

"Of course the Communists have tried to infiltrate the churches just as they have tried to infiltrate the business and professional groups," Mr. Craig declared. "But they have not been successful in the churches, because it is too hard for them to pretend to be Christians."

Criticism of the church councils comes from persons within as well as outside old-line churches.

W. Hume Everett, Houston division attorney for the Ohio Oil Company, has written to all vestrymen of St. John the Divine Episcopal Church asking them to withhold contributions from the local, state and national councils so long as they speak out on social

affairs.

"They don't speak for me," he said in an interview.

"They support, without exception, all socialistic laws. The primary purpose of the local, state and national councils is not to promote the love of Jesus Christ but more government control."

Mr. Everett said he knew and had worked with Major Bundy.

"Bundy advises people to leave their churches, but I want to work inside the church. I want to persuade the pastors to leave us poor, dumb laymen to take care of politics, and take care of the spiritual guidance that will help us do this."

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WIDENING EFFECTS

The attack has had an effect in other cities.

In Wichita, Kan., the board of deacons of the largest American Baptist Church in the country voted to cut off the church's \$33,000 contribution to the denomination in protest against its membership in the National Council.

While a reporter was in local church council offices in the Midwest, phone calls came in from ministers and laymen asking about the Communist charges and what would be done about them. Ministers reported their congregants confused and disturbed by the issue.

"This is the first time I've seen our clergy angry," the Rev. Laurence T. Hosie, executive secretary of the Greater Indianapolis Church Federation, said. "The whole American concept of the right to differ within your loyalty to the country is being challenged here."

The Indiana Area of the Methodist Church reported that Communist charges concerning the authors of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible had led members of the Central Avenue (Indianapolis) Methodist Church to ask the minister to stop using it. The members said they did not want any "Red-oriented scripture."

American Legionnaires in a Presbyterian church were reported to have asked that funds be withheld from the denomination until it dropped its affiliation with the National Council.

The Legion, which has its national headquarters in Indianapolis, has taken no official stand on the Air Force manual, but the charges have been discussed at meetings in local posts.

Neil E. Wetterman, Americanism chairman of the Legion's Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Council, said the manual "certainly is an important part of the education concerning Communist infiltration, and we will be using it in lectures before the Kiwanis, P.T.A. and church groups."

He said he had used pamphlets by Mr. Lowman for reference when his committee had been asked if a person was a "good individual to have as a speaker."

The Circuit Riders pamphlets, which Mr. Lowman says are devoted exclusively to listings of "subversive

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A word should be said about the First Baptist Church of Wichita, Kansas. It has now completely severed all connections with the National Council of Churches. This is what every Christian church in the country that wants to be true to the historic doctrines of its faith should do. There is a call and a cry for a great separatist movement. It is gaining momentum all over the land. Religious liberty involves the right to leave a denomination, to join churches, and to start churches that will be true to the doctrines and the heritage of those who are truly Christ's, the Christ of the Scripture.

affiliations" of clergymen and laymen, are distributed widely in and outside the Methodist denomination.

Church leaders in Cincinnati, Mr. Lowman's home, says he has been able to keep the issue alive in the area.

In an interview Mr. Lowman said he was glad the manual issue had come up.

"I think this controversy is the best thing that ever happened for conservative religion in this country," he said. "It's brought it down to a matter of survival for the National Council of Churches."

He said his only concern was that church facilities not be used for subversion or socialistic purposes.

"My position is that the National Council of Churches and its program addresses itself in the main to the grievances and the animal appetites of man," he went on. "The program, goes under the fancy title of 'social gospel.'"

"We are for a minister speaking out on any issues except the promotion of socialism, communism or pro-Communist activities."

Last year Mr. Lowman was paid \$4,500 by the Georgia Commission on Education as a "secret investigator" in its efforts, according to Gov. Marvin Griffin, "to keep our educational institutions free and segregated."

Mr. Lowman has attacked leaders of the Greater Cincinnati Council of Churches as subversive. In 1952 he applied for a job as public relations director of the council. He was refused.

The Rev. Raoul C. Calkins, district superintendent of the Cincinnati area of the Methodist Church, commented: