

MINUTES

**Revised Constitution and Bylaws
General Council of the Assemblies of God**

**THE TWENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL COUNCIL
San Antonio, Texas, August 26-September 1, 1959**

0481-037

MINUTES

of the

Twenty-Eighth

GENERAL COUNCIL

of the

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Convened at San Antonio, Texas

August 26 - September 1,

1959

(Printed in the U.S.A.)

FOREWORD

The opening meeting of the twenty-eighth General Council was convened in the Municipal Auditorium, San Antonio, Texas on Wednesday night, August 26. The convention was welcomed by Associate Justice Clyde Smith and the response was delivered by Ralph M. Riggs, General Superintendent. The Superintendent then brought a challenging message on the convention theme, "Forward with Christ."

Public prayer meetings were held each morning in the Travis Park Methodist Church, conducted by Rev. A. A. Wilson, Executive Presbyter and pastor of Evangel Temple, Kansas City, Mo. The business meetings were opened with devotional periods, including songs, prayer and the ministry of the Word. The night services were in the nature of rallies with a strong emphasis on evangelism. The Sunday afternoon meeting was devoted to World Missions.

A full report of all ministries including names of speakers was published in current issues of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL. For the sake of brevity they have been eliminated from the printed minutes.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD, INC.

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

General Officers and Executive Directors of Departments, following election and assignment of portfolios

Thomas F. Zimmerman General Superintendent
Bartlett Peterson General Secretary
Executive Director Radio Department
Martin B. Netzel General Treasurer
Executive Director Headquarters General Services, Pur-
chasing, Communications, Maintenance
Howard S. Bush Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Christ's Ambassadors Department,
Men's Fellowship Department, Department of Evangelism
J. Philip Hogan Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Foreign Missions Department
Gayle F. Lewis Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Home Missions Department, Women's
Missionary Council, Chairman Board of Directors Minis-
ters Benefit Association
Charles W. H. Scott Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Sunday School Department, Depart-
ment of Education and Department of Benevolences
Bert Webb Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Department of Publications, Church
School Literature, The Pentecostal Evangel, the Pulpit
Magazine

Executive Presbytery

Resident: Howard S. Bush, J. Philip Hogan, Gayle F. Lewis,
Martin B. Netzel, Bartlett Peterson, Charles W. H. Scott,
Bert Webb, Thomas F. Zimmerman

Non-resident and areas represented: N. D. Davidson, North-
west; G. Raymond Carlson, North Central; Grady L.
Fannin, Northeast; D. H. McLaughlin, Southwestern;
Kermit Reneau, South Central; Andrew Stirling, South-
eastern; Roy H. Wead, Great Lakes; A. A. Wilson,
Gulf area.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

August 26 to September 1, 1959

The twenty-eighth General Council of the Assemblies of God convened in San Antonio's air-conditioned Municipal Auditorium on Wednesday, August 26 at 7:30 p.m. In the absence of Governor Price Daniel, the convention was officially welcomed to Texas by Justice Clyde Smith. The response to the word of welcome was given by Ralph M. Riggs, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

The General Superintendent brought a challenging message on the convention theme, "Forward with Christ." Immediately following the service, a Revivaltime Broadcast was taped for release on Sunday night, August 30. The music for the Broadcast was furnished by a choir composed of members of the San Antonio area Assemblies.

THURSDAY MORNING

The business meeting on Thursday morning was preceded by a devotional period in charge of Rev. James McKeehan of Houston, Texas, chairman of the Program Committee. He introduced other members of the Program Committee including Albert W. Earle of Concord, N. H., who was responsible for the music of the convention. God's blessing was invoked in prayer by James O. Savell.

Reverend Kermit Reneau, superintendent of the South Texas District, was introduced, who extended a word of welcome to the General Council, now in session, from the entire constituency of the Assemblies of God in Texas. The response to the word of welcome was given by Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, who commended the pastors and laymen of Texas who had worked so faithfully in planning for this General Council.

The General Superintendent, Ralph M. Riggs, called the business meeting to order at 10:20 a.m., calling on the General Secretary, J. Roswell Flower, to invoke God's blessing on the deliberations of the hour.

Assistant General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman,

read a telegram of good will addressed to the General Council in session from the President of our nation, Dwight David Eisenhower, as follows:

To those attending the biennial General Council of the Assemblies of God I send greetings. Gathered from all parts of the nation and united in one faith, you can accomplish much together. I am sure you will be inspired to advance in the service of God and neighbor. Best wishes for a fine meeting.

Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The motion was made, seconded and carried that the Resolutions Committee be requested to prepare an appropriate response to be conveyed to the President to express to him appreciation for his greetings to the General Council, and to assure him of our prayerful support, and that he may be granted wisdom from above for the administration of the affairs of state.

Other Telegrams Received during the General Council

A telegram of greeting received from former Assistant General Superintendent, Fred Vogler, of Belleville, Illinois (now retired) was read as follows:

Greetings 28th General Council Assemblies of God. Praying God's richest blessing to rest upon the entire session. Regret our inability to attend.

A telegram of greeting from Walter E. McAlister, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, was read as follows:

Sincere Pentecostal greetings from Canada, and very best wishes for God's richest blessing to rest upon the twenty-eighth General Council of the Assemblies of God now meeting in San Antonio, Texas. It is our prayer that divine guidance will be given in all business transacted, and that future days will witness even greater spiritual victories in your Assemblies throughout America and your missionary work in other lands.

A telegram from Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Washington, D. C.:

Regret it is impossible for me to welcome you personally to Texas for your great international meeting. I trust your prayerful deliberations will offer new hope for the best ways of dealing constructively with the great problems facing mankind.

A telegram from Denver D. Hargis, member of Congress third District of Kansas:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere wishes for a very successful and memorable event. I am very thankful that my sister and brother-in-law Rev. and Mrs. Curtis R. Ringness are a part of this great movement. Sincerely your friend.

A cable from Conference Secretary Kunjummen, of the South India Conference of the Assemblies of God:

Praying God's richest blessing on the General Council.

Other telegrams were received and read from Evangelist and Mrs. Christian Hild, and from Obie L. Harrup, Assistant Superintendent of the Potomac District, the latter expressing regret that because of illness he must miss this first General Council in many years.

The chair introduced the members of the Executive Presidency, each one standing as his name was called, viz.: Howard S. Bush, N. D. Davidson, J. Roswell Flower, Gayle F. Lewis, Martin B. Netzel, Noel Perkin, Charles W. H. Scott, Roy H. Wead, Bert Webb, A. A. Wilson, Thomas F. Zimmerman.

General Council Committees

Attention was called to the printed program, including the listing of the various committees which had been appointed to serve the General Council. The list is as follows:

Committee on Arrangements

Thomas F. Zimmerman, Chairman; Martin B. Netzel, Bert Webb

General Council Reports

Joseph R. Flower, Chairman; Lowell C. Ashbrook, Richard J. Bergstrom, G. Raymond Carlson, C. C. Crace, Grady L. Fannin, Kermit Reneau

Ministerial Relations

Frank J. Lindquist, Chairman; Paul A. Fleming, Robert E. Goggin, Frank Gray, James K. Gressett, E. L. Newby, O. L. Thomas, Kelley Wigfield

Parliamentary Committee

Bernard L. Bresson, Chairman; Leland R. Keys, E. E. Krogstad

Program

James E. McKeethan, Chairman, Albert W. Earle, Marcus T. Gaston, Joseph E. Johnson, Ray R. Soper, Robert M. Wilson

Resolutions

Bartlett Peterson, Chairman; Lowell C. Ashbrook, R. Elmer

Baker, Stanley H. Clarke, Everette Ewing, Russell G. Fulford, Wesley P. Steelberg

Roster

Arthur F. Berg, Chairman; Samuel H. Balius, Walter A. Boring, Chester P. Jenkins, David L. Johnson, Curtis J. Mattling, James S. Morrison, James Derald Musgrove, Guy L. Phillips, T. B. Pierce, Jr., Alvin Sprecher, Philip P. Wannemacher

Spiritual Life

Dwight H. McLaughlin, Chairman, A. A. Wilson, J. Robert Ashcroft, J. Billy McIntosh, Lowell C. Ashbrook, A. Newton Chase, Albert M. Alber

Tellers

Harry M. Myers, Chairman; Walter A. Boring, Captain; Velmer J. Gardner, Captain; Joseph Raculia, Jr., Captain; James R. Ailles, Ernest G. Aldridge, Phillip G. Barnard, S. K. Biffle, Jr., Billy R. Bray, Arthur G. Clay, Ralph W. Hillegas, Howard R. Davidson, R. C. Davis, LeRoy Duke, Charles V. Elliot, Jack W. Ellsworth, Harvey L. Flaharty, Douglas J. Friesen, P. Nelson Garcia, L. Bernard Hinman, Clifford L. Hobson, Fenton L. Jones, Jr., Arvid C. Kingsriter, James C. Kofahl, Gerald P. Leatherwood, Lloyd R. Logan, Richard E. Orchard, E. Eugene Perrault, Andrew J. Pope, W. Clyde Powell, Fred Prather, Robert Gene Putnam, Crawford Railey, Grover W. Risner, Jr., W. Howard Roberson, John Rohrer, Wilfred L. Roset, Karl D. Strader, H. L. Stevens, John W. Thompson, Richard O. Tufte, Homer B. Walkup, Philip P. Wannemacher, S. Joseph Westbury, J. Rudolph Wilkinson, Cameron W. Wilson.

Benevolences

William H. Robertson, Chairman; Stanley H. Clarke, J. D. Courtney, F. D. Davis, Thomas J. Gotcher, Arnold Q. Hashman, C. B. Horton, Frederick H. Huber, Theo. M. Kimberlin, G. L. Riffe, Curtis W. Ringness, Fred Vogler, Kelley Wigfield.

Christ's Ambassadors

Wayne M. Adams, Chairman; Laurell L. Akers, Russell J. Cox, Kenneth M. Freiheit, Richard C. Fulmer, Harold D. Hanson, Lewis I. LaMance, Leon L. Miles, E. Joe Wilmoth

Education

Charles W. H. Scott, Chairman; Eugene A. Born, O. Cope Budge, C. C. Burnett, C. E. Butterfield, M. E. Collins, N. D. Davidson, Paul J. Emery, Joseph R. Flower, R. J. Fulford, T. E. Gannon, G. W. Hardcastle, Leland R. Keys, Frank J. Lindquist, Jesse E. Smith, Andrew E. Spence, Andrew Stirling, C. J. Utley, Milton T. Wells, W. R. Williamson.

Evangelism

Robert L. Watters, Chairman; Albert C. Bates, Moses E. Copeland, Cordelia Donnell, Christian F. Hild, Don Mallough, Albert E. Reid, William M. Sharp, Garfield Unruh

Foreign Missions

Roy H. Wead, Chairman; Gayle F. Lewis, J. Bashford Bishop, George H. Carmichael, Robert Carrington, Fred L. Chambers, W. S. Graham, Melvin L. Hodges, Maynard L. Ketcham, J. E. Kuykendall, F. O. Majors, Wesley F. Morton, Clifford Pennock, Noel Perkin, E. L. Phillips, D. LeRoy Sanders, Ernest C. Sumrall, Charles N. Webster

Home Missions

G. Raymond Carlson, Chairman; Robert L. Brandt, C. C. Crace, Josue Cruz, Henry W. Culbreth, Grady L. Fannin, J. K. Gressett, Owen S. Hodges, Ralph M. Phillips, Ernest P. Pruett, Charles Szabo, Russell Williams

Men's Fellowship

Burton W. Pierce, Chairman; Gerald A. Balius, Jose Giron, Melvin B. Hanson, Walter Hanson, D. Fred Leader, Don Mallough, Lloyd Shoemaker, Arthur R. Stegen, Kenneth Van Akin, Earl G. Vanzant

Radio

Thomas C. Cunningham, Chairman, Elmond M. Clark, George E. Flower, George W. Hardcastle, Duane V. Hurst, Robert C. Jones, Phinis A. Lewis, Dwight H. McLaughlin, Leonard Palmer, Silas S. Rexroat, Andrew Stirling, Theo. L. Vibbert

Sunday School

Wm. F. Van Winkle, Chairman; Earl B. Adamson, Harold E. Bullock, Charles W. Denton, Erwin F. Erdmann, David C. Colbert, Lawrence Green, Jr., Gilbert M. Litsinger, Cecil M. Parrish

In addition to these committees, the chair announced the appointment of a committee to give consideration to invitations for the 1961 General Council. This committee consisted of

Robert E. Goggin, Chairman
G. Raymond Carlson
Andrew Stirling
Joseph L. Gerhart
Thomas F. Zimmerman
Bert Webb

The chair reminded the delegates that according to the Bylaws, final decision affecting the selection of the site for the next General Council should be made by the Executive Presbytery.

Distribution of Agenda and Reading of Reports

Copies of the agenda were distributed to the voting constituency, and the motion was made, seconded and carried, that the agenda as presented be adopted.

The first item on the agenda was the reading of the report of the General Superintendent. The printed report covering all departments had been included in the packet furnished all delegates registering, and reference was made to that portion of the printed report devoted to the reports of the General Superintendent, the General Secretary and the General Treasurer.

The chair was relinquished to Assistant General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, while the General Superintendent read his report, which contained a brief review of the accomplishments of the various departments during the past two years. The report was accepted by motion as read.

The General Chairman then returned to the chair and called for the reading of the report of the General Secretary, which covered the various responsibilities of the Secretariat. Statistics were cited showing the continued growth of the Movement since 1916. The report of the General Secretary was accepted by motion.

The next report to be read was that of the General Treasurer, who, in addition to calling attention to certain features of the audit in the printed report called attention to the listing of the leading churches contributing through the co-operative plan. The motion was made, seconded and carried that the report of the General Treasurer be accepted.

The motion to adjourn was made at 11:55 a.m. and the meeting was dismissed with prayer by N. D. Davidson.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The meeting on Thursday afternoon was convened at 2:00 p.m. After the singing of hymns, and prayer by the Reverend Robert Carrington of Turlock, California, T. F. Zimmerman, Assistant General Superintendent introduced representatives of other Pentecostal denominations who were present and visiting the General Council.

James A. Cross, General Overseer of the Church of God, brought official greetings from the entire constituency of

the church which he serves, and referred to the common bond of fellowship which all Pentecostal believers have. He expressed the hope that the Assemblies of God and the Church of God would experience an even greater degree of fellowship in the future, until all are gathered together "in the general assembly and church of the firstborn" around His throne in heaven.

Dallas M. Tarkenton, on behalf of Bishop Synan of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, who could not be present, brought greetings from the officers of his church. The minimum credential of a Christian, he said, is found in the Scripture: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." He also extended an invitation to the Council members to attend the convention of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, October 19-25, 1961.

Ralph M. Riggs, who was presiding, suggested that the congregation indicate, by standing to its feet, their hearty reciprocation of these expressions of fellowship and their recognition of the mutual objectives of the churches represented.

First Report of Roster Committee

Arthur F. Berg, Chairman of the Roster Committee, brought the first report of the number registering, as follows:

Ordained ministers	1,684
Lay delegates	492
Voting members	2,176
Licensed ministers	130
Visitors registering	1,041
Non-voting	1,171

Total registrations 3,347

The report of the Roster Committee was received by motion.

Departmental Reports

In conformity with precedent, the printed department reports were reviewed by the Committee on Department Reports, which submitted the following Digest of these reports through its chairman, Joseph R. Flower:

1. **General Secretary.** In studying the report of the General

Secretary, your committee observed there continues a substantial growth in all areas of the fellowship. This report indicates that we presently have more than one-half million members in the U.S.A. and more than another one-half million in membership of our foreign churches. It is estimated that we would easily have twice this amount if we followed the practice of other denominations in listing adherents as members. It is also noted that some increase is shown in the number of churches though the percentage of increase is not as great as in former years. The report shows we presently have 8,094 churches in the U.S.A. and 13,747 foreign churches, making a grand total of 21,841.

2. General Treasurer. The report of the General Treasurer reflects a continued increase in funds handled by the Headquarters Office. We wish to call attention to the fact that \$187,823 were contributed to the General Fund by 69.2% of our ministers, with 30.8% making no contribution at all. Based on the recommendation that each ordained minister contribute \$2 a month and each licensed minister \$1.50 per month, there would have been \$311,300 contributed. The foregoing report reveals an unrealized potential of \$123,477.

A comparison of the Treasurer's current report with one year ago reveals a definite improvement in our over-all financial status, with a surplus of \$127,806 in the current fund, compared to a deficit of \$101,492 a year ago. It is also to be noted that this increase in cash assets is in addition to \$120,000 placed in reserve for the construction of the new Administration Building.

Attention should be drawn to the Co-operative Plan of Church Giving which was launched two years ago. A Co-operative Plan Church is one that gives regularly to its own District, the Foreign Missions Department, and at least one other Headquarters Department. During the first quarter of 1959, there were 1,165 such churches. It is recommended that this plan be adopted by all our churches, since its objective is to eliminate the necessity for special appeals.

3. Benevolences. This committee wishes to congratulate the twenty-four Districts that have followed the recommendations of the General Council at Cleveland, Ohio in the appointment of district Benevolence Committees. Assistance has been given to the National Children's Home, Aged Ministers, and the Retirement Home. It is noteworthy that of the ten Districts showing the greatest increase in the percentage of church participation, nine have district Benevolence Committees. Of the twenty-four Districts having committees, they gained a total of 16 churches with sustained participation of two or more years. However, twenty districts having no com-

mittees lost a total of 65 churches which had sustained giving two or three or more years.

It is also pointed out that we are now assisting 236 persons with our Aged Ministers Assistance Fund, with a maximum of \$65.00 per couple monthly. We would be able to do more for these pioneers of our Movement if these 5,500 churches not now contributing would begin to do so.

Progress at the National Children's Home is to be commended. Regional response has been excellent as evidenced by the providing of funds for improvement of properties, etc. In addition to the 75 children at the National Children's Home in Hot Springs Ark., thirty children are being cared for at the Illinois Children's Home, which is being operated under District supervision.

While the building of a new Retirement Home at Lakeland, Florida has been held up because the present property at Pinellas Park has not been sold, it is hoped that in the very near future it will be possible to proceed with plans for the construction of the home at the new location.

4. Christ's Ambassadors Department. The C. A. Department is serving a very useful purpose in our Movement through its forty-four district C. A. organizations. The GOAL program, Campus Ambassador for Assemblies of God college students, and the C. A. Herald all contribute toward the stabilization of our youth. The Youth Camp Program has reported an enrollment of 12,887 in 1958, with 1,458 saved and 1,810 filled with the Spirit. National C. A. Day, with its financial response this year of \$18,817.84, is the chief means of support for the department. Speed-the-Light giving for 1957-58 totaled \$676,348.79, or a gain of \$48,082.49 over the previous period. The Servicemen's Division corresponds with 9,000 of the 28,000 Assemblies of God servicemen, 80% of whom are unsaved.

5. Department of Education. The four general areas of formal education with which the Department of Education is concerned are: Bible Institutes and Colleges, Liberal Arts, Elementary and Secondary Education and Adult Education. 2,672 of our youth were in Assemblies of God Schools this past year, 2,048 of whom were in our Bible Institutes and Colleges. These were served by an administrative and faculty staff of 228. Evangel College anticipates an enrollment of 575 this fall. The spiritual record of these students in Christian service during the school year is most commendable.

Two high schools, with approximately 230 enrolled, are endorsed by the Department of Education, and quite a number of additional elementary and secondary schools are associated in some way with the Assemblies of God. The Berean School

of the Bible has undergone some changes which have greatly benefited its services to the fellowship. The total enrollment is 9,275. 1,208 courses have been assigned to students in penal institutions, and 2,956 courses are being taken by 955 ministerial candidates.

We would urge the co-operation of our entire constituency in assuming the responsibility of supporting our educational institutions, for what is received from the students can never cover the full cost of their education. It has been pointed out that an annual gift of only \$2.00 from every member in our churches will adequately make up this lack.

6. Department of Evangelism. Several things are being done to combat a tendency toward a decrease in evangelistic effort. Among these is a directory of evangelists, issued by the department, and sent to all our pastors; the Pentecost Crusade, reports in the Pentecostal Evangel of revival campaigns, free literature on evangelism, a national Evangelism Convention and an Evangelists' Seminar. Since we are an evangelistic as well as a missionary movement, and these two factors have largely made us what we are, we would urge that each of us rededicate himself to a renewed emphasis upon evangelism.

7. Foreign Missions Department. Foreign Missions is continuing to show marked advance. There are 776 active missionaries, 11,338 national workers, 13,795 churches and 627,443 believers associated with the Assemblies of God in 71 fields outside the United States. We have 2,183 students enrolled in our 61 overseas Bible schools. A total of \$7,041,748.86 in Foreign and World Missions offerings was reported for the 21-month period ending March 31, 1959. \$246,912.00 of this was returned to the Districts on the World Missions Plan, and \$60,056.00 was transferred to the National Home Missions Department. Southern California is the leading missionary district with \$1,087,482.30 given, and Glad Tidings in New York City gave \$94,975.67 to make it the leading missionary church.

Special attention should be given to the fact that while we have had a phenomenal increase in our total missionary giving, our per capita giving is only \$7.82 per year. Only 66% of our churches give to missions in any given month, and 395 churches gave nothing in 1958.

The Foreign Missions Department is to be commended for the new "CRASH" program for missions known as "GLOBAL CONQUEST," with the emphasis this year upon literature distribution, and we earnestly urge the co-operation of all. World conditions and the Great Commission to the church demand an all-out dedication to the task before us. Commendation should be expressed for the new and enlarged

Foreign Missions Board, the merging of the World Challenge with the Pentecostal Evangel, the School of Orientation for missionaries and the move toward an International Assemblies of God.

8. General Services. The object of the Personnel Office at headquarters to keep the turnover of employees at a minimum, maintain fair wages and high standards of holiness is appreciated. We wish especially to commend the Public Relations Office for its efficiency and multiple services to our constituency.

9. Home Missions Department. It is readily conceded by all, that the mission of the Assemblies of God is world-wide in its scope. However, many are not aware of the magnitude of our work here in the homeland, which finds its direction and outlet through the Home Missions Department. The scope of this department's work is divided into two major areas; church extension and special ministries. The Assemblies of God continue to make noteworthy progress in church extension or establishing of new Assemblies of God churches. In the five years just past we have seen 1,580 new churches established.

The endeavor is greatly aided by financial assistance from the national office in the form of gifts and loans. It is further assisted by a relatively new project which uses the services of a number of skilled architects who provide building plans. These men form what is known as the Church Building and Planning Commission.

Lesser known, but encompassing one of the greater areas of effective service of the Movement, is the Special Ministries Division of the Home Missions Department, which works among the American Indians, the Jews, the Deaf, Blind, those in prison, Alaska and the Foreign speaking population of America.

There is a total of 280 Home Missionary workers carrying on this work. There are 118 workers among the American Indians alone, working in eighteen districts in more than seventy reservations and reaching approximately one hundred tribes with the Gospel.

The Prison work of the department is outstanding—providing 9,000 Bible courses to some 7,300 prisoners in 1958. We rejoice over the work being done to take the Gospel to the Jews in America, to the foreign language groups, to our newest state—Alaska. The great and continued rise in the population of America challenges us to continue with this aggressive program, to reach the lost of our own land.

10. Men's Fellowship Department. The Men's Fellowship Department has seen the greatest growth of its history in the

past year. There are over 1,600 chapters. At the present time thirty-six of our districts now have Men's Fellowship directors. The national office has provided helpful pamphlets and booklets as well as a quarterly publication entitled "TEAM." New developments are in the offing which will further challenge and aid this department and implement the work of the Men's Fellowship.

11. Ministers Benefit Association. Ministers Benefit Association is a plan adopted by the General Council, designed to supplement Social Security at the time of the minister's retirement. It is a plan whereby the minister contributes at least 1% of his income and recommends that his church contribute no less than 3% and not more than 6% of his income each month. At the present time only 896 ministers and churches are participating in the plan. These funds are invested under careful and experienced supervision and from the income so derived 3% has been added to all accounts annually. This program operates without taxes, salaries or other usual expenses normal to similar programs, thus enabling its members to receive the full benefit of all earnings. Ministers Benefit Association is a service of the Assemblies of God to its ministers.

12. Publications Department. The report of the Publications Department embraces three large areas of operation: the Gospel Publishing House, the Pentecostal Evangel and the Church School Literature division.

The Gospel Publishing House consists of two major areas of operation—production and sales. Almost half of the employees (231) at general headquarters are employed at the Gospel Publishing House. Seventy-two (72) train carloads of paper are used per year in the printing plant, with \$100,780 spent in postage and freight. The Business Office processed 194,193 orders last year. Credit losses are very small percentage-wise. The Merchandising Division maintains supplies of about 6,000 items. The Music Division purchases and prepares materials to meet the musical needs of all phases of our worship.

The Pentecostal Evangel has a paid circulation of 167,000 (163,000 in 1957). The magazine goes to more than ninety different countries. On April 1, 1959, the World Challenge was merged with the Evangel. A World Missions issue of the Evangel is now published once a month. An editorial policy board has been created since the last General Council and a lengthy statement of editorial policy has been formulated. As the official organ of the Assemblies of God, the Evangel seeks to especially minister to the lay members of the constituency. We urge every pastor to be sure his church receives enough

copies so that all his members and the community at large may benefit.

Five years ago there were 28 publications of church school literature. In 1957 there were 36—today there are 63. This gain has been accomplished without any appreciable increase of employees. The outstanding trend of the past five years has been the swing to graded lessons. New publications include the new Vacation Bible School materials, i.e., "Flying with Christ," new handwork packets for beginner and nursery children, undated courses on "Great Themes of the Christian Faith," the Annual Lesson Commentary and the Hi-Teen course. The Division has taken several steps to develop the writing ministry of the Assemblies of God by conducting conferences and workshops. An interesting and amazing story can be told of accomplishments in the realm of literature on the foreign field.

In accordance with instructions from the last General Council, a monthly magazine for ministers, called PULPIT, was launched one year ago. It will never have a mass circulation, for subscriptions are restricted to the clergy; however, there are now 3,683 subscribers. The importance of PULPIT is that it serves the leaders of the Assemblies of God, and enables them to better serve all the people.

13. Radio Department. The ministry of Revivaltime continues to steadily gain effectiveness and acceptance across the nation. Records show that 236,345 letters have been received by the Department during the last two years. Among the many aspects of Revivaltime ministry we mention the prayer fellowship. Over 24,000 prayer requests were received for the last great prayer service. Evangelism is a most significant feature. In a seven-week period 9,466 names (representing first-time correspondents) were returned to the districts for follow-up purposes. In many districts from 50% to 88% of the churches receive such names.

