

# LIFE AND WORK

JULY, 1929



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## FOURTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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# Life and Work

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JULY, 1929

Published Monthly by  
**THE FOURTH CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH**

Talman Ave., just north of Logan  
Blvd.

Phone: Brunswick 3278

Pastor .....Rev. E. A. Reese  
2627 N. Talman Avenue  
Telephone Brunswick 1300

Chairman Board of Directors, ..Urban J.  
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John Motzer, 2538 Logan Blvd. Hum-  
boldt 5768.

Fred Blix, 2822 N. Francisco Ave. Bel-  
mont 1217.

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J. Ehrhart, Mrs. Fred Minter, Mrs.  
Chas. Youngberg, Mrs. Ida Lekberg.

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**Missionary Society**—Mrs. Harry Motzer, Pres.; Mrs. Robt. Nelson, Sec.; Mrs. A. L. Johnson, Vice-President and Treas.; Program Committee, Mrs. E. A. Reese, Mrs. Geo. Carson, Miss Lillian Miller.

**Special Visitation Committee**—Mr. Thos. Munro, Chr.

**Flower Committee**—Urban J. Ehrhart, Chairman.

**Auditing Committee**—Alf Peterson and Thyra Thorry.

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

#### Sunday

9:30 A. M. Church School for all ages.  
11:00 A. M. Morning Service of Worship.

#### Monday

7:30-8:30 P. M. Senior Boys.  
8:30-9:30 P. M. Young Men.

#### Wednesday

8:00 P. M. Midweek Service and Teachers' Training Class.  
4:00 P. M., Girls Reserve.

#### Friday

7:00 P. M. Girls' Chorus, 13-17 years.  
8:00-10:00 P. M. Choir Rehearsal.

#### Saturday

2:00 P. M., Boy Scout Troop.

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

Board of Directors—Monday after the first Sunday, 8 P. M.

Trustees—Monday after the first Sunday, 7 P. M.

Prudential Committee—Wednesday after the second Sunday, 7 P. M.

Board of Education—Monday after the second Sunday, 8 P. M.

Recreational Committee—Monday after the fourth Sunday, 8 P. M.

Social Committee—First Thursday, 8 P. M.

Advertising Committee—Second Thursday, 8 P. M.

Ladies' Aid—Second and fourth Thursdays, at 2 P. M.

Ladies' Missionary Society—First Thursday, 2 P. M.

Editorial Committee for Life and Work—Esther Walther, Robt. Blix and Everett Reed.

### PASTOR'S LETTER

I want to thank the church and friends for their many courtesies shown to Mrs. Reese and myself during our ministry at Fourth Church. The splendid turnout at the Ordination Service on Wednesday evening, July 17th, was indeed a delight to my heart. It was a representative church attendance and without the presence of our Chorister or Assistant Chorister, the Choir carried on and sang two beautiful anthems. The program of the evening will follow this letter.

Mrs. Reese, the babies and myself are planning a vacation of recreation and study during the month of August. Our vacation will be more than a vacation for preparation will be made for the most of activities which will come upon us in the Fall of the year.

We wish all a healthy good time and please know that our church services will go on as usual during the month of August. The Chicago Theological Seminary will send us a supply for every Sunday from the many ministers who are there studying during their summer vacation.

Sincerely, your Pastor,

E. A. Reese.

### THE ORDINATION TO THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

of Mr. Ernest A. Reese  
of the Fourth Congregational Church  
8 p. m., Wednesday, July 17, 1929

The Moderator of the Ecclesiastical  
Council, Rev. Orville L. Kiplinger, Presiding

Prelude—Largo of the New World's  
Symphony ..... Dvorak  
Miss June Hoffman

Invocation—Rev. Walter A. Briggs,

Auburn Park Congregational Church

Hymn—Lead on, O King Eternal, No. 373  
The Scripture Lesson—Rev. Willis L. Goldsmith,

Hyde Park Congregational Church

Anthem—Who so Dwelleth under the Defence of the Most High ..Protheroe  
Choir with Mrs. Margaret Peterson.

