

# MINUTES

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

FILE COPY - No. 1 of 3

DO NOT REMOVE FROM SECRETARIAT

*Barthel Peterson*  
Barthel Peterson  
General Secretary

**THE THIRTY-THIRD GENERAL COUNCIL  
Dallas, Texas, August 21-26, 1969**

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

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

Convened at Dallas, Texas  
August 21-26, 1969

(Printed in the U.S.A.)

# CONTENTS

## PREFACE

The Minutes of the Thirty-Third General Council with the revised Constitution and Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God are presented herein.

In accordance with instructions of the Dallas Council, areas have been edited and arranged to provide for a logical sequence of the various articles of the bylaws. The first ten articles following the Constitution deal with the administration of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and its District Councils. These include the election of officers and their duties; the relationship of the District Councils, local churches, and committees to the General Council; the qualification and certification of ministers; doctrines and practices disapproved, ministerial discipline, and the Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission. Articles XI through XXV have been arranged alphabetically for convenience, and there has been no attempt to establish any priority of importance by the position accorded to this series of articles.

The last three articles contain the order of business for conducting General Councils, quorums, and provisions for amending the bylaws.

In behalf of the Executive Presbytery, appreciation is expressed to all ministers, delegates, visitors, and committees who contributed so much to make the Thirty-Third General Council one of the most significant Councils in the history of the Assemblies of God.

Bartlett Peterson,  
General Secretary

Part 1. Minutes, 1969 General Council .....	9-91
Part 2. The Constitution .....	93-104
Constitutional Declaration .....	93
Article I. Name .....	94
Article II. Nature .....	94
Article III. Prerogatives .....	94
Article IV. Principles for Fellowship .....	95
Article V. Statement of Fundamental Truths .....	95
Article VI. Relationships .....	100
Article VII. Membership .....	100
Article VIII. Meetings .....	101
Article IX. Officers .....	101
Article X. District Councils .....	102
Article XI. Branches .....	103
Article XII. Local Assemblies .....	103
Article XIII. Amendments .....	104
Part 3. The Bylaws .....	104-159
Article I. Parliamentary Order .....	104
Article II. Election of Officers .....	105

Article III. Duties of Officers .....	107
Article IV. Committees .....	110
Article V. District Councils .....	111
Article VI. Assemblies .....	111
Article VII. Ministry .....	112
Article VIII. Doctrines and Practices Disapproved ..	116
Article IX. Discipline .....	121
Article X. Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission ..	131
Article XI. Department of Benevolences .....	132
Article XII. Department of Education .....	134
Article XIII. Department of Finance .....	137
Article XIV. Foreign Missions Department .....	138
Article XV. Home Missions Department .....	145
Article XVI. Institutions .....	148
Article XVII. Men's Fellowship Department .....	148
Article XVIII. Military Service .....	150
Article XIX. Ministers Benefit Association .....	150
Article XX. Department of Publications .....	151
Article XXI. Radio Department .....	152
Article XXII. Sunday School Department .....	153
Article XXIII. Women's Missionary Council Depart- ment .....	155
Article XXIV. World Missions Plan .....	156
Article XXV. Young People's Department .....	156
Article XXVI. Order of Business .....	159
Article XXVII. Quorum .....	159
Article XXVIII. Amendments .....	159

## THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Administrative Offices: 1445 Boonville Avenue  
Springfield, Missouri 65802

### Executive Officers

Thos. F. Zimmerman                      General Superintendent

#### Assistant General Superintendents

G. Raymond Carlson  
T. E. Gannon  
Kermit Reneau  
Charles W. H. Scott  
J. Philip Hogan

Bartlett Peterson    General Secretary  
Martin B. Netzel    General Treasurer

### The Executive Presbytery

Thos. F. Zimmerman	J. Philip Hogan
Edgar W. Bethany	Paul Lowenberg
G. Raymond Carlson	D. H. McLaughlin
E. M. Clark	Martin B. Netzel
N. D. Davidson	Bartlett Peterson
Joseph R. Flower	Kermit Reneau
T. E. Gannon	Charles W. H. Scott
G. W. Hardcastle Sr.	Roy H. Wead



## Executive Directors of Departments and Divisions

Following the elections of the 1969 General Council and the assignment of portfolios

Thos. F. Zimmerman	Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission, the Personnel and Public Relations Offices
G. Raymond Carlson	The Departments of Education, Sunday School, Radio, and the Church School Literature Division
T. E. Gannon	Gospel Publishing House, <i>The Pentecostal Evangel</i> , and The Literature Sales Division
J. Philip Hogan	Foreign Missions Department
M. B. Netzel	Administrative Services and the Finance Department
Bartlett Peterson	Women's Missionary Council Department
Kermit Reneau	Men's Fellowship and the Young People's Departments, and General Services
Charles W. H. Scott	Benevolences and the Home Missions Department

## MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-THIRD GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT DALLAS, TEXAS

AUGUST 21-26, 1969

The Thirty-Third General Council convened in the Memorial Auditorium in Dallas, Texas, on Thursday, August 21, at 7:15 p.m. J. Philip Hogan, Assistant General Superintendent, was in charge of the service.

The Memorial Auditorium was filled to capacity from the opening service. T. E. Hollingsworth of Burbank, California, led the song service during each of the night services. The congregation was greatly blessed by special musical numbers throughout the Council. Cyril McLellan, Revivaltime choir director, conducted a special choir from the area churches. For the opening service, solos were rendered by Ira F. Stanphill, Pastor of Rosen Heights Assembly of God in Fort Worth, and by Mrs. Dolly Eleiott. A trumpet trio from the First Christian Assembly in Cincinnati, Ohio, gave the offertory. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ferrin of Memphis, Tennessee, served as pianist and organist for the Thursday night service. R. W. Taitinger, General Superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, led the congregation in prayer.

Dr. J. C. Bigg of Dallas was introduced as a fraternal delegate from the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel; likewise, Brother Taitinger represented The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

The General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, brought an inspiring keynote address on the theme of the Council, *Go and Tell!* His text was taken from Matthew 28:7, 19; and John 20:17. The service concluded with a call for prayer and dedication to a life of greater sacrifice and commitment. The audience responded by standing in a period of prolonged prayer and worship.

Special features of the General Council included morning prayer services, called *Let's Have Devotions Together*, in the Grand Ballroom of the Adolphus Hotel and in the Crystal Ballroom of the Baker Hotel. V. E. Shores, Pastor of First Assembly of Phoenix, Arizona, and W. Howard Roberson, Pastor of Highway Tabernacle of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, had charge of each of the prayer-breakfasts. These services were well attended and provided a spiritual undergirding for one of the most significant Councils in the history of the church.

Special youth and children's activities were featured throughout the Council and received many favorable expressions of appreciation. The Youth Activities were under the direction of Mr. Jerry Sandidge of the National Christ's Ambassadors Department and Mrs. Edith Denton and Mr. Jerry Stroup of the National Sunday School Department were in charge of the Children's Activities.

Deep appreciation is expressed to all our ministering brethren, and especially to those who served during the evening evangelistic rallies: The General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman; J. L. Hennesy, O. Cope Budge, Linfield Crowder, and Jimmy Swaggart. Sub-themes for each day of the Council were: Christ, the Coming King; Christ, the Great Baptizer; Christ, the Only Saviour; Christ, the Mighty Healer; and the Great Commission. Inasmuch as *The Pentecostal Evangel* carries a full report of the devotional and evangelistic services during the Council, details are not included in these minutes.

#### FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 22

G. Raymond Carlson, President of North Central Bible College, was in charge of the devotional service as the Council opened on Friday morning at nine o'clock. Mrs. Hal Noah was at the organ and Mrs. Talmadge Upchurch at the piano. G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., led in prayer. The devotional message was delivered by Fay Hutchinson, Superintendent of the Arkansas District.

During the offering *The Impressions*, a trio from Southern California College, sang *Now I Belong to Jesus*.

The General Superintendent officially called the business meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and requested J. Roswell Flower to lead in the opening prayer.

The General Superintendent recognized members of the Executive Presbytery: T. E. Gannon, J. Philip Hogan, Martin B. Netzel, Bartlett Peterson, Charles W. H. Scott, Bert Webb, Joseph R. Flower, Edgar W. Bethany, G. Raymond Carlson, N. D. Davidson, G. W. Hardcastle Sr., D. H. McLaughlin, Kermit Reneau, and Roy H. Wead.

Brother Zimmerman reported the home going of Assistant General Superintendent Howard S. Bush on March 26 and of James O. Savell, retired Assistant General Superintendent, on August 9. He stated that although these brethren have been promoted to higher service, they are with us today, but they are on Christ's other side!

Retired Executive Officers introduced were: J. Roswell Flower, former General Secretary; Gayle F. Lewis, former Assistant General Superintendent; and Noel Perkin, former Executive Director of Foreign Missions.

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, reported that special greetings had been received: From retired General Superintendent, E. S. Williams, "Greetings and God give you a wonderful General Council, with love and pleasant memories." From retired General Superintendent, R. M. Riggs: "As you gather for this 33rd General Council session, I regret I cannot be present due to limited physical strength. I know what joy is yours to mingle together in happy fellowship. I pray that God will guide you in all your deliberations. We send love to each of you."

Brother Zimmerman reported that Fred Vogler, retired Assistant General Superintendent, could not be present due to the illness of Mrs. Vogler.

A motion prevailed that in behalf of the General Council, the General Secretary shall send telegrams of greetings to Brothers Williams, Riggs, and Vogler.

The General Superintendent stated that the delegates to the Council have been warmly welcomed by the friends of the North Texas and contiguous districts. He presented E. R. Anderson, Superintendent of the North Texas District, who brought official greetings in behalf of the host districts. Brother Anderson stated: "We trust that it is true that the prayers of this District and surrounding areas have made the spiritual climate such that the Holy Spirit is welcoming you to this convention. As the Superintendent of the North Texas District, I officially welcome you in behalf of the churches of this area. We trust God's greatest blessing will rest upon this Council, that revivals will flourish, that the glory of God will be manifest, that Jesus Christ will be exalted, and that all will leave here rejoicing in 'how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!'"

M. L. Ketcham, Field Secretary for the Far East, introduced fraternal delegates Reverend and Mrs. Emiliano Guevera of Alongopo, Philippines. Brother Ketcham stated that Brother Guevera had distinguished himself with outstanding service. He is presently pastor of the Assembly at Alongopo, Sectional Presbyter, and Executive Director of the Department of Evangelism.

Brother Ketcham also introduced the Reverend Chung Duk Hwan, former pastor of the Assemblies of God church at Pusan, Korea, and presently instructor and administrator of the Assemblies of God Bible Institute at Seoul, Korea. Brother Hwan brought greetings to the General Council from the saints of Korea.

The General Secretary read additional messages of greetings, as follows:

From Brother and Sister Benjamin P. Shinde, Southern Asia Bible College of Bangalore, India: "As you all gather together at this important juncture of time in the face of the events that are confronting the world, and as you discuss the Great Commission of 'Go and Tell,' we here in India do pray for you all

that the Lord may bless you. We pray God's richest blessings to be upon the General Council of 1969."

From Charles Adams, Assemblies of God Chaplain stationed in Vietnam: "Greetings and best wishes to the General Council. Our prayers for God's blessing. Remember the servicemen in Vietnam."

The Council paused in acknowledgment of this request as Brother Edgar Bethany led in prayer for the servicemen in Vietnam.

Brother Zimmerman expressed appreciation for the committees serving the Dallas Council:

## COMMITTEES

### General Council Budget

M. B. Netzel, Chairman; E. R. Anderson, R. E. Book, C. C. Crace, Richard Dobbins, Hulon W. Hood, J. J. Krimmer, J. B. Oaks, C. R. Qualls, John W. Thompson, N. L. White

### Ministerial Relations

Russell Williams, Chairman; Howard R. Davidson, D. F. Flanagan, Joseph L. Gerhart, Earl W. Goodman, Merle J. Harris, Edgar L. Newby, S. Harland Petersen, Alvin Sprecher

### Parliamentary

C. C. Burnett, Chairman; James D. Brown, Robert E. Goggin

### Resolutions

Marshall Calloway, Chairman; Dillard J. Burrell, G. Raymond Carlson, Loren E. Cooper, Robert L. Cornwall, Ernest Kumppe, Haskell H. Rogers, Paul C. Schoch, L. O. Waldon, Aaron M. Wall, A. F. Vigil, Gene S. Hogan

### Roster

Arthur F. Berg, Chairman; Roland H. Buck, Cordelia Donnell, Silas L. Gaither, M. E. Gorman, Thomas Hernandez, Mildred M. Holler, Marlin S. Kallevig, D. Fred Leader, Albert Marialke, Harvey J. Meppelink, Harvey W. Olson, Stephen V. Rexroat, Clare G. Rose, Herbert E. Sublett, Paul C. Taylor, Richard O. Tufte, John G. Walker, E. Joe Wilmoth, Joe D. Wright

### Site Evaluation

Frank N. McAllister, Chairman; W. E. Cummings, Kenneth M. Freiheit, W. S. Graham, U. S. Grant, Wallace Odum, Nelson E. White

## Spiritual Life

Joseph R. Flower, Chairman; Edgar W. Bethany, John W. Everett, Joseph L. Gerhart, Gayle F. Lewis, Wesley F. Morton, Hal C. Noah, Allan E. Shuttlesworth, James H. Woods

## Tellers

E. C. Bredbenner, Chairman; Charles C. Anderson, Captain; Robert T. Eastlake, Captain; D. H. Mapson, Captain; Jimmy L. Beggs, Kenneth Broadus, Donald M. Brown, Charles Carlsen, Ellis C. Damiani, Ramon Daniel, Jr., C. Dale Edwards, James C. Ellis, Mansel Ellis, Robert J. Ferguson, Wesley W. Fleming, Gene C. Forrest, W. B. Franklin, Warren A. Gardner, Arvin W. Glandon, Ronald L. Hager, James P. Hessler, Cecil Janway, Donald L. Johnson, Glenn R. Kelly, Orval F. Kiddy, John G. Leardi, J. Donald McManness, James Maley, Glen D. Miller, Garmond Mindt, Charles L. Mooney, Armon Newburn, E. E. Noland, Wm. P. Register, Peter Rios, Anthony Pagano, Charles M. Shaffer, Robert Sinner, Charles A. Slaughter, Edward Spinola, James Standifer, Ellis E. Townsend, Thomas Trask, Harland Upton, Donald Walker, Clyde Wasdin, John L. Weidman, John Wilkerson

## Local Committees

### Coordinator

E. R. Anderson

### Equipment

Henry S. Cowart, Chairman; Gene E. Lewis, R. D. Nance, Harry K. Rose, Bobby J. Skipper

### Exhibits-Trucking

Carrol A. McBride, Chairman; B. R. Griffith, Harold Madden

### Housing-Hospitality

Edgar H. Palser, Chairman; Donald Davis, L. E. Davis, H. S. Teichman, T. E. Wilson

### Publicity

Robt. Wayne Brashear, Chairman; James L. Barnes, Hulon W. Hood, Leonard Wood

### Ushers

Daniel Mosier, Chairman; Weldon W. Coker, Lavoyd W. Dollar, H. D. Hobbs

## National Committees

### Arrangements

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

### Convention Coordinator

Warren F. McPherson

### Children's Activities

Edith Denton, Jerry Stroup

### Evangelism Activities

Charles W. Denton

### Exhibit-Trucking

Arlyn Pember

### Housing-Hospitality

Melvin Snyder

### Platform

Lee Shultz, Coordinator; Austin Wilkerson, Assistant; T. E. Hollingsworth, song leader; Cyril McLellan, choir director

### Publicity

Warren F. McPherson; Elva J. Hoover, Assistant

### Ushers

William G. Eastlake; John Ohlin, Assistant

### Youth Activities

Jerry Sandidge

## Adoption of Agenda

The chairman called attention to the printed agenda in the program booklet.

A notion prevailed that the proposed agenda be adopted as a guide, but not necessarily as a strict control if in the process of business it should become necessary to rearrange the indicated order of business.

## 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 the work of general headquarters, increases in wages and salaries, the services rendered the General Council by various boards and committees, the Five-Year Plan of Advance, the growing worldwide ministries of the Assemblies of God, and concluded with a call for a resolve to continue our mission with renewed vigor in the face of present-day world situations.

At the conclusion of the report a motion was made and passed to accept it with gratitude to God.

The chair was returned to the General Superintendent.

## Roster Report

Chairman of the Roster Committee, Arthur F. Berg, brought the report of registrations as of nine a.m. on August 22:

Ordained ministers	1,901
Delegates	484
Voting constituency	2,385
Licensed ministers	217
Visitors	1,629
Total	4,231

It was moved, seconded, and carried to receive this initial report from the Roster Committee.

## General Secretary's Report

Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary, presented his report and called attention to gains in ordained and licensed ministers, in church membership, and in the number of churches. He also called attention to 248 churches which had been removed for various reasons. It was recommended that special study be given to the area of church closings in the interest of reducing their frequency. Graphs of the growth patterns in these areas over a number of years are contained on pages 11-15 of the report booklet.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the report of the General Secretary be accepted with appreciation.

## General Treasurer's Report

The General Treasurer, M. B. Netzel, reviewed the financial experience of the General Council for the fiscal biennium. Attention was called to the written section of the Treasurer's report as well as to the financial statements and the Auditor's report.

Mention was made of the expanded operations in the Church Extension Loan Program and in the Stewardship Division. He announced that Raymond Hudson, former Superintendent of the New Mexico District, had been appointed to serve as full-time secretary of the Stewardship Division.

Attention was called to the "pie" charts and their accompanying financial tables on pages 22-25. Receipts for the fiscal period in 1968 were \$17,581,567 and for 1969 \$19,744,594.

A motion prevailed that the report of the General Treasurer be accepted with appreciation.

### Hurricane Camille Report

The Chair requested Charles W. H. Scott, Executive Director of the Benevolence Department, to read a telegram just received from F. L. Langley, Superintendent of the Mississippi District:

Spent two days on Mississippi Coast. Damage to this area unbelievable. Our churches Pascagoula, Moss Point, and Escatawpa area affected; one church with heavy water damage to organ, piano, pews, carpet, etc.; Ocean Springs area, one church roof and ceiling damage; Biloxi area, one church roof, water and glass damage; Gulfport area, one church roof and water damage. None are beyond repair. Praise God for His protection. To our knowledge only one Assembly family is unaccounted for. We trust they moved inland. Reason for delay in reporting, communications and delay in reaching Bay St. Louis area. Pastors will need time to evaluate damage before intelligent report on cost can be given. Present need, prayer above all. Many places of employment heavy damage or destroyed. Many of our church families are affected. A detailed report will follow."

Brother Zimmerman reported that the General Presbytery has requested that the Sunday following the General Council (August 31) be a time when our churches would receive an offering, or designate an amount, for the Disaster Relief Fund. There will also be an appeal for assistance for this purpose in a very early issue of *The Pentecostal Evangel*.

Prayer was offered for those in this stricken area of the South.

A motion prevailed to recess at 11:45 a.m. and to reconvene at 2:00 p.m. Following the singing of *The Doxology* Brother N. D. Davidson closed the meeting with prayer.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 22

The afternoon meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. with T. E. Hollingsworth leading the singing. Prayer was requested for Brother William E. Bailey of Beaver, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Robert H. Bishop of Orange, Massachusetts, and Brother George L. Rose of Everett, Washington. Raymond Hudson, Secretary of the Stewardship Division, led in prayer.

Brother Zimmerman conveyed greetings from Brother R. J. Thurmond from Richmond, California, and read a telegram from A. A. Wilson, retired executive presbyter, who is presently pastoring a new church in Springfield, Missouri.

### Departmental Reports

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

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

A motion prevailed that the visual presentation of the departmental reports (concluding at 2:55 p.m.) be accepted.

### American Bible Society

Dr. Roy Madsen, representing the American Bible Society, brought greetings from the Society and expressed appreciation to the Assemblies of God for its support, particularly in the current project of providing *Bibles for Burma*. It was explained that the Assemblies of God has accepted the challenge of raising \$50,000 for this purpose. Those wishing to make contributions to the *Bibles for Burma* campaign should send them to the Assemblies of God headquarters office, with the designation indicated.

Following the remarks of Dr. Madsen, the Reverend C. C. Burnett presented the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Assemblies of God express appreciation to Dr. Madsen for his presentation of the work of the American Bible Society and the thrilling story of *Bibles*

for Burma; and that we reaffirm the continuing gratitude of the Assemblies to the Society for the help rendered the Assemblies of God in providing Scriptures, oftentimes free and at the most at cost, for use in the fields where our missionaries and ministers labor; and that we further assure the American Bible Society of our continuing prayers and support in behalf of the ongoing Bible-distribution program of the Society.

A motion to adopt the resolution was seconded and carried.

### Article XXIII. Revisions

A committee called for by the 1967 General Council to re-study Article XXIII presented its report as the first item on the agenda under "Unfinished Business."

Members of the committee were: D. H. McLaughlin, chairman; Raymond Hudson, G. F. Lewis, Carl Lindberg, William Menzies, and Hardy Steinberg.

William Menzies, secretary of the committee, read the report, explaining the changes recommended by the committee.

The report follows:

#### 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. Unconditional Security.

In view of the Biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ (John 15:6); in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14), in view of the clear teaching that a man may have his part taken out of the Book of Life (Revelation 22:19), and in view of the fact that one who believes for a while can fall away (Luke 8:13), the General Council disapproves of the unconditional security position which holds that it is impossible for a person once saved to be lost.

##### Section 2. Legalism.

###### a. Matters of Conscience.

The General Council disapproves of those who hold to matters of conscience, such as the eating or not eating of meats, who press their personal opinion on others.

###### b. Adding Conditions to Salvation.

The General Council also disapproves of those who hold to issues which seem to add conditions to salvation,

such as the keeping of the seventh day, who press their opinions on others.

### Section 3. Eschatological Errors.

#### a. The Restitution of All Things.

The General Council understands the teaching of Acts 3:21 to limit the restoration to that of which the prophets have spoken, thus denying the universal redemption theory. The General Council is opposed to all forms of universalism (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:10).

#### b. Setting a Date 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 (Mark 13:32, 33; Luke 12:37-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:2). It is also unwise to give out from the platform, or publish, visions of numbers and dates fixing the time of the second coming of the Lord.

#### c. Post-Tribulation Rapture.

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

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

We recommend that all our ministers teach the imminent coming of Christ, warning all men to be prepared for that coming, which may occur at any time, and not lull their minds into complacency by any teaching that would cause them to feel that specific Tribulation 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 (Luke 21:34-46; 1 Thessalonians 5:9, 10; 2 Thessalonians 1:4-10; Revelation 3:10).

### Section 4. Membership in Secret Orders.

Ours is a last-day message in preparation for the coming of the Lord (Matthew 24:14), leaving us no alternative but wholehearted 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 (Ephesians 5:16). The nature of such organizations demands secrecy (John 18:20; Acts 26:26) reinforced by religious oaths (Matthew

5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated (2 Corinthians 6:14). Moreover, the spirit, philosophy, and general influence of such secret orders aims at the improvement of the natural man only (1 Corinthians 2:14; Colossians 2:8), thus wrongly channeling by incorrect interpretation important spiritual truths (2 Peter 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 (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

In consideration of the foregoing, all ministers affiliated with us should refrain from identifying themselves with any of the secret orders which we recognize as essentially of the world, worldly, and we advise any who may have identified themselves with such orders to sever their connections therewith (2 Corinthians 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 2:24-26).

#### Section 5. Marital Entanglements.

- 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 (Matthew 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.
- d. For policy concerning the ministry, see Bylaws Article VI, Sections 5 and 16.

#### Section 6. Worldliness.

In view of the alarming erosion of national moral standards, we reaffirm our intention of holding up Bible standards

against all forms of worldliness. We urge all believers to "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.... For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:15, 16).

In its teaching regarding worldliness, the Scripture warns against: Participation in activity which defiles the body, or corrupts the mind and spirit; the inordinate love of, or preoccupation with, pleasures, position, or possessions, which lead to their misuse; manifestation of extreme behavior, unbecoming speech, or inappropriate appearance; any fascination or association which lessens one's affection for spiritual things (Luke 21:34, 35; Romans 8:5-8; 12:1, 2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; 1 Timothy 2:8-10; 4:12; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Titus 2:12).

#### Section 7. Abuses of Stewardship.

##### a. Tithing.

- (1) 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 be given to charity or used for other purposes. In tithing, the ministers ought to be examples.
- (2) 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.

##### b. Solicitation of Funds.

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.

Leaders in local projects shall have unquestioned freedom in local churches or communities. Projects of general interest to the District must

have the authorization of the District Officiary. Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of the General Council.

