

g. Present day action in the Protestant / Grecian / Roman world:

(1) Joint studies on church life

(2) Joint studies in evangelism and mission

(3) And, of course, the subject of which we are now speaking and its expressive agencies.

B. Factors leading to the Modern Ecumenical Movement...viewed historically and critically.

1. Theological Liberalism

--particularly that of the 19th and 20th centuries. We will look at this in greater detail in a few pages. Liberalism made everything dispensable except the organized church and this body would have to make common cause with the other societal forces for the amelioration of world need, etc.

2. Ecclesiastical social consciousness

Growing in the period of our study as the world "contracted" and it became possible--was even necessary--to have a much fuller view and understanding of what the world consisted. The church has always had something of a social consciousness but it grew with better information on world need and with the view of the great wars that ravaged society.

3. Envy of Rome

The "success" of Rome has always been a point of envy for protestant leaders caught in the morass of endless competition with one another ineffectuality due to duplication of effort and lack of cooperation. Rome has not always been nearly so successful as some have thought but it has presented a monolithic picture of accomplishments that charms much protestant mentality with the glitter of uniformity or oneness.