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DECEMBER 21, 1944

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THE WITNESS EDITORS SEND THIS CHRISTMAS GREETING TO YOU ALL

SERVICES In Leading Churches

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE New YORK CITY Sundays: 8, 9, 11, Holy Communion; 10, Morning Prayer; 4, Evening Prayer; Sermons 11 and 4. Weekdays: 7:30, 8 (also 9:15 Holy Days, and 10, Wednesdays), Holy Communion; 9, Morning Prayer; 5, Evening Prayer (Suno). (Sung)

GRACE CHURCH, NEW YORK Broadway at 10th St.

Rev. Louis W. Pitt, D.D., Rector Daily: 12:30 except Mondays and Saturdays.

Sundays: 8 and 11 A.M. and 8 P.M. Thursdays and Holy Days: Holy Com-munion 11:45 A.M.

THE HEAVENLY REST, NEW YORK Fifth Avenue at 90th Street Rev. Henry Darlington, D.D.

Sundays: Holy Communion 8 and 10 A.M.; Morning Service and Sermon 11 A.M.

Thursdays and Holy Days: Holy Com-munion, 11 A.M.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH NEW YORK Park Avenue and 51st Street

Rev. Geo. Paull T. Sargent, D.D., Rector

8 A.M. Holy Communion 11 A.M. Morning Service and Sermon 4 P.M. Evensong. Special Music. Weekdays: Holy Communion daily at 8 A.M.; Thursdays and Saints' Days at 10:30 A.M.

The Church is open daily for prayer.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH

Madison Ave. at 71st St., New York

The Rev. H. W. B. Donegan, D.D., Rector

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion. 9:30 a.m. Church School. 11:00 a.m. Morning Service and Sermon. 4:30 p.m. Victory Service. Wed., 7:45 a.m., Thurs., 12 noon Holy Wed., 7:45 a. Communion.

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY 1317 G Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. Charles W. Sheerin, Rector

Sunday: 8 and 11 A.M.; 8 P.M. Daily: 12:05. Thursdays: 7:30 and 11 A.M.

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH, NEW YORK Fifth Avenue and 53rd Street Rev. Roelif H. Brooks, S. T. D. rector Sunday Services: 8, 11 A.M. and 4 P.M. Daily Services: 8:30 Holy Communion; 12:10 Noonday Services. Thursday: 11 Holy Communion.

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION Fifth Avenue and Tenth Street, New York The Rev. Donald B. Aldrich, D.D., Rector (On leave: Chaplains Corps, U. S. Navy) The Rev. Vincent L. Bennett

Associate Rector in Charge Sundays: 8 and 11 A.M. Daily: 8 Communion; 5:30 Vespers. Tuesday through Friday. This church is open day and night.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL Buffalo, New York Shelton Square The Very Rev. Edward R. Welles, M.A., Dean

Sunday Services: 8 and 11 A.M. Daily: 12:05 Noon—Holy Communion. Tuesday: 7:30 A.M.—Holy Communion. Wednesday 11 A.M.—Holy Communion.



For Christ and His Church

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DECEMBER 21, 1944 VOL. XXVIII No. 19

CLERGY NOTES

- AYERS, RICHARD F., is now the rector of Trinity Church, Santa Barbara, Calif. BAUDER, ERWIN H., rector of St. Peter's Brentwood, Pa., has accepted the rectorship of St. Peter's, Hazelton, Pa., effective Janu-
- ary 1. BRETTMANN, rector of St. Andrew's, Birmingham, Ala., has accepted the rector-ship of St. John's, Montgomery, Ala., effec-tive January 1. CLEVELAND, EDMUND J., rector of the Ascension, Fall River, Mass., for 22 years has resigned effective January I because of ill beelth.
- has resigned elective failury resigned elective failury resigned elective failury residually consistent of the church Army, was ordained dea-con of Dec. 20th by Bishop Stevens at St. Paul's Cathedral, Los Angeles. CROSBY, HUGH G. E., became the rector of St. Andrew's, Scotia, N. Y. on Decem-ber first

- of St. Andrew's, Scotia, N. Y. on Decem-ber first. DALEY, FRANCIS D., formerly rector of Trinity, Pine Bluff, Ark., is now the rector of Calvary, Hillerest, Delaware. D'AUBERT, ALVIN S., formerly assistant at Trinity, New Orleans, has accepted the rectorship of the Good Shepherd, Houston, Texas
- FAIRFIELD, LESLIE L., formerly in the diocese of Louisiana, is to take charge of Holy Trinity Cathedral, Havana, Cuba,
- January 1st. GALLAGHER, E. O., formerly of Canada, is now the vicar of St. Paul's, Globe, Ari-

- is now the vicar of St. Paul's, Globe, Arizona.
 HAYLOR, W. L. F., formerly in charge of Calvary, Burnt Hills, N. Y., is now the rector of St. Luke's, Mechanicville, N. Y., and St. George's, Clifton Park.
 HERTZLER, H. L., was recently ordained deacon at St. Stephen's, Providence, by Bishop Perry. He is a former minister of the Lutheran Church.
 LIESINGER, RUDOLPH O., on terminal leave from the army with a medical discharge expected because of wounds suffered in Africa, is serving as assistant at the Advent, Kenmore, N. Y.
 MANN, KENNETH W., in charge of St. Andrew's, Yonkers, N. Y., has accepted a position in the diocese of Los Angeles as head of youth work and religious education.
 MASON, OTIS L., is now in charge of St. James', Roxbury, Mass., with residence at 9 Akron Street.



SERVICES In Leading Churches

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAI Main and Church Sts., Hartford, Conn. The Very Rev. Arthur F. McKenny, Dean Sunday Services: 8, 9:30, 10:05, 11 A.M., P.M. 8

8 P.M. Weekdays: Holy Communion, Monday, Friday and Saturday 8 A.M. Holy Com-munion, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 A.M. Holy Communion, Wednesday, 7 and 11 A.M. Noonday Service, daily except Mon-day and Saturday, 12:25 P.M.

GETHSEMANE, MINNEAPOLIS 4th Ave. South at 9th St. The Reverend John S. Higgins, Rector Sundays: 8, 9 and 11 A.M. Wednesdays and Holy Days: 10:30 A.M. Thursdays: 7:30 A.M.

TRINITY CHURCH

Miami

Rev. G. Irvine Hiller, Rector Sunday Services 8, 9:30, 11 A.M.

TRINITY CATHEDRAL Military Park, Newark, N. J. The Very Rev. Arthur C. Lichtenberger,

Dean

Sundays 8:30, 11 and 4:30. Noon Day Services, 12:10, except Satur-

Adys. Holy Communion, 12 noon Wednesdays, Holy Days 11:15. The Cathedral is open daily for prayer.

EMMANUEL CHURCH

- 811 Cathedral Street, Baltimore The Rev. Ernest Victor Kennan, Rector

- The Rev. Ernest Victor Kennan, Rector SUNDAYS 8 A.M. Holy Communion. 11 A.M. Holy Communion. 11 A.M. Morning Prayer and Sermon. First Sunday in the month Holy Com-munion and Sermon. 8 P.M. Evensong and Sermon. Weekday Services Tuesday 7:30 A.M. Holy Communion. Wednesdays 10:00 A.M. Holy Com-munion.

munion.

Thursdays 12 Noon Holy Communion. Saints' Days and Holy Days 10:00 A.M. Holy Communion.

EMMANUEL CHURCH

15 Newberry Street, Boston (Near the Public Gardens)

. Phillips Endecott Osgood, D.D., L.H.D. Rev. Arthur Silver Payzant, M.A. Sunday Services: 8, 10:15, 11 A.M. and

A P.M. Class in "The Art of Living" Tuesdays at 11 A.M.

CHRIST CHURCH Nashville, Tennessee Rev. Peyton Randolph Williams 7:30 A.M.-Holy Communion. 9:30 and 11 A.M.-Church School. 11 A.M .- Morning Service and Sermon.

6 P.M.—Young People's Meetings. Thursdays and Saints' Days—Holy Com-munion 10 A.M.

GRACE CHURCH 105 Main Street, Orange, New Jersey Lane W. Barton, Rector

SUNDAYS 11 A.M.—Church School.