Promotion of all projects of a missionary character must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery.

- (3) The obtaining and use of mailing lists for promotional purposes not having proper authorization or which are not in keeping with General 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.

c. Private Ownership of Religious Institutions.

See Bylaws Article XXI, Section 4.

Section 8. Violations of Ministerial Relationships.

For policy regarding violations of ministerial relationships, see Bylaws Article VI, Sections 18-20.

Section 9. 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

- a. We believe the basis of doctrinal fellowship of said movement to be so broad that it includes people who reject the inspiration of Scripture, the deity of Christ, the universality of sin, the substitutionary atonement, and other cardinal teachings which we understand to be essential to Biblical Christianity.
- b. We believe the emphases of the Ecumenical Movement to be at variance with what we hold to be Biblical priorities, frequently displacing the urgency of individual salvation with social concerns.
- c. We believe that the combination of many religious organizations into a World Super Church will culminate in the Religious Babylon of Revelation 17 and 18.

(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.)

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted.

A motion to consider the report seriatim failed to carry.

A motion was made to amend Section 3, Paragraph "c," by deleting the word "whereas" wherever it appears and to request the General Secretary to edit the paragraph to provide proper grammatical structure. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion prevailed to add the word "necessarily" to the last sentence of the second paragraph in Section 7-a, so that it would read: "We disapprove, however, of the teaching that all tithes necessarily should belong to the pastor for his support."

A motion was presented to amend Section 5 by adding the words "or other conditions that are unbearable and incompatible" to the third sentence of paragraph "b" so that it will read: "We positively disapprove of Christians getting divorce for any cause except for fornication and adultery, or other conditions that are unbearable and incompatible (Matthew 19:9)." The motion was seconded. A motion to refer the amendment back to the committee for further study was seconded and carried.

Question was raised regarding the delineation of the words "such persons" in paragraph "c" of Section 5. A motion to refer the matter back to the committee for clarification failed to carry.

Following further discussion a motion prevailed that the entire Section 5 be referred back to the committee for further study with the request that the committee report to the 1971 General Council.

After discussion on various subjects dealt with in Article XXIII, a motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

The motion to adopt the report of the committee as amended was voted upon and declared carried.

**Election of Officers**

It was moved that the report of the Roster Committee be the first order of business on Saturday morning, August 23. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Roster Committee Report**

The chairman of the Roster Committee gave the following report, as of 2:30 p.m., August 22:

Ordained ministers	2,852
Delegates	771
Voting constituency	3,623
Visitors	2,247
Licensed ministers	345
Total registered	6,215



It was moved that the report of the Roster Committee be accepted. The motion was seconded and carried.

A motion, prevailed to recess the business session until 10:00 o'clock Saturday morning, August 23. The meeting recessed at 5:00 p.m., with prayer by Joseph R. Flower.

## SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 23

The devotional service was under the direction of Brother Kermit Reneau. Brother Hollingsworth led the singing. Prayer was offered by Brother Edgar Bethany. The speaker for the devotional service was Brother Richard E. Orchard, who brought a timely message on "Christ, the Baptizer." Prior to receiving the offering a vocal solo entitled *I Want to Be Like Jesus* was rendered by Gloria Elliott.

A telegram of greeting was read from Bishop J. A. Synan, General Superintendent, and Dr. R. O. Corvin, General Secretary of the Pentecostal Holiness Church: "The General Conference of the Pentecostal Holiness Church now in session in Memphis, Tennessee, sends greetings to the General Council of the Assemblies of God also in session in Dallas, Texas. We too express our love and appreciation for the great work you are doing around the world. May your warfare against sin and Satan be furious and your successes for Christ be great." A motion prevailed that the General Secretary return a telegram of greeting to the brethren of the Pentecostal Holiness Church.

The General Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and asked Chaplain Stanford Linzey to lead in prayer for the guidance of the Lord upon the deliberations of the morning.

### Additional Tellers

In the absence of some of the tellers, the chair requested additional men to serve. They are as follows: Ed Blount, Joshua Gott, Lawrence R. Larson, Herbert Bruhn, Donald Cox, Verne Warner, Derald Musgrove, T. E. Hartshorn, John Tappero, Willis Berry, Jesse Moon, James Brown, Ron Hastie, Albert Earle, Ed Spinola, and Ben F. Goodin.

### Report of the Roster Committee

The chairman of the Roster Committee presented the report as of 9:00 a.m. Saturday:

Ordained ministers	3,130
Delegates	356
Voting constituency	3,986

Licensed ministers	390
Visitors	2,851
Total registration	7,227

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

### Election of General Council Officers

In accordance with the order of the day established on Friday, elections for General Council officers began.

Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent, was requested to preside as ballots were cast for nominations for the office of general superintendent.

It was moved that in the event a two-thirds vote is received by any nominee on the nominating ballot it shall constitute an election. The motion was seconded and carried.

Following the first ballot, the chair was returned to the General Superintendent.

Other items of business were considered while the ballots were being counted.

### Jurisprudence Committee Report

The next item of unfinished business was the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence. This came as a referral from the 1967 General Council which requested that the committee "consider the entire area of ministerial discipline, trials and appeals."

The committee consisted of the following: Charles W. H. Scott, Chairman; N. Cleo Tapp, Secretary; T. E. Gannon, Robert Goggin, R. J. Carlson, L. E. Halvorson, Arthur L. Shell, Raymond Hudson, Carl Lindberg, Joseph R. Flower, and G. W. Hardcastle Sr.

Brother Scott presented the report, calling attention to a few changes which had been made since the work of the committee had been printed. The report offered suggestions for integrating *The Manual of Jurisprudence* into the Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. The revisions provided for amending the Bylaws to delete Sections 12-16 of Article VI and for moving revised Sections to a new Article VII to be entitled "Discipline."

Article VII as presented by the committee follows:

## Article VII. Discipline

### A. District Action

#### Section 1. Initiative

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 opinion of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. Credentials Committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them for credentials also have the right to withdraw their approval and to recommend the recall of their credentials. The officary of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred shall be recognized as having the prior right of initiative in matters of discipline. Complaints against a minister affecting his character or conduct filed with the Credentials Committee of the General Council shall be referred to the officary of the district in which the offense occurred for investigation and such action as the revealed facts may warrant, and a copy shall be sent to his home district. If, for some reason, the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred cannot take action, the Executive Presbytery of the General Council shall refer the matter, together with the facts and supporting instruments, to the district with which the minister is affiliated for action. In the event a District fails to take action within ninety days after a matter has been referred to it, it shall be the responsibility of the General Council Credentials Committee to see that action is initiated.

#### Section 2. Bases for Discipline

Violation of Assemblies of God principles as stated in this Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the Credentials Committee. Among such causes for action shall be:

- a. Any conduct unbecoming to a minister or indiscretions involving morals;
- b. General inefficiency in the ministry;
- c. A failure or inability to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly;
- d. A contentious or noncooperative spirit;
- e. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly;
- f. An arbitrary rejection of district counsel;
- g. A declared open change in doctrinal views;
- h. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause;

- i. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce; (cf. Art. XXIII, Sec. 1)
- j. Violations of ministerial courtesy; (cf. Art. XXIII)
- k. Ministry in non-Council assemblies; (cf. Art. XXIII)
- l. An improper attitude toward those removed from Council fellowship; (cf. Art. XXIII)

#### Section 3. Investigation of Reports of Misconduct

When a report pertaining to the misconduct of a minister is received, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, and/or an appointed representative, shall make an investigation, having in mind that it is his responsibility to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the fellowship. This shall be done to determine the source of the report. The persons involved shall be interviewed in order to ascertain the facts in the case and the reasons underlying the persistence of the report.

Signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant, describing the alleged misconduct.

#### Section 4. Preparation and Filing of Charges

If the district officary, after due investigation, determines that charges should be made, proper charges shall be prepared and retained in the district office. If no one appears to sign the charges, members of the district officary making the investigation may prefer charges and proceed to administer discipline based on the evidence in their possession. The person whose conduct is under question shall be informed in writing of the nature of the charges made.

#### Section 5. District Hearing and Discipline

In the event the reported misconduct appears to have foundation in fact and cannot be dealt with privately to the satisfaction of all concerned, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is said to have occurred, or the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated, shall arrange for a meeting of the District Credentials Committee regarding the alleged misconduct, to which the accused minister shall be requested to appear, in the hope the case can be settled. If the district officary determines that guilt has been established, discipline shall be administered prayerfully and in the fear of God, in accordance with the Scriptures, and as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of this ecclesiastical body, and his fellowship certificate shall be surrendered.

A hearing shall not be considered as final disposition of the case until the accused be present and be allowed all rights and privileges granted herein: Provided, however, an accused member may be disciplined as guilty of charges preferred, if he refuses to appear at the hearing, or proof is found of willful neglect on his part to take advantage of his rights and privileges.

#### Section 6. Referral to General Council Credentials Committee for Action

If the minister be adjudged guilty, the officary of the district shall recommend to the Credentials Committee of the General Council that his name be removed from the official list of ministers of the General Council, in accordance with one of the classifications for the termination of credentials as listed in Section 7 of this Article.

Copies of the charges and recommendations shall be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee, to the minister involved, and to the superintendent of his home district.

Such recommendation shall set forth in writing satisfactory reasons for the action. Thirty days from the date of notification of the district decision shall be allowed for the accused to request a trial. He shall be officially apprised of this right at the time the district decision is made. If, in the judgment of the General Council Credentials Committee, the district officary was justified in the action taken, it shall be authorized to comply with the request of the district.

If, in the judgment of the Credentials Committee of the General Council justice has not been served, the matter may be referred back to the district for review and reconsideration, together with its recommendations to await further report from the district officary.

#### Section 7. Definition of Credential Terminations

##### a. Affiliation with Other Church Organizations:

When any minister of the Assemblies of God shall identify himself with another organization granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, his affiliation with this body shall be regarded as having ceased. He shall then be requested to return to the executive office of the General Council the Credentials which had been issued by that office. An investigation shall be made to determine the proper category of termination.

##### b. Lapsed. A minister who does not elect to renew his credentials shall be listed as "lapsed," provided there is no cause for disciplinary action.

##### c. Withdrawn. 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." In the event of the announced desire of a minister to withdraw from our fellowship, before action shall have been taken in the matter either by the District or the General Council Credentials Committee, 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 case the evidence warrants contrary action, the minister shall be advised of the findings of the Credentials Committee, and appropriate disciplinary action shall be taken. All information pertaining to the disciplinary action taken against the minister shall be preserved in the office of the General Council Credentials Committee for future reference.

##### d. Suspended. A minister who is under serious charges, or who has been given a probationary period for adjusting minor offenses, shall 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.

##### e. Disapproved. One who has been found guilty of indiscretions or misconduct of a less serious nature, or who has evidenced a declared open change in doctrinal views, shall be listed as "disapproved."

##### f. Removed. 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.

##### g. Dropped. A minister who has been found guilty of indiscretions involving morals, or other serious misconduct, shall be listed as "dropped."

##### h. No publication of disciplinary action shall be made until advised by the office of the General Secretary that such has been authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee.

#### Section 8. Restoration of Credentials

##### a. Minimal Time-Lapse. 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 for reinstatement, 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 may be left entirely with that body.

- b. Authorization. Application for reinstatement may be made through the District Council within which territory the applicant resides. The application shall be considered subject to the approval of the District in which the termination was made.
- c. Terminology. (1) The 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; (2) 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 discipline, but whose records have received District clearance.

#### B. Trial by Jury

#### Section 9. Right of Appeal from District Decision and Authorization for a Trial

If the accused desires to appeal from the decision of the district, his request shall be filed by him within thirty days of his notification of the district decision with the office of the district superintendent with a copy being sent to the office of the General Council. Copies shall be filed with the districts involved. The district officary shall be expected to furnish a record of the proceedings leading up to the district action. No trial shall be granted if proof is found of willful neglect on the part of the accused to take advantage of his rights and privilege of trial.

If, in the judgment of the Credentials Committee of the General Council, justice has not been served, the matter may be remanded to the district with its recommendations

for review and reconsideration. In the event there is no change of viewpoint a trial by jury shall be authorized. The accused minister shall be required to surrender his current fellowship certificate, to be retained by the district officary until the case has been tried and judgment has been rendered. Refusal to surrender his credentials shall be considered insubordination and may result in the placing of an additional charge against the minister.

#### Section 10. Responsibility for Arrangements and Expenses of Trial

The appointed judge shall be responsible for making arrangements in the trial of members, as outlined in subsequent sections of this Article. In the event it should appear to the Executive Presbytery, after consultation with the district officary, that it would not be feasible to conduct a trial within the bounds of the district where the alleged offense may have occurred the Executive Presbytery shall designate a more suitable location.

The defendant shall be responsible for the expenses of his own witnesses and counsel.

#### Section 11. The Judge

The District Executive Officers, or the District Presbytery, shall select a presiding judge, who shall be approved by the General Council Executive Officers. The judge shall be a mature, ordained minister in good standing in fellowship with the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Any person known to be prejudiced toward the case shall be disqualified to serve as judge. He shall be authorized and instructed to conduct a fair trial.

#### Section 12. The Jury

The jury shall be chosen by the presiding judge subject to agreement both by the plaintiff and the defendant. The jury shall be composed of six ordained ministers who are mature men in good standing in fellowship with the Assemblies of God. There shall be one or more qualified alternates present. The plaintiff and defendant must present valid reasons for the disqualification of a juror prior to the time of trial.

#### Section 13. Time and Place

The time and place for the trial shall be determined by the judge, with the convenience of the principals fully considered in connection therewith. Trials shall be held at a place convenient to the location where the facts of the case are available.

#### Section 14. Notice of Trial

Preceding the trial the accused shall be notified by the

judge of the time and place of the trial by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested. Up to thirty days shall be allowed to make all necessary arrangements for the trial. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the judge upon request by the defendant, or upon a request by the plaintiff. Such notice of trial shall be accompanied by a copy of the charges in writing, which shall be provided by the district officary.

Refusal of the defendant to appear for trial may be interpreted as an admission of guilt, and shall result in forfeiture of his right to appeal any decision rendered and any discipline administered.

#### Section 15. Conduct of Trial

Trials shall be conducted in all fairness to all concerned as brethren in the ministry, and in accordance with Assemblies of God principles and rules for trials by jury as herein defined. Considering the nature of such a trial only participants shall be permitted to attend. No discourtesy to anyone shall be allowed. Counsel in the case must conduct the trial subject to the rulings of the presiding judge. When objections to such rulings are made, they shall be written into the record, but the ruling shall stand for the trial.

Any person involved in or attending a trial who shall engage in discourteous action or misbehavior, or who shall disregard the rulings of the court, may be held in contempt of court by the judge. The judge shall then order that the record of the court proceedings shall show such ruling. Charges or penalties may be placed against the offender.

Should the defendant be found in contempt and refuse to comply with the ruling of the court, the judge may adjourn the court and submit his report to the District and Executive Presbyteries. In this event the previous rulings in the case shall stand. Such decision will not jeopardize the defendant's right to appeal.

#### Section 16. Counsel

A mature, ordained minister, resident in the district, and in good standing in the General Council of the Assemblies of God, shall be chosen by the district officary to conduct the case for the plaintiff. The accused may conduct his own case, or be represented by another ordained minister. Counsel for the defendant must be in good standing in the General Council of the Assemblies of God, and in his respective district.

Counsels for plaintiff and defendant shall recognize the spiritual implications of their trust. They shall be obligated to present only pertinent material relating to the case.

#### Section 17. Record and Report of Trial

Provision shall be made by the plaintiff, with the approval of the judge, for making a true and accurate record of the trial. This shall be the official record and shall be kept on file in the district office for future reference. A certified copy of all records shall be forwarded to the General Council Credentials Committee. If the offense shall have occurred in any district other than the one in which the minister under question is a member, a report of the findings of the trial shall be filed with the superintendent of his district. These records, as certified, are the sole property of the District Council and of the General Council, and are to be held in their respective files.

#### Section 18. Witnesses

Witnesses shall be free to testify under the direction of counsel. They shall not be required to answer questions asked by anyone other than the one presiding or the counsel who is at the time conducting the inquiry. Interrogation of witnesses and the taking of testimony from them shall be conducted in a Christlike manner, seeking to establish the facts of the case.

No undue influence or unfair means shall be allowed to affect the testimony of witnesses. Opportunity for cross-examination of witnesses shall be given as the case proceeds.

#### Section 19. Order of trial

a. The Plaintiff. The counsel for the plaintiff shall first present all testimony and exhibits intended to prove the charges made against the defendant. No testimony except such as is relevant to the charges shall be allowed. The counsel for the defendant shall have opportunity to examine exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

b. The Defendant. Counsel for the defendant shall be allowed time and opportunity to present his side of the case and shall be granted all due respect and consideration.

Defense testimony shall be confined to disproving the charges and must not include countercharges against anyone, or use the attitude or conduct of others as reason or excuse for the alleged misconduct. This shall not exclude the right to impeach a witness.

Counsel for the plaintiff shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

c. Review. When the defense has rested, the case may be reviewed by counsel for each side, beginning with the defense.

d. Instructions to the Jury. The case shall be given to the jury with proper instructions by the presiding judge.

Such instruction shall be confined to setting forth the true basis of judgment in the case as represented by the evidence and shall in no wise be intended to prejudice the jury.

Accusation does not imply guilt, but may imply a misunderstanding or wrong information. The purpose of a trial is to arrive at all available facts relative to the case, and to render a verdict based upon the evidence submitted. Judgment in the case shall be rendered in accord with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The jury shall be instructed to choose one of its number to serve as foreman when it retires to the jury room. The foreman shall lead the jurors in the review of the case and shall poll the jurors until a decision is reached.

Should there seem to be no possibility of reaching a decision of a two-thirds majority, after repeated ballots, the foreman shall so apprise the judge. It shall be the prerogative of the judge to determine whether the balloting should continue. Should the jury be unable to reach a verdict the judge shall dismiss the jury and declare a mistrial.

#### Section 20. The Verdict

The verdict shall be reached by a two-thirds vote of the jury, and when presented to the court, the judge shall announce the verdict advising the defendant that his counsel can inform him of his further rights of appeal, and adjourn the court. It shall then be the responsibility of the counsel for the defense to advise the defendant of his rights and privileges of appeal from the decision of the court.

The judge shall file his report with the districts involved and with the Executive Presbytery. The district shall take appropriate action in accordance with the verdict rendered.

#### Section 21. New Trials

a. Right of Appeal. The defendant may appeal from the decision of a court. Appeal shall be filed with the Executive Presbytery of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, and notice of such appeal shall be made in writing addressed to the General Superintendent. A copy of notice of appeal shall be given and appeal made within thirty days following the date of notification of the verdict.

In the event the trial occurred in a district other than the one in which the defendant is a member, a copy of the appeal shall also be filed with the superintendent of his home district.

b. Bases for Appeals. Appeals from the decision of the court affecting the minister's standing in the General Council fellowship as a result of a trial may be made only upon the following grounds:

(1) Mistrial. When there has been error either in arrangement for trial or method of conducting the same, or in the case of a verdict unsupported by sufficient evidence;

(2) New Evidence. In the event that after final decision has been rendered, new evidence is presented to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council which in their judgment is sufficient to warrant a new trial, such new trial shall be authorized and conducted as hereinbefore defined.

c. Review by the Executive Presbytery. Appeal from a trial cannot result in a retrial at General Council headquarters. It shall be the duty of the Executive Presbytery to review the case, carefully examining the official record of trial.

All appeals shall be considered on the basis of the record of trial. No person or persons shall have the right to introduce testimony of new evidence at a review of a tried case. All such evidence or testimony must be presented in new trials. The parties involved shall not be present at a review of an appeal, but may file a written brief in summation of trial material with the General Secretary.

In case the Executive Presbytery shall rule a mistrial, it shall be the right of that body to which appeal has been made to nullify the decision of the court and to authorize a new trial. The Executive Presbytery shall outline proper procedure.

#### Section 22. Review by the General Presbytery

When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the defendant or by the district officer, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery. This appeal shall be addressed to the office of the General Secretary. Procedure in such cases shall conform to that in making appeal from a District Credentials Committee action or a jury trial, and must be made within thirty days following the notification of the decision of the Executive Presbytery.

#### Section 23. Reinstatement

The minister shall not be considered to have exhausted the avenues of remedy provided by the Constitution and Bylaws of this ecclesiastical body until application for reinstatement has been filed with the district officer and acted upon. No publication of the action of the district shall be made

until such time as action has been taken and authorization given by the General Council Credentials Committee.

#### **Election of General Superintendent**

The chairman of the Tellers Committee, E. C. Bredbenner, indicated the tellers were ready to report on the nominating ballot for the office of general superintendent whereupon the chair was returned to Bert Webb.

Votes cast	1,802
Needed to elect	1,202

Thomas F. Zimmerman received 1,671

Brother Zimmerman was therefore declared elected to the office of the General Superintendent on the nominating ballot for a four-year term.

Proper recognition was then extended to Brother and Sister Zimmerman and appreciation expressed for their devotion to the cause of Christ and to the Assemblies of God. The chair was then returned to Brother Zimmerman.

#### **Election of Assistant General Superintendents**

Brother Webb requested the privilege of the floor whereupon he declared he felt it to be the will of God not to be considered for another term as assistant general superintendent.

Nominating ballots were then cast to elect four assistant general superintendents without portfolio.

#### **Honoring Bert Webb, Assistant General Superintendent**

##### **Resolution Number 1**

Marshall Calloway, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS Brother Bert Webb has given long and faithful service as an Assistant General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, having served in that capacity continuously since his election at the 1949 General Council; and WHEREAS he has rendered dedicated service and provided leadership with distinction in various ministries of the church and divisions of the work at the Assemblies of God Headquarters; and

WHEREAS he has now chosen to retire from office declaring his unavailability for reelection; be it

RESOLVED, That this body in session express its deep appreciation to him for the many years of faithfulness in service, for inspiration through ministry and outstanding leadership; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be hereby authorized to take steps to properly express the high esteem in which we hold him and to provide a suitable honorarium as a further expression of appreciation.

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted. The motion was carried unanimously by a show of hands.

A motion prevailed to recess at twelve o'clock noon and to reconvene at 2:00 p.m.

Following the singing of *The Doxology*, Brother F. D. Davis gave the benediction.

#### **SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 23**

The afternoon session convened at two o'clock. Reverend Steve Schubert led the singing. Mrs. G. W. Hardcastle served as organist and Mrs. Sarah Palser as pianist.

#### **Jurisprudence Report, continuation**

The chairman called the meeting to order with a reminder that the Report on Jurisprudence had been presented in the morning meeting. He requested direction in handling the document.

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted.

A motion was made to delete Paragraph "k," Ministry in non-Council assemblies, Section 2 (page 2, line 21 of the report). After discussion, the motion was voted upon and declared lost.

A further motion was made to amend Paragraph "k" by adding the clause, "which are disapproved by the district." The motion was seconded, but when voted upon failed to carry.

Section 19. Order of Trial. Attention was called to the last paragraph of Section 19 (lines 4 and 5, page 12). Clarification was requested as to what happens in the event of a mistrial because the jury cannot reach a decision. Reference likewise was made to Section 21. New Trials, Paragraph "b." (Bases for Appeals, particularly part 1) *Mistrial*. Discussion ensued regarding placing in the document a provision to provide for a new trial in the event of a "hung" jury.

It was moved and seconded to amend the document to provide that "in the event of a mistrial because the jury cannot reach a verdict, the judge shall set the date for a new trial and a new jury be selected," and further that the committee be requested to prepare appropriate wording to convey this provision and to determine the most suitable place in the document for this insertion. The motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Section 4 (line 10, page 3) by the addition of the following sentence: "There

charges must be preferred within one year after they have been made." After discussion, the motion to amend was voted upon, but declared lost.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Section 14 (line 3, page 9) by adding the words, "along with the identification of jurors and their alternates," between the words "trial" and "by." Attention was called to Section 12 which appears to cover this subject. The motion to amend failed to carry.

A motion calling for the previous question was made and seconded. The vote on the motion was not clear and a division of the house was called for. There were 1,103 affirmative votes and 487 negative. The house therefore sustained the motion to cease debate.

The motion to adopt the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, as amended, was called for.

Before voting, the chair called attention to the action of the Long Beach Council which provided for the election of an appeals board to be implemented at the 1969 General Council. He read the minutes of the 1967 Council pertaining to this action. (See, Resolution 10, pages 41-43, 1967 General Council Minutes.) The chair stated further that the Jurisprudence Report before the house if adopted will supersede the action which was taken in Long Beach, and will set up the line of appeal as called for in the report. A vote for the motion to adopt the Jurisprudence Report is a vote for its procedure of trials and appeals and a vote to rescind the action of the Long Beach Council in adopting Resolution Ten. The chair questioned if there were objections to this procedure. There were no objections raised and the house proceeded to vote on the motion to adopt the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, as amended.

