Christian Plea, January - December 1954 (Volume 43, Number 5 - Volume 44, Number 4)

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HEAR THOSE BELLS?

They are ringing out the old calendar year and ringing in the new. Yet for the Disciples of Christ Church there is an urgency in their ring unfelt by many other people in the world. For all congregations seeking to realize the goals of the organized work within the bounds of the fiscal year, their ring means only six months left to work God's plans for the Church.

One bell rings for evangelism; another for stewardship; still another for Christian education and finally several for the National Christian Missionary Convention. Hear those bells?

Money Crisis

In a recent release from the office of President L. L. Dickerson of the National Christian Missionary Convention, the following twenty churches gave $100 or more for the support of the Convention during 1952-53. These congregations contributed more than 50 per cent of the total giving from cooperating churches:

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Commenting on the above, President Dickerson lamented the fact that such churches as the following were missing from the list: East 2nd Street, Lexington, Ky.; Louden Avenue, Roanoke, Va.; 28th Street, Los Angeles, Calif.; Fifth Church, Cincinnati, Ohio; Stuyvesant Heights, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Williamsburg, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Cosmopolitan, Los Angeles, Calif.; 12th Street, Washington, D. C.; and Mt. Olivet of Baltimore, Md.

National Convention funds are now at a crucial point. Churches are urged to make a substantial contribution to the convention treasurer this month.

Church Colleges Needed

NASHVILLE, TENN. (RNS)—Methodist Negro colleges will continue to be needed in the South, presidents of 12 such institutions agreed here.

The presidents met with three Negro bishops of The Methodist Church and officials of the Methodist Board of Education to discuss the needs and plans of the denomination's Negro institutions.

The group issued a statement noting that states were recognizing their educati

(See page 81.)
The Christian Plea

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WILLIAM KAPPEN FOX, Editor
E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary
L. L. DICKERSON, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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The Plea Platform

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea

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2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
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GLAD TO SELL

Editor, The Christian Plea:

Thanks for sending the 12 copies of The Plea. Enclosed, please find a check covering sale of the same.

I will be glad to send them each month.

-BESSIE B. GARNER, Lexington, Ky.

HOPES FOR CHANGE

Editor, The Christian Plea:

I hope the date for the National Christian Missionary Convention can be changed. I note you refer to it in a recent editorial.—JESSE M. BADER, New York, N. Y.

NO MIRACLE MEN

Editor, The Christian Plea:

I've just finished reading the editorial "Weighed in the Balances." As the official organ of the National Christian Missionary Convention, The Christian Plea expresses the opinion of a majority of our constituency. As president of the convention, I would not like to create the impression that I do not agree with the sentiment expressed in the editorial.

However, I do wish to comment on the issue raised in "the failure of the present administration in Washington to clean up the mess in Washington." I think we can all agree that there was a "mess" in Washington when the Republicans took control, and, if we have a reasonable amount of intelligence, we will know that a "mess" still exists and will continue to exist for a long time to come. Not only is there a "mess" in Washington, but the whole world is in a "mess." How can we expect the present administration to clean up in a few years the "mess" that has been in the making for several generations?

The present administration cannot "tell what it is planning in the face of immense challenges," because so far there isn't anyone in the administration or out of it that knows from one day to the next what to do.

A number of us were foolish enough to believe that a change of administrations would usher in a new era of peace, prosperity and good will among all men. Mr. Eisenhower was the "miracle man." All he had to do was wave a magic wand and "presto," all would be well. We not only got Mr. Eisenhower, but also an overdose of McCarthyism, Jennerism, Veldoiism, and as if that wasn't enough, Jimmy Byrnes too! How can anyone with a tinfoil of intelligence even hope for any semblance of order or direction to come out of that sort of situation?

I'm afraid, Mr. Editor, we are asking too much of the present administration.—L. L. DICKERSON, Columbus, Ohio.

THANKS

Response to President, Honorable Mr. Dickerson:

From the standpoint of the highest principles of the American press, the editorial page of The Christian Plea will never always express the sentiment of the majority of the National Convention constituency.

Whereas The Plea is pledged to support the general program of the National Christian Missionary Convention, for the good of the paper and our brotherhood, the editorial page can never be under the complete influence of the National Convention or any other particular interest.

Further, the editorial you refer to (if you will note closely) was lifted from another publication and reprinted in The Plea to stimulate thought. (This is a common practice by papers who carry the contributions of syndicate writers.)

Your response is the very thing we wanted. We want to thank you for the points which you have made so well. We welcome more responses from you and others in the future.—W. K. FOX, Editor of The Christian Plea, St. Louis, Mo.

Clergy Lead Housing Fights

STAMFORD, CONN. (RNS)—Clergymen are playing an active role in a citizens' group organized here to fight discrimination in the North Stamford residential area.

Organization of the group followed a disclosure that Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn Dodgers Negro ball-player, had been thwarted in his attempts to buy a suburban-sized home in lower Fairfield County and upper Westchester County, N. Y.

As part of the fight three clergymen referred to racial discrimination in housing in their Sunday speeches. They were Robert W. Holmes, Roxbury Community and Hunting Ridge Methodist churches; Wesley Bournemann, High Ridge Methodist church, and W. Keith Chichester, St. Francis Episcopal church.
Heart of Evangelism

"My church claims the first place in my heart, the principal place in my activities. Its unity, peace and progress concern my life in this world and in the world to come. I owe it my zeal, my benevolence, and my prayers. When I neglect its services, I injure its good name, I lessen its power, I discourage its members, and I chill my own soul."

The above statement has been placed on the back of a duplex envelope. In a measure it sets forth the heart of the evangelistic effort.

Evangelism does not begin with the enlistment and training of workers, the canvass, the friendly visit, etc. Evangelism begins at the center of your own soul. How much of the compassion, love and loyalty of Christ is there?

If a Christian exhibits lukewarmness and indifference toward the cause of the Church, no amount of evangelistic technique will do him any good. Indeed, he must be born again!

To promote evangelism effectively, the Church must claim first place in the hearts and activities of more of its members. The non-church member is not going to be moved toward Christ by a lukewarm and indifferent church membership!

I owe the Church my zeal. At least the same amount of energy, time and preparation one puts into a social club affair, a business transaction or baking a birthday cake, should be put into no less than one weekly church activity.

A modest small businessman in St. Louis was converted to Christianity eight years ago. Ever since his conversion he and his wife have gone calling on unchurched people for one hour in every week.

Business appointments are laid aside. Club socials are unscheduled. The inclinations to relax in an easy chair with the evening paper are denied. Husband and wife give one hour each week for winning others to Christ.

Last year these two alone won over 200 new members to their local church. You owe the Church your zeal!

I owe the Church my benevolence. Possibly one of the major reasons unchurched husbands and/or active young people stay home from church while Mother attends is that the church receives little benevolence in the home.

Essentially benevolence means the expression of good will and kindness. Conversations around the table and in the parlor, about the church, in the company of the unchurched must be predominantly positive. In conversation and deed the Christian must express more good will and kindness toward the church in the presence of the unreached. Negative criticism is already well expressed and believed by the majority of the unchurched. You owe the Church your benevolence!

I owe the Church my prayers. Prayer is most effective when it promotes a continuous attitude of worship and reverence for the divine in all of life's experiences. The Christian expresses this attitude with vigor toward his church.

Regular attendance at worship services; participation in such worship groups as the choirs, ushers' boards, elders, deacons and deaconesses, reinforce the prayer expression of the Christian. Such a witness will not pass unnoticed by the unchurched. You owe the Church your prayers.

By sharing zeal, bestowing benevolence, and rendering a prayer life, your light will shine and the unchurched will become more receptive for hearing the call of Christ. If the evangelistic spirit is to start in your church it will have to begin with you.

Give Them a Chance

The majority of young men in training for the ministry are waiting for a call and reasonable challenge from a local congregation motivated by courageous faith. They deserve the chance to make such a response. If the reasonable challenge is never made, it should be of little surprise that they take the next best opportunity for humanitarian service.

In the past year several of our finest churches have been left without a full-time ministry. The period between the resignation of a minister and the calling of another one has often been dangerously long. The seasoned minister with training, poise, experience and past accomplishment just didn't seem to be available.

(Several months ago Life Magazine listed only ten such ministers out of the total Christian ministry in America.)

Churches must be expected to help God develop ministers. Where could the local congregation find a better place to begin than with those fresh from our seminaries. We haven't too many at Howard Butler Drake and the rest, but we have some. Let's give them a chance to say "no."

They need a reasonable challenge. Few, if any expect $500 per month plus expenses the first year, but they do want sufficient income and provision so that they can live as worthy representatives of Christ, his church, and give full time to the Christian ministry. No student having received ministerial training in an accredited seminary can graduate expecting less.

Recently one church started to do something about it. Dissatisfied with a non-resident ministry and a part-time church program, they began to plan for a parsonage several years ago. Eventually the minister serving was called to a larger field. Though temporarily without the guidance of a full-time minister, the congregation went on to build a new parsonage. It now stands ready for the first qualified minister it decides to call. This is not a bad example for other churches to follow.

Is your church without a minister? Why not explore the possibility of calling one of our seminary graduates? Let's give them a chance to say "no."

January, 1954
Teacher Appreciation

A teacher appreciation vesper service, sponsored recently at the Centennial Church in St. Louis, Mo., was listed among the year’s several high-light programs by the official board of the church.

A committee representing the community and the church developed a program for recognizing the principals and faculties of public schools for the contribution being made to the spiritual and moral development of youth.

Dr. Sidney A. Sweet, rector at Christ Church Cathedral, was principal speaker. An eighty-voice choir from Beaumont High School, a thirty-voice young people’s choir of Centennial and a soloist from Summer High School rendered the music.

Certificates of Honor were given to each school.

Across the Brotherhood

- Reporter Ruth P. Jackson of the College Addition Church of Jackson, Miss., reports a program of expansion taking place there under the leadership of B. L. Jacobs, pastor. A recent “Victory Rally” brought forward a total of $894.82.

- W. H. Brown, formerly a minister of Christian churches in Kansas, Iowa and North Carolina, was recently selected as minister at the Jones Street Church of Bluefield, W. Va.

- Victims of the recent tornado disaster in Vicksburg, Miss., received relief through the Missions Store still in operation at Southern Christian Institute. Mr. and Mrs. John Long supervised the operation.

- A. L. Brabham of Erhard, S. C., reports that the churches of District No. 1 recently held a successful meeting at the Cherry Grove Church of Branson, S. C. Among the leaders playing a prominent part in the program were F. W. Warren, P. S. Patterson, A. L. Brabham, R. M. Edward, A. L. Kinard, H. C. Caper and R. H. Boyd.

- Through the efforts of S. E. Tillman, regional evangelist of the National Christian Missionary Convention for the Eastern Seaboard, the Fountain Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been restored to the fellowship of the organized work.

- The Disciples of Christ of both races in Nashville, Tenn., have united in a work committee to plan for programs of expansion. Dr. O. L. Hambrick has been elected chairman. He is assisted by G. Curtis Jones, minister at the Vine Street Church.

- Upon the resignation of L. F. Sedge as minister at the Riverview Church of Memphis, Tenn., was the full rally of elected as pastor. Mr. Johnson was the associate minister at the Mississippi Boulevard Church for two years. His previous affiliation had been with the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church.

- Included in recent happenings of note at Mississippi Boulevard Church of Memphis, Tenn., was the full rally of the laymen’s league. Mr. Johnson was the associate minister at the Mississippi Boulevard Church for two years. His previous affiliation had been with the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church.

- The dining hall at Jarvis Christian College burned recently. Students are being accommodated temporarily in the recreation unit.

At Cleveland Avenue

By LORETTA MCMILLAN

The Cleveland Avenue Church of Winston-Salem, N. C., has been carrying on a full program without the services of a minister for the past three months.

With Church Chairman A. I. Terrell presiding, a service of dedication for the recently installed electric organ has been held. Dr. Homer O. Wilson, minister at the Fourth Street Church of Winston-Salem, N. C., was the principal speaker.

Under the leadership of President Thomas Spencer of the laymen’s league, a drive was launched to purchase pews for the main auditorium. The pews were paid for within thirty days.

A bazaar and fashion show under the sponsorship of the Co-Workers Club brought additional funds to the church. Mrs. Gertude McMillan is president of this club.

Happenings at Monroe Avenue

BY OLA HARRIS

October marked the beginning of the ninth year that L. L. Dickerson has been minister at the Monroe Church of Columbus, Ohio.

Recently, an observance program was held where expressions of gratitude and appreciation were given by church officials and leaders of auxiliaries. (The pastor requested that those desiring to give him gifts, present them to the building fund instead.)

The church cooperated in the sponsoring of Dr. bone Page Welch in a lecture-recital held at the Broad Street Church. Mrs. Welch lectured on her recent trip around the world and sang several selections. The reception that followed was well attended.

Along with the building campaign, the church will promote the annual New Year’s-to-Easter attendance drive. This effort begins the first Sunday in January with an annual roll call.

One of the outstanding events of the pre-holiday season was the annual tea given by the Women’s Council of the church. It was held at the Elmhurst Party Home.

Miss Marcia Dimmy was awarded the first prize of a $25.00 savings bond for reporting the largest sum of money. Miss Betty Jane Hoke received second prize; Miss Emma Crim was given third prize and Miss Belva Jean Stout awarded fourth prize.

In making the presentations, President Mrs. Reynolds commended each contestant for her loyalty and devotion to Christ and His Church.

Miss Marcia Dimmy sang “Bless This House.” She was accompanied by Mrs. Blackwell.

The goal for the tea was $500. The church went over the top. Captains for the event were: Mrs. Alberta B. Bradley, Mrs. Annabel Johnson, Mrs. Mary Howard and Mrs. Turner.

Ushers’ Day Planned

Mrs. Auby Ramsey, president of the ushers’ fellowship of the National Christian Missionary Convention, recently announced the fourth Sunday in this month as “National Ushers’ Day” in all churches cooperating with the convention. (This is in keeping with recommendations 24, 25 and 26 which were adopted by the convention at Roanoke, Va.)

All ushers’ boards are urged to plan some type of program on this day and report same to the office of the president.

Each local board is advised to follow the Universal Church Ushers’ Manual as a guide in the local program.
It also seems important to take a look at two other sources of support for these institutions. They are: Church donations and miscellaneous sources. One of the colleges reports that it receives 50 per cent of its support from church donations while the other 50 per cent is reported to have come from tuition and fees. In addition, another reported 95 per cent from church donations and tuition and fees. There are two other colleges reporting a total of 70 per cent of their support from church donations, tuition and fees, and miscellaneous sources, while one reported having received as much as 88 per cent from these three sources. It may be significant to note that only one of these four colleges reports more than 1 per cent of its support as coming from endowment.

The fact that such a large percentage of the support for most of these institutions comes from such fluctuating sources as tuition and fees, church donations, and miscellaneous sources, raises some questions in the mind of the writer relative to its ultimate stability. These questions grow out of the relative sensitivity of such support to the influence of inflation and deflation in the American economy. Certainly, this is not to say that endowment and organized missions are not affected by these influences. On the other hand, these sources of support appear to be less sensitive to sudden change in our economy than are the sources of gifts and tuition and fees. Endowment in itself, though the income in recent years has decreased, offers some insurance for basic operations. Too, it is often true that organized missions have investments usually sufficient to guarantee some basic support. But, in view of the decreasing number of philanthropists together with the decrease in the amounts of the gifts—miscellaneous sources do not offer to an institution having no other basic source of support, the solace it once provided. Too, these institutions must continue to seek and secure contributions, not as a source of existence or basic operation, but as a source of continued improvement of their physical resources as well as their education program.

This latter necessity today is an educational "must" if these institutions hope to remain in operation. It is further complicated, however, by increased cost of operation growing out of the inflated economy. In addition, there is the increased competition by the public college for the students who are able to pay the higher tuition and fees charged. The author cannot visualize the continued operation of many of these institutions under the present support set-up, except only as second-class institutions. It seems important to note also that the increasing tendency toward integration in the South (where most of these colleges are located) will increasingly make inroads on the potential student group. In the second place, the tendency for the philanthropic foundations to concentrate their gifts, etc., by making them to larger and more firmly established institutions will, it would appear, lessen the number and amount of gifts these institutions may look forward to securing from this source. A third factor to be considered is that of the continued increase in the cost of tuition and fees to the extent that students who would otherwise attend this type of college will be forced into public institutions.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The information reported above suggests the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. Inasmuch as a substantial endowment (held and invested either by the institution itself or the missionary organization supporting it), is considered to be one of an institution's most important sources of income, it would appear that the majority of the institutions included in this report are operating on the brink of virtual peril. They do not seem to have a sufficient endowment for a permanent support backlog.

2. These colleges are, in the main, relying too heavily for their income on student fees and miscellaneous gifts and donations, either from churches or individuals.

3. Their continued operation—in the face of the trend of students toward the public colleges aggravated by the increasing need for high-quality faculty personnel, will inevitably force them to recede toward second-class colleges if not total extinction.

As a result, the writer makes the following suggestions:

1. These institutions should, if possible, increase their source or sources of basic income by first, increasing their endowment and second, broadening the base of their gifts and donations. Special consideration should be given to the alumni and other non-church sources.

2. Perhaps one of the soundest approaches to the solution of this problem for these colleges would be found in the merger (irrespective of church affiliation) of two or more of these colleges into one. The writer makes this suggestion with full understanding of many of the (more apparent than real) complications involved. An example might serve to enlighten the reader on this point. In the State of Texas, there exists at the present time, five colleges, two Baptist, two Methodist, and one Disciple of Christ within a radius of seventy miles or even less. Each of them are struggling for existence—neither having more than $750,000 in endowment. The five together had a total enrollment in 1950-51 of 2,748. It would appear that

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JANUARY, 1954

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In the New Year

BY MRS. BERNIECE HOLMES

The beginning of the new year is a good time for counting our blessings and recommitting our lives to larger Christian service.

The National Christian Women's Fellowship is the tie that should bind all Christian women in the service.

The first step in realizing this objective is to bring ourselves closer to the Master and his teaching through worship. The process of public worship will increase our spiritual growth and build the attitude of worship in our lives.

The second step is to equip ourselves for service through study. We must know what the church is, what it is doing and who is doing it. The Disciples of Christ churches form a great chain reaching around the world. Each one of our churches is a link in the chain. Weak links endanger the effectiveness of the whole chain.

We must strengthen our churches by setting a high purpose for them. We must challenge our women to greater service. This is best done by studying the needs of the world and finding the best ways to give of ourselves for the cause of Christ and his church.

The National Christian Missionary Convention is one of the instruments available to us for developing a fellowship of those planning to do kingdom work more effectively.

Women are moving more and more toward the Master's goal of unity. They see the Christian Women's Fellowship as a part of our growing National Convention.

Finally, the goal of the Christian Women's Fellowship can be best realized through sincere participation in service projects. In this respect we have accepted many obligations at the local, state and national levels. We must seek to make 1954 a greater year for Christ and his Church through service and sharing.

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son." Surely women have something to render in return. Let's give more in 1954.

Planning Conference

The Seventh National Planning Conference and the Fourth Commission were held recently at the Second Church of Indianapolis, Ind. Mrs. Edith W. Bris- tow, third vice president of the National Convention and Mrs. Besse C. Roy, chairman of the Commission, presided over the weekend sessions.

The planning meeting was divided into the following four work groups: adult and administration; young people and intermediates; young adult; and children. Serving as chairman of these groups were: T. R. Moore, Paul Sims, Joe Wiley and Mrs. Edith V. Richardson respectively.

Each of the four groups brought forward a program of work which was presented for approval and implementation.

About fifty persons representing a cross-section of the National Convention were in attendance. The program of work and recommendations have been sent to cooperating churches.

Jesse Bader Retires

(NCCC) Jesse M. Bader is retiring from his present position as Executive Director of the Joint Department of Evangelism of the National Council of Churches. He has served in this Department for 22 years, giving wise and aggressive leadership in evangelism to 30 denominations numbering 35,000,000 members.

Prior to his going to the Federal Council of Churches in 1932, Dr. Bader was the secretary of evangelism of the United Christian Missionary Society. This man has given 35 years to this primary work of the church—Evangelism. It is not surprising, therefore, that he is called "Mr. Evangelism," or that Christian Herald published an article about him recently entitled, "Evangelism's Quarter- back."

Recently, at the Riverside Church in New York some 300 of Dr. Bader's friends attended an appreciation dinner in his honor. The toastmaster was Edwin T. Dahlberg, pastor of the Delmar Baptist Church in St. Louis, who is also one of the present Vice-Chairmen of the Department of Evangelism. The main address on this occasion was delivered by Bishop William C. Martin of Dallas, Texas, who is the President of the National Council of Churches.

Many of Dr. Bader's friends, of whom there are so many around the world, are inquiring as to what he expects to do after his retirement from the Council at the end of this year. Dr. Bader says, "I'm not going to be 'retired' but rather 're- trenched.'" The Executive Committee of our World Convention voted at a recent meeting that he should give full time to the World Convention of our Brotherhood, beginning this month and that he should open a World Convention headquarters office in New York City. All this is wonderful news, for it means that our World Brotherhood is to have the full-time services of Dr. Bader and it also means that the opening of a headquarters office for the World Convention will give added permanency to this worthy and needed organization among us. As many in our Brotherhood already know, Jesse Bader originated the World Convention which held its first meeting in 1930 in Washington D. C. Since that time he has been its General Secretary, serving in this capacity for 23 years without salary.

Pruden, Builds

WASHINGTON, D. C. (EN) — Ground was broken here for the new $8,000,000 First Baptist church building. It will be the largest Protestant parish church in the nation's capital, according to Dr. Edward Hughes Pruden, pastor.

The structure will be completed in May, 1955. Until then the congregation, of which former President Harry S. Truman was a member, will meet for worship at the Washington Jewish Community Center two blocks away.
Korea Rehabilitated
(NCCC) Reconstruction work in war-devastated South Korea has progressed rapidly within the past eight months, largely because of leadership provided by church and other voluntary agencies, the generosity of American GI's to Korean civilians, and the "spiritual strength" of the Korean people, a social welfare expert said last week. Mr. Leonard Mayo, director of the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children, told more than 100 church and welfare workers in New York City that South Korea's rehabilitation is symbolic of "the indestructibility of the human spirit."

Mr. Mayo, traveled to Korea twice this year with the Bush Mission of the American Korean Foundation, outlined plans set in operation by representatives of government and voluntary agencies to aid Korean children. The plans are: establishment of a "tracer service" to bring together families and children separated by war; group training and demonstration centers for orphanage personnel; eventual establishment of a foster care and adoption service for orphaned children; vocational training for war widows, who need to support themselves because they do not remarry under Korean tradition.

Noting changes in South Korea which occurred between his two visits—six months apart—Mr. Mayo described Seoul as a "ghost town" last March. By last August, when he returned to the peninsula, thatch-roofed shops had sprung up in Seoul and orphanages and hospitals were being improved, even with "meager resources." Mr. Mayo, chairman of the social welfare department of the National Council of Churches, spoke in New York City at a luncheon sponsored by the department and an affiliated group, Christian Social Welfare Associates.

Educators More Willing
PITTSBURGH (RNS)—A Roman Catholic educator said he detected in the Religious Education Association's seminars here "much more awareness of the need to understand one another—and much more willingness to try."

Msgr. Thomas J. Quigley, superintendent of Pittsburgh Catholic schools, told the final session of the Association's 50th anniversary convention that the Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish leaders in the organization had come to the point where "we do not merely tolerate one another, but accept each other as we are."

Reds Seek Clergy
Berlin (RNS)—The Communist-controlled East German Christian Democratic Union has renewed its attempts to organize "pastors' meetings" throughout the Soviet Zone to spread the Red line and win clergymen over to cooperation with the government.

Bigotry Unpopular
Washington, D. C. (RNS)—Bigotry has been made unpopular in the U.S. by the National Conference of Christians and Jews over its 25-year history, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president, told the organization's silver anniversary meeting here.

"This new pattern—cooperation instead of isolationism—has made social and religious history in the United States," he said, "and is an example that will be increasingly followed by the rest of the world in the next 25 years."

The annual meeting here was attended by some 50 regional directors of the N. C. C. J. from all sections of the country, members of the national board of directors and representatives of World Brotherhood and the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

In reviewing for them the organization's major achievements since 1928, Dr. Clinchy said it had:

(1) Mobilized leaders of the three faiths against "the enemies of religion."
(2) Given the world "sound, tested techniques for creating brotherhood."
(3) Sponsored Brotherhood Week as a national annual observance to "emphasize that all mankind is one family and to seek rededication to basic principles of justice and equal opportunity."
(4) Introduced the brotherhood idea universally by helping to create World Brotherhood, an organization that has functioning units in Europe and "looks ahead to setting up units in the Far East."

Have You and Your Church Enrolled in
The Family Protection Program

The plan will go into effect July 1, 1954, if ¾ of the present membership enroll.

When preparing your budget for 1954 be sure to include The Family Protection Program.

PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
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JANUARY, 1954
UP TO DATE AND ALL ABOUT –

Disciple Missions

BY A. Dale Fiers, President, United Christian Missionary Society

THIS IS MISSIONS: Our Christian Witness in an Unchristian World is a new book of experiences every member of Disciples of Christ will want to read.

The day-by-day journal records a vivid view and candid appraisal of today’s missionary work as seen by Dr. Fiers during his worldwide tour. The book is written with an air of frankness, the entries remaining essentially as they were jotted down along the way.

Twenty-six on-the-spot pictures bring the real-life situations even closer to the reader. The chapter headings indicate the scope of Dr. Fiers’ tour: Europe—The Ecumenical Church; Missions in Training; The Belgian Congo—Adventures in Christian Service; The Middle East—The Holy Land and The Clash of Faiths and Cultures... Japan... Thailand... England... India. $3.00

Church Colleges Needed

Church colleges are needed more fully than ever before, but adding:

‘It is the conviction of the Church that freedom of thought can best be guaranteed, and liberal and cultural development more greatly stimulated, through the maintenance of Church-supported colleges.

‘The Methodist colleges for Negroes in the South were established to meet a particular need,’” the statement added. “In the rapidly changing social and economic structure of the South, there is still need for these schools.

‘Seventy-three per cent of the Negroes of college age live in the South and 80 per cent of all students attend college in their home states."

The educators stressed the need for more Negro physicians, nurses, teachers and ministers. There is a shortage of about 6,900 Negro physicians, they said.

The Board reported that there were 8,559 students in the Church’s 12 Negro colleges.

Bishops present at the meeting were Matthew IV. Clair, St. Louis Area; J. W. E. Bowen, Atlanta, Ga., Atlantic Coast Area, and Edgar A. Love, Baltimore Area.

Religion on TV

SYRACUSE, N. Y. (RNS) – Television offers a “way of reaching more individuals than have ever crowded into American churches,” a General Electric vice-president told the closing banquet of the sixth annual religious television workshop here.

The Negro Church College

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From page 81)


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the pooling of all of the resources of the five institutions would enable that section of Texas and the Southwestern part of the United States to bolster its educational advantage rather than have five, second- or third-rate colleges. The principle involved is the submergence of the individual for the good of the group. To some this is “‘heresy’” in the first degree. However, which is more important—maintaining a so-called college in the name of the specific church, or maintaining one for the full development of human beings?

To what extent do church colleges operate for the purpose of perpetuation of church denominations or to develop Christian human beings? These questions, the writer does not attempt to answer, but suggests that church leaders ponder them.

3. The final suggestion would seem to be that these institutions should further intensify their United College effort. In addition, the church fellowships need and should study objectively at least two phases of their effort:

a. To what extent are they attempting to operate more colleges than their financial history and status would indicate that they are able to support?

b. To what extent are the institutions fulfilling their purposes on a high level of efficiency? Are they trying to do too much with too little?

The author takes the position that if the latter two questions or problems are investigated objectively, it should be possible to secure a reorientation to their effort and perhaps the development of a new and certainly more effective program.

MARCH DECLARED "V" MONTH

Money Vitally Needed

The administration of the National Christian Missionary Convention has declared March, 1954, as "Victory Month."

This urgent action was taken recently when reports from the office of the national treasurer indicated that payments toward the $34,000 budget adopted by the churches for the operation of the National Christian Missionary Convention during 1953-54 were lagging dangerously behind.

Speaking to a representative of The Christian Plea recently, a high spokesman for the convention said:

"We only hope that our supporting churches will manifest as prompt and continuing interest as our cooperating agencies. The convention is run like any local church. It depends upon the week-to-week free-will offerings of its people. Possibly if more churches realized this they would give liberally and more frequently."

THE ALL PEOPLES CHURCH in Los Angeles, Calif., under the sponsorship of the Disciples of Christ, is one of the most successful efforts in race relations now being sponsored by a major Protestant body. Above, Daniel Genung (with coat and tie), minister of the church, participates in a committee meeting.
The Christian Plea

VOLUME 43, No. 6
WILLIAM KAPPEL FOX, Editor
E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary
L. L. DICKERSON, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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The Plea Platform

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea

If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:

1. Your name plate has a faulty impression and your name, street, town or state is misspelled.
2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
4. Your paper is being sent to the wrong address, but being kept by the persons receiving it.
5. Our office has not yet changed the address on your name plate.

Please drop us a card or letter if you are having any sort of difficulty like the above or if you know of other Plea patrons who mentioned similar problems to you.

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P. O. Box 4427
Wade Station
St. Louis, Missouri

The Sounding Board

A Personal Word
by
Gene Mosley

What progress have you made in the Christian Youth Fellowship during the past year? I hope that you are striving to do a better job in approximating the Christian ideal in 1954.

Now that we have had successful youth week observances, we must begin preparation for the many important events that lay ahead. For example, plans for sponsoring oratorical contests in districts and state conventions should be made now. By the time of the national assembly in St. Louis August 16-22, every state or area, should have a capable representative ready for the national run-off.

Another high experience for some of us will be the meeting of the International Planning Commission which convenes in Bethany Hills, Tenn., August 22-27.

Of course, it is not too early for all of us to make preparation for attending summer youth conferences.

Occasionally the news of our youth work has appeared in issues of The Christian Plea. However, there is a need for more news to be sent in to such brotherhood publications as The Christian Plea and The Vision.

If at any time there are problems confronting your group, and you desire additional help, please feel free to write your national president or the office of the national field secretary of Christian education.

My address is Rt. 2, Box 39, Jackson, Miss., and Lorenzo Evans can be reached at 222 S. Downey Avenue, Indianapolis 7, Ind.

Let us face the year with renewed courage and vigor. May we not stumble over the obstacles we will find in our way. Let us march on until in Christ there is victory and unity.

Fourth Vice-President of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

NEW

for Pastors' Classes

CHOOSING THE WAY

By Joseph A. Houston. This brand new pastors' class manual has 64 pages filled with suggestions on how to enlist, conduct and follow up a class on church membership for Juniors and Intermediates. There are plans for 6 meetings with a work sheet or diagram for each, which may be mimeographed. Sessions deal with steps necessary to become a follower of Jesus, how to grow as a Christian, how to live with others, and information on the organization of Disciples of Christ. Also discusses an agenda for a conference with church school workers, letters to parents, and personal interviews with each pupil, etc. 75 cents.

Appealing . . .

Effective . . .

I CHOOSE THE WAY

By Doris Clore Demaree. A 32-page reading book for pupils to accompany the above manual or for a gift to new members who have not attended a class. Beautifully illustrated with 10 two-color pictures. Tells what Protestants believe about God, about Jesus, about baptism, about being a Christian, what Disciples of Christ believe, and developments in the history of Disciples of Christ. 40 cents.

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St. Louis, Missouri

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA
Color in the Church

At this time of year we make survey of progress made in race relations. We are also given opportunity as Christians to lift up the essential elements of a faith in brotherhood.

The matter of color in the Church has followed the pattern of race relations found in the State and the secular institutions which make up our western culture. As a basic institution in human society, the Church can not as yet lay claim to any large scale and impressive effort for setting the pattern for better race relations.

Within recent years, the problem of race relations has more and more become a matter of color of skin relations. Knowledge about people and their culture has increased. Improved means of communication; broad scale publication of free materials; increased emphasis upon current events in schools and colleges; plus two world wars and a "police action," have made facts about people and their cultures common knowledge.

As we have learned that people are basically the same the world over, segregation and discrimination on the basis of race seems to have been supplanted by segregation and discrimination on the basis of color. (Leading anthropologists, however, have proved scientifically that color makes little or no difference in effecting the basic unity of the human race. Further, they have proved that color is only skin deep, and often doesn't show on the surface at all.)

With our conscience troubled by what has happened in the war-torn countries of Europe and Asia, we have opened doors of opportunity to an ever widening stream of displaced persons. Some are Europeans, others Asians, and still others nationals of Oriental origins. Luckily, the citizenship development of these people has not been seriously affected by the color of their skin.

Segregation and discrimination on the basis of color affects the darker skinned races, more than any other. In America, this means primarily the Negro. (However, the vast number of Negroes of very light skin that it excludes will possibly never be known.)

Though the practices of segregation and discrimination on the basis of race and color in the secular world have found exact parallels in the Church, this has not always been true of the progress that is made. Progress in race relations made in the secular world, has usually taken slow rootage in the Church. (This cultural lag, on the part of the Church in respect to race, however, has been historically true of the Church in such matters, as to make new developments in science and philosophy.)

However, all this is not to say that the Church has not made, and is not making a successful witness of its faith in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Relative progress has been made in recent years by following experimental patterns of putting color into the Church. These policies have found concrete expression at denominational administrative levels, various types of councilor organizations, the youth camp and conference movement, and more infrequently at the local church level.

The American Negro is the largest minority in the United States. Out of his number of some 16,000,000, possibly 9,500,000 belong to some Christian church. Approximately 9,100,000 are Protestants and 400,000 Catholics. Of the 9,100,000 Protestants, possibly 8,500,000 belong to predominantly Negro denominations, while the remaining 600,000 are members of largely white communions.

Progress in race and religion has largely been made under the initiative of the predominantly white denominations. Our great Negro communions where the overwhelming majority of Negro communicants reside, have not yet promoted many constructive efforts in race relations. It would appear that both racial

(See page 91.)
**Color in Bermuda**

London (RNS) — The existence of an alleged “color bar” in Bermuda was denounced by a leading Church of England clergyman in a sermon delivered at the Royal Naval College in Greenwich.

Canon Lewis John Collins of St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, said the matter “should fill us with shame” and that “by consenting to what is being done in our name in Bermuda, we all gag our consciences for the sake of tourist dollars.”

Allegations of a “color bar” arose from recent reports that Negroes had not been invited to the official dinner for Queen Elizabeth during her recent visit to Bermuda.

“We should give a clear mandate to the Archbishop of Canterbury and all other spokesmen of Christian denominations,” Canon Collins said, “to tell Mr. Lyttleton that we will not tolerate a color bar any longer in any place where Britain has any responsibility.” (Oliver Lyttleton is Britain’s Colonial Secretary.)

**Disciples’ Birthplace**

The trustees of the historic Cane Ridge Meeting House are launching a movement for the preservation of this church, located in Bourbon County near Paris, Kentucky, which was the birthplace of the Christian Church.

It is proposed that there shall be erected a superstructure of the native Cane Ridge limestone which will enable this meeting house to tell its story to future generations.

Here Barton Warren Stone engaged in his early ministry, and here in 1804 he and his colleagues wrote the Last Will and Testament of the Springfield Presbytery, which is the earliest document in our brotherhood life that pleaded for the union of the followers of Christ, to wear the name simply of Christians, with their faith and practice determined by the Bible.

Dr. Thomas D. Clark, head of the Department of History in the University of Kentucky (not a member of the Disciples Church), rightly says, “Here was founded the first truly American church. It would be almost criminal for interested people to let this historical shrine disintegrate.”

The Cane Ridge trustees are seeking the cooperation of all interested people in this Cane Ridge Preservation Project. Robert M. Hopkins has accepted their invitation to give direction to the undertaking. His office is in the Christian Church at Paris, Kentucky, and to him at that address may be sent all inquiries, suggestions and gifts for this worthy purpose.

The primary financial goal is $100,000.

**Church Grows**

(EPS) Church membership in the USA has reached a record number of 92,277, 129. Last year’s gain was 3,604,123 or 4.1 per cent. These ecclesiastical statistics come from the 1953 Yearbook of American Churches, published by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

The number of local churches has reached 285,277, as compared with 284,592 for 1951. The number of clergymen having charges is 183,899, as against 181,123 for 1951. Sunday school enrollments showed a gain of nearly two million.

