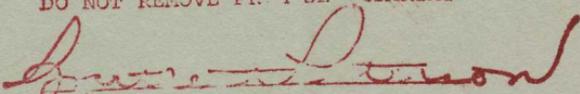


# MINUTES

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 THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL COUNCIL  
Des Moines, Iowa, August 25-30, 1965

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**Thirty-First**  
**GENERAL COUNCIL**  
of the  
**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**

(Incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri, October 13, 1916; amended September 26, 1919 and September 7, 1965)

Convened at Des Moines, Iowa  
August 25-30, 1965

(Printed in the U.S.A.)

## FOREWORD

This book presents the official record of the business proceedings of the Thirty-First General Council of the Assemblies of God, convened at Des Moines, Iowa, August 25-30, 1965, and the revised edition of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

Since *The Pentecostal Evangel* traditionally carries a full account of the evening services, only brief reference is made to them in the text of the official minutes. We do wish, however, to acknowledge with deep appreciation the inspired ministry of the brethren who served in the evangelistic rallies: The General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman, Bond P. Bowman, Thurman L. Faison, Lorne F. Fox, H. Syvelle Phillips, Victor Trimmer, and C. M. Ward, *Revivaltime* speaker.

We wish also to acknowledge with grateful appreciation the assistance of those who served on committees, and in many other ways to assure a successful General Council.

On behalf of the General Council Fellowship, we express our sincere thanks to all ministers, delegates and friends for hard work, prayers and presence which made this General Council one of the best in the history of our church.

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 of Men's Fellowship Department, Gen-  
eral Services, Chairman of the Board of the Ministers'  
Benefit Association and Chairman of the Chaplains Com-  
mission
- Theodore E. Gannon ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
Executive Director of the Sunday School Department,  
the Christ's Ambassadors Department and the Depart-  
ment of Education
- J. Philip Hogan ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
Executive Director of The Foreign Missions Department
- C. W. H. Scott ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
Executive Director of the Department of Benevolences  
and the Home Missions Department
- Bert Webb ..... Assistant General Superintendent  
Executive Director Department of Publications and the  
Radio Department
- Bartlett Peterson ..... General Secretary  
Executive Director of the Women's Missionary Council  
Department
- M. B. Netzel ..... General Treasurer  
Executive Director of Finance Department, Communica-  
tions and Purchasing

### Executive Presbytery

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

Joseph R. Flower, 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.

## MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT DES MOINES, IOWA

AUGUST 25-30, 1965

The Thirty-First General Council convened in the Veterans Memorial Auditorium, on Wednesday, August 25, at 7:15 p.m. The General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, brought a challenging keynote message entitled "Where the Spirit Leads." His text was comprised of a selection of scriptures: Acts 1:1; John 14:12, 16:14; and Hebrews 12:2. The congregation responded to his message with a season of prayer and praise.

The spiritual tone of each day's activities was set in the morning prayer meetings. The Reverend A. A. Wilson, retired pastor and former Executive Presbyterian, was in charge of the service week-day mornings from Thursday through Saturday between eight and nine o'clock. The prayer service on Monday morning was conducted by Watson Argue. Several hundred people gathered each morning for this time of waiting on God.

Prior to the opening of the General Council, a community visitation program was sponsored by the local churches as a project of the Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission. This program was undoubtedly a great contributory factor in the success of the General Council and as an informational and promotional feature of the Assemblies of God churches to the city of Des Moines and the surrounding area. Workers distributed *The Pentecostal Evangel* and other literature as residents were invited to attend the General Council. The project was a part of the nationwide evangelism literature emphasis.

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26

Brother Robert Graber was in charge of the devotional service on Thursday morning, with Brother Phil Wannemacher leading the congregational singing. Special prayer was requested for the William Ashpole family (pastor of Montevideo, Minnesota, Assembly of God) who had been involved

in an accident. Brother E. M. Clark offered the opening prayer remembering this and other needs. An offertory selection was rendered by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ferrin at the piano and organ. Prior to the message of the morning, Brother and Sister Marcus Gaston presented a vocal duet entitled "Nothing Less."

Brother Russell Williams, Superintendent of the Eastern District, brought the devotional message on the theme "The Will of God." His text was taken from John 7:17 and I Chronicles 16:10, 11. To know God's will for our lives, Brother Williams emphasized three points: We must *determine* to know His will at all times, *purpose* to know His will and *determine* to do His will.

The General Superintendent called upon Brother J. Roswell Flower to invoke God's blessing on this 31st General Council session.

Brother Zimmerman officially called the business meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Members of the Executive Presbytery were introduced, including Executive Officers Howard S. Bush, J. Philip Hogan, Gayle F. Lewis, Martin B. Netzel, Charles W. H. Scott, Bert Webb and Bartlett Peterson and non-resident Executives: Edgar W. Bethany, G. Raymond Carlson, N. D. Davidson, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., D. H. McLaughlin, Kermit Reneau and Roy H. Wead.

Also introduced were retired Executive Officers: J. R. Flower, Noel Perkin, Fred Vogler, and J. O. Savell. He called upon each of these brethren for an expression of greetings.

The chairman requested the General Secretary to read greetings from a number who were unable to attend the Council.

A telegram was received from former General Superintendent Ralph M. Riggs,

"Beloved Brethren of the General Presbytery and General Council, my thoughts and prayers are with you on this joyous occasion. I rejoice with you in the fine progress made in recent years under the excellent leadership which we enjoy. The blessed Holy Spirit leads and gives us the victory as we follow Him. Sincerest love to all."

A letter from former General Superintendent Ernest S. Williams,

"God bless you all at the Council. Please convey our greetings to the Council and our best wishes for a time of wonderful fellowship."

A motion prevailed that the General Secretary be requested, on behalf of the General Council, to send telegrams of official greeting to Brother Ernest S. Williams and Brother Ralph M. Riggs.

Other messages were received from Major Jim Cotton, an Assemblies of God Chaplain; Brother V. G. Greisen, who is ministering in Europe; and from Brother David McDowell, Honorary General Presbyter and former Executive Officer.

The chairman expressed appreciation for the hospitality that is being afforded to the General Council by the city of Des Moines. He recognized the host District Superintendent, T. E. Gannon who introduced the Honorable George Whitmer, City Councilman of Des Moines. The honorable Mr. Whitmer had been requested to welcome the convention on behalf of Mayor Ilse who had been called out of the city by the federal government on a missile inspection tour.

Mr. Whitmer stated, "I deem it a great privilege to have the opportunity of being present in this gathering to welcome the people from all of our states and from all over the world who are gathered here to engage in the spiritual uplift of the whole world. I bring greetings to you from Mayor Ilse and a very warm welcome to you from the city of Des Moines. This is a city of many churches and denominations and that is very important and is good for any community. We wish for you great success. We wish for you everything that is good because your being here is good for everyone of us. Everyone in Des Moines will be better for your presence, and your presence will make a tremendous impact in this community. We are greatly honored. May God bless you."

The General Superintendent responded by stating, "On behalf of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, it is my privilege to tell you how delighted and happy we are to meet in your city. Every courtesy and consideration has been shown to us. We have especially appreciated the attitude of the city government. The Assemblies of God represents a far-reaching organization of approximately 8,500 churches, 15,000 ordained and licensed ministers in the U.S., and nearly 900 missionaries laboring in seventy-two countries of the world. We feel it a great honor to convene this Thirty-First General Council in the city of Des Moines. We have come, not to take from you, but with a prayer in our hearts that we may leave something as a result of our having met here in your city. We pray God's blessing upon you, Councilman Whitmer."

## General Council Committees

Attention was called to the committees which had been appointed to serve the 1965 General Council:

### Finance Committee

M. B. Netzel, Chairman; E. M. Clark, T. E. Gannon

### Ministerial Relations

Jesse Smith, Chairman; Earl Book, T. C. Cunningham, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., F. J. Lindquist, Gordon Matheny, W. F. Mercer, T. H. Spence, Kelly Wigfield

### Parliamentary

R. D. E. Smith, Chairman; Carl E. Callihan, Harland S. Petersen

### Program

G. W. Hardcastle, Jr., Chairman; Wayne Adams, James D. Brown, Robert M. Graber, Eugene Gustafson, Bobby D. Hoskins, John McDuff, LeRoy Sanders, John Thompson

### Resolutions

Leland Keys, Chairman; L. H. Arnold, Thomas R. Brubaker, Lester W. Dickinson, Ivar Frick, Fenton Jones, Klaude Kendrick, E. E. Krogstad, John Lindvall, Vernon Pettenger, Harold Schmitt, Raymond Thompson

### Roster

Arthur Berg, Chairman; E. G. Aldridge, Watson Argue, Jr., Gerald Balius, G. H. Blair, Eugene Born, W. W. Brandt, E. C. Bredbenner, B. B. Compton, Earl Cummings, D. F. Flanagan, James Griggs, Owen Hodges, J. D. Middlebrook, Fred Smolchuck, Paul Tinlin, Alvin Sprecher

### Site Selection

Phinis Lewis, Chairman; Everett D. Cooley, David Flower, Joseph L. Gerhart, Herman Rohde

### Spiritual Life

Wesley Morton, Chairman; Willis Berry, Stanford E. Linzey, James D. Menzie, Joel Palmer, S. Harland Petersen, Edward Scratch, Ernest C. Sumrall, E. S. Williams, A. A. Wilson, T. F. Zimmerman

### Tellers

Willis Berry, Chairman; Arnold Q. Hashman, Captain; G. L. Johnson, Captain; Arthur Shell, Captain; Joe W. Adams, Earl Adamson, Gardner Altman, Robert Beckman, S. K. Biffle, Jr., Ed Blount, Stephen Bogdan, Marshall Calloway, D. B. Chaney, Kenneth L. Claycomb, Clarence O. Cope, Hugh M. Corey, Howard L. Cummings, Howard Davidson, Richard

Dortch, Charles J. Eastes, Warren Grant, Merle J. Harris, Wayne Hemphill, E. E. Hembree, George Hendrickson, Carl Holleman, George L. Hubbard, T. D. Jennings, Daniel Johnson, Gerritt Kenyon, Ronald Loy, Stanley Lyon, Richard G. Mohrman, E. A. North, Warren Piersol, A. J. Pope, Glen Rich, Wm. L. Stephens, Donald H. Waggoner, L. D. Wells, Cameron Wilson, Elias Zarro

### Committee on Arrangements

J. Philip Hogan, Chairman; Howard Bush, Bert Webb, Thomas F. Zimmerman

## National Committees

### Convention Coordinator

Carl G. Conner

### Exhibiting-Trucking

Melvin Snyder

### Information

J. O. Harrell

### Personal Workers

Burton Pierce

### Platform Coordinator

D. V. Hurst, Dick Champion, Assistant

### Publicity

Tom Gerdis

### Ushers

Bill Eastlake

## Local Committees

### Equipment

David Houghton, Chairman; Hilton Griswold, William L. Willis

### Exhibit-Trucking

D. G. Brewer, Chairman; M. C. Fishel, M. H. Mooberry

### Housing

David Houghton

### Personal Workers

L. N. Huffman, Chairman; C. M. Johnson, R. W. Wenig

### Publicity

Charles T. Crabtree, Chairman; Samuel Reaves, Norman Tosten

It was moved and seconded that the list of committees be ratified. The motion for ratification carried.

The chairman gave recognition to the local committees which had worked so faithfully in making arrangements for the General Council.

#### **Adoption of Agenda**

The chair called attention to the printed agenda found in the General Council program folder on page 14.

A motion prevailed for the adoption of the tentative agenda as a guide for the business of the Council session.

#### **General Superintendent's Report**

Brother Gayle F. Lewis served in the chair as General Superintendent T. F. Zimmerman gave his report. The full text of his report is contained in the printed Departmental Reports. He summarized the activities of our general headquarters and reported on the world outreach of the Assemblies of God, including the hosting of the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America, the joint emphasis with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and the Assemblies of God of Great Britain and Ireland, on the united-week-of-prayer, and the World Pentecostal Conference which convened in Helsinki in 1964. Also highlighted was a report on implementing the Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission, the Fiftieth Anniversary and the New Assemblies of God publication, *Advance*. In closing, he called attention again to the General Council theme—*Looking unto Jesus... Hebrews 12:1,2*.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report of the General Superintendent be accepted with appreciation. The motion carried. Brother Zimmerman returned to the chair.

#### **General Secretary's Report**

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, presented his report (beginning with page 11 of the report booklet) which included pertinent information from the Internal Revenue Service regarding exemption from Federal Income tax and deductibility of contributions. Several paragraphs from the IRS ruling were quoted. Attention was called to the small "net" gain in the number of churches and the relatively small number of licensed ministers added to the ministerial ranks each year. He stated that a few years ago, a larger percentage of our youth felt called to the ministry. He urged that we "Preach the Calling" and "Pray Concerning the Need," that the Lord will send forth laborers into His harvest field.

Attention was called to several graphs of statistics in the report booklet giving the number of ordained ministers, churches, and church membership.

It was moved, seconded and carried that this report be accepted.

#### **General Treasurer's Report**

The General Treasurer, M. B. Netzel, reviewed the financial experience of the General Council for the fiscal biennium. He called attention to the printed report found on pages 19 to 67. The first section contained a review of the activities of the Finance Department, including financial tables and "pies" giving comparative figures for the distribution of receipts. Summaries showing comparative Gospel Publishing House sales and contributions by ministers were also included. The Auditor's report reflected a healthy over-all growth in finances. The total for all funds was reported at \$14,558,574 in 1965 which compared to \$13,421,671 in 1964, an increase of 8.5 percent. Brother Netzel projected a figure also showing a 14.4 percent increase over the past biennium.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the General Treasurer be accepted with the understanding that questions may be raised at any time regarding the financial operation. The motion carried.

A motion prevailed to recess until 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Special prayer was offered for Sister H. W. Stevens of Hamburg, New York, who had been taken to the hospital with a heart attack. Following the singing of the Doxology, J. Robert Ashcroft offered the closing prayer.

#### **THURSDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 26**

The Council reconvened at two o'clock. Brother Robert M. Graber led the song service and Brother Tom Johnstone, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, offered prayer.

The General Superintendent introduced representatives from other Pentecostal denominations: Ira H. Moses, Church of God Mountain Assembly; M. E. Nicholls, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel; Frank Smith, Open Bible Standard Churches; C. H. Stiller, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada; and Tom Johnstone, Secretary of the Pentecostal Fellowship of North America. Each of these Brethren brought greetings in behalf of the various fellowships represented.

Telegrams of greetings were received also from Chester I. Miller, General Overseer of the Pentecostal Churches of Christ and Stanley Burse, President of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland.

