

Crusade Results Listed By Evangelist Graham

Editor's Note: Billy Graham wound up his New York crusade last weekend. The United Press asked Dr. Graham to look back on those 16 weeks and give his view of what has been accomplished.

By BILLY GRAHAM
Written For United Press
Many people have asked: What are the results of the New York crusade?

They have read the impressive statistics; they have heard that 1,750,000 people came to Madison Square Garden in four months, not to see a show but to hear an old message about God and his love.

Many have been astounded that on the hottest day of the year the largest crowd in history would pack Yankee stadium to hear the same message; or that 30,000 would come to Wall Street in the middle of the day and stand shoulder to shoulder in the hot street, listening to the gospel message.

Almost everyone has read about the thousands that came down the aisles night after night in response to the invitation. Even the skeptics have had to admit that it could not be showmanship, publicity, or personality. There has been an element here that even the psychologists cannot understand.

One of the most brilliant psychologists in America came into my office at Madison Square Garden the other night and said, "This cannot be explained psychologically. There is a spirit here that is beyond me. I'm afraid we will all have to take your explanation, that it is God."

Beyond Dreams
Sixteen weeks ago when the crusade began, we could never have dreamed of the overwhelming response we have seen in New York.

The first flush of opposition has practically disappeared. The forces of evil have been confounded by the overwhelming tide of spiritual awakening which has swept multitudes of thousands toward Christ and the church. Other thousands of Christians have rededicated their lives to go back to their communities and put into practice Christian principles.

Churches have been revived to the extent that many are reorganizing the entire church program to meet the new spiritual challenge and opportunities of New York.

A casual visitor coming to New York City would not see any change. The crowds still

throng Times Square, crime rates are still alarming, and the night clubs are still packed. However, on closer observation there is a change! It is in the lives of thousands.

It will be expressed in a hundred different ways: A smile to a stranger on the subway, a visit from a new Christian to a lonely person in a tenement house that never knows the handclasp of a friend, a man going to his office on Wall street with a New Testament in his pocket, a business executive on Madison Avenue with a Bible on his desk, hundreds of teenagers joining clubs and gangs for Christ, Christian cells that are being organized all over the city, new Bible study groups in many of the professions.

For example: over 200 show people on Broadway have organized Bible study and how to apply Christian principles to the problems of school teaching. Many officers in the police force have been changed. Two of these were on patrol duty the other night. They were called to a home where the husband and wife were having a fight. Instead of rebuking or arresting them, they took testaments from their pockets, read a passage of scripture and prayed with them, then invited them to Madison Square Garden. The husband and wife came forward to receive Christ the next night. There is now a "bit of heaven" in their home, and two friendly policemen have become their friends.

Thousands of Letters
We have received thousands of letters from people all over the New York area telling the most thrilling stories of individual lives that have been transformed. For example, one teenager wrote and said: "I'm a member of a gang. One night I went to your meeting. I really went to make fun of you, but while I was listening, God began to speak to my heart. At the close of the meeting I went forward. Like other gang leaders, I carried a long-bladed knife. I gave that to the minister who counseled me. My life from that day has been as different as day is from night."

The spiritual tide has not been limited to New York City. It has swept into many communities by the press, radio, and television across the nation.

Never before has the gospel been preached to so many people in so short a time. Through these

vast mass medias we could reach millions in their homes almost daily. As a result, we have received an avalanche of mail, averaging over 8,000 letters a day for sixteen weeks.

For example, a housewife in Chicago writes: "After watching your telecast, I realized, as tears fell, that all you were saying applied to me. As you told of our need of God, my whole life blazed before me. I came forward to my television screen, and it was like a great heavy yoke was lifted from my shoulders. My heart was so light. I was so happy and wanted to share my joy with everyone."

A minister from Florida writes: "Last Sunday morning I received seven people into my church, who had been converted watching the telecast the night before."

A Presbyterian minister writes from California: "Four Sundays straight we have received new people into our church that dedicated their lives to God through watching your telecasts."

A Methodist minister in the

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School Enrollments Figured for Phoenix

Phoenix — About 825 pupils will be studying in Phoenix schools during the coming year, it has been estimated by Ernest James, superintendent.

James' figures include grade school enrollment of 600 and high school enrollment of about 225.

Three rooms are ready for each grade from first through sixth, and two rooms each will be provided seventh and eighth grades.

South writes: "We have only 40,000 people in our town, but a spirit of spiritual revival prevails as a result of your telecasts. I have been having Easter crowds in the middle of the summer."

All of this has happened because millions of people prayed in many different places. It happened because the Christians of New York forgot their differences and united their resources. It happened because the people of New York were a bit weary of their materialism and secularism. There was a deep spiritual yearning and hunger for inward peace and satisfaction.

Will it last? Yes, it will last in the hearts and lives of multitudes of people that have been touched and affected throughout the nation and even the world.

Certainly during these months God has spoken to the American people. Some have listened and heeded. Others have neglected and many have refused to surrender their lives to the Savior who died for them.

One of Manhattan's most distinguished ministers said the other day: "This could easily be God's last great call to America."

I have a feeling that forces of Communism are gaining momentum throughout the world, and that the only hope of survival lies in a national spiritual revival. The American people have a definite choice. It is Christ or chaos.

Western Democrats Will Back Burton

Portland — Delegates representing the Western States Conference of Young Democratic clubs, including Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and California, voted unanimously Monday in their final session here to pledge their individual support of Phillip Burton, San Francisco, for National President of the Young Democratic Clubs of America.

