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STUDIES ON RELIGIOUS BOOK PUBLISHERS

OF

UNITED STATES

Contents:

Denominational Publishers----- William Baehr
Some Publishers of Catholic Books in the United
States---Sister Mary Margaret Agnes
Methodist Book Concern (Abingdon Press) -----
-----William Baehr

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B Y

WILLIAM BAEHR

1929



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Denominational Publishers

in
the

United States

by

William Baehr

A systematic account of the history of religions publishing is a decided desideratum. It ought to be suitable material for an epic. Religions publishing on a large scale was born with the invention of printing and it has flourished ever since. The Reformation movement gave it an impetus such as it hardly again experienced. It made religious publishing popular and profitable.

In point of volume religious publications in the United States have apparently always been close to first, being generally exceeded only by fiction. In the monthly reports of book publication in the United States religion is usually second or third in point of numbers.

The humble beginnings, the early struggles and vicissitudes and the ultimate success characteristic of the history of many religious publishing houses is well illustrated in the case of the Gospel Trumpet Company, briefly described in these pages.

The number of religious periodicals published in the United States is legion. Probably half of them are published by companies which publish nothing else.

The number of tract societies is likewise a forbidding one.

Mention should be made of the Bible Societies and Bible publishing houses. All denominational publishing houses carry representative editions of the Bible in stock. Many of them publish Bibles. Attention is here called only to the Douay version published by the Catholic firms, the Baptist Bible of the Baptist Publication Society, and the Concordia bilingual Bible, published in 1926 by Concordia

Publishing House, St. Louis. This contains the entire text of the German Luther version and the English Authorized Version on opposite pages. So far as known, this is the first time the complete texts of the German and English versions have been published in this form.

The references on the following pages will indicate the sources from which the information was derived. Recourse was had, principally to yearbooks and minutes of the various denominations, to statements from the publishers, and in some cases to published histories of the firm. This method is rather laborious and for this reason the study was not made more inclusive.

Statistics of the various denominations and church bodies have been given as it is believed this will help to visualize the amount of business done by the various firms. In the case of the Catholics and the Lutherans the statistics for parochial schools have been added to indicate the possible range of the school textbook business.

The following denominations are represented in this study.

- Adventists
- Church of God
- Baptists
- Congregationalists
- Episcopalians
- Evangelicals
- Lutherans
- Mennonites
- Methodists
- Nazarenes
- Presbyterians
- Reformed
- Roman Catholic
- Unitarians
- Universalists

Adventist publishing houses

In 1921 the Adventists numbered 1,629 ministers, 2,911 churches, 136, 579 communicants. In 1927 they numbered 151,862 communicants.

Advent Christian Publication Society
160 Warren Street, Boston
Publishes:
World's Crisis, weekly, 1854
Young Pilgrim, 1862

Review and Herald Publishing Association
Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C.
168 N. Division St., Peekskill, New York
432 South Fellows St., South Bend, Indiana
Publishes:

Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, weekly, 1850
Liberty, quarterly, 1906
Sabbath School Worker, monthly, 1886
Youth's Instructor, weekly, 1852

Pacific Press Publishing Association
718 Sandy Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Mountain View, California (main office)
2215 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska
Publishes:

Signs of the Times, weekly, 1874, (1927) 55, 270

Church of God publishing houses

This Church in 1927 reported 1,921 ministers, 927 churches, 34,709 communicant members

The Gospel Trumpet Company
Anderson, Indiana

Founded in 1881 as an official publishing house. All profits are returned to the Church and used for benevolent purposes. The Company is the outgrowth of the activities of Daniel Sidney Warner. He began publishing the Gospel Trumpet in 1881. For a time the paper was published in the kitchen of his home. With his own hands he helped erect a printing office out of an old barn. This was in Indianapolis, Indiana. The firm moved repeatedly in the first few years, being at times in Ohio, Michigan, and West Virginia. When the plant was moved in 1884 one box car carried the entire plant to the new location. When the plant was moved to West Virginia in 1898 nine box cars, two passenger coaches, and a baggage car were required. In 1906 the Company was moved to Anderson, Indiana. On this occasion twenty-six cars were required to make the transfer.

The firm has its own manufacturing plant. In 1925 it produced 355, 126 copies of books. In 1924 it published 159,000 books, 33,000 booklets, 516,500 tracts; 2,340,050 Gospel Trumpets; 1,079,100 Young People's Friends; and 956,000 Shining Lights. In addition it published 386,800 S. S. quarterlies and leaflets. The annual amount of business is about 400,000.

The principal periodicals are:

The Gospel Trumpet, 1881
Young People's Friend
The Shining Light

The catalog of publications and church supplies

covers 100 pages. Among the prominent authors are E. E. Byrum, R. R. Byrum, F. C. Smith, and H. M. Riggle, all writers on religious and theological subjects. One of their successful publications is Elsie Egermeier's Bible Story Book.

The Firm maintains branches at
Kansas City, Missouri
Atlanta, Georgia
Sacramento, California

References:

The Story of the Gospel Trumpet Company, by the Company
Statement from the publishers, Ap. 19, 1929
Catalog No. 49, 1928-29

Baptist Publishing Houses

The Baptists of the United States are at present divided into 14 bodies. In 1921 they reported 45,995 ministers, 59,901 churches, 7,825,598 churches. In 1927 they numbered 52,133 ministers, 60,010 churches, 8,712,607 communicants.

American Baptist Publication Society (Judson Press)
1701 Chestnut St., Philadelphia
16 Ashburton Place, Boston
2328 So. Michigan Blvd., Chicago
1107 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri
313 W. 3rd Street, Los Angeles, California
439 Pourke Blvd., Seattle, Washington
223 Church Street, Toronto, Canada

The Society was organized February 25, 1824. In its one hundredth anniversary report presented in 1925 the total of business for the previous year was given as \$776,854.36. The total number of copies of Sunday School periodicals published in 1916 was 58,982,970. In 1925 the number was 43,217,275.

Besides the Sunday School periodicals the Philadelphia house publishes:

Girls World, weekly, juvenile, 1908, (1927) 84,533
Young People's Service, quarterly, 1890, (1927) 36,547
Youth's World, weekly, 1907 (1927) 71,679

The firm has a large list of its own publications. Prominent among them are the religious and theological works of Augustus Hopkins Strong, the literary and theological works of William Cleaver Wilkinson, and the theological works of Edgar Young Mullins. The list is strong in biography

References:

American Baptist Yearbook, 1917
American Baptist Publication Society,
101st Anniversary, 1925
Ayer's newspaper annual, 1927

Baptist S. S. Board

161-8th Avenue., N. Nashville, Tennessee

Has depositories at the Baptist book stores at:

Birmingham, Ala.	Baltimore, Md.
Little Rock, Ark.	Jackson, Miss.
Jacksonville, Fla.	Kansas City, Missouri
Atlanta, Ga.	Raleigh, North Carolina
East St. Louis, Ill.	Albuquerque, New Mexico
Louisville, Ky.	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Shreveport, La.	Dallas, Texas
	Richmond, Virginia

A publishing house of the Southern Baptist Convention is by far the largest of the various Baptist groups. In 1914 it reported 15,381 ministers, 23,697 churches, and 2,593,248 members.

National Baptist Publishing Board

523 Second Avenue N., Nashville, Tennessee

Publishes the following periodicals:

- Advanced Quarterly (negro) S.S., 1885
- Intermediate Quarterly (negro), 1885
- National Baptist Concert Quarterly (negro) S.S., 1898
- National Baptist Metoka & Galeda Magazine (negro) monthly, S.S., 1912.
- National Baptist Union-Review (negro), 1899
- National Baptist Voice (negro) 1916 (1927) 7,000
- National B.Y.P.U. Quarterly, 1911, (1927) senior 75,000 junior 35,000
- Primary Quarterly (negro), 1885, S.S.
- Senior Quarterly (negro) 1905, S.S.
- Teacher, (negro) monthly, S.S., 1887

The colored Baptist in 1917 reported 12,975 ministers, 18,588 churches, 2,150,929 members.

References:

- American Baptist Year-Book, 1917
- Ayer's newspaper annual, 1927

Baptist Standard Publishing Company

204 Browder Street, Dallas, Texas

Publishers of

- Baptist Standard, weekly, 1888, (1927) 20,374

Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention
Atlanta, Georgia

German Baptist Publication Society

Payne Avenue & 39th Street, Cleveland, Ohio

American Sabbath Tract Society

510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, New Jersey

Official publishing house of the Seventh Day Baptists, which in 1925 reported a total membership of 8,183. The total amount of business reported for the year ending

June 30, 1925 was \$33,000. This was \$7,000 less than for the previous year, which was the best in the history of the house.

One magazine is published,

The Saboath Recorder, weekly, 1845, (1927) 1,914

Reference:

7th Day Baptist Year Book, 1925

Congregational Church

The Congregationalists in 1922 numbered 5,620 ministers, 5,826 churches, and 857,846 members. In 1927 914,689 communicants. Their official publishing house is The Pilgrim Press (of the Congregational Publishing House)

14 Beacon Street, Boston

418 South Market Street, Chicago

"The printing plant was deeded to the Congregational Publishing Society by Mr. Jacob J. Arakelyan in the year 1913 thru an annuity form of gift, by the terms of which Mr. Arakelyan was to receive \$8,000 per year for fifteen years from the date of its transfer to the Society.

Some years ago the Society began syndicating its Uniform periodicals which removed from its printing plant the larger part of its work. In 1921 the plant was sold to the former Superintendent of Printing, Franklin I. Jordan, who formed a new company under the name of the Jordan and More Press. By arrangement with the Society this new firm will pay in quarterly installments the \$40,000 still due Mr. Arakelyan.

For two years the Uniform quaterlies and weeklies were mailed at Cincinnati, where they were printed. They have now been transferred to Chicago where they are mailed from the firms own branch. The following periodicals are published:

Congregationalist, weekly, 1816, circular (1927) 17,903

Adult Bible Class Monthly, 1924

Missionary Herald, monthly, 1815, (1927), 20,000

The increasing business which the Boston book store did with the Episcopalian Churches of that vicinity led to an arrangement whereby an Episcopalian depository was instituted at the Boston store.

In 1923 the total assets of the publishing house were 487,008.26.

Among its prominent authors are Charles R. Brown, Margaret Slattery, and Charles E. Jefferson. Likewise, William E. Barton, Charles R. Brown was president of the Publishing Society in 1923.

Reference:

Minutes of the National Council of Congregational churches, 1923, pp. 12, 124-131.

Episcopalian Publishing Houses

The Protestant Episcopal Church in 1927 reported 5,830 ministers, 7,845 churches, 1,190,938 communicants.

Morehouse Publishing Company
1801 Found du Lac Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
American agent for A. R. Mowbray, London
Publish:

The Living Church, wkly., 1873
Publishers of The Living Church Annual
Publish many titles of current religious interest
Various works by Samuel B. Mercer.

Church Mission House
281 - 4th Avenue., New York

Trade name for

The National Council Protestant Episcopal Church
in the United States of America

Evangelical Church

This Church in 1927 reported 1,990 ministers, 2,184 congregations, 217,935 communicants.

The Evangelical Press
3rd and Reily Sts., Harrisburg, Pa.
1903 Woodland Avenue, S. E. Cleveland

The official publishing house of the Evangelical Church. All profits go back into the church. "Each year a dividend is declared, payable to a fund for deceased ministers' wives and their families, and worn out ministers". The firm was founded in 1874. The Cleveland house was an independent firm until a little over six years ago. At that time the Evangelical Association and the United Evangelical Church were merged and the two houses were united under one Board.

A manufacturing plant is maintained at both places. The Harrisburg House in its last fiscal year did over \$700,000 worth of business.

The following periodicals are published:

Adult quarterlies	95,925
Home department quarterlies	12,135
Young people's quarterlies	36,500
Intermediate-Senior quarterlies	29,360
Intermediate group graded quarterlies	4,890
Elementary magazine	4,175
Boys and girls quarterlies	29,500
Primary quarterlies	17,000
Beginners Bible stories	17,100
Baby's mother	4,270
Bible teachers	15,200

Lesson Leaves	39,300
Primary weeklies	14,000
S. S. messengers	52,800
Our boys and girls	28,300
	<u>400,455</u>

Reference:

Statement from the publishers. May 14, 1929.

Evangelical Synod of North America

Reported in 1927; 1,197 ministers, 1,301 congregations, 236,118 communicants.

Eden Publishing House

1712-18 Chauteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri

209 South State Street, Chicago

Incorporated under the laws of the state of Missouri on November 18, 1895. Has always been the official publishing house of the Evangelical Synod of North America. All profits are turned over to the synodical treasury and are used for charitable purposes, mission and church work in general. A retail store is maintained at St. Louis and Chicago, but 99 percent of the business is mail order. The annual amount of business is approximately \$340,000.

The following periodicals are published:

Friedensbot, weekly	17,123
Evangelical Herald, weekly	11,351
Theological magazine, bimonthly	722
Light bearer	6,653
Feierstunden	1,999
Kinderzeitung	2,853
Evangelical tidings	19,636
Girls' friend	20,861
Boys' companion	17,726
Children's comrade	13,914
Our work (mission) quarterly	28,164
Flieg	6,571
Mission Sunday, monthly	11,179
Biblische Geschichte, quarterly	5,466
Bible study quarterly	19,243
Bible story picture cards	3,735
Evangelisches Heim	6,479
Evangelical adult quarterly	34,297
Intermediate-senior quarterly	24,052
Uniform junior	3,916
Group junior teacher	609
Group primary teacher	481

The general catalog covers 275 two column pages. It is well arranged and well indexed. About 75 pages are devoted to German publications. An unusual feature is a five page article on Bible translations.

References:

Statement from the publishers, 13 May 29.

General Catalog number 40.

Luthern Church Publishers

The Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-1928 gives the following statistics for Lutherans in the United States and Canada, p. 216, 218.

Congregations,	16,896
Ministers,	10,963
Parish schools	3,080
Teachers	6,550
Scholars	173,532
Communicants	2,283,050
Baptized members	4,112,680

The Lutherans of the United States at present are divided into twenty-two bodies. Most of these have their own publishing houses, of which a classified list is given in the Lutheran World Almanac, pp. 211-12.

