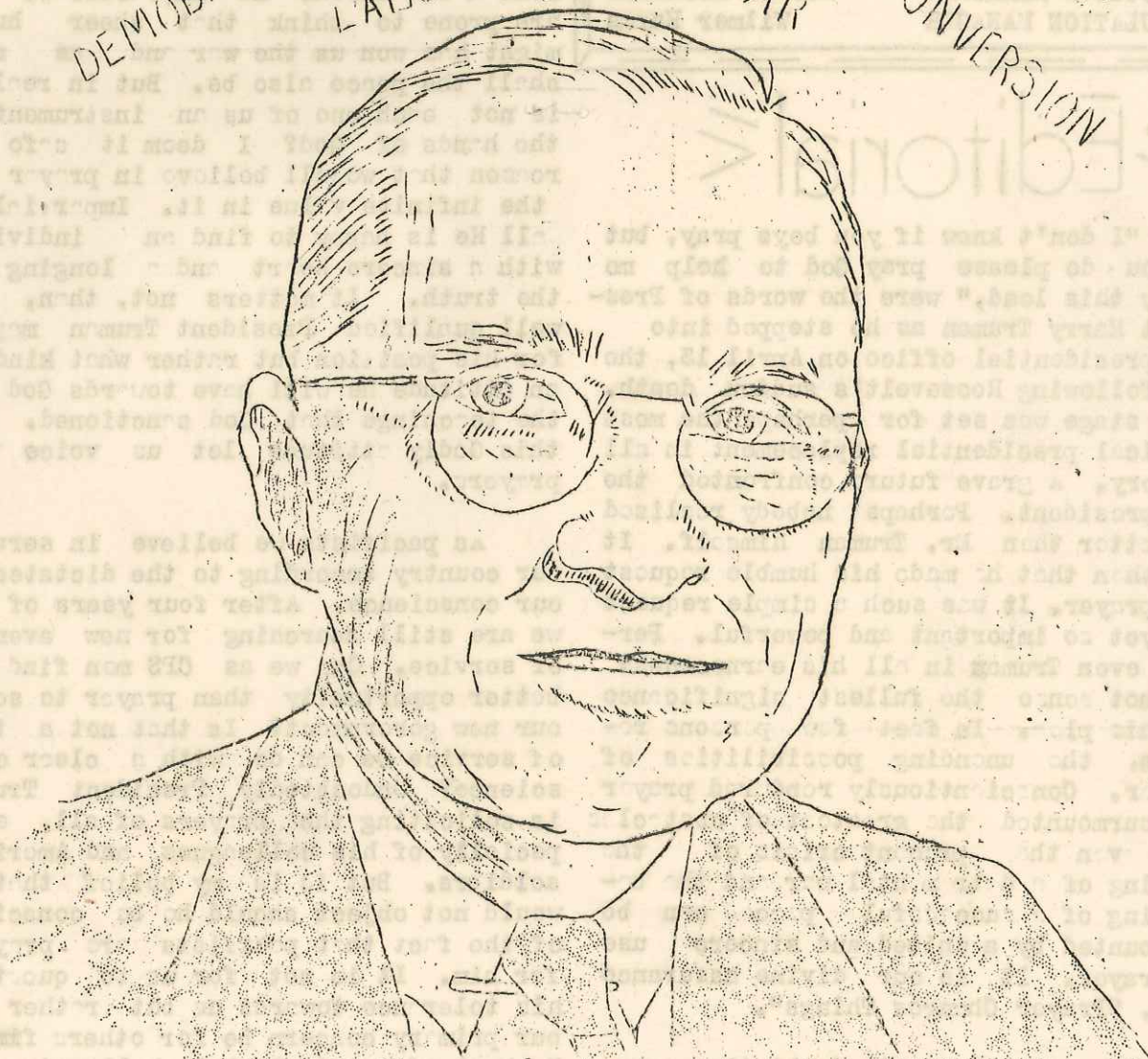


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PIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS

DEMobilIZATION WORLD PEACE RECONVERSION
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PRES. HARRY S. TRUMAN

"I don't know if you boys pray, but if you do, please pray God to help me carry this load"

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"PIKE VIEW PEACE NEWS"

Published monthly by the men in Civilian Public Service Camp No. 5, administered by the Mennonite Central Committee.

