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*Bartlett Petersen*  
Bartlett Petersen  
General Secretary

**Minutes**  
OF THE  
**Twenty-Second**  
**General Council**  
OF THE  
**Assemblies of God**



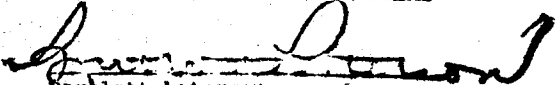
Convened at  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
September 4-9, 1947

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Bartlett Peterson  
General Secretary

**THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES  
OF GOD, INC.**

General Offices: 434 W. Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri

**Officers and Heads of Departments**

Ernest S. Williams ..... General Superintendent

Gayle F. Lewis ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
(Publications)

Ralph M. Riggs ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
(Education)

Wesley R. Steelberg ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
(Youth—Christ's Ambassadors)

Fred Vogler ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
(Home Missions)

J. Roswell Flower ..... General Secretary

Wilfred A. Brown ..... General Treasurer

Noel Perkin ..... Foreign Missions Secretary

**Executive Presbyters**

Ernest S. Williams, Gayle F. Lewis, Ralph M. Riggs, Wesley

R. Steelberg, Fred Vogler, J. Roswell Flower, Wilfred

A. Brown, Noel Perkin, D. P. Holloway, Bartlett

Peterson, Flem Van Meter, A. A. Wilson.

**THE TWENTY-SECOND GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE  
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT  
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 4-9, 1947.**

The twenty-second biennial meeting of the General Council of the Assemblies of God was convened at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, September 4, 1947, in the Civic Auditorium at Grand Rapids, Michigan with Assistant General Superintendent Wesley R. Steelberg presiding. Each business meeting throughout the Council was opened by a devotional period in which the delegates were edified by ministry in song, prayer and the preaching of the Word of God. A complete record of this ministry is retained in the files of the General Secretary, but eliminated from these printed minutes for the sake of brevity.

The chief objective of the twenty-second General Council was the adoption of amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws. These printed minutes will record the details of the adoption of those by-laws which inspired debate and revision, but will touch lightly on the adoption of the articles which were adopted as presented by the Revision Committee and without revision. The Constitution and By-Laws as revised have been published in a pamphlet which is now available for distribution.

A word of welcome was extended to the assembled body by Charles W. H. Scott, Superintendent of the Michigan District, on behalf of the ministers and churches of the District. Parvin C. Lee and L. O. McKinney, pastors of the two Assemblies of God Churches in Grand Rapids, also welcomed the delegates and visitors.

"Work—the Night Cometh" was the theme of the opening address by General Superintendent Ernest S. Williams. He used for his text John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man can work." At the close of the message the congregation joined in singing the chorus, "Keep me True."

Brother Scott then introduced Mr. Frank Whitwam, Chairman of the Mayor's Welcoming Committee and Manager of the Grand Rapids Convention Bureau, who extended a welcome to the delegates and assured them of the warm hospitality of the city. J. Roswell Flower, General Secretary, responded with an expression of thanks for this sincere welcome.

Wesley R. Steelberg then read a letter written to the as-

sembled body at the 1947 General Council by J. Narver Gortner, one of the Executive Presbyters, in which regret was expressed at being unable to be present at this General Council because of ill health, with the further statement that for the same reason he felt he would be unable to fill any executive position. It was agreed that a telegram of greeting and appreciation be sent to our Brother Gortner from this General Council.

The chair then read the names of those who had been appointed to serve on the various committees during the General Council. The personnel of the committees was as follows:

**General Council Committees**

**Roster Committee:** Robert T. McGlasson, Chairman, Cordas C. Burnett, Herbert E. Eicher, Ernest W. Fagerstrom, M. A. Jolley.

**Resolutions Committee:** D. P. Holloway, Chairman, N. D. Davidson, W. Paul Jones, James D. Menzie, Paul Samuelson, Harry V. Schaeffer, Jesse E. Smith, Roy H. Stewart, Ernest C. Sumrall, Arthur F. Thornton.

**Ministerial Relations Committee:** Edwin B. Crump, Chairman, Wallace S. Bragg, Oria R. Bray, Wilfred A. Brown, Marvin D. Hartz, H. Paul Holdridge, Carl W. Loenser, Glenn E. Millard, Joseph E. Neely, John E. Shaw.

**Educational Committee:** Irvine J. Harrison, Chairman, J. Robert Ashcroft, Millard E. Collins, John P. Copeland, Arthur H. Graves, Theodore A. Kessel, Nicholas Nickoloff.

**Foreign Missions Committee:** Frank Gray, Chairman, Glenn Horst, J. P. Kolenda, David Leigh, C. E. Butterfield, Carl Holleman, Sydney S. Bryant.

**Home Missions Committee:** Russell H. Olson, Chairman, Robert F. Ashworth, A. C. Bates, Albert W. Earle, J. B. McIntosh, James G. Mayo.

**Young People's Committee:** L. B. Lewis, Chairman, Melvin M. Brewer Jr., Eugene Born, Edwin Burris, Arnold Q. Hashman, Arvid C. Kingsriter, John A. Lindvall, Paul E. Paino, Paul G. Trulin.

**Committee on Constitution and By-Laws:** W. T. Gaston, Chairman, Bartlett Peterson, Glenn A. Reed, Ray S. Armstrong, James O. Savell.

**Radio Committee:** Wallace S. Bragg, Chairman, James E.

Hamill, V. G. Greisen, R. C. Jones, J. Robert Ashcroft, D. H. McLaughlin, Bert Webb, Wm. E. Long.

**Committee on Divorce and Remarriage:** (Appointed 1946 General Presbytery) J. Narver Gortner Chairman, Glenn M. Horst, Frank Gray, D. P. Holloway, G. F. Lewis.

**Committee on Military Service:** Atwood Foster, Chairman, Herman G. Johnson, Ben Hardin, Marvin L. Smith, William A. Coxe.

**Women's Missionary Council:** Mrs. R. J. Thurmond, Chairman, Mrs. F. D. Davis, Mrs. Robert T. McGlasson, Mrs. E. Ralph Foster, Mrs. Paul Samuelson.

**Ministers' Benefit Assn.** (Appointed 1946 General Presbyters Meeting): T. R. Brubaker, Chairman, Bartlett Peterson, L. R. Keys, Marvin L. Smith, Byron D. Jones, Earl E. Bond.

**Committee on Management:** Fred Vogler, Chairman, Charles W. H. Scott, Leonard Palmer.

**Program Committee:** Emil Balliet, Chairman, Joseph Dunets, Marcus Gaston, Troy Helms.

**Publicity Committee:** Fred H. Neubauer, Chairman, E. B. Crump, Glenn A. Renick.

The chair stated that cablegrams had been received from Brother Thompson of Australia, Stephen Vandermerwe of South Africa and Howard Carter at Watsonville, Calif. expressing regret at being unable to attend the General Council and wishing the assembled brethren God's richest blessings.

A printed report and financial statement of the headquarters departments was distributed to the delegates and the General Secretary summarized the report of the Executive Office. On motion this report was accepted. Noel Perkin, Foreign Missions Secretary, then commented on the report of the Missions Department, and on motion, this report was also accepted. G. F. Lewis, Publications Secretary, called to the attention of the delegates the report of the Department of Publications, and this report was accepted by motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

At the conclusion of the devotional period, Reverend Ernest S. Williams took the chair and then proceeded to introduce several brethren from other countries who were guests of the General Council. They were Brothers Bosman, du Plessis, Honeken and Stewart of the Apostolic Faith Mission in South

Africa; Brother Fred Squire, President of Full Gospel Testimony in the British Isles; Brother and Sister James Salter (Assistant Superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Great Britain); Brother Otero of Puerto Rico, and Brother and Sister Leonard Steiner of Basel, Switzerland. Brother Steiner is the Secretary of the International Pentecostal Fellowship, which was organized at Zurich, Switzerland in May of this year. The chair then introduced Erskine Holt of Montreal, Quebec, Canada, who in turn introduced several ministers attending the General Council from Canada.

The attention of the delegates was then called by Brother Noel Perkin to a paper entitled "Pentecost," edited by Donald Gee and sponsored by the International Pentecostal Conference. This paper is published quarterly at 15 cents per copy or 60 cents per year, and contains news concerning the Pentecostal Movement throughout the world.

Brother A. H. Argue, one of the pioneer ministers of Pentecost, brought a word of greeting and encouragement. Ralph M. Riggs stated that Brother J. R. Evans, of Tampa, Fla., a former General Secretary, had sent his greetings to the Council. It was agreed a telegram should be sent to Brother Evans to give expression to the love and appreciation of the brethren for his faithful service to the Fellowship.

