

NEW YORK RELIGIOUS CENTER

Heads of Church Organizations Make Headquarters There.

MACARTHUR HAS DELICATE TASK

New Head of Baptist World Alliance Will Endeavor to Confer with the Heads of the Roman and Greek Churches.

BY D. V. FRANCIS.

NEW YORK, July 15.—(Special to The Bee.)—New York is getting to be quite a religious center. At the recent general assembly of the Presbyterian church, Dr. Carson of this city was elected moderator and now Dr. Robert Stewart MacArthur of New York has been elected president of the Baptist World Alliance. It may be said that neither of these great protestant denominations has made any mistake in the selection of their heads.

Dr. MacArthur is a characteristic victor and decision in planning for a trip to St. Petersburg and to Rome in the interest of the church which has honored him. He feels, he says, that the presidency of the Baptist alliance, in which are united the Baptists of the whole world, including the largest single Protestant body in America, is a position of great importance in proceeding to St. Petersburg and the Vatican and seeking conferences.

Matters pressing for consideration between Baptists and the Russian and Roman churches are, in the judgment of Baptists, of pressing importance. One of these is religious liberty in Russia. Forty Baptist ministers, natives of Russia and laboring there, attended the Baptist alliance at Philadelphia, at least two of them out of prison on bail, and have been followed to this country by Russian spies. Immediately upon their return to Russia, these ministers must go to prison, one of them to exile, and the other to repeated personal tortures. Others of the delegation are likely to be arrested immediately they set foot on Russian soil.

Negotiations at Rome.

The matter that will take President MacArthur to Rome is the liberty of Baptists in Spain and Portugal, and of Protestant Christians in Peru and Ecuador. Baptists went into Portugal almost before former King Manuel of that country reached his exile in England. It is denied by Baptist leaders in Europe that they have any contention with the Catholic church. They say their only purpose in Portugal is to assist in spread of the gospel, and to succeed in spreading it where, as they say, the Catholic church has failed. The American Bible society has recently reported the burning of bibles and tracts in the streets of Porto cities. It is not charged that Catholics did wrong, but that mobs, incident to almost all countries, were carried away by evil reports.

Baptists have now created what is, as they claim, the largest organization in the Protestant religious world, greatest in numbers, and widest reaching in countries affected. Growth of Baptists in Russia, in the Balkans, in Italy, and in the Iberian peninsula have been rapid of late. So have growths of Protestants in western South America. It is declared to be the conviction of President MacArthur and of other Baptists in the alliance that personal conferences not only with the czar and pope, but also with prelates of the churches affected, can adjust a good many differences. They feel sure that when honest purposes are realized by both sides, most of the friction can be done away with.

Succession to Pius.

The impression is growing that it is only a matter of months, perhaps weeks, when it will become necessary to select a new head for the Roman Catholic church. The pope's health is very feeble, and his death at any time would cause no surprise. The best impression is that Cardinal Rampolla will be the new pope. It is unheard of that a nearly successful candidate at one conclave should be the successful one of a following conclave, but the Italian public eagerly hope that such an unusual thing may happen and Rampolla be chosen.

It will be recalled that Cardinal Rampolla would probably be pope today had it not been for the interposition of Austria during the sitting of the conclave of a decade ago. This meddling was done at the instance of Germany, and to head off the supposed influence of France and the triple alliance. For ten years Cardinal Rampolla has lived a retired life, occupying the famous palace which for centuries has been the home of the head priest of St. Peter's cathedral. In close touch with the world, he is a man of the world, as is almost no other member of the Curia of today.

Church Union in Canada.

It is announced that one or more conferences of the Methodist church of Canada have voted favorably upon the proposed union of Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches in the country. Several branches of these and other denominations in the United States have decided to withdraw from fields already occupied by another branch, uniting the congregations, and also have agreed not to enter a field in competition with another church unless a second church is needed. Local churches regard these donations as pointing toward a more general church union in the future.

Methodist Unity Unlikely.

