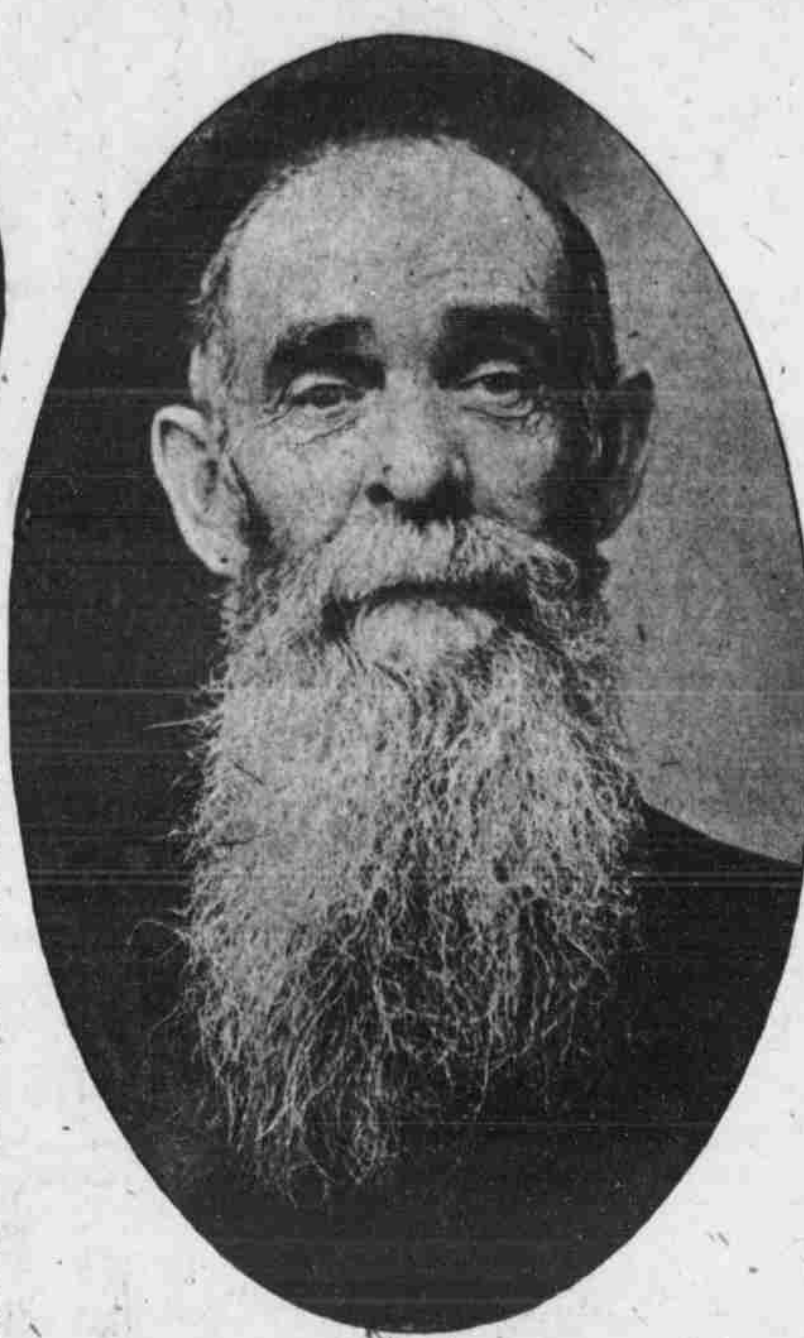


GOOD THAT GREW FROM THE HAY-STACK PRAYER MEETING

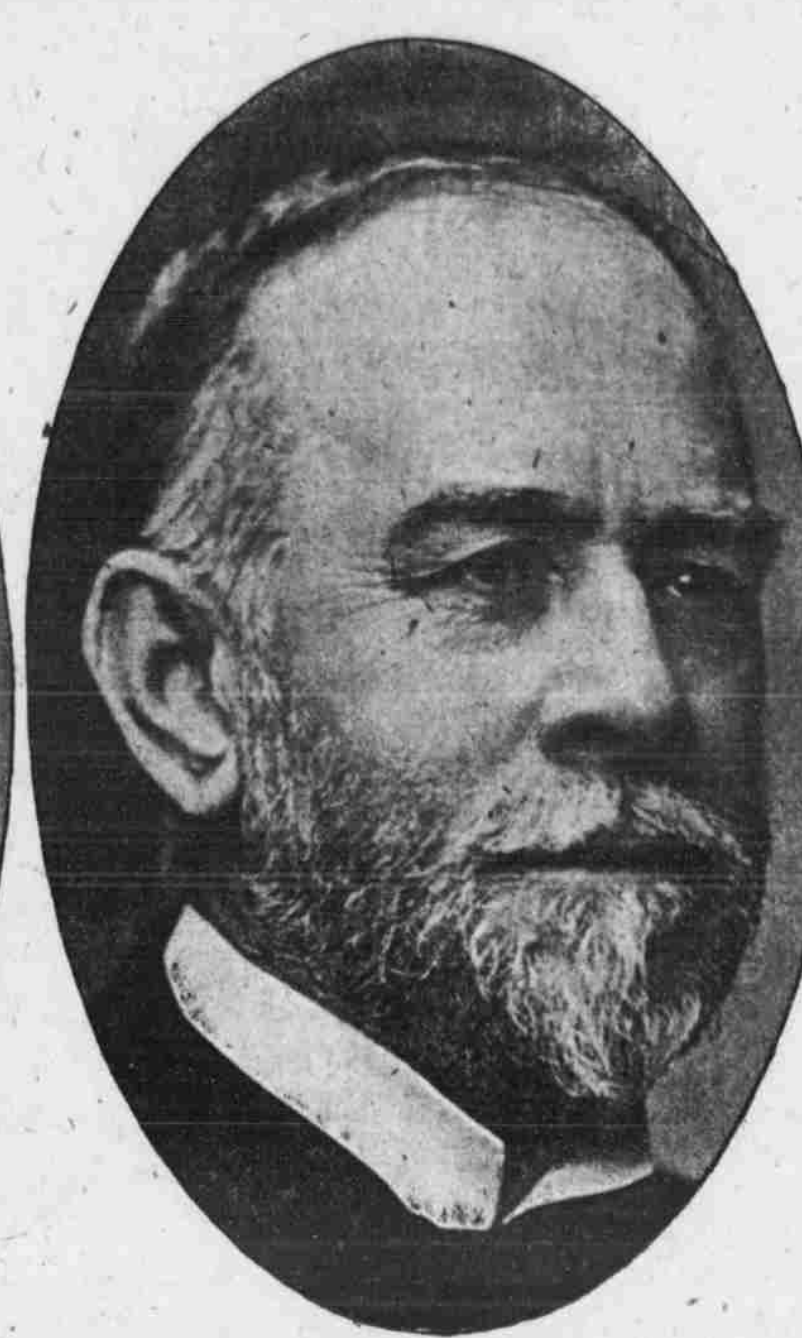
Interdenominational Foreign Missionary Meeting for Men of the Presbyterian Church, Which Convened in Omaha on Tuesday, Will Bring Together Many Eminent and Earnest Workers from All Parts of the World



EDGAR P. HILL OF MCCORMICK REV. F. F. COYLE, D. D., OF DENVER, EX-MODERATOR.



REV. HUNTER CORBETT, CHIEFOO, CHINA, MODERATOR PRESBYTERIAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.



EX-GOVERNOR J. A. BEAVER OF PENNSYLVANIA, WHO WILL SPEAK AT OMAHA CONVENTION.



REV. SAMUEL R. MOFFETT, D. D., PING YANG, COREA. S. M. JORDAN, PRINCIPAL OF MISSION SCHOOL AT TEHRAN, PERSIA.

