

# **MINUTES**

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

**THE THIRTY-SECOND GENERAL COUNCIL  
Long Beach, California, August 24-29, 1967**

**MINUTES**  
of the  
**Thirty-Second**  
**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 Long Beach, California  
August 24-29, 1967

(Printed in the U.S.A.)

## FOREWORD

Presented herewith is the official record of the business proceedings of the Thirty-Second General Council convened at Long Beach, California, August 24-29, 1967, and the revised edition of the General Council Constitution and Bylaws.

Deep appreciation is expressed to all our ministering brethren and particularly those who served during the evening evangelistic rallies: The General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman, Darwin Heuser, Louis G. Neely, U. S. Grant and W. Glenn West.

C. A. Vesper Services were conducted from six to seven o'clock on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Those who ministered during these services likewise are acknowledged with special thanks: Marvin F. Gorman, Robert J. Pagett and Robert R. Clayton. Acknowledgment is also made of C. M. Ward who ministered during the Revivaltime broadcast on Friday at six o'clock.

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.

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

Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary  
General Council, Assemblies of God

## 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.,  
East Area; D. H. McLaughlin, Southwest Area; Kermit  
Reneau, South Central Area; Roy H. Smith, South  
Area.

## MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-SECOND GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

AUGUST 24-29, 1967

The Thirty-Second General Council convened in the Long Beach Arena on Thursday, August 24, at 7:15 p.m. Leading the opening service was J. L. McQueen, Chairman of the Program Committee. Brother Charles Beadle led the song service during each of the night services. Mrs. Barbara Hardcastle served as organist, with Edward Reece at the piano, for the opening service. Special music was rendered by Edward Reece and the Hymntime Singers.

A telegram was read from the Honorable Ronald Reagan, Governor of California: "I deeply regret that I am unable to greet the delegates to the General Council of the Assemblies of God personally. I hope you will convey my greetings to them and my best wishes for a good meeting."

Fraternal delegates were introduced. Dr. Rolf McPherson, President of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, stated: "There is room for all of us to work for the Lord. It has been a blessing to meet with Assemblies of God leaders around convention tables. It has been a real step forward for the Pentecostal churches to meet together for a time of fellowship. We bring you greetings from our people, and our board especially, and trust you will have a wonderful outpouring of God's Spirit."

W. T. (Billy) Richards, immediate past convention chairman of the Assemblies of God of Great Britain and Ireland, and presently a member of their Executive Council, was introduced. He stated, "I have been looking forward to visiting with you here. Already I sense the presence of the Almighty. I pray with you that a tremendous outpouring will come upon you this week. I bring warmest greetings from our conference."

The General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, brought an inspiring keynote address, taking his text from Psalm 107:1-3. The subject and theme of his message centered around the blessings and message of the redeemed: "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!" The service concluded with several thousand gathering for prayer and praise and a rededication of their lives to the call of God.

Morning prayer meetings were conducted from eight to nine o'clock on Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, with Brothers H. C. Noah, Karl D. Strader, and V. G. Greisen leading in each of the respective services. All were well attended and provided a spiritual undergirding for one of the finest Councils in the history of the church.

#### FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 25

Brother James Swanson was in charge of the devotional service on Friday morning, with Brother Les Taylor of Portland, Oregon, leading the congregational singing. Fulton Buntain, pastor in Tacoma, Washington, led in prayer, after which Brother and Sister Elmer Bueno presented two vocal duets.

Brother Jose Giron, Superintendent of the Latin American District, brought the devotional message, using the 24th Chapter of Luke as the text for his message. He spoke of the revelation and prophetic meaning of the Emmaus walk.

The General Superintendent officially called the business meeting to order at 10:20 a.m., and requested Brother Fred Vogler to invoke God's blessing upon this 32nd General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Members of the Executive Presbytery were introduced: Howard S. Bush, T. E. Cannon, J. Philip Hogan, M. B. Netzel, Chas. W. H. Scott, Bert Webb, Bartlett Peterson, Edgar W. Bethany, G. Raymond Carlson, N. D. Davidson, Joseph R. Flower, G. W. Hardcastle Sr., D. H. McLaughlin, Kermit Reneau, and Roy H. Wead. The chair stated: "These are the men of the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. We deeply appreciate each of them."

Members of the Executive Presbytery were introduced: Carl F. Lewis, Ralph M. Riggs, Fred Vogler, and J. C. ... opportunity was given for each of them to bring greetings.

The Superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Mexico, Brother Guillermo Fuentes brought greetings from the Assemblies of God in Mexico.

Brother Percy Brewster of the Elim Pentecostal Church and pastor from Cardiff, Wales, also greeted the convention in behalf of the Elim church.

A telegram of greetings from three retired officers of the General Council was read by the General Secretary:

"To the Executive Presbyters and General Presbyters and ministers and other friends assembled in Long Beach, California, for the 32nd General Council of the Assemblies of God: Greetings in the love of Christ our Lord. May great grace be given to you in all your deliberations for the spread of the gospel which has been committed unto us. We regret not being present after so many wonderful years but our hearts are with you during these days of Council. Signed, Ernest S. Williams, J. Roswell Flower, Noel Perkin."

A motion prevailed that the General Secretary be instructed, on behalf of this General Council, to send telegrams of official greetings to these brethren.

Other messages of greeting were received from Brother A. A. Wilson of Springfield, Missouri; T. J. Johnstone, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada; Brother Sharad G. Borde, Principal of the Southwestern India Bible Institute, and from Brother Raymond T. Richey of Houston, Texas.

It was moved and seconded that the General Secretary respond to these greetings. The motion was carried.

The chairman expressed appreciation to the people of Long Beach and to the Southern California brethren in particular, for the "wonderful hospitality extended to the delegates and visitors." He introduced the host District Superintendent, Brother L. E. Halvorson.

Brother Halvorson brought greetings in behalf of the District and stated: "I greet you in the wonderful Name of Jesus. Southern California has waited a long time to host the General Council. We extend to you a warm, hearty, and sincere welcome. We are thrilled to have you with us. We are praying that every convention speaker shall minister under the unction and anointing of the Holy Spirit. We are praying that souls shall be saved and believers filled with the Holy Spirit and that many will reach out by faith and touch the Lord. We commit this entire Council into God's hands."

William H. Robertson, Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern ... tion totaling \$28,000 after which an offering was received.

## General Council Committees

### General Council Budget

M. B. Netzel, Chairman; Joseph L. Gerhart, J. K. Gressett, L. E. Halvorson, Raymond H. Hudson.

### Ministerial Relations

N. Cleo Tapp, Chairman; David W. Flower, Forrest L. Langley, Frank N. McAllister, Arthur H. Parsons, William H. Robertson, Haskell H. Rogers, Herman H. Rhode, Aaron M. Wall.

### Parliamentary

D. V. Hurst, Chairman; Everett D. Cooley, Lyle E. Curtis.

### Program

J. L. McQueen, Chairman; Don Cox, Paul N. Goodwin, Richard G. Mohrman, James S. Morrison, Sam C. Peterson, James R. Swanson, Robert L. Watters.

### Resolutions

R. J. Carlson, Chairman; Leonard L. Ahrnsbrak, Charles A. Anderson, W. E. Cummings, James Dodd, Herbert E. Eicher, Blake L. Farmer, Eugene Gustafson, Raymond H. Hudson, Samuel C. Totaro, Loren O. Triplett, Robert Wilhite.

### Roster

Arthur F. Berg, Chairman; Edwin Eugene Austin, Bird H. Campbell, Jose Caraballo, Woodrow W. Cothran, James A. Drysdale, Richard D. Emerson, Charles R. Hembree, Kenneth R. Norcross, David L. Richards, Erwin E. Rohde, Eddie R. Schulz, Don L. Shoff, H. H. Woods.

### Spiritual Life

Joseph R. Flower, Chairman; Arthur F. Berg, Edgar W. Bethany, Basil Edwards, John W. Everett, Cyril E. Homer, G. F. Lewis, W. H. Robertson, Chaplain Wayne E. Rowland, T. F. Zimmerman.

### Tellers

Gordon H. Matheny, Chairman; R. E. Book, Captain; Arthur G. Clay, Captain; Carl G. Conner, Captain; Don Argue, John W. Beardsley, William J. Behr, Troy Boggs, W. R. Boyd, Fulton W. Buntain, J. M. Cason, Larry W. Cederblom, Doyle E. Chaney, Warren D. Combs, Robert E. Cousart, Charles T. Crabtree, Harold E. Crosby, D. F. Flanagan, George P. Hendrickson, Gene S. Hogan, T. Doyne Jennings, Von Duke Kelly, Gerritt W. Kenyon, Willard R. Leisy, Harold I. Maley, Frank E. Martin, W. D. Metzgar, Jess D. Middlebrook, Billy R. Newby, Robert P. Northrop, Edgar H. Palsler, Hugh H. Rosenberg, James E. Smith, Howard V. Spruill, James H. Standifer, H. D. Stone, R. A.

son, Robert J. Willis.

### Committee on Arrangements

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

## National Committees

### Convention Coordinator

Warren F. McPherson

### Exhibit-Trucking

Verne B. MacKinney

### Information

Homer L. Menzies

### Personal Workers

Glen B. Bonds

### Platform Coordinator

R. G. Champion; Harry M. Myers, Assistant

### Publicity

Warren F. McPherson, Thomas A. Gerdis, Assistant

### Ushers

William G. Eastlake

## Local Committees

### Coordinator

L. E. Halvorson

### Equipment

Ralph I. Salzman, Chairman; Warren L. Hill, Mairles W. Moore, Robert White

### Exhibit-Trucking

Grant A. Wacker, Chairman; Harlin C. Hines, Howard P. Wilde

### Housing

Allan G. Snider, Chairman; David O. Bunch, V. William Durbin, Harold A. Pegg

### Personal Workers

Leonard M. Nipper, Chairman; Lavoyd L. Shipley, Roy G. Sapp, Ted S. Singleton

### Publicity

Wesley P. Steelberg, Chairman; Ronald E. Cottle, Raymond A. Schoch

### Ushers

Edward L. Hughes, Chairman, George H. Boatright, N. E. Carlson, Thomas O. Grams

### Procedure in Presenting Resolutions

The chair called attention to an action of the 1965 General Council which provided that all resolutions shall be submitted to the Resolutions Committee by midnight of the third day, (which would mean by Saturday night). Each resolution submitted shall be signed by its author. He shall be expected to open the discussion when it is presented on the Council floor.

### Adoption of Agenda

Attention was called to the agenda found on page 19 of the printed program.

A motion prevailed for the adoption of the agenda as a guide for this General Council.

### General Superintendent's Report

Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, served in the chair as the General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman, presented the biennial report in behalf of the Executive Officers. His report summarized activities of general headquarters in fulfilling the objective of the Assemblies of God "to encourage and promote the evangelization of the world." Reference was made to the prayer conferences, regional conventions, literature distribution and witnessing programs. Personnel and payroll costs likewise were cited. Announcement was made of the leadership seminar and Council on Evangelism which had been scheduled for 1968. Attention was called to *Advance* magazine. Local pastors and churches were urged to avail themselves of this important medium of communication since it is the only source available whereby they may obtain the program, with related data, of the headquarters departments.

A motion prevailed that the report be received with gratitude to God and to the General Superintendent. The motion was seconded and carried.

The chair was returned to the General Superintendent.

### General Secretary's Report

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, gave his report. He called attention to special paragraphs in the printed report containing statistical information regarding the growth in church membership, churches, and ministers. He reported a total of 16,505 ministers, including 518 ordained missionaries and 11,168 ordained ministers. Church records show a total of 8,506 churches, with a net gain of 54 churches. While 424 churches were added, 370 were removed from the list for various reasons.

with a gain of 20,000, or an average gain of only 273 members per church.

Appreciation was expressed to the churches, pastors, and district officials who cooperate in supplying statistical information.

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted with appreciation. The motion carried.

### General Treasurer's Report

The General Treasurer, M. B. Netzel, reviewed the financial stability of the General Council for the past two years and called attention to the audit, tables, and information included in the printed report booklet.