Soloist

Report of the Ecclesiastical Council—  
Rev. C. A. Osborne

Ordination Sermon—Rev. Carl S. Patton,  
Acting President of the Chicago  
Theological Seminary



Presentation of the Candidate for Ordination—Mr. Frank Miller, Senior Deacon of Fourth Cong. Church.

Questions to the Candidate by the Moderator of the Council—Rev. Orville L. Kiplinger, Glen Ellyn Cong. Church.

The Prayer of Ordination with the laying on of hands, Rev. Wilhelm Pauck, The Chicago Theological Seminary.

The Right Hand of Fellowship—Rev. J. A. Jenkins, President of Union Theological Seminary.

Anthem—The King of Love My Shepherd Is ..... Shelley  
Choir with Mrs. Thomas Munro, Mrs. Ethel Ferguson and Mr. Walter Heidensen, Soloists

The Charge to the Minister—Rev. Jessie J. Kohmos, Maywood Cong. Ch.

The Charge to the People—Rev. Frank Bush, Grand Ave. Cong. Church.

Hymn—God of the Prophets, Stanzas 1, 2, 5. No. 437

Benediction—Rev. Ernest A. Reese

Postlude—Triumphal March ..Lemmens  
Miss June Hoffman

## PERSONAL NEWS

Our summer school has an enrollment of one hundred and the attendance has been very good. Miss Pauline DeHass is in charge of the Junior Department and Miss Minnie DeHass in charge of the Primary Department. These girls come from Lincoln, Illinois and are doing a splendid service for us. Other teachers that have helped are: Jules Glysing, Ann Szilagyi, Carrie Thory, Mrs. Juno Carson and Marguerite Duyn.

The Sunday School picnic at Lincoln Park last Saturday, July 20th, was a great success. Edward Conover was in charge of the games. Ruth Ehrhart won all the races.

The Boy Scout Troop No. 108 meets in our church every Tuesday evening. Many of the boys are taking the Tenderfoot test and will be ready for the Fall work. Under the leadership of Mr. Workman and Mr. Lewis this is proving to be quite an organization.

We received a card from the Harry Borns family who are spending their vacation at Eagle River, Wis.

Miss Clella Newberry is taking a commercial course up to the 1st of August and will return to her home at Mount Zion, Illinois, for a month's vacation before her return to us in September.

Miss Anna Johnson took her vacation by visiting Yellowstone Park and other places West.

Miss Lillian Miller is spending a month with friends and relatives in Nebraska and South Dakota. She is planning on visiting the Black Hills and other interesting places. Her father, Mr. Frank Miller is spending some time with his daughter, Mrs. Edwin Youngberg in Wilmette.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nelson with their son Roy and fiancée are vacationing out West. They visited the Little Brown Church in the Vale in Iowa and the last card we received from them was from the Big Horn Mountains in Wyoming.

Miss Clara Bound has returned from a week's visit in St. Louis and reports a splendid vacation.

Albert Ehrhart has spent the weekend of Sunday, July 14th with his brother, Urban, at his summer home on the Fox River. He came back with a rosy color resembling a sunburn.

Mr. and Mrs. Minter spent a week or two at St. Joseph, Michigan.

Mrs. Margaret Petersen and Miss Phyllis Thory spent their vacation at the Y. W. C. A. camp at New Buffalo, Mich.

Miss June Hoffman has left for a motor trip to the White Mountains, New Hampshire, and will be back to play for us on the 8th of September.

Miss Carrie Stocker left for Salt Lake City and other points West a month ago and we have not learned concerning her visit there. Presumably she is having a splendid time.

Mrs. Burr Whyland and her children have joined the Meyers in a visit with Mrs. Meyers' mother near Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Meyer, our faithful Deacon is planning to be back with us next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Kneeland are still visiting in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Mr. and Mrs. Will Frost are spending their vacation with the Reddicks near Lake Zurich, Ill.

