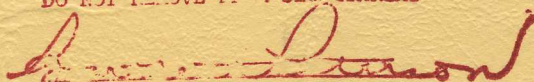


MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws
General Council of the Assemblies of God

FILE COPY - No. 1 of 3

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Bartlett Peterson
General Secretary

THE THIRTIETH GENERAL COUNCIL
Memphis, Tennessee, August 21-26, 1963

MINUTES
of the
Thirtieth
GENERAL COUNCIL
of the
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

(Incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri, October 13, 1916 and amended September 26, 1919.)

Convened at Memphis, Tennessee
August 21-26, 1963

(Printed in the U.S.A.)

FOREWORD

This booklet contains the official record of the business proceedings of the Thirtieth General Council convened at Memphis, Tennessee August 21-26, 1963, and the revised edition of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws. It will be noted that some of the Articles of the Bylaws have been renumbered. This is due to the Council action to eliminate Article XIX.

Since *The Pentecostal Evangel* traditionally carries a full account of the evening services, only a brief reference is made to them in the text of the official minutes. We wish, however, to acknowledge with deep appreciation the Spirit-anointed ministry of brethren who served: The General Superintendent, T. F. Zimmerman, Frederick H. Huber, C. C. Burnett, Calvin Melton, Paul Lowenberg, Lowell Ashbrook and C. M. Ward, *Revivaltime* evangelist. Their contribution to the spiritual tone of the Council was of inestimable value. To them, and to all the ministers, friends and delegates, in behalf of the General Council fellowship, we express sincere thanks for their efforts in making the Thirtieth General Council a success.

Blessed be God who daily loadeth us with benefits!

Bartlett Peterson,
General Secretary

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Administrative Offices: 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield,
Missouri

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

- Thomas F. Zimmerman General Superintendent
Executive Director Personnel and Public Relations
- Howard S. Bush Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Christ's Ambassadors Department,
Men's Fellowship Department and Maintenance Areas
- J. Philip Hogan Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Foreign Missions Department
- G. F. Lewis Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Home Missions Department, The
Women's Missionary Council Department and Ministers'
Benefit Association
- C. W. H. Scott Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Sunday School Department, Depart-
ments of Benevolences and Education
- Bert Webb Assistant General Superintendent
Executive Director Publications Department
- Bartlett Peterson General Secretary
Executive Director Radio Department
- M. B. Netzel General Treasurer
Executive Director of Finance Department, Communications
and Purchasing

Executive Presbytery

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

Richard J. Bergstrom, Northeast Area; Edgar W. Bethany,
Southeast Area; G. Raymond Carlson, North Central Area;
N. D. Davidson, Northwest Area; G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.,
Gulf Area; D. H. McLaughlin, Southwest Area; Kermit
Reneau, South Central Area; Roy H. Wead, Great Lakes
Area.

THE THIRTIETH GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

AUGUST 21-26, 1963

The Thirtieth General Council convened in the Ellis Auditorium at Memphis, Tennessee, on Wednesday, August 21, at seven p.m. The General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, brought a challenging keynote message entitled, "A City Not Forsaken." He took his text from Isaiah 1:25, 26; 62:1-12. The congregation responded to his message by a prolonged season of prayer in a spirit of worship and praise. Many rededicated their hearts and lives to the Lord.

Brother A. A. Wilson was in charge of the Council prayer-meetings conducted each week-day morning between eight and nine o'clock. The first service on Thursday, August 22, was well attended, with the evident blessing and anointing of the Lord upon those assembled. As the Council progressed the spiritual fervor and interest in the prayer service increased. Devotional services preceded the business sessions.

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 22

Brother Murray McLees was in charge of the devotional period on Thursday morning. Congregational singing was under the direction of Brother Clarence Cope, following which Brother Noel Perkin offered the opening prayer. Brother Leroy Dewey sang a vocal solo entitled, "I'm a Child of the King." Brother Wesley Morton brought the devotional message on the theme, "The transforming power of the Holy Spirit." Scripture portions included Acts 1:4-8; Matthew 3:11 and Luke 24:49. Following this timely message, the entire body stood to offer praises to God.

Brother Zimmerman officially called the business meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and requested Brother J. R. Flower to invoke God's blessing upon the thirtieth session of the General Council.

The General Superintendent expressed appreciation for the excellent attendance at the first business meeting. He introduced members of the Executive Presbytery, including the Executive Officers: Howard S. Bush, J. Philip Hogan, Gayle F. Lewis, Martin B. Netzel, Bartlett Peterson, Charles W. H. Scott and Bert Webb; and nonresident Executive Presbyters representing the areas as indicated: Richard J. Bergstrom, Northeast; Edgar W. Bethany, Southeast; G. Raymond Carlson, North Central; N. D. Davidson, Northwest; D. H. McLaughlin, Southwest; Kermit Reneau, South Central; Roy H. Wead, Great Lakes; and A. A. Wilson, Gulf.

Also introduced were retired Executive Officers including J. R. Flower, David McDowell, Noel Perkin, J. O. Savell, Fred Vogler and E. S. Williams. A telegram of greeting from former General Superintendent, Ralph M. Riggs was read as follows:

Please accept this expression of love and fellowship in lieu of my physical presence. Will sincerely stand with you in earnest prayer for God's richest blessing. Brother Riggs.

A motion prevailed that the General Secretary be requested to send official greetings to Brother Riggs in response to his telegram.

The chair recognized Pastor James Hamill of Memphis who introduced the Honorable Henry Loeb, Mayor of the City of Memphis. Mayor Loeb extended greetings to the General Council and a welcome to the city. He stated "We are a city of churches. We know that we must grow spiritually and morally and feel that it is very fitting that this convention has come to Memphis."

The General Superintendent responded to the Mayor's remarks of welcome.

Giving the welcome in behalf of the Tennessee District Council was the Superintendent, Earl E. Blythe, who stated, "One of the highlights of this convention is the opportunity to welcome those who are visitors to the State of Tennessee, the City of Memphis and the Tennessee District of the Assemblies of God. Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, responded to the welcome extended by Brother Blythe.

General Council Committees

Attention was called to a number of committees which had been appointed to serve the General Council during its 1963 session. These committees are listed, as follows:

Committee on Arrangements

Bert Webb, Chairman; Thomas F. Zimmerman, J. Philip Hogan, Bartlett Peterson

Finance Committee

Lowell Ashbrook, Chairman; R. J. Carlson, Stanley Clarke, James Dodd, E. E. Krogstad, Andrew Nelli, Charles Nielsen

Ministerial Relations

G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Chairman; Stanley Clarke, John Clement, Walter Dixon, Frederick Eide, J. K. Gressett, Darwin H. Heuser, C. W. Loenser, J. O. Savell

Parliamentary

Klaude Kendrick, Chairman; Eugene Bell, Frank J. Lindquist

Program

Emil Balliet, Chairman; Mark Carter, Clarence Cope, James Hamill, Jess Jackson, Murray McLees, Theodore E. Ness, D. V. Hurst, ex officio

Resolutions

T. E. Gannon, Chairman; Everett Cooley, C. E. Homer, Carl O. Lindberg, Ralph Phillips, J. O. Savell, Wm. H. Robertson, Harold D. Schmitt, N. Cleo Tapp

Roster

A. F. Berg, Chairman; Gerald Balus, Elwood C. Bredbenner, Harold Bullock, W. Earl Cummings, Edwin E. Eliason, Milton L. Fauss, James Griggs, Owen Hodges, Wallace P. Odum, Orie L. Robinson, Stewart H. Robinson, Herman H. Rohde, Forest H. Toliver, Lester C. Young

Spiritual Life

Richard Bergstrom, Chairman; T. R. Brubaker, John Lindvall, Earl W. O'Dell, Kenneth Olson, Joel Palmer, Peter Pilot, E. S. Williams, A. A. Wilson, T. F. Zimmerman

Tellers

David Flower, Chairman; Fred Leader, Captain; Loren Wooten, Captain; Arthur G. Clay, David C. Colbert, Howard Cummings, Loren Cunningham, Melford J. DeVries, David F. Flanagan, Herman Fry, Robert J. Gatlin, Eugene Gustafson, Charles Hinson, Chester Jenkins, Harold Kamppi, Lewis Lamance, Darrel D. Madsen, Ernest A. Manley, David Matweyiw, Houston Miles, Ernest J. Moen, Gerard D. Morriello, Billy Ray Newby, John Paproski, Claude Qualls, Peter Rios, Kenzy Savage, J. L. Schaffer, James C. Seymour, Robert H. Spence, Louie W. Stokes, John W. Thompson, Paul Tinlin, Richard O. Tufte, George E. Walters, Thomas Whidden, Jr., J. Rudolph Wilkinson

Coordination

Carl G. Conner, Convention Coordinator

Equipment

Bob H. Bowen, Local Chairman

Exhibits

Ron Loy, Local Chairman

Housing

T. E. Scruggs, Local Chairman

Personal Workers

R. L. Brandt, Headquarters Coordinator; David Scott and Ernie Wood, Local Chairmen

Platform Coordination

D. V. Hurst, Coordinator

Publicity

Carl G. Conner, Headquarters Coordinator; James E. Hamill, Local Chairman; Cecil Wiggins

Ushers

Bill Eastlake, Headquarters Coordinator; Basil Edwards, Day Captain; Herbert N. Yandell, Night Captain

Upon motion duly carried the following committees were approved:

Site Selection for 1965 General Council: C. C. Crace, Chairman; Raymond Hudson, Paul Fleming, James Kofahl, Harland Petersen, L. D. Wells and James Swanson.

General Council Expense Budget: L. E. Halvorson, Chairman; James E. Hamill, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Warren Piersol and Bert Webb.

The chair called attention to the agenda contained in the printed program. Since Article XXIV of the Bylaws provides for the order of business in Council meetings, there was no action necessary to adopt the agenda.

Reports from Executive Officers

The General Superintendent summarized activities at General Council headquarters during the biennium. Appreciation was expressed for the Executive Officers, nonresident Executive Presbyters, the General Council Standing Committee on Finance, members of the headquarters staff, and all those who had contributed to the successful operation of the business affairs of the church. Various ministries were highlighted with a strong emphasis placed on the need for greater efforts in the field of evangelism and in training and teaching new converts.

At the conclusion of the General Superintendent's report the chair was surrendered to Assistant General Superintendent Gayle F. Lewis. A motion prevailed that the report of the General Superintendent be received with deep appreciation. The chair was then returned to Brother Zimmerman.

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, presented a brief report covering the activities of the Office of the Secretariat for the two-year period. He called attention to the printed reports which contained detailed information concerning the growth of the Assemblies of God. Charts and graphs depicted comparative statistical data covering the number of ordained ministers, churches and church membership from the inception of the General Council. Percentages of growth for the past ten-year period were also shown. Upon motion duly carried the report of the General Secretary was adopted.

The General Treasurer, M. B. Netzel, presented the report of the Finance Department, referring to pages 21 to 70 of the Departmental Reports which included the fully reproduced report of the auditor for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1963.

He pointed out that significant points to be noted in the financial picture of the General Council were: All funds and accounts are in a solid black condition; no fund is impaired and all trust funds are completely segregated; and the Departments are operating within their prescribed budgets.

The comparative statement of fund balances showed that not one bracketed figure appeared in 1963. The report showed fund balances as follows:

| | |
|-------|-------------|
| 1963— | \$4,049,058 |
| 1962— | \$3,689,617 |
| 1961— | \$3,225,188 |

In addition, the handsome new administration building has been completed during this biennium at a cost of \$3,060,377.60. Over against this are First Mortgage Serial Bonds amounting to \$1,857,000, which are being amortized over a fifteen-year period. The General Treasurer concluded his analysis of the General Council finances, by saying, "We thank God for His marvelous grace to us in providing such a report as this."

A motion prevailed that the report of the General Treasurer be adopted.

Telegrams of Greetings

The Executive Director of Foreign Missions, J. Philip Hogan, read a telegram of greetings from the South India Missionary Fellowship. The General Secretary also read a telegram of greeting from Brother A. C. Bates.

A motion to recess the morning meeting at twelve o'clock

and to reconvene at two p.m. was seconded and carried. Brother Fred Vogler offered the prayer of dismissal.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 22

The meeting on Thursday afternoon convened at two o'clock. Charles P. Beadle of Springfield, Missouri, led the song service. Brother Frank Gray of Tacoma, Washington, offered prayer.

The General Superintendent introduced representatives from other Pentecostal denominations: From the Congregational Holiness Church, Terry Crews, General Moderator, and Howard Shell; from the Church of God, Wade Horton, General Overseer; from the Church of God Mountain Assembly, Ira Moses, General Overseer; from the International Church of the Four-square Gospel, A. B. Teffeteller, Southeast District Supervisor. Each of these brethren brought greetings from their respective organizations.

Departmental and Other Reports

The General Superintendent introduced the Executive Directors, Department Secretaries and other personnel from headquarters who were in attendance at the General Council as staff workers. He stated that these were representative of a much larger group of dedicated workers at headquarters. He expressed deep appreciation for the excellent service rendered by all the departments and the fine leadership of the Directors and Secretaries.