Highlights of the financial position of the General Council were cited. Total receipts for all funds, sales, and offerings, for the biennium amounted to \$29,666,455. This represents an increase of 11.4 percent over the prior biennium. Payments on the administration building bond indebtedness amounted to \$453,950, with advance payments of \$198,000, leaving a balance of \$734,050 owing on the building.

Attention was called to a comparative distribution of receipts based on offerings received and Gospel Publishing House earnings:

Fiscal year ending March 31, 1966		Fiscal year ending March 31, 1967
Foreign Missions	58.4%	58.2%
Speed-the-Light	6.0%	5.9%
B.G.M.C.	1.9%	1.9%
Home Missions	6.1%	7.1%
Revivaltime	4.6%	4.5%
Benevolence	1.9%	2.5%
General Administration	3.7%	3.7%
G. P. H. Earnings	12.0%	11.3%
Other	5.4%	4.9%

It was moved and seconded that the report of the General Treasurer be accepted with the understanding that questions can be raised anytime during this Council concerning the financial operation and further that an expression of appreciation be conveyed to the General Treasurer and to his staff for this excellent report. The motion was carried.

A motion prevailed to recess at 12:00 o'clock and reconvene Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. The prayer, offered Percy Brewster offered the closing prayer.

The afternoon meeting began with the singing of *Amazing Grace* and the chorus, *I Love Him*. Brother T. E. Gannon led in prayer. Dr. Arthur Climenhaga, representing the National Association of Evangelicals, brought greetings from that Association. Dr. Climenhaga quoted the Scripture, 1 Corinthians 15:18, "My beloved brethren be ye steadfast, unmovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord," and exhorted Christians to be steadfast in motives, unmovable in their message, and to abound in their method. He suggested a theme for the Council two years hence: "The Descending Spirit—May He Come on Us Just Now."

Mrs. Don Rippee sang a vocal solo entitled, *He Giveth More Grace*.

Brother Zimmerman called the business session to order at 2:23 p.m. He introduced Mr. Benjamin Shinde of Bangalore, India, who brought greetings on behalf of the Assemblies of God of South India. Brother Zimmerman requested that Brother Shinde take the greetings of the General Council to the brethren in India.

### 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 reports.

After the visual presentation it was moved and seconded that the reports be received. The motion was voted upon and carried.

### Roster Report

Arthur F. Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee gave the first report.

Registration as of 3:00 p.m.	
Ordained ministers	1,865
Delegates	423
Licensed ministers	207
Visitors	905
Total	3,400
Voting members	2,288

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

### Paraclete Magazine

The new quarterly publication, *Paraclete*, was introduced by Brother Zimmerman. He commented that this is intended to meet a very definite need in these days of special moving and visitation by the Holy Spirit. The magazine will deal with the Person and work of the Holy Spirit. Subscription envelopes were distributed. The price of a *charter* subscription for one year was stated as \$2.50.

### Church Affiliation

The first item of unfinished business from the 1965 General Council was the report of the committee to study church affiliation, dealing with proper means of listing churches in the directory. Brother T. H. Spence read the report of the committee:

"Pursuant to the action of the last General Council in Des Moines, Iowa, the church affiliation committee met at the Lafayette Hotel in Long Beach, California, August 21, 1967. Members present were Robert E. Goggin, chairman; T. H. Spence, Joseph Gernart, Bartlett Peterson, E. D. Cooley, and Fred Eide. After giving considerable thought and study to our assignment, the committee wishes to make the following recommendations:

1. We recommend that the present policy of classifying churches in the General Council Directory of Churches be continued (i.e. General Council affiliated churches

listed together.)

2. Present cooperative churches listed in the General Council Directory and in their respective district directories should be left unchanged as long as these churches meet General Council and District approval. We do recommend, however, that other cooperative churches shall not be carried in our directory until they are either General Council or District Council affiliated.
3. We further recommend that a vigorous campaign be instituted in all the districts to encourage cooperative churches to become affiliated either with the General Council or District Council according to their qualifications.
4. We also recommend that this entire question be reviewed after sufficient time has been given in the districts to see the results of our efforts to bring these cooperative churches into full affiliation with the General Council or the District Council. (It was the thinking of the committee that four years should be a reasonable length of time for this program to be carried through.)"

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

#### Statement on Military Service

The second item of unfinished business from the 1965 General Council was a report of a committee appointed to study the adequacy of the statement on military service as contained in Article XXII of the Bylaws.

The chair requested Brother Howard Bush, Chairman of the Committee to bring the report:

WHEREAS, The 31st General Council in session requested the appointing of a committee to study the adequacy of our statement on Military Service as found in Article XXII of the Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, Subsequently a duly appointed committee has carefully examined said Article XXII, together with the expressed opinions of chaplains, pastors, evangelists, and correspondents from young men currently involved in the draft; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we retain Article XXII as it now appears in the Bylaws; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the following paragraph be added thereto: "We hereby express our desire to continue to extend fellowship and sacramental ministries to those who do not

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted.

Considerable discussion followed concerning the Assemblies of God position on military service. It was subsequently moved that the resolution be referred back to the committee for further study and clarification and that the report be brought back to this session of the General Council. The motion to refer was seconded and carried.

A motion from the floor was made that the committee to study the statement on military service be expanded by at least three members representative of a cross section of the Fellowship. The motion was voted on and carried.

The chair asked how these members should be appointed, and a motion prevailed that they be appointed by the chair. Brother Zimmerman therefore named O. B. Harrup, Daniel P. Kolenda, and Howard Cummings as the three new members of this committee. Other committee members were: H. S. Bush, chairman; Bartlett Peterson, J. L. Gerhart, Wm. H. Robertson and Chaplain Leonard L. Ahrnsbrak.

#### Election of Assistant General Superintendents

The chair requested that ballots be distributed for voting on the four Assistant General Superintendents to be elected without portfolio. Brother Zimmerman read the provisions from the Constitution and Bylaws concerning the election of these officers. Brother A. N. Alber led in prayer for guidance in the election.

A motion prevailed that in the event an individual should receive a two-thirds majority vote on the nominating ballot, that the ballot shall be considered an elective ballot and the person receiving the vote shall be declared elected.

A motion prevailed that the meeting recess at 4:40 to reconvene at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. Evangelist Watson Argue dismissed with prayer at 4:45 p.m.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26

The devotional service on Saturday morning was under the direction of Brother Don Cox. The song service was led by Brother Frank Martin following which prayer was offered by Brother Joseph Flower. Mrs. Merle Bade served as organist and Mrs. Wanda Cronk as pianist. A testimony was given by J. I. Jones, layman, who stated: "I have taken the Lord Jesus in my business; I think He should be in our business and in every area of our lives. We should be militant in our approach to the gospel." Brother Jones is from Concord, California, and is the National Chairman of our Action Crusades Council.

A vocal duet was rendered by Brother and Sister Wesley Cronk.

The speaker for the morning devotional service was Brother W. T. H. Richards, Pastor in Slough, England. Brother Richards spoke on the theme, "The Secret of Successful Ministry," taking his text from Acts 6:4. "We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word." Emphasized as the "Secrets of Successful Ministry" were (1) The importance of prayer; (2) The importance of the Word of God; and (3) The importance of being completely devoted to these things.

Brother Marrles Moore sang, *Precious Lord Take My Hand*, with his son joining him in a vocal duet, *The Love of God*.

An offering was taken with Brother U. S. Grant in charge of this part of the service.

The business session was officially called to order at 10:00 a.m. Brother R. J. Thurmond offered prayer that God would give a sense of direction and divine guidance in the business at hand. The General Superintendent served in the chair.

A telegram of greetings was read by the General Secretary from Reverend A. S. Bursey, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador: "On behalf of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador we extend sincere Christian greetings to you and the members of the General Council of the Assemblies of God now in session in Long Beach, California, praying that in all your deliberations and important decisions divine guidance will be given."

A motion prevailed that the General Secretary respond and send greetings to Brother Bursey from this General Council.

The chair called attention to a newspaper advertisement in *The Los Angeles Times* which will be read by approximately five million people. The advertisement was sponsored by the Southern California District and its area churches. Appreciation was expressed to those who had a part in this.

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion prevailed that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and that the approval of the minutes be delegated to the Executive Presbytery.

#### Report of Roster Committee

The chairman of the Roster Committee, Brother Arthur Berg,

Ordained ministers	2,147
Delegates	511
Total voting constituency	2,658
Licensed Ministers	247
Visitors	1,251
Total registration	4,156

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

#### Election of Assistant General Superintendents

Brother Gordon Matheny, Chairman of the Tellers Committee, announced the results of the nominating ballot for the four Assistant General Superintendents which had been cast on Friday afternoon:

Total votes cast	949
Needed to elect	633
Howard S. Bush received	700
T. E. Gannon received	640
C. W. H. Scott received	638
Bert Webb received	756

The chair therefore declared each of these brethren elected on the nominating ballot.

Ballots were cast for the fifth assistant general superintendent with the portfolio of Executive Director of Foreign Missions. The chair read the provision in the Bylaws governing the procedure in this election. (Article II, Section 2, paragraph f)

The General Secretary reported, "The General Presbytery in session in Long Beach has nominated and presents to you the name of J. Philip Hogan for this office." The first electoral ballot was then cast.

#### Recognition of Elected Officers

Assistant General Superintendents, Bert Webb, Howard S. Bush, T. E. Gannon and Charles W. H. Scott expressed appreciation and gratitude for the confidence of the Council and pledged loyalty and dedication in service to the Assemblies of God.

The Council then recognized the officers and their wives as an indication of united support.

### Election of Assistant General Superintendent and Executive Director of Foreign Missions

Brother Gordon Matheny, Chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported the results of the first elective ballot for the fifth Assistant General Superintendent with the portfolio of Executive Director of Foreign Missions:

Total votes cast	1,179	
Needed to elect	786	
J. Philip Hogan received		1,069

The chair therefore declared J. Philip Hogan elected to the office of Assistant General Superintendent and Executive Director of Foreign Missions.

Ballots were distributed for the nomination of General Secretary. Brother Hogan was introduced and expressed appreciation for the confidence placed in him.

### Resolutions Committee

R. J. Carlson, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, made a statement in behalf of the Committee. He reported that in order to get the business before the house, after reading a resolution, he would move its adoption. This he stated does not imply concurrence on the part of the committee or its chairman to the proposition offered. He stated further that in some cases two or three persons had submitted resolutions incorporating the same ideas. In these instances the committee had sought to combine the resolutions into one presentation to the General Council.

### National Association of Evangelicals Twenty-fifth Anniversary

The resolution was read by Brother R. J. Carlson:

WHEREAS, Our denomination has enjoyed a fruitful relationship with the National Association of Evangelicals since 1943; and

WHEREAS, There is an increasing need for conservative, evangelical Christians to unite in a common voice without the sacrifice of denominational doctrine or polity; and

WHEREAS, The National Association of Evangelicals continues to render vital services in behalf of our denomination; and

WHEREAS, This is the twenty-fifth anniversary year of the National Association of Evangelicals and the association

tend its ministries; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 32nd General Council of the Assemblies of God send a communication of greeting and best wishes to the National Association of Evangelicals on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary;

THAT we pledge our support, as may be possible, to the special twenty-fifth anniversary program of the National Association of Evangelicals; and

THAT we urge our local churches to consider individual membership in the National Association of Evangelicals so that they will have direct involvement in united evangelical activity.

A motion prevailed for the adoption of this resolution.

### Hawaii Area Designation Resolution No. 2

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee read Resolution No. 2 regarding Hawaii-Area Designation and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, That Article II, Ection 2, paragraph "d," of the General Council Bylaws, 1965 edition, be amended by the addition of the word Hawaii in that paragraph designated "Southwest Area."

The motion was seconded and carried.