### Cooperative Plan Giving Recognition

M. B. Netzel, assisted by Curtis Ringness, secretary of the Stewardship Division, presented appropriate plaques in recognition of three districts and five churches which led the fellowship in Cooperative Plan Giving:

#### Districts:

North Dakota (Kenneth E. Olson, Superintendent)	49.5 percent
New Jersey (Frederick D. Eide, Superintendent)	45.7 percent
Minnesota (Herman H. Rohde, Superintendent)	35.1 percent

#### Churches:

Calvary Full Gospel Assembly  
Inglewood, California; Marcus Gaston, Pastor  
Bethel Temple, Los Angeles, California;  
Arne H. Vick, Pastor  
Glad Tidings Tabernacle, New York, N. Y.;  
Mrs. Marie Brown and Stanley Berg, co-pastors  
First Assembly of God, Sunnyvale, California;  
Ralph Hillegas, Pastor (The plaque was received by R. A. Wilson, Assistant Superintendent of the Northern California-Nevada District, in the absence of Brother Hillegas.)  
Brightmoor Tabernacle, Detroit, Michigan;  
Bond Bowman, Pastor

### Departmental Reports

The General Superintendent introduced departmental leadership personnel who were seated on the platform. He expressed appreciation to members of the headquarters staff who were in attendance at the General Council, and also for a much larger group of dedicated workers at headquarters. He commented on the excellent service rendered by all the departments and the fine leadership of the Directors and Secretaries.

Following the introduction of the headquarters' personnel, a visually illustrated narration with colored slides 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 reports be accepted with appreciation and that the motion include a request that a presentation of this type be continued. The motion was voted upon and carried.

### Ministers' Insurance Committee Report

Brother Roy Wead, chairman of the committee read the following report:

"In compliance to a motion passed by the General Council in 1963 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 following committee was appointed: Roy Wead, Chairman; G. F. Lewis, Kermit Reneau, D. H. McLaughlin, G. Raymond Carlson.

"Your committee has given careful, prayerful, sincere and extensive study to this problem. We have conferred with and sought the advice of our Executive officers, insurance representatives, interested fellow ministers, the General Presbytery, and whosoever will. We have studied the reports of former General Council committees dealing with this problem as well as a number of related committees of the General Presbytery and Executive Presbytery.

"We have secured the service of one of the finest and most reputable independent actuarial firms in the country, a firm that is familiar with our insurance program and overall problem and that has on occasions in the past made a close study of our program.

"After making another thorough actuarial study of our program, the firm of Nelson and Warren recommends:

"That the present General Council Group Insurance Plan be amended to provide \$4,000 for deaths occurring prior to age 40; \$3,000 for deaths occurring prior to age 65; \$600 for deaths occurring after age 65.

"We believe that the actuary's recommendation can be effected without increasing, or changing the cost to our ministers, by adding the annual interest on the reserve fund accumulated from dividends and maintained by the General Council.

The following two pages illustrate:

TABLE 2

Year	1958 N&W Projection		Actual Experience		1964 N&W Projection	
	No. of Lives	No. of Deaths	No. of Lives	No. of Deaths	No. of Lives	No. of Deaths
1958	9994	104	10262	76		
1959	10061	113	10123	83		
1960	10122	118	10158	73		
1961	10200	125	9999	103		
1962	10276	130	10139	91		
1963	10375	136	10391	93		
1964	10430	143			11076	120
1965	10505	149			11208	126
1966	10571	155			11287	130
1967	10659	161			11386	135
1968	10753	167			11495	141
1969					11604	146
1970					11806	151
Ultimate	12346	271			13146	264

\*From Nelson Warren Report, August 5, 1964

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TABLE 3

Year	Premium Income (Ministers & District Council) (1)	Claims Incurred (2)	Retention (3)	Interest Earned on Reserve .04 X (6) (4)	Increase in Reserve (1)-(2)-(3)+(4) (5)	Reserve (5)+(6) (6)
1963						\$375,000
1964	230,064	195,000	12,000	15,000	38,064	413,064
1965	230,064	198,000	12,000	16,523	36,587	449,651
1966	230,064	200,000	12,000	17,986	36,050	485,701
1967	230,064	202,500	12,000	19,428	34,992	520,693
1968	230,064	205,500	12,000	20,828	33,392	554,085
1969	230,064	208,000	12,000	22,163	32,227	586,312
1970	230,064	211,000	12,000	23,452	30,516	616,828
Ultimate	230,064	244,500	12,000	26,436	-0-	660,900

\*From Nelson Warren Report, August 5, 1964

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"Another table, we believe, that will be of interest shows the bargain our men receive in this insurance program at all ages follows:

INSURANCE RATES PER 1,000 PER YEAR

Age	Life	Level Term	Dividend Term	Straight Term	Our Own Program
25	19.19	6.73	12.19	9.10	5.40
30	22.12	7.35	13.82	10.17	5.40
35	25.81	8.47	15.94	12.24	5.40
40	30.40	10.53	18.61	14.44	7.20
50	43.71	19.44	26.49	21.22	7.20
60	62.34	34.78	(55)	25.60	7.20
65	82.75				

"Another advantage of our program is that at age 65 one may convert to regular insurance in full amount at regular rates regardless of physical condition.

"Your committee feels that as good as this insurance provision is, it still does not adequately meet the need of our ministers; neither does it fully meet the desires of the General Council as expressed in recent General Council sessions; but, we also fear that to attempt to satisfy these needs further, through our Group Insurance program would seriously affect its successful operation.

"We therefore would call special attention to our own Assemblies of God retirement plan, The Ministers' Benefit Association, which, in the opinion of your committee, is an excellent one.

"Other committees have reported, and we concur, that the plan's experience compares favorably with commercially sponsored programs and in most cases has outperformed them. Now, with the recent changes and recognition by IRS of the Tax Shelter feature, the program is even more desirable.

"Other committees studying this problem have recommended exploring the possibility of denominational participation in the program, such as many other organizations do.

"We believe the expressed desires of the General Council for assistance to ministers age 65, and over, could best be met through our present MBA program; and that if the denomination would make an annual contribution to the credit of older participating ministers as an employer contribution,

and seek the designation of bequests and offerings for this purpose, that said ministers could be considerably helped, and equally important, others would be greatly encouraged to help themselves in earlier years to prepare for age 65 and over.

"This would be too involved to practically and safely handle in detail on a Council floor, but we do have recommendations regarding it:

"1. That our present group insurance plan be amended to provide \$4,000 for deaths occurring prior to age 40; \$3,000 for deaths occurring prior to age 65; \$600 for deaths occurring after age 65.

"2. That the annual interest on the reserve fund accumulated from dividends be added to this reserve.

"3. That an all-out effort be made through promotion and persuasion to attain increased participation in this wonderful group insurance program.

"4. That our Executive Presbytery take under advisement the possibility of assisting our older ministers through our present Ministers Benefit Association."

A motion prevailed to adopt the report.

**Roster Report**

Brother Arthur Berg, Chairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report, as of three p.m. Thursday:

Ordained ministers registered	1,470
Delegates	428
	<hr/>
Voting members	1,898
Licensed ministers	104
Visitors	653
	<hr/>
Total registration	2,655

A motion prevailed to accept the Roster Committee's Report as a progress report.

**Constitutional Amendment**

The General Secretary presented a proposed amendment to Article IX, Section 1, of the General Council Constitution to provide that the term of office for the General Superintendent be extended from two years to four years. The section as amended would read, as follows:

"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. The term of office for the General Superintendent shall continue for four years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for two years or until their successors qualify."

The General Secretary stated that the amendment had been recommended by the General Presbytery. He moved the adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded. The chair gave opportunity for discussion from the floor. The question was called for and the motion to adopt the resolution was put to vote. The affirmative vote was indicated by a show of hands. The negative vote likewise was indicated by a show of hands. The results indicated that the resolution was adopted by more than a two-thirds majority vote. (There were five negative votes cast.)

An order of the day was established by motion duly carried that the election of officers be the first order of business on Friday morning.

After special prayer for David Lively who had been injured in a helicopter accident, the meeting was recessed at 4:40 p.m. by motion duly carried.

Brother C. C. Burnett pronounced the benediction.

#### FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 27

The devotional service began at nine a.m. with Brother Bobby Hoskins in charge. Brother Dean Underwood led the singing. Pastor Johnnie Garrison served as pianist and Mrs. Jim Duncan as organist. Brother T. C. Cunningham led in prayer. A vocal solo was rendered by Gordon Matheny entitled "He Touched Me."

The message of the morning was brought by Brother Kermit Reneau, Pastor of the First Assembly of God in San Antonio and Executive Presbyter for the South Central Area. Brother Reneau read portions of Scripture from Psalm 44 and the first chapter of Luke. The verses were used to link the past in which God's blessing was revealed, the birth of Christ, and a continuation of God's leadership among His people.

The business meeting was called to order by Brother Zimmerman at 10:05 A.M. Brother Louis H. Hauff of San Bernardino, California, invoked God's blessings upon the morning session.

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion prevailed that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and that they be referred to the Executive Presbytery for review and approval. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Additional Tellers

In the absence of some of the tellers, the chairman requested the following to serve on the Tellers Committee: William Register, J. Burdette Wiles, Daniel Mosier, Glen Ahlf, M. A. Groff, W. A. Wilkerson, W. O. Henin, and Paul Radke.

#### Report of the Roster Committee

The Chairman of the Roster Committee, Brother Arthur Berg, presented the Roster Report as follows:

Ordained ministers	1,615
Delegates	475
	<hr/>
Total voting constituency	2,090
Licensed ministers	127
Visitors	870
	<hr/>
Total registration	3,087

A motion was duly carried that this report be accepted as a progress report and that the Roster be held open for further registration.

#### Election of General Superintendent

The General Superintendent requested Assistant General Superintendent Bert Webb to serve as chairman of the meeting. Brother Webb read from the Constitution and Bylaws provisions for Voting Constituency, Membership and Election of Executive Officers, particularly the General Superintendent. The body was reminded of the Constitutional Amendment passed Thursday afternoon making provision for the General Superintendent to serve for a period of four years.

It was moved and seconded that if any person receives a two-thirds majority of the votes cast on the nominating ballot that he be declared elected. The motion was carried.

Ballots were distributed for the election of a General Superintendent. Evangelist Watson Argue led in prayer for special direction and guidance from God in this election. (While the ballots were being counted business was resumed; however, the result of the balloting is reported here for convenience.)

The Tellers' Committee presented the following report:

Total votes cast	1,531
Needed to elect	1,021
Thos. F. Zimmerman received	1,426

The chair therefore declared Brother Thomas F. Zimmerman elected General Superintendent on the nominating ballot with an overwhelming majority. The entire body arose and offered praise to God.

Brother Zimmerman expressed his deep appreciation for the confidence and affection shown to him.

Following his acceptance speech, Brother Zimmerman asked the brethren to lay hands upon him and pray that God would give him a sense of divine direction in his duties. The entire congregation arose.

Sister Zimmerman was escorted to the platform by Brother Paul Tinlin and offered words of gratitude and appreciation.

Words of encouragement were offered by Brother R. J. Thurman and Brother Don Cox, who asked if the congregation could stand and together pledge themselves one hundred percent to stand by our General Superintendent.

Following the election, Brother Zimmerman resumed the chair.

#### **Report of the Spiritual Life Committee**

The Report of the Spiritual Life Committee was presented by Brother Wesley Morton:

Your Spiritual Life Committee respectfully submits the following report. The committee met in session Wednesday morning, August 25, at 9:30 a.m. with a season of prayer. The following members were present: Wesley F. Morton, Chairman; Joel R. Palmer, Secretary; T. F. Zimmerman, Stanford Linzey, James D. Menzie, A. A. Wilson, Willis Berry, and E. C. Sumrall.

The committee wishes to express its appreciation for the report of the 1963 Spiritual Life Committee which emphasized the following needs:

- A. Reevaluate our calling
- B. The Regional Spiritual Life Conventions
- C. Maintain and encourage Pentecostal worship as we understand these terms
- D. Viewing the history of past revivals and trends which led to their decline and decrease, we however boldly declare that we may expect God's inevitable blessing whenever and wherever spiritual priority is given and God's glory alone is sought.

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

1. While we deeply appreciate the progress made in these areas, we still recognize that there is much spiritual ground to be taken, and we feel that the admonition of Jude is incumbent upon us today, "that we earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints." Jude 3. We further emphasize the necessity of separation which has characterized the growth of our movement through the years predicated upon 2 Corinthians 6:14-18 and 2 Corinthians 7:1, and that these truths be continually emphasized.
2. In the light of the Word that "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17), we recommend that we use all means to encourage individual Bible reading, and that the suggested 1966 Year of Bible reading be followed.
3. We further encourage a return to the family altar where the reading of the Word is practiced. We also strongly suggest that the Bible be read in public worship services. Furthermore, we encourage our ministers to expository ministry.
4. That we heartily endorse and encourage the continuation of the Spiritual Life and Prayer Conferences, and that such conferences shall be encouraged on church, district, and regional levels with the endorsement and cooperation of the districts involved. We further recommend whenever and wherever feasible that the students of our Bible colleges be encouraged to attend these conferences.
5. We further urge that definite goals of evangelism be instituted, in a broad whole-church evangelism thrust, separately by groups or simultaneously as the case may indicate.

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted. The motion was carried.

### Missionary Credit Study Report

The Missionary Credit Study Report was presented by Brother G. Raymond Carlson:

Missionary credit has been a historic part of the World Missions Program of the Assemblies of God. In more recent years there has also been recognition for giving as reported through the Cooperative Plan.

It is to be noted that the "credit umbrella," as such, involves two factors:

1. A system of reporting offerings;
2. The recognition of accountable missionary projects.

In recent years, Internal Revenue Codes have largely precluded recognizing or handling funds for persons and programs over which there is not administrative control or financial surveillance.

For the past several years a double system of totals is being drawn and reported to the constituency. These totals include those offerings within the spectrum of World Missions giving and those offerings in the total spectrum of Cooperative Plan giving. It is questionable that the expense involved in drawing and publishing these totals is warranted.

The Executive Presbytery appointed a representative committee of national scope to study the entire matter relating to credit. The committee met and its report was adopted by the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery.

The committee presented a simplified uniform program which reports and grants recognition for the total ministry of the church. A combined report of all offerings to individual departments with one total shall replace the present double system of reports. The report shall be known as "World Ministries Offering Reports."

This will give all of the ministries of the General Council of the Assemblies of God an umbrella of recognition, placing each appeal and each ministry on an equal footing and will lend encouragement to the constituency of donors to decide for themselves, under the leading of the Spirit, the appeal to which they wish to make their response.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report be adopted.