Augustana Book Concern

38th St. & 7th Avenue, Rock Island, Illinois

405 Fourth Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minnesota

This firm is the official publishing house of the Augustana Synod which in 1927 reported 823 ministers, 1,256 congregations, 308,943 baptized, and 225,340 communicant members. It reported 327 parochial schools, 609 teachers, and 12,762 pupils.

"The publishing of books and periodicals of a religious character was begun in 1854 by men who later continued their work in its behalf, these pioneer publishers being T. N. Hasselquist, Erland Carlson, and Jonas Engberg. There is, however, no statistical record of the Synodical publishing business prior to 1889, when the Augustana Book Concern was made the official publishing house. From that time up to 1923 the grand total of all books, pamphlets, and tracts published was 5,225,850 copies, the number of copies printed in the year 1922 being 225,450. To this should be added the periodicals published during the same period. In 1922 the weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, and quarterly papers published had a combined circulation of 110,600".

Almanac of the Augustana Book Concern, 1924, p.61.
The firm publishes the following periodicals:

Augustana (Swedish) weekly, est. 1885, circulation (1927) 18,340

Lutheran Companion, weekly, est. 1892, circulation (1927) 12,072.

Augustana Quarterly

Bible Study Quarterly

Our Young People

Olive Leaf

S. S. Textblad

Augusburg Publishing House

425 South 4th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota

This firm is the official publishing house of the Norwegian Lutheran Church which in 1927 reported 1,362 ministers, 3,146 congregations, 308,943 baptized, and 225,340 communicant members.

The firm publishes in English and Norwegian. Of sixty recent books twenty are in the Norwegian language. Among recent significant publications are:

Who's who among Norwegian Lutheran Ministers,
by O. M. Norlie and others.

G. M. Bruce, Luther as an educator

O. M. Norlie, History of the Norwegian People
in America

John Dahle and M. C. Johnsboy, Library of
Christian Hymns, 2 v.

The following periodicals are published:

Lutheran Church Herald, est. 1907, circulation
(1927) 15,091.

Lutheraneren (Norwegian) est. 1895, circulation
(1927) 20,436.

Teologisk Tidsskrift

Lutheran Teacher

Barnevennen

Our Young People. Children's Friend

Broderbaandet Publishing Company

Grand Forks, North Dakota

Official publishing house of Church of the Lutheran Brethren which in 1927 reported 27 ministers, 30 congregations, 1,600 baptized, and 800 communicant members. It reported 8 parochial schools with 8 teachers and 300 pupils. The firm published the semi-monthly paper

Broderbaandet, est. 1898, circulation (1927) 2,500.

Concordia Publishing House

3558 South Jesserson Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri

Official publishing house of the Missouri Synod which in 1927 reported 3,297 ministers, 4,445 congregations, 1,086,953 baptized, and 675,956 communicant members. It reported 1,390 parochial schools with 2,250 teachers and 81,082 pupils.

Concordia Publishing House traces its origin to 1844 when Trinity Lutheran Church of St. Louis began publishing Der Lutheraner under the editorship of its pastor Dr. C. F. W. Walther. Because of the leading position of Dr. Walther in the affairs of the Synod this publishing activity gradually became synodical. In 1869 the Synod formerly took over the publishing activities of the struggling enterprise and Concordia Publishing House was founded. The first building for its occupancy was erected in 1870, an addition in 1874,

a second addition in 1888, a third addition in 1893, a fourth addition in 1911, and a fifth and final addition at a cost of some 350,000 in 1924.

The firm seems to have had its own printing plant as soon as it became the official publishing house of the Synod. The beginning of a bindery was made in 1872.

The firm was incorporated in 1891. M. C. Barthel was elected general agent. A few months later he was succeeded by Martin Tirmenstein, who had been serving as assistant manager. He served as manager until March, 1907 when he resigned, and the present manager, E. Seuel, was elected his successor. Much of the firm's growth and prosperity is directly due to the initiative and ability of Mr. Seuel.

When the firm was taken over by the Synod in 1869, it cost 3,000. It is now valued at \$1,200,000. Its annual business approaches the million mark. By a resolution of the Synod \$120,000 is annually paid over to the Church to be used in its various activities. Compared with the annual dividends required of some other official publishing houses this is rather a high figure.

The largest publishing venture ever undertaken by the Concordia Publishing House was begun fairly early in its history. "Out of their poverty" Philip Schaff declared, the Missouri Lutherans undertook to publish the complete works of Martin Luther in a German edition. It was decided to publish a revised edition of the edition of Georg Walch. The editorship was entrusted to Dr. Hoop. The work was successfully completed in 25 large quarto volumes. The last volume consists of indexes. This thoroughgoing index makes the work in some respects the best working edition of Luther. A morocco bound edition of this work won for the firm the highest prize and award for excellence of material and workmanship at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. This edition of Luther's works still occupies the most prominent place in the catalogue of Concordia Publishing House.

The last great piece of publishing in the German language was completed last year when the index volume was published of Dr. Franz Pieper's *Christliche Dogmatik*. Dr. Pieper has been an instructor in Systematic Theology at Concordia Seminary for fifty years. His *Dogmatik* is the fruit of a lifetime of study and teaching. It appeared in three substantial volumes and an index volume.

The largest undertaking in the English language was a popular commentary on the Bible, ed. by Dr. Paul E. Kretzmann and published in four large volumes. The first volume appeared in 1921. In 1921 the firm also published the *Concordia Triglotta*, an edition of the Lutheran confessions in German, Latin, and English. This involved an outlay of between forty and fifty thousand dollars. Its long historical introductions, its carefully corrected German and Latin text, and its new and faithful English translation make it

easily the best edition of the Lutheran confessions available. The most recent publication of some consequence in the English language is the Concordia Cyclopaedia, published in 1927. It may be described as a miniature Schaff-Herzog.

The general catalog of Concordia Publishing House covers 937 pages, besides a supplementary juvenile catalog of 100 pages. It is the most carefully edited of all the catalogs examined. The German section of the catalogs examined. The German section of the catalog covers 242 pages.

Concordia Publishing House publishes 22 periodicals. The principal ones are the following:

- Der Lutheraner, biweekly, established 1844.
- Lutheran Witness, biweekly, established in 1882
- Lehre und Wehre, monthly, established in 1855
- Homiletic Magazine, monthly, (German and English) 1877
- Theological Monthly, established in 1921
(Preceded by Theological Quarterly, 1897-1920)
- Lutheran School Journal, 1865
- Concordia Junior Messenger
- Die Missionstaube
- The Lutheran Pioneer

The total number of subscribers is about one third of a million. The yearly circulation of the Kalender and Annual is 125,000.

References:

- Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-28
- Seuel, E.
Publication activity of the Missouri Synod.
(pp. 289-306 in Ebenezer, edited by W. H. T. Dan, St. Louis, 1922) An excellent account.
- Concordia Publishing House: 1870-1925.
A jubilee pamphlet published by the firm in 1925.
- General Catalog, 1928-29.
- Statement from the publishers, April 3, 1929
- U.S. Census bureau
Census of religious bodies, 1926. Lutherans.

Danish Lutheran Publishing House
Blair, Nebraska

Official publishing house of the United Danish Church, which in 1927 reported 115 ministers, 182 congregations, 29,259 baptized and 19,600 communicant members.

The firm was founded in 1891 and has always been the official publishing house. It maintains its own printing plant. Its annual amount of business averages \$50,000. All profits go back into the service of the Church. The following periodicals are issued:

Luthersk Ugeblad (Danish) weekly
Ansgar Lutheran, weekly
Little Lutheran, weekly
Bornebladet, weekly

The total subscription list is 15,000.

References:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-28.
Statement from the publishers, May 23, 1929

The Finnish Lutheran Book Concern
Hancock, Michigan

Official publishing house of the Suomi Synod, which in 1927 reported 60 ministers, 182 churches, 35,300 baptized and 20,659 communicant members. It reported 100 parochial schools, with 105 teachers and 4,747 pupils.

The firm was founded in 1899 and has always been the official publishing house of the Synod. The annual business of the firm amounts to 85,000. Part of the profits go into the service of the Church.

The catalog of publications covers 80 pages. Only three pages are devoted to English publications.

The following periodicals are published, with a total subscription list of 10,000:

Paimen Sanomia
Nuorten Ystava
Lasten Lehti
Amerikan Suometar

References:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-28.
Statement from publishers, May 15, 1929
Catalog of publications, 1928.

The Finnish Lutheran Book Concern
Astoria, Oregon

A second official publishing house of the Suomi Synod.

The Finnish Printing Company
Lock Box 63

Ironwood, Michigan

Official publishing house of the Finnish National Church house which in 1927 reported 194,200 communicant members.

The firm was organized January 17, 1906. It has always been an official publishing house and the profits go into the service of the Church. The firm has its own manufacturing plant.

Two periodicals are published:

Auttaja, circulation 1950, weekly, established 1906.
The Children's Friend (Lasten Ystävä)

References:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-1928

Statement from the publishers, 11 May, 1929

Lutheran Book Concern
55-59 East Main Street
Columbus, Ohio

Official publishing house of the Joint Synod of Ohio and other states, which in 1927 reported 732 ministers, 1,017 congregations, 256,575 baptized, and 134,588 communicant members. It reported 94 parochial schools, with 67 teachers and 4,324 scholars.

This firm was established in 1880 and has always been the official publishing house of the Ohio Synod. It is "not operated for profit, but for the dissemination of Christian literature, especially Lutheran literature." The firm operates its own printing plant and bindery and manufactures all its own books. The fourteen periodicals published by this firm have combined circulation of 130,000.

Among the noteworthy productions of the firm are:

R.H.C. Lenski, The Eisenach gospel selections
The Eisenach epistle selections
New gospel selections
The Old Testament Eisenach selections
The sermon

G. W. Lose and W. E. Schuette have prepared numerous homiletic, devotional, and hortatory works for this press. Edward Pfeiffer has prepared a good study of missions.

Its principal periodicals are

Lutheran Standard, weekly, established 1842,
circulation (1927) 7,923

Lutherische Kirschenzeitung, weekly, established
in 1859 circulation (1927) 5,548.

References:

Lutheran World Almanac. 1927-28.

Statement from the publishers, April 17, 1928

Lutheran Free Church Publishing Company
322 Cedar Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Official publishing house of the Lutheran Free Church, which in 1927 reported 134 pastors, 420 congregations, 43,094 baptized, and 23,737 communicant members. It reported 177 schools, with 4,584 pupils.

This firm was founded in 1895. It has not always been the official publishing house of the L. F. C. Any profits go into the service of the church. The firm has its own manufacturing plant. Two periodicals are published, with a combined circulation of 16,000. They are:

Lutheran Tree Church Messenger, established 1917.
Barnetsven

References:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-28.

Statement from the publishers, May, 1929

Lutheran Literary Board

8th and Elm Streets, Burlington, Iowa

This firm was incorporated in 1897 as the official publishing house of the Wartburg and Nebraska Lutheran Synods. These two synods are now incorporated in the United Lutheran Church. Statistics for that body are given with the United Lutheran Publication House. The aims and standards of the Lutheran Literary Board are to publish constructive religious literature, and especially to supply translations of standard books in foreign languages. The amount of business done in 1928 was 26,000. Any profits are used for mission work and student aid. A periodical formerly published by this firm has been merged with the Lutheran.

Reference:

Statement from publishers, April 18, 1929.

Lutheran Synod Book Company

2307 Irving Avenue, N. Minneapolis, Minnesota

Official publishing house of the Norwegian Synod, which in 1927 reported 48 ministers, 77 congregations, 7,611 baptized, and 5,068 communicant members. Likewise 10 schools, 10 teachers, and 232 pupils.

This firm was not organized until 1918 and has so far published little beyond an annual report of the Synod, an occasional brochure, and one periodical.

Tidende the Sentinel, established 1918.

Reference:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-1928.

Northwestern Publishing House

263 Fourth Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Official publishing house of the Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States, which in 1927 reported 510 ministers, 778 congregations, 212,558 baptized, and 148,862 communicant members. The Synod also reported 194 schools, with 290 teachers and 15,649 pupils.

The firm was incorporated about 1891. It has its own manufacturing plant. It also deals in church furniture, including altars, pulpits, lecturno, hymnboards, pews. It appears to be the only one of the Lutheran publishing houses dealing in the larger articles of church furniture. Northwestern Publishing House keeps in stock the works of Concordia Publishing House, Ernst Kaufmann, and the Pilger Publishing House. The catalog of publications covers 230 pages. About

half are in German. Among its noteworthy publications are Adolf Honecke, Dogmatik, 4 v. and index.
J. P. Kochler, Geschichte der Wisconsinssynode.
Works of William Dallmann and the devotional works of Carl Manthey Zorn.

The Northwestern Publishing House publishes the following periodicals:

Theologische Quartalschrift, established 1904.

Northwestern Lutheran, established 1913.

Ev. - Luth. Gemeindeblatt, established 1865.

Kinderfreunde, established 1891.

The Junior Northwestern, established 1918.

References:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-28.

Catalog, 1928-29.

Slovak Lutheran Publishing Association

941 Johnston Street, Akron, Ohio

Publishing House of the Slovak Ev. - Lutheran Synod of America, which in 1927 reported 323 ministers, 68 congregations, 13,131 baptized, and 7,064 communicant members; 2 schools, 4 teachers, and 332 pupils.

Practically all the publications of this firm are in Slovakian. It publishes no periodicals.

Reference:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-1928.

United Lutheran Publication House

13th and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Official publishing house of the United Lutheran Church in America, which in 1927 reported 3,035 ministers, 3,875 congregations, 1,311,175 baptized, and 670,698 communicant members, 688 parochial schools, 3,077 teachers, 44,853 pupils.