Over two million pieces of literature have been distributed since the inception of the network broadcast. The Radio Log as of March 31, 1959 showed a total of 354 stations. Twenty-two per cent (1,704) of our churches support the broadcast. This compares with 1,200 in 1956, 1,491 in 1957, 1,626 in 1958. Church support is the backbone of support. The goal for 1959 is 25%. May Revivaltime be heard "Across the nation and around the world."

14. Sunday School Department. The work of the Sunday School Department falls into six divisions. The Editorial Division edits the Sunday School Counselor with a circulation of 34,000, and the Superintendent's Assistant with a circulation of 12,000. In addition, a large amount of service

literature is produced. The Workers' Training Division reports that 56% of the schools conducted a training program last year. During the last 21 months the Division awarded 86,708 Workers' Training Certificates and 296 Workers' Training diplomas. According to the National Standard Division, the total enrollment in our 8,317 Sunday schools numbers 922,663. A total of 84% of these schools returned the annual Checkup. These returns indicate that 141,713 souls were saved in the two-year period. In 1958 there were 1,099 Gold Crown Schools, 1,095 Silver Crown Schools, 1,038 earned the Blue Crown, and 3,272 were listed as co-operative.

The Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade program has been adopted by 3,915 schools, an increase of 258 over the past 21 months. Total offerings for the 1958-59 fiscal year were \$96,621.74.

The Child Evangelism Division reports that 1,941 churches had Vacation Bible Schools with an enrollment of 159,371 in 1958 as compared with 2,233 churches enrolling 186,988 in 1957. This decline should not be.

The Advanced Christian Training School in 1958 had an enrollment of 226.

The task of enrolling one million by 1960 is closing upon us rapidly. Determination and hard work can see the goal reached for, in the words of Caleb, "We are able."

15. Women's Missionary Council Department. The department was established in 1951. At that time 27 districts had a W.M.C. organization. Now all 44 districts plus the Latin American District and the Eastern Spanish District are organized.

At present there are 5,306 groups with 61,375 members. In addition, there are 1,150 Missionette groups with 13,000 members.

The 1959 biennial report reveals that \$815,649 was given to foreign missions, \$1,616,788 to home missions, \$192,203 to benevolences, \$13,727 to world missions miscellaneous, and \$72,539 to the national office. Total giving since the establishment of the National Department amounts to \$6,604,027.

What can be shown in figures is only one part of W.M.C. accomplishment. There are the intangible ministries of intercessory prayer and of encouragement and comfort and the work on which no cash value can be placed.

While we have not mentioned the personnel of the various departments by name in this report, we wish to acknowledge their good work and service to the fellowship. May God bless them.

Respectfully submitted
Joseph R. Flower, Chairman

In the brief discussion following the reading of the foregoing report, attention was called to Section 11 of the Report, the Ministers Benefit Association. It was stated that for the past three or four years the investments made by the Association have been so good that a five per cent dividend has been declared, to be added to the accounts of all those who are participating in the plan.

It was moved, and the motion prevailed, that the report of the General Council Reports Committee be accepted, with the understanding that by accepting the report of this committee, the printed Department Reports are accepted also.

Parliamentary Committee

The chair called attention to the Parliamentary Committee which had been appointed to serve the Council, and invited them to be seated on the platform. The members of the committee were Bernard L. Bresson, chairman; Leland R. Keys, E. E. Krogstad.

General Council Membership

As an item of unfinished business, the chair referred to the action of the 1957 General Council providing for the appointment of a committee, which was to be commissioned to prepare an amendment to the General Council Constitution, in order to clarify the membership of the Council. The question had been raised due to a seeming conflict of a statement in the Preamble to the Constitution on membership with Article VII of the Constitution, which defined membership.

The report of the committee covering this question and other proposed amendments had been printed and distributed to all present. A discussion ensued concerning the advisability of considering all the items in the report as a whole, or seriatim. It was then decided by vote that the Council consider these items contained in the report seriatim.

It was then moved, and the motion was seconded that Article VII of the Constitution of the General Council be amended by adding to the article the following paragraph:

All lay members of the local assemblies, in good standing in their churches are considered members of the General Council, and may be chosen to serve the fellowship in conformity with our Constitution and Bylaws.
In the debate which ensued on the question of the extent

to which lay members can be recognized as members of the General Council the implications of the proposal for the amendment to Article VII seemed to be lost sight of. Finally a voice vote was called for, which did not prove to be satisfactory, and so a division of the house was called for. When the count was made, it was plainly evident the motion to amend, which required a two-third vote, was lost.

It was then moved that the following resolution be adopted, and the motion was seconded, viz.

RESOLVED, That since we are predominantly ministers, and that it has been stated that we are a movement of ministers, that we go on record at this Council that we are a group of laymen, ministers and missionaries, united together to go forward declaring our common bond of Christian fellowship and objectives.

The motion was adopted with little comment or debate.

There still seemed to be some confusion over the question of lay-membership, and the meaning of the term "General Council," and finally

The motion was made, seconded and carried that a committee be appointed to clarify the name "General Council of the Assemblies of God" and the convention name "General Council" as it is related to the election of officers and a definition of membership.

Amendments to the Bylaws

Attention was then turned to the provision in Article II, Sec. 4 of the Bylaws pertaining to Voting Constituency, and the statement was made that this section should be amplified to clearly define the voting constituency of the General Council. The motion was then made to amend Article II, Sec. 4 of the Bylaws, Voting Constituency, by substituting for the present section the following:

The voting constituency shall consist of all ordained ministers and missionaries holding accredited fellowship certificates, and representatives chosen by the Assemblies affiliated with us (each Assembly being entitled to one delegate) who are present and registered at any special or regular meeting of the General Council.

Several amendments were proposed, including the addition of the words, following the word "delegate," "who shall present evidence of appointment signed by the pastor and church secretary"; and the amendment to add the word "lay" before the word "representatives," so that the sentence would

read "lay representatives." The amendments failed to carry.

The motion was then made, seconded and carried that the motion to amend Section 4 of Article II of the Bylaws be postponed indefinitely.

The chair then expressed appreciation for the many fine laymen who are members of the Assemblies of God and for the good work they are doing for the Lord.

A motion for adjournment was made and carried. The meeting was dismissed with prayer offered by Roy H. Wead.

FRIDAY MORNING

The meeting of the General Council was opened on Friday morning with the usual devotional period, following which the chairman of the Roster Committee submitted a report indicating the presence of 2,416 qualified voting members, registered and seated.

The General Superintendent requested Bert Webb, assistant General Superintendent, to preside over the morning meeting and turned the chair over to him.

Restricted Debate

The motion was made, seconded and carried that no person be allowed to speak twice on a motion or an amendment to a motion until others desiring to speak had been heard, and that debate be limited to three minutes.

The motion was made that the election of officers be the first order of business in the afternoon service. The motion was seconded but failed to carry.

The chair then read Article IX of the Constitution, and Articles II and III of the Bylaws pertaining to the election and duties of the General Superintendent. It was moved that in the election of officers, if a ballot is required beyond the nominating ballot, that the business session be continued without recess until an election has been declared. The motion was seconded but failed to carry.

J. Roswell Flower, General Secretary, was requested by the chair to pray for divine guidance in the casting of the nominating ballot for General Superintendent. The ballots were then distributed and collected by the Council tellers.

The motion was made, seconded and carried that if any candidate for office receives the necessary two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, an election be declared.

While the ballots were being counted, the order of business as listed in the agenda was resumed.

Procedure in Electing Foreign Missions Director

Inasmuch as it had been proposed there be a change in the procedure for the election of the Foreign Missions Secretary, and that the Bylaw covering the government and organization of the Department be amended to bring the Foreign Missions Department in conformity with the Bylaws governing other departments, and that in order to make these changes, the following articles will be affected, viz. Article IX, Sec. 1 and Sec. 2 of the Constitution and Article II, Article III and Article VIII of the Bylaws, it was decided this matter should be given immediate attention. A motion was made to consider the proposed changes, point by point, but the motion failed, so that the proposed changes were to be considered as a whole.

Inasmuch as the meeting was approaching the noon hour, it was decided to postpone action on the matter of rules affecting the election of the Secretary of the Foreign Missions Department until the afternoon meeting.

First Report of Tellers

The tellers committee reported there was no election for the office of General Superintendent on the nominating ballot, for none of the nominees received a two-thirds vote. The list of nominees were then reported as follows: Jack R. Edgar, Leland R. Keys, Richard J. Bergstrom, James R. Swanson, Theodore Vassar, Bartlett Peterson, Andrew Stirling, Joseph L. Gerhart, John C. Miner, J. Roswell Flower, Geo. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Obie L. Harrup, David A. Hastie, Dwight H. McLaughlin, Emil A. Balliet, Kermit Reneau, Jas. O. Savell, Theo. E. Gannon, G. Raymond Carlson, Atwood Foster, Bert Webb, J. Robert Ashcroft, Chas. W. H. Scott, Maynard L. Ketcham, C. M. Ward, Howard S. Bush, Gayle F. Lewis, James Van Meter, Roy H. Wead, M. B. Netzel, N. D. Davidson, Thos. F. Zimmerman, Ralph M. Riggs, E. L. Phillips, Grady L. Fannin, Samuel J. Scott, Paul Riggs, Robert E. Goggin.

There was a motion not to adjourn until one o'clock, but it failed to carry. Ballots were then cast for the first elective vote. The motion was made, seconded and carried that the tellers keep the result of the vote secret until the afternoon meeting.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and carried.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Following a brief devotional period with Albert W. Earle of Concord, N. H. leading the singing, Cordas C. Burnett introduced Dr. Frank W. Langham, who has served for nineteen years as director of the Southwest District for the American Bible Society. Dr. Langham stated the Society has but one function—to get the Word of God to all mankind. The fulfillment of this mission, he said, rests upon individual Christians and churches. He made a plea for assistance in the distribution of the Holy Scriptures.

The business meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. with Assistant General Superintendent Bert Webb serving as chairman. Reverend Cordas C. Burnett asked for the floor to present a privileged motion. The privilege was granted.

Endorsement of American Bible Society

RESOLVED, That this General Council in session express its appreciation of the American Bible Society for the great work of the Society in translating, publication and distribution of the Holy Scriptures, and that we further express our appreciation to the Society for their co-operation with the Assemblies of God brethren at home and abroad in the matter of Biblical distribution, and

RESOLVED FURTHER, That we reaffirm our decision that the American Bible Society is the official Bible distribution arm of the Assemblies of God and that we encourage our churches to remember the needs of the Society in its missionary giving.

The motion was made to adopt the resolution and the motion prevailed.

Third Report of Roster Committee

Arthur F. Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee reported that as of this hour, 4,170 persons had registered for this council, and of this number 1,951 were ordained ministers and 587 authorized church delegates, who qualified to share in the voting. The report was received with appreciation.

Report of Tellers Committee

Harry M. Myers, chairman of the Tellers Committee, read the report of the committee which indicated there was no election for the office of General Superintendent on the

first elective ballot, for no candidate had received the necessary two-third votes of the 1,721 votes cast. The required number of votes for election was 1,148.

Voting for the choice of a general superintendent was continued throughout the afternoon, during which time seven ballots were cast. Voting was also continued on Saturday morning and it was not until the ninth ballot that the General Superintendent was elected. After the third ballot was cast, the names of all nominees were eliminated with the exception of the three nominees receiving the highest number of votes. On the fourth elective ballot, the tellers committee reported that 1,989 votes were cast, with 1,326 required for an election. Ralph M. Riggs received 1,164 votes, Thos. F. Zimmerman 716 and Bert Webb 109. There was no election.

During the time consumed for the passing of ballots by the tellers, and the counting of votes, business was conducted as usual and decisions reached.

Amendment of Constitution and Bylaws Affecting the Foreign Missions Department

Consideration was given to the proposal that the Constitution and Bylaws be amended to bring the Foreign Missions Department in line with the other service departments of the General Council. A number of resolutions were offered affecting the status of the Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department, which failed to carry. One motion was made to the effect that no action be taken at this session of the General Council to make a change in Article II, Sec. 2, Par. d of the Bylaws, affecting the election of a Foreign Missions Secretary, but the motion failed to carry.

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee had prepared a resolution which was then presented as follows:

WHEREAS, It seems advisable to bring the organizational structure of the Foreign Missions Department into harmony with the organizational pattern of other departments, and in particular, the selection of a Director of the Foreign Missions Department, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the office known presently as Foreign Missions Secretary shall hereinafter be designated as the Executive Director of Foreign Missions, and be it further RESOLVED, That the Constitution and Bylaws be amended to conform to this new designation of title, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Director of Foreign

Missions shall be an Assistant General Superintendent and shall be elected in the following manner, to wit: 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 this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot two or more names to be presented to the General Council in session for election. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election. The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

Attention was called to the fact that Item 3, subdivision 4b on the agenda had been overlooked. It was then moved and the motion was seconded that Article VIII, Sec. 2 of the Bylaws, Government and Organization of the Foreign Missions Department be amended by addition of the following:

The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a secretary of the Foreign Missions Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

The motion was adopted.

Referring to the Agenda, attention was called to Item 3, subdivision 5, and the motion was made to amend Article VIII, Sec. 2 of the Bylaws concerning pastors serving on the Foreign Missions Board, by elimination of the words, "they shall not succeed themselves in office." It was moved, seconded and the motion prevailed that this section of the recommended amendments to the Bylaws be referred to the Foreign Missions Committee.

Increase in Number of Executive Presbyters

The proposal that the Constitution be amended to change the number of Executive Presbyters to fourteen was then given consideration. It was reported that adequate notification had been given for the proposed amendment to Article IX, Officers, of the Constitution to comply with the provisions governing amendments to the Constitution.

The motion was made that Article IX, Officers, be amended by changing the number of Executive Presbyters from twelve to fourteen. The motion was then made that we eliminate from the motion the number fourteen and substitute for the word fourteen, the word "sixteen."

The proponents of the amendment contended that because of the growth of the organization a better understanding of the work at headquarters can be gained by enlarging the

Executive Presbytery by the addition of two more representative brethren. Those opposing the motion pointed out that the non-resident Executives are not actually representatives of any particular section, and therefore they felt it to be unwise to increase the number. It was also pointed out that if the number of Executive Presbyters is increased to sixteen, there will not be a sufficient number of resident Presbyters at Springfield to constitute a quorum necessary for the regular administrative duties of the Presbytery. The suggestion was made that if the amendment is passed, Article XXVI of the Bylaws, can be amended to provide for a change in the number constituting a quorum.

The amendment to the main motion, substituting the word "sixteen" for the word "fourteen" was adopted. The main motion was then adopted to make this section to read:

The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the General Superintendent, the Assistant General Superintendents, General Secretary, General Treasurer and the Executive Director of Foreign Missions; together with such other brethren to be chosen from the active fellowship to bring the number of executives to sixteen.

The meeting was adjourned by motion at 5:05 p.m.

SATURDAY MORNING

Following the usual devotional period, the business meeting of the Council was opened at 10:30 a.m., the General Superintendent requesting N. D. Davidson, a member of the Executive Presbytery, to preside over the meeting. The chairman of the Roster Committee reported a total registration of 4,411 as of this hour, with 2000 of this number ordained ministers and 605 church delegates, or a total of 2,605 qualified voters.

Resolution Affecting Geographical Areas

Bartlett Peterson, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, This 28th General Council of the Assemblies of God has adopted an amendment to Article II, Sec. 2 of the Bylaws, which provides for the election of Executive Presbyters who shall represent eight geographical areas of the United States, be it

RESOLVED, That the following words be added under Article II, Sec. 2, Par. C of the Bylaws:

1. The eight geographical areas shall be arranged and defined so that each of these areas shall include the States designated hereinafter.

Northwest Area

Washington
Oregon
Idaho
Montana
Wyoming

Southwest Area

Arizona
California
Nevada
Utah

North Central Area

North Dakota
South Dakota
Nebraska
Minnesota
Iowa
Wisconsin

South Central Area

Colorado
New Mexico
Kansas
Oklahoma
Texas

Great Lakes Area

Michigan
Ohio
Illinois

Indiana
Kentucky
West Virginia

Gulf Area

Louisiana
Mississippi
Arkansas
Tennessee
Missouri

Northeast Area

Maine
New Hampshire
Massachusetts
Vermont
Rhode Island
Connecticut
New York
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Maryland
Delaware
District of Columbia

Southeast Area

Virginia
North Carolina
South Carolina
Georgia
Alabama
Florida

The motion was seconded. A question was raised as to whether the areas should include Districts by name, or states, and amendments were proposed to change the names of states to names of districts. The amendments failed to carry. The motion to adopt was then carried.

Telegrams of Greeting and Good Will

One of the ministers arose on a question of privilege and requested that the items on the agenda be set aside for the introduction of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Brother E. S. Williams, who served for so many years as General Superintendent, was unable to attend the General Council this year, and that other honorary members of the General Presbytery were unable to attend, including Fred Vogler, Frank Gray, J. Narver

Gortner and S. S. Scull, and in recognition of the positions which they held, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the General Secretary be instructed to send these brethren telegrams expressing the sentiments of this body and its regret for their inability to attend.

The motion was seconded and passed, and the General Secretary was called upon to lead in prayer invoking God's blessing upon these honored brethren.

Change in Administrative Quorum

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, This body has taken action to increase the number of Executive Presbyters from twelve to sixteen; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXVI, Quorum, of the Bylaws be amended by striking out the last sentence in the article, which reads, "A majority of the Executive Presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum" and substituting for that sentence the following, "The presence of six Executive Presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum."

The motion to adopt was seconded and in the debate which ensued, several amendments were proposed, all of which failed to carry. The motion to amend Article XXVI of the Bylaws in order to provide for a quorum of six was then adopted.

Establishment of Chaplaincy Commission

On a question of privilege the agenda was set aside to permit the offering of a resolution to authorize the establishment of an Assemblies of God Chaplaincy Commission. The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, A resolution adopted by the General Council in session at Atlanta, Georgia, August, 1951, recognized the Chaplaincy Commission of the National Association of Evangelicals as the official agency for commissions in the chaplaincy in the armed forces of the U.S.A., and

WHEREAS, While that agency has served our Assemblies of God chaplains faithfully and well since that time, it is now evident that in the intervening years since that agency was officially recognized as the representative agency for our chaplains a number of factors have arisen

or have changed to indicate that the action taken at Atlanta General Council should be reconsidered at this time. In view of those factors and at the request of our Assemblies of God chaplains at their annual Chaplaincy Conference in February, 1959, the following resolution is presented:

WHEREAS, The General Council of the Assemblies of God has experienced an unprecedented growth in all areas of the church and an even greater growth in membership and ministry is anticipated in the future, and

WHEREAS, There continues to be great demand to maintain a large standing military force for the United States Government in which there are in excess of 28,000 Assemblies of God men on active duty, and

WHEREAS, There is an increasing availability of fully qualified candidates for all branches of the chaplaincy and an increasing scarcity of available slots in our denominational quota assigned by the government, and

WHEREAS, There is an increasing need and demand for more personal contact with, and representation of, the individual chaplain by the Assemblies of God both to the movement and to the government, and

WHEREAS, The United States Government fully recognizes the Assemblies of God as a major Protestant denomination with an influential voice in behalf of its military chaplains, and

WHEREAS, The individual, personal, representative voice of the Assemblies of God has as much, if not more, effect and influence with the military than a collective, representative chaplaincy agency, and

WHEREAS, There is a possibility, in view of current membership figures and anticipated membership growth of our churches, that personal representation of our chaplains may result in the assignment of a larger denominational quota than currently enjoyed through the agency representing, processing, and endorsing Assemblies of God Chaplains, and

WHEREAS, None of the benefits now enjoyed by working through a collective representative agency would be lost by having our own Assemblies of God chaplaincy commission but distinct advantages would be gained, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council of the Assemblies of God authorize the complete activation of an Assemblies of God Chaplaincy Commission to (1) process chaplaincy applicants, (2) grant ecclesiastical recognition of qualified candidates, (3) represent all chaplaincy appli-

cants to the government, (4) personally and/or collectively represent all Assemblies of God chaplains to the military, and (5) serve Assemblies of God chaplains through the facilities of the Servicemen's Division.

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

Election of General Superintendent

The Tellers Committee, through its chairman, Harry M. Myers announced the results of the ninth electoral ballot for the General Superintendent as follows: 1,953 votes were recorded, with 1,303 necessary for election. Thomas F. Zimmerman received 1,488 votes, Ralph M. Riggs 419 and Bert Webb 46. Thomas F. Zimmerman was therefore declared elected.

Both the newly elected General Superintendent and the retired General Superintendent made brief remarks to express their feelings as a result of the change in leadership.

The motion was made and seconded that this Council go on record in an expression of deep appreciation for the years of service, the sweat and tears given by our Brother Ralph M. Riggs to this Movement. The motion was passed with a rising vote.

Before adjourning for the morning, ballots were distributed and cast for the nomination of the Assistant General Superintendents.

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

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon meeting was opened with prayer. Mr. Waggoner Carr, speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, was presented and brought greetings to the convention. He spoke briefly on the need for Christian laymen to assume responsibility and leadership in government and urged the delegates to be alert in these critical days of international tension and peril.

Members of the armed forces Chaplaincy were then introduced by Assistant General Superintendent, Bert Webb, each in turn speaking of the work of the chaplain in his specific field.

The business meeting was opened with Ralph M. Riggs in the chair, who called on the chairman of the Roster Committee for a report. The report indicated that as of

this hour, 2,661 voting delegates (2,050 of this number being ordained ministers) had registered.

A ballot was then cast for the nomination of assistant general superintendents, four of whom are eligible for election. The rule that a two-third vote on the nominating ballot is authorized for an election was explained. Ralph M. Riggs requested that his name be not placed in nomination for Assistant General Superintendent, inasmuch as, in his estimation, this procedure would not be ethical.

The names of one hundred and sixty (160) ordained ministers were placed in nomination. The total votes cast were 1,541, with 1,028 required for election. Two of the present incumbents in office were elected on the nominating ballot, viz., Bert Webb, who received 1,376 votes, and Gayle F. Lewis, 1,285 votes.

Bert Webb and Gayle F. Lewis were declared re-elected assistant general superintendents, and each of these brethren expressed his appreciation for the confidence shown in him.

Ballots were distributed by the Tellers Committee and the General Secretary was called upon to invoke guidance for the election of the remaining two assistant general superintendents.

On the first electoral ballot, 1,402 votes were recorded, with 935 required for an election. None of the nominees received a sufficient number of votes for election. It was then decided by motion to confine consideration of nominees to those who had received thirty (30) or more votes. This left the slate to include:

Charles W. H. Scott	729
Howard S. Bush	407
N. D. Davidson	300
Roy H. Wead	224
Bartlett Peterson	118
Ralph M. Riggs	87
Kermit Reneau	71
George W. Hardcastle	63
Aaron A. Wilson	60
Dwight H. McLaughlin	60
G. Raymond Carlson	46
Theo. E. Gannon	42
M. B. Netzel	41
James Van Meter	39
Emil A. Balliet	31

Election of Third and Fourth Assistant General Superintendents

Charles W. H. Scott was elected on the second electoral ballot, receiving 1,034 votes of the 1,407 votes cast. Howard S. Bush was elected on the third electoral ballot, receiving 843 votes of the 1,092 votes cast.

Nomination—Director of Foreign Missions Department

While the votes were being counted for the election of the two assistant general superintendents, ballots were cast for the election of the Director of the Foreign Missions Department, who in the future will also serve as an assistant general superintendent. The slate of nominees chosen by the General Presbytery in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws was announced as follows: Emil A. Balliet, J. Philip Hogan and Melvin L. Hodges.

The present incumbent in office, requested the privilege of explaining to the Council his reasons for declining to serve further, and his decision that this be the last year of service in the office of Foreign Missions Secretary. As Brother Perkin explained the reasons for his resignation, the entire Council spontaneously rose in standing ovation of one who had given so unselfishly and unreservedly of his life and energy to the cause of foreign missions.

The tellers committee reported that 1,097 votes were received, and of this number, 407 were received for Emil A. Balliet, 405 for J. Philip Hogan and 285 for Melvin L. Hodges. Inasmuch as 732 votes were required for election, no election was declared. Ballots were then distributed and collected by the tellers. No report was received prior to the adjournment of the meeting.

While balloting was continued for the election of the assistant general superintendents, consideration of the items contained in the Agenda was resumed.

Certificates of Transfer

The proposal made by the District Secretaries in their meeting of September 3-5, 1958 that Article VI, Sec. 10 of the Bylaws should be amended by addition of further material, was given consideration. A number of amendments were made to the original proposal and final approval was given by motion for the amendment to the Bylaws as follows:

When a minister takes up residence in another district,

a Certificate of Transfer shall be issued within sixty days by the District of which he is a member, unless there are definite charges pending against him. The Certificates of Transfer shall be accepted by the District into which he moves. Exceptions may be made for ministers moving to serve at General Headquarters, or for those who are retired, or are in the armed forces, or who are serving on the faculties of our schools.

In order to assist a minister who is transferring into another district, a transcript giving full information concerning a minister and his wife should accompany the Certificate of Transfer.

A question was raised concerning the status of a home missionary who is serving in one district, while being supported by another. By common consent, this problem was referred to a Home Missions Seminar or to a smaller committee to be resolved.

Jurisprudence Report

Bartlett Peterson, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, submitted a resolution affecting Article VI, Sections 12, 13, 16 and 17, of the Bylaws and providing for revision of the wording of these sections affecting discipline of ministers. This resolution consisted of a partial report of the committee appointed by action of the General Presbytery for a revision of the sections of the Article affecting trials and appeals. The chairman of the Resolutions Committee moved the adoption of the Resolution, and that its provisions be considered seriatim.

After considerable discussion, it was decided by motion that mimeographed copies be provided for the voting of the Council, and that consideration of the Resolution be deferred until Monday.

Foreign Language Branches

The chairman of the Resolution Committee presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, In the interest of equitable representation for the Foreign Language Branches, and improved relationships with the Home Missions Department a duly appointed special study committee has recommended a revision of Article IX, Section 6 of the Bylaws, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the aforesaid Article IX, Sec. 6 be

amended by substituting for the present wording of the section, the following:

Section 6. Branches.

a. A foreign language group, in order to be recognized as a Branch of the Assemblies of God, must have at all times in the group a minimum number of twelve churches. If they do not qualify for recognition as a Branch, the pastors and congregations will find ready acceptance in the fellowship of the districts in which they are located.

b. A group which is qualified to receive recognition as a Branch, shall be entitled to elect its own officers, and shall be granted the same representation which is accorded District Councils within the framework of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

c. The Foreign Language Branches shall operate under the general supervision of the Home Missions Department. The Branches shall inform the Executive Director of the Home Missions Department of the time and place for all meetings of the governing body, to enable the Director of the Home Missions Department to be present in a consultative relationship, at his discretion. A copy of the minutes of all meetings of the governing bodies shall be forwarded by the Branch officers to the Executive Director of the Home Missions Department.

d. The Branch and the Home Missions Department shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and co-operation between the Branch and the District where the Branch is located. The Branch officers shall consult with the officials of the District concerning the opening of works in a given area. The Branch churches shall unite, wherever possible, in fellowship meetings and similar district activities.

