

# UNITED STATES MAY HAVE TO BUY FOODS ABROAD UNLESS WASTEFUL METHODS ARE STOPPED, EXPERTS SAY

By JOHN LATHROP.

In the fourteen years following 1900 the United States fell from the position of heaviest world exporter of foodstuffs to the necessity of buying in 1912, \$7,000,000 worth of edible articles of commerce more than it sold, and in 1914, even including the rush of the first war sales, Uncle Sam went down into his capacious pocket for \$45,000,000 with which to pay for his excess of foodstuffs imports over foodstuffs exports.

Temporarily the war upset conditions, and by restriction of home consumption we sent abroad rather large food supplies. But now that the food situation approaches normality, this country will have to face the disturbing fact that we may no longer look for the large surplus of profit which we formerly realized from the world foodstuffs traffic.

Instead of compelling foreign nations to send us food or roads to pay for their excess of food purchases, the United States will have to ship food or roads abroad to pay for its excess food purchases over food exports, because the rapid increase of population with virtually no increase of production is proceeding steadily and will intensify rather than relieve matters unless there be given national attention to several things which are conditions precedent to solving the problem. There must be larger production per acre; elimination of waste in handling present production on the farms and vastly better handling of farm products in the process of distribution.

## From Boundless Plenty to Threatened Scarcity

Else, the pinch of food scarcity, which has been the basic consideration underneath practically all international complications abroad, will come upon the American people with relentless severity.

It used to be said that America wasted enough food almost to feed Europe. Secretary Hoover of the United States Department of Commerce lately declared that "almost half of the perishable products of the farms never reach the markets"; and that the prospect is that, "in ten years the United States will have not a bushel of wheat for export."

James Riley Howard, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, said to me here in New York city the other day:

"Our food problem, as you have stated, does involve immensely better tillage and fertilization, as well as national compulsion of the handling and market distribution."

The disturbing information has come suddenly because of the cool, scientific analyses made by such acknowledged authorities as Prof. Robert J. McFall, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst; Prof. E. M. East of the University of Illinois at Urbana; and Dr. Frederick J. Nash, fertilization scientist, and the painstaking and in some cases eminent members of the World Agricultural Society, of which the head is Dr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, president of the Massa-

chusetts Agricultural College. The society has branches in a score of foreign capitals, and has undertaken to arouse sentiment in favor of serious attention to the social problems which are involved.

These problems vitally concern the dwellers in the cities of America and especially hit the pockets and stomachs of the millions in New York city, Philadelphia, Chicago, St. Louis and all the bigger urban centers. Because when Mrs. Jones takes her basket on her arm and goes to the city market to buy supper for her family she pays the extra price, which is due in no small part to these general conditions of increasing demand and relatively decreasing supply.

The statements by the authorities cited are buttressed by detailed examination of the reports of the United States Census Bureau, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce and considerable correspondence which I have had with some of the scientists to whom reference has been made.

## Margin of Food Exports

### Now a Narrow One

Prof. McFall writes that we sent to other lands "in 1919 barely 1 per cent. more in value than we sent in 1909"; and in 1920, with the world's ships coming with yawning holds, "nearly 90 per cent. of our foodstuffs exports were offset by foodstuffs importations."

In the ten years ending 1899 this country annually produced of the principal cereals on 90 per cent. of the tillable lands 4,438,000,000 bushels. In the ten years ending with 1909 annual production was 4,612,000,000 bushels, or an increase of only 74,000,000 bushels, or 1.7 per cent.

But the population of the United States in 1899 was about 75,000,000 and in 1909 about 91,000,000, an increase of about 16,000,000, or about 21 per cent. Population increased twice and a half times as fast as cereal production increased.

In 1907 each American had as his share of the national herd about five-sixths of one head of cattle. In 1911 that per capita share was about four-sixths, and in 1914, the year the great war began, had the herds been cut up into steaks, roasts and stews each American would have had as his share only a trifle more than three-sixths of one head of cattle.