### Men's Fellowship National Committee Resolution No. 3

The resolution was read by R. J. Carlson after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, A new interest has been shown in the various ministries and activities of men in the Assemblies of God; and  
WHEREAS, There is an increasing number of men actively engaged in the areas of ministries which fulfill the expressed purpose of Men's Fellowship described in Article XVIII, Section 1, paragraph "c" of the Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for better attendance at the annual National Men's Fellowship Committee (the low attendance being due to lack of funds available for travel); and

WHEREAS, There is a need to involve the leadership of the three major divisions of the Men's Fellowship program; and

WHEREAS, There are capable and experienced men now serving as officers in these ministries of Men's Fellowship; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the bylaws be deleted and the paragraph be replaced by the following:

There shall be a Men's Fellowship Committee consisting of the Executive Director and the Secretary of the Men's Fellowship Department, the Royal Ranger National Commander, the National Light-for-the-Lost Secretary, the National Action Crusades Coordinator, the Chairman and President of the National Light-for-the-Lost Council, the Chairman and President of the National Action Crusades Council, and two Royal Ranger National Aide-de-Camps.

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

#### **Renewals and Reinstatements Resolution No. 4**

The resolution was read by R. J. Carlson:

WHEREAS, The term "renewed" is currently being used for those who become delinquent in renewing their credentials as well as for annual renewals; and

WHEREAS, Those who become delinquent for a long period of time create a problem for the Districts involved as well as the Credentials Committee of the General Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article VI, Section 7, be amended by the addition of the following sentence:

"Ministers who become delinquent ten months or more shall apply for reinstatement," so that the Section will read:

"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 delinquent. The credentials of those who do not avail themselves of this grace period will be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31 and their 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. Ministers who become delinquent ten months or more shall apply for reinstatement"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article VI, Section 14, paragraph "c" be amended by inserting after the word "those" in the first sentence the following: "whose credentials have lapsed ten months

on or before the first of December in the last sentence of the paragraph, so that the amended paragraph "c" shall read:

"c. The term 'reinstatement' shall apply to those whose credentials have lapsed ten months or more, or 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 but do renew on or before the first of December and are restored to the ministerial list again."

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

#### **Election of General Secretary**

Brother Gordon Matheny, Chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported on the nominating ballot cast for General Secretary:

Total votes cast	1,251
Needed to elect	834
Bartlett Peterson received	1,096

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

Bartlett Peterson expressed his appreciation to the General Council in returning him to office and pledged his total support and cooperation.

The General Secretary reported that the General Presidency in session at Long Beach, California, had nominated Martin B. Netzel for the office of General Treasurer. The first electoral ballot for General Treasurer was then cast.

#### **Support of Districts by Local Churches Resolution No. 5**

The resolution was read by R. J. Carlson:

WHEREAS, It is entirely scriptural for local assemblies to financially support the parent body; and

WHEREAS, The parent body (General or District Councils) cannot fully realize its goals and fulfill its obligations to both spread the Gospel and secure its advance without the help of the local assemblies; and

WHEREAS, There are definite indications that local churches are not adequately supporting the parent body; and,

WHEREAS, There is a need to give Assemblies incentive to support their districts; therefore, it is recommended

1 THAT the districts develop a sound budgetary system

and be fully promoted and methods devised to procure funds from the churches in a manner equitable to all,

2. THAT an educational program be developed and implemented at both the General and District Council levels to acquaint the constituency with the purpose and functions of these administrative bodies and the way in which they serve the churches. (Promotional materials to aid in such an educational program would be helpful.)
3. THAT the General Presbytery recommend to the Board of Education that Bible colleges be advised of a need for a course in church economics. In institutions where such courses are already offered, it should be determined that the study includes a thorough treatment of the minister's and church's financial responsibility to the District and General Council.
4. THAT the Department of Stewardship be requested to develop promotional materials to be used in ministers institutes, seminars, and so forth, to acquaint pastors and churches with their financial responsibility to both the District and General Council.
5. THAT the matter of District and General Council support be kept in focus by including an appropriate question relative to District and General Council administrative support in the annual church questionnaire similar to the question now being used on the Minister's Annual Questionnaire.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution.

It was reported that the General Presbytery had adopted the recommendations contained in the resolution. A point of order was raised and request made that the resolution be distributed to the voting constituency. The matter was therefore deferred until the afternoon meeting.

#### Election of the General Treasurer

Brother Gordon Matheny reported for the Tellers Committee on the first elective ballot for the office of General Treasurer:

Total votes cast	1,261
M. B. Netzel received	1,213

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

Brother Netzel expressed his gratitude for the confidence placed in him and pledged to carry on properly the duties of this office to the best of his ability.

at 2:00 p.m. *The Doxology* was sung and Brother Marion A. Groff of Tulsa, Oklahoma, led in prayer.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 26

Brother Phil Wannemacher opened the afternoon session by leading the congregation in singing *There Is Power in the Blood*, and the chorus, *Under the Blood*. Prayer was offered by Chaplain Dick Hartman. Brother Phinis Lewis gave the offering appeal. Mrs. Harold Duncan and Mrs. Robert Graber were at the organ and piano respectively. Following the offering a ladies trio from the Pentecostal Holiness Church presented a number entitled, *Walk with Me*.

Brother Howard Bush introduced Chaplain Leonard Ahrnsbrak, representing the armed forces who brought greetings on behalf of the Chaplains. Having recently returned from a tour of duty in Viet Nam, he spoke of the chaplains and their ministry to the service personnel.

The business session convened at 2:15 p.m. Brother Zimmerman brought the meeting to order and requested Brother Joseph Gerhart to lead in prayer. Brother Zimmerman gave a brief account of the most recent report of the flood in Fairbanks, Alaska. He reported extensive damage to Assemblies of God churches and the district office. He announced that there would be an appeal in the September issue of *The Pentecostal Evangel* for contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund at Headquarters which is used for aid to churches in circumstances such as these. All funds sent should be designated for the Disaster Relief Fund.

#### Report of Roster Committee

Total registration as of two o'clock Saturday afternoon was as follows:

Ordained Ministers	2,229
Delegates	541
Licensed Ministers	268
Visitors	1,399
Total	4,437
Voting Constituency	2,770

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

The Chair announced that all those who had registered as a visitor could secure a copy of the Departmental Reports for twenty-five cents.

#### Elections of Nonresident Executive Presbyters

laws, 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:

*Northeast Area*

First elective ballot

Total ballots cast	967
needed to elect	645
Frederick Eide	77
David Flower	143
Joseph R. Flower	626
Russell Williams	121

Second elective ballot

Total votes cast	1,090
Needed to elect	727
Joseph R. Flower	1,016
Russell Williams	41
David Flower	23
Frederick Eide	• 10

The chair thereupon declared Joseph R. Flower elected Executive Presbyter from the Northeast Area. Brother Flower expressed appreciation for the confidence of the brethren and pledged his faithful support to the Council.

*Southeast Area*

First elective ballot

Total votes cast	1,128
Needed to elect	752
Edgar Bethany	913
G. H. Blair	50
Charles H. Cookman	21
J. Foy Johnson	42
T. H. Spence	102

Area.

*Great Lakes Area*

First elective ballot

Total votes cast	979
Needed to elect	652
E. M. Clark	253
Everett Cooley	95
W. G. Hinecker	23
Stanley Lyon	10
Arthur H. Parsons	27
Roy Wead	571

Second elective ballot

Total votes cast	951
Needed to elect	634
Roy Wead	677
E. M. Clark	252
Everett Cooley	19
W. G. Hinecker	1
Arthur H. Parsons	2

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

Expressions of appreciation for the vote of confidence were received from Brothers Edgar Bethany and Roy Wead.

**Church Support to Districts (Continuation)  
Resolution No. 5**

Copies of the recommendations contained in the resolution before the house in the morning session were distributed. William O. Vickery, Chairman of the Committee assigned to study Church Support to Districts, spoke on the resolution. He stated that presently the burden of support for both the General and District Council Administrative Offices rests with the clergy.

It was the opinion of the committee that it would be desirable to spread this support over a wider area by some equitable means. They therefore suggested that sound budgetary systems, clearly defining the needs, should be developed by the Districts, and that educational programs should be conducted to acquaint the churches with the purpose and function of the administrative offices. Various promotional ideas were offered.

The last recommendation calling for an appropriate question to be included on the Annual Church Questionnaire was not intended as a legislative-type approach but was merely a reminder to the churches of this obligation. Brother Vickery concluded his remarks by stating that there had been no thought to amend the General

of a promotional appeal and suggestion.

Following discussion the previous question was called for and sustained by vote of the house. The motion to adopt the resolution on "Church Support to Districts" was thereupon voted upon and declared carried.

Brother Fred Vogler presented a privileged motion to request that the General Secretary send a letter of commendation to Senator Everett Dirksen for his stand in connection with the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States that would permit prayer and Bible reading in the public schools. The motion was seconded and carried.

### **Speed-the-Light Funds—Chi Alpha Buildings Resolution No. 6**

Brother Carlson presented Resolution No. 6:

WHEREAS, There is a definite need for expansion of the Chi Alpha program; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XX, Section 2, paragraph 2, of the General Council Bylaws, 1965 edition, be amended by the insertion of the words "including Chi Alpha facilities" after the words "pioneer fields" at the end of the second line of that paragraph to provide eligibility for use of a portion of the twenty per cent return of Speed-the-Light funds to the contributing districts.

It was pointed out that these funds would not be used for any area of the Chi Alpha Program except the purchase of property or facilities as provided for in Article XX, Section 2, paragraph 2.

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

### **Insurance for Older Ministers Resolution No. 7**

A resolution was presented which requested that the paid-up Metropolitan Life Insurance coverage for those 65 years old and over be increased from \$600 to \$750. A motion was made and seconded that the resolution be adopted.

A motion to amend was offered that the amount be raised to \$1,000 rather than \$750. Considerable discussion followed on the advisability of increasing the insurance to this amount. An opinion was expressed that possibly there was not adequate statistical and actuarial data available to justify such an increase.

After further discussion the motion to amend was adopted and declared carried.

A substitute motion was offered to increase the coverage to \$800 for the ensuing two years and that in the meantime the General Treasurer be instructed to obtain professional advice so that the highest possible safe maximum increase may be submitted to the next General Council for consideration. The substitute motion was seconded.

A motion was made and seconded to refer the entire matter to the Standing Committee on Finance for consideration and that it be brought back to the floor within this session of the General Council. The motion carried.

The session recessed at 5:15 to reconvene at 10:00 a.m. Monday morning. The entire congregation sang *The Doxology*. Owen Carr dismissed in prayer.

### **World Ministries Giving Recognition**

In the Saturday evening evangelistic service, recognition was given to churches and districts for the highest total offerings contributed for the past two calendar years and for the "balance" or distribution in giving to the various ministries of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Appropriate plaques were presented by the General Superintendent and the General Treasurer.

### **Total Dollar Giving**

#### **Districts**

First Place: The Southern California District,  
L. E. Halvorson, Superintendent  
Amount given: \$2,458,262.18

Second Place: The Northern California-Nevada  
District, Joseph L. Gerhart, Superintendent  
Amount given: \$1,892,543.15

Third Place: The Northwest District,  
Reuben J. Carlson, Superintendent  
Amount given: \$1,163,300.14

#### **Churches**

First Place: Calvary Temple, Seattle, Washington,  
Marcus Gaston, Pastor  
Amount given: \$111,798.54

Second Place: First Church, Portland, Oregon,  
John R. Frahm, Pastor  
Amount given: \$98,885.10

Third Place: Glad Tidings Tabernacle, New York City,  
Mrs. Marie E. Brown and Stanley Berg, Pastors  
Amount given: \$87,537.47

Fourth Place: Calvary Full Gospel Assembly, Inglewood,  
California, Ronald Cottle, Pastor  
Amount given: \$84,913.42

Fifth Place: First Assembly of God, Binghamton, New  
York, R. D. E. Smith, Pastor  
Amount given: \$74,772.17

### Balance in Participation

#### Districts

First Place: Nebraska District  
L. W. Dickinson, Superintendent  
Total Points: 59

Second Place: Minnesota District  
Herman Rohde, Superintendent  
Total Points: 56

Second Place: North Dakota District  
Kenneth Olson, Superintendent  
Total Points: 56

#### Churches

First Place: First Assembly of God, Memphis,  
Tennessee; James E. Hamill, Pastor  
Total Points: 303

Second Place: Calvary Chapel, Carpinteria, California;  
Max Applegate, Pastor  
Total Points: 274

Third Place: Bethel Assembly of God, Medford,  
Oregon; Lawrence Krause, Pastor  
Total Points: 260

Third Place: Assembly of God, Newton, Iowa;  
Hilton Griswold, Pastor  
Total Points: 260

Minnesota, John Leverage, Pastor  
Total Points: 254

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Brother Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, was in charge of the memorial and communion service which began at 9:45 a. m. in the Arena. The congregation was blessed through the anointed singing of the Ambassador's Trio from the Northwest College of the Assemblies of God and Miss Mary Jayne of California. Brother J. O. Savell, retired officer of the General Council, offered prayer.

