

# LIGHT

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## Here Are The Facts

### BEVERAGE ALCOHOL

#### CONSUMPTION STATISTICS

In 1950 a total of 2,888,029,068 gallons of alcoholic beverages were consumed by the American public according to the Alcohol Tax Unit of the Federal Treasury Department. This is an average per capita consumption of 19 1/3 gallons. The following table indicates the per capita consumption for 1950 in selected states, (figures are in gallons)

Alabama .....	5.19	Louisiana .....	16.67
Arizona .....	16.20	Maryland .....	26.82
Arkansas .....	5.94	Mississippi .....	4.60
California .....	18.35	Missouri .....	18.73
District of Columbia .....	28.20	New Mexico .....	13.77
Florida .....	16.52	North Carolina .....	5.31
Georgia .....	5.80	South Carolina .....	6.05
Illinois .....	25.21	Tennessee .....	9.24
Kansas .....	12.92	Texas .....	14.67
Kentucky .....	14.00	Virginia .....	12.19

Reliable estimates from carefully conducted surveys put the total number of people in America who use alcoholic beverages at 67,500,000. This is an increase of more than 25,000,000 since 1940.

In California the director of Public Health, Dr. W. L. Halverson, has pointed out that the cost to the state in caring for 72,000 chronic alcoholics amounts to \$280,000,000 each year. At the same time all taxes and income from licenses, etc., on liquor in the same period of time amounts to only \$27,255,720 or less than 1/10 of the total cost. Surveys in other states indicate a similar proportionate loss to the taxpayers.

A comparison of the rate and cost of alcoholism with Polio, Cancer and Tuberculosis reveals the following: (figures are from the National Foundations and the U. S. Public Health Service)

	Year	Number of Cases	Cost or Funds raised
Polio .....	1948	40,000	\$ 25,000,000
Cancer .....	1948	879,550	\$ 39,000,000
T. B. ....	1948	500,000	\$ 14,000,000
Alcoholics and Problem Drinkers .....	1950	6,500,000	\$12,000,000,000 (accepted conservative estimate)

Note: The cost of Polio, Cancer, Tuberculosis and Heart Disease (figures not given) make a total of less than one per cent of the estimated alcohol costs!

#### ALCOHOL AND CRIME

In a recent survey conducted by *Listen Magazine* 471 judges replied to a questionnaire to determine the in-

#### NOTICE TO ALL READERS

With this, the 36th issue of *LIGHT*, we regretfully give notice that the Social Service Commission can no longer send the bulletin to you without charge. Our mailing list has passed the 10,000 mark. To produce and mail the bulletin now consumes more than 30% of our limited budget.

Beginning with January 1953 the publication of *LIGHT* will be on a bi-monthly basis. In addition to *LIGHT*, the Commission will publish two study books and a new series of tracts during 1953. It is hoped that additional books will follow in 1954 and thereafter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR 1953 PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIAL SERVICE COMMISSION WILL BE \$1.50. THIS WILL INCLUDE *LIGHT*, PLUS A SINGLE COPY OF EACH BOOK AND COPIES OF THE TRACTS TO BE PUBLISHED.

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#### COST OF ALCOHOL

Since repeal in 1933, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce, the total expenditure for legal alcoholic beverages totals \$110,000,000,000. This is more than \$150,000 a day for the past 2000 years.

The latest estimate of the number of alcoholics and problem drinkers in the United States puts the total between 6,500,000—7,000,000. Alcoholism is the cause of more than a billion man-hours of lost production in our vital industrial program according to Dr. E. H. Carleton, Medical Director of Inland Steel Company.

fluence of alcohol on civil and criminal cases. The following table indicates the average percentages as listed by 257 of the judges (214 did not give percentage figures).

Divorce .....	47.1%	Assault and Battery .....	47.9%
Statutory rape .....	35.8%	Manslaughter .....	44.3%
Rape .....	39.7%	Murder .....	40.25%
Larceny .....	29.3%	Armed Robbery .....	30.1%
Forgery .....	30.0%	Dependent Children .....	47.9%
Embezzlement .....	25.6%		

Taking these percentage estimates from 257 judges and applying them to figures released by the FBI in its **Uniform Crime Reports 1951** (Volume xxii, number 2) it will be found that, in addition to 264,267 arrests for liquor violations, driving while intoxicated and drunkenness, liquor was involved in approximately:

- 2,735 murders
- 6,669 cases of rape
- 15,679 robberies
- 37,668 assaults
- 327,635 thefts (except auto thefts)

In other words out of 1,882,160 crimes reported by the FBI in 1951, liquor probably was the cause of 1/3 of the total.

