### CHINA.

Let us look for a moment at the immediate needs of our missions in China. It was agreed a few years ago that the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and our own church should unite in establishing a seminary for the training of native ministers at Nanking. Each church proposed to give \$6,000 as an initial investment for the equipment of this seminary. Shortly after that a Christian gentleman in the Northern Presbyterian Church came forward and gave in one gift the entire \$6,000 for this work in behalf of his church. We have been waiting and praying that God would ask some man in our own church to give a similar amount to help us fulfill our obligations. Thus far we have only been able to pay a part of the amount we promised. Dr. J. W. Davis and Rev. J. Leighton Stuart represent us there as professors in the Seminary. They naturally feel, together with other members of the mission, humiliated. The church at home has placed them there to represent us. We are compelling them to live and work on the property of our sister church. We have not fulfilled our terms of the contract. We have entered into a joint partnership. The Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., has given the amount that was promised, and we are sharing the benefits of its gifts. How long will we force our missionaries to labor on in this humiliating position? Shall we not meet in their behalf our just obligations and provide at once the remainder of the \$6,000, and relieve our missionaries of the burden that rests upon them?



As we travel on to the North from Nanking, we stop for a moment at Hwaiianfu. This is a city of 180,000 inhabitants. It is located in a prefecture which contains between three and four millions of people. With the exception of two or three ladies of the China Inland Mission, our mission is the only one working for Christ among this great multitude. One-half of this population properly belongs to the Hwaiian station. The other half is under the care of the Tsing Kiangpu station, ten miles to the west. Dr. Henry M. Woods and his family are the only representatives we have at Hwaiianfu. In a recent letter, he says: "This year the Hwaiianfu and Tsing Kiangpu work have been under one management, as we have only one physician. He has treated over 22,000 patients in one year, and has done it well, too. We cannot speak too highly of the medical work, not only for its success in relieving sickness and pain, but as a splendid agency for opening up the way for the spread of the gospel. We have only two small rooms for a hospital; no operating room or place where we could accommodate an in-patient." Continuing, Dr. Woods says, "We are hoping and praying for a good hospital. \$10,000 in gold will do the business and will enable us to do the work that the big \$300,000 and \$400,000 institutions do at home. We ask you to pray for us that the Lord will put it into the hearts of some of His people whom He has blessed with wealth to give this hospital, or maybe the Laymen's Missionary Movement in our church will give the money. With \$10,000 gold and one doctor, we can treat 15,000 patients a year and open the door wide for the entrance of the gospel all over this prefecture."

They are praying out there in China to-day. May this not be God's time for answering these prayers and shall we not send them a message to-day, telling them to go forward and build that hospital and that the money for it is on the way.

In addition to the need of the hospital at Hwaiianfu, we need a doctor and \$3,000 gold to build him a dwelling in which to live.

I am sure all of our hearts were stirred as we heard the appeal of Dr. J. W. Bradley for a hospital at Suchien. Think of those 17,000 sick people to whom he was able to minister last year, and then of that little, dark, incommodious building as the only semblance of a hospital with which to care for the sick and to do this magnificent work. Can we ever forget the multitudes of sick people whom he had no place for except upon beds of straw, and the sufferers whom he had to place upon beds made of boards, over which was spread only a blanket to minister to their comforts? Surely we will not let this

servant of Christ leave this convention without assuring him that \$10,000 for his hospital will be given that he may go back and minister unto this great multitude and bring them the healing love of Him who, while here on earth, touched the lepers and laid His hands upon all the sick and suffering round about Him and pointed them to the Father.

You have heard Dr. Wilkinson's appeal in behalf of the medical work in Soochow. I trust that we shall not let him leave this convention without assuring him, also, that he shall have the \$10,000 of which he is so greatly in need to equip thoroughly his medical work and thereby enable him to invest the remainder of his life so that it will count most for Jesus Christ.

The need at Kashing for another \$10,000 hospital is equally as great as at the other stations I have mentioned. Dr. W. H. Venable, who is with us in this conference, anxiously awaits the decision of the men here assembled, to know whether he is to have this hospital at Kashing.

For further equipment at Kashing there is an immediate need for an additional \$3,000 to buy two pieces of land adjoining the hospital, upon which buildings are to be placed, to increase the efficiency of this institution.

We are reminded also that our Boys' School at Kashing has no building that is at all adequate to meet the needs of the large district in which it is located. If we are to make this a great center of learning and a force for training the large number of native ministers needed for the work, we must speedily invest \$15,000 to provide the necessary building.

#### KOREA.

Let us look for a moment at the immediate needs of our Korean Mission. Dr. Daniel at Kunsan received, at his hospital last year nearly 9,000 sick people. One man walked over 100 miles and carried a brother in his arms that he might bring him to this Christian physician. A mother walked over 52 miles bringing her child to the hospital. So it is throughout that entire district. We should give this station \$5,000 at once to build a hospital that would comfortably provide for this multitude of sick. We need another hospital like it at Kwangju that will cost \$5,000. A Christian gentlemen, whose name I am not at liberty to mention, has already given us \$5,000 for yet another hospital in Korea. Another generous layman in our church

has promised the committee \$10,000 for the college at Chunju. We ought to build an addition to this college, three other schools, costing each \$5,000. If we had these gifts we could notify the brethren in Korea to go forward and establish all these institutions, erecting commodious buildings, that we may finish our work in that land.