The United Lutheran Publication House resulted from a consolidation of the Lutheran Publication Society and the General Council Publishing House in 1918. It is one of the largest of the Lutheran publishing houses and probably the best known outside of Lutheran circles because all its publications have long been in the English language. It probably has a longer history than any of the official Lutheran publishing houses, but unfortunately no statement was found of the date of its establishment. The business is housed in the Muhlenberg Building which was completed January 20, 1924, the cost of ground and building being \$674,521. There are branches at Columbia, South Carolina valued at \$43,007, and Chicago, Illinois valued at \$66,121. The net business of the house and its branches for the year ended June 30, 1926, was reported at \$688,945.

The firm has published many notable books. Among them are:

- C. P. Krauth, The conservative church of the Reformation and its theology. "A classic exposition of the Lutheran confessions".
- T. E. Schmauk, The confessional principle and the confessions of the Lutheran Church.
- H. E. Jacobs, A summary of the Christian faith.
- H. E. Jacobs, ed. The Lutheran commentary.
- H. E. Jacobs, translation. The Book of Concord.
- Charles M. Jacobs, The story of the church.
- J. A. Singmaster, A handbook of Christian theology.
- Julius Koestlin, Theology of Luther, translated by Hay, 2 v.

Many titles dealing with biography and history of the Lutheran church.

The following are the more important periodicals : published by the United Lutheran Publication House:

- Lutheran, weekly, established 1919, circulation 32,511.
- Lutheran Young Folks, established 1903, circulation 105,319
- Lutherischer Herold, weekly, 1910, circulation 4,924.
- Lutheran Quarterly Review.

References:

- Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-1928.
- U. S. Bureau of census. Census of religious bodies. Lutherans. 1926. Washington, 1929.

Wartburg Publishing House

2018 Calumet Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Official publishing house of the Synod of Iowa and other States, which in 1927 reported 586 ministers, 947 congregations, 214,257 baptized, and 46 teachers, 1,194 pupils.

Wartburg Publishing House was founded at Waverly, Iowa in 1886. In 1896 the book and mail order departments were transferred to Chicago. In 1922 the printery and bindery were also brought to Chicago, being housed in an addition at a cost of \$56,000. The entire plant is valued at about \$250,000. The annual amount of business is also about \$250,000. Any profit is turned over to the Church.

Most of the books published by this firm are in the German language, and it stocks many German books of European publishers. It has also published some noteworthy books in the English language, among them several by Dr. M. Reu, one of the foremost theologians in the Lutheran Church. Dr. Reu is also editor of one of the periodicals published by Wartburg Publishing House. The following are some of the English publications:

M. Reu. Catechetics. Also a German edition.
Homiletics
Martin Luther
How I tell the Bible story to my Sunday
School, 2 v.

R. F. Weidner. System of Dogmatic Theology, 6 v.
Theological Encyclopedia, 2 v.

The following periodicals are published by Wartburg
Publishing House:

Kirchenblatt, semimonthly established 1858, circulation
7,500.

Lutheran Herald, circulation 7,600

Kirchliche Zeitschrift, monthly established 1877,
circulation 900. Edited by M. Reu.

Jugendblatt, circulation 9,000

Lutheran Missionary, circulation 4,600

Missionsstunde, circulation 3,700

Messenger

Anstaltsbote

Various Sunday school periodicals

References:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-1928.

Catalog of publications, 1928-1929

Statement from the publishers, 17 ap. 1929.

Independent Lutheran publishers

Antigo Publishing Company

1211 - 7th Avenue, Antigo, Wisconsin

A result of the literary activity of Reverend Viktor Grumm,
a writer of fiction under the pen name of Alfred Ira. The
firm has published many plays suitable for performancy by
young people's societies.

Christian Literature Publishing Company

416 - 8th Avenue S., Minneapolis, Minnesota

Publishers of:

Familiens Magasin, monthly, established 1905,
circulation 9,500.

Friend, established 1924, circulation 10,000.

The Henkel Press

New Market, Virginia

This is the oldest Lutheran publishing house in America,
tracing its origin to the Reverend Ambrose Henkel, who built
and set up a press at New Market, Virginia in 1806. The
original press is still in possession of the Henkel family,
Elon O. Henkel being at present sole owner of the business.

The Henkel family was indefatigable in the propagation of Lutheranism in the New World, being the first to translate and publish Lutheran classics in the English language. Some years ago the firm could boast that it had published more books of a Lutheran and doctrinal character in the English language than any press in the world. The early Henkels translated their own manuscripts and printed the books themselves. It took seven years to complete the printing of the Book of Concord.

The firm now specializes in the publishing of school catalogs, church minutes, and pamphlets. Publication of periodicals has been discontinued.

Reference:

Statement from the publishers, May 17, 1929

Ernst Kaufmann

7-11 Spruce Street, New York City

202 S. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

Publishes principally devotional and juvenile literature.

Prominent authors are Theodore Graebner, W. G. Polack, J. T. Mueller. Subjects of juvenile stories are generally of a biographical and historical nature.

Reference:

Lutheran World Almanac, 1927-28.

Lutherans In All Lands Company

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Founded by J. N. Leuker, D. D. to publish an English translation of Luther's works. About 14 volumes were published, of which quite a number already appear to be out of print. The firm has not published anything for some time.

Pilger Publishing House

Reading, Pennsylvania

Founded in 1871. Does not have its own manufacturing plant. No longer publishes any periodicals. Half of its catalog of 64 pages is devoted to German literature. All its publications are of a popular character.

References:

Statement from the publishers, May 16, 1929

Catalog of publications, 1927-28.

Sotaron Publishing Company

105 Florida Street, Buffalo, New York

A result of the editorial activity of Reverend Adolph T. Hauser. Publications so far have been limited to song books and Sunday school literature.

Toledo Lutheran Publishing Company
439 Huron Street, Toledo, Ohio
Publishers of the Toledo Lutheran.

It should be noted that all the Lutheran publishers maintain a retail store at the addresses given and that they all keep in stock at least a selection of one another's publications. Many of them also keep in stock books of European publishers. Mention may also be made of the fact that many of them do considerable textbook publishing owing to the large number of parochial schools, high schools, colleges and seminaries.

Mennonite Publishing Houses

The Mennonites in the United States are at present divided into twelve bodies. In 1927 they reported 1,581 ministers, 966 congregations, 97,544 communicant members.

Mennonite Book Concern Berne, Indiana

Founded in 1882. An official publishing house, and all profits go into the service of the Church. The firm has no manufacturing plant of its own. The annual amount of business is about \$27,000. Three periodicals and one Sunday school paper are published. They have an aggregate subscription list of 22,000.

Christlicher Bundesbote, weekly, 1882, (1927) 2,800

The Mennonite, weekly, 1884, (1927) 1,700

Kinder-Bote. 1884.

Sountagschul - Lektionen, quarterly, 1837.

The catalog is devoted largely to Sunday school supplies.

Many of the publications listed are in German.

Reference:

Current catalog

Statment fr. publishers, May 16, 1929.

Mennonite Book Concern Scottdale, Pennsylvania

Publish:

The Christian Monitor, monthly, 1909, (1927) 5,300

The Gospel Herald, weekly, 1864

Methodist Publishing Houses

The Methodists of the United States are divided into 15 bodies. In 1921 they numbered 42,955 ministers, 63,283 churches, 8,001,506 communicants.

The following is a fairly complete list of official Methodist Publishing Houses.

Cokesbury Press
810 Broadway, Nashville, Tennessee
Dallas, Texas
Richmond, Virginia
San Francisco, California

The official publishing house of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which in 1928 numbered 13,212 ministers and 2,639,891 members.

The firm name was adopted in honor of Bishop Thomas Coke and Bishop Asbury. The profits of the firm go to the superannuated ministers of the Church. The law of the Church defines the purpose of the organization as follows:

"The object of this institution shall be to advance the cause of Christianity by disseminating religious knowledge and useful literary and scientific information in the form of books, tracts, and periodicals".

For the year ending February 29, 1928 the firm published the following statement:

"The total sales for the past year were \$1,980,588.36, showing a net profit of \$130,596.25 and an increase in profit of \$12,194.75 over the previous year. The sales were distributed as follows:

Nashville	\$1,006,368.22
Dallas	\$498,835.37
Richmond	\$447,350.47
San Francisco	\$28,033.80
Total assest were	\$2,911,049.88

The Book Committee appropriated \$75,000 for Conference Claimants. "If we equal this amount next year...the total for this quadrennium will be 270,000, fifty thousand dollars more than ever before contributed by the Publishing House over a period of four years."

The firm publishes:

Adult Student, monthly, established 1908, circulation 273,502
Christian Advocate, weekly, 1832, circulation 20,518
Epworth Era, monthly, 1894, circulation (1927) 36,448
Methodist Advocate, weekly, 1871, circulation (1927) 7,500
Methodist Intermediate-Senior Quarterly, S. S. established 1887, circulation (1927) 263,640
Methodist Review, established 1851

Missionary Voice, monthly, 1911, circulation
(1927) 45,938
Our Young People, weekly, 1922, circulation
(1927) 72,158
Sunnday School Magazine, monthly, 1871, (1927)
127,540
Home Quarterly S. S. established 1897, circulation
(1927) 77,445

References:

M. E. Church, South, General minutes and yearbook,
1928-29. p. 452-3.
Statement from the publishers, April 23, 1929
Ayer's newspaper annual

Free Methodist Publishing House
1132 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois
Official publishing house of the Free Methodist Church,
which in 1925 reported 1,483 ministers, 1,259 churches,
135,000 members.

Also publish as:

Light and Life Press
Woman's Missionary Society (of the Free Methodist
Church)

Publish a weekly called

Free Methodist, established 1868

Reference:

Methodist yearbook, 1926

Literature Headquarters, Woman's Department, Board of
Missions, M. E. Church, South, Lambuth, Bldg.
Nashville, Tennessee

Methodist Book Concern

150 Fifth Avenue, New York

581 Boylston Street, Boston

28 Elizabeth Street, East, Detroit

420 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

105 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh

1121 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri

740 Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois

7 City Hall Avenue, San Francisco, California

304-313 Artisans Bldg., Portland, Oregon

This is the official publishing house for the
Methodist Episcopal Church, the largest of the Methodist
bodies. In 1925 it reported 21,406 preachers, 15,194 lay
preachers, 4,711,994 members, 8,847,735 S. S. scholars, and
29,482 churches.

The Methodist Book Concern was organized in 1789
at New York City. Until 1804 it was located in Philadelphia,
whence it was moved to New York City. After it overcame
the first twenty odd years of hardship the firm has always
flourished, its annual output in books and periodicals
being enormous.

The firm has its own manufacturing plant at Dobbs Ferry, New York, twenty miles from New York City. It also has manufacturing plants at Cincinnati and Chicago.

In 1927 the total assets of the firm were \$8,480,090.81. The total sales were \$4,910,185.69. Profits for 1927 were \$246,501.49. Of this \$200,000 were turned over to the Church for use in the service of retired ministers. At the close of 1925 the firm turned over for this purpose \$275,000. Up to that time the firm had paid over in this manner \$4,380,000.00.

The Methodist Book Concern has published many successful titles. Formost among its standard publications is Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible. It has published many successful series of a popular nature. Its most recent outstanding successes are the books of E. Stanley Jones, "The Christ of the Indian Road", and "The Christ of the Round Table". It has just announced the Abingdon Bible Commentary, edited by Eiselen, Lewis, and Downey, a composite work by 65 contributors.

The Abingdon Press imprint was adopted in 1915 for the purpose of having an imprint for publications of non-denominational imprint.

The following official periodicals are published by the Methodist Book Concern:

Methodist Review, 1818, bimonthly.	5,900
California Christian Advocate, 1852.	7,865
Central Christian Advocate, 1856	20,826
The Christian Advocate, 1826;	57,108
Epworth Herald, 1892.	61,790
Southwestern Christian Advocate, 1868	
Northwestern Christian Advocate, 1852	24,670
Pacific Christian Advocate, 1860	6,035
Pittsburgh Christian Advocate, 1833	32,276
Southwestern Christian Advocate, 1876	17,400
Western Christian Advocate, 1834	
Der Christliche Apologete, 1839	8,210

References:

- Methodist year book, 1926
- Annual report of Book Concern, 1927
- Ayer's Newspaper annual, 1928

Methodist Protestant Book Concern

516 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland

Official publishing house of the Methodist Protestant Church, which in 1925 reported 1,356 ministers, 186,275 members, 191,270 Sunday school scholars, 2,379 churches.

Publishes the weekly periodical, Methodist Protestant 1831, (1927) 6,433.

Reference:

- Methodist year book, 1926.

Journal of the Seventh General Assembly of
the Church of the Nazarene, 1928.
Catalogue, November 1928
Statement from the publishers, May 17, 1929

Presbyterian Publishing Houses

The Presbyterians in the United States are now divided into nine bodies. In 1927 they numbered 14,429 ministers, 15,398 churches, 2,597,136 communicant members.

Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church
in the U. S. A.

Foreign Board of the Southern Presbyterian Church,
Nashville, Tennessee

Presbyterian Board of Christian Education
(The Westminster Press)

Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia

156 Fifth Avenue, New York

125 N. Wabash Avenue, New York

420 Elm Street, Cincinnati

711 Church Street, Nashville

914 Pine Street, St. Louis

278 Post Street, San Francisco

Special agency

6th Avenue and Wood Streets, Pittsburgh

Representatives:

Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond

Upper Canada Tract Society, Toronto, Ontario

Russell, Lang & Company, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Publication Comm. Presbyterian Church of England, London

This firm was established in 1838. The present name was adopted in 1923. It is an official publishing house of the church and all profits go into the work of Christian education, "unless the Board by definite action allows any part to remain in the working capital of the department". The sales for the year 1927-28 amounted to \$1,960,565.62. This publishing house supplies the Church with all its official printed mater, such as its Digest, Book of Common Worship, Form of Government; periodicals, papers, and supplies used by Church schools; and all editions of its hymnals. It also publishes acceptable manuscripts and handles the best book of other publishers, together with equipment of every sort used by the churches. The firm does not have its own manufacturing plant, but all work is contracted for by outside firms.