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≥Editorial≤

"I don't know if you boys pray, but if you do please pray God to help me carry this load," were the words of President Harry Truman as he stepped into the presidential office on April 13, the day following Roosevelt's sudden death. The stage was set for perhaps the most critical presidential replacement in all history. A grave future confronted the new president. Perhaps nobody realized it better than Mr. Truman himself. It was then that he made his humble request for prayer. It was such a simple request but yet so important and powerful. Perhaps even Truman in all his earnestness did not sense the fullest significance of his plea. In fact few persons realize the unending possibilities of prayer. Conscientiously rendered prayer has surmounted the greatest of obstacles. Yes, even the present crisis of the closing of a detrimental war and the beginning of a successful peace can be surmounted by a united and sincere use of prayer. It is our divine assurance that, "Prayer Changes Things".

Many of us seem to doubt the capabilities of President Truman in his new role. Perhaps rightly so, perhaps not.

The time is so critical to advance any party prejudices. It would be exceedingly difficult for any American to step into the presidential office and expect him to lead us through this crisis without error. We must attempt to forget his being a man as such and think of him as an instrument in the hands of God. On first thought we may deem that statement a bit unreal and unpractical. We are prone to think that sheer human might has won us the war and as such shall the peace also be. But in reality is not each one of us an instrument in the hands of God? I deem it safe to reason that we all believe in prayer and the infinite value in it. Impartial to all He is happy to find an individual with a sincere heart and a longing for the truth. It matters not, then, how well qualified President Truman may be for his position but rather what kind of an attitude he will have towards God and the teachings that God sanctioned. For this Godly attitude let us voice our prayers.

As pacifists we believe in serving our country according to the dictates of our conscience. After four years of CPS we are still searching for new avenues of service. Can we as CPS men find any better opportunity than prayer to serve our new government? Is that not a type of service we can do with a clear conscience? Undoubtedly President Truman is soliciting the prayers of all, especially of his colleagues and American soldiers. But it is my belief that he would not object should he be conscious of the fact that pacifists are praying for him. It is not for us to question his tolerance towards us but rather let our primary concern be for others first. He has made a simple but challenging request, let it not go unanswered.

-- M.S.

The Easter Season proved to be a successful catch for Cupid among campers of GPS No. 5. Alvin Buller and Ethan Miller took their brides to the altar on Easter Sunday, April 1. Harold Gaede formerly from this camp and recently transferred to Kalamazoo, also took his bride up the isle. Gordon Engle, now at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, exchanged his vows of Saturday evening, March 31.

We are always glad to have visiting ministers serve us in our Sunday morning worship services and if possible also in our evening meetings. The following ministers have graciously served us during the month of April. On Easter Sunday, Rev. Abe L. Frissen, minister at the Zoar Krimmer Mennonite Brethren Church at Inman, Kansas and student of Tabor College, was with us. On Sunday morning, April 8, we had Rev. Harvey Yost from the Church of God in Christ Mennonite Church in Greensburg, Kansas, with us. The evening services were conducted by Rev. M.M. Book of the Brethren in Christ Church in Abilene, Kansas. On April 15, Rev. Sanford E. King, minister of the Mennonite Mission in Hutchinson, Kansas, brought us an inspiring message on "The Christ of the Bible". April 22, we were happy to have Rev. Edward Nervig serve us. He is the pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church here in Colo. Springs. And on April 29, Rev. Gideon Yoder from the Mennonite Church in Harper, Kansas, was with us.

The Camp has made several attempts already to start an inter-dorm volleyball tournament. Thus far the weather has curtailed the schedule.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Miller announce the arrival of Marvin Ray weighing six pounds plus. He was born April 27, 1945.

--W.H.

With summer approaching it will be difficult to carry on an elaborate program of education. Nevertheless, it is not advisable to relax entirely. The complex world demands that we educate ourselves.

For the immediate future plans are to organize a class in practical psychology. The importance of this subject can not be minimized. The emphasis will be a practical one in seeking to change human behavior. It should also be of help in improving our own Christian character.

Another possibility is a class in the study of prayer. It may be possible to link this with the regular prayer meeting.

The welding class has proven constructive and will be continued. About twenty four men are enrolled for welding.

