

# Church's Merger Plans Gradually Erase Opposition

By GEORGE W. CORNELL

NEW YORK (UP)—Work is humming today to put broken-up churches back together again.

In some cases, the mending job is proving to be a tough one. But numerous projects gradually are closing the gaps.

Twenty Protestant denominations currently are involved in unity efforts. Of these, 13 are taking active steps toward mergers. If these are achieved, the result will be five newly combined bodies.

"There is a world sense of growing together," said veteran Lutheran leader Dr. J.A. Aagaard, of Minneapolis. "We can't go it alone, any more than nations."

Here are the chief merger moves now going on:

1. The Congregational Christian Churches, with 1,284,000 members, and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, with 762,000, are engaged in steps leading toward a two-million member United Church of Christ.

2. Four Lutheran bodies are to vote at conventions this year on a constitution for a single, unified body of 1,800,000 members, which would make it the third largest Lutheran church.

3. A plan to unite the three branches of Presbyterianism was turned down this week in a vote among Southern Presbyterians. It was believed likely, however, that a revised unity formula would be attempted in the future.

4. The Unitarian and Universalist Churches last year acted to merge some activities — education, publications and public relations — as a step toward a unified, 164,000-member liberal council of churches.

5. Two other smaller Lutheran bodies — the 32,000-member Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church (Suomi Synod) and the 8,000-member National Evangelical Lutheran Church — are discussing possible union.

But beyond these immediate projects is a broad long-range program aimed at ultimate unity of nine bodies with about 16 million members, and including some of the country's largest denominations.

Work Goes on  
Launched six years ago by the Conference on Church Union, work on the plan has gone on steadily, and early this month, a master blueprint for a "basis of union" was completed.

Methodist Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, of St. Louis, is a leader in the project, termed the document "one of the great papers in the history of the Protestant movement in this country."

It is, he said, the first specific outline for unity "that has been drawn in 50 years of conversation."

Participating are representatives of these denominations: Methodist, Presbyterian U.S.A. (Northern), Presbyterian U.S. (Southern), Congregational Christian, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical and Reformed, Colored Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal, and the Council of Community Churches.

The Protestant Episcopal Church also is taking part as an observer. If these bodies eventually get together, it would produce the greatest consolidation of Protestant forces yet.

Reunion Trend  
For the last half century, there has been a strong trend among Protestants toward reunion. In that period, mergers involving more than 70 separate bodies have occurred.

Biggest of these was the reunion in 1939 of the Methodist Church, which had been split North and South since the Civil War. With 9 million members, it is now the nation's largest Protestant church.

Besides the various merger moves now in process, other churches also are carrying on tentative negotiations. The American Baptists and the Disciples of Christ have working commissions on the subject.

The plan to join the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. (Northern), the Presbyterian Church U.S. (Southern), and the United Presbyterian Church into a 3½-million-member body began in 1938.

The four Lutheran bodies working toward merger are: Lutheran Free Church (Norwegian background), with 66,000 members; American Lutheran (German background), with 225,000 members; Evangelical Lutheran (Norwegian origin), with 220,000 members, and the United Evangelical (Danish background), with 54,000 members.

Target date for final formation of the unified church is 1957. This also is the time when the Congregational Christian and the Evangelical and Reformed Churches hope to unite.

Governing assemblies of both both churches have approved the plan. A court challenge to it has been overthrown. Local churches and agencies now are carrying on various inter-church activities to cement understanding.

Dr. Albert Buckner Coe, of Boston, moderator of the Congregational Christian Churches, says that these mutual activities by the time of union should produce "not only understanding of each other but a solid base of fellowship and joint effort."

## STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN  
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars  
To develop message for Friday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign

<b>ARIES</b> MAR 22 APR 20 7-19-30-41 31-42-72	<b>Taurus</b> APR 21 MAY 21 1-14-25-34 45-55-69	<b>Gemini</b> MAY 22 JUNE 21 6-55-66-73 74-78-77	<b>Cancer</b> JUNE 23 JULY 23 11-15-26-37 48-59-87-89	<b>Leo</b> JULY 24 AUG 23 9-16-27-38 49-70-78	<b>Virgo</b> AUG 24 SEPT 23 8-17-28-39 50-61-81-84	<b>Libra</b> SEPT 24 OCT 23 3-18-29-40 61-71-79-85	<b>Scorpio</b> OCT 24 NOV 23 4-23-33-44 54-65-80-83	<b>Sagittarius</b> NOV 24 DEC 23 10-21-32-43 53-64-75	<b>Capricorn</b> DEC 24 JAN 23 10-21-32-43 53-64-75	<b>Jan 24</b> FEB 19 5-20-31-42 52-63-82-84	<b>Feb 20</b> MAR 21 2-13-24-35 45-56-67
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1 Unlucky 31 Rewarded 61 People's  
2 You'll 32 Problem 62 In  
3 Avoid 33 Brings 63 Effort  
4 Keep 34 Appreciate 64 Be  
5 You'll 35 Any 65 Gains  
6 Privilege 36 Don't 66 Help  
7 Allow 37 Some 67 Today  
8 Don't 38 Away 68 And  
9 Contact 39 Fall 69 Chances  
10 An 40 Other 70 Expect  
11 You 41 And 71 Troubles  
12 Your 42 By 72 Plans  
13 Have 43 Crops 73 You  
14 For 44 Gain 74 Cape  
15 Should 45 You 75 Patient  
16 People 46 Your 76 With  
17 Let 47 Take 77 Problems  
18 Mixing 48 Major 78 News  
19 For 49 They 79 And  
20 Be 50 Take 80 You  
21 Old 51 Changes 81 Of  
22 Judgment 52 Any 82 Put  
23 Friends 53 Up 83 Satisfaction  
24 Money 54 And 84 Forth  
25 Men 55 Will 85 Affairs  
26 See 56 Mind 86 Health  
27 For 57 Helpfulness 87 Gaining  
28 Efficiency 58 Any 88 Good  
29 Into 59 Plans 89 Approval  
30 Devils 60 Care 90 Advice  
1/21 1/21

