



# LIGHT

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## A Conference of Christians on World Peace

Concerned about the serious drift towards war, more than 125 individuals from 12 Protestant denominations and 20 states met in Washington, D. C., on April 6 and 7, 1948, to consider programs of action to avert war and revitalize the will to peace. The following is a statement which was issued by the Conference.

We are convinced that Christians have a responsibility to arouse and to guide the conscience of the community and that the Church has a positive message of courage and hope for the current hour. We face a serious world situation intensified by the present fears of the American people and complicated by the lack of accurate information, due partly to a veil of secrecy which exists even in this country. We believe that war need not be either imminent or inevitable. Among the steps we urge are the following:

1. **Avert War.** We call upon our national leaders to cease the effort to put the United States on a war-time basis. We recognize the menace of totalitarianism—communism or facism—to a democratic way of life. We are convinced that the method of dealing with such ideas is not by resort to armed force but by the strengthening of social and political democracy, safeguarded by international law. It is our conviction that, as a nation, we have failed to take all possible steps to avert war, to strengthen democracy at home and abroad, and to build world peace.

2. **Restore Civilian Leadership.** To this end of averting war we want the policy-making powers of government immediately restored to civilian leadership in fact, so that the important American tradition of the supremacy of civilian control over the military will be maintained, and the United States will not needlessly be alerted to war measures. We do not question the patriotism of the military men of the nation, but their growing dominance in our national government is a serious threat to the basic spirit of democracy.

3. **Defeat Selective Service and Universal Military Training.** Armament races in the past have not prevented war and give no assurance that they will prevent wars in the future. We call for the defeat of Selective Service and Universal Military Training legislation which

our conviction that the military authorities can devise means of recruiting volunteers without departing from the tradition of freedom.

4. **Peace through the Development of the United Nations.** We believe the foreign policy of the United States should be based upon the determination to achieve peace through developing the United Nations rather than upon unilateral diplomacy based upon national military might. World peace demands that nations limit national sovereignty in a world system under law. We believe, therefore, that American policy should have as its objective the patient, persistent development of the United Nations in the direction of some form of World Government.

5. **Continue Negotiation.** We urge the continuance of the policy of sincere and patient negotiation without threat of military force. We urge that negotiations with Russia be kept open on the initiative of our government, and that this be a continuing process. We would include in these negotiations both governmental and non-governmental groups and urge that we make a fresh start on the highest levels to resolve conflict.

6. **United States' Leadership for Worldwide Disarmament under Law.** We call for the bold leadership of the United States in promoting plans for world disarmament through strengthening the United Nations, including the worldwide abolition of peacetime compulsory military training. Nations must transfer sovereign control of armaments to the United Nations, including inspection, enforcement on individuals, and adequate funds for control.

7. **Control Atomic Energy.** We urge fresh efforts to find a basis for the control of atomic energy under the United Nations. We are fully aware of the ultimate implications of failure to resolve this issue. We believe that this control can and must be established without injury to the internal economies of participating nations. The civilian

### Volume One—Number One

There is always something of unexpressed hopes, of indescribable aspirations about the line "volume one number one." It suggests a new beginning, a new undertaking; it suggests that something is going to be tried that has not been tried before. It presents a challenge to do a job and do it well. You are reading "volume one—number one" of *LIGHT*, a bulletin which is published by the Social Service Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. It comes to you with factual material which you may have overlooked in the news or which, because of its very content, was kept out of the news.

These are times in which the voice of Christ must be heard, these are issues with which His Church must be concerned. In the words of Dr. D. Elton Trueblood, "Worship of God is one thing and the service of mankind is another, but the first is dishonest unless it eventuates in the latter; and the latter is superficial unless it springs from the former."

Because this is to be a bulletin to serve you we want your comments and suggestions; we want you to contribute facts that give light to the moral, ethical and social problems of today's world the only solution to which are to be found in Christ who is indeed the *LIGHT* of the World.

—Hugh A. Brumm, Editor

will be viewed at home and abroad as a beginning of mobilization for war. For military manpower it is

control of atomic energy in our domestic economy should be continued and further strengthened.

**8. World Recovery Program.** We urge the American people to throw their whole-hearted support behind efforts to promote through truly constructive forces the political freedom and economic well-being of all the peoples throughout the world and to utilize international machinery as fully as possible.