According to the Federal Security Agency Office of Vital Statistics there were 385,000 divorces in 1950. Applying the average percentage figure as given by the judges, there were at least 161,335 divorces granted in which liquor was a basic cause. 47.1% is a conservative figure. In the survey, 60 of the judges put their percentage estimate on divorces caused by liquor at 75% or above.

### ALCOHOL AND SAFETY

The National Safety Council's publication **Accident Facts 1950 Edition** lists the following facts for the year 1949:

- 91,000 deaths from all accidents.
- 9,500,000 non-fatal injuries from all accidents.
- \$7,500,000,000 total cost of accidents to the nation.
- 31,500 deaths resulted from motor vehicle accidents alone.
- 7,100,000 persons were injured in motor vehicle accidents during 1949.

The National Safety Council estimates that approximately 25% of the fatal traffic accidents involved alcohol.

Dr. S. R. Gerter, coroner of Cuyahoga County which includes all of metropolitan Cleveland, Ohio, has investigated tens of thousands of violent deaths as coroner. He concludes that alcohol is involved in more than 50% of all fatal traffic accidents.

According to the **Dallas Morning News** (July 28, 1949) "42% of all traffic fatalities in Texas involved a drunken driver."

Studies by a Special Committee of the California Medical Association (**California Medicine** Jan. 1950 Vol. 72 No. 1) conclude that inebriates account for 9% of the total of all fatal and non-fatal accidents. In 1949, using this estimate, 863,190 accidents of all kinds were caused by persons under the influence of alcohol.

### BOOTLEG LIQUOR

In Atlanta, Georgia (**Time** Nov. 5, 1951) 350 people were hospitalized, dozens were partially blinded, two lost all sight and thirty-seven died as a result of drinking bootleg whiskey that had been hastily made up and sold by a local bootlegger.

This incident focused attention on the ever-growing problem of bootlegging in the United States. In 1949 the U. S. Department of Internal Revenue reported the seizure of 8,008 illicit stills, 3,661,432 gallons of mash, 191,338 gallons of illicit whiskey, 35,288 gallons of tax-paid liquor and 1,596 automobiles and trucks used by bootleggers. In 1950\* the number of illicit stills increased to 10,206. However this does not give the total picture since the Department of Internal Revenue does not include the local and state seizures of illegal stills. In 1949 the complete total of seizures by Federal, State and local agents was 18,884 and in 1950 the number increased to 19,644.

According to Licensed Beverage Industries Inc., the spokesmen for the liquor industry, in a recent article (**New York Herald Tribune** August 19, 1951) there is more bootlegging today than at the peak of bootleg whiskey production in the prohibition era. The report goes on to claim that the illegal or bootleg traffic is producing 120,000 gallons more per day than the entire legal industry's daily output of 410,000 gallons. (1949 figures)

(Note: The reader will recall the oft-repeated pious and solemn promise of the liquor forces when they were campaigning for repeal that the one thing above all else that repeal would accomplish would be the complete elimination of bootlegging!)

## CHANGING PATTERNS OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

There is nothing of news in the statement that we are living in times of tremendous stress and strain. Internationally we are divided into the opposing camps of **communism** and **democracy**. Within our own country there are other marks of division. Economically we are divided into the ranks of capital and labor. Lines of race, religion, political affiliation, and national origin further divide, segregate, and intensify the already complex problems of human relations.

As Christians we should be both alert to and concerned about these vital problems. A major part of our responsibility as "peacemakers" is to promote understanding in human relations by demonstrating the better way of Christian love and service.

In this discussion we are concerning ourselves, not with the whole area of human relations, but with only one aspect—human relations in modern business. Here, we are face to face with the problems of economic group relationships as represented by management or capital on the one hand and labor on the other. It shall be our objective to find an answer to the question: "Can management and labor work together in ways to attain industrial peace?"

First, let us face the staggering realization that American industrial output is measured today in terms of hundreds of billions of dollars. Industrial expansion is going on all about us at breath-taking speed. This expansion is resulting in greater employment, higher per-capita income, and more leisure time for the American worker.

In 1850, an average of twenty-seven cents worth of goods and services were turned out in an hour's work. The average working time that year was twelve hours a day for six days a week. Today the average hourly output per man is more than five times as great and the work week has been reduced by almost one-half. We are also using nearly 100 times as much mechanical energy per man-hour of work.