Protestant and Roman Catholic church membership gains were virtually the same, as they have been for years past: 3.9 per cent Protestant and 3.5 per cent Roman Catholic. The over-all gain in church membership is partly attributed to greatly increased birth rates of the 1940’s.

Other factors have been the widespread, systematic evangelistic programs carried out by the churches and the generally felt need for guidance in times of international tension and upheaval.

**Brotherhood depends on you. Make your life a part of the solution.**

**Ease Race Tension**

(EPS) Three national women’s organizations have joined hands in sponsoring a new $10,000 program designed to ease racial and religious tensions through cooperative projects in local communities. Participating in the national program will be United Church Women, the National Council of Jewish Women and the National Council of Negro Women.

The three groups will act through a Committee on Community Projects of the Neechi Foundation.

Under the new program, grants of $5,000, or $3,000 and $2,000 will be given to advance three local projects which are improving community life. The projects may be of any size as long as they encourage people in the community to work cooperatively together. They may be of any kind—a new clinic or hospital equipment, a playground or community center, an educational program for newcomers to this country, vocational training to help community residents get better jobs, or any other project to better the community.

The grants will be made on the basis of how well the project is to the community; how much the local citizens are involved in it; how well its aims are achieved, or how good the project is; that its aims will be achieved; and how great an impact the project will have in terms of continuing cooperation and good relations among community groups.

The Committee on Community Projects was established at the urging of a noted community consultant, Dr. Max Wulf of the Center for Human Relations at New York University, after a survey of 1,800 U.S. communities showed that religious, racial and other intergroup tensions were on the increase.

The Neechi Foundation was established by Leon Jolson, president of the Neechi Sewing Machine Company who came to the U.S. as a displaced person and now has set up the foundation as his gift to his new country. United Church Women is the lay women’s arm of the National Council of Churches.

**Oxnam vs. McIntire**

Los Angeles (RNS)—Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam and fundamentalist leader Carl McIntire clashed verbally here but without meeting face to face.

"I don’t believe I’ve ever met the gentleman," Bishop Oxnam said at a press conference, "although I was told that he attended one of my meetings once."

The Methodist leader spoke before an audience of 3,500 in First Methodist church on "Contemporary Threats to Civil Liberties." Mr. McIntire, whose International Council of Christian Churches and American Council of Christian Churches strongly oppose the bishop, addressed 500 at an anti-Oxnam rally the previous night.

Asked for comment on Dr. McIntire’s rally, Bishop Oxnam said: "If he [Mr. McIntire] will publish an audited statement of the organizations he represents, telling the sources of their income and where the money goes, I’ll (See page 92.)
What About Vacation School?

By Bessie Chandler Rey
Chairman of National Christian Education Commission

WE NEVER have enough time in our class to complete our work. Activities suggested in our church school quarterlies never get adequate treatment. This is a typical complaint of many church school teachers in our brotherhood churches.

Occasionally some worker will suggest a more inclusive approach to all the children of the church school and in the church community. Usually somebody asks, "What about a vacation day Bible school?" Such a question usually starts a fruitful inquiry.

Hundreds of churches have found that a vacation church school of from two or three weeks' duration, produces good results. For example, here are a few:

1) The amount of time church workers have for guiding children is increased. The general time allotted is from two to three hour sessions per day in a five-day week.

2) Pupil interest is secured and sustained.

3) Projects can be planned and worked at on consecutive days until completion. Thus more meaningful learning is made possible.

4) Experiences in group living is afforded for boys and girls. There is opportunity for fellowship with each other and adults in worship, work, play, and problem solving.

5) It provides a laboratory for training new and inexperienced teachers. Many young people serving as assistant church school teachers or substitutes, will gain a greater knowledge of teaching under proper guidance.

6) The church is given an opportunity for making a significant impact upon the community.

Early planning is important. Success is dependent upon it. Now is the time to start your plans for a vacation church school.

Whose responsibility is it to sponsor the school? This is the basic question frequently asked. The query has several answers. It can be sponsored by a council or neighborhood organization of churches. However, in the local church, the authority is usually given by the local church board to a special committee of three or more persons. This committee may be called a Christian education committee, or a vacation school committee.

The committee's first job is to set up a workers' conference on the vacation church school. The early planning meetings should include all persons who have any concern for, or will have any responsibilities connected with the vacation church school.

There are many things to be done. In a small church many of these functions will be performed by one or two persons. In larger churches, the same functions may be performed by special committees, each made up of three or more persons. The school must have publicity promotion, progress reports made, finance, a time for operation, teachers selected and trained, housing, equipment, pupils, and interested parents. The committee has a real job to do.

PUBLICITY—The person or committee which is assigned to spreading the good news about the vacation church school, has a most important function. There must be belief in the work of the school and an ability to convince others of its values. It is essential to have enthusiasm among workers that are well informed on all details about the school.

The person or committee assigned should know whom should be reached with the good news, and what things should be done to best reach them. For example, interest and enthusiasm must be aroused among the boys and girls; parents must be contacted and fully informed; the members of the church must be convinced of the real value of the school, if they are to give significant financial support; and the cooperation of community groups will be important to secure.

Other means of promotion can grow out of such a vigorous effort. Community groups can be asked to put in a plug; the church board can see to it that the school is an item in the budget; the minister can emphasize it through his formal and informal contacts with members; a service of dedication can be planned for the workers; and the church fellowship organization can announce the coming of the school during their respective meetings.

(See page 92.)

MRS. VIRGIE GREGORY assists Mrs. Bessie C. Rey in one of the many vacation schools which have been held at the Centennial Church in St. Louis, Mo.
WHITE MINISTERS preaching in Negro churches is a frequent occurrence in all parts of the United States. The practice of pulpit exchanges is growing. Above, Dr. John Tate of the Virginia State Missionary Society speaks in the Louden Avenue Church of Roanoke, Va.

Home Investigated

Washington, D.C. (RNS)—An investigation of alleged racial discrimination at the Presbyterian Home for aged women here has been ordered by the Washington City Presbytery.

It took the action after hearing Halley B. Taylor declare that "no matter how high-class or cultured the applicant is, if she's colored she can't get in."

"If we discriminate on color on this particular thing, how can we call ourselves Christians?" Mr. Taylor asked.

The Presbytery then adopted a resolution to ask its representatives on the Home's board of trustees to ascertain the attitude of the Home on the possible reception of members of our three colored churches."

James C. Fahl, sponsor of the motion, said its purpose was to "make the Home reconsider the question."

Personal Problems

Minneapolis, Minn. (RNS)—A pastor of a suburban church has opened a personal problems clinic in downtown Minneapolis.

Donald N. Ekerholm, pastor of Elim Baptist church, Anoka, Minn., planned the clinic, he said, in the conviction that the church's message often must be taken on a personal contact basis to people who need its help.

"A great deal of distress prevalent today," he said, "is not mental illness but spiritual difficulty."

Mr. Ekerholm, 35, had a similar counseling office at Oquawka, Ill., from 1939 to 1944, when he served as pastor of the town's two churches, one Methodist and the other Presbyterian.

Across the Brotherhood

- Virginia Nichols, former faculty member at Southern Christian Institute, has been a missionary in Phoenix, Natal South Africa for several years now. A recent newsletter from her reveals that she is busily engaged with the many tasks of an educational missionary. Last year students at S. C. I. made clothes for one of the families Miss Nichols serves.

- Reports from the Pension Fund and Board of Church Extension show that the average Disciple of Christ minister gets $4,990 (including parsonage) per year. Eighty-five per cent of our ministers live in church parsonages. The average minister preaches 43 years, retires at 69.6 years and lives to be 89.6 years old or better.

- Robert Tobias addressed the annual Disciples Ministers' meeting held recently in the First Church of Columbia, Mo. He listed the renewal of the Church, problems of integrating organized missions with the ecumenical movement, and ideological and theological struggles between Protestant, Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches, as being major issues which must be met in the second assembly of the World Council of Churches.

- Field Secretary Annabelle Jackson of the National Christian Missionary Convention recently met with an advisory committee to study plans for the revision of requirements for receiving the Missionary Award. Emphasis was placed on a deadline for reports well in advance of the national meeting.

- Mrs. Lin D. Cartwright of St. Louis, Mo., passed away recently. She was a member of the Union Avenue Church in St. Louis. Her husband is editor of The Christian Evangelist.

Watson Feted

Missouri and Kansas churches combined recently to sponsor a series of services honoring Mrs. Wesley Watson of Kansas City, Mo., for the forty years of service he has rendered in the Christian ministry. Sharing honors with Evangelist Watson were his wife, a registered nurse in Kansas City, Mo., and Miss Emma L. Watson, a sister from Westfield, New Jersey.

The Centennial Church of St. Louis, Mo., launched the observance with a special Sunday morning service, with Mrs. Florence Russell, chairman of the event, made presentations to the Watson family. A message entitled "For Forty Years—With Singleness of Heart," was delivered by William K. Fox, minister at the Centennial Church. The three church choirs sung, and a brief reception followed.

The Eighth Street Church of Kansas City, Kan., and the West Paseo Church of Kansas City, Mo., combined in the sponsorship of another observance.

S. S. Myers, minister at the West Paseo Church, delivered the principal address on the theme, "This Ministry." R. L. Saunders, minister at Eighth Street Church, and W. S. Sims, Sr., minister at the Lawrence, Kan., church, made additional addresses.

Letters of appreciation were received from church and civic leaders throughout the nation.

While in St. Louis, the Watsons were the house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Levy Bush, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gladney, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Oliphant, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Williams, Mrs. Florence Russell, Mrs. Mary Washington, Mrs. Mary Jones, and Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Fox.

Others highlighting the Kansas City, Kan., observance were Mr. G. B. Bus ter, Mr. A. M. Lewis, Dr. Frank E. Ellis, Dr. M. M. Queen, Mr. Bruce McDonald, and Master W. S. Sims, Jr.

At Mount Olivet

by H. M. Evans*

The Mt. Olivet Church in Baltimore, Md., is promoting a vigorous program of evangelism. Within the past six months, over thirty persons have joined the church.

"Our Year of Evangelism" materials are being adapted to the local church situation. A feature project of the department of evangelism is a Bible class which meets every Sunday at 5:00 p. m.

*Chairman of the Department of Evangelism at the Mt. Olivet Church. C. L. Whitfield is the minister.

(See page 92.)
groups being under the Lordship of Christ, are equally responsible for making race relations better.

For the past two and a half decades, the Disciples of Christ have been experimenting with the idea of a racially united brotherhood. They have been concerned primarily with the administrative aspects. Up until 1945, the approach was mostly one of segregation. The National Christian Missionary Convention was an all-Negro program from the ground up.

However, in 1945, at the suggestion of some Negro Disciple leadership, the National Christian Missionary Convention was organized on a new basis. It began operation under the statutes of Tennessee, and was directed by an executive committee "made up of twelve Negroes representing the convention and nine representatives of the United Christian Missionary Society and other Disciple agencies and boards."

Though work among Negroes is still classified as "Negro Missions" and the Year Book for Disciples still designates Negro ministers with an "n" before their names, efforts are being made in other aspects of the organized work to effect what Frank S. Loecher calls "a more equitable representation."

Negro Disciples like to feel that such representation is made on the basis of merit and ability, rather than just race and color. This process has taken place in the International Convention of Disciples of Christ, the Home of State Missions Planning Council, and the Board of Managers of the United Christian Missionary Society, but has not been given a try in the Board of Trustees of the United Christian Missionary Society.

THINKING in terms of the whole of American Christendom, it is through the voluntary associations of the councilar organizations, that vast numbers

SOME PEOPLE feel that the Church has the key to the race problem. They urge more persistent action.

of Negroes receive a meaningful experience of Christian brotherhood.

Negroes take active parts on all phases of such programs in almost all parts of America. In the past year a notable number of ministerial alliances (particularly in the South) have elected administrative officers of Negroid and Indian extraction.

The youth camp and conference movement has been equally as vigorous in this area of color and the Church. Christian youth within both Protestantism and Catholicism, have acted and spoken out. A crowning testimony of such action can be found in the person of Mr. Kenneth Henry. Mr. Henry is the junior college student from Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas, which represented the entire Disciple brotherhood at the third world youth conference at Trivandrum, India. He traveled with Mr. Newton Fowler, a fellow Disciple youth and representative from Georgia.

Kenneth Henry brought messages on his trip to many youth groups of churches in the most socially conservative areas of our country.

The trend is more toward the New Testament Church the Disciples of Christ movement was ordained to restore. The first chapters of Acts ring the unity of that powerful fellowship.

Possibly more than ever, though, the so-called Negro church must rise to the occasion with a greater concern for helping the process along. Perhaps it must take the initiative in showing the world what Christ really meant by love.

The Negro churchman is challenged to join hands in a love offensive. He will not walk alone; there are many churchmen in all races and nations whose hands will reach gladly for his.

Brotherhood depends on you. Won't you make your life a part of the solution?
**Vacation School**  
*From page 89.*

TIME—Several factors affect the time for a vacation church school. For example: the availability of good leaders; the closing of public school; an allowance of time for boys and girls to have sufficient relaxation from classroom routines; the availability of church facilities and equipment; and the effect other community organization programs might be having upon the interests and time of children.

Many churches are now planning vacation church schools for mid or late summer, because the children seem more ready (psychologically) than soon after the public school closes. Too, there are less conflicts with the programs of playgrounds, scouts and other community agencies.

A five-day week program from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. or 9:00 A.M. to 12 noon for a two- to three-week period, is the usual schedule found in the average church.

WORKERS.—The success of the instructional phase of the program is dependent upon the ability to secure good workers. However, if we look about us, we will find a vast resource for such leadership. There are the public school teachers, church school teachers, weekday school instructors, young people with summer conference experiences, college youth home for the summer, members of young adult classes, and workers in other fellowship groups. Give everybody a chance to say "yes."

The school will need a director or supervisor. Each department and class will need teachers and helpers. The teacher or departmental head will have the major responsibility for the work of the department. One or more helpers will be needed in each department or class, depending upon the number of children and age levels.

**Oxnam**  
*From page 88.*

be happy to discuss them and him."

Mr. McIntire, on his departure, said he would send late audited accounts to Bishop Oxnam in Washington, listing every gift to his organizations.

At a press conference preceding his rally, Dr. McIntire said that the membership of the American Council, "plus affiliated organizations, plus individuals who have expressed support" totaled slightly more than 1,200,000.

**Mount Olivet**  
*From page 90.*

The Bible class is a nucleus for leadership training group. Instruction is given on the history and doctrine of the Disciples of Christ. Later, some of the members are selected for training in visitation evangelism.

The parish is divided into geographical sections, and a visitation team assigned to work in each area. Our prospect list is constantly being enlarged, while at the same time the success of the visitation program is paring it down.

Names of prospects are gathered from such varied sources as: casual conversations, newspapers, and church school children.

The department on evangelism studies the general information received on each prospect. Names are then given to teams the department feels are most suited to make the approach. A team consists of two persons. They may be two men, two women, or a husband and wife.

An entire family is often brought into the church fellowship through our visitation program. Eighty-five per cent of our intermediates, and seventy-five per cent of our juniors are baptized members.
"EVEN LIMIT TO SLAVE DOLLARS"—WEBB

Month Made for Victory

BY

CHARLES H. WEBB

The National Christian Missionary Convention needs the month of March each year to catch up with the responsibility which it has accepted in providing a service program for the churches. Our goal for the current year is $12,000.00 of a $34,550.00 budget. Yet, the treasurer's report, after one-fourth of the year had passed, revealed that "our" churches had reported less than $500.00.

By February 1, 1954, less than additional had been received. with almost one-half of the year we had hardly met one-tenth of our obligation to the budget.

The month of March has been set aside as a time in which our deficiencies in giving might be overcome. It is a time when pastors, Christian Women's Fellowship and missionary society presidents, church school and youth leaders, as well as other local church workers, can make a concerted effort to lay the work and program of the brotherhood upon the hearts of the people at home.

The dollars you give to the National Christian Missionary Convention are hard-working dollars, because each dollar must do double duty. It must be "held tight" until the wisdom of its release is absolutely certain. Then it must be "cut up" into as many parts as there are causes to be supported, i.e. missions, education, evangelism, recruitment, and benevolence. Finally, your dollar must be "stretched thin" to cover each facet of the designated need.

Yes, your dollars are slave dollars, but even as slaves there is a limit to what they can do. That is why during March the churches will want to give more so that neither the needs nor the dollars will suffer. March is National Convention Month—The Month of Challenge, and a month made for victory.
The Christian Plea

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The Plea Platform

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

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SOUL CENTERED

Editor, The Christian Plea:

I have read with interest your two editorials in the January issue of The Christian Plea, and feel inclined to express an opinion on both. However, I will confine my comments to the well-written statement on “The Heart of Evangelism.”

Your editorial has well said that “Evangelism begins at the center of your own soul.” A Christian’s concern for his fellow-man always begins where his attitudes are born and where his basic convictions are hibernated. It is therefore a fact that men who are zealous soul-seekers are men whose souls and spirits have been fired with the facts of the singular purpose and the inclusive message of the “Son of God.”

Yes, the “heart” of evangelism is Christian faith, or as you have put it, “your own soul.” However, the core of that heart is Christ. B. H. Bruner states this point well in his book, Evangelism in the New Testament, when he says, “Jesus Christ himself is the heart of Christianity.”

For a number of years many of us have hesitated in acknowledging one vital phase of evangelism which can mean the difference between strength and weakness in the witness of the Church in our modern community. There is a need for converted Christians. Too many Christians have never been converted. They are members of the (Christian) Church because their parents or grandparents were. They have reasons for their church membership, but those reasons are biological rather than theological. We take their conversion for granted. When such Christians are converted, there will be a new era in evangelism, indeed, in Christendom.

When Christ really becomes central, our state of indifference toward those that are in need of his redemptive grace will be changed to an attitude of anxiety and urgency in the name of Christ.

Furthermore, the heart of evangelism beats stronger when the responsibility for it becomes personal. I like your statement “your own soul.” It undoubtedly must have taken root in the passage of Matthew 16:26. It degenerizes our “work of faith.”

The Church is not God’s evangel; God’s evangel is the Christian! When the world is won for Christ it will not be won by battalions, but by single spies. Bruner again points out that “with a group of trained individuals who know what New Testament evangelism really is—its motive, its message, its inclusiveness, its method—we can expect permanent results in the life of the Church and the world.”

—CHARLES H. WEBB, Indianapolis, Ind.

PREPARE THEM

Editor, The Christian Plea:

The timely and thought-provoking editorial, “Give Them a Chance,” which appeared in the January issue of The Christian Plea, sets forth an ideal we often think about. However, we are usually baffled when we consider the matter of “how.”

As I see it, the challenge might include a congregation’s giving money until it hurts. This would mean that the idea of getting something without paying the full price for it would have to be abandoned by many churches.

The challenge might include the necessity of doing something about a useless church board which has never done anything constructive in real churchmanship.

Again, the challenge might mean raising the sights of a local elders’ board which has served so long a time trying to “restore the ancient order of things,” that it is deaf to the essential demands of the Sermon on the Mount, as well as the social, economic, and political problems of the community. They do not see how these relate to the whole matter of Christian stewardship. .

The challenge to “Give Them a Chance” might very well include many other real life situations, but suffice it to say that they are there and must be dealt with courageously and definitely.

As a brotherhood, it should be our aim to afford our seminary men an educational experience that will prepare them to enter such real life situations. (Internship under a competent pastor in a progressive church for one or two years will help.) The seminary student can then say “yes” to a congregation, for he will have been prepared to cope with real situations. Likewise, the congregation will be ready to respond to a progressive program, as well as pay for full-time ministerial service.—J. F. WHITFIELD, Washington, D. C.

SEND MORE

Editor, The Christian Plea:

You will find enclosed a postal money order covering the sale of 24 Christian Pleas during January and February.

Please send 12 each month. We find that we can sell more through this method.

—RICHARD L. COLE, Little Rock, Ark.

POSITIVE TERMS

Editor, The Christian Plea: I read with a great deal of interest the editorial, “Heart of Evangelism,” which appeared in the January issue of The Christian Plea. I think it is good for Christians to be reminded in positive terms of their duties and obligations to the Faith.

It is an all too common occurrence to find that we have become lax in giving expression to a way of life that we so firmly believe in. Thus it is that we occasionally find ourselves pointing with pride at those who are actually putting

(See page 99.)

CHRISTIAN PLEA
Why the National Convention?

CAN you answer that question? Why is it so important for your church and mine to support the work of the National Christian Missionary Convention? What program does it propose, or values preserve, which present a challenge to your church and mine this month, or any other month in the year? The following is a fivefold reply.

First, the convention is an answer to a practical need in the light of our present society. For the greater portion of our brotherhood, planning and the concern of church leadership is still manifested in terms of the majority (racial) group. Though not always intended, program, personnel, policy, and strategy are all developed in this light alone.

Usually the interests of the minority (racial) group are brought in as an afterthought, as secondary to the main objective, as a phase of "home missions," or not at all.

Through the National Christian Missionary Convention, over 500 churches, made up of a minority (racial) group membership, can assist in giving area planning a more practical and inclusive prospectus.

Second, the convention is an avenue for pinpointing the general brotherhood program. Possibly eighty per cent of the churches cooperating with the National Convention are town and country churches being served by a part-time ministry. Somebody must interpret the program objectives of the total brotherhood work to these churches. This should be done with simplicity and directness. Such a job is the primary responsibility of every state secretary, but most state secretaries need help.

By providing a staff of five full-time workers and three part-time workers, definite ways are adopted for pinpointing the general brotherhood program for many churches that would probably otherwise never be impressed.

Third, the convention helps to develop Church leadership. Still struggling for first-class citizenship, as well as first-class Church membership, Negro Christians (Disciple and otherwise) are often denied the experiences of Church leadership, of which many of them are capable.

Through the leadership demands of the convention, efficiency in churchmanship has opportunity for growth. Through the field-staff approach, administrative abilities are exercised, discovered, and developed.

Looking forward to the ecumenical Church, in its truest sense, the National Christian Missionary Convention has opportunity for training a leadership capable of assuming responsibility in any area of Christendom.

Fourth, the convention provides the stimulation of a necessary fellowship. Since the convention represents some 60,000 Negro Disciples of Christ who are scattered over some thirty states and areas, there is need for a rallying point. The National Convention provides that point.

Further, by having an interracial leadership throughout the entire program, many laymen, coming from sections of the Church where such experiences are very limited, develop deeper appreciations for the brotherhood and the importance of the general work.

Fifth, the convention provides channels whereby your interests can be officially represented. Many times in the promotion of the general program, the brotherhood administration is called upon to gather in the general opinion of Negro Disciples. In the administrative officials of the convention, the field staff, the National Board, and the Board of Trustees, the brotherhood administration is afforded reliable and official resource for securing such opinion.

Not only March, but every week and month in the year, the program of the National Christian Missionary Convention should present a challenge to your conscience and to your church. It is worthy of support. Of necessity, it must be carried on. Do something concrete this month by sending in some money!

Men of Destiny Lead

T}

HE convention is led by men who have successfully pursued meaningful purposes in their own lives. In the picture above Executive Secretary E. J. Dickson, on the left, is conferring with Vice-President M. F. Mitchell of Los Angeles, California; Treasurer J. E. Walker of Memphis, Tennessee; and Nominating Committee Chairman S. S. Myers of Kansas City, Missouri.

Not shown in this picture is L. L. Dickerson of Columbus, Ohio, current president of the convention and ardent advocate for a more adequate ministry and convention program.

These churchmen are typical of the men of destiny who lead the convention.
Ministers Protest

Alexandria, Va. (ENS) The Ministerial Association here has added its support to an increasing number of clergy groups in the South advocating the abolition of racial segregation in Assembly and transportation facilities.

This action was taken in support of a tentative plan of Delegate Armistead Boothe to request the Virginia General Assembly, now in session, to set up a state commission to consider the whole matter of race relations in Virginia.

"This is the first time I have ever had the announced support of this group on the question, which I regard as the voice of the Protestant leaders in my constituency," said Mr. Boothe.

A resolution adopted by the Ministerial Union said in part:

"Discrimination between Christians is contrary to religious principle, and discrimination between American citizens is contrary to democratic principle, and should be eliminated as the conservative program of society permits."

Mr. Boothe's proposed bill would create a 21-member Commission with equal representation from business, labor, women's organizations, churchmen and educators, with six members selected from the legislature.

Help for Aged

Denver (ENS) The executive board of the Colorado Council of Churches has voted to ask the governor and state legislature to establish a Commission on the Aging.

In a bulletin to members of Protestant churches throughout the state, Clark P. Garman, Denver, director of the Council's department of social education and action, announced and explained the program.

He said problems of the aging are growing every day but added that the Colorado old age pension and a proposal for state old people's homes now under consideration are not the entire answer.

The church group suggested that the proposed Commission should undertake a census of old people in the state, and a study of their employment and recreational problems.

Churchmen Frame Guide

(ENS) For the first time Protestant spokesmen in New York State, in their dealings with the Legislature, are being guided by a statement of principles widely approved by church groups throughout the state. Framed by the Legislative Committee of the N. Y. State Council of Churches, the statement declares the churches' position on matters ranging from child labor to gambling.

During the current legislative session, it will serve to steer the committee during its weekly deliberations at Albany, held to keep the lawmakers informed on church attitudes toward specific issues.

In their policy declaration the churchmen went on record in favor of legislation that would curb widespread liquor consumption as a menace to home and community, enlarge the chaplain service in state-operated mental hospitals and prisons, remove exploitation of child labor on farms and in industry, extend health and housing benefits to farm labor migrants and wipe out labor hiring abuses affecting them.

The committee also reaffirmed its longstanding opposition to discrimination based on race, religion or national origin; favored strengthening domestic relations laws to help preserve "the sanctity of marriage and home"; opposed attempts to ease gambling restrictions; opposed capital punishment and urged sound laws to rehabilitate youthful lawbreakers.

"Taking cognizance of the role the churches in national issues, the statement pledged anew state-level cooperation with the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and with various denominational agencies on matters affecting the country at large.

The 15-member legislative committee has been expressing the views of the churches in New York State for a number of years, declared T. L. Conklin, Syracuse, N. Y., associate general secretary of the state Council. As in the past, he said, the committee will continue to meet weekly and voice its position in weekly statements addressed to constituent local councils and church associations and conferences, as well as to legislators.

Chairman of the group is Wallace T. Viets, of Albany, N. Y.

Minister to Soldiers

(ENS) For the third year in a row Protestant pastors and other church leaders are engaged in a three-month preaching mission to the men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces stationed throughout the nation. To carry out the project, organized by the Department of Evangelism of the National Council of Churches and sponsored jointly by the department and the General Commission on Chaplains, more than 120 volunteers will conduct some 60 week-long missions at military bases through the first three months of the year.

The speakers, who receive only their traveling expenses in return, will hold many meetings at the camps, conduct religious services in hospitals, lead conferences for Sunday school teachers and officers, engage in personal counseling and meet with the chaplains.

At many of the camps the preaching missions will highlight observance of Religious Emphasis Week in the Armed Forces and services will be held simultaneously by representatives of the three major faiths. Announcing the 1954 renewal of the project, Dr. Jesse M. Bader, retiring director of evangelism for the National Council, said, "The churches of the nation are not forgetting their chaplains whom they have ordained and sent forth on a high mission of service. And they are not forgetting their men and women of the Armed Forces who are in their membership. These missions are a united effort on the part of the churches, through the National Council, in behalf of the moral and spiritual welfare of our men and women in the military training centers."

Morality Sunday Observed

Little Rock, Ark. (ENS) Civic Morality Sunday was observed in all churches of this community whose pastors are affiliated with the Greater Little Rock Ministerial Alliance.

The ministers read from their pulpits or had printed their church bulletins a resolution adopted by the Alliance calling for prayers for "those in positions of temporal power." The resolution urged cooperation with merchants "who refrain from selling intoxicants or lewd and suggestive literature and who do not operate their stores on Sunday."

"In order that we may have a clean, moral city in which to rear our children," the resolution said, the Greater Little Rock Ministerial Alliance asks you, at the beginning of this new year, to join us in dedication to a higher standard of Christian citizenship."

Dr. Dale Cowling of Second Baptist Church commented that Christians are "under obligation" to make their community Christian.

Need Program for Old

(NCNC) Churches have an important role to play in meeting needs of the nation's senior citizens. In few churches have fully accepted this responsibility, a social welfare expert asserted this week. Miss Catherine Lee Wahlstrom of the National Council of Churches cited the 62 nonprofit clubs and centers serving older people in New York City as a case in point. Of these, she said, only "a handful" are located in church buildings or sponsored by religious groups. She called on churches to devote more time to advancing the welfare of older persons.

Observing that thirteen-and-a-half million U.S. citizens are older than 65 years, Miss Wahlstrom pointed out that "the aging have, for the first time in history, become a numerically significant group." This group, she maintained, suffers many losses: "Loss of family, work, status, health and income."

Homes for the aged, Miss Wahlstrom said, have developed new approaches and techniques in recent years. "These are attractive, cheerful surroundings for persons who need congregate care because of emotional or physical disabilities; staff psychiatrists and psychiatric

(See page 97.)
end of the community's schools.

A resolution unanimously adopted urged
"the public schools must place a re-
newed emphasis on the moral and spir-
tual values which the American people
wish to see in the character and conduct
of their children," an introductory note
in the manuals states.

"The public schools must stress the
importance of religion and develop a
program of moral and spiritual educa-
tion, based on the values shared by mem-
ers of all religious faiths. They must
continue to build respect for religious
freedom."

Basic ingredients of the program
founded on these beliefs are set forth as:
assumption of the existence of, and
reverence for, God; respect for person-
ality; loyalty to American ideals; re-
sponsibility for self-direction and
strengthening of character; persever-
ance and pursuit of worthy goals; de-
vo tion to truth; respect for the Golden
Rule, brotherhood, and sensitivity and
creative ability.

New Books

Two new books, one on world affairs
and one of sermons, have just been pub-
lished by the Christian Board of Pub-
lication.

G. Curtis Jones, minister of the Vine
Street Church in Nashville, Tenn., has a
new book entitled In Their Light We
Walk.

This book was written after Mr. Jones
took a 33,000-mile journey last year,
where he had the opportunity to spend
many hours talking with leaders of gov-
ernment, religion and community life in
Jerusalem, Egypt, India, Malaya, Brit-
nia, Italy, Switzerland, and other coun-
tries. The price of the book is $2.75.

Harold L. Lunger, minister of the
First Church of Tucson, Arizona, has a
new book of sermons entitled A
Pocket Full of Seeds. Beginning with
the story of a farmer who leaves his
flooded land with his hope in a pocket
full of seeds, Mr. Lunger goes on to
give thirteen other down-to-earth mes-
sages of faith, hope, courage and com-
fort.

Passages from Edna St. Vincent Mil-
lay, E. Stanley Jones, Harry Overstreet,
H. G. Wells, Henry Thoreau, Robert Frost,
Arthur Miller (author of Death of a Sales-
man), and others are used as bases for
sermons about spiritual birthrights, hu-
man destiny, closeness to God, the tun-
nel of darkness, independence, death, love
and life. The price is $2.50.
Three-Year-Olds
by Mrs. Dorothy Wilbert

As you possibly have noted, the children's work leaders of our National Christian Missionary Convention have been trying to have something of interest and help in The Christian Plea every month, and we are especially interested in presenting articles that will help leaders plan special day programs for children.

This month we are interested in finding a place for our three-year-olds. Many students in religious education feel that the best place for the religious development of the child under four years of age is in the home. If this is true, what part do the nursery and kindergarten departments play in religious development of the three to four-year-old? Though the total responsibility for the spiritual growth of the child cannot be met by placing him in the nursery or kindergarten department, these areas of the church school program can render invaluable help if the proper approaches are made to the child.

For example, the three-year-old exhibits different responses in play activities from the five-year-old. If the two are singing the same song together, the three-year-old will be usually lagging behind. Again, worship will bring some response from the older child but very little from the younger.

It is obvious, then, that the two age levels should be separated for purposes of receiving the most stimulating experiences. If another room is available, it can be used for one group; if not, a large room can be partitioned with folding screens.

We have now made our first step toward helping three- to five-year-olds. Watch The Christian Plea for articles giving further suggestions.

Piedmont Reports

Funeral services for W. A. Coles, pioneer minister of Chatham, Va., were held recently in the Corinth Church.

Elder Coles served the Piedmont District in many ways for years. Though he had retired from the active ministry, he still did what he could in the Chatham church.

Among the several ministers participating in the services were M. L. Lambert and J. C. Hariston.

After several years of planning for a full-time field workers program, the district secured E. W. Henry, formerly of Palestine, Tex., for the position. Elder Henry began his services January 1, 1954.

At the last assembly of the district convention, a policy of holding quarterly meetings within the area was adopted. The first two quarterly meetings were held in Preston and Stuart, Va. The Mount Olive East Church and First Church were the respective host congregations.

The World Fellowship Youth Meet will convene at Leakesville, N. C., March 19-20. The Little Bethlehem Church will serve as host. Approximately 150 youths and their respective advisors are expected to attend.

Miss Pauline Staples is the director. This is expected to be the first major group meeting on the district level that Field Worker E. W. Henry will attend.

—Mrs. Agerora Miltner, Reporter.

Corinth Inspired

According to correspondent Mrs. Almeta Henderson of Kilgore, Tex., the Corinth Church there is engaged in an unusual program of Christian education.

Increased enrollment in the church school is making demands for an educational plant.

Executive Secretary E. J. Dickson, of the National Christian Missionary Convention, is reported to have delivered a major address there recently.

G. A. Evans of Dallas, Tex., is the minister at Corinth Church.

Leaving Water Pots
by Mrs. Arah E. Garrett

When Jesus was passing through Samaria one day, he sat down by Jacob's well to rest while his disciples went into the city to buy food.

Presently a woman from Samaria came to draw water. The two soon found themselves in conversation. As they talked along, it was eventually revealed to the woman that she was talking to the Messiah.

Feeling that this was too good to keep to herself, the woman left her water pot, and went into the city shouting: 'Come see a man who told me all I ever did.'

Many of the Samaritans wondered if she was telling the truth. But when they had the chance to know Jesus for themselves, they boldly testified: 'It is no longer because of your words, that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this indeed is the Savior of the world.'

Here is a simple, but inspiring, picture. A humble woman is going about her household routine. Suddenly she receives the important awareness of the Messiahship of Jesus. She becomes so absorbed and enthralled in the thought that she had had fellowship with Jesus, that she left her water pot, and went shouting to the people of the city to come see Jesus the Savior of the world.

She now rated this communion with the Master as the most important thing in her life. Her urgency to invite others to share her experience, reveals her spirit of unselfishness, as well as her sense of putting first things first. Thus, she left her water pot.

These brief moments spent in the presence of Jesus, loomed high in her mind and heart. Perhaps her limitations of literacy hindered her in making a more eloquent testimony, but her joy and inspiration were unconfined. She left her water pot to become a flaming messenger of the Good News.

With the impact of these crucial days (See page 99.)
prayed because I was afraid. Suddenly four others had their fines paid by an
experience on a battlefield in Korea was the basis for a decision to enter the ministry, Eugene L. Inman, who spent three years as a prisoner of the Communists, said here.
The 22-year-old former soldier, who was repatriated recently, said he and his wife, Rosemary, will shortly for Kankakee, Ill., where he will begin a four-year pres-

seminary course at Olivet Nazarene College. Upon completion of his studies there, he hopes to go to Kansas City, Mo., for three more years at the Church of the Nazarene Seminary there.
This incident, leading to this decision, Mr. Inman said, occurred on Nov. 30, 1950, when he and some 250 other soldiers were

ambushed and only he survived.

"When I saw we were surrounded," he said, "I got down on my knees and prayed because I was afraid. Suddenly I felt something like a hand on my shoulder and I wasn't afraid any more."

Fight Schools
Lancaster, Pa. (RNS)—Fourteen mem-

bers of the Old Order Amish Church were

held in Lancaster County prison here, the largest number jailed at one time since the current wave of truancy prosecutions began.

One other Amishman was freed, and four others had their fines paid by an unidentified person. One of those released was a minister of the Amish faith, Levi S. Fisher, of Gap.

The Amish oppose public schooling for their children after the age of 14. They contend that high school education would expose the youths to "worldly ways" which are contrary to their religious beliefs.

Meanwhile, Amish parents apparently were deluging local school authorities with renewed applications for work permits for their 14-year-olds. Supplies of the blanks were quickly exhausted.

In the past, state approval of such applications has been refused unless "very necessary" as can be shown. The Amish have consistently refused to make this plea.

