



Cardinal Leger of Montreal welcomed World Council of Churches leaders to meet there recently. Churchmen include Anglican Bishop Maguire, Greek Orthodox Archbishop Athenagoras, Visser 't Hooft and Dr. George Johnson.

Unity—A Gift from God

(Continued from Page 9A)

of Anglicanism as a unifying factor and developed a church based upon national, state and county units, each local unit presided over by a "chief pastor." Worship on the local level would have great variety in Huntington's church. Such worshiping congregations could meet in different or even in the same building at different hours.

Huntington's plan had laid the foundation for Charles C. Morrison's organic union plan which came to be known as the Greenwich plan. Inasmuch as it was presented at the Greenwich Conference in 1949. A rather direct relationship can be traced from Greenwich to the present Consultation on Church Union, familiarly known as the Blake-Pike proposal, and which now includes ten American churches seeking to establish a new church which is at once "reformed, catholic and evangelical."

The Churches Together

It has not, however, been the church union movements which have characterized Protestant ecumenism. We have already mentioned the cooperative societies designed to carry on particular functions.

The other main trend of Protestant ecumenical movement has been the formation of church federations or councils. The earliest was the Federation of Churches and Christian Workers of New York City (1895). Out of this beginning came local, state and national councils of churches. On the national level the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America was formed in 1908. (1) to express the fellowship and the unity of the church; (2) to unite in service the Christian bodies of America; (3) to encourage fellowship and counsel among the churches; (4) to bring the voice of the church to bear upon the moral and social conditions of the country; and (5) to develop local branches of the Federal Council. Along side the Federal Council there had grown up important interdenominational agencies. These included the Foreign Missions Council of North America, the Home Missions Council of North America, the International Council of Religious Education, the National Protestant Council of Higher Education, the Missionary Education Movement of the United States and Canada, the United Stewardship Council, and the United Council of Church Women.

These organizations joined with the Federal Council in 1950 to form the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America. At that time thirty-two million American Protestant and Orthodox Christians belonged to churches forming the National Council. The Council has provided the most important ecumenical institution in America and has become the chief symbol of united Christ-

ianity. Similar conciliar developments have taken place in almost every country.

A Worldwide Effort

On a world scale the ecumenical movement had its roots largely in Christian missions. At the beginning of the 19th Century William Carey, the famed Baptist missionary to India, had suggested a periodic gathering of missionary forces for the discussion of matters of common concern. Several such gatherings were held in the 19th Century, but it was not until the World Missionary Conference met in Edinburgh in 1910 that the whole realization of Carey's dream came to reality. The conference was composed of delegates from missionary societies and as such was not an "ecumenical" council, but Edinburgh succeeded in laying the ground for the development of the conciliar movement on a world scale.

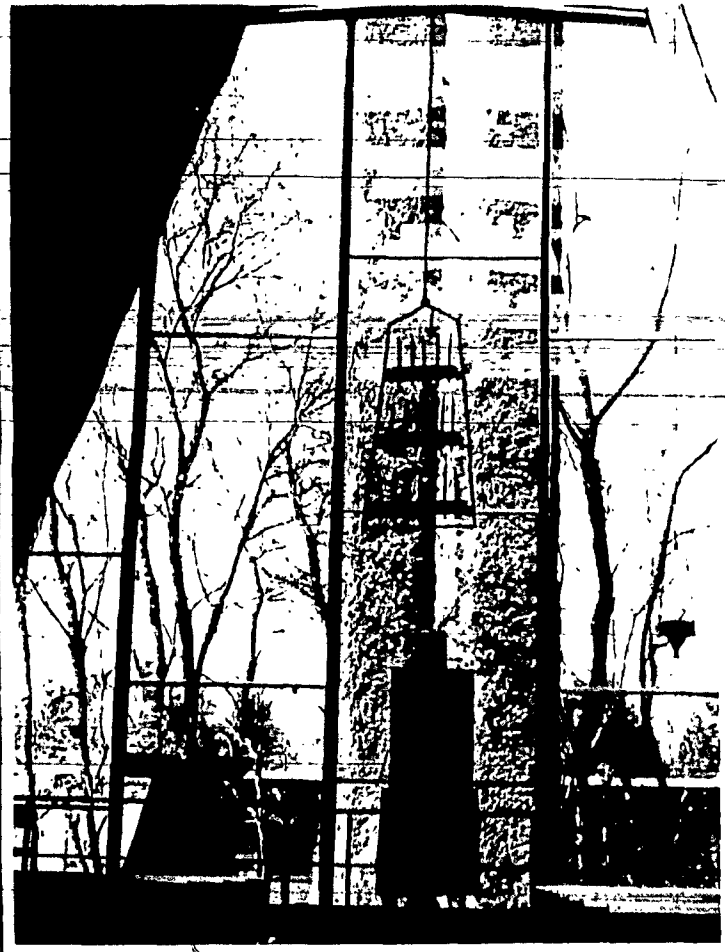
Out of Edinburgh flowed three major movements: the International Missionary Council (1921), the Faith and Order Movement (1920), and the Life and Work Movement (1925). Although the latter was only indirectly linked to Edinburgh and had its strongest roots in the World Student Christian Federation, one of its chief supporters was J. H. Oldham who occupied an important place in the Edinburgh Conference.