### Church Membership Committee Report

Brother Charles W. H. Scott, committee chairman, presented the report. The report called attention to Assemblies of God membership trends from 1961 to 1965:

		<i>Gain</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>New Members Per Church</i>
1961	508,602			
1962	514,317	5,715	1.12	
1963	514,532	215	.04	
1964	543,003	28,471	5.53	3.36
1965	555,992	12,989	2.39	1.53

It was reported that the Protestant Church Membership gain in 1964 was 2.4 percent, while gains for the Roman Catholic membership for 1964 was 3.2 percent.

Gain or loss of membership by Districts in 1965 was reported as follows:

Of 53 districts reporting 33 (62.3%) districts showed some gain  
 19 (35.8%) districts showed losses  
 1 ( 1.9%) district showed neither loss nor gain

The Committee offered the following recommendations:

1. An increased emphasis on the importance of church membership from the national and district leadership level. While our records indicate gains over the past 10 years, there is need for careful attention in the matter because of the drop this past year. Emphasis should be given this important matter during national and district-sponsored meetings and publications.

2. Encourage churches to provide opportunity for junior church membership. There comes a time when all previous spiritual experiences need to be reviewed and brought together into a new overall commitment. A special class may be held to prepare the boys and girls for this experience. This will also afford opportunity to teach the total doctrine of the Assemblies of God from a practical standpoint. The course should be concluded by bringing the young candidates to a definite knowledge of salvation and the opportunity of becoming junior mem-

bers of the church. The voting privileges of this age group of members should be withheld until they have attained legal voting age as defined in the church constitution and bylaws. This junior membership should be regarded as opening the way to further growth in Christian experiences and not by any means a culmination.

3. Churches located in college communities should be encouraged to establish a student membership roll.

4. Specific plans and efforts should be made by every church to follow up and welcome members of Assemblies of God coming from other communities.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report of the Church Membership Committee be adopted.

### Assistant General Superintendent's Retirement

The chair announced that balloting would proceed for four Assistant General Superintendents prior to the noon recess.

Brother Gayle F. Lewis requested the privilege to speak prior to the casting of ballots. He stated, "I have served the Assemblies of God for 38 years (beginning in 1927 in the old Central District). I feel that I have served my generation and it is time to terminate this type of service. We are, therefore, requesting that you do not place my name on the ballot for any office. In retiring from office, I would like to express my deep and sincere appreciation to my brethren for all the love and kindness which they have shown to Mrs. Lewis and me through these many years. In retiring from office, we have no plans for the future, except that we want to continue to serve God and to be loyal to this Fellowship and to fulfill any further purpose that God may have for our lives. I thank God for the privilege of serving you through the years and pray God's richest blessing will continue to rest upon you."

A motion was made from the floor that an expression of confidence, thanks and appreciation be extended to Brother Lewis. The motion carried with a standing vote.

It was suggested that the Executive Presbytery be authorized to express the appreciation of the General Council in a practical manner, and that the Resolutions Committee should prepare an appropriate resolution.

Brother Roy Wead therefore moved that we request the Resolutions Committee to bring to the General Council a proper resolution voicing our deep appreciation for the years of service of Gayle F. Lewis, and also expressing appreciation in a monetary manner. The motion was seconded and carried.

The General Superintendent offered prayer for God's guidance in the election of four assistant general superintendents without portfolio. The voting members proceeded to mark ballots for four assistant general superintendents.

The chairman instructed the Tellers Committee to withhold any information on this particular ballot until it is officially presented to the Council floor.

Brother Art Shell expressed appreciation for the many prayers in his behalf following his automobile accident several months ago.

A motion to recess was duly carried, with the session to reconvene at 2 o'clock.

Following the singing of the Doxology, Brother T. J. Jones of North Central Bible College closed in prayer.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 27

The meeting on Friday afternoon convened at two o'clock. Brother Ronald Loy offered prayer.

The General Superintendent recognized Brother Fred Lesten, an Assemblies of God minister, who is Distribution Secretary for the American Bible Society.

Brother Zimmerman then introduced Dr. John McCombe, Secretary for the American Bible Society, who spoke in behalf of the Society and its work in Bible distribution. He also presented an urgent need for 500,000 Bibles for distribution in the public schools in Ghana, with the hope that the Assemblies of God would be in a position to help meet the emergency. Brother Hogan responded to Dr. McCombe assuring him that the Assemblies of God would assist in this emergency. An offering was received which amounted to \$2,416.96 in cash and \$6,471 in pledges.

Following the devotional period, Brother Walter Dixon led in prayer for the blessing of God upon the business meeting.

A telegram of greetings to the General Council was received from Glenn and Katie McClure of Tucson, Arizona.

### Roster Committee Report

Ordained ministers	1,701
Delegates	514
Voting members registered	2,215
Licensed ministers	137
Visitors	935
Total registration	3,287

It was moved, seconded and carried that this further progress report be accepted, and that the roster remain open. Brother Zimmerman recognized Brother and Sister Dando of London, England, and extended a welcome to them.

### Election of Assistant General Superintendents

Brother Willis Berry, Chairman of the Tellers' Committee, announced the results of the nominating ballot for the four assistant general superintendents.

Total number of ballots cast	1,511
Needed to elect	1,008
Bert Webb received	1,461
Howard S. Bush	1,300
Charles W. H. Scott	1,279

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

The Tellers Committee reported there were 153 additional names listed on the nominating ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent without portfolio, and that none of those so nominated received a two-thirds vote. Those nominated are as follows:

J. O. Adams, E. R. Anderson, Watson Argue, Lowell Ashbrook, J. Robert Ashcroft, Edgar Bethany, Bond Bowman, R. L. Brandt, Edwin Burris, Harold Burris, Arthur Berg, J. H. Bridger, C. C. Burnett, G. Raymond Carlson, D. M. Carlson, R. J. Carlson, E. M. Clark, E. D. Cooley, T. C. Cunningham, J. D. Courtney, Virgil Claxton, Philip Crouch, H. W. Culbreth, G. W. Davidson, N. D. Davidson, Guy Duty, Joseph Flower, Joe Gerhart, J. T. Davis, J. Dodd, F. Eide, E. R. Foster, L. Fox, Goodman, R. E. Goggin, Warren Grant, T. E. Gannon, James Hamill, L. E. Halvorson, G. W. Hardcastle, Jr., G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., O. L. Harrup, Louis Hauff, C. R. Qualls, W. H. Robertson, Cleo Tapp, Victor Trimmer, C. M. Ward, N. L. White, Russell Williams, Roy Wead, Kermit Reneau, Philip Hogan, Phinis Lewis, Jesse Smith, M. B. Netzel, Charles Denton, Gene Scott, Robinson, H. C. Noah, W. Martin, A. Rohner, Harvey Mitchell, H. M. Strickland, McGlasson, Everett Phillips, Hardy Steinberg, D. L. Sanders, Art Shell, B. Rogers, H. W. Barnett, N. Bluntell, J. Brankel, Benson Compton, H. W. Brandt, Tom Brubaker, J. Deinetts, G. Flower, Earl Goodwin, Leland Keys, Gordon Matheny,

Murray McLees, C. Parker, C. W. Ringness, Reed, Herman Rohde, C. W. Hahn, D. H. Heuser, Hill, Kolenda, John Thompson, Burton Pierce, R. Hudson, H. Myers, J. K. Gressett, Emory, H. P. Holdridge, Hertweck, Bryant, R. D. Bellows, McClain, Miller, Thomas, A. Wilson, McPherson, Dickenson, R. C. Fulmer, Michael, Burris, Courtney, Cunningham, Adams, Beiler, Boulware, E. A. Balliet, L. Christiansen, David Flower, L. Palmer, Grant, Hensen, Lindberg, R. G. Putnam, R. D. E. Smith, Hutchinson, Wigfield, C. E. Havner, D. V. Hurst, Hodges, Wesley Hurst, Ralph Harris, Klaude Kendrick, M. Ketcham, Gayle Lewis, Frank Lindquist, Paul Lowenberg, E. E. Krogstad, Don Mallough, D. H. McLaughlin, Owen Oslin, Bartlett Peterson, J. O. Savell, Lee Shultz, T. H. Spence, Scroggins, K. Schmidt, Glen West, R. Williams, E. Williams, N. Perkin, J. Griggs, O. E. Gaddis, G. A. Green, Hamlin.

A privileged motion was made from the floor that the elections cease and that only three assistant general superintendents without portfolio be elected and that it be made clear that the Executive Director of Foreign Missions would be the fourth assistant general superintendent.

After consultation with the Parliamentary Committee and other brethren, it was the consensus that the motion was not in order without proper amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. The chair ruled that balloting should continue for the election of a fourth assistant general superintendent without portfolio.

A motion was offered to suspend the rules and that the Chairman of the Tellers Committee read the number of votes received by each on the nominating ballot.

The motion was seconded but failed to carry when voted upon.

Brother Zimmerman presented Brother Jack Kuykendall, a businessman from Eugene, Oregon. He gave a brief testimony of what God has done for him and of the joy he has found in being a soul winner. He said we might accomplish many great things in life, but all those things not done for Christ will pass away when He comes.

### Recognition of Elected Officers

The General Superintendent presented three assistant general superintendents which had been elected: Bert Webb, Howard S. Bush, and Charles W. H. Scott. Each of these brethren expressed appreciation for the confidence evidenced

by the vote of the Council. They pledged themselves to dedicated service to the church and to the Lord.

#### **Advance Magazine**

The General Superintendent presented the new magazine, *Advance*. This publication will contain all the promotional and program material from headquarters and will be sent to each ordained and licensed minister including all pastors of the fellowship on a complimentary basis. Additional subscriptions may be secured for \$5 a year. It is expected that churches and ministers will receive twenty-two "appeal" mailings a year instead of the numerous ones which have been sent in the past. He presented Miss Gwen Jones, editor of *Advance*, stating that she is eminently qualified for the position.

The General Superintendent reminded the Council of the report concerning "World Ministries Offerings" which had been adopted earlier in the session. He urged that ministers and churches participate in the total program of the Assemblies of God.

#### **American Bible Society Resolution**

Brother Leland R. Keys, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, read the following resolution after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the year 1966 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of the American Bible Society, and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society has requested that the churches of the United States designate 1966 as the "Year of the Bible," with special emphasis on the 150th Anniversary of the American Bible Society and its work and mission of distributing the Bible to all nations and peoples, and

WHEREAS, the American Bible Society and its affiliated organizations has assisted the Assemblies of God greatly in our efforts to provide the Scriptures in the languages of the people, in fulfillment of our world mission; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the General Council of the Assemblies of God highly commend the American Bible Society for having reached this milestone in its history, and for its

outstanding ministry in the worldwide translation and distribution of the Bible; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the General Council of the Assemblies of God, in session at Des Moines, Iowa, August, 1965, go on record as recommending that our churches observe the 150th Anniversary of the American Bible Society in 1966 by encouraging wider reading and sharing of the Scriptures.

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

#### **Honorary General Presbyters**

Brother Leland R. Keys presented the following resolution after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Reverend J. A. Thomas has served as superintendent of the West Texas District for seventeen years and has been an esteemed and respected minister of the fellowship for many years; and

WHEREAS, Reverend W. R. Williamson has served our constituency as a foreign missionary and has an outstanding record of service to our fellowship for many years; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Brother J. A. Thomas and Brother W. R. Williamson shall be recognized as honorary General Presbyters of the Assemblies of God.

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

#### **Record of Deceased Ministers**

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

WHEREAS, we recall with fond remembrance and loving appreciation the service given by those of our ministers who are now deceased; and

WHEREAS, a permanent record of their participation with us in the Fellowship should be kept, and

WHEREAS, this record should be properly kept in consideration of the distinguished service in sacrifice these ministers have performed; and

WHEREAS, it would be appropriate that this record be

maintained by the General Secretary's Office; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the General Secretary be authorized to prepare and keep a "Book of Remembrance," and that he inscribe all names of deceased ordained brethren in this book; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this book be known as "Our Book of Remembrances," based on Malachi 3:16; and be it further

RESOLVED, That our "Book of Remembrance" be on display in the Memorial Service of the General Council and be appropriately displayed permanently in the historical section at our General Headquarters.

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded and carried.

#### **Privileged Communications**

Brother Keys presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Ministers are made overseers of the church by divine call and appointment (Acts 20:28); and

WHEREAS, Ministers serve both the gospel (Colossians 1:23) and the church (Colossians 1:24, 25); and

WHEREAS, Ministers often engage in counseling as spiritual advisors as part of their divine ministerial service; and

WHEREAS, Protection of confidential communications to clergymen is often contingent upon the sacredness of minister-parishioner counseling relationship being recognized in the discipline of the church to which the minister belongs; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council of the Assemblies of God

Recognizes the sacredness of the minister-parishioner counseling relationship and the sacredness of confidences revealed in such counseling relationships; and

Encourages all ministers to respect as sacred, confidential, and as a privileged communication all information, or

knowledge of whatsoever nature imparted, confided, disclosed, or discussed, while they are functioning in their ministerial capacities, roles, or characters as spiritual advisors, spiritual confidants, or spiritual counselors; and

Encourages all ministers not to disclose such confidential information except with the express permission of the persons confiding in them or to prevent the commission of a crime; and encourages all ministers to claim the full protection of statutes protecting confidential communications to clergymen in states, districts, and territories where such statutes exist; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Council urge the passage of legislation protecting confidential communication to clergymen in states, districts, and territories where such legislation does not exist; and

That the General Council further urge the passage of federal legislation protecting confidential communications to clergymen; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Council bylaws be amended by the insertion of a new Section 16 in Article VI entitled "Privileged Communications" to read as follows:

Assemblies of God ministers are encouraged to respect as sacred and confidential information confided to them while they are functioning in their ministerial capacities as spiritual counselors and are encouraged not to disclose such confidential information except with the permission of the confidant or to prevent the commission of a crime; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the remaining sections of Article VI be renumbered accordingly.

The motion was seconded and carried.

#### **Listing of Churches**

Brother Keys read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

The following resolution has been recommended by the General Presbyters.

RESOLVED, That recognition shall be given to three categories of Assemblies of God churches which shall be delineated as follows:

1. *General Council Affiliated.* To qualify for recognition as a General Council affiliated assembly, a church shall have a minimum of twenty active members and shall be properly patterned and officered as a New Testament assembly.

If the active membership shall fall below twelve, the assembly may revert to the status of district supervision, and the element of reciprocity between the district and the church shall enter into such negotiations.

2. *District Council Affiliated.* Churches which have not matured to the extent of being recognized as General Council affiliated assemblies may have General Council recognition by affiliating with the District Council and be recognized as churches of the Assemblies of God. These churches shall be encouraged to qualify for regular General Council affiliation as early as possible.

3. *Associate Churches.* Churches cooperating in the program of the District, but not officially affiliated shall be listed as associate churches, provided such churches maintain standards of organization, doctrine and practices acceptable to the District.

Categories two and three shall be designated by proper symbols in the Church Directory.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended by requesting that the membership of each church be listed in the Directories, the information to be taken from the church questionnaire.

