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## Indian Conference Of the Southwest

The second annual meeting of the Southwest Indian conference adjourned at Flagstaff, Arizona, on July 16, after a week of profitable discussion.

More than sixty men and women who have given their lives to the promotion of the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Indians, were present. The well planned program was carried out almost in its entirety, though some of the friends found it necessary to send their papers to be read.

Devotional exercises for the mornings were conducted by Mr. John Butler of Tuba, Arizona, who gave helpful studies on the Shepherd Psalm. The Rev. J. B. Epp of Oraibi had charge of the evening devotions and invited various members of the conference to lead on different evenings. Rev. F. G. Mitchell spoke daily on the Epistle of the Hebrews.

At the conference in 1907 a committee had been appointed to explore the unevangelized portions of this section of the country, and Mr. John Butler of Tuba, Arizona; Rev. L. P. Brink of Tohatchi, New Mexico; Mr. W. R.

Johnston of Tolchaco, Arizona, and Rev. Charles Brodhead of Laguna, New Mexico, brought in reports showing the need of additional workers among the inhabitants. Among the Navajo alone there is an urgent call for the opening of at least eight new stations. It is difficult for the mind to really comprehend the needs of the vast territory to be covered and the rapidly increasing number of people who are yet untouched by any civilizing or evangelizing influence.

The question of language study created considerable discussion, and the unanimous opinion of experienced missionaries was that the necessity of speaking to the Indian in the vernacular is very urgent. Competent interpreters are not easily procured, and it is frequently very unsatisfactory to attempt the conveyance, through an interpreter, of ideas that are often entirely alien, not only to his personal religious conceptions, but even to his mental processes. It was found that the alphabet adopted for the Navajo, Hopi and Zuni needed no change for the Pima and the Papago fitted into that of the Language

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