Burton, an attorney, is presently the first vice-president of the Young Democratic Clubs of America and a member of the California state legislature.

In their week end conference the Young Democrats recommended that the coming National convention of the Young Democrats support a comprehensive and strong Federal civil rights program. It also recommended support of the Roosevelt-Magnuson bills calling for "honorable discharge for honorable service," support for Federal construction of the high dam at Hells Canyon and repeal of section 14-B of the Taft-Hartley act, which permits state legislation of so-called "right to work" bills.

The Young Democratic Clubs of America will hold its national convention in Reno, Nev., in early November.

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California Brush Fire Uncontrolled

Vacaville — A fire which was believed to be the work of arsonists today raged out of control over 7,000 acres of manzanita brush, driving at least 10 families from their homes eight miles northwest of here.

One hundred California Forestry Division workers and Solano county volunteers, aided by seven bulldozers, fought through the night to set "backfires" that would control the blaze.

The fire was centered in Mix Canyon at Mt. Vaca.

"It doesn't look like they'll control it today," said sheriff's dispatcher Fred Pryor. "It's too hot."

A spokesman for the forestry division said the fire broke out at about 3:45 p.m. Monday in seven places at once, leading to the belief that it was set deliberately.

Travis Air Force Base personnel and convicts from Otter Camp were standing by to go on the fire lines today if needed.

Pryor said that up to 8 a.m. today no dwellings or other structures were destroyed by the fire.

The spectacular fire sent a huge plume of smoke billowing skyward and was visible Monday night as far away as Sacramento and San Francisco.

Roseburg Fisherman Drowns on Coos Bar

Coos Bay — Rodger E. Tabor, 37, Roseburg, drowned Monday at the west end of the North Jetty on the Coos Bay bar, according to the Coast Guard station at Charleston. The body was not recovered.

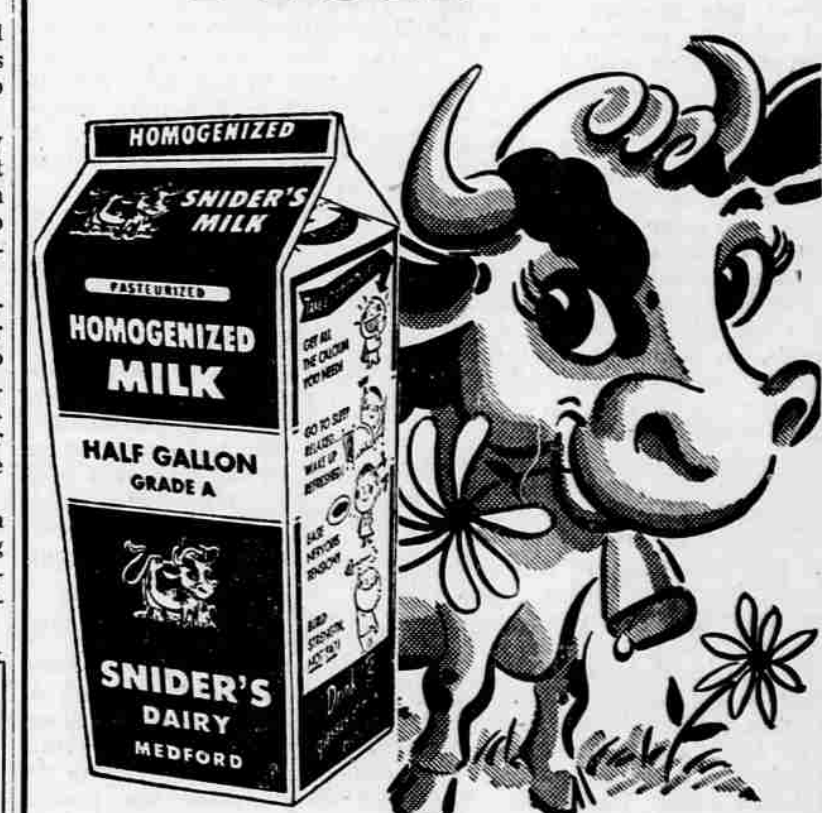
Tabor and three companions had been fishing from a 14-foot skiff when it was carried onto rocks of the jetty by the surf, and the group was washed over-

board. The other three climbed onto the rocks to safety, the Coast Guard said, but Tabor was apparently taken away by the current.

Rescued were the operator of the boat, Lyn P. Adams, 34, Vernon L. McClure, 33, and Kenneth W. Dunca, 40, all of Coos Bay.

Tabor is survived by a wife and two children.

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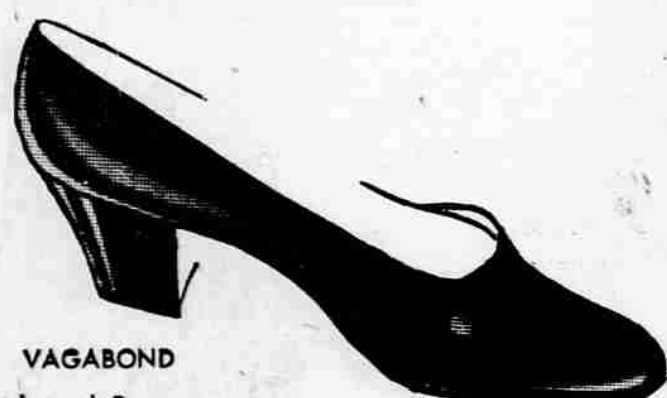
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