

AUBURN METHODIST CHURCH

DANIEL JONES, PASTOR

P.O. BOX 1290

AUBURN, ALABAMA

October 2, 1964

JAMES E. TATE
ASSISTANT PASTOR

MAX E. HALE, JR.
DIRECTOR, WESLEY FOUNDATION

Mr. Edwin Strickland, Staff Director
The Alabama Legislative Commission to Preserve the Peace
State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama

Dear Mr. Strickland:

We, the undersigned, are members of a sub-committee of a larger group created by the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the Methodist Church to study the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA and to report, with recommendations, to the next session of our Conference in May 1965. The particular concern of our sub-committee is with accusations that have been made against the National Council.

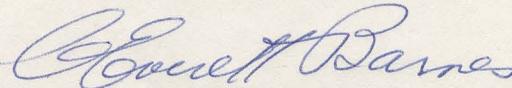
The study of the National Council by the Alabama Legislative Commission to Preserve the Peace has been called to our attention. Of particular interest to us is the assertion in your report that Dr. Harry F. Ward, founder of the Methodist Federation for Social Action, "has been officially identified as a member of the Communist Party." It is important that we have facts for the investigation that we are making. It would be helpful, therefore, if you could tell us by whom Dr. Ward was 'officially' identified as a member of the Communist Party. When was he a member? Please give the year or years.

Members of the Conference Committee, while differing among themselves in their initial attitudes toward the National Council, are trying to make a fair and objective study of its activities, policies, and personnel. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Daniel Jones, Sub-committee Chairman



C. Everett Barnes, Pastor
First Methodist Church, Opelika, Alabama



J. Herbert Orr, Lay Leader
Alabama-West Florida Conference of
The Methodist Church

AUBURN METHODIST CHURCH

DANIEL JONES, PASTOR

P.O. BOX 1290

AUBURN, ALABAMA

January 4, 1965

JAMES E. TATE
ASSISTANT PASTOR

MAX E. HALE, JR.
DIRECTOR, WESLEY FOUNDATION

Mr. Edwin Strickland, Staff Director
Alabama Legislative Commission to Preserve the Peace
Room 332, State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama

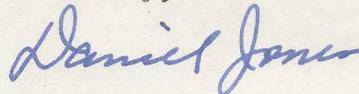
Dear Mr. Strickland:

On October 6 you wrote me that you would document information concerning accusations made in your report that Dr. Harry F. Ward has been "officially" identified as a Communist. Although you stated that due to the voluminous research involved it would require some several days, I still have had no further response concerning this.

Our Committee will meet again January 11 to begin drawing up the preliminary draft of its findings. If you could at all give us this information by that date, it would be greatly appreciated; or if you have been unable to do this, this knowledge also would be important to us.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,



Daniel Jones

DJ:b

January 6, 1965

Dr. Daniel Jones, Pastor
Auburn Methodist Church
P.O. Box 1290
Auburn, Alabama

Dear Dr. Jones;

We are sorry about the delay in getting to you the information you requested concerning the Communist Party membership of Dr. Harry F. Ward. However, I believe you will realize from the volume of material that it required considerable research. I believe you will also agree that the documentation is complete and proves beyond a doubt that Dr. Ward was a high ranking Communist conspiracy member over many decades.

You will realize that the documentation is not the full testimony of the witnesses listed but we consider it the most pertinent testimony dealing with the Communist activity of Dr. Ward.

I hope this will serve your purpose. We are happy to be of service to you and will be glad to co-operate further with you should the occasion arise. Because of the importance we attach to such interest shown by Christian ministers, we would be glad to meet personally with you and go into further data with you on this matter (Dr. Ward) and others relating to the subject.

Sincerely,

Ed Strickland