The General Secretary presented a Book of Remembrance in response to a resolution adopted by the 1965 General Council. The names of deceased General Council ministers which had been reported to the General Council office since 1914 had been recorded in this book. The General Secretary also presented the names of those who had gone to be with the Lord during the past biennium. He read an appropriate poem in honor of all those who had departed:

#### HIS CORONATION DAY

He did not lay his armour down,  
But worked until the end,  
And never knew how very soon  
The King of kings would send  
His messenger with this glad news,  
"Come, take a higher place;  
You've labored long. Forever now  
You'll look upon His Face!"

The Bible that he loved so much  
Will feel his touch no more;  
Each word fulfilled, for Christ Himself  
Hath opened Heaven's door.  
His truthful words are quiet now;  
To us it seems too soon;  
But in each word we'll hear his voice  
As from the "Upper Room."

We'll miss him so in every church,  
In this and foreign lands,  
But must not question Him who holds  
The planets in His hands.  
One pillar less on which to lean?  
Oh, no! He built so well  
That his promotion cannot harm  
The least God's citadel

Our hearts bow down in sympathy,  
And breathe an earnest prayer  
For those who love him, miss him most;  
That home—with vacant chair.  
But, though we've said "goodbye"  
and laid

His earthly tent away,  
'Twas really not his funeral, but his  
Coronation Day!

### Ordained Ministers

Adams, Ernest M., Modesto, Calif.  
Ainsworth, Maud A. (Mrs.), Corsicana, Tex.  
Anderson, Harvey D., Victoria, Tex.  
Andrews, James H., Lakeland, Fla.  
Ashworth, Robert F., Sumner, Wash.  
Ayers, Mary F., Santa Monica, Calif.

Baker, Alphaeus E., Lakeland, Fla.  
Baker, E. E., Sayre, Okla.  
Belchar, James W., Sacramento, Calif.  
Bellmore, Lawrence R. Sr., Flint, Mich.  
Biteman, Charles H., Seattle, Wash.  
Blizzard, Ernest W., Deep Creek, Md.  
Boling, Cain, Jasper, Ark.  
Brawley, Fannie S. (Mrs.), Sanger, Calif.  
Brooks, Hiram A. Sr., Tampa, Fla.  
Brown, Delbert L., Burney, Calif.  
Brown, Eddie, Panama, Okla.  
Brown, John H., Mt. Pleasant, Tex.  
Bullock, Bernard, Sodus, N. Y.

Camp, Kenneth R., Felton, Calif.  
Casselman, Raymond L., Brooks, Oreg.  
Caudle, Benjamin H., Delta, Colo.  
Channer, Orin D., Springfield, Oreg.  
Clark, George W., Rock Island, Ill.  
Clark, Jacob J., Vader, Wash.  
Clark, Kenneth C., Harrisburg, Pa.  
Claxton, F. Virgil, Norman, Okla.  
Coday, Boyd G., St. Clair, Mo.  
Colon, Feliciano, Long Beach, Calif.  
Crane, Edith M., Seattle, Wash.  
Creighton, Osa E. (Mrs.), Yuma, Ariz.

Damron, Everett L., Clinax Springs, Mo.  
Datzko, John, Riverhead, N. Y.  
Davidson, J. S., Fanshawe, Okla.  
Davis, James M., Fort Smith, Ark.  
Dean, Artie R., National City, Calif.  
DeCola, Louis M., Los Angeles, Calif.  
Dodd, Noel, Fayetteville, Ark.  
Doyle Homer M., Sacramento, Calif.  
Draper, Louis, Poplar Bluff, Mo.

England, William, Vicksburg, Miss.

Epperson, R. H. (Jack), Glendale, Calif.  
Erdmann, Erwin F., Waupun, Wis.

Farley, Amos R., Bazine, Kans.  
Files, M. Stanley, Bloomington, Calif.  
Fisher, B. Gregory, Bedford, Pa.  
Flores, Estanislado, San Antonio, Tex.  
Flower, George E., Penns Grove, N. J.  
Folden, Arnold H., La Puente, Calif.  
Follette, John W., New Paltz, N. Y.

Gardner, J. Dow, Luverne, Ala.  
Giusti, Joseph, Wilmington, Del.  
Gore, Walter O., Leedey, Okla.  
Gray, Frank, Tacoma, Wash.  
Green, John F., Carlinville, Ill.  
Gygax, Karl M., Lakeland, Fla.

Hale, Dewey C., Columbus, Ohio  
Hall, Robert M., Portales, N. Mex.  
Hardt, Howard E., York, Pa.  
Hardwick, William F., Dothan, Ala.  
Heidt, Linus, Elmore, Minn.  
Henderson, William C. Muskogee, Okla.  
Herndon, Beula O. (Mrs.), Indianapolis, Ind.  
Hisserich, Imo (Mrs.), Santa Maria, Calif.  
Hitchcock, Mary E., Oakland, Calif.  
Holland, L. N., Wauchula, Fla.  
Holloway, Oris O., Kansas City, Mo.  
Horness, Marcus, Muskegon, Mich.  
Hughes, John L., Morris, Ill.  
Hummel, Clyde V., Ferndale, Calif.  
Hundley, Clifford L., Leechburg, Pa.

James, Robert L., Stillwell, Okla.  
Jeffcoat, John W. B., Antlers, Okla.  
Johnson, Henry, Salem, Ark.  
Johnson, Webster B., Cross City, Fla.  
Johnson, William T., Griffin, Ga.  
Jones, Lola E. (Mrs.), Waco, Tex.  
Jones, Oscar, Atlanta, Ga.  
Jones, William C., Laurel, Md.

Kaye, Jessie B. (Miss), Waxahachie, Tex.  
Kellner, Olive M. (Mrs. John), Batavia, N. Y.  
Kent, Argus L., Livonia, Mich.  
Kimbell, Walter E., Albuquerque, N. Mex.  
Kistler, Mary (Mrs.), Hatfield, Pa.

Lamb, George R., Leon, Iowa

Langston, Verna (Mrs. G. M.), Atlanta, Ga.  
Lawson, Chauncy A., Springfield, Mo.  
Leeper, Elbert O., Youngwood, Pa.  
Londis, James J., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Long, Walter C., Mt. Morris, Pa.  
Lowe, Alfred A., Visalia, Calif.

Malin, Arthur J., Jasper, Tex.  
Marez, Jose F., Pueblo, Colo.  
Matson, Orno M., Kalama, Wash.  
Medley, James H., Logan, N. Mex.  
Middleton, W. O., Mountain Grove, Mo.  
Miller, Charles H., Houston, Tex.  
Miller, John L., Everett, Wash.  
Milsaps, Ruth M. (Mrs. W. T.), Bristol, Va.  
Murphy, Lucy A. (Mrs.), San Gabriel, Calif.

Nelson, Lowell D., Belding, Mich.  
Newman, John C., Joplin, Mo.  
Nichols, Haynie, Modesto, Calif.

O'Berry, Robert E., Durant, Fla.  
Orozco, Juan C., Mexico  
Overstreet, Oscar, Meridian, Miss.

Peters, Charles B. (Jack), Oak Ridge, Tenn.  
Pierce, T. B. Sr., Front Royal, Va.  
Powell, Joel L., Valdese, N. C.

Reynolds, Arthur O., Kilgore, Tex.  
Rhodes, Velma (Mrs. C. M.), Chillicothe, Tex.  
Robinson, Daisy K. (Mrs.), Wheaton, Ill.  
Rogers, Medora S. (Mrs. L. H.), San Jose, Calif.  
Routier, Harold E., Santa Ana, Calif.  
Ruedger, Albert J., Napa, Calif.  
Ruybalid, Nehemias, San Jose, Calif.

Samuelson, Emil, Bradford, Pa.  
Schock, Wilbert D., Norristown Pa.  
Schroeder, Marshall E., Stevens Point, Wis.  
Seal, Freadus S., Burbank, Calif.  
Shands, William H., Searcy, Ark.  
Shank, Irvin A., Trotwood, Ohio  
Shannon, J. Gordon, Visalia, Calif.  
Sherratt, Evert A., Hot Springs, Ark.  
Skipper, John C., Oakland, Md.  
Sloan, William H., Miami, W. Va.  
Smith, Herman, Blanchard, Okla.  
Smitley, C. Melvin, Leroy, Kans.

Staples, James E., Grand Saline, Tex.  
Stephens, Mattie E. (Mrs.), Ozark, Ala.  
Stephens, Ollie M. Sr., Blakely, Ga.  
Stockman, Edward A., Seattle, Wash.  
Straton, Warren B., Springfield, Mo.  
Strickland, Chester A., Floydada, Tex.  
Stubblefield, Marvin E., Cleveland, Tex.  
Swarthout, Frank W., Glendale, Ariz.  
Swift, Thurman, L., Waverly, Mo.

Taylor, Charles J., McAlester, Okla.  
Teetor, Jesse L., Poplar Bluff, Mo.  
Tewell, Bernard L., Petersburg, Alaska  
Thomas, Clifton B., Bellflower, Calif.  
Thomson, Grace C. (Mrs.), Los Angeles, Calif.

Vogler, Mary E., Lakeland, Fla.

Ward, William S., Black Rock, Ark.  
Warens, Edythe (Mrs. V. C.), Fullerton, Calif.  
Warton, John G., Chicago, Ill.  
Webb, Joe S., Trinity, Tex.  
Wesley Bonnie C., Sacramento, Calif.  
Wilkins, William T., Troy, Ala.  
Wilson, Harriet P. (Mrs. R. A.), Santa Cruz, Calif.  
Wilson, Vernon E., Waxahachie, Tex.  
Woodworth, Floyd C., Arcadia, Calif.  
Wright, Rice R., Pollock, La.

Zimmerman, Edgar E., Winters, Calif.

### Missionaries

Agar, Grace (Miss), China  
Hanson, Letta (Mrs.), Malaysia  
Kensinger, Russell A., Nicaragua  
Kvamme, B. Martin, China

Following the reading of the names, the congregation stood to honor the memory of these soldiers of the Cross

G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., presented a very timely and anointed message. Thos. F. Zimmerman led the congregation in the communion service with the Executive and General Presbyters assisting.

The Missionary Rally at two p.m. proved to be one of the highlights of the General Council. The rally began with a parade of children and district missionary secretaries. The theme for the

service was "Good News... Buy the Hour." Featured during the rally was a 38-voice Marshall Choir from the Marshall Islands and a song of missionary dedication by Art Perri, converted professional singer. Missionary Mark Buntain of India delivered the missionary message.

The evening evangelistic rally began at 7:15 with a large number of evangelists being seated on the platform. Brother U. S. Grant, Pastor of First Assembly of Kansas City, Kansas, brought a stirring message on the subject "A Universal Disturbance." He based his sermon on the Scripture verses found in Haggai 2:7-9. At the conclusion of the sermon, there were many hundreds who responded to the altar call.

### MONDAY, AUGUST 28

The Monday morning devotional service began at 9:00 o'clock with Brother Dick Mohrman in charge. John Wilkerson of Kenosha, Wisconsin, led in the singing of several appropriate choruses. The organist was Gwen Jones, and pianist, Hilton Griswold. The opening prayer was offered by Brother Howard S. Bush, after which a vocal solo was rendered by Ron Hood, associate pastor in Modesto, California.

