

Work of Saving Heathens

ONE hundred and five millions of dollars to carry the American idea into all the lands of the earth!

That, in a word, is the definition of a campaign recently put through by the Methodist Episcopal Church, which has called upon the men, women and children of the United States to pledge their moral financial support to carry out the work of the church started 100 years ago.

The campaign to raise the \$105,000,000 fund was made in connection with the celebration of the centenary of the founding of the first mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

A hundred years ago the foreign missionary movement of the Methodist Church in America was born. Since then it has spread to all heathen lands and in its make it has left churches, schools, hospitals, community centers and an awakening in the minds of the people that to live is to live the American way.

When it was determined that the Methodist Episcopal Church, as an after-war move, should make an effort to increase its work in foreign fields, accepted leaders in all walks of life were called into consultation.

"Is the time opportune?" was the question put.

As in all big undertakings, it was deemed necessary that conditions should be ideal or the plan might fail. The war, the greatest of all wars, had just ended and a state of mind existed which never had existed before.

The answer was the same from all. The reason for the answer was the same. America had sent her troops to Europe to save Europe for civilization and now it was necessary for the church to take up the work where America's soldiers had left off. In other words, it was the duty of the church and her allies to make certain the enjoyment of the liberty which the vast armies of America and her allies had made possible for the people.

But it is not only in Europe that the church must prepare the people and open the eyes of the deluded. It must be done in all foreign lands—and this is the goal of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

President Wilson, as head of the greatest of nations, was among those appealed to for advice. The president gave the following response:

"I think it would be a real misfortune, a misfortune of everlasting consequence, if the missionary program for the world should be interrupted. There are many calls for money, but should the work undertaken be continued at its full force seems to me of capital necessity."

In far-off Africa there is a population of 130,000,000 and an area of 12,000,000 square miles. The African races have 843 varieties of speech. There are the Bantu, the Bushmen, the Hottentots, the Pigmies and the negro. And they worship a thousand gods. It is to reach these and other peoples and bring them to the American idea that the Methodists of the United States raised this great fund.

Millions Are Ensnaled and Progress Is Smothered.

There is Mahammedanism, which has ensnared millions in Africa in a drab blanket that smothers progress. It teaches fatalism, no atonement for sin, no redemption by sacrifice. It has failed to lift the negro out of ignorance and has made slavery and slave trading religious institutions.

And this is coupled with paganism, that misconception that has its God in dread and fear, not hope and comfort. Paganism calls for human sacrifice, for the burial of the chief's wives with his body, for the slaughter of a slave to carry messages to the dead for the murder of innocent infants whose teeth appear in inauspicious irregularity.

Here are a few of the things the Methodist millions will eradicate from Africa:

Deformed children will not be put to death because they are "omen of ill luck."

Perfectly formed babies will not be buried with their mothers if their mothers fail to come back from "the valley of the shadow."

Twins will not be stuffed into water jars and thrown into the bush because they are "bad luck."

The "medicinal" concoction administered by the witch doctor, and which kills oftener than it cures, will be a thing of history.

Through superstition, disease will not be permitted to continue until it has claimed thousands of victims.

While some American dollars are carrying the American idea into dark-est Africa, other American dollars will find their way into the Far East. In China, "the land of need and plenty," the nine men out of every ten who can not read will hear what American civilization means to the world. And the women—only one in a thousand

