

Newsweek

March 5, 1945: p. 82

The Greatest Team

"To bigotry no sanction." When Washington wrote these words to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, R. I., after his visit there in August 1790, America was already an amalgam of creeds and Old World traditions. Today its population of some 135 millions includes immigrants from every nation, and America's is the greatest cultural ensemble in history. In round figures its population groups are divided, according to the National Conference of Christians and Jews, into:

60 million	Anglo-Saxon
15 "	Germanic
13 "	Negro
10 "	Irish
9 "	Slav
5 "	Italian
4 "	Scandinavian
2 "	French
1 "	(each) Finn, Lithuanian, and Greek
16 "	of other nations and races

America's believers include:

36 million	Evangelical Protestants
23 "	Roman Catholics
4½ "	Jews
2 "	Anglican Episcopalians
1 "	Eastern Orthodox affiliates
2 "	affiliated with 251 other creeds

But not even the example of Washington could overcome all prejudices stimulated by geographical, racial, and religious diversity. America's people have frequently been torn by bigotry: the Know Nothing party, which opposed all foreigners in the nineteenth century; the anti-Catholic American Protective Association; and the Negro, Jew, and Catholic-baiting Ku Klux Klan. New hate-peddling "fronts" have bedeviled America during the last decade.

Enemies of Prejudice: To help overcome bigotry and "promote friendly unity without uniformity" Charles Evans Hughes, Newton D. Baker, S. Parkes Cadman, and other Protestants, aided by prominent Catholics and Jews, organized the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc., in 1928. It fights prejudice through schools, churches, clubs, and civic and business organizations.

In the year ended Oct. 1, 1944, the conference sponsored 30,250 speaking programs (5,600 to radio audiences), produced and distributed more than 7,000,000 pieces of literature, and in addition to short films arranged for 5,400 showings of its feature, "The World We Want to Live In." Another notable project is financial support (50 per cent) of Religious News Service, an agency which supplies religious news to 125 publications, 70 radio stations, and daily papers in 100 cities.