

The Overseas Mission Board has stations in many lands of the South Pacific ; these are under 42 white missionaries and 230 native pastors. There are over 200,000 members in its mission churches. The chief island missions are Fiji, Samoa, Papua, and New Guinea.

### Methodist Church of New Zealand

The Rev. Samuel Leigh went from Australia to New Zealand in 1821 and preached the first Methodist sermon to the Maoris. The Rev. Walter Lawry became superintendent of the New Zealand mission in 1844, and proved a wise administrator.

The first New Zealand Conference met in 1874, and the next year it was represented in the Australasian Conference. The Australian Church approved the separation of New Zealand in 1910 and the Methodist Church of New Zealand was formally set up by parliamentary action. Various Methodist bodies in Great Britain had established missions in New Zealand and these were finally united in 1913.

In the New Zealand Methodist Church there are 436 churches and 342 other preaching places. There are 640 local preachers and 217 ordained ministers. The church adherents number 130,000 according to the government census, though the churches report a much smaller number of actual members, about 35,000. The foreign missions are in the Solomon Islands, with Bougainville and Buka on New Guinea. There are 196 churches, with 224 day schools, and 225 local preachers.

The institutions of the church are :

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Trinity College and Hostel ...  | Auckland.     |
| Wesley College ... ..           | Paerata.      |
| Wesley Preparatory School ...   | Auckland.     |
| Kurahuna ... ..                 | Auckland.     |
| Te Rahui ... ..                 | Hamilton.     |
| Rangiatea College ... ..        | Plymouth.     |
| Astley House (Old Ladies' Home) | Auckland.     |
| Campbell's Bay Health Camp...   | Auckland.     |
| Wesley Boys' Home ... ..        | Auckland.     |
| Epsom Girls' Home ... ..        | Auckland.     |
| Masterton Children's Home ...   | Masterton.    |
| South Island Children's Home    | Christchurch. |
| Epworth Bookroom ... ..         | Auckland.     |
| Youth Department Sales Room     | Wellington.   |

## Statistics of World Methodism

It is extremely difficult to present an accurate picture of a living organization by means of statistics, even though one is convinced that the task must be attempted. The difficulty is increased immeasurably when dealing with a body like World Methodism, which is not fully co-ordinated, and where what statistics there are have not all been compiled upon the same principles.

There are two basic methods of presenting religious statistics, though each undergoes several variations. In predominantly Christian (particularly Protestant) countries the normal method is to give the figures of communicant membership, while on the mission field a better guide is probably the estimated figures of the total Christian community. This latter estimate has similarities to the census figure of those who return themselves as Methodists in Christian countries, and is considerably larger than the active adult membership, since it includes children as well as adherents.

Because of insufficient data it has usually been found necessary to combine the various classes of statistics. In the table which follows, however, we have attempted the almost impossible task of giving side by side figures for both active membership and Methodist community. In many cases these are, of course, very rough approximations. In order to arrive at the community figure (where it is not provided by census or by the local authorities) it is usually safe to multiply the active membership by two, or even three. In some authenticated instances, however, we must multiply by as much as five or six, while in the U.S.A. to multiply by two might possibly be too much. Whenever authentic figures have not been available we have tried to err on the conservative side. In some cases where it was doubtful in which column authentic figures should be included, we have inserted them in both. Usually the figures in these cases are very small, so that the general picture is hardly affected, except possibly by very slightly increasing the membership total, but more probably by considerably reducing the community total. Indeed one feels that while the membership total of 14 million is about right, the total for the Methodist community should probably be about 40 million.



In all cases the figures have been given to the nearest hundred.

It is obvious that much amendment in detail will be necessary in these tables. Unfortunately, many of the figures being prepared for the revised *World Christian Handbook* are not yet available. It seems desirable, however, to present the following statistical picture, with all its imperfections, on the eve of the Ecumenical Methodist Conference, rather than to wait until more up-to-date figures are available. Anyone who is able to furnish corrections will be conferring a great favour by communication with the Rev. Frank Baker, 14, Queen's Parade, Cleethorpes, England.