Miss Marguerite Duyn is visiting in the home of a school friend at Crystal Lake, Ill.

Mrs. Lenore Gruenwald has moved to 4552 Kenneth Ave., Chicago, and is living there with her son.

Mr. Lester Carlson has moved to 1656 Central Park Avenue, Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Sierts are vacationing in California.

Mr. and Mrs. James Swarvrick have moved to 2206 Maplewood Avenue, Chicago, and their two children, Jean and James are on a farm at Nakomis, Ill. Mr. Swarvrick, after being laid up for many months because of an automobile accident, is now fully recovered.

Mrs. Mary Simons is planning a visit to Detroit, Mich. She has spent a good deal of her time at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Senne at Diamond Lake, Ill.

Miss Alice Grimwood was married on June 5th to Anton Nelson and are living at 4242 Albany Ave., Chicago.

Miss Helen Christopherson is again spending her summer vacation at Juniper Knoll—the Girl Scout Camp in Wisconsin. Her brother, Robert, has just returned from a long trip into Canada.

Miss Hilma Carlson spent a week of her vacation in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Gartshore have been laid up with Summer Flu. Mrs. Reid especially has had a severe attack, but both are recovering nicely. Mrs. Gartshore will have two sisters visiting her from Toronto, Canada, after the 1st of the month.

Mr. Albert Ehrhart has presented the church with a new lawn mower and by the looks of the grass, it is doing its work well.

Miss Olive Motzer is convalescing at their summer home in McHenry, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Motzer usually take their week end trips to McHenry.

Katherine Mollyhan and her parents have moved to Akron, Ohio, where Mr.

Mollyhan is entering the insurance business. We are very sorry to lose Katherine and her brother and sister from our Church School.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. McKibben and their daughter, Miss Ballenger have returned after many years to their old church. They used to be attendants at Grace Church, and now are living in the apartment built on the site of the old church, at Powell and Shakespeare Aves.

Mrs. Fred Seibert spent the week end of July 20th at her sister's home at Delavan Lake, Wisc.

Miss Ruth Elliot who is a Secretary in the Presbyterian Board in New York City, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Elliot and her sister, Mrs. Brown on Logan Boulevard. We are always glad to see Miss Elliot with her mother during the summer days. This has become a tradition and we would miss her very much if we did not see her in church during the summer.

Miss Ruth Jacobson and Miss Josephine Peterson spent the last week of June at Tower Hill, Mich. The Illinois Young People of our Congregational Churches hold a camp each year at Tower Hill. Next year a goodly number of our young folks will no doubt attend.

Mrs. Fred Peterson, Eunice, Lorraine and Fred, Jr., are living at their summer home at Twin Lakes. Over the weekend Fred and Josephine join their family.

Mr. Alf. Peterson is on his vacation and is taking a motor trip around Lake Michigan.

Mrs. Fred Blix visited in New York City and sent us a program from Dr. Jefferson's Church. After her return here and after the Blix' had bought a car to enjoy summer outings, Mrs. Blix' mother fell and suffered a compound fracture of the hip. This has kept the family confined and we are glad to report a progress of recovery on the part of Mrs. Blix' mother who is 82 years of age. We hope that Mr. and Mrs. Blix will be able to be out soon because we miss them very much from our church services.

We are glad to see Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Lucas out again and Mr. Lucas is



doing very well in learning how to operate the baby buggy.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Gaggin and their daughters, Maurita and Lorraine are vacationing at their summer home Tower Hill, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. William Schuth are enjoying their summer home at Lake Geneva, Illinois.

We received a card from Mrs. Justine Penrod from Lexington, Ky., informing us that she and Mr. Penrod had a fine trip to Lexington. They are enjoying a visit there with Mr. Penrod's relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Watts sent us a card from Sault Ste. Marie, where they arrived via a Steamboat from Chicago. Mr. Watts takes to Lake boats like ducks do to water. We know no better way to spend a vacation than to take a cruise on the Lakes.

