

Otherwise:

We cannot look at every land but one or two things are worth noticing...in almost every case there is a reaction against Israel and an appeal to a glorification of a false ideal. For the Christian the lesson of church history is that the Biblical revelation must be supreme over every other ideal and the plan of God must be honored in every phase of life.

And time does not allow us to look at China but our hope is that somewhere on the line the missions or some modern elective might pick it up.

VI.2.e  
Ecumenical  
Developments

Steps in Ecumenism

Ecumenism is more fully developed in Church History III. In a nutshell it is the idea of a church which is universal..world-wide as opposed to the fragmented and many named body we see today. It has better sides and poorer ones but has only become a real force in the last fifty years. As far as Europe has been concerned, the trials and problems of the last few years have helped...they have lessened the insistence on nationality and ethnic ideas.

The major names in the move are those of the American, John R. Mott, and the Swedish churchman, Nathan Soderblum.

The primary moves include ther world missionary conference moves that had an initial meeting in Edinburg (1910) and produced the International Missionary Council, now an arm of the World Council of Churches. Following this were the two conference-commissions: the Life and Work Conference after 1925 and the Faith and Order Conference after 1927 The former sought to see how the churches could work together and, in an over simplification of some magnitude, the latter tried to see how they could believe together. These bodies continued and in 1937 called for a major ecumenical council. The call was impeded by the war but was answered in 1948 at Amsterdam and the formation of the World Council of Churches. This body has worked in the frame of theological pluralism and, perhaps to a lesser degree, theological