

Fellowship of Evangelicals as convened with the help and influence of J.E.Wright. Wright was a strong evangelical who, in the face of the liberal concentration in New England, felt the need of a fellowship of believers who would make a compelling witness in that place. Due to the nature of the ecclesiastical make-up, a separatist organization did not seem practical...not because Wright was not committed to a biblical position but because most of the evangelicals available for such fellowship were working within denominations largely controlled by liberals.

The same problems that led to the formation of the ACC were fundamental in the development of the NAE: radio, military, liberal claims. Following preliminary meetings in the span of 1939-41, the NAE was formed in April, 1942.

b. Distinctions with the ACC

Briefly summarized the principle distinctions between the ACC and the NAE are these:

--The former held to a complete and immediate separation from the liberal churches while the latter denied the need of this and permitted a dual membership: one could belong to both the NAE and the FCC so long as it could sign the confessional accord of the NAE..

--The former held to a council idea...a group of churches expressing opinion judicially derived; while the latter projected a "fellowship" with the idea that the churches would work together for certain projects and ends in a cooperative way.

--The former held for a more polemical stance and a confrontation theology while the latter opted for a more "constructive" and progressive approach. This sounds more mild in form than it actually proved in life.

And these were not the only differences but they seem to be the major ones in time. You can easily see that the two bodies could not work together. The ACC soon identified the NAE as compromisers and the NAE promptly dubbed the ACC obscurantists and "fighters."

c. Activities:

More numerous and somewhat more constructive due to the aims of the organization, we mention just two and will probably touch on several others:

--education

--overseas help