The following are among its periodicals:

Christian Educator, 1916
Forward, weekly, 1882, (1927) 233,186
Presbyterian & Herald & Presbyter, 1831 (1927)
16,706
Presbyterian Banner, 1814
Presbyterian Magazine, 1895, (1927) 40,000
Westminster Teacher, monthly, S.S., 1873 (1927)
51,477

References:

Presbyterian handbook, 1929
Statement from the publishers, May 3, 1929
Ayer's Newspaper annual, 1927

Presbyterian Committee of Publication
8 N. 6th Street, Richmond, Virginia
Texarkana, Arkansas

Publish:

The Earnest Worker, monthly, 1871 (1927) 84,583
Presbyterian Survey, monthly 1924 (1927) 37,816

United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School
Work

209 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh

Publish:

Bible Teacher, monthly, S. S. 1870
Christian Union Herald, weekly, 1879
United Presbyterian, weekly, 1842, (1927) 15,000
The United Presbyterians in 1927 numbered 182,304

communicants.

Reformed Church Publishing Houses

The Reformed Church in the United States is at present divided into three bodies and numbered in 1927; 2,408 ministers, 2,737 churches, and 553,641 communicants.

Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in the
United States
1505 Race Street, Philadelphia

Central Publishing House of the Reformed Church
2969-2975 W. 25th Street, Cleveland, Ohio

Official publishing house of the German Synod of the East, the Northwest Synod, Mid-West Synod, and Ohio Synod.

The firm was organized in 1858. It has a complete educational work of the house. The annual amount of business is around \$175,000.

Quite a number of periodicals are published:

Christian World, weekly, 1848 (1927) 6,384

Kirchenzeitung, weekly, 1836, (1927) 3,420
Reference:

Statement from the publishers, 21 May 1929

Board of Publication and Bible School Work of the
Reformed Church in America
25 East 22nd Street, New York City

Their catalog Number 16 covers 72 pages and is devoted
mostly to Bibles and supplies for Church and Sunday school.

Wm. B. Eerdman's Publishing Company (Reformed Press)
208 Pearl Street, Grand Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan
A good deal of their business is in Dutch publications.

The Heidelberg Press (Schaff Building)
15th and Race Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

Board of Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church in the
United States
1505 Race Street, Philadelphia

Reformed Church in America
25 E. 22nd Street, New York City
Publish:

The Christian Intelligencer and Mission Field,
weekly, 1830. 9,000.

Publishers for the Roman Catholic Church

The Official Catholic Directory, 1928, gives the
following statistics concerning the Catholic Church:

Clergy	25,773
Churches	18,293
Parish schools	7,061
School children	2,281,837
Catholic population	19,689,049

The Catholic Church appears to have no official
publishing houses, but many private firms have grown up to
serve its interests. In addition to the regular publishers
listed below, many presses are maintained in connection with
the publishing of periodicals, such as the American Press,
The Paulist Press, The Franciscan Herald, Our Sunday Visitor,
etc. They are not included in this study because their
publications are principally limited to tracts which are an
outgrowth and extension of their periodical publishing.

Most of the Catholic publishers also deal in church
goods and religious articles such as church ornaments,
statuary, vestments, mission supplies, votive shrines, vesper
lights, candles, etc. Some of them also deal in altars,
pulpits, pews, and stained glass windows.

Ave Maria, Notre Dame, Indiana

This firm is included here because it has acquired the University Press of Notre Dame. It publishes the weekly periodical

Ave Maria, established 1865, circulation 38,000.

Benziger Brothers

Printers to the Holy Apostolic See.

New York, 36-38 Barclay Street

Cincinnati, 429 Main Street

Chicago, 305-207 W. Washington Street

This firm traces its origin to 1792, when Joseph Charles Benziger (1762-1841) started a small business in religious articles at Einsiedeln, Switzerland. Disturbances due to the French Revolution forced him to flee with his family. His fortune gone, he returned in 1800 and started in business as a bookseller. He was succeeded by his two sons, Charles and Nickolas, in 1833. Under their capable and progressive leadership the business flourished. A third generation succeeded to the business, while a fourth generation entered the firm between 1880 and 1895.

The New York house was established by the Swiss firm in 1853. The Cincinnati branch was opened in 1860 and the Chicago branch was opened in 1897.

"In 1894 a complete plant was set up in Brooklyn for the manufacture of devotional objects and ecclesiastical art. In 1924 a printing plant was added. In the same year studios were opened at Pietrasanta, Italy, for ecclesiastical marble production, and again in 1926 there was added a plant at Bridgeport, Connecticut for the production of church brasses".

"The present partners of the firm, the three brothers, Xavier N. Benziger, Bernard A. Benziger and Alfred E. Benziger are the great-great-grandsons of the founder of this firm.

The Holy See conferred on the firm the title "Printers to the Holy See" in 1867 and "The Pontifical Institute of Christian Art" in 1888.

The firm has a strong line of books in theology and philosophy, science, general literature, sociology, biography, history, education, and fiction. Books of the devotion, meditation and religious instruction constitute the bulk of their catalog, while a large section is devoted to juveniles. Special attention is being given to the development of textbooks. Notable among their undertakings have been the series of prayer books by Father Lasance, the novels of Isabel C. Clarke, and Father Finn's boys' books.

References:

Catholic Encyclopedia. Art. Benziger.

Publishers' Weekly, 18 Feb. 1928, 93:673.

Famous Catholic house has diamond anniversary

One hundred and twenty years.

A history of the firm prepared by them in 1912. A reprint of the article in the Catholic Encyclopedia, with additions. Catalog of publications, Fall, 1928.

Catholic Education Press

1326 Quincy Street, N. E. Washington, D. C.

This press was founded in 1910. Its object is to serve Catholic schools with educational texts of the highest standard. Many of its textbooks are prepared by professors in the Catholic University of America. Three volumes of educational research bulletins have been published. The Catholic University of America patristic studies is a series which has reached the 17th volume. One of their successful publications is, A general history of the Christian era, by Nicholas A. Weber.

The firm publishes

The Catholic educational review, established 1911, circulation (1927) 1,800. It is edited by the Department of Education, Catholic University of America.

References:

Catalogue and price list, March, 1929

Catholic University of America

Michigan Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C.

Publish a quarterly entitled

Catholic Historical Review, established 1915, circulation (1927) 1,500.

Catholic Foreign Mission Society

Maryknoll, New York

Also publish as Field Afor Ofrice

John P. Daleiden Company, Inc.

1530 Sedgwick Street, Chicago, Illinois

Agents for London firms of Burns, Oates, and Washburne, Inc. Gill and Company

Devin-Adair Company

23 East 26th Street, New York City

English agents:

A. F. Bird, London

B. Herder, London

Thomas J. Flynn and Company

62 and 64 Essex Street, Boston

B. Herder Book Company
15 and 17 South Broadway, St. Louis

This firm traces its history back to 1801, when Bartholomäus Herder (1774-1839) began his career as "publisher to the princely episcopal court of Constance". The European firm of B. Herder is noted for its large and scholarly publications, which did much to further the cause of Roman Catholicism among the cultured classes. Its Kirchenlexikon, 1847-56, 12 volumes, edited by Welte and Wetzler was the forerunner and model of Protestant works of a similar character, just as the Catholic Encyclopedia has more recently occasioned a projected Protestant Encyclopedia.

The American firm of B. Herder was founded at St. Louis in 1873 under the management of Joseph Gummersbach. The present officers of the firm are:

Victor A. Gummersbach, President and Treasurer
Eugene C. Gummersbach, Vice-president
Louis H. Gummersbach, Secretary

The firm is no longer a branch of the European house, but their exclusive American agents and representatives. The firm has no manufacturing plant of its own. It is in no sense an official publishing house of the Church. It publishes no periodicals.

The firm has a 45 page catalog of textbooks in English and foreign languages, especially Latin. These deal with biblical theology and history, church history, dogmatic theology, moral theology, canon law, patrology, liturgy, philology, literature, etc. Among the larger works in this catalog are Pastor's History of the Popes, volume 16, Grisar's History of Rome and the Popes, 3rd volume, Pohle's Dogmatic Theology, 12th volume. A catalog of Lenten books cover 15 pages. The general catalog consists of 119 pages and covers a wide range of subjects. Over 20 pages are devoted to essays, literature and plays. 4 pages are devoted to school and college textbooks.

References:

Catholic Encyclopedia
Statement from the publishers, May 15, 1929
Catalog, Fall, 1928
Catalog of Lenten books, new books, Latin books, 1929
Classified list of popular textbooks, May 1929

P. J. Kenedy and Sons
44 Barclay Street, New York City

American agents for the Catholic publications (selected titles) of the London firms:

Burns, Oates, and Washburne, Inc.
Harding & More
Sands & Company
Sheed and Ward

This firm is publisher of the well-known Official Catholic Directory.

H. L. Kilner and Company
1708 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Loyola University Press
3441 N. Ashland Avenue, Chicago
Formerly published the Loyola Educational Digest.

Matre and Company
33 South Wells Street, Chicago, Illinois

John Murpny Company

Publishers to the Holy See

200 W. Lombard Street, Baltimore, Maryland

Retail department, 219 Park Avenue

One of the well known publishers of the Catholic literature. Publishers of the works of Cardinal Gibbons. His Faith of Our Fathers was one of the best selling religious books ever published in America. It called forth a rejoinder of equal size entitled, The Faith of Our Forefathers, by Prof. Stearns, a student of Patristics. Another popular work of Cardinal Gibbons is "Our Christian Heritage". Murphy's catalog lists prayer books, Bibles, devotional, liturgical, and instructive literature. The firm publishes "The Manual of Prayers", the official prayer book of the Catholic Church. The firm apparently publishes no periodicals.

National Catholic Welfare Conference
Washington, D. C.

Organized September, 1919 as the seccessor to the National Catholic War Council. The Council has for its objects the unifying, coordinating and organizing of the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid, civic education, and other activities. It is administered by a committee of seven archbishops and bishops, elected by the bishops in annual meeting.

The official publication is a monthly:

National Catholic Welfare Council Bulletin,
established in 1919, circulation 21,500.

Reference:

Official Catholic Directory, 1928, p. 717.

Frederick Pustet Company Inc.
436 Main Street, Cincinnati
52 Barclay Street, New York City
English agent:

B. Herder, London (all publications) .

Wm. H. Sadlier
9 Park Place, New York City

Schwartz, Kirwin and Fauss
53 Park Place, New York City

Society for the Propagation of the Faith
462 Madison Avenue, New York City
25 Granby Street, Boston, Massachusetts
Publish a monthly periodical entitled,
Catholic Missions, established 1907, circulation
73,002.

Joseph F. Wagner, Inc.
54 Park Place, New York City

English agent for:

B. Herder, London (all publications)

Publishers of:

Homiletic and Pastoral Review, monthly, established
1900, circulation 7,000.

C. Wildermann Company
33 Barclay Street, New York City

American Unitarian Association

The Unitarians of the United States in 1921
numbered 505 ministers, 406 churches, and 71,110 communicants.

The Beacon Press
25 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts
285 Madison Avenue, New York
105 South Dearborn Street, Chicago
2416 Allston Way, Berkeley, California

The American Unitarian Association distributes annually
thru the Beacon Press about 350,000 tracts, publishes 10,000
copies of the Annual Report, and 3,300 copies of the Unitarian
Year Book. Channing's works are given away free to settled
ministers and theological students who apply for them.

Two periodicals are published:

The Beacon (juvenile) weekly, from the first
Sunday in October to the first Sunday in June.
Word and Work, monthly, from October to June.

The catalog of the Beacon Press's own publishers covers
67 pages. Among its prominent authors are:

William Ellery Channing
Theodore Parker, works, 15 volumes
James Freeman Clarke
Ephraim Emerton
David Starr Jordan, 15 titles
Charles W. Eliot

References:

Unitarian Year book, 1928-29, page 15

List of books, Fall, 1928

"The International Jury of Awards of the Sesquicentennial Exposition has awarded the American Unitarian Association a gold medal in recognition of the high quality of its exhibit of literature, posters, books, and pictures in the Palace of Education. The award was made for "excellence in depicting religious ideas" - (Publishers weekly, December 11, 1926.

Universalist Publishing

(Murray Press)

176 Newbury Street, Boston

6010 Dorchester Avenue, Chicago

Official publishing house of the Universalist Church, which in 1921 numbered 620 ministers, 850 churches, and 59,650 communicants. In 1927 they numbered 48,221 communicants.

"The House was organized in 1862, incorporated in 1872, and holds all its property for the benefit of the Universalist Church. It is managed by a Board of thirty trustees, who are elected for three years terms".

The net assets of the House in 1925 were about 300,000.00, consisting of periodicals, books, plates, etc. In 1924 the firm published 8 tracts and one volume. The House owns the titles of 150 volumes and publishes three periodicals:

The Universalist Leader, weekly, 1821

Sunday School Helper, quarterly, 1870

The Ambassador

References:

Universalist yearbook, 1925

Ayer's newspaper annual, 1927

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY SCHOOL

LIBRARY 102

THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN
(ABINGDON PRESS)

By

William Baehr

1 9 2 9

T H E
M E T H O D I S T B O O K C O N C E R N
(ABINGDON PRESS)

By
William Baehr
1 9 2 9

The Concern has headquarters and Publishing Houses at New York, 150 Fifth Avenue, and Cincinnati, 420 Plum Street.

"The New York house has three depositories or sale agencies:

581 Boylston Street, Boston
105-5th Avenue, Pittsburgh
28 Elizabeth Street, East Detroit, Michigan

"The Cincinnati House has also three:

740 Rush St., Chicago
1121 McGee St., Kansas City, Mo.
7 City Hall Ave., San Francisco

"There is a salesroom at Portland, Ore."

The number and location of depositories is determined by the General Conference of the Methodist Church. "Each depository shall be supplied with a full stock of the books of the General Catalogue, Sunday School Books, Sunday School supplies, and Tracts, to be sold for the Publishing House with which the Depository is connected." - Discipline of the M. E. Church, 1916, sect. 394, par. 1.