Following the introduction of the headquarters' personnel, visually illustrated narration covering departmental activities during the past biennium was presented. Inasmuch as this presentation included all departments and areas found in the printed reports, further details are not included in these minutes.

After the visual presentation it was moved and seconded that the departmental reports be received with deep appreciation to the Lord for his abundant blessings upon us for the past two years. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Bylaw Study Committee Report

Unfinished business from the 1961 General Council Session was considered next. Robert E. Goggin, chairman of the Bylaw Study Committee, read the following report:

"In compliance with instructions of the 1961 General Council, a committee was appointed to study two phases of the Bylaws. These had to do with "Departmental Uniformity" and "Functions of the General Presbytery."

The Committee's report follows:

Item 1

WHEREAS, Article III, Duties of Officers, Section 6, Duties of Executive Presbytery, paragraph "a" states "They (Executive Presbytery) shall be empowered to supervise and have general oversight of all departments; and

WHEREAS, There are provisions contained in some departmental Bylaws not specifically stated in others, although obviously intended; and

WHEREAS, There is a need of all General Council Departments being brought into administrative conformity with the other Articles of the General Council Bylaws; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Bylaws governing each department (Articles VIII through XIX) be amended, where necessary, by inserting the following:

The Department and all of its functions shall be amenable to, and under the general supervision of, the Executive Presbytery"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Articles affected be edited to conform.

Item 2

After a careful review of Article III, Sections 6 and 7, "Duties of the Executive and General Presbyteries," we recommend no change as it contains provisions for proper relationships and responsibilities, and as it presently appears as a satisfactory and workable arrangement.

Committee on Bylaw Study

It was moved and seconded that the Report of the Bylaw Study Committee be adopted. A motion to amend was offered from the floor providing that the report be considered in sections, consisting of Item 1 and Item 2. It was then determined by common consent to consider Item 1. There was no discussion of this section of the report. Leonard Palmer requested that Item 2 be re-read, whereupon he moved

That Article III, Section 7, paragraph "a", of the Bylaws be amended by inserting the word "instructive" before the word "advisory" in the second sentence of the paragraph.

The motion to amend Article III, Section 7, paragraph

"a" was seconded, but when voted upon was lost. The main motion to adopt the report of the committee with its recommendations was then voted upon and carried.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg, Chairman of the Roster Committee, reported the total registration as of three p.m.:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 1,711 |
| Delegates | 438 |
| Voting constituency present | 2,149 |
| Licensed ministers | 168 |
| Visitors | 1,008 |
| Total registration | 3,325 |

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report be received as a progress report and that the roster be left open for further registration.

Ministers' Insurance Study Committee Report

Paul Samuelson, Chairman of the Insurance Study Committee, read the report:

The Executive Presbytery appointed a committee to contact a more favorable insurance company to bring us a plan that would be acceptable to the body, as directed by the General Council in session.

The committee interviewed representatives of various insurance companies and reviewed the surveys of the independent actuaries. The statements of each representative indicated that no better coverage for ministers over age sixty-five could be provided without seriously jeopardizing the entire program, or adding appreciably to the premium rate. Therefore, we recommend that the present insurance formula be continued.

Only one of the companies of the interview offered to match the existing program as to coverage, premium rates, etc. The members of the committee did not see any particular advantage to changing carriers at this time. However, it is the recommendation of the committee that the Executive Presbytery be requested to make further study of the advantages and disadvantages of such a change and that they be authorized to negotiate a change of carriers if it seems desirable.

If and when the executives consider a change of insurance companies, the committee recommends that they give

serious consideration to the establishment of our own company to handle our own business.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Samuelson, Chairman
Cleo Tapp
Roy Wead
Stanley Clarke
E. C. Bredbenner

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted.

After discussion the report of the committee was voted upon and the motion declared carried.

Brother R. J. Thurmond then moved

That the chair appoint a committee which would continue to give study to insurance for those 65 years of age and over, seeking actuarial advice to see if something can be done to raise the \$500 amount (already provided) to whatever is safe (possibly to \$750 or \$1,000), with instructions to report back to the next General Council.

The motion was seconded and carried.

The next order of business on the agenda called for the election of officers; however, due to the lateness of the hour, the chair questioned the wisdom of considering elections. Thereupon a motion was sustained that the election of officers be the first order of business on Friday morning.

It was ascertained that a Committee on Evangelism was ready with a report. It was moved that in the light of the importance of the report on evangelism it be held over until Friday morning and that the meeting be recessed. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting was therefore declared recessed at 4:45 p.m.

The congregation sang *The Doxology*, after which Brother Frank J. Lindquist dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23

The devotional service began at nine a.m., with Brother Jess Jackson of Dallas, Texas, in charge. Brother Philip Wannenmacher of Rochester, New York, led the singing. Evangelist Robert Watters served as pianist and Brother Bob Bailey of the Southern California College as organist. Ira Stanphill of Lancaster, Pa., sang, "This Choice Is Mine." Brother Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary, led in prayer.

Brother Zimmerman introduced Brother Tom Johnstone, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of

Canada, as the speaker of the morning. He brought an inspiring message, using the convention theme, "Upon All Flesh."

It was reported that Mrs. Ivan Miller had responded to a telegram sent to her husband earlier in the session. She expressed their appreciation and requested continued prayer for Brother Miller.

The business meeting was called to order by Brother Zimmerman at 10:15 a.m. Brother A. A. Wilson invoked God's blessing upon the deliberations. At the conclusion of the prayer there was a message in tongues and interpretation.

Roster Report

After a time of prayer and worship, the Chairman of the Roster Committee was requested to bring another report. The registration totals as of nine a.m. August 23 were:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 1,927 |
| Delegates | 506 |
| Total voting constituency | 2,433 |
| Licensed ministers | 194 |
| Visitors | 1,377 |
| Total registration | 4,004 |

A motion was duly carried that this report be received as a progress report and that the roster be held open for further registrations.

Election of General Superintendent

The General Superintendent requested Assistant General Superintendent G. F. Lewis to serve as chairman of the meeting at this time. Brother Lewis read from the General Council Bylaws regarding the procedure for electing the General Superintendent.

It was moved, seconded and carried that in the ensuing elections in the event any candidate should receive a two-thirds majority vote on the nominating ballot, this shall be considered an election.

Ballots were distributed and Brother E. S. Williams led in prayer asking for God's blessing and guidance. While the ballots were being counted other business of the Council was considered. For the sake of convenience, however, the results of the election are reported here.

Brother David Flower, Chairman of the Tellers' Committee, reported the results of the nominating ballot for General Superintendent:

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Total votes cast | 1,988 |
| Needed to elect | 1,324 |

Thomas F. Zimmerman received 1,871. The chair therefore declared Brother Thomas F. Zimmerman elected General Superintendent on the nominating ballot.

Brother Zimmerman expressed his deep appreciation for the confidence of the brethren as evidenced by the election. He said in part:

"I count it the highest honor that could be accorded to one's ministry to have the joy of serving such a wonderful fellowship. I never minimize the love and esteem of this fellowship in giving us the privilege of serving you in the capacity of general superintendent. I have never felt qualified or worthy of this office. God has given us many wonderful men who could do the job better. I have a feeling that God's hand has been upon us as we endeavored to serve. He has confirmed it in many instances. There are perils and hazards that come with the administrative office that cannot be evaded. If, at times, we seem to be positive and forthright, I trust it will not be interpreted as wanting to be dogmatic or that our opinion is superior to others.

"I am dedicated to the principle that in the multitude of counselors there is safety. I want to be a team man. The brethren with whom I serve will concur that in every matter of consequence and importance we want to have the undergirding and counsel of those with whom we work.

"I pledge to you, and this I do humbly, to do my best to be a servant to you and to God and to advance our fellowship, and that we may in the bonds of peace and fellowship go forward. I thank you sincerely for your expression of love. I covet your prayers. On behalf of my family and myself, I thank you for your love and esteem."

Ballots were then distributed for the election of our assistant general superintendents. Brother Zimmerman offered prayer for the guidance of the Lord. He requested Brother Lewis to continue to preside in the next order of business.

Evangelism Committee Report

In response to a request from the General Presbytery in its 1962 session, a committee had been appointed to give study to the needs of evangelism in the Assemblies of God. A re-

port had been made to the 1963 session of the General Presbytery and upon recommendation the same report was presented to the General Council. Brother Edgar Bethany, secretary of the committee, read the report:

At the March meeting of the Executive Presbytery, your Committee on Evangelism was appointed and given two assignments:

1. To consider the resolution of the General Presbytery, which in our opinion, asked three vital questions:

- a. Why is there a dearth of evangelistic spirit in our churches?
- b. What can we do about improving the quality of our evangelists?
- c. What can we do to encourage evangelists to remain on the field?

2. The Executive Presbytery asked the Committee to analyze and review the work of the Evangelism Department, its scope, relationship to other departments and general evaluation.

The work accomplished by the Director of the Evangelism Department in evaluating the present situation was of considerable benefit to our committee.

First of all, it is our opinion that evangelism is the entire work of the entire church. In the Great Commission Jesus instructed the church to "Go (ye) into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

Evangelism is shown to be the main emphasis that Jesus left with His church. Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth," identifies the baptism of the Holy Ghost as the motivating power to endue the Church to evangelize.

Our present-day Pentecostal movement is of humble origin; as the Spirit of God filled earnest believers, they, as the Early Church, went everywhere preaching the Word. Prior to any Pentecostal organization, God indicated that evangelism is the whole work of the whole church, and Holy-Ghost-filled people the evangelistic agency of God. True spirituality and evangelism are inseparable. Therefore, we feel that evangelism, or the lack of it, is a matter of spiritual life. We solemnly urge our pastors, district of-

ficials, department heads and the executives of this movement to lead our people to seek God for an outpouring of His Spirit that will set our churches on fire with evangelistic fervor.

The greatest miracle of the Day of Pentecost was not the phenomenon of speaking with other tongues, but that which followed in the salvation of the three thousand. Renewed emphasis on the prayer meeting and altar services with leaders setting the example is vital to soul winning. Materialism is a subtle, creeping paralysis that we must recognize in whatever form it takes. God does not count success by our financial gains or by the number or splendor of new buildings erected, as fine as these things are; but, rather, success in the spiritual realm is determined by the souls set free from the power of Satan.

In keeping with the Biblical and historical Pentecostal scope of evangelism,

Your committee recommends:

1. That evangelism be elevated from the rank of a department to take its rightful position as the main thrust of our entire program;
2. That evangelism be the main work of every department, not a separate entity of its own;
3. That evangelism be correlated and centered in the General Superintendent's office.

It is our opinion that the status of our General Superintendent should be that of a spiritual leader of our movement and head of an evangelistic thrust that reaches out through every department, district and church. It may be well, in view of this responsibility, for the Executive Presbytery to consider lightening the load of our General Superintendent by relieving him of the details of the departments he now directs, so that he may give himself more completely to the spiritual leadership of our Movement in his position of Chief Administrator. In our opinion, such an arrangement would

1. Answer many of the problems encountered by our present Evangelism Department. Evangelism centered in the General Superintendent's Office would take its proper place in each department and be properly coordinated, avoid waste and duplication, and unify our entire program.

2. It would place the question of the relationship of our movement with other "current philosophies of evangelism and manifestations of the Holy Ghost outside our movement," on the high plane of the General Superintendents Office.

The committee finds merit in the suggestion of the Evangelism Department that each district should have a representative of evangelism and sincerely believes that the General Council pattern we have suggested could be followed with success on the district level, with the district superintendent as spiritual leader of the district with his main thrust that of evangelism.

It seems obvious to us that with such personnel, evangelism would be enhanced at every level and capable evangelists would be encouraged to carry on their God-given work. Services of experienced evangelists, when led by our General Superintendent's office, would be obtained more readily to minister in needy areas, including spending time in our colleges. We believe also that if evangelism were to be set in this new light that our pastors and people would be encouraged to renew their consecration to win souls by every means at their disposal.

Your committee recommends that this report be implemented by the presentation of resolutions to the General Council which will reaffirm our position as an evangelistic agency of Spirit-filled believers whom God has raised up to spread this glorious full gospel until Jesus comes.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Bergstrom, Chairman
Edgar Bethany
Howard Bush
G. Raymond Carlson
M. B. Netzel

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted. A substitute motion was offered that the report be "received" rather than "adopted." The substitute motion was seconded and carried.

T. E. Gannon, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, read a resolution affecting the Department of Evangelism and related areas, after which he moved its adoption.