FIRST AID

Probably no other class is taught more often and is more practical than a class in standard First Aid. Under the instruction of Wilmar Herms another class has been completed. Seven men completed the course.

FOWLER SIDE CAMP

A recently organized project is the side camp at Fowler, Colorado. The construction of a dam necessitated the establishing of the camp. The ten men are supplied by the Springs and Fort Collins camp. The group is living in a cabin, and reports are that they are enjoying the food prepared by feminine hands.

BELTON-OR-BUST (MOSTLY BURSTED)

"I think only married men should go." "No sir, only single men should be sent." Everywhere secret meetings were held and the problem discussed or otherwise. Since rumors were that married men would be exempted they could lovingly to their spouse so fair and hoped that she would be cause for exemption. Single men walked about defiantly with chips on their shoulders challenging any and everybody to give one reason why any more cause for exemption than they. The Director's hair almost turned gray as a result of his diplomatic brain trying to avoid mutiny in camp. Thus to avoid a catastrophe he called out, "Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Let us be men about this! Friday evening we will gather, discuss and decide who will go. This is a camp problem and the counsel of the young will be heard."

A raging blizzard added color to the meeting. At first few campers ventured to speak for fear they'd talk themselves into going. Meekly the director inquired, "How, shall we proceed?" "By lot", echoed the now eager crowd. Before Pooling names for the drawing a few KEY men were forbidden to enter the promised land.

Twenty men must go and only nine had volunteered, leaving eleven to be selected. The assembly decided that they would draw twenty-two names and the men would be asked to go in the order that their names were drawn. With instructions to abide with the "camp spirit" the campers elected the now famous B. D. C. (Belton Draft Committee) to discuss the hardship cases. Thus, once more a momentous problem had been solved to the dissatisfaction of everyone in the bathhouse.

--W.V.

STAFF SHAKEUP

A major shakeup in the CPS Camp#5 staff took place April 1. David Suderman, our camp director since February 1944, left our camp to become the regional director of the Rocky Mountain area. He will be acting in an advisory capacity for campers and staff and will travel from camp to camp and unit to unit in the midwestern states. He also contacts state and district technical officials in behalf of the church interests and to straighten out public relations problems that may arise in the community.

His leaving, of course, also took away our nurse, Mrs. Suderman, and Ann Elizabeth, their two year old daughter, who was beginning to accept grownup ways because of her environment. Mrs. Suderman and Ann went back to their home community of Hillsboro, Kansas, where they will live temporarily while Dave performs the duties of his new job.

Paul Schmidt, who ably served our camp as educational and assistant director since last August, was appointed by the Mennonite Central Committee to fill the director's shoes. It is his job to see that all departments of the local camp function harmoniously and efficiently. He is a veteran of five camps and is well qualified for his new office.

To Colorado Springs from Mulberry, Florida unit came Wesley Prieb, to assume the duties of the educational and assistant director. Wes hails from Hillsboro Kansas where he attended Tabor College. He was a member of the Goshen College Relief Training unit before transferring to Grottoes, Va. and Mulberry health project.

To those men whose past records proved them capable of assuming new and more responsible duties we wish the best.

--E.J.S.

Competitive athletics are considered by many to have no bearing on Christian life while others admit that competitive athletics do have an influence but only to the detriment of the individual. Observations have impressed upon me the fact that competitive sports can be and many times are a training ground for a pacifist way of life.

So often our pacifism lies only in discussions where we lay elaborate patterns and techniques of life. However, when a simple crisis comes our way, we lose our equilibrium. Sometimes it makes us doubt the Christianity and its effectiveness simply because we have had no training to work under pressure.

In a highly competitive game, the cloak of piety is removed and the contestant appears just as he is. He in his participating in the games allows his emotions to be exercised quite freely. No longer can he hide an uncontrolled temper or lack of poise. If there is a tendency to "return evil for evil", it will certainly express itself in a tense moment. In what other activity can a young person train himself in self control, in returning good for evil, --yes, in living the life he professes? Our only other way of training is the actual crises which at times are cruel.