After brief discussion, the resolution was adopted.

Board of Education

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented a resolution pertaining to the editing of the wording of Article X of the Bylaws, entitled Education Department, with the explanation the General Presbytery had proposed this editing be made. The resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, There exists the possibility of considerable confusion in the use of the words, "Committee on Education" as the name of the General Council committee chosen to supervise the educational activities in the Assemblies of God, because of the number of other lesser groups which are also delineated as committees, and

WHEREAS, Other organizations in the framework of the General Council are known as "Board" or "Boards" and WHEREAS, The term "Board of Education" is more meaningful both to our denomination and to those persons in education circles, be it

RESOLVED, That Article X of the General Council Bylaws entitled "Education Department" be edited by substituting for the words "Education Department," the words "Department of Education," and substituting for the word "Committee" the word "Board" wherever the word "Committee" is found.

The motion was made to sustain the recommendation of the General Presbytery and that Article X be edited as proposed in the resolution. The motion was seconded and carried.

Ministers' Financial Obligations

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The need of additional funds for the support of Executive officers and the maintaining of Executive offices has been recognized by the General Presbytery, and

WHEREAS, Similar needs exist in District offices, and WHEREAS, Consideration of these needs has resulted in a recommendation to the General Council by the General Presbytery, to wit,

"That the General Presbytery recommend to the General Council that it request the Districts to inform their ministers that their credentials will not be renewed unless they have met their obligations to the General Council and the District Council, unless satisfactory explanation can be given for their failure to co-operate."

Be it therefore RESOLVED, That this body hereby endorse the action recommended by the General Presbytery.

The motion was made to adopt, and the motion was seconded. Considerable discussion ensued, and mention was made of a principle which has been long recognized in the General Council that the paying of tithes would not become a basis of fellowship. There was a motion to adjourn which the chair did not recognize, inasmuch as it was felt the affirmative side had not had sufficient opportunity to speak on the subject. One of the delegates rose to a question of privilege and requested the chair to recognize the motion

to adjourn since the motive was to continue debate rather than to discontinue discussion. Finally, the motion to adjourn was recognized and carried.

SUNDAY SERVICES

In keeping with tradition, all business was set aside for a full day devoted to spiritual ministry, fellowship and inspiration. The Memorial service was followed by a Communion service, presided over by Reverend Ralph M. Riggs, who introduced the speaker, Reverend David A. Hastie, pastor of Bethel Temple, St. Louis, Mo. The General Secretary read the names of 131 ministers and missionaries who had laid down their armor during the past two years and entered into eternal rest. The list is as follows:

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Aguilar, Jose G., Watsonville, Calif.
 Ashburn, Aubry D., San Diego, Calif.
 Atkinson, William E., Mount Vernon, Mo.
 Baehr, Minnie A., Pinellas Park, Fla.
 Beiler, Levi S., Lynchburg, Va.
 Bergholz, Arthur, Richmond Hill, N. Y.
 Betts, Frederick, Santa Cruz, Calif.
 Birmingham, Edith L. (Mrs. G. E.), Winton, Calif.
 Bishop, Lucy (Mrs.), Port Hueneme, Calif.
 Blakeney, Alfred A., Pinellas Park, Fla.
 Brannoch, Henry E., Phoenix, Ariz.
 Brauchler, Philip J., Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
 Burnside, William M., Yakima, Wash.
 Burris, W. David, Hot Springs, Ark.
 Bush, William R., Grove Hill, Ala.
 Caldwell, Roy, Macomb, Ill.
 Cass, Roscoe F., St. Cloud, Fla.
 Clark, T. Horace, New Orleans, La.
 Close, Amelia (Mrs. C.), Lynden, Wash.
 Comstock, George A., Sioux City, Iowa
 Cornelius, Lue Cindia (Mrs.), Electra, Tex.
 Covell, Susan A., Alexandria, Minn.
 Crawford, Claude G., Everett, Wash.
 Crossno, Patrick C., Odem, Tex.
 Davis, John H., Larned, Kans.
 De Boer, Ellen M. (Mrs.), Juneau, Alaska
 Dennis, Gladys F. (Mrs. F. L.), Wichita, Kans.

Deyle, Jessie Z., Springfield, Mo.
 Dodds, Marion E., Cotati, Calif.
 Downing, Edward C., Lynden, Wash.
 Edwards, Oather W., Tucson, Ariz.
 Ellison, Edgar A., Galena Park, Tex.
 Elwell, Robert W., Sacramento, Calif.
 Engquist, Charles A., St. Paul, Minn.
 Evans, H. Mary (Mrs. J. R.), Pinellas Park, Fla.
 Finch, Olive E. (Mrs. C. E.), Hatfield, Pa.
 Flores, Benito N., Munday, Tex.
 Flores, Guadalupe V., San Antonio, Tex.
 Fugowski, Kazimir, New York, N. Y.
 Garvin, William F., St. Petersburg, Fla.
 Gates, Francis W., Puyallup, Wash.
 Gibbs, Clyde L., Laurel, Mont.
 Gibson, Gilford, Bethany, Mo.
 Gierke, William F. A., Los Angeles, Calif.
 Gray, James B., Baytown, Tex.
 Green, James I., Davis, Okla.
 Gunter, Clyde R. Jr., Elvins, Mo.
 Hardin, Ben, Santa Ana, Calif.
 Hardy, James W., Tulsa, Okla.
 Hargis, Mattie R. (Mrs. R. M.), San Bernardino, Calif.
 Harp, Fred H., Mound City, Ill.
 Harper, Joe H., Long Beach, Calif.
 Hartvikson, Hans L., Newhall, Calif.
 Hochmuth, Walter E., Leon, Kans.
 Hocker, G. W., Myrtle Creek, Oreg.
 Hoffman, Loran D., Creswell, Oreg.
 Holdridge, Horace B., De Leon, Tex.
 Holmwood, Ivy P., Yakima, Wash.
 Hosanna, Elisha B., Joliet, Ill.
 Huff, Eugene R., Kenosha, Wis.
 Janasky, Cornelious, Atlantic City, N. J.
 Johnson, Monroe M., Nakomis, Fla.
 Jones, Edward, Delaware, Ohio
 Jones, John M., West Bend, Wis.
 Jones, Willie, Chickasha, Okla.
 Kelty, H. May, Pinellas Park, Fla.
 Kennedy, Clara E. (Mrs.), Pinellas Park, Fla.
 King, George, Chicago, Ill.
 Kirschman, Egon, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Kistler, Jacob E., Audubon, N. J.

Klaus, Edward J. Sr., Newburgh, N. Y.
 Kline, Ethel B. C., Miami, Fla.
 Lack, William E., Cozahome, Ark.
 Langston, Bessie (Mrs. Grover), Atlanta, Ga.
 Lee, Owen, Los Angeles, Calif.
 Lowie, Carl S., Batavia, N. Y.
 McAlister Ethel L. (Mrs. Harvey), Springfield, Mo.
 McDonald, Walter R., Hoodspout, Wash.
 MacKinney, Daniel C., Goose Bay, Labrador
 Manis, James, Oakland, Calif.
 Mason, Nellie R. (Mrs. R. A.), Des Moines, Iowa
 Mitchell, William J., Whitman, Mass.
 Moser, Charles, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Mosier, Noah, Nampa, Idaho
 Moss, William, Mineral Point, Mo.
 Mullett, George W., Chattaroy, W. Va.
 Nicholson, Rufus C., Fort Worth, Tex.
 Oliver, Luther J., Jacksonville, Fla.
 Olsen, Enoch, Danbury, Conn.
 Ortiz, Jose, Santa Ana, Calif.
 Parashos, William J., Portland, Oreg.
 Pinkston, Joseph P., Modesto, Calif.
 Putnam, Edwin M., Austin, Tex.
 Ramsey, James F., Nampa, Idaho
 Rayborn, Sidney A., Alton, Ill.
 Rensink, John D., Plattsburg, N. Y.
 Riggs, Calvin M., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Samford, David L., Houston, Tex.
 Schieman, Frank J., Fresno, Calif.
 Schmidt, G. Herbert, Los Angeles, Calif.
 Shaw, Harry E., Booneville, Ark.
 Shields, Charles E., Gardena, Calif.
 Sitton, John W., Houston, Tex.
 Smith, Jannie B. (Mrs.), Houston, Tex.
 Stevenson, Bertha E. (Mrs.), Des Arc, Mo.
 Streiffeler, Rudolph D., Portland, Oreg.
 Summers, Charles, Niland, Calif.
 Tacker, Peter C., Turlock, Calif.
 Tanner, Arthur W., Camden, Ark.
 Terry, Andrew A., Irondale, Mo.
 Thompson, Russell J., El Dorado Springs, Mo.
 Thompson, Thurman D., Vernon, Tex.
 Thomsen, Niels P., New Richmond, Wis.

Tiahrt, Cornelius G., Gladstone, Oreg.
 Tillman, Richard B., Mobile, Ala.
 Turnbull, Louis F., Los Angeles, Calif.
 Turner, Frank, Doty, Wash.
 Valdez, Dennis, Jr., Pinar Del Rio, Cuba
 Vest, John R., Webb City, Mo.
 Wallace, Hugal A., Bakersfield, Calif.
 Wilcox, Estella A. (Mrs.), San Francisco, Calif.
 Zarazua, Enrique, Marlin, Tex.

MISSIONARIES

Dutton, Edith, North India
 Gager, Bessie M., North India
 Hansen, Harold E., North China
 King, Ethel M., North India
 Lee, Bernice, North India
 Lillibridge, Glenna L., Pakistan
 Martin, Mary E., Liberia
 Wagenknecht, Edna, North India
 Wengler, Jessie, Japan

The traditional Sunday Afternoon Missionary Rally was conducted with nearly 200 missionaries participating, most of whom were in native costume. The speakers were Everett L. Phillips, field secretary for Africa, and Melvin L. Hodges, field secretary for Latin America. The night service was held in the Alamo Stadium, with an estimated crowd of 8,500 in attendance. The evangelistic message was delivered by Rev. Watson Argue, and there was a ready response to the altar call at the conclusion of the service.

MONDAY MORNING

Following the usual devotional period, the business meeting was opened at 9:30 with General Superintendent, Ralph M. Riggs presiding. He called upon Roy H. Wead to lead in prayer, remembering especially the family of Jesse Smith (Superintendent of the Georgia District), whose father-in-law died suddenly Sunday night.

Attention was called by the chair to the large number of items still on the agenda, urging the delegates to be conservative in their remarks so that the remaining business could be taken care of. Brother Riggs then relinquished the chair to Superintendent-elect Thomas F. Zimmerman, who also stressed the necessity of conducting the business with dis-

patch, while hearts were kept in tune with the moving of God's Spirit.

The chairman of the Roster Committee submitted the following report as of 9:00 a.m. Monday morning, which indicated registration of delegates and visitors had been continued through the weekend.

Ordained ministers	2,094	
Delegates	615	
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Voting Constituency	2,709	
Licensed Ministers	201	
Visitors	2,091	2,292
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Total registration	5,001	

The motion was made, seconded and carried that the report of the Roster Committee be accepted.

Election of Executive Director—Foreign Missions Department

The chairman of the Tellers Committee read the report of the committee indicating there was no election on the second elective ballot. Of the 907 votes cast, and 652 necessary for election, J. Philip Hogan received 464 votes, Emil A. Balliet 434 votes and Melvin L. Hodges 79.

Balloting was continued for the election of an Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department, and other business was conducted during the time consumed for the counting of votes.

There was no election on the third elective ballot, but an election was declared on the fourth ballot, J. Philip Hogan receiving 835 votes of the 1,195 votes counted. Brother Hogan, in his speech of acceptance paid tribute to the great leadership of his predecessor, Reverend Noel Perkin, mentioned the enormity of the task of administering the foreign missionary program of the Assemblies of God and asked for the prayers of all for God's enabling as he assumes his duties.

Nomination of General Secretary

Following the election of the Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department, the next order of business was the election of a General Secretary. J. Roswell Flower, the present incumbent in office asked for the privilege of speaking and confirmed his intention of retiring from office. He

stated he had reached the age of seventy-one years and felt it was time for him to step aside from further executive duties.

Ballots were cast for the nominating of men to serve in the office of General Secretary. When the ballots were counted, the tellers reported that 1,202 ballots were cast, with 802 necessary to declare an election on the nominating ballot. A total of 102 persons were nominated with no one receiving a sufficient number of votes to declare an election. The names of the nominees were read and balloting was continued.

Ministers' Financial Obligations

While the balloting for the election of Executive Officers was in process, the chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented again the motion which was before the house in the closing hour of the meeting on Saturday afternoon, affecting the obligation of the ministers for the support of the District and General Council offices. The background of the resolution was explained—that the resolution did not originate with the Executive Presbytery—that it originated in one of the districts, was passed on to the headquarters office and the Executive Presbytery passed it on to the General Presbytery without recommendation. The General Presbytery then approved it for presentation to the General Council.

There was considerable discussion, pro and con, with special attention being given to the extent licensed ministers share in the support of the General Council headquarters. It was pointed out that all ordained and licensed ministers share in the benefits which are received from the General Council headquarters, including the portion of group insurance premiums paid from the District and General Council treasuries. Those opposed to the resolution expressed their feeling the measure is too legalistic, and contrary to the spirit of the fellowship.

Ministers' Group Insurance Program Explained

Both the General Secretary and the General Treasurer were called upon to present the facts concerning the cost to headquarters of the group insurance program. The General Secretary stated that the premium cost to the minister is sixty cents per thousand dollars of insurance per month, but the total cost of premium is approximately \$1.00 per thousand per month, which means that the District and the General Council treasurers must make up 40% of the premium

cost in order to keep the insurance in force. He stated that at this present time, the premium paid to the insurance company is \$257,588.00, forty per cent of which is paid by the District and General Council treasurers.

In response to a question concerning whether the General Council receives an annual dividend, the secretary replied that at this time dividends are being received annually, but these dividends are being retained in a special fund, none of which is at the present time used for any other than the insurance program. He explained it is necessary that this reserve fund be created to safeguard the future administration of the program, since the actuaries have figured that in another ten years the cost of the program will be greater, and it is quite unlikely that dividends can be declared. A review of past experience given by the General Treasurer showed that in 1951 and in 1953, dividends were received, while in 1952, 1954, 1955 and 1956 there were deficits, which had to be covered from the funds of the General Council. The amount of dividends, if any, are determined by the mortality experience during the year. At the present time the mortality rate is approximately sixty each year.

When the motion was acted upon, by viva-voce vote, it apparently failed to carry. A division of the house was called for, and the count of rising vote clearly indicated the failure of the motion.

The chair stated that he wanted it clearly understood that the motion which failed to carry did not concern itself with whether or not a minister should support the district and general offices, but rather whether failure to support such offices would affect his standing in the fellowship. The chair emphasized the thought that he would not want anyone to conclude that the General Council in session did not believe in the necessity of a minister's meeting his obligations for the support of the District and General Council offices.

The motion was then made that the General Council in session go on record as urging all the District officers to return to their respective Districts to request that all the ministers of the district co-operate in the meeting of their obligations for the support of the District and General Council offices. The motion prevailed.

Pertaining to a Standing Finance Committee

A question from the floor was asked concerning whether

a Finance Committee would make a report to the General Council in session, as it had been noted such a report was not called for on the agenda. (This reference to a Finance Committee recalled the recommendation appearing in the report of the Committee on Co-operative Giving which was adopted at the 1957 General Council, that such a committee be appointed, its duties being to study the budget with the Executive Presbytery, and to serve in an advisory capacity in matters of general finance) The chair stated the Finance Committee had been appointed, had counselled with the Executive Presbytery, and had submitted its report to the General Presbytery, thus fulfilling its duties as prescribed in the resolution which was adopted two years ago.

The General Secretary called attention to Page 21 of the minutes of the 1957 General Council, and the report of the committee on Co-operative Giving, in which authority was given by the General Council for the appointment of a standing Finance Committee. He said that nothing was included in the resolution which would require the committee to bring a report to the General Council in session. He added, however, that it was his understanding the Resolutions Committee is preparing an amendment to the Bylaws which will provide for the establishment of a standing Finance Committee to be composed of "the constituency on the field." This statement was confirmed by the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, who stated that such a resolution would be forthcoming in order to give continuity to this particular committee.

A motion was then made, seconded and carried that the special Finance Committee bring a report to the General Council covering such items as deficits occurring in headquarters departments and bringing to this body recommendations for improvement in the financial situation.

Request Pertaining to Retention of Noel Perkin

On a motion of privilege, a request was made from the floor that the General Council go on record as instructing the Executive Presbytery to extend to Brother Noel Perkin an invitation to serve as senior consultant in the Foreign Missions Department for at least two years, and that appropriate arrangements be made for this service.

The Chair stated he was of the opinion such a suggestion was to be included in the report to be submitted by the Foreign Missions Committee, which opinion was then con-

firmed by the Chairman of the Foreign Missions Committee.

The motion was then made, seconded and carried that this matter of retention of Noel Perkin as a senior consultant in the Foreign Missions Department be referred to the Foreign Missions Committee for consideration.

Further Consideration of Report on Jurisprudence

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee again presented the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which had been mimeographed and copies of which had been distributed to the voting constituency present. The chairman of the Resolutions Committee stated that many of the items in the report were relatively unimportant and that much of the report was concerned only with the matter of editing. Consideration of the report was resumed, each item to be considered seriatim.

After the first two items on the report had been read and considered, the motion was made, seconded and carried that the entire report be laid on the table, in order to permit the Council to give consideration to matters of greater importance.

Commendation of Christian Laymen

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented a resolution of commendation of the Christian laymen who have united with the ministry in diligent, faithful service to rear a future church, to erect houses of worship, to build and maintain a purposeful evangelistic and missionary program for, and in behalf of, the Assemblies of God at home and abroad;

RESOLVED, That this twenty-eighth General Council of the Assemblies of God go on record as expressing thanksgiving unto God both now and "upon every remembrance of" these faithful sons and daughters who were by us, at times in much suffering, begotten in the Lord, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the diligence in service and readiness in sacrifice found in these faithful stewards, sometimes by us called "the laity," be highly commended and encouraged by us unitedly "... as workers together with Him" in a common cause until "... that Great Shepherd of the sheep. . . ." "shall appear."

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

To Create a Standing Finance Committee

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented a resolution to provide for the establishment of a standing finance committee, and moved its adoption. An amendment was offered to make provision for members of the committee not to succeed themselves in office, but the amendment failed to carry. Another amendment was offered to provide for the appointment of committee members, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. The amendment carried. The resolution as amended was then adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, The 27th General Council in session at Cleveland, Ohio in 1957 authorized the appointment of a Standing Committee on Finance (page 21—1957)

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That Article XV, Sec. 2, Par. b of the Bylaws be amended by inserting the word "Executive" before the word "Finance," thus making the paragraph to read:

b. The Treasurer together with the Executive Director of each department shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

And be it Further Resolved that in order to provide for a standing field committee whose duty it shall be to assist the Executive Finance Committee, which functions within the Department of Finance, a section to be designated as section "c" shall be added as follows:

c. A standing committee on Finance, consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery. This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of studying the budget with the Executive Presbytery and shall serve in an advisory capacity in matters of general finance.

In order to provide continuity of service, their terms shall be arranged in the following manner: three shall serve for a one-year term; two shall serve for a two-year term; and two shall serve for a three-year term; appointments shall be made for three-year terms.

Statement of Fundamental Truths

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to prepare a thorough and inclusive Statement of Fundamental Truths, which shall include some truths surely believed among

us but which are not recorded in the present Statement of Fundamental Truths.

The motion was made and seconded that the Resolution be adopted, after the removal of the names of personalities, and the resolution was adopted in this final form:

WHEREAS, Our Statement of Fundamental Truths as recorded in Article V of the General Council Constitution does not include mention of some vital doctrinal terms and beliefs which are fundamental to Assemblies of God doctrine, and

WHEREAS, This has been laid before the Districts of the Assemblies of God in considerable detail by an ordained minister of the Southern California District, and

WHEREAS, It seems prudent that thorough consideration be given to the Statement of Fundamental Truths by a representative and deliberative committee, therefore be it RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized, and hereby is, to appoint a committee of seven men of mature ministerial experience whose duty it shall be to study and prepare a thorough and inclusive Statement of Fundamental Beliefs, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee shall report first to the next meeting of the General Presbytery and subsequently to the next meeting of the General Council, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the document already submitted to the Districts be referred to this committee.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee reported there was no election for the office of General Secretary on the first elective ballot. Of the 1,381 votes counted, 920 were required for election. Bartlett Peterson received 358 votes, Curtis Ringness 154, Emil Balliet 113, N. D. Davidson 112, Roy H. Wead 95, the remaining votes being distributed among about fifty persons. Ballots were distributed and collected by the tellers and the meeting was closed at 12:50 p.m. with prayer offered by Assistant General Superintendent Bert Webb.

MONDAY AFTERNOON

After a brief devotional period, Dr. Mahlon Macy, field director of the National Association of Evangelicals was presented, who brought greetings from the N.A.E. and stressed the services being rendered to the churches of evangelical faith in the national and international areas.

The business meeting was called to order by Ralph M. Riggs, who called upon Charles W. H. Scott to invoke God's blessing upon the deliberations of the afternoon. He then turned the chair over to Reverend Scott with the request that he preside over the afternoon meeting.

Election of General Secretary

The chairman of the Tellers Committee reported there was no election on the second elective ballot. The number of votes now being cast were greatly reduced, the total number being counted on the second ballot was 1,023.

Balloting was continued, and on the third elective ballot Bartlett Peterson was elected General Secretary, receiving 513 votes of the 647 votes counted. Bartlett Peterson spoke briefly and expressed his appreciation for the consideration shown to him by his brethren.

Election of Honorary General Presbyters

T. F. Zimmerman rose to a point of privilege and presented the matter of electing honorary General Presbyters. He presented a slate of nominees as recommended by the General Presbytery, as follows:

E. L. Newby (North Texas District) nominated by the General Presbytery in session in 1958

Charles E. Long (West Central District) nominated by the General Presbytery in session in 1959

Ralph M. Riggs (former General Superintendent) Nominated 1959

Noel Perkin (former Foreign Missions Secretary) Nominated 1959

J. Roswell Flower (former General Secretary) Nominated 1959.

It was moved, and the motion prevailed that the above named ministers be elected to serve on the General Presbytery as honorary presbyters.

Procedure for Election of Non-resident Presbyters

Bartlett Peterson, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented a resolution affecting procedure for the election of non-resident Executive Presbyters, and moved its adoption, as follows:

WHEREAS, The growing number of ministers in our General Council Fellowship makes it impossible for the

rank and file to be acquainted with the many qualified men in all areas of our country, and

WHEREAS, It is time consuming to elect eight non-resident Executive Presbyters by the entire body of the General Council, and

WHEREAS, A more intelligent vote can be achieved by the several geographical areas in groups by themselves, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the nomination of the eight non-resident Executive Presbyters be effected by dividing the Council into eight groups according to the geographic areas as defined in our Bylaws, and that the eligible voters in these areas nominate two or more candidates for the office of Executive Presbyter for their area, to be balloted upon by the General Council, and be it further RESOLVED, That Article II, Sec. 2, Par. C of the Bylaws be amended to conform with the above procedure.

It was moved that the Resolution be amended by adding to the resolution the thought that those delegates from the respective areas be empowered to nominate only those within their areas, and that the nominations be made from the floor, so that the Resolution will read:

RESOLVED, That the nomination of the eight non-resident Executive Presbyters be effected by dividing the Council into eight groups according to the geographic areas as defined in our Bylaws, and that the eligible voters from the respective areas nominate two or more of those from within their areas for the office of Executive Presbyter for their area, to be balloted upon by the General Council, and that nominations be made from the floor, and be it further resolved, etc.

The motion to amend was seconded, discussed briefly and passed.

The Resolution as amended was then voted upon and adopted.

Procedure to elect non-resident Executive Presbyters was postponed until after the election of a General Treasurer.

N. D. Davidson rose to a question of privilege and moved that Article II, Sec. 2, d affecting the election of a General Treasurer be amended by eliminating the word "two" from the sixth line of Par. "d" and substituting the word "one" so that the paragraph will read "... shall select by secret ballot one or more names ..." The motion was seconded and carried.

Nomination of General Treasurer

The chair then presented the slate of nominees for the office of General Treasurer which had been approved by the General Presbytery, in accord with the provision in Article II, Sec. 2, d of the Bylaws. The two names were M. B. Netzel, the incumbent in office, and N. D. Davidson. N. D. Davidson arose to withdraw his name, but was ruled out of order by the chair.

Ballots were cast for the election of General Treasurer, and business was transacted during the time allotted for the counting of votes.

Doctrinal Questions on Annual Questionnaires

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution and moved its adoption, to wit:

WHEREAS, The ordained and licensed ministers of the Assemblies of God are required to return an annual Questionnaire for the renewal of their standing in the Assemblies of God, which covers the activities of the minister during the past year, and

WHEREAS, Questions reflecting doctrinal integrity are presently not included in the Questionnaire, and

WHEREAS, Deviations in doctrinal viewpoint could conceivably occur with the passing of time, be it therefore RESOLVED, That the annual Questionnaire for ministers shall include doctrinal questions based on our Statement of Fundamental Truths, said Questionnaire to be designed and prepared by the Executive Presbytery.

The motion to adopt was seconded, discussed briefly and adopted.

Approval—Christian Cadets Program

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution and moved its adoption, to wit:

WHEREAS, The Christian Cadet program has been adopted by a large number of churches in our movement and now shows a strength of 490 organized troops in 41 districts with a total membership of over 6,000, and

WHEREAS, It received consideration in the last General Council, without action, and

WHEREAS, There is now definite interest in this program on the part of the departments at Headquarters, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That authorization be given to the Executive Presbyters to absorb the Christian Cadet program

into our national Assemblies of God operation when and as the Executive Presbytery finds this feasible and advisable.

The motion to adopt was seconded and passed.

Standardized Church Signs

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There is a shifting population in America in these days, with many families changing their residences each year to other parts of the country, and it is highly desirable that people from our churches maintain their connection with our Movement when changing residence, and

WHEREAS, Our national radio broadcast, Revivaltime, has called attention to the official name "ASSEMBLIES OF GOD," and

WHEREAS, Many of our churches affiliated with our organization do not carry names which identify them with the Assemblies of God, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That in order to make it easy for people to locate our churches, and for standardization purposes, our churches be encouraged to use the sign which is available from the Gospel Publishing House, which was developed in response to requests from our churches, and be it further

RESOLVED, That our churches be urged to identify themselves by the denominational name and/or emblem in correspondence, promotion, and advertising; and that by all means possible they make it easy for our own people, and for visitors, to find their way to our churches. The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

A question was asked concerning the reason there are no signs on the highways approaching Springfield, to advertise our National Headquarters, and it was explained that signs had been placed on the main highways on a contract basis, but the contract had been cancelled because of the austerity program which has been in effect at headquarters.

