

largely through the leadership of Soderbloom of Sweden. As a result of World War I a number of churchmen felt that they should have an organized channel through which they could speak or act to the governments of the world. A thousand delegates showed up at Stockholm from 37 different countries. And there seemed to be a real eagerness to speak at governmental levels. In 1930 the group met again in Oxford England and called a conference on "Church, Community and State" with delegates from 45 nations and representing 119 churches.

(F & O and L & W)

In 1938 the Life and Works Movement and the Faith and Order Movement met jointly at a Conference Utrecht, Holland, in an effort to put the two organizations together since, after all, the personnel were essentially the same. A motion was made to form a World Council of Churches and a committee was appointed to draft a constitution. The call for the formation of the World Council of Churches was set for 1941 for New York City. War interfered with these plans and the date delayed until 1948 when the W.C.C. was actually formed at Amsterdam, Holland.

(I.M.C. and W.C.C.)

The integration of the International Missionary Council with the World Council of Churches did not take place however, until the last General Assembly in 1961 in New Delhi, India. The Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches was held in 1954 at Evanston, Illinois.

B. Organization of the World Council of Churches

The attached chart shows the general organization of the World Council of Churches. It is headed by a General Assembly which is normally scheduled to meet every five years. Under the General Assembly is a Presidium composed of six presidents which provides a center of authority in nearly every area of the world. The present presidents of the World Council of Churches is as follows: A.M. Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sir Francis Ribiam, presbyterian from Nigerai, Most Reverend Iakovos, Eastern Orthodox, Reverend Dr. David G. Moses, United Church of North India and Pakistan, Dr. Martin Niemoller, Evangelical Church of Germany, Mr. Charles Parlin, Methodist of the United States (a layman). Under the Presidium is a Central Committee comprised of 100 members which meets normally once per year. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, Lutheran, is Chairman of this Committee. Dr. Fry is also President of the World Lutheran Federation and a most prominent leader in the United Lutheran Church in America. The General Secretary of the World Council of Churches with offices in Geneva, Switzerland is Dr. Visser t'Hooft.

Of the five commissions or departments in the World Council of Churches, the most powerful and influential seems to be the Commission of Churches on International Affairs. Director of this commission is Dr. O. Frederick Nolde who is a well-traveled man and an effective spokesman with a ready entree to the United Nations and inner-government circles wherever he goes.

Like the National Council of Churches, the World Council is deeply involved in political and economic activities. Following is a quotation from an address by Dr. Nolde on November 23, 1961 at New Delhi, India, entitled "The Future is Now". This address indicates the extent of the activities of the C.C.I.A..

"The C.C.I.A. as the commission is generally called, was established 16 years ago as a specialized agency to operate on a day to day basis. Its activities rest on the assumption that the churches have a right, indeed a duty, to speak to the nations for peace and justice, and if their word is to be effective it must be uttered at the time and place where international and inter-governmental decisions are made . . . For example, early in Septem-