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United Press—Full Leased Wire

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Graham's Crusade Hasn't Changed Face of New York but Talk Changes

Editor's note: This is the second of four special reports by the United Press on the progress of Billy Graham's New York crusade.

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press Correspondent
New York — Is Billy Graham's New York crusade a "success"?

The answer depends on what measuring stick you use. If you expected the crusade to produce an overnight transformation in the morals and manners of Babylon-on-the-Hudson, you will be disappointed.

There seem to be just as many bars on 52nd st., just as many drunks wandering along Times Square, just as many near-naked girls cavorting in the night clubs, just as much avarice in the canyons of Wall st., as there was before Billy Graham came to town.

There is one immediately detectable difference: Religion has become a topic of conversation. It is by no means the only, or even the main, topic. But you do hear people talking about the crusade, sometimes jestingly, sometimes very earnestly, in places where the name of Jesus Christ has not been spoken except in blasphemy for many years.

Statistically Successful
In purely statistical terms, the meetings which began May 15 in Madison Square Garden have been the most successful Graham has ever conducted. Attendance to date has averaged 17,800 nightly, close to the seating capacity of the Garden. On several evenings, the crowd has been so great that 2,000 or more had to be turned away.

The number of people coming forward to make "decisions for Christ" — Graham calls them "inquirers" rather than "converts" — has averaged 578 each

night and on occasion has approached 1,000.

With the crusade now extended until July 21, it seems likely that Graham's total New York audience will exceed 1 million.

The response is doubly impressive when you take into account the fact that only about 8 per cent of the city's residents are Protestants like Graham, while 27 per cent are Roman Catholics, 10 per cent are Jews, and 55 per cent have no church affiliation.

Letters by Thousands
Graham's mail — which runs more than 1,000 letters a day — indicates that a sizeable number of Catholics and Jews are attending his meetings. And a spokesman for the Graham team said there have been "many" Catholics and Jews among those who have come forward to make "decisions."

The sharpest criticism of the Graham crusade has come from other Protestants, who dislike the methods of highly-organized evangelism and doubt the value of mass conversions in a revival atmosphere.

The Christian Century, an old and respected magazine with a

4-H Club News

Phoenix Kitchen Workers
The Phoenix 4-H Club Kitchen Workers held their meeting recently in the home economics room of the Phoenix High school. A meeting was held and then cooking classes began.

Dianne Carter baked a cherry cobbler; Pamela Grove made cinnamon rolls; Michel Dube and Dianne Boltz made a potato salad; Gail Glidden and Janet Glidden made a pudding pie; Jamie Briggs made peanut cookies; and Marilyn Popow made a marble cake.

Cooking was under the direction of Mrs. Daugherty, the 4-H club leader.
Marilyn Popow, Reporter

wide circulation among Protestants, who protest his refusal to steer converts to strictly "evangelical" churches; from theological liberals who boggle at his insistence on taking quite literally what the Bible says about sin and salvation, heaven and hell; and from middle-of-the-road Protestant pastors who worry about the disillusionment or despair that may come to "inquirers" who discover that instantaneous conversion at a revival meeting is only the first step in a long process of growth in grace which must continue throughout a Christian's life.

I asked Graham about these criticisms and misgivings during a long private interview in his hotel suite. He declined to talk about some of the sharper, more personal attacks.

"There are enough divisions among Christians already," he said. "I decided a long time ago that I wouldn't answer some of these things. I don't believe the Lord called me to add to the controversies in His family."

Quotes John Wesley
I told him some people felt his preaching depended too heavily on an appeal to fear. Had he ever thought that he might dwell less on the wrath and judgment of God, and more on His love and mercy?

In reply, he quoted his predecessor in evangelism, John Wesley: "Before I can preach grace, I must preach law and judgment."