Sounding Board
(From page 94.)

into practice the principles of the Faith. It would seem that similar action on the part of all Christians should be the rule, rather than the exception. What a wonderfully working Church we would have then?

Christ has no way of doing his work on earth today except through those who love him and work for him. He wants to use our minds, hearts, and energies for the perpetuation of the Kingdom.

Let us not consider the Church so much in terms of what it can give us, but in the light of what we can give to it. Thus we will tend to develop a more positive attitude toward the Church—an attitude that will display the true "heart of evangelism."

Water Pots (From page 98.)

upon us, we need the motivation of that Samaritan woman. As members of Christ-

ian Woman's Fellowship groups, it is imperative that we leave our water pots without hesitancy, and go shouting, "Come see Jesus!"

Is it any concern of ours as to whether or not the many peoples in the world know God? Until the whole world comes within the shadow of the Cross, our task is not done, and world peace will remain only a dream.

In this light, Jesus is saying to every Christian Woman's Fellowship: "I am the Messiah. Will you leave your water pots and shout the Good News?"

Nine Million Dollar Budget
Nashville, Tenn. (ENS)—The executive

committee of the Southern Baptist con-

cvention voted here to recommend to the denomination's annual meeting next June a cooperative program budget of $9,200,000 for 1955.

This is an increase of $350,000 over the 1954 budget. A total of $6,100,000 would be earmarked for operating budget; $3,000,000 for capital needs and $100,000 for Convention operations.

The executive committee also recom-

mended that every church in the Conven-
tion seek a tithing commitment from at least half its resident members by the end of 1956. Under the plan, each member would agree to give at least one-tenth of his income to the church.

FOR
Leadership Training
General Reading
Informal Study

By RICHARD E. LENTZ

MAKING THE ADULT CLASS VITAL is a new practical study of the needs and program of the adult class discussing: what a church education committee or board of elders and deacons can do to effect better relationships between adult groups and the church... the contributions of an adult class to its members... the community responsibilities of the adult class... various methods adult groups may use in their educational program... concise purposes of adult study groups... requirements of good study materials for adults... activities and service projects which can make the adult group more vital... principles to use in determining the adult program... incentives to use in talking with qualified persons about assuming leadership in an adult group... suggestions for revitalizing meetings... concrete suggestions for permanent program development... and other topics important to adult classes. Illustrated!

$100 per copy

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
Beaumont and Pine Boulevard
Box 179, St. Louis 3, Mo.
CHECKING THE RECORDS of women's groups, Director Jackson found many who were lagging behind in their giving. Miss Jackson directs the program of missionary education for our churches.
Evanston Program Released

New York (WCC)—The Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches, meeting February 2-5, in Konigstein, near Frankfurt, Germany, released the official program of the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches, on which it has been putting the finishing touches during its four-day meeting. The Assembly is scheduled for August 15-31 at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, and will be attended by representatives of the World Council's 161 member churches (denominational bodies) in 48 countries around the world.

President Eisenhower has been invited to address the Assembly, and has expressed his sincere hope that he will be able to accept.

The opening session of the Assembly will be a worship service at 10 a.m., Sunday, August 15, held in the First Methodist Church, Evanston. The presidents of the World Council who will participate in the service are: Archbishop Athenagoras, of the Greek Orthodox Church; Dr. Marc Boegner, of France; Bishop Eivind Berggrav, of Norway; Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, England; and Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, of the United States.

Dr. Marc Boegner of France, upon whose motion the World Council of Churches came into official being at Amsterdam, Holland, in 1948, will preside over the opening plenary session Sunday afternoon, at which time the main theme of the Assembly—Christ the Hope of the World—will be presented by Bishop Leslie Newbigin (India), Prof. Edmund Schlink (Germany) and Prof. Robert Calhoun (U.S.A.).

That same evening, a great public worship service will be held at Soldier Field, Chicago. The churches of Chicago and vicinity have taken the responsibility for this service, which will tell the gospel story in scripture, music and pageantry. It is expected that Soldier Field will be filled to its capacity of 100,000.

The Teacher and Easter

BY

MRS. DOROTHY WILBERT*

Easter is perhaps the most difficult day to make meaningful to children, because we as adults have difficulty in grasping the full understanding of it. However, teachers who take their task seriously, will want to rethink and deepen their own experiences at Easter.

Let us read John 12:12-19, and become one of those who participated in the triumphal entry procession—perhaps a traveler who joined the throng.

Read Luke 22:3-16. Did I sit at the Last Supper with my Lord? Can it be that I betrayed my Lord in any of my daily routine?

(See page 107.)

*Sophomore national children's worker from Dayton, Ohio.

Sherman First Minister

Through a unique program in churching a redeveloped area in a metropolitan center, the Chicago Disciples Union in cooperation with the Illinois Christian Missionary Society, the Board of Church Extension and the South Side Church will start the construction of a $330,000 church and community center in the Parkway Garden housing project of South Chicago. Charles E. Sherman, present community chaplain, will become its minister.

The property alone cost the cooperating bodies $80,000. The first unit will be 90 by 30 feet. It will include a small chapel capable of seating 126 persons. Classrooms and an office will be provided on the first floor, with recreational and fellowship facilities constructed on the ground floor for community center activities. This initial brick unit will cost $75,000.

The main church building will be 116 feet by 110 feet in size, providing a sanctuary that will accommodate 308 persons and a fellowship hall on the ground floor which will have space for 230 people at the tables. There will also be additional classroom and office space.

This will be a new congregation. The new minister, Charles E. Sherman, is a graduate of the University of Chicago Divinity School, and has served as college professor and college campus Y.M. C.A. secretary.

Significant guidance has been rendered the project by Executive Secretary Joseph VanBoskirk of the Chicago Disciples Union, R. E. LaTouche, and R. H. Davis, ministers of the Southside and Park Manor Church, respectively.

Sick, Sends $100.00

Though seriously ill with a cardiac condition, Mrs. Alice H. Callens of Youngstown, Ohio, was challenged to send $100 to Treasurer J. E. Walker after reading about the needs of the National
The Christian Plea
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William Kappen Fox, Editor
E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary
L. L. Dickerson, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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The Plea Platform
1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea
If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:
1. Your name plate has a faulty impression and your name, street, town or state is misspelled.
2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
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STATESMANLIKE
Editor, The Christian Plea:
I have just read your editorial on "Color in the Church" in the February issue of The Christian Plea. It is the most statesmanlike and Christian statement of the question that it has ever been my pleasure to read. You have done a great service to Christians of all races. You have certainly honored your own race.
It is statements like this that will make so much more progress than many flaming articles I have read by both the white and black race.
I have worked with many Negroes on national committees and I certainly know their ability is the reason for their being here. Yes, we are making progress, however slow it may seem to some. Thanks again for your splendid article.

H. T. WOOD, Former President of the International Convention
Memphis, Tennessee

ENVISIONS BROTHERHOOD
Editor, The Christian Plea:
Your editorial, "Color in the Church," which appeared during Brotherhood Month in The Christian Plea is a timely and forthright analysis of the failures and progress of the Church in the crucial area of race relations...
As you have pointed out, the Church's faith is in the "Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man," yet all too often we stand under the judgment of the secular world which ostracizes us in breaking the patterns of segregation and discrimination. Sincere and earnest followers of Christ can never be content until these barriers are removed within the Church, as well as the secular world, and the New Testament fellowship restored.
As you have so courageously stated, this is a mutual responsibility and as far as relationships between Negroes and whites, "it would appear that both groups being under the Lordship of Christ are equally responsible for making race relations better."
I am glad that you have sounded a note of hope and have pointed out the significant progress which has been made, and also indicated the way to further progress that can and must be achieved in the years ahead.
I envision the time when our own brotherhood is fully united and integrated—when the merit and ability of Negroes will be fully represented and used in all of the administrative organizations and relationships of our brotherhood.
You have challenged the Negro churchman to "join hands in a love offensive," and I want to confirm your own high expression of faith that "he will not walk alone." Indeed, there are many churchmen in all races and nations who stand ready to join hands with him.

M. FLANAGAN—St. Louis, Mo.

CHALLENGE TO LEADERS
Editor, The Christian Plea:
I wish to compliment you on your recent editorial in The Christian Plea, "Color in the Church." At a time when many hearts and minds were centered on brotherhood, it was very stimulating and thought-provoking. It presents a challenge to leaders yet does not omit the same to the laity.
It points out our shortcomings as churchmen yet it commends us for the little we have done. It does not allow us to rest on our laurels, not to sit back and idly wait for the color to disappear; but admonishes the so-called "Negro Church" to do its part in helping to eliminate said color.
I commend you on your frankness and giving us the picture just as it has been painted. As I attempt to do my small part in this my community, as well as throughout the state of Missouri, I shall ever be challenged by "Color in the Church." I shall put forth a little more

(See page 105.)
A Bold New Program Needed

It is the intention of the editor of The Christian Plea to set in motion a five months’ forum based on the following statement. Each month writers will evaluate this statement as well as make suggestions of their own. It is our hope that what will be said will prove helpful to our convention administration.

A CASUAL observance of conditions prevailing among the churches cooperating with the National Christian Missionary Convention will reveal some progress within the last ten years on the one hand, but glaring basic needs on the other. If you are a veteran follower of the National Convention, you will undoubtedly see a marked degree of improvement today in comparison with the general condition of such churches in 1925. Nevertheless, if you are able to comprehend the important influence many social phenomena are now making on the future development of any church body, you will agree that if the National Christian Missionary Convention is to continue to merit its place as a vital agency within the Disciples of Christ movement, it is high time for launching “A Bold New Program.”

It is not likely that our churches can escape the effect of such social phenomena as the following which are affecting the future programming of all church bodies in America:

First, it is evident that with the increase of industrialization in the South, there is a definite movement of our people from the land to the larger towns and cities. The mechanization of the farming process has forced this mobilization in some instances, whereas growing opportunities for more gainful employment in the urban areas of the North and West has motivated the exodus in others. This development is draining off the membership of our rural churches. This tendency is aggravating the problem of the yoked field; the situation wherein one minister preaches in two or more rural churches about one Sunday per month.

Second, it is also apparent that in the majority of our metropolitan centers vast projects in the redevelopment of the more ancient areas of cities are taking place. Private funds join hands with federal resources in promoting huge housing projects, and in drawing up new dreams for city planning. Neighborhoods are uprooted, and with them churches. They are supplanted by new dangers and challenges for Christian service.

Further, in this same connection, in almost every major city in America, Negro people are moving into communities that a decade ago seemed reserved entirely for the Caucasian race. Along with the homes, they usually take over the churches. The Caucasian churches moved toward the hinterlands where there is now developing the county residential community with its “fringe” church. In this mad rush which often happens within the brief span of months, many of our churches sit in the spirit of “I shall not be moved.” (That is, many are unwilling to realize the large responsibilities of service the church is being called upon to render to the changing community. Note article in current issue on the front page concerning the Chicago church.)

In the midst of such turbulent streams many of our city Disciple churches attempt to carry on part-time programs with a part-time ministry. In several of these major metropolitan areas Negro Disciples have but one church available or in many cases no church at all.

Third, the vocations guidance programs in our high schools and colleges continue to have little or nothing to say about full-time Christian service. The wide span of educational opportunities now available to veterans of World War II and the Korean conflict, usually find young people using them to enter the technical and industrial fields. A vast part-time Disciple ministry with weak and scattered churches, presents no challenge to young men and women to really pledge themselves to a full-time Christian service in the local Disciples of Christ church that most of them have come to know.

At summer conference we provide the challenge, form the circle, and hold our breaths as some courageous and idealistic youths walk forward to commit themselves to full-time Christian service. In all sincerity we wonder about their future, and feel terribly sick deep down inside that we are not doing more to make more secure our assurance of their ministry. Meanwhile Disciples ministers die and with them many of our churches.

Fourth, the churches supporting the National Convention program have yet to have become excited about a challenging national program. This is not to say that our administrative staff and convention officials have not presented numerous opportunities for such; they have and are still doing it. For example, the Rosa Page Welch Scholarship Fund to aid the preparation of candidates for service on foreign missions fields; the All Peoples Church manse redecoration project; the Kenneth Henry Fund; the Preston Taylor House and the new policy and development now underway at the Preston Taylor Estate in Nashville.

But in spite of all of these courageous ventures in Kingdom Building, we have not been able to excite churches like yours and mine into really putting money behind the national effort.

There must be a reason! We cannot continue to drift along without finding it! The cause is too great! The time is too short! The talent and time of our leadership is too important! Too many people have invested concern and money for us to merely go through the motions of saving the world for Christ.

Let us face up to it. First, our open country and small town churches are merely hanging on under a part-time ministry. Second, with a few exceptions, (See page 104.)
T

HIS year the National Convention and the several score of cooperating churches face the greatest challenge in the history of our convention. Last August at Roanoke, Virginia, we enthusiastically accepted the responsibility of raising $12,000.00 for the National Convention Budget, $2,000.00 for Capital for Kingdom Building to be used for the repairs of the parsonage of All Peoples Church in Los Angeles, and at least $1,000 for the Rosa Page Welch Scholarship Fund. The total is $15,000.00.

I say this is the greatest challenge we have faced in the history of the National Convention, because it is the first time that we have committed ourselves to do as much toward the advancement of the Kingdom of God beyond our own doorsteps.

Resolutions and recommendations alone cannot ensure the success of any undertaking regardless of how worthy it may be. Those of us who solemnly committed ourselves and our Brotherhood to these worthy objectives must make sure that each of these goals are reached. Every one of them is a "must."

The National Convention Budget is being spent now, but the $12,000.00 has yet to be raised. Further, the parsonage at All Peoples Church will not be repaired unless we furnish the $2,000.00 to do it! And it must be repaired. The Rosa Page Welch Scholarship Fund is also a must!

Here are a few facts that we cannot forget:

1. We are able to do all we have committed ourselves to do.
2. The apportionments have already gone out and every church knows what its apportionment is for the National Convention Budget.
3. All of our churches have been asked to give a certain amount toward the Capital for Kingdom Building program. They have received their suggested quota.
4. The individuals who pledged to the Rosa Page Welch Scholarship Fund in Roanoke know their obligations to follow through on this.

What we do as individuals and churches between now and August (and especially what we do as ministers and leaders in our local congregations) will not only determine what kind of Convention we will have in St. Louis, but to a very large extent, our future growth and development as a Brotherhood.

I sincerely hope that every minister, national and state officer, and leader in our local churches will give his wholehearted support to the National Convention and its program of extending the Kingdom of God.

The Editorial

(From page 103.)

Bold Program

we are only weakly coping with the vast challenges present in our major cities. Third, we have less than two hands’ full of young men and women preparing for full-time Christian service at the graduate level. Fourth, our churches are only lukewarm toward the current challenges being offered. Before we can save the world, we must devise ways to save ourselves. It is time for a bold new program!

Some Suggested Solutions

The Rural Church Problem. It would seem that the Disciple unit which should approach the rural church problem within any given state would consist of the following personnel: 1. The state secretary for the missionary society. 2. The chairman of the rural church committee for the state conventions. 3. The presidents of the state conventions. 4. The national director of rural church for the United Christian Missionary Society (or someone in the state appointed by him). 5. The national director of church development and evangelism for the National Christian Missionary Convention (or someone in the state or area appointed by him), and a counselor from the Board of Church Extension.

This executive committee would consider problems confronting the rural church for all of the people in that particular state. They would be thinking about these situations wherein one or more pastoral unities might be initiated under their cooperative sponsorship as pilot projects.

Such a committee would devise plans for cooperatively sponsoring such a project for a three-, five- or seven-year span, with the understanding that a program would be promoted to make such project self-supporting at the end of the designated period. This

(See page 106.)

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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA
Brotherhood Dramatized

BY VERA LEWIS

Race Relations Day was celebrated at Second Church in Rockford, Ill., with a program built around the religion of other hands and nationalities. Speakers from Rockford and Beloit colleges were informative on religious customs and cultures of the Jewish, French, Ukrainian and Ethiopian peoples.

Music was furnished by Miss Hope Rodriguez who sang in her native language, Spanish; D. W. Heath who rendered Negro spirituals; and by Richard Gilliland of the Winnebago County Boys' Farm School who gave a rendition of "The Lord's Prayer" by Malotte.

During the refreshment period, the audience met the program participants.

Miss Schley Marries

Miss Willieta Schley, who played an important role in our brotherhood as vice-president of the National Convention (Youth Division), was recently married to Mr. Willie Bowden in Los Angeles, Calif., by Baxter Carroll, pastor of the Avalon Church.

Mrs. Bowden is a senior at Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Tex. She is returning to school to complete her work for graduation in the June class. Mr. Bowden is in the service, and upon the completion of his tour, the couple hopes to settle in California.

Bluefield Progresses

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Jones Street Church has taken on new life under the leadership of W. H. Brown, former pastor of the Cleveland Avenue Church in Winston-Salem, N. C. The attendance has steadily increased and new members have been added to the congregation.

The entire church has been reorganized on a functional basis.

The Laymen's League observed the fifth Sunday in January with a special program and beauty contest which netted $102.86. Mr. S. W. Hylton of Roanoke, Virginia, the district president of the Laymen's League, was the principal speaker.

The CYF and Chi Rho Fellowship joined together in observing Youth Week. The week's activities were as follows: Sunday, Pep Rally; Monday, Stunt Night; Tuesday, Talent Night at the home of Mrs. C. C. Carter; Wednesday, a round table discussion on church history and doctrine; Thursday, a baby contest, movie, and special program by the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; Friday, a banquet and talk by L. B. Allen, and remarks by N. J. Dickerson, A. J. Fagans, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Carter, and W. H. Brown.

Miss Geraldine Charlaine, director of religious education, acted as toastmistress. Sunday, the youth participated in the morning worship, with Miss Sylvia Ann Reed, district president of the youth conference giving a very stimulating appreciation talk.

In the evening program a special program was arranged, and Miss Florence Wheeler, matron of Bluefield State College, was the speaker.

Mr. Ralph Valentine, and Mr. W. Haynus of Morgantown, W. Va., vice-president of the West Virginia State Board, visited the church and gave their approval of the work. Sunday, E. J. Dickson and Miss Annabelle Jackson were our guests, and discussed the local program with us.

We have contributed to the Capital for Kingdom Building program, the National Convention, the District Convention and the March of Dimes.

On the observance of Race Relations Sunday, the worship committee had Mrs. Myrtle Paxton to read a special paper on race relations in the morning service and the pastor spoke on the "Gospel of Jesus," and its relationship to the problems of the world.

In the special program of the evening, music was furnished by the Bethlehem Choir of the church, and the message was brought by Professor Osmond Holt, of Bluefield State College, who is a native of Jamaica.

The senior choir and pastor also participated in an interracial program at the Community Church.

Challenge (From page 102.)

Two-thirds of Pension Plan members and churches must be enrolled for the new added benefits to begin July 1st. The enrollment cards of the church, the minister and church staff are needed now.

Please take action immediately. Mail the enrollment cards without delay to

PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

800 Test Building

Indianapolis 4, Indiana

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Challenge (From page 102.)

effort, time and myself until we shall see the Church setting the pattern not only in the field of race relations but in all fields of human endeavor.

R. E. BROWN, President of the Missouri Christian Missionary Convention, Hannibal, Mo.

Across the Brotherhood

Jefferson City, Mo. At the annual meeting of the Elm Street Church Christian Women's Fellowship, Mrs. J. P. Washington retired from the office of treasurer, after having served thirty-three years. She was succeeded by Mrs. Ol Conley.

The Fellowship honored Mrs. Washington with gifts and a surprise birthday party.

Other officers elected were: Mesdames R. L. Groves, president; A. E. G. Sanford, vice-president; and Ethel Bolton, secretary.

Little Rock, Ark. The Cross Street Church is interested in finding a minister who is concerned with fostering the organized life of the church and the gospel of Christ through the United Christian Missionary Society, the functional work of the church, and the observance of special days. The church is without a minister. D. J. Holder, clerk (2521 Rock Street), is inviting qualified ministers to apply by sending age, education, experience, references and reasons for the change.

Concord, N. C. President E. Ester F. Eyers of the Piedmont Christian Women's Fellowship (North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia) reports that the institute for CWF women held recently at the Cleveland Avenue Church in Winston-Salem, N. C., was attended by 42 women from 10 churches. National Director Anna Belle Jackson was in charge. State Worker E. W. Henry was also a resource leader for the institute.
Bold New Program (From page 101.)

committee would instigate, sponsor and supervise such projects.

The problem of securing the sources of funds would be worked out by the committee. All plans would be subject to the approval of the represented groups. It would seem that the churches in rural communities located near such towns as: Port Gibson, Mississippi; Atlanta, Georgia; Valdosta, Georgia; Erhardt, South Carolina; Montgomery, Alabama; Kinston, North Carolina; Richmond, Virginia; Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and Hannibal, Missouri are typical of the many rural communities having Disciple churches where pastoral unity projects might be tried.

The Urban Church Problem. Based on previous experiences in our brotherhood, it would appear that the approach to the urban church problem within any given metropolitan area would be made through a unit consisting of such personnel as: the executive secretary or chairman of the local city or county council (or union) of Disciple churches, 2. the chairman of urban church committees in the local district or state conventions (or someone so appointed), 3. the state secretary (or someone appointed to represent him), 4. the national director of urban church for the United Christian Missionary Society (or someone in the state appointed by him), 5. a counselor from the Board of Church Extension, and 6. the national director of church development and evangelism for the National Christian Missionary Convention (or someone in the state or area appointed by him).

Such an executive body would consider the problems facing the urban church in that area for all of the people. They would be searching for situations where they might cooperatively sponsor one or more of the following projects for a five- to seven-year period: 1. a new church, 2. a community center church, 3. the rehabilitation of an existing church, 4. a church merger, 5. a college community church, 6. an industrial community center church, 7. a downtown church, and 8. an inter-racial project.

The cooperating interests would share in the financial burden; all plans would be subject to the approval of the cooperating groups. This committee would instigate, sponsor and supervise such projects.

Our convention administration would know best where to start such a program. It would seem that such cities as Nashville, Tennessee; Miami, Florida; Jackson, Mississippi; Birmingham, Alabama; Buffalo, New York; New York, New York; San Francisco, California; Denver, Colorado; and Des Moines, Iowa, would certainly be among the original number.

The Problem of Developing a New Ministry. This program could be launched simultaneously with the church development program. However, unless the church development program is launched with vigorous sincerity, a new ministerial recruitment and development program could well be in vain.

Happily, the problem of where our recruits for full-time Christian service go to be trained is rapidly disappearing. The answer now is almost any-where, providing they can meet and maintain the academic requirements. Further, there are funds available to help defray the expenses of such training.

IT WOULD seem that we would recruit as many men and women as necessary to man the new rural and urban church projects under development. Further, we would see to it that through the office of the national director of Christian education of the National Christian Missionary Convention, in cooperation with the existing channels of placement within the United Christian Missionary Society and the council of state secretaries, that no young person in training for the full-time Christian ministry would go beyond his second year in the seminary not knowing something of the possibilities for an initial placement.

The Problem of Arousing Support of the Churches. "No chain is stronger than its weakest link." These are problems which call for the sharing and concern of all the churches—white or black. These are the common problems of all Disciples. However, it is the task of the National Christian Missionary Convention to pin point them as they pertain to our Negro churches, since we still operate within such a framework.

It should not be too much for the Trustees of the National Convention to ask local churches (of both racial groups), the official cooperating agencies of the convention, state missionary societies, city council or union groups and private donors, for sufficient funds to promote the following:

1. A minimum of ten pastoral unities for five years for a total cost of $75,000 ($3,000 each first year; $2,000 each second year; $1,000 each next two years; and $500 each the last year).

2. A minimum of ten new city church projects for five years at a total cost of $300,000 ($6,000 each first year; $5,000 each second year; $4,000 each third year; $3,000 each fourth year; $2,000 each last year plus $5,000 each to congregation on the securing of an initial building and $5,000 at end of 5 years providing the congregation has raised at least $5,000 toward a building expansion program).

3. A minimum of twenty existing city churches having an underpaid and/or part-time ministry restored to a full-time ministry at a cost of $130,000 (twenty present ministers in city churches, having agreed to give full time to the service of their church would receive: $2,000 each the first year, $1,500 each the next two years and $1,000 each the last year).

4. The total cost of the new bold program for 5 years would be $505,000.

Our administrative officials would understand what approach to make to the agencies, state secretaries and city missions for funds on such a proposition, but it would stand to reason that the National Convention could afford to pledge no less than $100,000 over and above the usual giving for this five-year period.

It is fully within our potential as a Convention to (See page 108.)
Spotlighting

Louisville Reports

BY

ALBERTA ROBINSON

Superintendent Bishop McClain continues to lead the church school of Third Church, Louisville, Ky., toward a more progressive program. The time schedule has been improved and a young adult class has been organized.

Much praise has been given to the music leadership of the church. The three choirs and male chorus continue to progress. Pastor F. T. Floyd is greatly helped by them in the worship leadership; Mrs. Christian R. Reed is president of the senior choir, and Mr. Nathaniel Riley heads the male chorus group.

The usher board continues to lead all other groups in the promotion of financial benefits for the church. Last month the usher board sponsored a dinner and program. Mrs. Hathaway, the state president of Lexington, was present.

The missionary program of the Third Church is under the capable leadership of Miss Ella M. Alcorn. The group cooperated with the churches which presented Mrs. Ross Page Welch, noted singer and lecturer, to the city last month.

There has been a marked increase in church attendance since last fall. Although the seating capacity has been slightly decreased by the new pews installed by the usher board, and a small increase in membership has been made, these factors do not fully account for the increased attendance. The most important factor is that a good many of the young people, who grew up in Bible school, but who went away to school or temporarily lost interest in the church, have married and returned with spouses and children to fill the vacant pews.

Young Adults

BY

LORENZO EVANS*

This group, often spoken of as young adults, is one of the most potential groups for service that we have in our church rolls. If the manpower of this group was harnessed and channeled in the service of the local church, what a difference it would make in the life of every church group! More and more we are becoming aware of this unused power in the church and are attempting to challenge it for service.

For the first time a group of young adults were invited to attend the planning conference and commission in Indianapolis, Indiana, Thanksgiving week end. Here some thought was given to a young adult program in the local church and how this wealth of power might be conserved for the church.

Out of this meeting came some helpful suggestions and recommendations for a program of work for young adults in any local church.

This year at the National Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, August 16-22, there will be a workshop for young adults. This will be the first time a workshop has been planned for this age group.

Now is the time for each local church to begin planning with the young adults to have them spend a week of their vacation in St. Louis where they will have an opportunity to meet other young adults and have them share their experiences.

This is one way that we grow. You will not want to miss this opportunity for fellowship and growth.


MRS. CHARLES E. SHERMAN (center) of the Park Manor Church in Chicago, Ill., imparts the news of the new church plans to children attending a home fellowship in one of the Park Manor dwellings. (See front article.)

The new leader of the Park Manor Church will be a community center program for all age levels.

The new minister, Charles Sherman, has had a wide experience in the supervision of such activities through his work in the student Young Men's Christian Association on southern college campuses.

"Plea" ACP Member

Following a recent application for membership in The Associated Church Press, the editor of The Christian Plea received the following letter:

Dear Mr. Fox:

I am delighted to inform you that the executive committee has unanimously voted in favor of your membership in The Associated Church Press. Accordingly, you will receive the hand of fellowship at the customary formal induction ceremony which is usually the first order of business at the opening session of our annual meeting in New York April 21.

Meanwhile, I enclose the annual press card to which you are now entitled as a member.

William B. Lippard
Executive Secretary

Teen-Age Book Out

A new gift book for teen-age boys and girls entitled The 7 Teen Years has been written by Mrs. Alberta Z. Brown. The book deals with the problems and opportunities teenagers face regarding their body, home, education, money, leisure, friends, religion, attitudes, world, and their future.

It is written in a casual and friendly manner and is illustrated with 34 delightful, cartoon-styled pictures youths will love.

Mrs. Brown, a young mother of two children, has taught junior high and senior high school students for 12 years. She has written youth curriculum materials for Disciples of Christ and has taught in youth conferences.

The price of the book is $1.50. It is available from the Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis 3, Missouri.

Teachers, (From page 101.)

Read Luke 10:39-45. Do I understand his lesson of humility and service and use it in my everyday life?

Read Luke 22:41-44. Have I felt Gethsemane close to me? He prayed and surely I will pray.

Read Matthew 27:33-50. At the cross I humbly bow.

Read John 20:1-18. Do I feel the living Christ within me?

At this Easter season I will think, meditate and pray that I may reach new levels of communion with the Risen Christ.

I will recapture the joyousness and simplicity of Easter as I guide my children through life's experiences. I will make it an interpretation of God's love and care, of wonder and joy.

What is the meaning of Easter time? That wonderful season of joy sublime?

What is the challenge of love it brings?

What is the carol of peace it sings? Its meaning is more than gay attire or selfishly seeking one's own desire; It's a challenge to serve and to freely give To the Christ who died that we might live. It's a song of peace to be sung abroad, until all shall know of the love of God; It's a time for worship and praise and love Of the risen Christ who reigns above."—Author Unknown

To help us as teachers grow into mature and satisfying concepts and understanding of the crucified and risen Christ we must earnestly study.
Our thoughts are turned toward the Cross of Calvary and the discovery at the empty tomb. We are given to imagine Jesus and the broken alabaster box. Can you imagine the wake of the sacrificial anointing of Jesus, and the breaking of the precious, impotent oils as the women who loved and followed Jesus Christ came first to make the great proclamation to the world.

This appointment to service came in the wake of the sacrificial anointing of Jesus, and the breaking of the precious oils. We assure you it better relates the youth program to the total church policy-making level and youth program for young people. When both those leaders use it, it will be a de luxe training source to assure senior and older youth 49 top-flight Sunday evening programs in 1954-55. Four pages of practical help for each session: directions for the youth leader, materials, worship suggestions, discussion questions.

Procedures include: discussion, activity-work sessions, indoor and outdoor worship, dramatic sketches, music, etc. $3.50 per yearly book: 3 for $10.00.

Recently the Christian Women's Fellowship of which I am a member decided to use an idea centered around the time of the Easter message. These ministering women have made their contribution to the Church. Our missionary groups will find many helpful suggestions for dramatizing our commission in materials that are distributed through the regular channels.

**For Youth Groups—**

**THIS IS CYF** Here is a new handbook to guide CYF officers, committee chairmen, teachers and counselors in developing an effective program for young people. When both those youth leaders use it, it better relates the youth program to the total program of the church. It covers youth responsibilities for church school classes, Sunday evening fellowship, district and state meetings, and mid-week activities.

Subjects covered are: what CYF is, how to plan the youth program, functions of officers and executive committee, how to calendarize the program, role of the adult counselor, and the program areas (study, worship, enlistment, service and recreation). The previous CYF manual and 5 manuals are replaced by this one handy volume for use in credit leadership classes in youth conferences and for a first series leadership course. 75 cents per copy.

**Bold Program** (From page 106.)

We lay this outline of A Bold New Program before you for your serious consideration in the faith that all things are possible through Jesus Christ that strengthens us.

**Building Dedicated**

The Christian Board of Publication dedicated its new Bethany Bookstore and three-floor office and shipping building in St. Louis, Missouri, last month. Speaking at the Dedication Service was Mr. Orson E. Scott, Chairman of the board, Dr. Wilbur H. Cramblet, President, and Dr. Hampton Adams, Minister of Union Avenue Church in St. Louis and Secretary of the Board.

An open house for the Christian Board of Publication and Bethany Bookstore was recently held for all persons living in or passing through St. Louis. Refreshments were served periodically, and motion pictures shown by special arrangement.

Features of the new facilities include: a large lunchroom with recreation equipment for employees; a conference room which will seat up to 100 people; a soundproof audio-visual projection room; furnished chancel in the bookstore; an exhibit of religious art originals from which pictures used in Bethany curriculum materials have been made; a spacious library for research, new reading tables and chairs; a bookstore having one-tenth of an acre of floor space; and spacious offices, hallways and reception rooms.

The doors of the Christian Board of Publication are always open to visitors during business hours.

**Gives $100** (From page 101.)


She closed her note with the touching line: "I told my husband even if I did not get well, be sure and send it." Dr. Walker reports that several laymen across the brotherhood have sent in similar gifts.

**RENEW YOUR CHRISTIAN PLEA SUBSCRIPTION NOW**

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
Beaumont and Pine Boulevard
Box 179, St. Louis 3, Mo.

THE CHRISTIAN PLEA
SCI-TOUGALOO MERGER APPROVED

Walker Serves on Merger Committee

A merger of Southern Christian Institute, Disciples of Christ junior college and high school for Negro youth at Edwards, Miss., with the Congregational Christian Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Miss., was approved recently by trustees of the United Christian Missionary Society. Action by the Congregational Christian American Missionary Association was expected to follow.

Approval of the merger came after meetings of a committee jointly appointed by the United Society and the Congregational board. Disciple representatives on the committee were Lewis H. McAdow, Indianapolis, chairman, Mrs. H. I. Rudduck, Mishawaka, Ind., Albert H. Martin, Grand Rapids, Mich., Dr. J. E. Walker, Memphis, Tenn., and Mrs. Alice G. Backner and Dr. Harlie L. Smith of Indianapolis, ex officio.

Also serving on the merger committee was Dr. Samuel C. Kincheloe, Chicago Disciple who represented the Congregational group as a trustee of Tougaloo College.

Tougaloo Southern Christian College was chosen by the merger committee as the name for the institution. Each sponsoring mission board will appoint six persons who will serve on a joint board of trustees for the college. It is expected that the first board meeting will be held next fall. Names of the six Disciples to serve on the new college board will be announced by the United Society on their acceptance.

Academic work at S.C.I. was suspended in May, 1953, following recommendations of a survey committee to the trustees of the United Society. An institution with a 78-year history, S.C.I. has trained several thousand Negro young people, many of whom later entered professions and full-time religious work. The decision to revamp this brotherhood service to Negroes was made in the light of the changing educational needs of this group.

Tougaloo College, founded in 1869, is in its 85th session this year. It began on a Mississippi plantation near the city of Jackson, in much the same way that S.C.I. was started, as a home mission project of the church. In 1947, Tougaloo became the first Negro college in the state to receive an "A" rating by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. In 1952, its high school department became a college preparatory school.

Tougaloo is a liberal arts college which confers the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science. Seven courses in religion are offered and religious activities are sponsored on the campus. A strong department of religion is planned.

Henry Appointed

Kenneth Henry, recent delegate to the third world conference for Christian youth at Travanore, India, has been appointed as a youth consultant representing the Disciples of Christ at the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches convening in Evanston, Ill., August 15-31.

The appointment was confirmed by the executive committee of the World Council's youth committee.

Mr. Henry will participate in all of the Assembly study groups for youth, though as a consultant, he will not have the power of vote.

Kenneth is an honor student at Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Tex.

THREE DISCIPLE MEMBERS of Southern Christian Institute-Tougaloo College Merger committee, left to right—Mrs. H. I. Rudduck, Lewis McAdow, chairman and Albert Martin. Not in picture is Dr. J. E. Walker.

Henry appointed.
The Christian Plea
(Member of Associated Church Press)
VOLUME 43, No. 9
WILLIAM KAPPEN FOX, Editor
E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary
L. L. DICKSON, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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The Plea Platform
1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea
If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:
1. Your name plate has a faulty impression and your name, street, town or state is misspelled.
2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
4. Your paper is being sent to the wrong address, but being kept by the person receiving it.
5. Our office has not yet changed the address on your name plate.
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The Christian Plea
P. O. Box 4427
Wade Station
St. Louis, Missouri

World Council of Churches Program Features

Along with preliminary news releases on the program for the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches meeting in Evanston, Ill., next August, the executive committee of the Council indicated that each day would be filled with significant features.

Monday, Aug. 16—Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam will preside over the day sessions which feature reports by Dr. W. A. Visser't Hooft, the Central Committee, and reports on evangelism.

Tuesday, Aug. 17—The main theme of the Assembly, “Christ—the Hope of the World,” will be considered the entire day.

Wednesday, Aug. 18—Leaders from several nations will enter serious debate on the structure that the World Council should take for the next five years. Matters relating to the Church and society will also be considered.

Saturday, Aug. 21—Dr. Benjamin E. Mays will bring a report from the Study Session on Race.

The second week of the Assembly will deal primarily with the six sub-themes which have been suggested. Some of the several high lights include the following:

Monday, Aug. 23—With Archbishop Athenagoras presiding, reports will be made by such leaders as Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen and Mlle. Madeleine Barot.

