
A BETTER
WORLD
FOR ALL
PEOPLES



FOREWORD

THE General Convention of 1940 adopted a Resolution calling for the appointment of a Joint Commission "to keep themselves informed regarding the work of the Archbishop of York" (now the Archbishop of Canterbury). This referred to several pronouncements which had been made by English Commissions headed by the Archbishop of York regarding social reconstruction in the post-war world, of which the Malvern Resolutions are the best known.

The Joint Commission appointed by Convention decided that while the assigned task of keeping ourselves informed on these matters was a very rewarding one, there was little merit in it unless we ourselves did something about it. We therefore chose to regard ourselves as a Preliminary Commission on Social Reconstruction, and as such to report to the next Convention.

Consequently the Commission drew up a statement of Religious Convictions and then endeavored to lay down some prin-

ciples in the field of international relations, race relations, and domestic relations which we believe are implicit in these convictions. This Report, printed in this pamphlet, was adopted by the General Convention of 1943 and was recommended to the Church for study and discussion.

Interest in this matter at General Convention was heightened by a cablegram from the Archbishop of Canterbury stating that he, together with the Archbishop of York, wished to appoint a similar Commission from the Church of England to cooperate with our Commission in a further exploration of these questions. This proposal was eagerly accepted, and during this triennium the two Commissions will collaborate in this study.

The Commission hopes that the Report, herein printed, will be used widely throughout the Church as a basis for discussion groups. Other major Church statements are listed on page 22. Nothing is more important than that the people of the Christian Church be acutely aware of the problems which lie ahead, and prepared to make their decisions on the basis of their Christian convictions.

WILLIAM SCARLETT

THE COMMISSION

THE RT. REV. WILLIAM SCARLETT, D.D.,
Bishop of Missouri. Chairman.

THE RT. REV. CHARLES C. J. CARPENTER,
Bishop of Alabama. D.D.,

THE RT. REV. BEVERLEY D. TUCKER, D.D.,
Bishop of Ohio.

THE REV. FRANCIS J. BLOODGOOD, D.D.,
Diocese of Milwaukee.

THE REV. E. H. ECKEL, JR.,
Diocese of Oklahoma.

THE REV. HOWARD H. HASSINGER,
Diocese of Rochester.

STEPHEN E. BURROUGHS,
Diocese of North Carolina.

DR. CLARK G. KUEBLER,
Diocese of Chicago.

International Collaboration

IN the light of this Faith we seek a *more unified world*, possessing a world framework within which the Nations may find security and freedom, and within which in peace the Nations set themselves to cooperate for production and distribution.

The bitter experience of the past quarter of a century has underscored the basic Christian principle of the unity, and mutual responsibility, of all mankind in God. "We are members one of another; if one member suffers all the members suffer with it." "God hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the whole earth." Practically we believe the idea that the balancing of power with power would create a harmony of economic and political powers, has broken down; "the freedom of the Nations is today dependent on achieving a supra-national unity in which each Nation actively participates and which has the power to protect it against insecurity and conquest"; this will not be

achieved by *laissez faire* but by ending the present international anarchy through the creation of an International Authority based on law, and provided with power to enforce that law. We need to arm ourselves now with the moral purpose to fashion such a united world beyond the day of battle.

Five Proposals Advocated

We would therefore advocate the following propositions:

1. The coming Peace must provide an *over-all arrangement* for international collaboration in dealing with those common world problems which are capable of no purely national or regional solution: *within such world framework* purely regional affairs can be left to regional groups.

2. Such collaboration should include the supervision and control of all military establishments and the creation of international police power sufficient to provide an effective system of collective

security, yet with machinery flexible enough to allow for the adjustment of equitable changes and claims. The world has now become one: whatever happens anywhere in the long run happens to all: the world must therefore be organized accordingly.

3. Such collaboration must be able to deal with the broad world problems of finance and economics, the regulation of tariffs with an eye to the interests of the Community of Nations as a whole, the establishment of free access to raw materials and equal access to world markets for manufactured articles, the protection of the rights and interests of inhabitants of backward areas and the improvement of their standards of living and culture. These are world problems and must be approached accordingly. The world is economically one and can no longer be left wholly to the haphazard competition of conflicting national interests.

4. The nucleus of such International Authority is already in existence in the United Nations, born out of sheer neces-

sity. We urge that now, while the fire of war is still hot, and interests and aims more easily welded, there be created a Central Council of the United Nations, 'as an organ for cooperative action' in prosecuting the war and in preparing for and organizing the peace. The United Nations must remain a permanent body, ultimately reaching out towards universality by the inclusion of neutral and enemy states.

5. Any chance to create a stable world will depend primarily on the willingness of the United States to renounce isolation and to play its full part and assume its full responsibility and exercise leadership in such an International Authority.

The Church's Primary Duty

The Christian Church has a primary duty to seek such a unified world and to assist in the creation of international order:

1. By being itself actually a worldwide fellowship under one Lord, in