- 8 A.M .- Holy Communion.
- 11 A.M.—Morning Prayer and Sermon (Holy Communion first Sunday each month).
- 7 P.M.-Young People's Fellowship. THURSDAYS

9:30 A.M.-Holy Communion.

New York: eligious lea hurch to tal icial equal atement iss ission on th eoples of the hurches. T Negro Chur hurchmen." nents from nce, and de pport "the l of his c ation that r the comm ave in a l ward the ot ust be actu hurch for a ve of race ease to pro he fatherh rotherhood annot do thi ith themsel rea of rac reach and ospel." The staten Negro con ission on th oples consi Mays, pr ollege and esident of Channin arles H. W Stokes, and urchmen, i

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The WITNESS

DECEMBER 21, 1944

For Christ and His Church

Publication Office, 6140 Cottage Grove Avenue, Chicago 37, Ill.

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Christmas Message Is Militant On the Race Issue

Negro Religious Leaders Call for Racial Equality in Statement Issued By Council

By Religious News Service

New York:-More than 100 Negro religious leaders called upon the Church to take a militant stand for racial equality, in a Christmas statement issued here by the commission on the Church and minority peoples of the Federal Council of Churches. The statement, entitled "Negro Churchmen Speak to White Churchmen," stressed pronounce-ments from scripture, modern science, and democratic documents to support "the equality before God of all of his children, and the obligation that rests upon the children of the common father, God, to behave in a brotherly manner each toward the other. Either the Church must be actually and potentially a Church for all the people, irrespective of race and color or it should cease to proclaim the doctrine of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. If the Churches cannot do this, they should be honest with themselves, and say that in the area of race relations we cannot preach and practice the whole Gospel."

The statement was prepared by a Negro committee from the commission on the Church and minority peoples consisting of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, president of Morehouse College and newly-elected vicepresident of the Federal Council; Dr. Channing H. Tobias; Dr. Charles H. Wesley; and Miss Olivia P. Stokes, and signed by 106 Negro churchmen, including ten women, of 12 Protestant denominations.

Stressing that segregated churches "fall short of the requirements of the Christian ideal," the statement held that the Church "is obligated by its Christian charter to go further than hotels, theatres, government, restaurants, social clubs, and political parties. None of these claim in America to represent God on earth." The basic issue in "an open door church," the Negro leaders said, is not whether Negroes and other racial groups would pour into white churches in large numbers, or whether white people would crowd our Negro churches. Neither is the issue, they said, what advantages or disadvantages might accrue to the various races.

"When the Church presents the open door, we may still have what we call Negro and white churches and they may be separate churches; but not racially segregated churches."

The statement called upon ministers to "do more than urge Negroes, Jews, and other racial minorities to be patient. They must urge that all of us begin now, and continue after the war, to make changes that make for justice, democracy, and brotherhood. The time is ripe now to equalize educational and work opportunities; to administer justice in the courts; to give the ballot equally to all citizens, irrespective of race; to provide opportunities for all to live in a healthy environment; and to guarantee equal access to health and hospitalization. On elementary points of justice such as these, no minister can afford to straddle. Convinced of what the will of God is, he may find it necessary at times to move cautiously but never without courage and never without the conviction that the consequences of his actions are not wholly in the hands of man."

The statement cited the need of cultural understanding among peoples and an appreciation of group contributions, called for cooperation with organizations promoting and fostering equality, and urged efforts to bring the power of public opinion and civic pressure to bear upon inequalities.

VICE-PRESIDENT WALLACE PRAISES CHAPLAINS

Washington:-The spiritual needs of servicemen have been much more effectively met in this war than in the last, Vice-President Wallace told those attending a luncheon meeting of the general commission on army and navy chaplains. As a result of the work of chaplains, he said, fighting men will return with an "appreciation of what the world is all about and aware of the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God." Attending the luncheon was Bishop Sherrill of Massachusetts, vice-president of this agency which represents 31 Protestant Churches that have sent nearly 7,000 chaplains into the armed forces.



A XVI woodcut that is in the Metropolitan Museum

PEACE PROPOSALS ENDORSED

Buck Hill Falls, Pa.:-Study, support and improvement of the Dumbarton Oaks peace proposals was recommended to Methodist churches by the bishops of the Methodist Church, meeting here. Study of the proposals will be made a part of the crusade for a new world order which is extending into the 42,000 local Methodist churches. The chairman of the crusade committee is Bishop Oxnam of New York.

PRESIDING BISHOPS SENDS GREETINGS

New York :- Presiding Bishop Tucker has sent a special Christmas greeting to Japanese - American evacuees in Relocation centers. "May I again this year," his message reads, "send Christmas greetings to the Japanese in the various relocation centers. Christmas reminds us of the ancient promise of peace on earth to men of goodwill, through Him who was born on Christmas Day. My prayer is that this promise may soon be fulfilled for you. Praying that God's blessing may rest upon you all, and that He, through Christ, will give you that patience and that goodwill, the reward of which is a peace which passeth human understanding."

PLAN CHRISTMAS IN ALEUTIANS

Boston:—Chaplain Frederic Witner, stationed in the Aleutians, reports to the army and navy commission that his services continue to be well-attended, and that he has forwarded an offering amounting to \$32 to Bishop John B. Bentley of Alaska, for his discretionary fund. Chaplain Witner says his men asked that there be a midnight communion service at Christmas, "with carols and candlelight," and he is arranging a service in the hospital chapel.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF WORLD COUNCIL

New York: — The Rev. Douglas Horton. minister of the general council of the Congregational Christian Churches, was re-elected chairman of the American committee of the World Council of Churches at its annual meeting last week. Other officers and staff members were all re-elected. A budget of \$75,000 was adopted of which \$68,000 is for the work of the American committee and \$7,000 to the Faith and Order office which is headed by Episcopalian Floyd W. Tomkins.

SOUTH AMERICAN WORK CONTINUED

Cincinnati:—The Rev. Roy Ewing Vale of Indianapolis, national moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., speaking here at a dinner in his honor, stated that Protestants would not yield to "the demand of the Roman Catholic hierarchy that we shall withdraw from missionary work in South America." Meanwhile the board of missions of the Methodist Church

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announced that 70 of their missionaries were granted passports and permitted to travel during the past 12 months, with seven of them going to South American countries. Others went to India, Free China, Africa. The Church is now seeking more than 300 new missionaries, including agriculturists, business men, teachers, school workers, nurses, social service experts as well as clergymen. vocated the re-establishment of the choir school as a means of preserving the critical educational elements of Latin, Greek, music and religion. Bishops present were Bishop Sherrill of Mass.; Bishop Conkling of Chicago; Bishop Perry of Rhode Island; Bishop Dallas of New Hampshire and Bishop Loring of Maine. The day before two largely attended services were held, with Bishop Conkling preaching in



Madonna and Child enthroned with St. Sebastian and a Franciscan saint. This beautiful painting by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo is in the Metropolitan Museum in New York

WORLD COUNCIL HAS NEW SECRETARY

London (By Wireless): The Rev. Oliver S. Tomkins, young vicar of Sheffield and a leader of the Christian student movement, has been appointed secretary of the British committee of the World Council of Churches to succeed the late Rev. William Paton.

CENTENNIAL DINNER FOR ADVENT

Boston:—More than 700 persons, including five bishops and a governor, were present at the dinner on December 4th that marked the 100th anniversary of the Church of the Advent. The principal address was given by Professor Edward K. Rand of Harvard, a member of the parish, who adthe morning and Bishop Sherrill in the evening. The Rev. Whitney Hale is the rector.

NEW HYMNAL HARD TO GET

New York:—Following a recent meeting of the directors of the Church Hymnal corporation, subsidiary of the Church Pension Fund, it was announced that the corporation has on hand orders for the 1940 Hymnal and Prayer Books which it is unable to fill because of the paper shortage. An appeal was made to the war production board for the use of additional paper, it was announced by Bradford B. Locke, executive vice-president, but "they did not feel justified, under present conditions, in making an exception in our case."

THE WITNESS — December 21, 1944

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How to Aid Returned Soldiers Offered By Committee

Fourth Province Offers Plan for Parishes In Ministering to Men Now and on Return

By J. Earl Gilbreath

Editor's Note: The author, rector of Trinity Church, Clarksville, Tenn., is chairman of a diocesan committee on the ministry to men in the armed forces. The detailed plan was so well received that leaders of the fourth province have urged its wide use. Space did not permit the printing of the entire plan so Mr. Gilbreath kindly offered to abstract it for us. The longer report however is available in a packet which he will gladly send to any desiring a copy.

