

**THE  
CHRISTIAN MISSION  
IN RELATION TO  
RURAL PROBLEMS**

Report of the  
**JERUSALEM MEETING**  
of the  
**INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL**  
March 24 th. ~ April 8th., 1928

**HUMPHREY MILFORD**  
**OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS**  
London, Melbourne, Cape Town,  
Bombay, Shanghai

**THE CHRISTIAN MISSION IN  
RELATION TO RURAL PROBLEMS**

**Reports of the Meeting of the International  
Missionary Council at Jerusalem,  
Easter 1928**

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- VOLUME I** The Christian Message in Relation  
to Non-Christian Systems of  
Thought and Life.
- VOLUME II** Religious Education.
- VOLUME III** The Relation between the Younger  
and Older Churches.
- VOLUME IV** The Christian Mission in the Light  
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- VOLUME V** The Christian Mission in Relation to  
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operation.
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*First Published October 1928*

## EDITORIAL NOTE

**F**OUR papers were prepared for the Jerusalem Meeting of the International Missionary Council to make available the best thinking and experience of those who have given attention to the conditions of agricultural and rural life as a world problem. These were a statement of general principles by Dr Kenyon L. Butterfield, a summary of outstanding missionary work in rural areas, compiled by Mr W. J. McKee, an outline of some essential elements of a practical programme, prepared by Dr Thomas Jesse Jones, and a report of a survey of rural conditions in Korea undertaken specially for the International Missionary Council.

The first paper, by Dr Kenyon L. Butterfield, is a statement of general principles that need to be considered in the preparation of any programme of practical work. Dr Butterfield is President of the State College of Agriculture and Applied Science at Lansing, Michigan, U.S.A. He was a leading member of the famous Country Life Commission appointed by President Roosevelt, and later a member of the Educational Commission sent to China in 1921 by the mission boards of North America and Great Britain. He is also Vice-President of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

The second paper includes the experience that has been gained in church and missionary work in rural areas in Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as

in Europe and America. Much work of great variety has been wisely done in many rural areas under the auspices of Christian missions and churches. The records and reports of such work are to be found mainly in magazine articles and in seldom-read mission reports. To make a comprehensive survey of all such work in Asia, Africa and Latin America would have required the preparation of a large book. Manifestly this was not possible in the short time before the Jerusalem Meeting, and it was therefore decided to call attention to a few examples of work that have proved their value. The arduous task of collecting and sifting this material has been done by Mr W. J. McKee, formerly principal of the Moga School in the Punjab, India, who has diligently examined the vast volume of source material in the Missionary Research Library and elsewhere. In the final preparation of this material he has had the assistance of Miss Helen Bond Crane, formerly a Secretary of the Young Women's Christian Association in China.

The third paper was prepared by Dr Thomas Jesse Jones, Educational Director of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, and is based upon his wide knowledge of work in rural areas in America and his studies of missionary work on the continent of Africa and in the Near East.

The fourth paper, a study of rural Korea, was undertaken for the International Missionary Council, and may be regarded as one of the pioneer efforts in this part of Asia in the use of the technique of scientific social investigation which has become so widespread in the United States in the last twenty years. Dr E de S. Brunner, the author of this report, has been engaged for fifteen years in the study of rural con-

ditions in the United States, and during the last seven years, as director of the Town and Country Studies of the Institute of Social and Religious Research, has carried to completion a number of nationwide investigations of various aspects of the rural problem.

Added to these preliminary papers, which were distributed before the Jerusalem Meeting, are three other papers by Dr Brunner, reports of his investigations in China and India and a summary statement on Asia as a whole. Due to disturbed conditions within China and to limitations on Dr Brunner's time, widespread field investigations could not be made and only a brief report is presented, based chiefly on interviews with a group of workers who met in Shanghai. Of these reports by Dr Brunner only the one on Korea was circulated before the Jerusalem Meeting.

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