The chair reported on a telegram received from Larry Tedder, Little Rock, Arkansas, who was to have given the layman's testimony. Brother Tedder was unable to be present. The chair called upon Sister Marie Brown to bring greetings. Sister Brown has been the pastor of Glad Tidings Tabernacle in New York City for the past sixty years. She quoted Romans 8:28 and stated, "I thank God this morning that our message today is to forward this glorious gospel to them who have never heard it. May the Lord make this day a wonderful day."

The chair introduced the morning speaker, Brother Robert Harrison, an ordained minister of the Assemblies of God. He took his text from Luke 21:25 and spoke of the "last day conditions in the world."

Following was a message in tongues with interpretation on the urgency of the hour and the need for a rededication to the cause of Jesus Christ.

Brother Frank Boyd was requested to lead in prayer asking

The chairman called the business session to order at 10:25 a.m.

### Roster Committee Report

A further report of the Roster Committee was presented showing registration as of 9:00 o'clock Monday morning.

Ordained	2,319
Delegates	561
Total number voting	2,880
Licensed	300
Visitors	1,754
Total registration	4,934

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

Ballots were distributed for the election of the nonresident executive presbyter for the Gulf Area.

### Statement on Military Service

The revised report of the special study committee on Military Service was presented by Howard S. Bush:

WHEREAS the ideal world condition is that of peace, we as Christian citizens should use our influence in promoting peaceful solutions to world problems; and,

WHEREAS we live in a world in which there may arise international emergencies which will lead our nation to resort to armed conflict in the defense of its ideals, freedom, and national existence; and

WHEREAS, our first loyalty is to God, we recognize nevertheless that human government is ordained of God, and that there are obligations of citizenship which are binding upon us as Christians; and,

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the principle of individual freedom of conscience as it relates to military service; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXII of The General Council Bylaws be deleted and replaced with the following article:

#### Article XXII. Military Service

As a movement we affirm our loyalty to the government of the United States in war or peace.

We shall continue to insist, as we have historically, on the right of each member to choose for himself whether to declare his position as a combatant, a noncombatant, or a conscientious objector.

motion carried.

**Writing Evangel College into Bylaws  
Resolution No. 8**

The resolution was read by R. J. Carlson after which he moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

WHEREAS, Evangel College of the Assemblies of God was authorized and brought into existence by the action of the General Council in session; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has requested that Evangel College be included in the Constitution and Bylaws of the General Council with a proper description of its relationship to the Movement and a statement articulating proper control of the College; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXI be amended by the insertion of a new section to be known as Section 3 and to read as follows:

"Section 3. Evangel College

"Evangel College of the Assemblies of God, a Christian college of arts and sciences, shall be owned and operated at all times by the General Council of the Assemblies of God. The College is forever bound to give Christ the preeminence in all things and bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and to the policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

"The execution of policy and the administration of the college may be delegated to a Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of its Constitution and Bylaws. The College and its Board of Directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery.

"The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the College;" and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article X, Section 5, entitled "Central Bible College" be transferred to Article XXI to become known as "Section 2"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the present Section 2, Article XXI of the Bylaws be renumbered "Section 4"

The motion was carried.

J. Robert Ashcroft, President of Evangel College, requested, in behalf of the college, the privilege of expressing deep appreciation to the Fellowship for their interest and support. He solicited their continued prayers that God would help those involved in the college, the faculty, the staff, and the student body to fulfill the

A motion prevailed that the expression of appreciation be received.

**Election of Nonresident Executive Presbyters, Continued**

*Gulf Area*

Brother Matheny presented the report of the Tellers Committee on the first elective ballot for nonresident Executive Presbyter for the Gulf Area.

First elective ballot	
Total ballots cast	793
Needed to elect	528
Lowell C. Ashbrook	56
James E. Hamill	192
G. W. Hardcastle Sr.	471
Jesse Smith	26
N. Cleo Tapp	50

Second elective ballot	
Total votes cast	983
Needed to elect	656
Lowell C. Ashbrook	20
James E. Hamill	153
G. W. Hardcastle Sr.	794
Jesse Smith	1
N. Cleo Tapp	15

The chair therefore declared G. W. Hardcastle Sr. elected nonresident Executive Presbyter.

*North Central Area*

As the first elective ballot was distributed the General Secretary reported that following the printing of the ballots, a letter had been received from the Nebraska District nominating L. W. Dickinson. The Council delegates therefore were instructed to write his name on the ballot.

Total votes cast	1,040
Needed to elect	694
G. Raymond Carlson	905
Lyle Curtis	24
W. B. Friend	28
S. Harland Petersen	18
L. B. Dickinson	50



The business session was called to order at 2:15 p.m. Brother King led in prayer.

#### A. B. S. Resolution

Brother C. C. Burnett offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That this 32nd General Council of the Assemblies of God go on record again as expressing deep appreciation to the American Bible Society for its continual ministry around the world in behalf of scriptureless men and to assure this great Bible loving arm of our Lord's Church of our prayers in their behalf and at the same time to urge all our churches to keep the needs of the Society in view in the distribution of their financial assistance, with specific encouragement to at least take an annual offering in connection with Universal Bible Sunday. A motion to adopt the resolution was seconded and carried.

#### Roster Committee Report

Brother Arthur Berg reported as follows as of two p.m.

Ordained ministers	2,336
Delegates	566
Voting constituency	2,902
Licensed ministers	307
Visitors	1,772
Total registered	4,981

A motion prevailed to receive the report.

#### Eternal Security Statement, Continued

The statement on eternal security as it had been amended was read:

"Section 1. Doctrines Disapproved

"In view of the Biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ, and in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness, the General Council disapproves of the unconditional eternal security position which holds 'once saved always saved.' The General Council also disapproves of the Seventh-day teaching, and of the Restitution of All Things doctrine. Those holding and propagating such teachings, thereby causing confusion and division among God's people, shall be dealt with according to Romans 16:17; Titus 3:10.

The resolution as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

#### Restudy of Article XXIII

committee to restudy *Article XXIII. Doctrines and Practices*

*Disapproved* for the purpose of possible amplification and change and that a report be sent to all ordained ministers prior to the next session of the General Council. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Appeals Committee Resolution No. 10

The resolution was read by Brother Carlson:

WHEREAS, the Executive Officers act as a Credentials Committee of the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, the appeal from the action of this Credentials Committee is to the General Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Credentials Committee are members of the General Presbytery, the appeal is to a body, containing the same group that made the decision in the first place; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we amend Article VI, Section 21, of the Bylaws to read as follows:

Section 21. Trials and Appeals.

##### a. Trials

1. 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*.

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

##### b. Appeals

1. It shall be the privilege of every minister who may

provided such an appeal shall be made within thirty days thereafter.

2. An Appeals Board shall consist of eight qualified and ordained ministers chosen from the eight regions as the nonresident Executive Presbyters are chosen. They shall be chosen in the same manner in which the nonresident Executive Presbyters are chosen.

3. They shall serve for a term of four years, except that initially four shall be chosen for four years and four shall be chosen for two years in order that their terms may be staggered. No Appeals Board member shall succeed himself in office without a lapse of one four-year term.

4. The Appeals Board shall meet regularly prior to the General Council. Other meetings may be arranged as necessity may indicate.

5. When the trial committee has been notified of the intention to appeal a case, the trial committee shall furnish the Appeals Board with a complete record of the trial, including all evidence produced.

6. It shall be the obligation of the Appeals Board to determine whether or not a proper trial has been conducted and a fair decision rendered. They may decide to sustain the decision of the trial committee or to reverse the decision of the trial committee, or they may decide that the case has been improperly handled and remand the case for retrial.

7. No new evidence shall be considered in the review. All new evidence or testimony must be presented in retrials.

After discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the Committee to Study Jurisprudence be instructed to take this matter into consideration when it brings the report of the entire matter of jurisprudence to the General Council. When the vote was taken, the motion failed to carry.

Following further discussion, the previous question was called for. Upon voting, however, the motion to cease debate lost. After a report from the Tellers Committee, question was again called for on the subject of the Appeals Committee and was sustained by vote of the house. The motion to adopt Resolution Number Ten (to reconstitute the appeals committee) was voted on and declared carried.

It was questioned from the floor as to how this was to be implemented since obviously District Councils could not at this session of the General Council make nominations for membership on the appeals committee in the manner called for by the legislation just adopted.

continue to operate under Article VI, Section 27 as presently constituted for the next two years, giving the Districts ample time

to nominate representatives to this board and that the resolution be implemented at the 1969 General Council.

#### Jurisprudence Committee

The committee currently studying the situation on jurisprudence was again brought into focus. A motion prevailed that the Committee on Jurisprudence be increased by three additional members, appointed by the chair, so that there will be a wide representation to consider the entire area of ministerial discipline, trial and appeals.

It was moved and seconded that the three additional members be selected from among those who have legal training. The motion failed to carry. The Committee on Jurisprudence as presently constituted is as follows: C. W. H. Scott, Chairman; G. W. Hardcastle Sr., T. E. Gannon, R. E. Goggin, R. J. Carlson, L. E. Halvorson and N. Cleo Tapp. The chair in consultation with the Executive Presbytery named additional members as Raymond Hudson, Carl Lindberg Jr., and Arthur Shell Jr.

#### Election of Nonresident Executive Presbyters, Con't.

##### South Central Area

First elective ballot	
Total votes cast	1,000
Needed to elect	667
E. R. Anderson	104
Robert E. Goggin	125
Paul E. Lowenberg	220
Kermit Reneau	528
J. A. Thomas	23

##### Second elective ballot

Total votes cast	606
Needed to elect	404
E. R. Anderson	14
Robert E. Goggin	25
Paul E. Lowenberg	85
Kermit Reneau	481
J. A. Thomas	1

The chair therefore declared Kermit Reneau elected as non-resident Executive Presbyter.

##### Northwest Area

First elective ballot	
Total votes cast	926
Needed to elect	618
A. Glen Burris	30
A. E. Capner	19
N. D. Davidson	561
Homer Walkup	14

Second elective ballot	
Total votes cast	975
Needed to elect	650
W. Glen Burris	1
A. E. Capener	1
R. J. Carlson	246
N. D. Davidson	727

The chair therefore declared N. D. Davidson elected as non-resident Executive Presbyter.

#### Southwest Area

First elective ballot	
Total votes cast	1,008
Needed to elect	672
Leland Keys	216
Dwight H. McLaughlin	531
Kenneth R. Schmidt	250
Eldon E. Vincent	11

Second elective ballot	
Total votes cast	892
Needed to elect	594
Leland R. Keys	71
Dwight H. McLaughlin	692
Kenneth Schmidt	126
Eldon E. Vincent	3

The chair thereupon declared Dwight H. McLaughlin elected as nonresident Executive Presbyter.

The chair recognized Brothers Kermit Reneau, N. D. Davidson, and Dwight H. McLaughlin. These brethren thanked the Council for its expression of confidence and pledged their faithfulness to the task assigned to them.

#### Report of Insurance Study

The Standing Committee on Finance had been requested to study the feasibility of raising the paid-up insurance for ministers 65 years or older. The report of this committee follows:

"Review of Group Insurance Recommendation in Resolution to Increase Policy to Ministers over 65 years of Age.

"Pursuant to the action of the General Council in session in Long Beach shown by referring the resolution affecting an increase in the paid-up policy issued to ministers 65 years of age and over, the committee met and carefully reviewed the

age-range receive a policy for \$600 upon which neither the minister nor his district pays further premiums.

"Committee members present were Kelly Wigfield, Lyle Spradley, Everett Cooley, and Raymond Hudson, who served as Chairman in the absence of Chairman Andrew Nelli who is in Brazil.

"The committee is pleased with the fact that several years of very good experience have been realized. Also, the members of the committee present share the feeling expressed by the Council body showing concern for the provision of a maximum paid-up policy and other benefits where possible for ministers 65 years of age and over.

"There is grave concern, however, due to the fact that reserve funds, although a fair balance is shown, are not adequate to assure payment of claims on policies already issued to persons 65 and over.

"To assure this, there should be a minimum reserve amount of \$375 in the account of each minister at age 65, and more for those above this age. A fund of \$632,250 is needed.

