UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MISSION BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

BISHOPS – MISSIONARIES

ID#

164
NEELEY, BISHOP THOMAS B.
NEELY, Thomas Benjamin, D.D., L.D., L.L. clergyman, editor; b. Philadelphia; greater part of public life spent in pastorate in Philadelphia and vicinity, doing, at the same time, much literary work. He has been member of five General Conferences of the M.E. Church, and has received large votes for the episcopacy. At General Conference, 1900, was elected as Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday School Union and the Tract Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and editor of Sunday School and tract publications of the denomination. In 1904 he was elevated to the episcopacy. While an active Bishop he supervised for eight years the work of the Methodist Episcopal Church in South America and Mexico. In 1912 the General Conference granted him the retired relationship.

Author: Young Workers in the Church, 1851-14; The Church Lyceum, 1882-14; Parliamentary Practice, 1865-14; Evolution of Episcopacy, 1888-14; The Governing Conference in Methodism, 1899-14; The General Assembly, 1895-14; and a book on South America.

February 1st, 1912.
Missionary

Bishop Neely in South America
By Rev. William Talbot, D.D.

Although many eminent men of our church have preceded and doubtless many such may follow him, Bishop Neely will be known as the first resident bishop in South America. Before his appointment to that continent, the bishops made a tour of the vast field and then departed; and each visiting General Superintendent administered the affairs of the mission in his own way. The diversity of gifts on the part of individual missionaries resulted in a diversity of administrations, so that the way things were done varied partly according to the place and the individual.

One of Bishop Neely's first and principal cares was to endeavor to develop a unity of administration growing out of conformity to the Discipline and the usage of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Where he found laxity he tried to introduce a better tone, but always in a kindly manner; and even where an unwillingness to recognize authority or submit to the law was clearly manifested, he exercised patience, which resulted in better training and more prompt recognition of the requirements of the church. Under all circumstances he never failed to be a kind and patient Christian gentleman. He administered for the good of all, especially for that of the work, and he introduced a division of responsibility so that every man might have a fair chance.

As he was quick to see what was needed, so he was just as quick to act, which he always did with energy and with thoroughness as to the smallest details. One of the first things the bishop did was to found a mission in the new Republic of Panama and organize the Methodist Church in the isthmus, and later when he saw his work, he began a new work in the latter Republic of Bolivia. Thus he projected what was needed and sought to strengthen the work everywhere and became a stimulus and an inspiration to every right-minded worker.

In the matter of church building much has been accomplished and accomplished during Bishop Neely's administration. Even before leaving the United States to take charge of his new field, he took steps to secure the completion of the McCube Hall in Montevideo, and with the aid of Bishop McCube the entire cost was covered, and immediately after that he succeeded in having the debt of over $200,000, owed by the Second Church in Buenos Aires liquidated, and in the following three years a considerable number of new churches have been erected in South America. Today every congregation on the Panama District worships in a church, and several others in various other districts are doing the same. The Methodist Church has made great progress, and the work is developing rapidly.

The General Conference of 1895, therefore, indicated by him will have to be sought its future success and real progress. There will be a more cordial welcome for the fine man the church has given us as our new resident bishop, as there doubtless will for those who may follow, but Bishop Neely, the first resident bishop, must ever have a warm place in the grateful remembrance of our people and of every sincere friend of a pure evangelical religion for South America, and this appreciation of his work in and for South America will increase as time more fully reveals the interest and value of what he has planned for and achieved during the past quadrennium. In the foregone, I have been obliged to give the naked facts in the case, undiluted by comment or rhetoric.

Rosario, Argentina.

The Christian Advocate, July 16, 1906

71 RUBELLES - PIZER

The 64 Year Old Relief for Constipation

A HEMORRHoidal DYE

The Tarrant Co.
11 Union St., New York
—Four hundred American gymnasts arrived at Bremen, Germany, to take part in International Gymnastic Tournament to be held at Frankfort. —Prince Helle de Sagan and Madame Anna Gould were married at London.

**Wednesday, July 8**

**Home.**—Government crop report indicates second largest corn crop in history of the country, with yield of wheat and corn in excess of 1907. —Nearly a quarter of a mile of harbor front of East Boston was swept by fire, causing loss of property valued at $1,300,000. —At National Democratic Convention in Denver, Colo., Richard P. Hobson made a speech in which he predicted war with Japan in less than four years. —Spiritualistic trick of photographing materialized "spirit" was exposed by a minister at Kansas City, Mo. —Martin R. Preston, presidential nominee of Socialist Labor party, who is serving term in Nevada state prison for manslaughter, declined to run. —Forty police rooms were closed by police in this city.

**Fires.**—Concerning quarrel between three British admirals, Prime Minister Asquith declared that prompt and efficient action would be taken to suppress any friction which threatened the discipline or smooth working of the fleet. —Count Boni de Castelflame, divorced husband of Madame Anna Gould, who recently wedded Prince de Sagan, began at Paris legal action to obtain custody of his three children.

