

World Wide Prize Contest Open For Papers on Bahai Movement

Subject of an international prize contest, sponsored by the Youth section of the New History society, known as the Caravan of East and West, is to be the ninth Bahai principle, according to a publication received by Mrs. Golda Wickham, dean of women. The principles as enumerated by the originators of the Bahai movement are:

1. The oneness of the world of humanity.
2. Independent investigation of truth.
3. Abolition of all prejudices.
4. Identity of the foundations of the great religions.
5. Agreement between science and religion.
6. Equality of the sexes.
7. A universal auxiliary language.
8. Education for all, everywhere.
9. A United States of the world and a universal religion.

Motivated by the second of these principles, the contest is concerned with the pro and con of the last. "Should the Ninth Bahai principle be reinstated?" The six-prize contest consists of two successive competitions. The first of these offers two first prizes of \$200 each for the best papers, one pro and the other con, and the second prizes of \$100 each for second best papers, again one pro

and one con.

Contestants are expected to fall into two groups: those who feel that the ninth Bahai principle should be more realistically stated, and those who maintain that it should exist in its present wording. It will be permissible for the contestant to split the principle and make two phrases out of it. Those choosing the pro side should include in their paper a new phrase or phrases containing the idea of the ninth Bahai principle, but brevity is an essential in the wording.

The unique features of the contest are numerous. It affords opportunity for expression on a subject which will give contestants with distinctly opposite points of view equal chances of winning and at the same time, the subject is so stated that neither viewpoint is favored. A second contest is provided, which is based on a synthesis of the best papers submitted in the first and leading to a decision, and enables first contest losers to try again.

The second competition consists of two prizes, the first of \$300 and the second of \$100 to be awarded for the best and second best papers, analyzing and synthesizing the subject matter, and arguments, pro and con, of the four

prize papers and the two papers receiving honorable mention on each of the two sides in the first competition, with a view of reaching a decision on the most potent wording of the ninth Bahai principle, for wide currency and effectiveness.

Donors Anonymous

The donor of these cash prizes, who prefers to remain anonymous, is in complete accord with the essentials of the ninth Bahai principle. He feels, however, that in its present form it is apt to be misinterpreted. The Caravan of East and West feels privileged to submit the question to the public for consideration.

Contest Rules

The conditions of the contest hold no restrictions as to age, sex, nationality, color, race, or religion. Competition is open from January 1, 1945 to December 31, 1945 and papers are to contain from 1,000 to 3,000 words. All manuscripts must be unpublished, written especially for this contest, marked "prize competition," typewritten, double-spaced, paper written on one side only, and the name, and address of the author must appear on the title page and on the upper right corner of each succeeding page. It is also stipulated that age, profession, (or aim in life), and religion be mentioned on the first page. Each contestant is requested to submit two copies and no manuscripts will be returned. Grammatical correctness will not be of major importance in the rating of papers.

Prize-winners will be announced as soon as possible at the conclu-

sion of the contest and it is hoped that the judging will be completed before March 31, 1946. Winning papers will be published in New History, the monthly publication of the History Society, and released to the press. Manuscripts are to be addressed to the Caravan of East and West, 132 East 65th St., New York, 21, N. Y.

Judges

Board of judges for the contest consists of Rev. John Haynes Holmes, minister of the Community Church, New York City; Dr. Syud Hossein, author and lecturer on international affairs; Mr. John J. O'Neill, science editor, Pulitzer prize winner, author of "Prodigal Genius," the life of Nickola Tesla; Mr. Max Brand, dramatist and composer, author of "The Gate"; Dr. Georgia Dunn, professor of psychology, Hunter college, New York City; Mr. Jacob Greenwald, attorney at law; Dr. Haridas T. Muzumdar, professor of sociology and economics, William Penn college, Oskaloosa, Iowa. Author: "The United Nations of the World"; and Mirza Ahmad Sohrab, editor: "The Bible of Mankind."

Vet Will Speak on China

The Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship will meet from 7 to 8 p.m. tonight at the YMCA. Duncan McRoberts who is just home after four and a half years of war will be the speaker. He will describe present day conditions in China and tell about his war experiences which include the bombing of 300 cities.

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