Commissions representing the three large branches of the Methodist church in North America, which met recently at Chattanooga to discuss further union of these denominations, have just issued to their respective constituencies an address which gives the public the first intimation of their negotiations. Nothing definite is announced in the address, and while substantial agreements reached on some points furnish reason for the hope that eventually the way will be clear for organic union, still "historical divergencies of conviction touching the essential principles of government" seemed to be the principal hindrance. In the Methodist church south bishops have an absolute veto power over actions of the general conference; in the Methodist Episcopal church the bishops are void of any legislative power, and are confined to administration only, while in the Methodist Protestant church there are no bishops at all.

Summer Schools for Ministers.

The Presbyterian department of church and country life is co-operating with the student pastors in Michigan university, Wisconsin university and Tennessee university in holding summer schools for country ministers. The summer school with which the department co-operates are Knoxville (Tenn.) Summer school of the south, June 29 to July 7; Auburn Theological Seminary, July 19 to 22; University of Michigan, July 24 to 28; University of Wisconsin, July 17 to 21; Grove City College Summer school, Grove City, Pa., August 1 to 25. In all of these the department will be represented, and different courses of lectures on sociology of the country community will be given by distinguished speakers. The work at Auburn seminary, in the summer school of theology, is especially significant, and many seminaries are looking to its experience.

Episcopalists Are Liberal.

The Protestant Episcopal board of missions is rightly congratulating itself that the offerings for missions and the number of parishes contributing and also the number of parishes raising the full apportionment are all on the upgrade the first nine

months of this year compared with last.	
A summary shows:	
Amount received to June 1, 1911.....	\$69,006
Amount received to June 1, 1910.....	\$68,728
Increase.....	\$278
Contributing parishes, 1911.....	3,275
Contributing parishes, 1910.....	3,475
Increase.....	200
Parishes completing apportionment, 1911.....	1,419
Parishes completing apportionment, 1910.....	1,202
Increase.....	217

LESSON IN COSTLY PRINTS

Millionaire Buys Priceless Collection for His Son's Course in History.

To teach his young son, heir to millions, and all the responsibilities which go with a vast estate, the principles of patriotism, love of country, and to serve as a magnificent pictorial panorama of the great events in American history, Marsden J. Perry, the Providence financier, philanthropist and

art collector, has had placed in his magnificent Newport summer home the finest collection of colonial prints in this country. As a central figure in an elaborate system of training, worked out before his birth, and constantly improved upon during the few years that have up to now passed over his head, Marsden J. Perry, Jr., is the subject of one of the most costly experiments yet recorded.

The study of America and its history has been one of the things in which it has been long planned young Marsden shall specialize, and to better do this the child has a private picture gallery of incalculable worth and illustrative of the great periods of its native land placed before him as a first aid.

The remarkable collection of prints which are the envy of all wealthy collectors of colonial objects, practically covers the salient points of the United States' early progress. The wars, the treaties, the famous scenes in the courts and on the battle fields are all depicted. An upper hall in the palatial Perry mansion on Newport's famous Ocean drive

is the gallery which contains these prints. They cover one entire wall opposite to which is a glass partition through which one gets a complete view of the sea. Through this wall of glass the light streams in on the gallery of prints—the pictorial text-book of the boy millionaire. "Washington Entering New York after the Battle of Trenton," "Martha Washington's Reception," "Franklin at the Court of France," "Franklin at the Court of St. James"—these are the titles of some of them. Each picture is of practically the same size and mounted in a carved and gilded frame of simple design. They are the result of years of collecting.

Years ago Mr. Perry from time to time added to a small beginning in prints, picking them up, one here and one there. Some came to light in old farm houses. Others were located in the shop of some obscure dealer in antiques. Still others were rounded up by hired collectors who ran down possible clues and made a business of perfecting the collection. They represent the outlay of thousands of dollars.—Boston Post.

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Every day The Bee is printing the names of boys and girls in Omaha who are celebrating their birthdays, day by day telling when they were born, where they live, and what schools they are attending.

Our readers can readily keep track through the birthday book of the anniversaries of their little friends, of the children of their neighbors and of their children's playmates.

Every boy and girl in Omaha is watching The Bee to see what other boys and girls are having birthdays on the same day with them.

The interest of the birthday book is likewise heightened by being illustrated with reproduced portraits of one or more of the day's birthday boys or girls.

This great feature began with the first of January, and will continue throughout the remainder of the year.

The total number of birthdays recorded will exceed eighteen thousand, and includes the children in every family in Omaha who are going to school—it includes public, private and parochial schools.

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