The most effective work which will be done with returning service men is that which is being done now — before they return. The rector of one of our churches, in an informal meeting with the four men who had returned to that parish, asked: "What can we do to make sure that the returning veterans will know that they have a welcome and a place in the church?" The man who had seen service at Guadalcanal replied instantly: "If you keep up while we are away, you needn't worry about how we will feel toward the church when we get back."

The beauty of this phase of the church's ministry to men in the armed forces is that it is simple, easy — and is greatly appreciated.

1. There should be a parish committee for ministry to men in military service. This committee will plan the church's ministry for service men while they are away and after they return.

2. Army or navy Prayer Books and Church crosses should be sent to the men immediately after they enter the service.

3. The minister should write to the men at regular intervals. Where the list is so long as to make personal letters impossible, mimeographed letters will have to do. It is much better to send out mimeographed letters frequently than to send personal letters rarely.

At a recent vestry meeting in one of our parishes, the minister had a stack of letters ready for mailing, and asked the vestrymen to write personal messages in the margin. They did; and the men showed some surprise and a great deal of gratification. Generally these letters should be light and newsy. Enclose the last Church bulletin. They like to see familiar names. One soldier is reported to have exclaimed on reading a home parish bulletin three months old: "It is just swell to know that The Girls' Friendly Society met Friday afternoon at three o'clock with Mary Jones."

An occasional serious letter will give the minister food for thought. One parish letter asked the question: "Do you think the Church will have to change if it is going to hold the loyalty of returning men and is to do its proper work in the world?" A sergeant wrote back from the Papray for me that the first time they ask what the weather is going to be like, I'll be able to give the right answer." It is also a good idea to have someone make a copy of the parish service flag on a mimeograph sheet, write the names under the stars, and mail copies to the men whose names are on the flag.

5. Meetings of the minister, committee, and men who have already been discharged will be helpful.

6. The minister who gives pastoral care to the families of those in the service will be in position to deal with emergencies when they arise. This has particular bearing on the divorce problem. It is already evident that there are going to be a great number of divorces following the war. No one knows the answer, but by giving pastoral care to the families now, we are placed in a position where we can be of help to young people in their efforts to make adjustments later.

In the ministry of the church to men after they return, the major



Children stand in awe before Christmas Creches which they have had the joy of creating

cific area, "I don't think the Episcopal Church should change at all, but I think the Baptists ought to change a whole lot." Which, if it proves anything, proves that even the war doesn't change the Episcopal attitude very much. Generally, the men gave serious and thoughtful answers to these questions.

4. Have a picture of the church or of the altar put on a card, and mail the card to service men just prior to Christmas, with the notation, "Prayers will be said for you at this altar on Christmas Eve." The men take these things more seriously than we sometimes think. One man wrote back: "Parson, they have just made me weather observer; please part of the work will be with men who, except that they have matured, will be very much the same as we knew them before they left home for the armed forces. There will be misfits, the embittered, and the abnormal cases; but these will be the exception and not the rule. In their social and religious attitudes, they are at least as likely to be reactionary as they are to be radical. In answer to the question: "Should the church change?" the following is a typical answer: "No! The church will have to make no changes to hold the returning veterans. The changes are taking place in the future veteran that will hold

(Continued on page 6)

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For Christ and His Church

For Men and Women of the Armed Forces

Clip and mail with your letters

The Christmas season with its eternal message of peace on earth, goodwill toward men, singing of God and brotherly love, brought forth a statement from the commission on the Church and minority groups of the Federal Council. . . . Signed by more than 100 Negro religious leaders, it asked the Church to take a militant stand for racial equality. . . . "Either the Church must be actually and potentially a Church for all the people, irrespective of race and color or it should cease to proclaim the doctrine of the fatherhood of God and the brother-hood of man," the statement declared. ... The Church "must urge that all of us begin now, and continue after the war to make changes that make for justice, democracy, and brotherhood," it con-tinued.... On the same theme of brother-ly love, 1,326 prominent Americans, including 348 churchmen of all faiths, got together to sign an international bill of rights issued in New York by the Ameriration called for a guarantee for "every man, woman and child, of every race and creed in every country," the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happi-ness... the demand that no nation have the right to demand that no nation have the right to deprive its citizens of fundamental human rights . . . the recognition that persecution within any nation is "a matter of international concern" . a policy of "fair redress" for those who have suffered under the Hitler regime . . . a plan of repatriation. . . . And last of all the declaration asked for an international peace plan. . . In Cincinnati, a religion and labor fellowship was organized by John G. Ramsey, public relations director of United Steel Workers CIO of United Steel Workers, CIO. . . . Methodist Church women held a confer-ence in Buck Hill Falls, Pa. . . . They commended the Dumbarton Oaks proposals, urging Methodist women to register their convictions with the Senate. . . . They recommended that the principles of racial equality be recognized in the final draft. . . . Interfaith, interracial work shops for demobilization were endorsed, as well as church-labor unity, and continuance of the FEPC. . . . London informs us that rebel Lutheran state church in German-occupied Norway is under rigid police rule. . . . 30 of its ministers are in jail. . . . A statement issued by some of those still remaining declares, "Where Nazi-ordained pastors are forced on the congregation, people stay away from church". . . In New York, support of a new state FEPC was voiced by churchmen at public hearings conducted by state commission against discrimination. . . . In Mexico, long-smouldering anti-Protestantism broke loose in a statement issued by Catholic Bishop Luis M. Martinez, accusing Protestants of aiming to break down the Catholic religion through U. S. financing. . . . On the whole, it was re-ported, the response from Mexicans—even devoted Catholics—was unfavorable. . . . In Memphis, Tenn., CIO unions heard the Rev. Sam Howie speak.

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(Continued from page 5)

him to the church. Personally I think that the basis of our belief is so sound that no changes compatible with the truth can be made." Whatever you may think of that sort of answer, it is certainly not radical. Another man said: "If we waited until we got into a fox hole where there was neither altar nor priest before we found God, it was our own fault. The church was there for us all the time."

1. Upon the return of a man to the parish, the minister or a member of the parish committee should call on him, give him a welcome, and let him know that he is expected to take his proper place in the church. A letter from the vestry should be set up now so that it may be mailed out immediately upon the veteran's return.

2. Returning servicemen who have held positions in the church should agency set up for handling veterans' affairs. The minister or a member of the committee should be prepared to go with the inquiring man to that office. It is not enough to send him. Through the GI Bill vocational training is offered to veterans. A member of the committee should be prepared to counsel with returning men as to whether or not they should avail themselves of this offered benefit, and as to what type of training they should take.

4. There should be a member of the committee to help the men secure employment. Returning service men are often restless; employers become irritated because of this. A great service can be rendered by someone who will counsel patience on both sides.

5. We shall be called on to counsel with the men who return. We need this warning that the better part of giving counsel is often found



Holy Night, an opera, written by a member of the faculty, is being presented by the students of Margaret Hall, Versailles, Kentucky

be returned to those places. It might be advisable to form groups in the church composed of service men. Where churches have maintained lounges for soldiers, these might well be continued for returning service personnel.

3. The GI Bill of Rights sets forth the benefits veterans may expect to receive from the government. Ministers and members of the committee should have at least a general knowledge of this bill. Copies may be secured from the state defense council of each state. Summaries of the bill may also be obtained.

In each community there is an

in the ability to sit patiently and listen.

The minister and the committee will have to decide how far they can and should go in the matter of treatment of those who are suffering from shock or nervous disorder.

A point which needs to be stressed is this: While it is the business of the church to help interpret the GI Bill, to help find employment, etc., the main task of the church is, first and always, that of providing Christian fellowship and a spiritual background from which the men can work out these problems for themselves.

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WITNESS -

The Unbreakable Link

THE loveliness, sentiment and mystery with which the Christmas story is enshrined are like the gay and colorful wrappings that envelop our presents at this heart-warming season. But what's within? Is it something that will be of use to us or is it the product of the traditional gesture of fleeting good-will, idly tossed off because of an inward compulsion that something ought to be done to observe the season?