"There is concern also that, in addition to the fact of an insufficient fund reserve to guarantee payment of claim policies for ministers age 65, and over, there is not an ample reserve fund to assure younger ministers, now enrolled, that a similar policy can be issued to them on their 65th birthdays.

"The committee notes that an amount some \$13,000 less was received for the reserve fund last year, 1967, than the year before. This, to the committee, seems to indicate that the plan is entering the years when there will, from year to year, be a diminishing of reserve funds which will inevitably result in a deficit.

"It is noted that a similar experience was realized when the fund was deficated in the amount of \$84,560. If this deficit in General Council funds were liquidated, the reserve fund would currently be under \$500,000.

"It is noteworthy also that the number of claims for persons over 65 increased in the six-year period ending March 31, 1967 to 58 as compared to 31 in the previous six-year period.

"It is a concern of the committee, as well as the Council body, that the reserve fund for the group insurance is governed by contract and agreement between participating members and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Better business procedure gives guidelines which, if not observed, will lead to a position where claims cannot be met. This, it seems to the committee, is a grave danger if further increase, without sufficient reserves, is made on policies upon which the minister pays no further premiums.

acts in keeping the eligible ministers enrolled in the program, it would seem impractical to take a step which would cause

the necessity of an increase in premium rates which are already considered to be too high by many eligible ministers. "In view of the foregoing, your Committee on Finance respectfully advises that, in the opinion of this committee, it would not be in keeping with good and safe business procedure to effect an increase in policies issued (paid up) to ministers 65 and over at this time.

"Finally, your committee feels keenly sympathetic with the expression of the Council desiring to do something for the financial benefit of the ministers 65 and over who have served so well.

"We do, however, take a dim view of efforts to do this by allocation of funds paid and held under contract.

"We submit for your consideration a letter concerning this matter addressed to the General Treasurer from Donald B. Warren, Consulting Actuary, dated July 25, 1967:

"Ministers over age 65 do not contribute to this program; yet they are covered for \$600 insurance. The reserve, necessary at age 65 to provide this \$600 insurance without further premium payments, is about \$375 per man. At higher ages the reserve is still greater. None of your present group of over-65 ministers has contributed anything like \$375 to the group; hence much of the cost of their current protection is being paid for by the younger ministers in the form of contributions in excess of the true cost of their insurance. Any increase in insurance for the older ministers would therefore be an added cost burden on the younger ministers.

"The aggregate reserve which is being built up from the Metropolitan dividends has two purposes:

- (1) To provide the necessary \$375, or more, per man with respect to over-65 ministers.
- (2) To build up a reserve for under-65 ministers so that they can have their \$600 insurance protection when they become age 65 and cease to pay premiums.

"The aggregate reserve is at present not even equal to the requirements of (1); much less of (1) and (2) together. Sincerely yours, (Signed) Donald B. Warren."

A motion was made and seconded that the report be accepted.

A motion prevailed that debate be limited to three minutes per person, not to exceed five people and that the Council do its best to dispose of the matter in fifteen minutes.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question. The motion to adopt the report of the Finance Committee was voted upon and declared carried.

A motion was made and seconded that the insurance for aged ministers 65 and over be raised from \$600 to \$700. The previous question was moved, seconded and carried. The vote was taken on the motion to increase the coverage of ministers 65 and over from \$600 to \$700. The motion carried.

A motion prevailed to recess at 5:10 p.m. The chair announced that the meeting would convene at nine a.m. on Tuesday, with the business session to follow at ten a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 with the singing of *The Doxology*. Prayer was offered by Brother Edgar Bethany.

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

The Tuesday morning devotional service began at 9:00 o'clock with Brother Dick Mohrman in charge. Brother Gordon Matheny led the singing. Lorena Quigley served as pianist and Gwen Jones as the organist. Brother William Douglas of Ossining, New York, led in prayer. The devotional message was brought by Brother N. D. Davidson, Superintendent of the Oregon District. He spoke on the theme of this General Council, "Come Lord Jesus." The chairman called upon Brother A. L. Whitworth, former Secretary-Treasurer of the Mexico District, to lead in prayer, and especially to ask God's blessing on the business to be conducted.

The chair called to order the final business meeting of this General Council of the Assemblies of God at 9:55 a.m.

### Roster Committee Report

Brother Arthur Berg presented the final report of the Roster Committee as of 9:00 o'clock:

Total ordained	2,342
Total delegates	569
Total voting delegates	2,911
Total licensed	309
Total visitors	2,794
Total registration	6,014

It was moved and seconded that the report of the Roster Committee be received with appreciation and that the Roster be closed. The motion was carried.

### Report of the Spiritual Life Committee

The report of the Spiritual Life Committee was presented by Joseph R. Flower, Chairman:

The Spiritual Life Committee, which met at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 24, submits the following observations and recommendations for your earnest consideration.

1. The spiritual life of our movement is related to the mode of worship that we follow. Any trend toward mere formalism should be deplored. As a safeguard against such, every pastor in the fellowship is urged to encourage an atmosphere of worship which lends itself to spontaneity of praise, and, where God so desires, a manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit. There should be a continuous emphasis on the overflowing experience of the infilling of the Spirit, which is the glorious privilege of every individual child of God. We should be reminded of the promise of our Lord: "He that believeth on me as the Scripture hath said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:37-39). The words of Paul in Ephesians 5:18, 19 are particularly pertinent: "...be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."

2. We suggest that the growth-rate of the church will be increased in proportion to the earnestness of seeking for a spiritual revival. When the church bears a burden for the lost, souls will be added.

3. While we believe in fellowshipping all true believers, we need to reaffirm our own scriptural standards of separation from essentially worldly practices. We should refrain from entering into any association that would compromise our standards or weaken our Pentecostal testimony.

4. Here and there we observe a strengthening of our colleges, both Bible and liberal arts. Since many of our leaders come from among the graduates of these institutions, we recommend that every effort be made to influence these graduates to strive for a Holy Ghost anointed ministry. We must hold before them constantly the challenge to reach the world for God.

5. We recognize that church literature has a tremendous affect on our movement, because all ages are touched and challenged to ministry through this medium. Although great forward steps have been taken in recent years to improve this area of ministry, we encourage all of our writers to utilize every opportunity to articulate and reaffirm our Pentecostal distinctives, and to seek God for a more dynamic expression thereof. No writer can transmit more faith and inspiration than is in his own heart.

6. We encourage our writers to continue to emphasize the importance of private devo-

tions and the family altar. Prayer should be given more emphasis in the church life, as well as the Word of God in our worship services, and the participation of our people in the 1968 Bible Reading Program. This is the second phase of a program launched in 1967 whereby the Old Testament is read once and the New Testament twice in a two-year period.

7. To more fully indoctrinate and inspire our churches to a full expression of the Spirit-filled life, we strongly encourage the observance of the 1968 Pentecost Crusade, set for May 8-June 2, 1968.

8. It has been noted that encouraging reports of great movings of God's Spirit have attended our camp meetings and youth camps. We feel this is evidence that where leadership is given there is a ready response among our people to seek for the fullness of the Spirit.

9. Our district leaders stand in a strategic position within our movement. We encourage them to become that fountainhead of faith and blessing that will infuse the ministers and the local Assemblies.

10. The Spiritual Life Committee heartily endorses the proposed Five-Year Program of Advance. This plan will be revealed in a great convocation to be held at the Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis, Missouri, August 26-29, 1968. Much prayer should be made that God will reveal His will for our movement.

We would like to make three observations relative to *Advance*.

(a) We express appreciation for the very name *Advance* which we understand to mean that its driving objective is to move us forward in God.

(b) An analysis of history shows that this is a very critical generation for our movement. One of the problems that makes this generation critical is the tendency to forget our distinctive reason-for-being. We encourage the Committee on Advance to specifically give itself to rearticulate our purposes.

(c) We hold the belief that those most effective in analyzing any movement are those on the inside who love the movement they might criticize. Growth and fruit come from within, not without.

This report reflects the thinking and heart-burden of

each member of the Spiritual Life Committee. We wish to commend our Executive Presbytery for calling our movement to rededication to the spiritual challenge of reaching the world for God.

The Spiritual Life Committee expresses deep concern that every effort should be put forth to insure indoctrination of our oncoming generation, and we should surround them with such a spiritual atmosphere that they will perpetuate the faith revealed by God and entrusted to our care. Unless Pentecost is reborn in the hearts of every succeeding generation it will perish. We do not want it said of us as it was said of Israel in Judges 2:10—"And there arose another generation after them which knew not the Lord nor yet the works that He had done for Israel."

Respectfully submitted,

Spiritual Life Committee

Joseph R. Flower, Chairman  
Cyril Homer, Secretary  
Edgar Bethany  
G. F. Lewis  
Basil Edwards

Arthur Berg  
John W. Everett  
Chaplain Wayne Rowland  
W. H. Robertson  
T. F. Zimmerman

It was moved and seconded that this highly significant report be adopted. The motion was unanimously carried by a standing vote.

The General Superintendent, at this time, outlined the Five-Year Program of Advance for the Assemblies of God and announced the Council on Evangelism scheduled for Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis. He requested the General Secretary to read the names of those serving on the Committee on Advance:

T. F. Zimmerman, chairman; Gene Scott, T. E. Gannon, Donald Johns, Ralph Harris, Charles Denton, D. V. Hurst, James Hamill, Lowell Ashbrook, J. P. Hogan, Wm. Vickery, Cyril Homer, Harry Myers, G. Raymond Carlson, Andrew Nelli

A motion prevailed that this report be given wide circulation in all publications, such as *The Pentecostal Evangel*, *Advance Magazine* and any other means of publication the General Superintendent feels would implement the program.

The chair stated upon adjournment that the committee would report for the program on Advance.

### Promotion of Ministers' Benefit Association and Retirement Program—Resolution No. 11

The resolution was read by R. J. Carlson:

WHEREAS, The retirement of ministers is a matter of increasing interest and concern; and

WHEREAS, The General Council of the Assemblies of God already offers a program of proven worth in the Ministers' Benefit Association; and

WHEREAS, Only a very small percentage of our ministers participate in this plan; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery appoint a committee to propose means for the promotion of the Ministers' Benefit Association and consideration of the entire Ministers' Retirement problem; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That each District consider ways and means for the promotion of the Ministers' Benefit Association within its own area immediately.

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

### Prayer Emphasis Resolution No. 12

The resolution was read by the chairman of the Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, The entire world stands in need of intercessory prayer; and

WHEREAS, The Church of Jesus Christ on earth must have the spiritual revitalization that comes only through personal prayer; and

WHEREAS, The brethren of the Executive Presbytery have shown keen interest and concern in leading the fellowship in special times of united prayer and service as is reflected in the reports of the General Superintendent and departments; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we commend the leadership of our fellowship for this emphasis and that each be encouraged to continue in this direction, toward periods of united prayer and intercession throughout the constituency.

A motion prevailed for the adoption of this resolution.

### Minimal Time-lapse for Restoration of Credentials Resolution No. 13

The resolution was read by Brother R. J. Carlson:

the Bylaws, be amended by the insertion of the following wording following the first sentence to read:

"Minimal time lapse requirements before eligibility to apply for reinstatement shall be as follows:

"Removed" or "Disapproved" one year.

"Dropped" three years.

The time lapse shall be computed from the date of the District Presbytery action as it appears on the termination report filed with the General Council Credentials Committee."

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended by changing "three years" to "two years" in the "dropped" category.

The General Secretary was called upon to read the nomenclature applied to all categories of discipline as contained in Section 13, Article VI of the Bylaws.

Following discussion a motion calling for the previous question prevailed. The motion to amend by striking out "three years" and inserting "two years" was put to vote. The voice vote was not clear.

The division of the house was called for and a standing vote taken. There were 337 votes in favor of the motion to amend and 156 opposed to the motion. The motion to amend was therefore declared carried.

A motion was made and seconded that the proposition before the house be postponed indefinitely. When voting on the motion to postpone indefinitely, the motion was lost.

The main motion to adopt resolution number 13, as amended, was voted upon and declared carried.