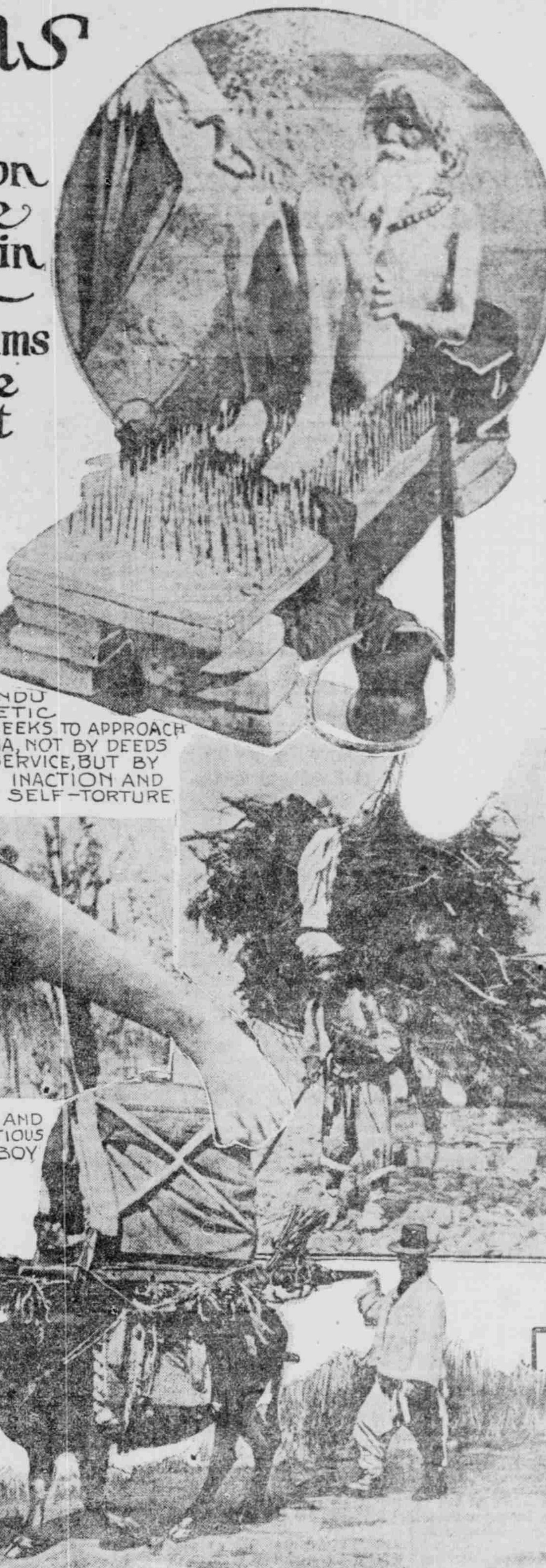


A SOUTH AMERICAN INDIAN WOMAN

Great American Organization Fosters Movement to Rescue Millions of Ignorant People in all Lands of the Earth—How Great Sums will be Spent



AN AFRICAN BELLE



A HINDU ASCETIC WHO SEEKS TO APPROACH NIRVANA, NOT BY DEEDS AND SERVICE, BUT BY INACTION AND SELF-TORTURE

"GOLDEN LILY FEET" IN CHINA ARE NOW ENTIRELY OUT OF STYLE, THOUGH THOUSANDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE COUNTRY DON

TRANSPORTATION IN KOREA

can read—will not be overlooked.

When one of the first missionaries returned from China and told his story to the wondering public, he said, quoting Abraham Lincoln:

"God must have loved the common people, because he made so many of them." Then he added, "There are 400,000,000 Chinese."

The rivers in China teem with little boats—the homes of hundreds of families who dump refuse into the water. And in the river cities the people drink river water, dipped out with buckets.

Graves are everywhere. In most great centers, to secure ground for any large institution every grave on the site must be bought up. The bones of an ancestor—dead for hundreds of years, perhaps—are carried in a covered jar to some more obscure burying place. The right of the living often have been mortgaged for the rites of the dead. But in the new China, the China to be created from the American idea, the unfortunate living will come into their own.

China needs only to be shown the way of the West. Compare the rude plow of these people with the modern tractor. How long would a normal, healthy farmer—be he American or Chinese—continue to use the old plow of a century ago if shown the benefits of the tractor?

The people of China, however, do not cling to the methods of the dead past. They readily adopt improvements. The West is slow to realize that the industrial development of China will be a world move—a great impetus to commerce, industry, enterprise and invention felt by all other nations.

