

year the French occupied Wadai effectively. France grudgingly tolerates non-Roman missions in Algiers and Tunis. I do not know what her attitude would be to the idea of missions to Moslems in the Sahara or the Niger district or Lake Chad or Wadai. One imagines that such missions would be at present barred, and if this is so it calls for earnest prayer ; for on the attitude of France depends the evangelization of these vast regions.

*Under Russia :*

On the 17th of April, 1905, the new law of Religious Toleration was promulgated in Russia. One of the first results of this was the return of some 50,000 so-called converts to Christianity to their former Moslem allegiance. And they took with them some converts who were not formerly Moslems.

The astounding thing is that Russia appears to allow Islam to proselytize, even from the Greek Church, while proselytizing efforts or results on the part of non-Greek religious communities are still very severely discountenanced by the government. All my Russian informants are clear on this point. Thus Russian neutrality appears to be a very ambiguous affair, for the attitude which we have here described acts as an unlimited encouragement to the Moslems, while it places many forces of earnest Christian effort still under severe and vexatious restraints. Under these conditions the race is unequal.

The Russian lady who has studied the subject most, and has contributed a paper to this conference, adds : " Our government holds the same strange attitude to Islam as England seems to me to do in Egypt or Africa. It seems to me that our government is afraid of arousing the Mohammedan part of the nation by any such unjust and harsh measures which it is not afraid to apply towards Russian sectarians. The effect of this policy is an en-