**Thursday, July 9**

**Home.**—Forest fires are sweeping the pine woods in vicinity of Patchogue, Montauk, West Moriches and Westhampton, Long Island, and homes of many farmers are threatened. —At Pittsburg, Pa., contracts were awarded for construction of a $3,000,000 plant to be erected by the Pittsburgh & Buffalo Coal Company at Marsane. —A $300,000 lumber combine was effectuated at Saint Louis, Mo. —A prolonged demonstration followed the placing of name of W. J. Bryan in nomination for the presidency at Democratic Convention, at Denver, Colo. —Charles Scribner's Sons contracted to pay President Roosevelt between $69,000 and $13,000 for his prospective African hunt stories. —Mrs. Harriet W. Brand, treasurer of National Women's Christian Temperance Union, died at Evanston, Ill.

**Fires.**—Western Canada's estimated wheat crop is given as 150,000,000 bushels. —Ten persons were killed and many injured by collapse of building in course of erection at Saint Petersburg. —President Castro recalled Venezuela's representative in Washington, thus completing rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries. —Resumption of railway bridges, built across the Rhine at Cologne, Germany, fell, carrying down forty workmen, fourteen of whom are reported missing.

**Friday, July 10**

**Home.**—William Jennings Bryan, of Nebraska, was nominated for the presidency by Democrats at Denver, with John W. Kern, of Indiana, as vice-presidential candidate. —Twenty-two race-track bookmakers were indicted in this city under new law against race-track gambling. —W. H. Taft and G. R. Sheldon declared that all campaign fund contributions and their insiders are to be made public. —Wireless message reported the Atlantic battleship fleet steaming at ten knots, 520 miles out in the Pacific. —W. H. Gilmer, of Cleveland, probate at Princeton, left legacies amounting to $30,000 to his children and relatives and remainder of estate to his widow.

**Fires.**—Slight earthquake shocks were felt at Venice, Italy, and severer ones at Stuttgart. —Five Persians were killed and several wounded during encounter between Cossacks and irregular troops near Tabriz. —Association of Contractors at Paris voted a general boycott because of workmen's strikes and boycotts.

**Saturday, July 11**

**Home.**—Dr. M. Dortor, of Bureau of Animal Industry at Washington, discovered a virus which causes hog cholera. —Ten Chinese attempted suicide by drowning at this port in preference to further serving with a British captain to whom they were bound by contract for three years, declaring him to be inhumanely cruel. —Robert E. Morey, Latin scholar and writer of the dead languages, was stabbed and killed by his daughter at Chicago during a murderous attack on her while intoxicated. —Major Reymond, of Philadelphia, caused arrest of seven editors and artists of the North American on charge of criminally libeling him in editorials and cartoons. —Troops from Fort Whipple, Ariz., were ordered to Port Defiance to suppress disturbances among the Navajo Indians and stockmen over public lands and water on adjoining reservations.

**Fires.**—Yokohama municipality voted the sum of 10,800 yen to cover expenses of entertaining officers and men of Atlantic battleship fleet on its arrival there. —Persian minister of foreign affairs in the name of the Shah formally apologized to the British minister at Teheran for recent surrounding of the Legation by Cossacks.

**A native Philippine guide, Ayhdo, while conducting a party of seven, one a government officer, into unexplored mountain regions of island of Negros, drowed and slew entire party.

**Sunday, July 12**

**Home.**—Seventy-five columns struck against driving on Sunday at Paterson, N. J. —Miss Lottie Mayer broke world's swimming record by rowing twenty-six miles in Mississippi River, from Allen to Saint Louis, without rest, in five hours and eighteen minutes. —Twelve persons died of heat in this city. —In commemoration of ten years of continuous publication the Saint Louis Republican issued a special number of 192 pages.

**Fires.**—Official announcement was made at Port of Spain that Trinidad was free from bubonic plague. —Japanese at Tokyo expressed displeasure at plank in Democratic platform favoring exclusion of Asiaties. —Strike of wage earners at Paris for shorter hours and pensions riled up all excursion boats on the River Seine. —Soler Don Juan Douglas de Ovadia was elected president of Panama, the election passing off quietly. —Athletes from twenty countries are gathered at London, ready for opening of Olympic games.
labor in it will contribute to the success of his work in South America. He is accompanied by his wife, who is no less active and zealous than himself in all work which pertains to the Kingdom of the Lord. Bishop Neely comes disposed to give himself entirely to the work, aided and sustained by the prayers of millions of Christian people, who desire the salvation of these peoples; but he declared that he was only a man, and that he needed support, co-operation, and prayers in order to be able to carry out his mission. The Bishop appears to be a man of energy and activity, and although as is natural, he has not made known his plans, it can be foreseen that they will tend toward aggressive work in all lines, seeking in the combat with error, and evil the triumph of the Gospel and the welfare of all souls. As an expert in the field he will be able to be himself acquainted with the field and determine the lines of action. We pray that the Spirit of God may inspire him and guide him in everything, and that he may find worthy and enthusiastic co-operation in order that he may be able to conquer the whole continent for Christ by means of the Methodist Church.