The amount of cotton grown on an average acre increased only less than 3 per cent. from 1870 to 1913, and even then the per acre crop averaged only 17.5 pounds, yet a young man went down into Mississippi and adopted intensive tillage and fertilization and got more than two bales, or about 1,000 pounds, from each acre. Tobacco increased in per acre yield only 8 per cent. from 1873 to 1913.

## Yield Percentages Far

### Greater in Europe

England has been raising 210 bushels of potatoes to the acre since 1907, and the average, while the United States has grown an average of only 91.4 bushels up to 1900 and 96.5 up to 1913. European wheat yields run, in the well organized countries, normally twice as much as in the United States, with its marvel-

## End of the Era of Boundless Plenty Is in Plain Sight and With the Margin of Exportable Surplus Grown Scant, the Prospect Is, in the Opinion of Secretary Hoover, that in Ten Years the Country Will Not Have a Bushel of Wheat for Shipment

ously rich, young and broad prairies and fertile valleys.

Our wheat average to the acre in 1891 was only 15.3 bushels, in 1896 12.4 bushels, and in 1914 only 16.6 bushels. Corn average per acre in 1866 was 25.3 bushels, in 1914 only 25.3 bushels, or an increase of half a bushel to the acre in 48 years.

Nor might any one get around the distressing significance of these facts by suggesting bad crop years. The figures here given are actually representative and involve that brilliant era in American agriculture of the last century, when the homeseeker sung with glad acclaim that "Uncle Sam was rich enough to give us all a farm."

That was a "trek" which perhaps was unequalled in history. Across the prairies and through the valleys whole families, sometimes entire neighborhoods, took to the westward trails. Ruts were worn deeply in unurveyed highroads that led to the new El Dorado, where the golden grain wealth of the apparently boundless new homelands awaited the settler. The Government opened its treasure store of land titles and virtually gave away the homesteads.

Tens of thousands from each Eastern State, literally millions of foreign birth—alms, indeed, who wished for a home site from which to mine the grain gold which Nature had deposited in the soils, might get what he wanted from a liberal Government. Regions of 10,000 square miles, practically every rood of which might be cultivated as a rose garden, were occupied almost overnight. Territories sprang quickly into Statehood. Cities arose in a moon's cycle. Indians were pressed backward from their land heritage. Society was organized with a celerity never before equaled, with law and order supreme—for this trek of the grain gold miners was not by the wild, disorderly elements. It was of the best blood and brain of the older East, college men and cultured women, artisans unexcelled, farmers taught in the hard school of the farm lands that rimmed the "stern and rockbound coast" of the North Atlantic, or with sensitive feeling the slight "pressure of population" because mayhap settlements had begun less than 100 miles away from their former homes in the east Mid-West.

Meanwhile, American genius was perfecting mechanical devices for the sowing, plowing and reaping of grains. The Age of Steel was beginning brilliantly, and the utilization of the products of this Age of Steel by the new western farmers was not less brilliant. In so far as concerned the mere taking of the food values out from the richly endowed food lands, none thought of replenishing the soils. It was take, take, and never give back, that there be permanency of the grain gold wealth.

To justify his contentions, I made a careful examination of the Government returns on farm areas, and obtained disquieting confirmation of the Massachusetts authority. Back in 1850 Uncle Sam possessed about 1,500,000 farms averaging each 210 acres. The romantic westward march of the settlers was then taking place, to the

fertile lands of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and other States. So that in ten years after 1850 the farms increased 41 per cent., or 595,000 new units of foodstuffs production opened up in ten years. Then, in the next ten years, 615,000 more were opened, an increase of the 50 per cent. up to 1870.

In other words, the era of the perfection of agricultural machinery and tractors has not wrought out any actual efficiency in per acre increases of foodstuffs.

Even these newer regions are already in the dumps of non-efficient lowered yields to the acre, for by the census reports North Dakota, which only yesterday, speaking nationwide, was an untroubled area of lands rich in natural foodstuffs values, produced only 116,781,886 bushels of wheat in 1909 from 8,188,732 acres, or an average of only fourteen and a quarter bushels, when North Dakota was "booming", the average an acre being only about seven bushels in 1919.