The motion to adopt carried.

A resolution providing for the editing of the new Article VII was presented by N. Cleo Tapp in behalf of the Jurisprudence Committee:

WHEREAS, Article VII entitled "Discipline" has been adopted by the 33rd General Council in session; and

WHEREAS, further editing of this document before its publication may strengthen its structure; therefore, be it RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed by the chair to study carefully the entire document, checking for conformity of terms used interchangeably, the proper numbering of divisions and subheads, and grammatical errors; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee be empowered to make corrections and editorial changes with specific instruction that such editing shall in no wise change the meaning of the Article in any part.

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

### N. A. E. Representative

The Executive Director of the National Association of Evangelicals, Dr. Billy Melvin, was presented. Dr. Melvin stated that it is a real joy to be present in the Council and to bring greetings from NAE and to thank personally the Assemblies of God for the large contribution made to NAE. He stated: "These are days when we as evangelicals need to stand together." He announced that the National NAE Convention for 1970 will be held in Kansas City, April 7-9, at the Muehlebach Hotel.

### Additional Revisions Article XXIII

The chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee, Charles W. H. Scott, presented another report entitled "Additional Revisions proposed for Article XXIII." Brother Scott explained that in principle the proposed document consisted of a rearrangement of provisions already in the Bylaws, although in some instances revisions had been included. The report follows:

#### Section 10. A Marriage in Violation of Our Stand on Marriage and Divorce

We disapprove of any Assemblies of God minister performing a marriage ceremony for anyone who has been divorced and whose former companion is still living. Any minister of our fellowship who performs such a ceremony, unless he has been innocently deceived into doing so, may be dismissed from the fellowship.

We disapprove of any married minister of the Assemblies of God holding credentials if either he or his wife has a former companion living.

#### Section 11. 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 individual members. Where there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the officers of the assembly.

Any minister who so offends shall be subject to scriptural discipline as an offender by the district officer or by the Executive Presbytery of the General Council. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual fellowship certificates and may be the basis for their recall.



## Section 12. 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 confer with our Council officials before engaging in ministry in a non-Council assembly so as to ascertain whether or not such non-Council assembly is approved as to doctrinal standards and cooperative fellowship with Council assemblies, and if not approved by the district officials, they shall be expected to refrain from conducting services for them. Ministers who violate this principle shall be considered as having opened the door for censure or charge which may necessitate the recall of their credentials.

## Section 13. An Improper 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, 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. The offenders shall be subject to reprimand or, if persisted in, appropriate discipline.

## Section 14. 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 by properly constituted corporations. It disapproves the holding of 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."

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted as read, moving the sections to Article XXIII and making the revisions as indicated in the document.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the second paragraph of Section 10 of the report by the addition of the following sentence: "We further disapprove the use of our Assemblies of God churches for the purpose of weddings at which our Assemblies of God pastors cannot officiate." A motion to refer this matter back to the committee failed to carry. The main motion to amend also failed to carry.

Question was raised regarding the wording in the last paragraph of the proposed Section 10. After a number of suggestions, a motion prevailed to amend Section 10 by substituting the following for the sentence in question: "We disapprove of any married minister of the Assemblies of God holding credentials if either minister or spouse has a former living companion."

The question was called for and the vote was taken to adopt the proposed additional revisions for Article XXIII as amended. The motion to adopt carried.

A motion prevailed to include this document in the editing resolution provided for the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence.

The chairman expressed thanks in behalf of the General Council for the very excellent work of the committee on this involved and intricate project.

## Roster Committee Report

The report of the committee was presented, as follows:

Ordained ministers	3,244
Delegates	893
Voting constituency	4,137
Licensed ministers	416
Visitors	2,067
	<hr/> 7,620

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the Roster Committee.

## Election Assistant General Superintendents

The Chairman of the Tellers Committee presented the report on the nominating ballot for assistant general superintendents without portfolio:

Total votes cast	2,056
Needed to elect	1,250

T. E. Gannon received	1,687
Charles W. H. Scott	1,644

The chair therefore declared T. E. Gannon and Charles W. H. Scott elected to the office of Assistant General Superintendent for two-year terms.

Ballots were cast for the election of two additional assistant general superintendents without portfolio.

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

The 1967 General Council had requested that a committee be appointed to restudy the percentage distribution of Speed-the-Light funds as provided for in Article XX, Section 2, of the Bylaws. The committee consisted of the following: M. B. Netzel, Chairman; C. W. H. Scott, Raymond Hudson, Philip Hogan, and T. E. Gannon. Brother Netzel read the report explaining the method of distributing Speed-the-Light funds. Copies were distributed to the voting constituency. The report recommended that "there be no change in the division in the percentages of Speed-the-Light funds." It was moved, seconded, and carried that the report be adopted.

R. J. Carlson, Superintendent of Northwest District, called attention to the action of the 1967 General Council with regard to the Ministers' Benefit Association. He cited Resolution 11 (page 51). He stated the opinion that the resolution called for a study to include two points:

1. Promotion of the Ministers' Benefit Association
2. Consideration of a Ministers' Retirement Program

A motion prevailed that this General Council request that a report of this committee be presented in this session, if possible; and, if not, at the next General Council session two years hence.

### **Organizational Structure Resolution Number 2**

Marshall Calloway, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The organization has grown rapidly over the years and it is appropriate to study comprehensively the structure that has emerged, and

WHEREAS, The study of the Committee on Advance has been a study of the movement as a whole, with a broad base of research and with specific attention given to the headquarters operation; and,

WHEREAS, After two years of in-depth study of the strengths and weaknesses of the Assemblies of God, the Committee on Advance has recommended that an in-depth study of the overall headquarters organization (structure, functions, and assignments) be made in relation to the new statement of purpose; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council call for a study of the overall headquarters organization (structure, functions, and assignments) and authorize the appointment of a committee to make a study as indicated in the preamble and submit its report to the General Council in its 1971 biennial session; and be it further

RESOLVED, That if the findings of the committee result in recommendations which, if adopted by the General Council, would require amendments to the constitution, the committee should be expected to prepare the necessary amendments to be proposed to the General Council for presentation to the Executive Presbytery by February 1, 1971, making it possible to comply with Article XIII of the Constitution, in order to allow for any action deemed necessary by the General Council in session.

The Committee on Advance further recommends that there be no further national structural creations of any kind until the study on organizational structure has been completed and the final report made to the General Council.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted. A motion prevailed to establish an order of the day for 10:30 a.m. Monday, August 25, and that this resolution be tabled until that time.

### **Processing Resolutions Resolution Number 3**

Brother Calloway offered the following procedural resolution:

WHEREAS, The process of publishing copies for all delegates of each resolution has proven impracticable and expensive, besides being unnecessary in some cases; be it  
RESOLVED, That only resolutions dealing with Bylaw changes, lengthy and detailed resolutions, and others deemed necessary by the Resolutions Committee, be offered in printed form.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted. Following considerable discussion, a motion calling for the previous question prevailed. The motion to adopt Resolution Number 3 was voted upon and declared carried.

A motion prevailed to recess until 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 25, 1969. The meeting was dismissed by singing *The Doxology* at 5:40 p.m.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1969

Brother Charles W. H. Scott was in charge of the memorial and communion service which began at 9:45 a.m. in the Memorial Auditorium. The congregation was blessed through the anointed singing of the "Singing Parsons" a choir led by Pastor John Wannenmacher of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Cyril McLellan presented a violin solo as the offertory. Harry Myers led the singing. Gwen Jones and Max Eleiott served at the musical instruments. Brother J. Roswell Flower offered prayer.

### IN MEMORIAM

The General Superintendent expressed a kindred feeling of bereavement in behalf of the Council in recognizing families of departed loved ones. He referred particularly to Howard S. Bush, Assistant General Superintendent, who had died on March 26 of this year, and to James O. Savell, retired Assistant General Superintendent, who had died on August 9. He stated that these men had a continuing influence on the world through their dedicated lives of service.

Following the remarks of Brother Zimmerman, the General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, presented the Book of Remembrance and read the names of all those who had gone to be with the Lord during the past biennium:

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13.

"But as it is written, eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." 1 Corinthians, 2:9.

### FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

Behold God's warriors as they die,  
They draw their sword from out its sheath,  
And cry!  
" 'Tis this to you I now bequeath,  
Fight thou my fight on earth beneath,  
And die."

O men, twice born, of royal rank,  
Reply!  
"Ye valiant men who never shrank;  
We take thy sword for God, enrank  
To die."

O men of youth, of brain and brawn,  
Fight on!  
Thy Master from the skies looks down,  
He waits to crown thee with His crown,  
Stand with the men of great renown,  
Be gone!

—from Gems of Gold

Honoring ministers and missionaries who have passed on to their reward, as reported to the General Secretary's office for the period August 1, 1967 to August 15, 1969.

### DECEASED ORDAINED MINISTERS

August 15, 1969

Adams, Gracie, Ceres, California  
Apple, Oliver W., Fargo, North Dakota  
Arce, Luis, Brooklyn, New York  
Areola, Moises, San Francisco, California  
Auten, Kenneth A., Orange, California  
Avignone, Cesare, Bronx, New York  
Aviles, Augustin, Wellington, Ohio  
Baker, Robert F., Dallas, Texas  
Ballard, Rufus W., Meridian, Mississippi  
Barnes, John A., Milton, Florida  
Barnes, Ora F., Longmont, Colorado  
Bateman, Jerry G., Kensett, Arkansas  
Bateman, Walter J., San Diego, California  
Beckman, Ewald G., Centralia, Washington  
Beisel, Robert, Allentown, Pennsylvania  
Bigham, N. K., Kilgore, Texas  
Bilbo, Albert P., Sapulpa, Oklahoma  
Bishop, Wiley F., Seguin, Texas  
Blackburn, Lennis, Carlinville, Illinois  
Bogdanovich, Anna, Lubbock, Texas  
Bonnivar, T. Lynn, Havana, Illinois  
Bragg, Wallace S., Spokane, Washington  
Brehm, Hugo H., Joliet, Illinois  
Bubb, Robert S., Battle Mountain, Nevada  
Buck, John M., Fort Worth, Texas  
Bullock, George A., Salem, Oregon  
Bush, Howard S., Springfield, Missouri  
Caddell, Robert G., Seadrift, Texas  
Campbell, J. Kelly, Homedale, Idaho  
Carr, Allen F., Big Springs, Texas  
Carter, Thomas B., Covington, Tennessee  
Chambers, Noah A., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Chokan, Mrs. Julis, Riverside, California  
Clay, Robert C., Broken Bow, Oklahoma  
Clement, George W., Kingston, Pennsylvania  
Clevenger, Bennie L., Excelsior Springs, Missouri  
Coe, Ralph E., Fontana, California  
Colas, Marcel R., Santa Cruz, California  
Coley, Maud, Covington, Tennessee  
Cook, June V., Huntsville, Alabama  
Corzine, Bertha E., Shawnee, Oklahoma  
Courtney, J. Daniel, Tallahassee, Florida  
Cowen, Roy L., Redlands, California

Cox, June, Wallace, Idaho  
 Crabb, T. Dewey, Chehalis, Washington  
 Croasmun, Addie B., Milan, New Mexico  
 Curtis, John A., Maywood, California  
 Davis, Charles T., Clinton, Kentucky  
 Dean, Allen W., Cowpens, South Carolina  
 Decker, Charles E., Kantner, Pennsylvania  
 Dickerson, George W., Coolidge, Arizona  
 Draper, Esther H., Fresno, California  
 Dunn, Sebran A., Ely, Nevada  
 Egnet, Alida C., Milton, Massachusetts  
 Embry, Melvin, Sulphur, Oklahoma  
 Ewing, Everett, Federal Way, Washington  
 Farmer, Curtis, Aulander, North Carolina  
 Feldman, Otto H., Augusta, Wisconsin  
 Flippo, Chester W., Fort Worth, Texas  
 Florence, William H., North Highlands, California  
 Follis, Bennie B., Humble, Texas  
 Foster, Roy P., Los Angeles, California  
 Friend, John E., Hartford City, Indiana  
 Friesen, Pete A., Burke, South Dakota  
 Fullerton, Emmitt E., Elk City, Oklahoma  
 Fullmer, June V., Belleville, Illinois  
 Gaddis, G. A., West Plains, Missouri  
 Garner, Oliver E., Sullivan, Missouri  
 Garner, Richard C., Allentown, Pennsylvania  
 Garrett, Charles C., Durant, Florida  
 Gates, O. L., Conroe, Texas  
 Goodman, Marlin B., Little Rock, Arkansas  
 Gresham, Norman E., Santa Cruz, California  
 Gunter, William E., Jonesboro, Louisiana  
 Gutekunst, Mrs. Ethel M., Salem, Oregon  
 Harthern, Charles H., Penkhul, Stoke-on-Trent, England  
 Hance, Everett L., Rocky Mount, Missouri  
 Hall, G. Oliver, Dallas, Texas  
 Hancock, Jesse E., Waycross, Georgia  
 Hartwick, Corbett J., Poyen, Arkansas  
 Hayes, Roy A., Goldendale, Washington  
 Hefley, Daniel H., Lurton, Arkansas  
 Hendricks, James S., Seattle, Washington  
 Hines, William A., Scarboro, Ontario, Canada  
 Hixson, Melvin G., Chester, California  
 Hoff, Elmer L., Shawano, Wisconsin  
 Hoffman, Benjamin E. A., Grants Pass, Oregon  
 Hontz, Arthur R., Drums, Pennsylvania  
 Hughes, Asa E., Elba, Alabama  
 Hunter, Mrs. Bernice, Salinas, California  
 Jarrell, Omer, Siloam Springs, Arkansas  
 Johnson, Alfred D., Moran, Michigan

Johnson, D. M., Galena Park, Texas  
 Johnson, Felipe, San Jose, California  
 Johnson, Herbert A., Denton, Texas  
 Johnson, Leland E., Los Gatos, California  
 Jones, Robert A., Levelland, Texas  
 Kinslow, Robert L., Yucaipa, California  
 Knotts, W. Olan, Cibecue, Arizona  
 Kowal, Alex, Scranton, Pennsylvania  
 Lafferty, Lucy P., Mount Shasta, California  
 Landis, Harry S., Lakeland, Florida  
 Lawrence, Edwin G., Turlock, California  
 Lewis, Forrest M., Edmond, Oklahoma  
 Lindsay, Alexander, Lakeland, Florida  
 Lowmaster, Ethan A., Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania  
 McBride, Bertha B., Tulsa, Oklahoma  
 McClellan, James W., Humble, Texas  
 McCormick, Anna J., Broken Arrow, Oklahoma  
 McMahan, James S., Forrest City, Arkansas  
 Malone, Morris A., Cushing, Oklahoma  
 Manley, B. J., Whitehouse, Texas  
 Marcucci, Frank P., Jamesburg, New Jersey  
 Mason, Florence L., Lakeland, Florida  
 Matheus, Hattie, Van Nuys, California  
 Matlock, Gurvis L., Fresno, California  
 Medford, Henry A., Wichita Falls, Texas  
 Miles, Mrs. Hazel L., Milton, Florida  
 Miller, Delmar R., Lewiston, Idaho  
 Modlin, Otis S., Colchester, Illinois  
 Moore, Mary E., Modesto, California  
 Moran, Solen A., Austin, Texas  
 Morris, Lloyd T., Los Angeles, California  
 Murphey, Rolland A., New Castle, Pennsylvania  
 Myers, Harry A., Puyallup, Washington  
 Myers, Raymond F., Daggett, California  
 Napper, Jerry G., Banks, Alabama  
 Naumann, Arthur E., San Antonio, Texas  
 Neal, Thomas H., La Marque, Texas  
 Oster, Carl E., Seattle, Washington  
 Newby, George W., Pryor, Oklahoma  
 Newman, James O., Jacksonville, Alabama  
 Nissley, David M., Rearing Springs, Pennsylvania  
 Norby, Bert P., Opportunity, Washington  
 Parisi, Louis F., Pennsauken, New Jersey  
 Parsons, James E., Tyler, Texas  
 Payne, Donald L., Kansas City, Missouri  
 Pearle, Mrs. Dollie, Little Rock, Arkansas  
 Pelonis, George L., Long Beach, California  
 Peters, Anna M., San Diego, California  
 Peters, Darold L., Riverbank, California

Peterson, R. S., Fernandina Beach, Florida  
 Petrucci, Floyd, Gary, Indiana  
 Pfnister, Robert L., Rupert, Idaho  
 Phelps, Walter J., Tacoma, Washington  
 Pigors, William, Elgin, North Dakota  
 Pitts, George W., Littlefield, Texas  
 Posey, Carl C., Lake Stevens, Washington  
 Prince, A. K., Pine Bluff, Arkansas  
 Quarnstrom, Viola I., Baldwin Park, California  
 Ramsey, Pleas F., Essex, Missouri  
 Rattan, Irvin L., San Diego, California  
 Rasmussen, James E., Spokane, Washington  
 Reed, Park W., Lewiston, Idaho  
 Reyes-Garcia, Roberto, San Antonio, Texas  
 Reynolds, Carl E., Shreveport, Louisiana  
 Roberts, Mrs. Mae T., Chula Vista, California  
 Robinson, Daniel N., Modesto, California  
 Roden, Cynthia, Lamont, California  
 Roper, Clarence G., Ontario, California  
 Richey, Raymond T., Houston, Texas  
 Saleskey, Pete C., Keyser, West Virginia  
 Savell, James O., Houston, Texas  
 Sawrey, Neil, Fayetteville, Arkansas  
 Saxelid, Erling L., El Dorado, Arkansas  
 Schie, Charles C., Sidney, Ohio  
 Selness, Joseph J., Englewood, Colorado  
 Shively, Elmer C., Santa Cruz, California  
 Shultz, Thomas F., Fort Worth, Texas  
 Smalling, James T., Memphis, Tennessee  
 Smeltzer, Gerald P., Mt. Wolf, Pennsylvania  
 Smith, Irvin E., Alamogordo, New Mexico  
 Snider, Edna M., Dayton, Ohio  
 Snyder, Harry W., St. Petersburg, Florida  
 Spalding, Ethel, Los Angeles, California  
 Spellman, Charles T., Los Angeles, California  
 Spinks, James L., Smyrna, Georgia  
 Stanaland, May, Tallahassee, Florida  
 Steele, Laura, Richmond, California  
 Stephens, Mattie E., Sapulpa, Oklahoma  
 Tabor, Michael, Zion, Illinois  
 Talia, Frank, Union, New Jersey  
 Tarantino, Thomas, Nutley, New Jersey  
 Taylor, Mrs. Annie L., Oakwood, Texas  
 Taylor, W. C., Sikes, Louisiana  
 Teeter, Opal M., Waldron, Arkansas  
 Thurlow, Milton C., Somers Point, New Jersey  
 Turner, Esker, Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Tyson, Earl H., Shawnee Mission, Kansas  
 Tyson, Rudolph E., Azle, Texas

Uselton, Robert T., Fort Worth, Texas  
 Vaughan, Mrs. Ruth A., Enid, Oklahoma  
 Vicars, Tomie M., Mineola, Texas  
 Wagnon, Thomas W., Farmerville, Louisiana  
 Wainwright, Ben, Birmingham, Alabama  
 Walden, Ray N., Hungry Horse, Montana  
 Wells, Luther D., Sr., Biloxi, Mississippi  
 Whitmarsh, Harold, Modesto, California  
 Wicks, Ernest A. J., Ventura, California  
 Wigfield, Kelley, Springfield, Virginia  
 Wilkerson, R. L., Knoxville, Tennessee  
 Williams, Adney J., Shamrock, Texas  
 Williamson, Edgar T., Arkoma, Oklahoma  
 Wilson, David, Calverton, Virginia  
 Winand, Earl W., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
 Winn, John L., Muskogee, Oklahoma  
 Wolf, Freddie H., Fairfield, Texas  
 Wood, Theodore E., Graysville, Alabama  
 Worlitz, Gottlieb E., Torrance, California  
 Yager, S. A., Nelson, Missouri  
 Zanini, Joseph, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

#### DECEASED ORDAINED MISSIONARIES

Appleby, Blanche R., Philippines  
 Butler, Talmage F., Senegal, West Africa  
 Clifford, Mrs. Viola M., British Honduras  
 Dalton, Roy L., Spain  
 Hindle, Thomas, Mongolia  
 Kucera, Martha M., South India  
 McClay, Robert, India  
 Niles, Elmer C., Venezuela  
 Schneider, Emil R., Chile  
 Slager, George C., China  
 Waggoner, William K., Liberia, West Africa

Following the reading of the names, the congregation stood in silent memory of these departed soldiers of the Cross. The General Superintendent presided over the Communion Table, being assisted by the general and executive presbyters.

Joseph R. Flower, Superintendent of the New York District, delivered the morning message. His subject was "Calvary, Where We Come to Know God."

The afternoon service began at 2:30 and featured a visual demonstration entitled "Facing the 70's." J. Philip Hogan, Executive Director of Foreign Missions, presented an inspiring message on *The Assemblies of God in Mission*. Brother Hogan's message centered on the mystery, the motive, the methods, the magnitude, and the majesty of the mission. His text: "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you!"

The delegates and visitors at Council will long remember the impact of the afternoon service as the call went out for complete dedication to the *mission of the church!* The congregation was greatly blessed also through the ministry in song of Mrs. Lil Anderson and a group called the Galileans.

The evening service began at 7:15. Brother Linfield Crowder of Fontana, California, delivered an inspiring message on the emphasis of the day, "Christ, the Only Saviour." Featured in the evening service also was a testimony of faith in Christ by Colonel Harland Sanders.

## MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 25

The devotional service began at 9:00 o'clock with Brother T. E. Gannon in charge. Brother Hollingsworth led the singing. Following a season of united prayer, Bartlett Peterson led in prayer.

Brother Fulton Buntain, pastor at Tacoma, Washington, was introduced as the speaker of the morning. He brought an inspiring message on the theme, "Christ the Healer." His text was taken from the ninth chapter of Mark. Following the message of the morning, the Alcorn Trio of Wichita Falls, Texas, sang "His Grace Reaches Me."

The General Superintendent declared the morning session officially called to order at 10:00 a.m. Prayer was offered by Brother Gayle F. Lewis.

