

NEWS IN THE WORLD OF RELIGION

BY M. W. REID

to help combat juvenile delinquency by providing leisure time activities for boys and girls of confirmation age, to help promote Bible study, and to give opportunity for practical acts of Christian helpfulness, the American Lutheran Church is organizing the Lutheran Boys and Girls America throughout its local churches. The headquarters is at Lutheran Center, 4106 Frank-Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio.

In order to "call attention to need for more general knowledge of the great resources in our country for the improving of relations and for the achievement of a better practice of democracy and fellowship between groups," an award of \$1,000 will be made next February to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. It will be made to the person "whose work in the removal of racial tensions and conflicts has been outstanding." The award is being administered by Edward L. Bernays, publicist, and is announced by Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary.

Anti-Semitism, "akin to the practices of Hitler's Germany" is growing in America even

today, and must be dealt with frankly, especially by church people, according to Dr. Channing H. Tobias, of the National Council of the Y. M. C. A. "Even children accepting whispered charges at their face value, are organizing and directing gangs to desecrate synagogues and cemetery, and do violence to unoffending Jewish children," says Dr. Tobias. "Silver shirrers and Christian frontiers who a short time ago worked under cover are now operating openly and brazenly, and prejudiced individuals who have no organizational medium through which to express their hatred and contempt are becoming more and more bold in public expressions of anti-Semitism. Surely such behavior cannot go unchallenged by Christians."

The Rev. Walter G. Griffiths of Berkeley, Cal., missionary of the Methodist Church in Calcutta, India, is head of the relief committee which has been set up by the Bengal (India) Christian Council to administer missionary and other funds for the assistance of famine victims in that area. This famine, the worst in India this century, has taken thousands of lives and has left in its wake malnutrition, epidemics and economic losses

that effect many millions of people who are normally among the poorest in the world. The Bengal and the Indian governments are endeavoring to lift this burden from the people, and American aid is being sent by the churches and administered by Mr. Griffiths and his committee of missionary and Indian Christians. Mr. Griffiths, graduate of the University of California, has been in India since 1920; recently he has been in charge of the Lee Memorial Mission in Calcutta.

"Much of the Nazi attack has been against the churches; against the Jews they have vented special hate," says Dr. Leslie B. Moss, in charge of relief under the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ. "The Nazis have tried by every means to defraud people of the spiritual teachings of the churches. Now, in the period of rehabilitation the churches in every community shall be centers of fresh and reviving life. The churches are, of course, composed of the local people. War weary people turning again to peace will find in the churches almost the only organization or institution that has survived the storm of hate and destruction. Their buildings of worship may be gone, but centers can be rebuilt for worship, with our help. Training will be started for new and younger leaders in the church. Refugees and displaced people far from home can be brought back to their homes and helped to start in gainful occupations once more. The churches may well become in many places the first focus for new community life. This is the place where the church can render its peculiar ministry in the world—the building of brotherhood."

"A Canadian missionary tells of an evening meal in Chungking in Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's home which was interrupted by an air raid. When the meal was finally finished, the Generalissimo asked the missionary to stay and join in evening devotion. "The Generalissimo began by reading some scripture, then prayed," he says. "I never expect to hear such a prayer again in all my life. First he gave a simple expression of thanks for our personal safety, then he added thanks for the courage of the nation under fire. He prayed for strength for the men in the field and along the firing lines. He prayed for strength for himself. The most amazing thing in his prayer was a plea that God would help him and help China not to hate the Japanese people. He prayed for the Japanese

Christians and for all the suffering multitudes of Japan whose impoverishment was making the war on China possible. He prayed for the people who were bombed, for forgiveness for those who dropped the bombs."

California Hurting State Early Potato Market

Raleigh, August 9th—Shipments of early commercial Irish potatoes equal to 5,800 cars have moved out of Eastern North Carolina this year, Harry Westcott reported in a review of the season.

Westcott, marketing specialist with the N. C. Department of Agriculture, said that the War

Food Administration purchased a total of 1,138 cars in its efforts to bolster prices which dropped to the floor during the second week of June.

Westcott expressed the opinion that the acute drop in the potato income following high prices during early season, could not be attributed to volume, since the crop was relatively very small this year.

He said that this season showed that California Irish potato production has become "serious competition" of the North Carolina early crop.

"California potatoes this year not only moved into Eastern markets which had been using our product, but they came right into this State, being offered for sale in retail stores in this area at the same time that we were

experiencing our heaviest shipping days," declared Westcott. He added that "although it has not proven profitable to wash, dry, and pre-cool potatoes in North Carolina, it seems that must be done in the future if we are to stay in the early commercial market."