We urge that the European Recovery Program and all other aid programs be administered without political coercion; that they be directed toward the development of democratic utilization of the land and natural resources. We believe that no aid program should be tied in with military purposes, but related so far as possible to the organized agencies of the United Nations, such as the Economic and Social Council where no veto exists. We recognize that the solution of the world's problems makes imperative increased sharing and sacrifice to an extent not yet contemplated by our citizens. The real enemies to be overcome are hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos. A large section of the American people have thus far failed to align themselves with the suffering of others. The challenge of the emergency is for the Christian to make the essential sacrifices that all mankind may share in the human dignity that we cherish for ourselves. It would be far wiser to utilize a large proportion of the American budget for such needs rather than to dissipate it in military re-armament.

**9. Undergird Peace.** We call upon the American government and the American people to take vigorous leadership in practicing the principles of love, law, justice, and moral responsibility. We call upon all Christians to undergird the program for peace in confidence and faith, to speak with clarity and force to their representatives in Congress in order that our national action may be directed toward the peace of the world, and to pledge their personal support together with all necessary sacrifices involved. As Christians we recognize that our greatest asset lies in the spiritual quality of life.

#### WHITHER NOW AMERICA?

Volumes are being written about the seriousness of the situation with which the world is confronted today. The Military of this country is in an all out campaign to dominate the total life of America.

There must be a Christian solution!

Southern Baptists along with millions of others of the various denominations have confirmed their faith in the Christian answer by going on record as being opposed to Universal Military Training.

While the Military beat the drums of war and call men to worship the power of the atom bomb it is an hour for Christians to call men to the God of All Power whose redeeming love can unite the world in brotherhood and peace.

#### WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO STEM THIS TIDE?

The latest figures released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation show that in 1946 there were 1,685,203 major crimes committed in the United States. In 1947 the number increased to 1,725,110. Every 18.6 seconds in 1947 there was a major crime committed; they were as follows:

##### Crimes Against the Person

	Offences each hour	Offences each day	TOTAL
Aggravated Assault.....	8.5	250	74,690
Rape.....	2.0	47	17,180
Murder.....	.8	21	7,760
Negligent Manslaughter.....	.7	16	5,770

##### Crimes Against Property

	Offences each hour	Offences each day	TOTAL
Larceny.....	107.7	2,585	943,430
Burglary.....	42.6	1,023	373,450
Auto Theft.....	21.1	506	184,730
Robbery.....	6.6	159	58,100

Every five minutes of 1947 there was a murder, assault, rape or manslaughter. At this rate during the lifetime of the average American approximately 450,000 murders will be committed.

Comparing the record for 1947 with pre-war average (1938-41) urban crime showed the following increase:

Murder.....	15.4% increase
Robbery.....	15.3% increase
Rape.....	48.3% increase
Aggravated Assault.....	59.5% increase

#### THE NEEDS OF YOUTH—A CHURCH'S ANSWER

In an attempt to meet the ever-growing needs of our youth, the First Baptist Church of Canton, Mississippi, under the leadership of its pastor, Dr. John W. Landrum, has instituted a "Hobby Shop" as a part of its regular program.

Conceived by the pastor during his service as a Chaplain in the U. S. Navy, the Hobby Shop program was discussed pro and con by the Brotherhood, and a committee to investigate its potentialities was appointed. This committee brought a positive recommendation to the Church and, under the direction of a committee of three, the Hobby Shop was instituted in late spring of 1947.

Because of inadequate space a plan was worked out whereby the Intermediate Department, housed in a building adjoining the Church, has been utilized for storage room and work space. Folding tables are used which have detachable legs and consequently waste no space during the regular Sunday school meetings of the Department.

At the present time hobbies, such as leatherwork, woodwork, and printing are being fostered. As the needs arise others will be added, such as plastics, painting, and other projects.

Under the volunteer supervision of the men and women of the church this program, tied in with a more progressive recreation program, will bind the youth to the church as well as the adults who assist in the program.

With a number of power woodworking tools, leather tools, and an aggressive program under consecrated leadership, First Baptist Church has launched out in one of the finest movements possible to help meet the needs of its youth. This work will be watched with interest as it progresses.

#### TOLERANCE—A QUIZ

An individual answering to each of the following descriptions would have been unwelcome at a restricted American hotel. Name him and tell why.