### Roster Report

A further report of the Roster Committee as of 9:00 o'clock Monday morning was presented by Chairman Arthur Berg:

Ordained ministers	3,662
Delegates	997
Total voting	4,659
Licensed ministers	535
Visitors	3,986
Total registration	9,180

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

### Tellers Committee Report

Brother Bredbenner, Chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported the results of the first electoral ballot for the office of assistant general superintendents:

Total votes cast	1,919
Needed to elect	1,268

G. Raymond Carlson 787, Joseph R. Flower 257, Kermit Reneau 230, Dwight McLaughlin 226, R. Goggin 164, E. Bethany 142, P. Lowenberg 142, E. R. Anderson 140, Roy Wead 101, J. Hamill 100, R. J. Carlson 92, N. D. Davidson 85, G. Hardcastle, Sr. 76, J. Philip Hogan 66, Emil Balliet 58, E. M. Clark 53, Raymond Hudson 52, Cleo Tapp 46, Fay Hutchinson 40, T. H. Spence 39, Joseph Gerhart 37, Cyril Homer 37, Kenneth Schmidt 35, Gayle Lewis 33, C. C. Burnett 26, Robert Ashcroft 25, Bond Bowman 25, David Flower 22, L. C. Ashbrook 20, U. S. Grant 20, E. E. Krogstad 20, Curtis Ringness 20, M. B. Netzel 19, Hardy Steinberg 19, David Hastie 18, O. L. Harrup 18, W. H. Robertson 18, Bartlett Peterson 18, James Brown 16, J. T. Davis 14, Arthur Shell 13, H. C. Noah 12, Haskell Rogers 12, Edwin Burris 10, R. L. Brandt 10, L. E. Halvorson 10, Aaron Wall 10, Joe W. Adams 9, Tom Cunningham 9, Lyle Curtis 9, L. W. Dickinson 9, V. Ernest Shores 9, Foy Johnson 8, Gene Scott 8, C. M. Ward 8, Russell Williams 8, E. R. Foster 7, Charles Greenaway 7, Arthur Graves 7, Leland Keys 7, William Kirschke 7, Claude Qualls 7, N. L. White 7, Bracy Greer 6, Wesley Hurst 6, D. V. Hurst 6, James Hennesy 6, Bert Webb 6, Jay Alford 5, K. Crouse 5, James Dodd 5, J. K. Gressett 5, James Griggs 5, G. Hardcastle, Jr. 5, Louis Hauff 5, G. H. Blair 4, Dwight Brown 4, Everett Cooley 4, Marshall Calloway 4, G. E. Chambers 4, W. B. Friend 4, W. S. Graham 4, M. J. Harris 4, V. L. Hertweck 4, P. A. Lewis 4, Wallace Odum 4, Richard Orchard 4, J. J. Rettinger 4, Herman Rohde 4, S. J. Scott 4, Wesley Steelberg 4, R. D. E. Smith 4, W. Van Winkle 4, L. O. Waldon 4, Glen West 4, A. A. Wilson 4, Richard Bishop 3, K. Barney 3, Benson Compton 3, K. Freiheit 3, Marcus Gaston 3, D. R. Guynes 3, Ralph Harris 3, Don Mallough 3, G. E. Mandel 3, Frank McAllister 3, Floyd Poag 3, Jessie Smith 3, E. M. Yates 3, Leroy Sanders 3, Owen Carr 2, C. W. Denton 2, Richard Dortch 2, Paul Emery 2, Fred Eide 2, Blake Farmer 2, R. Fulford 2, Earl Goodman 2, B. R. Griffith 2, M. A. Groff 2, Elton Hill 2, Darwin Heuser 2, Paul Holdridge 2, Stanton Johnson 2, J. B. Lindsey 2, G. Matheny 2, Leslie Moore 2, James Mayo, Sr. 2, Armon Newburn 2, Charles Parker 2, Arthur Parsons 2, W. H. Robertson 2, William Sachs 2, James Swanson 2, A. N. Trotter 2, Victor Trimmer 2, J. A. Thomas 2, Ward Williams 2, Joe Wilmoth 2, William Vickery 2, Johnnie Barnes 1, H. W. Barnett 1, S. K. Biffle, Jr. 1, Earl Blythe 1, Kenneth Broadus 1, Paul Brewer 1, Joe Calabrese 1, Jack Carrier 1, Howard Davidson 1, Walter Dixon 1, Ivar Frick 1, Harvey Jackson 1, Elmer Kirschman 1, Frank Lindquist 1, R. A. McClure 1, W. C. Mangrum 1, Murray McLees 1, T. A. McDonough 1, C. H. Nicholson 1, E. L. Phillips 1,

W. J. Piersol 1, Stewart Robinson 1, Paul Schoch 1, Paul Samuelson 1, Fred Smolchuck 1, Jimmy Swaggart 1, W. L. Thornton 1, Earl Vanzant 1, Austin Wilkerson 1, David Womack 1.

The chair declared there was no election and the second electoral ballot was cast.

### Organizational Structure Study

The resolution calling for an organizational structure study committee was taken from the table.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution (Number 2) be amended to provide that the nonresident executive presbyters be responsible for appointing this committee and that their selections be reported to the full Executive Presbytery for approval.

It was moved that the amendment be amended so that the names submitted to the Executive Presbytery should receive a two-thirds vote of the entire Presbytery, and that any name not receiving a two-thirds vote of ratification would be submitted back for further consideration.

It was moved and seconded that the amending motions be deferred until after action had been taken on the main proposition. The motion to defer was carried.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be considered paragraph by paragraph. The motion was lost.

Lengthy discussion ensued. It was asked that the use of the words "structure," "function," "assignments," in the resolution be clarified. Brother D. V. Hurst stated that "structure" had to do with organizational framework; "functions" would be the operations of that framework; and "assignments" would refer to the people who occupy the positions within that framework.

It was moved and seconded that the last paragraph be stricken: "The Committee on Advance further recommends that there be no further national structural creations of any kind until the study on organizational structure has been completed and the final report made to the General Council." Upon voting on the amendment, the motion was lost.

There was a motion for the previous question, which was seconded and carried.

The motion to adopt resolution 2 was voted upon and carried.

The motion providing for the nonresident executive presbyters to appoint the study committee, with the provision that in the event nominees are not ratified, the resident executive presbyters will have the privilege of submitting additional names, was removed from the table.

A substitute motion was offered that "a committee of seven members excluding executive presbyters be appointed by the Committee on Advance and the findings of the present Com-

mittee on Advance be passed on to the new committee." The motion was seconded but failed to carry.

A substitute motion prevailed that this committee shall be appointed by the nonresident executive presbyters who shall report to the Executive Presbytery; all names submitted shall be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the full Executive Presbytery."

It was moved and seconded that this committee be composed of nine members. The motion was carried.

It was moved that this body go on record as expressing its appreciation for the tremendous work done by the Committee on Advance. The motion was seconded and carried with no negative votes.

### Election Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Bredbenner, Chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported at this time on the second elective ballot for Assistant General Superintendents.

In accordance with Bylaw provisions only the 15 highest remaining nominees remained on the tally sheet and are listed herewith:

Total votes cast	1,292
Needed to elect	861
G. Raymond Carlson	979
Joseph R. Flower	361
Kermit Reneau	243
Dwight H. McLaughlin	211
Robert Goggin	110
Paul Lowenberg	89
E. R. Anderson	88
Edgar Bethany	69
James Hamill	69
N. D. Davidson	34
Roy Wead	34
R. J. Carlson	26
N. Cleo Tapp	20
Emil Balliet	17
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	17
Fay Hutchinson	17

The chairman, having been advised by the Tellers Committee that on the second elective ballot, G. Raymond Carlson received in excess of the required votes, was declared elected as Assistant General Superintendent.

There was a motion to recess at 12:15 to reconvene at 2:00 o'clock.

The *Doxology* was sung, following which the chair called upon Assistant General Superintendent elect, G. Raymond Carlson to dismiss in prayer.

## MONDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 25

The afternoon meeting opened with Brother Sam Peterson leading the singing. Brother A. C. Bates, veteran minister of 51 years, was invited to lead in prayer.

### Tellers Committee Report

The result of the third elective ballot for assistant general superintendent was presented. Only those with the three highest number of votes had been retained in keeping with the provisions for elections.

Total votes cast	1,433
Needed to elect	956
Joseph R. Flower	589
Kermit Reneau	335
D. H. McLaughlin	236

### Proposed Constitutional Changes

The provisions for making constitutional amendments were cited. It was stated that the proposed changes now before the house had grown out of the work of the Committee on Advance, that these preparations had been ratified by the Executive Presbytery, and now were presented to the General Council for consideration.

The General Secretary read the proposed amendments and they were considered seriatim.

### Constitutional Declaration

WHEREAS, We believe that God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son; and

WHEREAS, These believers saved and called out of the world 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 cornerstone; 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

We affirm the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son; and further We affirm that the Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit which enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ; and further

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

It was moved and seconded that the revisions to the Constitutional Declaration be adopted.

A motion prevailed to delete the term "whereas" in each of the four paragraphs. The motion to adopt the revised Constitutional Declaration, as amended, was voted upon and declared carried with close to a unanimous vote.

### Article I: Name

The General Secretary read the proposed amendment to Article I:

The corporate name shall be *The General Council of the Assemblies of God*, which term is reserved for legal use



when referring to the legal entity.

The term *General Council* shall be used to refer to sessions of the corporation.

The term *Assemblies of God* shall be used to refer to the entire constituency.

A motion prevailed that the three paragraphs be substituted for the present Article I of the Constitution.

### **Article III. Prerogatives**

The General Secretary read the proposed Article III and moved its adoption:

- a. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- b. To encourage and promote the worship of God.
- c. To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- d. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- e. 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.
- f. To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods, and conduct.
- g. 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.

The proposed revisions to Article III included the addition of paragraphs "b" and "c" and a rearrangement of the present paragraphs.

The motion to adopt Article III was carried with a unanimous vote.

### **Article IV. Principles for Fellowship**

The General Secretary read the proposed Article IV and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

The Assemblies of God shall represent as nearly as possible in detail, the body of Christ as described in the New Testament Scriptures. It shall recognize the principles inherent in that body as also inherent in this fellowship, particularly the principles of unity, cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to achieve its priority reason-for-being as an agency of God for evangelizing the world, as a corporate body in which man may worship God, and as a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

It was explained that the proposed Article was a substitution for the present Article IV, with the addition of the words "for Fellowship" in the title.

An amendment was offered to substitute the following for the first two sentences of the paragraph: "The Assemblies of God shall be a fellowship of local churches and shall in no wise be construed as the universal church or body of Christ, and as such it shall recognize the principles of unity, cooperation, and equality necessary to scriptural fellowship." The motion to amend was seconded. An additional amendment was offered to insert the words "and ministers" following "churches." The motion was seconded. Both of these motions to amend failed to carry.

The motion to adopt the proposed Article IV was carried with no negative votes being cast.

### **Article V. Statement of Fundamental Truths**

The General Secretary read the proposed *Section 10. The Church and Its Mission* and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

#### **10. The Church and Its Mission**

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 Firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 1 Corinthians 14:12).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit which:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3, 4).

- b. Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12; 1 Corinthians 14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11, 12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

It was explained that the first paragraph of Section 10 would remain the same, but that the title had been changed to include the words "and Its Mission." Also, a statement of purpose and reason-for-being had been added to the section.

A motion prevailed to amend the proposed Section 10 by the addition of the Scripture reference "1 Corinthians 13" in paragraph "2-b."

A further amendment was adopted to place a period after the words, "Holy Spirit," eliminate the word, "which," and add the words to begin a new sentence, "This experience" so that the paragraph would read:

"The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience..."

Section 10 as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

The General Secretary read *Section 11. The Ministry* and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

It was explained that the proposed amendment was offered as a substitute in the interest of clarity.

A motion prevailed that the motion be adopted to amend Section 11 by substituting the following for the present Section 11.

### 11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) Evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) Worship of God (John 4:23, 24), (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16).

### Article VII. Membership

The General Secretary read the proposed *Article VII. Membership* and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The membership of The General Council of the Assemblies

of God shall consist of all ordained ministers holding accredited fellowship certificates and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

### Section 2. Assemblies of God.

The membership of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ministers of the Assemblies of God and all other persons who are members of churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

It was explained the proposed amendment to Article VII was offered in an effort to clarify the terms commonly referred to as "The General Council" and "The Assemblies of God." *Section 1* was offered as a substitute for the present Article VII and *Section 2* as an addition to the Article.

A clarification was requested in the relationship of licensed ministers and district affiliated churches to the General Council.

A motion prevailed to amend the proposed Section 2 by the deletion of "the General Council of" so that the Section would read "...persons who are members of churches affiliated with the Assemblies of God." The motion to adopt Article VII as amended was voted upon and declared carried.

### Article VIII. Meetings

The General Secretary read the proposed constitutional change offered for Article VIII and then moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

- d. Voting Constituency. The voting constituency at a General Council shall be composed of all accredited members of The General Council of the Assemblies of God who are present and registered, and of such representatives, present and registered, as may be chosen by the churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God, each church being entitled to one delegate.

It was explained that the new Paragraph "d" entitled *Voting Constituency* had been added to the present Article VIII. Also, Article II, Section 4 of the Bylaws had been moved to this Article and incorporated in the wording as presented.

A motion was offered to insert the word "ordained" following the word "accredited" in the second line of paragraph "d" so that the sentence would read:

"...all ordained accredited members of the General Council..."

The motion was voted upon, but declared lost.

The motion to adopt Article VIII as presented was voted upon and declared carried.

## Additional Constitutional Changes

The General Secretary presented the following proposed changes resulting from the revision of the definition of terms in Article I of the Constitution:

Article X, paragraph "b": Change "General Council Officials" to "officials of the General Council of the Assemblies of God." (line 4, p. 69, 1967 edition, General Council Constitution)

Article X, paragraph "c": Change "General Council" to "The General Council of the Assemblies of God." (lines 3 and 10, p. 69)

Article X, paragraph "d": Change "General Council" to "The General Council of the Assemblies of God." (line 2, page 69)

Article X, paragraph "e": Change "General Council" to "The General Council of the Assemblies of God." (lines 1 and 3, page 69; line 4, page 70)

Article XI, paragraph "a": Change "General Council organization" to "The General Council of the Assemblies of God." (line 1, page 70)

Article XI, paragraph "a": Change "General Presbytery and General Council membership and relationship" to "representation in the General Presbytery and the General Council." (line 2, page 70)

Article XI, paragraph "b": Change "General Council Constitution and Bylaws" to "Constitution and Bylaws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God." (line 3, page 70)

Article XII, paragraph "4": Change "General Council" to "The General Council of the Assemblies of God." (line 2, page 70; lines 1 and 7, page 71)

Article XIII: Change "General Council ministers" to "ministers of the General Council of the Assemblies of God." (line 10, page 71)

A motion prevailed to adopt the above listed constitutional changes as presented.

## Article VII. Membership

### Section 2. Reconsidered

A point of order was raised with regard to the action taken on *Article VII. Membership, Section 2*, to delete the words "the General Council of." It was stated that ministers and churches have their affiliation either with a District Council or with the General Council of the Assemblies of God and that to relate them to "the Assemblies of God" was a misnomer since

"the Assemblies of God" does not imply any legal entity under the definition of terms in Article I. The chair sustained the point of order.

A motion prevailed to rescind the action to eliminate the words "the General Council of" and to find some other way to include district affiliated churches. A number of suggestions were offered. A motion prevailed to add "and its District Councils" at the end of the sentence, but that the Executive Presbytery give more deliberate thought to this matter and amend the section to convey the sense of the General Council that all persons belonging to District affiliated churches and General Council affiliated churches are members of the Assemblies of God.

## Roster Report

The chairman of the committee reported that as of 2:00 p.m. Monday there were

Ordained ministers	3,692
Delegates	1,012
Voting constituency	4,704
Licensed	539
Visitors	4,084
Total	9,327

A motion prevailed to accept the report.

## Election Assistant General Superintendent

The Tellers Committee reported during the discussion of the Constitutional amendments; however, the remaining ballots for assistant general superintendents, without portfolio, are recorded here for convenience.

Fourth elective ballot:

Total votes cast	947
Needed to elect	632
Joseph R. Flower received	472
Kermit Reneau	314
D. H. McLaughlin	161

Fifth elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,335
Needed to elect	890
Joseph R. Flower	674
Kermit Reneau	550
D. H. McLaughlin	111

Sixth elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,490
Needed to elect	994
Joseph R. Flower	719
Kermit Reneau	714
D. H. McLaughlin	57

Seventh elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,535
Needed to elect	1,024
Kermit Reneau received	928
Joseph R. Flower	598
D. H. McLaughlin	9

Eighth elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,454
Needed to elect	970
Kermit Reneau	1,171
Joseph R. Flower	278
D. H. McLaughlin	5

The chair declared Kermit Reneau elected Assistant General Superintendent, without portfolio, on the 8th elective ballot.

**Election Assistant General Superintendent  
Executive Director of Foreign Missions**

Ballots were distributed for the election of an assistant general superintendent with the portfolio of Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department.

The General Secretary reported that in accordance with the provisions of the General Council Bylaws, the General Presbytery placed in nomination the name of J. Philip Hogan.

The Tellers Committee reported the results of the first elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,214
Needed to elect	810
J. Philip Hogan received	1,140

The chair therefore declared J. Philip Hogan elected to the office of Assistant General Superintendent for a two-year term, with the portfolio of Executive Director of Foreign Missions.

**Election of General Secretary**

Ballots were distributed for the election of a general secretary.

The Tellers Committee reported the result of the nominating ballot, as follows:

Total ballots cast	881
Needed to elect	559
Bartlett Peterson received	803

The chair therefore declared Bartlett Peterson elected on the nominating ballot to the office of General Secretary for a two-year term.

**Election of General Treasurer**

In accordance with the provisions of the General Council Bylaws, the General Secretary reported that the General Presbytery had nominated Martin B. Netzel for the office of General Treasurer.

The Tellers reported the result of the first electoral ballot:

Total ballots cast	823
Needed to elect	549
Martin B. Netzel received	806

The chair therefore declared Martin B. Netzel elected on the first elective ballot to the office of General Treasurer for a two-year term.

(It was requested that all elected Executive Officers and their wives be seated on the platform during the evening service so that they could be presented to the friends in attendance at the General Council.)

**Ministers Group Hospitalization  
Insurance Program**

Brother Netzel presented a report which came as a referral from the General Presbytery. He stated that a study had been conducted over a period of months regarding the feasibility of establishing a group hospitalization insurance program for ministers of the Assemblies of God. He gave a brief resumé of a plan to be underwritten by the Ministers Life and Casualty Union of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He stated that a somewhat detailed report had been presented to the various District Councils with the result that about fifteen districts had indicated an interest in seeing the program implemented on a national scale.

Following discussion, a motion prevailed that the report be adopted and authorization be given to set in motion the procedures for seeking out those who desire to participate in the plan, with the understanding that it would become effective when a minimum of 1,000 applicants have been accepted. It was announced that those interested should send letters of inquiry to the General Treasurer's office.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to express appreciation to the committee which had studied the insurance program and brought such a fine report.

#### Disaster Relief Fund

It was announced that \$4,500 had been given on Sunday night, August 24, for the disaster relief fund. The purpose of the offering was to assist Assemblies of God churches which had suffered losses during the recent hurricane.

The meeting recessed at five o'clock to reconvene at ten a.m. on Tuesday, August 26. Brother Bert Webb offered the prayer of dismissal.

#### TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26

The devotional service began at nine a.m. with Brother Sam Peterson leading a brief song service. M. L. Bailey served at the piano and Tommy Davis at the organ. Brother Zimmerman led in prayer.

The business session was declared open at 9:10 a.m.

#### Election of Nonresident Executive Presbyters

In accordance with the provisions of the General Council Bylaws, 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 indicate 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 the balloting are reported herewith:

##### Northwest Area

##### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	375
Needed to elect	250
E. D. Beard	11

R. J. Carlson	136
N. D. Davidson	213
Homer B. Walkup	8
B. P. Wilson	7

##### Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	686
Needed to elect	456
E. D. Beard	6
R. J. Carlson	180
N. D. Davidson	495
Homer B. Walkup	1
B. P. Wilson	4

N. D. Davidson was therefore declared elected as a non-resident executive presbyter from the Northwest Area on the second elective ballot.

##### North Central Area

It was reported that as a result of a caucus of the Minnesota District the name of Herman H. Rohde should be substituted on the ballot in place of G. Raymond Carlson who had been elected to the office of assistant general superintendent.

##### Electoral ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	432
Needed to elect	288
Herman H. Rohde	117
Lyle E. Curtis	25
L. W. Dickinson	21
W. B. Friend	21
Stanton E. Johnson	22
S. H. Petersen	28
Roy H. Wead	198

##### Electoral ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	714
Needed to elect	476
Herman Rohde	186
Lyle E. Curtis	9
L. W. Dickinson	12
W. B. Friend	5
Stanton E. Johnson	2
S. H. Petersen	8
Roy H. Wead	492

Roy H. Wead was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the North Central Area on the second elective ballot.

#### South Central Area

It was reported that as a result of a caucus of the South Texas District the name of W. S. Graham should be substituted for Kermit Reneau who had been elected to the office of assistant general superintendent.

#### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	494
Needed to elect	330
E. R. Anderson	123
Jose Giron	2
Robert E. Goggin	106
W. S. Graham	31
Paul Lowenberg	189
Haskell Rogers	36
Earl G. Vanzant	7

#### Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	820
Needed to elect	547
E. R. Anderson	196
Jose Giron	1
Robert E. Goggin	104
Paul Lowenberg	496
W. S. Graham	20
Haskell Rogers	3

#### Electoral Ballot Number 3

Total votes cast	887
Needed to elect	591
E. R. Anderson	127
Robert E. Goggin	26
Paul Lowenberg	729
W. S. Graham	3
Haskell Rogers	2

Paul Lowenberg was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the South Central Area on the third electoral ballot.

#### Gulf Area

#### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	535
Needed to elect	357
Lowell C. Ashbrook	70
James E. Hamill	192
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	226
F. L. Langley	10
N. Cleo Tapp	37

#### Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	811
Needed to elect	540
Lowell C. Ashbrook	45
James E. Hamill	322
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	434
F. L. Langley	4
N. Cleo Tapp	6

#### Electoral Ballot Number 3

Total votes cast	831
Needed to elect	554
Lowell C. Ashbrook	14
James E. Hamill	282
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	533
F. L. Langley	1
N. Cleo Tapp	1

#### Electoral Ballot Number 4

Total votes cast	787
Needed to elect	524
Lowell C. Ashbrook	6
James E. Hamill	88
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	693

G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the Gulf Area on the fourth electoral ballot.

#### Great Lakes Area

#### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	540
Needed to elect	360

Bond Bowman	155
Marshall Calloway	115
E. M. Clark	200
Wiley G. Hinecker	24
Stanley Lyon	9
Arthur H. Parsons	37

#### Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	817
Needed to elect	545
Bond Bowman	158
Marshall Calloway	42
E. M. Clark	611
Wiley G. Hinecker	1
Stanley Lyon	1
Arthur H. Parsons	4

E. M. Clark was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area on the second elective ballot.

#### Northeast Area

##### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	584
Needed to elect	390
F. D. Eide	18
David W. Flower	40
Joseph R. Flower	455
John G. Leardi	4
Carl Lindberg	20
W. P. Odum, Sr.	17
Russell Williams	30

Joseph R. Flower was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the Northeast Area on the first electoral ballot.

#### Southeast Area

##### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	611
Needed to elect	407
Edgar W. Bethany	415
G. H. Blair	38
Charles H. Cookman	13
J. Foy Johnson	42
T. H. Spence	103

Edgar W. Bethany was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the Southeast Area on the first elective ballot.

#### Southwest Area

##### Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	332
Needed to elect	222
R. G. Fulford	18
Joseph L. Gerhart	63
Dwight H. McLaughlin	246
Eldon Vincent	5

Dwight H. McLaughlin was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the Southwest Area on the first elective ballot.

#### Honorary General Presbyters

##### Resolution Number 4

Brother Calloway presented a resolution which contained a recommendation from the General Presbytery to appoint Hugh M. Cadwalder, Sr., and Brother L. E. Halvorson honorary general presbyters.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that these nominees be accepted.

#### Editing Constitution and Bylaws

##### Resolution Number 5

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Marshall Calloway, presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, numerous amendments have been made to the Constitution and Bylaws in this session; and

WHEREAS, it is not always possible in the limited time available to search all areas affected thereby and to make all necessary adjustments created by such amendments; be it

RESOLVED, That the General Secretary shall be, and hereby is authorized to edit the Constitution and Bylaws following adjournment with the purpose of correcting and properly harmonizing all provisions thereof with said amendments and to arrange as to order and sequence such provisions as deemed necessary; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the changes proposed by the General Secretary shall be submitted to the Executive Presbytery and shall be subject to adoption by that body prior to the official publication of the Constitution and Bylaws.

The motion to adopt resolution number 5 was seconded and carried.

### General Council Site Evaluation

The Site Evaluation Committee report was presented by Brother Frank McAllister, Chairman of the Committee. The report follows:

"The Site Evaluation Committee met at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, August 18, 1969. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frank McAllister.

"Present were W. Earl Cummings, Kenneth Freiheit, U. S. Grant, and Nelson White.

"Warren McPherson presented survey sheets containing the invitations and data from 15 cities.

"A motion was presented by W. Earl Cummings, seconded by Kenneth Freiheit, to accept the invitation for the 1973 General Council to Kansas City, Missouri, on August 16-21.

The motion was passed unanimously.

"The following motion was presented by U. S. Grant:

WHEREAS, our General Council sessions have traditionally been conducted on the last Thursday of August through the following Tuesday; and

"WHEREAS, the public school systems are beginning classes in the latter part of August in many parts of the United States; we therefore

"RECOMMEND that our General Councils be conducted at least one week earlier. The motion was seconded and carried.

"Inasmuch as the large convention cities are lining up dates many years in advance, the Committee felt that further preplanning should be made at least three Councils ahead. It was also the consensus of the Committee that sites should be investigated in the near future in the Southeast or Northwest for the 1975 Council."

It was moved and seconded that the report be adopted.

A motion to amend prevailed that attempt be made to move the Philadelphia General Council date in 1971 up one week, if possible. The report as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

### Bylaw Revisions

The General Secretary presented proposed Bylaw revisions which were the result of the work of the Committee on Advance. He stated that they had been reviewed by the Executive Presbytery and were presented to the General Council for consideration. During the presentation of these particular referrals, the Resolutions Committee offered additional amendments to Articles as indicated.

The General Secretary read the proposed revisions to Article III and moved their adoption:

#### Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent.