The thirteenth session of the South American Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church assembled in Montevideo, Wednesday morning, March 22d, with about thirty pastors present. This Conference includes the pastors on this side of the Andes, those on the other being organized into two other similar bodies. The meeting was held in the courthouse lecture-hall, holding a thousand people, of the new church in Montevideo, the largest lecture-hall, we are inclined to believe, either in South or North America.

Both the Buenos Ayres Christian Advocate and the Spanish paper speak in terms of the highest appreciation of Bishop Neely, his presidency, and his general administration of the work. We take the following paragraph from the Advocate:

"The character of the Bishop is that of a man who is universally esteemed, respected, and beloved. His administration of the affairs of the Church has been just, equitable, and honest. He has shown himself to be a man of the highest integrity, and his conduct has been an inspiration to all who have known him. He has done much to advance the interests of the Church, and has been a source of strength and encouragement to his fellow ministers."

The Advocate further states that the Bishop has been a great advocate of the cause of Christianity, and has done much to advance the interests of the Church in South America. He has been a man of great energy and activity, and has been able to carry out his work with great success.

Bishop Neely in South America

Bishop Neely arrived in Buenos Ayres, March 11th. The South American Conference—postponed by request—met March 22d. A great welcoming meeting was held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, on March 20th, to greet the Bishop and Dr. Henry X. Carroll, one of the secretaries of the Missionary Society. A fine musical program was rendered, and addresses were made by Mr. W. H. Field, who presided; Rev. Dr. W. DeWitt, who gave an address; Dr. Thomas, and Rev. Dr. W. B. McLoughlin, who spoke. The clergymen present were invited to take their seats.

The addresses were made by Bishop Neely and Dr. Carroll. The English newspaper of the city paid large attention to the arrival of the Bishop, and reported at length the reception. The Standard said:

"The advantages of a resident chief pastor are self-evident; and, in view of the numerous undertakings this Church has already in hand, particularly in Argentina, the arrival of Bishop and Mrs. Neely has been anticipated with great pleasure. Bishop Neely, gracedly acknowledging the kind words that had been uttered, described his voyage from New York—how pleasant and delightful he was at his great city of ours—how overawed he felt at the magnitude of the work committed to his charge, and how much encouraged at finding the numerous bands of workers who were so ready to assist him, with the possibility of realizing the future prospects of the Church, and trusted that, through the assistance and co-operation of the great organization which had sent him out and the loyalty of his people here, the great expectations that were being cherished might be realized."

E. Sturdivant says: "Bishop Neely is a person well qualified for the discharge of the very important duties of the bishop to which he was appointed by the general voice of the Church, and his acquaintance with the field to which he has been appointed, and with the men who

(biographical)

17 May '05
Bishop Soellnitzer's recent visit to our Church at Camden was greatly appreciated by the people of the Church and community. The Preble County News says: "Almost every seat in the large auditorium was filled with people who were happy to have the Bishop with them, at the same time, they were pleased with the Bishop's message to them. He spoke of the need for more prayer and more faith in our church, and called for a closer relationship between the Church and the people. He also spoke of the importance of the Church's work and called for more support from the members of the church. The Bishop's visit was a great encouragement to the members of the church, and they were all grateful to have had the opportunity to hear him speak. The Bishop's message was well received, and it was clear that the members of the church were eager to put his words into practice."
FOUR YEARS IN SOUTH AMERICA

BISHOP THOMAS B. NEELY
Four Years in South America

By BISHOP THOMAS B. NEELY

The Quadrennial Report of the General Superintendent Resident in South America to the General Conference of 1908

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
120 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK
FOUR YEARS IN SOUTH AMERICA

Through long journeys of many thousands of miles by sea and by land, with rapid changes of climate and diet, and with not a few discomforts, we are thankful to a good Providence that through it all we were preserved in life, health, and strength.

Though not districted we have held in each year of the quadrennium all the Conferences of our Church in South America. We have also held a number of Conferences in the United States, and have found the short time spent in the United States more profitable for the South American work than if we had remained in the Southern Continent.

Being the first Bishop resident in South America, there was a possibility of a difference of administration in new departures that varied from older methods, but it is gratifying that in every year of the quadrennium we have had the cordial indorsement of every Conference in that continent.

BEGINNINGS

The earliest foreign mission thought of the Missionary Society of our Church turned toward South America, and though the first foreign missionary in connection with that Society was sent to Liberia, yet he first proposed himself as a missionary to South America. The oldest mission was Liberia and the next was South America.