Each of these three Councils had a series of significant world conferences. The place names of Jerusalem, Tamboran, Stock-

holm, Edinburgh, Oxford, Lausanne stir the deepest memories in the ecumenical movement.

Under the stimulation of Faith and Order and Life and Work a joint enterprise developed which resulted in the calling of delegates from 140 churches in 54 countries to Amsterdam, Holland in August 1948. Here Faith and Order and Life and Work gave up their independent existence to become the World Council of Churches. In 1961 at New Delhi in India the International Missionary Council joined with the World Council. Thus the three movements on a world scale which had most significantly influenced ecumenicity were made one and combined their functions and leadership. Since then the Council has grown to more than 200 churches.

In the development of the World Council, the eastern Orthodox churches have from the beginning occupied a significant role. Orthodox became deeply involved in the Faith and Order Movement and as such, most naturally, became a part of the World Council.



Temple Sinai is one of Rochester area's newest and most dramatic houses of worship. Built on a wooded site on Penfield Road, the Temple's congregation look out to two massive rough-hewn concrete pillars, symbolic of tablets of Ten Commandments. The structure was designed by architect James Johnson.

At the close of the Fourth World Conference on Faith and Order in Montreal (1963) the nearly 500 participants made this bold affirmation in The Word to the Churches: "We are on the way to Christian unity. In Montreal we have seen this afresh because we have been shown that the Lord of all the world is at work, whatever we may do. He is shaping a world which can not deny that it is one world, except by self destruction. In that world we Christians find ourselves being drawn and driven together. This is what we mean when we speak of an 'ecumenical reality' which takes shape faster than we can understand it or express it."

It is to this ecumenical reality that the leadership of the ecumenical movement is committed.

What the Conference had said and done echoed the words of Cardinal Leger as he addressed the delegates: "We are brothers; we have the certitude of being united in Christ... our mutual affection, grounded on this union in faith, allows us to entertain in our hearts a hope that God cannot permit to be empty and illusory... one day we may all be able to sing together in truth this article of the Catholic liturgy: 'Where there is charity and love, there is the Lord.'"