The severely utilitarian truth beneath the nativ-

ity narrative-a reality that we do not always like to face - is that henceforth there can be no separation between God and man. It hits us hard in two areas of life if we think it through. First in our relationship to the material things of life; they are not ours, they are God's, given to us only in temporary trust. Woe to the man who forgets this and thinks in his brief moment that his is the claim -from him shall be taken away. It is the violation of this incarnate demand that has caused the ills of man today.

Secondly comes a recognition of the potentialities of man. Reduced to its crudest demonstration we find its violation in the fascist philosophy of life. But let us not stop there; wherever there is an attempt at domination, be it of class or creed or color it is the same unabashed refusal to recognize the potentialities-divine in character-which inhere in the dominated.

The Christmas story, then, is one of stern implications. Fondle

it if we dare, sing sweetly over it-but neglect its lesson at our peril. God has come to claim the world and man for his own-and he will not be denied.

Sweet Smelling Christmas

IN THE account which St. John gives of Mary's anointing the feet of Jesus in the home of Lazarus we are told that "the house was filled with the odor of the ointment." Many of our most pleasant memories are associated with the sense

of smell. We recall the smell of the sea, the smell of new mown hay, and the smell of the country after the rain. What has all this to do with Christmas? Simply that there are smells typical of Christmas; the smell of rosemary, of the Christmas tree, of the oranges and apples about the tree, the smell of the pungent smoke from the crackling fire, and, of course, the smell of the roast goose and the plum pudding of the Christmas dinner.

We may not have the heart to celebrate this year the kind of a Christmas which makes possible this

array of delectable smells. That is why the story of Mary's anointing the feet of Jesus has relevance. For the oinment which Mary applied was redolent, not simply because it was precious spikenard, but because it was perfumed with her devotion and her gratitude and her love. It is not given to us to anoint the feet of Jesus, but it is given to us to make offerings to his afflicted and cold and hungry children. We have in mind the appeal for clothing for Russian children and the work done by Kimber Den for orphans in China; but these are only two of the many opportunities we have to bring comfort to Christ's needy children and genuine Christmas cheer to ourselves. At no time in the year have such works of mercy greater meaning and significance than at Christmas. These gifts to the cold and hungry and destitute are gifts to the Christ Child. And though we may not detect their odor through the sense of smell, we may be sure that they will be an offering of a

sweet smelling savour to the Saviour of men.

Divine Surprise

TO HAVE high expectations means that you anticipate spiritual surprises; you look for things to happen that are totally unpredictable; in a word you expect miracles. Yet the whole framework of our thought in this twentieth century has made it next to impossible to believe in miracles. The age of science has made us so accustomed to a universe governed by unchangeable laws that we

THE WITNESS - December 21, 1944

"QUOTES"

THE one factor which has leavened the cruelty of a pagan world has been the life of Christ. I care not whether you go back to the ancient paganism of Egypt and Assyria; of Greece and Rome; or study the reign of terror in France, you are forced to conclude that the natural man is cruel and has little sympathy with suffering. Christ came into a drab and desolate world with his personal message of "Glory to God and peace on earth" and wherever mankind has accepted Christ's standards they have been transformed by his marvelous personality. His severity toward human error caused him to be crucified but his love for human souls caused him to be adored by those who loved righteousness and hated iniquity. It was the personal Jesus who touched the needs of men so that in seeing him they saw the Father.

-Bishop Irving P. Johnson

almost automatically eliminate the unpredictable. Nevertheless despite all we know the element of the unpredictable in life is extraordinarily great. We must make room in our thinking for what an English writer has called "the inexhaustible originality of God."

On the first Christmas God came in the person of Jesus Christ to some humble Jews in Palestine. It is the divine surprise of it that the world has found hard to believe, and at the same time has never been able to disbelieve nor forget. So characteristic is the element of surprise in man's discovery of Jesus that most of the legends about the coming of Jesus, from his appearance to Mary in the garden when she mistook him for the gardener to the most recent stories of his coming in the guise of a modern refugee, portray his coming almost always in an unexpected and unpremediated form. He comes in the unexpected yet paradoxically he comes only to those who open the door of their hearts to him. We can not understand it, but he comes in the unexpected only to those who expect!

What a difference it would make if the world really looked for his coming! Indeed the hope for the future of civilization is that it should have this high hope for then only will the miracle of healing which our world so desperately needs be possible.

Isn't it true that we seldom really expect him? It is so easy to feel that this Christmas will not be particularly different from any other. We shall sing beautiful hymns and think lovely thoughts, but we don't really believe he will come to us. What a difference this Christmas may be if we really anticipate him. Then we will know the meaning of divine surprise.

The Miracle of Christmas

CHRISTMAS is a festival of universal appeal. Even people who never go to church send gifts, listen to carols, read Dickens's immortal story —if not the Gospels—and share "the Christmas



spirit." There are those who would like to explain this appeal by reference to ancient pagan customs, or anthropology, or the history of the world's religions. Christmas comes at the time of the winter solstice when the life of nature is reborn, and the unconquerable sun (Sol Invictus) renews his strength and

begins his northward march. That is why the Church chose December 25 for the birthday of Christ, the sun of righteousness, who rises, like the Egyptian deity "with healing in his wings." Very well—it may be so; for the Christian faith is the fulfilment of all men's yearnings for God and truth, not just the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies or Jewish hopes. But this explanation does not explain everything about Christmas, only the date. And the date is the least part of it! It explains other things—why the civil year begins on January 1; and also the Jewish festival of Hannukkah, perhaps—the relighting of the temple lamps after the persecution under Antiochus, with its yearly festival of lights (Enkainia, in Greek).

by Frederick C. Grant

Chairman of the Editorial Board

observed to this day; and so on. But the *spirit* of Christmas, that was something new, in the ancient world, and it is new still. It has never lost its freshness, indeed its novelty. It is still so novel that one wonders if it will really remain with us, and finally capture the hearts of all men.

For the spirit of Christmas is not the spirit of reviving nature; it is the spirit of God, of Christ, which is *above* nature, the true miraculous or supernatural. Apart from this spirit of inspired unselfishness and self-giving, man is a pretty poor exhibit—especially in this year of grace 1944. It is only this divine quality that lightens up the horror and darkness of a world at war. And unless this spirit triumphs, i.e. if it finally goes down to defeat, the rest of human history will be only the monotonous and loathsome annals of hell on earth. *That* is why all men respond to Christmas, why all men have a stake in Christmas.

INTO this sad and sombre universe a Child was born—that was the first miracle of Christmas; and in a sense every birth of a child repeats that miracle. Death, pain, rejection faced that Child death first of all at the hands of a jealous tyrant, and last of all by a blundering provincial governor afraid lest Caesar should remove him. It was into our *kind* of a world, in fact it was into this very world, that Christ came—a world someone has described as "this bitter-sweet universe." And we

THE WITNESS - December 21, 1944

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Christians believe that God's Act in the Incarnation was the beginning of a whole revolution in human nature and human history, the beginning of the final Act of God as the culmination of his work of Creation. That is what Christmas really means, religiously and theologically. As Christ was born into human nature, so we must be born, or reborn. in him, and be made partakers of his nature. "God became man," as St. Athanasius said, "in order that man might become divine." That glorious mystery lies at the heart of Christmas, and it is the hope not only of our own private salvation but of the whole social renovation and remotivation and regeneration of human life. So let us be glad that all men welcome Christmas; and let us urge them to come and share with us in celebrating the mystery. Christ the Lord is born! It is glad tidings for all the peoples on earth.

> Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace. Good will to men!

The Blind Innkeeper

THEODORE R. LUDLOW Suffragan Bishop of Newark

"HERE was no room for them in the inn." As you and I look back upon the event we are apt to think that the innkeeper must have been incredibly blind and stupid not to recognize some-



thing extraordinary in the Virgin's manner. Surely her fitness for her great mission must have shown in her face. How could he relegate her to a stable! He did so because he was preoccupied with the doing of a routine task in the accustomed way. He was not looking for people with an unusual bearing. He was

looking after people who applied to him for food and lodging.

Are we so different from the innkeeper? One suspects not. We are all overburdened with the routine of our lives just at present and are apt to perform them in a mechanical way. We are tired from strain and our nerves are taut. That is what makes us blind to human relationships that come to us in the line of routine. We prefer to put it on this basis rather than on the basis of deliberate intent, but routine blindness can have serious consequences just the same.