#### **Speed-the-Light Funds for Home Missionary Workers Resolution No. 14**

The resolution was read by Brother R. J. Carlson:

WHEREAS, The National Speed-the-Light program has been established for the purpose of furnishing vehicles around the world, particularly for foreign missionaries; and

WHEREAS, We have reached the place in our overall missionary program where a greater emphasis on home missions is imperative if the present expanding foreign missions program is to continue; and

WHEREAS, National home missionaries experience a difficult problem in obtaining monies for support and vehicles; and

WHEREAS, By the designation of Home Mission, we cover

graph "b" of Section 4, Article IX of the Bylaws; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Home Missions Special Ministries portion of Speed-the-Light funds be made available to any duly appointed National Home Missionary; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Section 2, paragraph 3 of Article XX, be amended to comprehend this thought by deletion of the following words "especially those ministering in Alaska and to the American Indians."

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

A motion was offered from the floor to amend Section 2, Article XX, to provide for the redistribution of Speed-the-Light monies so that the following percentages would prevail:

70% Foreign Missions Speed-the-Light  
20% District Home Missions  
10% Special Ministries

The motion was seconded.

A procedural motion prevailed that any new business including the motion before the house be postponed until the items already scheduled had been handled.

#### **Article XII. Publications Resolution No. 15**

Resolution No. 15, proposing the establishment of a Board of Publications, was read:

WHEREAS, The publishing and distribution of gospel literature has developed into the largest single operation at general headquarters, entailing an outlay of over three and one-half million dollars in assets, with an annual budget of almost four million dollars; and

WHEREAS, There is need for more definitive areas of responsibilities in the scope entailed in this extensive outlay; and

WHEREAS, A closer correlation and coordination of effort would result in a more efficient performance in view of the ever decreasing margin between the gross and net operations; and

WHEREAS, This great arm of the total outreach program of the General Council of the Assemblies of God is vital to the entire constituency; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XII be amended to provide for

General Council by the deletion of the present Section 2, paragraph "b" and by the insertion of the following:

"There shall be a Board of Publications which shall have general oversight over the publishing interests of the General Council. It shall be concerned with the cost and earning factors of all areas affecting publications and shall exercise discretionary powers in the budgetary affairs of the Department of Publications. In addition, the Board of Publications shall provide guidelines for the editorial and curricular content of all publications and periodicals. The Board of Publications shall consist of the Executive Director of the Department of Publications, the General Superintendent, the General Treasurer, and two additional Executive Officers appointed by the Executive Presbytery. The Executive Director of Publications shall serve as chairman. The Board of Publications shall meet monthly. It shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery. Divisional committees representing each of the major divisions of the Department of Publications shall be appointed by the Board of Publications and ratified by the Executive Presbytery. The Executive Presbytery shall define the major divisions upon recommendation of the Board of Publications. The divisional head shall serve as chairman of each of the respective committees. All decisions of the divisional committees shall be reported to the Board of Publications for approval and authorization. They shall meet at least monthly and shall be amenable to the Board of Publications.

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

#### **Transfers of Branch Churches Resolution No. 16**

RESOLVED, That Section 6, Article IX of the Bylaws be amended by the creation of a new paragraph designated "e" to read as follows:

"When a church desires to transfer from a Foreign Language Branch to the District in which it is located, a church business meeting should be properly called and the minutes of said meeting should reflect the action authorized by the congregation. This action should be submitted to the officers of the Foreign Language Branch. If the Branch has objections, the church shall have the right

Council.

A motion prevailed that this resolution be adopted.

#### **Changing Frequency of General Councils Resolution No. 17**

BE IT RESOLVED, That a committee representative of our entire constituency be appointed to study the feasibility and desirability of changing the General Council from a biennial to a triennial or quadrennial basis; and be it further RESOLVED, That this committee report to the General Presbytery at its regular 1968 meeting to provide opportunity for consideration of any necessary Constitutional amendments in the event of change for possible referral to the 1969 General Council.

A motion was made and seconded that the matter be postponed indefinitely. The motion to postpone carried.

#### **Resolution of Appreciation Resolution No. 18**

WHEREAS the planning and promotion of an event of such magnitude as a biennial General Council requires the talents and cooperation of many agencies and individuals; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this 32nd General Council express its appreciation for every courtesy and all assistance given, and that the secretary convey these sentiments in writing wherever practicable to the following:

1. The Southern California District Council Superintendent, officers, pastors, and churches for the excellent interest, enthusiasm, support, and assistance in so many ways.
2. The churches in and around Long Beach who have helped make the convention a success by promoting it, providing volunteers to work in many areas, and in other ways.
3. The Long Beach and Los Angeles area news media (newspapers, radio stations, and television stations) for their friendly reception and good coverage of the General Council.
4. The Long Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau for unexcelled cooperation, help, support, and services both before and during the convention; and to the workers from the bureau who worked so effectively in the registration booth

and staff for the fine service they have provided with such commendable courtesy.

6. The Long Beach city government for the welcome we have received, the Long Beach Police Department for special courtesies which have been given, and the people of the city who have shown such a friendly interest in us.

7. The many committees who have worked so long and so faithfully in every assigned area.

8. The many companies who have made a unique contribution to this convention through their colorful and informative exhibits.

9. The Xerox Corporation, Economy Office Products Company, J. C. Penney Company, and the Bank of California for special equipment, services, and courtesies they have provided for us.

10. The convention staff members and the many other volunteers who have worked so faithfully in so many areas to meet the needs of the entire convention.

The resolution of appreciation was adopted unanimously.

#### Site Evaluation Committee

Report of the Site Evaluation Committee was read by J. Philip Hogan:

The committee met at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 23, 1967. The committee consisted of Chairman T. H. Spence, J. Philip Hogan, Owen Hodges, Russell Williams, V. E. Shores, with Stanton Johnson absent. Chairman Spence presented information sheets provided by twelve cities who had invited the 1971 General Council Session. The cities were Baltimore, Maryland; Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Cincinnati, Ohio; Cleveland, Ohio; Denver, Colorado; Kansas City, Missouri; Miami Beach, Florida; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Rochester, New York; St. Petersburg, Florida; and Washington, D. C. (A letter of invitation from Mayor Lindsay of New York City had been received but there had not been time to evaluate the information submitted.)

After careful consideration of all the facts presented by each of these cities, a ballot was taken by the committee to indicate first, second, and third choice, with the following results: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, first; Kansas City, Missouri, second; St. Petersburg, Florida, third.

Your site Committee respectfully presents this report as a

A motion prevailed that the recommendation of the committee be adopted.

#### Church Membership Committee Report

Brother C. W. H. Scott presented the report:

The Church Membership Committee, assigned the responsibility of maintaining a continuing study of this important matter by the Executive Presbytery, has met regularly during the past two years.

It is the feeling of your committee that church membership is important and should be encouraged in the churches of the Assemblies of God because it represents a fellowship of true believers who by the New Birth have become part of the living and true Church of which Christ is the head. It is a public testimony that modern-day Christians still consider the ministry and message of the Church important enough to merit their moral, spiritual, and financial support because of the personal transformations effected as spiritual values which once seemed incomprehensible have now become the center of a new life in Christ. (Col. 3:1-17).

In the concluding chapter of many of Paul's epistles, reference is made to known associates who were identified with the Early Church. Other scriptures indicate that one of the purposes of Christ was to establish a fellowship of His followers which would continue after His departure and would be dedicated to the corporate achievements of His purposes.

The Church grew from one—Jesus. Then there were twelve apostles. After that seventy disciples, five hundred brethren and then on the Day of Pentecost three thousand answered the call of the Spirit, followed by multitudes of believers (Acts 5:14) until Jerusalem was filled with the doctrine of Christ. (Acts 5:8). As the Word of God increased (Acts 6:7). This growth in the Early Church was the result of the Holy Spirit moving among the people. We have the same Holy Spirit working among us, and the same effectual message of the gospel, the same manifestation of God to convict of sin and bring men and women to repentance that they too might find their place in the body of Christ before the coming of the Lord.

According to the records of the General Secretary of the Assemblies of God 20,066 new members were added to the membership rolls of the churches of the Assemblies of God during the biennium ending December 31, 1966. This makes a total membership as of that date of 576,058 or an increase of 2 1/4 members per church during the two year period. While

we recognize that we have more than a million adherents who worship regularly in our churches. Either we are not getting the new members into our assemblies or are failing

to report those who do consider themselves as members of the Assemblies of God.

The Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God recognizing the importance of a proper emphasis on church membership have designated October 29, 1967, as National Church Membership Day to remind our constituency of the importance of belonging to the local assembly. It is not their thought that there should be just one-day-a-year dedicated to this purpose, but church membership should be available to all born-again Christians who meet the qualifications of the constitution and bylaws of the local church at any time during the year. Pastors and church officers should emphasize its importance and encourage Christians to become members of the churches of our fellowship.

The Executive Presbytery has also gone on record as approving an Associate Membership to be made available to young people who have had an experience of salvation through faith in Christ and may be too young to be received as voting members of the church.

Church Membership on an associate basis can convey the love, appreciation, and concern of the church, thus giving them the satisfaction of belonging to the fellowship of Christian friends with whom they associate in the Assembly as well as giving help to enable them to grow into strong Christians.

As associate members youth are made aware of the service opportunities within the church. These experiences prepare them for voting membership and offers the opportunity to develop faithfulness and loyalty as they sense the dignity and privileges which church membership brings.

When the junior becomes a member, the church can then work closely with him noting his spiritual progress, help him solve his problems and reduce the possibility of his becoming a dropout.

In order to lead junior members into a proper understanding of the meaning of church membership after conversion, it is recommended that as early as eleven years of age a course of study be given by the pastor of the assembly which may include the Statement of Fundamental Truths, stewardship, history of the Assemblies of God and an introduction to the program of the local church. Considerable materials are presently available for ministers planning a study course of this

congregation as associate members.

It is the hope of your committee that the foregoing recom-

mendations will be implemented in all the churches of our fellowship because of the values which accrue to the individual member.

Church membership makes available to the present the treasures of the unsearchable riches of God's Word. Thus the church provides inspiration out of its history as well as strength for every present need. When two or three are gathered together something takes place which could not happen when one is alone. For in company with like-minded folk we achieve insight and enthusiasm, we tap resources of energy we would never otherwise find, and come into a closer relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then, too, membership is important to the church itself because it gives numerical strength in reporting to the governmental agencies which allocate chaplaincy quotas. It provides the total picture to lending institutions who base their loan commitments on church membership. It is essential to the proper conduct of business meetings in the church and in fulfilling the Great Commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." Respectfully submitted, C. W. H. Scott, chairman; C. W. Denton, C. W. Ringness, Wm. Kirschke, Warren McPherson, David Johnston.

A motion prevailed to accept the report.

### **Speed-the-Light Percentages**

The General Secretary reported that all items of business previously scheduled had been disposed of. The motion affecting Section 2, Article XX, of the Bylaws, on the distribution of Speed-the-Light funds was considered. A motion was offered to reduce the allocation to Foreign Missions from 75 percent to 70 percent and increase the allocation to Home Missions Special Ministries from five percent to ten percent. The motion was seconded.

Subsequently, a motion to table was moved and seconded, but failed to carry when voted upon.

A substitute motion was then made to amend Article XX, Section 2, to reduce the Foreign Missions portion of Speed-the-Light funds to 65 percent, retain the 20 percent to district home missions, and raise the current five percent to Home Missions Special Ministries to 15 percent. The motion was seconded. Question was asked whether the proliferation of these funds would inhibit our overseas operation at this time. The Executive Director of the C. A. Department stated that because of the difficulty

brought up, adequate preparation to answer questions in a proper manner had not been possible.

It was moved and seconded to refer the proposition to the General Council Finance Committee with the provision the committee would report to the next session of the General Council.

A substitute motion prevailed that the matter be referred to a committee composed of representatives from the General Council Standing Committee on Finance, the Home Missions Department, the Foreign Missions Department and the Christ's Ambassadors Department, and that a report be made to the next session of the General Council.

A motion was made and seconded that the committee be given power to act. The motion failed to carry.

