

Penn State Collegian

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January 20, 1915

The Y. M. C. A. Who is campaign or religious week has come to be one of the great events of the college year at Penn State. Each year, profiting by the weakness of the previous campaign, corrections and additions have been made until the collegiate world generally recognizes Penn State as one of the leaders in this department of religious work. Each year men of different types from different phases of Christian work have been here to assume charge until finally this year we have been able to procure the services of the Dean of the World's Christianity, John R. Mott, who has been called one of the world's three most influential men by Theodore Roosevelt, and who is considered by many to be the most celebrated individual who has had to do with the extension of the Christian religion since the earthly career of its founder.

Writing in the Outlook Joseph H. Odell says in part: "In June 1910, the gray old capital of Scotland staged a scene of unprecedented significance. Thirteen hundred men gathered from the ends of the earth to plan and organize a campaign for the Christianization of every nation. And they were not men, of ordinary calibre, for every member of the assemblage had some achievement to his credit. Together they could have drawn a map of the world from first hand knowledge, and they represented almost every shade of doctrine and government known to man. There were Cabinet Ministers and peers of the realms, Korean dignitaries, Hindu pundits, with princely titles, Anglican archbishops and bishops, ex-governors of the British over sea dominions, Japanese whose names are inseparable from the recent glory of Nippon, Chinese scholars, Australian officials, Americans of international renown, and representatives not only from each European nation but from lands and islands of which the ordinary mortal has scarcely heard.

On the left of the platform sat the archbishop of Canterbury; on the right stood Lord Balfour of Burleigh, as the Herald of King

George; in the center, presiding with calm and dignified impartiality over the notable gathering, accorded the honor by unanimous acclamation the most conspicuous figure in the hall—John R. Mott.

"Within the past few years you might have seen the same figure dominating gatherings of intellectual men in almost every capital and university city of the world Oxford, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Athens, Buenos Ayres, Melbourne, Johannesburg, Tokio, Peking, Calcutta, Seoul, to mention only a few."

Mr. Mott graduated from Cornell in 1888. Yale gave him his Master's degree in 1899. Edinburgh conferred LL. D upon him in 1910. In 1911 Princeton made him a doctor of laws.

Discussing his qualifications and methods, Mr. Odell writes in the same article previously quoted: "If one may go back into Christian history it is not too much to say that Mott has the passion and vision of St. Francis Xavier, the courage and audacity of Hildebrand, the ecclesiastical statesmanship of Pope Innocent III. He has the imperial qualities in a superlative degree—constructive vision, determination, and a delight in detail. I have seen him electrify an audience made up of distinguished men and convince them of things they did not wish to believe, and yet he never raised his voice, hardly made a gesture. He is today the field marshal of belligerent Christendom and nearly every section of the Christian church accepts his leadership."

"Mott and the organizations with which he works are making possible the parliament of man, the federation of the world. This is why emperors, kings, potentates, and princes call him to stand before them."

Exchanges.

In order to lend united aid to the Belgians, each student of Swarthmore college has pledged himself to contribute five cents a week to a relief fund.

Last week Billy Sunday delivered a personal "man to man" talk to 3,000 University of Pennsylvania students.

Men on the University of Pennsylvania wrestling squad are required to sign a written pledge to abstain from the use of tobacco and



John R. Mott, LL. D.

alcohol in any form during the entire wrestling season.

Five hundred students of Princeton have signed papers approving the formation of a military company. The government has offered to supply an officer for drill and also the necessary arms.

An ex-'14 student of Lehigh has complete charge of three Russian divisions in the present war.

Instead of giving a monument or any of the other conventional class memorials, the 1914 class of the University of Chicago has decided to institute a loan fund for helping undergraduates through college.

Students of McGill university who have enlisted in the present war, will on their return, be promoted to the class immediately above the one in which they were enrolled previously, to their enlisting.

The Student council of Gettysburg has set aside a day known as "Take it Back Day," for the students to return articles which they have borrowed from one another.

A large number of Penn students, led by a band, marched in the big demonstration for better rapid transit service, which was held in Philadelphia last week.

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