- a. To emphasize the threefold mission of the Church: evangelization of the world, worshiping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.
- b. To place proper emphasis on each of the three elements of the total mission as the Lord may lead.
- c. To implement the threefold mission of the Church by promoting and coordinating efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission. In consultation with the Executive Presbytery, he shall appoint a Committee on Mission to serve during the period between General Councils.
- d. To be General Superintendent of all work on the field conducted in behalf of the fellowship.
- e. To supervise all the work of the General Office. To act as President of the Corporation in all legal matters. He shall be an ex officio member of all committees.
- f. To preside at all meetings of the General Presbytery and the General Council.
- g. To preside at all meetings of the Credentials Committee, and to sign all credentials.
- h. To preside at all sessions of the Executive Presbytery, and to receive all communications directed to that body.
- i. To appoint Executive Directors of the various departments of the General Council of the Assemblies of God from among the Executive Officers, with the cooperation and advice of those members of the Executive Presbytery who are not Executive Officers.
- j. To administer discipline in all cases when requested to do so by the Credentials Committee.
- k. 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.

A motion prevailed to amend paragraph "d" by the deletion of the word "fellowship" and by the insertion of the phrase "The



General Council of the Assemblies of God."

A motion further prevailed to amend the proposal by deleting the last sentence in paragraph "c" which reads "In consultation with the Executive Presbytery, he shall appoint a Committee on Mission to serve during the period between General Councils."

It was moved and seconded that the proposed Article III be further amended to rearrange the order of paragraphs so that the business assignments of the President will come first and other matters in numerical sequence. The motion was voted upon but failed to carry.

A further amendment was offered to delete paragraph "b" and to combine paragraphs "a" and "c" to read: "To emphasize and implement the threefold mission of the Church; evangelization of the world, worshiping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son by promoting and coordinating efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission." The motion was carried.

#### Resolution 6

Marshall Calloway presented the following resolution as an amendment to the proposition to revise Article III and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It would be helpful to make uniform and more explicit certain provisions of Article III, Sections 1 and 6 of the Bylaws, be it

RESOLVED, That Section 1, paragraph "k" (formerly "i") "Duties of the General Superintendent," be amended by adding 'He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and' at the beginning of the paragraph so that the entire paragraph will read:

"He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and 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."

and be it further

RESOLVED, That Section 6, paragraph "f" shall be amended to read:

"All properties of the corporation shall be bought, taken, held, sold, transferred, mortgaged, leased, assigned or conveyed in the corporate name upon authorization by the Executive Presbytery as trustees thereof and the President and the General Secretary shall be authorized and they hereby are authorized to execute all documents pertaining to such transactions."

The motion to adopt the amendments to Article III as presented in Resolution 6 was voted on and declared carried.

A motion prevailed to further amend Article III, Section 3, by deleting the following from paragraph "c" "and shall be considered an ex officio member of all other committees." The General Secretary stated it was his recommendation that this be deleted, since this provision should belong only to the office of the General Superintendent.

#### Resolution 7

The Chairman of the Resolutions Committee offered the following additional amendment to Article III, Section 6:

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 6, of the Bylaws contains provisions which are intended to authorize transactions pertaining to acquisition and disposal of properties, the securing of funds through mortgages and otherwise which provisions have throughout the years of the operation of The General Council of the Assemblies of God been regarded and found to be sufficient authorizations for such transactions, and WHEREAS, A certain lending agency has recently expressed an opinion that said enabling authorizations as are attributed to the Executive Presbytery should be stated more specifically, and

WHEREAS, Recent court rulings involving nonprofit corporations have in some instances called for fuller provisions of authorization, be it

RESOLVED, That Article III, Section 6, paragraph "b" be amended to read:

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, to borrow monies as deemed necessary and to issue bonds of whatsoever kind, trust deeds, mortgages, debentures, and notes and to enter into contracts all as may seem expedient and proper in the furtherance of the work of the said The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

A motion prevailed to adopt resolution 7 as presented.

The motion to adopt all of the proposed revisions to Article III as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

#### Proposed Revisions Article VI, Section 1

The General Secretary presented the proposed revision for Section 1 and moved its adoption.

Section 1. Ministry Described.

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers. (Romans 12:7, 8; Ephesians 4:11)

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the Christian worker. An applicant for ministerial recognition must give testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5) and to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the Church (Article V, par. 10 of the Constitution).

Attention was called by the chair to the deletion of the term "exhorter" in the second paragraph. It was stated that unless there is objection the word "exhorter" would be deleted in Sections 2 and 3 for the sake of uniformity. There was no objection offered to this procedure. The motion to adopt the revision of Article VI, Section 1 (including the deletion of the word "exhorter" in Sections 2 and 3) was voted upon and declared carried.

### **Article VIII. Foreign Missions Department**

The General Secretary read the proposed substitution for Article VIII, Section 1, paragraph "b" and moved its adoption.

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- b. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

It was moved, seconded and carried that this substitution be adopted.

### **Articles IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVII, and XVIII**

The General Secretary presented the following proposed amendments to the Bylaws:

#### **Article IX. Home Missions Department**

It was proposed to change the word "scope" to "purpose" in the title of Section 1, and to substitute the following paragraph for the present paragraph "b":

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- b. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### **Article X. Department of Education**

It was proposed to substitute the following Section 1 of Article X for the present Section 1:

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- a. There shall be a Department of Education which shall be generally responsible for supervising and promoting those education activities of the Assemblies of God which do not usually occur as part of the congregational life of the local church or which have not been constitutionally assigned to other departments of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. Such promotion and supervision shall not infringe upon the sovereignty of the various districts and churches. This responsibility shall include nursery schools, kindergartens, grade schools, high schools, junior colleges, senior colleges, Bible institutes, Bible colleges, graduate schools, correspondence schools, and general ministerial and missionary training.
- b. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### **Article XI. Sunday School Department**

It was proposed that the following paragraph be substituted for the second paragraph of the present Section 1 of Article XI.

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### **Article XII. Department of Publications**

It was proposed that the following Section 1, paragraph "c," be substituted for the present Section 1, "c," and that Sections 3 and 4 be substituted for the present two sections.

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- c. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

#### **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 interest of fulfilling the threefold mission of the Church, giving proper emphasis on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and its desired effects in the lives of believers as well as other Pentecostal distinctives.

#### **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 in such a manner that it shall make an optimum contribution to the fulfillment of the threefold mission of the Church.

### **Article XIII. Young People's Department**

It was proposed to change the title of Article XIII from "Christ's Ambassadors Department" to "Young Peoples Department" and to substitute the following for Section 1 of Article XIII:

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- a. There shall be a Young People's Department which shall be responsible for the youth work of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. It shall carry out the responsibilities through its program which shall be designated the Christ's Ambassadors program.
- b. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission: evangelization of the world, worshiping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. In part, it shall fulfill this responsibility by planning and promoting a spiritual program directed toward the youth of the Assemblies of God, encouraging the youth to assist in fulfilling the threefold mission of the Church.
- c. The functions of this department shall include:
  - (1) Encouraging and assisting the developing of District Young People's programs;
  - (2) Coordinating the development and promotion of projects of national scope;
  - (3) Producing literature and helps to meet the needs of youth;
  - (4) Promoting spiritual programs adaptable to the particular problems of young people in high schools and colleges;
  - (5) Developing and promoting guidelines for use at the district and local level.

### **Article XIV. Radio Department**

It was proposed to substitute the following for the first paragraph of Section 1 of Article XIV:

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Radio Department whose primary responsibility shall be in its field of activity to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

### **Article XV. Department of Finance**

It was proposed that the following be inserted in Section 2, paragraph "d" of Article XV:

d. The functions shall include:

- (1) Accounting;
- (2) Cashiering, including central mail, payroll, loans, and insurance;
- (3) Budgetary control;
- (4) Stewardship, including promotion of the concept of stewardship through wills, bequests, et cetera, and the supervision of matters relating to wills, bequests, et cetera, involving the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

### **Article XVII. Women's Missionary Council Department**

It was proposed to substitute the following Section 1 for the present Section 1 of Article XVII:

#### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- a. There shall be a Women's Missionary Council Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activities to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.
- b. The functions of this department shall include:
  - (1) To encourage the development of the work of the women of the fellowship at the local, district, and national levels;
  - (2) To correlate the work of the women of the fellowship with the needs served by the Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Benevolences Departments in such a way that the needs may be met quickly and equitably with each district and local group carrying its proportionate share of service through projects;
  - (3) To encourage district and local groups to view their service as a spiritual ministry and stewardship in which faithfulness is important;
  - (4) To encourage the women of the fellowship to engage in the ministry of personal witnessing and the ministry of intercessory prayer;
  - (5) To offer encouragement and assistance to district and local groups for organization and operation;
  - (6) To conduct WMC conventions, seminars, and rallies to stimulate interest and disseminate information concerning the Women's Missionary Council and its program;
  - (7) To organize and promote a program for girls;

- (8) To prepare and publish handbooks and manuals, and to issue such bulletins as may be needed to implement the department program;
- (9) To publicize the Women's Missionary Council through the media of *The Pentecostal Evangel* and other periodicals as opportunity affords.

#### **Article XVIII. Men's Fellowship Department**

It was proposed to substitute the following for Section 1 of Article XVIII:

##### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

- a. There shall be a Men's Fellowship Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activity to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.
- b. The function of this department shall include:
  - (1) To encourage the development of the work of the men of the fellowship at the local, district, and national levels;
  - (2) To promote the formation of fellowship groups among the men in local churches;
  - (3) To develop the interest of men in supporting all programs of the Assemblies of God;
  - (4) To coordinate the efforts of the men in local and district organizations of Men's Fellowships within the Assemblies of God;
  - (5) To encourage and to teach men to engage in personal witnessing for Christ;
  - (6) To organize and promote a program for boys;
  - (7) To participate in sponsoring foreign evangelistic literature crusades and such other programs as may be approved in the future;
  - (8) To prepare and publish handbooks, manuals, and such literature as may be needed to further the fulfilling of the mission of the Church by the men of the Assemblies of God churches;
  - (9) To publicize the work of the Men's Fellowship.

A motion from the floor was offered that the proposed Bylaw changes affecting Articles IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVII, and XVIII be adopted in toto. The motion was seconded and carried.

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

The General Secretary read the proposed Article for inclusion in the Bylaws:

##### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission to enable the General Superintendent's office to carry out the assignment of implementing the threefold mission of the Church by developing, coordinating, and promoting whole-church efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission. The departments shall cooperate with the Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission in this priority effort.

##### **Section 2. Organization**

- a. The Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission shall be under the direction of the General Superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery. It shall consist of the General Superintendent, who shall serve as Executive Director, and a Spiritual Life—Evangelism Coordinator appointed by the Executive Presbytery.
- b. There shall be a Committee on Mission appointed by the Executive Presbytery with representation from the various headquarters ministries to assist the office of the General Superintendent in the promotion and coordination of efforts directed toward the fulfilling of the threefold mission of the Church by rendering advice, by indicating ways in which departmental resources can be used to fulfill the threefold mission of the Church, and by communicating to the departments emphases placed upon each of the three elements by the Committee on Mission or by the office of the General Superintendent.

The General Superintendent shall serve as Chairman of the Committee on Mission. The Spiritual Life—Evangelism Coordinator shall serve as Secretary of the Committee on Mission by virtue of his office.

Subcommittees of the Committee on Mission shall include the Mobilization and Placement Service Committee, Evangelism Literature for America Committee, and such other committees as may be required to give the full emphases to the mission of the Church.

##### **Section 3. Function**

The Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission shall serve as an executive agency whose responsibility it is to provide leadership and to coordinate through all departments efforts designed to fulfill the threefold mission of the Church and emphases drawn up by the Committee on Mission.

Specific functions shall include:

- a. Providing leadership in, and providing coordination of, efforts directed toward fulfilling the threefold mission of the Church;
- b. Planning and promoting special evangelistic and spiritual-life emphases;

- c. Developing and implementing of a Mobilization and Placement Service;
- d. Developing and implementing of an Evangelism Literature for America program;
- e. Serving the Evangelists Fellowship.

A motion prevailed to adopt the proposed Article as read.

### **Editing and Sequence of Articles**

The General Secretary also read recommendations from the Committee on Advance providing for the editing of the Bylaws to conform to constitutional amendments defining the name of the General Council and the numbering and sequence of Articles in the Bylaws. Inasmuch as the Council had already adopted a covering editing resolution, there was no action on these recommendations. (See Resolution Number 5.)

### **Ministers Support to General Council Resolution Number 8**

Brother Calloway presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The 1968 audit revealed a deficit of \$15,000 in the General Department, Executive Administrative budget, as well as a lesser deficit in 1969; and

WHEREAS, the main source of revenue for Executive Administration is derived from the giving of ministers, and

WHEREAS, the last increase (from \$1 to \$2 per month for each ordained minister) was made in 1955; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XV, section 3, paragraph "a," of the Bylaws shall be amended by substituting "three dollars (\$3.00)" for "two dollars (\$2.00)" in line eight and "two dollars (\$2.00)" for "one dollar and a half (\$1.50)" in line nine.

(The proposed wording will then read, "Ordained ministers should, therefore, recognize their obligation to contribute from their tithes or as an offering, or through their influence, the sum of three dollars (\$3.00) per month. Licensed ministers should contribute the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) per month.")

The motion to adopt was seconded.

The General Secretary read a report from a special study committee which gave support to the resolution. He stated that committee chairman, Earl Book, had to leave the Council early and had requested the report be presented by the General Secretary.

A motion to amend the resolution that "the \$3.00 per month become dues for the privilege of having credentials with the General Council" failed to carry.

A motion was made and seconded to amend Section 3, paragraph "a" to provide for a statement of explanation on a ministers' renewal questionnaire in the event he has not complied as requested in his support to the General Council.

A further motion prevailed to amend the amendment to include "and District Council."

The motion to amend, as amended, was voted upon and declared carried.

Following discussion, a motion calling for the previous question prevailed.

The Resolution 8, as amended, was voted upon and declared carried.

### **Eschatological Errors Resolution Number 9**

Brother Calloway presented the following resolution after which he moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, This 33rd session of The General Council of the Assemblies of God has reaffirmed our official disapproval of the teaching of a post-tribulation rapture; and

WHEREAS, there are now in certain areas, certain of our ministerial brethren who have embraced and are actively espousing the divisive doctrine of amillennialism, a position in direct opposition to our historical premillennial teaching; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we amend Article XXIII, Section 3 "c," by adding another subsection after the third paragraph of subsection "c" to be designated as subsection "d," which shall read as follows:

"d. The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of the amillennial teaching and its attendant erroneous philosophy which denies the fact of a literal 1,000 years' reign of Christ on the earth, and substitute for it the theory that this Christian or Church dispensation is the spiritual millennium of which, its proponents say, the Bible writers prophesied"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the last paragraph of the present subsection "c" shall follow the new subsection "d," and shall be amended to read: "We recommend that should any of our ministers embrace either of these eschatological errors, they refrain from preaching or teaching them. Should they persist in emphasizing either of these doctrines to the

point of making them an issue, their standing in the fellowship will be seriously affected. Luke 21:34-36; 1 Thess. 5:9, 10; 2 Thess. 1:4-10; Rev. 3:10)."

It was recalled that this had been referred to the Resolutions Committee as a result of the discussion during the revisions of Article XXIII earlier in the session.

It was agreed to add "of the Assemblies of God" following the words "The General Council" in the proposed paragraph "d," Section 3. A motion prevailed to add the Scripture reference "Revelation, chapters 19 and 20," to those enumerated in the proposed paragraph "d."

Following discussion, a motion prevailed to refer this matter to the Study Committee on Article XXIII with a report to be brought back to the next General Council.

### **Pastors for Small Churches Resolution Number 10**

Brother Calloway read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS a review of a national survey prepared by the Home Missions Department indicates that several hundred small churches are having difficulty in securing pastors because of financial problems, the inability of the congregation to support full-time pastors, and a continual shifting of population; and

WHEREAS one minister can serve more than one church where needed much the same as the circuit riders of other days, thus making possible a pastoral ministry for two or more churches which could be combined into a circuit; and WHEREAS some of these churches have parsonages and can provide partial support and proper leadership could be developed into self-supporting works when men of vision are found to provide the leadership; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That our district leadership promote the use of qualified laymen from nearby established churches in order to help keep small assemblies from having to close; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That stronger churches be encouraged to assume responsibility for the smaller nearby assemblies by providing the necessary leadership for the services and thus help keep the church in existence; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That our Bible school graduates, retired ministers, and other credential holders should be presented with the challenge that there are many churches in need of pastors and listing of same in the various districts be made available to them.

An amendment was proposed, as follows:

"That the Executive Presbytery appoint a representative committee to study ways and means of encouraging and stimulating growth of small Assemblies, and that the findings of the committee be provided to each district for the benefit of the small Assemblies.

The motion to amend was seconded.

The vote on the amendment was not clear and a division of the house was called for. There were 187 affirmative votes and 152 negative votes. The motion to amend was therefore declared carried by a majority vote.

A further motion was voted upon and declared carried to provide

That District Home Missions Committees make a thorough evaluation of each individual case to determine whether or not the church effort should be continued.

Resolution Number 10, as amended, was then voted upon and declared carried.

### **Spiritual Life Committee Report**

The Spiritual Life Committee report was presented by its chairman, Joseph R. Flower:

The Spiritual Life Committee met on Saturday, August 23, and as a preface to its deliberations, reviewed with appreciation the comprehensive report presented by the Spiritual Life Committee to the Thirty-Second General Council at Long Beach, California. We trust that the emphases of that report shall continue to be implemented throughout our Movement.

The present committee submits the following observations and recommendations for your prayerful consideration.

1. The Holy Spirit manifests Himself in an atmosphere of spontaneous and sincere worship. Every spiritual leader is urged to lead his people into such a freedom of worship. There is a basic need for every Christian to give expression of his faith and such expression should be encouraged within the framework of our public services. United prayer, praise, and Bible reading will surely hasten the coming of revival for truly "the Lord inhabits the praises of His people."

2. We commend the large number of churches which reported substantial growth during the past biennium, but it is alarming to note that 2,321 churches reported no conversions. Surely a revival is needed!

3. In this day of permissiveness and moral laxity it is imperative that we maintain a high standard of holiness. We urge our constituency to adhere to the standards set forth by the Committee on Doctrines and Practices Disapproved as presented to this Council.

4. It has been noted that an alarming number of our Bible college graduates seem to be primarily concerned with securing ample financial remuneration rather than manifesting the spirit of sacrifice which has characterized our Movement in times past. We urge our colleges to seek to instill within our youth that spirit of self-sacrifice which is still mandatory in the work of the Lord.

5. We commend *The Pentecostal Evangel* for its continued improvement in spiritual tone and Pentecostal expression. The last Spiritual Life Committee report noted that "No writer can transmit more faith and inspiration than is in his own heart." The present committee would like to point out that it is equally true that our publication committees should allow full expression by our writers in presenting their message. Furthermore, we recommend that the editorial staff should not detract from the particular style and convictions of the writers. We suggest that our editorial policy board be strengthened in assuming its role in this area.

6. Our churches will be no more spiritual than our homes. We strongly urge our families to diligently conduct family Bible reading and prayer and to encourage a distinctive Pentecostal expression in our family altars.

7. We appreciate what God is doing in various denominations in bringing about a spiritual renewal. However, we must keep before us the necessity of a scriptural balance in the area of physical manifestations and the need of a sanctified life on the part of those who profess a Pentecostal experience.

8. Reports of increased interest and blessing which have attended our camp meetings are most heartening. It is important that spiritual priorities be kept in our youth camps rather than their becoming only recreational outings. We urge our pastors to encourage our youth to continue in the spiritual blessings which they receive at camp.

9. We believe that the Evangelists' Seminar conducted in Springfield, Missouri, last year and the one projected for this year are positive steps toward revival and recommend their continuance and enlargement. The Pastor-Evangelists Seminar preceding this Council was marked by excellent attendance and keen interest. We commend our leadership for planning this session.

10. The Spiritual Life Committee expresses deep gratitude to God for His evident blessing upon the Five-Year Program of Advance as it was presented to our Movement in St. Louis, Missouri, last year. We feel that this year's emphasis upon revival has made a definite impact within our churches. We appreciate the scriptural themes chosen for this

Council and trust that our constituency will participate wholeheartedly in the future emphases of Advance.

#### *Conclusion*

This report expresses the deep desire of each member of the Spiritual Life Committee for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our entire Fellowship and a renewed passion and outreach for lost souls. We recognize that revival can never come through legislation, and that if the great objectives of Advance are to be realized, it must be through the inspiration which total commitment of the individual produces.

Maranatha!

Spiritual Life Committee: Joseph R. Flower, Chairman; John W. Everett, Secretary; Edgar W. Bethany, Joseph L. Gerhart, Gayle F. Lewis, Wesley F. Morton, Hal C. Noah, Allan E. Shuttlesworth, and James H. Woods.

The report of the Spiritual Life Committee was adopted unanimously.

#### **Adjournment Time Set**

A motion prevailed at 1 p.m. to set the time of adjournment at 1:30 with the provision that unfinished business will be carried over until the next General Council.

#### **Detailed Agenda**

A motion was made that new items of business on the agenda of future General Councils be provided in as much detail as possible, that items be arranged in their order of priority and that resolutions be presented in file form. The motion was seconded, but failed to carry when voted upon.

#### **Department Reports**

It was moved that the matter of departmental reports be referred to the Executive Presbytery and that this board give thought and consideration to expediting the matter of reporting, compressing the reports so that they will not take up so much time. The motion was seconded and carried.

The chair requested comments and suggestions evaluating the conduct of General Councils in order to provide for the best method of procedure.

#### **Pornography and Sex Education**

##### **Resolution Number 11**

The following resolution was presented:

WHEREAS there is a growing permissiveness prevalent in society with respect to the general attitude toward morality; and

WHEREAS, the breakdown of standards of decency does vitally affect the moral fiber of a nation; and

WHEREAS, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 34:14); and

WHEREAS, Christians are to be "the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13); therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council adopt the following statement on pornography:

"As a body of believers dedicated to the task of building the Kingdom of God on earth and resisting the forces of evil in whatever form they may present themselves, we, the members of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, view with great alarm the growing permissiveness in the general attitude toward morality. Raw sex, obscenity, and nudity are openly and flagrantly displayed on newsstands, motion picture screens, and even on the television screens of our nation's homes. Pornography is sent through the mails with apparent impunity. This abuse of public standards of decency is perpetrated under the pretense of a new morality.

"As Pentecostal believers in this perverse age, we affirm that the Bible is the unchanging basis for private and public morality. Scripture plainly admonishes, "Be ye holy; for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16) and "Keep thyself pure" (1 Timothy 5:22). We therefore urge all Christians to resist actively the increasing flow of salacious materials and to protect our children and young people from the immoral, degrading influences of offensive literature and entertainment by urging city councils, state legislatures, and Congress to pass laws to prohibit effectively the distribution and sale of obscene publications and entertainment to minors.

"We particularly decry the action of the higher courts in reversing local judgments against pornographers. We feel that trial courts and juries, by virtue of their familiarity with the local situation, are better qualified than remote appellate courts to determine the standards of decency within a community." Be it further

RESOLVED, That the following statement on sex education be adopted:

"Programs of sex education in our public schools have recently attracted much public attention by their undisguised frankness and their treatment of sex without moral instruction. Some courses specifically exclude moral considerations as not being relevant to sex education.

"We affirm that the ideal place for sex education is in the home; the church likewise has a responsibility in preparing young people to become well-adjusted members of family and society. Although the public school may in some cases provide legitimate and wholesome sex education, we are strongly opposed to all attempts which divorce such instruction from Biblical morality. Because of the wide diversity from one community to another, we further feel that sex education in the public school should be voluntary rather than compulsory.

"We therefore urge Christian parents to conscientiously fulfill their responsibility of inculcating in their children Bible-based moral standards along with general instruction in family living. In communities where unacceptable sex education is already a part of the curriculum, we urge parents, educators, clergymen, and civic leaders to remove the objectionable courses or to make Biblical standards of morality, upon which our social and legal traditions are based, an integral part of the sex instruction."

It was moved and seconded the resolution be adopted.

A motion prevailed to delete the word "Pentecostal" in the second paragraph and substitute the word "Christian."

It was further moved, seconded, and carried to amend the resolution to insert "Parent Teachers Associations" following civic leaders in the last paragraph.

A motion to insert the name or organization known as SIECUS in the first paragraph of the resolution failed to carry.

The original motion to adopt resolution 11 as amended was voted upon and declared carried by an almost unanimous vote.

