An International Journal for Missiology

Some Reflections and Suggestions

Basic Viewpoints

The Journal should be of a strictly academic nature. What is needed, and what should be aimed at, is the creation of a review of high standard, comparable with the international journals established to promote study and research in similar fields.

Again, the Journal should be truly ecumenical in scope. Members of different confessions and traditions, including the Orthodox churches and the Conservative Evangelicals, should be asked to serve on its editorial board

Finally, the orientation of the Journal should be through and through global. Its field of interest and concern should be, not only some particular geographical area, such as the traditional "mission fields" or the "lands of the younger churches", but the world as a whole

Practical Aspects

The academic, ecumenical and global character of the Journal should be reflected in (1) its title, which for this very reason should be a Latin title: Missio, (Studia) Missiologica or some similar name; (2) its appearance, i.e. its format, cover (design), typographical set, up. etc; (3) its language, which should be English, French and German.

On its front cover the Journal should present itself as a publication of the IAMS, somewhat like this:

MISSIO

Journal of the International Association for Mission Studies Journal de la Association Internationale d' Etudes Missionaires Zeitschrift der Internationalen Vereinigung für Missionswissenschaft

Concerning the Contents

The Journal, in the first place would publish articles dealing with all aspects - historical, contemporary, theological, etc - of the Christian world mission, including the relationship of missiology to such subjects as the comparative study of cultures, anthropology, sociology, etc. A special

concern would be the discussion of the encounter between the Gospel and the religions.

Secondly, the Journal would contain information about materials - books, manuscripts, archives, etc. - relevant to the scholarly study of the world mission of the Church. (A classified survey of current missiological literature, should, if possible, appear each year as a separate publication.)

Thirdly, the Journal would serve as a means of contact and communication between missiologists in all parts of the world, e.g. by calling attention to, and commenting upon, recent developments in this particular field of research. Naturally, it would also contain news about the activities of the IAMS.

Vol. I Nos. 1 and 2

It is suggested that Vol. I No I be a "Presentation Number", containing, for instance, the following materials: Editorial (a presentation of the aims, policy, etc. of the new journal as an organ of the IAMS), and articles, by selected and representative scholars, on such subjects as: Mission as a Subject of Scholarly Concern, Major Issues in Missiology today, The Concept of Mission in the Orthodox Churches, Indigenization: Its urgency and its limits. Trends in Contemporary Thinking concerning Inter-Faith Dialogue, Christ and Culture in the Perspective of Missiology, Christian Mission and the Ideal of Tolerance, The Mission of the Church in an Ecumenical Age, and Current Research in Mission.

Vol. I No. 2 might take the form of a "Congress Volume" (Driebergen, 1972), Its main theme would, therefore, be: "Mission in the Context of Religions and Secularization", dealt with as follows: A Six Continent Viewpoint, by William D. Reyburn; An African Viewpoint, by E. A. Ayandele; An Asian Viewpoint, by Hans Waldenfels; and Christian Witness in View of the Advance of Marxism in Asia, by W. Y. Ji. (If possible, in connection with each lecture, a summary of the discussion.)

Oslo, April 15, 1972

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