## EUROPE

|                                       | Membership     | Total<br>Community |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>British Isles</b>                  |                |                    |
| Methodist Church in Great Britain ... | 750,600        | 2,000,000?         |
| Methodist Church in Ireland ...       | 31,800         | 65,000?            |
| Wesleyan Reform Union ...             | 6,100          | 12,000?            |
| Independent Methodist Churches ...    | 7,700          | 15,000?            |
| <b>Continental Europe</b>             |                |                    |
| Austria ...                           | 2,000?         | 4,000?             |
| Belgium ...                           | 1,100          | 2,200?             |
| Bulgaria ...                          | 2,400          | 5,000?             |
| Czechoslovakia ...                    | 3,000?         | 8,000?             |
| Denmark ...                           | 3,500?         | 7,000?             |
| Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania ...       | 3,000?         | 3,000?             |
| Finland ...                           | 3,000?         | 3,000?             |
| France ...                            | 1,700          | 3,000?             |
| Germany ...                           | 60,500         | 120,000?           |
| Hungary ...                           | 700            | 1,100              |
| Italy ...                             | 5,000?         | 7,700              |
| Norway ...                            | 9,000?         | 12,200             |
| Poland ...                            | 10,000         | 80,000             |
| Portugal ...                          | 500            | 1,000?             |
| Russia (in Europe) ...                | ...            | 2,200?             |
| Spain ...                             | 400            | 1,000              |
| Sweden ...                            | 11,500         | 34,000             |
| Switzerland ...                       | 11,900?        | 15,000?            |
| Yugoslavia ...                        | 3,000          | 6,000?             |
|                                       | <u>928,400</u> | <u>2,407,400</u>   |

## NORTH AMERICA

|  | Membership        | Community          |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>United States of America</b>  |                   |                    |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...   | 8,935,600         | 15,000,000?        |
| Apostolic Methodist Church ...   | 100               | 200?               |
| Congregational Methodist Church ...  | 11,000            | 20,000?            |
| Congregational Methodist Church of U.S.A., Inc. ...  | 6,000             | 10,000?            |
| Evangelical Methodist Church ...   | 5,000             | 8,000?             |
| Free Methodist Church ...  | 50,000            | 80,000?            |
| Holiness Methodist Church ...  | 1,000             | 2,000?             |
| New Congregational Methodist Church  | 1,500             | 2,500?             |
| Primitive Methodist Church ...   | 12,000            | 20,000?            |
| Reformed Methodist Church ...  | 500               | 800?               |
| Reformed New Congregational Methodist Church ...   | 500               | 800?               |
| Wesleyan Methodist Church of America   | 33,000            | 50,000?            |
| Southern Methodist Church ...  | 6,000             | 10,000?            |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church   | 1,066,000         | 1,600,000?         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church ...  | 525,000           | 800,000?           |
| African Union First Coloured Methodist Protestant Church ...   | 2,500             | 4,000?             |
| Coloured Methodist Episcopal Church  | 385,000           | 600,000?           |
| Coloured Methodist Protestant Church   | 200               | 400?               |
| Independent African Methodist Episcopal Church ...   | 1,500             | 2,200?             |
| Reformed Zion Union Apostolic Church   | 20,000            | 35,000?            |
| Reformed Methodist Union Episcopal Church ...  | 1,500             | 2,200?             |
| Union American Methodist Episcopal Church ...  | 10,000            | 18,000?            |
|  | <u>11,073,900</u> | <u>18,266,100?</u> |
| <b>Canada</b>  |                   |                    |
| United Church of Canada ...  | 528,000?          | 1,470,600?         |
| (Approximately two-thirds of the Church may be said to have a Methodist background, of 792,000 members and a community of 2,205,900) |                   |                    |
| <b>Mexico</b>  |                   |                    |
| Methodist Church of Mexico ...   | 15,600            | 21,200             |
| Free Methodist Church ...  | 700               | 3,600              |
|  | <u>11,618,200</u> | <u>19,761,500</u>  |



## CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

|  | Membership     | Community      |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Guatemala.</b> Primitive Methodist Church   | 600            | 800            |
| <b>Honduras.</b> Methodist Church in U.K.  | 500            | 900            |
| <b>British Honduras.</b> Methodist Church in U.K.  | 1,100          | 2,000          |
| <b>Costa Rica</b>  |                |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..  | 300            | 600            |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..  | 300            | 500            |
| <b>Panama Republic and Canal Zone</b>  |                |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..  | 1,600          | 2,600          |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..  | 200            | 300            |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..   | 100            | 100            |
| <b>Colombia</b>  |                |                |
| Wesleyan Methodist Church of U.S.A.  | 100            | 100            |
| <b>British Guiana</b>  |                |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..  | 5,300          | 18,700         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church   | 200            | 700            |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  | 600?           | 600            |
| <b>Dutch Guiana</b>  |                |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..  | 100?           | 100            |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church ...   | 200            | 500            |
| <b>Peru.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...  | 500            | 1,000          |
| <b>Bolivia.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...   | 300            | 400            |
| <b>Brazil</b>  |                |                |
| Methodist Church of Brazil ... ..  | 33,400         | 80,000?        |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..   | 100?           | 100?           |
| <b>Chile</b>   |                |                |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..  | 6,000          | 20,000         |
| Methodist Pentecostal, and Evangelical Pentecostal, offshoots from Methodism with a Methodist background ... | 130,000        | 202,500        |
| <b>Argentina.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...   | 5,400          | 6,600          |
| <b>Paraguay.</b> Free Methodist Church ...   | 500            | 500            |
| <b>Uruguay.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A.   | 1,000          | 1,300          |
|  | <u>188,400</u> | <u>340,900</u> |