The General Superintendent then yielded the chair to Ralph M. Riggs, Assistant General Superintendent, who immediately called upon Brother Fred Vogler for the reading of the report of the Home Missions Secretary. At the conclusion of the reading of the report, it was accepted by motion, as was also the report of the Christ's Ambassadors Department given by Wesley R. Steelberg, Director of the Department.

The rest of the afternoon was spent in the hearing of reports from Thomas F. Zimmerman, director of the Radio Department; J. Z. Kameron, manager of the Gospel Publishing House; M. L. Grable, promotional director of the Sunday School Department; and W. I. Evans, principal of Central Bible Institute. All of these reports were accepted by motion and now appear as a part of the Minutes of the Twenty-second General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The afternoon meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

#### FRIDAY MORNING

Following the devotional service and an address in behalf of the American Bible Society by Dr. Robert T. Taylor, General

Secretary of the Society, the General Superintendent took the chair and declared the Council to be open for business. Reading of the minutes of the Thursday meetings then followed and they were approved as read.

#### **Amendments to the Constitution**

Copies of the report of the Committee on Revision were distributed to the delegates and attention was focused on the report. The first revision proposed that the word "lay" be dropped from Article VII, Membership, and this revision was adopted without debate.

Article IX, Officers, Sections 1 and 2 were amended by making provision for the inclusion of the Foreign Missions Secretary in the Executive Presbytery. These amendments were made without deviation from report of the Revisions Committee.

The recommendations of the Revisions Committee for amendment of Article IX, Section 3, The General Presbytery, were accepted and, after some debate the amendments were made by motion. The suggested amendments for Article X, District Councils and Article XII, Amendments, were adopted on motion.

The morning meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

#### **FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

Following the devotional service, Brother Williams introduced Leonard Steiner of Basel, Switzerland, the Secretary of the International Pentecostal Fellowship, who brought greetings from the ministers and churches of his country, and spoke briefly of the great spiritual need of the people of Europe. His Scripture reference was Genesis 18:17-22, and he expressly stressed the words, "but Abraham stood yet before the Lord" (v. 22).

By request of the chair, C. B. Smith, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of God, came to the platform to pray for God's blessing upon the business session.

The General Superintendent yielded the chair to G. F. Lewis, Assistant General Superintendent, and the Council immediately returned to consideration of the Report of the Revisions Committee. The proposed amendments for Article XI, Local Assemblies, which had been by-passed in the morning meeting, were then given attention. The first revision was a matter of editing and was adopted without question. The

second revision involved an interpretation of local church sovereignty, for it was recommended that the fourth paragraph of the article be amended by adding the following words: "Local church sovereignty shall not be interpreted to mean that in times of distress or disagreement in local units of the fellowship the District Officers shall not have the privilege to visit and offer their assistance or attend its business sessions in an advisory capacity." This revision was debated and on motion, was rejected.

The third recommended revision was the substitution of the word "should" for the word "may" which appears in the fourth paragraph. This recommendation was not adopted. Article XI, Local Assemblies, remained substantially as before, without major change.

The question of the constitutionality of District By-Laws was then raised, and on motion, the District Officers were advised to send copies of the District Minutes to the office of the General Secretary, and that a committee of seven members be appointed by the General Superintendent to examine these minutes and to red pencil any portion which the committee members may feel are in violation of the principles of the General Council Constitution and By-Laws. The work of the committee is then to be returned to the District offices.

#### **Revision of General Council By-Laws.**

Consideration was then given to suggested amendments to the By-Laws and the first three suggested amendments (a matter of editing, chiefly) were adopted without debate.

The suggested amendment for Paragraph (d) which provided for the choice of the General Treasurer and the Foreign Missions Secretary by the General Presbytery was called in question, and after some debate, this proposed revision was referred back to the Revision Committee to be presented to the Council at a later meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY MORNING**

Upon the conclusion of the devotional service, the reading of two telegrams and prayer, the business meeting was opened with the General Superintendent in the chair. Consideration of the proposed amendments to the By-Laws was continued. It was moved and the motion prevailed that the amendment suggested for Article II, Election of Officers, Section 2,

Paragraph (d) be adopted. This revision eliminated from the article the words, "Editor of the PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL, President and Principal of Central Bible Institute, and other departmental heads."

The Revisions Committee then moved the adoption of the following recommendation:

"The General Treasurer and the Foreign Missions Secretary shall be selected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available men for these strategic posts and shall select by secret ballot at least two names for each office to be presented to the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election."

The motion to adopt was seconded, and after some discussion the motion prevailed.

#### An Additional Revision of Constitution

Referring again to the Constitution, the Revisions Committee recommended the following amendment for Article IX, Officers: "The foreign fields shall be represented in the General Presbytery by the field secretaries of the Missions Department and by the superintendents of duly organized District Councils in foreign lands." It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that this amendment to the Constitution be adopted.

A return was then made to the consideration of the report of the Revisions Committee affecting the By-Laws, and Article II, Election of Officers, Section 3, paragraph (a) providing for the filling of vacancies of offices was quickly adopted by motion. Section 4 of the same article was amended by eliminating the provision made for the extending of voting privileges to licensed ministers.

Slight changes in the duties of officers were made by the revision of Article III, Sections 1, 2, and 5. These changes were made by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:30 p. m.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Upon the conclusion of the devotional period, Wesley R. Steelberg, Assistant General Superintendent, took the chair, and further consideration was given to the proposed revision of the By-Laws. All amendments suggested for the following

articles were adopted by motion, after minor editing: Article III, Duties of Officers, Section 6, The Executive Presbytery; Article IV, Committees; Article V, District Councils; Article VI, Ministry; Article VII, Assemblies; Article VIII, Foreign Missions Department; Article IX, Home Missions Department; Article X, Educational Department, and Article XI, Department of Publications.

The meeting closed as usual with prayer, the hour—5:15 p.m.

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

In keeping with traditional custom, all business was set aside for a full day devoted to spiritual ministry, fellowship and inspiration. The early morning prayer service at eight o'clock was followed by the biennial memorial and communion service, presided over by Assistant General Superintendent, Fred Vogler. The speaker of the morning was Rev. Flem Van Meter, who took for his text, Phil. 2:1-5. Wesley R. Steelberg read the names of the ministers who had gone to be with the Lord during the past two years, and Noel Perkin read the list of deceased missionaries. Then the congregation stood in silent tribute to their memory while the organist played, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus." The roll of honor was as follows:

#### Ministers

Bradley, James W., Emerson, Ark.  
Campbell, Joseph M., Bloomington, Ind.  
Coberley, Otis C., Leavenworth, Kans.  
Cockman, Eddie D., Marshall, Mo.  
Conner, Jasper D., San Antonio, Tex.  
Cossey, Harry J., W. Palm Beach, Fla.  
Cunningham, E. F., Mt. Carmel, Ill.  
Cruz, Domingo, Hayward, Calif.  
Emmett, P. T., Aberdeen, S. Dak.  
Eubanks, Thomas L., College Park, Ga.  
Exnicious, Julian J., Houston, Tex.  
Eyer, Samuel H., Corcoran, Calif.  
Flanders, Danny J., Atlanta, Ga.  
Frayner, William J., Wellsburg, W. Va.  
Gritzmacher, Adolf, Union, N. J.  
Hammond, Valeria, Healdton, Okla.  
Hayes, Luster (Mrs.), Houston, Tex.  
Honey, Adin S., Marsing, Idaho  
Jennings, Hobart E., Okmulgee, Okla.



Jennings, Hattie-Coffee (Mrs. H. E.), Okmulgee, Okla.  
 Jones, James L., Daisetta, Tex.  
 Jorden, Charles W., Sr., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 Kerr, Matilda Z. (Mrs.), Santa Clara, Calif.  
 Lane, Forrest S., Miami, Ariz.  
 League, A. Byron, Escalon, Calif.  
 Leonard, Thomas K., Findlay, Ohio  
 Lobb Reubin, Clayton, N. Mex.  
 Lundin, Carl F., Los Angeles, Calif.  
 McMillan, Joanna (Mrs. T. E.), Pelham, Ga.  
 Miller, Herman G., National City, Calif.  
 Money, H. P., Bonifay, Fla.  
 Montgomery, Carrie Judd (Mrs.), Oakland, Calif.  
 Nash, John V., Brooks, Ga.  
 Nash, Mrs. O. E., Cincinnati, Ohio  
 Nevarez, Francisco, Los Angeles, Calif.  
 Parfitt, Ernest J., Cupertino, Calif.  
 Prior, Edward O., Levelland, Tex.  
 Pirollo, Nicholas, Sheboygan, Wis.  
 Pocock, William, Green Lane, Pa.  
 Preston, Alva W., San Diego, Calif.  
 Reckley, Alvey S., Newville, Pa.  
 Richey, Glen L., Iola, Kans.  
 Rockholt, Thomas F., Kernville, Calif.  
 Safford, Charles W., Dodge City, Kans.  
 Shirar, O. P., Houston, Tex.  
 Shores, Mrs. Vivian, Wrights, Ill.  
 Sikes, Edwin C., Green Lane, Pa.  
 Skyles, Samuel L., East St. Louis, Ill.  
 Smith, Charles W., Myrtle Point, Oreg.  
 Stenberg, Mrs. H. L., Yakima, Wash.  
 Stratton, Leroy E., Hazel, S. Dak.  
 Thompson, Peter B., Springfield, Mo.  
 Watson, Isaac N., Los Angeles, Calif.  
 Willingham, John D., Belton, Tex.