### **Ministers' Benefit Association Resolution Number 12**

Brother Calloway presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Bylaws of the Ministers' Benefit Association provide for the retirement of its members at 62 years of age, as an optional provision for its members; and

WHEREAS, The General Council bylaws, Article XIX, Section 1, specify retirement at age 65; be it

RESOLVED, That Article XIX, Section 1, be amended to strike out "at 65 years of age," and insert "at 62 years of age, or later," so that the paragraph will read:

"The Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to put into operation an Association of Assemblies of God



Ministers available to all ordained and licensed ministers of the General Council which shall have as its objective the accumulation of funds to make possible the retirement of its members at 62 years of age, or later, 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." The motion carried.

### Resolutions Presented Early

It was moved, seconded, and carried that all resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, be presented to the General Secretary's office at least ninety days prior to a General Council session, that the Resolutions Committee prepare the resolutions in printed form; and, that resolutions of an emergency nature be decided by a two-thirds vote of the Council, with the understanding that this does not apply to business growing out of Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery meetings just prior to the General Council.

### Church Membership Committee Report

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the report of the Church Membership Committee be received and that it become a part of the record of the Council. The report follows:

"In reviewing the statistics of the past biennium, the General Council Church Membership Committee takes pleasure in reporting that there has been a definite increase in the membership of our churches.

"Two years ago we reported a gain of 2.33 members per church. The increase for this biennium is over 5.79 new members per church. In 1967 our membership was 576,058. The increase for the past two years is 46,602, making a total of 625,660 registered members in our churches. While this is a substantial gain there still remains much to be done in integrating new converts into the churches of our Fellowship.

#### "Church Membership Theme for 1970

"The Executive Presbytery recommends that the Church Membership theme for 1970 shall be 'Making Membership Meaningful.' This implies that the pastor makes membership meaningful by making it available. The church makes it meaningful by utilizing its members. The individual makes church membership meaningful by becoming involved in the program of the church.

#### "Proposed New Aids

"As an aid to making membership meaningful, the committee is planning a promotional packet for the use of the church which will include vital tools of interest to new converts. The artwork and message of the packet will incorporate the joy of belonging and the value of membership in the visible body of Christ.

"Another new aid being planned is a pamphlet which will deal with the subject, 'What New Church Members Should Know,' and will include brief articles on the following subjects:

- How to conduct a family altar
- How to get the most out of a church service
- How to read your Bible
- How to be a good steward
- How to be a witness for Christ

"These aids to church membership will be available through the Gospel Publishing House along with the numerous others presently available, such as, church member record books, membership application cards, certificates of membership, et cetera.

"Your committee suggests:

"1. That a proper emphasis on church membership shall be directed to all new converts who have a definite experience of salvation.

"2. That associate membership shall be made available for young people who have been converted who might be too young to be received as a voting member of the church.

"3. That meaningful courses of study shall be provided by our churches for the new members covering such subjects as Our statement of fundamental truths

Stewardship

Meaning of Church Membership

History of the Assemblies of God.

and other curricular material adapted to meeting the needs of new Christians.

"4. Pentecost Sunday, May 17, 1970, shall be observed as National Church Membership Day throughout the churches of the Assemblies of God."

Chas. W. H. Scott, Chairman; Warren McPherson, Secretary;  
Chas. W. Denton, Curtis W. Ringness, David Johnston, Wm. Kirschke.

### Resolution of Appreciation

Brother Calloway presented the following resolution and moved its adoption:

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

RESOLVED, That this 33rd General Council express deep appreciation for every courtesy and all assistance given, and that the secretary convey these sentiments in writing wherever practicable to the following:

1. The North Texas District Council Superintendent, officers, pastors, and churches for the interest, enthusiasm, support, and help in so many ways.
2. The Greater Dallas Assemblies of God Pastors Association and the churches of the area for helping to make the convention a success by promoting it, giving generously, providing volunteers to work in many areas, lending equipment, and in many other ways.
3. The Dallas area news media (newspapers, radio stations, and television stations) for their friendly reception and good coverage of the General Council.
4. The Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau for valuable cooperation, assistance, and services both before and during the convention; and to the workers from the bureau who worked so efficiently in the registration booth.
5. The Dallas Memorial Auditorium management and staff for the fine service they have provided with such commendable courtesy; to the Dallas city government and Police Department for special courtesies; and to the people of the city who have shown such a friendly interest in us.
6. The many committees who have worked so long, hard, and faithfully in every assigned area.
7. The many companies who have made a unique contribution to this Council through their colorful and informative exhibits.
8. The Xerox Corporation, American Airlines, A. B. Dick Co., Arnold Morgan Music Company, and many other companies for special equipment, services, and courtesies they have provided.
9. 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 motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

### General Superintendent's Vacation

Mrs. T. C. Cunningham asked for the privilege of the floor, and offered the following motion:

That we send Brother and Sister Zimmerman on a month's paid vacation, beginning at the end of this Council.

The General Superintendent turned the chair to Brother Roy Wead. Brother Wead suggested amending the motion to provide that the time of the vacation be left to Brother and Sister Zimmerman. The motion was seconded and carried by a standing vote of appreciation.

The General Superintendent responded by thanking the Council for its thoughtfulness. He stated that the matter will be referred to the Executive Presbytery for implementation.

### Approval of Minutes

A motion prevailed that the minutes of the General Council be presented to the next quarterly meeting of the Executive Presbytery for approval.

### Nonresident Executive Presbyters

The chair introduced the nonresident executive presbyters: Edgar W. Bethany, E. M. Clark, N. D. Davidson, Joseph R. Flower, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Paul Lowenberg, Dwight H. McLaughlin, and Roy H. Wead.

A brief meeting of the Executive Presbytery was announced to be held immediately following adjournment.

### Adjournment

A motion prevailed that the 33rd General Council be adjourned sine die at 1:40 p.m. After singing *The Doxology*, Paul Lowenberg pronounced the benediction. The 33rd General Council was therefore declared adjourned.

BARTLETT PETERSON  
GENERAL SECRETARY

**Constitution of the General Council of the Assemblies of God in the United States of America and Foreign Lands Revised to August 26, 1969**

**CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION**

**WE BELIEVE:**

That God's purpose concerning man is 1) to seek and to save that which is lost, 2) to be worshiped by man, and 3) to build a body of believers in the image of His Son.

That these believers saved and called out of the world 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 cornerstone.

That the members of the body, the church (ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves 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.

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

That the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God is to be an agency of God for evangelizing the world, to be a corporate body in which man may worship God, and to be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

That the Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit which enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adding a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, and enabling them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ.

That we are a cooperative 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 neither to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural and local rights and privileges; but to recognize and promote scriptural methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work, and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural methods, doctrines and conduct, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13)

### ARTICLE I. NAME

The corporate name shall be *The General Council of the Assemblies of God*, which term is reserved for legal use when referring to the legal entity.

The term *General Council* shall be used to refer to sessions of the corporation.

The term *Assemblies of God* shall be used to refer to the entire constituency.

### ARTICLE II. NATURE

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

### ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

- a. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- b. To encourage and promote the worship of God.
- c. To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- d. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.
- e. 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.
- f. To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods, and conduct.
- g. 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 FOR FELLOWSHIP

The Assemblies of God shall represent as nearly as possible in detail, the body of Christ as described in the New Testament Scriptures. It shall recognize the principles inherent in that body as also inherent in this Fellowship, particularly the principles of unity, cooperation, and equality. It recognizes that these principles will enable it to achieve its priority reason-for-being as an agency of God for evangelizing the world, as a corporate body in which man may worship God, and as a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son.

### ARTICLE V

#### STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

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

#### 1. The Scriptures Inspired

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

#### 2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

#### THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

##### (a) Terms Defined

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

**(b) Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead**

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

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

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

**(d) Identity and Cooperation in the Godhead**

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

**(e) The Title, Lord Jesus Christ**

The appellation, "Lord Jesus Christ," is a proper name. It is never applied, in the New Testament, either to the Father or to the Holy Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God. Rom. 1:1-3, 7; 2 John 3.

**(f) The Lord Jesus Christ, God with us**

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

**(g) The Title, Son of God**

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

**(h) Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ**

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

**(i) Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord**

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

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

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

### 3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

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

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

### 4. The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

### 5. The Salvation of Man

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

**(a) Conditions to Salvation**

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

**(b) The Evidences of Salvation**

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

## 6. The Ordinances of the Church

### (a) Baptism in Water

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

### (b) Holy Communion

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

## 7. The Baptism in the Holy Ghost

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Ghost come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Heb. 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

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

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

## 9. Sanctification

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

ye holy, for I am holy." (1 Peter 1:15, 16)

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

## 10. The Church and Its Mission

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 Firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 1 Corinthians 14:12).

The Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. This experience:

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3, 4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12, 13, and 14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11, 12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

## 11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) Evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) Worship of God (John 4:23, 24), (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16).

## **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 offices and District Councils.

# **ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP**

## **Section 1. The General Council of the Assemblies of God**

The membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ordained ministers holding accredited fellowship certificate and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

## **Section 2. Assemblies of God**

The membership of the Assemblies of God shall consist of all ministers of the Assemblies of God and all other persons who are members of churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God and its District Councils.

## **Section 3. Voting Constituency**

The voting constituency at a General Council shall be composed of all accredited members of The General Council of the Assemblies of God who are present and registered, and of such representatives, present and registered, as may be chosen by the churches affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God, each church being entitled to one delegate.

# **ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS**

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

b. Special sessions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God may be arranged by the Executive Presbytery if agreed to by a majority of the general presbyters.

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

# **ARTICLE IX. OFFICERS**

## **1. Executive Officers**

The officers shall consist of the General Superintendent, the Assistant General Superintendents, General Secretary, General Treasurer, and the Executive Director of Foreign Missions, together with such other officers as may be required in the future. Their terms of office shall begin three months after the date of election. The term of office for the General Superintendent shall continue for four years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for two years or until their successors qualify.

## **2. Executive Presbytery**

The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the General Superintendent, the Assistant General Superintendents, General Secretary, General Treasurer, and the Executive Director of

Foreign Missions together with such other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number of executives to sixteen.

### **3. General Presbytery**

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

The executive presbyters shall be ex officio members of the General Presbytery.

The foreign fields shall be represented in the General Presbytery by the field secretaries of the Foreign Missions Department and by two others from each of the overall 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 officials of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

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 of the Assemblies of God 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 of the Assemblies of God.

d. The District Council shall elect its own officers, and arrange for its own meetings. It shall be amenable to The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 of the Assemblies of God and subordinate thereto, cannot be authorized, in any way, to violate the principles of The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 cooperative fellowship to which the Assemblies of God fellowship is especially and unalterably dedicated.

## **ARTICLE XI. BRANCHES**

a. A Branch is defined as a unit in The General Council of the Assemblies of God equivalent to a District Council in representation in the General Presbytery and the General Council 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 Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. 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 cooperate in the work of the district. They should support the district organization and may send delegates to the District and General Councils.



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

The fact that a local assembly is affiliated in the association of a District Council or The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall in nowise destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty. The local assembly shall recognize that a District Council or The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 of the Assemblies of God 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 Ministers' Letter* sent periodically to ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 General 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 of the Assemblies of God shall be elected at one of its regular meetings, according to the manner of election as provided. They shall be chosen from the membership of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and shall be men of mature experience and ability, whose life and ministry are above question, and such qualities alone shall determine their eligibility.

#### Section 2. Nomination and Election

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

b. Election of general presbyters shall take place at the District Council meetings.

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 nonresident 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 nonresident executive presbyters, The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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, Eastern, New Jersey, New York, Potomac

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

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

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

e. The General Treasurer shall be selected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available men for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names for this office to be presented to the General Council in session for election. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election.

f. The Executive Director of Foreign Missions shall be an Assistant General Superintendent and shall be elected in the following manner: The General Presbytery, serving as a nominating committee, shall be entrusted with the responsibility of making careful investigation concerning the qualifications and general fitness of available men for this strategic post and shall select by secret ballot one or more names to be presented to the General Council in session for election. A two-thirds vote shall be required for election.

### Section 3. Vacancies

a. In the event any of the Executive Offices of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall become vacant through death or other cause, the Executive Presbytery 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 Presbytery 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.

## ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent

a. To emphasize and implement the threefold mission of the Church: Evangelization of the world, worshiping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son, and by promoting and coordinating efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission.

b. To be General Superintendent of all work on the field conducted in behalf of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

c. To supervise all the work of the General Office. To act as president of the corporation in all legal matters. He shall be an ~~ex~~ officio member of all committees.

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

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

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

g. To appoint executive directors of the various departments of The General Council of the Assemblies of God from among the executive officers, with the cooperation and advice of those members of the Executive Presbytery who are not executive officers.

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

i. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents and to perform any other functions usual and customary as presiding officer or such as may be directed by the General Council or by the Executive Presbytery.

### Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendents

a. To assist the General Superintendent.

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

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

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

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

### Section 3. Duties of the General Secretary

- a. The General Secretary shall make and keep true records of the proceedings of the General Council and shall publish the same as approved and directed by the Executive Presbytery.
- b. He shall be custodian of the official seal and shall issue credentials under the direction of the Credentials Committee and shall keep a record of all ordained and licensed ministers, 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.

### Section 4. Duties of the General Treasurer

- a. To be custodian of all 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 General Council or the Executive Presbytery.

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

- a. He shall be the Executive Director of the Foreign Missions Department under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the department shall perform the following duties and render the following services:
  - b. Keep a record of all decisions of the missionary committee and of all official acts of the Missions Department.
  - c. Conduct all correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.
  - d. Conduct the missionary columns in *The Pentecostal Evangel* from missionary letters and reports.
  - e. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 of the Assemblies of God. 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, to borrow monies as deemed necessary and to issue bonds of whatsoever kind, trust deeds, mortgages, debentures, and notes and to enter into contracts all as may seem expedient and proper in the furtherance of the work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

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 corporation shall be bought, taken, held, sold, transferred, mortgaged, leased, assigned or conveyed in the corporate name upon authorization by the Executive Presbytery as trustees thereof and the President and the General Secretary shall be authorized and they hereby are authorized to execute all documents pertaining to such transactions.

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

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

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

j. The executive presbyters shall make a report to the General Council of their activities in behalf of the Fellowship as may be directed.

#### **Section 7. Duties of the General Presbytery**

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

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

### **ARTICLE IV. COMMITTEES**

#### **Section 1. Standing Committees**

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

#### **Section 2. Credentials Committee**

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

#### **Section 3. Roster Committee**

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

#### **Section 4. Other Committees**

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

### **ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS**

#### **Section 1. Boundaries**

The boundaries of the districts shall be determined or rearranged by cooperative agreement between the districts and the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

#### **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. ASSEMBLIES**

#### **Section 1. Membership Certificates**

The General Office shall issue a Certificate of Affiliation to all churches coming into the Fellowship. It shall be appropriate in size and appearance for framing.

#### **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 on forms provided to the office of the District Secretary and the General Council Secretary.

#### **Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies**

a It is known that many unreliable and unsafe teachers and preachers go about seeking entrance into assemblies without any recommendation; therefore, all pastors, workers, and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation regarding those persons not known to them, and the platform be denied strangers until proper recommendations be forthcoming.

b. Since the use of non-Assemblies of God 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 VII. MINISTRY

### Section 1. Ministry Described

Christ's gifts to the Church include apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers (Ephesians 4:11), exhorters, administrators, leaders, and helpers (Romans 12:7, 8).

In terms of maturity of ministry, three classifications of ministry are recognized, viz., the ordained minister, the licensed minister, and the Christian worker. An applicant for ministerial recognition must give testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5) and to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the Church (Article V, par. 10 of the Constitution).

### Section 2. Qualifications

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

b. Qualifications for a license to preach shall be:

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

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

c. Efficient helpers in gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service may be recognized as Christian workers. 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' Certificates

Licenses to Preach and Christian Workers' 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. Mature women of not less than twenty-three years of age who have developed in the ministry of the Word so that their ministry is acceptable generally and who have proved their qualifications in actual service and who have met all the requirements of the credentials committees of the District Councils may be ordained to the ministry of the gospel and may serve either as evangelists or as pastors as their qualifications warrant. The right to administer the ordinances of the church, when such acts are necessary, shall be included in the ordination.

### Section 5. Exceptions

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

b. Since divorced and remarried persons in the ministry usually cause stumbling, reproach and division, whatever may have been the cause of divorce, we disapprove of District Councils granting credentials to a person living in the state of matrimony where either the applicant or the married partner has a former companion living. (See Article VIII, Section 5e.)

c. The Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 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 Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

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

b. All ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or who cease to engage in either pastoral or evangelistic work for a period of one year or more shall be expected to notify the office of the General Secretary, who shall be authorized to remove the names of such persons and to place them upon an inactive list. Ministers who preach less than twenty-five times per year shall have their names placed upon the inactive list for one year. If such inactivity shall continue for a second year, their names shall be eliminated from the ministerial list. It shall be understood that this shall not apply to those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry, to individuals who have had fifteen or more years of approved service as ordained ministers of the Assemblies of God, nor to inactivity caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health. Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing the endorsement of the district officary.

#### **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 National executive office in the same manner as those engaged in active ministry.

#### **Section 10. Ministerial Relations**

a. All ministers holding credentials shall be amenable to both the District Council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and conduct.

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

#### **Section 11. Certificate of Transfer**

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

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

#### **Section 12. 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.

## ARTICLE VIII. DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES DISAPPROVED

In accord with its constitutional prerogatives, The General Council of the Assemblies of God has declared itself pertaining to disapproval of certain matters as follows:

### Section 1. Unconditional Security

In view of the Biblical teaching that the security of the believer depends on a living relationship with Christ (John 15:6); in view of the Bible's call to a life of holiness (1 Peter 1:16; Hebrews 12:14), in view of the clear teaching that a man may have his part taken out of the Book of Life (Revelation 22:19), and in view of the fact that one who believes for a while can fall away (Luke 8:13), The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of the unconditional security position which holds that it is impossible for a person once saved to be lost.

### Section 2. Legalism

#### a. Matters of Conscience

The Assemblies of God disapproves of those who hold to matters of conscience, such as the eating or not eating of meats, who press their personal opinions on others.

#### b. Adding Conditions to Salvation

The Assemblies of God also disapproves of those who hold to issues which seem to add conditions to salvation, such as the keeping of the seventh day, who press their opinions on others.

### Section 3. Eschatological Errors

#### a. The Restitution of All Things

The Assemblies of God understands the teaching of Acts 3:21 to limit the restoration to that of which the prophets have spoken, thus denying the universal redemption theory. We are opposed to all forms of universalism (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:10).

#### b. Setting a Date 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 (Mark 13:32, 33; Luke 12:37-40; 1 Thessalonians 5:2). It is also unwise to give out from the platform, or publish, visions of numbers and dates fixing the time of the second coming of the Lord.

#### c. Post-Tribulation Rapture

The General Council of the Assemblies of God has declared itself in the Statement of Fundamental Truths that it holds to the belief in the imminent coming of the Lord as the blessed hope of the Church; and since the teaching that the Church must

go through the Tribulation tends to bring confusion and division among the saints, it is recommended 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 complacency by any teaching that would cause them to feel that specific Tribulation events must occur before the Rapture of the saints.

Furthermore, it is recommended that should any Assemblies of God 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 (Luke 21:34-46; 1 Thessalonians 5:9, 10; 2 Thessalonians 1:4-10; Revelation 3:10).

### Section 4. Membership in Secret Orders

Ours is a last-day message in preparation for the coming of the Lord (Matthew 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 (Ephesians 5:16).

The nature of such organizations demands secrecy (John 18:20; Acts 26:26) reinforced by religious oaths (Matthew 5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated (2 Corinthians 6:14). The spirit, philosophy, and general influence of such secret orders aim at the improvement of the natural man only (1 Corinthians 2:14; Colossians 2:8), thus wrongly channeling by incorrect interpretation important spiritual truths (2 Peter 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 (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

In consideration of the foregoing, all ministers affiliated with us should refrain from identifying themselves with any of the secret orders which we recognize as essentially of the world, worldly, and we advise any who may have identified themselves with such orders to sever their connections therewith (2 Corinthians 6:17). Furthermore, our ministers are requested to use their good influence among our lay members to dissuade them from such fraternal affiliations (1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Timothy 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 divorces for any cause except for fornication and adultery (Matthew 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.

d. We disapprove of any Assemblies of God minister performing a marriage ceremony for anyone who has been divorced and whose former companion is still living. Any minister of our fellowship who performs such a ceremony, unless he has been innocently deceived into doing so, may be dismissed from the fellowship.

e. We disapprove of any married minister of the Assemblies of God holding credentials if either minister or spouse has a former companion living. (See, also, Article VII, Section 5, paragraphs "b" and "c.")

## Section 6. Worldliness

In view of the alarming erosion of national moral standards, we reaffirm our intention of holding up Bible standards against all forms of worldliness. We urge all believers to "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world... For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:15, 16).

In its teaching regarding worldliness, the Scripture warns against: Participation in activity which defiles the body, or corrupts the mind and spirit; the inordinate love of, or preoccupation with, pleasures, position, or possessions, which lead to their misuse; manifestation of extreme behavior, unbecoming speech, or inappropriate appearance; any fascination or association which lessens one's affection for spiritual things (Luke 21:34, 35; Romans 8:5-8, 12:1, 2; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; 1 Timothy 2:8-10, 4:12; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; Titus 2:12).

## Section 7. Abuses of Stewardship

### a. Tithing

- (1) 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 be given to charity or used for other purposes. In tithing, the ministers ought to be examples.
- (2) 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 necessarily should belong to the pastor for his support.

### b. Solicitation of Funds

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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 Assemblies of God principles or policies.  
Leaders in local projects shall have unquestioned freedom in local churches or communities.  
Projects of general interest to the district must have the authorization of the district officer.  
Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.  
Promotion of all projects of a missionary character must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery.
- (3) The obtaining and use of mailing lists for promotional purposes not having proper authorization or which are not in keeping with policies of The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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.

### c. Private Ownership of Religious Institutions

The General Council of the Assemblies of God approves the



holding of title to all church buildings, schools or other institutions that are supported by funds solicited for the work of God by 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 shall seriously affect the relationship to the Assemblies of God of members involved in such ownership.

### **Section 8. 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 individual members. Where there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the officers of the assembly.

Any minister who so offends shall be subject to scriptural discipline as an offender by the district officary or by the Executive Presbytery. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual Fellowship Certificates, and may be the basis for their recall.

### **Section 9. Ministry in a Non-Assemblies Church**

Inasmuch as unity is a vital principle for growth and spiritual development of the church, it is essential that we recognize our relationship to each other, and that we practice Christian cooperation in all our pastoral, evangelistic, missionary, and local church work. We recommend, therefore, that our ministers confer with District Council officials before engaging in ministry in a church not affiliated with the Assemblies of God so as to ascertain whether such church is approved as to doctrinal standards and cooperative fellowship. If the church does not have district approval, ministers shall be expected to refrain from conducting services for the church.

Ministers who violate this principle shall be considered as having opened the door for censure or charge which may necessitate the recall of their credentials.

### **Section 10. An Improper Attitude Toward Those Removed from the Fellowship**

In order to render effective decisions made in the interest of proper discipline and for the protection of our assemblies, 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. The offenders shall be subject to reprimand or, if persisted in, appropriate discipline.

### **Section 11. The Ecumenical Movement**

The General Council of the Assemblies of God disapproves of 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

a. We believe the basis of doctrinal fellowship of said movement to be so broad that it includes people who reject the inspiration of Scripture, the deity of Christ, the universality of sin, the substitutionary atonement, and other cardinal teachings which we understand to be essential to Biblical Christianity.

b. We believe the emphases of the Ecumenical Movement to be at variance with what we hold to be Biblical priorities, frequently displacing the urgency of individual salvation with social concerns.

c. We believe that the combination of many religious organizations into a World Super Church will culminate in the Religious Babylon of Revelation 17 and 18.

(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 IX. DISCIPLINE**

### **A. District Action**

#### **Section 1. Initiative**

Occasions sometimes arise which make it necessary to deal with ministers who for some reason seem to have reached the place where, in the opinion of the brethren, endorsement can no longer be given. Credentials committees which have the authority to ordain ministers and to recommend them for credentials also have the right to withdraw their approval and to recommend the recall of their credentials. The officary of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred shall be recognized as having the prior right of initiative in matters of discipline.

Complaints against a minister affecting his character or conduct filed with the Credentials Committee of the General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be referred to the district in which the offense occurred for investigation and such action as the revealed facts may warrant. A copy shall be sent to his home district.

If the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, for some reason, cannot take action, the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall refer the matter, together with the facts and supporting instruments, to the district with which the minister is affiliated. In the event a district fails to take action within ninety days after a matter has been referred to it, it shall be the responsibility of the Credentials Committee of the General Council of The Assemblies of God to see that action is initiated.