A HUNDRED YEARS ago five young men in Williams college held a prayer meeting under a haystack. As a result, four of them made an appeal to the Massachusetts churches to send them as missionaries to the foreign field. Not less than 2,470 missionaries have since been sent out as the direct result of that prayer meeting under a haystack. At the centennial of that haystack prayer meeting, as it is now known in New York November 13-14 twenty-five problems were enumerated as pressing upon the church at that time by a committee there appointed and among the problems appear these:

First—To project a campaign of education among laymen to be conducted under the direction of the various boards.
Second—To devise a comprehensive plan looking to the sending of the message of the gospel to the entire non-Christian world during the next twenty-five years.
Third—To endeavor to form through the various boards a centennial commission of laymen, fifty or more in number, to visit as early as possible the mission fields and report their findings to the church at home.

What Men Ought to Do

The purpose of the convention is to determine precisely what men ought to do in the work of foreign missions. This work is pressing urgently upon this and other churches and is being extended year by year, so that the Presbyterians find themselves taxed for new resources and more varied plans of operations. Greater organization and more thorough co-operation are necessary to bring to a successful issue the gigantic undertakings and it is necessary to this end to impose upon the men individually and collectively the full measure of their responsibility. But a definite determination first of what that responsibility is essential, hence this convention.

The spirit of Hunter Corbett is breathed into this great gathering. It is distinctly a missionary spirit, for Dr. Corbett is the dean of foreign missionaries. For over forty years he has labored in China. He carried the torchlight of the gospel into that benighted land when it was not as safe as it is today for a Christian even to set foot upon some portions of the orient and has maintained his work incessantly. About a year ago the venerable pioneer took his furlough, returning to his native America. At the last General Assembly in Des Moines he was elected moderator of the church. And so in this year, the centennial of the "haystack prayer meeting," and the year in which the oldest foreign missionary in the church is occupying the highest clerical office of Presbyterianism, is made memorable by a unique combination of circumstances. Another element of vast interest involved in the convention is the fact that the numerical strength and as well every other aspect of power of the church is greater today than ever; the union, long sought, of the Old Schools and Cumberland is a stable fact and will be notably reflected in the deliberations at the Auditorium.

Sixteen hundred delegates are to compose this convention. They are to come from fifteen states and one territory and representatives will be there from foreign lands. A dozen synods and more than 100 presbyteries will participate. The convention is for men, but women will be admitted as visitors. These are the states that will send delegates: Nebraska, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, North and South Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado and New Mexico.

Committees of the Convention

The guiding hand in the organization of this convention has been that of Rev. Charles E. Bradt of Chicago, one of the secretaries of the foreign board. Several visits he has paid to Omaha to confer with the local committee on the details of the plans. The following roster contains the names of the men who are responsible for the meeting:

Advisory Committee—A. W. Halsey, D. D., Mr. Robert E. Spear, Arthur J. Brown, D. D., Mr. Dwight H. Day, Prof. T. H. P. Sailer, Ph. D., Mr. David McConaughy, Mr. J. M. Patterson.
Executive Committee—Charles Edwin Bradt, chairman; Benjamin M. Brown, secretary and treasurer; William S. Marquis, interdenominational representative; Edwin Hart Jenks, Omaha representative.
Interdenominational Central District Committee—Illinois, W. S. Marquis; Wisconsin, J. W. Laughlin; Missouri, W. C. Atwood; Nebraska, B. N. Long; Texas, Edwin McNeill; Indiana, Edward Baese; Minnesota, Charles F. Hubbard; North Dakota, R. H. Myers; Kansas, S. S. Estey; New Mexico, C. R. Brodhead; Michigan, F. W. Lewis; Iowa, S. W. McFadden; South Dakota, D. T. Kuhs; Oklahoma, W. F. Graham; Colorado, O. S. Baum.
Omaha Local Committee—Chairman, Rev. Thomas K. Hunter; place of meeting, Rev. Edwin Hart Jenks, D. D.; entertainment, Rev. M. V. Higbee; assignment committee, Rev. Walter H. Reynolds, D. D.; registration, Rev. R. L. Purdy; reception, Rev. R. T. Bell; educational and book room, Rev. A. S. C. Clarke, D. D.; decoration, Rev. J. B. Cherry, Ph. D.; postoffice, Rev. J. C. Wilson, Benson; publicity, Rev. Newman Hall Burdick.
Dr. Hunter Corbett will be the central figure of the convention. He would be a unique figure at any convention. His very presence is commanding enough to make him conspicuous, but aside from his presence is his character and what he has accomplished in the cause of foreign missions. Forty years in the empire of Queen An has given him a command of the Chinese language as complete and fluent as any Chinaman could hope to attain. He speaks it with all the native inflections and intonations of a Chinaman; writes, reads and preaches in it. He not only has acquired their language, but he actually has become an insensible prey to their queer little facial expressions and gestures. His towering form, patriarchal beard, profound knowledge of his subject and earnest consecration, make him a platform magnet of irresistible force.
Aside from Dr. Corbett are many other prominent figures in the church who will be at the convention. Some are: Rev. R. F. Coyle, D. D., of Denver, ex-moderator; Rev. Ira Landrith, D. D., L. L. D., of Nashville, ex-moderator of the Cumberland church; Rev. S. A. Moffatt, D. D., of Corea, and Rev. S. M. Jordan, D. D., of Persia; Rev. George Alexander, D. D., L. L. D., president of the Board of