1. A viceroy of India.
2. A famous French novelist.
3. A prime minister of England.
4. One of America's outstanding scientists.
5. A chief financial supporter of a great American fight for freedom.
6. The only five men who got to the North Pole with Peary. (Answers on last page).

#### GENERAL CLAIMS INDIVIDUAL'S LIFE UNIMPORTANT

General Jonathan Wainwright made an appeal for U. M. T. at Drury College in Springfield, Missouri on February 5 where he received an honorary degree. Afterwards at a dinner of the Military Order of the World Wars he assailed educators who believe that "a one-year disruption of a young man's education (for U. M. T.) is a terrible thing."

"Such d—d twaddle" he termed the educators' convictions. He also stated, "Compared with the life of the nation the life of the individual is nothing."

General Wainwright's speech was reported in the New York Times of February 7, 1948.

The editor of a little weekly newspaper in a Nevada town was hard up one week for matter with which to fill his columns, so he had his compositor set up the Ten Commandments, and ran them without making any editorial comment. Three days after the paper was published he received a letter saying:

"Cancel my subscription. You're getting too personal."

**SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

PAUL R. WILLIAMS, noted Negro architect of Los Angeles, has been employed by the local Board of Supervisors to design a new three million dollar psychopathic hospital to be erected by Los Angeles County. Supervisor L. J. Roach, who nominated Williams for the job, said of his selection:

"Regardless of race, color or creed, I was motivated entirely by the desire to obtain the best available talent for this building. . . I am confident that Mr. Williams' outstanding ability will prove to be of inestimable value to us."

DR. JEROME S. PETERSON—Negro physician of Brooklyn, head of the Red Hook-Gowanus Health District of that city and assistant professor of preventive medicine and community health at Long Island College of Medicine accepted a post with the United Nations health group in China, and left for Shanghai during September. This is his second trip to China, the first in 1946, was for ten months as the principal medical officer with an UNRRA unit, on which assignment he experimented with a sulfa derivative in the treatment of cholera.

DR. PERCY L. JULIAN—one of the nation's leading industrial chemists, was awarded the Spingarn Medal for his "brilliant contributions in the field of chemical research." The award is presented annually by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for distinguished achievement by an American Negro. Dr. Julian is the thirty-second recipient. The announcement of the award credited Dr. Julian with "the saving of thousands of American seamen and airmen during World War II as a result of his development of a new soya protein which formed the basis for the Navy's sensational aero-foams."

Nothing did more to save the lives of American soldiers during the last war than blood plasma. And the man who solved the problem of preserving blood plasma was a Negro scientist named Dr. Charles R. Drew.

**WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING IN RACE RELATIONS****Methodists**

Representing 200,000 women of the Southwest enrolled in societies of Christian Service, 300 Southern Methodist women delegates in annual session at Lake Junaluska, N. C., during July 1947 expressed strong disapproval of racial discrimination and pledged themselves to work for its elimination. Included is their pledge to "vote for no candidate who makes the question of race an issue in the campaign." . . . Also "to work to the end that the climate of public opinion in our South may be such that if anything occurs between the members of the two races, law and order and

justice may take its course without disturbing the peace and harmony of the community."

**Catholics**

Some 300 Negro Catholic students were admitted to one of the South's finest educational plants this fall when the new \$400,000 high school at the city of St. Jude, Alabama, opened, built solely by the faith and hard work of 64-year-old Father Harold Purcell, of Montgomery. . . When Father Purcell came to Montgomery in 1934 there was no school for Negro Catholics. . . The new building equals any school in the South, with 22 class-rooms, a theatre for visual instruction, and a cafeteria. A faculty of 11 nuns, five priests and seven Negro lay teachers were present at the opening. Montgomery has no Negro library. The new school has one.—*Interracial News Service.*

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE AMERICAN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY**

The 1948 advertising campaign of the liquor dealers is under way. They will promote the idea that beer is an asset to every home. McColl's magazine, with a circulation of 3,000,000, is the latest addition to the publications carrying the Brewer Foundation ads. They have had a policy in the past of accepting no beer or liquor advertisements. The brewers have succeeded in opening the doors of McColl's for their propaganda. McColl's carries many pages of food advertisements. The majority of its readers are located in small towns and rural districts. The people living in the rural districts have been more temperate than those living in the larger cities. The brewers' advertisements will tie in beer and ale with food, promoting the idea that beer is part of the regular diet of the American people.