After discussion, the motion to amend was put to vote. The chair asked for a show of hands which indicated the motion was lost.

Since the Tellers' Committee was ready for a report, further action on this resolution was suspended until the next morning.

#### Report of Tellers' Committee

Brother Willis Berry, Chairman of the Tellers' Committee, read the report of the committee which indicated there was no election for the office of the fourth assistant general superintendent on the first elective ballot.

Total votes cast	1,560
Needed to elect	1,040

The following brethren received the number votes as indicated:

T. E. Gannon 274, G. Raymond Carlson 239, Roy Wead 123, Kermit Reneau 100, D. H. McLaughlin 75, R. L. Brandt 65, E. M. Clark 62, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. 59, Edgar Bethany 56, N. D. Davidson 42, James Hamill 32, R. E. Goggin 31, Bond Bowman 19, T. C. Cunningham 19, R. J. Carlson 13, O. L. Harrup 13, D. V. Hurst 13, Phinis Lewis 12, C. C. Burnett 12, Joe Gerhart 11, Phil Hogan 11, Curtis Ringness 11, E. D. Cooley 10, Leland Keys 10, N. Cleo Tapp 9, Lowell Ashbrook 8, Russell Williams 8, Jesse Smith 8, J. Robt. Ashcroft 7, Edwin Burris 7, Klaude Kendrick 7, Frank Lindquist 7, Paul Lowenberg 7, M. B. Netzel 7, Cy Homer 7, Joe Flower 6, L. E. Halvorson 6, Ralph Harris 6, K. Schmidt 6, Guy Duty 5, Louis Hauff 5, Bartlett Peterson 5, C. M. Ward 5, N. L. White 4, D. L. Sanders 4, T. H. Spence 4, Kolenda 4, A. Wilson 4, Victor Trimmer 4, Emil Balliet 4, L. Christiansen 4, R. D. E. Smith 4, Watson Argue 3, Arthur Berg 3, Philip Crouch 3, J. T. Davis 3, Robt. McGlasson 3, Art Shell 3, Tom Brubaker 3, Harry Myers 3, Thomas 3, Dickenson 3, Grant 3, E. R. Anderson 2, H. Burris 2, D. M. Carlson 2, J. D. Courtney 2, J. Dodd 2, E. E. Krogstad 2, O. Oslin 2, G. W. Hardcastle, Jr. 2, Charles Denton 2, H. C. Noah 2, E. Phillips 2, J. O. Savell 2, Glen West 2, Holdridge 2, L. Palmer 2, Lindberg 2, Fred Eide 1, E. R. Foster 1, E. Goodman, 1, W. Grant 1, Wes Hurst 1, G. Lewis 1, Don Mallow 1, Claude Qualls 1, W. H. Robertson 1, H. Steinberg 1, H. W. Barnett 1, Geo. Flower 1, Lee Shultz 1, James Griggs 1, O. E. Gaddis 1, C. W. Hahn 1, D. H. Heuser 1, Hill 1, Emory 1, Hertweck 1, Wigfield 1.

The second elective ballot for an assistant general superintendent was then cast.

At 5:10 p. m. a motion prevailed to recess the meeting. Brother Alber pronounced the benediction.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 28

The devotional service was under the direction of Brother John McDuff. Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart led the song service following which prayer was offered by Pastor James Hamann. Brother Eddie Wilson served as pianist and Brother A. R. Van der Ploeg as organist. The Katter family presented a vocal quartet entitled "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

The General Superintendent introduced Reverend Eric

Dando, Chairman of the Executive Council of the Assemblies of God of Great Britain and Ireland, who brought the devotional message. Brother Dando took his text from Exodus 29:43 and spoke on the theme "The Tabernacle Shall Be Sanctified by My Glory."

The General Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Two urgent needs for healing were presented and Brother Gayle F. Lewis led in prayer.

### Roster Committee Report

The first order of business was a report from the Roster Committee presented by Arthur Berg, Chairman:

Ordained ministers	1,782
Delegates	535
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Total voting members	2,317
Licensed ministers	232
Visitors	1,109
<hr/>	
Total registration	3,658

There was a motion to accept the report of the Roster Committee as a progress report. The motion was seconded and carried.

Brother Willis Berry presented the report of the Tellers Committee on the second elective ballot for the office of the assistant general superintendent being elected without portfolio.

Total number of votes cast	1,325
Number to elect	884

Number votes received:

T. E. Gannon 622, G. Raymond Carlson 312, Roy Wead 100, Kermit Reneau 84, E. M. Clark 41, D. H. McLaughlin 35, Edgar Bethany 25, R. L. Brandt 23, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. 14, N. D. Davidson 11, R. E. Goggin 10, Curtis Ringness 4, James Hamill 4, T. C. Cunningham 4, Guy Duty 4, Cyril Homer 4, Joseph Gerhart 3, Phil Crouch 2, D. V. Hurst 2, Russell Williams 2, O. E. Gaddis 2, Jesse Smith 2, Ralph Harris 1, Phil Hogan 1, Leland Keys 1, Paul Lowenberg 1, Murray McLecs 1, R. McGlasson 1, K. Wigfield 1, C. M. Ward 1, Lowell Ashbrook 1, R. J. Carlson 1, Lester Dickinson 1, Joseph Flower 1, O. L. Harrup 1, C. C. Burnett 1, R. Williams 1.

There being no election, a third elective ballot was cast.

The General Superintendent introduced Brother Eric Dando, Chairman of the Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland, who brought official greetings. He stated, "I was asked to convey to this General Council the esteemed regard and love of the fellowship back in the British Isles. At the

last Executive Council meeting before leaving London, the brethren also asked that I convey greetings from them. There is a great desire in Great Britain among our executive brethren for a closer tie with this movement in America. It is our desire to work more closely together in the will of God on an international level... by giving and receiving we shall be mutually blessed."

A motion prevailed that this Thirty-First General Council of the Assemblies of God of the United States of America send official greetings to the Assemblies of God of Great Britain and Ireland, with assurances of our love, appreciation and of the tie that binds our hearts together in Christian fellowship. The motion was seconded and carried.

The chair requested, on behalf of this General Council, that Brother Dando bear our verbal greetings to the brethren and that a written communication would be forthcoming.

### Resolution—Listing of Churches

A resolution affecting the listing of churches, which had been before the house at the close of the previous session was reread by Brother Keys. The question before the house was a motion to adopt the resolution.

A motion to amend was offered which would delete the second paragraph under point number one. The motion was seconded.

Brother E. R. Anderson offered the following substitute motion:

WHEREAS, A lack of understanding has caused some churches to fail; and

WHEREAS, An educational program could very well change the status of many of our nonaffiliated churches; be it

RESOLVED, That the matter of church designation be postponed until the next General Council; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That in the meantime an educational program relative to the affiliation of churches be prosecuted by the General Secretary's Office.

The substitute motion was seconded and carried.

### Election of Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Willis Berry, Chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported the results of the third elective ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent, as follows:

Total votes cast	1,352
Needed to elect	902
Brother T. E. Gannon received	936

The chairman therefore declared Brother T. E. Gannon elected as assistant general superintendent.

Brother Gannon responded to his election by pledging to the General Superintendent and other members of the Executive Board his heartiest cooperation. He pledged to the Movement dedication of service, labor and application; but he stated, "I must have a time to get alone with God and pledge to the Lord Jesus Christ a new dedication of my heart and life to Him. Thank you for an honor I did not deserve. May God bless you all."

### Election of Executive Director of Foreign Missions

Ballots were cast for the selection of an Executive Director of Foreign Missions, who also serves as assistant general superintendent.

The chair called upon the General Secretary to read the provision of the Bylaws governing the procedure for electing this officer. (Article II, Section 2, paragraph "f.") Brother Peterson reported that the General Presbytery, according to these instructions, had nominated J. Philip Hogan for the position. The ballots were then cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee reported the results of the first elective ballot for Executive Director of Foreign Missions and assistant general superintendent.

Total votes cast	1,403
Needed to elect	936
J. Philip Hogan received	1,317

The chair therefore declared J. Philip Hogan elected assistant general superintendent and Executive Director of Foreign Missions.

### Election of General Secretary

A nominating ballot was cast for the office of General Secretary.

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

Total votes cast	1,367
Needed to elect	912
Bartlett Peterson received	1,263

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

The General Secretary was requested to read the provisions in the Bylaws for the electing of a General Treasurer. (Article II, Section 2, paragraph "e.") He reported that the General Presbytery had nominated M. B. Netzel for this office in accordance with the instructions in the Bylaws.

Voting followed the presentation of this nomination.

### Criteria for Independent Corporations

Brother Leland Keys presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Criteria for recognizing Independent Corporations are of utmost importance and concern to members of this Assembly; and

WHEREAS, It is good that we stand together in support of these Criteria; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Criteria as newly revised and unanimously adopted by the General Presbytery be presented to this assembly at 11 o'clock this morning for clarity of understanding and for ratification. Executive Presbytery, Northern California and Nevada District, by the Chairman.

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

The General Secretary read the Revised Criteria for Independent Corporations. It was moved and seconded to ratify the Criteria.

An opinion from the floor was voiced that it was not in order for the General Council to consider the Criteria, since such matters had been delegated to the Executive and General Presbyteries by the General Council Bylaws. Sections 6 and 7 of Article III were cited.

A procedural motion was offered that the point of order be upheld as to the constitutional propriety in submitting the Revised Criteria for Independent Corporations for ratification to the General Council. The motion was seconded. After considerable debate the question was called.

The voice vote was not clear and a division of the house was called for. It was therefore determined by a standing vote that the procedural motion had carried.

A substitute motion was offered that, in view of the widespread interest which all of us have in the matters covered by the statement of Criteria, it be printed and distributed during the afternoon session of this General Council for the full information of everyone; and further, that these Revised Criteria as adopted by the General Presbytery be distributed to every Assemblies of God minister in our fellowship. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Motion to recess

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be recessed to reconvene again at 2 o'clock.

Following the singing of the Doxology, Brother Andrew Nelli closed the morning session with prayer.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 28

Brother John McDuff was in charge of the devotional service as the Council reconvened at two o'clock.

The General Superintendent introduced Charles Anderson and C. C. Burnett, who represented the National Association of Evangelicals. Brother Burnett then presented Dr. Arthur M. Climenhaga, Executive Director of the Association.

Dr. Climenhaga extended greetings from the Association. He spoke briefly concerning the responsibility of the church to take the gospel to the people around the world and of the urgent need for prayer and revival.

Brother Sam Jordan, a layman from Ottumwa, Iowa, was presented. He gave a brief testimony of what God has meant to him as a businessman.

The business session was called to order at 2:35 o'clock by the General Superintendent. Brother Paul Holleman led in prayer for special needs that were presented and for the afternoon session.

#### Report of the Roster Committee

Arthur F. Berg, Chairman of the Roster Committee, presented the following report as of two o'clock Saturday afternoon:

Ordained ministers	1,855	
Delegates	549	
Voting		2,404
Licensed ministers	235	
Visitors	1,215	
Total registered		3,854

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report be received as a progress report.

#### Election of General Treasurer

The Tellers' Committee reported the results of the first electoral ballot for General Treasurer:

Total ballots cast	1,218
Needed to elect	816
M. B. Netzel received	1,187

The chair then declared M. B. Netzel elected to the office of General Treasurer.

Brothers J. Philip Hogan, Bartlett Peterson and M. B. Netzel were presented to the General Council. They each conveyed expressions of appreciation and gratitude to the brethren for their confidence in returning them to office. They pledged their loyalty and dedication to the fulfillment of their respective assignments. They requested the Council to remember them in prayer.

General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman, asked Brother Leland Paris to escort Sister Richard Bergstrom, widow of the deceased Executive Presbyter from the Northeast Area, to the platform.

He offered words of appreciation for the life and ministry of Brother Bergstrom and presented her with an honorarium in his memory to assist in defraying her expenses to the General Council.

### Elections of Non-resident Executive Presbyters

Following the action of the 1963 General Council, nominations for executive presbyters from eight areas of the nation had been presented by the various District Councils. These nominations had been printed on ballots, in different colors to represent each of the areas. The first ballots cast by the Council were therefore elective ballots. Balloting continued for executive presbyters until all had been elected. While ballots were being counted, business was resumed. For convenience, the results of all those elected in the Saturday afternoon session are reported here:

#### Gulf Area

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,141
Needed to elect	761
Lowell C. Ashbrook	163
James E. Hamill	305
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	571
N. Cleo Tapp	102
Second elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,246
Needed to elect	832
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	874
James Hamill	323
Lowell Ashbrook	38
N. Cleo Tapp	11

The chair thereupon declared G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., elected Executive Presbyter from the Gulf Area.

#### Northwest Area

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,202
Needed to elect	801
W. Glen Burris	38
R. J. Carlson	391
N. D. Davidson	731
Paul A. Fleming	42
Second elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,236
Needed to elect	824
N. D. Davidson	1,073
R. J. Carlson	161
W. Glen Burris	2
Paul A. Fleming	1

The chair declared N. D. Davidson elected Executive Presbyter from the Northwest Area.

#### Southwest Area

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,253
Needed to elect	836
J. K. Gressett	67
Leland R. Keys	210
Dwight H. McLaughlin	707
Kenneth R. Schmidt	269
Second elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,075
Needed to elect	718
D. H. McLaughlin	923
Kenneth R. Schmidt	106
Leland Keys	39
J. K. Gressett	8

The chair declared Dwight H. McLaughlin elected Executive Presbyter from the Southwest Area.

#### Great Lakes Area

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,186
Needed to elect	798
Everett D. Cooley	111
W. G. Hinecker	25
Cyril E. Homer	277
Roy H. Wead	716
W. Glenn West	87

Second elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,074
Needed to elect	716
Roy Wead	938
Cyril Homer	121
Everett D. Cooley	12
W. G. Hinecker	2
W. Glenn West	1

The chair declared Roy Wead elected Executive Presbyter from the Great Lakes Area.

*South Central Area*

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,140
Needed to elect	760
E. R. Anderson	74
Jose Giron	4
Robert E. Goggin	98
Raymond H. Hudson	27
Paul E. Lowenberg	216
Kermit Reneau	704
J. A. Thomas	17

Second elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,100
Needed to elect	734
Kermit Reneau	1,030
Paul E. Lowenberg	53
Robert E. Goggin	15
E. R. Anderson	9
Raymond H. Hudson	2
Jose Giron	1

The chair declared Kermit Reneau elected Executive Presbyter from the South Central Area.

*North Central Area*

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	1,073
Needed to elect	716
G. Raymond Carlson	931
L. W. Dickinson	39
T. E. Gannon	12
Darwin H. Heuser	14
Kenneth E. Olson	15
S. Harland Petersen	31
G. A. Renick	31

The chair declared G. Raymond Carlson elected Executive Presbyter from the North Central Area on the first elective ballot.