We who live in the southern regions of our great nation are witnessing one of the greatest industrial developments of modern times. Agriculture, the keystone of southern economy until recent years, has been made to share its place in the sun with new and rapidly growing industries. In 1946 four of the five states which led the nation in industrial construction contracts were Georgia, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Factories, large and small, are becoming the core of industrial communities all over the South where once the open country and rolling fields were all that met the human eye.

This is the "new South," an industrial South, rich in raw materials, rich in hydro-electric power, and rich in human resources from which can be drawn an abundant labor supply.

### HUMAN FACTORS

These are some of the economic factors that measure our story of national success. But there are other factors, equally important, if not more so. They are the human factors, the men with the wealth to provide the factories and the men with the skill to operate them. Full production, as we know it today, is by no means an accidental development of economic and technological forces. It is also to a great extent the result of the improvement of human relations.

Production was first expended when men came together to pool their capital resources and to unite into manufacturing associations. Such was the "organization" of capital. The next step forward came when laboring men and women united into voluntary associations for the purpose of dealing with management.

Organized labor in America is more than one hundred and fifty years old. Behind us in the past are long years of bitter struggles for economic justice as opposed to sweatshops, the lockout, blacklists, and the exploitation of women and child labor. Labor's only alternative to organization was serfdom. It has struggled for organization, for its rights and for human benefits because it did not want that serfdom. In this process of organization, labor has developed with management a new technique called collective bargaining. It is an indispensable technique in the development of modern business and our industrial strength.

### COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Through the processes of collective bargaining, contracts and agreements are reached. Labor unions are demonstrating more and more that they are responsible organizations in carrying out their contracts. However, many people in the general public have the feeling that labor is not at all reliable or that labor is always on strike in violation of its contracts. But this is not a true concept. It is a fact that when management and labor are in periods of strife and of differences which result in strikes and work stoppages, the press and radio give much space and time to the struggle. However, on the other hand, when negotiations are conducted without strife, notice is usually not given at all.

For example, in 1946, when there were more strikes and work stoppages than in any recent year, more than 200,000 contracts were negotiated between management and labor. Less than five per cent of these resulted in strikes. In other words more than ninety-five per cent of the contracts were settled to the mutual satisfaction of both groups without trouble.

In a number of recent studies and reports from large corporations, independent research groups are pointing to the co-operative achievements of industrial peace between management and labor. The National Planning Association, composed of leaders from the ranks of both management and labor, is currently making a series of studies on the "Causes of Industrial Peace." When completed it will be a detailed report on the labor relations of fifteen large corporations in America.

The results of these studies are making clear the following propositions:

- (1) Company profit and good industrial relations are essential to each other;
- (2) Industrial organizations are social as well as economic and technological structures. The welfare of a company and its employees are inseparable;
- (3) A worker is an individual as well as a union-

member and employee. His dignity, recognition, and job-satisfaction are vital to high productivity.

- (4) These values of employer and employee must be mutually communicated, understood, and observed. Industrial relations programs incorporating these principles are working. They have provided, a basis for co-operation, in concerns which have established them, that has increased production, profit per unit produced, and the material and spiritual well-being of their employees.

In their relationships both management and labor have come to realize that there are certain fundamentals of human nature which cannot be ignored if human relations are to be creative and peaceable.

First is the essential dignity of man. Every man has certain basic human rights which must be respected. Such dignity demands self-expression, an opportunity to advance, and a sense that one has attained a point of usefulness in life.

Second, man must have the esteem and respect of others. More than anything else he wants to be recognized as a person and to possess the confidence that he will be treated like a human being in all relationships.

Third, man yearns for survival. Food, clothing, housing, and other essentials are rightly his. He wants to know that he has access to them.

Finally, man reaches out for security. It is not sufficient that he have bread for today, but that there also be bread for tomorrow. He needs to have the confidence that he will be able to face illness, possible disability, and, ultimately, old age with financial security.

### CHALLENGE TO CHRISTIANS

As we face this vast field of human relations, we are made to realize that, as Christians, we have a tremendous challenge. Our churches and denominational schools must continue to produce men and women of character and integrity who will take with them the ideals of the Christian life into their economic professions, whether they become leaders in the ranks of labor or whether they take their places behind the desks of management.

All of us, through a serious and unprejudiced study of the problem, need to bring ourselves to a thorough understanding of all that is involved in the human relations of industry. The implications are of tremendous significance for both Christianity and our democratic way of life.

## CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY AND THE AGED

Throughout the 19th Century and well into the 20th the American population was young. The birth rate, though declining somewhat, was high, and immigration was bringing large numbers of children and young adults into the population. In 1850, average life expectancy at birth was 40 years and by 1900 it had increased to only 47 years. When the present century opened almost one in every two persons (44 per cent) was under 20 years of age.

At that time, the United States was essentially rural and rural families tended to be self-sufficient producing units in which the aged could serve important functions. There were, in any event, few of them; only 1 in 38 in 1850 and 1 in 25 in the population of 1900 had attained the age of 65 years. When problems of care for incapacitated elderly people arose, there were usually enough children and other relatives nearby who could assume the responsibility.

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Today there are more than 11,000,000 persons who have passed the age of 65. By 1980 one-half of the population of America will be over 45 and 10 to 15 per cent will be over 65. We are rapidly becoming a nation of older people.

Look for a moment at today's aging population. Of the more than 11 million over age sixty-five, 4,000,000 are heads of families, another 4,000,000 are members of families but more than 2,500,000 live alone. Some 3,500,000 have no income of their own; 4,500,000 have less than \$1,000 a year and 1,500,000 have an annual income of \$2,000 or less. Although some have economic security there are nearly 8,000,000 with either no income or only a meager subsistence.

With this current trend toward a population in America made up of more and more aged persons, there have not been proportionate increases in facilities for caring for them.

Old age assistance in the form of a government pension is not enough. These people need the security of a home; a place where they are wanted, where they can feel that they "belong." Too often these unfortunate souls are herded into mental hospitals to spend the remaining years of their lives in an abnormal environment when otherwise they might have led a perfectly normal existence.

Religious denominations are beginning to become aroused over this problem of human need just as they have about homes for children, hospitals, etc.

What are Southern Baptists doing about the aged? Here are the results of a recent survey by the Social Service Commission.

Virginia Baptists operate a new home that provides care for 100 aged persons. About half the number pay for their maintenance, the others do not pay. The present building represents a capital investment of \$547,000. The cost per person is about \$50 a month.

The Baptists of Missouri operate a home for about 70 persons, all non-paying. The capital investment in the home at Ironton, Missouri, is \$500,000. The operating cost in this home is \$53.35 per month per person.

Baptists in the District of Columbia operate a home for aged ladies. There is a capacity of 28. Each "member of the family" pays \$750 upon admission. She is cared for then for the rest of her life. A \$350,000 endowment greatly helps in the operation costs of the home.

In North Carolina the Baptist State Convention now has a temporary home for the aged. A larger and more complete home is being planned for near the Medical Center of Wake Forest College in Winston-Salem. Thus it is expected that medical care will also be available in meeting the needs of the aging.

In Texas a plan is now being worked out for a home for the aged in connection with the Buckner Home.

Thus with a membership of more than 7,000,000, Southern Baptists officially operate homes that provide care for a little more than 200 aging people. All these homes are filled to their capacity. More space, more care is desperately needed. It is time that we give earnest consideration to this increasingly serious problem. What about the Old Folks? When we are there we will wish some one cared. We are that some one now to millions who need our help.

## POSITIVE STEPS TOWARD PEACE IN OUR TIME

Christians have their own divine commission to proclaim the kingdom of God and His righteousness at home and abroad. God is a God of judgment as well as of mercy. In His sight all nations, including our own, and all men, including ourselves, have left undone those things which they ought to have done and done those things which they ought not to have done. We are called to recognize the just condemnation of His judgment but if we turn to Him in repentance and faith we shall avail ourselves of His mercy. We are called to be steadfast in prayer for all the peoples of the world that they may learn the things that belong to their peace; for our nation and our government, that they may become willing to serve the purposes of God.

Powerful forces have pushed mankind to the brink of an awful abyss. The first and urgent task is to check these forces. Therefore, these are not suggestions for a long range program for building peace—these are immediate steps for the present. It is imperative that we take them lest we lose the basic democratic principles upon which our way of life rests.

Here, then, are ways in which each of us can work, ways that will unite us in a world of good-will.

### 1. Redouble our efforts to reconcile men with God.

To this basic task we must re-dedicate ourselves with renewed devotion. The peace of God is the only peace which will endure. It can come only when men know Him as a child lovingly knows its own father. Our resources in the realm of the spiritual, unlike the military and material resources of war, are limitless. It was not an atom bomb that made Saul of Tarsus into Paul, the flaming evangel for Christ; it was not bacteriological warfare that lifted the Roman Empire off its hinges, but it was the power of God working through the lives of those who prayed for spiritual resources to be channeled through their lives.

