

Church History Senior S 5

group, the American group, which is somewhat smaller than the Missouri Lutherans but still is a very large group and, but they, I understand, are very different .
 Now I don't know a great deal about the/Lutherans but I believe they are the group that has its headquarters in Columbus and when the American council had its meeting in Columbus they took great interest in it and invited its leaders to come and speak in the seminary. (Student) Yes. (Student) important group in this country but one with which we here as individuals don't have as much contact as with the groups that come from more of an English speaking background in their origin.

Now the Congregationalists in the beginning of the country were, of course, the most distinctive group. They represented the Puritans of the Church of England, some of them coming over here as Separatists as the Pilgrim fathers did; others coming over here as members of the Church of England but gradually losing their ties with it and becoming united with those who came over as separatists. The Congregational group came over here not to reach a place simply where they could serve the Lord without being persecuted but they came over to reach a place where they could establish a community life which would be in line with what they thought the Bible taught. They had, of course, before them the example of John Calvin who in Geneva was very strict in his discipline of the life of all the people there, rigidly opposing anything which had any tendency toward wickedness or immorality in the lives of the citizens of Geneva and they tried to institute communities in which the control of the community would be definitely in the hands of those who believed in the Word of God. Now this worked out in a rather peculiar way. In the first place they did develop communities which raised up a great number of very fine, godly Christian people, people who had a great share in the foundation of the life of this country. That was the first thing which was done as a result of this organization, but the next step which resulted from this type of organization was, of course, that individuals that found themselves out of sympathy with the