Because of the war there is much travel these

scattered. It is hard to maintain the old ties in the accustomed ways because surroundings are so different. These facts throw an added responsibility on every minister of God, whoever he is and wherever he is. The extra-ordinary has become the ordinary. Whether he ministers to the armed forces, to industrial centers or is privileged to remain in his own parish, he dare not maintain his usual routine without regard to the new faces around him.

Two incidents which have come to our knowledge illustrate the danger of following preconceived ways of life. A clergyman was invited to preach at the eleven o'clock service in a church in another state. He arrived by train in time for the service and was happy to find that it was the service of holy communion, although the parish bulletin called it mass. After the celebrant had communicated, the clergyman expected and was prepared to receive. He was surprised to have the celebrant face the congregation and then immediately face the altar again. Thinking that his kneeling position had not been visible to the celebrant, he arose and knelt at the top altar step. His movement caught the startled eye of the server who held a whispered consultation with the celebrant. The latter with a shade of annoyance on his face turned and communicated the visitor. After the service he was told that it was not the custom to receive at the second celebration in that parish. He wondered if there were any other strangers in the church that morning who might have asked why the Prayer Book had a rubric saying: "Sufficient opportunity shall be given to those present to communicate."

IN ANOTHER case, a man whose business compelled him to travel on Sunday arrived with his wife in a strange town on a Sunday morning. He inquired for the nearest Episcopal Church and was directed to it. The couple were glad to find that the service was to be the holy communion because they had made an agreement with their son in the armed forces that the family would partake at some altar every Sunday if it was physically possible to do so. The manner of conducting the service was not the one to which they were accustomed, but their rector had taught them that practices varied in different parishes and so they adjusted themselves to the local practice. When the celebrant turned to the congregation with the paten, they half rose but hesitated to go forward because no one else did or could have done so without an unseemly dash before the celebrant again turned to the altar. However they had been taught by their rector that while rites varied rights remained the same. So at the conclusion of the service they predays. Because of war industries families are sented themselves to the rector and asked to be

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communicated. He knowing their rights communicated them. But how many laymen know their rights or will stand upon them? And why should fellowship be broken so as to require private communication? Here is blind following of routine that is a constructive refusal of the feast of fellowship.

We have spoken of innkeepers and priests but the danger confronts each one of us. In the turmoil of our day it is a great temptation to draw a line around our way of life and exclude from it all different ways of life that insistently demand recognition. Or we can be so busy about routine that we miss the glorious reality of Christmas"God so loved the world that he gave." He loves the world and not our kind alone. "In these last days he has spoken unto us by his son, whom he has appointed heir of all things." "That was the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." The message of Christmas is universal and inclusive. If we would truly receive Christ into our hearts, we must live each day in his inclusive spirit—not the inclusiveness of condescension but the inclusiveness of common purpose and family relationships. Then there will be room for the extraordinary guest in the busy inn of our human life.

Little Town of Bethlehem

A T CHRISTMASTIDE the thoughts of the whole world turn to Bethlehem and meditate on the great event which will be ever associated with this small Judean town. A few fortunate American soldiers and WACs will be there this year in person to represent the millions at home who would dearly love to make a pilgrimage to the holy spot. Their voices will be heard, together with the Bethlehem bells, on a Christmas broadcast to America from the Holy Land. What is it that they will see in this ancient town nearly two thousand years after the nativity?

Bethlehem has been since the earliest Christian centuries a definitely Christian town, even when before Constantine most of the country was Jewish or pagan. So it remains today in a country largely Moslem and Jewish. Origen tells us that pilgrims were wont in the third century to venerate the place of the nativity. It was identified with a certain cave on the outskirts of the Davidic town. This may seem strange to us but in Palestine the many caves then as now are used for storage places, stables and even dwellings. It seems that it was such a grotto that served as a stable for the cattle of the village inn. What is surprising about the ungracious reception of the holy family is not that the inn was filled, but that their kinfolk, of whom the town was full, had no room for them. The normal hospitality of an eastern community was denied them. Probably it was because they had long lived away from the town in Galilee, and their arrival, when great crowds of former townsmen had gathered for the taxing, found even the usually hospitable houses of their relatives already occupied, and the small inn as well. Only the

by Charles T. Bridgeman Canon of St. George's Cathedral, Jerusalem, Palestine

stable was left but a stable snug and warm, sheltered from the chill winds and possibly rain of winter, and made yet warmer by the bodies of the animals quartered there.

Constantine the Great, traditionally at the behest of his mother Helena, caused a great basilican Church to be built over the spot, with the cave preserved under the apse at the east end. It formed a sort of natural crypt entered originally by a small flight of steps beginning at the chancel step. The great basilica had double rows of pillars, on either side, a high peaked roof of wood covered with tiles, and at the east end under the semicircular apse an altar standing free, with the bishop's throne behind it and the seats of the clergy on each side. The walls were covered with mosaics, and the floor was paved in mosaic patterns of the best floral and animal designs. Before the great door of the Church lay a great paved courtyard.

But the heart of the Church of St. Mary, as it is properly called, was the holy grotto, entered from the top of the nave. Here was a small rockwalled chamber, some ten feet wide and three times that in length. At the east end stood a small altar marking the place of the nativity, and a little to the right in a slight recess and depression, the place of the rock-hewn manger where the Holy Babe was laid. The great Christmas liturgy was probably begun then, as now, with a procession to the grotto, the reading of the gospel, and the singing of the Christmas hymns. Then while the liturgy was sung in the church above, another was sung by the bishop with a few assistants in the close candle-lit seclusion of the grotto.

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Today the grotto is the common property of

many Christians who in the centuries past secured the privilege of using it: the Greeks, the Latins and the Armenians own the grotto. Syrians, Copts and with them Abyssinians have the right to have services in one of the transepts of the basilica which is mainly the property of the Greeks. Along side the basilica are three great monastaries, the Greek Orthodox, the Franciscan and the Armenian, nestled close to the shrine, and supplying clergy and monks to keep up the daily round of many services in many rites.

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BETHLEHEM has three Christmases. This is due to an accident of the calendar. The Latins in the 16th century abandoned the old imperfect Julian calendar which was falling behind the real equinox. This has given us the date on which we



A view of St. George's Cathedral in the holy city of Jerusalem

in this country and in Europe celebrate as December 25th. But the Eastern Churches in Palestine still observe December 25th on a date now 13 days later, making it come on our January 7th. The Armenians have always kept to a very early eastern Christian custom of observing January 6th (of their calendar) as the nativity. This brings their Christmas yet another 12 days later, that is January 19th of our calendar. The result of this is that when we are observing Christmas only the Roman Catholics, Uniats, Anglicans and Protestants in the Holy Land are observing the feast. The Latins gather in the grotto for the midnight mass and at the same time in their more spacious monastic chapel dedicated to St. Katherine of Alexandria they have the more popularly attended Christmas mass. Earlier in the evening the Anglicans of the Holy Land, at the invitation of the Greek Orthodox, gather in the courtyard of the latter's monastery to sing well-loved English and American Christmas carols, and later make a pilgrimage to the grotto.

But the many other Christians of the Holy Land are still awaiting their Christmas day. For most of them it will come on January 7th, when the basilica will be jammed with a pious crowd, and Greeks, Syrians and Copts will be singing their liturgies in various parts of the building. The Armenians are lacking: they will come later, on January 19th, their January 6th, and will once again fill the Church with Christmas hymns while the Greeks are celebrating the Epiphany.

Winter has laid its chill hands on the Holy Land. Cold winds blow up from the Mediterranean. They may bring rain, but rarely snow so early in the year. If it is clear, the skies of Christmas Eve will be studied with a brilliant array of stars, which look down on a quaint oriental town of square built stone houses pressing closely upon the narrow paved streets. Through the winding lanes pass people from all over the world. Many of them will be in the uniforms of a score of allied countries, seeking a word of peace. Approaching the church from a road around the town will come

THE SANCTUARY-

conducted by W. M. Weber

For Self-Examination Advent 1944

... I found that to tell the truth is hardest thing on earth harder than fighting in a war, harder than taking part in a revolution. Indeed, I discovered that writing like that is a kind of war and revolution.