Another alarming fact is that McColl's readers are women. It is the women of America who are doing most of the shopping for the home. The brewers are going to do their level best to sell the idea to the women that their purchases are not complete without beer. LIFE, LOOK, COLLIERS, UNITED STATES NEWS, and the WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION will also carry advertisements depicting home scenes in which beer plays an important part.

It is about time that the American people are arising in protest. Coming issues of the Temperance Bulletin will expose the evil effects of liquor upon the home, juvenile delinquency, traffic and crime. It is the purpose of this Bulletin to assist in making the issue plain and in developing a public opinion against the liquor traffic. Now is the time to sow the seeds and prepare the American people for the great issues before us. (The Bulletin can be obtained by writing to American Temperance Society 6840 Eastern Ave., Washington 12, D. C.)

**DO YOU KNOW THAT?**

1. Three years after the war there are still some 850,000 people in Europe who live in detention camps.

2. These men, women and children are the displaced persons—the survivors of Nazi concentration camps and of slave labor battalions. They are fugitives from all forms of religious and political persecution and victims of barbarism and Nazi terror.

3. They represent almost all religions. Some 80 per cent are Christians of various denominations; 20 per cent are Jews.

5. More than 50% of the displaced persons are women and children. There are 150,000 children below the age of 17. Of these 70,000 are estimated to be under six years of age.

5. The bulk of the displaced persons are self-supporting. There are some 90,000 agricultural workers among them; some 21,000 are construction workers; some 22,000 are domestics; about 32,000 are professionals; hundreds of others are artisans.

6. In his State of the Union message, delivered before Congress on January 6, 1947, President Harry S. Truman said:

" . . . I do not think that the United States has done its part. Only about 5,000 of them have entered this country since May, 1946. . . definite assistance in the form of new legislation is needed. I urge the Congress to turn its attention to this world problem in an effort to find ways whereby we can fulfill our responsibilities to these thousands of homeless and suffering refugees of all faiths."

7. You can join or form a Citizens Committee on Displaced Persons in your community. You can inform your Congressman that you are in favor of H. R. 2910, emergency legislation, which would permit the United States to admit 100,000 displaced persons annually during a four-year temporary period.

**RIDGECREST CONFERENCE**

August 24, 25, 26

The Social Service Commission will have its third annual Conference at Ridgecrest August 24-26. The theme this year will be "Christian Citizenship." Dr. Rollin S. Burhans, pastor of the Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., will give the keynote address on Tuesday August 24.

**WHERE ARE WE GOING**

Time Magazine recently pointed out that the Board of Education of New York City voted unanimously to add a new evening course to its high school curriculum—the subject, "How to Brew Beer."

According to a Twentieth Century Fund report, 35 per cent of all dwelling units in urban areas in the United States were substandard in 1940.

## INDUSTRIAL PEACE

By Clarence Francis, Chairman,  
General Foods Corporation

"To me the ideal in industrial peace would be—not 15 million—not 30 million—but 60 million Americans working together in well-planned and understood human relationship. Think what that would mean in terms of national unity, production, and prosperity. When we consider such a goal, we are necessarily compelled to adopt the broadest possible outlook in our quest for total industrial peace.

"For this reason, I beg to be excused from dwelling at length on the Taft-Hartley Act, the Wagner Act, or any of their legislative predecessors. I do not mean to discount the importance of labor legislation. But, conceding its importance, we must grant that it is but one of a number of trees in a very large forest. The rules of the Marquis of Queensberry have their application but they will hardly suffice as a philosophy of life.

"In other words, you can legislate the conditions under which management and labor can quarrel. You can legislate the conditions under which management and labor can maintain an armed truce. You can even legislate the conditions under which management and labor can enjoy a negative sort of peace without fighting at all. But you cannot legislate harmony into the hearts of men.

"To attain positive industrial peace, we need something more than by-laws and compulsory rules. We need productive teamwork. We need men working willingly together toward known goals. We need, in short, workers who are informed, who enjoy a sense of security, who are given a feeling of individual dignity, who are properly and fairly paid, who are given non-financial incentives.

## "INFORMATION PLEASE"

Questions and Answers Concerning  
Negro Americans

Compiled by R. B. Eleazer

QUESTION: The Bible says, we have heard, that God cursed Ham, turned him black and condemned his descendants to perpetual servitude. Is that true?

