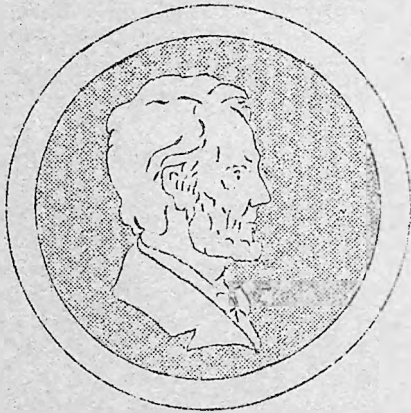


# THE SEMINARIAN

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FROM YE EDITOR — Herb Reichert



want is charity". Labor is on the move, growing more powerful every day, and it is significant that the Church has not yet grasped the full import of this new economic and social complexion which is coming into being. How disastrous this will be to the future of the Church can only be guessed at now. But if it is to survive, the Church must wake up to the new conditions and realize that the primary demands of labor are not aimed at the destruction of big business but are demands for justice in wages and working conditions. The principles of Christianity must be applied to effect a proper balance between the demands of both labor and management. This is our task, and we cannot remain as we now are.

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## THE MINISTER'S PURPOSE, OUTLOOK, and OBJECTIVE,

By William Albright

As a Christian minister I am entering a vocation in which I shall have many responsibilities. My first responsibility is to God. After I am assured that what I am doing is in accordance with His will, my next responsibility is to the members of my congregation. When I am called by a congregation and accept the call I put myself at the disposal of that congregation. My time is no longer my own whenever it can be used to care for the spiritual life of that group. All else is secondary. Community activities which do not pertain directly to the life of my own congregation must take an inconspicuous place. Even the advancement of my own education must not take precedence over the work with my own people. I am hired to preach the Gospel to them, to educate their children for church membership, to administer the sacraments, to perform marriage and funeral ceremonies. I am expected to visit them in sickness and to comfort them in sorrow. They are always my primary concern.

In the matter of getting new members into the Church, besides the children of members, my responsibility is not greater than that of any consecrated layman in my congregation. We should all be on the alert for people who have no church homes and should try to bring them into our fellowship. But it should not be my personal responsibility as a regular parish minister to assume the duties of a full-time missionary. That is the task of specialists in the field of missionary work just as the treatment of certain diseases is the work of specialists in the medical profession.

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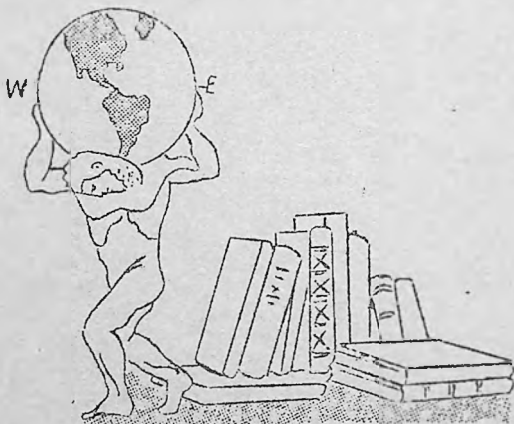
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As a parish minister I am a general practitioner and so long as I am in the regular ministry I cannot afford to devote a disproportionate amount of my time to any one phase of the ministry for in so doing I would not be fulfilling all of my obligations.

As a private citizen I have a right and, in fact, a responsibility to hold very definite political and economic views and also to express them in the drawing room or at the dinner table. But I have no right to bring political or economic issues into the pulpit on Sunday morning for in doing this I would be abusing my privilege as a minister. Certainly in expounding the Gospel the correct attitudes toward issues of the day will be brought out but it is the duty of the man in the pew to apply these attitudes. It is not for me to tell him from the pulpit how to vote or how to feel about strikes.

In my own daily life I know it will be impossible to please everybody. I would rather feel that I was doing the best I could and following what I believed to be God's will than feel that I was compromising in order to win popular favor or approval. If a choice had to be made I would rather be respected than a hail fellow

well met. At any rate, I would like to aim at being able to say to my congregation, with St. Paul, "The things which ye both learned and received and heard and saw in me, these things do."



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Outline of the WSSF Program .....

By - Hon. Ed Alcorn.

"It is undeniable that this civilization of our has to learn or perish, and it is World Student Relief's privilege and the the opportunity of its supporters to enable students to learn."