WHEREAS, Christ establishes evangelism as the work of the entire church in His Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," Mark 16:15; and

WHEREAS, Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth," sets the pattern of the ministry of a Holy Ghost filled church, and

WHEREAS, Evangelism has characterized the forward thrust of the great Pentecostal movement, and

WHEREAS, There is an ever-increasing conviction, voiced by many members of the constituency, that evangelism in all of its phases should be undergirded and reaffirmed to be the main thrust of the Assemblies of God through all of its departments and districts, and

WHEREAS, The General Superintendent is the acknowledged and officially constituted head and spiritual leader of the Assemblies of God, and

WHEREAS, All work on the field conducted in behalf of the Fellowship is committed to the oversight of the General Superintendent, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we amend Article III, Section 1, of the Bylaws, by inserting a new paragraph to be known as paragraph "p" to read as follows: "To emphasize, coordinate and promote evangelism in all of its phases throughout the fellowship. In consultation with the Executive Presbytery he shall appoint an Evangelism Committee to serve during the General Council biennium," and be it further

RESOLVED, That the present paragraph "f" become "g," "g" become "h," and "h" become "i"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article XIX of the Bylaws, Department of Evangelism, be deleted in its entirety.

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded.

Discussion continued on the resolution until there was a motion to recess the meeting at 11:55 a.m. The motion was seconded and carried. Brother Kermit Reneau of San Antonio, Texas, dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 23

Brother Charles W. H. Scott, Assistant General Superintendent, was in charge of the devotional service as the Coun-

cil reconvened at two o'clock. Philip Wannenmacher directed the singing and C. C. Burnett led in prayer.

The General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman, presented Dr. George L. Ford, Executive Director of the National Association of Evangelicals. Dr. Ford brought a brief message using as a basis for his remarks selections from the fourth chapter of Acts. He warned of the pressures brought upon evangelical Christianity by the forces of Communism, Catholicism and Liberalism and urged Evangelicals to stand together. He spoke also of the dangers of the Ecumenical Movement and of the need to refrain from participating in this effort to establish a world church.

Brother Zimmerman thanked Dr. Ford for his presence in the convention and pledged, on behalf of the Assemblies of God, faithfulness in prayer, participation, and financial support for the work of the N. A. E.

The business meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by the General Superintendent. Brother David H. McDowell invoked God's blessing upon the deliberations of the afternoon.

Election of Assistant General Superintendents

Brother David Flower, Chairman of the Tellers' Committee, announced the results of the nominating ballot for the four Assistant General Superintendents:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Total number of ballots cast | 1,789 |
| Needed to elect | 1,192 |
| Bert Webb received | 1,624 |
| G. F. Lewis | 1,499 |
| Howard Bush | 1,293 |
| Charles W. H. Scott | 1,252 |

The chair thereupon declared each of these brethren elected to the office of assistant general superintendent on the nominating ballot.

Roster Committee Report

Brother Arthur Berg presented an additional report of the Roster Committee as of 2:30 p.m., August 23:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 2,077 |
| Delegates | 567 |
| Voting constituency | 2,644 |
| Licensed ministers | 221 |
| Visitors | 1,540 |
| Total registration | 4,405 |

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report be received and that the roster be held open for further registrations.

Election of Executive Director of Foreign Missions

The chair called upon the General Secretary to read the provision of the Bylaws governing the procedure for electing an additional assistant general superintendent with the portfolio of Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department. Brother Peterson further reported that in accordance with these instructions the General Presbytery had nominated J. Philip Hogan for this position. Ballots were distributed and prayer for God's guidance was offered by Brother Frank Lindquist.

During the counting of the ballots discussion was resumed regarding the resolution affecting the Evangelism Department, but was interrupted to hear the report of the tellers' committee:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Total votes cast | 1,530 |
| Needed to elect | 1,020 |
| J. Philip Hogan received | 1,351 |

The chair thereupon declared J. Philip Hogan elected to the office of assistant general superintendent with the portfolio of Executive Director of Foreign Missions.

The chair requested that ballots be distributed for the election of a General Secretary. Prayer for guidance was offered by Brother Zimmerman. During the counting of the ballots, discussion was resumed on the resolution affecting the Department of Evangelism, with Brother G. F. Lewis presiding.

A substitute motion was presented which provided

That Article III, Section 1, be amended by inserting a new paragraph "f" to read as follows: "The General Superintendent by virtue of his office shall be the Executive Director of the Department of Evangelism," with a subsequent renumbering of the remaining paragraphs; and that the last paragraph of the proposed resolution to delete Article XIX be eliminated in its entirety; and, further, that Paragraph "a" of Section 2 of Article XIX, be amended to provide that the General Superintendent shall be the Executive Director of the department as stated in Article III.

The motion was seconded. There was a motion to refer the whole matter back to the committee for clarification.

The motion to refer was seconded but when voted upon was lost.

The previous question was called for on the substitute motion. When put to vote the substitute motion lost. As question was still being called, the main motion to delete Article XIX and to amend Article III as stated in the resolution was voted on by a show of hands and was declared carried.

Election of General Secretary

The Tellers' Committee reported the results of the balloting for the office of General Secretary:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Total votes cast | 1,633 |
| Needed to elect | 1,089 |
| Bartlett Peterson received | 1,464 |

The chair therefore declared Bartlett Peterson elected to the office of General Secretary.

1965 Site Selection Committee

It was reported that eighteen cities had invited the General Council to hold its next biennial conference in their cities. The Site Selection Committee requested guidance from the Council as to a possible section of the country which would be preferred. Reference was made to the decision of the 1961 General Council with regard to location. L. E. Halvorson offered the following motion:

That the General Council Site Selection Committee be instructed to meet again at their earliest convenience during this General Council and that they reconsider all invitations which have been extended to them for hosting the 1965 General Council.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Election of General Treasurer

The General Secretary was requested to read the provisions in the Bylaws for the electing of a General Treasurer. In accordance with these instructions, he reported that the General Presbytery had nominated M. B. Netzel for the office of General Treasurer. Ballots were then distributed. Brother Zimmerman led in prayer prior to the voting.

A report of the Tellers' Committee indicated there had been an election on the first electoral ballot, as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Total ballots cast | 1,304 |
| Needed to elect | 870 |
| M. B. Netzel received | 1,276 |

The chair thereupon declared M. B. Netzel elected to the office of General Treasurer having received over the two-thirds votes needed for election.

Recognition of Elected Officers

The General Superintendent presented the four Assistant General Superintendents elected without portfolio: Bert Webb, G. F. Lewis, H. S. Bush and Charles W. H. Scott. Each of these brethren thanked the Council for the expression of confidence as evidenced by the votes cast. They pledged their loyalty and faithful service to the church and to the Lord.

Presented next were Brothers J. Philip Hogan, elected to the office of assistant general superintendent and executive director of Foreign Missions; Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary; and M. B. Netzel, General Treasurer. Appropriate words of appreciation and a pledge of faithfulness and dedication were expressed by each of these brethren.

Brother Zimmerman voiced his special thanks to all the officers for the fellowship and cooperation which all had enjoyed during the past years. He thanked the Council also for re-electing them in a manner which, he felt, reflected the unanimity of the brethren—all officers had been returned to office on the first ballot by well over the two-thirds vote necessary to elect.

There was a motion to recess at 4:47 p.m. which was seconded and carried.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 24

The devotional service on Saturday morning was under the direction of Brother D. V. Hurst. Brother Chester Jenkins, D-CAP from the Eastern District, led the song service following which prayer was offered by Brother Emil Balliet. Danny Betzer, "Breakthrough" pastor from Vermilion, Ohio, sang "Lead Me Back to Calvary." Brother Max Eleiott of Springfield, Missouri, served as organist and Mrs. Danny Betzer as pianist. While the offering was being received the Gatlin Quartet of Odessa, Texas, gave two vocal numbers.

Brother Raymond Hudson, Superintendent of the New Mexico District, brought an inspiring devotional message on the theme "Vessels unto honor, sanctified and meet for the Master's use." Scripture portions read were: Acts 9:15, 16; 2 Timothy 2:21.

The General Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. Sister Marie Brown, pastor of Glad Tidings Tabernacle in New York City, was invited to the platform to lead in prayer prior to the deliberations of the morning.

Approval of Minutes

A motion prevailed that the minutes of this General Council be referred to the Executive Presbytery for editing, review and approval.

Roster Committee Report

The following had registered as of 9:30 a.m., August 24

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 2,176 |
| Delegates | 593 |
| Total voting members | 2,769 |
| Licensed ministers | 231 |
| Visitors | 1,776 |
| Total registration | 4,776 |

There was a motion to receive the report of the Roster Committee, with the understanding the roster would remain open for additional registrations. The motion was seconded and carried.

Decisions Affecting Additional Elections

The chair explained that the next order of business called for the election of eight executive presbyters to represent regional areas of the fellowship as defined in Article II, Section 2, paragraphs "c" and "d" of the Bylaws. It was moved that the Council recess into caucus meetings at 11:15 a.m. and then reconvene in plenary session at two o'clock in the afternoon. The motion was seconded and carried.

T. E. Gannon, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented Resolution Number Two:

WHEREAS, The interests of any fellowship, whether local regional or national, can best be served by representatives chosen by the constituency of the areas to be represented; and

WHEREAS, The method presently used for nominating the non-resident Executive Presbyters to represent the eight regions of our General Council fellowship on the General Council Executive Presbytery does not essentially accomplish this; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article II, Section 2, Paragraph "c" of the Bylaws, be amended by substituting the words "one nominee" for "three or more nominees" in the third sentence of the paragraph and be it further

RESOLVED, That the last sentence of paragraph "c" be amended by the addition of the words "to nominate

and to elect" so that the sentence shall read: "A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and to elect."

A motion to adopt the resolution was seconded. Considerable debate ensued and there was a motion to substitute the words "one or more" for "one nominee" as contained in the resolution. The motion was seconded but when put to vote was lost. As debate was prolonged a motion prevailed calling for the previous question. The main motion was then put to vote and was lost. There being an order of the day to caucus, the General Superintendent proceeded to name chairmen for the eight regional areas. He requested the Executive Officers to serve in this capacity. Instructions were given that all nominations should be by secret ballot and that balloting should continue within a caucus until each nominee received a majority vote.

Brother Robert McGarity requested the privilege of making a motion as the business session convened in the afternoon. There was a motion from the floor to recess until 1:45 p.m. and go into caucus at that time; however, there was no second to the motion and the chair, therefore, declared that the Council would caucus immediately and convene in plenary session at two o'clock. The closing prayer was offered by Brother Charles W. H. Scott at 11:35 a.m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 24

The afternoon meeting convened at two o'clock with J. Philip Hogan in charge of the devotional service. Brother Kenneth Freiheit of Minnesota led the singing and Brother Milburn Sichler, Field Representative for Africa, from the Elim Missionary Assemblies was asked to lead in prayer.

Brother Hogan then introduced Dr. Frank Langham of the American Bible Society, who spoke in behalf of the Society and its work in Bible distribution and translation. Following his address, Brother C. C. Burnett, President of the Bethany Bible college at Santa Cruz, California, offered the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, The American Bible Society services are used by the Assemblies of God to supply its churches and missionaries at home and overseas with copies of the Word of God in the various languages and formats needed, be it

RESOLVED, That our pastors and congregations be urged to continue their generous financial support to the Society, according to the methods approved by the Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, The American Bible Society encourages a wider and more meaningful use of the Bible through its annual program of World-Wide Bible Reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas, with culmination in Universal Bible Week, and Universal Bible Sunday the second Sunday in December; be it further

RESOLVED, That our pastors and churches be urged to cooperate in this world-wide emphasis on the importance of personal and family use of the Word of God in the Assemblies of God.

Brother Burnett then moved the adoption of the resolutions. The motion was seconded and carried.

Following the devotional period, A. D. Swarztrauber, General Council auditor, led in prayer for the blessing of God upon the business meeting. Included was special prayer for Brothers J. A. Bogue and A. R. Mattson who had suffered heart attacks. The house was called to order at 2:35 p.m.

Inasmuch as it was evident that balloting had not been completed for the nominating of the nonresident executive presbyters, the chair declared the assembly recessed into caucus groups. The meeting was called to order in plenary session again at 3:55 p.m.

Nominations were announced for the Northwest area: N. D. Davidson, R. J. Carlson, Earl Goodman. The First Elective Ballot was then cast for the Northwest Area with Brother Thomas R. Brubaker asking guidance of the Lord upon the balloting. The electing of the nonresident executive presbyters proceeded in sequence with business interspersed between the counting of ballots and the tellers reports. Nominations announced for the Southwest Area were: D. H. McLaughlin, Leland R. Keys, Emil Balliet. Ballots were then distributed for the selection of an executive presbyter for the Southwest Area.

The chair then recognized Brother Robert McGarity who moved

To amend Article II, Section 2, paragraph "c" of the Bylaws by deleting the last four lines beginning with the words, "by the eligible voters" and substituting therefor the following: "The nominations for the eight non-resident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each District Council shall at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session nominate one minister from its district to be presented to the General Council as a nominee from its area. These nominees shall be presented to and balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and to elect."

The motion was seconded.

A substitute motion was offered that a study committee of five members be appointed by the General Superintendent to define what is meant by the term "non-resident" found in Article II, Section 2, Paragraph "c"; and to rewrite the paragraph, if this is found to be necessary, to explain the method in which these members shall be voted upon, and that this committee shall report to the General Presbytery and to the General Council prior to the election of these men at the next General Council session. The motion was seconded but failed to carry.

