

# The Presbyterian Outlook



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Continuing The Presbyterian .

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## This Above All

Without the Holy Spirit, and without an intense belief in the Holy Spirit, no church can have any real growth and development in its faith and in its belief. The tragedy of orthodoxy is that it is so often conceived of in static terms; it is conceived of as something which does not and which cannot change, even in expression; and any change becomes heresy. . . . ¶ Without the Holy Spirit even the Bible becomes a dead letter, and the credal statements of the church become fossilized antiquities. J. H. Oldham once said, "We must dare in order to know." It is entirely necessary that we should entrust ourselves to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in order that we may rethink and restate the message of the gospel for the generation in which we live. Only when faith and belief depend not on a book and not on a creed, but on the living Spirit of the living God, can the faith and belief of the church grow and develop in such a way that both the church's belief and the statement of it are never out of date. ¶ Without the Holy Spirit there can be no real fellowship within the church. Sunday after Sunday we pray for the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, fellowship which the Spirit can bring and give and maintain. Division is the characteristic of natural man; unity is the characteristic of Christian man. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." As John bluntly puts it in his letter, "If any man say, 'I love God,' and hateth his brother, he is a liar." . . . ¶ We speak much in these days about ecumenicity, and yet we do heart-breakingly little to achieve it in any real sense of the term. This will continue to be so, so long as the different branches of the church put systems and forms, histories and traditions, rights and privileges, before the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is a literally shocking thing even to imply that the Holy Spirit can operate in only one form of church government or church belief.

—WILLIAM BARCLAY in *The Promise of the Spirit*, published recently by Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pa.

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OLD IN SERVICE

CONTINUING THE PRESBYTERIAN TRIBUNE

NEW IN SPIRIT

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## NEWS ROUND-UP

• **REDOUBLING OF** Protestant efforts to provide more homes for the aged and to expand hospital facilities—to keep pace with Roman Catholic action in these fields—was urged at the annual meeting of the National Association of Methodist Hospitals and Homes meeting recently in Kansas City. . . . • **IN OKLAHOMA CITY** petitions signed by about 350 pupils in a Roman Catholic high school were sent to four downtown restaurants in an effort to persuade the owners to integrate their eating places. . . . • **IN WESTPORT, CONN.**, a “watch-dog” committee to spotlight cases where persons are denied housing because of religion or race has been formed in what is called an “exclusive Fairfield County community” by members of seven local Protestant congregations. . . . • **IN NEW HAVEN, CONN.**, the U. S. District Court dismissed indictments against eight pacifists who were charged with obstructing the launching of the *Polaris* submarine, Ethan Allen, at Groton, Conn., last November. . . . • **THE NEW YORK STATE** Council of Churches has condemned proposals advanced to give a \$200 annual subsidy to all students attending church-related and other private colleges and universities in the state on the grounds of constitutional principles barring use of public funds to aid sectarian institutions. . . . • **A MILLION-DOLLAR** inter-church center to house offices of the 23 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox bodies affiliated with the Detroit Council of Churches is being discussed. . . . • **THE NEW YORK STATE** Council of Churches has endorsed a proposal for a state commission to study the effect of mandatory Sunday closing on businesses whose owners observe another day as the Sabbath. . . . • **THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST'S** Council for Christian Social Action has urged that government funds be withheld from public and private institutions that segregate Americans by race or color. . . . • **NO PHOTOGRAPHS** will be permitted of President Kennedy attending church and he has declared that he will not ordinarily pose at the church door with members of the clergy. . . . • **PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL** Bishop James A. Pike of California has received a unanimous vote of confidence from 137 ministers of his diocese following charges of heresy made by a group of Episcopal clergymen in Georgia.

## WCC Leader Cautions on Protestant-RC Relations

GENEVA (RNS)—W. A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, warned here against confusing first steps towards better Protestant-Catholic relations with the final solution to the problems of church unity.

Addressing the semi-annual meeting of the WCC's executive committee, he emphasized that “it is only when conversations are begun that the real extent of the problems is discovered.

Commenting on the ecumenical movement Dr. Visser 't Hooft also described as “of the greatest importance” the recent visit of Patriarch Alexei of Moscow, head of the Russian Orthodox Church, to Ecumenical Patriarch Athanasios of Istanbul.