Foreign Missions, New York; Rev. A. W. Halsey, D. D., home department secretary Board of Foreign Missions; Mr. Robert E. Spear, senior secretary; Mr. T. H. P. Sailer, Ph. D., educational secretary; Mr. David McConaughy, eastern district secretary; ex-Governor James A. Beaver of Pennsylvania, judge of the superior court and acting president of Pennsylvania State college; Prof. Edgar P. Hill, D. D., chair of homiletics McCormick Geological seminary, Chicago; Mr. J. Campbell White, field secretary of the United Presbyterian church. John Wanamaker is expected to attend, but his presence is not certain as yet. William J. Bryan is scheduled for an address on "What I Think of Foreign Missions."

A dual force brought the convention to Omaha. First, Omaha is the ideal city for this as well as other conventions of national or interstate scope, because of its central location. Second, Omaha has passed over the summit of a new era in foreign missionary activity. In March, 1905, a "forward movement" was launched in this city by local Presbyterian pastors, led by such leaders in the work as David McConaughy, Rev. Charles E. Bradt, Rev. W. Y. Jones of Japan and Rev. John A. Eakin of Bangkok, Siam. From the loins of a meeting of these men at the First Presbyterian church sprang the rugged youth of foreign mission zeal which now jumps into the limelight of public attention upon such a broad scale. From the fourteen churches of Omaha and South Omaha \$1,712 was donated to the General Assembly of 1905 for foreign missions. The movement was fostered and nurtured without the slightest lapse of interest, but rather with increased zeal from time to time. In 1906 these same churches gave \$2,966 to the same cause, an increase of 73 per cent. Rev. T. V. Moore, D. D., formerly pastor of Westminster church in Omaha and now professor of theology at San Anselmo seminary, San Francisco, was one of the staunchest supporters of this "forward movement."

Finally local interest in foreign missions came to be so substantial that the parish of Hang-Chow in China was given to Omaha for its specific work and Dr. Moore was chairman of this work. He had maps drawn showing the mission with its outstanding stations. Since Dr. Moore's departure from the city Rev. M. V. Higbee of Knox church has become chairman. Several representatives of the Omaha Presbyterian Theological seminary are now upon foreign fields, while Lowe Avenue church, of which Dr. A. S. C. Clarke is pastor, has two of its elders there—Drs. J. W. McKean and Claude W. Mason, medical missionaries—who have associated with them in the work their wives in Laos, Siam.

So much for the direct interest of Omaha in foreign missions, which are growing so rapidly, particularly in the orient. The Russo-Japanese war awakened a profound interest in ori-

ental minds in occidental civilization. Many of the shrewdest thinkers in these transpacific nations are discovering that western civilization is the product of Christianity, and is impossible without it, and they are favorably disposed toward it today, where twenty, even ten years ago, they would have treated it with the utmost scorn and gleefully murdered its emissaries.