*Southeast Area*

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	973
Needed to elect	656
Edgar W. Bethany	773
W. G. Dixon	20
F. L. Jones	22
A. L. Shell, Jr.	55
Thomas H. Spence	103

The chair declared Edgar W. Bethany elected Executive Presbyter from the Southeast Area on the first elective ballot.

The chair recognized the following brethren as they had been elected to serve as members of the Executive Presbytery:

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

Each gave expression of thanks to the Council for the confidence evidenced by his election to the office of Executive Presbyter of the General Council.

(Balloting for the remaining executive presbyter from the Northeast Area was continued until Monday morning, a vacancy having been created through the death of Richard Bergstrom.)

### Criteria for Independent Corporations, Continued

The General Superintendent stated that there is no desire on the part of the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery to suppress debate on the floor of the General Council or to prevent the General Council from giving full expression and action regarding any principle or policy affecting the Assemblies of God. He reiterated the fact that the General Council in session is the highest and final voice of the church. He stated further that the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery are completely amenable to the General Council. He suggested that if the General Council is not satisfied with the action taken in the morning session regarding the *Statement of Criteria*, it should be brought back to the floor for further discussion and action.

A motion then prevailed to reconsider the action of the morning session with regard to the *Statement of Criteria*.

It was then moved, seconded and carried that the *Statement of Criteria* be distributed to the delegates of the General Council for review.

The chair reported that the convention office would need time for duplicating and assembling the report, but that it would be available before the close of the afternoon session.

### Superannuated Ministers

Brother Leland Keys, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, offered the following resolution affecting the superannuation of ministers, after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There is no clearly defined policy in the General Council Bylaws affecting the superannuation of ministers of the Fellowship; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article VI of the Bylaws be amended by the insertion of a Section 9 entitled "Superannuated Ministers" as follows:

Superannuation shall designate a status of honor and respect for a minister who has given years of service to the Fellowship.

a. An ordained minister who reaches sixty-five years of age, and who is no longer engaged in full-time ministry, shall be indicated as superannuated upon his request, or the request of his district.

b. His status as a minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his credentials shall take place in the regular manner.

c. He shall not be expected to make financial contributions to the General Council office in the same manner as those engaged in active ministry.

The succeeding Sections of Article VI shall be renumbered accordingly.

The resolution was adopted upon motion duly carried.

### Suspension of Ministers

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution which had been proposed for the purpose of clarifying the term "suspension" as it may be applied to a minister's credentials:

The following is recommended with respect to Article VI, Section 12, of the General Council Bylaws:

Paragraph "a"—It is recommended that the order of categories of termination be reversed in the next to the last sentence, and that it shall read, "...his name may be published as 'withdrawn,' 'suspended,' 'removed,'..."

Paragraph "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 who is under serious charges, or who has been given a probationary period for adjusting minor offenses, may be listed as "suspended." Suspension shall be for a specific time and in no case to exceed one year in duration. Terms of the suspension shall be specifically described by the District Presbytery in each case, with a copy of these terms filed with the General Secretary. 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. 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 in-

discretions involving morals, or other serious misconduct, shall be listed as "dropped."

A motion prevailed to adopt the resolution.

#### **Seating College Presidents on General Presbytery**

Brother Keys presented the following resolution which came as a request from the Northern California and Nevada District and from the Board of Education:

WHEREAS, It is felt because of the relationship of the presidents of our General Council colleges to the training of our young people, and the importance of the knowledge of trends and legislation from time to time; and in response to the request of the Northern California and Nevada District; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the presidents of the General Council colleges shall be seated without voting privileges in the regular sessions of the General Presbytery.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

It was recalled that similar requests had been received over the years from various groups. Both the General Presbytery and the General Council, in session in 1957, had declined a request to seat the college presidents in the General Presbytery sessions. A request had been presented to the 1964 General Presbytery Session to seat the college presidents and this had also been declined and referred to the 1965 General Council without recommendation.

After debate, question was called and a voice vote was taken. The results were not clear and a division of the house was called for. The chair asked for a show of hands to indicate the affirmative and negative votes. This vote clearly indicated the motion to adopt the resolution to seat the college presidents on the General Presbytery was lost.

#### **Pulpit Magazine**

Brother Keys presented the following resolution which called for the discontinuance of *Pulpit* magazine:

In view of the unfavorable financial experience in the publishing of *Pulpit* magazine, and in view of the fact that much material now found in *Pulpit* magazine will be found in the new publication *Advance*; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the publication of *Pulpit* magazine shall be discontinued; and further be it

RESOLVED, That Article XII, Section 2, paragraph "c" shall be amended by striking out the words "and *Pulpit*."

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

#### **New Districts Added to Bylaws**

The following resolution was presented:

In order to properly list the various districts in their respective places, as listed in Article II, Section 2, paragraph "d," of the General Council Bylaws; be it

RESOLVED, That the District of Alaska shall be added to the Northwest Area; and that the name of the West Central District be deleted from the North Central Area and the names of the Iowa and Northern Missouri Districts be added instead.

The motion to adopt this resolution was seconded and carried.

The chair announced that the Criteria Document was now ready for distribution. He requested direction from the floor as to the procedure in further consideration of the matter.

He questioned whether there was sufficient time to give full discussion to the matter since only a few minutes remained in the afternoon session. He inquired whether it would be wisdom to receive the document, study it over the weekend, and then present it for discussion during the Monday morning meeting.

It was therefore moved, seconded and carried

That the Criteria Document be received for study over the weekend, with the understanding that any desired action, if any, will be presented during the Monday morning meeting.

#### **Life in the Spirit Teaching**

A privileged motion from the floor was heard which requested that a committee be appointed to look into the So-called Life in the Spirit Teaching, with the General Superintendent serving as chairman, and that the committee's findings be reported to our churches. There appeared to be con-

fusion regarding this teaching. There was a motion to refer the matter to the Resolutions Committee, that a more informative and clearly understood resolution could be formulated for the consideration of the Council. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion prevailed that all resolutions to be considered by this General Council must be in the hands of the Resolutions Committee not later than 10 a.m. Monday.

A motion carried to recess the meeting at five p.m. Prayer was offered by Brother James Menzies.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Brother Charles W. H. Scott, Assistant General Superintendent, was in charge of the memorial and communion service which began at 9:45 a.m. in the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Brother D. Leroy Sanders assisted with Gene Martin leading the songs of worship. Prayer was offered by Bert Webb, after which a special number in song was presented by the Male Chorus from the North Central Bible College of Minneapolis.

The congregation stood to honor the memory of 181 ordained ministers (including eight foreign missionaries) who went to be with the Lord during the biennium. Their names were read by Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary:

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Abshier, William A., Richardson, Tex.  
Adcock, Frank L., Hot Springs, Ark.  
Allen, Oather L., El Dorado, Ark.  
Andrews, F. E., Auburndale, Fla.  
Andrews, William L., Bellevue, Wash.  
Arnold, Sam B., Zephyrhills, Fla.  
Asher, Claud H., Bartlesville, Okla.  
Bacon, George S., Salem, Oreg.  
Baker, Emitte F., San Jacinto, Calif.  
Barr, Erma L. (Mrs.), Covington, Ky.  
Barton, Henry, Frederick, Md.  
Bauer, Henry, San Diego, Calif.  
Bergstrom, Richard J., Taunton, Mass.  
Bibber, Charles F., Atlantic City, N. J.  
Bice, Willie H., Fort Worth, Tex.  
Blakeney, Lillian Kraeger (Mrs.), Lakeland, Fla.  
Boan, Edd, Eldon, Mo.

Boyd, David L., Industry, Ill.  
Brown, Arthur, Kountze, Tex.  
Buckley, Roy L., Jefferson City, Mo.  
Buffum, Lillie (Mrs.), Stockton, Calif.  
Campbell, Ray L., Gideon, Mo.  
Cantelon, P. M. (Todd), Seattle, Wash.  
Captain, Frank, Wyandotte, Okla.  
Carlson, Carl G., Spokane, Wash.  
Carriker, L. Duane, Valdez, Alaska  
Clarke, Stanley H., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Cloud, Jacob H., Bainbridge, Ga.  
Cobb, Lester M., West Asheville, N. C.  
Cobb, Minnie (Mrs.), Valparaiso, Fla.  
Conrad, Franklin E., Sapulpa, Okla.  
Conrad, Louisa Belle (Mrs. F. E.), Sapulpa, Okla.  
Cooper, Cornelia F. (Mrs.), Keota, Okla.  
Cordova, Manuel C., Healdsburg, Calif.  
Cull, Robert E., Medford, Oreg.  
Davies, Kenneth B., Kendallville, Ind.  
DePasquale, Joseph, Elizabeth, N. J.  
Downs, Alvin B., West Monroe, La.  
Duncan Archie D., Brea, Calif.  
Duncan, John R., Fresno, Calif.  
Edgar, Jack R., Aptos, Calif.  
Eiting, Martha (Mrs. F. G.), Dallas, Tex.  
Farley, Amos R., Bazine, Kans.  
Florence, Rodger Q., Fort Worth, Tex.  
Foos, Burt F., Tacoma, Wash.  
Ford, Dennie E., Houston, Tex.  
Forsgren, Ingrid (Mrs.), Los Angeles, Calif.  
Frangos, Manuel G., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Gamlen, George W., Eugene, Oreg.  
Garner, Naomi S. (Mrs. W. A.), Winston, Oreg.  
Gibson, Noah C., Pascagoula, Miss.  
Gilpin, Alvin L., Ola, Ark.  
Goree, Clyde C., Mobile, Ala.  
Gotcher, Thomas J., N. Little Rock, Ark.  
Gray, Thomas M., Modesto, Calif.  
Haggard, Bright E., Van Buren, Ark.  
Hall, D. Glen, Nelson, Mo.  
Hardcastle, G. Lee, Nacogdoches, Tex.  
Harrison, Hollis M., Durham, N. C.  
Hause, Eunice E. (Mrs.), Winter Haven, Fla.  
Hayes, George O., Houston, Tex.  
Headley, Fred A., Kansas City, Mo.  
Heady, Dean G., Sr., Steelville, Mo.  
Heflin, Alvie, Thornton, Tex.  
Hernandez, Jose B., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Hillman, Basil E., Gary, Ind.

Hines, Henry P., Grass Valley, Calif.  
Hinson, Daniel T., Gary, Ind.  
Hoar, Henry, St. Louis, Mo.  
Hochmuth, Herman S., Van Wert, Iowa  
Holland, L. N., Wauchula, Fla.  
Hopkins, William E., Broken Arrow, Okla.  
Hostvedt, Arthur H., Portland, Oreg.  
Hudson, John W., Broken Arrow, Okla.  
Hutto, Donald G., Chickasaw, Ala.  
Itrich, Robert W., Monroe, S. Dak.  
Ivie, Walter C., Newport, Ark.  
Jacobs, Randolph C., Mantua, Ohio  
Jenkins, Harry E., Ironton, Mo.  
Jensen, Woodrow M., Brooks, Oreg.  
Jenson, Clarence H., Alexandria, Minn.  
Johnson, Rebekah F., Cleveland, Tex.  
Johnson, Robert L., Strathmore, Calif.  
Johnson, Stanley R., Staples, Minn.  
Jones, Emmiett E., Birmingham, Ala.  
Jones, Joseph P., Jennings, Fla.  
Keller, G. Josephine, Flintstone, Md.  
Kessel, Theodore A., Springfield, Mo.  
Killion, Dewey G., Sun Valley, Calif.  
Landis, Clifford E., Waldport, Oreg.  
Lindsay, Wilhemina (Mrs. A.), Lakeland, Fla.  
Linkswiler, Jerome, Hugo, Okla.  
Linn, James W., Miami, Okla.  
Long, Charles E., Des Moines, Iowa  
Long, John A., Buena, Wash.  
Lopez, Agustin T., Lynwood, Calif.  
Lucas, Wilbur J., Austin, Tex.  
McCarty, Maynard R., Eight Mile, Ala.  
McCormick, Benjamin F., Broken Arrow, Okla.  
McCoy, George W., Jones, Okla.  
McIntire, William S., Sand Springs, Okla.  
McMasters, J. W., Iuka, Miss.  
McPhail, John A., Tulsa, Okla.  
Martin, A. J., Pensacola, Fla.  
Mason, Jean C. (Mrs.), Pasadena, Calif.  
Matson, Orno M., Kalama, Wash.  
Miller, Ivan O., Prior Lake, Minn.  
Minick, John P., Little Rock, Ark.  
Montgomery, Waldo L., Paramount, Calif.  
Moore, Mary E. (Mrs.), Long Beach, Calif.  
Mudge, Lewis I., Lakeland, Fla.  
Muller, William, Parma Heights, Ohio  
Mullins, Roy, Bristol, Va.  
Neece, Corine M., (Mrs. C.), Tampa, Fla.  
Neidermeier, Edward A., Central City, Pa.

Neubauer, Fred H., Juneau, Alaska  
Nikoloff, Nicholas, Springfield, Mo.  
Noles, Samuel W., Marianna, Fla.  
North, Clifford C., Greenville, Calif.  
Nosches, Joseph, Long Beach, Calif.  
O'Brien, Jennie (Mrs.), Arlington, Va.  
Peters, Elsie R. (Mrs.), Maywood, Calif.  
Pfeifer, Frederick, Lakeland, Fla.  
Piesecki, Konstantine, Los Angeles, Calif.  
Plake, David C., Lincoln, Ill.  
Pollard, Albert V., Otis, Colo.  
Pollock, Charles A., Porterville, Calif.  
Pratt, Howard S., Sacramento, Calif.  
Preslar, V. W., Trimble, Tenn.  
Price, Glenda M. (Mrs. D. M.), Crestwood, Ky.  
Pugh, Stanley, Reading, Pa.  
Randolph, J. Raymond, Granite City, Ill.  
Ray, Robert E., Hayward, Calif.  
Read, Gordon, Hickory Ridge, Ark.  
Robertson, Samuel H., San Jose, Calif.  
Robinson, Walter P., Wichita Falls, Tex.  
Robison, Charles P., Highlands, Tex.  
Roman, Hilda R., (Mrs.), Miami, Fla.  
Ross, William H., Yucaipa, Calif.  
Russell, Beulah (Mrs. W. R.), Louisville, Ky.  
Saffell, William B., Powdery, Tex.  
Sanchez, Diego A., San Angelo, Tex.  
Scott, Donald C., Tulsa, Okla.  
Scull, Samuel S., Mesa, Ariz.  
Secord, Milford W., Hamilton, Va.  
Shackelton, Edna B. (Mrs.), Omaha, Nebr.  
Shelton, Bluford M., Milton-Freewater, Oreg.  
Shelton, Henry R., Ethelsville, Ala.  
Shelton, Ross P., Mansfield, La.  
Simms, Herbert E., Benton, Ark.  
Skee, George, Lynwood, Calif.  
Skinn, Albert, South Wales, Great Britain  
Smith, Alex W., Mesa, Ariz.  
Smith, Clarence H., Granite City, Ill.  
Smith, Willis E., Seattle, Wash.  
Stants, Calvin, Lafayette, Ind.  
Steele, C. Fred, San Diego, Calif.  
Stewart, Mark H., Bloomington, Calif.  
String, Thomas C., Pleasantville, N. J.  
Stringer, R. D., Taft, Calif.  
Strong, Breham S., Monroe, La.  
Sturgis, Willa J. (Mrs. L. R.), Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Sublett, Samuel W., Montcalm, W. Va.  
Swift, Allan A., Islington, Ontario, Canada

Teagle, Clarence E., Oakdale, La.  
 Tigner, Elmer H., Tacoma, Wash.  
 Treece, Oliver B., Apache Junction, Ariz.  
 Versolenko, Fred, Salem, Oreg.  
 Walker, Leo, Fort Worth, Tex.  
 Wallace, Milton A., Chandler, Tex.  
 Waller, Sidney E., Brooksville, Fla.  
 Ward, Ellis L., Sumner, Wash.  
 Whitehead, T. J., Slocomb, Ala.