ANSWER: No, it is wholly false. Read the story for yourself in Genesis 9. You will see that it was not God, but Noah, just recovering from his drunken spree, who promised that curse; that it was directed at Ham's innocent son, Canaan; that nobody was turned black; and that apparently the curse had no permanent significance whatsoever.

Does science agree with the Bible that all the human race came from one original stock?

Yes, however much they may debate the method of creation they are in agreement as to a common origin.

If that be true, how do we explain the obvious differences between the different races?

These differences, it is agreed, came about from three causes: (a) The influence of diverse environment, as to soil, climate, food supply, and other physical conditions; (b) Biological mutations, or the unexplained appearance from time to time of new physical characteristics which start permanent new types; (c) The law of natural selection and survival of the fit, which means that nature selects for survival in any situation those best fitted to survive. In a tropical climate, this of course would be those who had the most pigment in their skins. So through the centuries, in such a climate there would be a steady selection and survival of the darker types and a steady disappearance of the lighter. This would lead at last to the development of a permanent dark race.

How shall we account for the backwardness of the Negro in Africa?

Again the answer is environment—an exhausting climate that depletes vitality and makes it necessary to go slow, tropical diseases, and lack of contact with the rest of the world.

But did the Africans, in spite of their handicaps, make some appreciable progress?

Yes, a great deal. It is said that they were the first to melt iron and make instruments of beauty and usefulness; they were very skillful in the handicrafts—weaving, carving, and the like; they developed a remarkable gift for music and dancing; they had a rich store of folk-lore and homely wisdom. Many of the Uncle Remus stories that delight our children were brought straight from Africa, where they had been told for centuries in terms of the animals of that country.

## THE PROBLEM OF ONE WORLD

"In this day of nuclear energy and rocket projectiles the whole human race is involved in a struggle for survival. Each one of us a part of that struggle; the gist of the problem is individual. It is the problem of being able to live with one another in the basic relationships of life; as husbands and wives, parents and children, employers and employees, white men and Negroes, Protestants, Catholics and Jews. Every unfair discrimination a white man practices against a Negro in our community relationships; every nasty slur voiced by a Christian against a Jew; every expression of contempt against a whole nation; every act of discourtesy or prejudice makes less possible the solution of mankind's gigantic problem."—Luther W. Youngdahl, Governor of Minnesota.

## STERILITY IN MARRIAGE

More than a million married couples in the United States are permanently childless against their will. At least one-third of these could be rendered fertile by modern methods of treatment. Possibilities are discussed in a book, *Diagnosis in Sterility*, which prints the proceedings of a conference sponsored by the National Committee on Maternal Health. (Pp. 238, price \$5.50 from Charles C. Thomas, publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1946). While the volume is entirely technical, the outsider can get from it an idea of the present state of expert opinion.

In most marriages there is no single cause of sterility. Two or more causes are noted in the average case and "causal live or contributory factors occurred simultaneously in husband and wife in 28%" of a series studied by William H. Cary. Treatment in any case therefore involves study of both husband and wife. (Another less technical volume, *Facts for Childless Couples*, E. C. Hamblen, M. D., can be obtained from the same press).

## Forecast

PROBABILITY of one divorce for each two marriages, by the year 1957, is forecast in the current yearbook of the Encyclopedia Britannica, just out.

## WHO IS LABOR?

"You talk of labor on the floor of this House as though labor was composed of villains, thieves and cut-throats. Who is this labor you talk about? Sixty-eight million American men and women—your neighbors, your friends, the people who live next door to you, the man who lives upstairs, the people who pay 80% of the taxes of the United States, the people who supplied 75% of the armed forces in time of war, the people who built this great country and who have contributed their time and money and their blood in every important moment of its existence, the people who today merely ask to be treated as Americans and seek a continuation of the guarantees of the Constitution and of the Bill of Rights."—Representative Donald O'Toole (N. Y.)

## Answers to Quiz

1. Lord Reading (Rufus Isaacs)—a Jew.
2. Alexander Dumas—part Negro.
3. Disraeli—A Jew.
4. George Washington Carver—a Negro.
5. Haym Salomon—A Jew.
6. Matt Henson (A Negro) and four Eskimos.

(And incidentally, that hotel manager would have had to refuse admission to the founders of the world's four great religions—Mohammad, Confucius, Buddha and Jesus Christ).