## **Section 2. Bases for Discipline**

Violation of Assemblies of God principles as stated in this Constitution and Bylaws may give cause for disciplinary action by the Credentials Committee. Among such causes for action shall be:

- a. Any conduct unbecoming to a minister or indiscretions involving morals.
- b. General inefficiency in the ministry.
- c. A failure or inability to represent our Pentecostal testimony correctly.
- d. A contentious or noncooperative spirit.
- e. An assumption of dictatorial authority over an assembly.
- f. An arbitrary rejection of district counsel.
- g. A declared open change in doctrinal views.
- h. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the cause.
- i. A marriage in violation of our stand on marriage and divorce. (Cf. Article VIII, Section 5d, e.)
- j. Violations of ministerial courtesies. (Cf. Article VIII, Section 8.)
- k. Ministry in a non-Assemblies church. (Cf. Article VIII, Section 9.)
- l. An improper attitude toward those removed from the Fellowship. (Article VIII, Section 10)

## **Section 3. Investigation of Reports of Misconduct**

When a report pertaining to the misconduct of a minister is received, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, and/or an appointed representative, shall make an investigation, having in mind that it is his responsibility to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the fellowship. This shall be done to determine the source of the report. The persons involved shall be interviewed in order to ascertain the facts in the case and the reasons underlying the persistence of the report.

Signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant, describing the alleged misconduct.

## **Section 4. Preparation and Filing of Charges**

If the district, after due investigation, determines that charges should be made, proper charges shall be prepared and retained in the district office. If no one appears to sign the charges, members of the district officiating making the investigation may prefer charges and proceed to administer discipline based on the evidence in their possession. The person whose conduct is under question shall be informed in writing of the nature of the charges made.

## **Section 5. District Hearing and Discipline**

In the event the reported misconduct appears to have foundation in fact and cannot be dealt with privately to the satisfaction of all concerned, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is said to have occurred, or the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated, shall arrange for a meeting of the District Credentials Committee regarding the alleged misconduct. The accused minister shall be requested to appear at the hearing in the hope the case can be settled.

If the district determines that guilt has been established, discipline shall be administered prayerfully and in the fear of God, in accordance with the Scriptures, and as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of this ecclesiastical body. The minister's fellowship certificate shall be surrendered.

A hearing shall not be considered as final disposition of the case until the accused be present and be allowed all rights and privileges granted herein: Provided, however, an accused member may be disciplined as guilty of charges preferred, if he refuses to appear at the hearing, or proof is found of willful neglect on his part to take advantage of his rights and privileges.

## **Section 6. Referral for Action to the Credentials Committee of the General Council of the Assemblies of God**

If the minister be adjudged guilty, the district shall recommend to the Credentials Committee of The General Council

of the Assemblies of God that his name be removed from the official list of ministers, in accordance with one of the classifications for the termination of credentials as listed in Section 7 of this Article.

Such recommendations shall set forth in writing satisfactory reasons for the action. Copies of these charges and recommendations shall be forwarded to the said Credentials Committee, to the minister involved, and to the superintendent of his home district. Thirty days from the date of the notification of the district decision shall be allowed for the accused to request a trial. He shall be apprised officially of this right at the time the district decision is made.

The said Credentials Committee shall be authorized to comply with the request of the district if, in its judgment, the district was justified in the action taken. If the said Credentials Committee finds that justice has not been served, it may refer the case, together with its recommendations, back to the district for review and reconsideration. Disposition of the case shall await further report from the district.

#### Section 7. Definition of Credential Terminations

a. Affiliation with Other Church Organizations. When a minister shall identify himself with another organization granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, his affiliation with this body shall be regarded as having ceased. He shall then be requested to return to the executive office of The General Council of the Assemblies of God the credentials which had been issued by that office. An investigation shall be made to determine the proper category of termination.

b. Lapsed. A minister who does not elect to renew his credentials shall be listed as "lapsed," provided there is no cause for disciplinary action.

c. Withdrawn. 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."

In the event of the announced desire of a minister to withdraw from our Fellowship, before action shall have been taken in the matter either by the district or the Credentials Committee of the General Council of the Assemblies of God, 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 case the evidence warrants contrary action, the minister shall be advised of the findings of the Credentials Committee, and appropriate disciplinary action shall be taken. All information pertaining to the disciplinary action taken against the minister shall be preserved for future reference in the office of the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

d. Suspended. A minister who is under serious charges, or who has been given a probationary period for adjusting minor offenses, shall 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 Credentials Committee in each case, with a copy of these terms filed with the General Secretary.

e. Disapproved. One who has been found guilty of indiscretions or misconduct of a less serious nature, or who has evidenced a declared open change in doctrinal views, shall be listed as "disapproved."

f. Removed. 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.

g. Dropped. A minister who has been found guilty of indiscretions involving morals, or other serious misconduct, shall be listed as "dropped."

h. No publication of disciplinary action shall be made until the district has been advised by the office of the General Secretary that such has been authorized by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

#### Section 8. Restoration of Credentials

a. Minimal Time Lapse. 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 for reinstatement, 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 Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The Credentials Committee 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 may be left entirely with that body.

b. Authorization. Application for reinstatement may be made through the District Council within which territory the applicant resides. The application shall be considered subject to the approval of the district in which the termination was made.

c. Terminology. (1) The 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; (2) 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 Assemblies of God principles, or to those who have been under discipline, but whose records have received district clearance. (See, also, Section 23.)

## **B. Trial by Jury**

### **Section 9. Right of Appeal and Authorization for a Trial**

If the accused desires to appeal from the decision of the district, his request shall be filed by him with the office of the district superintendent within thirty days of his notification of the district decision. A copy of his appeal must be sent to the office of the General Superintendent with copies filed with other districts involved. The district shall be expected to furnish a record of the proceedings leading up to the district action. No trial shall be granted if proof is found of willful neglect on the part of the accused to take advantage of his rights and privilege of trial.

If, in the judgment of the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, justice has not been served, the case may be remanded with recommendation to the District Presbytery for review and reconsideration. In the event there is no change of viewpoint, a trial by jury shall be authorized.

The accused minister shall be required to surrender his current fellowship certificate, to be retained by the district until the case has been tried and judgment has been rendered. Refusal to surrender his credentials shall be considered insubordination and may result in the placing of an additional charge against the minister.

### **Section 10. Responsibility for Arrangements and Expenses of Trial**

The appointed judge shall be responsible for making arrangements in the trial of members, as outlined in subsequent sections of this Article. In the event it should appear to the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, after consultation with the district, that it would not be feasible to conduct a trial within the bounds of the district where the alleged offense may have occurred, the said Credentials Committee shall designate a more suitable location.

The defendant shall be responsible for the expenses of his own witnesses and counsel.

### **Section 11. The Judge**

The district executive officers, or the District Presbytery, shall select a presiding judge, who shall be approved by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The judge shall be a mature, ordained minister in good standing in fellowship with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Any person known to be prejudiced toward the case shall be disqualified to serve as judge. He shall be authorized and instructed to conduct a fair trial.

### **Section 12. The Jury**

The jury shall be chosen by the presiding judge subject to agreement both by the plaintiff and the defendant. The jury shall be composed of six ordained ministers who are mature men in good standing in fellowship with the Assemblies of God. There shall be one or more qualified alternates present. The plaintiff and defendant must present valid reasons for the disqualification of a juror prior to the time of trial.

### **Section 13. Time and Place**

The time and place for the trial shall be determined by the judge, with the convenience of the principals fully considered in connection therewith. Trials shall be held at a place convenient to the location where the facts of the case are available.

### **Section 14. Notice of Trial**

Preceding the trial the accused shall be notified by the judge of the time and place of the trial by registered or certified mail, with a return receipt requested. Up to thirty days shall be allowed to make all necessary arrangements for the trial. An extension of time may be granted at the discretion of the judge upon request by the defendant, or upon a request by the plaintiff. Such notice of trial shall be accompanied by a copy of the charges in writing, which shall be provided by the district.

Refusal of the defendant to appear for trial may be interpreted as an admission of guilt, and shall result in forfeiture of his right to appeal any decision rendered and any discipline administered.

### **Section 15. Conduct of Trial**

Trials shall be conducted in all fairness to all concerned as brethren in the ministry, and in accordance with Assemblies of God principles and rules for trials by jury as herein defined. Considering the nature of such a trial only participants shall be permitted to attend. No discourtesy to anyone shall be allowed. Counsel in the case must conduct the trial subject to the rulings of the presiding judge. When objections to such rulings are

made, they shall be written into the record, but the ruling shall stand for the trial.

Any person involved in or attending a trial, who shall engage in discourteous action or misbehavior, or who shall disregard the rulings of the court, may be held in contempt of court by the judge. The judge shall then order that the record of the court proceedings shall show such ruling. Charges or penalties may be placed against the offender. Should the defendant be found in contempt and refuse to comply with the ruling of the court, the judge may adjourn the court and submit his report to the Credentials Committee of the District and The General Council of the Assemblies of God. In this event the previous rulings in the case shall stand. Such decision will not jeopardize the defendant's right to appeal.

#### **Section 16. Counsel**

A mature, ordained minister, resident in the district, and in good standing in The General Council of the Assemblies of God, shall be chosen by the district to conduct the case for the plaintiff. The accused may conduct his own case, or be represented by another ordained minister. Counsel for the defendant must be in good standing in The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and in his respective district.

Both the counsel for plaintiff and defendant shall recognize the spiritual implications of their trust. They shall be obligated to present only pertinent material relating to the case.

#### **Section 17. Record and Report of Trial**

Provision shall be made by the plaintiff, with the approval of the judge, for making a true and accurate record of the trial. This shall be the official record and shall be kept on file in the district office for future reference. A certified copy of all records shall be forwarded to the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. If the offense shall have occurred in any district other than the one in which the accused is a member, a report of the findings of the trial shall be filed with the superintendent of his district. These records, as certified, are the sole property of the District Council and of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and are to be held in their respective files.

#### **Section 18. Witnesses**

Witnesses shall be free to testify under the direction of counsel. They shall not be required to answer questions asked by anyone other than the one presiding or the counsel who is at the time conducting the inquiry. Interrogation of witnesses and the taking of testimony from them shall be conducted in a Christlike manner, for the purpose of establishing the facts of the case.

No undue influence or unfair means shall be allowed to affect the testimony of witnesses. Opportunity for cross-examination of witnesses shall be given as the case proceeds.

#### **Section 19. Order of Trial**

a. The Plaintiff. The counsel for the plaintiff shall first present all testimony and exhibits intended to prove the charges made against the defendant. No testimony except such as is relevant to the charges, shall be allowed. The counsel for the defendant shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

b. The Defendant. Counsel for the defendant shall be allowed time and opportunity to present his side of the case and shall be granted all due respect and consideration.

Defense testimony shall be confined to disproving the charges and must not include countercharges against anyone, or use the attitude or conduct of others as reason or excuse for the alleged misconduct. This shall not exclude the right to impeach a witness.

Counsel for the plaintiff shall have opportunity to examine all exhibits and cross-examine all witnesses.

c. Review. When the defense has rested, the case may be reviewed by counsel for each side, beginning with the defense.

d. Instructions to the Jury. The case shall be given to the jury with proper instructions by the presiding judge. Such instruction shall be confined to setting forth the true basis of judgment in the case as represented by the evidence and shall in no wise be intended to prejudice the jury.

Accusation does not imply guilt, but may imply a misunderstanding or wrong information. The purpose of a trial is to arrive at all available facts relative to the case, and to render a verdict based upon the evidence submitted. Judgment in the case shall be rendered in accord with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The jury shall be instructed to choose one of its number to serve as foreman when it retires to the jury room. The foreman shall lead the jurors in the review of the case and shall poll the jurors until a decision is reached.

Should there seem to be no possibility of reaching a decision of a two-thirds majority after repeated ballots, the foreman shall so apprise the judge. It shall be the prerogative of the judge to determine whether the balloting should continue. Should the jury be unable to reach a verdict the judge shall dismiss the jury and declare a mistrial. In the event of a mistrial because the jury cannot reach a verdict, the judge shall set the date for a new trial and a new jury be selected.

## **Section 20. The Verdict**

The verdict shall be reached by a two-thirds vote of the jury, and when presented to the court, the judge shall announce the verdict and adjourn the court, advising the defendant if found guilty that his counsel will inform him of his further rights of appeal. It shall then be the responsibility of the counsel for the defense to advise the defendant of his rights and privileges of appeal from the decision of the court.

The judge shall file his report with the districts involved and with the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The district shall take appropriate action in accordance with the verdict rendered.

## **Section 21. New Trials**

a. Right of Appeal. The defendant may appeal from the decision of a court. Appeal shall be filed with the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and notice of such appeal shall be made in writing addressed to the General Superintendent. A copy of notice of appeal shall be given and appeal made within thirty days following the date of notification of the verdict.

In the event the trial occurred in a district other than the one in which the defendant is a member, a copy of the appeal shall also be filed with the superintendent of his home district.

b. Bases for Appeals. Appeals from the decision of the court affecting the minister's standing in the Assemblies of God fellowship as a result of a trial may be made only upon the following grounds:

- (1) Mistrial. When there has been error either in arrangement for trial or method of conducting the same, or in the case of a verdict unsupported by sufficient evidence;
- (2) New Evidence. After final decision has been rendered, in the event new evidence is presented to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God which in their judgment is sufficient to warrant a new trial, such new trial shall be authorized and conducted as hereinbefore defined.

c. Review by the Executive Presbytery. Appeal from a trial cannot result in a retrial at The Assemblies of God national headquarters. It shall be the duty of the Executive Presbytery to review the case, carefully examining the official record of trial.

All appeals shall be considered on the basis of the record of trial. No person or persons shall have the right to introduce testimony of new evidence at a review of a tried case. All such evidence or testimony must be presented in new trials. The

parties involved shall not be present at a review of an appeal, but may file a written brief in summation of trial material with the General Secretary.

In case the Executive Presbytery shall rule a mistrial, it shall be the right of that body to which appeal has been made to nullify the decision of the court and to authorize a new trial. The Executive Presbytery shall outline proper procedure.

## **Section 22. Review by the General Presbytery**

When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the defendant or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery. This appeal shall be addressed to the office of the General Secretary. Procedure in such cases shall conform to that in making appeal from a District Credentials Committee action or a jury trial, and must be made within thirty days following the notification of the decision of the Executive Presbytery.

## **Section 23. Reinstatement**

A minister shall not be considered to have exhausted the avenues of remedy provided by the Constitution and Bylaws of this ecclesiastical body until application for reinstatement has been acted upon by the district officary.

No publication of the action of the district shall be made until such time as action has been taken and authorization given by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

# **ARTICLE X. SPIRITUAL LIFE-EVANGELISM COMMISSION**

## **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission to assist the General Superintendent's office to carry out the assignment of implementing the threefold mission of the church. The departments shall cooperate with the Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission in this priority effort.

## **Section 2. Organization**

a. The Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission shall be under the direction of the General Superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery. It shall consist of the General Superintendent, who shall serve as Executive Director, and a Spiritual Life-Evangelism Coordinator appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist the office of the General Superintendent in promoting and coordinating efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church. The committee shall offer advice, indicate ways in which departmental resources can be used in fulfilling the mission of the church, and communicate to departments the emphases which it, or the General Superintendent, places upon each of the three elements.

The Committee on Mission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of representatives from the various headquarters ministries. The General Superintendent shall serve as ex officio member and chairman of the Committee on Mission. The Spiritual Life-Evangelism Coordinator shall serve as secretary.

d. Subcommittees of the Committee on Mission shall include the Mobilization and Placement Service Committee, the Evangelism Literature for America Committee, and such other committees as may be required to give full emphases to the mission of the church.

### **Section 3. Function**

The Spiritual Life-Evangelism Commission shall serve as an executive agency whose responsibility shall be to provide leadership and to coordinate through all departments efforts designed to fulfill the threefold mission of the church and emphases drawn up by the Committee on Mission.

Specific functions shall include:

- a. Providing leadership in and coordination of efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.
- b. Planning and promoting special evangelistic and spiritual-life emphases.
- c. Developing and implementing the Mobilization and Placement Service.
- d. Developing and implementing the Evangelism Literature for America program.
- e. Serving the evangelists' fellowship.

## **ARTICLE XI. DEPARTMENT OF BENEVOLENCES**

### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Department of Benevolences which shall have the responsibility of administration of the Aged Ministers' Assistance Fund, the oversight of Assemblies of God homes for the aged, children's homes, child placement agencies, and the administration of any other benevolent services which may be committed to it.

### **Section 2. Government and Organization**

a. The General Superintendent in consultation with the executive presbyters who are not executive officers shall appoint one of the executive officers of the General Council as executive director of the department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a secretary of the department who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the department.

c. The department shall be administered by a committee consisting of the executive director, secretary and three other members who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

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

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

### **Section 3. Benevolence Funds**

The department shall be authorized to solicit regular contributions from the ministers and churches of the Assemblies of God. Each church in the fellowship is expected to cooperate by sending two special offerings annually for national benevolences, or by placing the Department of Benevolences in its monthly budget.

### **Section 4. Aged Ministers' Assistance**

Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers and missionaries of the Assemblies of God and to their widows, because of age or physical infirmity and for whom no other means of support is available. Eligibility shall be determined on the following basis:

- a. Only ministers who are in good standing may be considered.
- b. The applicant shall have reached the age of sixty-five in the case of an ordained minister, or sixty in the case of a widow of a minister.
- c. Ministers who have been disabled to the extent that they cannot perform their ministerial duties shall also be eligible to make application.
- d. The applicant shall have been an ordained minister in good standing and have held credentials for at least ten years immediately prior to retirement.
- e. The record of the applicant shall indicate that he or she has complied with the approved financial plans of the district council and The General Council of the Assemblies of God.
- f. Unqualified endorsement must be given by the district officer.

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

Benevolent institutions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be operated by boards of directors appointed by the Benevolences Department Committee; said boards shall be responsible to the Benevolences Department in matters of policy and administration.

## **Section 6. District Council Benevolent Institutions**

District councils may set up homes for the aged and children's homes and child placement agencies in cooperation with the Department of Benevolences. They shall be expected to conform to the standards approved by the department.

# **ARTICLE XII. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

a. There shall be a Department of Education which shall be generally responsible for supervising and promoting those education activities of the Assemblies of God which do not usually occur as part of the congregational life of the local church or which have not been constitutionally assigned to other departments of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Such promotion and supervision shall not infringe upon the sovereignty of the various districts and churches. This responsibility shall include nursery schools, kindergartens, grade schools, high schools, junior colleges, senior colleges, Bible institutes, Bible colleges, graduate schools, correspondence schools, and general ministerial and missionary training.

b. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

## **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 of the Assemblies of God as Executive Director of the Department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a secretary of education who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the department.

c. The government and work of the Department of Education and all its divisions shall be vested in, and committed to the Board of Education, which shall consist of twenty members to be constituted as follows: The Executive Director, Secretary of Education, and three members from each of the six geographical areas of the United States, viz., northwest, southwest, north central, south central, northeast, and southeast, one or more

of whom shall be a school administrator from our Assemblies of God schools in their respective areas. These area members shall be elected by the general presbyters of the respective areas at called meetings during the annual session of the General Presbytery.

d. The members of the Board of Education will serve for terms of three years or until their successors are elected. These terms shall be arranged so that the term of only one member from each area will expire annually. The Executive Director shall serve as chairman of the board. It shall conduct its own meetings as occasion may require. The leaders of the schools may be invited to the meetings of the Board of Education with the privilege of the floor even though they may not have the privilege of voting. The Board of Education and the entire Department of Education shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery in all matters.

## **Section 3. Duties and Functions**

It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Education to seek to maintain a high level of spirituality in all our schools and to guard against any departure from the doctrines and spiritual experiences set forth in our Statement of Fundamental Truths. This department shall also encourage educational and administrative efficiency in the various schools.

It shall also be charged with the responsibility of stimulating and encouraging interest in Christian education and of promoting enrollment at the various Assemblies of God schools. It shall likewise effect a program for securing funds from foundations and other sources and from the denomination as a whole on behalf of our educational program.

It shall be the duty of the Department of Education to conduct a continuous study of the educational institutions and services of the Assemblies of God with the view to their increasing effectiveness. It shall seek to correlate all educational efforts into a unified program. To this end, it shall have the following specific rights and functions:

a. To offer guidance and counsel in the opening of new schools, academic and theological, and may take the initiative in the establishing of such schools.

b. To recommend the broadening of the scope of individual school services.

c. To erect standards to which all schools of the Assemblies of God shall be required to conform in order to receive 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 interschool 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 Assemblies of God shall be recognized as approved 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 Assemblies of God 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 XIII. 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 of the Assemblies of God.

#### **Section 2. Government and Organization**

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

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

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

- (1) Accounting;
- (2) Cashiering, including central mail, payroll, loans, insurance;
- (3) Budgetary control;
- (4) Stewardship, including the promotion and supervision of bequests to The General Council of the Assemblies of God in the form of wills and other legacies.

#### **Section 3. Support of Headquarters**

a. The work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in its program of developing the spirit of cooperation and fellowship in home and foreign fields incurs considerable expense, including the financial support of the executive officers and offices.

Ordained ministers should recognize their obligation to contribute three dollars (\$3.00) per month from their tithes, or as an offering, or through their influence. Licensed ministers should contribute two dollars (\$2.00) per month. All who can are strongly urged to give more than the suggested amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor.

Each minister who has not complied with the above requirements or with the financial policy of his district shall send a statement of explanation with his annual questionnaire.

The General Treasurer's office shall submit to the respective district offices a semiannual 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, through personal letters; or (3) through any other media selected by the district.

The districts shall carefully analyze the annual report of each minister and, in their knowledge of local situations, determine if he has been voluntarily cooperating with the General Council financial program.

b. If practicable, let each assembly take one offering each year for the upkeep of the national headquarters office and the travel expense of the executive officers.

## ARTICLE XIV. 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 in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

c. The Pauline example shall be followed as far as possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not been preached, as well as by establishing self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating national churches.

d. In fields where Pentecostal missionaries are already stationed, consultation shall be had with the brethren on the field and the Foreign Missions Department, and a satisfactory plan agreed upon before an attempt shall be made to establish new stations in such localities.

e. Every assembly shall be encouraged to assume definite responsibility for full or partial support of one or more missionaries in cooperation with the Foreign Missions Department.

### Section 2. Government and Organization

a. The Executive Director of Foreign Missions shall be an assistant general superintendent, who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph "f" of the Bylaws.

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

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

d. The activities of the Foreign Missions Department shall be under the supervision of a Foreign Missions Board which shall consist of the Executive Director of the department, two executive presbyters, the department secretary, four field secretaries, and six pastors of proven missionary zeal and accomplishments who shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery from the six established geographical areas of the United States and ratified by the General Presbytery in session.

The term of office of the appointed pastors shall be for three (3) years and so arranged that one-third of the terms expire annually, and that upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

The responsibilities of this board shall be the establishing of policy, the appointment of missionaries, and such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Executive Presbytery. The board shall be authorized to appoint secretaries for major office divisions of departmental activities as need may arise.

The Board shall also be authorized to

1. Evaluate missions policies consistently in the light of changing conditions.
2. Devise and publish a code of procedure that will serve to guide the department and board in matters of discipline.
3. Establish clear, decisive standards of ethics that shall govern in the relationships between all parties concerned with the missionary program.
4. Declare clearly the position of the board in matters relating to specific field problems.
5. Sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to field and department decisions.
- e. Field Secretaries to represent major geographical areas shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery on the basis of nominations by the missionaries in the respective areas. The appointments shall be subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

f. The general administrative work of the department shall be conducted by a Foreign Missions Committee consisting of the executive director as chairman, the department secretary as vice-chairman, the field secretaries, and the heads of major divisions of the department. The responsibilities of this committee shall be the general supervision and direction of the work of the department and its missionaries in conformity with the established policies and principles of The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 XXIV. World Missions Plan.)

b. Offerings designated for office expense, in keeping with the recommendation that any who do not contribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offering for office expense.

c. A recommended one-half of the tithes of missionaries under

appointment receiving funds through the Foreign Missions Department.

d. An appropriation of up to 10% of undesignated contributions.