#### MISSIONARIES

Bard, Ruth (Mrs.), Germany  
 Hindle, Louise (Mrs.), Woodstock, Ontario, Canada  
 Kennedy, Daisy B. (Mrs. J.), Africa  
 Personeus, Mattie, North India  
 Schoonmaker, Violet D., Lakeland, Fla.  
 Shakley, Eva (Mrs. I. G.), Lakeland, Fla.  
 Shakley, Ira G., Lakeland, Fla.  
 Tucker, J. W., Paulis, Republique du Congo

Following the reading, Brother J. R. Flower led in prayer. Mrs. Francis Youngblood sang "The tears of the sower and songs of the reaper shall mingle together in joy bye and bye." The morning speaker was Philip A. Crouch, President of Central Bible College, Springfield, Missouri. His sermon was entitled "The Pilgrimage of Faith." Communion was served to the congregation by members of the Executive and General Presbyteries.

"Good News for All Nations" was the theme of the Foreign Missions Rally on Sunday afternoon. One hundred fifty missionaries and more than forty district missionary secretaries joined in the great missionary parade, representing five areas of foreign ministry. Paul Finkenbinder brought the afternoon message. Excerpts from his address are reproduced in *The Pentecostal Evangel* under the title, "The Miracle of Radio and TV."

The evening evangelistic rally began at 7:15, with Brother G. W. Hardcastle, II in charge of the service. There were about 80 evangelists seated on the platform. Brother D. V. Hurst led the song service, with Eddie Reece at the piano and Barbara Hardcastle the organ. Special numbers were given by the Hymntime Singers, the Couriers Quartet and Mrs. T. F. Zimmerman, III. John Bostrom led in prayer. Evangelist Lorne Fox brought the message of the evening from Psalm 34:5: "They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed." He emphasized that what

the church and the world alike need is a new revelation of Jesus.

A great altar service followed the preaching of the Word. About 75 persons sought Christ for salvation and a number were filled with the Holy Spirit.

#### MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 30

Reverend Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, opened the devotional service at 9:05 a.m. Evangelist Wayne Fagerstrom led the singing. Prayer was offered by the Reverend Fred Lessten, representative of the American Bible Society and an Assemblies of God minister.

Brother Webb spoke with appreciation of the good work which Assemblies of God chaplains are performing in the armed forces. He then introduced Chaplain Stanford E. Linzey, Lieutenant Commander of the United States Navy. Brother Linzey based his message on John 3:3, declaring that man left to himself is not morally good, but that he must be born again. He spoke of the total depravity of man and of the need for the regenerating power of Christ to transform the hearts of men.

The business session began at 10:20 with General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman presiding.

#### Report from the Tellers Committee

Arthur Berg, Chairman, gave the following report:

Ordained ministers registered	1,879
Delegates	553
Licensed ministers	245
Visitors	1,361
Total	4,038
Total voting	2,432

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

#### Criteria for Independent Corporations

The General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, reminded the Council of the action taken on Saturday with respect to the Criteria. He inquired whether after studying the Criteria over the weekend, anyone had further comments or recommendations to offer. It was moved and seconded that the Criteria Document be approved.

A motion was offered to amend Point Ten by deleting the term "Executive Presbytery" and that the area non-resident General Council Executive Presbyter serve as chairman of a board composed of the General Presbyters of the several districts making up the area in which the corporation's home office is located; and, that this board meet to examine the applicant at the site of the headquarters of the corporation, the expenses to be borne by the applicant; and that the decision of the examining board be final, with the right of the applicant to appeal the decision of the board to the Executive Presbytery; and further that this board shall report its decision immediately to the Executive Presbytery. The motion was seconded.

### Northeast Area Election

(Nonresident Executive Presbyter)

The chair requested Merle Harris to report for the Tellers Committee in the election of a nonresident executive presbyter for the Northeast Area.

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	943
Needed to elect	630
Guy Duty	76
Frederick D. Eide	106
David W. Flower	121
Joseph R. Flower	403
Carl Lindberg	55
W. Howard Roberson	182
Second elective ballot	
Total ballots to cast	656
Needed to elect	438
Joseph R. Flower	576
W. Howard Roberson	182
David Flower	7
Frederick D. Eide	8
Guy W. Duty	10

The chair therefore declared Joseph R. Flower elected as an Executive Presbyter from the Northeast Area. Brother Flower was then invited to the platform. He thanked the assembly for the vote of confidence.

Discussion of the Criteria was resumed.

There was a motion to amend the amendment offered on Point Ten of the Criteria to delete the word "final"; and to

provide that, in the event the initiative should be taken by the Executive Presbytery in examining an independent corporation, the cost should be borne by the General Council. The motion to amend the amendment was seconded and carried. The motion to amend Point Ten was then voted upon and declared lost.

A substitute motion was offered that a committee be appointed which would conduct a hearing by which individuals or minority groups could present their opinions and that the results of the hearing be considered by the General Presbytery at its next meeting, and, if desirable, modify the document as may be required.

Discussion ensued regarding the order of the substitute motion. The chair ruled that it was not a proper motion inasmuch as the General Council had voted to consider the Criteria and the motion in effect would deny the General Council that privilege. There was a motion to appeal the decision of the chair. The motion to appeal was seconded. A voice vote was not clear and a division of the house was called for. The ruling of the chair was sustained by a standing vote.

The chair stated that the ruling on the above motion was not intended to set a precedent for the Council to follow, but that it appeared to him that inasmuch as the matter of the Criteria had been brought to the Council floor full opportunity should be given for discussion.

A substitute motion was offered:

That the General Council in session concur with the General Presbytery in the Statement of the Criteria with the understanding that the General Presbytery has the right to revise the Criteria as the need may arise in the future.

The motion was seconded.

Further discussion ensued and there was a motion calling for the previous question. The motion was seconded and adopted by a two-thirds vote.

The substitute motion to concur with the General Presbytery in the Statement of the Criteria was then voted upon. There being no negative votes, the motion was declared unanimously carried. The Criteria for Independent Corporations as revised and adopted by the General Presbytery in its meeting of August 23, 1965, and concurred in by the General Council in session, are as follows:

## REVISED CRITERIA FOR INDEPENDENT CORPORATIONS

### Preamble

"WHEREAS, The General Presbytery, on September 2, 1960, took the following action:

General Council ministers shall refrain from agreements with independent organizations entailing the use or solicitation of funds, or the ministry of persons representing these organizations when such cooperation involves the identifying of our work with, or the giving of publicity to,

- a) organizations over which the General Council exercises no administrative control, or
- b) with which the General Council has no proper working relationship; and

"WHEREAS, The Executive Presbytery, on February 23, 1961, adopted the following motion:

That the District Offices be advised that the Executive Presbytery has reviewed the actions taken by the General Presbytery and the General Council as they relate to independent corporations and ministries in relationship to the overall ministry of the Assemblies of God; and that attention be called to the action of the General Presbytery and also to

- a) Article XXI, Section 2, of the General Council Bylaws regarding privately owned religious institutions and also to
- b) Article XXIII, Section 9, covering improper solicitation of funds, and to
- c) Article VI, Section 19, having to do with ministry in non-Council churches; and in the event the provisions stated above are violated, we recommend

That the District take necessary steps to deal with such cases and that appropriate actions, when so taken, will be dealt with properly by the Executive Presbytery; and

"WHEREAS, The General Presbytery on August 22, 1961, requested appropriate Criteria by which ministries could be accredited by the Assemblies of God; and

"WHEREAS, The General Presbytery on August 27, 1964, requested that these Criteria be restudied to differentiate between independent corporations that are not a part of the Assemblies of God (that is, formed by those not members of the Assemblies of God) and those independent corporations that are formed by Assemblies of God ministers; therefore be it

RESOLVED, (1) That the following be established as Criteria by which ministries can be approved to the extent that Assemblies of God ministers would be enabled to work with independent corporations without affecting their standing with the Assemblies of God; and be it further

RESOLVED (2) That ministers associating themselves with or forming corporations shall be guided by these Criteria:

### Criteria

"1. There shall be a working harmony of doctrine and practice with all corporations associated with the Assemblies of God as defined by these Criteria, in accordance with the parenthetical statement of Article XXIII, Section 10, of the General Council Bylaws:

'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.'

"2. The purposes of the corporation shall be compatible with the purposes of the Assemblies of God in the announced area that the corporation is intended to serve. (See Article XXI, Section 2, Private Ownership of Religious Institutions, and Article XXIII, Section 9, Improper Solicitation of Funds.)

"3. The use of all resources which include facilities, monies, equipment, et cetera, shall be in keeping with the stated purposes and objectives of said corporation. In the event that administrative costs shall exceed fifteen percent of the gross income, upon request of the Executive Presbytery, the Board of Directors shall make all records available for review and recommendation.

"4. The corporation shall be a nonprofit, nonprivate,

open corporation, and the governing board shall not be self-perpetuating. (See Article XXI, Section 2, Private Ownership of Religious Institutions.)

"5. All fiscal operations shall be under board control, with budget and cash control by a Board of Directors of no less than seven members. All records of fiscal affairs shall be available for examination at all times.

"6. There shall be an annual audit by certified public accountants who shall audit the budget as well as cash control, and such audit report shall be made available to the Executive Presbytery when requested.

"7. The leadership shall be of reputable character at local, national and international levels.

"8. Accurate and ethical standards of communication shall prevail. All publications shall be discreet; literature shall be of positive character; and solicitations and mailing lists shall be used according to generally accepted high ethical standards.

"9. Initiative to establish a working agreement with any corporation may be exercised by the Executive Presbytery or the corporation.

"10. Each approved corporation shall be subject to annual review and approval by the Executive Presbytery who shall in turn report to the General Presbytery. Relationships between the corporation and the Assemblies of God shall be on the basis of continued cooperation in accord with the original purposes, objectives and operation of the corporation."

#### **"Life in the Spirit" Movement, So-called**

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee offered the following resolution in view of the action taken earlier in the session on this subject:

In view of the fact that the Resolutions Committee to whom this matter was referred does not have time in this General Council to make an adequate and just study of the "Life in the Spirit" movement; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed by the General Superintendent to study this movement without prejudice and to report to the next meeting of the

General Presbytery and the following General Council.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

There was a motion to amend by providing that the findings and recommendations of the study committee be reported to the Executive Presbytery and the information disseminated as soon as possible to all Assemblies of God licensed and ordained ministers, including all pastors. The motion was seconded and carried. The motion to adopt the resolution as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

A motion prevailed to recess at 12 noon and to reconvene at 1:45 p.m.

The chair expressed sincere appreciation to the members of the Iowa and Northern Missouri District who had supported the Council, particularly in a financial way. It was reported that the Iowa District had underwritten the finances of the Council in the amount of \$1,500. Brother Zimmerman then dismissed the morning meeting at twelve noon with prayer.

#### **MONDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 30**

The afternoon devotional service was under the direction of Brother James E. Brown. Brother Wesley Fleming of Walla Walla, Washington, led in the singing of choruses and Brother Brown led in prayer giving opportunity for presentation of urgent prayer needs. A testimony was given by layman Doyle Burgess, member of the First Assembly of God in Memphis, Tennessee. Brother Burgess read Proverbs 3:5, 6 and related how God spoke to his heart and filled him with the Holy Spirit. Brother Burgess stated, "The most important thing in my life is to work for God; all other things are secondary. My main objective in life was to work for God as a pharmacist. I wanted to take God as my partner in business. I have a wonderful peace which the world cannot give and it can't take it away."

Following the singing of "He Leadeth Me," Brother Guy Basye, layman from Hope, Arkansas, led in prayer.

The chair declared the afternoon business meeting in order at 2:10 p.m.

#### **Roster Committee Report**

A further report of the Roster Committee was presented showing registration as of 2 o'clock:

Ordnained ministers	1,889
Delegates	554
Total voting	2,443
Licensed ministers	246
Visitors	1,375
Total registration	4,064

A motion prevailed that the report of the Roster Committee be received.

#### Report on Worldliness

Leland Keys, Chairman of the Resolution Committee, reported that several letters had been received regarding the General Council position on worldliness. Since the General Council Constitution and Bylaws already contains statements relative to this subject, the Resolutions Committee felt that a proper procedure would be to call to the attention of the General Council in session the need for adhering to the Bible standards on holiness as defined in the official discipline of the church. It was requested that the General Secretary advise those who wrote of the feeling of the Resolutions Committee on this subject.

#### Civil Rights

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

WHEREAS, On May 28, 1964 the Executive Presbytery adopted a statement intended to set forth our position on racial integration, as follows:

"Inasmuch as the Assemblies of God is a cooperative fellowship made up of sovereign churches which retain their right of self-determination and are affiliated on a voluntary basis in accordance with adopted constitution and bylaws, matters of procedure along these lines are left to local determination and are not established by organizational action": and

WHEREAS, There are continuing questions concerning our position relative to the subject, and they seem to indicate the wisdom of further elucidation; and

WHEREAS, The teachings of Christ are violated by discriminatory practices against racial minorities; and

WHEREAS, The transformation of mankind through faith

in the gospel of Jesus Christ breaks down prejudice and causes justice to prevail; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we adhere to the Bible's teachings, with the practice of Christian principles in social, economic, and political life and recognize them as relevant to the solution of all social problems and the establishment of the best human relations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our belief in the teachings of Christ including His emphasis upon the inherent worth and intrinsic value of every man, regardless of race, class, creed, or color; and we urge all our constituency to discourage unfair and discriminatory practices wherever they may exist; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That we believe those in authority in political, social, and particularly in evangelical groups, have a moral responsibility toward the creation of those situations which will provide equal rights and opportunities for every individual.

