**The Council of Seventy.**

Professor Shailer Mathews, of the University of Chicago, sails for Europe in December. He will spend some time in Italy making a special study of Christian Archaeology. He will then make a tour of Palestine for the purpose of collecting material for use in his lectures.

Professor R. R. Lloyd, of Pacific Theological Seminary, is engaged upon a book upon the Inspiration of the Scriptures. He will publish soon a book upon the Relations of the Great Biblical Doctrines to one another.

Dr. C. W. Votaw will prepare the usual American Institute lessons to be published in the *Sunday School Times* during 1897. The material will be from the Acts. Dr. Votaw will also prepare a series of studies on the same material to be published in the *Biblical World* during the same period.

Dr. J. H. Breasted, curator of the Haskell Oriental Museum, has this month been engaged in placing a large number of interesting archaeological remains sent to the museum from the scene of the excavations in Egypt, which are under the direction of Mr. Petrie. These come from the site of Thebes, the place where the tablet containing a mention of the name Israel was recently found. Dr. Breasted recently gave a lecture on a period of Egyptian History at the Field Columbian Museum.

President C. J. Little, of Garrett Biblical Institute, delivered the opening address before the annual convention of the Inter-Seminary Missionary Alliance held at the University of Chicago November 12 to 15. His subject was "The Spirit of Christianity Essentially Missionary."

Dr. H. L. Willett is giving a series of lectures before the Women's Club of Milwaukee. The Literature Section of this club has taken up the study of the Institute course on the Work of the Old Testament Sages and Mr. Willett's work consists of lectures introductory to and summarizing the material studied in the club.

Professor F. K. Sanders conducted a biblical institute at New Bedford, Mass., on November 19 and 20. The subject was "The Inspired Teachers of Israel." Professor Sanders also delivered a lecture on the "History of the English Bible" at Miss Master's School, Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., October 29.

The November number of *Progress* contains an article by Professor Sanders on "Hebrew Literature."
Dr. J. H. Barrows is to reach Bombay by December 15. His first series of lectures will be in Calcutta Christmas week at the time of the Indian National Congress. From there he will go to Lahore, thence to Bombay, to Vellore, Salem, Bangalore and Madras. A most cordial welcome seems from all indications to await him.

Professor F. B. Denio, of Bangor Theological Seminary, is preparing in connection with his regular class lectures a valuable syllabus on "The Historical Criticism of the Old Testament." In this syllabus he sketches on the one hand the Grafian theory as expounded by Kuenen, Wellhausen and Smend, and on the other hand the conservative critical theory as presented by Kittel and Dillman, with a recognition of the work of Koenig and Robertson. Various problems concerning the Old Testament are also taken up.

The first annual meeting of the Council of Seventy will be held in Chicago on December 11 and 12, 1896.

The following programme will be carried out:

Friday, December 11.
3:00-3:30.—Annual Report of the President.
3:30-5:00.—Annual Report of the Treasurer and Discussion of Reports.
5:00-6:00.—Discussion: Bible Study in the College.
6:00-8:00.—Dinner.
8:00.—Brief Addresses, on The Teaching of the Bible, A New Calling.

Saturday, December 12.
10:30 A.M.—Old Testament Chamber. 1. Opening Address by the Master.
2. Consideration of Special Topics.
   (a) List of Old Testament books to cost (?) for college and private libraries.
   (b) Difficulties of the teacher of the Old Testament.
   (c) The best order of Old Testament Study.
   (d) Question of requiring Hebrew for entrance to theological seminaries.

New Testament Chamber. 1. Opening address by the Master.
2. Consideration of Special Topics.
   (a) List of New Testament books.
   (b) Difficulties of the teacher of the New Testament.
   (c) The best order of New Testament study.

General Chamber. 1. Opening address by the Master.
2. Consideration of Special Topics.
   (a) The place of Biblical Theology in the Curriculum.
   (b) The teaching of Comparative Religion to the masses.
THE COUNCIL OF SEVENTY

12:30.—Election of officers by each chamber.
1:00.—Election of officers by the Council.
1:30.—Luncheon.

To the discussion on Friday afternoon will be invited all Bible teachers in colleges and other institutions in the vicinity. The evening meeting will be an open one.

Every effort will be made to make this first annual meeting productive of good not only to those who attend but through the results of the discussions to all the world of Bible students.

A biblical institute under the auspices of the Institute was held at Wellesley College November 12, 14 and 15. It was conducted by Rev. Alexander McKenzie of Cambridge, Professor F. K. Sanders of Yale and Professor C. F. Kent of Brown University. The general subject was "Messianic Ideals of the Hebrew Prophets." Five sessions were held and the following lectures were delivered: The Gospel in the Old Testament, Dr. McKenzie; The Ideals of Amos and Hosea and the Ideals of Isaiah and Micah, Professor Sanders; The Ideals of Jeremiah and the Prophet of the Exile, and the Temporal and Permanent Elements in Messianic Prophecy, Professor Kent. The last lecture closed with a Question Box. The attendance at every session was large and much enthusiasm was manifested.

The Institute plans a large scheme of work for 1897 in connection with the Sunday-school lessons which take up Acts for the year. The scheme includes:

1. A correspondence course in the Acts in the original Greek. This course will be critical, exegetical, and will require as a prerequisite the ability to read classical or New Testament Greek.


3. A correspondence course for Sunday-school teachers who wish to do thorough work. In this course an effort will be made to acquaint the teacher with the facts in the history of the early church concerning (a) the organization of the church, (b) the environment of the church, (c) the development of the church, (d) the belief and teaching of the church, (e) the practice of the church, (f) God's providence sustaining and directing the church, (g) the records which have been preserved of the history of the church in this period. It will be based upon the studies to be published in the BIBLICAL WORLD.

4. A course of reading for Sunday-school teachers covering the biblical material, the historical background, and some homiletic treatment. The required books are as follows: (1) In the Time of Jesus (Seidel), (2) The
THE BIBLICAL WORLD


A monthly postal bulletin assigning the reading for each month and giving valuable suggestions and questions concerning it will be sent to each student. This plan would solve the question of an interesting teacher's meeting in many cases. Where each teacher does not care to purchase all the books, a combination may be made.

(5) An outline course of study covering the Acts, Epistles and Revelation in their historical connection, suitable for adult Bible classes. In this course the work for each day is definitely planned and assigned, and the work of Sunday may be a summary and review, or the class may be a week-day club holding weekly or fortnightly meetings for which special programmes will be suggested.

6. An examination in four grades for all Sunday-school pupils and teachers: (1) The elementary for all under fifteen years of age, (2) the intermediate for all between the ages of fifteen and twenty, (3) the progressive for all adult Bible classes, and (4) the advanced for ministers and all who have made a critical study of the subject. The fee for examination will be fifty cents, and all students gaining an average of 70 per cent. will receive a certificate. There will be ten or twelve questions. Specimen questions and an examination direction sheet will be sent each candidate upon enrollment. All schools enrolling fifty candidates will be supplied with the series of reference books for their libraries which is named under “4.”

Twenty-four hundred students are now at work upon the Institute course of study on the “Work of the Old Testament Sages.”