The philosophy underlying the missions of these two sections of the world was a recognition of the fact that the primal duty of the Church in the United States of America was to America and Americans. The Liberian colonists were from the United States, and South America, like the United States, belonged to the same western hemisphere. In the one case the mission was to Americans, and in the other it was to an America. That early recognition of the formal claim of the Americas should always be kept in sight.

In 1833 the Rev. Fountain E. Pitts sailed for South America to study the situation in that continent. When he returned to
the United States he recommended the starting of a mission in Rio de Janeiro and another in Buenos Ayres. The next year, 1836, the Rev. Justin Spaulding was sent to Rio de Janeiro, and the Rev. John Dempster to Buenos Ayres.

In those early years the Methodist Episcopal Church failed to strongly sustain these missions, and in 1841 the mission in Rio de Janeiro was abandoned, and in the same year the Mission Board ceased its appropriations to Buenos Ayres, and recalled the missionaries. However, the work in Buenos Ayres was continued. In 1864 work was started in Rosario, Argentina, and by 1868 work was carried on in Monterideo.

In the early years of the South American Mission, say from 1836 to 1867, more than a generation, preaching in the mission was limited to the English tongue. For this limitation there were various reasons. The law prohibited preaching in the vernacular of the natives, and the prejudices of the priests and people created a strong antagonism.

As long as the missionaries restricted themselves to work among the foreigners and limited their preaching to English-speaking people, there was little difficulty. So the early work was practically for foreigners.

The first sermon preached in the Spanish language by a Methodist Episcopal minister in our South American Mission was preached by the Rev. John P. Thompson, whose name we mention because of the historic importance of the event.

However, it was not until about 1870 that Spanish work really began as a permanent thing, and it is said that it was not carried on extensively until about 1880. This fact should be kept in mind when making a comparative study of our mission work in South America. Though the second oldest foreign mission of the denomination it is really a young mission among the natives and in its vernacular, actually about the years of a single generation.

In these few years much has been accomplished. From the single congregation of 1532 in Buenos Ayres, and the three congregations in Buenos Ayres, Rosario, and Monterideo in 1868, the work has spread throughout Argentina, Uruguay, and up into remote Paraguay. From Uruguay our missions extended into southern Brazil, but our Church some years ago gave up

REPORT OF THE RESIDENT BISHOP

its Portuguese work in southern Brazil to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which had work in the Portuguese language. Yet, with this exception, we now have an Annual Conference on the east side of the continent of about one hundred preaching places, and we occupy the most important centers. On the west coast the mission was inaugurated by the Rev. William Taylor, afterward elected Missionary Bishop for Africa. In 1877 he visited various points along the Pacific Coast, and in 1878 the first missionaries were sent out by Mr. Taylor. In 1884 the work was taken up by the Transit and Building Fund Society, of which Mr. Anderson Fowler and Mr. Richard Grant were leading spirits and liberal contributors. In 1893 the above mentioned Society passed the way and property over to the Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The west coast is now covered by two ecclesiastical jurisdictions, the North Andes Mission taking in all the northern countries of South America down to the southern boundary of Peru. The other is the Andes Annual Conference, extending from the southern tip of Tierra del Fuego up to the northern boundary of Chile, taking in Bolivia and embracing a Conference longer than from New York across the United States to San Francisco and far out into the Pacific Ocean. The work of the east side is contained in the South American Conference, which, from southern Argentina, runs up through Argentina and Uruguay into Paraguay, and, skipping southern and middle Brazil, it found again at Pana, on the Amazon, and up the river to Manana and some other points, a region so large that one would be amazed if the extent were indicated by figures. The South American field is so vast that no matter where the Bishop may be, he is thousands of miles from other places in his jurisdiction, with impenetrable mountains and broad oceans between, so that to get around the continent it is easier to go to New York and take steamers from that port than to go by any other route.

PANAMA

During the quadrennium work has been begun in the republic of Panama. On our first visit to the Isthmus we noticed the hundreds of young Americans who were without evangelical church accommodations, while they were surrounded by saloons,
FOUR YEARS IN SOUTH AMERICA

Within two years our Church has climbed the Cordilleras and established missions in the republic of Bolivia, which, until very recently, has been practically a closed country. We believed the constitution of Bolivia would be amended so as to grant religious liberty. Believing this we sent the Rev. F. M. Harrington up to that lofty land, where he quickly gathered a congregation and formed a Sunday school. The occupation has been brief, but we now are established at several points and have preaching in English, in Spanish, and in Aymara, the tongue of hundreds of thousands of the Indians who do not speak Spanish. We believe also that we could secure a concession from the government that would enable us to start a school for boys. The government granted a subsidy, and, in La Paz, the actual capital, we organized a successful and prosperous school, in which we are educating boys of the best families.

We mourn the recent decease of Brother Harrington. His death is a great loss, but there remains open a great opportunity for an experienced and able minister who speaks both English and Spanish.