Tuesday, Aug. 24—With Dr. John MacKenzie presiding, significant discussions on worldwide missions and evangelism will be engaged in.

Wednesday, Aug. 25—A Plenary Session on the main theme will be presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Friday, Aug. 26—With Dr. G. K. A. Bell, Bishop of Chichester presiding, speakers from Nigeria, America and Norway will address the subject: “Tensions of the World and Unity in Christ.”

The Assembly will use French, German and English as the three official languages. There will be simultaneous translation.

A new book you will want!

THE 7 TEEN YEARS
—By Alberta Z. Brown

On the problems and opportunities you face regarding your body, your home, education, friends, leisure, money, religion, attitudes, your world, and your future

This practical book for teen-agers discusses in a casual and friendly manner what happens when you “go along with the crowd” ... how envy makes you not appreciate blessings ... how nobody really wins in gambling ... dangerous “thrill” activities ... how to take the ups and downs of life ... cliques and what happens to individuals in and out of them ... sex problems ... “steady” dating ... how revenge hurts the revenger ... how to read the Bible ... how to deal with one’s conscience ... why the righteous suffer and the wicked succeed here on earth ... how teen-agers can learn to take advice.

Send a 21 correspondence and money to:
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$1.50
How Is Your Family?

THIS is the month to emphasize the importance of the Christian family. The national theme is, "A Troubled World Needs Christian Families." The problem of maintaining the family circle of fellowship and security is a crucial issue that confronts most families daily. The local church ought to do something that would at least be suggestive of solution to the families that make up its membership.

The modern family needs to know how to play together. It needs to understand that commercialized recreation is not the only way to have fun. It needs to be guided into experiences that not only enrich the physical life but the spiritual existence as well. The local church that provides opportunity for families to come to church and/or homes for wholesome play and fellowship, climaxd by a meaningful act of worship, is helping to build durable Christian families.

The modern family needs to know how to enjoy working together. That is, beyond the rugged tasks of laboring for meat and bread, the members of the modern family need leisure experiences in performing pleasurable acts of creative work together. The local church that promotes retreats, camping trips or craft experiences for the whole family unit from time to time will soon develop families that will eventually find washing dishes at home and balancing the family budget creative as well as pleasurable.

To Secure This Ministry

THERE WAS an important omission in the original statement of "The Bold New Program." No substantial reference was made to provisions for the ministry after successful service has been rendered, and time has taken its toll on physical energies. It is precisely at this point that the local church must take the initiative if a more vital era is to come into our church life.

The recruitment program of the church will fall through unless we can point the prospective Christian leader to a program of ministerial security that is actually working in a great host of our churches.

From the administrative point of view, our brotherhood has the program. Our Pension Fund plan is one of the finest in Christendom. The problem does not rest with the plan, but with the people for whom the plan is devised.

Every local church in our brotherhood should enroll in the Family Plan of the Pension Fund now! If we appreciate the sacrifices and services that the ministry as a whole is making, we will see to it that our church enrolls. Participation in the Pension Fund program brings mutual benefits. You are not only helping to assure the future of your minister, but you are helping to make more secure the future of all ministers and churches participating.

Further, you are saying to countless young people who may even now secretly desire to give their lives to full-time Christian service, but are wary of its many uncertainties: We love our minister and his family. We appreciate the contribution consecrated lives have made to the upbuilding of the Christian cause in the world.

You can make more secure this ministry. You can say all of this and more now by writing a post card to Pension Fund of Disciples of Christ, 800 Test Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana, and say we want to enroll!

Jarvis Dining Hall

WHAT have you done to help Jarvis Christian College get another dining hall? If you are like most of us, you haven't done very much. Maybe it is because you didn't know that the dining hall at Jarvis burned down during the Thanksgiving holiday season. Maybe it is because you have not yet been impressed with the actual need to help. Whatever the case, it is past time for deliberation, we must do something now!

Every church and/or individual should send some financial assistance for the building of a new dining hall now, if but for no other reason than that Jarvis is our school! The urgency of the need parallels that of the All Peoples Church manse project in Los Angeles!

Why not send a check from your church, or ask for a special love offering before the current school year at Jarvis is out. Send the money to Dr. Cleo Blackburn, Office of the President, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas.
THE HISTORIC "MANSION HOUSE" on the campus of Southern Christian Institute was the home of Presidents J. B. Lehman and John Long, as well as the scene of many enjoyable faculty and student fellowships. Fond memories born here will hardly ever pass away.

JARVIS FOUNDER'S DAY
BY WILLIAM W. BENNETT

Founder's Day at Jarvis Christian College was held recently. Hundreds of people came to the college for Sunday morning worship and remained through the afternoon Founder's Day services and an evening musical recital.

During the Sunday morning message, Dean W. O. Gill related the history of Jarvis Christian College, pointing out the basic philosophy of education promulgated by Mr. T. B. Frost, Dr. J. N. Ervin, and others who established the initial curriculum at the college. Dean Gill pointed out that since its beginning Jarvis Christian College has sought to provide education for "the head, the hand, and the heart." Jarvis seeks to continue her contribution to the world today through making her students sensitive to the resources about them and demonstrating how through planning these resources might best be used.

It demonstrates that through the dexterous use of both the head and the hands local resources can be made to solve persistent problems facing human beings the world over. Jarvis seeks to demonstrate that peace can come to the earth when people in communities become responsible, with a sense of moral obligation and moral courage to themselves and for each other, the dean implied.

Dr. T. R. Solomon, registrar at Prairie View A and M College, delivered the Founder's Day address. He spoke on "What Our Educational Needs Are in the World Today."

Mr. C. A. Berry, Sr., was presented an honor award for long-time distinguished service to Jarvis Christian College. Dr. B. W. Rand, an alumnus of Jarvis, presented the award to Mr. Berry. Mr. Berry, known to hundreds of Jarvis alumni and friends as "Prof.," was among the first leaders to begin building the physical plant which we know as Jarvis Christian College. He guided the clearing of the land, the building of houses, and the raising of animals for food. In the meantime, "Prof." was noted for training the young people with whom he associated to be responsible, respectful and resourceful. Mediocrity in performance was an anathema to him. President Cleo W. Blackburn announced that in bestowing this Honor Award upon Mr. Berry, Jarvis Christian College was lifting up an individual who was fully worthy of honor.

The college choir sang "Te Deum" by Gustav Holst, "Onward, Ye People" by Jean Sibelius, and "Gently, Lord, O Gently Lead Us!" arranged by R. N. Dett, at the afternoon program.

Under the guidance of the director of agriculture at Jarvis, a motorcade, comprised of some thirty cars and trucks, toured the college farm. Mr. Clift pointed out the areas of improvement and explained the proposed developments for the future. Over 150 people saw how the woods had been cleared of underbrush making way for pine forests and grazing pasture land. They saw what was once ragweed bottom land now green with yetch and oats. They saw once bent and twisted wire now long and straight surrounding fattening calves and porky pigs.

The tour ended at the College Cemetery where a brief ceremony was conducted in honor of pioneers T. B. Frost and J. N. Ervin, C. A. Berry, Sr., and W. D. Bingham, college minister, placed wreaths of flowers on the graves of the honored dead.

A joint recital was held in the Mary E. Ervin Chapel at 8:00 in the evening. Mrs. O. S. Barker, a native of Duluth and former music teacher at Jarvis, and alumnus Terry Alexander were the participants. Together they presented a musical program.

The Historic "Mansion House" on the campus of Southern Christian Institute was the home of Presidents J. B. Lehman and John Long, as well as the scene of many enjoyable faculty and student fellowships. Fond memories born here will hardly ever pass away.

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THE CHRISTIAN PLEA

May Family Month

Chicago (NCCC)—The whole family has a birthday this month. National Family Week will be observed. "A Troubled World Needs Christian Families" is the theme selected for this year by the joint department of family life of the National Council of Churches.

Parallel observance of National Family Week is carried on by the Jewish and Catholic groups. The interfaith aspects are planned by the Interfaith Committee on the Family. This committee includes Rabbi E. L. Freund, Synagogue Council of America; Edgar Schneider, National Catholic Welfare Conference; and Richard E. Lentz, National Council of Churches.

Throughout the United States churches and interchurch councils will stress the importance of the family to the community and the nation. Particular attention will be given to ways in which familiality may be supported and strengthened.

The Christian home is a well-spring for society as a whole, serving as a source of both moral conviction and religious faith," says Mr. Lentz. "Today many families find it difficult to function at their best, both because of their inner confusion and the distractions of our secular world."

While supporting materials for the Week are prepared by the department of family life, observance is further encouraged by the various denominations and councils of churches, which provide devotional and reading suggestions, book lists, and programs for local churches and families.

Family Week annually has focused attention upon the home in American life," Mr. Lentz points out, "enabling the church and home together to plan ways of coping with some of their common problems. Many community non-church groups also join in the observance."

The National Council suggests to families: "Go to church together," "begin regular family worship," "plan family Bible reading and fellowship to solve family problems," "have picnics, trips, or other family celebrations," and "observe family-at-home nights."

To churches the department suggests family communion services, family study projects, family visitation exchanges, reserved sections for families in church together, father-son teams as ushers, family assistance with services, remembrances for home-bound members, family festivals, inter-congregation activities.

"The home," Mr. Lentz declares, "through the kind of family life it develops, can transform both neighborhood and larger society."

St. Louis Awaits You
OPEN FORUM ON “BOLD NEW PROGRAM”  
(Comments by readers of editorial appearing in April, 1954, issue of The Christian Plea)

Twofold Emphasis Needed
BY R. H. PEOPLES*

YOUR “Bold New Program” is good. Your analysis of the present-day situation, as regards the opportunities that face our brotherhood in the urban and rural areas of our great country, is absolutely correct. And I might add that you have stated correctly the attitude of our churches.

I am in agreement with the objectives you set forth, the projects suggested, and the bi-racial approach to solving the problems. My proposal would differ, perhaps, only in method and emphasis. Having followed the Convention Program for the past twenty-five years and active in its leadership for more than twenty years, my first emphasis would be a “Bold New Financial Program” linked with an intensive program of evangelism. The Convention itself and the churches that support it must do more before we can expect more from the cooperating agencies or the brotherhood at large.

It is at this point I would reverse the emphasis in my program. Our immediate goal within the next 5 years should be to produce, at least, 10 churches across the brotherhood with a thousand or more members each, and 100 others with a proportionate increase in membership. With a strong simultaneous program of visitation evangelism and membership conservation, and with diligent work we can achieve this goal.

As a part of the membership conservation program the national staff and state workers should encourage our churches to employ a staff of full-time workers in the local churches whose main purpose will be to initiate programs and activities for all age groups.

The new program of finance should have a twofold objective. One: to raise special funds to be used in such cooperative ventures as outlined in the “Bold New Program”; and two: to lift the total missionary giving of each local church. A special emphasis in missionary giving is to be made in the churches where the evangelism program is in operation.

I would emphasize in-service training for men and women who are the present leaders of our churches, at the same time we carry on the program of recruiting and developing new leaders for the ministry.

The National Convention must lead the way in any “Bold New Program,” it must lead with cash not pledges, and it must lead with sincere spiritual dedication to the bringing in of the Kingdom of God.

*Pastor of Second Church, Indianapolis, Ind., and former director of Christian education and church development for Negro Disciple churches.

Include Social Action
BY R. L. JORDAN*

THE Bold New Program,” you proposed is a challenge! If our churches are ever to be motivated by a clear presentation of what is needed your editorial should do it. You have not spared; I agree with you. We have been pessimistic too long stating what we cannot do. The time has come for our brotherhood to take a positive aggressive attitude toward the work of Kingdom building, locally, nationally and world wide.

However, I feel the “Bold New Program” should include a Social Action proposal. This is a most neglected area. Our people must be made aware of their responsibility to participate in efforts to improve the civic, political and social condition of men in our communities. This in my judgment will focus attention on a Church with a program designed to minister to the whole life of man, instead of only the spiritual portion alone.

Your analysis of what ought to be done in large urban areas and appraisal of what can be done in rural communities, ought to receive a loud “Amen.” I commend your editorial on a “Bold New Program” to all of our churches and conventions, not only for study but for adoption and action.

*Pastor of the United Church in Detroit, Mich., and present chairman of the commission on social action of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

Wants Estate Included
BY MERL R. EPPSE*

I want to commend you on the contents of the April issue of The Christian Plea, and especially the suggestion for “A Bold New Program.” I have read it with a great deal of interest, and find that you have put your finger on the vital issues at hand.

In your fourth item speaking on the challenging national program, you mentioned the Preston Taylor Estate here in Nashville. In this respect, I would like to add the following two items to the “Bold New Program” already suggested:

1. I feel that the work which has been begun here (in Nashville, Tennessee) of cementing the Gay-Lea Church should be launched on a national scale, and that a national church for the brotherhood should be established here with national support until it is able to carry itself.

2. I feel that the Taylor enterprises should be supported on a national basis to the extent that our perpetual care funds, property improvement funds, and modernizing equipment can be included so as to make a permanent national source of income.

I am vitally interested in the program you suggest, as well as the continuing progress of The Christian Plea.

*Head of the Division of History and Geography at Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tenn., and director of the Taylor Estate enterprises for the National Convention.
The Churchman's World

NCCC Office Unsettled

The National Council of Churches—largest religious body in the United States—is still house hunting. With headquarters offices presently scattered among eight buildings located in two cities, the Council and its 30 constituent communions have been striving for nearly two years to find a suitable home where all departments and units would be located under a single roof.

Last week a special Committee of Ten, headed by Dr. E. T. Dahlberg, St. Louis pastor, met in New York to hear offers of sites in four cities—New York (where most offices are located now), Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, and Chicago. The offers, latest of a series presented to the Council, were taken under advisement, with indications that a committee recommendation will be presented to the Council's General Board, for a decision, when the governing body meets in Chicago this month.

Perhaps no phase of establishing the Council, born in Cleveland in December, 1950, has created such widespread interest among churchmen as the choice of its physical home. Eleven cities in the Midwest and East evidenced strong interest in the headquarters, and formal hearings were granted them by a large committee of denominational leaders—predecessor of the Committee of Ten.

The larger committee recommended postponing a final decision for as much as a decade, allowing the Council and cooperating denominations plenty of time to work out a choice best suited to all. The increasing urgency of the problem, however, has led to the latest efforts at an early solution—and the hope that the Council's Operation House Hunt will be completed this year.

Worship at Sea

(A NCCC) A Passenger Ships Chaplaincy Service to enable Protestant ship passengers to worship at sea as they would at home was launched recently by the National Council of Churches. The special project committee, charged with the responsibility of forming the Council's Department of Evangelism, will work out a choice best suited to all the increasing need for worship services on vessels plying the Atlantic—world's busiest sea lanes. Pacific Ocean ships will come in on the plan later, it was announced.

Dr. Jesse M. Bader, director of evangelism for the Council, said the plan aims to eliminate the hit-or-miss approach to worship services, and to provide Sunday worship services on every possible passenger ship traveling the ocean lanes this year and in years to come. Pastors will participate on a volunteer basis, he said, and are urged to cooperate by informing the Council department of their ocean travel plans in advance. The passenger line office and later the ship's captain and purser are then notified, according to the plan, so that they may make arrangements for services.

A special project committee, under chairmanship of Ralph Walker, pastor of the Madison Avenue Baptist Church in New York City, is conferring with shipline executives on equipment needed for services, such as Bibles, hymnals, surplices and other materials. Virtually all major passenger and cruise ship lines operating out of the Port of New York are cooperating.

Graham Inspires London

London (RNS)—Bill Graham has announced he will carry his evangelistic crusade here to as many theaters and halls as possible in London and neighboring cities. The American evangelist, who has been filling Harringay Arena here nightly, now plans a two-way broadcast of his revival meetings over post office transmission lines.

Members of Mr. Graham's team will start the meetings off, and then the evangelist's entire sermon will be broadcast over loud-speakers. Meanwhile, the crowds in the Harringay Arena will be able to hear the hymn singing of the local theater audiences.

Mr. Graham is encouraging local committees to hire halls and theatres in other parts of the country so that his nightly audiences will be as large as possible. In 21 major meetings since his fixation message February 27, Billy Graham has addressed more than 207,000 persons in Harringay Arena alone. Saturday crowds were so large that recently the evangelist has held three meetings on that day, filling the 11,000 capacity arena each time.

Ike's Pastor Honored

Cleveland, O. (RNS)—Edward L. R. Elson, pastor of the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D. C., was named "Clergyman of the Year" by Church Management magazine here.

B. G. LeTourneau of Longview, Tex., millionaire manufacturer of earthmoving equipment and one of the country's leading lay evangelists, was named "Layman of the Year," and Mrs. Harper Sibley of Rochester, N. Y., former president of the United Church Women, was named "Lay Woman of the Year."

The awards, given yearly, will be presented during the fourth annual Washington Pilgrimage of American Churches to be held in the nation's capital May 1-2 under the magazine's sponsorship.

Dr. Elson has occupied the pulpit of National Presbyterian since 1946, coming to it from pastorates in California. President and Mrs. Eisenhower worship at this church. He is president of the Washington Federation of Churches, former chairman of the Committee on Religious Life in the Nation's Capital, vice-president of the Military Chaplains' Association of the United States, and Washington Chaplain of the Military Order of World Wars.

Advocates Family In Worship

Cincinnati, O. (NCCC)—Whether whole community attendance should be encouraged, or the youngsters secluded in the church building for a separate program, created brisk discussion in a lay section meeting of the National Council of Churches' Christian education division session.

Family attendance should be encouraged, definitely, said Dr. Lee J. Gable, professor of Christian education at the seminary of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in Lancaster, Pa.

Moreover, he believes more churches should think seriously about the entire family attending services as a unit even if it is necessary to redesign the services. "If we believe that the family is the primary unit in Christian nurture, then worship by family groups makes good sense," he said.

On the other hand, Dr. Gable cited some arguments for separate services or programs, such as: adult services are too long for the youngsters; the church seats are too high and too hard for them, and the children really don't understand what's going on.

But he thinks that even if they don't understand all of the sermon and liturgy, the attendance with parents is nevertheless rewarding.

Seek Workable Faith

Dayton, O. (RNS)—More than a hundred Dayton business, professional and civic leaders met here to determine how they can put Christian beliefs to work seven days of the week.

Among the questions they considered were:

"Should a doctor pray for the recovery of a patient?"

"Should a Christian salesman sell a product he himself is not 'sold' on?"

"What should a churchgoing lawyer do when a client asks him to win a case, right or wrong?"

The conferences included doctors, salesmen, lawyers, factory hands, scientists, supervisors and government employees—selected by their pastors from a group of 250 nominations. The Church Federation of Greater Dayton sponsored the two-day meeting.

(See page 116.)
What Makes Rosa Tick?
by a
Special Correspondent

SINCE returning from her extended tour of Christian mission fields in the Far East, Rosa Page Welch has been engaged in an almost countless number of speaking excursions, concerts, and special appearances. 

The lovable singer has hardly had a moment to herself, or with her family. She has been pouring herself out in an unprecedented testimony of the power Christianity is exerting upon the world picture. 

Recently she appeared in St. Louis under the sponsorship of the Disciples Council of Greater St. Louis. While there the Christian Woman's Fellowship of the Centennial Church sponsored a Reception and Citation program for her. 

The church cited her for meritorious work done in the realm of the ecumenical church movement. Leaders of religious and humanitarian concern appeared in the reception line in recognition of the work that she had done. 

All this happened after Mrs. Welch had just finished a rigorous morning schedule. Yet she seemed to possess an incredible freshness and warm charm in spite of the whirlwind pace she was called to follow. 

A few weeks prior she had addressed 1100 people attending the annual luncheon sponsored in Philadelphia, Pa., by the United Council of Church Women. An attendant at the meeting writes: "Some said she was 'fascinating,' others 'simply wonderful.' But whatever the case, she certainly performed as a true witness of the type of Christian statesmanship we all love to see." 

For the average church leader in the world today, that would have been enough for a month or so, but not for Rosa. She continued her whirlwind procession into Cleveland, Ohio. Here she was a guest leader for 1200 young people attending the annual interdenominational County Youth Meet; spoke for the Council of Church Women; appeared on TV and spoke on Radio; and engaged in 17 other social and formal affairs before leaving for Louisville, Ky. 

At Louisville, it was no different. The same "Welch Whirlwind" prevailed. Besides being the guest speaker for the annual race relations day service in a large auditorium there, she was guest soloist at Central Church. Rosa dubbed Louisville, Ky., as one of the most liberal and democratic cities in America. 

No, that wasn't enough. The Fidelio Club of the Mississippi Boulevard Church in Memphis was calling. They were begging for a concert, and promised the biggest reception to follow that she had ever experienced. 

Never tiring from the thrill of pouring herself out for Christ's sake, Rosa engaged her daughter, Mrs. Lenny Welch Fuller, to accompany her. Of course Memphis turned out to be the same as any town Rosa Welch is called to serve in. 

The last time I saw her she was boarding the train for a one-night stop with her family in Chicago, prior to taking a plane the next day to "God knows where." 

When will she take a rest or retire? Rosa says never! She declares that she will never grow old, or lose her zest for Kingdom building. The more her friends observe her, the more they think she's right. In spite of the "whirlwind," Rosa goes on undoubtedly via the strength of God alone. 

In the picture above Director of Church Development and Evangelism Charles Webb queries the incredible "Rosa" on some of her recent experiences. 

Because of her wide witness in the ecumenical Church movement, Mrs. Welch was chosen by the International Convention of Disciples of Christ as an alternate delegate to the World Council of Churches assembly that convenes in Evanston, Illinois, August 15-31, 1954. 

An important factor in what "makes Rosa tick" is her loyal family. Mr. E. C. Welch, her husband, keeps the home fires burning while Rosa is on the field. In addition, he is a leading layman in the South Side Church of Chicago, being chairman of the church board and director of the church choir. 

The daughter, Mrs. Lenny Welch Fuller, is an accomplished pianist, the church organist at South Side Church, and often accompanies her mother in full concerts. 

The son, Gale Welch, is a virtuoso on the violin. He is a leader of Christian youth in the South Side Church. 

Grandmother Lizzie Page is an ever present counsel and fountain of wisdom for all, while a sister, Mrs. Leslie Clark Smith, is ever near to do what she can to help. 

It's no secret; everybody loves Rosa, and prays earnestly that she will continue to render her great service to humankind.
Eubanks to Iraq

Dr. John Eubanks, former president at Jarvis Christian College, was recently sworn in by Federal Civil Service authorities as a chief in the Rural Improvement Department of the Foreign Operations Administration.

Dr. Eubanks will be stationed at Baghdad, Iraq. Because of his outstanding training and experience, Mr. Eubanks will specialize in rural education as well as the improvement of rural life in Iraq.

To Aid Student Ministers

Princeton, N. J. (RNS)—The American Association of Theological Schools is sponsoring a program of one-year fellowships to encourage college students to consider the ministry as a career.

Announcement of the program was made here by the association's president, Dr. Edward H. Roberts, dean of Princeton Theological Seminary.

He said the project will have financial support up to $100,000 a year under a pledge from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

The fellowships are to be administered through the newly created American Association of Theological Schools Fund, Inc., headed by Dr. Nathan M. Pusey, president of Harvard University.

They are directed toward college undergraduates and recent graduates who are not prepared to make the usual commitment involved in entering study for the ministry, but who are interested enough to spend a year at a seminary of their own choice among those accredited by the association.

Dr. Roberts said that some fellowships will be granted for the 1954-55 academic year, but that the program would not be in full operation until the next academic year.

He said that persons in responsible positions in the ministry or higher education must nominate candidates for the fellowships.

Across the Brotherhood

- A Brotherhood Tea sponsored by the area units in Second Church of Indianapolis, Ind., raised sufficient funds to begin the purchase of floor coverings for the church parlors.
- The Alameda Street Church at Nashville, Tenn., reports through Correspondent Annette Jackson that the life of the church has been lifted through: 1. a successful pre-Easter campaign, 2. a well-attended Superintendent's Retreat for Central Tennessee, held at Alameda under the direction of Lorenzo Evans, and 3. the continuous effective preaching of the minister, R. C. Maloy.
- The Centennial Church of St. Louis, Mo., recently burned the mortgage on the church property. A series of festive services where highlighted by the appearance of civic and religious leaders, a cornerstone placement, historical pageant and old-fashioned fellowship dinner. E. J. Dickson, Edith Bristow, S. S. Myers and R. Wesley Watson were among the national leaders present. State President Raymond Brown brought a keynote message.
- State President A. C. Stone of the Ohio convention church school writes that the fourth annual retreat for church school superintendents held recently at the Cedar Street Church in Cleveland, 0., was a real success. The program is reported to have been highlighted by a family night fellowship demonstration, and a discussion led by National Director of Christian Education Lorenzo Evans on "Methods of Teaching and Securing Teachers." Mrs. Velma Thomas was program chairman. Fifty-two persons attended.

Disciples to Meet

Under the leadership of Robert Tobias, Disciple of Christ representative to the World Council of Churches, the Disciples Committee on Ecumenical Fellowship and Service is announcing a Disciples Study Conference on Ecumenical Issues to be held in Chicago, August 6-9, 1954.

Promotional matter states that "the purpose of the Conference is to consider a few acute issues presently confronting Disciples in relation to the ecumenical movement."

A workshop type program lists the following three themes for major consideration: 1. The Nature of the Church, 2. Disciples Missions, and Union Churches Abroad, and 3. Making the Ecumenical Movement a Reality at Home.

Church leaders from other nations will appear to introduce special matter and act as resource persons.

The conference is designed to orientate Disciples for the Evanston Assembly.

Workable Faith

(From page 114.)

Dr. D. Elton Trueblood of Earlham College, Richmond, Ind., set the stage for "The Christian and His Daily Work" theme.

"We are on the verge of a new revolution—a movement which is sweeping the country," he said. "It hinges on three facts:

"First, that we cannot have a better world unless the Christian religion is more deeply imbedded in its life.

"Second, that this cannot happen unless the laity accepts its part in the Christian ministry.

"And third, that we laymen cannot accept our part in carrying Christianity unless we are fully dedicated to the task."

The delegates were divided into 10 occupational groups which reported their findings at a general session.

Four Dayton judges belonged to the group on the legal profession which decided, among other things, that "we, as Christians, owe every client the right to an honorable defense—even though his cause may be on the unpopular side."

Men of the technical professions came to the conclusion that "the more we study the universe, the more we are convinced there is a Creator."

Founder's Day

(From page 112.)

rich program of song, Mr. Alexander sang classic compositions and Mrs. Barker sang the more humbly appealing folk songs. Both artists are great favorites in east Texas and the overflow crowd that came to hear them left filled with warmth and exhilaration.
NCMC BUDGET AT $39,500—TRUSTEES APPROVE

In the final meeting of the Trustee Board of the National Christian Missionary Convention for 1953-54 held recently in Indianapolis, Ind., the $39,500 budget for 1954-55 was approved, and many significant recommendations for future program and policy adopted. President L. L. Dickerson of Columbus, O., presided.

The approved budget and askings for 1954-55 are as follows:

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<td>UCMS</td>
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<td>Field Reports</td>
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<td>Gifts for Ministerial Training</td>
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<td>St. Louis Program Proposed</td>
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Next year the long-range program for our brotherhood calls for an emphasis on stewardship. In keeping with this emphasis, the committee planning for the National Convention program in St. Louis, Mo., next August adopted the theme: “Christian Stewards—Informed, Inspired, Sharing.”

Chairman Eli Wilbert of Dayton, O., announced that the “program beaming period” introduced last year, will be followed again this year. Each morning a phase of the stewardship subject will (See page 124.)

Church Editors Meet

Representing 125 church papers and a combined circulation of over 7,000,000 patrons or a reading public of more than 20,000,000, the Associated Church Press held its 35th annual meeting recently in New York City.

The program was headed by such newspaper men as Dr. Leo Rosten of Look magazine; Harold E. Fey of The Christian Century, and Charles W. Ferguson of Reader’s Digest.

The Christian Plea (represented by James M. Flanagan of The Christian-Evangelist) was formally accepted for membership along with seven other new member publications.

One of the highlight experiences of the Association’s meeting took place during the conferences at the United Nations headquarters. Along with meeting the delegations stationed there from several countries, the journalists were addressed by Dag Hammarskjold, secretary general of the United Nations.

Out of this meeting, the following public declarations were made:

(See page 122.)

JARVIS COLLEGE CHOIR ECHOES JOYFUL COMMENCEMENT NOTE
The Christian Plea
(Member of Associated Church Press)
VOLUME 43, NO. 10
WILLIAM KAPPEN TOX, Editor
E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary
L. L. DICKERSON, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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E. J. DICKSON—Indianapolis, Ind.
J. M. PLANAN—St. Louis, Mo.
G. A. FEATHERSTED—Mt. Sterling, Ky.
R. H. FISHER—Indianapolis, Ind.
J. E. WALKER—Memphis, Tenn.
W. M. WICKER—Indianapolis, Ind.

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The Plea Platform
1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea
If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:
1. Your name plate has a faulty impression and your name, street, town or state is misspelled.
2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
4. Your paper is being sent to the wrong address, but being kept by the persons receiving it.
5. Our office has not yet changed the address on your name plate.
6. There is harmony in the cooperative efforts of your brotherhood in teaching the basic truths of the Bible—a special bond you want to keep. The Christian Board of Publication exists to preserve that bond and broaden it by supplying books, periodicals and teaching aids which follow your witness.

The Plea Platform

Dean’s List at Jarvis
Twenty-eight students earned an average of “A’s” or above to make the Dean’s List at Jarvis Christian College during the Second Quarter. Three students made straight “A’s” in all classes for the coveted 3.00 score.

Seniors dominated the honor list with 11, followed by the sophomores with 7, then the juniors with 6, and 4 freshmen.

The names of the 28 students and their quarterly average follow: Mary Helen Greer, 3.00; Renetta Thrailkill, 3.00; Frank G. Reid, 3.00; Martha Shepherd, 2.80; Theodore R. Hawkins, 2.75; Melvin Hodge, 2.60; Unidell Lewis, 2.50; Myrtle Faye Parker, 2.50; Doris Willerson, 2.50; Walter Struggs, 2.50; Louie Crayton, 2.50; Edna L. Thompson, 2.50; Essie Ruth Abrams, 2.25; Johnny Ray Clemmons, 2.25; Clara Edwards, 2.25; Juanita Greer, 2.25; Annie Rose Marshall, 2.25; Alan Tatum, 2.25; Robbie L. Williams, 2.25; Andrew A. Claish, 2.00; Barbara Davis, 2.00; Lula Dixon, 2.00; Eugene Finnie, 2.00; Ethel Grant, 2.00; William Hawkins, 2.00; Pearlie Marshall, 2.00; Florence Rollins, 2.00; Mildred Sias, 2.00.

High academic performance is a primary objective in the new “fundamental education” emphasis at Jarvis.

Walker First at TSCC
Dr. J. E. Walker, treasurer of the National Christian Missionary Convention, insurance executive and banker, was selected to deliver the commencement address at Tougaloo Southern Christian College this month.

Dr. Walker becomes the first dignitary to address the newly formed educational institution at a commencement. He was a member of the merger committee and is credited with suggesting the name "Tougaloo Southern Christian College."

Dr. Walker is possibly the best known and most loved Negro Disciple within the brotherhood. He is a businessman of high respect. As a young doctor in Mississippi many years ago, he started the Universal Life Insurance Company on the basis of pennies. Today it has risen to a million dollar institution, underwriting housing projects, and promoting innumerable endeavors in human betterment.

EACH ONE COUNTS...

Harmony is a blend of little things—each key touched by flying fingers adds its special value to the ripple of sound. One off key destroys the harmony.

There is harmony in the cooperative efforts of your brotherhood in teaching the basic truths of the Bible—a special bond you want to keep. The Christian Board of Publication exists to preserve that bond and broaden it by supplying books, periodicals and teaching aids which follow your witness.

Bethany lessons are the only ones planned and written by Disciples of Christ to inform pupils of the national cooperative program of the church and to stress the tenets of your faith.

IN ANSWER TO EVERY RELIGIOUS NEED... uniform and graded curriculum materials for all age groups... program helps and Bible-study aids... communion, baptismal and choir supplies... record forms, bulletin folders and attendance boosters... movies, slides and filmstrips... projectors and public address equipment... handwork and activity materials for children... Bibles, religious books and hymnals from all publishers... pictures, cards and gifts... church furniture and equipment.

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Pressure and Red Faces

THE social atmosphere in which the contemporary Christian with concerned conscience moves and has being, is most productive of cases of high blood pressure and the face flushed red. Now, out of the very divine law of God written indelibly in the moral order of life, comes the historic Supreme Court decision outlawing the principle of “separate but equal” as it pertains to our public school systems.

The sonorous voice of Chief Justice Earl Warren reading this document will hardly die away in our time, or in this generation. There is “no rock to hide” our faces, discolored for one reason or another, though they be. “The rock cries out: ‘No hiding place!’” At this moment, this is particularly true of the Church.

It would be disillusioning to believe that the master planners who devised next year’s brotherhood outreach theme (e.g. “The Church and Minority Groups”) were merely throwing in an ingredient for the long-range program, as a cook puts salt into a cake because the recipe says so. The ruling of the Supreme Court on segregation in our public school systems suggests many implications for the Church which we hope the brotherhood will not ignore when it considers the 1954-55 outreach theme of “The Church and Minority Groups.”

The local church emphasis on stewardship will have little or no fundamental meaning without a tie-up with the outreach emphasis on the responsibility of the true Church to all of its people.

The outreach theme must not be understood pharisaically. That is, to interpret “The Church” as being those members making up any majority racial group white or black. There are local churches whose memberships are 99.9 Negro who are prone to declare before God that they are glad that they are not like other men. Their doors are open to “whomever will.” Undoubtedly there are local churches whose memberships are 99.9 white who think likewise.

However, as we interpret the outreach theme, we understand the term “Church” to mean that body institutionally non-existent, still in process; the Church of which Christ himself is the foundation. The Church we know can have no categorization of minority, majority, brown, white or red.

“No Hiding Place”

COMMENTING on the Supreme Court decision on segregation in the public school systems of America, an outstanding churchman wrote the editor of a leading paper these words:

“Public education can now catch up with the armed forces and professional sports. Eventually organized Christianity will catch up with education.”

With the exception of a few isolated situations within Catholicism and Protestantism, the Church has been playing “catch-up” with the secular world at least since the beginning of the 16th century.

In this game of “catch-up,” the Church has become adept in the maneuver of broken-field running. She has been able to skip down the sidelines of history to an apparent touchdown, while running on top of the chalk markers and not stepping out of bounds.

She has picked her holes in the barriers of the secular world, and slipped through for yardage in cultural and social reform. Now another great moment is afforded her through the movement of the God of history. She must not let this opening close before she calls a play for charging through.

Stop Hypertension

Too many Negro Christians with a conscience of concern for brotherhood are constantly socially embarrassed when in conferences and institutes with fellow white Christians. They literally (and figuratively) suffer from high blood pressure every time. They are forever torn between several opinions. They are called upon to be Christian and behave with culture, while deep within the blood pulsates with increased pressure through their veins.

Too many white Christians with a like conscience of concern are constantly socially embarrassed when in the fellowship of conferences and institutes with fellow Negro Christians. They are forever having their faces flushed red as they find themselves caught in social situation after social situation (with their Negro friends) demanding illogical and the most stupid of thought and action.

It is time for Christians with a concerned conscience on such matters to follow their conscience. If the outreach theme “The Church and Minority Groups” means more than words next fiscal year, it should mean that Negro and white Disciples of integrity and vision should sit down together and face the issues involved with honesty and courage, and with the real intention of doing something more than passing another resolution.

(See page 123)
The Sun and the Umbrella
NELS F. S. FERRE

The Sun and the Umbrella is a modern parable. Born in prayer, written in the light of the Sun, the author sends it forth in the fervent hope of challenging the reader to fill the gaping voids of our world with the saving knowledge and love of Almighty God.

Dr. Ferre refers to the people of his parable as Sun Worshipers who, after abandoning their original domicile, the House of Legalism, moved under a large and protective umbrella. They wanted some light, but not too much! Then a daring prophet endeavored to persuade the people there was Light outside the barn, beyond their protective shade. The Cross was the answer to His courage. But those who remembered the Teacher gathered together many of His most formidable sayings and inscribed them on a smaller umbrella (the Bible), which they placed beneath the larger one. So with the cunningness of the centuries, the whims of people, religious umbrellas have multiplied.