#### JAPAN.

Writing from Kobe, Japan, Rev. Walter Buchanan says: "Our present, rented quarters for our Seminary are narrow and unsatisfactory. We ought to have our own grounds and buildings. As we look forward to the future we must do something. There is a suitable lot that can be had for \$3,250, and buildings will cost about \$5,000 more. Two families, members of our mission, who happened to have some private funds have each contributed \$1,250. So we have a start." "I lay this matter before you," says Mr. Buchanan, "feeling assured it will receive your prayerful consideration, for it concerns greatly the work of our mission, the future of Christianity in this important empire, yea, the church which our blessed Lord purchased with His own most precious blood."

But time would fail me to mention all the schools that need buildings and all the stations that need hospitals. I shall not have time to make a plea for 40 missionary families, for whom we have not been able to provide dwellings to live in. It will cost \$2,500 for each residence.

There may be a number of men here at this conference each of whom would be willing to give the money for the erection of a missionary home in which the missionaries of the Lord might be comfortably housed while they give their lives to hold forth the Word of Life to the multitudes.

#### AFRICA.

I will mention only one other need. You have heard Rev. Motte Martin's plea for Africa. There is needed at once at Luebo \$10,000 to erect a building in which, it is hoped, at least 500 native ministers will be trained for the evangelization of the heart of Africa. When we think of Samuel Lapsley who went out from Alabama not far from the place where we are now meeting, to give his life to Africa; when we think of his resting place on the banks of the Congo where he laid down his life; when we remember Slaymaker who went down under

the waves of the Congo; when we recall the sacrifice our brethren are making as they give their lives yonder in darkest Africa, surely there are men enough here this day, who are willing to make the sacrifice to provide the \$10,000 for the Seminary building that will train native missionaries for the great conquest.

Here then are some of our needs. Can we not to-day divide the entire amount into shares of \$100 each? I would that the Lord's Spirit would ask the men here assembled to take all of these shares, that every institution I have mentioned and every building that is needed may be erected within the next twelve months. If 250 men will take a share each, we can establish the Boys' School in Mexico. One hundred men taking one share each will establish the school at Matamoros. Another 100 men can erect the building needed for our school at Cardenas, Cuba. So we can divide up the amount needed for all our stations into shares, so that none of us will feel the sacrifice. I am sure the men of this convention, by making these gifts, can lift a burden that is resting upon our missionaries and fill their hearts with unspeakable joy. Your Executive Committee will be encouraged to go forward and send forth additional reinforcements, that are now waiting, and all our work will be filled with renewed vigor and with most hopeful outlook.

There is no investment just now that would count for more, it seems to me, for the advancement of the kingdom, than that of providing for these immediate needs which I have mentioned. An old gentleman in North Carolina recently told me that he had made three fortunes and that he had lost three fortunes, and still, said he, "I have \$40,000 well invested." He went on to say, that he had invested in the lives of men in the kingdom of God \$40,000, and now as he grew old the returns on this investment filled his life with joy. Dr. A. F. Shauffler has said that money is one's self. If I work hard through all the week and make \$50, my blood and brain and bone and muscle is represented in that \$50. I am investing my life when I invest that \$50. In putting our money into these institutions we are putting our lives there, and when we think of the thousands who will find in these institutions the gateway to heaven, we realize that we are translating our money into redeemed life.

It is said of Napoleon that shortly before he went away to his exile to the lone Isle of St. Helena, he was asked what was the greatest work of his life. He replied, in substance, that his greatest work had not been the victories he had achieved in war, but that his greatest

work was the establishment of a school for orphan girls. Before making this statement he had visited the school and it is said the girls held to his hands and kissed them and shed tears of gratitude. These expressions of love won the heart of Napoleon. The investment he had made in human lives, the little part of his life that he had given in helpfulness to others, gave him more satisfaction and was truly the greatest work of his life.

We have an opportunity to-day to invest our lives through our gifts in the lives of a multitude who will rise up in that day and call us blessed, and who through all eternity will not be able to fully express to us their depth of gratitude.

I am reminded of an incident told by Dr. Chester, which occurred in his first pastorate in North Carolina. There was an aged woman in his congregation who was poor and crippled. There was also in the same church a Christian woman of ample means. She had two shawls; one of them was new and beautiful, the other shawl was an old one, and here and there holes might be seen in it. She gave the old shawl to the poor woman. On the following Sabbath Dr. Chester preached on the text, "As oft as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me." That night the wealthy woman who had made the gift had a dream. She saw one whom she first thought to be the aged crippled woman. As she drew near, however, the face—inexpressibly beautiful—was the face of another. She did not recognize the person and inquired, "Who are you?" The reply was, "I am your Saviour." He was wearing on his shoulders the old shawl full of holes. The good woman replied, "If I had known that I was giving the shawl to my Saviour, I would have given the best I had."

Brother men, this day these old buildings throughout our foreign mission field are the poor gifts that we have made to the Saviour, and as He appears in them in the person of the one who is sick, or the little child who is seeking the Way of Life, we may fail to recognize Him. But by and by, I think we shall all say, "If we had known that all these hospitals and schools and missionary residences were for the Lord Jesus, we would have given Him the best we had." Shall we not give him our best this day, that the immediate needs of our fields may be supplied and that we may go forward with our missionaries and win for the Lamb that was slain the reward of His suffering?