

- (c) The Loyalty Code Debates
- (d) the Publications argument

And remember, we are not making judgments on individual performance, just noticing the way things have gone.

(4) Present Inroads:

- (a) Affect of mergers of 1939

1958

(b) Source materials: I will suggest that an hour in the Methodist book store reading Sunday School curricula and books that are published as official expressions of polity, etc., will be time well spent in this area. Of the more notable and difficulty works in recent years, the following still exemplify the modern unbelief inroads into Methodism: Oxnam, A TESTAMENT OF FAITH; E. Stanley Jones: THE CHRIST OF THE INDIAN ROAD; Edwin Lewis: GREAT CHRISTIAN TEACHINGS. These are old today but they are still representative of thought. The sermons of Ralph Sockman and the works of Luther Weigle are also interesting.

For further discussions of the problems, consult Conant; PRESENT DAY METHODISM AND THE BIBLE; Robb: THE BETRAYAL OF THE CHURCH. The inner criticism of the GOOD NEWS group is helpful and their analysis of Methodist seminaries (1978) provided a good document for seeing how the educational world had gone.

Very significant, I thought, was the survey taken by the United Methodist Council on Ministries as reported in the Evangelical Newsletter of 6/1/84..a study taken in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of the Methodist church in America. The survey (a bit out of date now) showed, among other things that:

30% of the Methodist laypersons considered themselves as fundamental or conservative.
 31% of the pastoral clergy identified similarly
 9% of the regional or national hierarchy took the same position.

Both the past (Philip Potter) and the present (Emilio Castro) secretaries of the World Council of Churches are members of the Methodist family and their pronouncements would add to this study of modern unbelief in the Wesleyan family.

(5) If you care to read more in this general area you might consult Harkness: BELIEFS THAT COUNT (Methodist doctrine), Harmon: UNDERSTANDING THE METHODIST CHURCH (organization and structure); Mickey: ESSENTIALS OF WESLEYAN THEOLOGY,