With the chivalry of a soldier, the author mentions Christ, the Bible, and the Church as perennial parasols beneath which professing Christians frequently take cover. He boldly declares theology can likewise be, and frequently is, an attractive umbrella artistically shading the Light. Theologians have been guilty of splitting and putting into thought patterns, raising idols of worship. With striking insight Ferre says, "God alone is to be worshiped. He is the Sun; He alone is the original, uncreated Light, invisible, eternal, in its fullness, ineffable. That Light has entered both human history and the human heart through Jesus . . . . He has been setting him out of the darkness into the Light of the Sun."

The Bible, he asserts, may also become an umbrella. When it ceases to be a witness to faith and becomes an authoritarian object of worship; when book faith supersedes Christian faith; when the sun recommended is only a Biblical sun, the Bible emerges as a great umbrella. The "Seriptes" and "Prinrises" of every generation have preferred the religion of the letter to the religion of life—tradition to truth!

"The purpose of the Bible," says Ferre, "is to lead people to God. This is a long and difficult task. It is almost impossible for human beings to step directly into the blazing light of the Sun. We must not rebel against being creatures. Earthly existence is of such a nature that we know God mostly in an indirect way."

When the Church substitutes holy system for the Holy Spirit (indeed rogelates it to the beginners' department), exhibits greater concern for ecclesiastical rite than Eternal Reality, becomes a proud fraternity rather than a pervasive fellowship, we meet the Bride of Christ carrying strange umbrellas!

Dr. Ferre warns us that even the Ecumenical Movement, however noble and necessary, might itself become a "dangerous" umbrella. Yet the Church can never fulfill its historic mission of Love and Light with anything less than the world as its parish.

One cannot escape in these pages the passion and personal faith of Nels Ferre. Great are his books, his Christian witness and faith are greater! His hope for the world stems from his confidence in God's power through Christ to illuminate it with righteousness and flood it with love. Agape and the Incarnation stand out like undaunted sentinels of the night.

Though you may not agree with Ferre's theology, he will sharpen and strengthen your own. If you will only agree to re-examine your faith, recommit your life to truth!

Selected and reviewed by G. Curtis Jones.

The Commission on the Promotion of Christian Literature selected twelve disciples, asking each of them to choose one book for a certain month which could and should be recommended to both laymen and ministers. Dr. Jones made this selection for June. The price is $2.00. It is available at the Christian Board of Publication.

Across the Brotherhood

Correspondent Cellie B. Brandyboy of Calhoun, Ala., reports the successful promotion of a Joint Institute of Ministers and Christian Women's Fellowship leaders at the Ross Street Church in Montgomery, Ala., recently.

The conference was under the cooperative guidance of National Directors Anabelle Jackson and Charles H. Webb. According to state leaders A. J. Jeffries, Maude Jackson, and E. H. Mason, new life in the causes of missions and more effective town and country churches is already evident.

Mrs. R. W. Watson, registered nurse of Kansas City, Mo., is one of the nurses in charge at the new (and racially integrated) psychiatric hospital in Kansas City. Mrs. Watson is the wife of Tri-State Evangelist R. Wesley Watson.

Miss Besse Chandler of St. Louis, Mo., has an article in the May issue of the International Journal of Religious Education. The article is entitled: "Know What Makes Tommy Tick."

Johnson Inspires

Since Elder R. Johnson has become pastor of Riverview Church in Memphis, Tenn., a few months ago, a church spokesman reports the attendance has increased, offerings doubled, and the church has moved forward spiritually and numerically.

Elder Johnson, formerly a Methodist minister, came into the Disciples of Christ brotherhood under the influence of Blair T. Hunt, minister at Mississippi Boulevard Church in Memphis, Tenn., and Dr. J. E. Walker, chairman of the Mississippi Boulevard Church board.

CMF Leaders Meet

Alfred Thomas of Cincinnati, Ohio, president of the Christian Men's Fellowship and a vice-president of the National Christian Missionary Convention, took part in the annual meeting of the National Laymen's Advisory Commission held in

Bluefield Church Reports

By Special Correspondent

The Jones Street Church of Bluefield, W. Va., continues to go forward in answer to "The Call of Christ. At a recent church board meeting, reports were made on the following projects:

1. The early dawn worship and breakfast on Easter Sunday under the sponsorship of the Ushers Board; 2. a growth of 10 per cent in the membership since the present minister (W. H. Brown) came as pastor in November of 1920; 3. the payment in full for new pews and their installation in the sanctuary; 4. Representation at the Superintendents' Retreat in Reidsville, N. C., by Geraldine Charlton, Edward Reid, Jr., Ruth Taylor and the pastor; 5. the observance of "Christian Family Week" highlighted by the recognition of the 40th and 50th anniversaries of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Banks and Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Keeling respectively; 6. a rosary service for new babies on Mother's Day; 7. the possible purchase of a parsonage for the pastoral family within a few weeks; 8. a School of Missions under the leadership of District Worker E. W. Henry and Local Director of Christian Education Geraldine Charlton; and 10. the coming of Dr. Merl R. Eppee of Nashville, Tenn., as guest minister for Father's Day Sunday.
OPEN FORUM ON "BOLD NEW PROGRAM"
(Comments by readers of editorial appearing in April, 1954, issue of The Christian Plea)

**Out of Thirty Years of Concerned Leadership**
*By John Long, D.D.*

**WHEN** the editor of The Christian Plea requested that I write a critical evaluation of a forthcoming editorial to be entitled "A Bold New Program Needed," I was prepared for a statement that was explosive and highly controversial. From my experience with Mr. Fox while he was on our staff at Southern Christian, I knew he would have to step out of character to write such an editorial, but thought he might be writing such just to stimulate some constructive discussion.

When the editorial reached my desk I was prepared to sail into it, but the farther I read the more the wind left my sails and the more I found myself in wholehearted agreement with it all.

As a student of sociology I had to admit that there are many social phenomena which are greatly affecting our people and churches and all institutions in all parts of the nation. As one with more than thirty years of concern for the program of our National Christian Missionary Convention I could do nothing but applaud the suggestions made for implementing and improving that program.

Those familiar with my preachments know that my chief worry concerning the National Convention is that it become too ingrown and too segregated from our total brotherhood life. Segregation is bad no matter who practices it. It can be condoned much less in the church than elsewhere. There are some who say that someday we shall understand each other well enough that we can do away with segregation. The truth is that we can never understand and appreciate each other until segregation is removed. How people can expect the Supreme Court of a Christian democracy to hand down any other decision than one condemning segregation is beyond me. Certainly the Church must condemn it, while at the same time removing the cancerous effects from its own body.

Of course a voluntary withdrawal of a group is not as bad as a compulsory segregation, and if it is done in the right spirit I can see wherein an organization like our National Christian Missionary Convention, if it lives up to its name, can offer many opportunities for training in churchmanship and leadership which might not be possible for a while elsewhere.

With the closing of the Southern Christian Institute as we all know it, there will be even greater need for an aggressive and bold program here in Mississippi if our Negro churches are to be saved at all. There certainly should be someone representing the National Convention on the Board of Trustees of the new program at Tougaloo. We shall be leaving Mississippi, but our hearts will still be concerned with the desperate needs that still exist in this area.

**PERHAPS** you are familiar with the program of the Mississippi Baptists. There is increasing cooperation between the white and Negro conventions for their mutual improvement. The white convention has a full-time Negro secretary, a white preacher supported by the white convention to do all that is possible to improve the leadership of Negro churches as well as to develop present churches and establish new ones.

*For over three decades Dr. Long and his wife rendered a selfless and courageous home missionary service at Southern Christian Institute in Edwards, Mississippi. Three-fourths of that time was served as the executive head of that institution. This statement comes out of rich experience and therefore reflects a broad perspective, as well as a sincere interest.*

DR. LONG (second from left) maintained an abiding interest in the development of Negro church leadership in Mississippi. In the picture above are persons representing a threefold cooperative project in an in-service training program for rural church workers in Mississippi. The program was initiated at S. C. I. in 1943 with the sanction of Mr. Long. Left to right are: W. K. Fox, religious extension director at that time; John Long; V. A. Edwards, then religious extension director at Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Ga.; Dr. J. A. Crain, department of social welfare in the UCMS, then co-administrator of the project; and Donald F. Pielstick, of the then Home Missions Council of North America, a co-administrator.
The Churchman's World

Va. Alliances Interracial
Norfolk, Va. (RNS).—Membership in the Norfolk Ministerial Union has been thrown open to all Negro clergymen of this area.

At the same time, the near-by Newport News Christian Ministers’ Association (white) and the Peninsula Ministers’ Union (Negro) voted to form a new interracial ministerial group.

The Norfolk Ministerial Union also announced that segregation will be permanently eliminated from its annual United Preaching Missions held in January of each year.

Virginia state law requires segregation of whites and Negroes at public assemblies and in public conveyances. The Virginia Council of Churches and various denominational and ministerial groups throughout the state have adopted resolutions calling upon the General Assembly to repeal the law.

In Negro Conference
Willerforce, O. (RNS).—Dr. Ralph T. Templin, a former missionary to India, has been transferred from the Methodist Church’s Delhi Area to the Lexington Conference of its Central (Negro) Jurisdiction. He is believed to be the first white minister ever received into a Negro Conference of the Church.

Several Negro ministers and congregations belong to the denomination’s predominantly white Northeastern and Western Jurisdictions and there is at least one Negro minister in its North Central Jurisdiction.

Since 1947, Dr. Templin has been a teacher at Central State College (Negro) here.

His transfer was announced by Bishop Edgar Love of Baltimore, Md., acting in behalf of Bishop Matthew W. Clair, Jr., of the St. Louis Area during the latter’s absence on a three-month tour of African missions.

Editors

Centennial YAF Plan for NCMC Assembly

Red Faces (From page 119)

It is indeed a shame that the decision of the Supreme Court must be made before the face of the Church is really flushed red. There is deeper regret that almost none of us had sufficient faith in the God of history to lay long-range plans for the meeting of this day.

Yet, the Church still stands as the only institution which (beyond any other) should be able to furnish the conference ground in every community for the working out of the several problems which must be faced in the light of this historic decision.

Dr. Abele's letter includes a paragraph which might well become an outline for a philosophy, as well as a program of action for the local church:

"We pledge ourselves to the practice of patience; the use of the hopeful word; the restraint on impulsive action; conscientious participation in, and deliberations on public planning, and the cultivation of the outreaching hand and the open door."

This means that every church should have an acting or standing committee on Christian action appointed now. It implies that every local church should begin the study of the actual Supreme Court interpretation. It suggests that many local churches will be called upon to throw open their doors for conferences on the many implications of the ruling. It means that ministers and laymen will be asked by the secular leadership in communities to serve on study and findings committees.

Such committees will expect churchmen to speak and act like churchmen. Such conferences will be honestly seeking the best light of conscience. Many will sincerely respect the counsel of the Church and churchmen. The Church has been given a lateral pass, and it can't afford to fumble the ball. "We" means you, your church, your family, and your community.

Open Forum (From page 121.)

They have set up a seminary for ministerial training. The president is a well-trained Negro. The school has twenty-three branches across the state, each with an accredited dean. Many of these deans are local white preachers.

With day and night classes and institutes they are providing opportunities for ministers and lay people to get needed training in the work of the church. Recently these deans selected a few promising leaders among the women of their area and sent them to the campus of Southern Christian Institute with all expenses paid. Here for a week their top state and national leadership trained these women in stewardship, effective use of their own church literature, personal evangelism, and missionary consciousness; and sent them back on fire to share what they had learned here. They will have similar conferences on our campus this summer for other adult and youth groups. The program is a joint project of the Negro and white conventions.

Is it any wonder that there are more than half a million Negro Baptists in Mississippi?

Your "Bold New Program" is saying to Disciples of Christ in Mississippi "Go, and do thou likewise."

The WCC at Evanston

T

HE World Council of Churches is 161 denominations in 48 countries saying to the people throughout the world we are one in Christ and we "intend to stay together."

It is over 168 million individual church members on the five continents saying in one voice to a divided world: Christ is "The Hope of the World." His message is relevant to divisiveness wherever it is: to those who believe in another way to the eternal life; to the state powers caught in the struggle for world domination; to the cultures slowly poisoned through racial and group prejudice—Christ is the only hope for all of this; he speaks one word to one church for one world!

In a nutshell this is what the World Council of Churches is, and this is the everlasting task it will be at during the history-making sessions in Evanston August 15-31, 1954.

This is the second Assembly for this great body. The first was in Amsterdam, Holland in 1948 when it was formally organized. Not counting the wives and husbands which will be allowed to accompany official representatives, there will be the following in attendance: 1. 600 official delegates chosen by the 161 members of the WCC—175 of them will come from the USA; 2. 600 accredited visitors chosen in the same manner; 3. 150 consultants which will include outstanding Christian scholars and churchmen invited by the Central Committee of the WCC; 4. 120 youth consultants chosen by the Youth Department in consultation with the respective churches cooperating and official observers from churches who are not yet members of the WCC.

In addition to this great body of churchmen, there will be room for 1,600 general visitors at the day plenary sessions, and 4,600 at evening public meetings.

Of course, the indispensable press will be there along with radio, TV and wire services. It is estimated that at least 400 will be so accredited.

W. K. Fox New Alliance President

William K. Fox, pastor of Centennial Church, St. Louis, Mo., and editor of The Christian Plea, was recently elected president of the Ministerial Alliance of the Greater St. Louis Area.

Mr. Fox, who was serving as vice-president of the Alliance, was elected at the annual dinner meeting of the organization held in Grace Methodist Church of St. Louis.

Mr. Fox became the pastor of Centennial Church in October of 1950 after having served as a member of the faculty of the Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial College, Nashville. He was dean of men and served as assistant professor of history—JAMES M. FLANAGAN, Advisory Committee, The Christian Plea.
President A. Dale Fiers made a comprehensive statement on the Southern Christian Institute, reported the editor of The Christian Plea that the deadline for the money to be in the national office for the Capital Pension Fund of Disciples of Christ in Miami, Fla., reported that from July 1, 1953, to March 27, 1954, $12,833.87 had been taken in under the "old plan" of operating the business projects. Out of this amount, all current expenses were taken care of, and $2,829,68 sent to Treasurer J. E. Walker.

The report continued with a resume of progress with the "new plan." The manager stated "that things are moving along in a satisfactory way, however, our problem... is to get ready to modernize and equip our office in Greenwood Cemetery..." He pointed out the need to "consolidate and get rid of duplicate operations in the office."

It was also announced that a Perpetual Care Fund for the old section of the cemetery had been established.

The report indicated that there was a need for building up a type of personnel with the "knowledge and experience" necessary to promote many of the new ventures proposed in the "new plan."

Last Board Meeting

The close of this Trustee Board meeting marked the climax of President L. L. Dickerson's successful two-year administration.

CMF

The meeting was attended by 51 men from 33 states and included state presidents and directors of men's work, "dollar-a-year men," and the staff members of the department of men's work of the United Christian Missionary Society.

Lewis J. Ackers of Abilene, Texas, was re-elected chairman of the Commission's Central Committee. Other committee members were also named to serve another term. The city of Toronto, Ont., was tentatively approved as the location for the next annual Commission meeting, to be held in 1955 at the time of the World Convention of Churches of Christ.

Plans were laid for two special sessions for laymen at the International Convention of Disciples of Christ in Miami, Fla., next October. Churches are being urged by the department of men's work to send their board chairmen to the Convention. A special breakfast for local church board chairmen is planned for Miami.

NY Diocese Protests

New York (RNS)—The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New York has urged Presiding Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill to change the site of the Church's 1955 General Convention sessions unless nonsegregated housing, restaurants, and other accommodations can be assured at Houston, Tex.

The recommendation was contained in a resolution approved by a voice vote of 500 delegates to the 173rd diocesan convention held at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine here.

It was the second recent appeal made to Bishop Sherrill on the Houston question. Earlier, the Diocese of Washington, D. C., asked the Presiding Bishop to name another General Convention meeting site if he found that delegates might be embarrassed and the Church compromised by segregation.
Associations to Merge

Alumni of Southern Christian Institute and Tougaloo College in Mississippi held their first joint annual meeting on the Tougaloo campus, Tougaloo, Miss., recently. At this time, H. M. Thompson, teacher at Lanier High School, Jackson, Miss., was named chairman of a fourteen-member committee to write a new alumni association constitution. Mr. Thompson is a graduate of Tougaloo College.

Serving on the joint committee ex-officio are Dr. C. B. Christian, Jackson, Miss., physician and president of the Tougaloo Alumni Association, and John Lewis, Chicago, Ill., postal employee, president of the Southern Christian Institute Alumni Association. The committee will report next fall at the annual Tougaloo Southern Christian College Homecoming celebration.

SCI STUDENTS MARCH

Three former students at Southern Christian Institute, Edwards, Miss., graduated from Tougaloo Southern Christian College on June 1 this year. They are Carolen Moncure of Crystal Springs, Miss., Dorothy Hobson, Brandon, Miss., and Clarence Thompson, Jackson, Miss.

UCMS TRUSTEES APPROVE BUCKNER PLAN

(UCMS) Plans for starting a new program of Christian community service in the rural area around Edwards, Miss., were authorized recently by the board of trustees of The United Christian Missionary Society in Indianapolis, Ind.

The program as envisioned will utilize the farm and school property of Southern Christian Institute, which merged this year with Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Miss. Trustee action followed recommendations of a committee which the Society's department of institutional missions had asked to explore needs of people in the community around S.C.I.

The committee, which met with Society staff representatives on the S.C.I. property near Edwards, Miss., recently, included local people and brotherhood leaders, both Negro and white from across the country. In the group were Mrs. Anderson B. Barnes, Los Angeles, Calif.; W. K. Fox, St. Louis, Mo.; Lorenzo Evans, Indianapolis, Ind.; Miss Mary E. White, Memphis, Tenn.; John Wilson, Huffmanville, Miss.; Maurice Grove and Lee Pierce, Jackson, Miss.; Robert Glenn and W. L. Wood, Tupelo, Miss.; A. E. Cox, Cruger, Miss.; and B. L. Jacobs, Edwards, Miss.

Special consultants attending the meeting were Miss Leila Bruce of the Mississippi Family Service Agency and Charles O. Lee, former director of the Community Chest of Jackson, Miss. Four who were invited to take part in the meeting but who were unable to attend were Mrs. Sam Allen, Jackson, Miss.; Blair Hunt, Memphis, Tenn.; S. S. Myers, Kansas City, Mo.; and E. L. Griffin, Shelby, Miss.

The farm will be further developed under the direction of B. L. Jacobs, farm manager for the past 34 years. Implementation of the new community program during the coming year will be scaled to available budget resources. Among the needs to be studied are those for clinical health service, care of dependent children, family guidance, community religious work, facilities for conferences and work scholarships for students at Tougaloo Southern Christian College. It will be called "Mount Beulah Christian Center."

ATTEND NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ST. LOUIS AUG. 16-22, 1954
The Christian Plea
(Member of Associated Church Press)
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WILLIAM KAPPEL FOX, Editor
E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary
L. L. DICKERSON, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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The Plea Platform
1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

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If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:
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2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
4. Your paper is being sent to the wrong address, but being kept by the persons receiving it.
5. Our office has not yet changed the address on your name plate.

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AT CHURCH WITH THREE-YEAR-OLDS
By Jessie B. Carlson. Ready this fall for three-year-old children, this manual for the teacher coordinates session plans for 52 Sunday classes. Gives the objectives of Christian education for this age and includes stories and songs. Three valuable charts: sessions grouped under experience areas of three-year-olds; their characteristics and needs; and floor plans for the nursery. $1.50

MESSAGE TO PARENTS
A quarterly 8-page illustrated leaflet offering parents practical counsel. 4 cents per quarter

New Nursery Materials for three-year-olds
Send for Examination Copies

STORIES FROM CHURCH
Four, 32-page books in color for three-year-olds—one for each quarter of the year—containing songs, prayers and stories. There are appealing illustrated stories in color about the time when Jesus was born, how Jesus went about doing good, learning to do things, friends at church, fun at home, a baby brother, etc. 35 cents each

NURSERY PICTURE SETS
There are six, large (11" x 14½"), four-color pictures each quarter for the teacher to use. Coordinated with the lessons for better learning by visualization. $1.50 per set

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
Beaumont and Pine Boulevard
Box 179, St. Louis 3, Mo.

Missouri Pacific Prepared for Delegates
The Missouri Pacific Eagle is ready to serve the Southwest. The following is the scale of rates from seven of the major cities in this area (Tax included—Pullman rate one way):

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<th>Round Trip Clergy</th>
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(Bay City Delegation—Pullman from Houston only)

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(Pullman same as Dallas).
I. A. HURDLE, Austin, Tex.
The New South—A Challenge to the New Negro

Address Delivered by Dr. J. E. Walker at the June, 1954, Commencement at

Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Miss.

SIX years after the Emancipation Proclamation there existed, especially in the South among the newly emancipated freedmen, a great human need for spiritual guidance, food, clothing, and everything necessary to adapt these newly emancipated people and all people to the new situation surrounding both Negro and white people.

Wherever there is a human need there is a divine call. This call was answered by saints of God through The American Missionary Association of New York, who came to the cane fields of Louisiana, the cotton fields of Mississippi, and withstood the infested swamps of malaria, typhoid fever—sometimes social ostracism—to answer the call of God.

All the handicaps encountered have been conquered and their successors overcame every obstacle and are now numbered spiritually, socially, and intellectually among the leading citizens of America.

Such colleges as Dillard University of Louisiana, LeMoyne and Fisk of Tennessee, and Tougaloo Southern Christian College of Mississippi, have given the world a new Negro who will help construct a new South.

Since the turn of the twentieth century, America and her people have steadily, tediously, sometimes heartbreakingly, continued the journey up the highway that leads to the fullest realization of the democratic dream. That journey has included our participation, as a nation and as a people, in two great wars. That journey, with its vast technological and scientific advances, has brought us, and the world, to the brink of the Atomic Era: a strange, new age in the history of mankind.

Here in the South, since the abolition of slavery, we have been vitally concerned with the interrelationships of America's citizens, we have also traveled far up the highway toward America's ultimate destiny in men's ageless effort to demonstrate their ability to live together in peace, liberty and freedom from want.

And we can well be proud that the Negro in the South has been one of the hardy travelers up that long highway!

As we look over our shoulders, back down that rugged road, we can see, lost in the dust of time, the reliefs of past years: the unchallenged lynchings, the primitive plantation existence of sacrifice and privation, the notorious 'white primaries,' the unchecked brutality and human degradation. One by one, we have placed these milestones behind us.

Indeed, today we stand at new crossroads. As we look across the hills and valleys and plains of the South, today, we see the Negro standing erect, tall in stature, keen of mind, strong in body and purpose—a man among men! We see the color bar steadily being erased as an ugly stain on the clean white shirt-front of America!

The greatest blow struck against the color bar since the Emancipation Proclamation was the unanimous decision of the Supreme Court that segregation in public schools violates the constitution of the United States of America.

In courts throughout the Southland, the Negro is discovering that the mantle of justice and mercy under the law extends also to him. The kangaroo courts of the past are fast being replaced with impartial seats of justice that set no prior penalty on the color of the plaintiff or of the defendant.

READ your headlines, day by day, week by week:

- "Alabama Medical Society Admits First Negro Physician to Membership!"
- "Memphis Names Park for Negro Who Saved 32 Whites in River Disaster!"
- "Two Negroes Named to Houston Committee for City Planning!"
- "Six Negro Candidates Qualify for May 4th Primary Elections in Mobile!"
- "Jacksonville Naval Air Station Discharges White Barbers Who Refuse to Serve Negro GI's!"
- "Southern Railway Ends Dining Car Jim Crow!"
- "Negro Lawyer Seeks Seat in Alabama Legislature!"

Ladies and gentlemen, these are truly signs of the times! Read your headlines:

- "Louisville Hospital Admits First Negro Student Nurse!"
- "Virginia Ministers' Union Elects First Negro President!"
- "Nashville Golf Course Opened to Negroes!"
- "First Negro Prosecutor Appointed in Baltimore!"
- "University of Georgia Student Newspaper Hits Segregation!"
- "Florida Negro Wins Damage Suit of $60,000.00!"
- "Jim Crow Signs Removed at TVA!"

News such as this reported week after week in mounting crescendo today, reflects the great sociological and economic offensive of the Negro in the South. In political affairs, in the building of new homes and recreational facilities, in the rise of Negro-owned and operated businesses, in the increase of Negro participation in organized sports, in the inclusion of more and more Negro craftsmen in labor organizations, in the integration of Negro students into state universities, in the integration of servicemen in military bases—in all of these and numerous other developments.

(See page 129)
YOUTH like those above will be inspired in conferences this year by such churchmen as Rosa Page Welch.

CONFERENCE
EVERY CHURCH should promote the attendance of its youths in summer conferences. If there are conferences open to all, regardless of color, we should not fail to support them. A conference open to all will assure a more enriched experience.

THE MATRONS' CLUB of the Maple Street Church of Lockland, Ohio, is one of the several groups there supporting the total church program. Robert L. Brown, minister, reports increasing progress.

MRS. BERNIECE A. HOLMES, president of the National CWF, fellowships with other CWF leaders in Indianapolis during a special tea. Under Mrs. Holmes' leadership the CWF program has vastly improved.

B. L. JACOBS (extreme right) welcomes S.C.I. Alumni to the campus for the last official meeting. This group hails from Tex., Ill., Ia., and Ind. Others came from Calif., Mo., and Miss.

ALL PEOPLES
HAVE YOU sent your church's offering to headquarters for the All Peoples Church Manse Project? To be truly Disciples of Christ, we must walk in the path of service to others. The All People's Church Project offers a most worthy opportunity.

DEVELOPMENT OF LEADERSHIP is a major result of the youth conference experience. The leaders of the St. Louis Council pictured above are an outstanding example.
ments, the Negro citizen in the South today progressively flings off the ragged garments of second-class citizenship and plunges deep into the main stream of American life.

In contrast to the South of the fiery abolitionist, Frederick Douglass; the South of the plaintive poet, Paul Lawrence Dunbar; the South of the patient builder, Booker T. Washington; in contrast to the chant of the breast-bared workmen on the levees and the weary freight-handlers on the river boats of the Mississippi; in contrast to the black sharecropper's empty dream and the school-starved children of the wooden cabin and the fat back diet; in contrast to a South with no resting place for a black man's son; I give you, today, a "New South," where, if you please, even Beale Street has a bank, two newspapers, three insurance companies and a fifty-thousand-dollar restaurant!

Name your state and name your city and you'll find Negro Americans, like modern-day pioneers, exploring bright, new frontiers of opportunity and service in today's "New South." In Atlanta, Houston, New Orleans, in Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, yes, in Mississippi, the curtain is going up on the "New South" for which the Douglasses and Washingtons and John Browns prayed!

The journey up the highway has not been easy. The road behind is marked with milestones of blood, tears and grief. But the pages of history of all peoples serve to remind us that freedom was never cheap—that liberty and opportunity cannot be found in the bargain basement!

THE important fact for us today is that there is a New South and that there is a New Negro—equipped to make a contribution to the New South!

Let's take a little closer look at the "New Negro" in the South! Does he constitute an asset? Does he make an appreciable contribution to the over-all progress of the "New South"? The answer, of course, is an undeniable, resounding "yes!"

One of the basic reasons for the enhanced position of the Negro in the South today is found in the fact that his economic position has been greatly improved. Especially since World War II has the dollars-and-opportunity cannot be found in the bargain basement! 

O NE of the best guides is discovered in the amount of advertising and sales promotion directed especially to the Negro market. For example, until a few years ago, the Negro market was not recognized as a valuable entity. Following the Negro press, radio was one of the first media to explore and develop the advertising potential of the Negro market. Several independent stations pioneered in devoting their programming and advertising time to Negro listeners. The results they obtained paved the way for many more.

In 1943, only four radio stations were aiming their sales messages at the Negro market. Today, over 270 independent stations are beaming their programs at the Negro audience. Further pointing up the recognition of the Negro market is the recent establishment of the National Negro Network, Inc., the nation's first nationwide Negro radio hook-up.

In New York, one of the world's largest advertising agencies—Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborne—has made its Negro consumer marketing section a permanent part of its special marketing department. This firm has hired two highly qualified Negro executives to spearhead its efforts in the Negro market.

Negro newspapers are receiving more and more advertising copy. The Pittsburgh Courier, The Chicago Defender, The Afro American and many other like newspapers are our first line of offense and defense—not only in America but in the islands of the sea and all over the world. The circulation of these papers runs into the thousands and each year they are receiving more and more advertising copy from our major business firms.

Our magazines—Color, Our World, Ebony, with a circulation of nearly one million—have attracted nation-wide attention.

Negro models are used more and more on billboards, in newspaper and magazine advertising.

Business places in the South exert greater and greater efforts to improve facilities to accommodate Negro patrons. Daily newspapers give greater and greater coverage to Negro civic, social and religious affairs.

(See page 131)
CHRISTENDOM Responds to Court Decision

Via Texas Methodists
San Antonio, Texas (RNS)—A resolution calling upon "all institutions" of the Southwest Texas Methodist Conference to "set the pattern for just and ethical conduct in the community" by ending segregation was adopted at the Conference's annual meeting here.

It urged that "all of our people abide by both the letter and spirit of the recent decisions of the Supreme Court concerning segregation."

"Let us face the changes ahead of us with confidence since the law of the land requires it and God approves it," the resolution said. "Let us use our influence to guide our changing patterns of conduct in the right way and bring calm and assurance if tensions are increased by unwise words or regrettable incidents."

Via Episcopalians
Garden City, N.Y. (RNS)—The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Long Island, at its 87th annual convention here, hailed the U.S. Supreme Court for providing a "clear statement of national policy" in its recent decision that racial segregation in the public schools is unconstitutional.

The resolution called upon the nation's churches to reflect the implications of the decision "in every realm of the Church's life."

Via a City Federation
St. Louis, Mo. (RNS)—The Metropolitan Church Federation of St. Louis urged its 550 member churches to abolish race segregation in "worship, fellowship and membership," and asked all pastors to be "color blind." The federation itself has been interracial for many years.

A resolution passed unanimously at the federation's annual assembly praised the recent Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in the public schools as a "significant social change sired by justice, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the equality of all men."

"Let us use our influence to guide our changing patterns of conduct in the right way and bring calm and assurance if tensions are increased by unwise words or regrettable incidents."

 Via Southern Episcopalians
Arlington, Va. (RNS)—The Council of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, meeting here, called upon Episcopalians in the state to help carry out the Supreme Court ruling ending segregation in public schools.

A resolution adopted at the council's annual meeting urged Virginia Church members to "provide intelligent, deliberate Christian leadership" for the coming program of racial integration.

The council also requested the Bishop of Virginia to appoint an interracial committee on race relations to confer with diocesan agencies on how to meet the problems arising from the school decision.

Via Methodist Women
Milwaukee, Wis. (RNS)—The Methodist Woman's Society of Christian Service endorsed the Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in the public schools at the final session of its fourth assembly here.

The group adopted an affirmation (resolution) saying:

"We affirm anew our determination to work with greater urgency to eliminate segregation from every part of our community and national life and from the organization and practice of our own Church and its agencies and programs."

"We rejoice that the highest tribunal of justice in this land, the Supreme Court of the United States, proclaimed on May 17, 1954, that segregation in public education anywhere in this nation is an infringement of the Constitution and a violation of the 14th amendment."

"We accept our full Christian responsibility to work through church and community channels to speed the process of transition from segregated schools to a new pattern of justice and freedom."

TAKE THE PLEA
CHRISTIAN-PLEA
New South  
(From page 129)

Local businessmen employ more and more Negro salesmen and women. Advertisements for national companies appear on local Negro movie screens.

All of this means that millions of dollars are spent each year for the precise purpose of stimulating the Negro market—a market, I remind you, that finds nearly two-thirds of its population living in the South!

Yes, I think we can all agree that the “New Negro” in the “New South” is a customer!

Now, the Negro college student asks, What does this mean to me?

As part of the over-all picture of the “New South,” the established, multi-billion-dollar Negro market means that an even stronger economic foundation has been laid under the ever growing structure of new job opportunities for all people in the South.

There used to be a time when Negroes, fortunate enough to graduate from a college or university, found no recourse to employ their new-found skills except to catch the first train north to a city where color bars were less restrictive.

O P P O R T U N I T Y was found in a one-way train ticket heading north on the Illinois Central!

Today, in the “New South,” the “New Negro” finds an entire, new frontier of job opportunities awaiting him, like over-ripe fruit to be plucked from an orchard—only the criterion is to be well qualified, well equipped and well prepared to do the job.

“Fleecy locks nor dark complexion do not forfeit nature’s claim: skins may differ, but affections dwell in black and white the same.”

In the area of established Negro-owned and operated businesses that offer opportunities for qualified job applicants, we find banks with total assets of 37 million dollars and resources of over 45 million dollars. In Atlanta, Georgia, there is a federal savings and loan association with assets of over 10 million dollars.

There are scores of Negro insurance companies with assets of 150 million dollars and more than one billion dollars of insurance in force. These institutions comprise an independent backbone of financial strength and support for Negroes who desire to finance new businesses, homes and offices. All of these companies are continually expanding, demanding new blood, new personnel, new managerial and technical assistance, as their institutions reach higher and higher plateaus of operation and public service.

These are other examples of Negro-owned and operated businesses throughout the South which represent achievements wrought through the years by ceaseless toil, perseverance and hard work. They are notable in themselves for the tens of thousands of jobs they are providing for Negro workers, and have become an indispensable part of the American economy.

These institutions need more and more well-trained personnel to carry on their functions and to guarantee steady, continued growth. The doors are open in the “New South”!

There are new business opportunities in all fields, waiting to be conceived, launched, built and developed by Negroes in the South. Negro customers in many southern communities are deprived of many services, products, needs and luxuries—not because they cannot afford them—but because no equipped person has sought to establish the business or service to fit their needs! The doors are open in the “New South”!

White businesses throughout the “New South” are letting down more and more color barriers in order to employ Negro personnel as a means of capturing a greater share of the Negro market. Especially in sales and public relations, the preliminary to general hiring, are white businesses pleading for qualified Negro workers in the southern communities. There are hundreds of such opportunities now waiting for so-called “Negro firsts”!

In industry, the effect of increasing labor organization in large plants such as International Harvester, and Firestone, is bringing greater and greater opportunities to skilled Negro craftsmen. Often compensation on these jobs is equal to, or greater than, incomes derived from office occupations. The doors are open in the “New South”!

With the growth of Negro registration and voting in the South, more and more civil service jobs in local, county, and state governments, as well as in local air force, naval, and army installations, have become available for qualified Negro applicants. Supervisory positions in government employment agencies, post offices, social service organizations and public housing management are waiting for equipped Negro workers.

In some instances, civil service appointments for Negroes in the “New South” are lost for lack of qualified Negro personnel.

I N THE realm of community service among Negroes in the South, opportunities are rich for qualified Negro personnel in social work, YMCA and YWCA organizations, Girl and Boy Scout organizations, Urban League administration and other private community service organizations. Supervisory personnel in these capacities in many southern communities is unavailable and badly needed. The masses of Negro people who benefit from the services of such organizations will pay high in compensation, prestige and recognition for qualified people who can do the job. The doors are open in the “New South”!

In truth, all fields including agriculture, the technical professions linked with new hospital facilities built for Negroes in the South: the trades of the carpenter, the bricklayer, electrician and plumber; the electronics field of television and radio; the field of certified public accountants and actuaries for the growing Negro-owned and operated businesses dealing in finance—all of these and hundreds more fields are open to you— the “New Negro” of the “New South”!!

Despite its use, public accounting continues to be the nation’s fastest-growing profession. At the turn of the century, there were only 243 certified public accountants in the United States, and there were still only 5,000 by 1920. Today, there are over 50,000 CPA’s in the U. S. A. Of this number, only 50 are Negroes. The army is in need of 500 accountants, and will pay them salaries ranging from $6,000.00 to $8,000.00 per year.

(Continued in next issue)
NCMC Program for St. Louis—Aug. 16-22, 1954

Theme: “Christian Stewards—Inspired, Informed, Sharing!”

