

and are rapidly outgrowing the limitations formerly put upon the preaching and the practice of the gospel. It is scarcely necessary to argue now for the place of a social gospel which each Conference is seeking to apply for the cure of our social ills.

7. We can not have the recognition of Christ in the law till we have him dominant in the social life; when we have him in life we do not need him in law. The first part of this is true, the second is untrue. It is equivalent to saying that when a man is a Christian it is not necessary to make any public profession. As a matter of fact the Christian will make a public profession of it and Christianity in the national life will find expression in the national law. Law is the expression of the life. Another fact to be considered is the honor that the nation owes to Christ. Jesus said to Pilate "Thou sayest that I am a king. For this cause came I into the world that I might hear witness to the truth. He that is of the truth heareth my voice." Shall America hear his voice?

WITNESS COMMITTEE

119 Federal Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

## COMMON OBJECTIONS ANSWERED

We trust that you have no objection to the recognition of Jesus Christ in the national life and law, but if you have an objection it is probably one of the following, and we ask a careful reading of these answers.

1. That it means a union of church and state. This is a somewhat common objection, but loses its force as one thinks what the recognition of the Lordship of Jesus Christ would actually do. The church and the state are both divine institutions. Both are under divine law and both prosper according as they obey the law. Since all authority, according to the Great Commission, belongs to Jesus Christ, he is as truly the ruler of one as the other.

Paul explains in First Corinthians twelfth chapter how men and institutions are intended to work together in the divine plan. They are to co-operate as hands and feet with the one mind working through both. But this common operation of the mind of Christ would not unite them any more than it unites hands and feet. It only enables them to do what they fail to do now, to work together in harmony for the uplift of the race. Co-operation through the recognition by the church and by the state of the authority and teachings of Jesus Christ is the divine plan; union of church and state is the human plan, a plan which will soon be obsolete.

2. It would change our national policy of neutrality in religion. This is not so much an objection as a recommendation. Neutrality in religion is an impossibility either for the individual or the community or the nation.

Our statesmen, who framed the Constitution were fallible men, as eighteen amendments show, and in nothing more fallible than when they thought Buddha and Mohammed and Jesus could be put on a common level and all alike ignored. President Wilson tried to keep the country out of the world war, but the war was too big and the world too small for him to succeed. Nineteen hundred years ago Jesus Christ won the title deeds of this world through his victory on the cross, and ever since has been at war with Satan to get possession, and the issue is too big for any man or any community or nation to be neutral. The United States must decide for or against the Christ. "He that is not with me is against me." Without Christ in International affairs there can be no peace between nations; without Christ in the national life and law we shall have the class war. There is no man saved nor any nation safe that ignores Jesus Christ.

3. **It would offend the Jews.** It is a very remarkable instance of the influence of the Jews, that while they make only three per cent of the population, men should think this three per cent should decide our national policy. Doubtless the recognition of Christ would offend Orthodox Jews, so does also the presence of the Christian Church and the preaching of the gospel of Christ. The Orthodox Jew would abolish every memorial of the Christ he crucified, if he had the power. There are three answers to this objection.

One is that the Orthodox Jews are found only in the large cities and that with each generation there is an increasing number of the reform element which is apt to care little for any religion.

The second answer is that the spiritual revolution which must take place before Jesus Christ can be realized either in the life or the

law of the land may result in the conversion of the Jews.

The third reason is that the Jew is safe and prosperous only in a country where the teachings of Jesus Christ are so accepted that the Jew is protected and given his rights in the common brotherhood of men. Some Jews recognize this.

4. **The majority of the people of the country are unbelievers.** If they were not, this campaign to recognize Jesus Christ would not be necessary. It is because the Protestant Church must definitely face this fact and put its material and spiritual forces into the task of winning America for Christ that this program claims your support. Jesus can not be recognized in law until he has already been realized in life.

5. **Recognizing Jesus Christ would interfere with personal liberty.** We have been accustomed to hearing that Prohibition interferes with personal liberty. The traffic policeman on the busy city street also interferes with personal liberty. The recognition of the rule of Jesus Christ would interfere in about the same way. It surely is a strange conclusion that the recognition of the rule of him who died to make men free would take away freedom, unless it is the freedom to do wrong. There is no freedom for men anywhere in the world, where Christ has not made them free. Why, then, should we not submit our lives, public and private, to him in whom alone men have found freedom.

6. **Religion belongs to the individual and not to society.** That is one of the fallacies from which the Protestant Church has suffered from the Reformation until in recent times when it has so generally been rejected by the evangelical churches. Nearly all of the churches now have their social programs,