The pioneer of the Methodist Book Concern on American soil was Robert William who came to this country in 1769 and was the first to print books for American Methodists. He died after six years of activity in this country. "At repeated Conferences after the death of Robert Williams the necessity for a Book Concern was discussed." A resolution passed at the Christmas Conference in 1784 exhorted the ministers: "To be active in dispersing Mr. Wesley's books. Every assistant may beg money of the rich to buy books for the poor." - Centennial, p. 64-65.

Itinerants and local preachers were instructed to carry as many books as possible on their rounds and sell them at the best prices obtainable.

At the General Conference in 1789 twenty ministers were present. The first act of the Conference was to send a letter to George Washington congratulating him upon being inaugurated as first president of the U.S. The next act of the Conference was to organize a book concern. When the question was raised as to what funds the concern was to be operated with, the members realized that there were none. However, the secretary of the Conference, the Rev. John Dickins, saved the situation by declaring that his savings amounted to 600.00, which he was willing to lend to the Conference. His offer was unanimously accepted, and he was appointed "Superintendent of the Printing and Book Business." For a short time previous to this he and Philip Cox had been serving as traveling book stewards. The term "book steward" was employed until 1808, when it gave way to "book agent". Since 1896 those

in charge of the Church's publishing activities are called "publishing agents." In 1792 the name "Book Concern" first appeared in the minutes.

John Dickins set up a book business in Philadelphia and conducted it there until his death in 1798. His first office was at 43 Fourth Street. The firm was located at four different places in the first ten years. The first publication was volume one of the Arminian Magazine, at twelve shillings. "The first books were prepared at the printing plant of Prichard and Hall, in Market Street, but later all of the mechanical work was awarded to Solomon Conrad of 22 Pewter-Platter Alley." - Asbury, p.175.

Upon the death of Dickins, Bishop Asbury appointed Ezekiel Cooper to take charge. He found the business highly disorganized and refused to take charge for some time. At the time of Dickins' death, the indebtedness of the firm had risen to \$4,500.00", the assets being altogether in the good faith and ability of the two hundred or more scantily paid preachers."

In 1802 Cooper was ordered to pack up the records, books, and stock of the company in his trunk and transfer the business to Baltimore. However, Cooper was not inclined to leave Philadelphia for some time and before Bishop Asbury could persuade him to do so, the conference of 1804 decided by a vote of 38 to 36 to have the business moved to New York. Accordingly it was removed to New York in 1804, where it has remained to this day.

"Within twenty years the Concern had changed its location in New York twenty times. In 1824 it took possession of the old Wesleyan Academy Building and remained until 1833, when

the first building at 200 Mulberry Street was occupied. This burned in 1836. It was rebuilt at once and the business continued there until 1869, when the store and offices were moved to a new home at 805 Broadway. The manufacturing continued on Mulberry Street, until the new structure at 150-5th Avenue was completed, in 1889, at which time the entire business was again put under one one roof. It remained in that place until the fall of 1920, when with the growth of the book business of the church requiring more space for the printing presses and the bindery, and the demands by the various church boards for more office room, a large loft building was leased at 531 West 37th Street, near Tenth Avenue, to which were transferred the great presses and bindery, and the space thus vacated was remodeled to meet the needs of those pressed for room that they might efficiently and economically carry on the part of the great work allotted them to do.

"At this time (1925) a new location for the manufacturing plant has been secured at Dobos Ferry, N. Y., a station on the N.Y. Central R. R., twenty miles north of the city. Here they are erecting the most modern and well appointed building for the Printing Department that Methodism has ever had.

"A branch of the Methodist Book Concern was established at Cincinnati, Ohio in 1820. In 1840 this became a separate corporation, and did a growing business at 220 West 4th Street for many years. A splendid building that has been greatly enlarged within a few years, accommodates the bookroom, various offices, and the large manufacturing plant at 420 Plum Street. It remained separate until 1912, when by order of the General Conference the

unification of the Book Concern took place. " - Yearbook, 1926, p. 104.

The matter of the unification of the Book Concern was agitated and debated for many years before it was finally decided upon. A Committee was appointed in 1902. A printed report submitted to the General Conference in 1908 covered over 200 pages.

"The objects and purposes for which The Methodist Book Concern was established and is carried on are: the promotion of Christian education; the dissemination of moral and religious literature; the spread of Christianity by the publication, sale and distribution of moral and religious literature; the transaction of such other business as is properly connected with book publishing, book making and book-selling; the produce of the same to be applied for the benefit of the Traveling, Supernumerary and Retired Teachers, their wives, widows, and children, in accordance with the Constitution and Discipline of the Church." - Discipline, par. 379, sect. 2, cp. par. 393.

Since 1912 the General Conference quadrennially elects three "publishing agents" to conduct the affairs of the Book Concern. One of these is located at the New York office, another at Cincinnati, another at Chicago.

The present publication agents are:

John H. Race, 150-5th Avenue, N. Y.
George C. Douglas, 420 Plum St., Cincinnati
Osman G. Markham, 740 Rush St., Chicago

Prior to 1872 none but ministers were elected as publication agents. In the year John M. Phillips was elected. A list of all the agents and their terms of service is regularly given in the yearbook.

After the first period of difficulty was over, the Methodist Book Concern has always done a thriving business and paid good dividends. At the centennial of the Concern in 1890, it was reported that over 50,000.00 worth of publications had been sold. In recent years its annual sales volume has been more than 4,000,000.00. - Asbury, p. 175.

"The Book Committee, at the spring meeting of 1924, ordered to be distributed to the Conferences the sum of 350,000 out of the total profits of 447,000.00. This is next to the largest distribution ever made in a single year. The past quadrennium registers the following amounts distributed: 1921, \$275,000.00; 1922, \$200,000.00; 1923, \$300,000.00; 1924, \$350,000, or a total of \$1,125,000.00". - Yearbook, 1925, p. 13.

What is probably the most successful and enduring production of the Book Concern is James Strong's Concordance, first published in 1890. In expressing their confidence in this production the agents in their report of 1895 declare, "There is not now, nor has there ever been, anything upon the market that could be styled a competitor to this book, and we are certain that it must remain the standard for a half a century to come."

Probably the most successful and substantial series ever projected by the Methodist Book Concern was The biblical and theological series, ed. by Crooks and Hurst. A number of volumes in this series are still listed in its current catalog of 224 sages.

Since the bulk of its books are prepared for lay readers,

the general character of the publications of the Concern may be described as popular. Books on religious education seem to predominate, with many titles devoted to biblical exposition, biography, missions, and amusements. Among books for the scholar may be mentioned those of Robert W. Rogers dealing with Babylonia and Assyria.

Among earlier successful works may be mentioned The People's Cyclopedia, which was frequently revised and by 1890 had reached the enormous sale of 102,000.00, which at that time represented the retail price of \$1,550,000.00.

The firm purchased the plates of Ridpath's History of the United States and by 1890 had sold 150,000 copies, while his History of the World had been sold in 65,000 copies.

The works of Daniel Dorchester were very popular some fifty years ago. Among them were The Liquor Problem, The Problem of Religious Progress, and Christianity in the United States. - Centennial, p.76-77.

The Book Concern early entered the field of periodical publishing. John Dickins published a volume of the Arminian Magazine in 1789 and another volume the year following. For some reason it was then suspended and no interest was shown in reviving it until 1812 when a resolution was adopted by the General Conference authorizing the book editors to publish a monthly magazine. However, nothing came of it until 1818. "The Methodist Magazine" was then permanently established... and not less than 10,000 subscribers were obtained the first year." - Buckley, p. 354-55.

After the establishment of the Sunday School Union of

the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1827 the firm entered the field of Sunday School. Its output in this type of book and periodical literature has been enormous.

The Book Concern now publishes 13 official periodicals with a combined total circulation in 1929 of over 200,000. This does not include any of the Sunday School periodicals.

R E F E R E N C E S

- Asbury, Herbert. A Methodist saint, N.Y.
1927.
- Buckley, J. M. A history of Methodists in
the United States. 3rd ed.
N. Y. 1900.
- Centennial of the Methodist Book Concern,
N. Y. 1890
- Discipline of the Methodist Book Concern,
N.Y. 1916.
- Historical Statement of the unification of the
Book Concern, 1908.
- The Methodist year book. N. Y. 1913,
1923, 1925, 1926.
- The Methodist Book Concern. Report of the
publishing agents to the Book
Committee. N.Y. 1895.

SOME PUBLISHERS OF CATHOLIC BOOKS

IN THE

UNITED STATES

BY

SISTER MARY MARGARET AGNES

1929

SOME PUBLISHERS OF CATHOLIC BOOKS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Important publishers:

Benziger Brothers
P.J. Kenedy and Sons
B. Herder Book Co.
Frederick Pustet Co., Inc.
Joseph F. Wagner, Inc.

Smaller publishers:

National Catholic Welfare Conference
Catholic Education Press
Catholic Foreign Mission Society
Paulist Press
The Queen's Work Press
The Magnificat Press
Catholic Dramatic Company
Franciscan Herald Press
William H. Sadlier
H.L. Kilner & Co.

Among the publishers with which this paper is concerned one of the best known firms is that of Benziger Brothers who celebrated in 1928 the diamond anniversary of the establishment of their business in the United States.(1853) These years have been years of growth and Benziger Brothers now have a store at 36-38 Barclay Street in New York, a house at 429 Main Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, and one at 205-207 West Washington Street, Chicago and large factories in Brooklyn, N.Y. and Bridgeport, Connecticut, and in Italy.

The business of Benziger Brothers is not devoted to books alone but includes the manufacture and sale of church goods and religious articles. In 1894 a complete plant was set up in Brooklyn for the manufacture of devotional objects and ecclesiastical art. This includes a silverware shop and an art metal atelier. Such things as pulpits, altar rails gas and electric fixtures, church goods and vestments are produced. In 1924 a complete up-to-date printing plant was installed for the production of their numerous publications and prayerbooks. In 1924 studios were opened at Pietrasanta, Italy for ecclesiastical marble production, and in 1926 a plant was added at Bridgeport for the production of Church brasses.

A long and honorable history precedes the founding of the American firm. In 1792 Joseph Charles Benziger, founder of the Catholic publishing house that bears his name, started in his native town, Einsiedeln, Switzerland, a small business in religious articles. During the French Revolution the French invasion forced him to take flight with his family and they resided for a time at Feldkirch, Austria, where his eldest son, Charles, was

born. On their return in 1800 to Einsiedeln they found Einsiedeln devastated by pillage and army requisitions. "Mr. Benziger's modest fortune was gone but with redoubled efforts he set about repairing his losses and started in business as a bookseller." In 1833 Charles and Nicholas Benziger succeeded their father under the firm name of "Charles and Nicholas Benziger Brothers", and two years later in addition to their book publishing business, they began the lithographing of religious pictures, as well as the coloring of them by hand, before the introduction of chromolithography. Charles and Nicholas had a large share in establishing the spirit of the business.

"Charles Benziger, a man of unusual strength and energy, with a good classical education devoted himself especially to the literary end of the business. In 1840 the 'Einsiedler Kalender' was founded; it is still published and furnishes an interesting illustration of the development of the art of printing. 'The Pilgrim' a popular Catholic periodical established at the same time, lasted only ten years." In 1860 the health of Charles failed and he retired from the business.

Nicholas who took charge of the technical part of the work proved himself a pioneer, introducing to the mountain village of Einsiedeln a series of improved trades methods as they appeared from time to time in the great centers of Europe and America. Under his guidance the work of bookbinding, which was formerly carried on in the family at home, was systematized. In 1844 the old hand-press was superseded by the first power press. Stereotyping was introduced in 1846; in 1856 steel and copper printing, and in 1858 electrotyping was introduced. The house was opened in New York in 1853. By this time the two brothers had built up

a business in Catholic books and prints that was known the world over.

On the retirement of Charles and Nicholas Benziger (1860) the business was continued by Charles, Martin and J.N. Adelrich - sons of Charles, and Nicholas, Adelrich and Louis - sons of Nicholas. Under this third generation the different branches of the house were still further developed, chromolithography and other modern printing methods being added. In 1867 the 'Alte und Neue Welt', the first illustrated popular Catholic German magazine on a large scale, was begun, and then appeared a number of illustrated family books of devour reading and a series of school-books including a Bible History in twelve languages, together with prayerbooks by well-known authors. Between 1880 and 1895 a fourth generation succeeded to the business, and the firm name was changed to Benziger and Company.


The house of Benziger Brothers in the United States was established in New York in 1853 by the Swiss house but its development as a publishing house did not begin until 1860, when J.N. Adelrich Benziger(d.1878) and Louis Benziger (d.1896) took charge. In 1860 a house was opened in Cincinnati and in 1887 one in Chicago was opened. The American firm is now independent of the Swiss house. The publication of English Catholic works was vigorously undertaken and the list of books has been steadily developed. Over 2000 different books have carried the imprint since the American firm was founded. At present three members of the family of Benziger are in charge of the firm of Benziger Brothers in the United States,- Xavier N Benziger, Bernard A. Benziger, and Alfred F. Benziger, - great-great-grandsons of the founder of the firm.

The aims and standards of this firm, "one of the oldest Catholic publishing houses in the world", and probably the oldest in English-speaking countries, have been consistently high. Their purpose has been the spread of Catholic literature. The members of the firm endeavor "to continue in the old traditions of the house and to be conservative and careful in their undertakings, progressive and up-to-date in the make of their publications and in introducing them to the Catholic public."

The character of the publication has been "religious and devotional and their list cover not only theology and philosophy but science, general literature, sociology, history, education and fiction."

Among the specialties of the firm are the widely circulated and popular prayer books of Father Lasance. School publications include the New Century Catholic Readers, (with colored illustrations) a series of German-English readers; two series of arithmetics, elementary geography and advanced geography; texts in Religion for high schools and colleges; America's Founders and Leaders, a biographical history of the United States (for the lower grades), and similar titles.

In 1898 was begun the publication of Benziger's magazine, an illustrated Catholic family monthly, that has now a circulation of 100,000 copies a month.