In the capital of Corea a nephew of the emperor, the private secretary of the emperor, a brother of the empress, the chief of the survey department, a former governor and a former chief of police are earnest Christians. In Pyeng Yang the missionaries sent out the more mature Christians recently, having previously given them a special preparation for the work, to make a house to house canvass. In ten days 1,120 publicly became Christians and all Pyeng Yang was moved.

Syen Chyus, another Korean station, opened as late as 1901, reports the last year 6,507 communicants and catechumens. One member of that station in five months baptized 660 adults, enrolled 1,000 catechumens and organized ten churches. A training class for Christian workers was organized and 1,140 men came, some walking 390 miles over mountains and valleys, through deep snow, in February weather, consuming twenty-four days in the journey, that they might attend the classes. One missionary, who went out in 1902, now has seventy churches under his care. In a letter to the Board of Foreign Missions he says: "I am writing at midnight after a hard but a wonderful day. Tomorrow I must walk twenty miles, examine forty candidates for baptism and preach in the evening. Can't you send me some one to help me?"

In China remarkable things are betokening the awakening of a great revival after the sleep of ages and a corresponding opportunity for the evangelical propaganda. That great developments are imminent in China is indicated by such things as the abandonment of the queue by high officials, the imperial edict abolishing foot-binding, the promise of a new constitutional government, the proposal of a new legal code, the decree that a master or western learning shall be a condition of civil service, the establishment of over 5,000 schools in one province, the decision to teach the New Testament in the public schools of two provinces, the appointment of the western Sunday as a legal holiday. A movement is on foot to establish at Nanking a union university to be supported by the Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians.

The Peking Educational Institute has just published a primer entitled "Peace Between People and Church," which bears the imprimatur of H. E. Yuan Shih-Kai, viceroy of Chih-li. It is an attempt upon the part of the native official class to render a popular and orderly account of the origin, development and influence of

Christianity in China. One chapter deals with "the treatment of foreign missionaries in China." The treaty of 1843 being referred to as permitting foreigners to propagate their religion, and says: "Afterward all the restrictions upon the propagation of the faith were removed."

About six years ago Protestant missions were first organized in the Philippine islands. In Japan it took seven years to make the first convert, fifteen years in South Africa and twenty in Mongolia, while within six years of the landing of the first Protestant missionary in the Philippines the Presbyterians alone have seventeen churches with 4,127 communicants.

In Africa the story is the same. One missionary at Elat preaches every Sunday to 1,000 blacks. Bishop Tugwell of Western Equatorial Africa and his workers in the field have sent abroad an earnest appeal on behalf of the most populous part of the continent of Africa, Northern Nigeria, which has recently come under the British flag. The Sudan lies south of the great Sahara desert and extends 3,000 miles from east to west, reaching almost from the Red Sea to the Atlantic ocean. It is said to have a population equal to that of the United States.

The Syria mission costs \$55,000 a year. This \$55,000 maintains forty missionaries and 204 native helpers, representing 2,669 communicants and 7,500 adherents, supports schools enrolling 6,500 pupils, two hospitals, which treated last year 11,000 patients; a publishing business which put out last year 59,013,949 pages of printed matter.

"Where in America," asked Dr. Brown of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, "do \$55,000 maintain twenty-nine churches with 10,000 members and adherents, 121 schools with 6,500 scholars, two hospitals, a great printing press and a salaried force of 244 persons?"

Onslaught Against Islam

Even Turkey is presenting new opportunities for Christian work. The collegiate institutions—Antolia College at Marsovan, Euphrates College at Harput, Central College at Aintab, St. Paul's Institute at Tarsus, International College at Smyrna, Central Turkey College for girls at Marash, and the Collegiate and Theological Institutes at Samokov, Bulgaria—are all crowded and over-crowded with students, and need funds for scholarships, enlargement and running expenses. Medical work has special significance in Turkey and all classes recognize the great value of Christian physicians, giving them unique opportunities to do Christian work.