## WEST INDIES

|  | Membership    | Community      |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Bahamas</b>                                       |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 2,700         | 4,000          |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church                   | 100           | 700            |
| <b>Cuba</b>  |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..                    | 6,000         | 7,700          |
| <b>Jamaica</b>                                       |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 18,800        | 37,500         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church ...               | 500           | 500            |
| <b>Haiti.</b>  |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 1,700         | 6,200          |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church                   | 100           | 300            |
| <b>Dominican Republic</b>                            |               |                |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church ...               | 500           | 1,800          |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..                         | 1,200         | 5,400          |
| Methodist Church (Union) ... ..                      | 1,000         | 1,000          |
| <b>Puerto Rico</b>                                   |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..                    | 3,800         | 10,000         |
| <b>Virgin Isles</b>                                  |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 1,700         | 5,500          |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church...                | 900           | 1,400          |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church              | 400           | 400            |
| <b>Lesser Antilles (British, including Barbados)</b> |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 20,200        | 68,000         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church ...               | 300           | 400            |
| <b>Lesser Antilles (Dutch, chiefly Curacao)</b>      |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 1,200         | 4,700          |
| <b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>                           |               |                |
| Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..                      | 3,700         | 10,900         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church                   | 400           | 600            |
| United Church of Canada (two-thirds)                 | 1,600         | 13,300         |
|  | <u>66,800</u> | <u>180,300</u> |



## AFRICA

|   | Membership     | Community       |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Algeria and Tunisia.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 300            | 300             |
| <b>Ivory Coast.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ...  | 20,500         | 46,600          |
| <b>Dahomey and French Togoland</b><br>Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..   | 7,500          | 19,700          |
| <b>Fernando Po.</b> Methodist Church in U.K.  | 3,400          | 4,700           |
| <b>Madeira Islands.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 500            | 500             |
| <b>Gambia.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ...   | 1,100          | 1,700           |
| <b>Sierra Leone.</b> Methodist Church in U.K.<br>West African Methodist Church ...  | 8,100<br>2,000 | 12,400<br>2,000 |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church  | 300            | 500             |
| Wesleyan Methodist Church of U.S.A.   | 500            | 2,400           |
| <b>Liberia.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...  | 7,500          | 9,100           |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church ...  | 1,200          | 1,500           |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church   | 2,300?         | 2,300?          |
| <b>Gold Coast.</b> Methodist Church in U.K.   | 50,600         | 133,700         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church  | 800            | 800             |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church   | 4,000          | 9,300           |
| <b>Nigeria.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ...  | 52,800         | 111,600         |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church  | 30,000?        | 30,000          |
| African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church   | 2,500          | 10,000          |
| <b>Belgian Congo.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A.  | 14,600         | 41,900          |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 2,800          | 13,200          |
| <b>Angola.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...   | 18,400         | 56,000          |
| United Church of Canada (two-thirds)  | 3,300          | 6,400           |
| Wesleyan Reform Union ... ..  | 100?           | 100?            |
| <b>South Africa</b><br>Methodist Church of South Africa ...   | 227,600        | 585,400         |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 800            | 2,100           |
| African Methodist Episcopal Church  | 35,000         | 75,000          |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 1,200          | 3,400           |
| (The 1936 South African census returned 1,019,616 Methodists, as against 665,834 recorded in the Community figures here) ... .. |                |                 |
| <b>Southern Rhodesia</b><br>Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..   | 17,900         | 25,000          |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 7,100          | 21,000          |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 400            | 1,400           |
| <b>Northern Rhodesia.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..   | 1,700          | 1,900           |
| <b>Mozambique</b> (Portuguese East Africa)<br>Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 4,100          | 14,300          |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 2,400          | 4,700           |
| Methodist Church of South Africa ...  | 900            | 2,800           |
| <b>Kenya.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ...  | 2,700          | 3,400           |
|   | 536,900        | 1,257,100       |

