

Church History Senior S 5

there were no Lutherans, but the settlers who began to come from poverty-stricken sections of Germany in large numbers early in the 18th century were very largely Lutheran. By the time of the revolution sixty per cent of the people of Pennsylvania were German and among these people a great many took an active part in the army of the revolution. We hear a great deal, of course, about the Hessians in our schools, whom George III, the King of England hired and sent over here to fight against the Americans, but there probably were just as many Germans in the American revolutionary army as there were in the hired army that was brought over by George III to fight against us here. They were Germans who had been in this country anywhere from a few years to many decades and many of the Lutheran ministers went into the army and became officers in the revolutionary army. The Lutheran church in this country was wholeheartedly in favor of the revolution. They had come over here seeking freedom and they were anxious to have freedom from any European dictatorship. After the revolution the Lutheran church continued as largely a German organization but as many more Germans came in following years the Lutheran church grew rapidly and today it is widely extended through this country and, like all of our other churches, it has a very great amount of modernism in it today, but there is one branch of the Lutheran church today which has preserved a very solid emphasis upon its doctrinal foundation, an ultra conservative group of the Lutheran church, the so-called Missouri . It is a very large group, a group which in its teaching, in its classes in its seminary, in the general conduct of its churches observes a policy of absolute non-cooperation with any other denomination. They insist upon the full acceptance of the formula of , which ruled out Melancthon's views and many of Luther's views but which established a unity which was characteristic of the Lutheran church in Germany for many years. They insist absolutely upon it in their ministry. In this church, of course, is Walter Maier, Professor of Old Testament in Concordia Seminary who himself has a much broader attitude than is characteristic of the great bulk of the church, of the Missouri Lutheran church and whose radio messages are among our very finest gospel broadcasts today. (Student) No. There is another