The press work and paper are of good quality and the bindings while strong enough for use in a home are scarcely strong enough for library use unless reinforced. The printer's mark is a square the sides of which are two pillars. The figure of a woman representing Faith is seated on a low pedestal in the center. In her right hand she is holding a tablet bearing the Chrismon 

or monogram of Christ which is formed from the first two letters in the Greek word "christos"; and the characters alpha α and omega ω representing God as the beginning and end of all things. Sitting at her feet is a woman representing science or learning in the attitude of one being taught. She holds a book and a pen in her hand. The significance of these figures seems to be "Wisdom enlightened by Faith". Two small angels in the lower left hand corner are examining the books. In some variations of the mark the letters BB and the date 1792 are found above the mark, and beneath it is sometimes written Benziger Brothers.

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Catholic Encyclopedia. c1913. v.2, p.484. Article on Benziger, Joseph Charles, by Thomas F. Mehan.

Publishers' Weekly, 75:12. Jan. 2, 1909. Nicholas Benziger.

" " 113:673. Feb. 18, 1929. Famous Catholic House Has Diamond Anniversary.

Benziger Brothers Catalog of publications, Fall 1928.

Excerpt from Book Catalog of 1912 received from the publishers.

One of the oldest Catholic publishing houses in the United States is the firm of P.J. Kenedy and Sons, located at 44 Barclay St. in New York, probably best known to library workers because of the Official Catholic Directory which they publish. The firm has no branches.

In addition to the publishing of books P.J. Kenedy and Sons conduct a Catholic book store in which they carry the Catholic books of all publishers. They also deal in both wholesale and retail religious articles. They are American agents for selected titles of the London firms of Burns, Oates, and Washbourne, Harding and More, Sands and Co., and Sheed and Ward.

P.J. Kenedy and Sons was founded in Baltimore in 1826 and we can give the history of the firm best by quoting from the 1926 Centenary Catalogue.

"When John Kenedy selected the location for the Catholic Bookstore which was to bear his name, he could have had but a faint picture of the tremendous growth of our Country and the Catholic Church which was then hidden in the future years. He did know, however, that Baltimore was, at that time, the most important Catholic center and that he should be situated near St. Mary's Seminary. He had moved recently from St. Louis, a city in which he had spent a number of years since the departure from his birthplace, Muckalee, County Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1812, and where he had married Ellen Timon, one of the seven sisters of Right Reverend John Timon, D.D., First Bishop of Buffalo. His first store was a small one on Franklin Street, west of Paca, opened in 1826. A few years later he moved to the

Arcade which was then a busy thoroughfare and where opportunities for development seemed greater. It was here that he published "The Practice of Christian Perfection from the Works of Rodriguez," by Rev. Edward Damphoux, D.D., at that time Rector of the Baltimore Cathedral. It was issued by subscription in 1834 and, as was customary under such conditions, incorporated the names of the subscribers at the end of the book. This list, containing the names of 12 bishops, 21 priests and 1047 laymen, including that of Roger Brooke Taney, afterwards Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, makes, today, a most historically interesting Catholic Who's Who of this period.

"Realizing the advantage of establishing in a growing metropolis, John Kenedy, in 1838, transferred his activities to New York City, locating successively at #23 Madison Street, #44 Center Street, #130½ Division Street, #49 Mott Street and #47 Mott Street. The first books to bear a New York imprint include a few volumes of Catholic Biography and Doctrine and several books relating to Ireland, among which "The History of the Irish Insurrection of 1798" is the most important. Meanwhile his first wife having died, he married Ellen Smith and one child was born of this union - Patrick John. He assisted in the store after school hours and later devoted full attention to his father's business, succeeding him at his death, June 25, 1866. Patrick John Kenedy was then twenty-three years old.

"By this time Catholic publishing had developed considerably in the United States and Barclay Street seemed clearly to be designated as the heart of its activity. In 1873, a loft was rented at #5 Barclay Street and the business thenceforth enjoyed rapid development under the forceful management of the young

owner. As time went on more space was required until gradually the entire building was occupied as well as part of the adjoining premises at #3. A few years later, in order to secure a permanent address in a street which, true to its early promise, had become known throughout the country as the mecca of Catholic Publishing and Church Supply Houses, both buildings were purchased. It was not before 1893, however, that the ground floor of #5 was remodelled into an attractive salesroom and more prominence given to the display of religious articles which previously had received but scant attention. P.J. Kenedy's energy as a publisher manifested itself in a most practical form. His first books were large type editions of favorite Catholic prayer books. A book which he compiled himself and which for years ran into many editions was "The Irish National Songster."

"John Kenedy, the founder of the House, was a man of gentle manner, satisfied to pursue his calling because he delighted in it, without much thought of providing for the morrow. Patrick John Kenedy, like his father in personal characteristics, was, moreover gifted with clear foresight and keen judgment. To him is due the credit of making the name of Kenedy prominent among Catholic Publishers. In 1895, recognition of his accomplishments was given by His Holiness, Pope Leo XIII, in conferring upon him the honorary title of "Publisher to the Holy Apostolic See."

"Patrick John Kenedy had married Elizabeth Theresa Weiser in 1873 and of their seven children two entered the father's business. In 1903, the firm's name was changed from P.J. Kenedy to P.J. Kenedy and Sons and in 1904 was incorporated with P.J. Kenedy as President and his two sons Arthur and Louis Kenedy as Vice-President and Secretary, respectively. At the time of incorporation

the Kenedy Publications Catalogue numbered more than five hundred titles - a substantial proof of the rapid stride at which the business was developing. On January 4, 1906, occurred the death of P.J. Kenedy, bringing to a close a most active and respected career.

"Arthur Kenedy succeeded his father as President, and Louis Kenedy became Vice-President. They continue to hold these positions and control the management of the business having, today, associated with them as Directors: James F. Doonan, Secretary; Charles A. Walsh, Treasurer; Frederick B. Eddy, Editor of "The Official Catholic Directory" and Robert J. Culhane, Attorney."

... "In May 1911, a change of address was necessitated, since the property #3 and #5 Barclay Street was included in the land bought for the erection of the great Woolworth Building. The firm welcomed this opportunity of moving into larger quarters and a suitable location was found at #44 Barclay Street which remains its present home.

"From a very modest beginning this business has carried on over a period of one hundred years, always remaining in the absolute ownership and active management of three generations of one family. Wherever English Catholic books are read, the name of Kenedy is known."

The aim has been to publish useful Catholic books and to issue them in attractive make-up, type, presswork, paper and binding.

The list of books covers practically every branch of Catholic reading - spiritual reading, instruction and meditation, lives of the saints, history, biography and memoirs, liturgy, scripture, ethics, apologetics and canon law, novels and stories,

poetry and essays, books of practical information, juveniles, prayer books, They do not publish school books.

The "specialties" of the firm change from time to time. At present they are: "books of apologetics, missals and complete prayer books in modern dress." This is in accordance it seems with the emphasis that is to-day being given by Catholic writers to apologetical subjects, and the encouragement the Church is giving the use of the Missal by the People.

Two periodicals are issued: The Official Catholic Directory published annually at Easter time, and The Official Catholic Year Book published annually in October.

P.J. Kenedy and Sons do not do their own press work. The catalog which I examined was printed by the Plimpton Press, Norwood, Massachusetts, and was very well made. The printer's mark is significant. It consists of an oak tree in the background; in the foreground is an open book. At each side in the foreground is a lighted candle and the lower margin bears the words "P.J. Kenedy & Sons , Established 1826" arranged in two lines.

Bibliography.

Publishers' Weekly, 9:48. Jan. 13, 1906. Patrick John Kenedy

U.S. Catalog. 1928. (List of English firms)

P.J. Kenedy & Sons Catalog. Dec. 1928.

Excerpt from Centenary Catalog, 1926, and a letter from the firm giving information.

B. Herder Book Co., 15-17 South Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

The Herder Book Company also deals in Church ornaments, statuary, vestments, music and engravings. They act as the American agents for a number of foreign publishers.

The B. Herder Book Company originated as a branch of the house of the Herder Company of Friburg, Germany. The founder of the German firm was Bartholomew Herder who was born at Rottweil on the Neckar in August 1774 and who died at Friburg in March 1839. As a student he planned to earn his living by the "dissemination of good books" as a "scholarly publisher". In the "turbulent period prior to the disestablishment of the Old German Empire" he began his career as a "publisher to the princely episcopal court of Constance." His business was located at Meersburg on the Lake of Constance which was the episcopal residence and the seat of a seminary.

In 1810 on the secularization of the bishopric of Constance he transferred his business to Friburg in Breisgau and "in connection with the university he gave a more comprehensive character to his publications and developed his miscellaneous stock in new directions." As early as 1813 he was entrusted with the publication of the official war bulletin by the royal and imperial authorities. Bartholomew Herder went to Paris, with the army in 1815, as "Director of the Royal and Imperial Field Press." After the conclusion of the war he established an art institution for the development of lithography, copper-plate engraving, and modelling in terra cotta in connection with his publishing business, and about 300 pupils were accepted for training. The work done by this institute in illustrations

and maps marks an important step in the development of the technique of illustration. One of the early works, "Heilige Schriften des Alten und Neuen Testaments in 200 biblischen Kupfern", was reproduced by an original lithographic process. The "Atlas of Central Europe in 60 plates, 1830" was one of the first books on which the two color process lithography was used and won a European reputation for the house. "The commercial profits were entirely disproportionate to the expenditure" and the condition of the house at his death in 1839 was not satisfactory.

Two sons of the founder continued his business. Karl Raphael, the elder son managed the commercial side of the business and Benjamin took charge of the publishing department until his brother's retirement in 1856 when he became manager of the entire business, until 1868 when he was joined by Franz Joseph Hutter. Benjamin was a "thorough and scholarly editor" and had been trained in the book business by his father and "under Gauthier de Languionie in Paris. Thoroughly religious in character Benjamin had for one of his aims the freedom of the Catholic Church in Germany. He abandoned the publication of fine art and was active in encouraging religious publications. In addition to works of a religious character he began the publication of works in the social and general sciences, in history, philosophy, geography, ethnology. His aim was to build up various branches gradually and systematically by "collections and libraries." "The Kirchen lexikon was the great centre of his fifty years' activity as a publisher. It was the first comprehensive attempt to treat everything that had any connection with theology encyclopedically in one work, and also the first attempt to unite all the

Catholic savants of Germany, who had hitherto each pursued his own path, in the production of one great work." This work was planned in 1840 and publication was begun in 1847. Twenty-six years after the first edition was printed a new edition was published. The work of Herder was especially creditable since he was not only the agent but also the originator of the various enterprises undertaken. He had a knowledge of what was needed in Catholic literature and he selected themes for treatment. Material gain was never his aim. He "devoted great care to the training of cultured and capable assistants." Benjamin Herder was succeeded by his only son, Hermann Herder, as head of the business. The first branch opened was the house founded at St. Louis in 1873 under the management of Joseph Gummersbach. European branches were opened in Munich, Vienna and Berlin.

The firm established in St. Louis in 1873, under the name of B. Herder, as a branch of the house of Herder in Frieberg Germany was the successor to the business of J. Saler and H. Ver-ing at 17 South Broadway. In 1917 the firm became an independent corporation and since then has been doing business under the name of B. Herder Book Company.

The aim has been the spread of Catholic books of various types especially solid theological and philosophical works, and the standards have been high.

The publications include works on Doctrine, Liturgy, Sacred Scripture, Sermons, Devotion and Meditation, Novels, Essays, Plays, Poems, Biographies of the saints, school and college text-books. Many famous names are included in the list of authors (Ayscough, Benson, Caussade, Coppens, Didon, Fillion, Grisar, Finn, Guilday, Holweck, Knecht, Lacordiere, Martindale, Mercier,

Meschler, Messmer, Newman, Otten, Raupert, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Ignatious Loyola, Francis Thompson, Wasmann, Windle.)

The Catholic Library, ed. by Rev. Alban Goodier, S.J. (18 titles on a variety of subjects) might perhaps be classified as a "series".

Herder Publishes no periodicals.

The press work is good but the binding does not ordinarily stand up well under severe usage. They have no motto nor printer's mark. The titles in the catalog marked with an asterisk are importations for which they are the agents.

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Publishers' Weekly, Aug. 17, 1901. Centennial of the Herder'sche Verlagshandlung.
Herder's catalog, "Publications, Fall 1928."
" " "New Herder Publications, Christmas 1928."
Letter from B. Herder Book Company.

Frederick Pustet Company, Inc., is located at 52 Barclay Street, New York and at 436 Main Street, Cincinnati. The European houses of the firm are located at Ratisbon, Bavaria, Germany and at Rome, Italy.

In addition to publishing the firm of Pustet also deals in ecclestial furnishings, such as altars of marble, wood or stone, statues, vestments, linens, laces, and metal altar ware. They also are booksellers.

The following sketch of the history of the firm of Pustet is from the Catholic Encyclopedia. "The original home of the Pustet's was the Republic of Venice, where the Bustetto is common even to-day. Probably in the seventeenth century, the founder of the Ratisbon line emigrated to South Germany, where one of his descendents, Anton Pustet lived as a poor bookbinder in the lower Bavarian borough of Hals(near Passau) at the close of the 18th century."

Frederick (b.1798) the son of Anton learned bookbinding from his father and started a bookstore in Passau in 1819 and in 1822 founded a printing establishment. "Due to his energy and skill his business developed favorably and in 1826 he was able to transfer his publishing business to Ratisbon. Establishing business relations with prominent Catholic authors he extended the range of his publications to all branches of literature, while paying special attention to theology.

"In 1833 in order to extend his business undertakings Pustet set up a printing machine (one of the first) and in 1836 he erected near Ratisbon a paper factory for which he procured the first paper machine in Bavaria. In 1845 he began printing liturgical works; with this he associated a department of Church

music."

In 1860 three sons, Frederich, Karl and Klemens Pustet took over the business and in 1862 they acquired the Royal Bavarian Central Schoolbook Publishing Company in Munich and conducted this until 1874. The son Friedrich managed the liturgical publications; Karl, the German works, and Klemens, the paper factory.

"The success of Frederich earned the title 'Typographus S.R. Congregationis' and among various other distinctions the firm was entrusted by the Vatican with editio typica of all the liturgical works"

The present heads of the Pustet firm are Frⁱedrich Pustet, son of Friedrich, and Ludwig, son of Karl.