CHILE

We mentioned the new school started at Panama. Another has been established in Antofagasta, Chile. A fine new college building for boys is in course of erection in Concepcion, Chile. Within the last two years there has been erected a new building for the Girls’ College in the same city.

In Valparaiso, the city almost entirely destroyed by an earthquake, a substantial new church is being built.

In Santiago, the capital of Chile, where a comparatively few years ago we had no congregation at all among the natives, now we have four or five regular pastors and, in addition, a new parochial school has been opened.

A new church has been erected in Punta Arenas, on the Strait of Magellan, and a new parsonage has been built within about a year.

Since the recent session of the Andes Conference, which was held in January of this year, a number of new buildings have been opened and new schools have been started.
THE EAST COAST

On the east coast the lecture room of the large new church in Montevideo has been finished and was opened for service in March, 1903. The church occupies a splendid location and is a most conspicuous object, and can be seen from the deck of vessels in the harbor of Montevideo or sailing by the city.

On the strength of $2,000 secured by Bishop McCabe, we sent a telegram to start work on the lecture room, and it was the further financial aid secured by that good Bishop that enabled us to complete it. Since then we have put a wrought-iron fence around the lot and paid for the work. The lecture room was called McCabe Hall. Now it should be completed as the Bishop McCabe Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, and the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States should contribute $20,000 or more to complete this memorial church as the South American monument to Bishop McCabe, whose heart was in our South American Missions.

At the beginning of the quadrennium there was a debt on the Second Church of Buenos Ayres, a Spanish church, of about $36,000. All that debt has been paid by selling a strip of unused land. Since that has been done the amount of church building in the South America, or Eastern Conference, has been phenomenal. In three years a large number of churches have been erected.

In Roman Catholic countries we must have church edifices and churchly buildings, and the work will not be regarded as permanent or prosperous without such property. When we buy land and erect a church the people know we have come to stay. The growth in membership in the South America Missions has been very decided, notwithstanding the fact that the native preachers are a little too severe in pruning their lists. The increase may be said to be over forty per cent.

EDUCATIONAL WORK

Our educational work is extensive. Beginning with our college in the city of Panama, we have schools in Callao, Peru, and last year a high school was begun in Lima by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the first school of the Society in that ancient city.

REPORT OF THE RESIDENT BISHOP

We have a school in Tarma, up in the mountains of Peru, the Instituto Americana in La Paz, a boys' college and a girls' school in Iquique, and a school in Antofagasta. In Santiago there is a girls' college in which have been educated many of the first ladies of the republic. In Concepcion, Chile, there is a college for boys and a college for girls. There is the nucleus of a good school at Punta Arenas, and a number of smaller schools in various other places. On the east side, in Montevideo, we have an American academy for boys, the property of which was secured this quadrennium, and, belonging to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, there is in the same city the Instituto Crandon for girls. For this institution about a year ago a new building was erected. In Buenos Ayres the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society has a school for girls, and in the same city we have two schools for poor children in which there are about seven hundred pupils. In Mercedes, Argentina, we have the Instituto Lowe. In addition to all these there are a number of smaller schools here and there. During the quadrennium an orphanage has been started and located at Mercedes.

The members, though generally poor, are steadily improving their condition and now are doing well in the matter of self-support.

The South America Conference has contributed for pastoral support, church building, etc., over $40,000, gold, in a single year. The Andes Conference has given not far from the same figure; so that the people may be said to be contributing an amount about equal to the entire annual appropriation of missionary money given by the General Committee of Foreign Missions. There are only a few points that might be presented.

RESULTS OF THE WORK

What is there to show for the money appropriated and the labor spent in these fields? Giving a condensed answer: Tens of thousands of converts; the infusion of a potent religious influence; furnishing a liberalizing and uplifting force; presenting an example in favor of temperance and virtue; planting churches; sustaining religious services in harmony with New Testament teachings; gathering members and probationers. There are now about ten thousand members and probationers,
FOUR YEARS IN SOUTH AMERICA

about ten thousand Sunday school scholars, and probably about
or more than fifteen thousand adherents; a goodly number of
schools and colleges; an orphanage, and property worth over a
million dollars, gold.

It may be held that as much has been accomplished in South
America as in any other mission field when we consider the
amount of money appropriated, the insufficient number of mis-

sionaries, and the difficulties growing out of centuries of false
education, creating environments of an antagonistic character
and making other adverse conditions.

The South American Missions have not had the advantage
of working under a Protestant, or an essentially Protestant,
government, as is the case where the foreign territory is under
the control of the United States, Great Britain, or other liberal
government. All the republics in that Southern Continent are
strongly Romanistic, and the masses of the people are of the
Church of Rome. The people have been influenced by all the
prejudices of that body, and they show the effects of the over-
whelming sway which has lasted nearly four centuries, beginning,
as it did, more than a century before the Anglo-Saxon came to
North America and laid the foundations of the government and
civilization of the United States of America.