The practitioners of the old school of Chinese medicine agreed with Darwin that only the "fittest" should survive. Some time ago, during an epidemic of diphtheria, sufferers were advised to "use women's toe nails, bamboo pith and bedbugs; grind to a powder and sprinkle the throat."

In Japan the people have no fewer than 8,000,000 gods and goddesses. It is 1,500 years since Buddhism took hold in Japan. Today the religion has decayed until only the ornate trapplings remain, Shintoism, the first primitive religion of Japan, still holds its grasp on the people. Shinto has no sacred literature, no ethical code. One has merely to obey the mikado who is a god, and one's own impulses. Shinto is the religion of the majority of the upper classes. To the Japanese patriotism is religion, and that religion is Shinto.

It is to awaken these people that the Methodist Church has determined to spend millions to take the American idea to China.

And more American money will go to Japan. Here is the reason the Methodist Episcopal Church is working among the neons of the Land of

the Cherry Blossom, as one leader put it. It is significant.

The Methodist Church is in Japan because the empire is in need of the religious and spiritual help which the Christian church can give. The church is pledged to do its utmost in spreading the Word of God.

Japan Controls All the Asiatic Peoples.

Japan is the keystone of the arch that is slowly but surely raising itself in the Far East. Her influence in Korea (now part of the empire), China and the rest of Asia is tremendous. She holds the reins among the Asiatic peoples, all of whom are non-Christians. As Japan goes, so will go China during the next century. It is imperative that Methodism relax not a whit, but rather increase her efforts to spread the gospel in Japan.

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Korea has from time to time been various and sundry customs and religions and some thirty-two dialects. Uncle Sam has taught them the American idea to some extent and is now considering giving them self-government. Progress and the American brand of civilization must remain after American rule is withdrawn. Hence, the Methodist Church will keep up the good work begun by the United States government.

At last, however, the race is bursting its age-old, iron-bound stagnation. The spirit of "progress" has breathed into the people, and it is to carry on this march of progress that the Methodist Church has pledged itself to carry into that land the American idea.

Nowhere is the great antiquity of Korean civilization so clearly shown as in the minds of their religious beliefs. The all-around Korean, when in society, is a Confucianist; he is a Buddhist when he philosophizes, and a spirit worshiper when he is in trouble. His religion is one of dragons, devils, elves, imps and goblins, in which the spirits of dead humanity are here and there present; where eternal shades walk about; in which hills, trees and fivers—even diseases—have personalities bearing woes and terrors to all men.

American dollars, however, will not be expended merely in lands that are absolutely foreign to the United States. A large portion of the Methodist Episcopal centenary mission fund will find its way to the Philippines. It is to awaken these people that the Methodist Church has determined to spend millions to take the American idea to China.

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embraces a large expenditure in the American was shattered, and the Christian missionary will try to restore confidence in America by spreading the American idea.

The work of the church in South America opens the door of opportunity to all enterprising Americans. South America alone can feed the world, and Methodist missionary work there will bring about an understanding.

South America is a potential food factory that can supply more people than were engaged in the great war. With proper development, her fertile plains would produce wheat and meat enough to feed all the submarines and all the wastage in the world.

Argentina alone has more cattle than any other nation except India and the United States. She raises more sheep than any other country except Australia. She leads the world in the sale of chilled meats. Great as is the mineral wealth of the Continent, the wealth of forest and field is greater.

Brazil produces more coffee than the United States can drink, and Peru grows the finest cotton known.

In all the sections of the Old World the American dollars placed in the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church will be used in spreading the American idea. But the work does not end there. In the New World as well as the Old, the Methodist mission is at work teaching the young and the old, bringing to them the word of America, showing them how to live rightly and work for the common good of all.

The work in the New World takes in all of North and South America and there was trickery and "salesmanship." The confidence of the South American first asked to be shown

is guarded by Uncle Sam, with