## Our Sales of Beef Abroad

### Show Heavy Falling Off

Prof. McFall has made a table which shows that our much-vaunted beef rising to a maximum of more than a billion pounds in the years from and including 1904 to 1907 fell steadily until in 1914 there was an actual deficit of 300,000,000 pounds, and that, although the war stress then lifted beef exports to 45,000,000 in 1915 and 250,000,000 in 1918 until 700,000,000 pounds was exported in 1918, the sales to other peoples fast fell off again to 271,000,000 pounds in 1919 to 132,000,000 in 1920, to 41,000,000 in 1921 and for the six months ended June, 1922, the latest complete figures available, beef exports were only 16,159,021 pounds, or at the rate of about 22,300,000 pounds for twelve months.

Every additional fact drives deeper the nail of truth. For instance, the wheat exports from the United States in 1875 were 35.8 per cent. of the total crop. In 1901, the first year after this century began, it had fallen to 38 per cent. In 1913, which was the last full pre-war year and a prosperous one, we sold to foreign countries only 13 per cent. of the national wheat crop.

Prof. McFall boils down the matter to the cool fact that the people of the United States must cease the attitude of expecting to go on westwardly to obtain new sources of food wealth, for we have marched westward until the shores of the Pacific stop us from going further, and our virgin lands, by and large, have all been taken up by the settlers.

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But then the bottom dropped out. For this country opened up only 88,000 new farms from 1910 to 1920, an increase of 1.4 per cent.

Read the figures another way, lest some fear that it be a case of "figures cannot lie, but liars can figure." Uncle Samuel increased the number of his farms throughout all of these decades; but at the same time he decreased the average number of acres which he maintained in each farm; so that, whereas in 1850 it was 210, in 1920 the average farm had in it only 140 acres.

That would have been fine had our Uncle Samuel, while reducing the area of each average farm, increased the quantity of foodstuffs taken from each average acre. But he did not. As already shown the per acre foodstuffs harvested remained practically the same as in the early years.

The immigrant was all these years coming from Europe, where, taught by the food pinch of generations, he and his ancestors before him had compelled the land to yield him just as generously as he might make it. Arriving in this country apparently he discarded every lesson of history—a history which teemed with wars fought in Europe over the scramble to fill the national bread baskets. In other words, these immigrants justified the acid irony of some one who wrote that "the only lesson ever learned from history is that no one ever learned anything from history."

## Nothing Put Back

### Into Overworked Soil

The thrifty Scandinavians, the frugal Germans, the careful farmers of a dozen European lands, came here, helped to settle the great prairies and valleys, brought with them the essence of agricultural efficiency, ingrained throughout the past centuries in the mother countries, and then lost their economic heads, robbing the soils of their natural foodstuffs values and putting back into the lands virtually nothing to maintain the balance which they should have kept in the bank of nature.

Like-wise, the American settler, leav-

ing the more frugal Atlantic States, and going to take up virgin lands in the Western States, paid no heed to the ordinary economic considerations which lay at the base of intelligent procedure in maintaining production of foodstuffs—that there must be put back in equal quantity as you take out; else, shortly, there will not be anything left to take out.

Uncle Samuel, in his collective national capacity, was indulging in an orgy of expending the vital energies of the foodstuffs lands, going out to new lands for additional food, rather than striving to attain that efficiency of per acre production which he should have attained; but abandoned, in a measure, the farms in the East, nearer to the big markets, raising his food crops on the lands further to the West, whence the food must be conveyed in large measure to supply the Eastern demand.

The result has been that, as cited by Prof. McFall and the other authorities, the United States constantly fell off in its net return from other peoples in

## Growth of Importations

### of Soil Products Rapid

the international food markets.