NEEDS

There are many needs. First, an educated native ministry.
We have a small theological seminary, which, a couple of years
ago, was brought from an interior town to the capital city of
Buenos Ayres. At the present time we sorrow on account of
the decease of Dr. Samuel W. Silberts, who for years had been
at the head of the seminary. For this institution there is need
at once for a building and an endowment. It should have $50,-
000 with which to buy land and erect a building. In the matter
of theological education we have made a modest beginning at
Lima, and attempts have been made at other places. Second.
Another great need is more evangelical literature in the Spanish
language. This we have tried to strengthen by issuing in Span-

ish a book entitled Juan Wesley, a treatise on the life, work and
influence of the Rev. John Wesley, and La Predicacion, an oc-
tavo volume on the art of preaching. We have also written and
printed other works in the Spanish language.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

To know what missions in South America mean, one must
consider the size and importance of the field. Some speak of
South America as a country, but it is not a country. It is a
continent, made up of many countries. It is a continent almost
as large as North America, or practically quite as large for living
and producing purposes, for it has very little frigid territory.
Note the size of a few individual countries, like Argentina and
Brazil, and we will be impressed by the magnitude of the terri-
tory. South America has the highest mountains on the western
hemisphere. It has the longest and largest rivers in the western
hemisphere. It has all climates. It has illimitable resources.
South America is a developing continent. Already it has great
cities like Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Ayres which compare well
with the great cities of Europe and North America. Yet South
America is a sparsely settled continent. But the flood of immi-
grant is pouring in. There are rapidly extending railroads.
The International or Pan American Railway is not a mere im-
agination, and the dream of the centuries is about to be realized
in the Panama Canal. In brief, South America is a continent
of incalculable possibilities. The human conditions in South
America should be studied. There is great illiteracy, super-
stition, immorality, and paganism is pronounced.

There came to South America the Romanism of the Middle
Ages. Isolated for centuries even if degenerated. Generally the
people are image-worshippers. Are these Christian conditions? Is
this a truly Christian land? Romanism has had its opportunity
in South America and has failed. Romanism has not enlightened
South America. It has not elevated South America. It did not
free South America politically. It has not freed the people from
superstition. It found South America idolatrous, and it has left
the people image-worshippers. Is Romanism the religion of the
New Testament? What intelligent Protestant can say that
Romanism is the religion of Jesus? Is it when it teaches people
to worship images? Is it when it teaches that sinners may be
prayed out of purgatory on the payment of sums of money?
FOUR YEARS IN SOUTH AMERICA

Is it when it teaches that one man is infallible? Is it when it claims temporal power and always exerts it directly or indirectly upon earthly governments, notwithstanding the fact that Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world"? In South America intelligent men are losing faith in the priest, in the Church of Rome, and, as that is all they have known, in the Christian religion. The people of South America must be saved from paganism, from superstition, from downright infidelity. The remedy for these conditions is the preaching of the pure gospel, the introduction of simple Christian methods, the application of gospel principles to social and political affairs. South America needs evangelical Protestant missions. Said a statesman of one of the South American republics, who had resided in the United States: "What my country needs is Protestantism." Even the Roman Catholic Church needs the presence of Protestantism to make it better. The United States of America has the best of reasons for being intensely interested in South America. It is our nearest continent, our relationship is becoming closer, and we have considerable commercial relations. The United States is affected by conditions in South America. Thus in the case of Venezuela, and the same principle is illustrated in Cuba and San Domingo. South America is an America, and conditions in any America affect the United States of America. The United States is not only near South America but it is in South America. It is on the Isthmian Canal Zone. The strip is only ten miles wide across the Isthmus of Panama, but it is a strip in and of South America. Thus the United States has become a South American power. The flag flies there, American soldiers are there, the police and the courts are there, and Americans are at work on the Canal.

From the beginning of the South American republics the United States of America has been closely related to their history. After the revolution and the independence from Spain, the United States was the first power to recognize the independence of the young republics in South America, and when the so-called "Holy Alliance" of European powers threatened to destroy this independence, President Monroe uttered his famous declaration, commonly known as the Monroe doctrine, which meant that the United States would protect the young nations in South America, even to the extent of war.

The Monroe doctrine was a confession of relationship. If, then, the Monroe doctrine was sound politically, as it was, then the same relationship calls for a mission doctrine that acknowledges the special religious duty of the Christian people of the United States of America to the great continent to the south of us. It is an American question and the people of other countries so regard it, and will not to any very great extent aid in its solution.

The evangelization of South America is the special duty of the evangelical Christians of the United States of America; and, of all the churches in the United States, it is the special duty of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for it has the numbers and the strength, and its system of policy is best calculated to meet the conditions existing in that Southern Continent. Not only as a Christian duty but also as a matter of self-interest and self-defense, the United States must help in the improvement of South America.