Although the Russian prelate's visit generally tended to be overlooked by the world press, he said, such conversations by world church leaders do much good for the ecumenical movement.

Turning to Africa, he noted that during the last six months relations between the WCC and the African churches have become closer, due in large part to the number of visits by World Council staff members to that continent.

He commented that the growing number of church organizations which have started work in Africa, now that it has become “fashionable” to do so, may result in confusion for the Africans.

“We must leave the initiative to them as much as possible and not overwhelm them,” he added.

## N. C. Council Points To Isolationism Trend

RALEIGH, N. C. (RNS)—A trend toward isolationism among North Carolina's Congressmen was noted in a resolution adopted by the North Carolina Council of Churches at its 24th annual meeting here.

Since 1952, the resolution said, a majority of North Carolina's delegation in Congress have voted “in the negative” instead of supporting the Marshall Plan, mutual security aid and international cooperation through the United Nations.

This isolationist trend, which it said prevails in other southern states, should be “given further study” to see if it represents “the informed will of the people as to the role which America should play in world affairs.”

Another council resolution called on the legislature to knock down racial barriers in voting, public education and employment.

At the same time, the resolution said, all North Carolina churches and church-related colleges should “open their doors to all persons.”

The resolution asked the legislature to “remove any intimidation and artful barriers” in the matter of voting and “welcome all citizens to full participation in citizenship.”

## Lows Impede

In public education, the resolution said, North Carolina's Pupil Placement laws “are proving to be enormously successful in impeding the progress of

## Presbyterian, U. S., Agencies

### Gifts for the Year

Assembly agencies have reported to the Presbyterian, U. S., General Council their benevolence receipts for the year. All of them except Annuities and Relief show gains, though A&R reports receiving 116.7% of its budget. Percentage figures in parentheses show the proportion of the approved budget received.

	1960	1959
Annuities and Relief	\$ 594,110 (116.7%)	\$ 617,172
Christian Education	582,089 (65.4%)	556,285
Church Extension	1,163,318 (63.7%)	1,148,251
General Fund	852,918 (60.5%)	815,547
Interchurch Agencies	16,646 (70.5%)	15,126
World Missions	4,149,857 (91%)	3,959,439

Total income for the year: Church Extension—\$1,479,795; World Missions—\$4,504,595; others not reported.

membership, and some of them have little to do with the gospel. I am reminded that Kierkegaard once threatened, no doubt in jest, to withdraw from church and set up a sect of his own if the clergy refused to acknowledge the absolute superiority of Mozart over all musicians. That is no less fantastic than some I have heard, and it has the virtue of being non-moralistic.

**SATURDAY** • Great preaching is not due to great preachers, says my colleague, but to the greatness of the Word preached, i.e., to God's astounding Word

• A Presbyterian, 60 years in Cuba

## He Came to See ..and Stayed to Serve

"I BELIEVE that this field is ready for the propagation of the gospel." So wrote Mr. Evaristo Collazo, a Cuban layman, in a letter which was later published by the Presbyterian Church, U.S. The time of writing was 1890. He went on to say, "If it be possible let someone come to see for himself. . . . When you know more about this work, you may decide to give us your aid and instruction in building up the kingdom of Christ." (quoted from *It Came To Pass* by Dr. Edward A. Odell)

In 1899 Dr. Robert L. Wharton, then a minister of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., and a former school teacher from North Carolina, did go to Cuba to see for himself. What he saw so convinced him of the opening up of a fertile field for the sharing of the gospel of Christ that he stayed to found La Progresiva as a mission school which opened its doors in 1900 with fourteen students. Dr. Wharton served first with the Presbyterian Church, U.S., and from 1919 until his retirement in 1941 with the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., which at that time took over responsibility for all the Presbyterian work in Cuba. He lived to see La Progresiva grow to be a co-educational institution with a student enrollment of about 2,000. The educational leadership and strong Christian witness the school has borne in Cuba through the years has earned for it a special respect not only in Cuba but in our own country as well. It has done much to strengthen the people and the witness of the church throughout the whole island.