The marketing specialist conceded that the California potato as now prepared for market ordinarily presents a more attractive appearance to the consumer than does the North Carolina variety. Due to the extremely heavy yields Westcott said, California producers are able to absorb the freight rate differential. Consequently the California potatoes are no higher than the home grown variety.

Westcott expressed the opinion that "entirely new" methods of

marketing must be employed next summer, and hereafter, if this State is to meet California competition.

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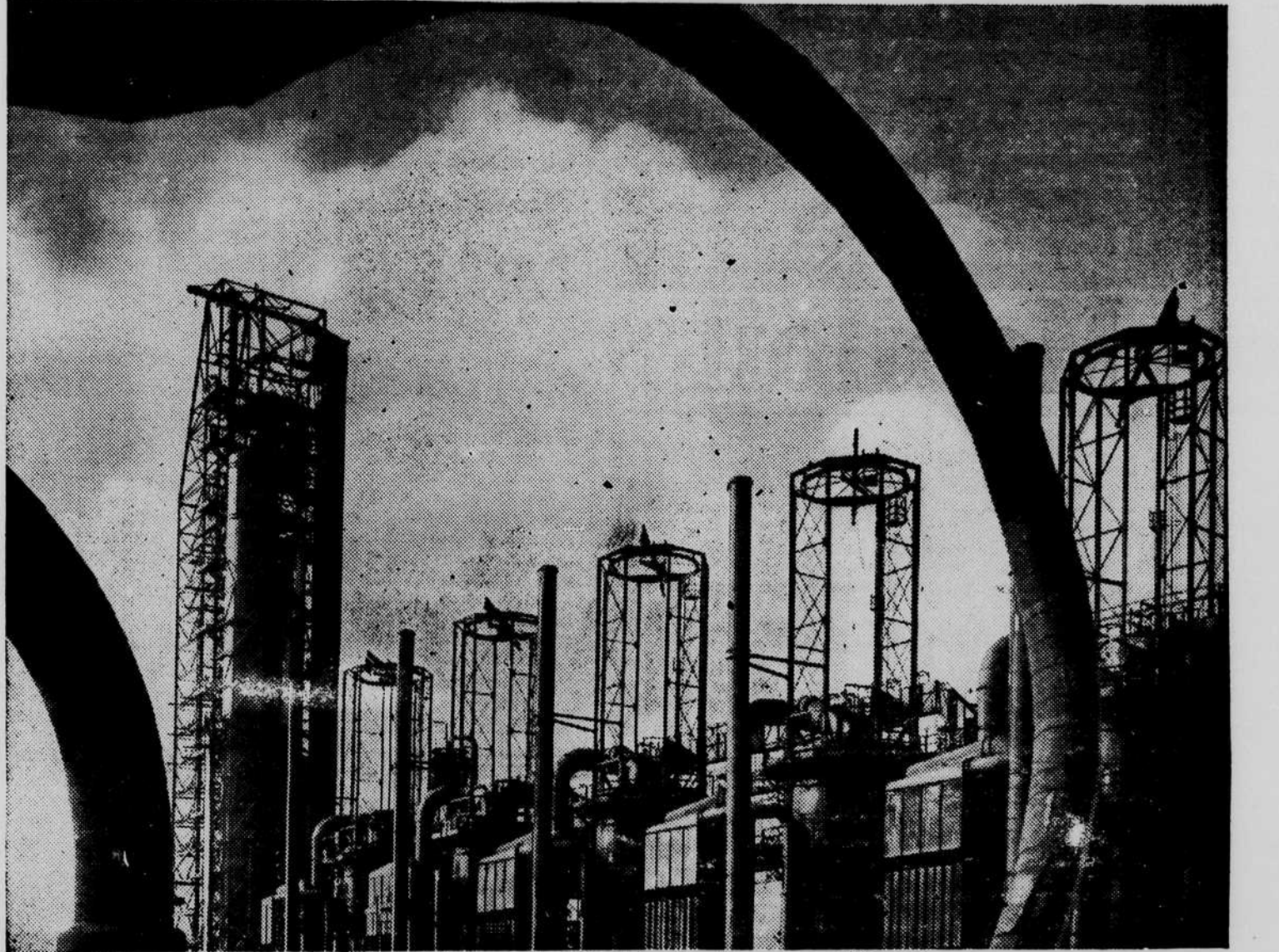
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He prayed for the Japanese

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