The increases in importations of all soil products, for food and industrial uses, was rapid. In 1911 the importations of hides and skins were 374,000,000 pounds, in 1913 572,000,000 pounds. In 1913 we bought 14,000,000 pounds of cotton, and of other fibers, soil produced between 300,000 and 400,000 tons, or from 600,000,000 to 800,000,000 pounds.

Imported wools, hides, skins and fibers in 1913 totaled about 1,500,000,000 pounds; foreign fruits bought by this country amounted to about 700,000,000 pounds; nuts, 125,000,000 pounds; rice and seeds, 250,000,000 pounds; eggs, 18,000,000, buying from so far away as China; butter, 1,150,000 pounds from Canada and Europe; cheese, 47,000,000 pounds; cream, 2,650,000 gallons, and so on for many foodstuffs not regarded by some persons as so significant.

But for basic foodstuffs, such as sugar, coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate, grains and other genuinely basic food commodities, which are essential to the maintaining of the American table, the purchases from foreign lands were enough to make up the immense totals cited by Prof. McFall and others.

Besides, had there been no actual figures of importations given, the logic of the foodstuffs situation would have worked out, by pure reasoning, that (1) with population increasing from 13 to 20 per cent. in each decade, (2) land areas added to farmlands suddenly ceasing to increase significantly and (3) the quantity of food taken from an average acre of land remaining about stationary, it was inevitable that eventually the people of the

United States would be compelled to face the fact that something radically different must transpire from the course of events agricultural as to production, handling on the farms and distribution to the markets.

Prof. McFall, Prof. East, Dr. Butterfield and the other scientists here cited are not city critics of the bullock workers, sitting in easy chairs and talking at long and ignorant range about the shortcomings of their country brethren. Indeed, they are constantly in touch, professionally and of their own life work interest, with the country producers of foodstuffs, laboring sympathetically with them to devise ways and means whereby the farm owner and worker may, first, attain sound prosperity and, second, achieve that technique of farm operation which will enable economic activity. They are, in fact, fellow workers with the American farmers.

Prof. East thus sums up the whole situation, at the same time suggesting remedies:

"Human genius is not doing for agriculture just what our economists seem to think. The industrialization of the Caucasian world, which has gone on at such a rapid pace during the past fifty years, has provided for more people, it is true.

"In fact, population increase, though rapidly rising, has not really caught up yet with the increase of production made possible by the multiplication of mechanical inventions. But why has this come about? There is one reason, and only one reason, for the situation.

"We have had new reserves of lands to draw upon. Mechanical inventions simply made it possible for a given unit of man power to cultivate more land and to distribute its products more rapidly and equitably.

"But, with the exception of the credit to Justus von Liebig, because of production of chemical fertilizers, thus far negligible in a world's sense, the age of steel has not aided agriculture one iota when computation is made on (land) unit area.

"In other words, the provisions John Doe raises on his hundred acre farm have not been increased because of traction plows and steam tractors. But John Doe has had cheap land available and has been able to cultivate more of it than he could by the old hand method. Yields an acre were actually decreased.

## American Farmer Must Increase Yield Per Acre

"What will happen when the new land gives out? It is giving out—giving out rapidly. Well, the result will be simply this: The machine farmer will give way to the hand farmer. The American will cultivate his land with more man power in his efforts and approach the European standard of food production from a given land area. He will get greater yields from a given acre, even as the European farmer gets greater yields, but the per capita will sink slowly downward.

"So few persons appreciate that the English and German yields of wheat and potatoes are so high and those of the United States are so low because the United States has had new lands to exploit. The country has been in the era of 'increasing returns' when shallow plowing, incomplete cultivation and other cheap extensive methods would yield a fair profit.

"A permanent pinch of food scarcity, with its consequent lowering of the standard of living, and the coincidental narrowing of the scope of national vision.

## GIBBS URGES AMERICAN AID

By SIR PHILIP GIBBS.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Oct. 14. THE aftermath of the great war is truly a harvest of death for many Christian peoples. The infernal tragedy in the Near East is beyond all description, even imagination, as regards those many hundreds of thousands of terror stricken refugees from Asia Minor and Thrace who fled from the pursuing Turks and even now have no security, no place where they may rest. Already many have died from hunger and exhaustion. Winter, with added miseries, comes upon them; pestilence has broken out among them.