Mr. Thomas Monroe is still working overtime at the Majestic radio shops and we occasionally miss him from our rehearsals and church services. He is playing the organ in the absence of Miss Hoffman and enjoys it not a little.

Mr. Walter Kiehn writes to us from Toronto thanking the church for the nice reception and the Bible which was presented to him at the Farewell Party. He invites any one of our folks who may travel East to be sure and see him at the R. S. Williams Company, 145 Younge Street, Toronto. Mr. Kiehn is a director of this company as well as the Q. R. S. Canadian Corporation, Ltd. Mr. Kiehn for nine years was advertising manager of the Gulbrandsen Piano Co., and enjoyed unusual success and left this company with the best wishes of Mr. A. G. Gulbrandsen and his organization. Mr. Kiehn has entered upon what he thinks is a larger field of service.

Mrs. Russell and her daughters, Betty and Helen are spending their vacation at Pell Lake, Wis.

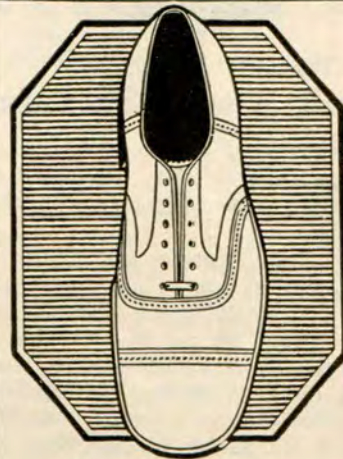
Our Pastor and his family are leaving for a month's vacation which they will spend in St. Paul, Minnesota, with Mrs. Reese's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schommeyer.

Mrs. Reese's sister, Mrs. Carl Henderson also lives in St. Paul and is the mother of a baby boy born on July 12th.

In the absence of Miss Lillian Miller, our Financial Secretary, Miss Thyra Thory is Acting Financial Secretary. Miss Miller urges that everyone mark their envelopes carefully and keep up their pledges during the Summer because our expenses are going on just the same.

\* \* \*

Judging ourselves in the light of the world, we may easily find grounds for personal satisfaction; but to judge ourselves in the light of the Lord, to measure ourselves by the Divine standard, is to put our pride to shame.—W. L. Watkinson.



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The Late Bishop Brent

#### DEATH OF A GREAT CHURCHMAN

In the death of Bishop Charles Henry Brent, on March 27th, the Episcopal Church and the world lost an able Christian leader.

Bishop Brent became well known for his fight against the opium traffic while bishop of the Philippine Islands from 1901 to 1918. During the war he was chief of the chaplain service of the American expeditionary forces. Bishop Brent became head of the western New York diocese of his church in 1918, but three years ago he was designated as bishop in charge of the Episcopal churches of Europe. He resigned that charge the year following to devote his entire time to furthering the cause of peace. He was a strong advocate of the league of nations and the world court. Several years ago, with Bishop Manning and others, he led in the organization of the World Conference on Faith and Order, which sought to bring about the union of all Christian churches. He presided over the Lausanne conference held two years ago.

Bishop Brent was 67 years of age. He died of heart disease at Lausanne, Switzerland, just as he was about to depart on an extensive trip to the near east. A memorial service for the dead leader was conducted March 27 in the cathedral at Lausanne under the auspices of Swiss

ecclesiastical authorities, English and Scotch Presbyterian and Greek churches collaborating.

#### IS THE PRESS FREE?

FOREIGN AFFAIRS publishes staggering figures about the power of the Press in America. The daily press of this country constitutes its sixth industry in point of size. It did a business last year of 1,100,000,000. It sells every day 38,000,000 of its commodity, that is thirty-eight millions papers. From the sale of its commodity, however, it derives only one-fourth of its revenue. Three-fourths (more than 800,000,000 dollars last year) of its money derived from the sale of space for advertising. It is absurd, of course, to suppose that any business can ignore the interests which supply three-fourths of its income. It is absurd to fancy that a commercial press as we have in the United States, can afford to offend the five per cent which makes this revenue possible. It is preposterous to say that we have "an independent press." There would appear however to be but little protest against this state of things.

