## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

1. Greater New York: (a) The Brooklyn Chapter of ACPC has arranged for a film preview of "Israel, Land Reborn" to be shown at the Hotel Granada on May 24th at 8:00 PM. Presidents and Program Chairmen of community organizations are being invited. They will have an opportunity to meet Clifford Dancer, President of the International Development Placement Association, and the Rev. Karl Baehr, Executive Director of the ACPC, who will discuss Near Eastern issues at the conclusion of the showing. (b) The Long Island Committee had the privilege on May 3rd of seeing the excellent Kodachrome slides of the Arab lands and Israel by Dr. Joseph Titus, rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Jamaica. (c) Miss Elsie Jensen called on Judge James Donoghue, ACPC leader in the Bronx, and Mrs. Mary Brod, ACPC leader in Westchester, about plans for their spring meetings. More about these in the next issue of the Newsletter.

2. Religious Education: (a) The Indianapolis Chapter of ACPC presented a very interesting program to their membership on April 6th entitled, "Methods Of Including Israel In The Religious School Curriculum". (b) Do the colleges and universities in your communities present courses on the problems of the Near East? We note that New York University in their International Affairs Department lists seven courses covering the religious, cultural, political, and economic problems of this region (one is titled "Israel and Its Neighbors"). Such courses can do much to build sound public understanding around tension-causing issues. You can help by encouraging nearby universities to offer **balanced** programs on the Near East.

## FIELD PROGRAM

1. At the end of April, the Rev. Karl Baehr, wrote the following to us from the Mid-West:

> On this trip I have been heartened once again by the quick and positive response to our ACPC message. In this Mid-West area (I am writing from Topeka, Kansas), the reaction is dominantly one of warm acceptance and appreciation. The moment the people recognize that the solution to the Arab-Israel conflict lies not in the rejection of one or the other peoples, they are then free to explore the basic needs of both peoples and to support those programs which will help each solve its real problems. In my audiences, I have had Americans of Syrian and Lebanese backgrounds who have accepted my message with enthusiasm because they could see that I outlined factually the needs and problems of the Arab world calling for more Point Four and technical assistance to help them out of their bondage to feudalism. Such a reaction on the part of Americans with Arab parentage gives me the gratifying feeling that we are on the right track and that the ills and hatreds of the Near East can be healed.
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> Before I return home, I will have spoken before some twenty-five organizations plus almost as many radio and TV audiences. Communities visited on this trip: Grand Rapids, Chicago, Des Moines, Wichita, Newton, Topeka, Kansas City, and Nashville.



426