If you try it, you will find that at times sweat will break out upon you. You will find that even if you succeed in discounting the attitudes of others to you and your life, you must wrestle with yourself most of all, fight with yourself; for there will surge up in you a strong desire to alter facts, to dress up your feelings. You'll find that there are many things that you don't want to admit about yourself or others. As your record shapes itself up, an awed wonder haunts you. And yet there is no more exciting and adventure than trying to be honest in this way. The clean, strong feeling that sweeps you when you've done it, makes you know that . . . Well, it's quite inexplicable.

Sit down some rainy day and try it yourself!

-Richard Wright. New York Post, 30 November 1944. (describing the writing of *Black Boy*, and autobiography to be published in the spring.)

flashing lines of incongruous cars bringing more worshippers.

The courtyard of the church will be packed with a crowd of people pressing through the narrow doorway into the church for a visit to the grotto. Overhead the bells of the Latin convent will be ringing out at intervals from the high tower. Once within the basilica the vast shadowy building will seem all the larger for the few flickering candles and vigil lamps of the Greek altar, still plunged in the penitence of Advent. But down in the grotto, all is light and warmth. An unremitting stream of pilgrims descends at one doorway to the holy place, and goes out up the other stairway. Each pilgrim pauses for a moment to kneel before the two shrines. At one he gazes upon an historic silver star which announces that this is the place where Christ was born of the Virgin, and prays for the peace which the angels proclaimed. At the other he looks upon the manger, guarded by some Latin nuns, and reflects upon the utter humility with which God made known his great revelation.

Then upstairs again, back into the ancient church, from which he may seek out the Latin chapel for the pontifical mass, or turn back to Jerusalem where at Latin, Uniat or Anglican altars he will find Christmas being ushered in by a midnight service.

One may be certain of one thing. Our men and women of the services overseas will have but one thought in their minds as they visit the sacred spot: thought of home which is so intimately bound up with Christmas, and the wish that they could have with them their own loved ones to share the experience. We cannot unfortunately be there physically, but we can in spirit. As we gather before out thousands of altars, we, like they, shall be kneeling before the same incarnate God who knows no separation of time or space and holds us close to himself and to one another in his sacred body, the Church.



**THE NEW TESTAMENT OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST. Translated from the Vulgate by Ronald A. Knox. New York: Sheed and Ward, \$3.00.

Those who are used to thinking of Monsignor Knox as the *enfant terrible* of English ecclesiastical life, author of *Reunion All Round*, etc., will of course find him here in a different and completely serious role. Though the translation is from the

Vulgate, it is with constant attention to the Greek, so that other readings and renderings are frequently accepted; for example, the Lord's Prayer reads "daily bread," not "supersubstantial." "Thou" and "thy" are kept; otherwise the English is always lucid and modern, but dignified. No introductions are given to the several books; and while there are footnotes they are not unduly multiplied. Monsignor Knox finds it necessary to defend Roman Catholic doctrine at a number of points, but does not feel it necessary to Romanize all the language by using such locutions as "priest" for "presbyter." Certainly this is a work of careful and competent scholarship, done with taste and good sense. It is not as brilliant and independent as some other modern versions, but it can be commended to two sorts of people: those who would like to see an example of Roman Catholic biblical scholarship at its best, and those who wish a modern version but are not permitted by their ecclesiastical allegiance to use Moffatt and Goodspeed for devotional reading.

-S.E.J.

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**A-Z YOU WERE. By Chaplain Alva J. Brasted and Corporal Edgar Allen Jr. Morehouse-Gorham Company, New York. \$1.25.

G. I. Joe hears this sort of practical preaching every Sunday—if he hears the chaplain. If he doesn't, here it is, in short, snappy, pointed messages. As chaplains long ago learned, you preach on sin and righteousness to service men rather than on theology and churchmanship. That might be tried on civilians occasionally. The cartoons make the book, and will attract the most unlikely readers. The alleged poetry in the book is F-4. But from A to Z, here is a good book to send your service man—and you will read it first, too.

—C. G. H.

WHAT IS MEANT BY CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE by the Rev. Robert Hatch; Dept. of Social Service; Diocese of Massachusetts; 5c each or \$3 per 100.

Mr. Hatch has followed up his previous pamphlet, What Is Meant by Christian Burial, with another fine work which tells in specific detail just why a Christian marriage isn't simply any kind of marriage. Setting forth reverence as a power with which to coordinate marital life, he discusses briefly, but fully, many aspects of married life: finances, sexual harmony, parents and parents-inlaw, etc. It is a fine pamphlet to have on hand to give to those already married and those contemplating marriage.

—W. B. S. Jr.

page twelve

International Bill of Rights Urged By Churchmen

Want One to Serve as a Postwar Guarantee Of Religious and Individual Rights for All

Edited by W. B. Spofford

New York:—An international bill of rights to serve as a postwar guarantee of religious and individual rights for all persons throughout the world was urged in a statement issued here by the American Jewish Committee, and signed by 1,326 prominent Americans, including 348 churchmen of all faiths. Among the signers were 36 bishops of the Protestant Episcopal, Methodist, and Roman Catholic churches, and officials of a majority of Church denominations in the United States.

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The six points of the declaration called for:

1. An international bill of rights "to guarantee for every man, woman, and child, of every race and creed in every country, the fundamental rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

2. A world in which the rights of national sovereignty do not permit any nation to deprive those within its borders of fundamental human rights "on the claim that these are matters of internal concern."

3. A recognition of the fact that bigotry and persecution by a single nation "is a matter of international concern" because it eventually "throws upon the peace-loving nations the burden of relief and redress."

4. A policy of "fair redress" for those "who have suffered under the Hitler regime because of race, creed, or national origin."

5. A plan for repatriation, with their rights unaffected, for "those who have been driven" from their homes.

6. An international machinery whereby new homes will be found in other parts of the world for "those who wander the earth unable or unwilling to return to the scenes of unforgettable horror" from which they fled.

Urges Unity

Cambridge: — A strong plea for Church unity was made by the Rev. Victor S. B. Satthianadhan of Ceylon in a sermon at Christ Church here. He spoke particularly of the South India plan where Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Methodists and Anglicans are making sacrifices for the cause of union. Of the thirteen Anglican dioceses, nine have approved the plan; one was tied in the voting; another voted favorably but the bishop vetoed; two dioceses have not yet taken action. Mr. Satthianadhan has been studying in Toronto for three years under the plan of the Church missionary society of training nationals to replace foreign missionaries and expects to leave soon for Bombay.

Accepts Michigan

Detroit: — The Rev. Donald B. Aldrich, rector of the Ascension, New York, now a navy chaplain, has accepted election as bishop coad-



jutor of the diocese of M i c h i gan. The announcement was made on December 8 by Bishop Creight o n. He was elected last May statement that

but declined with the statement that he felt strongly that a chaplain's work claimed his sole allegiance. The diocese therefore went ahead with plans for an election at the regular convention in January, 1945, with a nominating committee prepared to offer the names of likely candidates. Recently however diocesan authorities received word from Dr. Aldrich that he realized a great change had occurred in the world situation since his declination and that he was more and more impressed with the importance of the Church's work since he has seen it in the Hawaiian Islands where he is at present stationed. He also stressed his awareness of the opportunities afforded by the strategic position of the diocese of Michigan, with its many industrial and social problems, and expressed a desire to reconsider his declination. In view of the fact that his declination had not yet been submitted to the diocesan convention, the standing committee, meeting as a council of advice with Bishop Creighton, held that they felt it entirely proper for the bishop to receive this reconsideration; the necessary steps were taken to accomplish this and Dr. Aldrich's formal acceptance was subsequently received.

As soon as word has been received of the discharge of Chaplain Aldrich from the navy, the Michigan standing committee will proceed with steps to receive confirmation by the bishops and standing committees looking toward his consecration. He was an incorporator of the Church Publishing Association for whom THE WITNESS is published and was a member of the editorial board until he went into the navy, at which time he became a contributing editor.

First Negro Parish

Omaha, Nebr.: - The Church of St. Philip the Deacon here is the first Negro parish west of the Mississippi, not St. Philip the Evangelist, Los Angeles, as we stated in a recent number. The Omaha parish was admitted as a parish in 1929 and it has been doing a splendid job, first under the rectorship of the Rev. G. A. Stams, now a rector in Evanston, Ill., and now under the Rev. S. G. Sanchez. Our correspondent reports that the morale of the parish is high; that the missionary pledge has been overpaid 300% and the budget for the year balanced. There is also a fine record of baptisms and confirmations.