Constantinople was no longer a sanctuary for Christian men and women stiff with fear of Turk massacres. Christian minorities in Thrace, of whom there are 500,000 Greeks and Armenians, began to cross the Maritza River, who once in 1912 stood with King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, that old rogue elephant, who took my arm, waved his stick to the far horizon and said: "The soldiers have chased the old Turk out of his last lair in Europe."

But the Turk was coming back again to that River Maritza, which many times ran red with blood when the Armenians passed that way. Greek and Armenian refugees, with fainting women and starved children, have been trying to get to the safer side of its boundary, but those very Bulgarians who marched against the Turk in 1912 have barred the way to these miserable herds of Greeks. They will not allow entry of the famished and fever stricken mobs of fellow Christians into Bulgaria, where there is not much surplus food and no love of Greeks and Armenians. The plight of these people calls out the charity of all Christian nations for protection and food.

One man has emerged in France with rapid fame in this crisis, not unlike Lloyd George's in some of his characteristics, but utterly opposite in political ideas. That is Bouillon, the French adviser of King Mustafa Kemal, leader of the pro-Turk policy in France. When I first met that man before the war he was of no account in French politics, and was laughed at as an eccentric fellow, rather a buffoon, by serious men of his own nation.

## Union Christian College For India to Be Decided

Whether or not the Lutherans will join with the Church of England and others in the India mission field to establish a union Christian college is to be decided at this convention. The Board of Foreign Missions urges it, while the executive board of the church has refused to assume the responsibility. A significant recommendation is that in the report of the Board of Ministerial Relief an endorsement of at least \$3,000,000 is to be raised.

"European agriculture, on the other hand, has been experiencing the pain of 'diminishing returns.' Year by year they have faced the necessity of getting more out of their lands. They have succeeded remarkably well, but only because they have put more man power, more toil, into their work.

"We are now entering the era of diminishing returns a person in this country."

Frederick J. Nash, who says he learned more sitting on the end of a log with the great Mark Hopkins, president of Williams College, than from all the books he ever perused, adds to this foodstuffs discussion:

"Your contention is of only correct but timely when you urge the American people to give heed that they keep fall their national bread basket, and when you warn them that so long as current food production methods be employed the quantity of food available for each American will steadily decrease."

"Still another thing is true: The continuance of these methods will make it possible for the prices of foodstuffs to fall. There must be attention to efficiency of tillage, of farm handling, and of distribution; for in the first there is woful lack of economic operation and adequate agricultural science; and in the other two occur wastes to cause the true economist to weep.

"However, another element enters into the situation that will not be denied. And that is fertilization of the lands. We must put back into the soils if we are to take out from the soils. We must replenish the lands with the food on which plant life subsists, and that we have not done so adequately. I wish not to be over severe, but I venture the assertion that not one person in twenty who has to do with the subject knows the scientific essence of the process of fertilizing agricultural soils. As a people, we shall have to learn how to fertilize, as the European peoples have been forced to learn it in the hard school of vast populations seeking to exist on restricted areas of farmlands.

"Our era of restricted—relatively restricted—farmlands is at hand. It will be the next phase of national economic study and improvement. The day of easy food getting has passed. Hence, we shall have, as a people and as a Government, to go to this problem, and see to it that the nation arouses to keen realization of the economic and social gravity of the thing we face.

"A permanent pinch of food scarcity, with its consequent lowering of the standard of living, and the coincidental narrowing of the scope of national vision.

Mr. Nash, who has devoted his life to scientific studying of foodstuffs problems, concludes with the assertion that the ancient Chinese system of agriculture has for centuries maintained that enormous population, providing most of the food consumed there, by regularly returning to the soils the chemical constituents taken out by growing plants, the potash, nitrate and phosphate. These, he believes, may be found in the United States in sufficient quantities by finding how to get peat and kelp together. For, he asserts, peat and kelp contain those elements in almost ideal proportions.