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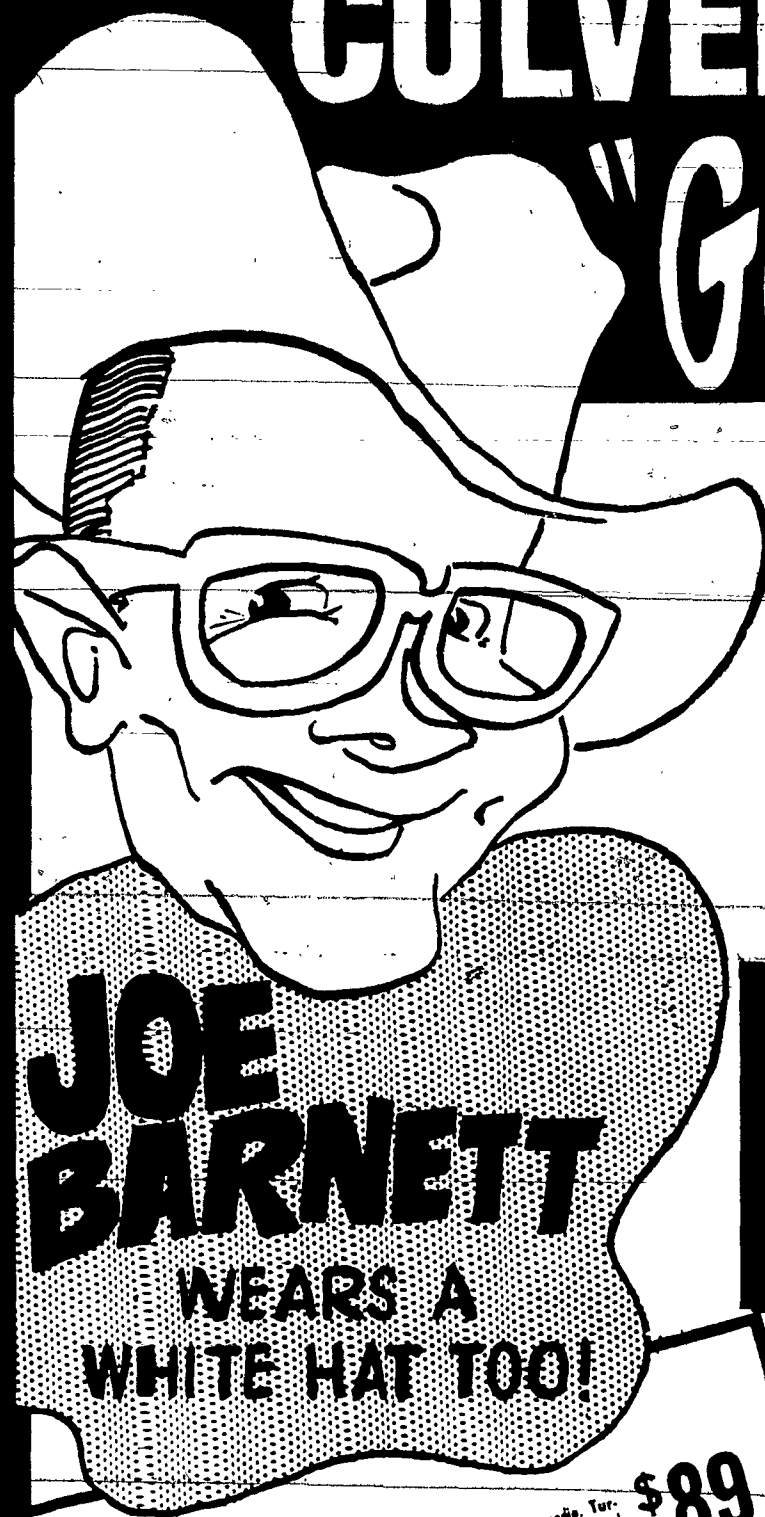
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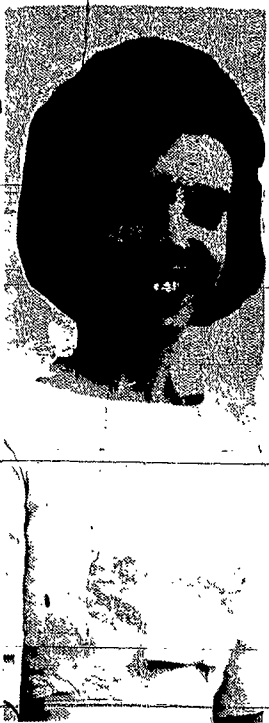
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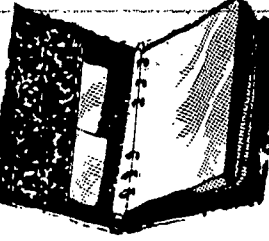
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Mrs. James Marron—Miss Ann L. Coursey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Coursey, Wyatt D., and James E. Marron, son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Marron, Hoffman Ave., were married May 6 in St. Thomas More Church, Rochester. (McDowell Photo)



New Officers
Recently installed officers and trustees of the Ladies' Columbian, Elmira, include: Madames Daniel E. Burns, Jo E. Strong, Truman W. Faint, Harry Altman, Robert L. Pat Anthony P. Bellina, Cyril Kuttentuler, Thomas R. Burdins. Mrs. Frank A. Belgo Chaplain is Father James C. senior trustee, was installing officer.

Diamond Jubilee
St. Mary's Hospital School Nursing Alumnae Association will hold a Diamond Jubilee Dinner Dance on Friday (night) May 12 at Logan's. Reception at 6:30, buffet dinner 7:30 p.m. Dancing to T. Monti's orchestra from 8 to 10 p.m. Reservations, \$12.50 per couple. Miss Mary Cecilia, 2908.

Alumnae Tea slated Sunday May 14 at 2 p.m. This year's "graduating class" will be welcomed.

Monthly Conference
Lay Carmelites of Our Lady of Victory Chapter will hold their monthly conference Sunday, May 14 at 2 p.m. in the Lady of Victory Church. Pat James O'Gara, S.S.C.C., chaplain moderator will conduct the service.

Postulants to be received include: Miss Dorothy Dillman, Mesdames Stella Falgout, Margaret Gamble and Rose Fern.

Reservations for retreat Cenelec Retreat House, J. 17, 18 and 19, may be made to Miss Emma Witz.

Alumnae Banquet
Nazareth Alumnae Association will hold its annual banquet Monday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m. Logan's. Chairmen in lieu Janet Doyle, Bonnie Bartschmidt, Mildred Donnelly, Marion Hart.

Cabin Party
Members of Rochester Catholic Adult Club will hold a Cabin Party on Sunday, May 21 West Lodge, Mendon Post. Serving at 6 p.m. Reservations to Carmine Pelote, 482-5293.

May Walk
Members of Catholic Holy Society will hold their annual walk.

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