The original motion to provide for the selection of the nominations for the non-resident executive presbyters by the districts was voted upon and was carried.

Brother Justus du Plessis, member of the Executive Council of the Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa, was then presented to the Council. Brother DuPlessis brought fraternal greetings from South Africa and had words of commendation and also of solemn warning. He said in part:

"... Let the zeal and example of the Assemblies of God in the execution of this Great Commission thrill and inspire every church in the world! For, behold, by virtue of your leadership, the eyes of the world are upon you! We love you! We trust you! You dare not fail us. Your success is our success. Your glory is our glory... and your failure is our failure.

"Missionaries, ministers and churches the world over are looking to you for guidance, inspiration, help and leadership. Great indeed is your privilege; great and terrible your responsibility; sacred and awful your accountability... to God, to the Church, to America and to the whole world. God in His infinite mercy give you the necessary endowment.

"Brother Chairman, on behalf of the saints in the Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa, I have the great honor to bring you greetings..."

Brother Zimmerman responded to Brother DuPlessis' remarks and thanked him in behalf of the General Council for the great blessing he had been to the Fellowship. The congregation gave a standing tribute to Brother DuPlessis and to the Fellowship which he represented.

Proposed Visit to the Vatican

Resolution Number 3 pertaining to a proposed visit to the

Vatican by the President of the United States was read by T. E. Gannon, after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery in session adopted the following committee's report on the President's proposed visit to the Vatican:

WHEREAS, It has been stated in various newspapers and has been confirmed by the White House staff that the President of the United States plans a State visit to Rome, and

WHEREAS, The ministers and members of the Assemblies of God are concerned about the implications of such a visit,

This committee recommends that no action be taken unless it is definitely ascertained that the forthcoming visit of the President to Rome includes an official visit to the Vatican.

The committee feels that it is the President's right, as it is the right of every other citizen of the United States, to visit the leader of the church of his choice.

However, if the State Department clearly indicates that the President of the United States will visit the Vatican in an official capacity, then, due to the fact that this body will not convene again prior to the proposed visit,

The committee recommends that the following statement be submitted to the State Department by our General Executives:

The General Presbyters of the Assemblies of God protest the official visit of the President of the United States to the Vatican, and consider it a violation of the interpretation given by the Supreme Court concerning the separation of the Church and the State. The General Presbyters of the Assemblies of God believe that it is inconsistent with our nation's traditional position on the separation of Church and State to send our Chief Executive as a representative of the State to the Church of Rome. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Thirtieth General Council of the Assemblies of God go on record as confirming and sustaining the action of the General Presbytery.

The motion to adopt the above resolution was put to vote and was carried.

Elections of Executive Presbyters for the Northwest and Southwest Areas

Northwest Area

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| First elective ballot— | |
| Votes cast | 886 |
| Needed to elect | 591 |
| N. D. Davidson | 470 |
| R. J. Carlson | 335 |
| Earl Goodman | 82 |
| Second elective ballot— | |
| Votes cast | 944 |
| Needed to elect | 628 |
| N. D. Davidson | 624 |
| R. J. Carlson | 313 |
| Earl Goodman | 7 |
| Third elective ballot— | |
| Votes cast | 893 |
| Needed to elect | 596 |
| N. D. Davidson | 719 |
| R. J. Carlson | 171 |
| Earl Goodman | 3 |

The chair then declared N. D. Davidson elected Executive Presbyter, representing the Northwest Area.

Southwest Area

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| First elective ballot— | |
| Votes cast | 778 |
| Needed to elect | 519 |
| D. H. McLaughlin | 336 |
| Emil Balliet | 301 |
| L. R. Keys | 141 |
| Second elective ballot— | |
| Votes cast | 896 |
| Needed to elect | 598 |
| D. H. McLaughlin | 512 |
| Emil Balliet | 359 |
| L. R. Keys | 25 |
| Third elective ballot— | |
| Votes cast | 765 |
| Needed to elect | 510 |
| D. H. McLaughlin | 617 |
| Emil Balliet | 147 |
| L. R. Keys | 1 |

The chair then declared D. H. McLaughlin elected Executive Presbyter, representing the Southwest Area.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg, brought a further report of registrations:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 2,233 |
| Delegates | 604 |
| Voting members registered | 2,837 |
| Licensed ministers | 237 |
| Visitors | 1,907 |
| Total registration | 4,981 |

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report be received and that the roster remain open.

Nominations for executive presbyters for the remaining six areas were then announced:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| North Central: | G. Raymond Carlson, T. E. Gannon, Stanley Clarke |
| South Central: | Phinis Lewis, Robert Goggin, Kermit Reneau |
| Great Lakes: | Roy Wead, Bond Bowman, Cyril Homer |
| Gulf: | G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., James Hamill, Lowell Ashbrook |
| Northeast: | Frederick Huber, Richard Bergstrom, O. L. Harrup |
| Southeast: | Edgar Bethany, Jesse Smith, T. H. Spence |

Ballots were distributed and after prayer, the first electoral ballots were cast for the selection of presbyters for the above listed areas. The Tellers received the ballots and were instructed by the chair to hold them until Monday morning. Brother D. H. McLaughlin was then recognized:

"I have something upon my heart which I feel should not wait until Monday. On Thursday we heard a remarkable report from our General Treasurer that was nothing short of phenomenal. The management of \$12,000,000 is no small matter. Further, the erection of the new administration building during the two years, and at the same time strengthening the finances of the General Council, as reflected in the reports, is nothing short of a miracle of God.

"We know that the Executive Officers are the watchdogs of our great General Council and its resources. They have given a remarkable account of themselves as ordained ministers in our Fellowship and have commended themselves to us in this respect. God has seemingly endowed

them with a great amount of business acumen in the handling of funds, in efficient administration of the departments, in faithful stewardship, in wise and safe spending of the resources of the Assemblies of God, and also in a very accurate and faithful reporting to us as to what has gone on in regard to finances during this biennium; therefore, Brother Chairman, I would like to move

"That we commend our Executive Officers of our general headquarters and show to them the appreciation of the General Council by a rising vote of thanks for the efficient management of the funds of the General Council."

Brother Richard Bergstrom was asked to preside while the vote was taken upon the motion. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by a rising vote.

The chair was returned to Brother Zimmerman who gave the response in behalf of the Executive Officers:

"We deeply appreciate this expression from you brethren, and thank you, Brother McLaughlin, for offering the motion to the Council. We consider it a great privilege to serve this Fellowship. Thank you for this expression."

The assembly was recessed by motion duly passed at 5:10 p.m., with Brother Zimmerman offering the prayer of dismissal.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Brother Charles W. H. Scott, Assistant General Superintendent, was in charge of the memorial and communion service which began at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday morning. Brother Harry Myers, Pastor from Minneapolis, Minnesota, led the singing with Mrs. L. E. King of Omaha, Nebraska, serving as pianist and Mrs. Ed Palser of Waco, Texas, as organist. Pastor and Mrs. B. C. Heinze of Watertown, South Dakota, sang a duet entitled "When I Said Yes to Jesus." D. V. Hurst, Radio Departmental Secretary, read a selection from the Scriptures, Hebrews 11:32 to 12:2.

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson read the names of all those who had passed on to their eternal reward since the 29th General Council. He presented a poem which he had written especially for the occasion, and then asked that the congregation remain standing for a moment of silence and prayer:

WE'RE COMING TOO

By Bartlett Peterson

Travelers all, the saints of God,
O'er hill and barren waste we plod;
Homeward bound, we'll not complain
Of one who's first with less restrain.

Or if God's chariot should pass,
And bid one travel by first class,
To sooner reach the same abode,
While we come later, usual mode.

He got there first, we all will shout,
We're coming too, let be no doubt.
To one, God speedy transport gave,
And passing left a bec'ning wave.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Ahlberg, Chris, Lake Stevens, Wash.
Akridge, Louis V., Lindsay, Okla.
Allison, Irene A. (Mrs.), Knoxville, Tenn.
Anderson, Bess D., Groves, Tex.
Anderson, Caleb C., Santa Cruz, Calif.
Andrews, William L., Bellevue, Wash.
Armes, Benton H., Parsons, Kans.
Barrick, Howard O. Versailles, Kentucky
Bauldree, John B., Lockhart, Fla.
Beck, Edwin A., Pasadena, Calif.
Beebe, Chester A., Aurora, Nebr.
Bivans, Harry L., Tekoa, Wash.
Blaney, Mae (Mrs.), East St. Louis, Ill.
Bowden, Robert C., Russellville, Ark.
Bowie Eleanor G., Lakewood, Ohio
Bray, Oria R., McPherson, Kans.
Brewer, G. Atwell, Sr., Sorento, Ill.
Brister, George H., Rosamond, Calif.
Brooks, Hiram A., Jr., Fontana, Calif.
Bryan, Arthur P., Wetumka, Okla.
Burchett, Mabel (Mrs.), Kansas City, Mo.
Buttram, John A., Bonifay, Fla.
Casarez, Eduardo, San Antonio, Tex.
Clark, Joseph H., North Hollywood, Calif.
Clark, William H., Mesa, Ariz.
Claypool, Hugh S., Santa Ana, Calif.
Cline, Francis G., Bakersfield, Calif.
Colbert, Andrew R., Mendota, Calif.

Comer, Cleveland C., Antlers, Okla.
Conley, Thomas L., Glendale, Ariz.
Coy, Chester L., Tampa, Fla.
D'Angelo, Michael, North Hollywood, Calif.
DeArmitt, Clyde F., Freeport, Pa.
Dees, Vander T., Deer Park, Ala.
Eldridge, Velia V. (Mrs.), San Antonio, Tex.
Elliott, Alma J. (Mrs.), Redmon, Ill.
Elmore, William C., West Monroe, La.
Farnsworth, Lola C., Erie, Pa.
Fiss, Clyde T., Port Townsend, Wash.
Flaming, Dan E., San Jose, Calif.
Flores, Felix, Chicago, Ill.
Forner, John C., Wheatfield, Ind.
Frazier, Wilburn A., Madera, Calif.
Friend, Charley E., Bakersfield, Calif.
Friend, Lavina E., (Mrs. C. E.), Bakersfield, Calif.
Gibbs, Jeff, Silver City, N. Mex.
Giddings, Louis E., Jr., Tyler, Tex.
Gilder, Glen W., Overland, Mo.
Glick, Carl S., Kenai, Alaska
Gorsira, Harry, Durant, Fla.
Gortner, J. Narver, Berkeley, Calif.
Greene, Charlie H., Raven, Va.
Grilli, Colomba (Mrs.), Trenton, N. J.
Grubbs, Joe J., Las Cruces, N. Mex.
Harris, James R., Waxahachie, Tex.
Harrison, William M., Port Arthur, Tex.
Havron, Walter G., Sorento, Ill.
Hayder, Laura W. (Mrs.), Tulsa, Okla.
Hinton, Leo B., Spokane, Wash.
Hinton, William E., Wynne, Ark.
Hogan, John H., Clarkton, Mo.
Hopkins, Henry L., Baxter Springs, Kans.
Hoskins, John, Bend, Oreg.
Jensen, Jens C., Centralia, Wash.
Johnson, Mattie A. (Mrs.), Lake Nebagamon, Wis.
Johnson, Olga L. (Mrs.), Minneapolis, Minn.
Johnson, Rebekah F., Cleveland, Tex.
Johnson, Stanley R., Staples, Minn.
Jones, Anna P., Fort Collins, Colo.
Jones, Ida H. (Mrs.), Fort Myers, Fla.
Jones, Joseph P., Jennings, Fla.
Jones, Paul B., Portland, Oreg.
Kabisch, John E., Whittier, Calif.
Keizer, Albertus M., Bellflower, Calif.
Kirsch, Charles B., Bremerton, Wash.
Krujeta, Peter J., Detroit, Mich.
Kuykendall, Oscar A., Snow, Okla.