"The World Student Service Fund was created by the National Inter-Collegiate Christian Council (national organization of the Student YM and YWCA) as its emergency humanitarian arm in 1937 with the outbreak of the war in China. In 1940 its operations were extended to Europe with the coming of war to that continent. Its base was broadened to include steadily to include other sponsoring movements, namely, the Student Volunteer Movement, the Intersenary Movement, University Commission of the Council of Church Boards of Education, Student Service of America, Inc., and B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation.

"Relief for students in China is administered through the indigenous National Student Relief Committee, and in Europe through the European Student Relief Fund, which is the united relief enterprise of the world's Student Christian Federation, International Student Service, and Pax Romana. ... These various national and continental relief bodies have been organized and coordinated in World Student Relief since 1943, with headquarters in Geneva.

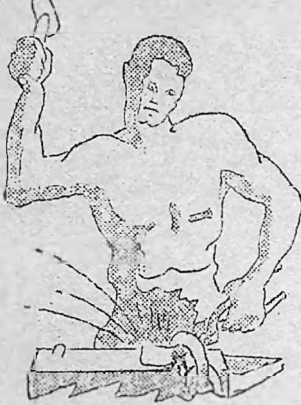
"The minimal needs of war-victimized students around the world for the current year have been estimated as more than \$2,000,000. by the officers of World Student Relief, for the most economical program of rehabilitation and reconstruction. It is general assumed that one-half of total student needs must be met by the comfortable and privileged American community, both academic and non-academic. "

(continued - Page 4)



"Steaks alive"

# LABOR



In the past several months the labor situation in the United States has caused much concern in the minds of all thinking people. We as ministers cannot afford to overlook the seriousness of the situation. Today the total number of strikers in the country stands at about one and a half million! This means one and a half million people -- people to whom many of us are and will be ministering. And though it is not our duty to preach on behalf of a particular class or group of people, nor is it necessarily our duty to support a group of striking workers even though their cause be needy and just, it is a major part of our tasks to know and to try to understand the problems of our people. And so we are presenting a case for Labor -- the millions of workers who earn their daily bread in the factories, shops, mills, mines, refineries, etc. Let us give particular attention to the 190,000 General Motors Workers, mostly in Detroit, who have been on strike since November 21, 1945. This strike is the oldest of the existing strikes, and countless thousands of other workers expect its outcome to greatly influence the outcome of most of the existing labor disputes.

The United Automobile Workers employed at General Motors are striking primarily for a thirty per-cent hourly wage increase. When we consider the UAW's argument, we must agree that the workers need a substantial wage increase. To begin with, the cost of living during the war increased much more rapidly than the worker's pay. This is a fact whether or not the casual observer chooses to believe it! According to official figures compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, the average city family ended 1945 "in the red" to the extent of from seventy-five to three hundred and forty-six dollars. The figures show clearly that taxes and living costs increased much more sharply than wages. In cities like Detroit, where living costs are considerably higher than the average recorded for the nation by the Bureau, the figures for 1945 show a much more unfavorable balance against the worker's income. Now, and since the war has ended, working hours are drastically reduced, and the ending of premium time has slashed deeply into the take-home pay of the majority of industrial workers, while the cost of living continues to rise! During the war the UAW urged and almost insisted that its members make weekly, substantial purchases of war bonds, and through the years of the war the minute-man flag flew over the GM plants in Detroit showing that near 100% of their employees were making systematic purchases of bonds. But even before the long strike had begun last November, many of the GM workers and their families had to fall back on their bonds to meet the rising costs of living. Now, what is left in bonds is the chief means of support for the workers who have been striking for more than two months.

Beyond this it must be remembered that the automotive industry is a seasonal industry. In peace time by mid-spring all orders for new cars are usually completed; in the summer a skeleton crew of workers begins to retool and set-up for the new models. Through the months of June, July, August, and most of September seventy-five to ninety per-cent of the automobile workers are unemployed. The striking GM workers and their union leaders are more aware of this than anyone else. Workers who had to struggle to keep out of "the red" with year around employment during the war must prepare now for periodical seasons of unemployment. The hourly wages of auto workers are not indicative of their yearly earnings. The men who make the cars must be able to spread out the earnings of the working months so that they will have support in the lean months of the summer.

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