It was with a great sense of personal loss that friends, both Cuban and American, noted the death of Dr. Wharton on August 3, 1960. At the request of the leaders of the church in Cuba and in keeping with his own wishes, his body was flown from the United States to Cuba so that he could be buried beside his wife in the city of Cárdenas where they had labored together side by side with the people they had grown to love so well. The feeling of deep affection was return-

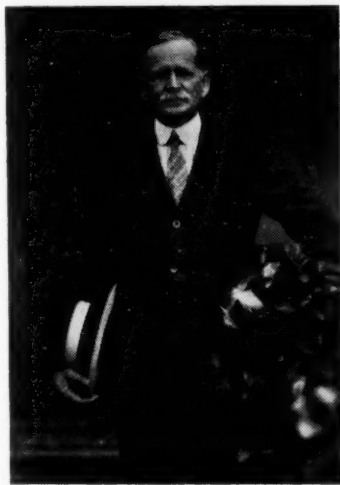
in Christ addressed powerfully and directly to the great issues of human life.

**SUNDAY** • Taking my cue from the chapter in Max Planck's *A Scientific Autobiography*, called "Phantom Problems in Physics," I preached today on "Phantom Problems in Religion." We know that many creative advances in science occurred when men abandoned the old questions and began asking new ones. May it not be so in religion also? As Karl Barth has reminded us, the Bible is forever taking our questions and either giving them a new depth or substituting others for them.

ed by the thousands of Cuban people both young and old who accompanied his body on its trip through the streets of Cárdenas. Flags were flown at halfmast in both public and private institutions, including those supported by the Roman Catholic Church. In the words of Dr. Emilio Rodriguez, the present principal of La Progresiva, and superintendent of all the educational work of the United Presbyterian Church in Cuba:

"The old folks with wrinkled faces and white hair had a sad smile on their faces as they remembered when Dr. Wharton came as an energetic young man sixty years ago to teach, to preach, to serve, to build, to rebuild, to guide, to inspire, to exhort, to persuade. . . . Church bells, Protestant and Catholic, rang out. The fire siren and factory whistle sounded in funeral cadence. Stores, banks, and factories closed at noon. The sidewalks were lined three and four deep along the fifteen blocks from the school to Saez Street, from where the procession continued into the cemetery in automobiles."

"Messages of tribute included notes from a university student, a janitor, a housewife, the Catholic Knights, and many



In Cardenas, stores and factories closed.

## A Book I Liked . . .

**THE WORLDS OF CHIPPY PATTERSON.** Arthur H. Lewis, Harcourt, Brace & Co., New York. \$5. A true story of a Philadelphia lawyer who gave up money and status to help the unfortunate.

—SHELBY ROOKS, St. James church, New York City.

**THE BIBLE COMPANION.** William Neil, editor. McGraw-Hill Book Co., New York. \$8.95. In one volume, the information from history, archaeology and geography which the ordinary student needs as introduction to the books, the people, the places, the events and the faith of the Bible.

—J. CARTER SWAIM, Dept. of English Bible, National Council of Churches, New York.

From 1960 published works.

others. Their tributes were summed up by an Episcopalian minister who said: "A man like Dr. Wharton comes to the world very seldom, and therefore his memory will live forever, a man who gave himself completely in the service of others. His work as an educator is extraordinary and as a spiritual guide it is impossible to express in a single thought."

In simple words we would join with countless others in paying tribute to this man who went to Cuba to see, and stayed to serve, and to share the richness of the gospel entrusted to him by the Christ whom we, too, would serve as we continue to participate in the work of the church at La Progresiva and throughout Cuba.—Reprinted courtesy of *Concern*, official magazine of United Presbyterian Women.

## Texas Pastors Want Colleges Desegregated

HOUSTON, TEX. (RNS)—The Baptist Pastors Conference of Houston, without a dissenting vote, passed a resolution calling for desegregation of all Southern Baptist colleges in Texas.

The resolution asked officials of the Baptist General Convention of Texas to use their influence in getting the governing board of each school to bring about integration.

There are 10 undergraduate Southern Baptist colleges in Texas with a total of more than 10,000 students. Only Wayland College at Plainview admits Negroes. It has a student body of about 600.

More than 60 pastors attending the conference passed the resolution after James A. Walker, pastor of the Forest Oaks Baptist Church here, delivered a sermon on racism.

The General Convention makes a per-student allocation to each of the 10 Texas schools, but does not exercise direct control over them. Each is operated by a board elected at Convention's annual meetings.

Largest Southern Baptist school in Texas is Baylor University at Waco, with more than 5,000 students.