The branch firm in New York was established in 1865, and in Cincinnati in 1867, and in Rome in 1898.

The book publication are largely "Catholic Liturgical Latin Publications" such as Breviaries, Missals, Rituals, etc., although they also include a wide field of Catholic literature, Theology, Sermons, and some popular books.

Their specialties are liturgical publications-Breviaries, Missals and Rituals. I was unable to learn whether they publish any periodicals.

The press work, paper and make-up of their books are b good. Many of the books are provided in beautiful bindings.

Catholic Encyclopedia. c1913. v.12, p.583. Pustet.

Publishers' Weekly, Sept. 17, 1904. Catholic Choir Books.

Catalog, "Liturgical Publications, Autumn, 1928."

Letter from the firm.

Near to the center of Catholic book publishing in New York City, one block north from Barclay Street, is located at 54 Park Place the business of Joseph F. Wagner, Inc. This firm publishes no books except Catholic books. They are also book-sellers but do not supply ecclesiastical furnishings as many of the Catholic publishers do.

The history of this firm I was unable to obtain.

The aim of the firm seems to be to publish thoroughly Catholic books especially those of a more serious nature. Christian apologetics, "The Christian Family", "The Commandments of God and their Practical Application in Daily Life", Conferences for young women, for boys, for men, many volumes of Sermons, Ethics, Commentaries on Scripture and Scripture Manuals, History of Philosophy, Teacher's handbooks to the Catechism and Bible History, are some of the subjects and titles included in the catalog. They publish a number of textbooks for seminarians; a few stories and plays are listed.

"My Bookcase" Series now consists of sixteen titles and others are in preparation. This series consists of "standard works of great Catholic writers, in new, carefully revised editions, with critical and historical introductions by the editor. Printed in clear and easily readable type, well bound in cloth." They are edited by John C. Reville, S.J., Ph.D., and sell for \$1.35 a volume net. Some of the titles in this series are:

The Creator and the Creature. By Frederick W. Faber.
"A marvelous exposition of the wonders of Divine Love."

The Truce of God. By George Henry Mills.
"A great romance of medieval chivalry."

The Betrothed. By Alessandro Manzoni.
"One of the world's greatest novels."

Fabiola. By Cardinal Wiseman.

"The ever-verdant story of the martyrs of the
Coliseum."

The Ecclesiastical Year. By the Rev. John Rickaby, S.J.

"Contemplations on the Deeper Meaning and Relations
of its Seasons and Feasts."

The above notes were made from the publisher's catalog.

The Homiletic and Pastoral Review, a periodical which circulates among the Catholic Clergy exclusively is published by this firm. It is planned "with a direct view to its practical helpfulness to the Priest." The subscription price in the United States is \$4.

The few books which I have examined were well-made,-the printing, paper and binding were satisfactory in every respect.

Bibliography.

Catalog of the Publications of Joseph F. Wagner, inc.

Letter from the firm.

Among the organizations which contribute to the number of Catholic publications is the National Catholic Welfare Conference whose national headquarters are at 1312 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. This organization has published as an aid to its work from the beginning. "In January 1918 the National Catholic War Council began operations and publishing. In September 1919 the National Catholic Welfare Council began operations - and publishing." This last was a peace-time agency to continue the work of the emergency organization. "In November 1923 the name was changed to National Catholic Welfare Conference and it continued publishing and is publishing to-day." The N.C.W.C. as it is popularly known "is incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. It has for its incorporated purposes 'unifying, co-ordinating and organizing the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid and other activities' ". In it are included six departments - Executive, Education, Press, Social Action, Legal, and Lay Organization. The various departments have contributed titles to its list of book publications. Many pamphlets costing five or ten cents are also published. Among the book titles on the list are:

American Catholic in the War, by Michael Williams 2.50

The National Pastorals of the American Hierarchy, ed. by Rev. Peter Guilday. 2.50

Directory of Catholic Colleges and Schools, by Francis M. Crowley, and Edward P. Dunne 4.50

The Church and Labor, by Rev. J. A. Ryan and Rev. J. Husslein 3

The State and Church, by Rev. J. A. Ryan and Rev. M.F.X. M. Millar. 2.25

Many other titles are included, although the greater amount of

material appears in pamphlet form. An interesting list, "A Catholic High School Library List", a classified list of over 3000 books, is one which will prove helpful to many Catholic high school librarians. The price of this in paper covers is \$1.

The specialty may be said to be pamphlet publications, on a variety of topics-civic education, attitude of the Church on education, health education, social action and other topics.

In addition to books and pamphlets one monthly periodical is published, -The N.C.W.C. Bulletin, the official organ of the organization, and of the National Council of Catholic Men, and of the National Council of Catholic Women. It "records our common work, our common needs and opportunities." The price is one dollar per year.

The books examined have been of a uniformly high standard as to press work, printing, paper and binding. They stand up well under library usage. The printer's mark consists of a circle about one inch in diameter, and within that a smaller circle, perhaps one-half inch in diameter. Between the two are printed "National Catholic Welfare Conference". Within the smaller circle is a cross. The mottoes, Faith and Service are placed beside it on the Bulletin and an American flag forms the background.

Bibliography

Letter from the firm.

Salient facts about the N.C.W.C.

Price list: "A list of pamphlets on questions of present-day concern."

The Catholic Education Press, 1326 Quincy St., Washington, D.C. has been in the Catholic book publishing field since January 1910. In addition to the publishing business this firm deals in the books of all publishers. They import the liturgical publications of Desclée and Company, Tournai, Belgium. "It has from its foundation in 1910 endeavored to place educational texts of the highest standard at their ^{Catholic Schools} disposal. Its prices have been the lowest compatible with the superior quality of its publications."

Many titles suitable for Catholic schools are published, among them-The Catholic Education Series, a set of readers and religion texts by Very Rev. T.E. Shields; The Catholic Education Music Course, by Justine Ward, for the use of parochial schools. Texts have been prepared for grades one to four, and are in preparation for grades five to eight; a series of textbooks by Professors of the Catholic University of America, including education, Latin, Religion outlines for colleges. Seventeen volumes of the Catholic University of America Patristic Studies, ed. by Roy J. Deferrari have been published. These, as their ^{series} title indicates, are studies of the writings of the Greek and Latin Fathers. Some musical publications (songs) are included. They publish a series of volumes on Educational Tests and Measurements.

The Catholic Educational Review is published by this press; the first issue appeared in January 1911. Since 1925 they have published the Educational Research Bulletins.

The books are well printed, though the bindings are not always as strong as we would like to have them.

Letter.

Catalogue and price list, March 1929.

While the larger and better known publishers supply a large part of Catholic literature there are some smaller and less well known publishers which we wish to mention. Among these are missionary and zealous endeavors which print and sell books as an aid in their work.

The Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America publishes books at Maryknoll, New York. The first "Maryknoll" book was *A Modern Martyr* [a biography] published in December 1905. This book was published by Rev. James Anthony Walsh, one of the co-founders of Maryknoll, who was at that time the director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the Boston Archdiocese. When Maryknoll was established some years later it took over the publication of Father Walsh's books and printed some new ones. The list contains twenty two titles intended to inspire faith and sacrifice and to acquaint American Catholics with the work that is being done in the Foreign Missions, - China, Japan and Korea. These books range in price from sixty cents to three dollars. They include volumes of letters from missionaries, and stories and biographies. The Society also publishes *The Field Afar*, a periodical whose aim is to bring intimate news of the Foreign Missions to its readers, and to obtain help for the missions.

The publications of the Paulist Press, 401 West 59th St., New York, are known especially for the pamphlets which they publish. They "aim to have a pamphlet on every subject", such as apologetics biography, devotion, doctrine, fiction, history, scripture, morals and a miscellaneous group and they supply these at a very low cost. They also publish some books on religious topics. Among the titles are the following:

The Church and the Age, by Very Rev. Isaac T. Hecker.

"The Catholic Church in relation to the problems of the day" 302 p. 1.25

Europe and the Faith, by Hilaire Belloc.

"Influence of the Church in European history" 261 p. 1.8

Thought and Memories, by Rev. Henry E. O'Keefe

"Essays covering an interesting range of subjects"
197 p. 1.25

Their pamphlet publications are of special value in making known the Catholic viewpoint on many subjects in a concise and interesting manner.

The Queen's Work Press, 3115 South Grand Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., was founded in 1914 by Rev. Edward F. Garesche, S.J. in order to publish a Sodality Magazine. In time other Sodality publications were gotten out, and to-day they carry a complete line of Sodality supplies. The pamphlets include a vocational series, devotional pamphlets, Catechetical pamphlets, sodality publications and a dramatic series. The Queen's Work Magazine is published Monthly except July and August at a rate of 50¢ a year for single subscriptions and 25¢ when 25 or more copies go to one address.

"The aims of the press are: 1. To furnish all Sodalities, both in schools and parishes with an official organ;
2. To circulate good Catholic literature, to stimulate interest in the Knights and Handmaids of the Blessed Sacrament, and
3. To assist in promoting the Catholic Student's Leadership movement."

The Magnificat Press, Manchester, New Hampshire publishes a few books and are makers of greeting cards. They also publish The Magnificat, a devotional periodical. Book titles include stories, poems and biographies.

The Catholic Dramatic Company, Sleepy Eye, Minnesota.

Preliminary work toward organizing the Catholic Dramatic Company

was begun by Father Helfen in 1922. The Catholic Dramatic Guild has been organized and the magazine, Practical Stage Work, published since 1926.

The aim of the Catholic Dramatic Company is "to make it possible for Catholic stages to present good clean plays, religious plays, dramas and even comedies" which "can and should be represented in a Catholic atmosphere." "The publishing company is not a business, but a part of the movement 'for a better Catholic stage' ". The price list contains 64 titles and these range from those suitable for small children to plays suitable for adults. This promises to be a valuable aid to the young people of parishes and to pastors who are leaders of young people's organizations. "Practical stage work" is a practical dramatic magazine which contains useful editorials on the movement for the elevation of the stage, information pertaining to the Catholic Dramatic Guild, reviews and lists of plays with a 'Catholic atmosphere' and suggestions for amateur stage arrangements and costumes .

The Franciscan Herald Press, 1434-8 West 51st St. Chicago began in 1913 to publish pamphlets and booklets on Franciscan subjects.

William H. Sadlier, 11 Park Place, New York, a publisher of Catholic textbooks has a branch in Chicago, Illinois. This firm branched from the D. & J Sadlier Company in 1872. "As school book publishers we must place a very high value upon the influence our texts may have upon the young. In a more material way it is our endeavor to issue books of a very fine physical appearance."

The firm of H.L. Kilner & Co. was established in 1888 and began publishing in 1891. They are also engaged in supplying Church goods. This firm publishes many prayer books, some devotional books and a number of stories for children. I doubt the value of a number of these stories, although some are no doubt good reading for young people.

The above information was gathered from letters, price lists and catalogs of these smaller publishers.

Publishers which might also have been investigated:

John Murphy Co., 200 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md. (No response)
Universal Knowledge Foundation, 19 Union Square, N.Y.
The America Press, Ptg. Crafts Building, 461 8th Ave.
New York.
Calvert Publishing Corp., Grand Central Terminal, New York
E.M. Lohmann Co., 385 -387 St. Peter St., St. Paul, Minn.
Schwartz, Kirwan & Fauss, 26-28 Barclay St. New York
Society for the Propagation of the Faith,
462 Madison Ave., New York
Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Ind.
Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.
Fordham University Press, 233 Broadway, New York.
Loyola University Press, Chicago, Ill.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS

In presenting herewith a practically complete catalogue of the Catholic books published to-day in English (with the exception of schoolbooks, prayerbooks, and pamphlets), Benziger Brothers, as one of the oldest Catholic publishing houses in the world, and probably the oldest in English-speaking countries, take the opportunity of adding their voice to the universally expressed opinion that the most important Catholic literary enterprise attempted in this country is the Catholic Encyclopedia, now completed. This applies not only to the pecuniary outlay involved in its production, but assembling from letters such an of scholarly it owes the unfluence it ex

When a work ognized authority cient importance graphical sketch of the house Brothers, the of the firm trust be considered reprint this ar of their great-great-

This article, found on page *The Catholic* as follows:



JOSEPH CHARLES BENZIGER
Born 1762, died 1841
Founder of the Firm

to its success in the world of admirable body writers, to whom doubted in-ercises.

of such rec-finds it of suffi-to publish a bio-of the founder of Benziger present members that it will not a miss if they ticle in honor grandfather and grandfather.

which may be 484, vol. II, of *Encyclopedia*, is

“BENZIGER, JOSEPH CHARLES, founder of the Catholic publishing house that bears his name, b. at Einsiedeln, Switzerland, 1762; d. there, 1841. In 1792 he started a small business in religious articles, but he soon felt the effects of the French Revolution. The French invasion forced him to take flight with his family, and for about a year they resided at Feldkirch, Austria, where his eldest son, Charles, was born. In 1800 they returned to Einsiedeln, which had been devastated by pillage and army requisitions. All Mr. Benziger’s modest fortune was gone, but with redoubled efforts he set about repairing his losses, and started in business as a bookseller. He was made president of the county, and his credit and personal financial sacrifices proved of great help, especially during the famine of 1817. In 1833 Charles and Nicholas Benziger succeeded their father under the firm name of “Charles and Nicholas Benziger Brothers,” and two years later, in addition to their book publishing business, began the lithographing of religious pictures, as well as the coloring of them by hand, before the introduction of chromolithography.

“Charles Benziger, son of the founder, b. 1799, d. 1873, a man of unusual strength and energy, with a good classical education, devoted himself especially to the literary end of the business. In 1840 the ‘Einsiedler Kalender’ was

founded; it is still published and furnishes an interesting illustration of the development of the art of printing. 'The Pilgrim,' a popular Catholic periodical established at the same time, lasted only ten years. Charles, too, took an active part in public life, and showed moderation and energy as President of the Canton of Schwyz. His health failed and in 1860 he retired from business.

