

IAMS INAUGURATED AT HOLLAND MEETING

The inaugural assembly of the International Association for Mission Studies met at "Kerk en Wereld" Institute in Driebergen, Netherlands, August 19-23. More than one hundred participants, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, from twenty-four countries registered. While predominantly European, participants came also from Asia, Africa, Latin America, and eleven from North America: Gerald H. Anderson, John T. Eoberg, William J. Danker, Arthur F. Glasser, Henry G. Krahn, Sister Cathleen O'Neill, Gottfried Oostervai, Russell L. Staples, George W. Peters, J. B. Toews, and Frank P. Vanderhoff (Ottawa, Canada).

The theme of the conference was "Mission in the Context of Religions and Secularization." Four major addresses were given: "An African Viewpoint" by Prof. E. A. Ayandole from Ibandan; "An Asian Viewpoint" by Dr. Hans Waidenfels from Germany; "A Christian Witness in View of the Advance of Marxism in Asia" by Dr. Won Yong Ji from Geneva; and "Secular Cultures and Spiritual Values--A Six Continent Viewpoint" by Dr. William D. Reayburn from London. Reports on research projects and study centers were given by ten participants, and there were small-group discussions of the issues raised by the lectures.

In an evaluation period at the close of the conference an Indonesian participant observed that the emphasis in the lectures and discussion had been much more on the "Context" than on "Mission," and more on "secularization" than on "religions." It was felt, however, that the meeting had historic significance with approval of the Constitution and election of officers for the Association, the first such international and ecumenical society for promoting scholarly studies of the Christian world mission.

Officers elected for a two-year period were: Hans-Werner Gensichen, Heidelberg, as President; Arnulf Camps, O.F.M., Nijmegen, Vice President; Olav G. Myklebust, Oslo, Secretary-Treasurer; and four members-at-large of the executive committee are Gerald H. Anderson, Nashville; Andrew F. Walls, Aberdeen; Stanley J. Samartha, Geneva; and Ludwig Wiedemann, S.J., Bonn.

The next meeting of the Association will be held in late August, 1974 in Vienna, Austria. A decision about starting a new international journal to be sponsored by the Association was postponed until the 1974 meeting.

Persons interested in joining the IAMS should write to: Prof. O. G. Myklebust, Bgode Instituttet, Thereses. gt. 51 B, Oslo, Norway.

--Gerald H. Anderson