When the first Bible was printed in the United States, in 1782, Congress passed a resolution recommending the edition to the inhabitants. Before that, in 1777, Congress imported 20,000 copies (for the publication of the Bible had been kept in England and the supply cut off with the outbreak of the Revolution). It was one of these Bibles of 1777 that Lincoln read and committed to memory when a boy in the log-cabin. He knew the Bible as few men do, and his speeches are saturated with Bible illustrations and quotations.

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### KERR BELIEVED GOD ABOUT MONEY

Alexander Hewitt Kerr was a convert of Dwight L. Moody, at Philadelphia in 1876. In 1902 he read a book written by Bishop John H. Allen, in which the author called attention to Jacob's vow to tithe—and the prosperity that came to Jacob. Kerr, a young business man then in Portland, Oregon, began to pay tithes, and to prosper. Later he had interests in Chicago, Oklahoma, and San Francisco. At the time of the earthquake and fire Mr. Kerr had put nearly everything he had into the manufacture of fruit jars, and his factory was in San Francisco. Then came the earthquake. His friends came to him (in Portland) and said, "Kerr, you are ruined," to which he replied, "I don't believe it. I know God cannot go back on His promises." He wired San Francisco and received this reply: "Factory in the heart of the fire. Undoubtedly destroyed. Heat so intense will be unable to find out anything for some days."

What a time of testing—but his faith in his Lord never wavered. About a week later came a telegram saying: "Factory miraculously saved. Everything for a mile and a half on all sides of factory burned."

The factory was a two story wooden building, containing the huge tanks where the glass was melted, which are kept at 2500 degrees, oil was used for fuel, the building was about the most inflammable in San Francisco. The fire had raged on all sides of the factory, creeping even to the wooden fence surrounding the building and scorching it, then jumping around and beyond the building, burning everything in its course. Miraculous? Is anything too hard for the Lord?

Every business in which Mr. Kerr was interested tithed. Strict account was kept of every cent, and all money was prayerfully distributed "in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." He did not believe in giving buildings, but preferred to give to churches that were in need, and to missions in all lands, to orphanages, to prison work, and to religious organizations that are loyal to the Redeemer. He died at Riverside, California, February 9, 1925. His tithing fund, incorporated, administered by Mrs. Kerr, carries on his beneficence. Five

million copies of his tract, "God's Loving Money Rule for Your Financial Prosperity" have been distributed.

Mr. Kerr often remarked that it skeptics want proof that there is a God and that the Bible is true, all they need to do is to tithe for a year, and God will prove to them without a doubt, that He is the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.—Chicago Church Federation Bulletin.

Mr. and Mrs. Kerr were connected with the Pacific Congregational Church while in Chicago.

### THE DAY'S RESULT

Is anybody happier because you passed his way?

Does any one remember that you spoke to him today?

The day is almost over, and its toiling time is through;

Is there any one to utter now a kindly word of you?

Did you give a cheerful greeting to the friend who came along,

Or a churlish sort of "howdy," then vanish in the throng?

Were you selfish, pure and simple, as you rushed along your way,

Or is some one mighty grateful for a deed you did today?

Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,

That you helped a single brother of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said?

Does the man whose hopes are fading now with courage look ahead?

Did you waste the day or lose it, was it well or poorly spent?

Did you leave a trail of kindness or a scar of discontent?

As you close your eyes in slumber do you think that God would say,

"You have earned one more tomorrow, by the work you did today?"

### GRACE BEFORE MEAT

The minister had just finished asking the blessing when Dicky remarked, "You don't pray like daddy."

"Indeed!" said the minister. "Why?"

"Well," said Dicky, "last night when daddy sat down to the table he just said 'Good Lord, what a supper!'"