**Monday Morning**
9:00 Registration
10:00 National Board Meeting
Youth Rally—Gene Mosley
Musical Recital—Miss Lois Mothershed

**Monday Afternoon**
4:00 Recommendations Committee—J. T. Chandler
Orientation of Workshop Leaders—Staff
5:00 Dinner

**Monday Evening**
L. L. Dickerson, President, and M. F. Mitchell, Vice-President, Presiding
7:45 Organ Prelude
Convention Processional
Opening Declaration—L. L. Dickerson
Welcome Program—Centennial Church—W. K. Fox
Response—Mrs. Berniece A. Holmes
Music—Centennial Church Choir
President’s Address—L. L. Dickerson
Welcome Reception—Centennial Church

**Tuesday Morning**
L. L. Dickerson, Presiding
7:00 Breakfast
8:30 Worship and Presentation of Theme—E. J. Dickson
9:00 Guidance for the Day
9:10 National Convention Workshop
11:30 Lunch
11:30 Sermon—Lawrence H. Hall, Oklahoma

**Tuesday Afternoon**
L. L. Dickerson, Presiding
12:30 Lunch
2:00 Hymn and Prayer
2:10 ‘‘Christian Stewardship’’—C. H. Webb
3:10 General Business
Reports—National Board, National Officers
Committee Appointments
5:30 Dinner

**Tuesday Evening**
Alfred Thomas, Presiding
7:45 Worship—Centennial Church
8:00 Address—Attorney H. McKinley
Bowen, Oklahoma
8:20 Music
8:30 Sermon—S. S. Myers, Missouri
9:00 Rally of the States—A. C. Stone, Ohio

**Wednesday Morning**
M. F. Mitchell, Presiding
Same as Tuesday with exception of following:

8:30 Worship and Inspirational Message—Thomas Walker, Mississippi
11:30 Sermon—C. L. Parks, North Carolina

**Wednesday Afternoon**
Gene Mosley, Presiding
12:30 Lunch
2:00 Hymn and Prayer
2:10 ‘‘Christian Stewards—Inspired’’—Christian Youth Fellowship
3:00 Report from Jarvis
3:30 Christian Men’s Fellowship Forum—Alfred Thomas
4:30 General Business
Reports of State Presidents
5:30 Dinner

**Wednesday Evening**
M. F. Mitchell, Presiding
7:45 Worship—Centennial Church
8:00 Address—Wilbur H. Cramblet, Missouri
8:20 Music and Prayer—Jefferson City Choir
8:30 Sermon—C. B. Tarrance, California

**Thursday Morning**
Mrs. Berniece A. Holmes, Presiding
Same as previous morning with exception of:
8:30 Worship and Inspirational Address—Miss Mary V. Moore, Arkansas
11:30 Sermon—George E. Lakes, Kansas

**Thursday Afternoon**
Mrs. Berniece A. Holmes, Presiding
12:30 Lunch
2:00 Hymn and Prayer
2:10 ‘‘Christian Stewards—Sharing’’—Miss Anna Belle Jackson
3:10 Music
3:40 Business Committee on Social Action—E. L. Jordan
5:30 Dinner

**Thursday Evening**
Mrs. Berniece A. Holmes, Presiding
7:45 Worship
Special Music
8:00 Presentation of Speaker
8:05 Address—Mrs. Rosa B. Bracy, Tennessee
8:45 Offering—Mrs. Pearl Craggrett, Ohio
Presentation of Convention Project—‘‘Capital for Kingdom Building’’
Presentation of Loving Cup—Miss Anna B. Jackson

**Friday Morning**
Mrs. Edith W. Bristow, Presiding
Same as previous morning with exception of:

8:30 Worship and Inspirational Address—James L. Blair, Indiana
11:30 Sermon—Thomas Courts, Michigan

**Friday Afternoon**
Mrs. Edith W. Bristow, Presiding
12:30 Lunch
2:00 Worship
2:10 ‘‘Christian Stewards—Informed’’—Lorenzo J. Evans
3:10 Ushers’ Fellowship Union—Order in Worship—Mrs. Ruby Ramsey Ingram
4:10 General Business
Report of Nominating Committee
6:30 Dinner
Christian Men’s Fellowship Banquet

**Saturday Morning**
L. L. Dickerson, Presiding
7:00 Breakfast
8:30 Hymn and Prayer
8:45 Business and Reports
11:30 Report of Necrology Committee
Memorial Service
Sermon—S. E. Tillman, New Jersey

**Saturday Afternoon**
12:30 Lunch
Organization of New Board
2:00 Special Tour
Picnic Dinner

**Saturday Evening**
8:00 Ministers’ Wives Concert and Reception—Mrs. R. M. Fox

**Sunday Morning**
8:30 Breakfast
9:30 National Convention Church School
Mrs. E. W. Bristow and Mrs. Onieda Reed
11:00 Morning Worship
Order of Service of Local Church—W. K. Fox
Resolutions and Announcements
General Convention Offering
Benevolence Offering for Aged Ministers and Widows
Sermon—L. L. Dickerson
Hymn of Invitation
Convention Communion Service—Elders and Deacons
Benediction and Convention Adjournment—L. L. Dickerson
Organ Postlude

**Sunday Afternoon**
1:30 Dinner

EVERYBODY PLANS TO ATTEND THE NCMC IN ST. LOUIS
"MEET US IN ST. LOUIS"—CENTENNIAL

Youth to Launch Convention

Co-chairmen Bessie Chandler and Norman Ellington of the Committee on Preparation for the 38th assembly of the National Christian Missionary Convention convening at the Centennial Church (4950 Fountain Ave.) in St. Louis, Mo., August 16-22, 1954, report all plans in readiness for delegates.

Early registrations are being accepted. For official handling, write to Mrs. Valeska Williams, chairman of the registration committee, 4810 Labadie, St. Louis, Mo. Seventeen dollars ($17.00) will cover the basic fees and registration.

A mammoth youth rally Monday, August 16, at 1:30 p.m. will launch the convention. A record number of youth are expected. The feature will be a musical recital by Miss Lois Mothershed. President Gene Mosley will be in charge.

Sharing the limelight with President L. L. Dickerson during the Welcome Program at 7:45 p.m. Monday, will be the combined choirs of Centennial and Hamilton Avenue churches.

Welcome booths will be in main train and bus depots to assist delegates as they arrive. However, in the event of emergencies, delegates may call the host church at FOREst 1-9979 or FOREst 7-1818 for assistance.

Workshop Set for Delegates

Director of Christian Education Lorenzo J. Evans has announced all plans and workshop personnel relating to the 38th annual National Convention prepared to go into action.

Tuesday through Friday study groups will be offered each morning. The first hour will be lectures and discussion period; the second hour will be organizational and promotional planning. The following is the official schedule:

BRING YOUR CHILDREN to the Convention in St. Louis. Above, Mrs. Ora Lee Harvey works with children in facilities that will be available to all children attending the convention. The fee is $1.00 per child for the week.

First and Second Hours
9:20 a.m.—11:20 a.m.
Observation School for Teachers of Children
Nursery:
Mrs. Jessie R. Carlson, Teacher
Mrs. L. B. Facen, Assistant
Kindergartens:
Miss Bessie Chandler, Teacher
Mrs. Lorenzo J. Evans, Assistant
Primaries:
Mrs. Dorothy Wilbert, Teacher
Mrs. Ruth Ellington, Assistant
Juniors:
Mrs. W. W. Haverfield, Teacher
Miss Cynthia Bundy, Assistant
Intermediates:
Miss Frances Woolery, Teacher
Mrs. Leonetta Sims, Assistant
Observation School for Teachers of One-Room Schools—Group Graded
Superintendent:
Mrs. Onedia Reed
Nursery and Kindergarten:

Hotel Reservations
Accommodations in St. Louis' best hotels are available. Place request with host pastor by no later than August 10. Write:
W. K. Fox
P. O. Box 4427
Wade Station
St. Louis, Mo.

"CHRISTIAN STEWARDS—INSPIRED, INFORMED, SHARING!"
The Christian Plea
(Member of Associated Church Press)
VOLUMES 43 & 44, NO. 12 & 1
WILLIAM KAPPEN FOX, Editor
E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary
L. L. DICKERSON, President, National
Christian Missionary Convention

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E. J. DICKSON—Indianapolis, Ind.
J. M. FLANAGAN—St. Louis, Mo.
G. A. FRAZIER—Mt. Sterling, Ky.
R. H. PEOPLES—Indianapolis, Ind.
J. E. WALKER—Memphis, Tenn.
W. M. WICKIZER—Indianapolis, Ind.

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The Plea Platform

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea

If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:
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Wade Station
St. Louis, Missouri

The Sounding Board

FOR DISCIPLE ARCHIVES—
Editor, The Christian Plea:
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I have two reasons for particularly desiring to have The Christian Plea in our collection. In recent years, we have been enrolling an increasing number of Disciples' students in our school.

This year we were the third largest denominational group in our student body.

Further, I have recently been engaged in making a survey of the periodicals received in the theological libraries of this vicinity. So far none of them have reported receiving The Christian Plea, and none have very strong holdings of Disciples' publications.

I feel that this is most unfortunate and that some one library in the northeast should maintain a comprehensive collection.

H. A. GLEASON, Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Conn.

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"New Jerusalem?"

When the 38th annual session of the National Christian Missionary Convention convenes in St. Louis, August 16-22, 1954, it can mean just another warm but routine fellowship of the brethren, or it can more significantly mark the beginning of a “New Jerusalem” era for Disciples of Christ.

Christ’s call to a more effective stewardship of faith and works will be adequately handled by a series of excellent preachers and teachers, but the stewardship of our destiny as a convention rests in the hands of its administrative officials, the National Board, and the several prophets that may be among us.

Our convention leadership must answer the question: “Watchman, what of the hour?” The stewardship of faith and works must be joined with the stewardship of destiny to form the trinity of our undivided concern. St. Louis can become our “New Jerusalem” if this is done.

The International Convention of Disciples of Christ is not called to face the challenges of this hour alone. We have an equal responsibility and cannot afford to leave St. Louis without facing it. The implications of the Supreme Court decision are making their imprint upon the consciousness of every major church body daily. We, too, must respond with proclamation and proposed program on par with the profound faith for which we are called to be stewards.

If St. Louis is to mark the launching of a “New Jerusalem” era in Discipledom, it cannot be done solely through a finely worded proclamation. Keen and far-seeing minds must set in motion machinery which will reflect a new philosophy of administration and program as we relate ourselves to other agencies within our brotherhood. At long last we are brought face to face with the plaguing dilemma that has hovered over us continually since our conception, namely: Where shall we place the greatest effort where we have reached the point where these needs can be better met through other means is a question we must consider in St. Louis.

The seriously concerned Christian must admit that for local congregations to support both integrated and segregated church agency programs simultaneously is costly. It is costly in the expenditure of human energy and capabilities. It promotes a deterioration of human aspiration, a starvation of social experience, an insincerity of Christian witness and faith, a confusion of social idealism, and an insecurity of spirit. Obviously it fosters financial liability.

If St. Louis does not become the beginning of a “New Jerusalem” within Discipledom, it will be your fault.

Evanston Emphasis

The main theme of the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches which meets in Evanston, Illinois, August 15, will be “Christ—the Hope of the World.” This over-all theme will be brought down to practical considerations in six commissions which will study the grass-roots aspects of the following areas: 1. Faith and Order; 2. Evangelism; 3. Social Problems; 4. International Affairs; 5. Intergroup Relations, and 6. The Laity.

The World Council of Churches is more than an assembly of discussions. It is concerned with a functional program which makes real its witness of unity in a world of disunity. It has sent over $21,000,000 and 25 tons of clothing and food to help people and Christian institutions through the aftermath of the last war. Our own Robert Tobias played his part well in this respect as a representative of the Disciples of Christ in Europe.

All of the discussions held by the Council on the main beliefs of Christians have had practical implications. In summation, they have given Christians the world over the justified feeling and faith that the Church did have something to say and do for a troubled world through the implementation of the Master’s last prayer “that they all might be one.”

However, what comes out of Evanston could have even more significant implications for an even stronger witness of Christian unity and power in our world today. First, if the theme is held fully in perspective, theological proclamations issued can help the movement toward unity of spirit among the churches.

The first subtheme states the crux of the issue clearly: “Our Oneness in Christ and Our Disunity as Churches.” As many students of the World Council have pointed out thus far, if we are in Christ, we are one Church. If the Church is divided, it is not in Christ. Or it equally follows, it is not the Church.

Can sincere Christians continue to perpetuate this contradiction? Those attending the World Council meeting in Evanston, Illinois, beginning August 15, will be seriously studying this dilemma.
Memphis Adds 20

The Mississippi Boulevard Church held its annual revival meeting recently, with Elder Emmett Dickson, executive secretary, serving as evangelist.

The week was one of great attendance and the spiritual reactions were high. Twenty (20) were added to the church; fourteen for Mississippi Boulevard and six for the Riverview Church. Baptism which followed climax the greatest revival in the history of the church.

Workshop Set (From page 133.)

Mrs. E. J. Dickson
Mrs. Bessie Crenshaw, Registrar
Miss Betty Carrington, Pianist

Youth:
Gene Mosley, Chairman
Paul Sims, Adult Sponsor
Charles Sherman, Adult Sponsor

Demonstration and Planning

Leaders:
Mrs. Edith W. Bristow
Charles Palmer
George Caroland

Young Adults:
"Philosophy of Young Adult Work and Program Planning"
Joe Wiley, Chairman
J. D. Montgomery, Leader

First Hour—9:20 a.m.

Ministers, Laymen, Women
"The Church and Its Social Responsibility"
Miss Anna Belle Jackson
Mrs. Odessa H. Frazier

Ministers, Laymen, Women
Speaker—Lewis H. Deor, Jr., Director of Social Welfare U.C.M.S.
Topic—"The Church and Minority Groups"
Presiding—R. L. Jordan, Michigan
Recorder—Charles Sherman, Illinois
Staff Consultant—Charles Webb

Second Hour—10:20 a.m.

Christian Men's Fellowship
President—Alfred B. Thomas
Secretary—Edward Owens

Ushers' Fellowship Union
President—Mrs. Ruby Ramsey Ingram
Secretary—Mrs. Emily Robinson

Christian Women's Fellowship
"Stewardship for the Whole of Life"
Miss Margaret Lawrence
Mrs. Berniece A. Holmes
Miss Annu Belle Jackson

Ministers' Fellowship
Emphasis—"A Program of Stewardship for the Local Church"
President—E. T. Floyd, Ky.
Secretary—L. F. Sledge, Kan.
Director—Charles H. Webb, Ind.

Tuesday—P. C. Washington, Cal.:
"Christian Stewardship Defined"

Wednesday—E. L. Griffin, Miss.:
"Planning and Preparation for Stewardship"

Thursday—Raymond Brown, Mo.:
"Preaching and Practicing Stewardship"

Friday—E. J. James, Okla.:
"Stewardship and World Redemption"
Chairman of the Christian Education Commission, Bessie Chandler, advises every church to:
1. Select delegates with care.
2. Study and list the problems you feel your church needs help in solving.
3. Contact your state leaders and discuss the needs of the state work.
4. Select study groups which delegates will find most helpful.

Meet us in St. Louis, August 16.

BULLETIN: Mrs. J. E. Walker and daughter, Mrs. Johnnetta Kelso, recently sailed for an extensive tour of Europe, Asia and Africa.

Across the Brotherhood

- Carnella J. Barnes of Los Angeles, Calif., recently was appointed to a special citizen’s committee to raise funds for the Angel City’s 19 million dollar auditorium.

- Charles H. Webb, national field worker in church development and evangelism, reports the following ministers are available for service in our churches: Benjamin F. Fleming, Little Rock, Ark.; G. A. Evans, Dallas, Texas; J. E. Blair, Warren, O.; and D. W. Heath of Rockford, Ill. (from July 1, 1954 to August 28, 1954 only). Further information about any one of these men can be secured from Mr. Webb at 222 S. Downey Ave., Indianapolis 7, Ind.

- Correspondent Ola Mae Harris of the Monroe Avenue Church in Columbus, Ohio, reports that a successful youth meet was held there in the church recently. Other high lights reported include: impressive gains in evangelism, a CWF institute, and the annual dinner meeting of Fellowship Church held at the Spring Street Y.M.C.A.

- L. L. Dickerson, retiring president of the project, was commended for work done.

New for 3-Year-Olds

A new series of lessons for three-year-old children, their teachers and parents has just been prepared. The course includes a 256-page book of guidance for the teacher, four sets of beautifully colored pictures, four quarterly 8-page messages to parents, and four delightfully illustrated 32-page storybooks for children.

Write to the Christian Board of Publication, Box 170, St. Louis 3, Mo., for further information in regard to this new series of lessons which is the last word in the Christian education of three-year-old children.

Meals at 33 1/3 Cents

Even though churches which are privileged to be hosts to the National Christian Missionary Convention are asked to feed delegates at the rate of 33 1/3 cents per meal, food is usually good.

St. Louis will be no exception. Head Chef Henry Center recently released the official menu showing a turkey dinner with all the trimmings for the first meal on Monday evening.

Major meats for the remainder of the week include tenderized ham, roast beef, baked chicken, and roast pork. Chef Center says you won’t be able to beat it anywhere in St. Louis for less than $1.50 per. Wise delegates will eat at the church, he inferred.

Mr. Center has been an expert percentage cook for over 30 years in some of the leading institutions and most exclusive homes in St. Louis and throughout America.
The New South
A Challenge to the New Negro
By Dr. J. E. Walker

The special case of the "New Negro" is further dramatized against the backdrop of the entire South now undergoing an industrial and technological revolution with new plants, power and utility facilities being expanded daily to meet the natural demands of this region of the United States.

This adds up to more money for services and greater opportunity to make a worth-while contribution to our fellow-men for the "New Negro" in the "New South."

In addition, from the standpoint of principle and ideals, the Negro masses in the South have great need for the services of their native leaders who have been fortunate enough to obtain the benefits of higher education, yet who are close to the problems, needs, and aspirations of the Negro masses in the southern communities.

Truly, the ancient advice of Booker T. Washington to "cast down your buckets where you are" never held greater meaning or richer reward for the Negro than it does today in the "New South."

Today, mankind cowers under the constant shadow of a third great war. Mortal dangers continue to threaten all civilization. To thwart those dangers, the armed forces of many nations have fought and died in far-off Korea. Groups of men are pitted against one another in bloody conflict in Indo-China, Africa, Indonesia and other trouble spots across the world.

And always, as an ominous backdrop to this grim spectacle, is the awesome reality of the devastating atomic weapons, the atom bomb, the Hydrogen Bomb, the guided missile and other powerful devices that promise unprecedented destruction, of human life and property—if not civilization itself—when and if a fateful curtain should raise on World War III!

The South, weary and ashamed of its traditional position as the poor, country cousin in America, is marching forward in double time, to the inspired cadence of greater opportunity and richer rewards for all its citizens, white and black.

Many persons have noted the increasing instances of Negro citizens of the North, coming South to live and to work. Here, again, is additional evidence of the attraction of job opportunities in the "New South" for the "New Negro."

Vocationally trained, well-equipped Negro workers, businessmen and career people of the "New South" frequently find less competition, and yet, greater rewards and greater need for the services they can render to the communities in which they are employed.

In the continued drama of this period in man's history, since the world lifted itself from the rubble of World War II, and began to walk the troubled waters between armed peace and open conflict, one nation has risen to hold high the torch of freedom and justice. One country, strong and powerful, has accepted the responsibility of leadership from free nations and free men throughout the world. One nation has conse-erated its natural resources, manpower and talents to the ideal that all mankind must work together for the liberty of the individual, the freedom of constructive endeavor and the general pursuit of happiness. That nation, which is in reality a United Nations of people from all countries and walks of life; that nation is the United States of America!

In the world-wide struggle between the forces of freedom and the forces of totalitarianism, to capture the minds and souls of men, America herself seeks to perfect her institutions so that she may stand unblemished before the court of world opinion as the lighthouse of liberty, dignity and equality among men.

As citizens of this great country we must do our part in helping our nation to achieve the victory of first-class citizenship for all her citizens. We must stand ready, willing and equipped in the "New South," especially to help solve the problems that have long been rooted in discrimination and segregation.

We must be in position to offer the technical, philosophical, professional, social and administrative leadership, along with other Americans of goodwill and noble purpose, to the end that the South, and America, shall be in complete reality, the land of all the free!

In order to play our role we must instill in our performance as we take our place on America's team of useful productive citizens.

You, our college students and graduates, constitute the Negro's first team. As representatives of the "New Negro" in the "New South," you are needed here to provide leadership, give service and solve problems. America's greatest challenge and greatest responsibility today lies in the development of the "New South."

It is our job to emphasize that if America is to continue its leadership of the world, America must keep its back yard as clean as its front yard.

It is a man's personal privilege to harbor prejudices in his soul—it is a man's personal privilege to accept Jesus Christ, but God will not accept both together.

We must play our part, here in the "New South," along with other groups of American citizens so that by working together and understanding each other we will carry out the wise counsel of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, who said—"We must lift up the valleys, cut down the mountains, and level off the plains, so that all may walk freely along the highway together!"

To do this job we need men and women of great Christian character, noble accomplishment and pure heart.

My prayer for all people, yes, my prayer for the "New Negro" in the "New South" today is that "God give us men."

The End.
S. S. MYERS, minister at the West Paseo Church of Kansas City, Mo., will be one of the several outstanding preachers on the 38th annual convention program.

Wheat State Notes by G. ELLISON LAKES

Atchison:
Many property improvements have been made. Additions include a parking lot and the beautification of building and grounds. Eld. A. H. Thomas, Minister.

Eighth St., K. C.:
Progress is reported in all departments. The new pastor is making an excellent record. Eld. L. F. Sledge, Minister.

Institutional:
Institutional is our smallest church (numerically), but it was the first of our churches to pay all its apportionments both State and National. They are very active and large spiritually, as well as financially. Sister Agnes H. Jones, Minister.

Lawrence:
The congregation has done a great work in re-establishing the church. They have launched a new building fund drive to relocate the church building in another section. New interest is added to the church. Eld. W. S. Sims, Sr., Minister.

Parsons:
The Morgan Ave. Church is continuing its building fund drive for a new sanctuary and the remodeling of the old building into an educational unit. Eld. G. Ellison Lakes, Minister.

Third Church, K. C.:
Third church has developed a fine young minister in Eld. William Ellis, Jr. He preached his first sermon in May. Eld. M. F. Stephens, Minister.

Topeka:
Second Church has remodeled its parsonage and made some improvements on the church. Eld. W. S. Sims, Jr., Minister.

Wichita:
Indiana Ave. has developed a fine young minister in Eld. Wesley H. King. He preached his first sermon in March. The Wichita church is steadily growing and making significant improvements. Eld. W. E. Graves, Minister.

All churches report efforts were made in the evangelistic emphasis program. Some progress was made. All the churches have received the initial challenge to cooperate in the stewardship program.

Your humble servant has served as president for the past nine years.

The newly elected officers are: Eld. A. H. Thomas, President; Eld. W. S. Sims, Sr., 1st. Vice-Pres.; Mrs. Joella Douglas, 2nd Vice-Pres.; Eld. William Ellis, Jr., 3rd Vice-Pres., Mr. Ronald Harris, 4th Vice-Pres.; Mrs. Agnes H. Jones, General Secretary; Mrs. Barbara Bridgewater and Mrs. Vearl Tyler, Assistant Secretaries; Mrs. L. R. Wallace, Treasurer; Mrs. Carrie Wilson, Historian; and Dr. G. Robert Cotton, Parliamentarian.

The Convention plans to meet next year July 7-10, 1955, at the Kansas Technical Institute, Topeka, Kansas. Dr. G. Robert Cotton is President of Kansas Technical Institute.

Annual Meeting in Hotel by MARY E. PINKELTON

The Wehrman Ave. Church of Cincinnati, Ohio, recently held its annual meeting in the ballroom of the Manse Hotel. The sixty-five persons present undertook the passage and adoption of recommendations pertaining to the operation of the new fiscal year.

The budget for the year July 1, 1954, to June 30, 1955, totaling almost $59,000 was adopted. Mrs. Ethel McDuffey was appointed church clerk with Mrs. Mary Pinkelton to serve as Assistant Clerk. Raymond McDuffey is to continue as treasurer of the Church and Charles Engels will act as his Assistant. Charles Jackson was elected as a trustee.

One of the high lights of the evening was a report by Mrs. Ruth Hull on the newly formed Benevolent Committee. It will be the purpose of this group to lend money, on the honor system, to needy members of the church. No interest will be charged and there will be no time limit on repayment of loans. Initial funds for this purpose will be secured by contributions from the membership through a collection of ten cents per Sunday from adults and a small monthly donation from the children.

Placed on probation for deacons of the church were: Charles Jackson and Robert Duncan; for elders, A. C. Stone and Raymond McDuffey.

Perhaps the most significant recommendation of the evening was the proposal to secure another church plant.

Dig or Die Brother Hyde

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF WILLIAM J. HYDE

The Bethany Press. Price $3.00

As one who has long specialized in books about and by preachers, particularly autobiographies, this recent volume, Dig or Die Brother Hyde, has set my heart a-singing. This book rings all the bells in the church towers.

Brother Hyde landed in Dakota Territory in 1886, with no church, no support, and $60.00 in his pocket. He held his first service in a room over a saloon reached by a ladder, started a Sunday school on the shady side of a sod house, and in three years the church had 50 members and "a frame structure forty by forty-five feet, a large room for worship; a smaller lecture room for prayer meetings; downstairs a kitchen, dining room and Sunday School Rooms; . . . and, rising above it all a belfry with a spire."

He built churches, raised big sums of money, held fruitful revivals and had several pastorates in Ohio, rounding out gloriously in Chicago.


ROSALYNN BRACY, veteran church woman and brotherhood leader, will deliver the keynote address for the women on Thursday night. Mrs. Bracy is from Memphis, Tenn.

"CHRISTIAN STEWARDS—INSPIRED, INFORMED, SHARING!"
THOMAS GRIFFIN, minister at the East Sixth Street Church of Oklahoma City, Okla., will bring a special morning meditation message for the editorial division of the Christian Board of Publication Wednesday, August 18.

**Southern Baptists**

Durham, N. C. (RNS).—Officials of the Yates Baptist Association here have asked the North Carolina Baptist Convention to undertake a study of “the problems relative” to the U. S. Supreme Court’s recent ruling outlawing segregation in public schools.

The association urged that a report on the question be presented at the state Convention’s annual meeting in Charlotte next November.

The association’s official board also voted to set up a similar committee of its own to report at the group’s annual meeting in October.

**Interracial Housing**

Syracuse, N. Y. (RNS).—A Negro institution and will henceforth accept all qualified students, regardless of race. The college is owned and operated by the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina.

The decision to make the college interracial was an action of its board of trustees.

**Evanston Worship Announced**

(Sydney The action of the Holy Spirit in and through the Evanston Assembly will depend on a large extent on the depth and sincerity of the services of worship.

Careful thought is therefore being given to the preparation of these services. They are an indispensable part of the life and work of the Assembly.

The Assembly will open on August 15 with a special opening service held in the First Methodist Church at Evanston. This service will be taken by the presidents of the World Council, the late Miss Sarah Chakko being replaced by Bishop C. K. Jacob (Church of South India).

The scripture lessons have been selected; they are Isaiah, chapter 53, and Philippians 2:1-11. The sermon will be preached by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam (Washington), and the liturgy will be led by Dr. Harold Bosley, the minister of the First Methodist Church.

Morning and evening services will be held in the same church every day during the Assembly. The evening services will all follow the same order of worship; the morning services, on the other hand, will show something of the rich and almost confusing variety in the tradition of liturgy and worship of the many Churches represented at Evanston. The morning services will be as follows:

August 16 service held by Dr. D. R. Cragg (United Church of Canada)

August 17 service held by Bishop Hanns Lilje (Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hannover)

August 18 service held by Elsie Chamberlain (Congregational Union of England and Wales)

August 19 service held by Pierre Maury (French Reformed Church)

August 20 service held by Bishop A. M. Ramsey (Church of England)

August 21 service held by Metropolitan Johnathan Mar Thoma (Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar)

August 22 service held by J. H. Jackson (National Baptist Convention, USA)

August 23 service held by Dr. A. Haddon (Associated Churches of Christ in New Zealand)

August 24 service held by R. Stuart Louden (Church of Scotland)

August 25 service held by Bishop S. U. Barbieri (Methodist Church, Argentina)

All those participating in the Assembly are invited to take part in the communion service which will be held on August 22, in accordance with the order of worship of the Methodist Church. On the 23rd, 24th and 25th communion services will be held in accordance with the Anglican, Lutheran and Orthodox orders of worship.

The responsibility for all communion services is in the hands of the churches themselves. These communion services will be preceded by a general service of preparation for Holy communion on August 21, at which the preacher will be Dr. E. A. Payne (Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland).

A service of Holy Communion according to the liturgy of the Church of South India will be held on August 29 in the First Methodist Church, Evanston. The Assembly will end with a closing service on August 31.

**A Negro College**

Sumter, S. C. (RNS).—Morris College here has ended its 46-year history as a Negro institution and will henceforth accept all qualified students, regardless of race. The college is owned and operated by the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina.

The decision to make the college interracial was an action of its board of trustees.
THE "Bold New Program" suggested by the editor of The Christian Plea is challenging and thought-provoking in its implications. We congratulate him for his unusual insight and adventurous spirit.

It implies, in the first place, the urgent need for better prepared pastors in the rank and file of our churches. It means better prepared men and women to compose the personnel of our official boards, our Sunday Schools, Christian Men’s Fellowships, Christian Women’s Fellowships, and Christian Youth Fellowships.

From my observations for nearly four decades, the facts revealed in the annual minutes of the National Convention relative to the progress made through its financial and creative program, have been the accomplishments of the cooperating churches with the most alert leadership.

On the first page of the January, 1954, issue of The Christian Plea, President Dickerson, under the caption, “Money Crisis,” gives some revealing information. He reports a list of twenty churches, out of approximately 300, that contributed from one to four hundred dollars to the financial program of the National Convention during the 1952-53 fiscal year. This information is disappointing. It is discouraging. However, it suggests that our major problem is not “Money Crisis,” but “Leadership Crisis.” One does not have to “stretch” his imagination too far to believe that there were at least twenty other churches with the financial potentiality which should have been included in the 100-dollar category of donors to the National Convention in 1952-53.

In the second place, a “Bold New Program” implies serious commitments. It means:

A. Commitment Through the Philosophy of a Long Creative Industry.

It is interesting to note that the twenty churches that gave from 100 to 400 dollars to the National Convention in 1952-53 and supply the greater percentage of the members of its Trustee Board, with few exceptions, are those whose pastors have led them for ten to thirty years. Moreover, if and when a bold new program is launched, they will provide the consistent dynamic leadership for its fulfillment. It means:

B. Commitment Through Christian Stewardship.

Tithing and proportionate giving ought to become the "rule" rather than the "exception" for the members of our churches. The minister should lead by precept and example.

Qualified leadership and more money are the most urgent needs of our churches.

C. Commitment Through Cooperation.

The adventurous program initiated at Chicago by the Southside Christian Church and the Chicago Disciples Union is a unique illustration of inclusive cooperation in the area of home missions.

After thirty years of heroic leadership, R. E. Latouche and his congregation discovered the urgent need for relocation and a modern church building. Their resources were inadequate for such a venture. They sought the cooperation of the Chicago Disciples Union. The Union sought the cooperation of the Illinois Missionary Society and the Board of Church Extension. Now all four institutions are cooperating in a church-building project that will be known as Parkway Garden Christian Church. The project, when completed, will cost approximately $350,000.

This type of inclusive cooperation will create a new era of opportunity for progressive Negro churches facing difficult problems in strategic urban centers. On the other hand, our Negro churches must get a vision of the new opportunities to cooperate more consistently with our brotherhood agencies.

A bold new program is a vital, urgent necessity for the National Convention and our churches. Its initiation and fulfillment await the wholehearted acceptance and commitments of the leaders, churches and agencies of our brotherhood.

THE CENTENNIAL CHURCH of St. Louis, Mo., will be host to the National Christian Missionary Convention, August 16-22, 1954.
The Christian Plea

St. Louis Convention Largest in History

Report from Evanston
(First of a series of three)

by

W. K. Fox

"We have been experimenting in the extension of the Kingdom of God without Christian stewardship."

Thus began L. L. Dickerson of Columbus, O., president of the National Christian Missionary Convention, as he delivered the opening address to over 500 delegates assembled in the Centennial Church of St. Louis, Mo., recently for the 38th assembly of the organization. Speaking to the largest gathering in the convention's history, President Dickerson spoke on the theme: "Christian Stewards—Inspired, Informed, Sharing."

International Convention Commended

Commanding the undivided attention of the assembly, the Social Action Committee challenged the delegates to "look at our world..." It pointed out that "Godless communism is on the march... suspicion and hate still exist." It continued, "The Church is the best and perhaps the only institution which can meet completely the challenge of the time."

The report commended the International Convention of Disciples of Christ for the efforts made in Miami to provide equal accommodations for all people attending. It urged that this policy be continued, and admonished the board of the National Christian Missionary Convention give serious thought to such matters when the assembly decides on future meeting places.

(See page 4.)


OCTOBER, 1954 1
The Christian Plea

The Plea Platform

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

Receiving the Plea

If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:
1. Your name plate has a faulty impression and your name, street, town or state is misspelled.
2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
4. Your paper is being sent to the wrong address, but being kept by the persons receiving it.
5. Our office has not yet changed the address on your name plate.
Please drop us a card or letter if you are having any sort of difficulty like the above or if you know of other Plea patrons who mentioned similar problems to you.

Send all correspondence and money to:
The Christian Plea
P. O. Box 4427
Wade Station
St. Louis, Missouri

The Sounding Board

PROGRAM NEEDED

Editor, The Christian Plea:

From my vantage point, it appears that our brotherhood could well profit from the initiation of a "Bold New Program" purporting to strengthening and re-animating our total brotherhood program. In such a program some of the following suggestions could be studied to good advantage:

In the first place, such a program should emanate from the "grass roots." It should represent the composite thinking and planning of representative leaders of our total brotherhood. (Total here implies that brotherhood leaders of proven abilities both white and Negro should be conscripted.)

Obviously this means that the "know-how" and the techniques of men and women currently in the business of the pastoral, teaching, as well as lay leaders of proven ability should not be overlooked or underestimated. I got the feeling that in planning programs for our national conventions and other such conferences that we are rather reluctant to utilize the "know-how" of leaders not of our own clan.

I feel that the time is ripe for Disciples of color to seize the initiative in effecting a closer spirit of cooperation between the Disciple Brotherhood in general, that is, on the local, state and national level. This cooperation is imperative in order that the duplication of effort can be minimized as well as to make available the total resources of the brotherhood to those who need them most.

It seems logical that some planned strategy should be devised for utilizing the resources and facilities of the one and only Negro Christian college, Jarvis, in a training program designed to provide pre-ministerial training of a high quality for those who can profit from such training.

W. O. GILL, Dean of Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Tex.

New
For Three-Year-Olds

Teach them with the most up-to-date curriculum

AT CHURCH WITH THREE-YEAR-OLDS by Jessie B. Carlson. This new book for nursery teachers gives session plans for 52 Sundays. Excellent arrangement helps the teacher to learn quickly the experience area and objective of Christian teaching for each session, teaching purpose, a chart of characteristics of three-year-olds and needs for development, room arrangement, etc. $1.50

STORIES FROM CHURCH by Jessie B. Carlson. For the pupils there are four 32-page books, one for each quarter. They include stories that will entertain children and at the same time teach them about God and how to live as he wants his children to live. Included are songs and prayers, and illustrations (both in full color and in black and white). Attractive shiny cover. 35 cents each

NURSERY PICTURE SETS for use in class aid learning through visualization and association. Six large (11" x 14½") four-color pictures for each quarter. $1.50 per quarterly set

MESSAGE TO PARENTS. For each quarter there is an 8-page sheetlet to send to parents giving practical counsel for everyday Christian training at home. 4 cents per quarter

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
Beaumont and Pine Boulevard
Box 179, St. Louis 3, Mo.
Strange NBA Policy

As one glances over the annual report of the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church posted in the October issue of N.B.A. Family Talk, it is interesting to note that out of some 40 or more board of trustee members which govern the general program, only five are from the supposedly reactionary and conservative South. (Those of us who have some knowledge of the South and many personal friends in it, know that everybody from the South is not reactionary or conservative on matters of race and social justice.)

These five persons come from Georgia, Texas, Florida and Tennessee. Two of the eight homes for the aged are in the South: one in Florida and one in Texas. Two of the seven homes for children are in the South: one in Texas and one in Georgia. If the strange policy of the N.B.A. on the admittance of Negroes to the fifteen homes it promotes was based on abiding by the laws of the states as they pertain to the mixing of the races, we should have integrated homes in at least 10 of our benevolent institutions. Further, if such matters come to a vote, the majority of the board members come from the so-called liberal North and not the supposedly reactionary South.