Corresponding to the opportunities for missionary work there is an awakened and growing interest in foreign missions in the home church. There is a feeling among the men of the church that not only is it not chivalrous and manly to throw all the responsibility for foreign missionary work upon women and children, but that the opportunities now daily opening cannot be met successfully in this way alone. Therefore they are taking an active interest which heretofore they have not possessed. First there came the Presbyterian Brotherhood convention at Indianapolis last November, which aroused enthusiasm among Presbyterian men beyond the most sanguine expectations of its promoters. Now follows the Men's Missionary convention, which seems to have aroused no less enthusiasm to provide one way in which the newly aroused energies of Presbyterian men may find one outlet of practical endeavor.

In New York, Washington, Chicago, Des Moines and other cities have been held supper table conferences of Presbyterian business men, at which the opportunities and obligations of foreign missions was the subject under discussion.

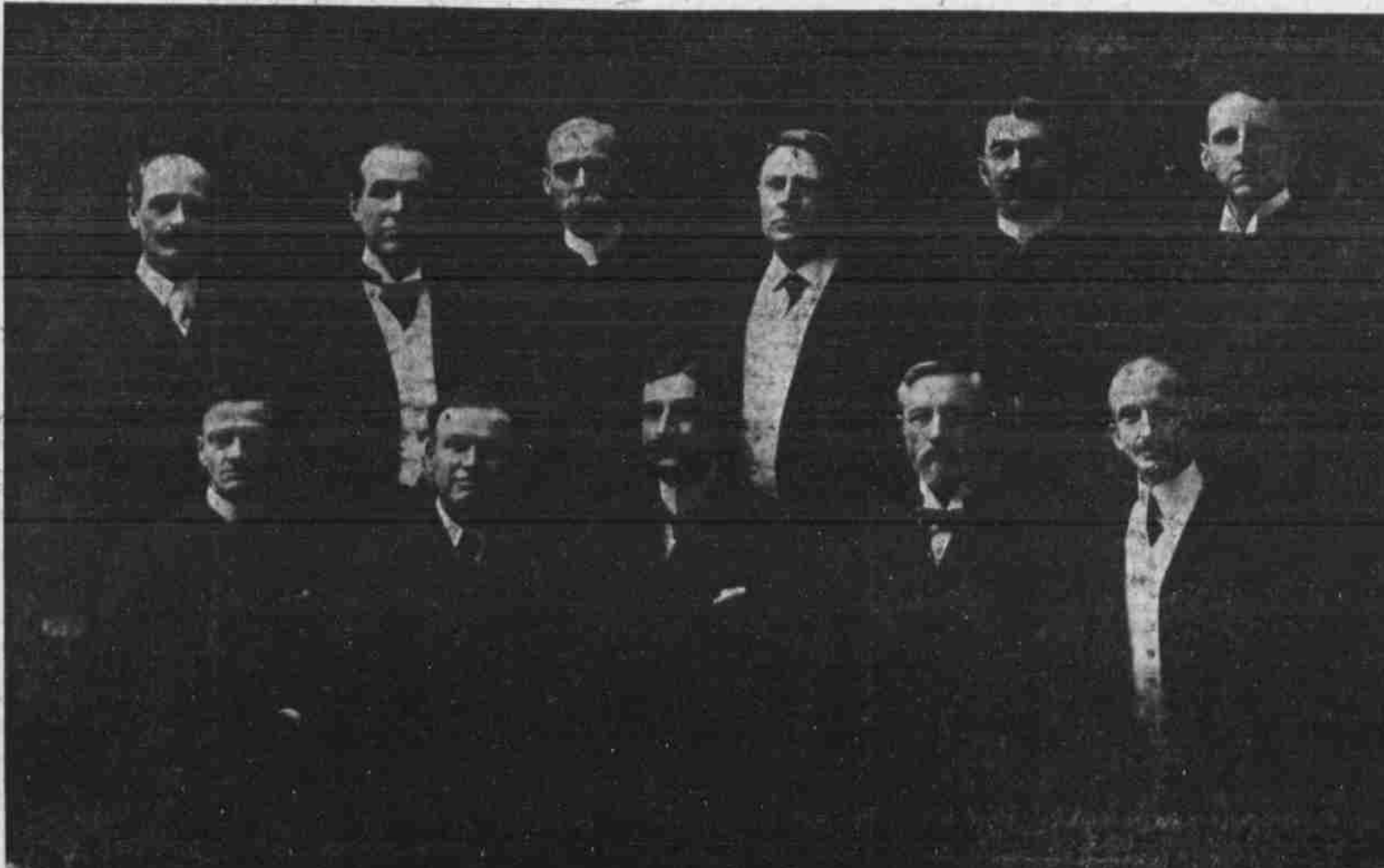
A study of the program shows that this convention will be three days and nights of typical Roosevelt life, so strenuous is the pace marked out. Aside from the deliberations of the convention proper in the Auditorium, conferences will be held in various churches and at the seminary. The seminary will be headquarters for all students attending the convention. The conferences are scattered over the city with the thought of giving each section the benefit of the convention, since it might not be convenient for people desiring to attend to go to the Auditorium each day or night. Again the delegates may in this way mingle with the people and various churches, attending this or that conference as suits their desires.