### WAR IS SLIPPING

There are indications that something significant—perhaps final—is about to be done to this war business. The passage of the Kellogg Pact pledging the United States, along with the rest of the world, henceforth to SETTLE ALL INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES BY PACIFIC MEANS was a beginning. But it was only a beginning. The Pact is to the business of war about what the American Declaration of Independence was to the free Republic that it presaged. The Declaration of Independence was a statement of purpose and a pledge to an ideal. But that statement and pledge did not bring the American government into existence. Having written the Declaration, our Revolutionary for-bears were obliged to go through the painstaking process of translating it into a working machinery of government with a constitution, a legislature, an executive authority and all the complex paraphernalia necessary to establish the living institutions of a free people.

The Kellogg Pact does about the same thing for war. It is a statement of purpose and a pledge to an ideal potentially as significant to America and to the world as the Declaration of Independence. But that significance will not be finally established until the machinery is built to give the pact effect and to make it operative.

Steps for the development of that machinery are already under way. In the United States Senate, Senator Arthur Capper has proposed that the United States government declare an arms embargo against any nation violating the outlawry principle—the fact of violation being left to the determination of the President. Representative Stephen G. Porter has introduced a somewhat similar resolution, different in that instead of leaving it to the President to call for such an embargo it proposes that the embargo shall be enforced against any nation that goes to war at any time.

Following the Capper and Porter proposals comes word—through Sir Esme Howard, British Ambassador to the United States—that the British government, in the near future, will ask the United States to consider new proposals for armament reduction.

This proposal has won a hearty response from the American press. Cer-

tainly only the extremists—who are determined at all costs to preserve the institutions of slaughter—will object to any move to bring about a joint reduction in the British-American naval establishments.

In this entire movement, eternal vigilance plus persistent activity will be the price of peace. If the American people—as Christians—are convinced that war should be done away with, that conviction will be worked into fact as surely as the signers of the Declaration of Independence worked out their ideals into the organisms of our national government.—Stanley High, in the Christian Herald.

### THE WASTEFULNESS OF WAR

Studdert Kennedy lived through war, and he knows what he is talking about in "The Sorrows of God" which is published by Doubleday, Doran & Company in a poem which he calls "Waste." Hear it, you who are battling for a warless world; use it, you preachers who represent the Prince of Peace:

"Waste of Muscle, waste of Brain,  
Waste of Patience, waste of Pain,  
Waste of Manhood, waste of Health,  
Waste of Beauty, waste of Wealth,  
Waste of Blood, and waste of Tears,  
Waste of youth's most precious years,  
Waste of ways the Saints have trod,  
Waste of Glory, waste of God—  
WAR!"

—William L. Stidger, D.D., Litt.D., in the Christian Herald.

### PRIZE FOR THE "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN OF PROHIBITION"

Dorrance and Company, Philadelphia, publishers, announce a prize of \$1,000 plus royalties, for a novel which shall be the "Uncle Tom's Cabin of Prohibition." The sole condition of this prize novel contest is that the manuscripts submitted must deal with prohibition in the United States. The contest will close June 1, 1930. Prohibitionist and anti-prohibitionist may compete. The only editorial requirement is for original work, in the English language, typed, between 50,000 and 100,000 words long, addressed to the Prohibition Contest Editor, Dorrance and Company, Philadelphia, Pa.



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TELEPHONE, CENTRAL 2026



## Among the Churches

In 1880 only twenty in one hundred of our population were members of Protestant churches, while in 1925 the percentage was twenty-six.

With 2,250 members, the Austin (Chicago) Methodist Church has the largest membership of any Methodist church in Chicago or in the Rock River conference. Nearly 1,600 members have been received into the church during the seven years' pastorate of Rev. James L. Gardiner.

Julius Rosenwald, Jewish philanthropist of Chicago, has pledged a quarter of a million dollars to the endowment fund of the American University in Beirut, Syria.