Graham said he tries in every sermon to cut through the shell of "self-righteousness" which keeps men from "recognizing their need of salvation." He does not shy away from the doctrine of eternal punishment of the unrepentant, unregenerate as it may be to the modern mind, because:

"Only when we see ourselves as sinners under judgment are we ready to accept the forgiveness, the reconciling love of God which is offered to us in Christ."

Next — What happens to Graham's "converts?"

fire from extreme fundamentalists, who protest his refusal to steer converts to strictly "evangelical" churches; from theological liberals who boggle at his insistence on taking quite literally what the Bible says about sin and salvation, heaven and hell; and from middle-of-the-road Protestant pastors who worry about the disillusionment or despair that may come to "inquirers" who discover that instantaneous conversion at a revival meeting is only the first step in a long process of growth in grace which must continue throughout a Christian's life.

BY HIDETSUGU ONOZEKI
As Told to United Press
Somogahara, Japan — There were about 70 or 80 villagers at the firing range that day, watching the American soldiers conduct an exercise. Mrs. Sakai and I were among them.

First the soldiers fired live ammunition. Then they divided into two groups—one group went up the hill and the other stayed below and loaded their guns with blank ammunition for an attack on the group on the hill.

When the exercise was over, the soldiers lay down to rest and we (the villagers) moved toward them to see if they would give us some empty shells to sell for scrap.

Some of the soldiers got up and shouted at us, "Get out of here."

Senate Approves Funds
Washington — Senate has approved 72 to 0 a \$3,378,584,800 bill to operate 17 independent government agencies in the fiscal year starting July 1.

The measure was cut \$545,570,200 below President Eisenhower's request but \$163,750,000 of the reduction represented no real saving for the Treasury.

Companion of Japanese Woman Claims Shells Offered by Girard

Editor's note: Only two persons—a soldier companion of William S. Girard and a 23-year-old Japanese farmer—witnessed the fatal shooting of Mrs. Naka Sakai on a U.S. firing range at Somogahara, Japan, last Jan. 30. A key issue in the case has been whether Girard scattered empty cartridge shells to entice the woman scrap metal scavenger before shooting her, as Japanese quarters have charged. Girard's soldier companion, Sp. 3C Victor Nickel, of Inster, Mich., has refused public comment on the charge. Hidetsugu Onozeki, Mrs. Sakai's companion on Jan. 30, today gave the United Press his version of the incident. His account follows:

All the villagers started to run away. But Mrs. Sakai and I were a little way apart from the group, so we were behind the others.

Mrs. Sakai and I were about 10 yards from two soldiers by a machine gun. One of them (the man I later identified as Girard when Army officers took me to Camp Whittington) held up about 10 small cartridges.

He said to Mrs. Sakai, "Mamasan koko takusan brass" (Woman, here is much brass), and threw the shell casings on the other side of a shallow trench. Mrs. Sakai and I ran to pick them up.

Then Girard threw some more shells but these went into the trench and Mrs. Sakai went in to get them. Girard has denied that he tossed the shells out to entice the Japanese.

Saw Pointed Rifle
I was about to run over to the trench to help Mrs. Sakai when I saw Girard pointing his rifle at me. It looked very dangerous but I thought he was joking.

Anyway, I started to run away down the hill when I heard a shot and something went by my left foot. My back was to Girard.

When I turned around I saw him crouched down and putting another empty cartridge into his gun (Girard's gun was equipped with a grenade launcher).

Girard stood up and came closer to the trench where Mrs. Sakai was. He shouted, "Get out of here, get out of here."

Saw Her Fall Forward
Just then Mrs. Sakai started to climb out of the trench. There

was another shot and I saw Mrs. Sakai fall forward on her face with her arms spread out. She moaned but didn't say anything. I was standing about eight yards from where she fell.

Girard ran up to her. He looked frightened. He leaned over and put his hand on Mrs. Sakai's back and shook her, but she didn't move.

Girard turned to me and called out, "Papasan," motioning me to come.

I talked to Mrs. Sakai and touched her back. "Obasan, Obasan," I said but she didn't answer and I knew she was dead.

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