It was moved, seconded, and the motion prevailed that steps be taken to erect signs on the highways approaching Springfield to advertise General Headquarters.

Report of Spiritual Life Committee

The Report of the Spiritual Life Committee was presented by the Secretary of the Committee, Lowell C. Ashbrook, who stated the committee had met in a called meeting on

Wednesday in the Hilton Hotel, San Antonio, and prepared the following report:

The spiritual life of any religious denomination is dependent on the spirituality of its individual members. Any forward movement toward a more spiritual emphasis must begin with the ministers of that denomination. It is the feeling of the committee that the ministers of our movement must set the pattern of spirituality by their own consecration and devotion to the cause of Christ. It is inconceivable that the membership of a religious organization of churches can rise higher than that of their ministers.

Faith, devotion, consecration and dedication is a very personal thing, and not denominational. However, leaders must sound forth a continuous appeal and challenge to the entire movement in order to encourage and maintain a high level of dedication and devotion. This applies to the national, district and local levels.

We must be a people with strong convictions. We have strong convictions. We must stand for something, for unless we stand for something we will likely fall for anything. Our "tenets of faith" were born of strong convictions, and we must not compromise them.

There is always a need to re-evaluate what our major emphases really should be. Could it not be that we sometimes become more interested in promoting the denomination, rather than advancing the Kingdom of God? We believe that God has raised up our movement for the preaching of the whole Gospel of Christ for the whole world, and the Assemblies of God has made a tremendous contribution to this worthy objective. We commend the Assemblies of God to you. Let us not become smug in our past accomplishments, but let us continue with white-heated zeal for the lost of this world and the winning of our generation.

Maintaining spirituality in our churches is a major job. It is our opinion that no department program can take the place of the preaching of the Word in our churches by Spirit-filled men. There is a strong relationship between spirituality and Holy Ghost Bible preaching. Light and frivolous church services, which seek primarily to entertain the people can only result in light, frivolous, and unspiritual people; as Hosea the prophet declares, "Like priest, like people." As like and equal causes produce like and equal effects, so strong Holy Ghost Bible preaching will produce a spiritual people and assure our constituency of a strong and vigorous spiritual life in Christ.

Our future is bright, but our time is now. God is calling upon us to make full use of the means of life that has made

us mighty in our past. God is the same. We humbly thank Him for what He has been able to do through us (Acts 15:4, 12) in the past. We believe God will yet meet us with another great outpouring of the Spirit in our day. May we be ready at heart for His visitation.

Your Spiritual Life Committee
Lowell C. Ashbrook, Secretary

The Secretary of the Spiritual Life Committee then presented the following recommendations and moved that they be adopted:

In order to intensify and increase the spiritual life of our Movement we recommend that the Executive Brethren shall give thought to the promoting of a denomination-wide week of prayer and fasting, at least once in each year, and that its promotion be commensurate with other major interests of our church.

We recommend further, that consideration be given by the Executive Brethren to the appointment of one of their number as a headquarters correspondent to whom letters could be addressed, that he might give special study to the spiritual needs of our movement in order to lend necessary assistance to the brethren.

We further recommend that a standing committee be appointed each General Council as a repository of field reports on spiritual needs which could be combined into data for the use of the Executive Brethren in guiding the spiritual affairs of the Movement. This committee could conduct hearings and hold interviews as they saw fit.

We further recommend that National, District and local church conferences be used as a means to point up the need for intensifying the spiritual life of our church. In these conferences such subjects as the new birth, the Spirit-filled life, water baptism, the communion service, divine healing, prayer, faith, prayer meetings, study of the Word, witnessing for Christ, and ordering our lives according to the Word, might be studied as a means of grace to deepen spiritual life. The report of the committee with its recommendations was adopted unanimously.

Election of General Treasurer

M. B. Netzel was elected on the first elective ballot, receiving 812 votes of the 919 votes counted. He was declared elected General Treasurer. He spoke briefly of his appreciation of the confidence of the brethren shown

by their action, and pledged his support of the General Superintendent and members of the Executive Presbytery.

Earlier in the meetings of the General Council a question had been raised concerning the work of the standing Finance Committee, and the suggestion was made that the Council would like to hear a report from that committee. R. M. Riggs then requested L. E. Halvorson, chairman of the standing Finance Committee to present a report of the work of the committee during the past two years. The purpose of the committee as specified in the resolution adopted two years ago (Page 21 of the 1957 Minutes) was stated as follows:

1. To study the budget with the Executive Presbytery
2. To serve in an advisory capacity in matters of general finance
3. To assist in promoting co-operative fellowship giving.

L. E. Halvorson then read

The Report of the Standing Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, consisting of Atwood Foster, former General Treasurer; Richard J. Bergstrom, superintendent of the New Jersey District; Robert Spencer, superintendent of the Wisconsin-North Michigan District; Ernest P. Pruett, former superintendent of the Georgia District; and L. E. Halvorson, superintendent of the Southern California District, met on three occasions during the past biennium:

At Springfield, Mo., August, 1958

At Springfield, Mo., February 17-19, 1959

At San Antonio, Tex., August 20, 1959

On each of these occasions the Finance Committee gave study and serious thought to the Budget, and reported their findings impartially to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery.

Written reports, in detail, with suggestions and observations were submitted to the General Presbytery on each occasion. These reports were carefully and diligently considered and discussed by the General Presbytery. A number of the Finance Committee's suggestions and recommendations were adopted and became effective immediately.

The Finance Committee had advantage of any information it desired relative to the operation of the General Council departments. General Superintendent R. M. Riggs and General Treasurer M. B. Netzel, and other members of the Executive Committee were most gracious and kind to us

and made little or no effort to persuade the thinking of the Finance Committee.

We, the members of the Finance Committee, highly commend our Executive Brethren for their true Christian attitude and spirit, even when departmental budgets were questioned, curtailed and cut back.

Following are excerpts of two reports of the Finance Committee:

August, 1958

We believe that our Executive Presbyters have made valiant efforts to economically govern the Budgets of each department. This is worthy of the commendation not only of our committee but our entire constituency. The good work of our General Treasurer in the short time he has been in office is also worthy of note. We would also like to commend our departments for effecting stringent economies while maintaining an effective program. Some sentiment was expressed in our committee that in keeping with past recommendations a greater effort should be made by each department to further develop its own financial program. This would be toward the ultimate goal of each department's financing its own needs.

Cooperative Plan

The Cooperative Plan progress report was placed in the hands of your committee and careful consideration was given to the plan as enacted at Cleveland, Ohio and the progress toward its development since that date. We commend the Executive Presbytery and the department heads for the good results accomplished in instituting the plan this past year. This was a super task and the results contained in comparison reports are gratifying to your committee. You will find some very enlightening facts about Assemblies of God giving by a study of your copy of the report. Our district offices are also worthy of praise for their co-operation. Twenty-nine districts reported for the first quarter, and twenty-four for the second. Undoubtedly some strain was placed upon the facilities of our district offices but the earnest endeavor is appreciated.

We recommend the implementing of the Cooperative Plan by the following:

A. PUBLICITY. By the continued use of District and General Council publications in keeping the plan before the constituency.

B. PERSONAL REPRESENTATION. By each District inviting a representative of the Executive Presbytery to meet with their ministers to enlighten our constituency on

the problems of General Council finance and Cooperative Plan. By all General Council personnel considering it their obligation to promote the Cooperative Plan in their field ministry by every possible means. By our District leaders feeling the responsibility of disseminating information regarding the Cooperative Plan in district and sectional meetings and in their contact with the local church.

C. PRACTICAL EDUCATION. By seeking to inform, teach and enlighten our constituency to the truth that all the work of our General Council is essential and is related to the over-all development to fulfill the great commission.

August 22, 1959

After carefully studying the auditor's report for March 31, 1959, we would highly commend our General Superintendent, R. M. Riggs, and the Executive Presbyters for their excellent leadership as evidenced by the progress in our financial position according to the reports. We note that \$500,000, besides interdepartmental transfers has been added to the Current Fund, lifting it from a \$600,000 deficit two years ago to its present position of \$127,000 in the black. The appropriation for the operation of the departments has been reduced approximately \$100,000 per year the past two years over the preceding biennium. We would recommend that this budget savings be carefully continued.

It was noted that both the Publications Committee and the General Presbytery Committee on the Treasurer's Department express alarm that no actual reserves have been accumulated through the years to offset the depreciation on our investment in the Gospel Publishing House. The latest audit shows accumulated depreciation of \$639,000. From \$80,000 to \$90,000 is being written off the assets of the Gospel Publishing House annually.

Therefore your committee would confirm the concern expressed by the two committees mentioned above, and further, would recommend that a minimum of 10% of the earnings of the Gospel Publishing House be set aside annually for replacement of equipment and other depreciated assets of the Publishing House.

When this recommendation was presented to the General Presbytery, the per cent indicated was changed from 10 to from $7\frac{1}{4}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Our attention was brought to bear upon the diverse attitudes regarding the large subsidy required by the Sunday School Department as expressed by the General Presbytery Committees for the Treasurer's Department and for the Sunday School Department.

Therefore, in the light of the serious effect that subsidies have on the over-all financial picture, your committee would recommend that the General Presbytery itself take this matter under advisement and expressly give direction in this important item.

The General Presbytery ruled that the Sunday School Department must not go beyond their present subsidy.

Your committee would confirm the expression of the General Presbytery on Home Missions, "that the General Presbytery make additional funds available for our National Home Missions Program of new church promotion through the District."

This was approved by the General Presbytery with the provision that the amount to be provided be decided by the Executive Presbytery.

The committee recommended that subsidies for the two schools during the next two years be limited to a maximum of \$100,000 for Evangel College and \$50,000 for Central Bible Institute each year.

The action of the General Presbytery was that not only the schools **should** not, but that they **must** not go beyond these amounts.

Finally, a question was raised this morning relative to the financial status of the Springfield Book Store in Springfield. Brother Netzel informed us today that the Book Store is presently operating in the black. The deficit shown in the Council reports is not an operational loss but a capital investment.

Respectfully submitted
L. E. Halvorson, Chairman

On the completion of the reading of the report of the standing Finance Committee the motion was made, seconded and passed that the report be received with appreciation.

Nomination and Election of Non-resident Presbyters

Assistant General Superintendent Gayle F. Lewis was requested by the chair to preside over the meeting for the remainder of the afternoon. The time had arrived for the nomination of non-resident Executive Presbyters to be chosen from the eight geographical areas already prescribed by Council action.

The motion was made, seconded and carried that the delegates from the various areas place in nomination the names of candidates for the office of non-resident Execu-

tive Presbyter from their particular geographical area, each area to be considered singly, one at a time.

The nominations and elections were continued throughout the remainder of the afternoon and over into the following morning (Tuesday). Business was transacted as usual during the time consumed with the counting of votes. For the sake of clarity the nominations and reports of tellers on election are brought together as follows:

1. Northwest Area

Nominations: N. D. Davidson, Reuben J. Carlson, Murray W. McLees.

Election: N. D. Davidson received 726 votes of the 828 cast.

2. Southwest Area

Nominations: Wesley P. Steelberg, L. H. Hauff, L. E. Halvorson, Leland R. Keys, D. H. McLaughlin, Leonard Palmer, Joseph L. Gerhart, J. K. Gresset.

Election: Dwight H. McLaughlin received 250 of the 295 votes cast on the second elective ballot, Tuesday morning.

3. North Central Area

Nominations: G. Raymond Carlson, Theo. E. Gannon, Arthur Berg, L. W. Dickinson.

Election: G. Raymond Carlson received 346 votes of the 413 votes cast on the second elective ballot, Tuesday morning.

4. South Central Area

Nominations: Kermit Reneau, E. Ralph Foster, Phinis A. Lewis, Edgar R. Anderson, W. H. Graham, F. D. Davis, R. E. Goggin.

Election: Kermit Reneau received 514 votes of the 702 votes cast on the second elective ballot, Tuesday morning.

5. Great Lakes Area

Nominations: W. Glenn West, Roy H. Wead, W. R. Williamson, Everett D. Cooley, W. G. Heinecker, Ernest C. Sumrall.

Election: Roy H. Wead received 582 votes of the 767 votes cast on the first elective ballot.

6. Gulf Area

Nominations: Lowell C. Ashbrook, Geo. W. Hardcastle Sr., A. A. Wilson, David A. Hastie, Ralph M. Riggs (Bro. Riggs requested his name be eliminated), C. C. Crace, N. Cleo Tapp, Edwin Burris, B. Owen Oslin.

Election: A. A. Wilson received 378 votes of the 457 votes cast on the second elective ballot, Tuesday morning.

7. North East Area

Nominations: Joseph R. Flower, Grady L. Fannin, Richard J. Bergstrom, Frederick H. Huber, Wm. H. Robertson, Russell Williams.

Election: Grady L. Fannin received 403 votes of the 471 votes cast on the second elective ballot, Tuesday morning.

8. Southeast Area

Nominations: Kelley Wigfield, Andrew Stirling, T. H. Spence, Jesse E. Smith, Obie L. Harrup, Curtis R. Ringness, Carl A. Arnold.

Election: Andrew Stirling received 403 votes of the 463 votes cast, on the second elective ballot, Tuesday morning.

The following were declared elected to serve their geographical areas as non-resident Executive Presbyters: N. D. Davidson, Dwight H. McLaughlin, G. Raymond Carlson, Kermit Reneau, Roy H. Wead, A. A. Wilson, Grady L. Fannin, Andrew Stirling. Each in turn, as election was announced, spoke briefly in appreciation of the confidence of their brethren.

Cognizant of the time consumed with the election of the non-resident Executive Presbyters, and that the actual choice of these men was left to the action of about one-fifth of the registered voting delegates, who remained to the close of the Council, the suggestion was made that the Executive Presbytery give thought, in the future, to the method of electing eight non-resident Executive Presbyters so that the best way of electing them may be followed.

The meeting was adjourned by motion in the late afternoon.

TUESDAY MORNING

Time for the Tuesday morning devotional period was set at 8:30 a.m. The speaker of the morning was George E. Flower, superintendent of the South New England District, who spoke from the theme "A Hiding Place in God."

The business meeting was called to order by Ralph M. Riggs at 9:15 a.m. The first order of business was the report of the Tellers Committee concerning the election of non-resident Executive Presbyters. While ballots were being cast and counted by the Tellers Committee (as previously reported)

other business was transacted. The first report to be received for the day was

The Report of the Benevolence Committee

Among all of the ministries of the Christian Church, as outlined in the New Testament, there is none more clearly defined than ministry to the physical needs of humankind.

John the Baptist said: "He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise." Luke 3:11. Jesus said to the rich young ruler, "Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me." Luke 18:22.

Seven deacons were appointed to oversee the distribution to the poor in the first church. Acts 6. Paul includes a lengthy treatise on the subject of Benevolences in his second letter to the Corinthians. See chapters 8 and 9. James 2:14-20 shows the relationship between faith and good works. John plainly tells us in 1 John 3:17 what our refusal in this business of giving to the poor really means. 1 John 3:17.

Careful study will bear out the fact that the Bible teaches more about this type of giving than we think.

The General Council Benevolence Committee has reviewed the work of the Department of Benevolences with a purpose to evaluate the progress of the department in the light of our over-all growth as a movement. It is encouraging to note that 31 of our Districts have now appointed District Benevolences Committees since the General Council meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

The role of the Department of Benevolences is a role of leadership and service in assisting the needy aged, as well as homeless and under-privileged children. It is the responsibility of the Department to lead our churches in ministering to the material needs of those to whom we are responsible. We have a good Benevolence program and your Committee commends the work of the Benevolences Department and points out the fact that the Department is not subsidized and operates within its own income.

Your Committee also commends the churches and individuals who have seen the vision and have contributed regularly to the support of this work. It is gratifying to note that there has been a substantial increase in giving during the past two years. However, less than one-third of our churches are carrying the burden for this important ministry. Approximately 28% of our churches may be considered regular contributors to Benevolences ministries; 23.5% have a record of at least one offering in three years; and 44% of our churches

have no record of an offering for the past three years. We also call to the attention of this General Council in session the fact that **5,500 churches fail to remember the pioneers of our Pentecostal Fellowship each year by failing to contribute to our Aged Ministers Assistance program.**

The many benevolences sponsored by the Women's Missionary Councils are also gratefully acknowledged.

The National Children's Home has again operated in the black. Since the last General Council a number of material improvements have been made, including the purchase of four acres of land and a six-room house which has been remodeled and is being used as a "teen" boys cottage. (\$18,000 is still owed on this property.) Your Committee believes that the home is a credit to the Fellowship and would encourage our churches to continue to support the home in every way possible.

The Pinellas Park Home is now operating at near capacity and it is hoped that in the very near future we will be able to proceed with plans for the erection of our new home at Lakeland, Florida.

Your Committee would also commend the Department of Benevolences for the institution of a seminar for administrators of retirement and nursing homes, and we believe this program should be continued.

In order to more effectively promote and co-ordinate the Benevolent work of our Fellowship, we recommend:

1. That we reaffirm Article XVI, Sec. 3 of the General Council Bylaws which reads as follows: "Each church in the fellowship is expected to co-operate by sending two special offerings annually for the national benevolences, or by placing the Department of Benevolences in its monthly budget."
2. That the District Benevolence Committees be given opportunities to present the needs of benevolences in District, Regional, and Sectional meetings; and that an opportunity be given our people to contribute to this worthy cause.
3. That the thirteen Districts which have not appointed a District Benevolence Committee as recommended by the General Council in Cleveland, give consideration to this recommendation.
4. That the Department of Benevolences be encouraged to continue to broaden its program of child care through the establishing of child placement and adoption agencies at such a time as is deemed feasible, and practical.
5. That our churches be encouraged to support the con-

struction of the new retirement home at Lakeland, Florida according to plans set forth by the Department of Benevolences.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Pray. Projects of this kind require much intricate planning. The move will involve a great deal and we shall appreciate the continued prayers of the many friends of the Home.

Give. Cash offerings in any amount will help to get the program underway. If every Assemblies of God church would make a "Down Payment" offering of \$15 it would provide the cash needed to build and furnish the new Home.

Pledge. Whether or not you inform us of your decision to give regularly, you can decide now to give some amount every month. These monthly offerings of \$1 or \$2 each soon mount up and play a large part in our ministry to the aged.

Projects. Churches, church groups, and individuals may choose a definite project to work on during the next few months.

6. That all active ordained and licensed ministers be encouraged to arrange for retirement income through the Government's Social Security program and the M.B.A. or some other retirement plan.
7. That the Department of Benevolences give thought to the issuing of a plaque or certificate to be presented to the churches that contribute two or more offerings each year to the Department of Benevolences.

Respectfully submitted

W. H. Robertson, Chairman

It was moved, and the motion prevailed, that the Report of the Benevolence Committee be received.

Report of Men's Fellowship Committee

Burton W. Pierce, chairman of the Committee on Men's Fellowship, presented the report of the Committee as follows:

"For our Gospel came not unto you in Word only but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost and in much assurance."

It is the deep concern of your committee that the presence of the Holy Spirit shall be upon the activities of this vital arm of the church as Paul in this verse gives us the picture of the mariner raising his sails for the wind to fill. The principal emphasis of Men's Fellowship must be rooted in prayer meetings and personal witnessing. It is the conviction

tion of your committee that any Christian organization that places its foremost emphasis in the social realm violates its right to exist.

With this well in mind, we are convinced that the Men's Fellowship organization at this time has reached an epochal period in its existence. May God help us to raise our sails before the God-given winds of opportunity that are ours.

We view with great interest and approval the recent action taken by the Executive Presbytery in their integrating the complete program of the Missionary Gospel Society, Inc., into the National Men's Fellowship Department.

We recommend that the administrative group of the National Missions Council (to be created) of the Men's Fellowship of the Assemblies of God shall be responsible to create new literature to be approved and edited by the Executive Presbytery, for local soul-winning and foreign Gospel distribution. It shall be known as the "Light for the Lost Program."

It is the committee's expectation that this "Light for the Lost Program" with its dual-pronged emphasis, geared for training and soul-winning at home and a massive invasion of Gospel literature abroad, will indeed be the raising of the sails for a mighty forward move for God on a world-wide scope.

Your committee wishes also, to commend the activities of the Men's Fellowship in various other fields of endeavor.

- I. In the local church of
 - a. Sponsoring boys' organizations—tying boys to the church through Men's Fellowship.
 - b. Canvassing groups in door-to-door ministry and soul-winning.
 - c. Benevolence and other ministries of help to the church.
- II. In assisting the district program by financing home missions churches, such as the "Minute Men" program used by a number of Districts.
- III. Nationally:
 - a. By raising the chartered groups from 611 to a total co-operation of all our churches regardless of the size.
 - b. Also to implement the Student Loan Fund, known as the "Coffee Break Program."

It is the earnest prayer of your committee that the Assemblies of God pastors and laymen shall be mightily gripped by this new challenge and sense of divine purpose that is to be our destiny as we by the Holy Spirit invade the precincts

of the powers of darkness in the days to come, should Jesus tarry.

Respectfully submitted
Burton W. Pierce, Chairman

The motion was made, seconded and carried that the Report of the Men's Fellowship Committee be received.

Report of the Sunday School Committee

William Van Winkle, chairman of the Sunday School Committee, presented the following Report:

The Committee has reviewed the work of the National Sunday School Department since the last General Council convened in Cleveland, and we would like to call to your attention the accomplishments, and in so doing, we would like to commend the Sunday School Department for its work.

It is to be noted that the Sunday School Counselor received first place trophy at the 1958 Evangelical Press Association. In 1959 the magazine was a runner-up for the same award.

Gold Crown Workers Fellowship

A new program beamed to the local church has been inaugurated and has received attention throughout the constituency. This new program is beamed to recognize the workers in our Sunday schools for their faithfulness and accomplishments. We would recommend that every pastor incorporate this in his local church.

Workers Training

The Workers Training books have been projected over a four-year period beginning with 1961. The content of the books to be published are as follows:

1961—"How to Study the Bible"

1962—"Evangelism in and Through the Sunday School"

1963 Two on "Stewardship," one youth-slanted and one for adults

1964—Lesson Preparation and Presentation.

Through this training program we hope to accomplish the development of a stronger constituency throughout the nation.

National Standard

From the National Standard Division it was noted that there was a good response of check-up returns; however, there was a slight drop from the previous year. Consequently, the District Directors are urged to encourage and enlist the co-operation of each Sunday school.

Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade

The Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade has in the past ten years received \$600,000 which has been used in the propagation of the Gospel through the printed page.

Child Evangelism

It has been noted further through the ministry of the Child Evangelism Division that progress has been made in the Vacation Bible school program during the past year. A three years supply of materials was printed and already it has been necessary to reprint some of the materials. This has been accomplished through the printing of new material and the area-wide V.B.S. workshops.

Advanced Christian Training School

Each year the National Sunday School Department sponsors Advanced Christian Training School. This is offered for Sunday school workers in the local church as well as the district. This year it will be held from August 22-26 on the C.B.I. campus. Pastors and Sunday school workers are encouraged to attend.

Field Ministry

The committee would like to recommend that the Sunday School Department provide a clinic type program for Sunday school workers on the local level. In so doing an evaluation of the entire Sunday school program can be presented at the conclusion of the clinic. Pastors who are interested contact the National Sunday School Department.

As the District Directors Seminar comes to a close at this General Council there are several items of interest that we would like to pass on to you at this time. The directors voted to set up the conventions program in a four-year cycle following the 1960 International Convention to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The first year district conventions would be held, the second year the national department would hold regional conventions, the third year the districts would conduct area conventions or conferences within their districts, the fourth year the national department a nationwide convention.

Collectively, we as a growing organization, face the task of enrolling one million by 1960 and this will only be accomplished by determination and hard work. The National Sunday School Department is dedicated to serve our Sunday schools in every way possible. There are great victories ahead to all who set themselves to the work of the Lord.

Respectfully submitted
William Van Winkle, Chairman

The motion was made, seconded and carried that the Report of the Sunday School Committee be received.

Report of Foreign Missions Committee

Roy H. Wead, chairman of the Foreign Missions Committee, presented the report of the Committee. While the report was being read, and during the time of discussion, there were frequent interruptions to hear the reports of the tellers committee pertaining to the election of the non-resident Executive Presbyters. The original report, prior to amendment, was as follows:

Under the directive of the General Council at Cleveland the Foreign Missions Board was enlarged to thirteen members, together with a body of six laymen, making a grand total of nineteen. The Foreign Missions Board is a representative group including six pastors, four field secretaries, three Executive Presbyters and six laymen.

The General Council Foreign Missions Committee takes note of the accomplishments of this new Foreign Missions Board which has been functioning since the last session of the General Presbytery in September of 1958. Among its achievements, the following are worthy of special note:

1. The Field Secretaries were requested to prepare and present a detailed plan of action which would advance the evangelization of each respective area and the establishment of the indigenous church.

2. Steps have been taken that have resulted in the strengthening of the administration of the Foreign Missions Department, and at the same time provided proper safeguards for the individual missionary.

3. The first School of Orientation for missionary candidates was initiated under the directive of the Foreign Missions Board. There was an enrollment of 96. Of this number, 74 were new missionaries in preparation for appointment and 22 were missionaries on furlough. There was a very general and very sincere expression of appreciation for the instructions given, and many of our missionaries who attended stated such a course would have meant so much to them if they had had the privilege of such help when they first started their missionary career.

4. The Foreign Missions Board felt the need for more careful screening of missionary candidates and thus has approved and initiated new and enlarged application and reference forms which should greatly increase the fund of information which flows to the Foreign Missions Department from the individual and the District.

5. In accordance with the request of the Study Committee, a general increase in furlough allowance has been provided.

6. In view of the urgency of the need of world evangelization, a new promotional program has been launched which is being termed "Global Conquest." This program embraces a three-fold objective:

- a. The accelerating and increasing of gospel literature production and distribution.
- b. The increasing of our efforts to train and thrust forth a God-anointed, Bible-instructed native ministry.
- c. To converge on strategic centers of population, carefully selected throughout the world so that by co-ordinated and concentrated missionary endeavor the church may become more widely and firmly established throughout the world.

It should be pointed out that Global Conquest is not a program to supersede or replace the World Missions Plan but is a special project which is directed to interest the individual contributor who may wish to give for this special endeavor. The offering received at this General Council session on Sunday afternoon, together with what may be sent in by churches to be included with this particular offering will be divided on the World Missions Plan.

Offerings designated for Global Conquest, sent to the Foreign Missions Department apart from the General Council offering, will not be divided on the World Missions Plan but are considered as all other designations to be used for the one specific purpose indicated.

