

annual review of this unit of the NCC, in the area of program and budget, by member Churches' executives in this field.

Here is a sample listing of the work done by the NCC which our Church would have to provide if we were not co-operating members:

1. In week-day religious education a co-operative program is necessary. The NCC publishes a curriculum for use by local councils.
2. The Department of Religion and Public Education deals with the whole question of Church and State in Federal support of both public and sectarian education. Co-operation helps the Churches speak more effectively to influence public opinion.
3. An increasing number of TV programs for children's religious education are produced, which no one denomination could afford. Our own department does nothing here, because of the cost.
4. The Curriculum Development Division does the basic groundwork for the "Cooperative Curriculum Project", such as age-level studies and design of material; and it provides raw material for all denominations to use in developing their own curriculums.
5. Meetings at various age-level concerns—children, youth, adult —give ideas that have succeeded or failed.
6. Executives have sessions twice a year to discuss common problems of administration, as well as of Christian education.

2. Church World Service

The vast work of the Churches in the field of relief, rehabilitation, refugees, immigration, and other services, ministering to the emergency and chronic needs of the distressed, the hungry, and the homeless overseas, is well known. The Protestant Episcopal Church is heavily indebted to Church World Service and the staff members of our Department of Christian Social Relations continually remind us of this important fact.

"One program, Refugee Resettlement, which Episcopalian have embraced so enthusiastically, could not be conducted at all were it not for Church World Service."*

"Co-operation with Church World Service is not only ecumenical, but economical as well. Programs like immigration and various

*Statement dated August 1961, entitled, "The Episcopal Church and the NCC."

overseas relief projects are less expensive working jointly with others through Church World Service, and overhead is kept at a minimum. If the Churches had to work separately it would mean separate clothing centers, separate field co-ordination, separate promotional activities, separate pier reception, and separate welfare supervision for refugees. In other words, by working through Church World Service less money is spent on organization and more is available for actual relief.”*

“The size and scope of the Episcopal program would not be remotely approachable without the central machinery of NCC and the World Council of Churches. These ecumenical agencies document overseas needs, process refugees for resettlement, provide relief channels, carry out joint relief projects, and in a hundred other ways make it possible for Episcopal funds and services to be as effective as possible. Although every Church participating in these two efforts makes its own free decisions at every level, these central ecumenical services are indispensable for carrying out decisions.”**

3. The Washington Office

At the outset, it should be made clear that the stated policy of the NCC is that the Washington Office is not to engage in efforts to influence legislation or engage in lobbying. The purposes and functions of this Office were the subject of study, looking towards revision, when this report was being prepared. In general, the purposes and functions can be summarized as follows:

- a. Services to constituent denominations and NCC staff. Information concerning congressional and other governmental activities, and the securing of official government interpretation of legislative and administrative acts.
- b. Services to Congress and Executive Departments and Agencies. Information concerning the Churches, their organization and programs.
- c. Efforts to relate members of Congress and various branches of the government to local Washington churches.

There is a Washington Office Committee of which the Very Rev. Francis B. Sayre, Jr., Dean of the Washington Cathedral, is Chairman. There is a small staff and a very modest budget.

*The Rev. Alexander Jurisson, until 1963 Executive Secretary, Division of World Relief and Inter-Church Aid, Protestant Episcopal Church.

**“World Relief”, the 1961 Annual Report of the Department of Christian Social Relations, Protestant Episcopal Church.