In Civilian Public Service I have observed the reaction of a number of persons in a tense situation. It seems to me that those who have participated in competitive sports seem to take things in their stride much more so than those who avoided activities of that type. It is very difficult to measure reactions but I am not alone in this observation. Several years ago I heard Dr. Naismith, the inventor of basketball, say that when he refereed the first basketball game between two women teams, he was in great danger of being injured by hairpins from the ladies who had become unhappy with his decisions. He believed that women up to that time had had no chance for playing active sports and their temperament had been trained to accept adverse decisions.

Our CPS camp team has been playing a number of military teams in a Servicemen's league. We were definitely determined to win but at the same time we could not forget that we were GO's and the other teams were also familiar with this fact. This meant that we were conscious of living a pacifist life even in the athletic world. Our teams were very successful as far as winning but that was not the entire story. Our teams are outstanding in the fact that there was less griping at the referees and less display of undesirable emotions. This was true even in some very close and hard played games. Now these men were not by nature self-controlled. When we began practicing there was a bit of chafing, loss of temper, and unthoughtful actions. It was training that brought poise to our teams.

Frequently we see players rave, pout, and curse the referee when he does not call a play the way he would like it.

This is one of our first steps in learning to live--be able to take a reversal graciously and keep going in spite of it. If the player is trying to live a consistent non-resistant way of life, he will accept the referee's decision cheerfully---even if it hurts. Psychologically it is the thing to do because the referee will possibly penalize you for unsportsmanlike conduct or naturally receive an unfavorable impression of you which cannot help but manifest itself in later decisions. How often is this in actual life. How often must we accept reverses in life?

Perhaps our churches and church schools should provide competitive sports for our young people. At the same time, there should be an emphasis placed upon sports so that the implications of Christianity would be pointed out.

--Paul Schmidt

A SERIOUS BUT FREAKISH accident occurred to Eugene Sallasiki last Friday when losing his right ring finger. By jumping to take down a volley ball net his ring caught in the hook and pulled off his finger. Eugene is recovering rapidly.

TRANSFERS

In the last four weeks we have received four new assignees and three transfers. They are as follows:

Melvin A. Jantz is a General Conference Monnonite from Galva, Kansas. He is married and has two children. Melvin has been working in a hatchery before entering CPS.

Joseph W. Hershberger is a member of the Old Order Amish church from Kalona, Iowa. Edgar is married and has two children. He was farming before coming to camp.

Johnny J. Duorkson is a General Conference Monnonite from Windom, Minnesota. He is single and was working of a farm prior to coming to camp.

Gerhard H. Nickel is a member of the Evangelical Monnonite Brethren church of Mountain Lake Minnesota. Gerhard is single and was doing farm work before coming to CPS.

Wesley J. Prieb is a member of the Monnonite Brethren church of Hillsboro, Kansas. Wesley is our new Educational Director. He transferred here from Mulberry, Florida.

Victor E. Becker is a member of the Monnonite Brethren church of Fairview, Oklahoma. Victor transferred here from Norristown Hospital, Norristown, Pa.

Roy M. Zercher is a Brethren in Christ member from Mount Joy, Pa. He transferred to Colorado Springs from the State Hospital for Mental Diseases at Howard, Rhode Island.

RECREATIONAL EVENING

Every once in a while the campers here feel the urge to put on a program just for the fun of it. Such was the case on the evening of April 20, when the campers met in the assembly hall to see who of the cast would "soll out".

The program was conducted in the form of a radio broadcast. Ed Willard, a camper, arranged his loudspeaker so the program came over the amplifier.

Some of the numbers of the program included "Exclusive News" by Paul Landis a bass duet by Menno E. Schmidt and Eugene Matthies, a piano solo by Melvin Schroeder, and a play, "Hoctor the Objector Sells Out Again.", by Wilbur Swartzendruber and Melvin Siemens. The Canary quartet composed of W. Prieb, R. Duorkson, M. E. Schmidt, and P. Landis filled in the "Super Sads", and "Viva La Moro" and "Chew that Rag".

One of the highlights of the evening was the "Quizzer Quiz" broadcast conducted by Waldo Voth. This number was in the form of a question and answer quiz. A prize was given for each correct answer and forfeited upon missing one. M. A. Schmidt, having won four prizes lost them all by missing the last question. Elmer Schmidt was high scorer.

Refreshments of Eskimoe Pie were served after the program.

--W.W.

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