Lancaster, Burton D., Lennox, Calif.
 Lawrence, A. W., Defiance, Ohio
 Lawrence, Fanny I. (Mrs.), Defiance, Ohio
 Lazarowicz, William, Dorchester, Mass.
 Love, Carrell M., Rison, Ark.
 Lynch, L. R., Tulsa, Okla.
 McCafferty, William B., Waxahachie, Tex.
 McCreight, Paul L., Sr., Greenville, S. C.
 McGee, Richard D., Muskegon, Mich.
 McKinley, Unnie L. (Mrs.), Greggton, Tex.
 McNeely, John L., Plymouth, Ind.
 McWhinney, Wannetta M., San Jacinto, Calif.
 Mauch, Edward, Wishek, N. Dak.
 Mauldin, Clece F., Hector, Ark.
 Middleton, Robert C., Bakersfield, Calif.
 Monroe, Arthur H., Cushing, Okla.
 Morie, Claude W., Knoxville, Tenn.
 Muirhead, Currell, Tacoma, Wash.
 Mullins, Berlon A., Chelan, Wash.
 Newman, John P., Amarillo, Tex.
 Norman, L. M., Columbia, S. C.
 Ohrnell, C. Arvid, Springfield, Mo.
 Olsen, Olof, Hankins, N. Y.
 Ott, Albert I., Dallas, Tex.
 Palmer, Gordon, Bakersfield, Calif.
 Parish, Harold R., Trinidad, Calif.
 Parker, Orin H., Whistler, Ala.
 Partridge, West J., Montevallo, Ala.
 Penuelas, Rose (Mrs.), Montebello, Calif.
 Phillips, A. G., Chicago, Ill.
 Phillips, Willis F., Salem, Oreg.
 Flake, David C., Lincoln, Illinois
 Poggi, Carlos, Miami, Fla.
 Pollard, Albert V., Otis, Colorado
 Powlesland, Ernest L., Lewiston, N. C.
 Proshansky, Moses, Kansas City, Mo.
 Rainbow, Robert F., Akron, Pa.
 Ralstin, Paul H., San Jose, Calif.
 Rhoades, Niram R., Franklin, Nebr.
 Rice, Earl, Fort Worth, Tex.
 Richard, Milton W., Jr., Wilmington, Del.
 Richards, Roy J., Conroe, Tex.
 Rifenberg, Ida O. (Mrs.), Hot Springs, Ark.
 Roberts, Charles E., Eureka, Calif.
 Robertson, Joel P., Guatemala City, Guatemala
 Robinson, H. Paul, Monroeville, Pa.
 Roe, Jackie L., Brighton, Ill.
 Selness, A. M., Topeka, Kans.
 Smith, Wayne D., Miami, Okla.

Staggs, L. E., Jr., Healdton, Okla.
 Street, William T., Waynesboro, Miss.
 Stuckey, Oscar V., Baker, Fla.
 Stump, Elmer E., Sunnyvale, Calif.
 Tan-Ditter, Meyer, Hollywood, Calif.
 Taylor, Richard E., Graceville, Fla.
 Tipton, Arlen D., Waxahachie, Tex.
 Turner, Lucena E. (Mrs.), LaVerne, Calif.
 Upton, Dottie E. (Mrs.), Dodson, La.
 VanBibber, William C., Blytheville, Ark.
 Vincelli, Michael, Wausau, Wis.
 Voight, Fred A., Durant, Fla.
 Waggoner, Harry T., Caldwell, Idaho
 Wampler, Fred, St. Louis, Mo.
 Webster, Silvanus S., Roseville, Calif.
 Wells, Percy A., Fairview, W. Va.
 Wilkerson, James A., Perrysburg, Ohio
 Willman, Ada S. (Mrs.), Kennett, Mo.
 Wood, Enoch C., Baltimore, Md.
 Workman, W. G. De Soto, Mo.
 Yerger, Blanche M. (Mrs.), Los Angeles, Calif.
 Zamora, Carlos S., Denver, Colo.
 Zook, Royden D., Los Angeles, Calif.

MISSIONARIES

Ahlberg, Arthur, Hong Kong
 Baltau, Fred, China
 Edwards, Eileen, North India
 Edwards, Robert, South India
 Felch, Margaret, North India
 Flint, M. Marguerite, North India
 Goodwin, Sidney, Ghana
 Hatchett, Evelyn, Malaya
 Heetebry, Adrian, Fiji
 Juergensen, Mrs. C. F., Japan
 Nicholson, Grace, China
 Reitz, Ada, South Africa
 Simpson, W. W., China
 Smith, Mrs. Virgil, Brazil
 Steidel, Florence, Liberia
 Stephany, Marie, China
 Tieleman, Henrietta, Formosa
 Trasher, Lillian, Egypt
 Wagner, Jean, Malaya

Brother Truet Ford of Dallas, Texas, sang a solo entitled "Day by Day," after which Brother G. Raymond Carlson, President of North Central Bible College, brought an inspiring message on Ephesians 1:3-14. Following the sermon of

the morning, Holy Communion was served by members of the Executive and General Presbyters. The service was concluded by the singing of the hymn, "The Solid Rock."

The Foreign Missions Rally on Sunday afternoon was one of the most inspiring services of the General Council. Foreign missionaries, many of them dressed in the costumes of their fields, and carrying flags of the lands to which God had called them, marched down the aisles and took the seats of honor which had been reserved for them. J. Philip Hogan, Executive Director of Foreign Missions, led the service. Brother Norman C. Campbell, missionary to Columbia, led the song service. Brother and Sister Paul Ferrin of Memphis, Tennessee, served as pianist and organist. Special music was provided by the First Assembly of God of Memphis, with Brother Ferrin as director. Brother Morris Potts, missionary evangelist, brought an inspiring message entitled "The Crumbling Gates of Hell."

The evangelistic rally opened at seven p.m. with singing led by Brother Ted Ness of Cleveland, Ohio. Jack Marshall of Memphis, Tennessee, served as pianist. Special music was offered by the male chorus of the Whitehaven Assembly, under the direction of the pastor, Brother Bob H. Bowen. They were assisted in an altar-call number by Mrs. Lil Sunberg Anderson, former Revivaltime soloist. Brother Emil Balliet of San Diego, California, was in charge of the service. Pastor Paul Lowenberg of Topeka, Kansas, brought an inspiring sermon entitled "The Midnight Hour."

MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26

The Monday morning devotional service began at nine o'clock with Brother Murray McLees of Eugene, Oregon, in charge. Brother Joe Prettyman of La Jolla, California, led the singing. Prayer was offered by Evangelist Robert Watters. A vocal solo entitled "My Father Is King of All Kings" was rendered by Don Summerville of Alhambra, California. Brother R. D. E. Smith, Assistant Superintendent of the New York District, brought the devotional message on the "Ministry of Peace," taking his text from Luke 10.

The General Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 10 a.m. He reported several accidents, illnesses and deaths. After a season of united prayer for the ill, injured and bereaved, Sister Alice Flower was requested to conclude the prayer.

The General Superintendent reported that with the expense offering on Sunday night, the 1963 General Council Budget had been met with the exception of \$89 and there would be no further offerings during the Council. He expressed deep

appreciation to the delegates and friends for their generosity in giving. However, by voluntary action from the floor, an additional offering of \$125 was given so that there would be no deficit in the expense budget. While this special offering was being received, Brother John Polizzi of Centerville, Illinois, played a trumpet solo.

Roster Committee Report

Brother Arthur Berg, Chairman of the Roster Committee, presented the following report as of nine a.m. on Monday:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 2,270 |
| Delegates | 612 |
| Voting members registered | 2,882 |
| Licensed ministers | 251 |
| Visitors | 2,350 |
| Total registration | 5,483 |

The report was accepted by motion duly carried.

Elections for Non-Resident Executive Presbyters (continued)

The results of the first elective ballots for six non-resident executive presbyters were announced and since there were no elections, additional ballots were cast, until elections were reached in all remaining six regions. These ballots and their results follow:

North Central

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| First elective ballot— | |
| Total ballots cast | 774 |
| Needed to elect | 516 |
| G. Raymond Carlson | 475 |
| Stanley Clarke | 42 |
| T. E. Gannon | 257 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Second elective ballot— | |
| Total ballots cast | 825 |
| Needed to elect | 550 |
| G. Raymond Carlson | 718 |
| Stanley Clarke | 10 |
| T. E. Gannon | 97 |

G. Raymond Carlson was declared elected to the office of Executive Presbyter from the North Central area.

South Central

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| First elective ballot— | |
| Total ballots cast | 762 |
| Needed to elect | 508 |

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Phinis Lewis | 222 |
| Robert Goggin | 175 |
| Kermit Reneau | 365 |

Second elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 816 |
| Needed to elect | 544 |
| Phinis Lewis | 114 |
| Robert Goggin | 53 |
| Kermit Reneau | 649 |

The Chair thereupon declared Kermit Reneau elected to the office of Executive Presbyter from the South Central area.

Great Lakes

First elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 776 |
| Needed to elect | 517 |
| Roy Wead | 445 |
| Bond Bowman | 140 |
| Cyril Homer | 191 |

Second elective ballot—

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Total ballot cast | 821 |
| Needed to elect | 545 |
| Roy Wead | 664 |
| Bond Bowman | 32 |
| Cyril Homer | 125 |

Roy Wead was declared elected Executive Presbyter from the Great Lakes area.

Gulf

First elective ballot—

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 781 |
| Needed to elect | 521 |
| G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. | 362 |
| James Hamill | 307 |
| Lowell Ashbrook | 112 |

Second elective ballot—

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 807 |
| Needed to elect | 538 |
| G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. | 520 |
| James Hamill | 255 |
| Lowell Ashbrook | 32 |

Third elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 883 |
| Needed to elect | 589 |

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. | 710 |
| James Hamill | 165 |
| Lowell Ashbrook | 8 |

G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. was thereupon declared elected Executive Presbyter from the Gulf area.

Northeast

First elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 762 |
| Needed to elect | 508 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Richard Bergstrom | 359 |
| Frederick Huber | 229 |
| O. L. Harrup | 174 |

Second elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 815 |
| Needed to elect | 543 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Richard Bergstrom | 660 |
| Frederick Huber | 82 |
| O. L. Harrup | 73 |

The chair then declared Richard Bergstrom elected Executive Presbyter from the Northeast area.

Southeast

First elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 770 |
| Needed to elect | 513 |
| Edgar Bethany | 508 |
| Jesse Smith | 153 |
| T. H. Spence | 109 |

Second elective ballot—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total ballots cast | 816 |
| Needed to elect | 544 |
| Edgar Bethany | 739 |
| Jesse Smith | 49 |
| T. H. Spence | 28 |

The chair then declared Edgar Bethany elected Executive Presbyter from the Southeast area.

**Evangelism in the Departments
Resolution Number 4**

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, T. E. Gannon, presented resolutions which were considered each in turn by the General Council. After reading Resolution Number Four regarding the place of evangelism in a number of depart-

ments of the General Council, he moved its adoption. The resolution as presented follows:

WHEREAS, In order to strengthen and fulfill the spirit of evangelism in such departments of the General Council as Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Education, Sunday School, Publications, Christ's Ambassadors, Radio, Women's Missionary Council and Men's Fellowship; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Section 1 of the Articles of the Bylaws stating the authorization and purpose of these departments be amended by adding the following paragraph:

"The primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity."

The adoption of the above will necessitate the amending of the following with the proposed paragraph:

Foreign Missions—Article VIII, Section 1, to become Paragraph "b"

Home Missions—Article IX, Section 1, to become "1"

Education—Article X, Section 1, to become Paragraph "3"

Sunday School—Article XI, Section 1, to become Paragraph "a"

Publications—Article XII, Section 1, add Paragraph "c"

Christ's Ambassadors—Article XIII, Section 1, to become Paragraph "b"

Radio—Article XIV, Section 1, to become Paragraph "a"

Women's Missionary Council—Article XVII, Section 1, to become Paragraph "a"

Men's Fellowship—Article XVIII, Section 1, to become Paragraph "b"

The motion to adopt Resolution Number Four was seconded and carried.

The Holy Spirit Among Denominational Churches Resolution Number 5

It was moved, seconded and carried that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, There has been an increasing move of the Holy Spirit among various denominations during the past three years, and

WHEREAS, Ministers and laymen of many denominations have personally expressed an experimental interest in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and

WHEREAS, Some denominational men have been reticent to personally contact the Assemblies of God for information and prayer for the baptism with the Holy Spirit, and

WHEREAS, At least one denomination has already held conferences with the Executive Presbytery on the Pentecostal experience, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the ministry of this General Council expresses its desire to meet with, pray with and in any other way assist any denominational minister in reaching an understanding of the Pentecostal experience, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized to encourage work in this area through personal contact and through the preparation of such literature and other materials as may be needed.

Soul-Winning Evangelism Resolution Number 6

It was moved and seconded that the resolution on soul-winning evangelism conventions be adopted:

WHEREAS, Soul-winning evangelism as set forth in the New Testament is the primary objective of the New Testament Church; and

WHEREAS, There is a revived interest in soul-winning evangelism, which should be encouraged and coordinated throughout our constituency; and

WHEREAS, Soul-winning conventions would serve to emphasize the inspiration, instruction, induement and individual involvement of our constituency in soul winning; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Thirtieth General Council in session recommend that the Executive Presbytery study the feasibility of soul-winning conventions to be held throughout the nation, and/or around the world, directed by the General Superintendent; and that their findings be pre-

mented to the next meeting of the General Presbytery for approval and implementation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we recommend that study be given toward coordinating this evangelistic thrust with the various departments and phases of our work, including special emphases for pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries and laymen.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by deleting the words "that their findings be presented to the next meeting of the General Presbytery for approval and implementation" and by substituting therefor the following, "and to implement such a program as it is found feasible." Upon voting, the motion to amend carried so that the amended portion would read:

RESOLVED, That this 30th General Council in session recommend that the Executive Presbytery study the feasibility of soul-winning conventions to be held throughout the nation, and/or around the world, directed by the General Superintendent; and to implement such a program as it is found feasible.

