

thought were foolishness, many of them were faced with real problems of conscience. Shall we ~~xxx~~ submit to all these trappings and go through all these forms and things, or shall we refuse to do them. And some refused to do them and were put out of the church, and some found it necessary to step out, and there was a process that went on for about a century. Of people gradually stepping out or being forced out of the Church of England, and the govt. of England trying to force the ~~people~~ people to attend the services of the Church of England and stand in line with it. And not to have any dissention services, as they called it.

,And so this movement of the dissenters in England, which began about 1560, went on through about a century, or a little more, after, that is the development of the dissention. Now, these dissenting churches, as people came out from the Church of England, they came out pretty much as individual groups. And they started a great many individual groups here and there throughout England. And these individual groups, leaving the body with the host organization, had a tendency to go to the opposite extreme. And the tendency to say, well, now, this organization control is bad. We won't have any organization. We will be entirely by ourselves. And some of them tried to develop this into a theory, a theory that a group of people constitute a church, and a church should have no particular relationships with another group, except as it may happen to do so. And this was the extreme theory of independence. Which developed in certain groups in England. The theory that one group of Christians is a unit absolutely by itself. And there is no particular relationship ~~or~~ between it and another. ~~xxxxxx~~

Now, of course, this movement was complicated by variations as to the internal govt. of these groups. Some of them were governed by the whole group of people making their decisions absolutely by themselves, everybody having equal vote on things. Some of them tried to institute a system of having elders, who would be selected by the people, who would control. Some of them had a minister who was a practically an autocrat in the group. You find in independent churches in America today just as much variation and the same