It is not suggested that our Assemblies change in any manner their present program for missionary giving. Individuals may, however, designate offerings for Global Conquest and give through their respective churches. Should offerings for this project be sent to the Foreign Missions Department direct, we would encourage the contributor to report the name and address of his church so that proper credit may be given to the local church in our official reports.

The fact should be emphasized that we of the Assemblies of God are dedicated to world evangelism and that this is not just an incidental phase of our work but is the main purpose for which we are associated together, and everything else is subsidiary to this.

7. It is normal in a missionary operation of the scope of the Assemblies of God that there will inevitably be found those who are ineffective on the foreign field. In such cases we recommend that the Foreign Missions Department take initiative to return such workers to ministry in the home field.

8. The Foreign Missions Committee wishes to commend and give its hearty endorsement to the Men's Fellowship in the adoption of its new missionary literature program.

WHEREAS, the present Foreign Missions Board has functioned for the brief period of but one year, and

WHEREAS, it requires considerable time to become familiar with so complex an operation as that of our Foreign Missions Department,

THE GENERAL COUNCIL FOREIGN MISSIONS COMMITTEE THEREFORE REQUESTS, That the Bylaws, which prescribe the rotation of pastors on the Foreign Missions Board, be amended in order to permit those pastors who have been chosen to serve only one-year terms to succeed themselves in office until all of its present members shall have opportunity to serve at least a three-year term.

In the development of our program of world-wide evangelization the Foreign Missions Committee deems it is to be of great importance to provide a printed voice which would serve as a stimulus to revival and world-evangelization through inspirational articles and reports of the moving of God's Spirit throughout the world.

THEREFORE BE IT RECOMMENDED, That the Foreign Missions Department take immediate steps to prepare a regular overseas edition of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL for circulation among those countries where English is understood, as a medium of binding together in closer ties of fellowship our Assemblies of God world-wide constituency, and to provide a selection of spiritual articles embodying the doctrines of Pentecostal fellowship, and also news items concerning God's moving through the ministry of our Assemblies of God churches throughout the world. This foreign edition could be launched by a subsidy from Global Conquest, and it is expected that it would be sustained by subscription.

WHEREAS, The General Council of the Assemblies of God as an organized fellowship has committed itself to the propagation of the gospel throughout the world, and has designated the Foreign Missions Department as its official agent to fulfill this responsibility, and

WHEREAS, In actual operation of our Foreign Missions activities almost unlimited latitude has been given to the individual missionary to follow his own personal program, and

WHEREAS, Many of our missionaries have expressed a desire for greater initiative in leadership to be exercised by the Foreign Missions Department in delineating the foreign missions program with corresponding guidance to the individual missionary, and

WHEREAS, While giving due regard to the outstanding

accomplishments of our missionaries in general, it is believed even greater advances could frequently be made by carefully planned and co-ordinated effort with the use of missionaries qualified for the varying challenges of the mission field,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Foreign Missions Board be encouraged to assume more direct responsibility for initiative in the planning of evangelism in the respective fields and also in the guidance and supervision of our foreign missionary personnel, and that our home officary in the respective districts as well as our ministerial body uphold and strengthen the Foreign Missions Board in their administration.

We recommend that each church appoint a Missionary Secretary to stimulate the flow of literature and missionary information to the local church and that the Foreign Missions Department publicize this recommendation in THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

Respectfully submitted
Roy H. Wead, Chairman

The motion was made and seconded to receive the report.

A question was raised as to the propriety of releasing from service the members of the Board who have served for one year only, inasmuch as these members have scarcely had time to familiarize themselves with the work of the Department.

The motion was then made to amend the report by adding to the first recommendation affecting the rotation of Board members the thought that "this rotation shall not become effective until the newly established Board has been in operation for two years, so that the Paragraph would read:

The General Council Foreign Missions Committee therefore requests that the Bylaws, which prescribe the rotation of pastors on the Foreign Missions Board be suspended, so that this rotation shall not become effective until the newly established Board has been in operation for two years.

The motion to amend the report was seconded and adopted.

A question was raised concerning the second recommendation appearing in the report, calling for the launching of an overseas edition of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL. Noel Perkin, retiring Foreign Missions Secretary, was requested to comment on this recommendation, and he stated his approval for the reasons given in the report. Another question

was raised concerning the cost of publication of such a periodical.

After some discussion, the motion was made, seconded and carried to adopt this recommendation pertaining to the publication of an overseas edition of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL.

The third recommendation of the Committee that the Foreign Missions Board be encouraged to assume more direct responsibility and initiative in the matter of administration of foreign missionary work, was also discussed, and the recommendation was approved by motion.

Additional Recommendation Submitted by the Foreign Missions Committee

The Chairman of the Foreign Missions Committee presented the final recommendation of the committee and moved its adoption as follows:

WHEREAS, We feel it most important to retain our Brother Noel Perkin in the Foreign Missions Department, and

WHEREAS, His knowledge and wisdom are invaluable to the office of the Foreign Missions Department, and

WHEREAS, His ministry on the field at home and abroad is greatly needed and greatly desired, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Brother Noel Perkin be requested to serve as Secretary Emeritus of the Foreign Missions Department, and that a desk and facilities be provided for him in the Foreign Missions Department office, and that adequate housing with utilities be provided for him, and that the maximum salary allowable under Social Security be paid him for his services, and that he serve under the Foreign Missions Board as the Dean of the School of Missions.

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

A Tribute Paid to Retiring Officers

Business was suspended for a few moments, and the request was made that Brothers Ralph M. Riggs, J. Roswell Flower and Noel Perkin bring their wives to the Platform. Plaques of recognition for service were presented to each couple, together with checks representing gifts of appreciation.

Superintendent-elect Thomas F. Zimmerman was then requested to present Mrs. Zimmerman, which he did.

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee then read the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, This 28th General Council of the Assemblies of God has witnessed the announcement of the retirement from office of three of our highest officials and leaders, and

WHEREAS, Outstanding leadership and direction has, under God, aided in procuring for the church growth and advancement, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That we unite in thanking God for His gifts to us in the persons of General Superintendent Ralph M. Riggs, General Secretary J. Roswell Flower, and Foreign Missions Secretary Noel Perkin, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this body express tribute and appreciation to these stalwarts of the faith by a standing vote. The resolution was seconded and adopted by a standing vote.

Vote of Thanks to Tellers Committee

The final report of the Tellers Committee affecting the election of the last of the eight non-resident Executive Presbyters was received at this point, and the motion was made that a vote of thanks be given to Harry M. Myers, chairman of the Tellers Committee, for his excellent work, and to the members of the Tellers Committee who assisted him in the arduous duty of serving the fellowship throughout the election of General Council officers. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Global Conquest and the World Missions Plan

There seemed to be some apprehension lest there be a conflict resulting from the adoption of the new Global Conquest Plan, with the older World Missions Plan.

The motion was made that Global Conquest funds be divided on the World Missions Plan. After lengthy discussion the motion carried. This action again created some confusion, for the question was raised as to whether all monies sent to the Foreign Missions Department designated for Global Conquest must be divided and 20% sent back to the Districts. Because the matter was not clear to all, the motion was made. seconded and carried that this matter be reconsidered.

The Question Referred to the Executive Presbytery

Discussion was resumed on this important question, and

two motions were made. The final decision was made by motion as follows:

That the matter of placing Global Conquest on the World Missions Plan be referred to the full Executive Presbytery for a decision.

Location of Next General Council

Inasmuch as the hour for final adjournment was approaching, a number of matters received scanty attention. The motion was made that the Report of the Committee which had under consideration the city to be chosen for the next General Council be referred to the Executive Presbytery. The motion lost.

Robert E. Goggin, chairman of the committee, then read his report, as follows:

Your committee gave careful consideration to invitations from the following cities: Miami, Florida; Atlantic City, N. J.; Rochester, N. Y.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Kansas City, Mo.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Des Moines, Iowa; Dallas, Texas; Houston, Texas; Little Rock, Ark.; Eugene, Oregon and Portland, Oregon.

Several of these cities sent representatives who conferred at length with the members of the Committee. Cities not sending representatives provided the Committee with brochures and other information that was considered in making a decision. This information consisted of letters and telegrams from governors, mayors and chambers of commerce, etc.

On the basis of Auditorium facilities, location of hotels and cafes, prices for accommodations, transportation accessibility, etc. your committee would like to recommend to the Executive Presbytery that further consideration be given to the invitations extended by Miami, Florida; Rochester, New York; Des Moines, Iowa; and Portland, Oregon. It was the thinking of the Committee that before a final selection is made consideration should be given to the prices charged by hotels and restaurants, as well as the price charged for use of auditoriums.

The motion was then made that the report of the Committee be received and referred to the Executive Presbytery. The motion was seconded and passed.

Ministers' Insurance Program

The chair requested the privilege of departing from the agenda in order to consider the request of the Northern Cali-

fornia and Nevada District that the Metropolitan Life Insurance Program be reconsidered by the General Council. It was moved, seconded and carried that this request be granted.

Joseph L. Gerhart, superintendent of the District which had memorialized the General Council to reconsider the Group Insurance Plan, read the resolution passed by the District Council as follows:

RESOLVED, That this 41st District Council of the Northern California and Nevada District does hereby make a request that a complete review be made on the floor of the 1959 General Council of the action taken by the 1958 session of the General Presbytery which affects the benefits to our older members in the Metropolitan Group Insurance.

The motion was then made by R. J. Thurmond, the minister who had inspired the action taken by the Northern California and Nevada District

That the Metropolitan Group Life Insurance be raised to \$1,300 for older ministers (those over 65 years of age) and that the General Council instruct the Executive Presbytery to take such action.

The motion was seconded. T. C. Cunningham stated that the General Presbytery had spent a lot of time considering the General Council Group Insurance Plan. While he was very much concerned about the older ministers it was his conviction it will be impossible to provide the protection to the older ministers as proposed in the motion. He stated, "Perhaps it is to be regretted that we did not get it over to all of our ministers that group insurance is term insurance and not regular life insurance. I pay for a year's insurance on my car. I do not collect a dime. I am glad that I do not have to. This is term insurance."

M. B. Netzel, the General Treasurer, then gave a summary of the dividend record since 1951, stating that the General Council received dividends for some years and made additional payments above cost of premiums on other years.

In 1951 there was a dividend of	\$282.00
1952	a loss of 1,765.00
1953	a gain of 4,434.00
1954	a loss of 11,823.00
1955	a loss of 5,863.00
1956	a loss of 21,067.00

He stated, the dividend last year in excess of the premium was approximately \$30,000, offsetting the deficit for the years of 1956 to 1958. It will be necessary to build up a Reserve Fund to take care of future years as the mortality rate increases. It has been reliably estimated that a fund of \$300,000 will be needed within the next ten to twelve years.

Group Insurance plans were never designed to provide insurance protection for persons beyond the age of 65 years. And yet, our present plan provides that the older ministers are given a policy of \$500 for which they pay no premium. After some discussion a substitute motion was made as follows:

RESOLVED, That the matter of reconsideration of our Group Insurance Plan be referred to a committee with instructions to see if the older ministers can be given a policy of \$1,000, provided they be required to pay something in the way of a premium.

The motion to substitute this motion for the foregoing motion, was seconded and passed. The substitute motion was then adopted.

Disposition of Unread Committee Reports

As the hour of adjournment approached, there was some anxiety concerning the reports of Committees which had not been received. These included the reports from the committees on Christ's Ambassadors, Home Missions, Education and Radio.

The motion was made and seconded.

That the remainder of the General Council Committee Reports be included in the official record of this Council, but that the reading of the reports be omitted.

This motion was adopted with the understanding that a statement be published in the minutes to the effect that authorization was given for the recording of the reports, but that no action was taken on the recommendations contained therein.

Dates for General Council Sessions

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Many of our ministers, delegates and visitors who have children find it difficult or impossible to attend meetings of the General Council, or find it neces-

sary to leave early inasmuch as a conflict exists between dates chosen for the General Council and the opening of schools, and

WHEREAS, Present or later dates prevent attendance by officials and faculty members of our Assemblies of God schools, be it therefore

RESOLVED, That those responsible for selection of dates of the biennial meeting of the General Council take cognizance of these difficulties and select dates which will result in placing the session at least one week earlier (than the present date of August 26).

An attempt was made to amend this resolution by setting a date somewhere between the middle and latter part of September, but the amendment failed to carry. The original motion, unamended, was then adopted.

Final Report of Roster Committee

Arthur F. Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee, read the final report of registration of visitors and delegates as follows:

Ordained Ministers	2,103
Lay Delegates	617
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Total voting delegates	2,720
Licensed Ministers	204
Visitors	2,131
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Non-voting registrants	2,335
<hr/>	
Total number registering	5,055

The motion was made, seconded and carried that a vote of appreciation be given to Arthur F. Berg, Chairman of the Roster Committee, and the other members of the committee who served with him in the Registration of delegates.

Report of Evangelism Committee

Robert Watters, Chairman, read the report of the Evangelism Committee, after which he moved the adoption of the Resolutions contained therein.

We, of the Evangelism Committee have considered many matters of importance to those who form the evangelistic body of our organization, and due to certain conditions, we are presenting the following recommendations in the form of resolutions to our pastoral brethren, trusting that we can

negotiate with them a satisfactory outcome to a problem of mutual interest to not only pastors and evangelists but to the entire constituency of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

WHEREAS, Many cities in the United States have no Assemblies of God works, and many other cities have only struggling Assemblies in large metropolitan areas, and whereas there are no existing funds to sponsor proper evangelistic invasion on a large scale to reach an entire city, and whereas, most of the Full Gospel city-wide endeavors have been conducted in cities and areas with strong works already in existence; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That an Evangelism Fellowship Fund be set up on a national scale to be jointly administered by the Department of Evangelism and the Department of Home Missions, with districts and local churches co-operating, whereby laymen and ministers would volunteer to pledge \$2.00 for each appeal given, not to exceed four appeals per year, and such funds would be used to launch full scale, city-wide evangelistic crusades, to be preceded by saturation-type publicity and literature; such crusades to be from one to three months duration in such needy cities as aforementioned with capable, experienced, successful soul-winning evangelists, excellent musicians and singers, conducting services in large neutral auditoriums, to be underwritten fully to a pre-determined maximum cost by the Evangelism Fellowship Fund, and be it further

RESOLVED, That additional monies be available, if needed, to provide suitable locations for worship to be used following the initial campaigns and to adequately and completely support full time, experienced, aggressive, and evangelistic pastors to take over the results of the campaign immediately, to continue services, to conduct thorough follow-up campaigns and to establish indigenous Assemblies of God churches in cities and areas heretofore untouched or totally undeveloped.

Respectfully submitted
Robert Watters, Chairman

While the report of the committee was under consideration, two motions to amend were presented from the floor but it was not made clear as to where the amendments should appear. The two amendments included the addition to the resolution of the following:

"Programs in the various districts shall be operated in close co-operation and in perfect harmony with the district involved"—and—"That the department involved in

setting up the Evangelism Fellowship Fund be requested to implement it as quickly as possible."

The amendments were adopted by motion, and then the entire report including its recommendations was adopted.

The Jurisprudence Report

The General Secretary moved that the Jurisprudence Report be taken from the table and be given consideration before adjournment of the Council. The motion was seconded and carried. The report was not read, but the General Secretary advised that the report was concerned chiefly with the editing of the wording of Article VI, Sections 12, 13, 16 and 17 and reminded the delegates that mimeographed copies had been supplied to all present, so that they were acquainted with the proposals for editing.

Without debate, the Jurisprudence Report was received and the recommendations adopted.

Resolution of Appreciation

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following:

WHEREAS, Outstanding co-operation and hospitality has been afforded this 28th General Council by many persons, agencies and business establishments, and

WHEREAS, This has resulted in a setting of pleasantness and congeniality which has created an enjoyable reception and made our stay in San Antonio one to be long remembered, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That hearty appreciation be extended to the following: District Superintendent Kermit A. Reneau, officers and members of the South Texas District; local pastors of the Assemblies of God, their congregations and committees; Governor Price Daniel and his personal representative Associate Justice Clyde E. Smith; Senator Lyndon Johnson; Mayor J. Edwin Kuykendahl and the City of San Antonio for great generosity; the Police Department; the Chamber of Commerce Publicity and Housing Bureau; auditorium management and staff; the management and staff of the Alamo Stadium; hotels, motels, and people who provided rooms in private residences; to all news media for generous coverage: The San Antonio Light, The San Antonio Express, The San Antonio News, Phil Harlow on behalf of the United Press International, TV Stations WOAI-TV, KENS-TV;

numerous radio stations; Mrs. Gladys Carroll who has covered the entire convention for the Houston Press, Associated Press, **This Month in San Antonio**, weekly newspapers; to our own Carl Conner for excellent service in Public Relations and publicity; the Registration Committee; and all committees and personnel who contributed to a successful convention.

The motion to adopt was seconded and passed unanimously.

The business of the Council having been concluded Ralph M. Riggs turned the chair over to the General Superintendent elect, Thomas F. Zimmerman.

T. C. Cunningham moved adjournment of the 28th General Council to reconvene in Portland, Oregon in 1961.

A motion was made immediately to amend by adding the words "or some other appropriate city at the discretion of the Executive Presbytery."

The motion to adjourn then carried.

Thomas F. Zimmerman then requested the congregation to stand and sing the Doxology, after which he requested Brother Riggs to pronounce the benediction. Brother Riggs in his closing prayer, prayed

"That we may be bound together in the indissoluble bonds of the Holy Ghost. May we go forward in the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the love of God, with our hands in Thine, with the assurance that Thou art with us. Anoint us afresh and make us conscious more deeply than ever of the value of an intimate, personal relationship with Thee. Lead us on and on and on under the capable hands of Brother Zimmerman; may Thy blessing rest heavily upon him that he may have Thy power and anointing in the great task which is given him and his most able executive board Thou hast given him. Bless the General Presbytery, the pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and the many fine laymen of our Movement. Breathe upon us! Fill us afresh! Lead us together as an anointed host! May Thy benediction rest upon us for evermore!"

This concluded the 28th General Council session at 1:05 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following reports were prepared by General Council Committees, but not read to nor acted upon by the Council in session. By motion, these reports were received for publication in the minutes, but no action was taken on the recommendations contained therein.

Report of the Christ's Ambassadors Committee

The General Council Christ's Ambassadors Committee has met and brings the following recommendation.

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Sec. 4a, in the General Council Bylaws (page 101) states,

The young people's president shall be an ordained minister.

The age limit for presidents shall be through the 38th year.

AND WHEREAS, Some districts have not followed the recommendation or limitation but have felt it better to retain a man in office if he has developed a good program and if the District desired his services, and in cases where the district C. A. president's office is joined with that of the district Sunday School director, the age limitation has had little or no effect, so far as the respective district is concerned, and

WHEREAS, A survey indicates a number of similar youth organizations do not impose such a limitation on district leadership, therefore be it

RECOMMENDED, That the following amendment be made to Article XIII, Sec. 4 of the General Council Bylaws, combining paragraphs a and b to read as follows:

The manner of election of the president will be according to the provisions of the district constitution and bylaws. It is recommended that he will be under age thirty-five (35) at the time of his first election.

Paragraph c would then become b, etc.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne M. Adams, Chairman

Report of Home Missions Committee

It is evident that there is much cause for thanksgiving for the advances made in the Home Missions field this past biennium. The efficient and consecrated work of the Department Secretary and Division Heads, under the spiritual and understanding leadership of the Executive Director is worthy of note and commendation. The labor of these, coupled with that of the staff and 267 appointed home missionaries, has surely borne fruit for eternity.

This report must also note the excellent work of District

Home Missions Directors and bring to your attention the sacrificial and consecrated labor of the many ministers engaged in pioneering new works and preserving and strengthening weaker ones. This is truly a ministry that must be commended.

It is more and more apparent that the mechanics of the Home Missions program, however good, are not enough to properly "possess the land." Man's ingenuity, no matter how great, is not the entire answer to expanding the Kingdom of God on the home front. These arms of flesh shall surely fail as they did at Ai, but if the mechanics for expansion are the same as in the Early Church, and if man's ingenuity is energized and amplified by the Holy Spirit as proper consecration and dedication is made, we shall "possess the land" after God's order.

A call to a deeper consecration and dedication is hereby made, urging every minister and lay person to a new vision of outreach in the homeland. This consecration may call for a sacrifice on the part of some pastors, who may need to forget the prestige of a large church in order to mother and start new churches. This consecration may call for sacrificial giving and sharing on the part of the laity, greater efforts from W.M.C. and Men's Fellowship groups, but this consecration will surely expand the Kingdom of God.

This consecration will call for a deeper dedication on the part of Bible School graduates and younger ministers, who must be willing to accept the challenge of pastoral leadership in new and struggling works, but it will be worth it all when we see congregations of newly saved persons taking their place of fellowship and service among the established assemblies of our movement.

This report must remind the pastors that the church exists, not only for the subjective ministries of perfecting the saints and edifying the body of Christ, but also for the objective work of the ministry which includes evangelism and outreach if we are to fully practice Acts 1:8 and to follow the pattern set for the church after Pentecost.

Attention must be directed to the fact that hands reaching to minister across the seas and on foreign soil, must be strengthened and secured by strong home bases. For each foreign missionary, there must be ten (10) churches in the homeland to stand behind the missionary in prayer and support. If the Foreign Missions Outreach of the World Missions program is to be amplified, the Home Missions area of World Missions must be strengthened that new churches can be established to take their place and part in the Foreign Missions Outreach of World Missions.

A good deal has been said about Church Extension and that is the more publicized arm of Home Missions. The committee takes this opportunity to remind the constituency of the Special Ministries area of the Home Missions program and its need. While Church Extension is self-explanatory, the Special Ministries will need identification. The definition from the Home Missions Manual is "to minister among those classes of Americans now living in the Continental United States who are not ordinarily ministered to." To effectively carry out this purpose, 267 duly appointed home missionaries conduct under the supervision and direction of the Home Missions Department, a ministry to the following peoples and areas:

1. The American Indians
2. The Jewish people
3. Deaf persons
4. Blind persons
5. Alaska

Two other great areas of ministry are conducted where supervision is given but no appointed missionaries serve. These are the prison work and the language groups.

The committee calls attention to the fact that no part of the 5% World Missions returned to National Home Missions is used for Special Ministries. These ministries are supported wholly by offerings and contributions designated for that purpose. These ministries need continued and increased support to successfully continue and expand their usefulness.

The 267 appointed home missionaries (and this is about 1/3 as many as serve as foreign missionaries) are also supported by offerings in the same manner as foreign missionaries. While there may not be the romance in home missions as in foreign missions, the ministry is just as essential and merits the same consideration for financial support.

There is a definite need for vehicles and other equipment for duly appointed home missionaries in order to expedite their work. Foreign missionaries are supplied these items through Speed-the-Light or other offerings but no regular method of supplying equipment to home missionaries exists.

In the light of the foregoing report, the committee asks this General Council to go on record as recommending:

In the Church Extension Area

1. A strong re-emphasis of the Mother Church Plan of developing new churches and that pastors study ways and means of mothering churches in needy areas or working together in a sectional plan for opening new churches.

2. Stronger district emphasis on the Mother Church Plan.
3. A call and challenge to ministers to exercise greater willingness and initiative in opening new churches, seeking the counsel and guidance of District and National Home Missions Departments.
4. A wider use of the Sectional Mother Church Plan (sometimes referred to as the Big Brother Plan) where several churches work together through the District Home Missions Department to open a new church.
5. Increased participation in the World Missions Plan of giving, which makes available 20% of a World Missions offering for District Church Extension and 5% to the National Office for Church Extension purposes.
6. That goals for opening new churches in 1960 be determined by the same formula used in the past and that these objectives and needs of Church Extension be thoroughly publicized and that the quarterly letter carry a notice of these objectives and needs.
7. That Assemblies of God Bible Schools give a thorough course on Church Extension for pioneer pastors.

The Area of Special Ministries

1. That churches give serious study to ways and means to include in their budgets, support for Home Missions Special Ministries and appointed home missionaries.
2. That the Men's Fellowship Department accept the challenge and responsibility of supplying needed equipment for duly appointed home missionaries and that the method of doing this be worked out between the two departments.

Global Conquest

That the Foreign Missions Department be commended for Global Conquest and that, since foreign missions depends so greatly on home base development by home missions, Home Missions be incorporated into Global Conquest.

Prayerfully submitted,

G. Raymond Carlson, Chairman

Report of Radio Committee

It is the wish of the General Council Radio Committee to commend the Radio Department, its Executive Director and the Revivaltime speaker and staff for their vision and work which has resulted in the many advances in the Revivaltime broadcast ministry and outreach, as evidenced by the splendid report of the Radio Department.

Your General Council Radio Committee has considered

the reports of the Radio Department, and the suggestions given to it by the various district radio representatives, and in addition to certain recommendations made to the Department, desires to submit the following recommendations and resolutions:

WHEREAS, Revivaltime tours and rallies have proven advantageous in the promotion of the Broadcast, and several districts which have sponsored such tours and rallies have risen significantly in their support of Revivaltime, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That all districts make provision for tours and rallies by Revivaltime representatives in their districts.

WHEREAS, The purpose of Revivaltime has always been evangelistic and missionary, and certain of our districts can still be classified as Home Missionary districts which cannot pay for all the Revivaltime coverage needed, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm this missionary and evangelistic purpose and encourage our stronger districts to continue to give to the broadcast with the view to paying part of the airtime in these Home Missions districts.

WHEREAS, The foreign radio industry is making great strides in radio communication, broadcasting, and the Assemblies of God foreign broadcasts are on the increase, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Radio Department be instructed to study ways and means of integrating the Assemblies of God foreign radio ministries and our international radio ministry into a world-wide radio mission.

Respectfully submitted
Thomas C. Cunningham, Chairman

Report of Committee on Education

The General Council in session in Oklahoma City in 1955 provided for the election of a committee on Education to which the government and work of the Department of Education and all its divisions should be committed. This committee now known as the Board of Education has met during the interim since the last General Council three times, and has functioned at this session as the General Council Committee on Education. The great majority of its work while here has been of a routine nature necessary to the conduct of its constitutionally committed duties and does not relate itself to the legislative functions of the General

Council. The brethren however wish to report on several findings and recommendations which they as the Board of Education of the Assemblies of God feel should be brought to the attention of this body.

We would call your attention to the urgency of the financial needs in all of our schools. While one of the declared purposes in the founding of our General Council of the Assemblies of God was the establishing of schools for the training of our constituency, it seems that we have through the years of our existence failed to recognize that these schools **MUST** be supported by our constituency. There has been the fallacious thinking that if we would but open the schools, student fees would support them. All schools both ours and others—have found this to be **IMPOSSIBLE**. No school is able to operate on a worthy basis on student fees alone.