Discussion ensued regarding the type of conventions proposed. Some felt they should be of an inspirational, seminar nature similar to the Sunday School Conventions. Others offered the suggestion that the conventions could be held in areas where a "Breakthrough" effort is being put forth and encouragement given to the opening of new works. A further suggestion was made that the conventions should be a combination of study conferences in the day sessions and evangelistic rallies at night.

A motion prevailed that debate cease whereupon the resolution as amended was put to vote and declared carried.

The chair recognized Brother Roy Wead who made the following motion:

That the General Superintendent in cooperation with the Executive Presbytery appoint a committee, composed of the General Superintendent, and chaired by him, three fulltime evangelists, three pastors and three District or General Council Officers, to study the problems of the evangelist and evangelistic meetings throughout our movement in local churches and in area-wide campaigns both at home and abroad, with the purpose of assisting evangelists and promoting such campaigns.

The motion was seconded. Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to refer the motion to the Committee on Evan-

gelism. The motion to refer was lost. The main motion was then voted upon and declared carried.

Honorary General Presbyters Resolution Number 7

Brother Gannon presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, We desire to honor the service and leadership of brethren who formerly gave full-time service to our movement as General Presbyters, and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery in session has given approval to the following action; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That J. O. Savell, formerly an Assistant General Superintendent and a General Presbyter for many years, be appointed as an honorary General Presbyter, and be it further

RESOLVED, That V. G. Greisen, formerly Superintendent of the Kansas District and more recently a Field Secretary of the Foreign Missions Department, be appointed as an honorary General Presbyter.

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that the General Council indicate its desire to approve Brother A. A. Wilson serving as an honorary general presbyter and that it recommend to the General Presbytery that it is the sense of the Council that he be so recognized.

A question of constitutional order was raised and the chair ruled that it would be a proper procedure for the General Council to so express its desire to the General Presbytery, with the understanding it would be subject to the recommendation of the General Presbytery. The motion was voted upon and declared carried.

N. D. Davidson offered a privileged motion:

WHEREAS, Reverend A. A. Wilson has faithfully served our Fellowship as a member of the General Council Executive Presbytery for many years, and is now retiring from this position; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Thirtieth General Council in Session give a rising vote expressing appreciation for the many years of faithful services given to the fellowship by Brother A. A. Wilson; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be requested to give consideration to a proper method of recognition for the contribution that Brother A. A. Wilson has made to the entire Fellowship.

The motion carried unanimously.

Telegrams of Condolence

A motion prevailed authorizing the General Secretary to send telegrams of condolence from the General Council to the following persons:

Mrs. Willis Smith of Seattle, Washington whose husband suffered a heart attack and died during Council;
Mrs. J. Raymond Randolph whose husband and daughter were killed in an accident en route to Council;
Allan J. Randolph, ministerial student at Bethany Bible College in Santa Cruz, California, son of the deceased J. Raymond Randolph;
Reverend and Mrs. N. Sammy Mizell, whose young son had been killed by a runaway motorcycle in Lakeland, Florida;
The Reverend Warren D. Combs family whose son had been electrocuted accidentally at Nampa, Idaho;
The Calvary Tabernacle in Chicago, which had suffered a bus accident in which fourteen children had been injured; and
The City Temple of Granite City, Illinois, the church which had been served by Brother J. Raymond Randolph.

A motion was duly carried to recess the morning meeting at 12:03 noon and to reconvene at 2 o'clock.

The meeting was dismissed with the singing of the Doxology.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 26

Presentation of Chaplains

The afternoon meeting convened at two o'clock. Assistant General Superintendent, Bert Webb, introduced Chaplains John Lindvall, Glenn Brown, Richard Hartman, Ronald DeBock, James Cotton, Duie Jernigan, and Walter Tashnick. A telegram of greetings was read from Chaplain Rupert Hazen.

Chaplains Walter Tashnick, representing the Air Force, Duie Jernigan of the Army, and Glenn Brown of the Navy, spoke briefly of the tremendous challenge offered to the chaplains as well as other Christian men of the Armed

Forces. Each brought greetings from his respective branch. Brother Webb expressed deep appreciation for the reports and for the effectual doors that God has opened and urged that these means be utilized in sending forth the gospel.

Brother Wm. H. Robertson, Secretary of the Southern California District, invoked God's blessing upon the deliberations of the afternoon. The chair declared the afternoon business meeting in order at 2:35.

Spiritual Life Committee

Richard Bergstrom, committee chairman, read the report after which a motion to adopt the report was duly carried.

Opening with a season of prayer, the Spiritual Life Committee met Wednesday afternoon with the following members present: Richard Bergstrom, Chairman; Thomas Brubaker, Earl O'Dell, Kenneth Olson, Joel Palmer, Peter Pilot, Ernest Williams, A. A. Wilson, and Thomas F. Zimmerman.

The committee viewed with grave concern the inroads of materialism and its consequent dearth of spirituality. The effects of this trend are seen in reports of declining growth in both membership and number of churches in the General Council as indicated in the General Secretary's report.

The decline of the Spirit of evangelism was noted, both in the matter of personal witnessing and local church protracted efforts. The compact week-end revivals, "beefed-up" with crowd-gathering schemes, were lamented. The need of militant, aggressive evangelism was expressed, where the evangelist, the pastor and the people are motivated by an unrelenting love for the lost.

While our people may be found in the church community, there is a need of personal, individual commitment to Christ and His cause, Spiritual life can only germinate in the soil of Calvary, watered by prayer, meditation in the Word, and soul-searching consecration.

The Great Commission calls for every-member participation in the ministry of the local church. Too many are spectators in the arena of the church, instead of being contenders for the faith. Far too many are misled to believe that peace and tranquility in the assembly, maintaining the status quo, is the desired goal. Someone has said that, "Peace is dearly bought at the price of spiritual stagnation." But God has called us to struggle for the emancipation of precious souls from the enemy.

It is observed that a diminishing number of youth is responding to the call of the Full Gospel ministry. This is one of the symptoms of a waning revival, and calls for an alarm to be sounded.

The report of the Spiritual Life Committee of the 1961 General Council was read for the committee. This report in detail cited the need for emphasis on (a) the Word of God, (b) prayer and (c) evangelism in maintaining the full bloom of spirituality in our ranks.

In view of the foregoing observations your committee submits the following:

1. That the report of the previous Spiritual Life Committee be commended, and that its burden be conveyed to our constituency.

2. That we, as ministers, re-evaluate our calling in the spirit of the words of Jesus, "If any man would be my disciple, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me," and that we lead our people in the practice of prayer and waiting on God, both by precept and example.

3. In recalling with favor the regional spiritual life conventions initiated by our General Superintendent we would welcome their recurrence if deemed feasible by our executive brethren. We would further recommend that prayer conferences be planned and promoted on the district and sectional levels.

4. While we are witnessing the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Pentecostal fashion on people in the historic churches, and the phenomenal growth of Pentecostal churches in many mission fields, it is incumbent on the mother church to maintain and encourage Pentecostal worship, as we understand these terms.

5. While fully aware of the history of past revivals, and trends which led to their decline and ultimate decease; and cognizant of similar trends that confront us today, we fully agree and boldly declare that the same result is not inevitable—provided spirituality is given priority and God's glory alone is the coveted prize.

Non-Resident Executive Presbyters Presentation

The following brethren, who had been elected to represent the various areas of the fellowship, were presented by the General Superintendent:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| N. D. Davidson | Northwest |
| D. H. McLaughlin | Southwest |
| G. Raymond Carlson | North Central |
| Kermit Reneau | South Central |
| Roy H. Wead | Great Lakes |
| G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. | Gulf |
| Richard Bergstrom | Northeast |
| Edgar Bethany | Southeast |

Each of the brethren spoke briefly, pledging himself to the

task for which he had been chosen. They expressed appreciation to the General Council for the confidence placed in them and for the privilege of serving the fellowship. Brother Zimmerman requested the Council to stand as prayer was offered for the blessings of the Lord to rest upon the brethren who had been chosen to serve.

Annual Questionnaires and Fellowship Cards

Brother Gannon, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, In a survey of districts on the renewal of fellowship cards, many districts were desirous of having the renewal date changed to the first part of the year, and

WHEREAS, There is a confliction of expiration dates, which is confusing to the minister, and

WHEREAS, The cost to the General Council to "lapse" a minister and to then restore his name to the ministerial list is approximately \$6 per individual, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article VI, Section 6, Paragraph 2, be amended to read as follows: "Fellowship certificates are renewable annually and are valid only until January 31 of each year," and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article VI, Section 7, be amended to read as follows: "Inasmuch as all fellowship certificates expire on the 31st day of January of each year, all who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates on or before March 1, 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. Ministers who fail to renew their credentials within the stated time and allow them to lapse shall be assessed the cost of having them renewed."

The motion to adopt Resolution Number Eight affecting the renewal date of ministers' questionnaires was seconded and carried.

Roster Committee Report

A further report was presented of the official registration at the 1963 General Council as of three p.m., Monday, August 26:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 2,284 |
| Delegates | 614 |
| Voting members registered | 2,898 |
| Licensed ministers | 251 |
| Visitors | 2,453 |
| Total registration | 5,602 |

A motion to receive the report was duly carried. It was further moved, seconded and carried that the roster be formally closed at the conclusion of the evening's meeting. The chair expressed deep appreciation to the Roster Committee and to Brother Arthur Berg, chairman, for the fine work done. Registrations during the evening service, brought the total to:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Ordained ministers | 2,285 |
| Delegates | 614 |
| Voting members registered | 2,899 |
| Licensed ministers | 252 |
| Visitors | 3,111 |
| Total registered | 6,262 |

This represents the highest total registration in history, however, the highest voting constituency was registered in Oklahoma City, in 1955, when 2,319 ordained ministers and 587 delegates registered to make a combined total of 2,906.

Allocation of Speed-the-Light Offerings Resolution Number 9

A resolution affecting the percent of offerings returned to the various districts for administrative purposes was presented by the Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, One of the major duties of the District Christ's Ambassadors Presidents is raising Speed-the-Light funds; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that the District Christ's Ambassadors Presidents continue to make Speed-the-Light a prime part of their District work; and

WHEREAS, Some District Christ's Ambassadors Departments do not find the present assignment of world Speed-the-Light offerings as stated in Article XXI, Section 2, designating one-fourth of the twenty per cent allocated for District Home Missions to be used in District C. A. administration, to be adequate for that purpose; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That Article XXI, Section 2, Paragraph 2, be amended to read as follows:

"The portion returned to the district shall be designated for the purchase and erection of property in pioneer fields, with the exception that up to one-half of the twenty per cent returned to District Home Missions under World Speed-the-Light be allowed for the administration of the District Christ's Ambassadors' Office at the discretion of the District Officiary."

After a brief discussion a motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

Aged Ministers' Assistance Resolution Number 10

Brother Gannon presented the following resolution in behalf of the Resolutions Committee, after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Committee on Aged Ministers' Assistance was charged with recommending a revision in the provision for Aged Ministers' Assistance; and

WHEREAS, Problems regarding said assistance have arisen due to the fact that some ministers become ordained at a rather advanced age; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XVI, Section 4, of the Bylaws be amended by substituting the following for paragraphs "a" through "d"

"a. Only ministers who are in good standing may be considered.

"b. The applicant shall have reached the age of sixty-five in the case of an ordained minister, or sixty in the case of a widow of a minister.

"c. Ministers who have been disabled to the extent that they cannot perform their ministerial duties shall also be eligible to make application.

"d. The applicant shall have been an ordained minister in good standing and have held credentials for at least ten years immediately prior to retirement.

"e. The record of the applicant shall indicate that he or she has complied with the approved financial plans of the District and General Councils.

"f. Unqualified endorsement shall be obtained from the District Officer."

The motion to adopt Resolution Number Ten affecting Article XVI Section 4, was seconded and carried.

Sites for Souls

Resolution Number 11

The Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The obtaining of a suitable site is such a vital factor in the success of a pioneer church, and

WHEREAS, Funds available for the purchase of such sites are usually very limited, often resulting in the purchase of inferior sites, and

WHEREAS, The Sites for Souls program developed by the National Home Missions Department, in connection with Breakthrough—8000, and in conjunction with district leadership, is proving very helpful in meeting this need and has the potential to bless our entire Church Extension cause; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Sites for Souls be officially adopted by this General Council in session as a vital part of its home missionary outreach, and be it further

RESOLVED, That every Assemblies of God church be urged to become a Sites for Souls church by pledging a minimum of \$1.00 per member per year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That policies for implementing the program be developed by the Home Missions Department and submitted to the Executive Presbytery for approval.

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

World's Fair Witness

Charles W. H. Scott, Assistant General Superintendent, announced plans to provide an Assemblies of God exhibit at the Protestant Center at the New York World's Fair in 1964-1965. This exhibit will provide a suitable Pentecostal and Gospel witness in this strategic area. Packets containing information about the Fair were distributed. Pledge cards were included which provided opportunity for interested persons to participate in the Assemblies of God exhibit. The cards contained the slogan, "That All the World Might Hear." Prayer was requested for the success of the venture.