The battle between Romanism and Protestantism has not ended and there is no essential change in the Church of Rome. Romanism carries on its work even when Protestantism is passive, for Romanism always is aggressive. Now the battle for the western hemisphere is on. It is a battle between Romanism and evangelical Protestantism. What are the probabilities? Consider the numbers on each side in North, Central, and South America. Which is the stronger side numerically? Which will be victorious? The question is to be settled by the failure or success of Protestantism. Protestantism is succeeding in South America but it needs quick reinforcements and sufficient supplies.

South America looks to the United States of America for aid. The bronze Christ of the Andes looks northward. The real Christ appeals to the evangelical Christians of this free land. Let America respond to the appeal!
WORK FOR AMERICA

"America is the greatest mission field for Americans." That is what Bishop Thomas B. Neely declares, or, as he also puts it: "The greatest mission field for the United States of America is America, and the greatest mission field in America is South America."

While Bishop Neely is a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, everywhere that Church goes, his episcopal residence has been fixed in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Having charge of the Conference in South America, he has traveled around and over a considerable part of the vast continent, and, as a result, he has reached the conviction that the greatest foreign mission work for the people of the United States is the aiding and uplifting of South America. The Bishop points out that South America is intimately connected with the destiny of the United States of America, not in a political sense, but in the matter of influence, and because of the results of action and reaction of one continent upon the other, so that the better the conditions of the people of South America, the better it will be in every way for the United States. The present conditions of South America, he holds, are such that the people of that continent need Protestant missions as much as any other part of the world, and only the pure gospel as preached by Protestantism can meet the need. He further believes that the Methodist Episcopal Church, because of its purity and methods, can do this work better than any other American Church. In proof of this he presents the success of the missions of his Church.

The field over which Bishop Neely presides begins with the Republic of Panama, and extends to the extreme southern limit of South America, a distance so vast that few people realize its great extent, for it is a continent so immense that a single country therein is larger than the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. Both North and South America belong to the same hemisphere.

South America is an American, and what affects South America affects also North America. The United States is realizing more and more that it is closely related to South America. The people are beginning to realize its close proximity, for it is only a few days' sail to the Republic of Panama. The United States government is actively in South America, and the flag of the United States flies across the Isthmus of Panama from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and the relation between the United States will be still closer when the great inter-oceanic canal is completed, which it will be in the near future.

PANAMA

The work on this canal has drawn to the Canal Zone hundreds of Americans, but they have been without American churches. To meet their pressing needs the Bishop proposed to give them church services and also reading rooms accommodations. He has actually begun the work. Preaching services and Sunday schools have been established, so that the Methodist Episcopal is the first American Protestant Church to thus occupy the land. His missionary has now eight preaching points from Colon to Panama, one for the Spanish and the others for the English-speaking people, and this work should be strengthened. The Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church has made appropriations for this work, but the demand upon the society by the societies in many countries has been so numerous that the society has appropriated up to its limit, and the Missionary Board has authorized an appeal to the general public for special contributions for the work on the Isthmus of Panama.

Two English-speaking preachers and one to preach in Spanish are needed at once. For this there should be special contributions amounting to not less than $1,000 for the year. A church properly is needed in the city of Panama. A gift of $10,000 would secure title to a property; and $25,000 or $30,000 would secure the completion of the edifice, which is absolutely needed. In addition to the educational work a school should be started in Panama. Patriotic as well as religious reason should impel people in the United States to contribute promptly and liberally to the support of the work on the Isthmus of Panama, and to take care of the sons of America while away from home environments.

EDUCATION

The school as well as the church is needed in South America. The schools which have been started by the Methodist Episcopal Church have been a great blessing to the people, and have stimulated government to improve the national schools. A school building is needed at Antofagasta, Chile, where a school has been started. Ten thousand dollars would secure that. A similar sum would probably secure a suitable building for the Boys' College in Concepcion, Chile, and there ought to be an expansion for the Girls' College in the same place. Bolivia has just proclaimed religious liberty for all, and a school should be established at some center in that opening country, and, in addition, a half dozen missionaries should be sent in at once. A property should
The principal theological seminary is to be located in Buenos Aires, where it will be in reach of a greater number. This is the only theological school for the entire Atlantic side of the South American continent. Theological schools are absolutely necessary in such a country for the development of a native ministry that will make a church of the people. For the seminary in Buenos Aires the Bishop would like to raise an endowment of at least $50,000. That makes a good chance for some person with means to give that amount and have the seminary named in a memorial, either in honor of the donor or some one the donor might indicate.

Another desire of Bishop Neely is to get ten persons who for five years will give $1,000 a year for the Theological Seminary and the Boys' School in Buenos Aires. By the end of this time he hopes these schools will be able to carry on their work without such aid.

On the Pacific Coast the Bishop has projected several small theological or ministerial training schools nearly a thousand miles apart, but for them he does not at this time make any financial appeal, though he would be glad to obtain financial assistance.