This is a time for prayer. Also it is a time for action. Men of goodwill must promptly lay hold of the means at hand to increase the margin of safety against war. This is a task in which every one can play a constructive part.

### 2. Do not tolerate any complacency about war.

Some of us may ourselves be complacent about war. If not, each of us knows some who are. So each one can do something to reduce the sum total of that complacency. We are witnessing today the shameful spectacle of men in national leadership who are pushing legislation which they know can only be obtained by frightening the American people. Others may feel that they are peculiarly qualified to exercise political leadership and that they can best ride into power on a wave of emotion. Those who influence public opinion may feel that sensationalism is needed to arouse and alert the American people. Those who do such things are following the doctrine that it is possible to get good by doing evil. The fact is that panic started for one purpose seldom stops until it has overshot the chosen mark.

### 3. Combat a mood of hysteria or blind hatred.

Each of us is aware of focal points of war hysteria and blind hatred. We know who are some of the individuals, groups, and publications that are spreading

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that mood. Each, by writing to political leaders or editors, can do something to stop the development of unreasoning mob emotion. Hitlerism was built both upon the myth of racial supremacy and the the rabid hatred of a minority people. We must avert the Hitlerian spirit in America.

#### 4. Reject fatalism about war.

Each of us knows some who think that war is inevitable and that it is better to get it over quickly so as to relieve the strain of waiting and to anticipate the Soviet development of atomic power. Each can do something to change that mood of fatalism and impatience.

#### 5. Oppose primary reliance on military strategy to meet Communist aggression.

Each of us has, or can have, influence with leaders in Congress or in the Administration or in political parties and can urge that they do not concentrate on military measures as though these alone would assure peace, but concern themselves also with economic, social, political and moral counter-measures against the threat of war.

In present conditions of international anarchy, where international law and international police power are lacking, national military strength is necessary, while we continually strive for the multilateral reduction and control of armaments through the United Nations. But the main defenses of what we treasure are to be found in non-military measures which will change the conditions favoring the spread of despotism. To provide those defenses is not the task for military advisers. Therefore, the American people, in conformity with the principle of democratic government, should not permit policy making to pass predominantly into the hands of those who think primarily in military terms, as is too much the case today.

#### 6. Press for positive programs which have immediate possibilities for peace and justice.

Each of us can use our voice and our vote in behalf of constructive measures by our government to increase the margin of safety from war, such as programs for recovery, for increased social welfare, for a covenant on human rights and for a greater support of the United Nations and its many approaches to a better world.

We belong to a free society, and we cherish for ourselves and for others freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of petition, and freedom to vote. It is such freedoms which are threatened and which we want more fully to achieve and to preserve. Most of us would fight rather than surrender them, even though they might well be lost by fighting. These freedoms can, we are confident, be preserved if they are now used in ways to avert the immediate danger of war. In a free society every citizen has a duty of action.

## RACE RELATIONS

"Race has become far more than a domestic issue. It has become the scales on which democracy is being weighed in a world that is being relentlessly forced to choose between ideologies. If democracy is to prove its case on the world's scene, there is need for more than words." Thus did Dr. C. S. Johnson, President of Fisk University, sum up the seriousness of the challenge before us today to do something constructive in the areas of human relations where the rights of minority groups are at stake.

Believing that there is need for more than words, changes have been and are taking place in the Southland among minority groups. Some of these changes are the result of court action, but many have been brought about through voluntary means. Voluntary changes have come about when responsible persons took it upon themselves to inform themselves and others of the facts in the case. Here are but a few of the changes that have taken place in the past few years.

1. Negro policemen have been employed in more than 85 cities throughout the thirteen states of the region. Including uniformed officers, plainclothes men and police women, the total is more than 400. Nothing but the highest praise is reported as to the good results that have come with the employment of Negro officers.

2. In at least 13 large cities of the South the facilities of public libraries have been opened to Negro citizens.

3. Five large cities in the South have now opened their public golf courses to all persons regardless of race or color.

4. Today, in 12 states throughout the South, Negroes are enrolled in state universities and colleges where ten years ago they would not have been permitted to attend. One survey made by the *New York Times* several years ago placed the number at 1500. That number has been far surpassed at present with one institution alone having enrolled nearly 1000 Negro students.