#### Missionaries

Blakeney, Myrtle S. (Mrs. A. A.), North India and  
 Trinidad  
 Helmbrecht, Miss Anna, North India  
 Pennington, Verna L. (Mrs. H. D.), Belgian Congo  
 Remacle, Miss Augusta, Southwest China  
 Wagner, Harvey E., Southwest China

Brother James O. Savell, Superintendent of the Texas District, brought the message at the 10:45 a.m. service on the subject of how we may preserve the principles of this glorious fellowship.

Over a hundred returned missionaries participated in the great missionary rally on Sunday afternoon. The message of the hour was brought by Noel Perkin, Missionary Secretary, from the text found in Matt. 24:14. The response to the call for dedication to the service of the Lord was spontaneous and generous.

The large auditorium, seating approximately 5,000, was well filled for the night service, when Carl Holleman brought the message from Acts 1:4, 5, 14 and Acts 2:1-4 on the "Characteristics of Pentecost."

#### MONDAY MORNING

At the conclusion of the devotional service, prayer was offered by the General Superintendent as he assumed the duties of presiding officer. Consideration of the proposed revision of the By-laws was then resumed. It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that the proposed amendments for Article XIV, Department of Finance, and Article XV, Institutions, be adopted.

#### Report of Committee on Military Service.

Atwood Foster, Chairman of the Committee on Military Service, presented the report of the committee as follows: "After considerable thought and prayer on this very vital subject, your committee feels that it will be unable to formulate an article on Military Service that will better represent the attitude of the Assemblies of God than that which is now a part of our General Council By-laws." By motion, this report was adopted.

#### Further Revision of Articles X and XI.

W. T. Gaston, chairman of the Revisions Committee, moved that Articles X and XI, which had been amended by motion on Saturday, be reconsidered for further revision. The motion was seconded and prevailed. He then offered an amendment of the fourth line of Article X, Section 1, to read: "This general responsibility shall specifically include Sunday School curriculum," etc. By motion the amendment was adopted.

Article X, Section 3, Church School Division, was like-

wise amended by motion to read: "The Church School Division of the Education Department shall supervise the preparation of curricular material for Sunday Schools and all other kinds of church schools and shall have the responsibility of general promotion and development of Sunday Schools and all other kinds of church schools in the churches of our constituency."

Article XI, Department of Publications, Section 2, Paragraph (e) was then amended by motion to read as follows: "The Editor of the PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL and the Manager of the Gospel Publishing House shall be chosen by the General Superintendent in cooperation with the Secretary of Publications, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery. They shall work in cooperation with the Department of Publications and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery. The Editor of Church School Publications, editorial writers, and other helpers as they are needed shall be chosen by the Publications Committee."

On motion, Article XX, Quorum, was adopted as presented by the Revisions Committee.

#### Article XVIII, Doctrines and Practices Disapproved.

The report of the Revisions Committee that the heading of Article XVIII be amended by deleting the word "approved," was accepted by motion. It was moved and the motion prevailed that the following words be inserted as an introduction to this Article: "In accord with its constitutional prerogatives, the General Council has declared itself pertaining to disapproval of certain matters as follows:"

Section 6 of Article XVIII was amended by motion, the article "Regarding Worldliness" being simplified in its wording, without changing its meaning.

Section 4, Regarding Secret Societies, came under scrutiny and as a result, a committee, consisting of L. R. Lynch and Byron D. Jones, was instructed to formulate a new section, in which reasons were to be set forth for members of the Assemblies of God refraining from affiliation with secret orders.

Section 8, Improper Use of Tithes, was also amended by motion, rewriting the article in two sections instead of three as formerly.

By motion, a new section, to be known as Section 9, Improper Solicitation of Funds, was adopted. This section now appears in the Revised By-Laws of the General Council.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. with prayer by Fred Vogler.

#### MONDAY AFTERNOON

##### Election of Officers

Immediately following a brief devotional service, the chair appointed the following named persons to serve as tellers: U. S. Grant, Glenn A. Renick, C. E. Butterfield, G. W. Loenser, Leonard Palmer, W. S. Ramby, A. C. Bates, K. E. Olson, D. M. Carlson, W. R. Williamson.

Robert T. McGlasson, Chairman of the Roster Committee, then submitted the following report:

Ordained ministers .....	1,140
Delegates from churches .....	216
Missionaries .....	85

Total voting constituency .....	1,441
Licensed Ministers .....	140
Registered visitors .....	953

Total registered attendance .....	2,534
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Ballots were distributed for the election of General Superintendent, and prayer was offered for divine guidance.

##### Regarding Secret Orders

While the ballots for election of general superintendent were being counted, L. R. Lynch, chairman of the Committee on Secret Orders, presented the report of the committee in which a substitute for Article XVIII, Section 4, was offered. By motion, this report was referred back to the committee for further revision.

The tellers reported that Ernest S. Williams was returned to office on the nominating ballot, having received 910 of the 1,033 votes cast.

Ballots were then distributed for election of the four assistant general superintendents, and prayer was offered for divine guidance in the choice of these officers. The tellers reported an election of all assistant general superintendents on the nominating ballot. Out of the 1,070 votes cast, W. R. Steelberg received 983, G. F. Lewis 922, R. M. Riggs, 879 and Fred Vogler 862.

The afternoon meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.



## MONDAY EVENING

In the early part of the evening service, the general secretary introduced Dr. Rutherford L. Decker, Executive President of the National Association of Evangelicals, who spoke on the background and the objectives of the Association. Ernest S. Williams responded with a word of appreciation for Dr. Decker's message and approval of the N.A.E. program. At the conclusion of this message, the General Presbyters retired to a side room for a further conference with Dr. Decker, while the evening meeting was in progress.

## TUESDAY MORNING

At the conclusion of the devotional service, a telegram of greeting to the General Council from the Puerto Rican brethren was read. C. W. Loenser, Superintendent of the German Branch, who spent several weeks in Germany recently, then presented the great need in Europe which he had observed while there.

Ballots were distributed for the election of General Secretary.

### Report of Educational Committee

The report of the Educational Committee had been mimeographed and distributed to the delegates on Monday afternoon. The chairman of the Committee, Irvine J. Harrison, had read the report, but no action had been taken. The report is as follows:

Of all the assets of the Assemblies of God the greatest is its large number of splendid young people—people who have learned experimentally the truth of salvation and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and whose spontaneous enthusiasm makes them not only desirous to maintain these great truths received from their fathers, but, as well, to bring this great message to others and to be the Christian leaders of tomorrow.

From a purely educational standpoint they could be recognized as falling into three categories: (1) Those who have completed their education or are completing it in our grammar and high schools and whose present work or trade and future plans do not call for any further education. (2) Those called of God to the ministry who desire some special training for the same. These are provided for, to a considerable degree, by the Bible Institutes and Bible Colleges of the Movement. (3) The growing number of our young people who feel the need of college training to fit them for a professional career or to better prepare them for their chosen vocation. For

these no provision has been made educationally by the Church, and as a result many are being deprived of the privilege of filling what they believe is their God-given task, for they refuse to expose themselves to the virus of infidelity so prevalent in our public and most religious colleges. Others are going on in other colleges and universities and, while some are standing true to their testimony and Pentecostal standards, yet many are being influenced by the insidiousness of modern education and others by the persistent repudiation of our particular doctrine, and they are lost to our ranks.

It is the feeling of your committee that these young people are too valuable for us to let slip through our fingers and that we are handicapping our progress by the loss of these potential lay-leaders in our churches. Others of these ambitious young people, not having proper educational institutions to which they can go to prepare for their life work, are going to our Bible Institutes which are already seriously overcrowded. While the spiritual influence and Bible training are certainly beneficial to all, yet this group, representing 35 per cent of the total enrollment in a summary made by the Educational Secretary, are not preparing themselves for their chosen life work in this manner, and others develop a "preacher's complex" from such training and environment and become misfits, thus destroying their great usefulness to the Kingdom.

