

THE INTER-FAITH AND RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Inter-Faith and Race Relations Committee is a functioning part of the Knowles Memorial Chapel. Its sole purpose is to contribute in some small measure to the improvement of relations between racial and religious groups. The service of its members is therefore not only to the College and the local community but ultimately to the nation.

This committee recognizes the limits within which it must operate, the hazards of trying to accomplish too much too quickly, the necessity for compromise in certain situations. It does not assume human perfection in the society of the future or the "over-night success" of all social reforms. Ideals must be worked for in a world of harsh realities.

At the same time, it recognizes the need for constant effort to reduce the gap between conditions of injustice and inhumanity, on the one hand, and our religious and democratic ideals, on the other. And it recognizes also the need for constant vigilance in the protection of human rights and liberties which have already been achieved.

This committee is not organized to make war on the hate-mongers. Hatred is no weapon against hatred. Honesty of conviction and the facts of modern science are weapons enough. When these are applied, there is little chance for the survival of hatreds and fallacious prejudices which belong to a prehistoric ice-age rather than a modern democracy.

But throughout man's history, problems have never solved themselves, and ideals have never been achieved except by the effort and the faith of human beings. To such solutions and achievements in the field of group relations the members of this committee are dedicated.