During the short history of our movement, as many as forty (40) different Bible schools and colleges have been opened in our country but only nine of these have survived. In most instances, they have been forced to close through lack of financial support.

Your committee feels that it is high time our movement is awakened to realize it **MUST SUPPORT** our schools as a necessary part of our great over-all work. We should realize that 90% (?) of our entire foreign missionary staff received their training in our own Pentecostal schools and they have gone forth to establish 61 Bible schools for the training of Nationals to evangelize the great untouched harvest field. Our future missionary staff, to say nothing of our great home-field depends upon our movement underwriting our educational program.

We would call your attention to the several efforts that have been fostered by your Department of Education to bring this need to the attention of our constituency. It has instituted an annual college day, a high school day, and sponsored in conjunction with the C. A. Department, a C. A.—U.S.A. Scholarship program. We are happy to note the relative success of each of these programs but must say that they are only bringing in a token of the support that is needed.

To meet a crisis which was faced in the needs of Evangel College and C.B.I. this year, our General Presbyters presented the "Double Dollar Day" program. The response to this, while appreciated, must be acknowledged to be only a token. It is felt however, that it has served and will serve to bring into focus the great need of **ALL** our schools. Thus, it has been approved by the General Presbyters as an annual program.

Our committee wishes to commend those several districts

which have rallied to the support of our schools by designating a percentage of their district income for the school they have chosen to help sponsor. In some cases we understand that this percentage is 5%, in some 10%, and in one instance we understand it to be 15%. We believe that EVERY District should be encouraged to adopt a similar program.

We would also call your attention to the fact that most successful private schools are able to operate on an acceptable level because of large endowments. This is a field that has been much neglected among us. It should be encouraged.

To recapitulate, let us suggest:

1. We MUST support all of our schools if they are to survive.
2. This support should come from:
 - a. Being written into the annual budgets of our Churches on the basis of a minimum of \$2.00 per member.
 - b. Commitments from ALL our Districts for financial aid based upon a percentage of their District income.
 - c. Scholarships provided by individuals, Districts, departments, and corporations.
 - d. Endowments created by legacies.

Our committee would like to see every representative to this General Council pledged to co-operate with such a program.

Secondly, for several years, the Board of Education has taken cognizance of an increasing need of and demand for advanced theological training for some of our constituency. On October 22, 1956, it adopted a resolution to the effect that "a study be made of graduate theological training to determine its costs and other pertinent data." Such a study was made and at the General Council in Cleveland, the Board reported to the Council in session its "deep concern regarding the number of Assemblies of God young people attending non-Pentecostal schools of graduate theology," and "urged the members of our Fellowship to pray for these young people and to earnestly seek divine guidance for our own education program."

The following year (1958) the Board of Education recommended to the General Presbytery in session at Springfield. "That they give consideration to the appointment of a special committee to study the desirability and feasibility of establishing a graduate school of theology for the Assemblies of God." The General Presbytery referred the request back to the Board with the observation that such a study should logically come from the Board of Education.

As a result of these developments and instructions the department of Education did make an extensive survey and reported its findings through the Board of Education to the General Presbytery in session here at San Antonio. This report was quite lengthy and covered in detail such items as reasons for, cost of, location, and implementation of such a school. Briefly, among other things it called attention to:

1. The growing demand for this kind of training as evidenced by the increasing number of letters, requests, etc. reaching our offices. These requests have come both from the young people themselves and from many of our spiritual leaders who feel the need.
2. There are already a relatively large number of our Assemblies of God young people attending seminaries sponsored by other churches and organizations. There is reason to believe that these number into several hundreds and that this number will continue to increase as more and more of our young people turn in this direction.
3. To compound the problem, some of these open doors of study which have been available to our Assemblies of God students are now closing. The frank fact being that some of the other denominations do not feel they can subsidize our Assemblies of God students any longer.
4. There are two very important areas in which these advanced theological studies are needed; the chaplaincy and our Bible College need for instructors. In the former, our Assemblies of God ministers desiring to be chaplains are faced with the necessity of 90 hours of graduate theological work. Unless we have such a school these men must receive this training elsewhere. Since many of them will have taken their undergraduate work also in a non-Assemblies of God school it means they will be asked to represent us in the chaplaincy with little or no training in our Pentecostal institutions. With regard to the area of Pentecostal instructors in our Bible colleges, here again the need is acute. We must have men to teach in these schools who are completely trained and versed in Pentecostal theology and practice.
5. On the negative and dangerous side of this situation, a deplorable condition now exists. Many of our young people are being forced to attend schools apathetic, if not diametrically opposed, to Pentecostal doctrine and practice and are being exposed at the best to doctrines and interpretations incompatible with our own statement of fundamental truths. This has resulted in the loss of some splendid young men to our movement and

has been brought into sharp focus more recently by the forced termination of some whose views are no longer in harmony with our Pentecostal position.

In view of these and the other findings, the Board of Education reported its recommendation to the General Presbytery to the effect that consideration should be given at an early time to the establishment of a Graduate school of theology. The General Presbytery in turn has requested that this matter be referred to the General Council in session.

Your Board of Education recognizes the urgency in this matter and at the same time takes cognizance of the many problems which could arise in the implementation of such a graduate program. It would respectfully therefore recommend to this General Council in session that steps be taken to establish a graduate school of theology in the Assemblies of God but that the matter of time and place be left to the discretion of the General Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted

Chas. W. H. Scott, Executive Director
Cordas C. Burnett, National Secretary

Constitution of the General Council of the Assemblies of God in the United States of America and Foreign Lands Revised to

August 26—September 1, 1959

CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION

Whereas, It is the express purpose of God, our heavenly Father, to call out of the world a saved people, who shall constitute the body or church of Jesus Christ, built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; and

Whereas, The members of the body, the church (ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship, counsel and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order; and

Whereas, It is evident that the early apostolic churches came together in such fellowship as a representative body of saved, Spirit-filled believers, who ordained and sent out evangelists and missionaries, and who, under the supervision of the Holy Spirit, set over the church pastors and teachers, therefore be it

Resolved, That we recognize we are a co-operative fellowship of Pentecostal, Spirit-baptized saints from local Pentecostal Assemblies of like precious faith throughout the United States and foreign lands, to be known as The General Council of the Assemblies of God, whose purpose is not to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural and local rights and privileges, but to recognize and promote scriptural methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural methods, doctrines and conduct, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." Eph. 4:13.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name shall be, The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

ARTICLE II. NATURE

The General Council of the Assemblies of God is a co-operative fellowship based upon mutual agreements voluntarily entered into by its membership.

ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

- a. To approve all scriptural teaching, methods and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods and conduct.
- b. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- c. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- d. To establish and maintain such departments and institutions as may be necessary for the propagation of the gospel and the work of this Pentecostal fellowship.
- e. To have the right to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of, such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the prosecution of its work.

ARTICLE IV. PRINCIPLES

The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall represent as nearly as possible in detail, the body of Christ as described in the New Testament Scriptures, recognizing the principles inherent in that body as also inherent in this fellowship, particularly the principles of unity, co-operation and equality. Its purpose is to maintain conditions under which it can, as a fellowship, demonstrate these principles and their consequent development.

ARTICLE V.

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. Hence this Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing. 1 Cor. 1:10; Acts 2:42). The human phraseology employed in such statement is not inspired or contended for, but the truth set forth is held to be essential to a full Gospel ministry. No claim is made that it contains all truth in the

Bible, only that it covers our present needs as to these fundamental matters.

1. The Scriptures Inspired.

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, a revelation from God to man, the infallible rule of faith and conduct, and is superior to conscience and reason, but not contrary to reason. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 1 Peter 2:2.

2. The One True God.

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent, self-revealed "I AM"; and has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association, i.e., as Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29; Isa. 43:10, 11; Matt. 28:19; Luke 3:22.

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

(a) Terms Defined

The terms "Trinity" and "persons," as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely Scriptural (examples, Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 14:16, 17).

(b) Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of Persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained. Luke 1:35; 1 Cor. 1:24; Matt. 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; 1 John 1:3, 4.

(c) Unity of the One Being of Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter, the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the one proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one. John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11, 21; Zech. 14:9.

(d) Identity and Co-operation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are never identical as to Person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to co-operation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is in the Son as to relationship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, co-operation and authority. Hence, neither Person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others. John 5:17-30, 32, 37; John 8:17, 18.

(e) The Title, Lord Jesus Christ

The appellation, "Lord Jesus Christ," is a proper name. It is never

applied, in the New Testament, either to the Father or to the Holy Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God. Rom. 1:1-3, 7; 2 John 3.

(f) The Lord Jesus Christ, God with us

The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is, therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is "Immanuel," God with us. Matt. 1:23; 1 John 4:2, 10, 14; Rev. 1:13, 17.

(g) The Title, Son of God

Since the name "Immanuel" embraces both God and man in the one Person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title, Son of God, describes His proper deity, and the title Son of Man, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title, Son of God, belongs to the order of eternity, and the title, Son of Man, to the order of time. Matt. 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Heb. 7:3; 1:1-13.

(h) Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ

Wherefore, it is a transgression of the Doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title, Son of God, solely from the fact of the incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. 2 John 9; John 1:1, 2, 14, 18, 29, 49; 1 John 2:22, 23; 4:1-5; Heb. 12:2.

(i) Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord

The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Ghost that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end, when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all. Heb. 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Rom. 14:11; 1 Cor. 15:24-28.

(j) Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son

Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but it is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of Deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and titles of the Godhead (except those which express relationship. See paragraphs b, c, and d), and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father. John 5:22, 23; 1 Peter 1:8; Rev. 5:6-14; Phil. 2:8, 9; Rev. 7:9, 10; 4:8-11.

3. Man, His Fall and Redemption.

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness." But man, by voluntary transgression, fell, and his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ the Son of God. Gen. 1:26-31; 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12-21.

4. The Salvation of Man.

a. Conditions to Salvation.

The grace of God, which bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men, through the preaching of repentance toward God

and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ; man is saved by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, and being justified by grace through faith, he becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 2:11; Rom. 10:13-15; Luke 24:47; Titus 3:5-7.

b. The Evidences of Salvation.

The inward evidence, to the believer of his salvation, is the direct witness of the Spirit. Rom. 8:16. The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness.

5. Baptism in Water.

The ordinance of Baptism by a burial with Christ should be observed, as commanded in the Scriptures, by all who have really repented and in their hearts have truly believed on Christ as Saviour and Lord. In so doing, they have the body washed in pure water as an outward symbol of cleansing, while their hearts have already been sprinkled with the blood of Christ as an inner cleansing. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Jesus and that they have also been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. Matt. 28:19; Acts 10:47, 48; Rom. 6:4; Acts 20:21; Heb. 10:22.

6. The Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Cor. 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Cor. 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "till He come."

7. The Promise of the Father.

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it come the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry. Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31. This wonderful experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth. Acts 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9.

8. The Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

The Baptism of believers in the Holy Ghost is witnessed by

the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance. Acts 2:4. The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Cor. 12:4-10, 28), but different in purpose and use.

9. Entire Sanctification.

The Scriptures teach a life of holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." Entire sanctification is the will of God for all believers, and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word. Heb. 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15, 16; 1 Thess. 5:23, 24; 1 John 2:6.

10. The Church.

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the First-born, which are written in heaven. Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:22; Heb. 12:23.

11. The Ministry and Evangelism.

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a twofold purpose: (1) The evangelization of the world, and (2) The edifying of the Body of Christ. Mark 16:15-20; Eph. 4:11-13.

12. Divine Healing.

Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers. Isa. 53:4, 5; Matt. 8:16, 17.

13. The Blessed Hope.

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the church. 1 Thess. 4:16, 17; Rom. 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:51, 52.

14. The Millennial Reign of Jesus.

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of national Israel, and the millennial reign of Christ on the earth are the scriptural promises and the world's hope. 2 Thess. 1:7; Rev. 19:11-14; Rom. 11:26, 27; Rev. 20:1-7.

15. The Lake of Fire.

The devil and his angels, the beast, and the false prophet, and whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, shall be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. Rev. 19:20; 20:10-15.

16. The New Heavens and New Earth.

We, "according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21, 22.

ARTICLE VI. RELATIONSHIPS

The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall prosecute its activities through its General and District Councils.

ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the General Council shall consist of all ordained ministers, and missionaries under appointment for foreign service, holding accredited fellowship certificates, and such representatives as may be chosen by the assemblies affiliated with us, each assembly being entitled to one delegate.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

a. Regular sessions of the General Council shall be held biennially, pursuant to a call by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Special sessions of the General Council may be arranged by the Executive Presbytery if agreed by a majority of the General Presbyters.

c. The right of initiative in the matter of calling of special sessions shall be granted to any ordained minister of The General Council of the Assemblies of God when occasion demands. A statement setting forth the reasons for a special session of the Council, signed by not less than fifteen ordained ministers, may be considered sufficient reason for the call of a special session, such statement to be filed with the Executive Presbytery, who may, if it shall be deemed advisable, respond to the summons and issue the call for a special session.

ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS

I. Executive Officers.

The officers shall consist of the General Superintendent, the Assistant General Superintendents, General Secretary, General

Treasurer, and the Executive Director of Foreign Missions, together with such other officers as may be required in the future. Their terms of office shall begin three months after date of election and shall continue for two years or until their successors qualify.

2. Executive Presbytery.

The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the General Superintendent, the Assistant General Superintendents, General Secretary, General Treasurer, and the Executive Director of Foreign Missions together with such other brethren to be chosen from the active fellowship to bring the number of executives to sixteen.

3. General Presbytery.

The General Presbytery shall be composed of representative men of mature experience and ability whose lives and ministry are above reproach, who shall represent the fellowship in all phases of its work and interest in their respective fields. Each District shall have the privilege of representation in the General Presbytery by three members, the District Superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by the District Council and who shall take office immediately subject to the approval of the Executive Presbytery.

The Executive Presbyters shall be ex-officio members of the General Presbytery.

The Foreign fields shall be represented in the General Presbytery by the field secretaries of the Foreign Missions Department and by two others from each of the over-all areas which the field secretaries represent.

Upon the approval of the General Presbytery, honorary members may be chosen by the General Council from among those ministers who for years have been highly esteemed among us as General Presbyters, and yet who, because of age or infirmity, can no longer assume the full burden of the office. The addition of such honorary members shall not disturb the regular number of Presbyters granted each district.

ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS

a. Membership of the District Council shall consist of all ordained and licensed ministers of the district, and such delegates as may be elected by assemblies to represent them in the meetings of the District Council. Delegates shall be elected upon a basis of representation as may be agreed upon by the Council.

b. The District Council shall have supervision over all the activities of the Assemblies of God in its prescribed field, except such as are agreed upon by a District Council and the General Council officials.

c. The District Council shall have authority to examine and to license and ordain ministers who are to become members thereof and shall report to the office of the General Council the names of approved licensed ministers.

Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they take such reading courses and pass examinations as may be prescribed by respective District Councils in agreement with the Credentials Committee of the General Council.

d. The District Council shall elect its own officers, and arrange for its own meetings. It shall be amenable to the General Council in matters of doctrine, and the personal conduct of all ministers who are permitted to have District endorsement.

e. The District Council, being the creature of the General Council and subordinate thereto, cannot be authorized, in any way, to violate the principles of the General Council constitutional agreements or bylaws. In the prosecution of the work in its prescribed field the District Council shall be expected to keep vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and co-operative fellowship to which the General Council fellowship is especially and unalterably dedicated.

ARTICLE XI. BRANCHES

a. A Branch is defined as a unit in the General Council organization equivalent to a District Council in General Presbytery and General Council membership and relationship, and according to all provisions of Article X of the Constitution. A Branch is distinguished from a District Council in that its territory of operation is not geographical, but is confined to ministry among certain races or language groups. Its geographical area of operation may therefore overlap or coincide with that of one or more District Councils.

b. Branches shall be allowed that independence of operation which is accorded District Councils within the framework of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws and transfers and other relationships between themselves and regular District Councils shall be effected with that consideration and respect practiced between District Councils.

ARTICLE XII. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

All true Pentecostal believers associating themselves in local bodies as assemblies, and accepting their full personal share of responsibility for the maintenance of scriptural order in the local body, shall have a standard for membership which may be determined either by the local assembly itself, or by agreement with the District Council.

Local assemblies shall be set in order and co-operate in the work of the District. They should support the District organization and may send delegates to the District and General Councils.

Each local assembly has the right of self-government under Jesus Christ, its living Head, and shall have the power to choose, or call its pastor, elect its official board, and transact all other business pertaining to its life as a local unit. It shall have the right to administer discipline to its members according to the Scriptures and its Bylaws. It shall have the right to acquire and hold title to property, either through trustees or in its corporate name as a self-governing unit.

The fact that a local assembly is affiliated in the association of the District or General Council shall in nowise destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty. The local assembly shall recognize that the District or General Council has the right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct and to disapprove unscriptural doctrine or conduct. When in need of counsel or advice, the local assembly may appeal to the District officary for help. It may appeal from a decision by the District officary to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council when there is a question whether or not the Assembly has received proper help from the District.

Local assemblies are expected to have an interest in the missionary enterprise, and to plan for regular contributions for its support.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any regular meeting of the General Council, provided the proposed amendments shall have been submitted in writing to every District for consideration prior to the General Council meeting. Amendments to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of all members present for adoption.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. PARLIAMENTARY ORDER

In order to expedite the work of the Council and to avoid confusion in its deliberations, the Council shall be governed by accepted rules of parliamentary procedure, in keeping with the spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

ARTICLE II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers.

The officers of the General Council shall be elected at one of its regular meetings, according to the manner of election as provided. They shall be chosen from the membership of the General Council, and shall be men of mature experience and ability, whose life and ministry are above question, and such qualities alone shall determine their eligibility.

Section 2. Nomination and Election.

a. All candidates for office of General Superintendent, Assistant General Superintendents and General Secretary shall be nominated by secret ballot. A two-thirds vote of all votes cast shall be necessary to constitute an election. If no election has been declared after the third ballot has been cast, the three candidates having the highest number of votes in the last ballot cast shall be nominees to be further voted upon, and all other names shall be eliminated.

b. Election of General Presbyters shall take place at the District Council meeting.

c. The General Council shall have the right to elect additional officers to serve on the Executive Presbytery as provided in Article IX, Section 2, of the Constitution. The nomination of the non-resident executive presbyters shall be effected by dividing the Council into eight groups according to the geographical areas as hereinafter defined, and the eligible voters from the respective areas be authorized to nominate two or more of those from within their areas for the office of Executive Presbyter for their area, to be balloted upon by the General Council, and that nominations be made from the floor. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election.

Northwest Area

Washington Oregon Idaho Montana Wyoming

Southwest Area

Arizona
California
Nevada
Utah

North Central Area

North Dakota
South Dakota
Nebraska
Minnesota
Iowa
Wisconsin

South Central Area

Colorado
New Mexico
Kansas
Oklahoma
Texas

Great Lakes Area

Michigan
Illinois
Indiana
Kentucky
West Virginia
Ohio

Gulf Area

Louisiana
Mississippi
Arkansas
Tennessee
Missouri

Northeast Area

Maine
New Hampshire
Massachusetts
Vermont
Rhode Island
Connecticut
New York
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Maryland
Delaware
District of Columbia

Southeast Area

Virginia
North Carolina
South Carolina
Georgia
Alabama
Florida

d. The General Treasurer 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 this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names for this office to be presented to the General Council in session for election. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election.

e. The Executive Director of Foreign Missions shall be an Assistant General Superintendent and shall be elected 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 this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot two or more names

to be presented to the General Council in session for election. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election.

Section 3. Vacancies.

a. In the event any of the Executive Offices of the General Council shall become vacant through death or other cause, the Executive Presbyters shall fill the office by appointment until the next meeting of the General Council, with the exception that in the event of the death or incapacity of the General Superintendent, the General Secretary shall call a special meeting of the General Presbyters to be convened within thirty days, for the purpose of electing from the Assistant General Superintendents one to fill the office for the unexpired term.

b. In the event a General Presbyter shall move to another District or shall vacate his office for any other reason, the Presbytery of the District Council shall appoint one to serve as General Presbyter until that office is regularly filled at the next meeting of the District Council.

Section 4. Voting Constituency.

The voting constituency shall consist of all accredited members, present and registered at any special or regular meeting of the General Council.

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent.**

a. To be the head of the General Office, and to supervise all the work of that office during the interim between sessions of the General Council. To act as President of the Corporation in all legal matters.

b. To preside at the sessions of the General Presbytery and the General Council.

c. To preside at all meetings of the Credentials Committee, and to sign all credentials.

d. To preside at all sessions of the Executive Presbytery, and to receive all communications directed to that body.

e. To appoint Executive Directors of the various departments of the General Council from among the Executive Officers, with the co-operation and advice of those members of the Executive Presbytery who are not Executive Officers.

f. To be General Superintendent of all work on the field conducted in behalf of the fellowship, and to encourage Bible and Missionary Conventions throughout the country.

g. To administer discipline in all cases when requested to do so by the Credentials Committee.

h. To perform any other functions usual and customary as presiding officer or such as may be directed by the General Council or by the Executive Presbytery.

Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendents.

a. To assist the General Superintendent.

b. To serve as Vice-Presidents of the corporation and to preside at meetings of the Executive Presbytery in the absence of the General Superintendent.

c. To serve as departmental heads as may be directed by the General Superintendent.

d. The responsibility of office work and field ministry shall be equitably distributed among these men under the direction of the General Superintendent.

e. Finally, to perform any other functions under the supervision of the General Superintendent, or such as may be directed by the General Council or the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. Duties of the General Secretary.

a. The General Secretary shall make and keep true records of the proceedings of the General Council and shall publish the same as approved and directed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. He shall be custodian of the official seal of the Council and shall issue Credentials under the direction of the Credentials Committee and shall keep a record of all ministers, licentiates and assemblies in the fellowship.

c. He shall act as Secretary of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery, and shall keep accurate minutes of the deliberations of these bodies.

d. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and to perform such other functions as are customary or as may be directed by the General Council or the Executive Presbytery.

e. He shall act as Secretary of the Credentials Committee

and shall be considered an ex officio member of all other committees.

Section 4. Duties of the Treasurer.

a. To be custodian of all General Council funds.

b. He shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, conducting the work of his office according to accepted business methods.

c. He shall give a report from time to time as may be requested by the General Council or the Executive Presbytery.

d. He shall give bond to the amount of \$50,000. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually by competent auditors.

e. He shall perform such other functions as are customary to his office or as may be directed by the Council or the Executive Presbytery.

Section 5. Duties of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions.

a. He shall be the Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the Department shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

b. Keep a record of all decisions of the Missionary Committee and of all official acts of the Missions Department.

c. Conduct all correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.

d. Conduct the missionary columns in the PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL from missionary letters and reports.

e. Represent the General Council in all relationships with governments or authorities where our missionary work is involved.

f. Direct the missionary activities of the fellowship.

g. Distribute all missionary funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Foreign Missions Committee.

h. Keep such records of all funds received and disbursed as will safeguard the funds from loss en route to the field.

i. Act as purchasing agent for missionary supplies.

j. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery.

Section 6. Duties of the Executive Presbytery.

a. The Executive Presbyters shall serve as trustees of the General Council. They shall be empowered to supervise and

have general oversight of all departments. They shall be authorized to act for the corporation in all matters that affect its interests while the General Council is not in session.

b. They shall have the right to buy, take, lease or otherwise acquire, own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of real property, personal and mixed, tangible and intangible, or whatsoever kind as may be useful for the prosecution of its work.

c. To hold in trust such funds as may be committed to them as trustees, or to dispose of the same as may be directed.

d. To issue annuity bonds or contracts, and to protect the same by judicious investments.

e. They shall be authorized to purchase or to dispose of securities as need requires in an effort to strengthen the financial position of the corporation.

f. All properties of the General Council shall be bought, taken, held, sold, transferred, mortgaged, leased, assigned or conveyed by the trustees in the corporate name.

g. In all matters of great importance, the Executive Presbyters shall communicate with the members of the General Presbytery before final action shall be taken.

h. The Executive Presbyters shall be empowered to arrange for and announce the meetings of the General Council, with consideration for the interests of the fellowship as a whole. The decision of time and place for such meetings shall rest in their hands.

i. The Executive Presbyters shall also at their discretion call business meetings of the General Presbytery when deemed advisable.

j. The Executive Presbyters shall make a report to the General Council of their activities in behalf of the fellowship as may be directed.

Section 7. Duties of the General Presbytery.

a. The General Presbytery shall be empowered to act in all matters pertaining to foreign missionary and ministerial relationships, and all matters which pertain to the proper functioning of departments and institutions in the fellowship. It shall constitute an advisory body to the Executive Presbytery. All decisions pertaining to constitutional order or fundamental doctrines shall be referred by it to the General Council for ratification in the manner provided in the General Council Constitution.

b. The General Presbytery shall also act as a Court of Appeal for the reviewing of testimony given in missionary and ministerial trials. Its decisions shall be final.

ARTICLE IV. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees.

Standing committees shall be appointed as necessity may require. They shall serve for the designated time or until their purpose is accomplished. In the event a vacancy shall occur in a standing committee, the Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to fill such vacancy.

Section 2. Credentials Committee.

Such members of the Executive Presbytery as may reside at headquarters shall constitute a Credentials Committee. They shall have authority to issue certificates of ordination to approved ministers, who have District Council endorsement, and to issue annual fellowship certificates.

Section 3. Roster Committee.

A Roster Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery prior to each meeting of the General Council. This committee shall be expected to open the roster on the morning of the day preceding the convening of the General Council. It shall be entrusted with responsibility of examining credentials of all ministers and delegates. Ordained ministers shall identify themselves by fellowship certificates of the current year; delegates from assemblies shall obtain letters from their church secretary or pastor certifying to their appointment by the assembly to represent it in the General Council. Suitable badges shall be issued by the Committee to all qualified delegates and ministers, such badges to indicate the classification of ordained ministers, foreign missionaries, licensed ministers, delegates from assemblies, visitors, etc.

Section 4. Other Committees.

Other General Council Committees shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery in collaboration with the department heads.

ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS

Section 1. Boundaries.

The boundaries of the Districts shall be determined or rearranged by co-operative agreement between the Districts and the Executive Presbyters of the General Council.

Section 2. Officers.

Each District Council shall be authorized to elect Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer and Presbyters together with

such other officers as may be deemed advisable by the District membership.

Section 3. Voting Constituency.

The voting constituency shall consist of all accredited members present and registered, including ordained and licensed ministers and accredited delegates from affiliated churches.

ARTICLE VI. MINISTRY

Section 1. Ministry Described.

Three classifications are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the exhorter or Christian worker. All applicants for ministerial recognition must give testimony to having received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.

Section 2. Qualifications.

a. Qualifications for ordination are outlined in the New Testament Scriptures. 1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9.

b. Qualifications for a license to preach shall be:

First: Clear evidence of a divine call, a practical experience in preaching, together with an evident purpose to devote one's time to preaching the gospel or engaging in other full-time ministry. They shall preach at least twenty times a year except in case of ill health or infirmity.