A careful study of the facts has convinced this committee that the popularly advanced argument of the evils of Church-controlled colleges is in error. These colleges were not the fundamental causes of liberalism and departure from the Faith, but rather they reflected the attitudes of their boards of directors and their denomination at large. Properly controlled and regulated colleges can be of inestimable good to the Church. For instance, the institutions of higher education of the Roman Catholic and Seventh-day Adventist Churches have had no baneful effect on their respective organizations. The Mormon Church has erected its university at Provo and this has become the bulwark of defense against any inroads of contrary beliefs. Likewise, the Seventh-day Adventists have their Colleges of Medicine and send out professional men to be the wedges creating the entrance of their church to any community.

The loss of spiritual power in so many churches is deplored by this committee and is recognized as the greatest tragedy which has befallen them. This is one thing above all others from which we pray God may spare us. However, we do not believe that the providing of an

education sufficiently adequate to prepare our young people to compete successfully with the world in business, professions and trades can in any way be the cause of such a decline. The administration and faculty are under the direct control of the board of directors; therefore the college can be kept at whatever standards they desire. The retention of any questionable member is an indication of the deterioration of the board of directors first and only secondarily of the college itself.

It is the opinion of your committee that a wide open door of service lies in the field of grammar- and high-school teaching. By way of illustration—a good college could train Pentecostal teachers and give them a splendid opportunity for Christian service as well as a worthwhile work, and many places are asking for Christian teachers when none are available, to oppose the inroads being made by Communistic and other subversive elements.

The success of some of our young people in the past in having braved the dangers of modern colleges to achieve an education does not seem a valid reason for insisting that all others desiring the same training must deliberately expose themselves to these dangers and pitfalls, any more than we insist that our children be exposed to all the same natural hardships and conditions that we experienced in our youth.

The educational standards of the nation have changed, and while once a high-school education was considered quite adequate and a passport to many positions and occupations such is no longer true and young people lacking adequate college training are barred from many professions and trades. Our young people are therefore being penalized for their Pentecostal faith. The greatest reason why many denominational churches have a large number of professional men in their membership is not that they attract them, but rather that they rear them in the church and keep them there.

While this committee recognizes that suitable faculty and texts are hard to procure, they are confident that there exists an adequate supply of Spirit-filled instructors whom God has prepared for such an hour and that all necessary materials are procurable.

Finally, this committee takes cognizance of the fact that the General Council has been memorialized by at least three district councils asking for or pledging support to the establishment of a church-controlled college for our youth.

This committee therefore goes on record as favoring the establishment by our General Council of a College in which our young people who are not destined for the ministry can get a thorough training in a Pentecostal environment and under Pentecostal leadership and instruction. It is to be clearly understood that this committee does not recommend this college as a training ground for prospective ministers, but rather for the others of our young people who desire and require advanced education to fit them for their chosen life work. It is believed such a college would do much to alleviate the crowded conditions of our Bible Institutes, as a large percentage of their present students do not intend to enter the ministry; many of them are young and have not yet "found themselves." In addition, it would enable the Bible Institutes to emphasize more Biblical work rather than the large amount of academic work as at present.

We recommend that the same be proceeded with immediately with the objective of being able to start the first classes by next September, definitely not later than the following year. The plan of opening will be to start with only one year's classes the first year, adding an additional year's classes each year until the entire four years are incorporated. This will simplify organization, expedite procurement of facilities and faculty, and spread out the necessary expenditure of money over a four-year period.

#### ORGANIZATION

To accomplish this we recommend that a Board of Directors shall be created to consist of 15 members to be distributed as follows: The General Superintendent, the Secretary of Education, the President of the College, by virtue of their offices, together with 6 ministers and 6 laymen at large, the same to be appointed by the General Presbytery for one year and are to represent the various geographical areas of our country, viz., N.E., S.E., N.W., S.W., N.C., S.C. The first president is to be elected by the General Presbytery and successive presidents will be appointed by the General Presbytery on recommendation from the Board of Directors.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The suggested duties of the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

1. Secure a proper site and name for the proposed college.
2. Draft a suitable constitution and by-laws for the

operation of such a college, the same to be approved by the General Presbytery.

3. Co-operate with the president in the procuring and hiring of all faculty and staff members.
4. Approve the curriculum as developed by the president and his faculty.
5. Establish the basis for admission.
6. Devise the means and supervise the raising of the funds necessary to create and maintain such an institution.

Committees of members of this board will be created by its chairman to care for specific phases of college operation, including an executive committee who, with the president, shall be responsible for the operation of the college according to the instructions of the Board of Directors during the intervals when they are not in session.

In the appointment of the faculty the Board of Directors shall be governed by the following considerations: The president shall be outstanding in spirituality characterized by habits of prayer; he shall also possess administrative ability, ability to organize, to handle personnel and finances, and to appear acceptably in public. All degrees of teachers shall be from duly accredited institutions. The president, all department heads, and all teachers and instructors shall have the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and shall subscribe without reservation to the doctrinal position of the Assemblies of God. It is the considered opinion of this committee that such a faculty can be secured.

In the curriculum as developed by the president and faculty, a strong Department of Bible is to be created and maintained—not as a preparation for the ministry, which work will be continued by our present Bible Institutes and Bible Colleges, but for the spiritual strengthening of our lay young people and their indoctrination in the great truths of our church.

#### PLACE

The site shall be chosen by the Board of Directors of the College with due regard to the attitude and co-operation of the respective State Department of Education, the availability of government surplus property, or other suitable buildings.

#### COSTS

The cost for the creation of such a college will be influenced by many factors, such as location, size,

government buildings available, buildings already constructed for college use, etc., and therefore your committee is hesitant to establish a figure. However, we estimate that for the purchasing of a suitable campus, erection of proper and sufficient buildings and equipping of the same, the total ultimate cost will be between \$300,000 and \$600,000. It is to be noted that this will be spread over several years if the recommended procedure of development be followed. It can be realized, we believe, by popular subscription, by the sale of annuities, by appeals to Foundations and Industry and by living endowments.

Therefore, in conclusion the committee presents the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, That this General Council authorize the General Presbytery to proceed with the creation of such a college for the training of our young people and that a Board of Directors be set up following the general plan as outlined above.

Respectfully submitted,  
Educational Committee,  
Irvine J. Harrison, Chairman

It was moved and seconded that the report of the Educational Committee, together with its recommendations be adopted. Discussion followed. A motion was made to limit debate, and amendments were offered. However, the motion with its amendments failed to pass.

#### Report of Tellers on Elections

Further discussion of the report of the Educational Committee was discontinued to permit the tellers to report that J. R. Flower had been elected General Secretary on the nominating ballot, receiving 677 of the 937 votes cast.

The nominations of the General Presbytery for the office of the General Treasurer were then made and presented to the council. They were Bartlett Peterson, Wilfred A. Brown and Alan A. Banks. Brother Peterson requested that he be privileged to withdraw his name and his request was granted. Ballots were distributed for the election of General Treasurer. Disregarding the nominations of the General Presbytery, the names of thirty-seven persons were written on the first elective ballot for general treasurer, none of which received a two-third vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 P.M.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Following the devotional service, the tellers, who had been counting ballots during the noon hour, reported that Wilfred A. Brown had been elected General Treasurer, receiving 602 of the 886 votes cast.

Ballots were then distributed for the election of a foreign missions secretary. It was reported by the secretary that the General Presbytery chose to nominate Noel Perkin and H. B. Garlock. When the ballots were counted, the tellers reported that Noel Perkin had been elected Foreign Missions Secretary on the first ballot, receiving 742 of the 834 votes cast.

### Discussion of Report of Educational Committee Continued

Discussion on the Report of the Educational Committee was resumed. It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that the vote to adopt the report with its recommendations be taken by secret ballot. When the ballots had been counted, the tellers reported that of the 967 votes cast, 326 voted for the adoption of the recommendations of the Educational Committee and 641 voted against adoption. It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that this assembled body express its sincere appreciation of the work of the Educational Committee in the preparation of the report and the recommendations presented to this General Council.

### By-Law Affecting Membership in Secret Orders

L. R. Lynch, Chairman of the Committee on Secret Orders, presented the final draft of the amendment for Section 4, Article XVIII of the By-Laws, as follows:

"Ours is a last day message in preparation for the coming of the Lord (Matt. 24:14), leaving us no alternative but whole-hearted devotion to the cause of spreading the Gospel (Luke 9:62), and it is well known that the various secret orders require much valuable time and interest, thus diverting the servant of the Lord out of the way (Eph. 5:16).

"The nature of such organizations demands secrecy (John 18:20, Acts 26:26) reinforced by un-Christian oaths (Matt. 5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated, (II Cor. 6:14). Moreover, the spirit, philosophy and general influence of such secret orders aim at the improvement of the natural man only (I Cor. 2:14; Col. 2:8), thus wrongly channeling by incorrect interpretation important spiritual truths (II Pet. 3:16).

"Confidence in these secret orders and their teachings has always tended toward the embracing of a false hope of salvation through good works and improved moral service (Eph. 2:8, 9).