Christmas Gift

★ Christmas Gift Subscription Cards are being inserted in THE WITNESS in the numbers before Christmas. We believe that many Christmas. readers will wish to give subscrip-tions to their friends. A single gift subscription is \$3 a year, with each additional gift subscription but \$2. We call attention to the fact that this is less than half the subscription price of any other national Church weekly. With each gift we will mail to the Recipient a Christian Christmas Card announcing the gift with your name as donor. The cards inserted in THE WITNESS have spaces for three names and addresses. If you wish to enter gift subscriptions for more than that number print the names and ad-dresses on a separate paper and number print the names and do dresses on a separate paper and mail in an envelope to our New York office, 135 Liberty Street, New York 6, N. Y. An Acceptable Gift to the Recipient: A Convenient Gift for the Donor. Kindly act promptly.

Support Seminaries

New York: - "There is nothing more important in view of the need for bringing the influence of the Christian Church to bear upon the postwar world than adequate training for the clergy who are to be the leaders in the years that lie ahead." said Presiding Bishop Tucker in a general letter commending theological education Sunday, which this year is to be observed on January 21. "All our seminaries must be better financed if they are to give the kind of training that is called for," Bishop Tucker continued. "In the past we have depended very largely upon the income from endowments to carry on our theological schools. Not only has the income from endowments decreased greatly, but it does seem to me that the present generation ought to take its proper part in the support of our seminaries. I hope therefore that on the coming theological education Sunday there will be a generous response to the appeal of the various seminaries for assistance."

Russian Church

Moscow (By Wireless): - More than 200 Orthodox churches have been opened in Russia during the past year, according to a statement here by Acting Patriarch Alexei. quoted in the Moscow News. In addition, many churches wrecked and looted during the German occupation have been restored. Com-menting on the forthcoming all-Russia Church council at which a new patriarch will be elected, Alexei said the meeting will also decide a number of import questions affecting Church administration and activities.

Aided Underground

Paris (By Wireless): - Pastor Chapal of Annecy, capital of the Haute-Savoie territory of France, described his pastoral work during the German occupation, saying that hunted men came to Annecy in increasing numbers, and that as many as 22 people found shelter in the pastor's house in a single night, knowing "they would get not only encouragement but practical aid towards reaching safety."

New Magazine

Moscow (By Wireless): - The newly-formed all-union council of Evangelical Christians and Baptists of the Soviet Union is planning to publish an official magazine after

nage fourteen

the war, Jacob Zhidkov, council chairman, disclosed here. Stressing the significance of the new all-union council, Zhidkov recalled that the first Evangelical parishes in Russia were established during the reign of Empress Catherine, but prior to 1917, parishioners were persecuted or discriminated against and frequently prevented from making contacts with each other. "Now," he commented, "we are able to unite 'he and worship freely."

Projects for Youth

Birmingham, Ala .: - Community projects for youth have been opened in two more parish houses in this state. Several nights a week the young people in the neighborhood of St. Andrew's, Birmingham, gather for dancing and games, while at St. John's, Decatur, a center has been opened called Tumble Inn. Both

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Old as Parish

Milwaukee: - Charles H. O'Neil was born in 1850 the year St. James' parish was established. Now at the age of 94 Mr. O'Neil is still an active member of the parish. Rector Clarence Lund writes that it is a great treat to call upon him and get him reminiscing about the many things that happened in the parish in early days, and in the city which is but a bit older.



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The parish in the past few years has added \$20,000 to the endowment fund and has a reserve of \$4,000 in the budget account. Recently a lively young people's organization was established with a membership of eighty.

Fair Employment

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New York: — Support of a new state fair employment practices commission was voiced by churchmen at public hearings conducted here by the state commission against discrimination. Among the speakers were George Haynes of the department of race relations of the Federal Council; Robert Searle of the New York federation of Churches; and J. H. Carpenter of the Brooklyn Church and missions federation.

Peace Proposals

Buch Hill Falls, Pa.: - Commendation of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals was expressed by the women's division of Christian service of the Methodist Church at its sessions here. The women described the security plan as "the most direct approach to peace so far," urging Methodist women everywhere to register their convictions with the Senate. They recommended that "in the final draft of the charter for collaboration of the United Nations the principle of racial equality be recognized," and that provision be made "for a Council or commission on international mandates for preparing dependent peoples for eventual selfgovernment." With a view to closer cooperation for constructive action between women in Church and labor, they recommended that a conference be held for the discussion of common interests. The conference endorsed interracial, interfaith workshops for demobilization, and registered opposition to the equal rights amendment. Continuance of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, extension of social security and unemployment benefits. were approved.

Service Center

London (By Wireless):—A constitution has been drawn up for the proposed Christian service center incorporated in the scheme for rebuilding Coventry Cathedral, it was announced by H. T. Howard, provost. Control of the center will be equally divided between the Church of England and the Free Churches, the governing body being a joint council of twelve Anglicans and twelve Free Churchmen.

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Lonesome Girls

Buffalo, N. Y.:--"To promote a better understanding of the needs of rooming house girls," the council of church women has called a meeting of rooming house operators with church and YWCA leaders here. The conference is preliminary to a Church program to combat loneliness among girl workers in war plants.

Books for Seamen

New York: — Presiding Bishop Tucker has again emphasized the need for books for men in the merchant marine. Mrs. Henry Howard, president of the American merchant marine library association, said, "Last week I talked with a seaman whose ship had been torpedoed, and he told me that he and a friend had been able to snatch a few books as they abandoned ship and in the open lifeboat these men read aloud to one another. We hear of many stories and receive many letters from the men telling of their appreciation of the books and how much they depend on them." Bishop Tucker pointed out that the government provides no books for the merchant marine, as they do for the army and navy.

Women Layreaders

New York: — Amendment of the Church's present canon on lay readers to permit the licensing of women readers may be recommended to the next General Convention. This suggestion was contained in the report on women's Church work presented to the National Council. Presiding Bishop Henry St. George Tucker appointed a committee to study the matter.



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Freedom for India

Buck Hill Falls, Pa .: -- "Political freedom in some form will be granted in India to shape her own government in the years that lie just ahead," according to Ralph E. Diffendorfer, executive secretary of the Methodist Church's division of foreign missions, speaking before the board of missions here. He asserted that "Christian strategy in India will be compelled to take into account the major changes in the Indian scene that are being shaped by world events."

Church in Norway

London (By Wireless): - The rebel Lutheran state church in German-occupied Norway is under rigid police rule, according to a detailed statement by Church leaders, which has just become available here. "About 30 of our ministers are in jail," the statement declares. "For centuries we have been able to preach God's word freely; today there are congregations where children are not baptized, the young are not confirmed or given communion. The sick and dead are not given the benefit of the Church's ministra-tions." "Where Nazi-ordained pastors are forced on the congregation. people stay away from church," it continues. "The Norwegian Church today is ruled by police power; this condition tells the story. We have no means or power to combat the police, but we can turn to God in sincere prayer for the suffering congregations."

Seek Union

Toronto, Ont .:- The Presbyterian Church in Canada is now included in the "conversations" looking toward Christian reunion, according to a statement here by the committee on reunion of the Church of England in Canada.

Assail Protestants

Mexico City:-Anti-Protestantism. long smouldering, has burst forth into open flame, fanned by a pronouncement by the Mexican Archbishop, Luis M. Martinez, in the form of a pastoral letter. Two years ago various Catholic churches in the Mexican Republic bore placards on their doors warning communicants and visitors against the evil penetration of the country by Protestants, and counselling against the reading of Protestant literature or listening to spokesmen of Protestantism. Most of these warnings disappeared after a time, but the same ferment, stimu-

page sixteen

lated by Catholic leaders, has continued to agitate official Catholic circles.