"Nicholas Benziger, brother of the preceding, b. 1808, d. 1864, who took charge of the technical part of the business, proved himself a pioneer, introducing to the mountain village of Einsiedeln a series of improved trades methods as they appeared from time to time in the great centres of Europe and America. Under his guidance the work of book-binding, which was formerly carried on in the family at home, was systematized. In 1844 the old hand-press was superseded by the first power press. Stereotyping was introduced in 1846; in 1856 steel and copper printing; and in 1858 electrotyping. In 1853 a house was opened in New York. By this time the two brothers had built up a business in Catholic books and prints that was known the world over. They also took an active part in charitable work, and started a fund for a hospital, which has since been erected.



CHARLES BENZIGER
Born 1799, died 1873



NICHOLAS BENZIGER
Born 1808, died 1864

Sons of the Founder of the Firm

"On the retirement of Charles and Nicholas Benziger (1860), the business was continued by Charles, Martin, and J. N. Adelrich, sons of the former, and Nicholas, Adelrich, and Louis, sons of the latter. Under this third generation the different branches of the house were still further developed, chromolithography and other modern printing methods being added. In 1867 the 'Alte und Neue Welt,' the first illustrated popular Catholic German magazine on a large scale, was begun, and then appeared a number of illustrated family books of devout reading and a series of schoolbooks, including a Bible History in twelve languages, together with prayerbooks by well-known authors. Between 1880 and 1895 a fourth generation succeeded to the business, and the firm name was changed to Benziger and Company.

"The house of Benziger Brothers in the United States was established in New York in 1853 by the Swiss house, but its development as a publishing house did not begin until 1860, when J. N. Adelrich Benziger (d. 1878) and Louis Benziger (d. 1896) took charge. In 1860 a house was opened in Cincinnati and in 1887 one in Chicago. The publishing of English Catholic books was vigorously undertaken, and to-day the catalogue covers the field of devotional, educational, and juvenile literature, besides works of a theological character.

Since 1864 the firm has manufactured sacred vessels and church furniture. The American firm of Benziger Brothers is now independent of the Swiss house. The Holy See conferred on the firm the title 'Printers to the Holy Apostolic See' in 1867, and 'The Pontifical Institute of Christian Art' in 1888."

To this Benziger Brothers have added a few portraits and would further supplement the article by explaining that Einsiedeln—where the Benzigers are one of the oldest Catholic families, their descent in this place going back in a direct line to the 16th century—is in the heart of the Catholic part of Switzerland, and is the seat of one of the world's most famous pilgrimages, dating back to the death in 861 of St. Meinrad, of the Order of St. Benedict. The famous Benedictine Abbey of Einsiedeln is noted for the number of eminent writers it has produced, and it may be of interest to mention that there was a printing press in use in this Abbey as far back as 1664.

A fresh impetus was given to the Church goods department of Benziger Brothers when they moved, in 1894, their silverware shop and their art metal atelier to their new, commodious, and well-appointed establishment in Brooklyn, N. Y. There, with greater facilities, they began the production of large goods, such as pulpits, altar-rails, gas and electric fixtures, etc., etc.

During the last twenty-three years Benziger Brothers have added more than 1000 publications to their list. Among their miscellaneous books will be found American as well as English and Irish authors. Up to that time the only American authors of fiction in their list were Father Finn and Dr. Maurice F. Egan; since then more than fifty new writers have been added. In prayerbooks they may mention the widely-circulated, popular books of Father Lasance. A new departure in schoolbooks are the New Century Catholic Readers, with many exquisite colored illustrations; a series of illustrated German-English Readers; and also two series of Arithmetics; an Elementary Geography for Catholic schools, and last, but not least, an Advanced Geography, just completed, with special supplements for the different states. This latter undertaking is equalled in importance only by the establishment in 1898 of Benziger's Magazine, an illustrated Catholic family monthly, that has now a circulation of more than 100,000 copies a month.

These results could be attained only at a very great expense, and taking this opportunity to thank the Episcopate, the Reverend Clergy, the Religious Orders, and the Catholic laity, as well as the Catholic authors, for their support, they hope to be favored with a continuance of their confidence and patronage.

The present members of the firm of Benziger Brothers, New York, Cincinnati, Chicago, are Nicholas C. Benziger (son of Nicholas Benziger), who entered the firm in 1880; Louis G. Benziger (son of Louis Benziger), who became a partner in 1895; and Xavier N. Benziger (son of Nicholas C. Benziger), who entered the firm in 1912, the first of the fifth generation.

It always has been the earnest endeavor of the members of the firm to continue in the old traditions of the house and to be conservative and careful in their undertakings, progressive and up-to-date in the make of their publications and in introducing them to the Catholic public.

NOTE

In making this catalogue of practically all Catholic books in English published to-day (with the exception of pamphlets, prayer-books, and school-books), we have included not only the publications of the regular Catholic publishing houses of America, England, Ireland, Canada, Australia, India, and those issued by Catholic authors themselves, by Catholic institutions, and from the press of Catholic periodicals, but also the Catholic books brought out by non-Catholic publishers.

In listing books in our "Catholic Book News," which we have published regularly for 39 years, as well as in our book catalogues, we have always made it a rule to include only Catholic publications. Books written by Catholics but not Catholic in contents were not included. We have followed this rule as far as possible in making this catalogue, and it is believed that it will therefore prove more practical than any other. But as it was more difficult to follow this rule in making a catalogue which practically includes all Catholic publications in print to-day in English, it may be that some books are included which under this rule should not be in it. Books may also have been overlooked which ought to be in this catalogue. We shall be thankful to the Rev. Clergy, Religious, and lay people, as well as to librarians, publishers, and booksellers, if by calling our attention to any errors they may see they will help us to make this list as perfect as possible through the supplements which will appear from time to time. There has been quite a controversy on this subject of late, and we are glad to see this rule approved by "America," July 13, 1912, and by the "Ave Maria," August 3, 1912, when they say that fiction written by Catholics but excluding anything Catholic should not be classified as Catholic books. The above-mentioned leading Catholic periodicals say:

"The Catholic seal dignifies a book and should not be accorded lightly; and no novel has a right to it which carefully excludes from its pages persons and things-Catholic or fails to harmonize in tone and trend with Catholic sentiment and belief. We think a Catholic who can write will write best if he writes naturally and lets his characters act, talk, and think in his books as he would have them do in life. Our Catholic writers of widest reputation have done so,—but that is a matter of individual choice. Should he choose otherwise, and decide to exclude from his writings Catholic customs, manners, doctrines, practices, and personages, he may produce good and useful works, but he may not call them Catholic, and neither may the conscientious critic."

"Benziger's Magazine" has always followed this principle in selecting its popular serial stories.

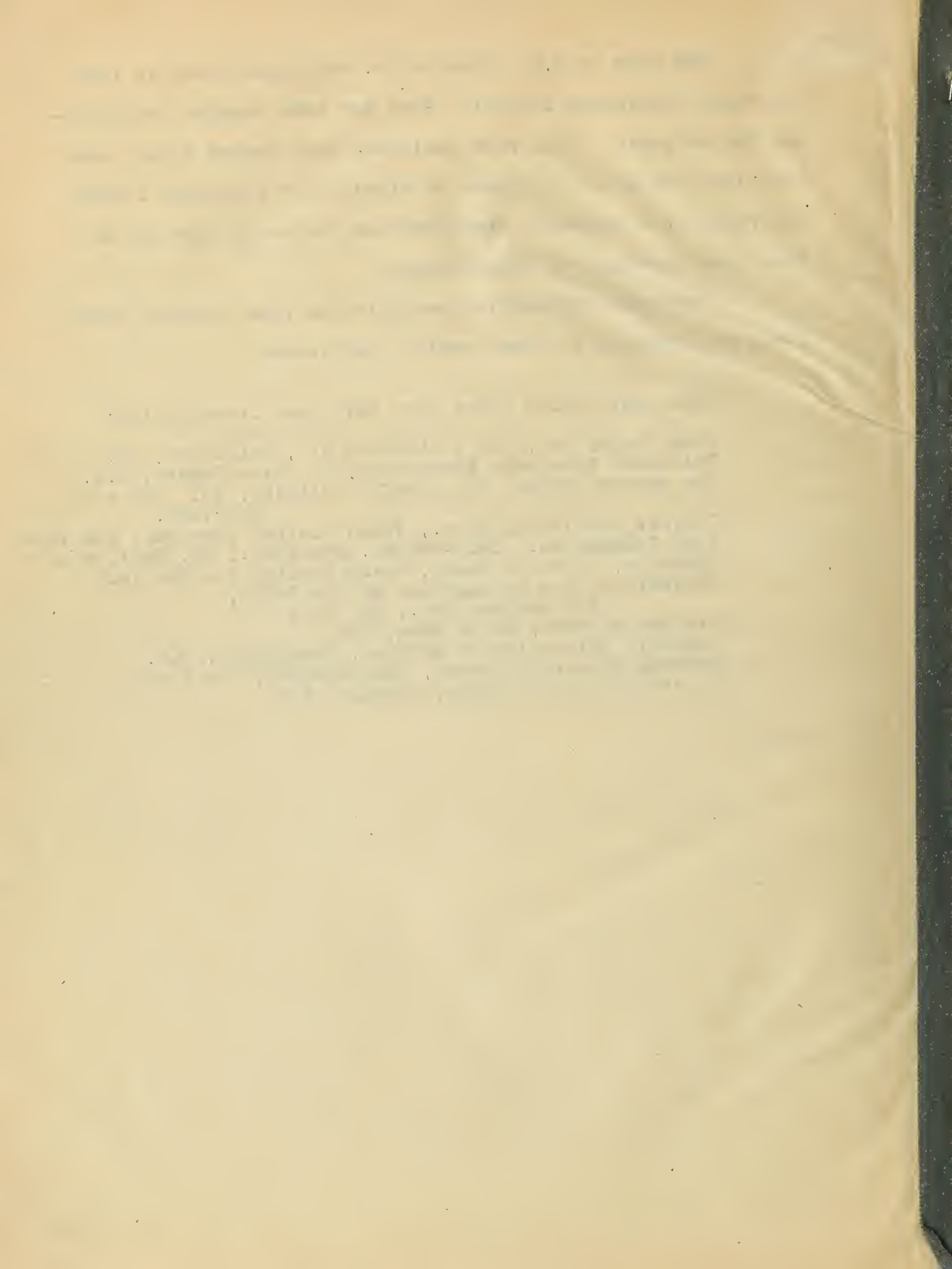
October, 1912.

BENZIGER BROTHERS



BENZIGER BROTHERS

Lithomount
Pamphlet
Binder
Gaylord Bros. Inc.
Makers
Syracuse, N. Y.
PAT. JAN 21, 1908

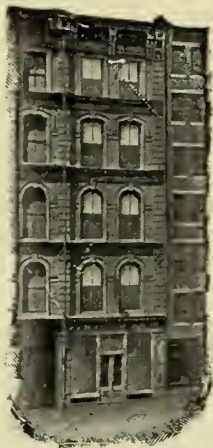


138 Years

- 1792** The firm of Benziger Brothers was founded in Einsiedeln, Switzerland, by Joseph Charles Benziger (d. 1841), whose biographical sketch may be found on page 484, vol. 2, of the Catholic Encyclopedia. The Catholic town of Einsiedeln, one of the world's most famous places of pilgrimage, dates back to 861, where the Benziger family dates back to 1504.
- 1833** Joseph Charles was succeeded by his sons Charles (d. 1873) and Nicholas Benziger (d. 1864).
- 1853** The New York house was founded, and J. N. Adelrich Benziger (d. 1878), a son of Charles, and Louis (d. 1896), a son of Nicholas took charge of the New York house, which is now the American firm and entirely independent of its parent house in Switzerland.
- 1860** A house is opened in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 1880** Nicholas C. Benziger (d. 1925) becomes a partner. His father Nicholas (d. 1908), was a partner in Einsiedeln, and was the son of Nicholas mentioned above.
- 1887** A house is opened in Chicago, Ill.
- 1894** Completion of new Studios and Works in Brooklyn, N. Y., for the manufacture of Church Goods, Vestments and Religious Articles on a large scale, and the production of their numerous publications and prayer-books.
- 1894** Louis G. Benziger, son of Louis, becomes a partner. He retired in 1914.
- 1912** Xavier N. Benziger, son of Nicholas C., becomes a partner.
- 1919** Bernard A. Benziger, son of Nicholas C., becomes a partner.
- 1923** Alfred F. Benziger, son of Nicholas C., becomes a partner.
- 1924** Installation in Brooklyn Factory of complete up-to-date printing plant.
- 1929** A house opened in San Francisco.
- 1930** The present partners of the firm, the three brothers, Xavier N. Benziger, Bernard A. Benziger and Alfred F. Benziger are the great-great-grandsons of the founder of this firm.



NEW YORK HOUSE
36-38 Barclay Street



CINCINNATI HOUSE
429 Main Street



CHICAGO HOUSE
205-207 W. Washington Street



STUDIO AND WORKS, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

In New York, Chicago, and Cincinnati, Benziger Brothers have the most complete stores of their kind, combining various departments, each highly developed, and specializing and preserving distinct individuality, thus insuring attention to every detail. Hence, the Religious Articles Department is a store in itself, the Book Department a complete Catholic Bookshop, and the Church Goods Department capable of outfitting a church. Amply supplied stockrooms on the premises allow speedy delivery of any size order.

OUR STORES The *lowest current price* at date of receipt of order is the price *charged by us, even though it may be advertised higher in this catalogue*, which is necessarily subject to change without notice, due to fluctuations, and was as correct as possible when the catalogue was printed. We have but one price to all the Reverend Clergy and Religious, and it is always kept as low as possible, and the quality of the goods kept up to the best standards.

PRICE Special designs and prices gladly given. Write us when contemplating the purchase of Altars.

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YOUR VISIT When visiting our stores we assure you of a courteous reception by a staff of Catholic salesmen who are especially selected and trained.

BENZIGER BROTHERS New York, 36-38 Barclay St. Cincinnati, 429 Main St. Chicago, 205-207 W. Washington St. San Francisco, 49 Fourth St.
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