"In consideration of the foregoing, all ministers affiliated with us shall refrain from identifying themselves with any of the secret orders which we recognize as essentially of the world, worldly, and we advise any who may have identified themselves with such orders to sever their connections therewith (II Cor. 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (I Tim. 4:12; II Tim. 2:24-26)."

On motion, the Amendment to the By-Laws was adopted.

### Nomination of Non-Resident Executive Presbyters.

The election of four Executive Presbyters to complete the number of twelve was the next order of business. The following nominations were made from the floor: Flem Van Meter, D. P. Holloway, T. J. Gotcher, Bartlett Peterson, D. H. McDowell, R. J. Thurmond, F. C. Cornell, W. S. Bragg, Marvin L. Smith, J. O. Savell, G. W. Hardcastle, A. A. Wilson, R. C. Jones, A. L. Chadwick, W. T. Gaston, E. L. Newby, Frank Gray, Roy Smuland, A. F. Berg, F. D. Davis, Bert Webb, W. I. Evans, Chas. W. H. Scott, F. J. Lindquist, H. S. Bush and W. E. Long.

Balloting proceeded for the election of the four non-resident Executive Presbyters during the time various reports were considered, with the result that the following persons were elected Executive Presbyters: Bartlett Peterson, D. P. Holloway, Flem Van Meter and A. A. Wilson.

While the assembled body was in the process of balloting for the election of Executive Presbyters, Pastor Leonard Steiner, Secretary of the International Fellowship of Pentecostal Churches, gave a report of the convention at Zurich, Switzerland and the present activities of the International Fellowship. It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that this report be accepted. An offering was then received for European Relief.

### Report of Committee Affecting Central Bible Institute

The Educational Committee presented the following recommendation concerning Central Bible Institute:

Whereas, Article X, Section 6, paragraph 2 of the

By-laws as amended states regarding Central Bible Institute, "As progress and growth demands, the Educational Department may provide a full theological seminary course in addition to the Bible institute course, and provide post-graduate work for graduates who seek special training for the ministry in the United States and foreign lands" and

Whereas, it seems to your committee that there now is this demand as evidenced by the action of four other Bible Institutes in adding additional work to meet the needs and requests of their students; and

Whereas, there are graduates of Central Bible Institute who are asking for this training, and this committee believes that the General Council school should maintain leadership in its field;

Therefore be it Resolved, that we recommend that the Board of Directors add a fourth year or a fourth and fifth year of advanced training for those who desire it at Central Bible Institute, the fourth year to be added in 1948-9 and the fifth, if added, in 1949-50.

It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that this recommendation of the Educational Committee be adopted.

D. P. Holloway, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented a resolution affecting the membership of the Assemblies of God in the National Association of Evangelicals, exactly as it had been given to the committee.

#### **Membership in the National Association of Evangelicals**

Whereas, in certain parts of the country the Pentecostal groups have very little co-operation or fellowship with other members of the N.A.E., and some of their members and leaders are outspoken in their opposition to our doctrines and methods, and

Whereas, we voted to affiliate with the N.A.E. for certain stated benefits and are now moving out into co-operation beyond the original expectation of some;

Therefore be it Resolved that our affiliation with the N.A.E. be brought before this General Council session for reconsideration and discussion to ascertain—

1. From the original resolution of affiliation what measure of authority was granted our officials to commit our council to matters of policy, finance, organization and other commitments.

2. Whether each district, church or individual can adopt their own policy and follow their own conviction in relation to the N.A.E. even though such policy may not be

in harmony with the official commitments as a General Council.

It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that this resolution be accepted for discussion. During the discussion attention was called to the Minutes of the 1943 General Council, at which time the General Council in session voted to affiliate with the National Association of Evangelicals. It was then moved and seconded that the Assemblies of God continue in affiliation with the N.A.E. The meeting adjourned without bringing the question to a vote.

#### **TUESDAY EVENING**

Because of the vast amount of work yet to be undertaken by this Council, it was decided during the afternoon meeting to dispense with the regular preaching service Tuesday night and to continue the business of the Council in the night service. However, those particularly interested in the spiritual ministry were permitted to withdraw to a side room while the business of the Council was transacted in the main auditorium.

Pastor Fred Squire, President of the Full Gospel Testimony Assemblies in the British Isles, spoke to the entire congregation. Gustav Kinderman also spoke of the relief work which we have been doing in Europe and urged that this work be continued. At the conclusion of these addresses, G. F. Lewis opened the business meeting and presided over its deliberations.

The motion before the house was that the Assemblies of God continue in affiliation with the N.A.E. After some further discussion, the motion was adopted. It was further moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that the matter of the amount of our contribution to the N.A.E. be referred to the General Presbyters.

#### **Report of Radio Committee**

W. S. Bragg, Chairman of the Radio Committee, presented the report of the Committee as follows:

#### **APPRECIATION**

A word of appreciation is due the General Council Radio Commission which formulates all the policies and makes decisions for our General Council Radio Broadcast "Sermons in Song." This committee is composed of the following brethren: E. S. Williams, J. R. Flower,

W. I. Evans, Noel Perkin, J. Z. Kameron, with T. F. Zimmerman as Director.

The achievements of our national broadcast may be presented as follows:

1. We have succeeded in building a nation-wide program which is nationally recognized.
2. We have established ourselves with the industry.
3. We have explored the field, and made findings to guide us in future activities.
4. We have sown the seed of the Gospel. We have gotten the movement and its message before the general public.
5. We have prepared first home records.
6. Many have been awakened to the value of radio ministry.
7. It has served to supplement missionary efforts.

#### PROGRAM

As a result of your suggestions from the fields, the committee extends the following recommendations:

1. The program should be more informal, conveying warmth and personal appeal.
2. The program should allow more time for the message.
3. There should be a change in the musical part of the program.

For a successful continuation of "Sermons in Song" we feel that this body should give fair and serious consideration to the following important matters:

1. Proper evaluation of the national broadcast; i.e., what "Sermons in Song" is accomplishing nationally and not locally only—what it will do for the district or community as well as for the local congregation.
2. An adequate financial policy for its support.
3. A system of compiling field reaction. This can better be determined if the reactions are conveyed to those in charge instead of being scattered promiscuously among ourselves.
4. Effective publicity by means of radio, the press, and the church.
5. A transcription library for building local programs.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee feels that the above can be best carried through by the adoption of the following recommendations:

1. That the General Council Radio Commission be

enlarged to include nine members, five of whom shall be resident at headquarters and four non-resident, geographically located ministers who are qualified to represent our constituency in radio ministry.

2. That our Assistant General Superintendents lend their support at all times in their travels on the field.
3. That our district officials promote "Sermons in Song."
4. That our pastors promote "Sermons in Song" by regular announcements from their pulpits, in all church announcements, and by the press.

#### FINANCE

Regarding finance, the committee recommends the following:

1. Offerings should be taken in all the churches, to be supplemented by special offerings at Christmas time and July 4th.
2. For churches contributing the minimum of \$1.00 per member annually, there will be provided an award suitable for display with regular outdoor advertising, associating the church with the "Sermons in Song" program.
3. Inasmuch as it is the policy of the General Council to designate a portion of the profits of the Gospel Publishing House to the support of missionary work, and inasmuch as the General Council radio program "Sermons in Song" is definitely a home and foreign missionary enterprise, we recommend that a portion be allotted to the support of the broadcast.

On motion, the report and recommendations were adopted.

#### Report of Home Missions Committee

Russell Olson, Chairman of the Home Missions Committee, presented the report of this committee. The report is as follows:

Whereas, We recognize our responsibility for world evangelism, and

Whereas, The Home Missions Program is largely responsible for the advancement of every department of our General Council, and

Whereas, Under our present policy there is no provision made for an adequate promotional program for home missions in several of our weaker districts, and,



Whereas, There is a great need for promoting our Home Missions Program through the facilities of the "Pentecostal Evangel" and other General Council periodicals,

Therefore, We recommend the following:

1. That a world missions program be offered which divides our funds as follows:

- 70% Foreign Missions
- 20% District Home Missions
- 5% National Home Missions
- 5% General Missionary Department's Expense

2. That the National Home Missions Fund receive 20% of the profits of the Gospel Publishing House.
3. That 75% of all undesignated Home Missions funds be used to open and develop new churches in our weaker districts.
4. That one page of the "Pentecostal Evangel" be devoted each week to the promotion of Home Missions and additional space be given to this cause in other General Council periodicals, such as the "Missionary Challenge."
5. That special emphasis be given to Home Missions at all missionary conventions, and an enthusiastic home missions worker be given the opportunity to present this angle of missionary endeavor.
6. That the National Home Missions Department consist of a Home Missions Director (an Assistant General Superintendent), a Publicity Secretary, and five nonsalaried sectional representatives, consisting of one representative from each of the following areas of the country: Northeast, Southeast, Central, Northwest, and Southwest.