The Church cannot escape the implication that the Supreme Court decision on racial segregation in public schools has for all programs practiced the discrimination and segregation of people on the basis of race or color. It is an embarrassing contradiction for the Disciples of Christ Church that we prefer to practice racial discrimination in benevolent institutions operating in states where the principle of racial integration has been legally and socially accepted for years. (Even among the four southern states where our homes exist, Texas via its governor has pledged to abide by the Supreme Court decision on racial integration in public schools.) In maintaining racial discrimination as a policy in the admittance of Negroes to our benevolent homes, we are denying the validity of the Supreme Court decision, but worse, perpetuating a glaring contradiction in our Christian witness.

In the Welcome Program printed by the host church for the recent 38th Assembly of the National Christian Missionary Convention, the National Benevolent Association placed an extended advertisement of greeting on page 16. In the third paragraph appear these words: “During 1953-54, according to the statistical tables of the Disciples of Christ Yearbook, Negro churches shared with the National Benevolent Association of Christian Churches from the states of Alabama, California, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina and Tennessee in the amount of $73,25.” The paragraph goes on to make subtle comparison to the several thousands of dollars given through the Crusade for a Christian World, and the amount labeled for services to needy Negro children and the aged.

The impression is given that Negro churches give nothing to support the N.B.A., and that white churches gave all of the money to the Crusade, a large sum of which was labeled for services to needy Negro children and the aged.

It should not take much study to understand why Negro churches do not give any more than they do to the N.B.A. Indeed, it is only through the motivation of Christian love that those few who do give a token or two, give it all. (Several pastors have rectified the idea that the offerings that they have sent to N.B.A. have been reportedly segregated by the N.B.A. administration for “Negro benevolence.” These ministers felt that they were giving to the total benevolence work.) The impression built up through the statement on the giving of Negro churches to N.B.A. and the corresponding reference to the Crusade fund is unwarranted and unfair.

In the light of the facts known, it would appear to many that the strange policy of the N.B.A. toward Negro applicants to at least 11 of its homes needs serious and immediate reevaluation. Surely something better can be developed that would be more representative of our claim to be disciples of Christ.

True, each home is ultimately governed by the board of trustees in that particular area. However, it is hard to believe that in this day and time a board of trustees, made up of followers of Christ, would not dare to face this issue creatively if it was placed before them with love and understanding.

President and Emergency

The presidency of the National Christian Missionary Convention is an emergency,” declared newly elected R. H. Peoples as he presided over the recent called meeting of the trustee board in Indianapolis, Ind. A. C. Stone well characterized the meeting as being a conference of “emergency.”

With the new president beginning his administration with such a sense of urgency, we might well look toward some new and significant developments in the life of the National Convention.

It was indeed encouraging to find the trustee board moving toward a definite threefold program. This was not the first time that such had been attempted, but the proposals that came forth for each smacked of the old spirit of Discipledom and the new frontier.

The newly adopted program for the promotion of Convention goals was really a fundamental move in the right direction. The brotherhood is deeply indebted to Lorenzo J. Evans and the department of Christian education for being the first to major in the area of promotion, and demonstrate that with such consecrated lay workers as A. C. Stone of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mrs. Edith Bristow of Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. Aganora Millner of Reidsville, N. C., it can be done.
Spotlighting

—St. Louis Largest

(From page 1.)

Field Reports Impress

Reports from the field staff* on the previous year’s efforts to implement the accepted brotherhood program emphases were highlighted by such factors as the following: 1. Indications of approximately a 54 per cent increase in the evangelistic achievement of more than 500 member churches; 2. Growing attendance at the five established in-service training institutes for ministers; 3. Mounting reports of new age level fellowship groups being organized in the local churches, and 4. A continuing increase in giving to Unified Promotion and the National Convention through special promotional efforts in the church schools.

Blackburn on Jarvis

In a stimulating report on Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Tex., by President Cleo Blackburn, mention was made of a $86,000 grant to Jarvis and Planner House by a benevolent agency, and present plans to construct a $120,000 dormitory. In outlining the objectives of the college, Dr. Blackburn cited the three-fold program of the religious emphasis of the school which consisted of: 1. the instruction of students through the department of religion; 2. the improvement of the small community through a rural church outreach program, and 3. the training of missionary students for ecumenical Church activity.

N. B. A. Blasted

The following resolution No. 11 was adopted in rebuke of continued practices of discrimination in the 15 homes sponsored by the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church:

Whereas: The National Benevolent Association is an agency of the Disciples of Christ reporting to the International Convention and appeals to the Christian churches for support, and Whereas it is the policy of the NBA to accept only white persons in the old people’s homes and homes for dependent children. Be it Resolved: That we express our dissatisfaction with the policy that makes no provision for the (adequate) care of old people or children who are not of the white race and call upon the NBA to adopt the Christian practice of ministering to human need without regard to race or color.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Workshop Serves 300

Over 200 persons participated in workshop experiences in Christian education. The department of Christian education offered instruction in improved methods of teaching at all age levels. The departments of church development and evangelism and missionary education and the Christian Women’s Fellowship imparted information on program emphases and group dynamics.

Among the resource leaders in the workshop were: Miss Carrie Dee Hancock, George Oliver Taylor, Willard Wickizer and Lewis H. Deer, all of Indianapolis, Ind. Other brotherhood specialists included: Miss Bessie C. Chandler, chairman of the Christian Education Commission, St. Louis; Miss Justine Sutton, director of the skill shop, St. Louis; Miss Frances Woolery, Mesdames Jessie R. Carlson and W. W. Haverfield, all of St. Louis. Specialized instruction to fellowship groups was under the direction of such leaders as: J. D. Montgomery of Indianapolis, Ind.; Mrs. Dorothy Willard of Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. Edith Bristow of Louisville, Ky.; Charles Palmer and George Caroland of St. Louis.

Service Projects Accepted

Among the several projects accepted were: the Rosa Page Welch Scholarship Fund drive for help to students studying for foreign missionary service. Financial assistance was given to several students studying for full-time Christian service by the Ministers’ Wives’ Fellowship [This group was under the leadership of President (Mrs.) Reubena Stultz Fox of St. Louis]; and a goal of $3,000 to be raised for the Preston Taylor Memorial Fellowship House in Indianapolis, Ind., by the national Christian Men’s Fellowship groups. (Norman Ellington of St. Louis is chairman of the effort.)

Feature Speakers

Among the several speakers featured were: Attty. H. McKinley Rowan of Oklahoma; Mrs. Rosa Brown Brney of Tennessee; C. C. Daniel of Missouri, and Wilbur H. Cramblet, also of Missouri.

The message by Dr. Cramblet, president of the Christian Board of Publication, was preceded by a special tour of the brotherhood publishing house by the entire convention.

Our Year of Stewardship

BY LORENZO J. EVANS

This is “our year of stewardship” and what happens will depend upon individuals like you. It would be well for us to re-examine our own lives to see how near we come to the fulfillment of this task as Christian stewards.

The call continues to go out for workers in the church school, leaders of youth groups, directors of choirs and general work of the church. Many of these responsible places of service in the church remain vacant because we are not willing to commit ourselves to the task of the church. The program has to be scaled down to fit our budget rather than meeting the needs of the community. The answer to all these needs is based on stewardship.

To every church school and youth group minimum financial goals have been suggested for sharing in the support of the total program of the brotherhood. The maintenance of our present program will be determined in a large measure by the support of your school. This year will bring to us an opportunity to see the kind of stewards we really are, according to the kind we ought to be.

As we take stock of our own lives in the light of what God expects of us, it is likely that we will be found wanting. The great redeeming fact is we don’t have to remain in this condition. By the grace of God we can become what we should. In the words of Paul, “We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.” There is work to be done and your church school is being challenged now to send in a part of the suggested goal. Answer the call!

*E. J. Dickson, executive secretary; C. H. Webb, director of church development and evangelism; L. J. Evans, director of Christian education; Miss A. B. Jackson, director of missionary education and Christian Women’s Fellowship; Mrs. Marjorie Parker, office secretary; W. K. Fox, editor, The Christian Plea.
The Church’s Gift to a Troubled World*

This is the kind of world in which we live, and in which the Church must fulfill its mission. What is the “Church’s Gift to a Troubled World”?

1. The religion of Jesus Christ is the basic gift of the Church to a troubled world. The Church is God’s responsible medium for the communication of the Lord’s Way. This is the one commodity upon which the Church has a monopoly. No other organization or institution can do what the Church is supposed to do. The deep hunger of human hearts for that which satisfies the soul; the quavering voice of the fearful heart; the world in general groping in darkness and despair—all are looking to the Church, for the Church alone can “see through a glass darkly.”

First, last and always, there is only one field in which the Church is expected to be expert and supreme, and that is in religion. If it fails in this, it has failed in everything.

2. Some might ask (and quite properly so), What is religion? I must confess my inability to adequately answer that question. I might as well try to define love or life or God, as to define religion. When I attempt it, I begin to sense the immeasurable height, depth, length and breadth. My mind and spirit are drawn into its infinite ramifications. I discover religion as deep as love, as broad as life, and as high as God.

In the early days of the Church, people knew nothing about a Christian theology. However, when they saw the Christian faith living in those first exponents of the Gospel, they exclaimed: “These men have been with Jesus.” When the Church proclaims the whole Gospel of the grace of God as revealed in Jesus Christ, so that wicked and bewildered men can find God. When after men have found God, they seek to express Him in the relationships of life so that others are able to find and express Him too. It is then that we sense the reality of the presence of religion.

3. When the Church creates and conserves the best of our social ideals, it is giving the world the gift of religion. When the Church performs as the house of comfort to those who mourn, and a haven of rest for the weary and heavy laden, it is giving the world the gift of religion . . . Yet when we realize the troubled condition of the world, we must readily conclude that higher wages, shorter hours, better houses, old age pensions and unemployment insurance is not enough . . . The Apostle Paul declared in Acts 4:12: “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”); meaning “the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.”

*Main text of closing sermon on August 22 to 38th Assembly of the National Christian Missionary Convention in St. Louis, Mo.
-Evanston Report
(From page 1)

The Churchman’s World

heart. Here is the dreaded picture of hunger. The hunger of a mother and her baby for food, for clothes, for love, for all intangibles that the master plans of men seemed to have failed to provide. It was for this reason that the Second Assembly of the World Council had convened in Evanston.

Four-Star Feature

The second Assembly of the World Council of Churches was Christianity on parade as well as under pressure. It was the Church of Christ seeking commitment to the great imperatives of the Gospel. It moved toward its objectives via a four-star feature program.

First, there was the big plenary session in McGaw Hall where the cumbersome convention machinery rumbled through its often agonizingly monotonous paces. Here in the great open assembly the delegate’s privilege of free speech (so familiar in the conventions of the congregational bodies within American Protestantism) was ably and tactfully exploited. All of the jurisdictional experience of the five great presidents of the Council was needed to handle these difficult sessions.

A second major movement was the activity of the several functional (and working) committees of the Assembly. Within the functional committees some of the best minds within Protestantism came to grips with matters of faith and order, evangelism, intergroup relations, international relations, the laity, and social questions. With great deliberation they sought to interpret these areas in the light of the main theme. In the working committees churchmen of administrative experience sought to implement the business of the Council and develop channels whereby the message of the Council might be brought closer to churches like yours and mine. Within both types of committee’s theological hairs were split and re-split; socio-political interests manifested; the spiritual and cultural heritage of varied racial groups merged; and the traditional ways of thinking and acting of the more historically established churches challenged to pursue new horizons of adventurous faith by the so-called ‘younger churches of Asia.’

A third aspect of Christendom on parade was the accredited visitor program held mornings and afternoons in Cahn Auditorium. Its discussions were of an extremely practical nature. They were designed to go immediately to the issues of church unity most alive in the minds of churchmen working at the grass roots. Among its roster of speakers were such shining lights as Toyohiko Kagawa of Japan; Bishop S. U. Barbieri of South America; Samuel M. Cavelti of the U. S. A.; M. M. Thomas of India; and Dr. Elizabeth Schwarzhaupt of Germany.

They were concerned in suggesting ways of bringing the ecumenical spirit back to the churches from which all had come. They considered the non-Christian, the worker, the oppressed, and the church chairman and missionary society member in your church and mine. They assumed that we are united through the privilege of free service in Christ.

A fourth arena in this mammoth fellowship of Christians was the secular and religious press—some 600 of them eagerly covering every action and thought; forever probing the name churchmen for specifics in the twice-daily press conferences; pounding out thousands of words for the people back home on the major type writers lined up in the great room under the press gallery of McGaw Hall, or in the paper-cluttered basement of the S. A. E. Temple, or in the quiet repose of the lounge room in Thompson House. It was the most widely publicized event in the history of American Christianity. Over 1,225,000 words were sent to papers and periodicals via Western Union alone. Five major U. S. and Canadian networks, twenty stations in the Greater Chicago-Evanston area, The Voice of America and seven foreign radio services broadcast the daily proceedings. Some fifteen television programs were scheduled for the Chicago area alone.

(Next month: “What Evanston Says to You”)

Berggrav Speaks

Evanston marks ‘a new start’ in the growth and strength of the World Council of Churches, Bishop Elvind Berggrav of Oslo, Norway, said at the Second Assembly’s recent closing service.

Delegates, visitors and officials of the 163 member churches from 48 nations around the world gathered in Evanston’s First Methodist Church for their closing worship. It was here that the World Council opened its momentous Assembly Sunday, August 15.

“We intend to stay together”—the ecumenical watchword of the Council’s formative Assembly in 1948 at Amsterdam—was the theme of the opening message here, brought by Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of Washington, D. C. Both he and Bishop Berggrav are outgoing presidents of the Council.

In a look ahead, Bishop Berggrav said: “Something important has changed, there is a new start before us, and we know for certain that our growth shall be up to Him who is the head, the head also of His Christian family of churches on earth.”

Texas Youth Open Camp

Glen Rose, Tex. (RNS)—Members of the Central Texas Methodist Conference’s Older Youth group voted unanimously at their annual camp meeting here to open next year’s sessions to members of “other races.”

A spokesman for the group said the intention was to admit Negroes but the resolution referred to “other races” so none would be excluded.

The camp is confined to young people between 18 and 25 years old. About 50 attended this year’s sessions.

Negro Teacher Wins

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—A Negro schoolteacher here was named winner of a city-wide religious drama-writing contest on the theme, “The Church Ecumenical.”

Miss Verna J. Dozier, a member of the non-denominational Church of the Sav io ur, submitted the winning script. The contest was sponsored by the Washington Federation of Churches in connection with the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches.

Miss Dozier’s play, entitled “Gath ered Together,” was given its premier in the Amphitheater of the Washington Cathedral (Episcopal) grounds.

Preaches on Race

London (RNS)—Canon Lewis John Collins of St. Paul’s Cathedral urged here that the bishops of the Church of England call upon South African churches to end racial discrimination immediately “even if it means a loss of white congregations.”

“Let them ask us in Britain to be ready to make up to the South African churches any financial loss that may be involved in following the policy,” he said in a sermon at the cathedral.

He declared that such action would in no way contradict an act adopted by the World Council of Churches at its recent Second Assembly in Evanston, Ill., urging member Churches to “renounce, and work for the abolition of, all forms of segregation or discrimination to its practical end.”
Barton Warren Stone: Early American Advocate of Christian Unity

By William Garrett West

Here is one of the important books on the history and thought of Disciples of Christ.

It deals with an important man. As too many Disciples do not know, Barton W. Stone was a frontier preacher in Kentucky who, three years before Thomas Campbell came to America, signed his name to the Last Will and Testament of the Springfield Presbytery. Thus in 1804 arose a group of Christian churches committed to religious freedom, unity, and evangelism. In 1832 many of these churches in the West, largely through the influence of Stone, joined forces with the movement of the Campbells. Until his death in 1844 Stone was a preacher, editor, elder statesman, and saint among our people in the western states. He merits a large place in the history of Disciples of Christ and of religion on the frontier.

The book also deals with important ideas. While it presents a sketch of Stone's biography, it does not duplicate C. C. Ware's earlier Barton Warren Stone, Pathfinder of Christian Union (now unfortunately out of print). Dr. West is primarily interested in the thinking of Stone. He was an influential advocate of ideas for which the Christian churches have stood. In the current revival of theological interest, the book is especially timely.

Dealing with an important concern of our age, the book presents Stone as an early American advocate of Christian unity. In these days of ecumenical interest, his passion for the oneness of God's people and his thinking as to how it should be accomplished take on new significance.

The author is minister of First Christian Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee. He did his doctoral dissertation at Yale (on Stone's thought) under the direction of Luther A. Weigle, who furnishes the introduction for this volume. The Disciples of Christ Historical Society has been enabled to render a major service by issuing the book under the Reed Plan of Publication.

Reviewed by
Ronald E. Osborn

Boll Street Moves

According to a special release to The Christian Plea, when the Boll Street Church of Dallas, Tex., called Paul A. Sims from Lawrence, Kan., to be its pastor, a new milestone in the church's progress was begun.

Projects initiated by the previous minister, M. C. Dickson (now of Roanoke, Va.), were carried forward with unusual vigor. Last summer a sixty-day rally resulted in an amount of money in excess of $4,000. The Boll Street property was completely renovated.

In the spring of 1854 the church had an opportunity to purchase a more adequate sanctuary and educational facilities. The plant was located in a growing section of the city. The church was confronted with the problem of raising $25,000 in a short time in order to secure the badly needed property. Under the leadership of Pastor Sims, the congregation raised the specified amount without substantial help from outside sources.

The new church was purchased. It is located on Forest Avenue and Wendelken Street in South Dallas. The name of the congregation was changed from Boll Street Church to Forest Avenue Christian Church. (The property on Boll Colby Streets was not sold. It is valued at $18,000.)

The Forest Avenue property has an assessed value of $70,000. The sanctuary seats 600 persons. The facilities include: a baptistry, church office, pastor's study, conference room, departmentalized church school rooms, religious education director's office, and accommodations for a church library.

La Touche Retires

Through a testimonial dinner given at the Park Manor Church of Chicago, Ill., Robert E. La Touche recently retired from a thirty-year pastorate of the Southside Church and forty years of service in the Christian ministry. By his side as honored guests were his wife, Mrs. Malinda La Touche, and his daughter, Miss Mildred La Touche.

Richard H. Davis, host pastor to the affair, commented that the event was one seldom witnessed by any communion within Christendom. An impressive series of speakers followed to praise Mr. La Touche for his sincere devotion to pastoral duties, and his demonstration of true Christian character.

Among those making testimonial were: E. J. Dickson for the NCMC, Indianapolis; John Harns for Chicago Church Federation; Julius Thomas for Parkway Gardens Homes, Chicago; W. M. Johnson, Greater Bethesda Baptist Church, Chicago; Russell Miller, Disciples Union of Chicago; S. M. Riley for International Ministers' Alliance; and Mrs. Ola Denard who gave a resume of Elder La Touche's ministry at Southside Church.

Elder La Touche received a roundtrip ticket to his home in Jamaica and a purse of $250 from the Southside Church, and a silver dollar for each of his thirty-three years of service to the South Side Church from the Park Manor Church membership. A book of letters from friends was also given.

Charles E. Sherman, newly elected pastor of Southside Church, was in charge of the promotion of events. He was assisted by the Christian Women's Fellowship under the leadership of Mrs. Lilian Dixon.

W. K. Fox, editor of The Christian Plea, was master of ceremonies.

Paseo Honors Myers

The West Paseo Church of Kansas City, Mo., recently paid tribute to Elder S. S. Myers for faithful service rendered on his twenty-second anniversary as minister of the church.

A large number of friends from civic and religious organizations in Kansas City, Mo., attended. Mr. Myers was cited for meritorious work done as a builder of the $250,000 church plant; wide interest in the civic betterment of the city; being a successful business executive; developing the administrative structure of the NCMC; and successfully joining hands with Mrs. Myers in building a Christian family.

The climax occurred when Elder Myers was surprised by the appearance of two older brothers and a nephew who had arrived secretly from Oklahoma.
Mrs. Walker Succumbs

Mrs. Leila O'Neal Walker, club woman, philanthropist, national leader in women's activities in the Christian Church, and wife of Dr. J. E. Walker, died at 4:40 a.m. at her home, 1109 Mississippi, after being briefly ill. She was 68.

She died of a stroke. Her husband, Dr. Walker, is chairman of the board of Universal Life Insurance Co., president of Tri-State Bank, and also is a real estate developer.

A native of Tchula, Miss., she married Dr. Walker, a young physician, in Indianola, Miss., in October, 1906. Through out their married life she was closely allied with him in his various business successes—as president of Delta Penny Bank and Mississippi Life Insurance Co., which he organized, both of Indianola; as president of Universal Life Insurance Co., which he began in Memphis after coming here in 1920, and also as president of the Tri-State Bank.

With her daughter, Mrs. Johnetta Kelso of Memphis, Miss., she returned from a seven-week trip to Europe and the Holy Land. This was followed by her election in St. Louis in mid-August as national president of the Christian Women's Fellowship of the Christian Church.

She and Dr. Walker were instrumental in the organization of four Christian churches. The two of them built a Christian church and maintained it in Indianola until the congregation became self-supporting. She was one of the charter members of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church. She and Dr. Walker helped establish Riverview Christian Church on Riverside Boulevard, and only recently they bought Flynn Avenue Baptist Church from a white congregation and it is to be organized next month as Walker Memorial Christian Church named for the Walker family.

A club woman, she personally spent $16,500 in acquiring a residence on Walker Avenue near Mississippi as a clubhouse for Federated Women's Clubs of Memphis (Negro).

Besides her husband and daughter, she leaves her son, A. Maceo Walker, president of Universal Life Insurance Co., a grandson, A. Maceo Walker, Jr., and granddaughter, Lillie Patricia Walker, all of Memphis.

Thomas and Franklin Pass

Alfred Thomas of Cincinnati, O., and Elder I. C. Franklin of Port Gibson, Miss., passed recently. They were widely known Disciple leaders in the national work of the Church.

Mr. Thomas became seriously ill as he arrived to attend the National Christian Missionary Convention in St. Louis. He remained there in a local infirmary until he was moved to a private home where he died two weeks after his arrival.

His body was taken to Cincinnati, O., where the memorial service was held under the supervision of Elder Samuel C. Devine in the Whereman Ave. Church. He is survived by a sister.

Mr. Thomas was president of the national Christian Men's Fellowship. Under his leadership the work of Christian laymen made significant progress. The retreat idea was developed, a national C.M.F. pin created, and status achieved in the administrative framework of the National Convention.

Franklin Pioneer

With the passing of Elder L. C. Franklin of Port Gibson, Miss., one of the most colorful pioneers in the Disciple movement moved to higher reward. Elder Franklin was an educator, evangelist, builder and pastor. His long and fruitful career included the principalship of the Christian Institute at Lum, Ala.; a religious extension worker in the Southeast; presidency of the Mississippi State Convention; secretaryship of the National Christian Missionary Convention; and the pastorate of many Christian churches in South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi.

Elder Franklin was one of the first graduates of South ern Christian Institute in Edwards, Miss. His devotion to the school was manifested in his persistent effort to help other young people to attend the institution. Among the several youth who successfully followed his instruction are brotherhood leaders Eugene Mason, Montgomery, Ala.; P. C. Washington, Berkeley, Calif.; and E. L. Brown of Jackson, Miss.

Representatives from throughout the state of Mississippi and the nation attended the funeral in the Christian Chapel Church of Port Gibson. Elder Delmar Jackson, pastor, delivered the eulogy.

Elder Franklin is survived by his wife, a son and several other relatives and friends.

Editor W. K. Fox of The Christian Plea was present and spoke in behalf of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

Pension Fund of Disciples of Christ

800 TEST BUILDING
INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA
CONVENTION IN DESPERATE FINANCIAL NEED
PRESIDENT PEOPLES DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY

In an unprecedented call to mass action, President R. H. Peoples of the National Christian Missionary Convention, Indianapolis, Ind., recently declared that a state of unusual financial crisis existed in the National Office.

In a statement to the brotherhood leadership he said "We have been operating with a deficit for some time..." He continued "we must have more help in the National Office to get specific jobs accomplished and do some other things which we have planned for the past three or four years."

The president indicated that this was a plus effort. Every congregation is asked to consider this emergency offering as an additional contribution over and above what the church is normally expected to give the Convention. It was implied that the money was needed immediately, or the brotherhood would be seriously embarrassed.

Additional staff needs are pressing. Our one office secretary cannot possibly continue to serve effectively if she is expected to carry the steadily increasing office load by herself. For example, the nation-wide promotion program recently adopted by the trustee board is calling for an additional load of correspondence and bookkeeping. Service projects in church development, as well as in Christian education and missionary education, may be seriously curtailed or dropped unless local churches send in money immediately.

E. J. Dickson, executive secretary for the N.C.M.C., reports that several hundred ministers and laymen depend upon the annual institute program of the Convention for in-service training. If local churches do not send in money immediately, these institutes may be dropped.

The Christian Plea has been financially bankrupt for months. New subscriptions and renewals are not coming in fast enough to furnish funds to meet high current obligations. It costs over $255 per month to print The Christian Plea. By supporting the National Convention you enable the editor to pay $100 of that amount. The remainder must come through new subscriptions and renewals.

President Peoples pressed for three types of givers. First, the "contributing member" who gives $2.00; second, the "sustaining member" who gives $5.00; and third, the "supporting member" who gives $25.00 or more.

The new program of promotion adopted by the trustee board this fall will not get fully under way until the first of the year. The call is for money now to meet current needs.

"My God and I Walk Through the Fields Together"
**The Christian Plea**

(Member of Associated Church Press)

**VOLUME 44, NO. 3**

**WILLIAM KAPPEN FOX, Editor**

**E. J. DICKSON, Executive Secretary**

**L. L. DICKERSON, President, National Christian Missionary Convention**

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**The Plea Platform**

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.
2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.
3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.
4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.
5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.

**Receiving the Plea**

If you are not receiving *The Plea* as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:

1. Your name plate has a faulty impression and your name, street, town or state is misspelled.
2. You have moved and left no forwarding address.
3. Your subscription has lapsed.
4. Your paper is being sent to the wrong address, but being kept by the persons receiving it.
5. Our office has not yet changed the address on your name plate.

Please drop us a card or letter if you are having any sort of difficulty like the above or if you know of other *Plea* patrons who mentioned similar problems to you.

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**New Books on Disciples of Christ**

**The Political Ethics of Alexander Campbell**

By Harold L. Lunger. Here is a book designed to answer your questions on the political ideas of Alexander Campbell. What were his attitudes toward slavery, Catholicism, public education, capital punishment and war? What were his norms for political action? Did Campbell have a consistent political ethic? $3.00

**Thomas Campbell: Man of the Book**

By Lester G. McAllister. The book Disciples of Christ have long awaited! A comprehensive interpretation of Thomas Campbell's contribution to Christianity. In inner spirit and Scripture emphasis Disciples of Christ were primarily influenced by this pioneer. The latter part of his life is also portrayed. $3.00

**Preaching in the Thought of Alexander Campbell**

By Granville Walker. A historical study in four parts of the “roots” of preaching among Disciples of Christ. It traces the growth of ideas in various fields as reflected in Alexander Campbell’s writings. Some of these fields are: Campbell’s belief in testimony, the Bible as the source of the preacher’s sermon, the need for cooperation in calling and training the minister, and ministerial education. $3.00

**The Story of D. S. Burnet: Undeserved Obscurity**

By Noel L. Keith. This book presents D. S. Burnet as the “all but forgotten disciple” in the pioneering work of Disciples of Christ. Meet the devoted man who gave up a civic career to concentrate on his faith. As president of the first college of the brotherhood and founder of the American Christian Bible Society, he has earned his position as father of organized benevolence, missions and education among Disciples of Christ. $3.00

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**TWILIGHT SERVANTS**

Editor, *The Christian Plea*:

Through a small measure of sacrifice I am trying to give my best of services to God. I am doing this even though I am 76 years old, afflicted with a heart ailment, and almost blind with a cataract on one of my eyes. Yet my heart goes out for Kingdom Building and the spreading of the Gospel throughout the world.

Enclosed please find $10.00 from my sister and I. We wish that we could give more to *The Christian Plea*, but we know that the Lord blesses a cup of cold water given in His name.

ROBERT L. WILSON, Yakima, Wash.
What Evanston Says to You  
(Second in a Series of Three)  
By W. K. Fox

THERE is but “one Lord, one faith, one baptism.” Christians of all descriptions and from every nation, must say this together, must believe this together, and must act this together, or perish in their division with the blood of the world upon their hands. This is the essence of what the World Council of Churches in second assembly at Evanston, Illinois, said to everyone who calls himself a Christian, and to every communion which claims to be a part of the body of Christ.

The Council said this to you through drama. The drama of the opening night in Soldier Field stadium where 100,000 Christians from all over the world proclaimed in unison, “We have come to worship God.”

The Council said this to you through pageantry. The pageantry of churchmen—some simply dressed, some colorfully garbed, others strangely attired—walking together in procession, conversing together in assembly, counseling together in committees, living together in dormitories, worshiping together in His sanctuary, and meeting together at His Table.

The council said this to you through proclamations. It proclaimed to every nation. It spoke to people of all colors and cultures. It conversed with the oppressed. It whispered in intimate fashion, to the most sensitive soul of the individual the message of Christian hope—“One Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

TO THE NATIONS

“This troubled world, disfigured and distorted as it is, is still God’s world. He rules and overrules its tangled history.” Thus, reminded by President Eisenhower’s challenge to “speak to us as the prophets spoke in days of old . . .,” the Council spoke to the nations.

(See page 15)

Quest for Happiness

I THINK” says Steinmetz, “the greatest discoveries of the future will be along spiritual lines. Here is a force which history clearly teaches has been the greatest power in the development of men. Yet we have been merely playing with it and have never seriously studied it as we have the physical forces. Some day people will learn that material things do not bring happiness, and are of little use in making men and women creative and powerful.

“Then the scientists of the world will turn their laboratories over to the study of God and prayer and the spiritual forces, which, as yet, have hardly been observed.”

Notice, Mr. Steinmetz, a great scientist, admits that the object of his quest, along with that of all men, is happiness. He states happiness is not to be acquired by the possessing of material things.

Happiness is much sought by mankind. Everything we do, everywhere we go, the choice of our possessions and our associations—are all determined, in a great measure, by the advantage they are hoped to afford us in the pursuit of happiness. We build the fine mansion, procure riches, we associate with friends because we believe such things and such associations will enhance our happiness.

Finally, when we turn our thoughts within, we find that true happiness can be enjoyed only in proportion to the right conception of things and by the intents of the heart.

Humility is the foundation stone of happiness. Hence, the Master when teaching his disciples on the Mount, begins by saying, “Blessed are the poor in spirit.” Then the thought is most beautifully expanded by the addition of one after another of the Beatitudes, but never at the expense of this basic principle.

We are so constituted that it is not necessary that we possess a superabundance of the things of this world in order to be happy. The man is happy who is meek and pure in heart. But humility must succeed in causing the arrogant will to bow, selfishness must be sacrificed for the sake of peace, and love must be the ruling passion of life.

The individual who has been transformed by living these principles in daily life—these blessed principles—is the only one who can say that he has found true happiness.

by ALFRED E. SPENCER  
Roanoke, Virginia

NOVEMBER, 1954
Planning a Program of Stewardship

Church program planning is a basic necessity for the successful local church. What is church program planning? “Church program planning is the whole church mobilized for planning, informed of the plans approved, enlisted in the carrying out of the plans, committed to providing the required talents and resources.”

Who should do the planning? An individual, a stewardship committee, or departments whose functions are to be responsible in cooperation with other related departments of church, for the planning and carrying into operation a program of instruction in the principles of Christian stewardship and enlistments of all members as stewards of their time, abilities, and possessions for the causes of Christ.

The major problem of planning a stewardship program is that of reaching those who need the knowledge and inspiration which will cause them to accept the basic principles of New Testament Stewardship. In planning the program the committee will probably see the primary need as being that of deepening the spiritual experiences of those who are active in the church but lacking in stewardship dedication and convictions regarding Christ’s control of their lives. The ultimate goal is the extension of the program to reach all members, seeking to reactivate those in the so-called “marginal” group through securing their dedication to stewardship.

Any device or method of procedure used in planning and preparation for Christian stewardship in the local churches that gets the job done successfully is good. There is no one way or procedure cut-and-dried that will make for success in Christian stewardship program in all the local churches. However all successful stewardship planning and preparation will have these things in common namely: (1) individuals inspired or motivated; (2) enlisting all the leadership resources; (3) determining needs and opportunities; (4) setting goals or objectives; (5) making detailed calendar of actions; (6) securing resource materials and equipment; (7) reporting for approval and adoption and (8) evaluation.

“Movements nearly always begin with the conviction of an individual that some definite action should be taken to satisfy a need or meet an existing condition. When the conviction is shared with and accepted by others there is created a compulsion to action. Regardless of the source of the insight into the needs, the methods of institution of the program should be kept in conformity with the policies of the accepted procedure of the congregation.”

The Leadership

In addition to the spiritual qualities of Christian leadership as given in the New Testament the specific needs are a vigorous mind, ability to work with others, a keen comprehension of the total program of the church, understanding and agreement with the educational approach to the problem of stewardship and a friendliness toward and support of the pastor and other church leaders.” “Members of the congregation can be led to become Christian stewards only by those who have already accepted the same role.”

Stewardship program planning should be based on needs and opportunities of local church with a community and world outreach. Needs and opportunities can be determined by making a simple survey sheet, or by a conference of representatives of all departments of the church, or by observation, or by a combination of these techniques.

Likewise the setting of goals and objectives should be based on the local church needs and opportunities, which will no doubt vary with each church. However you would include in any set of goals and opportunities those goals and aims that have been previously mentioned in the major problem of planning a stewardship program.

The detailed calendar or schedule tells when, where, who, how and what is to be done each month throughout the year to reach the goals set forth. A special form or plain paper can be used to put the schedule or calendar on, where all concerned may view it.

Any material you select and need for the most effective result in planning and following through a Christian stewardship program, such as the Bible, books, booklets, leaflets, posters, films, filmstrips, etc., can be obtained from the Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis, Mo., and the several departments of United Christian Missionary Society, Indianapolis, Ind.

“People do like to have a voice both in the creation and execution of plans in which they are involved.” Therefore the whole plan should be interpreted to and approved by the church’s board and then the church or department concerned.

Evaluation

Charts for the evaluation of the stewardship program in local church can be used for this purpose. Immediately after the completion of an institute or study class or other stewardship emphases the department (or committee) should in an objective way consider the project, making record of both strong and weak points; this record should be preserved as a guide to future planning.
Monroe Ave. Capsules
BY OLA M. HARRIS

The program at the Monroe Avenue Church in Columbus, Ohio was highlighted recently by events such as the following:

- Pastor L. L. Dickerson and combined choirs of church guests of the Summit Avenue Church in Dayton, Ohio.
- Under leadership of Chairman Mrs. E. Brown, the Women’s Council sponsored a unique radio program and luncheon at the WLWC Town House. Mrs. Corn White won the first prize.
- The Christian Men’s Fellowship launched their Fall program with a dinner meeting at the parsonage.
- The Pastor’s Aid and Christian Youth Fellowship sponsored a surprise Birthday meeting at the parsonage.
- The Christian Men’s Fellowship sponsored a unique radio program and lunch meeting at the WLWC Town House. Mrs. Corn White won the first prize.
- The Missionary Committee was recently entertained in the home of Mrs. O. Harriett.

The church celebrated the tenth anniversary of the pastor with programs featuring many prominent speakers and singing groups. The observance was culminated with a reception at the church on Sunday. Mrs. Clara Cardwell was chairman of the event.

- The Church School has entered a contest with the Church School in Dayton to increase membership and stimulate interest.
- The Missionary Committee was recently entertained in the home of Mrs. O. Harris.

Revival in South Carolina

Correspondent A. L. Brabham of Elizabethtown, S. C., reports that an old-fashioned revival meeting recently held at Three Mile Creek Church met with success. A sermon by Eld. B. D. Johnson was among the several inspiring messages delivered. An offering of $265.00 was given.

The state convention will be held this month at the New Hope Church in Burton, S. C.

District Organized

The Christian churches in Nashville, Tenn., and Clarksville, Tenn., convened recently at the Gay-Lea Fellowship Church of Nashville to organize a district convention. Elder R. C. Maloy of the Alameda Street Church, Nashville, and S. J. Chandler of the Gay-Lea Church, Nashville, were among the program participants.

Personalities

P. C. Washington, minister of the Grove Street Church in Berkeley, Calif., is chairman of the state board of the Northern California Missionary Society.

