

THE PROGRESS OF CHURCH FEDERATION

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The progress of church federation by Charles S. Macfarland

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CHARLES S. MACFARLAND

**THE PROGRESS OF
CHURCH
FEDERATION**



HELP YOUR RED CROSS

**"Inasmuch as ye have done it
unto one of the least of these"**

FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN AMERICA

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BOOKS WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR

The Spirit Christlike
The Infinite Affection
Jesus and the Prophets
Spiritual Culture and Social Service
Christian Service and the Modern World
The Great Physician
The Progress of Church Federation

BOOKS EDITED AND IN PART WRITTEN
BY THE AUTHOR

The Christian Ministry and the Social Order
The Churches of the Federal Council
Christian Unity at Work
The Churches of Christ in Council
The Church and International Relations—2 vols.
The Church and International Relations—Japan
Christian Cooperation and World Redemption
The Churches of Christ in Time of War

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PREFACE

THIS volume has been prepared in response to a considerable demand for a brief record of the proceedings and activities of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, for readers who are unable to go through the six rather voluminous books constituting the record for the past quadrennium, but who do wish to acquaint themselves with the nature and scope of the work of the Council.

While this record is mainly concerned with the quadrennium from 1912 to 1916, it seems best to begin with a brief statement of the history and constitution of the Council up to the year 1908, when it was officially organized, and also of its activities during what may be termed the formative period from 1908 to 1912.

The material is taken mainly from the six volumes of the Library of Christian Co-operation.

The reader who desires a completer study of the history and constitution of the Council will find it in Dr. Sanford's interesting volume, "The Origin and History of the Federal Council," and a description of the 30 Constituent Denominations constitutes the volume by the author, entitled "The Churches of the Federal Council." At the time of writing this volume arrangements are being perfected for the preparation of a record of the previous Evangelical Alliance, which will also be of

interest to the student of the co-operative movement.

A completer account of the procedures and practical activities of the Council will be found in the volumes entitled "Church Federation," "Federal Council of the Churches," "Christian Unity at Work," the six volumes composing the Library of Christian Co-operation, and "The Churches of Christ in Time of War." Still more complete are the annual reports of the Federal Council and the Home Missions Council.

Statistical information will be found in the "Federal Council Year Book" and a comprehensive view of the social movement of the churches may be found in the "Year Book of the Church and Social Service." These two volumes ought to be secured annually by every pastor, and should be in every library for general use.

This volume is an attempt to present a general view of the contents of all the above-named volumes.

On the work of local federations of churches a handbook is in course of preparation to be entitled "A Manual of Inter-Church Work."

C. S. M.

New York.

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