General Council Men's Fellowship Committee

Resolution Number 12

A resolution affecting the Men's Fellowship Department was presented by the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There is a growing desire for closer teamwork between ministers and laymen on a district and national basis; and

WHEREAS, A broader national Men's Fellowship organizational structure will more effectively represent the district and area needs on a national basis, and

WHEREAS, Such a national structure will be a more effective testimony of teamwork between ministers and laymen; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XVIII, Section 2, of the By-laws be amended by deleting Paragraphs "c" and "d" and substituting a new Paragraph "c" as follows:

"c. There shall be a Men's Fellowship Committee consisting of the Executive Director and the Secretary of the Men's Fellowship Department, and one minister and one layman from each of the geographical areas as defined in Article II, Section 2, Paragraph "d" of the By-laws.

"The sixteen area members of the committee shall be selected in the following manner:

"The District Presbytery of each District shall nominate two individuals to the Men's Fellowship Committee, one of whom shall be the District Men's Fellowship Director. If the District Director is a layman, a minister shall be nominated as the other representative, and vice versa. All nominations shall reach the office of the Executive Director of the Men's Fellowship Department not later than May 15 of each General Council year. From the nominations submitted, the Executive Presbytery shall select two representatives from each of the eight areas to serve on the committee. No two members shall be from the same district"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a new paragraph "d" shall be added, as follows:

"d. Members of the Men's Fellowship Committee shall serve for a period of two years, or until their successors are appointed."

It is understood that the Men's Fellowship Committee will meet one day prior to the Men's Fellowship Seminar which will involve only one trip to Springfield at no additional cost to the Men's Fellowship budget.

The motion to adopt Resolution Number 12 affecting the Men's Fellowship Committee was seconded and carried.

Site Selection Committee

A committee appointed to consider the invitations received from various cities to entertain the 1965 General Council brought the following report:

Your Site Selection Committee has been pleased to acknowledge invitations from eighteen cities in the United States to host the 1965 General Council.

Sincere appreciation and thanks are extended by this Committee for the kindness expressed by each city which extended an invitation.

Careful consideration has been given to each of the eighteen invitations submitted. Attention was given to auditorium facilities, cost, accessibility of rooms near auditorium, room price, parking and press coverage.

Having interviewed a number of representatives from cities inviting the General Council and having reviewed carefully each of the eighteen invitations submitted, this Committee recommends to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council the following cities as possible sites for the 1965 Council listed in alphabetical order:

Dallas, Texas; Des Moines, Iowa; Long Beach, California; and Rochester, New York.

Respectfully submitted, C. C. Crace, Chairman; James Kofahl, L. D. Wells, James R. Swanson, Paul Fleming, Raymond Hudson and S. Harland Petersen.

There was a motion to adopt the report with the understanding that it would be considered as a guide to the Executive Presbytery in fixing the time and place for the 1965 General Council. The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution on Ecumenicity Resolution Number 13

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery in session in August, 1962 adopted a resolution on ecumenicity, and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery recommended said resolution to become a part of Article XXIV of the Bylaws, "Doctrines and Practices Disapproved," therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXIV be amended by adding a statement setting forth the position of the General Council on the Ecumenical Movement to be known as Section 10 and to read as follows:

"The General Council disapproves of Assemblies of God ministers or churches participating in any of the modern ecumenical organizations on a local, national or international level in such a manner as to promote the Ecumenical Movement, because

"1) We believe said movement to be a sign of the times and contrary to the real Biblical doctrine of spiritual unity in the Church of Jesus Christ, and

"2) We are opposed to ecumenicity based on organic and organizational unity, and

"3) We believe that the combination of many denominations into a World Super Church will probably culminate in the Scarlet Woman or Religious Babylon of Revelation," and be it further

RESOLVED, That this is not interpreted to mean a limitation be imposed on any Assemblies of God minister regarding his Pentecostal witness or participation on a local level with interdenominational activities.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted with the understanding that it may be edited and the information relative to the attitude of the General Council concerning the Ecumenical Movement placed in the Bylaws. The motion was carried unanimously.

Supreme Court Decisions Resolution Number 14

A resolution regarding decisions of the Supreme Court affecting prayer and Bible reading in the public schools was presented by the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. A motion was offered and seconded to amend the resolution to suggest the possibility of circulating a petition to be sent to the members of the legislature. After discussion in which it was pointed out that personal letters are more effective than a petition, the motion to amend was put to a vote but failed to carry. A further motion to amend the resolution

by substituting the word "instructed" for the word "encouraged" in the last paragraph of the resolution was seconded and carried. The original motion to adopt the resolution, as amended, was seconded and carried. The resolution as adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Recent decisions by the Supreme Court relative to Bible reading and prayer in the public schools has been most unacceptable by those who understand that the Constitution of the United States was created and established in accordance with Christian principles, and

WHEREAS, The United States of America has been recognized as a great Christian bulwark against encroachment on personal religious rights and has maintained through the years a separation of Church and State, and

WHEREAS, There is a potential capability of removing from our American currency and coins their godly inscriptions; the changing of reference to God in our National Anthem; robbing our presidential inauguration of its Divine benediction as well as the custom of the President taking oath of office on an open Bible; depriving our Congress of its right of prayer as well as the right of chaplains in the armed forces; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council protest the encroachment upon these traditional God-fearing practices, and be it further

RESOLVED, That our movement cooperate with other religious bodies in bringing about necessary legislation in Congress to safeguard these constitutional religious freedoms, and that our General Council Executives, District Superintendents, pastors and laity be instructed to contact their congressmen deploring the present trend in these areas.

Chaplaincy Department Resolution Number 15

The Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution regarding the establishment of a Chaplaincy Department as an official function of the General Council:

WHEREAS, A Commission on Chaplains and a Prison Division already exist, and

WHEREAS, The mission fields of the chaplaincy, military,

industrial, veterans, civil air patrol and prisons have become generally accepted as specialized ministries in their own spheres within the Assemblies of God fellowship, and

WHEREAS, All divisions of the chaplaincy are uniquely inter-related, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the following be added to Article X of the Bylaws:

"Section 1. Authorization and purpose

"There shall be a Chaplaincy Department of the General Council which shall have the responsibility of all matters pertaining to the specialized ministries of those representing the Assemblies of God in the fields of the military, industry, institutions, and the civil air patrol.

"Section 2. Government and Organization

"a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the executive officers shall appoint one of the executive officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Chaplaincy Department.

"b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a secretary of the Chaplaincy Department, who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the Chaplaincy Department.

"c. A Commission on Chaplains 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 Commission on Chaplains shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the present Article X of the Bylaws and the subsequent articles be appropriately renumbered.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted. In keeping with the provisions of Article XV, Section 2, Paragraph "c" of the General Council Bylaws, the Standing Committee on Finance was asked to evaluate the financial implications of establishing a new department at headquarters. Brother E. Elsworth Krogstad, as acting secretary of the committee, read the committee's report:

After reading and giving due consideration to the proposed resolution to create a Chaplaincy Department in the General Council of the Assemblies of God; without partiality to the aforesaid resolution, your Finance Committee offers its humble opinion and makes the following observations:

1) The creation of the aforesaid department would increase the budget of the General Council between \$1,500 and \$10,000 per year in additional salaries, depending on whether present personnel were used, or new ones were added.

2) This resolution would also place the prison chaplancies under the newly created department and could involve additional financing for them unless an appropriation from the Home Missions Department was made to cover their salaries as at present.

3) Your Finance Committee is not in opposition to the resolution but earnestly desires to caution our entire constituency on making demands upon our treasury. We are now responsible for paying for our new administration building which will require several years, and the entire General Council is operating on a strict and limited financial budget. Our financial position is sound and we must so maintain it with all fiscal responsibility.

4) It would therefore seem wise to include all such future appropriations in the annual budget and make them contingent upon the ability of our income to pay for them without upsetting our rather delicate balance.

5) Therefore, if this General Council in session adopts this or any other legislation requiring the outlay of additional funds, we sincerely recommend the following procedure:

a. Such legislation should become effective and the department activated only after the Director of Budget has provided cost estimates of said expenditures, and the Finance Committee has examined same at its next meeting.

b. The aforesaid being done, the Executive Presbyters shall be empowered to execute the mandate of the resolution, being themselves satisfied that such expenditure shall not jeopardize our financial structure.

A motion prevailed that the report of the Standing Committee on Finance be received with appreciation. The motion on the creation of a Chaplaincy Department was then put to a vote but failed to carry.

Editing Resolution (Number 16)

Brother T. E. Gannon read and moved the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, This General Council has adopted resolutions and Bylaw changes; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery take the responsibility of editing those resolutions and properly placing them in the Bylaws, with the understanding that the principle and intent of the resolutions involved, or the Article amended, be not changed or altered.

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded and carried.

Church Membership Committee

Brother Charles W. H. Scott, chairman of the committee on church membership, presented the following report in behalf of the committee.

The Church Membership Committee, appointed by the Executive Presbytery, would respectfully call to the attention of this General Council the need to integrate the born-again Christians who attend our churches into the active membership of our Assemblies.

Both the General Superintendent and the General Secretary have pointed out in their reports the trend which has been developing in the deceleration of growth in our fellowship during the past few years. According to the graph on page 14 of the printed reports, only 5,930 new members have been added to our 8,302 church rosters during the past biennium. If these figures which are taken from the annual church reports are accurate, it means that each of our Assemblies has gained less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a member. The percentage of increase is .71 per church.

In order to have uniformity of tabulation it is recommended that membership in our churches should give the total of all active Christians who have been received into the fellowship of each Assembly. This would include the junior members, as well as those who qualify as voting members. All such members received into an Assembly of God should meet the scriptural requirements for membership which are stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of the church.

It is further recommended that the officers of our District Councils make this a matter of concern by empha-

sizing the importance of this scriptural relationship and its importance in building strong Assemblies. The General Secretary is making available regular church file cards to our district offices (at a nominal cost) for their use in keeping proper records of the church membership in their district. Other helps are available to our churches and pastors and may be secured from the Gospel Publishing House.

It would appear to your committee that as a movement we must recognize this as a vital spiritual problem demanding the attention of all of us.

The growth of the early church began with 3,000 new members on the Day of Pentecost. The fifth chapter of Acts describes the believers who were added to the Lord as, "Multitudes, both of men and women" and goes on to say in Acts 6:7, "The number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly...."

All of this growth in the early church was the result of the gracious manifestation of the Holy Spirit among the people. We have the same Holy Spirit working among us, the same effectual message of the gospel, the same manifestations of God to convict of sin and bring men and women to repentance that they too might find their place in the body of Christ, before the coming of the Lord.

God help us then to accept the challenge by enlisting those who are of "like precious faith" and going into the "highways and byways" to reach others with our life-giving message.

A motion prevailed that the report be accepted.

Resolution of Appreciation (Number 17)

Brother T. E. Gannon, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, expressed his appreciation to members of the committee for their untiring efforts and cooperation in the work of processing resolutions for the General Council. He explained that there were a few resolutions submitted to the committee too late for processing and therefore were not being brought before this session of the General Council. Brother Gannon then presented the following resolution after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, This 30th General Council of the Assemblies of God has reached a new high in almost every phase of its activity; and

WHEREAS, This fact has been accomplished through an unusual spirit of cooperation among the many people responsible for the Council and has resulted in a memorable experience for all of us; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the official records of our organization designate our deep feelings of gratitude to the following: District Superintendent E. E. Blythe; officers and members of the Tennessee District; local pastors who assisted in various assignments as chairmen of committees; the City of Memphis for its warm-hearted reception of the convention; the hotels and motels; friends who provided rooms in private homes; the Chamber of Commerce and Jim Wood of the Convention Bureau for their work in pre-registration and housing; all mass media for excellent coverage of convention activity (The Commercial Appeal, The Memphis Press-Scimitar, and the syndicated news services, United Press International and Associated Press); television and radio stations; Emmet Maum, a local newspaperman and member of First Assembly, who worked full time in our publicity office sacrificing his vacation time to do so; the Hammond Organ Company and the Jackie Marshall Music Company for furnishing organs for convention use; Carl Conner and staff for their many services in public relations and publicity; the staff of the Ellis Auditorium, who have sought to make our convention meeting place comfortable and convenient; and to all committees and personnel working behind the scenes to give us a smooth-functioning Council; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we express to our General Superintendent, his fellow executive officers and their respective staffs, our appreciation for herculean effort in preparing and directing this Council, and for their work in guiding our entire Fellowship these past two years, and be it further

RESOLVED, That a vote of appreciation is hereby extended to those Executive and General Presbyters who are retiring from office for the contributions they have made to our Fellowship.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Brother Arthur L. Shell presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The evangelist is advised to refrain from ministering in non-Council churches (Article VI, Section 17); and

WHEREAS, Churches are advised only to avoid receiving strangers . . . (Article VII, Section 3); and

WHEREAS, Many churches are using non-Council evangelists which tends to confuse, and often is detrimental to the fellowship; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Thirtieth General Council recommend that Assemblies of God churches use only Assemblies of God evangelists, or evangelists approved by the district officers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed to rewrite Article VII, Section 3, and that its report be presented at the next General Council Session.