Presented at this 1947 General Council  
by the Appointed Home Missions Committee

Russell H. Olson, Chairman  
Albert Earle  
James Mayo  
A. C. Bates  
J. B. McIntosh

After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that this report be referred to the General Presbyters for consideration, to be brought back to the floor of the General Council at a later time.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING

Following the devotional service, G. F. Lewis took the chair. The minutes of the previous day were read and approved as read.

### Discussion of the Home Missions Committee Report

It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that the following paragraph be deleted from the report: "That the National Home Missions Fund receive 20% of the profits of the Gospel Publishing House." It was then moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed to amend paragraph 4, so that it would read as follows:

That one page of the "Pentecostal Evangel" be devoted each week to the promotion of Home Missions when they have news of sufficient interest to be brought to the Fellowship, and additional space given to this cause in other General Council periodicals, such as the "Missionary Challenge."

Discussion followed concerning paragraph 6, and it was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that the Executive Presbyters harmonize this paragraph with the By-law concerning the Home Missions Department. The report was then adopted as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Following the devotional service, R. M. Riggs took the chair.

### Report of the Young People's Committee

Bert Webb, Secretary of the Young People's Committee, read the report, which is as follows:

"After conferring with the Young People's Committee and the members of the General Council Revision Committee, we wish to suggest the following for inclusion in the By-Laws.

Article XII. Young People's Department

#### Section 1. Authorization.

A. There shall be a Young People's Department identified as the Christ's Ambassadors Department of the General Council, which shall have the responsibility of promoting young people's activities for the fellowship. The General Superintendent shall appoint one of the Assistant General Superintendents as the Secretary

of the Department. It shall be his duty to direct the activities of the Department.

B. The Secretary of the Department, together with five others to be appointed by the General Superintendent in co-operation with the General Presbytery, shall constitute the Young People's Committee and the General Superintendent shall designate one of the four to serve as Assistant Secretary. At least two members of the above committee shall be appointed from the field at large. The Department shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 2. Purpose.

A. The purpose of this Department shall be to plan and promote a spiritual program to save and conserve young people for the Kingdom of God. Its aim shall be to correlate the wisdom and leadership of our older brethren with the zeal and enthusiasm of youth in harmony with the constitutional principles of co-operative fellowship and unity of the Assemblies of God.

B. The functions of this Department shall include:

- (1) Encouraging and assisting in the development of the District Young People's programs.
- (2) Co-ordinating the development and promotion of projects of national scope.
- (3) Producing literature and helps to meet the needs of our Christ's Ambassadors.
- (4) Promoting spiritual programs adaptable to the particular problems of young people in high schools and colleges.

(Sections 3 and 4 as suggested by the Revision Committee are approved as presented.)

### Section 5. District Organizations.

Eliminate the words "State or" on line one.

Section 1. Authorization, was adopted by motion with the following amendments: "The head of the Department shall be called 'Director' rather than 'Secretary', and his assistant shall be known as National C. A. Secretary rather than Assistant Secretary." Paragraph (B) was amended to read as follows: "The Director of the Department, together with five others to be appointed by the General Superintendent in co-operation with the Director of the Department, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery, etc." By motion, the remaining Sections of the Article were adopted.

### Report of Foreign Missions Committee

Frank Gray, Chairman of the Foreign Missions Committee, read the following report:

### RESOLUTION

Whereas, the present system of missionary promotional activity has not reached all of our churches at regular intervals, and has often failed to leave in the churches visited a definite understanding of and emphasis upon the fair proportion of support that should be considered the responsibility of these assemblies toward maintaining and advancing the missionary cause; and,

Whereas, the present opportunities in foreign lands are so tremendous, the political conditions so uncertain in regard to the future, and the coming of the Lord so apparently near; and,

Whereas, the missionary giving of our Assemblies of God has recently only averaged about one-fourth of the per capita giving of some other religious missionary societies, during a time of unprecedented national prosperity; therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the Missions Committee be encouraged to launch a more aggressive promotional program with the objective of bringing to every local assembly a definite goal of regular missionary support in keeping with the requirement of our national goal of advancement and the enlargement of our missionary staff to one thousand, and that a staff of capable field representatives be permanently maintained for the purpose of reaching every church with an effective presentation of the needs and opportunities.

Be It Further Resolved, that, with the co-operation of the districts, the field representatives be invited to present the cause of foreign missions at District Council meetings, camp meetings, conventions, ministers institutes and fellowship meetings, in an endeavor to stimulate systematic and regular giving of every member of our constituency.

Be It Further Resolved, that all of our assemblies be encouraged to sponsor an annual missionary day and, in our larger churches, missionary conventions for the purpose of recognizing past achievements, setting new goals for the ensuing year, receiving missionary pledges, and generally fostering missionary interest; and

Be It Resolved, that the weekly reports again appear in the EVANGEL, giving the churches and the amounts received each week.

## RECOMMENDATION

In view of the impending crisis in many countries, in the light of Christ's command to evangelize the world, and in the knowledge of His soon return,

The Foreign Missions Committee recommends that the churches in the homeland support missionaries and projects which primarily emphasize evangelism, therefore re-affirming the policy stated in Article 9, Section 1, Paragraph B: "The Pauline example shall be followed as far as possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not been preached, as well as by establishing self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating national churches."

There was some discussion concerning the following section of the resolution appearing in the report: "Be it resolved that the weekly reports again appear in the 'Evangel,' giving the churches and the amounts received each week." It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that this resolution be amended by adding "as soon as circumstances make it feasible." The recommendation as amended was then adopted by motion. By motion, it was agreed that Article VIII of the By-laws be reconsidered, and Brother Gray then presented the following recommendation: "The Foreign Missions Committee recommends that Article VIII, Section 2, paragraph (b) be changed to include the words 'in co-operation with the District Council on the field.'" It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that this recommendation be adopted. The report of the Foreign Missions Committee was then adopted as amended.

### Report of Women's Missionary Council Committee

Mrs. R. J. Thurmond, Chairman of the Women's Missionary Council Committee, read the report of that committee, which is as follows:

Proverbs 31:10, 20 states: "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy."

The Committee and the women of the Assemblies of God fellowship appreciate the recognition being given the various organized District Women's Missionary Councils and individual local women's groups for the good work they have been doing for workers in the home and foreign fields and in sending relief, clothing and food to Asia and Europe. By joining hands and co-

ordinating our efforts and encouraging others to join us, we can form a united band to stand behind our invasion army of pastors, evangelists, missionaries and Christian workers in systematic, continuous, definite prayer, supplying of food and clothing to the needy at home and abroad, and other ways of showing practical religion.

Our great desire is to know the proper channels through which this work can be properly and effectively accomplished and that these supplies shall be properly and wisely distributed.

As near as we can ascertain at present, there are eighteen organized District Women's Missionary Councils now operating directly under the Presbytery and officially recognized by their respective District Councils; namely:

Oregon	Alabama	Montana
South Idaho	Arkansas	Nebraska
S. California	Georgia	New York-New Jersey
Texas	Kansas	North Carolina
West Florida	Louisiana	N. California & Nevada
West Texas	Mississippi	Oklahoma

The first district to give recognition to the Women's Missionary Council was the Texas District in 1926, followed by Arkansas, Oklahoma, Southern California, Northern California, and others. Commendable work was done by this co-operative effort during the years of depression, especially in the southern states and in the migratory camps in California. Seven District Women's Missionary Councils have been organized since the last General Council. Reports of the activities of these seventeen districts will be found in their respective district minutes. No salaries are being paid to any Women's Missionary Council officers.

The spiritual phase of the work is always emphasized and takes first place. Prayer bands continually and systematically remember the missionaries and workers and their needs. The practical work done comprises helping with the needs of pastors in small churches and new works, widows and orphans, home and foreign missionaries, supplying of visual aid work for children's workers, Junior Women's Missionary Councils with Home-Making classes, and C. A. Missionary Councils for the boys and girls of teen age where they can use the knowledge gained in hobby classes and workshop classes to make things for children being reached by workers in the home and foreign fields, thus stimulating missionary interest in

the local churches among the children. Also included are distributing tracts, Bibles and other Christian literature, comforting those in sorrow and lending a helping hand wherever needed. A number of orphanages have been helped with linens and clothing for the children; help has also been given to Bible Schools. A good work has been done in sending relief to the destitute in China and Europe.

Since conditions and opinions are so diversified because of the great extent of our fellowship, it would seem best for each district to work under the plan most fitted to its needs, under District Council supervision. It is proposed that organized district groups be under the supervision of the Home and Foreign Missions Departments at headquarters in Springfield, the wives of all the Executives there acting as an advisory board of counsellors since they are and have been vitally interested in such help as the Women's Missionary Councils are able to give.

