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**SURVEY**

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

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*Grinding Barley in the Near East*



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# THE PRESBYTERIAN SURVEY

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# The PRESBYTERIAN SURVEY

XIV

APRIL, 1924

No. 4

## 1872—JOHN IRVINE ARMSTRONG—1924

### AN APPRECIATION

R. E. MAGILL, *Secretary*

With aching hearts, stunned minds, but, we trust, with submissive wills and unquestionable faith, we announce the death of the Editor-in-Chief of our Sunday School Publications, Rev. John I. Armstrong, D. D., which occurred on March 8, 1924.

He was stricken with pneumonia on Monday, March 3rd, and after five days' illness, during which every remedy known to modern medical science was used, he entered into eternal rest.

Dr. Armstrong left as a legacy a record of service to our Church and to the Kingdom of God conspicuous for its devotion to high ideals, the sacrificial giving of himself to his work, gracious consideration of the opinions of others, and of loyalty to his friends. He consecrated his life to the task of Christian education, and to a mental endowment of a high order he added the equipment which comes through continuous study and research. He received the degree of A. B. and S. M. from Hampden-Sidney College and immediately took up the profession of teaching. He was associated with the Wallace School for Boys at Nashville, Tenn., until he entered Union Seminary at Richmond for his theological training. He graduated with distinction in 1904, and was called at once to the chair of Moral Philosophy and Preaching by his Alma Mater, Hampden-Sidney College. This position he held until he accepted the chair of Philosophy and English Bible at Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Ga., in 1906. In order to enlarge his usefulness, he accepted at the same time the pastorate of the Kirkwood Presbyterian Church in the suburbs of Atlanta. The double burden was carried successfully.

He became Educational Secretary of Foreign Missions in 1913, and held this position until 1920. A new literature of an exceptionally high order was created, and the Church was given a new vision of its missionary obligation and an intensive course of study

was launched, which, if followed, will give our people an intimate knowledge of conditions in every field we occupy.

The Lewisburg Seminary of West Virginia found itself in need of a President, and laid a call upon Dr. Armstrong's heart. He accepted this arduous task in 1920, and rendered a great service to the cause of Christian education in carrying this institution through a grave financial crisis.

The Publication Committee made three attempts to have Dr. Armstrong accept a place on its Editorial Staff. Our last call, to become Editor-in-Chief of all the Publications of the Southern Presbyterian Church, appealed to him as offering a field of boundless usefulness and a task that would tax his resources to the limit. It was characteristic of the man that he always sought tasks that involved great personal sacrifice. He took full charge of our publications on April 1, 1923, and here entered upon what promised to be his largest service to the Church. He began at once a broad and constructive plan of developing and improving our periodicals, and enlisted at once the enthusiastic support of his associates in the Editorial and Educational Departments.

Dr. Armstrong personally reviewed every line of copy appearing in our

twenty-four Sunday School periodicals, and his fine judgment was reflected in the improvement of all the periodicals. In addition he prepared the expository notes which appeared in the *Earnest Worker*, and many of the leading Editorials.

Throughout the Church his fine work and spirit were recognized, and this sudden ending of a rich and fruitful life brings grief and regret to the whole Church. He leaves a devoted wife and five children, ages six to eighteen years, and the sympathy of the whole Church is with them in their great bereavement.



John Irvine Armstrong.

## A CORRECTION.

REV. ROBT. D. BEDINGER.

On pages 34 and 40 of the Church Calendar of Prayer 1924 I am designated as "Principal of the Morrison Memorial Theological Training School," Mutoto Station, Africa.

I am not and never have been the principal of this school. In November, 1921, the mission elected me to the faculty and in April, 1922, I moved from Lusambo to Mutoto. During the year and a half that I was at Mutoto the part I played in the school was small indeed. Other duties greatly handicapped me so that I could not give my full time to teaching.

Rev. Charles L. Crane has been the principal of our

Theological Training School since its founding in 1913. He has put his very soul into its development and he above all others is responsible for the high rating it holds in our educational system. He has prepared all the text-books and notes, except the Bible alone, translating the same into Buluba that are used by the students. He has borne the burden of the responsibility and the brunt of the work for the past eleven years, often having no other help than that of his efficient wife. Others have had shares from time to time in this work, but the greatest credit belongs to Mr. Crane.



## OTHER BOOK REVIEWS.

Books mentioned on this page may be secured from the Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va.)

S. H. CHESTER, D. D.

*The Mexican Nation.* A History. Herbert Priestley, Ph. D., Associate Professor of Mexican History, University of California. The MacMillan Company, New York. Price, \$4.00.

Our relations with Mexico have for a long time been unsatisfactory that we habitually speak of them as the Mexican problem." The right solution of this problem has been held back by our lack of understanding of the history and character of the Mexican people. The author of this volume presents the story of Mexico in such a way as to show how the Mexican people have attempted to develop a spirit of nationality and a stable and satisfactory form of government. It is impossible to estimate the difficulties that have confronted Mexican publicists in their effort to amalgamate into a homogeneous nation the crude Indian tribes and the super-caste Americanized Europeans without any appreciation of whatever there has been of sincerity in these efforts.

The work comprises over 500 pages and begins with the ancient Mexicans and closes with Obregon's inauguration. While one cannot always follow the author's interpretation of the last ten years' stress and struggle, this period as others has been treated broadly and with the bias.

The recent enlargement of our work in Mexico makes it doubly important that we should develop an intelligent and sympathetic interest in the people we are trying to help. For this purpose we cordially commend this book to the readers of THE SURVEY.

*The Russian Soviet Republic.* By Edward Alsworth Ross, 8 vo. 405 pages. The Century Company. Price, \$3.00.

During the prevalence of *propaganda*, which has so largely taken the place of reliable information since the war, the American people have been kept largely in

ignorance of the actual state of things in Europe, and this has been especially the case in regard to Russia. It is exceedingly important that the facts should be known in order that the influence of intelligent public opinion may be brought to bear on those who control our international relations. For on the way these are directed depends much, both as to our own economic welfare and as to our present obligations as a member of the family of nations. This book has the capital merit of being readable. Its style is that of the careful and painstaking investigator and student and of the impartial historian. It will be read with interest and profit by anyone interested in present day world problems, the most important of which are those that are in some way connected with the Russian Soviet Republic.—S. H. Chester, D. D.

*The Winning of the Far East.* A Study of the Christian Movement in China, Korea and Japan. By Rev. Sidney L. Gulick. George H. Doran Company, Publishers. Price, \$1.35.

This comprehensive discussion of the complex and vital problem of the Far East will command widespread interest, because of the first hand information gained by Dr. Gulick on his two special missions for the Federal Council of Churches. Dr. Gulick bore messages of good will to China and Japan, and had unequalled opportunity for gaining intimate knowledge of conditions and international attitudes. His book reveals the great problems facing the Eastern nations, and through them the entire world. Some of the opportune questions are: The effects of the great earthquake in Japan; the consciousness of rights by the laboring classes; the spread of Communistic ideas from Russia; the industrial, intellectual and political revolutions in China; suspicion of each other and of the Occident by China, Japan and Korea, and other matters which have the most significant relation to the peace of the world.