Dr. O. L. Hambrick and wife of Nashville, Tenn., have just returned from a trip around the world. Dr. Hambrick is treasurer of the Gay-Lea Fellowship Church.

Mrs. Bertha Pippins of St. Louis, Mo., was recently cited by civic leaders in that city for the outstanding work she has done in Community Chest work. Mrs. Pippins is a member of the Centennial Church.

Dr. J. E. Walker in cooperation with Eld. Blair T. Hunt, has recently acquired another church building in Memphis, Tenn. Plans for having another Christian church in Memphis are in the making.

Dr. Meri R. Eppes of Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tenn., recently attended the meeting of Negro Historians in St. Louis, Mo. Dr. Eppes is author of several books on Negro history.

Mrs. Lenora Rolla of Fort Worth, Tex., was recently appointed president pro temp of the National CWF by the trustees of the National Christian Missionary Convention. Mrs. Rolla is the only CWF member of the trustees board. E. L. Jordan, minister of the United Church of Detroit, Mich., is reported to be seeking a political office in that city.

Newborn Installed

In an impressive service of consecration, Dr. P. H. Welshimer recently installed Ernest J. Newborn as the new pastor of the Cherry Avenue Church in Canton, O.

Dr. Welshimer was assisted by elders Joseph Bush, Edward Lloyd, and Daniel Compton.

John R. Compton of Cincinnati, O., president of the state convention, and pastor of the Wehrman Avenue Church, brought greetings in behalf of the state and national conventions.

A native of Jackson, Tenn., Mr. Newborn received his undergraduate degree from Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tenn.; he was granted his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Howard University in Washington, D. C.

Elder Newborn’s ministry includes a supply pastorate at the Gay-Lea Church of Nashville, Tenn.; a summer of ministerial internship with the Centennial Church of St. Louis, Mo.; assistant to the dean of the chapel while a theological student at Howard University; work with migrant laborers in the Southeast; and director of a mobile service to migrant workers in Pennsylvania under the sponsorship of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Mr. Newborn comes to Canton, O., from Ulysses, Pa., and succeeds S. J. Compton, who is now pastor of a church in Cleveland, O.

T. R. Everett Passes

T. R. Everett, veteran Disciple minister of Midway, Ky., died recently.

Elder Everett was born in Hart County, Ky., Nov. 22, 1870. He joined the church at an early age and began preaching in 1897.

He received his training from the state college in Frankfort, Ky., and the old Bible College in Louisville, Ky. He taught public school from 1891 to 1904.

Brother Everett devoted the whole of his life to the Christian ministry.
Everyday Life in New Testament Times
BY A. C. BOUQUET

Here is a refreshing and highly useful book for both preacher and parishioner. Written by a prominent British professor of comparative religion, it is sound in its scholarship and dependable in its presentation of facts; it has an almost encyclopaedic quality about it. Yet it is no weighty, musty tome; written in an easy, conversational style, it reads like a novel. So it is both a book to be read through "at a sitting" and also a handy reference book to keep close at hand for years to come.

Exactly what were houses in Palestine like in Jesus' day? What did people eat in New Testament times? Did they take baths, have operations, wear false teeth, use lipstick, write and read books, distribute news? In this volume are to be found the answers to these and hundreds of other such questions about the little, intimate, everyday details of life in the first Christian century. One is surprised to learn how "modern" in many respects these ancients were.

By understanding the way people lived, one is enabled to understand the whole of New Testament history better and more vividly. Hence, this book is essential reading for all who are at all interested in biblical literature and history. One is tempted to say that it should be required reading for all preachers and church school teachers.

The type is excellent; the index is adequate; and the text is strengthened by a large number of pictures, maps, and line drawings (the latter by Marjorie Quennell). Read Everyday Life; you'll learn a lot, and you'll enjoy it.

Selected and reviewed by:
W. A. Welsh

Price $2.50—available from Christian Board of Publication.

Institute on Segregation
Los Angeles (RNS)—Segregation must be "educated out of existence," although its disappearance can be speeded by legislation and other more formal means.

This was the conclusion reached by the sixth Interdenominational Institute on Racial and Intercultural Relations here which studied the "day-to-day problems of segregation."

The Institute was sponsored by the National Council of Churches' department of racial and cultural relations. Serving as Institute dean was Clifford J. Earle of Philadelphia, a secretary of the Board of Christian Education, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Subjects considered were the interracial service, the interracial community, problems of Mexican Americans and Jewish-Christian Relations.

Discussions on the racially inclusive church were led by two Los Angeles pastors, Vinton J. Waldron of the Evangelical United Brethren Community church and Dan Gennig of All Peoples Christian Church. Both churches are interracial.

"The biggest problem in developing an interracial congregation," Mr. Waldron said, "is the general feeling that interracial fellowship is not the normal procedure for a Christian church. There is a feeling that a church experimenting in this line is wandering far afield."

He said that in his church "we quietly went ahead, organizing first youth fellowships and youth activities without regard for racial lines. This gradually brought in the adults, until we had a fully integrated interracial program."

The Institute also was addressed by Rabbi Morris Kertzer of New York, director of the American Jewish Committee's department of interreligious cooperation. He stressed brotherhood, understanding, and the breaking down of barriers as goals to be reached.

"The prejudiced mind is a sick mind," he said. "Psychiatrists indicate that it is most common among individuals who grew up in broken homes, homes where there was little affection among family members and where child neglect was present."

Rabbi Kertzer urged the churches to "build within their walls meaningful associations between the races." They should join with other religious groups in social action committees and integrated programs, he added, and they should develop "a program of supports for anti-segregation and anti-prejudice legislation."

Texas Presbyterians
Kerrville, Tex. (RNS)—The Texas Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (Southern), at its 98th annual session here, condemned racial segregation and called upon its institutions and agencies to operate on an unsegregated basis.

It also asked constituent presbyteries to urge local churches to admit persons to membership "on the Scriptural basis of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ without reference to race or color and instructed its Christian Education Committee to "bring any contrary practices on its part into line with our existing beliefs."

Dr. John Anderson of Dallas explained that the latter action meant "complete non-segregation of all Synod camps and conferences."

Women Resolve
Ocala, Fla. (RNS)—Resolution urging that the U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools be carried out "as rapidly as possible in a spirit of love, justice and good will" was unanimously adopted by the United Churchwomen of Florida at a two-day seminar here.

The 75 delegates from 50 cities said that due recognition should be taken of "the problems involved on the community level, particularly in the ratio of Negro and white population and in the need of physical property and teacher adjustment."

Included in the resolution was a statement opposing any referendum on the abolition of the Florida public school system.

The over-all resolution on segregation was presented on behalf of the Synod's Christian Education and Christian Social Relations committees by R. W. Jablonski of Fort Worth and Robert W. Bullock of Houston.

"The Church, in its relationships to cultural patterns, should lead rather than follow," the resolution said. "Enforced racial segregation is discrimination which is out of harmony with Christian theology and ethics."

Implementing these decisions, the delegates voted to dissolve the Texas-Mexican Presbytery and integrate the Synod's Spanish-speaking churches into the geographical presbyteries next Jan. 1 rather than a year later as previously planned.

By a vote of 270 to 31, the Synod approved a resolution favoring the proposed merger of the Southern Church with the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. ("Northern") and the United Presbyterian Church.

Admit Negroes
Mobile, Ala. (RNS)—Spring Hill College, 124-year-old Jesuit institution here, is admitting Negro students and "not making an issue" of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling barring segregation.

This was announced by Andrew C. Smith, S.J., president, who described the college's policy as that of "gradual integration." He added that Negro students had been enrolled in night classes during the last few years.

Spring Hill College has a student body of about 750 in addition to 250 in night classes.
Evanston Says

(From page 11.)

It said that war was not "inevitable" and that nations with faith and trust in each other could live together though differing in views upon life. To do so, the Council said to the nations, there must be: 1. "a willingness not to use force as an instrument of policy..."; 2. a sincere effort made to abolish injustice in dealings with each other; 3. "respect for the pledged word..."; 4. a "continuing effort to reach agreement on outstanding issues..."; 5. and a "readiness to submit all unresolved questions of conflict to an impartial international organization and to carry out its decisions."

TO ALL PEOPLE

In a strongly worded resolution adopted on the recommendation of the section on Intergroup Relations, the Council denounced "any form of segregation based on race or ethnic origin" as "contrary to the Gospel" and "incompatible with the Christian doctrine of man and with the nature of the Church of Christ."

Sounding the keynote of Christian conscience on this matter, Dr. Benjamin Mays of Atlanta, Ga., asked: "What can the churches do to put themselves in line with the Gospel, the practices of the ancient and medieval church, and in line with modern science?... We refuse to believe that God is limited in history and that we must wait until the end of history before His mighty works can be performed."

The Council urged every Christian and each member church to go back with renewed determination to make the "local church so exemplify the spirit of Christ in Christian fellowship that the world will be compelled to follow its example."

TO THE OPPRESSED

The Council spoke a sympathetic word to all people who were living under oppression. Not only was the word spoken, but supporting action voted. A large portion of the budget was designated for service programs to such people. Said the section on International Affairs, "The love of God for man lays upon the Christian conscience a special measure of responsibility for the care of those who are the victims of world disorder."

TO THE INDIVIDUAL

To the Christian despairing with the seeming hopelessness in the world, the Council whispered a refreshing breath of hope. It reminded him again of the "vision without which the people perish." It spoke to the throbbing heart. It restored the soul through a reaffirmation of faith. Said the commission on the main theme: "Because Jesus Christ died and rose again for the world and will come again to renew it and judge it in His glory and grace, this world is anchored to Him in unshakable hope."

"The Holy Spirit is living and working within men. The steadfastness of Christian men and women in their daily work and their courage in times of trouble are tokens of our hope in Christ."

"The church witnesses to this hope when it seeks, in unity with its Lord, to be his church; when it is in the world as he is in the world to seek all, to save all, to serve all; when it manifests growing unity in its fellowship; when in its sacramental life the bread and cup are truly shared across all barriers of class and race, culture and wealth."

(Next month: "What I Can Do About Evanston")

Fall Planning Conference

By LORENZO J. EVANS

The eighth National Fall Planning Conference and the Fourth Commission on Christian Education is being held again this year at the Second Christian Church, 2901 North Kenwood, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 26-27. Every state Bible School president, children's worker, adult youth sponsor or advisor and others that carry leadership responsibility in the state or area are expected.

The meeting is scheduled to begin with a general orientation session at 11:00 A.M., Friday, November 26. At this time we will take a look at the total program of Christian education and make plans for the outgoing of the work. Each state and area is expected to see that someone is in attendance.

A good program of Christian education in your state or area will depend in a large measure on how well you make your plans and follow through with them. The national office will provide for your room and board while attending this meeting. If you have not sent in your reservation then do it today. This will help the national office to make plans for your entertainment. We are looking forward to representatives from every state and area.

You are expected to be present November 26 at the Second Christian Church, 2901 North Kenwood, Indianapolis, Indiana.

RENEW YOUR PLEA

SUBSCRIPTION

TODAY WITHOUT DELAY!

IN JUST THREE MONTHS

THE FAMILY PROTECTION PROGRAM PAID OUT NEW PROTECTION BENEFITS AMOUNTING TO $27,963.80

3 Death Benefits for death in active service were enlarged by the Family Protection Program—

Widow 'A'—$4,774.49
Plus $300 a year
Widow 'B'—$3,691.00
Plus $194.22 a year
Widow 'C'—$4,668.31
Plus $424.71 a year

6 Disability Pensions that would have been $400.00 to $600.00 a year were increased 50% by the Family Protection Program

24 Pensioners with annual pensions from $111.52 to $1,360.80 entered retirement with $500.00 paid-up death benefits provided by the Family Protection Program

*Widow Pensions of less than $600 annually and member pensions of less than $600 annually are supplemented by Gift Money from church to those amounts.

DO YOUR CHURCH AND MINISTER HAVE THESE NEW BENEFITS IN FORCE?

PENSION FUND OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

800 TEST BUILDING
INDIANAPOLIS 4, INDIANA
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love . . . For he satisfies him who is thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Psalm 107:8a-9
BROtherhood Promotion Leaders Announced

At a recent board meeting the National Convention Trustees voted to set up a National Finance Promotions Committee for the Church and all its departments. The purpose of the committee is to help each local church to reach its National financial goal for Missions and the National Convention. Mr. A. C. Stone, third vice-president of the National Convention, was appointed chairman and authorized to set up the committee in cooperation with the president, R. H. Peoples, and the executive secretary, E. J. Dickson. The following men were named to serve in the 5 Regions of our brotherhood:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Leader</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kan., Okla. and Tex.</td>
<td>Rev. S. S. Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mo., Ark. and Tenn.</td>
<td>Dr. J. E. Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss., Ala. and Ga.</td>
<td>Dr. C. C. Mosley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ky., Ohio and Eastern Seaboard</td>
<td>Rev. John Compton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piedmont Tri-State, S. C.</td>
<td>A. I. Terrell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The chairman and the executive secretary will take responsibility for the states that have no organized conventions.

The Trustees are asking the state convention presidents and convention boards to set up a State Committee of 5 people on Finance Promotion to work with each Regional Director. The objective is to get someone in each local church to promote the brotherhood program.

*Our Year of Christian Stewardship* makes it imperative that the officers and leaders of state and area conventions give their wholehearted support to the Directors of Finance Promotion.

The first meeting of this National Committee on Finance Promotion will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, December 20, 1954, at 1 P.M.

Let's All Prepare for a Christian Christmas
The Christian Plea
(Member of Associated Church Press)

VOLUME 44, NO. 4

William Kauffen Fox, Editor
E. J. Dickson, Executive Secretary
L. L. Dickerson, President, National Christian Missionary Convention

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Advisory Committee on Publication

The Plea Platform

1. The promotion of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

2. The promotion of a high quality churchmanship.

3. The promotion of open forum on ideas relevant to Kingdom Building.

4. The promotion of constructive proposal and evaluation.

5. The promotion of dutiful service to all patrons.


Receiving the Plea

If you are not receiving The Plea as you feel you should, we are anxious to know the reason. It may be because of one of the following situations:

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3. Your subscription has lapsed.

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Send all correspondence and money to:

The Christian Plea
P. O. Box 4427
Wade Station
St. Louis, Missouri

NBA PUZZLES HIM

Editor, The Christian Plea:

First, I wish to commend you for the very fine article you wrote for The Christian-Evangelist about our National Convention.

After reading the resolution that was approved by the convention which rebuked practices of discrimination in the homes sponsored by the National Benevolent Association, I ask why this should be? Children do not have prejudice in their hearts unless it is taught to them.

I presume many of the aged people are ministers and their wives and retired missionaries. I like to believe that after a lifetime of service as servants of God working to bring his kingdom on earth, that they would not object to a Negro minister and his wife who also have done the same, to the best of their ability and opportunity, living in these homes with them.

It seems to me in the sunset of their lives, that their minds would be centered upon things eternal and there would be no place in them for prejudice and discrimination. Therefore, it must be the policy of the people who head the National Benevolent Association. I am happy that our National Christian Missionary Convention expressed its dissatisfaction and hope our leaders will continue to do so until the policy is changed.

H. CARL JACKSON
Youngstown, Ohio

New Preschool Materials

From Birth to Two

MESSAGES TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN UNDER TWO. This packet is in its eleventh printing since it was introduced in 1951! It contains 10, two-color, four-page leaflets for the church to send parents periodically for two years to aid them in nurturing the religious growth of their child. Also mailing envelopes for each leaflet, guidance and record leaflets for the church, and two birthday cards for the child. The ten leaflets for parents discuss: 1. home atmosphere, love, prayer habits, a summary of the child's needs, etc. $1.50 per packet.

Three-Year-Old Curriculum

STORIES FROM CHURCH. Four 32-page pupil's books similar to those in the popular curriculum for two-year-olds. 35 cents each.

AT CHURCH WITH THREE-YEAR-OLDS. Session plans for 32 Sundays plus charts and floor plans. $1.50

MESSAGE TO PARENTS. A quarterly leaflet to tie in church and home training. 4 cents each.

NURSERY PICTURE SET. Six large 4-color pictures for each quarter. $1.50 per quarterly set.

We pray for you an enriching Christmas fellowship and significant progress in the new year.
What You Can Do About Evanston
(The Third and Last in a Series of Three Articles)

If the dream at Evanston is to come true, it is dependent upon concerned Christians like you. The festival has long been over; the great drama of faith at Soldier Field is now history; the theological debates in the massive plenary sessions in McGaw Hall of Northwestern University have been recorded upon hundreds of reams of paper to serve as reference for the top scholars of our day and for the hundreds of truth seekers who will emerge in the generations to come.

The pageantry of worship in the great assemblies are now the fond memories of the eager secular and religious press, and indelible in the minds of the hundreds of delegates, visitors and friends who assembled there. But more important than all of this is that if the great ideals sought by those who came to Evanston, Ill., this past summer are to be realized it is up to people like you and me working with courageous devotion on the home front of our local congregations for the true Church of “one faith, one Lord, and one baptism,” who must bring the dreams to pass.

In a stimulating address by Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, executive secretary in the United States of America for the World Council of Churches, he pointed out to all assembled in an accredited visitors’ meeting, that up to this point the ecumenical church movement had largely been a fellowship of church leaders on the high administrative levels. Indeed, according to Dr. Cavert, few churchmen associated the world church movement with the laity of your church and mine. Dr. Cavert went on to imply that until the spirit of the ecumenical church movement was brought to the grass roots of the local congregation, there could be little done of significance through the World Council of Churches in our time.

Actually Evanston was working at what every layman in almost every Christian communion today has long felt deep down in his heart. The 600 delegates to the second assembly of the World Council of Churches were striving with great earnestness and sincerity to arrive at some theological and philosophical basis for the widespread opinion among the mass of laity that the Church of Christ was essentially one.

In essence then, the Evanston Conference was in reality an enlargement on the high hope Jesus Christ expressed in his last prayer of length recorded by the writer of John: “... that they all might be one...”

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER THE KEY

Whether one considers the petition for Christian unity as expressed by our Lord and Saviour in the Gospel of John, or if we take special consideration of the growth of the world church movement which began back in 1910 and has moved onward to the present with unusual success, one must always go back to the fact that the individual church member holds the key to whatever will be done of lasting quality in the present or the future.

(See page 23)

Immorality on Wheels
by Robert F. Royster

Many who are concerned with the carnage on our highways are beginning to see that behind the fundamental causes of traffic accidents lie real moral issues. For too long people have only been concerned with traffic laws, and have been unconcerned with the moral problems which gave rise to those laws.

We do not like to be told we are immoral, and our favorite way of avoiding it is to attempt to take “right-and-wrongness” out of the picture. By such specious reasoning we have arrived, as a nation of drivers, at the conclusion that behavior behind the wheel is a legal matter, not a moral one. When careless, reckless, thoughtless, selfish driving begins to be known as sin, we will all be safer.

You see, sin is still a nasty little word. Even though our modern era tried laughing at it it wouldn’t go away; the era just before had tried to reason it out of existence, with like success. Many a person is willing to be a law violator who would resent being publicly recognized as a gross and unrepentant sinner. In spite of our veneer of amorality, most of us thoroughly detest real wickedness. It is time we faced the fact that most traffic accidents are simply the normal consequence of willful, wicked acts. Acts that are habits of sin, grown used to and committed without a twinge of conscience.

For example, a driver (your normally moral and friendly neighbor) leaves for an appointment in a near-by city too late to be assured of an easy trip and an on-time arrival. After a few minutes of impatience behind another vehicle while oncoming traffic prevented passing, he suddenly decides to pass, well aware that it will be close. THIS DECISION is what should concern us, for it is the sin that may produce

(See page 23)
Churches Are Growing

United States (EPS)—According to the Yearbook of American Churches for 1955, more American churches are church members. That means a gain of 2.8 per cent over the previous year as against a population gain of 1.7 per cent for the same period.

The biggest numerical gain in 1953 is shown in the Protestant Churches, which added a total of 1,607,362 members—an increase of 3 per cent for a total of 53,837,325. Protestant church membership is equal to 8.8 per cent of all U. S. church members, the same as in 1952 and in 1951. Gain in Roman Catholic membership in 1952 was 1,123,824 or 4 per cent for a total of 31,476,261.

189 Protestant bodies reported 187,551 pastors with charges and a total of 287,563 members. The Roman Catholic Church lists 15,835 pastors with charges and a total of 45,271 ordained persons.

Church Membership by Religious Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faith</th>
<th>Members Churches</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Catholic and Polish</td>
<td>86,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Catholic</td>
<td>2,100,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>31,476,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Catholic</td>
<td>6,608,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>25,837,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Largest Denominational Membership

| Baptist       | 17,990,613        |
| Methodist     | 11,641,591        |
| Lutheran      | 6,608,951         |
| Presbyterian  | 3,635,077         |
| Protestant Episcopal | 2,550,831 |

Atlanta Baptist Oppose

Atlanta, Ga. (EWS)—The Atlanta Association of Baptist Churches opposes the proposed Georgia "private school amendment," as tending toward "a violation of the sacred principle of separation of Church and State."

Georgians voted on the issue Nov. 2. It proposed to abolish public schools in the event that an end to segregation is ordered in Georgia and set up a system of private schools.

The Baptist leaders declared in a resolution that "the amendment did not refer to or define what type schools are anticipated. It seems to us that children who attend denominationally connected schools would be eligible for public funds."

The resolution was passed unanimously at the association's 40th annual convention. The group represents 183 white Baptist churches in the area.

Previously, the Methodist Ministers' Association of Greater Atlanta also opposed the amendment. They said their passage "would be interpreted as approval of an idea which we deem to be radical, revolutionary and destructive of a precious heritage, and of the welfare of our children, youth and adults."

N. C. Methodist Support

Raleigh, N. C. (RNS)—A statement describing the U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in public schools as "a true interpretation of our Christian faith and our American democracy" was adopted by the North Carolina Methodist Conference at its annual meeting here.

Calling upon Methodists to "support all constructive efforts of our state leaders and to resist attempts to incite racial antagonisms," it said "practical application" of the Court's decision in North Carolina "involves real difficulties."

The delegates advocated that a series of seminars be held throughout the conference area for "study and discussion of our Christian responsibility" in dealing with the problem.

The statement condemned Gov. William B. Umstead and other state officials for their "efforts to find orderly and constructive solutions for the problems involved."

Approval of the statement was voted after James Martin, president of the student body at Duke University, Durham, N. C., read a letter on the question which he said was endorsed by his fellow-students, and two resolutions by the Methodist Youth Fellowship were presented.

The Duke students' letter called for "unrestricted admittance" of Negroes to the university and asked the conference to issue a "mature and positive" statement on the Church's position regarding desegregation.

Integration Adopted

Washington, D. C. (RNS)—The Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation has adopted a four-year program for complete removal of all racial barriers at the elementary and preparatory schools under its direction.

Parents of more than 1,000 children attending Beauvoir Elementary School, St. Alban's School for Boys, and the National Cathedral School for Girls were advised of the action. It was taken at the request of the Cathedral Chapter, the 30-member governing board of the Cathedral and its related institutions.

Integration had been started on a limited basis in October, 1952, with the announcement that children would be admitted to first grade classes at Beauvoir thereafter without discrimination as to race or color.

Under the new integration schedule, Beauvoir will start next term to admit qualified students to any grade. St. Alban's and the National Cathedral School for Girls will follow the same policy beginning in September, 1956. Boarding departments will be opened to students of all races not later than September, 1958.

Negro Woman First

Columbus, Neb. (RNS)—Mrs. Ozie G. Wattleton, the first Negro minister to serve an all-white congregation of the Church of God (Anderson, Ind.), has brought new life to the church since taking over its pulpit last January, members of her flock said here.

The pastor, her husband, and their daughter, Alyce Faye, are the only Negroes in this community of some 10,000 persons and Mrs. Wattleton admits that it was with some reluctance they accepted the invitation to come to Columbus from Mississippi where she had for some years done home missions work for the denomination.

Leaders of the church here first heard of Mrs. Wattleton through the pastors of neighboring churches who had attended a national meeting of the Church of God at which she described her work in the South and her concern with interracial problems. As a result of this address, she was invited to speak at a series of meetings in Nebraska, one of them at Columbus, late in 1951.

Her appearance here convinced the local congregation that they needed her as minister, but a number of problems had to be resolved first. One of these was a report—later found to be completely false—that a local ordinance prohibited Negroes living or owning property in the city.

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"Christian Stewardship Defined"

by Peter C. Washington*

The United Stewardship Council defines Christian stewardship as "the practice of systematic and proportionate giving of time, abilities and material possessions, based on the conviction that these are a trust from God to be used in His service for the benefit of all mankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love."

Christian stewardship requires that we make God a promise and we will discipline ourselves in order to overcome all personal desires to grab everything for ourselves.

The element of time is quite essential in Christian stewardship. Jesus emphasized this fact by the use of such words as: "watch," "wait," "look," "pray," and be "ready." Christian stewardship of time indicates that you willingly and joyfully give the church priority over things that claim a portion of your time such as pleasure trips and amusement centers. A good steward places his church first because he realizes that it is Christ's redeeming institution for the salvation of humanity. With such an enduring goal in mind, he takes time for service to God through worship, teaching in church school when necessary, and work as a visitation evangelist in Christian enlistment, as well as allowing time for prayer, meditation and worship.

Christian stewardship is related to the wise Christian use of our abilities. God has given each of us a talent which should be dedicated to his service. It may be the ability to teach, the ability to sing, or the ability to influence people through a dynamic personality, or by the use of choice words and phrases. The Christian use of such talents will increase the membership of the church, develop the financial status, and make real its spiritual effectiveness. The Christian who is a wise steward uses his abilities to live constructively and creatively as well as spiritually. This involves the concern for living as well as making a living.

Christian stewardship is related to money and all material possessions. The biggest business that may claim the attention of man is God's business. The money invested in the business of building the Kingdom of God in the hearts of people becomes the most powerful money imaginable. On the other hand, the individual becomes more deeply enriched as he gives of his time, talents and possessions for Kingdom-building purposes. We are required to give and share according to our abilities. The Bible instructs: "Everyone to whom much is given of him much is required" Luke 12:48.

The early Disciples shared with the needy of Judea according to their ability. The whole process of sharing is an acknowledgment of God's ownership of all material values and we become partners with Him when we share properly in this, the greatest of enterprises, Kingdom building.

The minister as leader, advisor and director is ordained of God to give counsel on the act of acquiring as well as on the act of distribution of possessions. He is to do this in keeping with the ideal of Christian stewardship.

When we discipline ourselves with respect to the wise spiritual use of our time; when we adequately develop our talents and use them for the expansion of Christian service as witnesses for Christ, and when we discipline ourselves so that our inner urge moves us toward the proper moral and spiritual use of the material possessions that God has entrusted to our care, we begin to approach the Christian ideal and requirement for Christian stewardship. We are contributing to the brotherhood of man and building the Kingdom of God according to his holy will.

*Minister of the Berkeley, Calif., church and former president of Jarvis Christian College.
JAMES H. THOMAS was typical of the Negro Disciple leadership of yesteryears which laid the foundations of the frontier movement among our people. He was born in Chatham, Virginia, on September 11, 1877, the eldest son of Pratt and Ellen Matthews Thomas. His father was a brick mason.

As a boy he attended public school in his native village and then entered the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute, before the state legislature abolished the college department. He spent five years there and was graduated with honors in 1898 with the degree of A.B.

He had the usual difficulties of a poor, ambitious youth. He worked during vacations in brick yards and tobacco factories. He had nothing new for graduation but a pair of cheap shoes and equally cheap trousers.

At the age of fourteen he was converted and joined the Christian church, of which both his parents were members. His work after finishing school was that of a country school teacher.

At the age of 23 he was ordained for the ministry. Shortly afterward a missionary call came which challenged his adventurous nature. The Negro Disciples of the Piedmont District had conceived the idea of founding a school in the district. James H. Thomas was earnestly solicited to come to Martinsville in September of 1900 to help in the plans. After some hesitancy, he accepted. Upon arrival, he found nothing but need. He was greatly disappointed, but refused to be discouraged. On the first Monday in October he started the Martinsville (the name being changed later to Piedmont) Christian Institute in the Fayette Street Church with seven pupils and himself as teacher.

Builds School

During the first session he enrolled 43 pupils. The Christian Women's Board of Missions took an active interest in his work and supported it. In the face of the most trying difficulties, the young principal determined to go forward, and after struggling for years was able to buy a farm valued at over $3,000. The businessmen of Martinsville gave $1,000. The enrollment for the twentieth session was 165, with a faculty of 8 teachers and a budget of $9,000.

Along with his duties as teacher and principal of Piedmont Christian Institute, he was pastor of Fayette Christian Church, and was considered one of the ablest ministers in the country. He served as pastor from 1904 until his death, except for the years of 1907-1914, during which time he resigned in favor of the late beloved P. H. Moss, in order that the latter might have his salary augmented.

On October 12, 1904, he was married to Margaret N. Griffin. The marriage was solemnized by the late Dr. Campbell, principal of Ingleseide Seminary, Burkeville, Virginia, Mrs. Thomas having graduated from that Presbyterian school. Five children survive this marriage, including an adopted daughter, Mrs. Lillian Grasty McWilliams, of Richmond, Va.; the other children are: Mrs. Harry P. Williams, wife of Dr. Harry P. Williams, Martinsville, Va.; James H. Thomas, Jr., with the Southern Aid Insurance Co., Roanoke, Va.; Bessie P. Thomas, a teacher in Langston High School, Johnson City, Tenn.; and Mrs. Richard W. Adams, Denver, Colo.

Thomas Broad Leader

In politics, Mr. Thomas was an independent. He gave much service in the cause of prohibition and was active in World War drives and campaigns. He was also one of the organizers of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, declining the presidency many times. He repeatedly refused the leadership of the work of the Piedmont church district. He was always modest and unassuming and never sought personal publicity.

He loved good reading and had an excellent library. The New Testament, Dunbar, Shakespeare, Dickens, Carlyle and Emerson head the list of his favorite authors. Mr. Thomas preached that practical Christianity epitomized by the Golden Rule is the only thing that will promote the best interests of the race and the nation as a whole.

As a man of courage and sterling character, Mr. Thomas was often faced with opposition from members of both races; and it goes without saying that in the South he was at times faced with the same indignities that some southern white people are disposed to inflict upon the Negro. However, he came out victorious, for his philosophy in dealing with all races was simply this: "A gentleman won't insult me; no other can."

(See page 23)
As a Disciple of Christ, you and I have been blessed by an inheritance of faith (historically speaking) that underlines everything in the main that I have been able to believe and do.

To be a true Disciple of Christ in our day, then, is to be an advocate of the essential emphases that the second assembly of the World Council of Churches meeting in Evanston, Ill., endeavored to promote.

Further, the free spirit of inquiry that was certainly evident in all of the major international discussions held during the great Evanston Conference, is a major characteristic of the Disciples of Christ Church. It is this free spirit of inquiry and association which we as Brotherhood feel is most near to what existed in the New Testament Church. Upon close examination of our Bibles, we find that the church Peter, James, John and Paul were associated with was a church based upon a free association of Christians who were compelled under God to make a common front against the bondage of a decaying society, to find freedom of soul and life in a liberal and loving Christ.

MAKE PRACTICAL WITNESS

As a member of a particular church group, you are obligated to make your church an island of free world fellowship under Christ, with total commitment to the unity of spirit and power that can be found only in him.

As a member of the Disciples Christian Church in your town, you are under the conviction of God to be sure that the Lord's Supper is available to all who come to you. As you consider this, each time you have a chance to join hands and heart to do a specific job for righteousness sake, to become an ardent advocate of Christian missions in the sense that you give freely of time, talent and treasure for the spreading of goodwill and mind of Christ at home and abroad.

As a member of a particular church you are compelled under God to make your church a home for all the people in your community, the principal was ever asked to do the like. In two years following that suspension, he built the student attendance up to an enrollment of 335.

(To be continued in the next issue)
Love Gift Project
By Anna Belle Jackson

Two months have passed since we left the National Convention with the memory of the “Love Gift”’s presentation still burning in our hearts. I wish it could have been possible for all of you to have been in Miami at the International Convention recently when the presentation was made in a very thrilling manner. The project that we have chosen for this year is different in that it is an expression of the love and concern which we have for those on the mission fields who have given their lives for service to mankind and are willing to give more time in preparation for greater service.

Let us make this year a banner year in our giving over and above our regular giving. All “Love Gift” boxes are to be compiled at the state conventions and then brought to the National Convention annual session in Dayton, Ohio. The money which you have saved in your “Love Gift” boxes will then be sent to the United Christian Missionary Society as our share in preparing missionaries, and nationals that we may really obey the commandment of love which has been given to us.

Our gift of love cannot be fully realized until we have met all of our budget responsibilities. “Love Gift” boxes may be purchased in any quantity by writing to the Christian Women’s Fellowship Department of The United Christian Missionary Society, 222 South Downey Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana.

ROLLA APPOINTED

Following the death of our newly elected Christian Women’s Fellowship president, Mrs. J. E. Walker, it was necessary to fill the vacancy which her death incurred. Mrs. Lenora Rolla of Fort Worth, Texas, was elected by ac-

tion of the Board of Trustees to serve as interim second vice-president until the next annual session of the National Christian Missionary Convention.

Mrs. Rolla is a member of the East Annie Church, Fort Worth, Texas, and has served as president of the women’s missionary group for more than ten years. At present she serves as managing editor of the Dallas Express newspaper.

The National Christian Women’s Fellowship welcomes Mrs. Rolla to this position and pledges its whole-hearted support to the work which must be done in lifting the sights and broadening the vision of the women in the program of Christian Women’s Fellowship.

Jarvis College
By William W. Bennett

Hawkins, Texas—The Disciples’ Student Fellowship of Jarvis Christian College attended the Magnolia Avenue Church in Fort Worth, Texas, recently. The Jarvis group was invited by the Keystone DSF. Sponsors of this group are Mr. and Mrs. Frank Maddux, Amos Myers and president of the DSF, Wilma King. Members of the host DSF group are members of the Magnolia Avenue Christian Church and students at Texas Christian University.

Claude Walker, Jr., from Roanoke, Virginia, is president of the local Disciple Student Fellowship. Sixteen persons attended, including Mr. James Carroll McCoy of the chemistry department, Mr. C. E. Tellis of the social science department and Mrs. Gladys A. Gill of the Nursery School.

Activities at the church included worship and discussion on the role of students in the ecumenical movement today, sandwiches and fellowship with DSF groups from Arlington Heights, University Place and the local church group.

Kenneth Henry, junior at Jarvis Christian College, delivered the evening message. Ken spoke on the subject: “When Next You See a Cross.” In his sermon, Ken emphasized the centrality and meaning of the Cross as a symbol of the Christian faith. His message was built around four points: 1. fellowship with God through man; 2. a spirit of humility; 3. service to the point of sacrifice; 4. victory in Christ Jesus who overcame the cross.

Sam Pleasant of Jarvis assisted in the song leading and in conducting games during the fellowship hour in the fellowship hall of the church. The students and faculty members of Jarvis were inspired by their experiences growing out of this visit and look forward to the time when they will reciprocate.

Phillips Follows State

Enid, Okla. (ENS)—Trustees of Phillips University here have backed up its president, Dr. Eugene S. Briggs, in his decision to continue abiding by the Oklahoma law which bans from white colleges except at the postgraduate level or to undergraduate courses not available elsewhere.

Phillips is sponsored by the Disciples of Christ. Twenty Oklahoma City clergymen of that denomination recently joined in endorsing the viewpoint that the facts of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling against segregation in public schools, throw its doors open to Negro students.

The trustees said that they, like the faculty and student body of Phillips, are “in full sympathy” with the spirit of the court ruling and will implement the principle of desegregation “just as soon as the laws of Oklahoma make the step legally possible.”

About Evanston (From page 23.)

town. Further, as a Disciple of Christ, it becomes your responsibility to learn more about the various denominations that exist in the place where you live, and gain an appreciation for the contribution they have made historically to the progress of the church.

Finally, as a leader in the local congregation, it becomes your task to bring the content and concern of the Evanston Conference into the life of your church group. You will be able to secure all sorts of resources and channels for making the Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches live fresh and anew in your fellowship.

As a leader in your church, you can help the prayer for unity by Christ come true by reviving Bible discussions on the New Testament Church; by showing some of the slides on the Evanston meeting; by bringing into the congregation outstanding speakers who attended the Second Assembly; and by leading discussion groups within your own church on the question: “How Can We Make the Evanston Dream Come True in Our Town?”