The motion to appoint the study committee was then voted upon and declared carried. A motion further prevailed that the General Superintendent appoint the committee.

### Resolutions in Printed Form

A motion prevailed that in future General Council sessions, beginning in 1969, resolutions properly processed through the Resolutions Committee be distributed to voting delegates at the time they are considered.

A motion was made from the floor that appreciation be expressed for the excellent way the Council had been handled from the chair, and from the platform, and for the fine Christian spirit which had prevailed during the sessions, particularly in the conduct of the chair.

Brother Webb took the chair. The motion was voted on and declared carried unanimously.

Brother Zimmerman, in turn, expressed his esteem for the brethren of the fellowship and appreciation for the fine spirit shown at this Council. He stated the expressions of love and the prayers of the fellowship are greatly appreciated.

It was moved and seconded that the General Council be adjourned.

The congregation moved toward the front of the auditorium, joined hands and sang together "Blest Be the Tie That Binds Our Hearts in Christian Love."

The Chair declared the Thirty-Second General Council ad-

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 29, 1967

### 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

God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness 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 is used as a basis of fellowship among us. It is a statement of fundamental 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 fellowship. The Son is with the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to authority. 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.

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

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 endue-

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 appointed for the purpose of (1) The evangelization of the world, and (2) The sustaining 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 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 Council nominating and electing them, and who shall be 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, shall not be permitted to act 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.

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 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, Hawaii

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

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.

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.

vision 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.

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.

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 include the name of the individual, title, denomination, and other identifying information, including home address, telephone number, and other pertinent information, 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 re-arranged 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: Completion of such an approved course of study as shall be required by the Executive Presbytery, including 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

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 delinquent. The credentials of those who do not avail themselves of this grace period will be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31 and their 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. Ministers who become delinquent ten months or more shall apply for reinstatement.

#### **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 the names of those ministers who have been ordained since the previous year. It shall be published in 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 are ordained and licensed. Ministers may, however, be permitted to labor temporarily in 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."

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. For a minister who is listed as "removed" or "disapproved" the minimal time-lapse required before he is eligible to apply for reinstatement shall be one year; for a minister who is listed as "dropped," the minimal time-lapse shall be two years. The time-lapse shall be computed from the date of the District Presbytery action as it appears on the termination report filed with the General Council Credentials Committee.

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 to those whose credentials have lapsed ten months or more, or to those who have withdrawn for reasons of doctrines or practices incompatible with General Council principles, or to those who have been under

term "renewed" shall be used to apply strictly to those who for inadvertent reasons fail to comply with the annual questionnaire

deadline but do renew on or before the first of December 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 Committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them to the headquarters office for credentials also have the right to withdraw their approval and to recommend that the headquarters office recall the credentials. General inefficiency in the ministry, a failure or inability to correctly represent our Pentecostal testimony, a contentious or 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).**

It is the policy of the General Council of the Pentecostal Church to perform 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 such ministry. If a minister should be so engaged, he 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 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 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.

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 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.

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

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. The membership of the Field Fellowship shall be automatically conferred 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 Department in the field in submitting a 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. If a missionary is unable to return to the field because of ill health or the infirmities of age.

## ARTICLE IX. HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

### Section 1. Authorization and Scope.

a. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall assume responsibility and do all within its power for the spread of the Gospel to the homeland. In keeping with this obligation, there shall be a Home Missions Department.

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

c. The work of the department shall include

- (1) Church Extension
- (2) Ministry among those people in the United States who are in need of special ministry by reason of language barriers, physical confinement, handicaps, comparative isolation or religious prejudices
- (3) General supervision of the various foreign language branches that are now or may hereafter be authorized.

### Section 2. Government and Organization.

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the Executive Presbyters who are not Executive Officers shall appoint one of the Executive Officers of the General Council as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a Secretary of Home Missions who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the Home Missions Department.

c. The Home Missions Committee shall consist of the Executive Director, the Secretary, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Home Missions Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

e. National representatives to serve in specific areas of Home Missions work may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery as it becomes advisable and practical.

f. The work of the Home Missions Department as a whole shall be under the general oversight of, and amenable to, the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 3. Church Extension Division

a. The Church Extension Division of the Home Missions Department shall function in co-operation with the various

districts in helping and encouraging pioneer pastors and established churches to enter new fields.

b. Practical aid shall be provided through:

- (1) Maintaining Revolving Loan Funds.
- (2) Providing Building Plans at a nominal fee.
- (3) Supplying the pioneer pastor with literature for distribution and other helps.

c. The Division shall constantly seek to develop and promote the Church Extension Program by offering new and practical helps whenever possible.

### Section 4. Special Ministries Division.

a. The Special Ministries Division shall function in co-operation with the various districts.

b. The work of this Division shall include ministry to the Jews, the American Indians, the deaf, the blind, prisoners, the population of Alaska, and the foreign language groups of the United States.

c. Home missionaries shall be appointed by the Home Missions Department with the approval of his or her home District and the District in which the missionary will be working. These appointments are subject to renewal annually.

d. All appointed home missionaries shall be expected to work in accord with the policies of the department as set forth in the Home Missionary manual.

### Section 5. Finances.

a. The Department shall be financed by World Missions offerings, gifts, contributions, and such funds as may be assigned for this purpose.

b. Where missionary support is necessary, home missionaries shall be expected to obtain sufficient pledged support before entering their field of ministry.

c. Missionary credit will be given for funds given to appointed home missionaries and to home missionary projects approved by the District and Home Missions Department.

### Section 6. Branches.

a. A Foreign Language Group, in order to be recognized as a Branch of the Assemblies of God, must have at all times in the group a minimum number of twelve churches. If they do not qualify for recognition as a Branch, the pastor shall be appointed as a pastor in charge of the churches 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.

e. When a church desires to transfer from a Foreign Language Branch to the District in which it is located, a church business meeting should be properly called and the minutes of said meeting should reflect the action authorized by the congregation. This action should be submitted to the officers of the Foreign Language Branch. If the Branch has objections, the church shall have the right of appeal to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council.

## 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 organization referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be organized in such a manner 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 provide for the education of our children in 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.

## **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 purpose of the Sunday School Department shall be the promotion of evangelism and soul winning through 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

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 Board of Publications which shall have general oversight over the publishing interests of the General Council. It shall be concerned with the cost and earning factors of all areas affecting publications and shall exercise discretionary powers in the budgetary affairs of the Department of Publications. In addition, the Board of Publications shall provide guidelines for the editorial and curricular content of all publications and periodicals. The Board of Publications shall consist of the Executive Director of the Department of Publications, the General Superintendent, the General Treasurer, and two additional Executive Officers appointed by the Executive Presbytery. The Executive Presbytery shall meet monthly. It shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery.

Divisional committees representing each of the major divisions of the Department of Publications shall be appointed by the Board of Publications and ratified by the Executive Presbytery. The Executive Presbytery shall define the major divisions upon recommendation of the Board of Publications. The divisional head shall serve as chairman of each of the respective committees. All decisions of the divisional committees shall be reported to the Board of Publications for approval and authorization. They shall meet at least monthly and shall be amenable to the Board of Publications.

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

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 Councils, subject to the approval of the Executive Presbytery and 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 co-operation of the pastors and young people's leaders in each section, taking care not to conflict with other local or District meetings.

#### **Section 5. Local Organizations.**

a. All local Christ's Ambassadors organizations shall be considered as a branch of the local church work, to be under the general supervision of the pastor, whose counsel, advice and direction shall be respected in all activities which affect the relationship of the organization to the church and its activities in service.

b. The 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 shall not be allowed to engage in any activity which may 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.

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 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 Officer.

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

General Council benevolent institutions shall be operated by Boards of Directors appointed by the Benevolences Depart-

ment 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;

the purpose of stimulating interest and disseminating informa-

tion 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.

The members of the Men's Fellowship Department are:

1. To promote the forming of evangelism 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, the Royal Rangers National Commander, the National Light-for-the-Lost Secretary, the National Action Crusades Co-ordinator, the Chairman and President of the National Light-for-the-Lost Council, the Chairman and President of the National Action Crusades Council, and two Royal Rangers National Aide-Camps.

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 ministers over 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 balance of the 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, including Chi Alpha facilities, 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.

## **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. 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.

### **Section 3. Evangel College.**

Evangel College of the Assemblies of God, a Christian college of arts and sciences, shall be owned and operated at all times by the General Council of the Assemblies of God. The College is forever bound to give Christ the preeminence in all things and bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and to the policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The execution of policy and the administration of the College may be delegated to a Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of its Constitution and Bylaws. The College and its Board of Directors shall be subject to the supervision of the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery.

The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the College.

#### **Section 4. 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**

As a movement we affirm our loyalty to the government of the United States in war or peace.

We shall continue to insist, as we have historically, on the right of each member to choose for himself whether to declare his position as a combatant, a noncombatant, or a conscientious objector.

### **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. Doctrines Disapproved.**

In view of the Biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ, and in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness, the General Council disapproves

saved always saved. The General Council also disapproves of the

Seventh-day teaching, and of the Restitution of All Things doctrine. Those holding and propagating such teachings, thereby causing confusion and division among God's people, shall be dealt with according to Romans 16:17 and 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 good and official members of the Assemblies of God are hereby advised to discontinue their membership in any and all secret orders which we recognize as essentially of the

world, worldly, and we advise any who may have identified themselves with such orders to sever their connections therewith (2 Cor. 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (1 Tim. 4:12; 2 Tim. 2:24-26).

#### **Section 5. Divorce and Remarriage.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Whereas, The General Council has declared itself in the Statement of Fundamental Truths that it holds to be the belief of the people of churches of the Lord on the blessed hope of the Church, and

Whereas, The teaching that the Church must go through the

Tribulation tends to bring confusion and division among the saints; therefore,

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

Furthermore, We recommend that should any of our ministers hold to the post-Tribulation doctrine, they refrain from preaching and teaching it. Should they persist in emphasizing this doctrine to the point of making it an issue, their standing in the fellowship will be seriously affected.

#### **Section 8. Improper Use of Tithes.**

a. According to the Scriptures, tithes should be used for the support of the active ministry and for the propagation of the Gospel and work of the Lord and not given to charity or used for other purposes. In tithing, the ministers ought to be examples.

b. We recognize the duty of tithing and urge all our people to pay tithes to God. It is recommended that arrangements satisfactory to the pastor and the church be made by all pastors and churches, so that the pastor may receive regular and adequate support. We disapprove, however of the teaching that all tithes should belong to the pastor for his support.

#### **Section 9. Improper Solicitation of Funds.**

a. It is considered improper and unethical for ministers or missionaries to solicit funds by letter or otherwise for anything or any reason whatsoever without proper authorization.

b. The purpose of this section is not to hinder or discourage legitimate projects but to protect the Fellowship from those who employ methods not in harmony with General Council principles or policies.

- c. (1) Leaders in local projects shall have unquestioned freedom in local churches or communities.
- (2) Projects of general interest to the District must have the authorization of the District Officer
- (3) Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of the
- (4) Promotion of all projects of a missionary character

must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery.

d. The obtaining and use of mailing lists for promotional purposes not having proper authorization or which are not in keeping with Council policies shall be considered improper and unethical, whether it be under the name of a prayer chain beyond a local scope, chain letters or appeals to the constituency for the support of ventures of strictly local or personal character. All offenders guilty of the practices expressed in the foregoing paragraphs shall be subject to discipline.

#### **Section 10. The Ecumenical Movement**

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

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

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

#### **ARTICLE XXIV. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The regular order of business for the Council Meeting shall be:

1. Report of the General Superintendent.
2. Report of Secretary.
3. Report of Treasurer.
4. Departmental Reports.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Election of Officers.
7. New Business.
8. Adjournment.

The following is the order of prayer for the Council Meeting: prayer.

#### **ARTICLE XXV. QUORUM**

All members registered and voting in any meeting of the General Council shall constitute a quorum, and all General Presbyters registered and voting in any meeting of the General Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of six Executive Presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum.

#### **ARTICLE XXVI. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of the General Council. Amendments to be adopted shall require a majority of all votes cast.

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