

# World in Berlin



an evangelistic Crusade in which to hold  
ation is complicated. The city is geographically  
restricted to a few square miles. For a visiting  
team of evangelists there is a linguistic barrier.  
Furthermore, affluence has lifted the material  
standards of the Berliners and has rendered  
some indifferent to the spiritual aspects of life.  
And the teachings of Rudolf Bultmann and other  
German theologians, seeking to "demythologize"  
the Bible, have deeply influenced some of the  
500 state church pastors and even some of the  
150 free church pastors in Berlin. Letters from  
overseas critics have also sought to discredit  
the Crusade.

But where there are adversaries, the Apostle  
Paul said, there are also open doors. When the  
Graham Team opens its Crusade this month in  
Berlin's new *Deutschlandhalle*, it will have the  
blessing of the most respected churchman in  
Berlin, retired Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin-  
Brandenburg, as well as the confirmed coopera-  
tion of the official church leadership of Berlin.  
It is a fact, too, that Berliners came in tremen-  
dous numbers to the Olympic Stadium meeting  
in 1954 and to the tent meetings by the Reich-  
stag in 1960.

Mr. Graham will be speaking nightly in the  
*Deutschlandhalle* from October 16 to 23. A  
Christian choir numbering 400 voices and drawn  
from the different churches of the city will sing  
each evening. Other musical features will include  
an organ and piano (never before used in Gra-  
ham meetings in Germany), a German soloist  
and an ensemble of 100 trombonists. A *transla-*  
*tion of Fanny Crosby's popular hymn, "To God  
Be the Glory,"* will be sung at the Crusade.

## A PENETRATION OF INDUSTRY

A street meeting has been planned, to be held  
in front of the Europa Center at the heart of  
Berlin, with Mr. Graham addressing all who  
wish to come. There will be some penetration  
of the industrial life of the city with smaller  
meetings, as was done during the recent London  
Crusade. Two hundred and fifty counselors,  
trained last March by Crusade Director Peter  
Schneider, and another 250, taught in a second  
series of classes in August, will help inquirers.  
Some 150 YMCA young men have also been  
grounded in evangelistic work to carry the Cru-  
sade message into other parts of West Germany.  
Apart from a few pensioners who have visit-  
ing privileges in West Berlin, no East Berliners  
are expected to be at the meetings. Nor is it  
anticipated that many people will fly in from  
other German cities. Berlin, however, with a  
population of 2,800,000, may well fill the 13,000-  
seat *Deutschlandhalle* each night.

In preparation for the Crusade the new Gra-  
ham book *World Aflame* has been translated  
into German and a foreword has been written  
by Bishop Dibelius. Declared the Bishop: "I have  
always felt that our German churches, so con-  
scious of tradition, should be open to a message  
they are not used to. We German preachers are  
often proud that we can give the exact historical  
meaning of a passage of Scripture, and we are  
amazed at the way Billy Graham explains the  
text. But the message he speaks and the way he  
gives it are a special gift of God. We easily for-  
get that faithfulness to the whole Gospel is not  
less important than faithfulness to historical de-  
tail. The doubting man of today, who scarcely  
knows whether he has an opinion of his own, is  
seeking for assurance that the Gospel answers  
all problems and questions. We owe him this ser-  
vice. Billy Graham can render it."

Pray for Berlin!

# DECISION

October 1966



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**G**ary Player, the South African golf professional, told me recently that he has been taking a sort of "survey" of his own. He has been asking people everywhere a question: "What happens when a man dies?" The

## The Quality of Certainty

by BILLY GRAHAM

other day, he said, he asked it of a taxi driver, and the driver spent over half an hour giving him a detailed answer. Gary Player told me that what surprised him was that nearly all of the people whom he queried said, "When you're dead, you're dead. The moment you take your last breath—that's the end."

Philip of Macedon, so it is reported, ordered a servant to awaken him each morning with the words, "Remember, Philip, thou art mortal." The philosophies of materialism and rationalism have been saying to man for the past 50 years, "Thou art mortal." Millions today have come to believe that their existence will terminate at death. This conviction helps

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Decision photo by Russ Busby

Who can pass a village church  
By night in these clean prairie lands  
Without a touch of Spirit-power?  
So white and fixed and cool it stands—  
A thing from some strange fairy-town,  
A pious amaranthine flower,  
Unstirred by the winds, as pure  
As jade or marble, brought this hour—  
Rural in form, foursquare and plain,...  
The trees that watch at dusty noon  
Breaking its sharpest lines, veil not  
The whiteness it reflects from God,  
Flashing like Spring on many an eye,  
Waking clean flesh, that once was clod.

—Vachel Lindsay