

basis of a durable peace, for the conference sent this document back to its drafting committee for editorial revisions. It is safe, however, to predict that the strong stand taken on the race issue will not be watered down, and there is not likely to be any change in the opening premise on which the whole report is based: "The present struggle of the nations is not just another war in the history of mankind. It is the upheaval of the old order and the birth of a new. The relationships of man to man will never again be the same, nor should they be the same, for they have not been founded on the eternal truths of God." Leslie B. Moss, formerly of the International Missionary Council and now in charge of the relief work of the united churches, served as chairman of this section.

Lectures Have International Tinge

While the conference was in progress it attended the Merrick-McDowell lectures, delivered each year at Ohio Wesleyan. The lecturers this year were Bishop Francis J. McConnell of the Methodist Church; Dr. Hu Shih, Chinese ambassador; Dr. Leo Pasvolsky, economist in the state department; Dr. William Paton of London; John Foster Dulles, chairman of the Federal Council's commission which called the conference, and Dr. Carl J. Hambro, president of the Norwegian Storting and former president of the assembly of the League of Nations. Among these it is probable that Dr. Pasvolsky and Mr. Dulles made the most direct contributions to the thinking of the delegates.

A full report of the conference should include recognition of the contribution made by the members of its steering committee and of many others who functioned largely behind the scenes. Space considerations preclude this. In fairness, however, it must be said that there were at least three persons without whose leadership the conference would never have been held and without whose contribution while here it might easily have gone on the rocks. These were John Foster Dulles, the commission's chairman, and Walter W. Van Kirk and Bradford Abernethy, of the staff of the Federal Council.

P. H.

Commission to Aid Aliens And War Prisoners

Under the auspices of the Federal Council of Churches, the Home Missions Council and the Foreign Missions Conference there has recently been established the "Church Commission on Aliens and Prisoners of War" to carry on Christian ministries in behalf of these people and to cooperate with similar bodies in other countries. The first problem of the commission is to deal with the plight of the Japanese in America.

Shanghai University Again Confiscated

Shanghai University, a Baptist institution, the Moore Memorial Church and certain Southern Baptist properties in Shanghai have been taken over by the Japanese, according to word recently received by J. W. Decker, Baptist mission leader. All missionaries are safe, although their movements are restricted. Shanghai University continues to function in its downtown location.

Peoria Vice Hit By Government

Area-Wide Cleanup Stirs Complacent City Administration—Bergendoff Defends Lutheranism

(Correspondence from Chicago)

CHICAGO, March 9.—The national program of the Federal Security Agency in Washington gives no quarter to prostitution, employs the demonstrated knowledge that "segregation increases venereal disease" and refuses to allow the armed forces of the country to be exploited or impaired by social disease. Consequently the city of Peoria is one of the 122 communities in the country which are feeling the firm hand of federal authority. It finds itself in the midst of the first effort in a generation to clean up vice in the community. Janet S. Burgoon, regional supervisor of the division of social protection of the Federal Security Agency, has served notice that if conditions which occasioned the high incidence of venereal infection for soldiers on leave in the city continue, the community will be declared "out of bounds" for members of the military services of the country and for defense plant workers. Another camp will be located at Lewiston, 26 miles away.

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City Officials Indifferent

The movement to clean up the city is proceeding without the help of the mayor, E. N. Woodruff, 84, who has held 11 two-year terms since 1902, or that of Police Chief Ed Wombacher. The mayor is quoted as saying: "Commercialized vice is not apparent in Peoria at all. . . . Of course, we have gamblers here but we make them pay. We used to fine the gamblers \$1,500 a week but they found that they could not deduct the fines as business expense when figuring their income tax. . . . Now they come in and pay \$5,000 a month, and we don't make any bones about it. . . . There is no syndicate controlling the gambling. . . . I am against vice, but it is here and we ought to keep it in its place." The police chief is quoted as saying concerning the houses of prostitution: "As far as I know, they're all closed."

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Young Men Force The Issue

The junior chamber of commerce thinks differently. Its committee on military health, headed by Donald A. Morgan, assistant state's attorney, went on the air with radio broadcasts, in which he issued warnings to property owners that if buildings used as brothels were not vacated injunctions would be secured against owners—some of whom are reputed to be prominent citizens—even to the extent of closing the buildings for a year. The matter was carried into the city council where there was a 14-to-3 vote for the prosecution of the cleanup. Peoria is reputed to be the sinkhole of midwestern vice, the place to which prostitutes can flee when driven out anywhere else. City officials are said to have been satisfied to take about \$1,500 a week in small fines from establishments

and from girls employed in them who were subjected to periodic arrest and dismissed after payment of the fines.

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Chicago Judge Heads Inquiry

In Chicago, Chief Justice Edward S. Scheffler of the municipal court has named, by request, a special municipal court advisory committee, headed by Judge J. M. Brande, to deal with prostitution. The request came from officials of the Great Lakes naval training station and of Fort Custer in Michigan. Figures on venereal disease were pointing a warning finger toward Chicago. It was feared too that the cleanup in Peoria would be likely to cause prostitutes to seek residence in Chicago. The committee decided to seek funds for rehabilitation and re-employment in defense industries for these victims of vice.

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Taverns Violate The Law

With all this, little is being done about taverns which feed vice. Miss Jessie F. Binford, executive of the Juvenile Protective Association, says:

"Last year we made 1,981 investigations of taverns, 90 per cent of which were found to be violating the state liquor laws. We are conservative in stating that the violators have become the hub of policy and other forms of gambling, of prostitution, vice and immorality; that they are a major factor in the spread of venereal disease; that licenses for them are often given to persons of most questionable and undesirable character; that they could not operate as lawlessly as they do except through the protection of the police and other officials." Judge Scheffler is quoted in the press as saying that "hereafter all prostitutes who appear in a women's court will be asked where they met the men involved. Where taverns are found to be serving as meeting places, Mayor Kelly will be asked to revoke their licenses." Will the mayor act?

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Denies Lutheranism Fosters Nazism

In addresses to Lutheran student groups in Chicago on "The Lutheran Church and the Modern State," Conrad Bergendoff, president of the Illinois Federation of Colleges and of Augustana College and Seminary at Rock Island, said that the church, to be sure, has to do with the state because the church deals with all that men live and die for. However, the charge that the Lutheran Church is responsible for nazism in modern Germany breaks down because of the fact that there are three churches—Roman, Reformed and Lutheran—which divide the loyalties of Germans, because large sections of life in Germany have never been controlled by the Lutheran Church nor by all the churches together, because Lutheranism has not led to nazism in Scandinavian lands and because the equivalent of Hitlerism has arisen in Japan without any aid from Lutheranism.

CHARLES LESLIE VENABLE.

Philippine Missionaries Are Safe

J. W. Decker of the Baptist mission board has received word that Baptist missionaries in Iloilo in the central Philippines are safe and are continuing their work.