## SEA AND LAND ATTACK FAILED

Mistakes of the last two years of the war are pointed out in this, the sixth and final installment of THE NEW YORK HERALD'S translation of the sensational German book, Capt. H. Ritter's "Review of the World War."

SINCE February, 1917, the German U-boat war secured results which brought about the most serious conditions in England since the outbreak of the war. No effective way of defense had yet been found, and England's very existence was placed in jeopardy. Also transportation of the American army had to be rendered safe. So the Entente was faced with the necessity of taking the German submarine bases on the Flanders coast in order to conquer the German U-boat danger. In that Great Britain had a still more vital interest than France. The English attacked.

"The direction of their attack from the Ypres sector was exposed to flank attacks of the Germans on the plateau of Messines. Therefore the British offensive could not be undertaken as long as the German front nose, known as the Wytschaetebogen, was not in the possession of the enemy. To avoid the terrible sacrifices of storming those strong positions the English resorted to mine warfare. The Fourth German Army remained in the new German trenches, which were blown up on June 7, 1917, and the German front line of the Marne to Epernay, while the First and Third German armies were to start from the Prunay-Tahure line and cross the Marne between Epernay and Chalons. If those orders could be executed the allied forces between Reims and Epernay would have been surrounded and probably forced to surrender.

"The Allies were informed of that plan when a captain of engineers of the Seventh German Army, while reconnoitering on the Marne, was made prisoner, and when questioned gave away the secret. Marshal Foch made ready for a counter-attack.

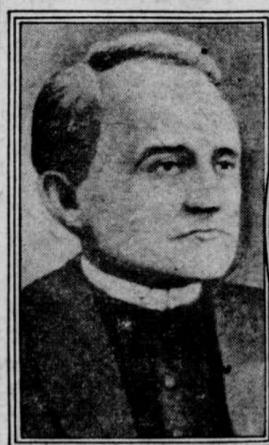
"On July 1 the German offensive began east and west of Reims, but was soon stopped. As soon as August 16 the First and Third armies were ordered to break off the engagement.

"On August 18 Marshal Foch attacked the German 'bag' protruding as far south as Chateau Thierry and Dormans with a forceful thrust near Villers Cotterets. Numerous tanks—unnamed by the Germans because they advanced through wheat fields—appeared suddenly in the German front lines. The whole of the German front between the Aisne and Clignon Creek was shattered in a few hours. But

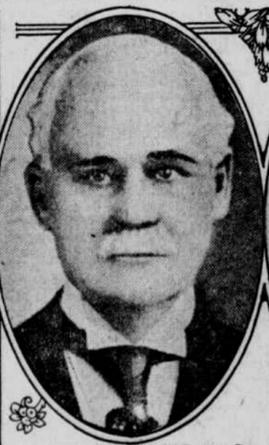
"On account of the heavy losses suffered in the Reims offensive the German High Command had to give up the scheduled offensive in Flanders. That was the beginning of the end."

## UNITED LUTHERANS IN CONVENTION HOPE TO SETTLE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

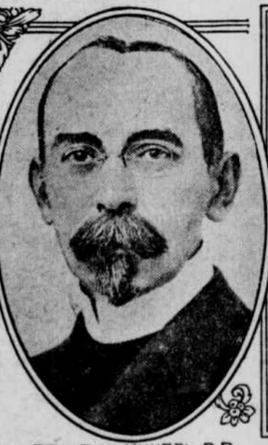
SOME OF THE LEADERS WHO WILL BE AT BUFFALO ON TUESDAY



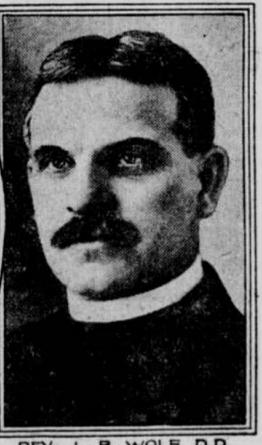
REV. H. E. JACOBS D.D. PHILADELPHIA CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION OF ADJUDICATION