## ASIA

|   | Membership | Community |
|---|------------|-----------|
| <b>Japan</b><br>Church of Christ in Japan (a united church of 133,000 members; the last figures for the communicant membership of the Japan Methodist Church, of 1940, are given) ... | 44,800     | 80,000?   |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 2,000      | 5,000?    |
| Wesleyan Methodist Church of U.S.A.   | 600        | 1,500?    |
| <b>Okinawa.</b> Methodist Church (Union)  | 100        | 100       |
| <b>Korea.</b> Korean Methodist Church ...   | 43,100     | 129,000   |
| <b>Manchuria.</b> Korean Methodist Church ...   | 1,500      | 3,800     |
| <b>China.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ...  | 41,200     | 55,800    |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 58,800     | 90,300    |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 700        | 5,300     |
| Wesleyan Methodist Church of U.S.A.   | 100        | 200       |
| United Church of Canada (two-thirds)  | 3,300?     | 3,300?    |
| <b>Malaya.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...   | 9,100      | 18,100    |
| <b>British Borneo</b> (Sarawak)<br>Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..  | 3,000?     | 3,000?    |
| <b>Philippine Islands</b><br>Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..  | 63,300     | 100,000?  |
| Evangelical Methodist Church of the Philippines ... ..  | 20,000     | 60,000    |
| <b>Sumatra.</b> Methodist Church in U.S.A. ...  | 4,000      | 8,000?    |
| <b>India and Pakistan</b><br>Church of South India.<br>(Into this church of 244,600 members and 843,885 community went in 1947 from the Methodist Church in U.K.)                     | 144,000    | 230,100   |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 94,400     | 743,000   |
| Methodist Church in North India (Australasian) ... ..   | 3,500      | 9,700     |
| Methodist Church in U.K. (North India) ... ..   | 4,200      | 13,700    |
| Free Methodist Church ... ..  | 300        | 900       |
| Wesleyan Methodist Church of U.S.A.   | 100        | 400       |
| United Church of Canada (two-thirds)  | 14,600     | 28,000?   |
| <b>Burma</b><br>Methodist Church in U.K. ... ..   | 900        | 2,000     |
| Methodist Church in U.S.A. ... ..   | 900        | 2,000     |
| <b>Ceylon.</b> Methodist Church in U.K. ...   | 10,000     | 22,300    |
|   | 568,500    | 1,615,500 |



## AUSTRALASIA

|  | Membership | Community |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Australia, Methodist Church of ... ..                  | 206,500    | 683,000   |
| New Zealand, Methodist Church of ...                   | 35,300     | 130,200   |
| Maoris ... ..  |            | 7,500     |
| Indonesia. Methodist Church in U.S.A.                  | 3,500      | 10,500    |
| Melanesia. (New Guinea, Papua)                         |            |           |
| Methodist Churches of Australia & N.Z.                 | 10,300     | 77,900    |
| Solomon Islands. Methodist Church of N.Z.              | 9,900      | 17,000    |
| Fiji Islands. Methodist Church of Australia            | 31,700     | 98,000    |
| Samoa. Methodist Church of Australia                   | 4,300      | 12,200    |
| Tonga. Methodist Church of Australia ...               | 4,900      | 19,700    |
| Hawaiian Islands. Methodist Church in<br>U.S.A. ... .. | 3,900      | 12,000    |
|  | 310,300    | 1,068,000 |

## TOTALS

### EUROPE

|                           |         |           |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------|
| British Isles ... ..      | 796,200 | 2,092,000 |
| Continental Europe ... .. | 132,200 | 315,400   |

### AMERICA

|                                  |            |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| United States of America ... ..  | 11,073,900 | 18,266,100 |
| Canada ... ..                    | 528,000    | 1,470,600  |
| Mexico ... ..                    | 16,300     | 24,800     |
| Central and South America ... .. | 188,400    | 340,900    |
| West Indies ... ..               | 66,800     | 180,300    |

**AFRICA** ... .. 536,900 1,257,100

**ASIA** ... .. 568,500 1,615,500

**AUSTRALASIA** ... .. 310,300 1,068,000

|  |            |            |
|--|------------|------------|
|  | 14,217,500 | 26,630,700 |
|--|------------|------------|