The abundant blessings of the Lord have been upon the women's meetings held here at General Council each morning. They have been very profitable, instructive and inspiring, and there has not been time enough to hear from all. Mrs. Lindquist from the North Central District thrilled us with the possibilities of what can be done by a small group when we listen to the voice of God and do what He tells us to do, as she told of the shipments of food and clothing made to the needy in England. Mrs. Steiner of Basel, Switzerland, gave a graphic and heart-touching picture of refugees and Pentecostal believers in Europe who are homeless, starving and without the bare necessities of life, and are looking to us for relief.

Brother McGlasson, who is in charge of the Foreign Missions office in New York City, enlightened us about the assistance he is able to give the missionaries as they prepare for the field. Also presented were plans now in progress for an orphanage for homeless and abandoned children in Mexico City. There were interesting discussions regarding the organization and possibilities of Women's Missionary Council groups and reports of China and European relief work now being done in several districts and by local groups.

Present needs are food and clothing for abandoned babies in South China where Sister Perdue is endeavoring to establish an orphanage; a refrigerator and an electric vacuum sweeper for the Kentucky Children's Home; linens and all kinds of household articles, a kitchen stove, mangle and sewing machine for the missionary home in

Shanghai, China; and clothing, food and funds for Asian and European relief. More information about these can be obtained from the Missions Department at Springfield.

Back to our Scripture again: "She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy." We women desire to fit into the place the Lord has ordained for us, i.e., "the hand" of His body, the Church.

#### RESOLUTION

Whereas, the work of the Women's Missionary Council has been a blessing at home and abroad, therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the General Council recognize and encourage this work under District supervision and in co-operation with the Home and Foreign Missions Departments of the General Council.

It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that this report together with its recommendation be accepted and placed in the records of this General Council.

#### Report of Committee on Homes for the Aged

H. G. Johnson presented the report of the Committee on Homes for the Aged. The report is as follows:

Whereas, there is a present and growing need in our Movement for the establishing of Homes for the Aged, as well as other homes of a benevolent nature; and

Whereas, at the last General Presbyters Meeting held at Springfield, Missouri, a committee was appointed to study this matter and bring to this General Council some constructive recommendations for the meeting of this need, your Committee hereby respectfully submits the following report and recommendations:

1. We find that there is a crying need for Homes for the Aged, and that our Welfare Agencies are anxious to co-operate with us in establishing such homes.

2. We find that Homes for the Aged can be self-supporting homes after the initial cost of acquiring buildings and equipment is cared for, through the various pension plans, and welfare and old-age assistance programs in operation now, which are constantly being organized and expanded.

3. We find that homes with a capacity of 50 to 100 guests seem to be the most satisfactory, considering such phases as creating and maintaining a home atmosphere, finances, and care. We have found, however, that there are a great many smaller homes which are being successfully operated.

4. We find that there is no standard law governing the matter of pensions, welfare and old-age assistance, and therefore homes in various sections of the country must be established according to the standards of the state in which they are located.

5. We find that it is not advisable to remove old people to homes too far away from their old place of residence, for obvious reasons. Extreme changes in climate, living too far away from relatives and friends, and diverse laws covering their support are reasons to be considered.

6. Our study of the whole field of benevolence or social welfare thus far, as it applies to our Movement, reveals that we are now in a place where definite action must and will be taken in various sections of the country to meet the apparent need, and we believe before such actions are taken we should create some agency to co-ordinate plans, formulate a policy to govern all such homes, and oversee the establishing and operation of such homes. Therefore we as a Committee would recommend to the General Council consideration of the following resolution covering the organization of such agency for the establishment and operation of Homes for the Aged, Children's Homes, and any other homes or institutions of a like nature as the need in the future may indicate.

Be It Resolved, that a Welfare Association or Department be established under the general oversight of the Home Missions Secretary, and become a field of operations under the Home Missions Department, this Association to be composed of a Board of Directors of seven men, appointed by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery, whose initial terms of office shall be so arranged that at no future time would there be more than three men appointed at one time, and thus ultimately all terms would be for three years. As soon as possible after the selection of this Board, they shall meet with the Executive Presbyters to formulate a Constitution and By-laws to govern their work, which shall be to oversee and regulate all homes established in our Movement, to formulate policies of operation including appeals for funds, and to help in directing all the benevolent and charitable work of the Assemblies of God.

Districts or groups of districts desiring to open a home must work with this Association, first, in securing their approval relative to the opening of the home, and secondly, in conforming to the policies adopted.

It is our recommendation, based on study and observa-

tion as well as counsel from officials of welfare work, that large national homes are not desirable in that guests of such homes are too far removed from their old homes, friends and relatives; extreme changes of climate would seriously affect many old people; and there is variance in the laws covering the matter of support. Our only exception to this rule would be a Home for Aged Ministers, which could possibly be established on a national scale, as many ministers never establish a definite home of their own during their period of ministry. We definitely recommend smaller District Homes for the Aged, under rules and regulations provided for them by the Welfare Association through its Board of Directors, in co-operation with the State in which such homes would be located. These homes must be operated on a self-sustaining basis, after the initial cost of buildings and equipment has been taken care of.

It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that all reference to the Home Missions Department be deleted from the report, inasmuch as it was the sentiment of the assembled body that this work should not be under the supervision of that department. The report and its recommendation in its amended form were then accepted by motion.

#### Committee on the Ministers' Benefit Association

T. R. Brubaker, Chairman of the Committee on the Ministers' Benefit Association, read the proposed Articles of Association, which are as follows:

#### I. NAME

This Association shall be known as the Assemblies of God Ministers' Benefit Association.

#### II. MEMBERS

All ordained ministers of the General Council of the Assemblies of God with up-to-date Fellowship Certificates may become members of this Association. The pronouns "he", "his" and "him" used hereafter shall apply to women members of this Association as well as to men members.

#### III. DIRECTORS

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council shall constitute the Board of Directors of this Association.

#### IV. FUNDS

There shall be four distinct funds kept by the Directors of this Association, although they need not be kept distinct for investment purposes. They are as follows:

Fund Number One shall receive all contributions by individual members of the Association and all assignments made to the credit of individual members. Each member's individual account shall be kept in two columns: one showing those amounts which he has personally contributed plus interest on these amounts computed and assigned yearly, and the other showing those amounts which have been assigned to him from the general contributions which have been made to the Association plus the interest which shall have accrued to such amounts. A third total column may, of course, also be carried.

Fund Number Two shall receive all offerings made by churches or by non-members or by special bequests. It shall receive all amounts given to the Association other than contributions by members made to their own account. The amount in this fund shall be distributed and assigned as hereinafter provided in these Articles of Association.

Fund Number Three shall receive all profit which shall accrue to this Association by reason of the investments of funds. Office expenses, including bookkeeper's salaries, shall be paid from this fund. Any and all balance in this fund at the end of each year shall be distributed and assigned to the accounts of members of this Association on the basis of the total amount in their individual accounts on the previous January first, except as provided in Article X.

Fund Number Four shall be opened and become operative when the first member of this Association shall have reached the age of 65 or shall become permanently disabled before reaching that age. This fund shall then receive the total amount which shall have accumulated to his credit and shall later receive the amounts which shall have accumulated to the credit of all other members when they shall have reached the retirement age of 65 or shall become permanently disabled before reaching that age. From this fund, there shall be paid by the Directors of this Association monthly payments to all beneficiaries entitled to receive same in these amounts as hereinafter determined.

#### V. MEMBERSHIP FEE

The first payment of \$1.00 shall be considered to be a membership fee, and will not, therefore, be applied to the credit of the member. This fee is to be applied to the necessary expense of setting up the Retirement Fund, printing, postage, clerical help, etc.

#### VI. CONTRIBUTIONS

Each member shall contribute a minimum of \$1.00 a month to this Association. Contributions may be made monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually in advance. Regular or irregular contributions in any amount may also be made each or any month. If contributions shall become more than three months in arrears, the member's name shall be removed from membership and he shall become ineligible to receive his assignment of distributable funds at the end of the year (see Article IV). A member who shall have fallen in arrears in his contributions may restore his membership in this Association by a payment of all back contributions up to date. It is understood that this penalty for non-payment of monthly contributions shall not be applied after a member shall have continued his contributions for a period of ten years, although monthly contributions by members should be continued until retirement.

An offering shall be solicited once each year from the churches, which shall be deposited in the account of Fund Number Two. Church offerings shall not be designated for the benefit of a particular minister or ministers. Effort shall also be made by the Directors and members to secure donations to this Association from non-members and by bequests.

#### VII. ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Money in Fund Number Two shall, on January 1, 1950, be transferred to Fund Number One and divided among the members of this Association on the basis of the years of service which they have spent as ordained ministers of the General Council. This division of funds to members shall be an assignment to the accounts of the members rather than an actual disbursement of funds.