#### Military Service Statement

The following resolution was presented for consideration:

In view of the fact that there are widespread questions regarding the adequacy of our statement on military service as found in Article XXII of the General Council constitution and bylaws; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed to make a study of this important article and bring its report to the next General Council session.

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

A subsequent motion prevailed that this committee shall be appointed by the Executive Prebystery. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Revivaltime Support

It was moved, seconded and carried that the following resolution on the support of the Revivaltime broadcast be adopted:

Since Revivaltime has made a unique and impressive

contribution to the Assemblies of God testimony and witness around the world; and,

In light of the current financial crisis and the appeal made to all our churches; and

Since only 23% of our Assemblies of God churches contribute to the support of Revivaltime,

**WE RECOMMEND**, That this General Council in session go on record to encourage every Assemblies of God church to pledge at least a small contribution to Revivaltime each month; and, furthermore

**RECOMMEND**, That each district be asked to encourage each church within the district to include Revivaltime in its budget.

#### **Bylaw Revision MF, WMC, C A Departments**

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, That the General Council Bylaws, Article XVIII (MF), Section 1, be amended by deleting Paragraph "c" and Paragraph "d", and that a new Paragraph "c" be substituted, as follows:

The purposes of the Men's Fellowship, in general, are:

- a. To promote the forming of fellowship groups among the men in the local church;
- b. To develop and coordinate the interest of men in supporting all Assembly activities;
- c. To encourage the development of the total spiritual potential of men;
- d. To train men in personal witnessing for Christ;
- e. To organize and promote a program for boys;
- f. To participate in sponsoring foreign evangelistic literature crusades, and such other programs as may be approved in the future;
- g. To prepare and publish books, manuals, and such literature as may be needed to further the cause of fel-

lowship and united effort among the men of the Assemblies of God churches;

h. To publicize the work of the Men's Fellowship.

General Council Bylaws, Article XVII, Section 1 (WMC).

**RESOLVED**, That a new Paragraph "c" be inserted to read "to organize and promote a program for girls," and that the following paragraphs be renumbered accordingly.

General Council Bylaws, Article XIII, Section 1 (CAD).

Section 4: Paragraph "c" shall be deleted and the following paragraphs shall be renumbered accordingly.

Section 5: A new paragraph "b" shall be inserted to read as follows: "The members of this group shall be born again young people living consistent Christian lives." The following paragraphs shall be renumbered accordingly.

A motion prevailed to adopt the resolution.

#### **Bylaw Amendment Affecting MBA**

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

**WHEREAS**, In the course of developing the Ministers' Benefit Association, a number of changes have been made affecting member contributions and benefits, thus making the General Council Bylaw Article XIX, Ministers' Benefit Association, Section 4, Contribution, and Section 5, Benefits, obsolete, and

**WHEREAS**, Other changes may be desirable in the future; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That Article XIX of the Bylaws be amended by deleting Section 4, and Section 5, and substituting a new section as follows:

Section 4. Contributions and Benefits

Provisions governing contributions by members and benefits to accrue to members of the Ministers' Benefit As-

sociation shall be contained in the Bylaws of the Association.

### **CBI Name Change**

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

WHEREAS, The term *Bible Institute* usually signifies a religious institution which provides a period of study of three years or less; and

WHEREAS, Since 1948 Central Bible Institute has offered a four-year program of studies, leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree, and the curriculum is constantly becoming enriched and expanded; and

WHEREAS, Practically all students who now graduate from Central Bible Institute have pursued their studies until they have completed a degree program; and

WHEREAS, Almost all of our Assemblies of God schools have changed their names to reflect the collegiate program they are now offering; and

WHEREAS, The name *College* would more adequately reflect the stature and curriculum of Central Bible Institute than does the term *Institute*; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council in session authorize the Board of Directors of Central Bible Institute to take the necessary steps to change the name of Central Bible Institute to Central Bible College of the Assemblies of God.

Following a brief discussion, the motion was carried.

### **Dormitory Housing, CBI**

The following resolution was presented for consideration:

WHEREAS, A Planning and Development Committee has made a survey of the need of additional facilities on the campus of Central Bible Institute; which causes the committee to realize the need of facilities such as a dormitory, campus auditorium, fine arts facilities, improved chimneys, et cetera; and

WHEREAS, It appears that the urgent and immediate

need is for additional dormitory housing, as a backdrop to presenting this need, a brief evaluation of present dormitory space is desirable:

*John Welch Hall* has a double-occupancy-per-room capacity of 216 men. There were 211 residents in the fall of 1964, an increase of 9% over the average of the two previous years;

*Eleanor Bowie Hall* has 115 women student rooms, 30 of which were designed for double occupancy. This dormitory can comfortably house 145 women. In the fall semester of 1964 and the spring semester of 1965 an average of 194 women were housed in very crowded circumstances in the dormitory;

In view of the over-capacity occupancy of present dormitory facilities, and in view of administrative building capacity to accommodate more than 200 additional students; and in view of the current indication of an additional 60 students this fall, with a projection of a further increase of 60 more students in the fall of 1966, to bring the enrollment up to 675-690 (based on fall semester enrollment for 1964 of 571), the Planning and Development Committee recommends the erection of a dormitory:

*Dormitory.* The Committee recommends erection of a double-occupancy 60-room dormitory, housing 120 students. It is estimated that such facilities, including complete year-round air-conditioning and heating, would cost \$4,600 per room average, including lounge areas, halls, etc., requiring a total of \$276,000 for the 60-room complex.

*Financing.* The Committee recommends the use of a bond issue of 5% bonds subject to early call, with maturity beginning in 1968. Retirement obligations currently are \$17,000 per year, which will be concluded in 1969 with \$29,000 bond retirement.

*Income.* It is anticipated that a minimum of \$30 per student per month be charged. This would return \$32,400 during the two-semester school year. During the summer semesters, if the rooms were occupied at 50% capacity, the rent would exceed \$3,600. There would also likely be other income from such meetings as A.C.T.S. and the School of Missions which would approximate \$2,400 or more. This would provide an annual income of \$38,400.

*Amortization*

Interest expense .....	\$ 7,608
Bond retirement (15-year basis) .....	18,400
Maintenance, including utilities, cleaning, etc. ....	7,250
	<hr/>
	\$33,258

*Date of occupancy.* Fall semester, 1966, if Jesus tarries. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council approve the erection of this structure.

The motion to adopt this resolution was seconded and carried.

**CBI Chapel**

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

A report was received and referred respectively to the Central Bible Institute Board of Administration, the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery for referral to this General Council in session at Des Moines.

The CBI Chapel Committee was appointed by the Executive Presbytery to survey the immediate needs for maintenance and long-range needs at CBI.

Most necessary permanent building needs indicated were for a dormitory and a chapel. Chapel space previously provided in Bowie Hall has long since been outgrown. The chapel facility now being used is inadequate for the purpose and is not conducive to worship as desirable.

The committee recommends that steps should be taken to build a suitable CBI campus chapel at the earliest possible date and recommends that the Board of Directors consider building the chapel in honor of Ernest S. Williams. The chapel as planned would seat 1,000 persons which would be adequate to seat the student body comfortably and also serve on special occasions, but probably not for such occasions as commencement. The estimated cost of such a building is \$175,000. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council in session authorize the Board of Directors of Central Bible Institute

to construct the proposed chapel on the Central Bible Institute campus.

Discussion ensued as to whether the \$175,000 projected construction cost was realistic. A motion to amend was offered which would delete the \$175,000 figure and provide that a building be constructed at a most reasonable figure in keeping with the desired character and structure of the building, and that the chapel be constructed when feasible and when funds are available.

The motion to amend was seconded and carried.

Upon voting for the main motion, as amended, the motion was carried.

**Brethren from India**

The chair gave recognition to two visiting brethren from India, Brother Sharad Borday, Junnar, India, Dean of the S. W. India Bible Institute, and Brother John Cherian, Bangor, India, Professor at Southern Asia Bible Institute. Brother Zimmerman asked these brethren to convey our love and best wishes to the National Church on behalf of the General Council.

**Resolutions Submitted Early**

A resolution was offered to provide for an orderly presentation of resolutions to the General Council. It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted:

"a. All resolutions except emergency resolutions shall be in the hands of the Secretary of the General Council thirty days prior to the date of the convening of the General Council, and that

"b. The author of any resolution submitted to the General Council for adoption shall sign the resolution and shall be expected to open discussion of the same on the Council floor."

A motion to amend was offered that all resolutions, other than emergency resolutions, shall be submitted to the Resolutions Committee ninety days prior to a General Council session, and submitted to those pre-registered thirty days before the General Council at which they are to be considered. The motion was seconded.

Upon voting for the motion to amend, the motion was lost.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended

to read: "All resolutions shall be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by midnight of the third day of the General Council in session (including the first night of the Council) but that this shall in no wise be interpreted as restricting emergency resolutions or restricting the privilege of the floor."

The motion to amend was voted upon and declared carried.

A further amendment was offered that all resolutions be submitted to the Council in printed form. This amendment was lost.

The resolution, as amended, was then voted upon and was carried. The amended resolution as adopted follows:

a. All resolutions shall be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by midnight of the third day of the General Council in session (including the first night of the General Council) with the understanding this shall in no wise be interpreted as restricting the presentation of emergency resolutions or of restricting the privilege of the floor.

b. The author of any resolution submitted to the General Council for adoption shall sign the resolution and shall be expected to open discussion of the same on the Council floor.

#### **Report from Board of Education**

Brother Chas. W. H. Scott, Chairman of the Board of Education, presented the following report relative to a Graduate School of Theology:

The Bylaws of the Assemblies of God, Article X, Section 4 state, "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 land."

In the 1961 General Council held in Portland, Oregon, the authorization required by the Bylaws cited above was given to the Department of Education and the Executive Presbytery. The resolution read as follows: "That this General Council in session authorize the Board of Education to take the necessary steps in consultation with the Executive Presbytery to establish a graduate school of theology at such time and place as they deem necessary."

The Board of Education pursuant to this decision has met and consulted with the Executive Presbytery. Other special joint committees have met to study the procedure relative to the establishing of the school. Meetings have been held with seminary consultants.

Among the recommendations which have been reached are those related to curriculum, organizational structure and faculty qualifications. The Board of Education has a continued concern over the importance of the establishing of the school at the earliest feasible time.

At the meeting of the Board of Education of August 25, 1965, a decision was reached, after consulting with the Executive Presbytery, to appoint a further study committee to prepare an acceptable, workable plan for the successful financing of the graduate school of theology, thus to negotiate this major hurdle for the inauguration of the graduate school program. It is felt that when this hurdle has been met by our constituency, your board will be in a position to implement the action of the Portland General Council.

It is the hope of the Board of Education that the plans for the program be completed within the biennium of the General Council of 1965 and 1967 and that the school be inaugurated at the earliest possible date after the plans are completed.

It was moved, seconded and carried that this report be received as a progress report.

The chair introduced Brother Emil Samuelson. It was reported that he is 94 years of age and possibly the oldest ordained minister of the Assemblies of God. He testified of the goodness of God and encouraged his brethren to press on "toward the mark"!

#### **Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission**

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

WHEREAS, The reported number of people saved in our churches is so much greater than the actual number of those who reportedly continue in the faith; and,

WHEREAS, According to the Scriptures we shall be

called to give an account of the souls entrusted to our care; and

WHEREAS, It is so very important to keep people saved, as well as to get them saved; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That our pastors be urged by our Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission not only to put forth soul-winning efforts, but also efforts to conserve the results of evangelism that new converts will be kept in the church; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That our pastors be urged to interest our people in these new converts by personal visitation and a prayerful concern so that these new Christians will become established in the faith and in turn be witnesses for Christ, soul winners, and contributors to the cause of Christ.

#### **Provision for Successor to General Superintendent**

WHEREAS, The General Council at this session has increased the term of office of the General Superintendent to four years; and

WHEREAS, Provision is made in the Bylaws, Article 2, Section 3, for his successor's selection in the event of untoward circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Provision is also made for such appointed successor "to fill the office of the unexpired term" which now could possibly be nearly four years; and

WHEREAS, Men may be selected to fill the office of Assistant General Superintendent who might not necessarily be elected as General Superintendent and who might, by the method now provided succeed to a lengthened term of office without the vote of the General Council in session; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we amend Article II, Section 3, Paragraph "a," by substituting for the last four words the phrase "until the next General Council meeting."

A motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

#### **Safeguarding the Assemblies**

A motion prevailed for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The General Council in session at Memphis, Tennessee in 1963, entertained a motion to amend Article VII, Section 3 of the Bylaws with respect to the use of non-Assemblies of God evangelists; and

WHEREAS, The matter was referred for study and presentation to the next General Presbytery session, the following recommended change to the Bylaws is submitted:

RESOLVED, That Article VII, Section 3, shall be made to read:

a. 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 those persons not known to them, and the platform be denied strangers until proper recommendations be forthcoming.

b. Since the use of non-Council evangelists may bring confusion and problems detrimental to the Fellowship, it is recommended that Assemblies of God churches use Assemblies of God evangelists.

c. The advice and counsel of the District Presbytery should be sought in all matters of importance. Pastors, presbyters, and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to unreliable persons seeking ministry in our assemblies.

#### **Organizational Structure of the General Council**

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

RESOLVED, That the committee that is to be appointed to study the organizational structure of the General Council be given the responsibility of drawing up the proper constitutional amendment to identify the number of Assistant General Superintendents and to declare their responsibilities. Be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee shall present and report to the General Presbyters for consideration, that in turn it can be properly presented to the District Councils prior to the next General Council session.

An amendment was offered to provide that the Executive Presbytery be authorized to appoint such a committee. The motion to amend was seconded.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution on organizational structure be tabled. The motion to table was carried.

### **WMC Funds**

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

The following resolution is submitted without recommendation to the General Council by the Resolutions Committee:

Be it

RESOLVED, That 5% of all Women's Missionary Council missionary cash funds raised by the WMC's be retained in the district for the support of the district WMC office administration.

After considerable discussion a voice vote was taken which was not decisive. A division of the house was called for. A standing vote indicated the motion lost.

### **Deletion of Names on Ballot**

A motion was made and seconded for the adoption of a resolution providing for a change in the Bylaws, Article II, Section 2, Paragraph "a":

WHEREAS, The 15 top men receiving votes constitute a representative picture of those likely to be elected; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council Bylaws, Article II, Section 2, be amended by inserting a sentence after the second sentence of Paragraph "a" which shall state that only the names of the top fifteen candidates for office be retained after the second elective ballot.

The motion was carried.