The motion was seconded. After discussion a motion prevailed that this entire matter be referred to the Executive Presbytery for study, and that its findings be presented to the next General Presbytery Session.

The General Superintendent commended all the ministers and delegates for the unanimity and fine attitude shown on the Council floor. He expressed gratefulness to the Lord for His help in the deliberations. Special thanks were extended to all the retired officers and brethren for their presence and the inspiration they had been to all. He urged that all give themselves anew and afresh to the carrying out of the Great Commission.

There being no further business before the Council there was a motion to adjourn this 30th General Council at the close of the evening service, sine die. The motion was seconded. Brother Zimmerman asked for a standing vote and led the assembly in the singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

Brother J. Roswell Flower pronounced the benediction at 5:15 p.m.

BARTLETT PETERSON,
General Secretary

**Constitution of the General Council of the Assemblies of God in the United States of America
and Foreign Lands Revised to
August 26, 1963**

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. This Statement of Fundamental Truths is intended simply as a basis of fellowship among us (i.e., that we all speak the same thing, 1 Cor. 1:10; Acts 2:42). The phraseology employed in this 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 Biblical truth, only that it covers our need as to these fundamental doctrines.

1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 11; Matthew 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 Cooperation 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 **cooperation**. 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, cooperation 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. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- (a) His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31, 35).
- (b) His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22).
- (c) His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- (d) His substitutionary work on the cross (1 Cor. 15:3; 2 Cor. 5:21).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Cor. 15:4).
- (f) His exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9, 11; 2:33; Philippians 2:9-11; Hebrews 1-3).

4. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However,

man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

5. The Salvation of Man

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

(a) Conditions to Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

(b) The Evidences of Salvation

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24; Titus 2:12).

6. The Ordinances of the Church

(a) Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47, 48; Romans 6:4).

(b) Holy Communion

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 Baptism in the Holy Ghost

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 comes 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 experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Ghost come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Heb. 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

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. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Rom. 12:1, 2; 1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 13:12). The Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." (Heb. 12:14) By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy." (1 Peter 1:15, 16)

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. (Rom. 6:1-11, 13; 8:1, 2, 13; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 2:12, 13; 1 Peter 1:5)

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 (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

11. The Ministry

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; Ephesians 4:11-13).

12. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matt. 8:16, 17; James 5:14-16).

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; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:51, 52).

14. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zech. 14:5; Matt. 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21, 22; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:26, 27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3, 4).

15. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. The New Heavens and the 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

1. 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 officer for help. It may appeal from a decision by the District officer 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 regularly called session of the General Council provided that the proposed amendments shall have been submitted at least six months prior thereto in writing to the Executive Presbytery. Before the Executive Presbytery may submit such proposed amendments for consideration by a session of the General Council, it shall cause notice thereof to be provided by mail to the office of each District Superintendent and each District Secretary, and by insertion in the letter mailed quarterly to General Council ministers not later than sixty days prior to said session. Amendments to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting.

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 nominations for eight non-resident executive presbyters shall be made as follows: Each District Council shall at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session nominate one minister from its district to be presented to the General Council as a nominee from its area. These nominees shall be presented to and balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and to elect.

d. For the purpose of electing non-resident executive presbyters, the General Council shall be divided into eight areas, according to district boundary lines in the following manner:

Northwest Area: Northwest, Oregon, Montana, Southern Idaho, Wyoming

Southwest Area: Northern California-Nevada, Southern California, Arizona, Rocky Mountain

North Central Area: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, West Central, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan

South Central Area: Kansas, New Mexico, West Texas, Oklahoma, North Texas, South Texas

Great Lakes Area: Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Appalachian

Gulf Area: Southern Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi

Northeast Area: Northern New England, Southern New England, Eastern, New Jersey, New York, Potomac

Southeast Area: Alabama, West Florida, Peninsular Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina

Branches: Members of the foreign language branches shall vote in the area wherein they reside.

Missionaries: Missionaries on furlough shall vote with their home districts.

e. 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.

f. 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 one 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 emphasize, coordinate and promote evangelism in all of its phases throughout the fellowship. In consultation with the Executive Presbytery, he shall appoint an Evangelism Committee to serve during the General Council biennium.

g. 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.

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

i. 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 General 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 a 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 January 31 of each year.

Section 7. Expiration of Fellowship Certificates.

Inasmuch as all fellowship certificates expire on the 31st day of January of each year, all who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates on or before March 1, 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. Ministers who fail to renew their credentials within the stated time and allow them to lapse shall be assessed the cost of having them renewed.

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, their names shall be eliminated from the ministerial list. It shall be understood that this shall not apply to those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry, to individuals who have had fifteen or more years of approved service as ordained ministers of the Assemblies of God, nor to inactivity caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health. Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing the endorsement of the District Officiary.

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 helpful 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 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," "disapproved," 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. A minister who has elected to remove himself from the fellowship, and against whom there are no charges filed, shall be listed as having "withdrawn." A minister may be listed as "removed" from the fellowship because of 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, or an arbitrary rejection of district counsel. A minister who is under serious charges, or who has been given a probationary period for adjusting minor offenses, may be listed as "suspended." One who has been found guilty of indiscretions or misconduct of a less serious nature, or has evidenced a declared open change in doctrinal views may be listed as "disapproved." A minister who has been found guilty of indiscretions involving morals, or other serious misconduct, shall be listed as "dropped."

Section 13. Restoration of Credentials

a. When a minister who is a member of our fellowship shall have been removed from our rolls for any cause, except failure to renew, and shall apply to be reinstated, he shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement until at least six months shall have elapsed after his name has been stricken 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 Presbytery 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.

b. Applications for reinstatement may be made through the District Council within which territory the applicant's residence may be found, but the application will be considered subject to the approval of the District in which the termination was made.

c. The term "reinstatement" shall apply only to those who have withdrawn for reasons of doctrine or practices incompatible with General Council principles or to those who have been under discipline, but whose records have received district clearance. The term "renewed" shall be used to apply strictly to those who for inadvertent reasons fail to comply with the annual questionnaire deadlines and are restored to the ministerial list again.

Section 14. Discipline of Members.

Occasion 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 15. 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 16. Violations of Ministerial Courtesy.

All discourteous conduct is disapproved, and all ministers 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 Officiary 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 17. 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 cooperation in all our pastoral, evangelistic, missionary, and local church work and business. Therefore, we recommend that our ministers consult with our Council officials before engaging in ministry with a non-Council assembly in any given area of the District, so as to ascertain whether or not such non-Council assembly is approved as to doctrinal standards and cooperative 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 18. 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 19. 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 Officiary 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, as defined and interpreted by the Manual of Jurisprudence.

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 conducted the trial shall, in such 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. Annual Reports from Assemblies

Each church of the Assemblies of God shall be requested to keep an up-to-date record of its membership and a report of the same shall be sent annually to the office of the District Secretary and the General Council Secretary on forms provided.

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 primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

c. 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.

d. 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.

e. 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 "f" 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 department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. The decisions of the Foreign Missions Board shall be subject to review by the General Presbytery as well as the Executive Presbytery.

d. 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. Evaluate missions policies consistently 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.

e. 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.

f. 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.

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.

h. 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 cooperation 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 XX, 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.

b. All funds assigned to particular persons shall be forwarded by the Foreign Missions Department exactly as directed, except that two per cent of all missionary funds (with the exclusion of special designations) handled directly by the Department shall be transferred to an Emergency Fund to meet emergency expenses for which the Foreign Missions Department is responsible.

c. 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.

d. 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.

e. It is recommended that districts endorsing candidates for missionary appointment assume as far as is practicable responsibility for their support.
(See Article XX. 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.

a. 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.

b. The primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning in its field of activity.

c. The work of the department shall include

(1) Church Extension

(2) Ministry among those people in the United States 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.

The primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

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 and under the general supervision of 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 primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

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.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. The Sunday School Counselor.

The Sunday School Counselor 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.

c. The primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

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. There shall be an Editorial Policy Board, composed of the non-resident Executive Presbyters, together with the Director of Publications who shall serve as chairman. It shall be the responsibility of this board to provide field-related guidance and suggestions, specifically with relation to *The Pentecostal Evangel* and *Pulpit*. Meetings shall be held quarterly.

d. 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.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive 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. Its primary responsibility shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

- 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.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. Official Organ.

The official organ of the department shall be *The Christ's Ambassadors Herald*.

Section 4. District Organizations.

a. 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 officary 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.

b. The manner of election of the District C. A. President will be according to the provisions of the District Constitution and Bylaws. He shall be an ordained minister. It is recommended that he will be under the age of thirty-five at the time of his first election, but may be retained as long as his service is desired.

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 XX. World Missions Plan)

ARTICLE XIV. RADIO DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

There shall be a Radio Department of the General Council, whose primary responsibility shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

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.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

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. They shall be responsible to give preliminary survey and advice concerning any major project on the denominational or departmental level involving the expenditure of funds. Any project to be submitted for consideration by the General Council which involves the expenditure of funds shall first be submitted to this committee for review and advice.

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.

d. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

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 Benevolences Department Committee shall serve for a period of one year, or until its successors are appointed.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. Benevolence Funds.

The Department shall be authorized to solicit regular contributions 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. Only ministers who are in good standing may be considered.

b. The applicant shall have reached the age of sixty-five in the case of an ordained minister, or sixty in the case of a widow of a minister.

c. Ministers who have been disabled to the extent that they cannot perform their ministerial duties shall also be eligible to make application.

d. The applicant shall have been an ordained minister in good standing and have held credentials for at least ten years immediately prior to retirement.

e. The record of the applicant shall indicate that he or she has complied with the approved financial plans of the District and General Councils.

f. Unqualified endorsement must be given by the District Officiary.

Section 5. Homes of the Aged and Homes for Children.

General Council benevolent institutions shall be operated by Boards of Directors appointed by the Benevolences Department Committee; said boards shall be responsible to the Benevolences 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 whose primary responsibility shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

The Department shall serve:

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*, 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.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

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 primary responsibility of this department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning within its field of activity.

c. 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.

d. 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. There shall be a Men's Fellowship Committee consisting of the Executive Director and the Secretary of the Men's Fellowship Department, and one minister and one layman from each of the geographical areas as defined in Article II, Section 2, Paragraph "d" of the Bylaws. The sixteen area members of the committee shall be selected in the following manner:

The District Presbytery of each District shall nominate two individuals to the Men's Fellowship Committee, one of whom shall be the District Men's Fellowship Director. If the District Director is a layman, a minister shall be nominated as the other representative, and vice versa. All nominations shall reach the office of the Executive Director of the Men's Fellowship Department not later than May 15 of each General Council year. From the nominations submitted, the Executive Presbytery shall select two representatives from each of the eight areas to serve on the committee. Only one member may be selected from a single district.

d. Members of the Men's Fellowship Committee shall serve for a period of two years, or until their successors are appointed.

e. The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

ARTICLE XIX. 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 XX. 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

Before assignments from Speed-the-Light offerings are made to any projects an amount not to exceed ten per cent of the total offerings received shall be allocated to administrative costs of Speed-the-Light. It is recommended that the remainder of Speed-the-Light offerings shall be divided as follows:

75% Foreign Missions—Speed-the-Light

20% District Home Missions—Speed-the-Light

5% Special Ministries—Home Missions, 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 up to one-half of the twenty per cent returned to District Home Missions under World Speed-the-Light be allowed for the administration of the District Christ's Ambassadors Office at the discretion of the District Officer.

The portion allocated to Special Ministries shall be restricted to missionaries under Home Missions appointment, especially those ministering in Alaska and to the American Indians.

ARTICLE XXI. 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, a properly incorporated body shall be formed and title to the property shall be transferred to the corporation taking into consideration equity that the title holder may legitimately have.

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 XXII. 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 XXIII. 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 min-

isters 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 Executive Presbytery.

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.

Section 10. The Ecumenical Movement

The General Council disapproves of Assemblies of God ministers or churches participating in any of the modern ecumenical organizations on a local, national or international level in such a manner as to promote the Ecumenical Movement, because

- 1) We believe said movement to be a sign of the times and contrary to the real Biblical doctrine of spiritual unity in the Church of Jesus Christ, and
- 2) We are opposed to ecumenicity based on organic and organizational unity, and
- 3) We believe that the combination of many denominations into a World Super Church will probably culminate in the Scarlet Woman or Religious Babylon of Revelation.

(This is not to be interpreted to mean that a limitation may be imposed upon any Assemblies of God minister regarding his Pentecostal witness or participation on a local level with interdenominational activities.)

ARTICLE XXIV. 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 XXV. 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 XXVI. 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.

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