### **Section 4. Missionary Candidates**

a. The selection and appointment of missionaries shall be the prerogative of the Foreign Missions Board on recommendation of the Foreign Missions Committee.

b. The Foreign Missions Board shall be governed in its selection and appointment of missionaries by the following requirements. Each applicant shall be examined—

- (1) As to personal experience of full New Testament salvation.
- (2) A definite experience of the baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.
- (3) As to definite call to foreign work.
- (4) As to physical, mental and spiritual fitness for work.
- (5) As to Christian standing and general qualifications, it being required that each applicant receiving appointment shall have the unqualified endorsement of his district council, particularly in regard to effective ministry and Christian character.
- (6) Young men shall not be granted missionary appointment until they have first qualified for ordination in the homeland, and women candidates shall prove their ministry and stability of character by a similar probationary period of service in the homeland.

c. Prospective missionaries shall be expected to exercise faith in God to provide their outfit and fare to the field. The fitness of the candidate for foreign service, however, will influence the decision of the committee more than the amount of funds pledged toward the applicant's support.

d. Candidates for foreign service of a specialized character such as nurses, teachers, et cetera, may be granted appointment for such types of work if properly qualified, without the necessity of being ordained. Nevertheless, such candidates shall have the endorsement of their respective district councils in regard to their Christian experience and local church activity.

e. Funds provided for the prospective missionaries who shall for any reason be prevented from going to the field can be made available for other missionaries or missionary purposes after consultation with the districts from which the funds have been received.

f. All persons making application for appointment as missionaries shall be expected to meet the requirements of the Foreign Missions Department.

g. The Foreign Missions Department shall confine its missionary activities within the limits of its resources and shall not accept and send our 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 percent of all missionary funds (with the exclusion of special designations) handled directly by the department shall be transferred to an emergency fund to meet emergency expenses for which the Foreign Missions Department is responsible.

c. It is requested that all missionaries send a monthly or quarterly report of moneys received and submit a budget of expenses to the Foreign Missions Department. It shall not be incumbent upon the Foreign Missions Department to send of its undesignated funds to missionaries who do not furnish such a report.

d. Missionaries expecting the endorsement and aid of the Foreign Missions Department shall report to the Foreign Missions Department and receive its approval before leaving this country. The Foreign Missions Department shall assume no responsibility whatever, where the foregoing requirements are not complied with.

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

(See Article XXIV. 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 cooperating, sovereign assemblies. It is realized that no fixed organizational pattern is possible. Every organization should take on a form fully consonant with local conditions, manners of life and thought patterns. Missionaries should studiously avoid the practice of proposing a foreign type of organization, but should encourage a type readily understood and easily operated by the nationals of the country. These organizations shall be encouraged to maintain the closest fraternal relationships with Assemblies of God fellowships in other countries but shall not be considered organizationally an integral part of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in the United States of America.

b. Missionary Field Fellowships, composed of all missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Missions Department, shall be formed in each political or geographic area as circumstances may indicate. These Field Fellowships are to be considered as the direct creation of and amenable to the Foreign Missions Department since missionary appointment automatically confers membership in the Field Fellowship. The Missionary Field Fellowships shall serve in a consultative capacity to the Foreign Missions Department in matters of policy and missionary personnel relative to their respective fields. They shall strive to maintain harmonious relationships on the field and with the Foreign Missions Department but shall avoid encroaching on the sphere of activities of their respective national Assemblies of God organizations.

In those fields where there is insufficient personnel to make the organization of a Field Fellowship practical, the Foreign Missions Department may appoint a representative to act for the field in matters normally handled by the Field Fellowship.

c. Missionary Field Fellowships shall be represented in the General Presbytery by their Field Secretary and two others from the overall 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 of the Assemblies of God wherever legally possible.

(2) It shall be a general policy to hold institutional properties in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. 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 of the Assemblies of God 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 cooperate with the Missionary Fellowship on the field, and secure its endorsement before submitting the proposition to the Foreign Missions Department.

c. A certified copy of the property deeds, titles, and other legal papers relating to all missionary properties which have been purchased shall be forwarded to the Foreign Missions Department for file.

## Section 10. National Workers

a. It is recommended that great care be exercised in the selection of national workers and in the setting up of the national organization so that credentials may be issued only to those maintaining the highest standards and manifesting a real consecration.

b. All foreign funds for the support of national workers shall be administered either by the Missionary Field Fellowship or the national Assemblies of God organization.

## Section 11. Furloughs

a. A furlough is designed primarily for the physical and spiritual benefit of the missionary through a change of climate, food, and living conditions and fresh association in spiritual meetings and conferences in the homeland. It is expected that each missionary will cooperate with the Foreign Missions Department in planning for his own financial interests and for the good of the work in general.

b. The length and frequency of furloughs shall be determined by the Foreign Missions Department in consultation with the Missionary Fellowships on the various fields. It shall not be incumbent on the Foreign Missions Department to assume any financial obligation to a missionary who has returned home without having first obtained the approval of both the Field Fellowship and the Foreign Missions Department.

c. It shall be the responsibility of the Missionary Field Fellowship to recommend to the Foreign Missions Department whether or not a missionary returning on furlough shall be reappointed to another term of service. This decision shall be made before the missionary leaves the field and if the recommendation is negative the missionary shall be entitled to a **personal hearing** before the field committee. The final decision in regard to reappointment shall rest with the Foreign Missions Board.

d. When a missionary does not intend to return to the field or, for any reason, he is not recommended for further service, it shall not be incumbent on the Foreign Missions department to continue his allowance for more than six months unless his retirement from missionary service is because of ill health or the infirmities of age.

## ARTICLE XV. 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 in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

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 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 cooperation 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 cooperation 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. World Ministries credit will be given for funds given to appointed home missionaries and to home missionary projects approved by the district and Home Missions Department.

## **Section 6. Branches**

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

b. A group which is qualified to receive recognition as a branch, shall be entitled to elect its own officers, and shall be granted the same representation which is accorded district councils within the framework of this 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 offices 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 cooperation 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 of the Assemblies of God.

## **ARTICLE XVI. INSTITUTIONS**

### **Section 1. Miscellaneous Institutions**

a. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary homes.

b. It shall also 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 of the Assemblies of God 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 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.

## **ARTICLE XVII. MEN'S FELLOWSHIP DEPARTMENT**

### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

a. There shall be a Men's Fellowship Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activity to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. The function of this department shall include :

- (1) Encouraging development of the work of men at the local, district, and national levels of the Fellowship.
- (2) Promoting the formation of fellowship groups among the men in local churches.
- (3) Developing the interest of men in supporting all programs of the Assemblies of God.
- (4) Coordinating the efforts of the men in local and district organizations of Men's Fellowships within the Assemblies of God.
- (5) Encouraging and teaching men to engage in personal witnessing for Christ.
- (6) Organizing and promoting a program for boys.
- (7) Participating in sponsoring foreign evangelistic literature crusades and such other programs as may be approved in the future.
- (8) Preparing and publishing handbooks, manuals, and such literature as may be needed to further the fulfilling of the mission of the Church by the men of the Assemblies of God.
- (9) Publicizing 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 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 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 Rangers national aides-de-camp.

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 XVIII. 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 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 Assemblies of God which shall have as its objective the accumulation of funds to make possible the retirement of its members at 62 years of age, or later, with a monthly income for life or a cash settlement as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws of said Association. This Association shall be known as the Assemblies of God Ministers' Benefit Association.

### Section 2. Administration

The Executive Presbytery 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 of the Assemblies of God.

### 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 of the Assemblies of God 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. 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 in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

### 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 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 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.

c. There shall be an Editorial Policy Board, composed of the nonresident 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 interest of fulfilling the threefold mission of the Church, giving proper emphasis on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and its desired effects in the lives of believers as well as other Pentecostal distinctives.

### **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 in such a manner that it shall make an optimum contribution to the fulfillment of the threefold mission of the Church.

## **ARTICLE XXI. RADIO DEPARTMENT**

### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Radio Department whose primary responsibility in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

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 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 XXII. SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

### **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

There shall be a Sunday School Department of The General Council of the Assemblies of God which shall have the responsibility of encouraging and promoting the development of Sunday schools and other church schools of a nonacademic nature throughout the fellowship.

The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

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 as the director of the department.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a secretary of the Sunday School Department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the Sunday School Department.

c. The Sunday School Department Committee shall consist of the executive director, the secretary, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery.

d. The Sunday School Department Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

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

## **Section 3. The Sunday School Counselor**

The *Sunday School Counselor* shall be recognized as the official organ of the Sunday School Department.

## **Section 4. District Organization**

a. Provision shall be made for a district Sunday school department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be

(1) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local efforts for Sunday school efficiency, growth, and development.

(2) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to attain to the National Sunday School Standard.

(3) To promote Sunday school efficiency through seminars, tours, conventions, or by any other acceptable means.

b. There may be a district Sunday school director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the district constitution and bylaws.

c. There may be a district constitution and bylaws which shall be presented to the district council for approval.

d. Time may be given throughout the year for the advancement of all phases of the district and national Sunday school calendar.

# **ARTICLE XXIII. WOMEN'S MISSIONARY COUNCIL DEPARTMENT**

## **Section 1. Authorization and Purpose**

a. There shall be a Women's Missionary Council Department which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activities to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its three-fold mission.

b. The functions of this department shall include:

(1) Encouraging development of the work of women at the local, district, and national levels of the Fellowship.

(2) Correlating the work of the women with the needs represented by the Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Benevolences Departments in such a way that the needs may be met quickly and equitably with each district and local group carrying its proportionate share of service.

(3) Encouraging district and local groups to view their service as a spiritual ministry and stewardship in which faithfulness is important.

(4) Encouraging the women of the fellowship to engage in the ministry of personal witnessing and the ministry of intercessory prayer.

(5) Offering encouragement and assistance to district leaders and local groups for organization and operation.

(6) Conducting WMC conventions, seminars, and rallies to stimulate interest and disseminate information concerning the Women's Missionary Council and its program.

(7) Organizing and promoting a program for girls.

(8) Preparing and publishing handbooks and manuals, and issuing such bulletins as may be needed to implement the department program.

(9) Publicizing the Women's Missionary Council through the media of *The Pentecostal Evangel* and other periodicals as opportunity affords.

## **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 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 XXIV. 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 percent of the total offerings received shall be allocated to administrative costs of Speed-the-Light. It is recommended that the remainder of Speed-the-Light offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 75% Foreign Missions—Speed-the-Light
- 20% District Home Missions—Speed-the-Light
- 5% Special Ministries—Home Missions, Speed-the-Light

The portion returned to the district shall be designated for the purchase and erection of property in pioneer fields, including Chi Alpha facilities, with the exception that up to one-half of the twenty percent 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 XXV. YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

### Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

a. There shall be a Young People's Department which shall be responsible for the youth work of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. It shall carry out the responsibilities through its program which shall be designated the Christ's Ambassadors program.

b. The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission: evangelization of the world, worshipping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. In part, it shall fulfill this responsibility by planning and promoting a spiritual program directed toward the youth of the Assemblies of God, encouraging the youth to assist in fulfilling the threefold mission of the Church.

c. The functions of this department shall include:

- (1) Encouraging and assisting the developing of district young people's programs.
- (2) Coordinating the development and promotion of projects of national scope.
- (3) Producing literature and helps to meet the needs of youth.
- (4) Promoting spiritual programs adaptable to the particular problems of young people in high schools and colleges;
- (5) Developing and promoting guidelines for use at the district and local level.

### 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 department who shall serve under the Executive Director in the administration of the department.

c. The executive director and the secretary with four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery subject to the approval of the General Presbytery, shall constitute the National Christ's Ambassadors Committee. At least three members of the above committee shall be appointed from the field at large.

d. The National Christ's Ambassadors Committee shall serve for a period of one year or until its successors are appointed.

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

### Section 3. Official Organ.

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

### Section 4. District Organizations.

a. Groups of local organizations may be formed into district organizations, with the approval of the officer of the District Councils involved. The district organizations shall be governed

by the principles of cooperative fellowship and shall be considered as a branch or department of the District Council. The District Council officer shall be considered as the honorary membership of the district organization and shall be honored and respected in all matters affecting the activities of the organization. The district organization shall have the right to elect its own officers when deemed advisable by the District Presbytery, and to supervise its own activities within the boundaries of the territory involved. The Superintendent of the District Council shall be an ex officio member of all district committees.

b. The manner of election of the district CA president will be according to the provisions of the district constitution and bylaws. He shall be an ordained minister. It is recommended that he will be under the age of thirty-five at the time of his first election, but may be retained as long as his service is desired.

c. A constitution and bylaws covering the activities of the district organization shall be submitted to and approved by the District Presbytery.

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

e. Sectional meetings of the district organization shall be strictly spiritual in character and arranged through the cooperation of the pastors and young people's leaders in each section, taking care not to conflict with other local or district meetings.

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

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

b. The members of this group shall be born-again young people living consistent Christian lives.

c. The local young people may elect their own officers subject to the approval of the pastor and the church board, and may conduct their own services provided such services do not conflict with, nor detract from the regular services of the church.

d. The pastor shall be considered as an honorary member of the organization and an ex officio member of all its committees, and should be respected and honored as a shepherd and guide in all matters of service and fellowship.

(Speed-the-Light offerings, see :

Article XXIV. World Missions Plan)

## **ARTICLE XXVI. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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

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

All business sessions of the Council shall commence with prayer.

## **ARTICLE XXVII. QUORUM**

All members registered and voting in any meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God 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 XXVIII. AMENDMENTS**

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

# INDEX

Academic education in cred. min., 102  
 Adjournment, 1969 Council, 91  
 Adjournment set, 85  
 Affiliation, Ministerial, 112  
 Aged Ministers Assistance, 133  
 Agenda, adopted, 14  
 Agenda, detailed, 85  
 Amendments, Bylaws, 159  
 Amendments, Constitution, 104  
 American Bible Society, res., 17  
 Amillennial teaching, referral, 81  
 Appeals, ministers, 110, 126, 130, 131  
 Areas, geographical, 105  
 Article XXIII., committee report, 18  
 Article XXIII., additional revisions, 39  
 Assemblies, Art. VI., 111  
 Assemblies, Local, Art. XII., 103  
     Annual reports, 111  
     Appeal, 104  
     Membership certificates, 111  
     Membership standards, 103  
     Non-Assemblies evangelists, 112  
     Safeguarding, 111  
     Sovereignty, 104  
 Assistant General Superintendents  
     As Executive Officers, 101  
     Duties, 107  
     Elections, 1969, 41, 50, 53, 61, 62  
 Benevolences, Department of, 132  
 Bethany, Edgar, election of, 68  
 Blessed Hope, The, 100  
 Branches, foreign, 103, 106, 147  
 Bylaws, 104  
 Bylaw Revisions, Report, 71  
 Cadwalder, Hugh M. Sr., honorary general presbyter, 69  
 Carlson, G. Raymond, election of, 53  
 Central Bible College, 148  
 Certificates of transfer, 115  
 Chain letters, 119  
 Charges, filing of, 123  
 Christ, Lord Jesus, Deity of, 97  
 Christ, millennial reign of, 100  
 Christ's Ambassadors Department (see, Young Peoples Dept.)  
 Christ's Ambassadors, name change, 76

- Church Extension Division, 146
- Churches, small ones
  - District evaluation of, 83
  - Pastors of, 83
  - Study of, 83
- Church Membership, committee report, 88
- Church, The, & its Mission, 99
- Church, ordinances of, 98
- Clark, E. M., elected, 68
- Committees, provisions for, 110, 111
- Committees (see, titles of each)
- Constitution & Bylaws, editing res., 69
- Constitutional changes proposed, 54
- Constitutional declaration, 93
- Credentials Committee, defined, 110
- Credentials restored
  - Applications for, 125
  - Minimal time-lapse, 125
  - Reinstatements, 114, 126, 131
  - Renewed, 114, 126
- Credentials surrendered, 123
- Credentials terminated (see, also, Terminations, Ministers)
  - definitions, 124
  - expirations, 114
- Davidson, N. D., elected, 65
- Department reports, 17
- Department reports, study, 85
- Disaster Relief Fund offering, 64
- Discipline, Article IX, 121
- Discipline, bases for, 122
- Discipline, complaints, 122
- Discipline, District Action, 121
- Discipline, hearing, 123
- Discipline, initiative, 121
- District Councils,
  - Article V, 111
  - Article X, 102
  - Boundaries, 111
  - Credentials, ministers, 102, 112
  - Discipline, ministers, 121
  - Elections, 103
  - Jurisdiction, 102, 103
  - Local Church, relationship, 103, 111
  - Membership, 102
  - Officers, 103, 110
  - Relationship, Gen. Council, 100
  - Voting constituency, 111
- District Council Support, motion, 81
- Divine Healing, 100
- Divorce & Remarriage, 117

- Credentials, 113, 118
- Laity, 118
- Performing marriage ceremonies, 118
- Doctrines & Practices disapproved, 116
- Eating meats, 116
- Editing & Sequence of Articles, 80
- Ecumenical Movement, 121
- Editorial Policy Board, 151
- Education, Board of, 134
- Education, Department of, 134
- Education, Art. X., revisions, 74
- Educational institutions
  - Control, 134
  - Missionary schools, 148
  - Central Bible College, 148
  - Evangel College, 148
- Election of Officers, Art. II., 105
- Elections, 1969 Council, set, 23
- Elections,
  - Assistant General Superintendents, 36, 41, 50, 53, 54, 61, 62
  - General Secretary, 63
  - General Superintendent, 36
  - General Treasurer, 63
  - Nonresident executives, 64
- Eschatological Errors, Art. VIII., 116
- Eschatological errors, res., 81
- Eternal Security (see, Unconditional Security)
- Evangel College, 148
- Evangelism Literature for America, 132
- Executive Officers, defined, 101
- Executive Officers Duties, revisions, 71, 72
- Executive Presbytery, defined, 101
- Executive Presbytery, duties of, 109
- Executive Presbytery, duties, revisions, 72, 73
- Executive Presbytery, reporting, 110
- Exhorter, term deleted, 74
- Fellowship certificates, expiration of, 114
- Fellowship certificates issued, 114
- Fellowship certificates transferred, 115
- Finance Department, Art. XV, revised, 76
- Finance, Department of, 137
- Finance, General Council Standing Committee, 137
- Flower, Joseph R., election, 68
- Foreign Missions Department, 138
  - (see, also, Missionaries)
  - Board, 139
  - Committee, 139
  - Executive Director, 106, 108, 139
  - Field organization, 143
  - National workers, 144

- Property, 144
- Support, 140, 142
- Foreign Missions Dept., revisions, 74
- Gannon, T. E., election, 42
- General Council Committees, 1969 listed, 12
- General Council Name, 94
- General Council Nature, 94
- General Council Prerogatives, 94
- General Council Principles, 95
- General Council Site Evaluation, 70
- General Presbytery
  - Appeals, 110, 114, 125, 131
  - Constitution of, 102
  - Duties of, 110
  - Foreign Missions rep., 102
  - Honorary members, 102
- General Secretary, duties of, 108
- General Secretary, duties revised, 73
- General Secretary, election of, 63, 105
- General Secretary, report, 15
- General Superintendent, duties of, 107
- General Superintendent, duties of, revised, 71, 72
- General Superintendent, report, 14
- General Superintendent, vacation of, 91
- General Treasurer, duties of, 108
- General Treasurer, election of, 63
- General Treasurer, report, 15
- Girls' programs, 155
- Godhead, The Adorable, 95
- Gospel Publishing House, 152
- Halvorson, L. E., honorary general presbyter, 69
- Hardcastle, G. W. Sr., elected, 67
- Headquarters support, 137
- Hogan, J. Philip, elected, 62
- Holy Ghost, The Baptism in, 98
- Holy Ghost, The evidence of baptism, 98
- Home Missions Department, 145
- Home Missions Department, revisions, 74
- Home Missions Finance, 147, 156
- Homes, aged & children, 134
- Homes, missionary, 148
- Hurricane Camille Report, 16, 64
- Institutions, 148
- Institutions, private ownership, 119
- Judgment, the final, 100
- Jurisprudence Report, 25, 37
- Jury, trials by (see, Trials)
- Legalism, 116
- Light for the Lost, 149
- Lord's Return, Setting Date, 116

- Lowenberg, Paul, elected, 66
- Man, the fall of, 97
- Man, the salvation of, 97
- McLaughlin, D. H. elected, 69
- Meetings, General Council, 101
  - Quorum, 159
  - Special, 101
- Membership, General Council, 100
- Membership, General Council, reconsidered, 60
- Memorial Service, 44
- Men's Fellowship Department, 148
- Men's Fellowship Department, revised, 78
- Military Service, 150
- Ministerial courtesy, violation of, 120
- Ministerial relations, 115
- Ministers Benefit Association, 87, 150
- Ministers credentials (see, also, Ministry)
  - District affiliation, 115
  - District responsibility, 102, 110
  - Transfers, 115
- Ministers group hospitalization insurance report, 63
- Ministers, hearing of charges, 123
- Ministers, inactive, 114, 115
- Ministers, misconduct, investigation of, 123
- Ministers, removed, attitude toward, 121
- Ministers, restoration of credentials, 114
  - (see, also, Credentials restored)
- Ministers, superannuated, 115
- Ministers support to General Council, res., 80
- Ministry, The, 99, 112
- Ministry Qualifications, 112
  - Annulments, 113
  - Christian Workers, 112
  - Described, 112
  - Divorce, 113, 117
  - Exceptions, 113
  - Licensed, 112
  - Non-Assemblies, in, 120
  - Ordination, 113
  - Reading courses, 102, 112
- Minutes, approval of, 91
- Mission, Committee on, 132
- Missionaries, Foreign
  - Candidates, 141
  - Certificates of fellowship, 143
  - Furloughs, 145
  - Ordination, 142
  - Voting, 106
- Missionaries, Home, 147
- Mobilization & Placement Committee, 132

National Association of Evangelicals, representative, 39  
 Netzel, M. B., election of, 63  
 New heavens & new earth, the, 100  
 Nonresident executive presbyters, election of, 64, 105  
 Officers, duties of, 107  
 Officers, vacancies, 106  
 Official Lists, 114  
 Order, business, 159  
 Order, parliamentary, 104  
 Ordinations (see, Ministry Qualifications)  
 Organizational Structure, res., 42, 52  
 Parliamentary order, 104  
 Pentecostal Evangel, The, 152  
 Peterson, Bartlett, election, 63  
 Pornography, res. on, 85  
 Privileged communications, 115  
 Processing Resolutions, 43  
 Property, General Council, 94, 107, 108, 109  
 Publications, Department of, 151  
 Publications, Department, revisions, 75  
 Publications Board, 151  
 Publications Committees, 151  
 Quorum  
     Executive Presbytery, 159  
     General Council, 159  
     General Presbytery, 159  
 Radio, Department of, 152  
 Radio, Department revisions, 76  
 Rapture, post tribulation teaching, 116  
 Rapture, The, 100  
 Reading courses, 102, 112, 136  
 Relationships, General Council, 100  
 Reinstatements (see, Credentials Restored)  
 Religious Institutions (see, Institutions)  
 Renewals (see, credentials Restored)  
 Reneau, Kermit, elected, 62  
 Resolution of appreciation, 90  
 Resolutions presented early, 88  
 Revivaltime, 152  
 Roster Committee, provision for, 110  
 Roster reports, 15, 23, 24, 41, 50, 61  
 Royal Rangers, 149  
 Sanctification, 98  
 Scott, Chas. W. H., elected, 42  
 Schools (see, Educational Institutions)  
 Scriptures, The, inspired, 95  
 Secret Orders, 117  
 Sex Education, res., 85  
 Solicitation, funds, 119  
 Special ministries, 146, 156

Speed-the-Light, 156  
 Speed-the-Light percentages, report, 42  
 Spiritual Life Committee report, 83  
 Spiritual Life-Evangelism Com., res., 78  
 Spiritual Life-Evangelism Com., 131  
 Statement Fundamental Truths, 95  
 Stewardship, abuses of, 118  
 Sunday School Department, 153  
 Sunday School Department, revision, 75  
 Superannuated ministers, 115  
 Tellers, additional named, 24  
 Terminations, ministers' credentials,  
     Disapproved, 125  
     Dropped, 125  
     Lapsed, 114, 124  
     Publication of, 125  
     Removed, 125  
     Suspended, 125  
     Withdrawn, 124  
 Tithing, 119  
 Transfers, Ministers, 115  
 Trial, by jury, 126  
     Appeals, 126, 130  
     Arrangement, 126  
     Expense of, 126  
     New trials, 130  
 Trustees, General Council, 109  
 Unconditional Security, 116  
 Universalism, 116  
 Vacancies  
     Executive Officers, 106  
     General Superintendent, 106  
     General Presbytery, 106  
 Voting Constituency  
     District, 111  
     General Council, 101  
 Wead, Roy H., election, 65  
 Webb, Bert, res., 36  
 Women's Missionary Council  
     department, 155  
     revisions, 77  
 Worldliness, statement on, 118  
 World Missions Plan, 156  
 Young People's Department, 156  
 Young People's Department, res., 76  
 Zimmerman, T. F., election, 36