The international organization of the Y. W. C. A. will soon move its offices from London to Geneva. The International Missionary Council, the Young Men's Christian Association, the International Christian Conference on Life and Work and the World Student Christian Federation are among the organizations with offices there.

A single manufacturer of cigarettes announces he will advertise in 1215 newspapers during 1929. This brand claims an increase in sales of \$22,000,000 for 1928. A two-year contract with a broadcasting chain involves \$1,500,000. But Henry Ford, Thomas Edison and J. C. Penney unite in saying that cigarettes make men less efficient!

The use of printed paper has doubled within a little more than a decade. The daily press in America consumes six thousand tons per day, six-tenths of it

Ten thousand young women enroll yearly for a ten-day vacation period of work and study, as well as play, at the Y. W. C. A. summer conferences in fourteen states and in seventeen different localities.

The Census of Religious Bodies for 1926, now being issued in a series of bulletins, shows a steady increase in Negro churches of all sorts and their membership. The comparison with the census of 1916 is worth noting:

1916—39,572 churches with 4,602,805 members.

1926—42,585 churches with 5,203,487 members.

Expenditures jumped from \$18,529,827 in 1916 to \$43,024,259 in 1926.

Dr. George W. Fiske, in "The Changing Family," recently published by Harper & Brothers, estimates that "probably 98% of our really Christian homes are never broken up at all, because their religion is the best possible insurance against it."

Our tobacco bill is twice what it costs to maintain the United States government.

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## PROTESTANT CHURCHES UNITING

In the history of Protestantism, the month of May, 1929, is likely to come in for much more than the usual month's share of attention. In that month, in one twenty-four-hour period, May 24-25, three great denominations took practical measures to end, finally, the divisions which, immemorially, have been the shame and the weakness of the Church. In Scotland the Presbyterian Church agreed, with but three dissenting votes out of a total of 1000, to unite with the United Free Church, and that denomination, simultaneously, voted, with but thirty-nine in dissent, to join with the Presbyterian Church. This wasteful breach, nearly a century old, will be healed, officially, in October.

From St. Paul, Minnesota, on the same day, came further Presbyterian news of like significance. By a vote that was practically unanimous, the 141st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States votes to undertake, at once, to find a basis for organic church union with the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal churches, north and south, and the Southern Presbyterian Church. In addition the Assembly appointed Dr. Robert E. Speer as special representative to confer on union with the Reformed Church Synod, which meets early in June, at Holland, Michigan.

Finally, on May 24th, the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States adopted a report favoring union with the United Brethren Church and the Evangelical Synod of North America.

Meanwhile, and still in the month of May, the Southern Presbyterians, in session at Montreat, North Carolina, gave church union the most important place on their program, with the tide of opinion running strongly in favor of a merger with the Presbyterian Church of the North. And just across the date line, in June, the Congregational National Council, meeting in Detroit, has before it a plan, which is almost certain of adoption, to unite the Congregational with the Christian churches.

It is for these reasons that the spring and the month of May, 1929, are likely to go down, triumphantly, in the history of Christian progress.—The Christian Herald.

## SINS OF OMISSION

There is a lash and a sting in the lovely lament of Marguerite Wilkinson's lines written not long ago:

I never cut my neighbor's throat,  
My neighbor's gold I never stole;  
I never spoiled his house and lands,  
But, God have mercy on my soul!

For I am haunted night and day,  
By all the deeds I have not done;  
O unattempted loveliness!  
O costly valor! never won.

## GIFTS TO MISSIONS DECLINING

According to the annual report of Dr. Harry S. Myers, of New York, secretary of the United Stewardship council, 25 of the leading evangelical denominations of the United States and Canada gave a total of \$532,368,714 during the past year. Of this, \$402,682,961 went to local congregational expenses, \$92,325,775 going to denominational benevolences. The total for church expenses represented a gain of more than 20 millions, whereas there was a decline of about 12 millions for budget benevolences.

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