Program for the Convention

The convention will be opened at the Auditorium Tuesday night with Rev. Ira Landrith of Nashville, Tenn., as chairman. A male chorus of 100 voices will sing and each succeeding evening lead in the singing. "The Foreign Mission Enterprise" will be the subject of chief discussion that first night and it will be dealt with by Rev. George Alexander, D. D., L. L. D., president of the Board of Foreign Missions and pastor of the University Place church, New York City. Wednesday morning former Governor Beaver of Pennsylvania will fire the first big gun of the day with an address on "We are His Witnesses of These Things." Hunter Corbett and Rev. S. A. Moffatt of Corea and S. M. Jordan of Persia will talk on "Visions of the Foreign Field," and Robert E. Spear will sound the keynote of the whole convention with an address on "The Distinct Foreign Mission Responsibility of the Presbyterian Church." Wednesday night J. Campbell White of Allegheny, Pa., will tell "What the Men of the United Presbyterian Church are Doing," in this work and Dr. R. F. Coyle of Denver, ex-moderator and one of the biggest men of the church, will talk on "Men of Might in Missions."

Thursday, the last day of the convention, will be a busy one. "Methods" will be the theme of the day. That will be getting down to bedrock, for it is "methods" this convention is called for, Andrew Stevenson, president of the Young Men's Christian association in Chicago, will preside. "Educational Methods" will be expounded by Dr. Halsey, "The Pulpit" will be defined in its relation by Prof. Hill of the McCormick seminary, "Tithing and Foreign Missions" will be the subject of an address by Rev. F. O. Ballard, D. D., pastor of Memorial Presbyterian church, Indianapolis; "How to Finance the Field" will be told by Dr. Charles E. Bradt and "Organization Methods" will be described by David McConaughy.

From this convention Dr. Hunter Corbett will start for his home in China and the last address upon the program, Thursday night, will be that of Dr. Corbett on the subject, "A Parting Message to the Men of America." There is a tinge of pathos in the parting with Mr. Corbett, for he has already reached his forenoon and ten and leaves America this time, after a year's furlough, crowned with the highest distinction within the gift of his church, probably never to return from the distant land of China which he has been so



Top row, from left to right: Rev. J. B. Cherry, Third Presbyterian church; Rev. Newman Hall Burdick, Second Presbyterian church; Rev. Thomas K. Hunter, Dundee Presbyterian church; Rev. A. S. C. Clarke, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian church; Rev. Edwin Hart Jenks, First Presbyterian church; Rev. W. H. Reynolds, Castellar Presbyterian church.
Lower row, from left to right: Rev. J. C. Wilson, Benson; Rev. R. L. Purdy, Clifton Hill church; Rev. M. V. Higbee, Knox church; Mr. Robert Lenzman, Rev. J. C. Bell, Church of the Covenant.
LOCAL COMMITTEE IN CHARGE OF CONVENTION.

(Continued on Page Two.)