5. Denominational institutions have taken steps in the past two years to admit students regardless of race or color. Among them are the following Southern Baptist Seminaries: Golden Gate, Southwestern, New Orleans, and Louisville. The W.M.U. Training School, Grand Canyon College, Wayland College and the Mississippi Baptist Hospital Nurses Training School also have joined the ranks of Baptist institutions with no policy of discriminations.

6. The integration of Chinese students into the public schools of the Mississippi Delta section has now been completed. When the Chinese first came to Mississippi their children were segregated in the Negro schools. It was primarily the result of the efforts of local Baptist churches to reach these people for Christ that brought about the changes. First the Chinese were received into the churches, then the public schools began to integrate them.

7. There are a number of bi-racial churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. These would include churches in whose membership there are Japanese, Chinese, Mexicans, Indians and Negroes. One church in a border state of the South has a Negro pastor serving part-time. In each of these instances it should be pointed out that whatever steps were taken by the churches were made on the basis of their Christian convictions and ethical concerns in a local situation.

8. Throughout the South there has been a rapid increase in the number of non-white voters. One estimate has been made that there will be 2,000,000 people eligible to vote in the 1952 general election who could not have voted a decade ago because of racial barriers. Not only has the right to vote been recognized, but during the past several years the names of many Negroes have been entered on the ballots for public office. In a number of instances these have been elected. In North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee Negro candidates have been elected to city councils, in other states they have been elected or appointed to school boards, housing commissions, and other positions. Service on juries is becoming a common experience for the Negro of the South.

This list could be extended. Changes are taking place faster than they can be compiled. But with the

changing scene there are still many difficult problems to challenge Christians and others to do something rather than merely to pass a resolution.

One area of acute need is that of Negro theological education. Dr. E. A. McDowell, chairman of the Inter-Convention Committee on Negro Ministerial Education has pointed out that among Negro Baptists there is only one ministerial student for every 5,000 members as compared to one for every 1,000 white Southern Baptists. He further reminds us that there are not more than 120 Negro men with college degrees training for the Baptist ministry in the entire United States.

Thus while the general level of education for the Negro is being continually elevated, there is actually a decline in the education and training of Negro ministers. Unless something can be done to change this development, we are quite likely to see the Negro as he receives better educational advantages turn either to no church or to churches other than Baptist where the ministerial leadership has had the benefit of an adequate theological training.

## MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

The marriage rate in 1951 dipped to its lowest point since 1938 and the divorce rate to the lowest since 1941 according to provisional statistics released by the Public Health Service of the Federal Security Agency.

This may be accounted for by two possible reasons. One, the wave of post-war marriages following demobilization reduced the number of single persons of marrying age and, second, during the past few years the number of young people reaching marrying age has been relatively small because of the low birth rate during the business depression of the early 1930's.

Marriages in 1951 totaled 1,594,900. This was 72,300 fewer than in 1950. The number of divorces granted in 1951 totaled 371,000.

## MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES IN SELECTED STATES For the year 1951

	Marriages	Divorces
Ala. ....	21,581	8,766
Ariz. ....	20,198	4,240
Cal. ....	53,247	38,542
D. C. ....	10,029	1,363
Fla. ....	27,175	18,675
Ga. ....	47,795	9,514*
Ill. ....	87,876	23,716
Kansas ....	16,694	4,722
Ky. ....	27,734	8,100*
La. ....	25,360	5,400*
Md. ....	48,593	4,978
Miss. ....	56,973	4,918
Mo. ....	30,571	11,632
N. Mex. ....	22,013	2,942
N. C. ....	28,608	6,361*
Okla. ....	20,636	13,900*
S. C. ....	46,466	2,300*
Tenn. ....	20,776	7,262
Texas ....	88,685	37,400*
Va. ....	36,992	6,003

(\* Divorce figure for 1950 instead of 1951 which was not available.)

It should be pointed out that a mere compilation of divorce statistics does not tell the whole story of the dissolution of modern American family life. Other disruptive factors are at work. Desertion and mutually agreed-upon separation, according to reliable studies, account for more broken homes per year than divorce.

Any thinking person will readily recognize that the most serious tragedy of broken homes today is the effect which they have upon children. In one recent year it was computed that in the homes broken by divorce, there were 335,000 children directly involved.

Herein lies a tremendous challenge to ministers and teachers in our churches to stem the tide that would sweep away the very foundations of our nation. There is a crying need for education both in the home and in the church to prepare young people to assume the responsibilities of Christian home building.

*These are the facts . . . . They speak for themselves.*

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### LIGHT

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