HON. FRANK RITTER L.L.D. PHILADELPHIA PROMINENT IN THE LAYMEN'S MOVEMENT



REV. F. H. KNUBEL D.D. NEW YORK PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



REV. L. B. WOLF D.D. BALTIMORE SECRETARY AND TREASURER OF BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

THE third biennial convention of the United Lutheran Church in America which will be held in Holy Trinity Church, Buffalo, for ten days, beginning Tuesday, October 17, will be one of the most important religious meetings in the United States of this year. This is because the youngest of the great merged denominational bodies has before it the solution of problems of sufficient importance to enlist the interest of church members throughout the United States.

The most outstanding of these is the exact relation of this Lutheran body to the Federal Council of Churches, and a decision as to whether the present "consultative relationship" shall be continued or full membership substituted for it. A similar decision regarding the world conference on faith and order and the universal conference on life and work, and involving a statement of the future policy of the Lutherans toward such interdenominational movements must be reached by the delegates.

The second problem whose solution will be watched with keen interest is whether the United Lutheran Church through its foreign mission board will unite with the Church of England in support of a great union Christian col-

lege in South India. The foreign mission board disagrees. Another matter of international relationship to come before the convention will be the confirming of an agreement between the United Lutheran Church in America and the national Lutheran Church of Hungary for the interchange of visiting pastors and officers, and a similar proposed arrangement with the Lutheran Church of Czechoslovakia.

The delegates to the convention, of whom there will be more than 1,000, represent every district synod and many congregations, distributed over forty States of the Union and six provinces of Canada.

## Church's 4,000 Congregations Have 1,450,000 Members

The United Lutheran Church in America, which now comprises 4,000 congregations composed of 1,250,000 members and grouped into thirty-six district synods, was organized through the merger at the Engineers Building, New York city, in 1913 of three great Lutheran bodies—the General Council, the General Synod and the United Synod of the South. After four years of growth it comprises at the present time one-third of all Lutherans in the United States. The merged organization, which has shown remarkable progress thus far, constitutes one of the first successful large

scale experiments in the direction of united Christianity.

The officers of the organization for the biennial just passed are: President, Dr. F. H. Knubel, for twenty-two years pastor of the Church of the Atonement, 145th street and Edgecombe avenue, New York; Secretary, Dr. M. G. Scherer, formerly of Charleston, S. C., representing the United Synod of the South; Treasurer, E. Clarence Miller of Philadelphia, one of the two laymen who were responsible in the first place for the organizing of the United Church, and Statistician, the Rev. G. L. Kieffer, New York, who holds a like position in the National Lutheran Council.

During the two years that have elapsed since the last convention of the United Lutheran Church the Parish and Church School Board has been very active in the preparation of courses of study for Sunday schools and week day religious schools, which meeting for a brief session at the close of the public school day, instructs the children of the congregation in the principles of Luther's faith. More than forty Sunday school periodicals are being published by the board, one of which, Lutheran Young Folks, has a weekly circulation of more than 80,000. Efforts are being made at the present time to provide literature other than English for the German and Slav Sunday schools.

Among other recommendations the board will ask the convention to urge every Lutheran church to keep the

Sunday school open throughout the entire twelve months and to advocate the use of the Bible in class work in all grades above the primary, thereby eliminating the lesson quarterly except for reference purposes.

The board's plan of week day religious instruction is based upon the work of Dr. G. U. Wenner, pastor of Christ Church, New York, who for more than two decades has conducted such a school for the children of his parish. After asking that all congregations establish such schools the board further states: "The plan to gather information concerning religious educational work in Europe is endorsed, and the board is urged in every way possible to further the standardization and uniformity of our Lutheran parish schools through correspondence and cooperation with educators and authorities in other countries."

## Union Christian College

### For India to Be Decided

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