Second: Conformity to such provisions as are made for candidates by the General Council in reading courses and other training.

c. Efficient helpers in Gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service may be recognized as Christian workers or exhorters. They shall preach at least twelve times a year except in case of ill health or infirmity.

Section 3. License to Preach and Christian Workers' or Exhorters' Certificates.

Licenses to Preach and Christian workers' or Exhorters' Certificates shall be granted by District Councils to properly qualified applicants.

Section 4. Ordinations.

a. All ordinations shall take place under the auspices of the District Councils. Applicants twenty-three years of age or over

who shall have met the necessary requirements shall appear before the credentials committee of the district where they reside. No person may be ordained to the ministry until he shall have held a license to preach and shall have been engaged in active work as a pastor or evangelist for at least two full consecutive years.

b. The Scriptures plainly teach that while there is a difference between the ministry of men and of women in the church, divinely called and qualified women may also serve the church in the ministry of the Word. Women who may have demonstrated a distinct ministry of evangelism and who have met the requirements of District Councils may be licensed to preach the Word. Matured women of not less than twenty-three years of age who have developed in the ministry of the Word so that their ministry is acceptable generally and who have proved their qualifications in actual service and who have met all the requirements of the Credentials Committees of the District Councils may be ordained to the ministry of the Gospel and may serve either as evangelists or as pastors as their qualifications warrant. The right to administer the ordinances of the church, when such acts are necessary, shall be included in the ordination.

Section 5. Exceptions.

a. It is recommended that our District Councils refrain from ordaining to the ministry any preacher who may have been licensed in another District until such licentiate shall have resided in the District in which he is seeking ordination at least one year and shall have met the requirements of the District granting him license, and until endorsement be secured from the officary of the District in which the candidate was previously licensed.

b. Since divorced and remarried persons in the ministry usually cause stumbling, reproach and division, whatever may have been the cause of divorce, we disapprove of District Councils granting credentials to a person living in the state of matrimony where either the applicant or the married partner has a former companion living.

c. The Credentials Committee of the General Council shall not be authorized to give consideration to an applicant for credentials upon the basis of an annulment of a former marriage unless the application is accompanied by a clear and satisfactory evidence of an illegal marriage through deception or

fraud. Every application must be adjudged on its own merits regardless of expressed opinions of attorneys or judges. The General Presbytery, acting as a court of appeals, has the right to make its own decisions in all such matters.

Section 6. Certificates.

Ordination papers with the accompanying fellowship certificates shall be issued by the General Council Credentials Committee from the Executive office.

Fellowship Certificates are renewable annually and are valid only until September 1 of each year.

Section 7. Expiration of Fellowship Certificates.

Inasmuch as all fellowship certificates expire on the 31st day of August of each year, all who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates on or before October 1st, or who shall have failed to indicate their purpose to do so, shall be considered as delinquents whose names shall not appear on the ministerial list to be mailed to the clergy bureaus.

Section 8. Official List.

a. An official list of all ordained ministers shall be compiled by the Credentials Committee of the General Council and published for the convenience of all concerned. The list shall show whether or not each minister is giving full time to his or her ministry. This official list shall be revised annually, and shall include only the names of those ministers to whom certificates of fellowship have been issued for the current year.

b. All ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or who cease to engage in either pastoral or evangelistic work for a period of one year or more shall be expected to notify the office of the General Secretary, who shall be authorized to remove the names of such persons and to place them upon an inactive list. Ministers who preach less than twenty-five times per year shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for one year. If such inactivity shall continue for a second year, they shall be removed from the ministerial fellowship. It shall be understood that this shall not apply to inactivity caused by infirmity of old age or ill health or to those who are in other full-time ministry. Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the

active list upon an application for reinstatement bearing the endorsement of the District Officer.

Section 9. Ministerial Relations.

a. All ministers holding credentials with the District and General Councils shall be amenable to both the District and General Councils in matters of doctrine and conduct.

b. All ministers ordained and licensed, shall be expected to affiliate with the District Council within the boundaries of which they reside, and to work in co-operation with the same. They shall be expected to co-operate with other District Councils in which they may labor temporarily.

Section 10. Certificate of Transfer.

When a minister takes up residence in another district, a Certificate of Transfer shall be issued within sixty days by the district of which he is a member, unless there are definite charges pending against him. The Certificate of Transfer shall be accepted by the district into which he moves. Exceptions may be made for ministers moving to serve at General Headquarters, or for those who are retired, or are in the armed forces, or who are serving on the faculties of our schools.

In order to assist a minister who is transferring into another district, a transcript giving full information concerning him and his wife should accompany the Certificate of Transfer.

Section 11. Affiliating with Other Organizations.

When any of the ministers of the Assemblies of God shall identify themselves, with other organizations granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, their affiliation with this body shall be regarded as having ceased. They shall then be requested to return to the Executive Office of the General Council the credentials which had been issued by that office.

Section 12. Termination and Restoration of Credentials.

a. In the event of the announced desire of a minister to withdraw from our fellowship, before action shall have been taken in the matter by the Credentials Committee or the Executive Presbyters, due investigation shall be made as to

the standing of the minister in the district of his affiliation. His request shall be granted, provided he is found in good standing in his home District. In case evidence warrants contrary action, the minister shall be advised of the findings of the Credentials Committee, and his name removed from the ministerial list. In the event the minister asks for a trial, the provisions for trials, as here-in-after stated, shall be followed in disposing of the case, and upon conviction, his name may be published as "withdrawn," "removed," "suspended," or "dropped" depending upon the verdict. All information pertaining to the minister, so gathered, shall be preserved in the office of the General Council Credentials Committee for future reference.

b. When a minister connected with our fellowship shall have been dropped from our rolls or shall have ceased to be connected with us by virtue of having become identified with another organization, or for any other cause, and shall apply to be reinstated, he shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement until at least six months shall have elapsed after he has been removed from our list of ministers. The Credentials Committee of the General Council may also hold the matter in abeyance until the next session of the General Council in order that the General Presbytery may have the opportunity to review the case, in which event the matter of reinstatement of such minister shall be left entirely with that body.

c. Applications for reinstatement may be made through the District Council within which territory his residence may be found, but the application will be considered subject to the approval of the District in which the former action was taken.

Section 13. Discipline of Members.

Occasions sometimes arise which make it necessary to deal with ministers who are affiliated with us who for some reason seem to have reached the place where, in the estimation of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. It is obvious that the Credentials Committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them to the headquarters office for credentials also have the right to withdraw their approval and to recommend that the headquarters office recall the credentials. General inefficiency in the ministry, a failure or inability to correctly represent our Pentecostal testimony, a contentious or non-cooperative

spirit, an assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly, an arbitrary rejection of District counsel, a declared open change in doctrinal views, a habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause, a marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce, as constituted in this Article, may give cause for action by the Credentials Committee.

Both the officary of the District Council and the Credentials Committee of the General Council shall be recognized as having the right of initiative in this matter. If, after counsel and warning, there has been no change of character or attitude on the part of the minister, the officary of the District Council may recommend to the Credentials Committee of the General Council that his fellowship certificate be withheld, or not renewed, or that his name be removed from the official list of ministers of the General Council.

Such recommendation shall set forth in writing satisfactory reasons for the action, and a copy of the recommendation shall be placed in the hands of the minister involved. If in the judgment of the Credentials Committee, the District Officiary was justified in the action taken, they shall be authorized to comply with the request of the District.

The right of initiative may be exercised by the Credentials Committee of the General Council in the event that complaints against a minister shall be filed with the committee affecting the character or conduct of the minister. Such complaints shall be referred to the District Officiary for investigation and such action as the revealed facts may warrant.

Section 14. Performing Marriage Ceremonies (Divorced persons).

We disapprove of any General Council minister performing a marriage ceremony for anyone who has been divorced and whose former companion is still living. We also warn that any minister of our fellowship who performs such a ceremony, unless he is innocently deceived into doing the same, may be dismissed from the Council.

Section 15. Violations of Ministerial Courtesy.

All discourteous conduct is disapproved, and all minis-

ters are advised against interfering with pastors in charge of assemblies, whether it be by going in upon their work without consent or by such correspondence with members of the assembly as will hurt the influence of the leader. All correspondence which concerns the whole assembly shall be addressed to the one in charge and not to private members. Where there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the officers of an assembly.

Any minister who so offends shall be subject to scriptural treatment as an offender by the District Officer or by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual Fellowship Certificates and may be the basis for their recall.

Section 16. Ministry in Non-Council Assemblies.

Inasmuch as unity is a vital principle for growth and spiritual development of the church, it is essential that we recognize our vital relationship to each other, and that we practice Christian co-operation in all our pastoral, evangelistic, missionary, and local church work and business. Therefore, we recommend that our evangelists and pastors consult with our Council officials before conducting a campaign with a non-Council assembly in any given city, so ascertain whether or not such non-Council assembly is approved as to doctrinal standards and co-operative fellowship with Council Assemblies, and if not approved by the District officials, they shall be expected to refrain from conducting services for them. Ministers who violate this principle shall be considered as having opened the door for censure or charge which may necessitate the recall of their credentials.

Section 17. Attitude Toward Those Removed From Council Fellowship.

In order to render effective decisions made in the interest of proper discipline and for the protection of our assemblies, after investigation and consideration of all facts by those qualified to act in such cases according to our co-operative agreements, such decisions shall be by all considered just and final and all who hold credentials shall refrain from taking any attitude toward offenders that would tend to nullify or set at naught the solemn verdict of the brethren entrusted with this responsibility.

In the event of a violation of this agreement the offender

shall be subject to reprimand, or such other discipline as shall be agreed upon by the officary of the District with which he is affiliated. In the event that the agreement shall be violated outside of his District the officary of the District in which the offense is committed may communicate with the General Secretary, and it shall be his duty to notify the offending brother that a repetition of the offense will seriously affect his standing as a Council minister, and if persisted in, may result in his suspension or severance from our fellowship.

Section 18. Trials and Appeals.

a. Both the officary of the District Council and the Executive Presbytery of the General Council shall be recognized as having the right of initiative in the trial of members. Trials shall be granted for willful violation of Council principles, wrong doctrine, or other misconduct. In the event the officary of the District Council shall take the initiative, the trial shall be conducted by said officary in accordance with Council principles. In the event that the Executive Presbytery shall take the initiative and it should appear to them after consultation with the District Officer not to be feasible to conduct a trial within the bounds of the District where the alleged offense may have been committed, a Judiciary Committee of six ordained ministers may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, one of whom shall be chosen by said committee to act as chairman. This committee shall be authorized and instructed to conduct a fair trial in accordance with Council principles.

b. A complete stenographic record of all trials of ministers shall be kept.

c. It shall be the privilege of every minister who may have had a trial to appeal from the decision rendered, provided such an appeal shall be made within thirty days thereafter.

d. Whenever a minister of the General Council shall appeal from a decision of the District to the Executive Presbytery, or from the decision of the Executive Presbytery to the General Presbytery, it shall be the duty of the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery to review the case by full examination of the documentary evidence relative to the trial in order to determine whether or not a proper trial has been conducted and a fair decision rendered. Those who con-

ducted the trial shall, in such a case, furnish a complete record of the trial, including all evidence produced. No new evidence shall be considered in the review. All new evidence or testimony must be presented in retrials.

e. In case the Executive Presbytery, or General Presbytery, shall decide, after such a review, that the decision made has not been a fair one, it shall be the right of that Body to which appeal has been made to reverse the decision, or, if it is decided that the case has been handled improperly, it shall be the right of those listening to the appeal to remand the case for retrial.

f. Appeals from decisions made by the District Officials shall not be heard by the General Presbytery until after the evidence has first been reviewed by the Executive Presbytery and its decision has been made.

ARTICLE VII. ASSEMBLIES

Section 1. Membership Certificates.

The General Council office shall issue a membership certificate of proper proportions and script for framing to all churches coming into the fellowship.

Section 2. Government of U. S. A. Requirements.

Whereas, the government of the U.S.A. requires of headquarters a report periodically of the number of lay members of our assemblies, it is important that each assembly of our General Council fellowship keep an up-to-date record of its membership and that a record of same be sent annually to the office of the General Council Secretary.

Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies.

It is known that many unreliable and unsafe teachers and preachers go about seeking entrance into assemblies without any recommendation, therefore all pastors, workers and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation regarding such not known to them, and the platform be denied strangers until proper recommendations be forthcoming.

The advice and counsel of the District Presbytery should be sought in such cases, and in all matters of importance when at all possible. Pastors and Presbyters should notify each other, reciprocally, as to such persons when any unreliability becomes manifest.

ARTICLE VIII. FOREIGN MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

a. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the Gospel in foreign lands. In keeping with this objective, there shall be a Foreign Missions Department to which shall be committed all the foreign missionary interests of the Fellowship.

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.

c. In fields where Pentecostal missionaries are already stationed, consultation shall be had with the brethren on the field and the Foreign Missions Department, and a satisfactory plan agreed upon before an attempt shall be made to establish new stations in such localities.

d. Every assembly shall be encouraged to assume definite responsibility for full or partial support of one or more missionaries in co-operation with the Foreign Missions Department.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The Executive Director of Foreign Missions shall be an Assistant General Superintendent, who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph "e" of the Bylaws.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the Foreign Missions Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

c. The activities of the Foreign Missions Department shall be under the supervision of a Foreign Missions Board which shall consist of the Executive Director of the department, two Executive Presbyters, the Department Secretary, four Field Secretaries, and six pastors of proven missionary zeal and accomplishments who shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery from the six established geographical areas of the United States and ratified by the General Presbytery in session.

The term of office of the appointed pastors shall be for

three (3) years and so arranged that one-third of the terms expire annually, and that upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

The responsibilities of this Board shall be the establishing of policy, the appointment of missionaries, and such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Executive Presbytery. The Board shall be authorized to appoint secretaries for major office divisions of departmental activities as need may arise.

The Board shall also be authorized to

1. Consistently evaluate missions policies in the light of changing conditions.

2. Devise and publish a code of procedure that will serve to guide the Department and Board in matters of discipline.

3. Establish clear, decisive standards of ethics that shall govern in the relationships between all parties concerned with the missionary program.

4. Declare clearly the position of the Board in matters relating to specific field problems.

5. Sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to Field and Department decisions.

- d. Field Secretaries to represent major geographical areas shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery on the basis of nominations by the missionaries in the respective areas. These appointments shall be subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

- e. The general administrative work of the department shall be conducted by a Foreign Missions Committee consisting of the Executive Director as chairman, the Department Secretary as vice-chairman, the Field Secretaries, and the heads of major divisions of the department. The responsibilities of this committee shall be the general supervision and direction of the work of the department and its missionaries in conformity with the established policies and principles of the General Council and the Foreign Missions Board.

- f. All the activities of the Foreign Missions Department and the decisions of the Foreign Missions Board shall be subject to review by the General Presbytery as well as the Executive Presbytery. The Foreign Missions Department shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery.

- g. Representatives on the General Presbytery shall be chosen in the following manner:

The Foreign Missions Board shall nominate four (4) missionaries, who will at that time be home on furlough, from each general area represented by the four (4) field secretaries of the Foreign Missions Department, who preferably shall have had administrative experience in the Field Fellowship, to serve on the General Presbytery. A ballot shall be provided for each area and sent to all missionaries who shall by their vote select two (2) to represent them on the General Presbytery. A simple majority vote shall be required to elect, and a report made of the ballots cast.

- f. An Advisory Committee consisting of six (6) consecrated Spirit-filled laymen from among our fellowship, known for their spirituality, good judgment and faithfulness, shall be appointed by the General Presbytery. They shall work in co-operation with the Foreign Missions Board in the promotion of World Missions.

They shall be selected from the six sections of the nation, designated for the six pastors appointed to the Foreign Missions Board and shall meet with it at least once annually, or as often as deemed necessary by the Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department.

They shall be chosen from churches other than those whose pastors may be selected to serve on the Foreign Missions Board. They shall have the endorsement of their respective pastors, and their terms of office shall be for three years and so arranged that one-third of their terms expire annually, and that upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

Section 3. Support of Foreign Missions Department.

The expense of operating the Foreign Missions Department shall be provided from:

- a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan offerings. (See Article XXI, World Missions Plan)

- b. Offerings designated for office expense, in keeping with the recommendation that any who do not contribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offering for office expense.

- c. A recommended one-half of the tithes of missionaries under appointment receiving funds through the Foreign Missions Department.

- d. An appropriation of up to 10% of undesignated contributions.

Section 4. Missionary Candidates.

- a. The selection and appointment of missionaries shall be

the prerogative of the Foreign Missions Board on recommendation of the Foreign Missions Committee.

b. The Foreign Missions Board shall be governed in its selection and appointment of missionaries by the following requirements. Each applicant shall be examined—

- (1) As to personal experience of full New Testament salvation.
- (2) A definite experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.
- (3) As to definite call to foreign work.
- (4) As to physical, mental and spiritual fitness for work.
- (5) As to Christian standing and general qualifications, it being required that each applicant receiving appointment shall have the unqualified endorsement of his district council, particularly in regard to effective ministry and Christian character.
- (6) Young men shall not be granted missionary appointment until they have first qualified for ordination in the homeland, and women candidates shall prove their ministry and stability of character by a similar probationary period of service in the homeland.

c. Prospective missionaries shall be expected to exercise faith in God to provide their outfit and fare to the field. The fitness of the candidate for foreign service, however, will influence the decision of the committee more than the amount of funds pledged toward the applicant's support.

d. Candidates for foreign service of a specialized character such as nurses, teachers, et cetera, may be granted appointment for such types of work if properly qualified, without the necessity of being ordained. Nevertheless, such candidates shall have the endorsement of their respective district councils in regard to their Christian experience and local church activity.

e. Funds provided for the prospective missionaries who shall for any reason be prevented from going to the field can be made available for other missionaries or missionary purposes after consultation with the districts from which the funds have been received.

f. All persons making application for appointment as missionaries shall be expected to meet the requirements of the Foreign Missions Department.

g. The Foreign Missions Department shall confine its missionary activities within the limits of its resources and shall

not accept and send out missionaries until the condition of its finances fully warrants such action.

h. Each missionary shall be expected to devote two full years to language study, if necessary, before taking up his full active work. Courses of study with examinations shall be arranged by an advisory committee on each field. Failure on the part of any missionary to obtain a working knowledge of the language during his first term shall furnish ample ground upon which to question his fitness for a second term.

Section 5. Support of Missionaries.

a. The undesignated funds sent to the Foreign Missions Department shall be distributed to those who have received the appointment of the Foreign Missions Board, with the exception that up to ten percent of undesignated funds may be used by the Foreign Missions Department for administrative expense. All funds assigned to particular persons shall be forwarded by the Foreign Missions Department exactly as directed.

b. It is requested that all missionaries send a monthly or quarterly report of moneys received and submit a budget of expenses to the Foreign Missions Department. It shall not be incumbent upon the Foreign Missions Department to send of its undesignated funds to missionaries who do not furnish such a report.

c. Missionaries expecting the endorsement and aid of the Foreign Missions Department shall report to the Foreign Missions Department and receive its approval before leaving this country. The Foreign Missions Department shall assume no responsibility whatever, where the foregoing requirements are not complied with.

d. It is recommended that districts endorsing candidates for missionary appointment assume as far as is practicable responsibility for their support.
(See Article XXI. World Missions Plan)

Section 6. Ordination of Missionaries.

The ordination of missionaries under appointment of the Foreign Missions Department shall be determined on the basis of their qualifications for ordination rather than on the basis of their appointment.

Section 7. Fellowship Certificates.

The Foreign Missions Department shall renew the Fellowship Certificates of all foreign missionaries in good standing on or before the first of the year without cost to the missionaries.

This requirement on the part of the Foreign Missions Department shall be contingent upon the missionary's filling out in ample time the annual questionnaire provided by the Department and sending same to the home office. This questionnaire shall provide for statement relative to the missionary's activity, the assemblies or works under his supervision, the number of believers attending each assembly, etc.

Section 8. Field Organization.

a. In all fields occupied by Assemblies of God missionaries, every effort shall be exerted to establish autonomous Assemblies of God organizations composed of co-operating, sovereign assemblies. It is realized that no fixed organizational pattern is possible. Every organization should take on a form fully consonant with local conditions, manners of life and thought patterns. Missionaries should studiously avoid the practice of proposing a foreign type of organization, but should encourage a type readily understood and easily operated by the nationals of the country. These organizations shall be encouraged to maintain the closest fraternal relationships with Assemblies of God fellowships in other countries but shall not be considered organizationally an integral part of the General Council of the Assemblies of God in the United States of America.

b. Missionary Field Fellowships, composed of all missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Missions Department, shall be formed in each political or geographic area as circumstances may indicate. These Field Fellowships are to be considered as the direct creation of and amenable to the Foreign Missions Department since missionary appointment automatically confers membership in the Field Fellowship. The Missionary Field Fellowships shall serve in a consultative capacity to the Foreign Missions Department in matters of policy and missionary personnel relative to their respective fields. They shall strive to maintain harmonious relationships on the field and with the Foreign Missions Department but shall avoid encroaching on the sphere of activities of their respective National Assemblies of God organizations.

In those fields where there is insufficient personnel to make the organization of a Field Fellowship practical, the Foreign Missions Department may appoint a representative to act for the field in matters normally handled by the Field Fellowship.

c. Missionary Field Fellowships shall be represented in the General Presbytery by their Field Secretary and two others from the over-all area which he represents.

Section 9. Property.

a. All possible precautions shall be taken to safeguard funds invested in foreign properties so that they shall continue to advance the cause of the Assemblies of God in those countries. No funds shall be made available for the purchase of property until arrangements have been made to comply with the laws of the respective countries concerning the legal holding of title and in order to maintain a proper relationship between these missionary projects and the Foreign Missions Department, these principles shall be followed:

(1) All missionary residences shall be held in the name of the General Council wherever legally possible.

(2) It shall be a general policy to hold institutional properties in the name of the General Council. However, the Foreign Missions Department shall be authorized to transfer title to the local National Assemblies of God organization when it deems such action to be in the best interests of the work.

(3) Church buildings or pastors' residences which are procured solely for the benefit of the local church with either local or foreign funds may be held in the name of its national Assemblies of God organization or by a local church which is fully established and competent to hold property in its own name.

(4) In all cases where the Foreign Missions Department has advanced trust funds on a loan basis the General Council shall hold title to the property or receive other adequate security until the loan is fully paid.

b. Missionaries contemplating the purchase of property or erection of buildings should co-operate with the Missionary Fellowship on the field, and secure its endorsement before submitting the proposition to the Foreign Missions Department.

c. A certified copy of the property deeds, titles, and other legal papers relating to all missionary properties which have been purchased shall be forwarded to the Foreign Missions Department for file.

Section 10. National Workers.

a. It is recommended that great care be exercised in the selection of national workers and in the setting up of the national organization so that credentials may be issued only to those maintaining the highest standards and manifesting a real consecration.

b. All foreign funds for the support of national workers

shall be administered either by the Missionary Field Fellowship or the National Assemblies of God organization.

Section 11. Furloughs.

a. A furlough is designed primarily for the physical and spiritual benefit of the missionary through a change of climate, food, and living conditions and fresh association in spiritual meetings and conferences in the homeland. It is expected that each missionary will co-operate with the Foreign Missions Department in planning for his own financial interests and for the good of the work in general.

b. The length and frequency of furloughs shall be determined by the Foreign Missions Department in consultation with the Missionary Fellowships on the various fields. It shall not be incumbent on the Foreign Missions Department to assume any financial obligation to a missionary who has returned home without having first obtained the approval of both the Field Fellowship and the Foreign Missions Department.

c. It shall be the responsibility of the Missionary Field Fellowship to recommend to the Foreign Missions Department whether or not a missionary returning on furlough shall be reappointed to another term of service. This decision shall be made before the missionary leaves the field and if the recommendation is negative the missionary shall be entitled to a personal hearing before the field committee. The final decision in regard to reappointment shall rest with the Foreign Missions Board.

d. When a missionary does not intend to return to the field or, for any reason, he is not recommended for further service, it shall not be incumbent on the Foreign Missions Department to continue his allowance for more than six months unless his retirement from missionary service is because of ill health or the infirmities of age.

ARTICLE IX. HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Scope.

The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the Gospel to the homeland. In keeping with this obligation, there shall be a Home Missions Department. The work of this department shall include

- (1) Church Extension
- (2) Ministry among those people in the United States and in the Territory of Alaska who are in need

of special ministry by reason of language barriers, physical confinement, handicaps, comparative isolation or religious prejudices

- (3) General supervision of the various foreign language branches that are now or may hereafter be authorized.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of Home Missions who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the Home Missions Department.

c. The Home Missions Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Home Missions Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

e. National representatives to serve in specific areas of Home Missions work may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery as it becomes advisable and practical.

f. The work of the Home Missions Department as a whole shall be under the general oversight of, and amenable to, the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. Church Extension Division.

a. The Church Extension Division of the Home Missions Department shall function in co-operation with the various districts in helping and encouraging pioneer pastors and established churches to enter new fields.

b. Practical aid shall be provided through:

- (1) Maintaining Revolving Loan Funds.
- (2) Providing Building Plans at a nominal fee.
- (3) Supplying the pioneer pastor with literature for distribution and other helps.

c. The Division shall constantly seek to develop and promote the Church Extension Program by offering new and practical helps whenever possible.

Section 4. Special Ministries Division.

a. The Special Ministries Division shall function in co-operation with the various districts.

b. The work of this Division shall include ministry to the Jews, the American Indians, the deaf, the blind, prisoners, the population of Alaska, and the foreign language groups of the United States.

c. Home missionaries shall be appointed by the Home Missions Department with the approval of his or her home District and the District in which the missionary will be working. These appointments are subject to renewal annually.

d. All appointed home missionaries shall be expected to work in accord with the policies of the department as set forth in the Home Missionary manual.

Section 5. Finances.

a. The Department shall be financed by World Missions offerings, gifts, contributions, and such funds as may be assigned for this purpose.

b. Where missionary support is necessary, home missionaries shall be expected to obtain sufficient pledged support before entering their field of ministry.

c. Missionary credit will be given for funds given to appointed home missionaries and to home missionary projects approved by the District and Home Missions Department.

Section 6. Branches.

a. A Foreign Language Group, in order to be recognized as a Branch of the Assemblies of God, must have at all times in the group a minimum number of twelve churches. If they do not qualify for recognition as a Branch, the pastors and congregations will find ready acceptance in the fellowship of the districts in which they are located.

b. A group which is qualified to receive recognition as a Branch, shall be entitled to elect its own officers, and shall be granted the same representation which is accorded District Councils within the framework of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

c. The Foreign Language Branches shall operate under the general supervision of the Home Missions Department. The Branches shall inform the Executive Director of the Home Missions Department of the time and place for all meetings of the governing body, to enable the Director of the Home Missions Department to be present in a consultative relationship, at his discretion. A copy of the minutes of all meetings of the governing bodies shall be forwarded by the

branch officers to the Executive director of the Home Missions Department.

d. The Branch and the Home Missions Department shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and co-operation between the Branch and the District where the Branch is located. The Branch officers shall consult with the officials of the District concerning the opening of new works in a given area. The Branch churches shall unite, where possible, in fellowship meetings and similar district activities.

ARTICLE X. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a department of education of the General Council which shall have as its general responsibility the supervision and promotion of the education activities of the Assemblies of God. This responsibility shall include grade schools, high schools, junior colleges, senior colleges, Bible institutes, Bible colleges, graduate schools, correspondence schools, and general ministerial and missionary training.

It is understood that the promotion referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be only to that extent and in that way which conforms with the vested authority of the General Council Executive Offices and the sovereignty of the various districts and churches.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of Education who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

c. The government and work of the Department of Education and all its divisions shall be vested in, and committed to the Board of Education, which shall consist of twenty members to be constituted as follows: The Executive Director, Secretary of Education, and three members from each of the six geographical areas of the United States, viz., northwest, southwest, north central, south central, northeast and southeast, one or more of whom shall be a school administrator from our Assemblies of God schools in their respective areas. These

area members shall be elected by the General Presbyters of the respective areas at called meetings during the annual session of the General Presbytery.

d. The members of the Board of Education will serve for terms of three years or until their successors are elected. These terms shall be arranged so that the term of only one member from each area will expire annually. The Executive Director shall serve as chairman of the Board. It shall conduct its own meetings as occasion may require. The leaders of the schools may be invited to the meetings of the Board of Education with the privilege of the floor even though they may not have the privilege of voting. The Board of Education and the entire Department of Education shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery in all matters.

Section 3. Duties and Functions.

It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Education to seek to maintain a high level of spirituality in all our schools and to guard against any departure from the doctrines and spiritual experiences set forth in our statement of fundamental truths. This department shall also encourage educational and administrative efficiency in the various schools.

It shall also be charged with the responsibility of stimulating and encouraging interest in Christian Education and of promoting enrollment at the various Assemblies of God schools. It shall likewise effect a program for securing funds from Foundations and other sources and from the denomination as a whole on behalf of our educational program.

It shall be the duty of the Department of Education to conduct a continuous study of the educational institutions and services of the Assemblies of God with the view to their increasing effectiveness. It shall seek to correlate all educational efforts into a unified program. To this end, it shall have the following specific rights and functions:

- a. To offer guidance and counsel in the opening of new schools, academic and theological, and may take the initiative in the establishing of such schools;
- b. To recommend the broadening of the scope of individual school services;
- c. To erect standards to which all schools of the Assemblies of God shall be required to conform in order to receive

General Council endorsement. These standards may include the qualifications of the faculty and staff, the required subjects of the curriculum, the length of class periods, semesters and terms, the requirements for admission and for graduation, and the general regulations of school life.

- d. To provide general services to all schools.

The Department of Education shall serve the various schools of the Assemblies of God as a faculty placement bureau. It may supply to school staffs and faculties ideas and suggestions for more efficient operation and may publish an inter-school periodical to this end. It may publish an educational directory. It may also promote and conduct faculty seminars.

Section 4. Rights and prerogatives.

The Department of Education shall issue annual certificates of endorsement to schools meeting its standards for endorsement, and no school operated by or patronized by members of the General Council shall be recognized as approved by the General Council unless or until it conforms to the standards erected by the Department of Education and has been officially approved by such department.

It shall be the prerogative of the Department of Education to disburse and apportion whatever funds shall come into its possession to the various educational institutions of the Assemblies of God in that way which it shall consider equitable and right.

In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Department of Education shall consider all endorsed Assemblies of God schools as upon an equal basis, regardless of origin, ownership, or control. All schools which are approved and endorsed by the Department of Education shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in General Council publications and in the promotional work of the Department of Education.

It shall also be the prerogative of the Department of Education to seek to provide our own textbooks for our Bible schools.

It shall be the prerogative of the Department of Education to prepare reading and correspondence courses and to promote short, intensive ministers' institutes and seminars for the development of the ministries of those who have been unable

to attend our Bible Schools, and for the ministers of the Assemblies of God in general.

As progress and growth demand, the General Council in session may provide a theological seminary with graduate work for those who seek special training for the ministry in the United States or foreign lands.

Section 5. Central Bible Institute.

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council shall constitute the Board of Directors of Central Bible Institute. They shall appoint the President of Central Bible Institute and, in consultation with him, the various members of its faculty and administrative staff.

ARTICLE XI. SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Sunday School Department of the General Council which shall have the responsibility of encouraging and promoting the development of Sunday Schools and other church schools of a non-academic nature throughout the fellowship.

The purpose of the Sunday School Department shall be:

- a. To assist district and local Sunday School organizations in setting up effective programs.
- b. To promote and conduct Sunday School conventions on a national and regional basis.
- c. To encourage and conduct training programs for teachers and workers.
- d. To produce manuals, handbooks, brochures and literature of a promotional nature.
- e. To assist in the organization and development of Vacation Bible Schools and other educational activities of the local church.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

- a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as the Director of the Department.
- b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the Sunday School Department who shall serve under the

Executive Director in the administration of the Sunday School Department.

c. The Sunday School Department Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Sunday School Department Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

Section 3. The Sunday School Counselor.

The Sunday School Counsellor shall be recognized as the official organ of the Sunday School Department.

Section 4. District Organization.

a. Provision shall be made for a District Sunday School Department in each District of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be

- (1) To co-ordinate national, district, sectional and local efforts for Sunday School efficiency, growth and development
- (2) To encourage every Sunday School in the District to attain to the National Sunday School Standard
- (3) To promote Sunday School efficiency through seminars, tours, conventions, or by any other acceptable means.

b. There may be a District Sunday School Director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the District Constitution and Bylaws.

c. There may be a District Constitution and Bylaws which shall be presented to the District Council for approval.

d. Time may be given throughout the year for the advancement of all phases of the District and National Sunday School Calendar.

ARTICLE XII. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Department of Publications which shall serve the fellowship and to which shall be committed:

a. The management and operation of the Gospel Publishing House with its distributing facilities.

b. The preparation and publication of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL, curricular material and other literature

for church schools, and such other periodicals and publications as may be authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. There shall be a Publications Committee which shall serve with the Director of Publications in the management and control of the Department of Publications. This committee shall be composed of the Director of Education, the Treasurer of the General Council, the Manager of the Gospel Publishing House, the Editor of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL, the Editor of Church School Publications, and the Director of the Sunday School Department.

c. The Manager of the Gospel Publishing House, the Editor of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL, and the Editor of Church School Publications, shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

Section 3. The Pentecostal Evangel.

The PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL shall be the official organ of the General Council of the Assemblies of God and shall be published in the interests of the fellowship and for the propagation of our distinctive testimony.

Section 4. The Gospel Publishing House.

The Gospel Publishing House, its plant and equipment, the promotion and expansion of its periodicals and publications, and its general business interests, shall be under the supervision of the Department of Publications and shall be operated for the benefit of the Assemblies of God fellowship.

ARTICLE XIII.

CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

a. There shall be a Young People's Department to be 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.

b. 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.

c. The functions of this Department shall include:

- (1) Encouraging and assisting the development of 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.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the members of the Executive Presbytery who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the Christ's Ambassadors Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the Department.

c. The Executive Director and the Secretary with four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery subject to the approval of the General Presbytery, shall constitute the National Christ's Ambassadors Committee. At least three members of the above committee shall be appointed from the field at large.

d. The National Christ's Ambassadors Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

Section 3. Official Organ.

The official organ of the department shall be THE CHRIST'S AMBASSADORS HERALD.

Section 4. District Organizations.

Groups of local organizations may be formed into District organizations, with the approval of the officary of the District Councils involved. The District organizations shall be governed by the principles of co-operative fellowship and shall

be considered as a branch or department of the District Council. The District Council officer shall be considered as the honorary membership of the District organization and shall be honored and respected in all matters affecting the activities of the organization. The District organization shall have the right to elect its own officers when deemed advisable by the District Presbytery, and to supervise its own activities within the boundaries of the territory involved. The Superintendent of the District Council shall be an ex-officio member of all District committees.

a. The young people's president shall be an ordained minister. The age limit for presidents shall be through the 38th year.

b. The manner of election of the president by the young people's organization shall be subject to the approval of the District Council.

c. Membership in the Christ's Ambassadors shall include those of twelve years of age through thirty-five.

d. A constitution and bylaws covering the activities of the District organization shall be submitted to and approved by the District Presbytery.

e. The president of the District organization shall be subject to call by the District Presbytery for consultation in matters pertaining to young people.

f. Sectional meetings of the District organization shall be strictly spiritual in character and arranged through the co-operation of the pastors and young people's leaders in each section, taking care not to conflict with other local or District meetings.

Section 5. Local Organizations.

a. All local Christ's Ambassadors organizations shall be considered as a branch of the local church work, to be under the general supervision of the pastor, whose counsel, advice and direction shall be respected in all activities which affect the relationship of the organization to the church and its activities in service.

b. The local young people may elect their own officers subject to the approval of the pastor and the church board, and may conduct their own services provided such services do not conflict with, nor detract from the regular services of the church.

c. The pastor shall be considered as an honorary member of the organization and an ex-officio member of all its committees, and should be respected and honored as a shepherd and guide in all matters of service and fellowship.

(Speed-the-Light offerings, see:

Article XXI. World Missions Plan)

ARTICLE XIV. RADIO DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Radio Department of the General Council.

a. It shall prepare a national broadcast and shall solicit the highest possible quality in musical presentation and shall feature capable speakers who shall offer messages in keeping with the Statement of Faith of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. Programs shall originate from such sources, and be released through such outlets, and feature such talents as shall meet the requirements of the Radio Department.

c. A transcription library shall be provided for our ministers to draw upon for use in preparation of local broadcasts as may be desired. Complete transcriptions shall also be prepared for optional use of ministers and churches. Such transcriptions shall allow time for local announcements. An appropriate series of transcriptions offering a distinctive presentation of our Statement of Faith shall be prepared for use in extended Home Missions work.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the Radio Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the Department.

c. There shall be a Radio Committee which shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Radio Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

Section 3. Funds.

The Radio Director shall be authorized to employ such means for the raising of funds as shall be deemed advisable by the Radio Committee.

ARTICLE XV. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Department of Finance which shall have the responsibility for safeguarding, supervising and investing the finances of the General Council.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The Treasurer of the General Council shall be the Executive Director of the department.

b. The Treasurer together with the Executive Director of each department shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

c. A Standing Committee on Finance, consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery. This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of studying the budget with the Executive Presbytery and shall serve in an advisory capacity in matters of general finance.

In order to provide continuity of service, their terms shall be arranged in the following manner: three shall serve for a one-year term; two shall serve for a two-year term; and two shall serve for a three-year term. After the expiration of the first year, appointments shall be made for three-year terms.

Section 3. Support of Headquarters.

a. The work of the General Council in its definite program of development of the spirit of co-operation and fellowship in home and foreign fields incurs considerable expense, including financial support of the Executive Officers and the maintaining of the Executive Offices. Ordained ministers should, therefore, recognize their obligation to contribute from their tithes or as an offering, or through their influence, the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) per month. Licensed ministers should contribute the sum of one dollar and a half (\$1.50) per month. And further, looking toward the increased efficiency of the

service to the fellowship throughout the entire field, all who can contribute more, personally or through their assemblies, than the suggested amount, are hereby strongly urged to do so. The General Treasurer's office shall submit to the respective District offices a semi-annual report of ministers' contributions for the support of Headquarters. Each District shall make this information available to its ministers by any of the following methods: 1. Collectively through District publications; 2. Individually by personal letter; or 3. In any other manner they may select. Each district shall carefully analyze the annual report of each minister and in the light of their knowledge of local situations, determine if the minister has been voluntarily co-operating with the General Council financial program.

b. If practicable, let each assembly take one offering each year for the upkeep of the General Council office and the travel expense of Executive Officers.

ARTICLE XVI. DEPARTMENT OF BENEVOLENCES

Section 1. Authorization and purpose.

There shall be a Department of Benevolences which shall have the responsibility of administration of the Aged Ministers' Assistance Fund, the oversight of Assemblies of God homes for the aged, children's homes, child placement agencies, and the administration of any other benevolent services which may be committed to it.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

c. The Department shall be administered by a Committee consisting of the Executive Director, secretary and three other members who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Benevolence Department Committee shall serve for a period of one year, or until its successors are appointed.

Section 3. Benevolence Funds.

The Department shall be authorized to solicit regular con-

tributions from the ministers and churches of the Assemblies of God. Each church in the fellowship is expected to co-operate by sending two special offerings annually for National Benevolences, or by placing the Department of Benevolences in its monthly budget.

Section 4. Aged Ministers' Assistance.

Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers and missionaries of the Assemblies of God and to their widows, because of age or physical infirmity and for whom no other means of support is available. Eligibility shall be determined on the following basis:

- a. The individual need shall determine eligibility.
- b. The applicant shall have been engaged in active and approved ministry in the Assemblies of God fellowship for a period of ten or more years.
- c. The record of the applicant shall indicate that he or she has complied with the approved financial plans of the District and General Councils.
- d. Unqualified endorsement must be given by the District Officer.

Section 5. Homes of the Aged and Homes for Children.

General Council benevolent institutions shall be operated by Boards of Directors appointed by the Benevolence Department Committee; said boards shall be responsible to the Benevolence Department in matters of policy and administration.

Section 6. District Council Benevolent Institutions.

District Councils may set up homes for the aged and children's homes and child placement agencies in co-operation with the Department of Benevolences. They shall be expected to conform to the standards approved by the department.

ARTICLE XVII.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY COUNCIL DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Women's Missionary Council Department of the General Council which shall serve as follows:

- a. To promote and synchronize the work which may be

done by the women of our fellowship with the needs of the Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Benevolence Departments.

- b. To develop the work of the Women's Missionary Council on a national scale; to set a standard of spiritual ministry in personal work and intercession as the principal aim of the Women's Missionary Council; to offer encouragement and assistance for the efficient operation of the local district councils and to guide the regulation and unification of all WMC activities.

- c. To encourage local WMC groups, in co-operation with district WMC officers, for the maintaining of high standards of spiritual ministry, and to encourage faithfulness in the execution of assigned projects which shall include definite projects for home and foreign missions, assistance to benevolent homes for the care of children and the aged, etc.

- d. To keep in touch with present needs of our missionaries, their stations, and our benevolent homes, distributing the projects to the various district and local organizations, so that the needs may be met quickly and equitably, and that each district and local group may carry its proportionate share of service.

- e. To conduct WMC conventions, seminars and rallies for the purpose of stimulating interest and disseminating information concerning the work of the Women's Missionary Council.

- f. To prepare and publish handbooks and manuals, and to issue such bulletins as may be needed to carry out the above program.

- g. To publicize the work of the Women's Missionary Council through the mediums of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL, THE WORLD CHALLENGE, and other periodicals as opportunity is afforded.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

- a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the department.

- b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the Women's Missionary Council Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

- c. The Women's Missionary Council Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, the Director of the Home Missions Department, the Director of the Foreign

Missions Department and two others, to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Women's Missionary Council Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XVIII.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

a. There shall be a Men's Fellowship Department of the General Council which shall have as its general responsibility the promotion, encouragement, and co-ordination of local and district organizations of Men's Fellowships in the Assemblies of God.

b. The purpose of the Men's Fellowship in general is to promote the forming of fellowship groups among men in local churches with the end in view of co-ordinating the interest and assistance of men in all assembly activities, such as definite assistance for the pastor in church projects, personal witnessing to men for Christ, a paternal interest in and care for the boys of the church, participation in benevolent enterprises.

c. For the accomplishment of its purposes, the department shall be authorized to prepare and publish handbooks and manuals, and to issue such bulletins as may be needed to further the cause of fellowship and united effort among the men of the Assemblies of God churches.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of the Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

c. The Men's Fellowship Department Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, and four others to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Men's Fellowship Department Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XIX. DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Department of Evangelism of the General Council. The purpose of the department shall be:

a. To encourage, emphasize, co-ordinate, and promote evangelism in all its phases.

b. To assist evangelists in problems that are peculiar to their ministry on a general basis.

Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the department.

b. There shall be a Secretary of the Department of Evangelism appointed by the Executive Presbytery who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

c. The Evangelism Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

d. The Evangelism Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XX. MINISTERS' BENEFIT ASSOCIATION

Section 1. Organization.

The Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to put into operation an Association of Assemblies of God Ministers available to all ordained and licensed ministers of the General Council which shall have as its objective the accumulation of funds to make possible the retirement of its members at 65 years of age with a monthly income for life or a cash settlement as provided hereafter. This Association shall be known as the Assemblies of God Ministers' Benefit Association.

Section 2. Administration.

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council shall serve as the first Board of Directors of this Association but shall delegate the administration of this Association to succeeding

Boards of Directors, chosen by the Executive Presbytery and subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. All Boards of Directors of this Association shall, however, be amenable to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council.

Section 3. Investment of Funds.

The Board of Directors of the Ministers' Benefit Association shall be authorized to invest the funds of this Association in good income securities and property of the General and District Councils and local churches of the Assemblies of God provided that such investments are fully protected by mortgage and by note signed by General or District Council officials.

Section 4. Contributions.

Contributions shall be made to the Fund on the following basis:

a. That each participating minister pay not less than 1% of his salary which will be applied to his credit.

b. That each participating church pay an amount equivalent to at least 3% of its pastor's salary, with the recommendation that the church pay an amount equal to 6% or more of its pastor's salary if possible, which amount shall be applied to the minister's credit;

c. That interest shall be computed annually on the average amount which was in the minister's account the previous year and added to his account each January, at the rate which investment experience makes possible.

d. That no church payment shall be credited to the account of any minister who is not at the same time making personal contributions. However, a member may discontinue payments at any time without forfeiting his right to any funds credited to his account. Such funds shall be allowed to accumulate interest until his death or retirement.

e. That evangelists and pastors whose churches do not participate may contribute not less than 1% of their salaries to accumulate interest and to constitute a fund from which they will receive a pension allowance;

f. That every church be encouraged to continue taking two offerings a year for the present old-age assistance fund, regardless of their participation in the Retirement Plan.

Section 5. Benefits.

a. Any members leaving the fellowship of the Assemblies of God or for any reason desiring to withdraw his funds shall be entitled to withdraw the full amount of his personal contribution plus accumulated interest, subject to ninety days prior notice. The amount deposited by his church plus accumulated interest shall remain on deposit until his death or until he reaches age 65.

b. In case a member shall die before he is 65 years of age, all funds on deposit in his account from whatever source shall be paid to his designated beneficiary or to his estate.

c. Upon reaching age 65 the member may elect one of the following provisions:

(1) He may withdraw all funds credited to his account from whatever source.

(2) He may purchase an annuity contract arranged by the association through an established insurance company at the most favorable rate obtainable which will give to the member himself or to the member and his beneficiary a guaranteed income for life.

ARTICLE XXI. WORLD MISSIONS PLAN

Section 1. World Missions Offerings.

It is recommended that all World Missions offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 70% Foreign Missions
- 5% Foreign Missions Office Expense
- 5% National Home Missions
- 20% District Home Missions

Section 2. Speed-the-Light Offerings.

It is recommended that all Speed-the-Light offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 70% Foreign Speed-the-Light
- 10% Office Expense
- 20% District Speed-the-Light

The portion returned to the district shall be designated for the purchase and erection of property in pioneer fields,

with the exception that one-fourth of the 20% allocated to the District for Home Missions shall be allowed for the administration of the District Christ's Ambassadors office.

ARTICLE XXII. INSTITUTIONS

Section 1. Miscellaneous Institutions.

a. The General Council shall be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary homes.

b. The General Council shall be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary schools on the various mission fields where practicable for the training of native workers, and schools for the education of the young children of missionaries.

Section 2. Private Ownership of Religious Institutions.

The General Council approves the holding of title to all church buildings, schools or other institutions that are supported by funds solicited for the work of God through properly constituted corporations. It disapproves the holding title to such properties by the ministers of the Assemblies of God, through private ownership, corporation of sole, closed corporation or any other type of ownership where initiative of action or final authority is not vested in a corporation of the whole. In the event a local congregation is not incorporated or set in order by the District Council title should be vested in properly qualified trustees. Where private ownership exists, the General Council strongly recommends that a properly incorporated body be formed and that the title to the property be transferred to it.

A disregard of this principle and recommendation of the General Council shall seriously affect the relationship to the General Council of members involved in such ownership.

ARTICLE XXIII. MILITARY SERVICE

While recognizing Human Government as of Divine ordination and affirming our unswerving loyalty to the Government of the United States, nevertheless we are constrained to define our position with reference to the taking of human life.

We, as followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, believe in implicit obedience to the Divine commands

and precepts which instruct us to "Follow peace with all men" (Heb. 12:14), "Resist not evil" (Matt. 5:39), "Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44), etc. These and other scriptures have always been accepted and interpreted by our churches as prohibiting Christians from shedding blood or taking human life; therefore, we, as a body of Christians, while purposing to fulfill all the obligations of loyal citizenship, are nevertheless constrained to declare we cannot conscientiously participate in war and armed resistance which involves the actual destruction of human life, since this is contrary to our view of the clear teachings of the inspired Word of God which is the sole basis of our faith. At the same time the General Council hereby declares its unswerving loyalty to the Government and to its Chief Executive, and we purpose to assist the government in time of war in every way morally possible, consistent with our faith.

ARTICLE XXIV. DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED

In accord with its constitutional prerogatives, the General Council has declared itself pertaining to disapproval of certain matters as follows:

Section 1. Heresies Disapproved.

The General Council hereby disapproves of the Seventh-day teaching, of the extreme so-called Eternal Security teaching, and of the Restitution of All Things doctrine, and those holding and agitating such teachings, thereby causing confusion and division among God's people, shall be dealt with according to Titus 3:10.

Section 2. Regarding Meats.

The pressing of the question of eating, or not eating meats, has caused divisions in some of the assemblies,

Therefore, the General Council disapproves of such extreme positions on this question which cause these divisions, and we recognize the right of each individual conscience in this matter, according to Col. 2:14-17; Rom. 14:1-23.

Section 3. Setting a Time for the Lord's Return.

It is unwise to teach that the Lord will come at some specified time, thereby setting a date for His appearing; and

also it is unwise to give out from the platform, or publish visions of numbers and dates fixing the time of the second coming of the Lord.

Section 4. Regarding Secret Orders.

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 unchristian oaths (Matt. 5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated. (2 Cor. 6:14). Moreover, the spirit, philosophy, and general influence of such secret orders aims at the improvement of the natural man only (1 Cor. 2:14; Col. 2:8), thus wrongly channeling by incorrect interpretation important spiritual truths (2 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 should 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 (2 Cor. 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (1 Tim. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:24-26).

Section 5. Divorce and Remarriage.

a. There are now among Christian people those who became entangled in their marriage relations in their former lives of sin, and who do not see how these matters can be adjusted. We recommend that these cases be left in the hands of the Lord, and that they walk in the light as God lets it shine on their souls.

b. Low standards on marriage and divorce are very hurtful to individuals, to the family, and to the cause of Christ,

therefore we discourage divorce by all lawful means and teaching. We positively disapprove of Christians getting divorce for any cause except for fornication and adultery (Matt. 19:9); and recommend the remaining single of all divorced Christians, and that they pray God so to keep them in purity and peace. (See 1 Corinthians 7.)

c. Since it is generally accepted among us that such persons are not to serve in official capacities in our churches, we recommend that this standard be upheld by all our assemblies.

Section 6. Worldliness.

In order to strengthen the hands of our pastors and evangelists in holding up Bible standards against popular sins, we as a body unitedly declare ourselves against all forms of worldliness, but particularly against modern immodesty and extremity in dress, and we all agree as pastors, evangelists, licensed ministers, exhorters, Sunday school superintendents and teachers, to speak the same things and voice ourselves against all forms of popular sins.

Section 7. Post-Tribulation Rapture Teaching.

Whereas, The General Council has declared itself in the Statement of Fundamental Truths that it holds to the belief in the imminent coming of the Lord as the blessed hope of the church, and

Whereas, The teaching that the Church must go through the Tribulation tends to bring confusion and division among the saints; therefore,

We recommend that all our ministers teach the imminent coming of Christ, warning all men to be prepared for that coming, which may occur at any time, and not lull their minds into insecurity by any teaching that would cause them to feel that certain events must occur before the Rapture of the saints.

Furthermore, We recommend that should any of our ministers hold to the post-Tribulation doctrine, they refrain from preaching and teaching it. Should they persist in emphasizing this doctrine to the point of making it an issue, their standing in the fellowship will be seriously affected.

Section 8. Improper Use of Tithes.

a. According to the Scriptures, tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the

Gospel and work of the Lord and not given to charity or used for other purposes. In tithing, the ministers ought to be examples.

b. We recognize the duty of tithing and urge all our people to pay tithes to God. It is recommended that arrangements satisfactory to the pastor and the church be made by all pastors and churches, so that the pastor may receive regular and adequate support. We disapprove, however of the teaching that all tithes should belong to the pastor for his support.

Section 9. Improper Solicitation of Funds.

a. It is considered improper and unethical for ministers or missionaries to solicit funds by letter or otherwise for anything or any reason whatsoever without proper authorization.

b. The purpose of this section is not to hinder or discourage legitimate projects but to protect the Fellowship from those who employ methods not in harmony with General Council principles or policies.

- c. (1) Leaders in local projects shall have unquestioned freedom in local churches or communities.
- (2) Projects of general interest to the District must have the authorization of the District Officer
- (3) Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of the General Council.
- (4) Promotion of all projects of a missionary character must have the authorization of the Missions Department.

d. The obtaining and use of mailing lists for promotional purposes not having proper authorization or which are not in keeping with Council policies shall be considered improper and unethical, whether it be under the name of a prayer chain beyond a local scope, chain letters or appeals to the constituency for the support of ventures of strictly local or personal character. All offenders guilty of the practices expressed in the foregoing paragraphs shall be subject to discipline.

ARTICLE XXV. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The regular order of business for the Council Meeting shall be:

1. Report of the General Superintendent.
2. Report of Secretary.
3. Report of Treasurer.
4. Departmental Reports.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Election of Officers.
7. New Business.
8. Adjournment.

All business sessions of the Council shall commence with prayer.

ARTICLE XXVI. QUORUM

All members registered and voting in any meeting of the General Council shall constitute a quorum, and all General Presbyters registered and voting in any meeting of the General Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of six Executive Presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XXVII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of the General Council. Amendments to be adopted shall require a majority of all votes cast.