Accusing the Protestants of aiming to break down the Catholic religion through financing from the United States, the Archbishop's letter brought, on the whole, an unfavorable response from Mexican public opinion, even from numerous devoted Catholics who castigated the charges as productive of intolerance and disunion. Protestant spokesmen declared their object was to reach the unreligious, rather than to assail any religious group, and denied that their finances were derived substantially from the northern neigh-

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bor country. Rev. Alejandro Trevino Ojeda, Baptist leader, asserted that his denomination's financing came from native Mexicans, while Rev. Sixto Avila, leading Methodist, contended that 75 per cent of his denomination's churches are entirely self-sustaining, while the rest lean only slightly on outside funds.

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Church and Health

Fort Worth, Texas: — Dr. Frank Schoonover, Jr., invited assistance of churches in establishing a psychiatric clinic in Fort Worth, in a speech before the general ministers' association. Crowded home life due to makeshift living arrangements, with adults working in war plants, is helping to breed disorders of the mind, the physician said. He urged also that the proposed clinic help deal with returning service personnel.

Raise a Cry

Washington, D. C.:—Alarmed Japanese puppet authorities in the Philippines are appealing to Christians, it was announced by the federal communications commission. An "appeal" was broadcast from Japanese authorities in Manila to Christian Church leaders to help combat what they called "subversive propaganda and rumors about the present war which tend to disturb peace and order."

Tribute to Willkie

Washington, D. C.:—B'nai B'rith's National Hillel commission has created the Wendell Willkie interfaith fellowship at Indiana University, Mr. Willkie's alma mater, "as a permanent tribute to a great American whose life was a symbol of democritic living and who fought fearlessly for the principle of equal rights for all, irrespective of race, creed, or color."

Aid to China

New York:—The associated boards for Christian colleges in China disclosed here that the first large shipment of medical supplies for mission-supported Free China colleges and hospitals since Pearl Harbor has left this country. En route to Chentu are drugs, hospital supplies, chemicals, laboratory equipment, and dental material for hospitals and universities. The ship includes also a large supply of vitamin concentration donated by American drug manufacturers, and special laboratory apparatus purchased by the Presbyterian board of foreign missions for a nutrition project.



In the East, His welcome-star shines with the brighter radiance of believing hearts.

Faintly through the winter-stillness, come the century-old echoes of the angel-song. Join with it your voices. Let the mighty organs peal throughout the earth its message of good will toward men.

On this day we face a time of peace. Sing, O Earth, the song the angels sang—sing "PEACE ON EARTH— GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN".. And with the hope of peace renewed, may this Christmas be a happy one for you and yours.



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page eighteen

Elected Warden

Washington: - President Roosevelt has been elected honorary warden of St. Thomas' Church and has accepted. The announcement was made by the rector, the Rev. Howard S. Wilkinson.

Candlelight Service

Faribault, Minn.: — The annual candlelight service was held in the chapel of Shattuck School on December 10th. The address was by Bishop Keeler and the service was taken by the Rev. Joseph M. McKee, chaplain of the school.

Consecrate Church

Savannah:-St. Michael's Church here was consecrated on November 26 by Bishop Barnwell. . . . St. John's, Savannah, has obtained a permit to make improvements amounting to \$5,000 on property bought a year ago as a parish house and rectory.

Religious Education

Detroit:-A clinic on religious education was held here on two recent evenings, with a number of parishes joining forces for it. The theme was "making religion relevant today for a world tomorrow." One of the highlights was an amusing dramatization presented by the young people of St. Alban's on how not to teach a class.

Social Service

 $B \ o \ s \ t \ o \ n :$ —Gifts from many parishes for use of diocesan hospital and prison chaplains were piled high around the chancel at St. Paul's Cathedral on December 20th, donated by women organizations of many parishes. A Christmas meditation was given at this monthly meeting of the women's division of the Church Service League by the Rev. P. F. Sturges of Wellesley.

New Chaplains

Boston: - The army and navy commission announce the appointment of the following men as chaplain in the U.S. naval reserve: Marshall J. Ellis, James R. Mac-Coll III, Alexander B. Patterson, Jr., Frank W. Robert, and Franklin J. Ruetz.

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BACKFIRE

Readers are encouraged to comment on editorials, articles and news. Since space is limited we ask that letters be brief. We reserve the right to abstract and to print only those we consider important.

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Churchwoman of Littleton, N. H. I enclose my renewal and a subscrip-tion to send anywhere you wish to take the place of one of the subscriptions cancelled by irate readers. May I say how especially proud I have been this year of THE WITNESS for its stand apainst race prejudice and economic mjustice. 'We must love one another or die" and the peculiar merit of THE WITNESS is the way it drives that principle home to us.

MRS. GEORGE P. WALTON

Churchwoman of Louisville, Ky. The article by Lane Barton on his experience at Massachusetts General Hospital this summer was of tremendous interest and encouragement to us who are interested in seeing the clergy and medical profession cooperating in helping humanity.

MR. G. B. LITTLE

Churchman of New York City

I was surprised that American newspapers gave so little notice to the great contributions made in many fields of activity. by the late William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury. I wish that THE WITNESS which is so alert these days might give us an article about him.

ANSWER: We are going to do better than that. Our December 28 number is to be devoted almost exclusively to this great Christian. There will be articles about various phases of his work by Professor Roberts of Union Seminary; the Rev. Joseph F. Fletcher of Cambridge Semi-nary; Mrs. Reinhold Niebuhr of New York; Dean Willard Sperry of Harvard Divinity School; the Rev. Joseph Emrich of Cambridge Seminary and others. If there are those who care to have bundles of this issue please send orders at once to THE WITNESS, 135 Liberty Street, New York 6, N. Y.

MR. E. T. LAWRENCE

Layman of Tillicum, Washington It would be very funny if it were not so tragic to see people giving up THE WITNESS simply because their prejudices will not allow them to accept or tolerate fair comment by, or for, any person they dislike. These people are to be pitied rather than condemned. One thing is certain, people of this type have nothing constructive to contribute to these pages, so editors please keep our valuable magazine open for free discussion of topics of general interest in order that the truth may not be smothered by personal antipathies.

* * SADA C. TOMLINSON

Churchwoman of Brookline, Mass.

Does the treasurer of the CLID know in sending money to Kimber Den in China that one dollar in U. S. currency changes for one hundred in Chinese currency? I have been informed that inflation is so bad in China that \$2000 was recently asked for a small bottle of Vicks and a sister of the Transfiguration in Kunming recently paid \$2000 for a second

THE WITNESS — December 21, 1944

hand sweater, sold her by a missionary who could easily have got \$4000 by selling it "on the street."

ANSWER: The CLID sends all do-nations to China through the Bank of China in New York. They have been most cooperative and of course always gives us the current rate of exchange and also a bonus since the money is to be used for charity purposes. The last time money was sent to Kimber Den he re-ceived \$40,000 for the \$1,000 in U. S. money we deposited with the bank. The The rate of exchange is considerably higher It is our hope to be able to send Mr. Den another \$1,000 at Christmas time which we understand will mean that he will receive from \$80,000 to \$100,000 Chinese. If there are those who care to aid in this please make checks payable to "Treasurer, CLID" and mail to Church League for Industrial Democracy, 155 Washington Street, New York 6, N. Y. * *

ALICE D. BROOKS

Churchwoman of Hartford, Conn. I appreciate the helpful article by David Hunter (WITNESS, Nov. 30) on Race Tensions. I wish you would ask him to write an article discussing the falsehood and injustice contained in the charges against the Jews. I am particularly concerned that people who are sup-posed to be intelligent and fair-minded charge the Jews with being slackers in this as in other wars, or choose the best and easy jobs or "get excused by the armed forces." The fact is that they are supplying a high percentage of the men in our armed forces, as they did in world war one. If such an article could be printed and then reprinted in sheets for wider distribution it would help to restore and hold our unity in this country. Thank you for any constructive help you can give in building a wholesome point of view in this matter.

ANSWER: An article dealing with the topic is to appear in a forthcoming number, consisting of an interview with Mr. Sigmund Livingston, a prominent Jewish author, who deals with the questions suggested.



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A group of little Chinese boys sing hymns and patriotic songs at the orphanage directed by the Rev. Kimber Den.

Remember China and Kimber Den

For every American dollar that we sent to Kimber Den through the Bank of China he is now handed \$80 in Chinese currency. He writes us that his work with warphans and refugees could not continue without your support.

We still need a few more donations to enable us to send him \$1,000 (\$80,000 Chinese) for Christmas. Add your donation to those already received from Church people and parishes throughout the country.

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