After January 1, 1950, there shall be a distribution of all money in Fund Number Two at the end of each year to the account of individual members as recorded in Fund Number One. Those members who shall have joined this Association before January 1, 1950, shall receive their share of the distribution of Fund Number Two on the basis of the years of service which they have given the General Council as ordained ministers. Those who join this Association after December 31, 1949, shall receive their share of the yearly distribution of the amount in Fund Number Two on the basis of the years they have been members of the Association. During the month of January, 1950, and each January thereafter, each member shall receive a statement from the Secretary



of the Board of Directors of the amount which is recorded as being in his account.

It shall be understood that no minister, regardless of his position in the church or in this Association, shall receive his yearly share of the offerings of the churches unless he shall support his District and the General Council office with his tithes and offerings according to the standard of his District and of the General Council office.

#### VIII. INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

All funds of this Association shall be invested by the Directors in property owned by the General Council, the District Council and local churches of the Assemblies of God at nominal rates of interest. Care shall be taken to have all such investments fully protected by mortgage or by notes underwritten by General or District Council officials. Other investments may also be made by the Directors as funds are available.

#### IX. PAYMENTS BEFORE 65

If a member of this Association should become totally disabled before he becomes 65 years of age so that he is unable to fill the pulpit or do work of any kind and he shall secure a written statement to this effect from his District Presbytery Board, his monthly contributions may cease from the time of his disablement, the amount to his credit in Fund Number One shall be transferred to Fund Number Four and his monthly benefit payments shall begin six months after the date of his disablement. If such a member should recover to be able to resume his ministry or other remunerative activity, he shall report the same to the Directors of this Association, whereupon his monthly benefit payments from the Association shall cease, the balance of his account in Fund Number Four shall be returned to his account in Fund Number One and his own monthly contributions to the Association shall be resumed.

Withdrawals may be made by a member at any time of that amount or any portion of that amount which he shall have placed in the fund over and above the \$1.00 a month minimum membership dues without jeopardizing his membership.

In the event that a member of this Association shall at any time cease to be a ministerial member of the General Council of the Assemblies of God or should for any reason withdraw from this Association before he becomes 65 years of age, he shall receive only that amount which he has placed in Fund Number One plus

that interest on this amount which has been granted from year to year and minus any payments which may already have been made to him.

In the event of the death of a member before or after retirement, his beneficiary shall receive that amount which the member shall have placed in Fund Number One plus that interest on this account which has been granted from year to year and minus any payments which may already have been made to him.

#### X. RETIREMENT

At retirement (which shall be granted upon request at or after 65 years of age) the member's personal contributions to the Association shall cease and the amount which has accumulated to his credit will be placed in Fund Number Four, determining the amount of his monthly benefit payments. He will then be placed upon the Retirement List of this Association to participate in the distribution of the Fund on any one of the following specified plans:

A. He may receive a certain definite monthly income for life.

B. If he so chooses, a somewhat smaller monthly income shall be paid him and his spouse for the years thereafter, if either or both shall live for ten years thereafter, and until the member's death.

C. He may have a certain amount (considerably less) paid monthly to him or his spouse as long as either shall live.

D. If the member prefers to receive a lump sum settlement at 65 or at any time thereafter, he shall receive that amount which he has placed in Fund Number One plus that interest on this amount which has been granted from year to year and minus any payments which may already have been made to him.

#### XI. AMOUNT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS

The amount of the monthly benefit payments made to members and their spouses shall be determined by the Metropolitan Actuarial tables in use at that time. These tables and monthly payments shall be subject to such correction as the investment experience and mortality experience of this Association shall, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, require. This Board shall have the right to make such correction by the transfer of sufficient funds to or from Fund Number Four from or to Funds Number Two and Three, provided that the

amount of the monthly payments already declared and begun to be paid to any annuitant shall in no case be reduced or discontinued.

## **XII. PROVISIONS IN THE EVENT OF LIQUIDATION**

In the event of liquidation of this Association, the amount in Fund Number Two up to \$100,000.00 shall be transferred to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God to hold and disburse as a Benevolent Fund for the benefit of needy Assemblies of God ministers and their widows. Any balance in Fund Number Two and all money in Fund Number Three shall be assigned to Fund Number One in the manner prescribed above and all monies in Fund Number One shall then be paid to those in whose name they are held. Money in Fund Number Four to the credit of annuitants shall be paid to such annuitants in lump sums.

## **XIII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to these Articles of Association may be made by a two-thirds vote of the members of this Association present or represented at any regular meeting thereof.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

## **WEDNESDAY EVENING**

After the devotional service, E. S. Williams took the Chair.

There was considerable discussion concerning the proposed Articles of Association for the Ministers' Benefit Association. It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that any further consideration of these articles be suspended and that this be the first order of business at the next General Council on the basis that it come before the body as unfinished business.

### **Resolution Drafted by District Sunday School Representatives**

D. P. Holloway, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented the following resolution which was drafted by the District Sunday School Representatives present at the General Council:

Whereas, we are expressly an evangelistic movement dedicated to the fulfillment of the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, and

Whereas, fulfillment of the great commission requires both evangelism and the indoctrination of those who are won, and

Whereas, the Sunday School is recognized as an effective agency both for evangelism and instruction, and

Whereas, the effectiveness of the Sunday School depends largely on the training of its teachers,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the General Council of the Assemblies of God adopt the following goals for Sunday School development for the ensuing Sunday School year—October 1, 1947, to September 30, 1948: an increase of 100,000 in average attendance and a total of 12,000 teacher training certificates issued to Sunday School workers.

It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that this resolution be adopted.

## **Resolutions**

The Resolutions Committee then presented the following resolution:

Whereas, there is a very great field for advancement among the 13,000,000 Colored people of the United States to whom no testimony comparable to that of the Assemblies of God is being presented, and

Whereas, there is an appeal coming from several of our Colored brethren,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we authorize the establishment of a Colored Branch of the Assemblies of God.

After considerable discussion, it was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that a committee of representative brethren from the North and the South be appointed by the General Superintendent to give thorough study to this problem and to bring back their report and recommendations to the 1949 General Council.

A resolution was offered that the following named brethren be appointed as honorary General Presbyters: J. Narver Gortner, Berkeley, California; E. F. M. Staudt, Sarasota, Florida; C. A. Lasater, Fort Smith, Arkansas; and J. C. Wilder, Fort Worth, Texas. On motion, the resolution was adopted.

On motion, the following resolutions of appreciation were adopted:

Resolved, that our General Secretary be authorized to express to Manager Frank Whitwam and the Convention Bureau of Grand Rapids, the deep and sincere appreciation of this General Council for the warm and generous hospitality shown the Executives, the delegates,

and visitors at this Twenty-second General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Resolved, that we extend a vote of appreciation to the Michigan District Council and to the local pastors and their churches for their kind hospitality; also that we express appreciation to the Police Department, to the local newspapers, and to Radio Station WFUR.

The following resolution was read:

Inasmuch as many of our Assembly of God people are moving from one state to another, and in many cases attend "Jesus Only" churches and other churches whose doctrine and practices are not in accordance with our teaching, yet called Pentecostal,

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we earnestly seek to find out where our people are going to reside when making such changes and that we notify the local pastor of their residence, thus protecting our constituency, and

Be It Further Resolved, that wherever possible our local assemblies adopt the name "Assembly of God" in order that our constituency may be able to locate our assemblies more readily.

It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that this resolution be amended by adding that our local assemblies be listed under "Assemblies of God" in all available means of publicity, such as the classified section of the telephone directory, the city directory, and the directory of churches in the newspapers. The resolution as amended was then adopted by motion.

By motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, cities entertaining the General Council sessions often do not have a strong Assemblies of God church, and

Whereas, we, the constituency of the General Council, desire to win all men for Christ, and

Whereas, one man filled with the Holy Spirit turned Asia upside down; we feel that the potential possibilities of four thousand Spirit-filled people should make great inroads into the forces of sin in any city,

Be It Resolved:

1. That we adopt as a motto "A strong Assemblies of God Church in the city in which the General Council is held to be expected as a result of every General Council."

2. That proper allowance be made for local advertising.

3. That a plea be made through the PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL soliciting the prayers of our people towards this objective.

4. That the evening services of our General Council sessions be climaxed with a definite evangelistic appeal.

It was stated that invitations for the 1949 General Council had been received from Seattle, Washington; Portland, Oregon; Denver, Colorado; Columbus, Ohio; and New Orleans, Louisiana. It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed to refer to the Executive Presbytery the matter as to where to hold the next General Council.

The Twenty-second General Council adjourned at 11:20 p.m. with the singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and the prayer of benediction was offered by Brother Williams.