

MISSION WORKERS CONFERENCE

Annual Convention of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Opens.

MANY INTERESTING SPEAKERS

The Rev. A. B. Simpson Is in Charge and Will Ask for an Offering.

Missionaries and exhorters from all parts of the earth are gathered in New York or are on their way hither to attend the ten days' annual Autumnal convention of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, which was opened with characteristic services yesterday at the Gospel Tabernacle, 692 Eighth Avenue. The combination of missionary work on a large scale and the peculiar tenets of members of the Alliance, from whatever sect they are, gave an interesting flavor to their proceedings. While ostensibly a missionary society, sending out hundreds of missionaries to the Far East, and particularly to China, the members incline to believe in the literal second coming of Christ and in divine healing, and their speakers yesterday made numerous allusions to these beliefs.

The Rev. A. B. Simpson, who is President of the Alliance and its training institute at South Nyack, was in charge. He is the exhorter whose eloquence has led his hearers to throw jewelry and large sums of money at his feet while he was asking for offerings to aid in the missionary work. Two years ago, at the Old Orchard convention, he raised \$100,000 at one sitting, and last year raised over \$50,000. Sunday week he purposes to ask for another offering.

During the convention one of the speakers will be the Rev. D. W. Le Lacheur, who has had charge of some 130 missionaries in China and Thibet. He is said to be the only white who has penetrated into Thibet to return alive, and his narrative is said to be very interesting. Ten years ago as the first missionary sent out by the alliance he was directed to go to Manila, but he was refused admittance there, and turned his course to China. He will tell of his adventurous work at Carnegie Hall to-morrow afternoon. The Rev. Dr. James M. Gray of Boston, the Rev. Dr. John Robertson of Scotland, the Rev. John Salmon of Toronto, Henry Varley of London, and many others of prominence are also upon the list to appear before the convention.

"Our Aim and Testimony" was the subject of the opening session yesterday afternoon. The assembly hall was well filled with earnest members, who gave loose rein to their emotions. At the end of each address the young lady organist burst out into some favorite alliance hymn, in which all followed with emphatic fervor.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Wilson, the traveling Secretary of the Organization and Evangelical Department, spoke on "Christ, the Source and Centre of Our Life and Testimony." "We are not here to crown Christ King," he began. "We are here to receive Him as King. We want to take the living Jesus Christ into our hearts. I also pray that we may make Jesus Christ the centre of our physical beings. He should come into every mind, heart, and body. We are not ashamed of divine healing. I believe the Lord Jesus Christ is to be our healer. We must put Him where He belongs—in the very globules of the blood of our bodies. I believe that the bodies weak and ailing to-day will be well to-morrow."

"This meeting has been baptized in prayer, and I continue to pray—to pray that every face you meet may receive a benediction. Let your own faces reflect the light that they may shine even as the face of Moses as he came down the Mount. There would be a new light in New York. But do not let us forget that the meaning of this is to bring Jesus Christ back to earth. Making the world better, having the little flocks of sheep ready when the Great Shepherd comes—that is our work."

In speaking upon "Present Truth or the Place of the Fourfold Gospel," the Rev. F. W. Farr said: "Direct petitioning, which occupies so large a part of our experiences, should give way to appropriation. Is it not time to stop asking God for things we have not got, and appropriating a few of the things he has given us? We should realize the fullness of our Divine inheritance." The Rev. A. B. Simpson spoke briefly upon "One in Him." "Let me give you His messages," he said. "See that you fall not out by the way," and "Little children love one another," and the comforting admonition, "Behold how good a thing it is and how pleasant for brethren to live together in unity." Need I say more? God give us in the convention a spirit of unity! Let there be true loyalty to Jesus Christ, and to one another, and our counsels will be blessed."

Other subjects and speakers were "The Holy Spirit, Our Paraclete, and Power," the Rev. Stephen Merritt; "Christ Our Healer," the Rev. A. E. Funk, and "Get Right with God," the Rev. H. C. McBride. A song by Miss Shepard, "Christ Is All in All—Christ Is More Than Everything," revived the alliance members deeply. The Rev. Mr. McBride conducted a meeting of supplication and testimony after speaking, and his exhortations brought a band of penitents to the foot of the pulpit, where they prayed and sang until early evening.

On week days the sessions will be held in the Tabernacle, and the Sunday meetings will be held in Carnegie Hall.

BUSINESS OF THE SCHOOLS.

Supt. Jasper Confers with Principals—

Free Lecture Courses.

Superintendent of Schools Jasper held a conference with the primary Principals yesterday morning, and one with those of the grammar grades in the afternoon. Mr. Jasper took up the matter of increased salaries of teachers, and the Principals were instructed as to which teachers were affected by the increase.

Prof. A. T. Van Leer will give the first of ten illustrated lectures on art next Monday night at Public School No. 3. At Public School No. 14, Mr. Gaylord will give a lecture on Paris. At Columbus Hall, Sixtieth Street and Ninth Avenue, on the same evening, Dr. G. H. Pason will lecture on the war with Spain, illustrating his remarks with stereopticon views.

On Tuesday night, in the hall of the American Museum of Natural History, Prof. W. E. Griffis will give the first of ten lectures on Asiatic geography. On the same evening lectures will begin at the Cathedral School Hall, at 127 East Fiftieth Street, when Dr. Pason will repeat his lecture on the war.

On Wednesday night H. W. Raymond will lecture on "The Fighting Ships of Yesterday and To-day," at the Young Men's Christian Association Hall, in East Twenty-third Street. His lecture will be illustrated with stereopticon views, showing the progress of naval architecture.

On Thursday evening the free lectures will begin at Public Schools Nos. 5, 29, 46, and 82.

Postage on Souvenir Mailing Cards.

The Federal law of July 1 permits the use of private mailing cards at the same rate of postage as postal cards in the United States, but leaves the rate on them when mailed to Europe or elsewhere outside the country the same as letter postage—5 cents.

A movement is on foot to secure the passage of a law permitting them the same rate of foreign postage as postal cards. The German and Austrian Governments derive annually a large profit from the use of private ornamental souvenir postal cards, but it comes mainly from tourists who send them home as souvenirs. It is thought that if the United States Government should allow them the same privileges as Germany or Austria does, it would not only augment the postal revenues, but create a new industry of considerable proportions.

Soldier Takes Overdose of Morphine.

Private B. P. Van Dusen, twenty-one years old, of the Eighth New York Volunteers, was found dead in Kelly's Hotel at Weehawken last night. He had been at the hotel since Thursday night, but was not seen yesterday. His room was forced open last evening, and he was found dead upon the bed. A bottle of morphine pills was found in the room. Whether or not he took an overdose by mistake is not known.

Not Mrs. Geraldine Bailey.

William Bailey of 309 Broadway says that the Mrs. Geraldine Bailey, who undertook the management of the unsuccessful plan for a "Rough Riders' Tournament," should not be confused with his wife, Mrs. Florence L. Bailey, who supervised an entertainment for the benefit of the Soldiers and Sailors' Families Protective Association at the Casino Theatre on Friday afternoon, Sept. 30.