### **Directories of Ministers and Churches**

A motion prevailed for the adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the annual year books of the ministers and churches of the Assemblies of God be copyrighted to prevent their being used as a mailing list without authorization of the General Council.

### **Election—General Treasurer and FM Executive Director**

The following resolution was presented by the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee:

RESOLVED, That Article II, Section 2, Paragraphs "e" and "f," concerning the election of the General Treasurer and the Executive Director of Foreign Missions, shall be amended to read "three or more" instead of "one or more" in each case, to be presented to the General Council in session.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted. Upon voting, the motion lost.

### **Ministers' Retirement Program**

The following resolution was presented by the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, There is evident need for a proper retirement program to provide for the advancing years of the members of our fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The usual retirement program in effect today involves the participation of both employer and employee; and

WHEREAS, The present program known as the Aged Ministers' Assistance Fund can only offer assistance and emergency relief to our ministerial brethren; and

WHEREAS, The Ministers' Benefit Association is the retirement program of the Assemblies of God and has shown outstanding performance through the years and offers a tax-sheltered feature; and

WHEREAS, This MBA program is available to all or-

dained and licensed ministers of the Assemblies of God; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That this General Council now in session go on record as recommending

THAT, Districts make provision for their officers, and that churches make provision for their pastors to become participants in the program, and since MBA is a participating program

THAT, The ministers of our fellowship arrange their finances to pay one percent or more of their salary per month into an account for themselves, thus helping to establish a retirement program for themselves.

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted.

It was moved that the resolution be amended to include our institutions and other employing agencies of the General Council, according to the Bylaws governing MBA.

The motion to amend was seconded and carried.

Upon voting for the original motion with the amendment, the motion was carried.

#### **Gayle F. Lewis Testimonial**

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

In view of the many years of devoted and capable ministry of our retiring Assistant General Superintendent, Gayle F. Lewis, and

In view of his esteemed administrative contribution to the Assemblies of God on the District and General Council levels; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized to arrange a suitable testimonial with the presentation of an honorarium as an expression of our gratitude and love.

The motion was unanimously carried.

The chair stated a recommendation had been made by the General Presbytery that Gayle F. Lewis be named an hon-

orary General Presbyter. It was moved and seconded and carried that this recommendation be adopted.

#### **Site Selection Committee Report**

Brother E. D. Cooley presented the report of the Site Selection Committee:

The Site Selection Committee considered invitations for the 1967 General Council meeting, if Jesus tarries, from the following cities:

Baltimore, Maryland  
Dallas, Texas  
Houston, Texas  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Long Beach, California  
Mobile, Alabama  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Rochester, New York

Our sincere appreciation and thanks are hereby expressed for the offers and commitments made by the cities extending the invitations.

After considering the facilities offered (including auditoriums, rooms and parking) and costs submitted, a motion prevailed that this committee recommend to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council the following cities, as possible sites for the 1967 Council, listed in alphabetical order:

Dallas, Texas; Long Beach, California; and Rochester, New York, with careful consideration being given to having a sufficient number of refrigerated air-conditioned rooms and a refrigerated air-conditioned auditorium. Respectfully submitted, Phinis Lewis, Chairman; David Flower; Joseph L. Gerhart; Herman Rohde; Everett D. Cooley.

It was moved and seconded that this report be adopted. The motion carried.

#### **World's Fair Exhibit Report**

A report on the World's Fair Exhibit was presented by Brother Chas. W. H. Scott:

During the Memphis General Council it was my privilege

to inform this body of the plans to secure space in the Protestant Center of the World's Fair for an Assemblies of God booth from which might flow a Pentecostal testimony to the people who would be coming from across the nation and from all parts of the world.

Our Assemblies of God World's Fair Witness booth has proven to be a success. According to the records received from our coordinator, Pastor Edward Spinola, 41,323 people have visited the booth this year (by actual count). This number added to the 69,008 people who stopped last year will make a total of over 110,331 as of August 15. If the same ratio of visitors continues for the next eight weeks, it is estimated that there will have been more than 133,000 people who will stop to inquire about the ministry of the Assemblies of God by the time the Fair closes on October 21 (150,539). Close to half a million pieces of full-gospel literature including Scripture portions, The World's Fair issue of *The Pentecostal Evangel* and tracts on many subjects as well as foreign language literature has been given to these visitors.

This approach to personal witnessing has made available to the Assemblies of God the unique privilege of being the only full-gospel, Pentecostal voice to be heard in the Protestant Center at the Fair.

Protestants from every denomination, Catholics from every society, representatives of many cults and world religions and visitors from every state and many foreign lands have stopped at our World's Fair Witness Booth to ask questions, to express their heart hunger and to inquire about who we are and what we believe. Hundreds of people have indicated their interest in the experience of the glossolalia and their desire for more of God. Some have used the booth as an altar where they have definitely found Christ as their Saviour. When possible, pastors were given names and addresses of these visitors in the hope that further contacts would be made.

The booth is 12x25 feet and consists of a series of backlighted, random-sized Kodachrome transparencies with narration, set in five 3x10 foot panels. Each panel represented a different aspect of the ministry of the Assemblies of God. This year a projector was installed at the entrance of the booth which offers a continuous film prepared by Brothers Zimmerman, Webb, Peterson and Ward, who speak on the four tenets of our doctrinal position.

The cooperation of the constituency has been outstanding in its support of this program. Offerings and monthly pledges have come from churches, districts, student bodies in our schools and individual friends. There still remains, however, a deficit of \$26,570 (1964 deficit \$17,785.28; 1965 deficit \$8,795) which must be met before the Fair closes in order to meet the financial needs of this world outreach.

It was moved, seconded and carried that this report be received.

#### **Roster Committee Report**

Brother Arthur Berg presented the final report of the Roster Committee:

Ordained ministers	1,903
Delegates	556
Total voting	2,459
Licensed ministers	249
Visitors	1,395
Total registration	4,103

Brother Berg expressed appreciation to all who worked with him.

It was moved that the report of the Roster Committee be received with deepest thanks and appreciation to Brother Berg and his committee and that the Roster be closed after visitors have been given an opportunity to sign registration cards in the evening service. The motion was seconded and carried. (There were 181 visitors registered in the evening service. Total registration for the 1965 General Council was 4,284.)

#### **Appreciation Resolution**

A motion prevailed that this 31st General Council shall express deep appreciation to the press, radio, television stations, to the good people of the City of Des Moines, to the Iowa District Council, together with its superintendent and officers, to the Northern Missouri District Council, the Chamber of Commerce and the Convention Bureau for all their hospitality and kindness and for their cooperation in making the 31st General Council one of the finest in the history of the church.

#### **Privilege motion from the floor**

A privileged motion from the floor provided that the

Christ's Ambassadors Department be instructed to organize and to promote a well-rounded program for the youth attending General Council and that such a program include a supervised youth center and other activities promoting spiritual and social welfare, with the understanding the program would encourage the young people to be in attendance during devotional and evening services of the General Council. The motion was seconded.

It was moved and seconded that this excellent recommendation be given to the Planning Committee of the next General Council.

The motion to refer the recommendation to the Planning Committee was lost with a vote of 145 opposing referral and 129 in favor of referral.

Upon voting for the privilege motion, the motion was carried.

The General Superintendent stated, "I would like to take this opportunity to express to every committee our deep appreciation for their faithful work during this General Council. There have been scores of people at work behind the scenes; but because there has been a good even flow of activities, sometimes we take them for granted and assume that these things accidentally happen. They are planned by a large staff of devoted workers who have shared in the load." The chair requested that appropriate thanks and gratitude be expressed to these fine committees and that this expression shall be included in the official minutes.

It was moved that this body give a unanimous expression of appreciation to the Chair and to the Executive Officers for the wonderful manner in which the General Council has been conducted.

The motion was seconded and unanimously carried by a standing vote.

The General Superintendent likewise expressed appreciation to the ministers and delegates for the fine spirit shown throughout the Council and for the high level of discussions.

It was moved, seconded and carried that if there be any unfinished business, it be left in the hands of the Executive Presbytery.

A motion to adjourn the 31st General Council sine die at the close of the evening service was seconded and carried. The singing of the "Doxology" concluded the business session at 5:55 p.m., August 30, 1965.

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 30, 1965**

**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 the date of election. The term of office for the General Superintendent shall continue for four years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for two years or until their successors qualify.

### 2. Executive Presbytery.

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

### 3. General Presbytery.

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

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

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

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

## ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS

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

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

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

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

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

e. The District Council, being the creature of the General Council and subordinate thereto, cannot be authorized, in any way, to violate the principles of the General Council constitutional agreements or bylaws. In the prosecution of the

work in its prescribed field the District Council shall be expected to keep vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and co-operative fellowship to which the General Council fellowship is especially and unalterably dedicated.

## **ARTICLE XI. BRANCHES**

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

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

## **ARTICLE XII. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES**

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

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

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

The fact that a local assembly is affiliated in the association of the District or General Council shall in nowise destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty.

The local assembly shall recognize that the District or General Council has the right to approve scriptural doctrine and conduct and to disapprove unscriptural doctrine or conduct. When in need of counsel or advice, the local assembly may appeal to the District officary for help. It may appeal from a decision by the District officary to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council when there is a question whether or not the Assembly has received proper help from the District.

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

## **ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any 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 second elective ballot has been cast, the fifteen 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. 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: Alaska, Northwest, Oregon, Montana, Southern Idaho, Wyoming

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

North Central Area: Iowa, Northern Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, 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 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 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 until the next General Council meeting.

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 cooperation 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 cooperative 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. Superannuated Ministers.**

Superannuation shall designate a status of honor and respect for a minister who has given years of service to the Fellowship.

a. An ordained minister who reaches sixty-five years of age, and who is no longer engaged in full-time ministry, shall be indicated as superannuated upon his request, or the request of his district.

b. His status as a minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his credentials shall take place in the regular manner.

c. He shall not be expected to make financial contributions to the General Council office in the same manner as those engaged in active ministry.

#### **Section 10. 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 cooperation with the same. They shall be expected to cooperate with other District Councils in which they may labor temporarily.

### **Section 11. 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 12. 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 13. 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," "suspended," "removed," "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 who is under serious charges, or who has been

given a probationary period for adjusting minor offenses, may be listed as "suspended." Suspension shall be for a specific time and in no case shall exceed one year in duration. Terms of the suspension shall be specifically described by the District Presbytery in each case, with a copy of these terms filed with the General Secretary.

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 noncooperative spirit, an assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly, or an arbitrary rejection of district counsel.

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 14. 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 15. Discipline of Members.**

Occasions sometimes arise which make it necessary to deal with ministers who are affiliated with us who for some reason seem to have reached the place where, in the estimation of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. It is obvious that the Credentials Committee 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 noncooperative 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 16. 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 17. Privileged Communications.**

Assemblies of God ministers are encouraged to respect as sacred and confidential information confided to them while they are functioning in their ministerial capacities as spiritual counselors and are encouraged not to disclose such confidential information except with the permission of the confidant or to prevent the commission of a crime.

### **Section 18. 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 19. 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 20. 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 cooperative 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 21. 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, pro-

vided 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.**

a. 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 those persons not known to them, and the platform be denied strangers until proper recommendations be forthcoming.

b. Since the use of non-Council evangelists may bring confusion and problems detrimental to the Fellowship, it is recommended that Assemblies of God churches use Assemblies of God evangelists.

c. The advice and counsel of the District Presbytery should be sought in all matters of importance. Pastors, presbyters, and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to unreliable persons seeking ministry in our assemblies.

## **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 cooperation 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 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 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 College.**

The Executive Presbytery of the General Council shall constitute the Board of Directors of Central Bible College. They shall appoint the President of Central Bible College 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 guid-

ance and suggestions, specifically with relation to *The Pentecostal Evangel*. 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. A constitution and bylaws covering the activities of the District organization shall be submitted to and approved by the District Presbytery.

d. The president of the District organization shall be subject to call by the District Presbytery for consultation in matters pertaining to young people.

e. Sectional meetings of the District organization shall be strictly spiritual in character and arranged through the cooperation 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 members of this group shall be born-again young people living consistent Christian lives.

c. 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.

d. 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 cooperate 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 organize and promote a program for girls;

d. 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.;

e. 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;

f. 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;

g. To prepare and publish handbooks and manuals, and to issue such bulletins as may be needed to carry out the above program;

h. 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 purposes of the Men's Fellowship, in general, are:

1. To promote the forming of fellowship groups among the men in the local church;
2. To develop and coordinate the interest of men in supporting all Assembly activities;
3. To encourage the development of the total spiritual potential of men;
4. To train men in personal witnessing for Christ;
5. To organize and promote a program for boys;
6. To participate in sponsoring foreign evangelistic literature crusades, and such other programs as may be approved in the future;
7. To prepare and publish books, manuals, and such literature as may be needed to further the cause of fellowship

and united effort among the men of the Assemblies of God churches;

8. To publicize the work of the Men's Fellowship.

#### 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 and Benefits**

Provisions governing contributions by members and benefits to accrue to members of the Ministers' Benefit Association shall be contained in the Bylaws of the Association.

## **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 be-

came entangled in their marriage relations in their former lives of sin, and who do not see how these matters can be adjusted. We recommend that these cases be left in the hands of the Lord, and that they walk in the light as God lets it shine on their souls.

b. Low standards on marriage and divorce are very hurtful to individuals, to the family, and to the cause of Christ, therefore we discourage divorce by all lawful means and teaching. We positively disapprove of Christians getting divorce for any cause except for fornication and adultery (Matt. 19:9); and recommend the remaining single of all divorced Christians, and that they pray God so to keep them in purity and peace. (See 1 Corinthians 7.)

c. Since it is generally accepted among us that such persons are not to serve in official capacities in our churches, we recommend that this standard be upheld by all our assemblies.

#### **Section 6. Worldliness.**

In order to strengthen the hands of our pastors and evangelists in holding up Bible standards against popular sins, we as a body unitedly declare ourselves against all forms of worldliness, but particularly against modern immodesty and extremity in dress, and we all agree as pastors, evangelists, licensed ministers, exhorters, Sunday school superintendents and teachers, to speak the same things and voice ourselves against all forms of popular sins.

#### **Section 7. Post-Tribulation Rapture Teaching.**

Whereas, The General Council has declared itself in the Statement of Fundamental Truths that it holds to the belief in the imminent coming of the Lord as the blessed hope of the church, and

Whereas, The teaching that the Church must go through the Tribulation tends to bring confusion and division among the saints; therefore,

We recommend that all our ministers teach the imminent coming of Christ, warning all men to be prepared for that coming, which may occur at any time, and not lull their minds into insecurity by any teaching that would cause them to feel that certain events must occur before the Rapture of the saints.

Furthermore, We recommend that should any of our ministers hold to the post-Tribulation doctrine, they refrain from preaching and teaching it. Should they persist in emphasizing

ing 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 char-

acter. 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.