

# CHURCHES UNITE TO MEET PROBLEMS CREATED BY WAR

## Organization Completed and Plans Discussed

Protestant, Catholic and Jewish churches of Bath have united in an interfaith and interdenominational council to combat moral and religious problems created by the pressure of war conditions in this area. Monday morning the United Church Service Council of Bath and vicinity was created, holding its first meeting at the parish house of Central Congregational church.

Representing the Bath Ministerial Association were Rev. R. G. Putnam, Rev. C. R. Sims and Rev. C. M. Tubbs. Representing the Jewish Synagogue was Mrs. Joseph I. Smith, and representing the Catholic church was Mrs. Edward Hamblet. Present ex-officio were: Miss Esther Jakcsy, coordinator of church work in defense areas of the Maine Council of Churches, Rev. C. L. Kinney and Rev. L. A. Dole, president and secretary respectively, of the Bath Ministerial Association.

Rev. R. C. Putnam was elected chairman of the Council and Mrs. Smith was named secretary.

The defined purpose of the Council is to coordinate the religious forces of the city and vicinity in adequately meeting the religious needs of residents, newcomers, and servicemen; and cooperate with civic organizations in tackling community problems.

"United in service the churches of Bath welcome you" will be the keynote sounded in the publication of informational folders and placards of churches in this community, to be distributed soon. Locations of all churches, time of religious meetings, name of pastor and his address will be included. Mr. Dole, chairman, Mrs. Smith and Miss Jakcsy were named on a committee to prepare this material.

A friendly visitation and religious survey will be conducted in the Lambert Park government housing project by a representation of callers from local churches and Lambert Park residents. Plans for the survey will be made by Mrs. Hamblet and Miss Jakcsy cooperating with a committee from the project.

Problems dealing with youth and their recreational needs were discussed. The Council elected Mr. Putnam to officially represent the churches at any community committee meetings called to discuss the matter.

Miss Jakcsy was named the official chairman of publicity for the Council.

The creation of this Council, it was the consensus of opinion of this group, is a significant and momentous step towards the unification of all civic forces in seeking a solution of community problems.