Good Adverse Neutral

## Human Cells Cultivated

BERKELEY, Calif. (UP)—History's first successful cultivation of generation after generation of normal human cells on glass—a development that is expected to provide a new tool for polio and cancer research—has been achieved by a team of scientists at the University of California.

The research was reported by Mrs. Elsa M. Zltzer, principal laboratory technician in biochemistry; Dr. Reida Cailleau, bacteriologist, and Dr. Paul L. Kirk, professor of biochemistry. It was supported by federal and state grants.

Formerly, it had been possible to cultivate single generations of living cells on glass, but they are unsatisfactory for most experiments.

## Cellophane Tape Closes Wounds

CHICAGO (UP)—Cellophane tape is being used to close wounds and is proving superior to stitches in many cases, according to Scientist Digest.

Dr. Paul Williamson of Walsh, Colo., reported in an article that he used the tape in closing 91 skin lacerations, and that results have been encouraging.

He said there is a relative absence of pain compared with stitching, and the final appearance of the wound has been better. Healing also is speeded up, he said.

Williamson said stitches "may soon become a cruel and archaic way to close minor lacerations." He added that studies already are under way on the use of cellophane tape in closing major surgical wounds.

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# Enter Your Little Girl in the MISS SUNBEAM CONTEST NOW!

Contest ends Jan. 31

The Davidson Baking Company is looking for little girls who most resemble the famous Miss Sunbeam shown on every loaf of Davidson's Sunbeam Bread. \$36,000 in prizes will be distributed among 140 lucky children.

It's Simple!  
It's Easy!

## HERE'S HOW TO ENTER

- Your local Sunbeam Bakery, through preliminary, sectional contests in its Sunbeam territory, will select four little girls, who, in the opinion of a panel of judges, most resemble Miss Sunbeam, as she appears on the Sunbeam Bread wrapper, regardless of color of hair. All girls must be at least three years of age, but not more than ten years of age on the day of judging. They must live in the territory served by our bakery. No member of the immediate family may be employed by Quality Bakers of America Cooperative, Inc., any of its member bakeries, or any other bread maker.
- Each contestant may send only one photograph to your local Sunbeam Bakery. Print contestant's name, address and date of birth on back of photo. Entries must be post-marked not later than midnight January 31, 1955.
- From the four contestants so selected as most resembling Miss Sunbeam, a territorial winner and three runners-up will be selected by popular vote. Only official ballots obtained at your Sunbeam grocery will be valid.
- The winner of each territorial contest shall be eligible to compete with the winners of all other territorial contests in the judging for the Grand Prize Award. The territorial winner and the three runners-up from each Sunbeam territory shall receive prizes as described herein.
- The Reuben H. Donnelley Corporation will judge the photographs of the territorial winners and will select from among them a Grand Prize winner who will be known as Miss Sunbeam 1955. From this group The Reuben H. Donnelley Corporation will also judge and select 16 (sixteen) Second Prize winners and 18 (eighteen) Third Prize winners.
- The photographer of each of the top 17 winners as judged by The Reuben H. Donnelley Corporation will be awarded a Bonus watch.
- All entries become the property of Quality Bakers of America Cooperative, Inc., and its Sunbeam members to use as they see fit. No photograph will be returned. Only one prize to a family. In each judging, the decision of the judges is final. All winners will be notified by mail. Duplicate prizes will be awarded in the event of ties. Contest subject to all federal, state and local laws.
- The parents of each territorial winner will be required to fill out, sign and have notarized an official application blank that contestant is eligible according to contest rules, and that they will take the prize-winning trip on or before May 15, 1955, if it is won.

# \$36,000 IN PRIZES!

- ### GRAND PRIZE
- Trip to Europe for Miss Sunbeam 1955 and her parents via luxurious Trans-World Airlines Constellation.
  - 20 Volume DeLuxe Edition of the famous C "lar's Encyclopaedia.
  - A Perfection Electric Range.
  - An Ultimo Home Cleaner.
  - A Morse Super-Dial Sewing Machine.
  - A smart travel wardrobe for Miss Sunbeam's mother, designed by America's foremost knitwear designer—Jane Irwin.
  - A Bonus Citation Consort watch for Miss Sunbeam's father.
  - A famous Betsy-Wetsy doll by Ideal.

- ### 16 SECOND PRIZES
- Perfection Ranges
  - Collier's Encyclopedias
  - Betsy-Wetsy Dolls

- ### 35 FIRST RUNNERS-UP PRIZES
- Bonus Citation Cheesecake Watches
  - Morse Sewing Machines
  - Betsy-Wetsy Dolls



NO ENTRY FEES ARE NECESSARY — JUST SEND PHOTO TO: "Sunbeam Contest," 800 S. W. Street, Portland, Oregon