In all of them, however, Bishop Neely would like to install libraries for the use of the students. He would also like contributions for the support of students for the ministry. One hundred and fifty dollars to two hundred dollars gold will keep a student for a year. Most of these young men are poor and need assistance during their period of preparation.

Bishop Neely recognizes the need of a religious literature in Spanish, and has made a beginning in that line by bringing out in Spanish his new life of John Wesley, under the title Juan Wesley, El Gran Reformador Religioso—John Wesley, the Great Religious Reformer. Religious books in Spanish will not have sale enough to pay the cost of publication, the Bishop would like to receive contributions to create a fund for the production and distribution of such works. With such a fund, he would be able to circulate gratuitously books as large titles and so reach people who would not attend Presbyterian services.

The Bishop states that church edifices are very necessary for successful mission work in Roman Catholic countries, where the people are trained to reverence the ecclesiastical edifice. In South America the Methodist Episcopal Church has many congregations that are without church buildings. In Valparaiso, where there is a Methodist Episcopal congregation with over five hundred communicants, there is no church edifice. A church building is needed in Concepcion, Chile, where there are two congregations, one Spanish and the other English. There is no church edifice in Santiago, though there is a good Spanish congregation. In Buenos Aires and vicinity there are several Spanish congregations without church buildings. The need of church accommodations is so great that the Bishop could easily and economically spend $150,000 on one tour in putting up modest little churches. A few thousands in each place would bring great results, for, though the people generally are poor, they are willing to do something for themselves. No, indeed, does more for self-support under the circumstances. Bishop Neely thinks if he had $10,000 he could secure the erection of ten churches. About $3,000 would pay the present debt on the new church in Montevideo and increase it with an iron fence, and then $10,000 would probably secure the completion of the auditorium. Thirty-five hundred dollars will secure a property in Cordoba, the old Jewish center of Argentina. The congregation there is without a church building. It is a most important point.

Special gifts are desired for the transit and support of missionaries who are urgently desired at this time. These are some of the points which Bishop Neely mentions as being in special need.

Bishop Neely will be in this country until the end of the first week of December. Then he expects to start for Panama and other parts of South America. He greatly desires contributions for his work before this time.

His work in South America should strongly appeal to citizens of the United States, and for very many reasons they should aid the Bishop in his arduous labors and lighten his burden, as well as help elevate the people of South America, by contributing to such causes as have been indicated. Any gifts which may not be designated for any particular object will be judiciously applied by the Bishop. Any contributions may be sent to the Rev. Bishop Thomas B. Neely, 250 Fifth Avenue, New York City. About February he expects to reach Buenos Aires, Uruguay, where letters will reach him at Calle General Guido, 129.
120. SOUTHERN CONGO. Extension of furlough of Rev. and Mrs. Newton S. Booth to June 1, 1943, continued support to be provided in the appropriations.

121. LIBERIA. Approval of homecoming on furlough of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Wongatz at such time as it may be possible to secure transportation, the necessary costs being provided in the appropriation for missionary support.

122. LIBERIA. Approval of homecoming on furlough of Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Harlow and their two sons at such time as may be found possible, both from the standpoint of ability to secure transportation and care of the work; the necessary costs are provided in the missionary appropriation.

243. CHINA. Extension of furlough for the following missionaries to May 31, 1943:

North China - Rev. and Mrs. G. J. Arsclemon
            Rev. and Mrs. T. E. Brocco

Shantung - Rev. and Mrs. Perry C. Hanson

East China - Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Ferguson
            Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Smith

308. MALAYA. Extension of furlough for Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Peterson until April 1, 1943, which is one year beyond the time of furlough approved by the Executive Committee in April 1941, so as to permit him to complete his studies.

537. CENTRAL AFRICA. Approval of furlough for Mr. and Mrs. Walter Oliver, beginning September 1, 1942.

STATUS OF MISSIONARIES

247. WEST CHINA. Mrs. Victoria Peterson, widow of Dr. Robert A. Peterson, has been on furlough in this country since February of 1941, and was authorized to spend this year partly in study for a probable return to China, partly in cultivational work. It is now evident that she cannot return to China in the near future and arrangements have been made for her withdrawal from the list of active missionaries.

It was VOTED to withdraw the name of Mrs. Victoria Peterson (widow of Dr. Robert A. Peterson) from the list of active missionaries as of June 30, 1942, with an expression of appreciation for the service rendered in West China, and with the hope that she may be able to return to China at some future time. The years of service as a basis for computation of any future pension date from September 1, 1924, to June 30, 1942.

309. MALAYA. Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Runyan, who have been missionaries in Malaya since 1930, returned from the field for regular furlough in July 1941. With conditions on the field making it impossible to return at the present, Mr. Runyan has accepted an appointment at Shelton, Connecticut, in the New York East Conference.

It was VOTED that the name of Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Runyan be withdrawn as missionaries of The Methodist Church as of June 1, 1942, with an expression of appreciation of the fine service they have