

MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

General Council of the Assemblies of God

THE THIRTY-FOURTH GENERAL COUNCIL

Kansas City, Missouri, August 19-24, 1971

MINUTES
of the
Thirty-Fourth
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 Kansas City, Missouri
August 19-24, 1971
(Printed in the U.S.A.)

PREFACE

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

Those who attended this historic Council will agree that a great deal of business was transacted, some of which affected the philosophy and structure of the General Council itself. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws have been made where specific changes were indicated. Some areas, not fully resolved, will await further consideration by another Council in session.

There were a number of items scheduled on the agenda of the Kansas City Council which were not considered due to a lack of time. All items of pertinence will be rescheduled as items of unfinished business for the 1973 General Council, should Jesus tarry.

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

Bartlett Peterson
General Secretary

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Administrative Offices: 1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802
Telephone 862-2781

Executive Officers

Thos. F. Zimmerman
G. Raymond Carlson

General Superintendent
Assistant General
Superintendent

Bartlett Peterson
Martin B. Netzel

General Secretary
General Treasurer

The Executive Presbytery

Thos. F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent

Edgar W. Bethany
G. Raymond Carlson
N. D. Davidson
Richard W. Dortch
Joseph R. Flower
James E. Hamill

J. Philip Hogan
Paul Lowenberg
D. H. McLaughlin
Martin B. Netzel
Bartlett Peterson
Roy H. Wead

**MINUTES OF
THE THIRTY-FOURTH GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED AT KANSAS CITY,
MISSOURI**

AUGUST 19-24, 1971

The Thirty-Fourth General Council convened in the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Missouri, on Thursday afternoon, August 19, at 2 o'clock. The General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman presided over the meeting. He introduced Pastor Lidstrand of Ventura, California, who had been selected to lead the singing during the Council. Cyril McLellan, Revivaltime choir director, was in charge of a special choir from the area churches. The congregation was greatly blessed by the ministry of music, both in song and in instrumental numbers throughout the Council. Sincere appreciation is expressed to all of those who participated. For the opening service, L. B. Larsen, minister of music at general headquarters, served at the organ, with Mrs. Larsen at the piano. Pastor G. W. Hardcastle, II, of Kansas City, Missouri, accompanied by Mrs. Hardcastle, brought a special number in song.

The theme for the Council was announced as "Take the Word." The Scripture reading for the afternoon service was Psalm 119:1-8.

Brother Bert Webb, retired assistant general superintendent, offered prayer for many urgent needs as the facilities were dedicated to the glory of God.

Special features during the Council included a "Kiddie Korner" for the infants through five years, which was staffed by ladies from Victoria Tabernacle of Kansas City, Kansas. Children and youth activities were also planned for the respective age groups. Special thanks go to those who were responsible for sponsoring these activities: Ann Ahlf and Mrs. Bernice Lowenberg, Child Care; Jerry Stroup, Children; and Jerry Sandidge, Youth.

The Council, likewise, was greatly blessed by the anointed preaching of the Word. The deep appreciation of all the visitors and delegates goes to those who ministered in both the day and night services. On Thursday night the General Superintendent, Thomas F. Zimmerman, brought an inspiring keynote message on the theme, "The Word of Authority." Other evening speakers were: Pastor Roy Sapp of Wilmington, California, on Friday for the "Reach America" Rally; Evangelist David Wilkerson of Irvine, California, for the Youth Rally on Saturday; Evangelist Lowell Lundstrom of Sisseton, South Dakota, on Sunday for the evangelistic service; and Pastor Don M. Cox on Monday. The able ministry of these dedicated men was of great blessing to the thousands of people who filled the Municipal Auditorium for these inspiring services. Inasmuch as *The Pentecostal Evangel* carries a full report of the evangelistic services, further details are not included in these minutes.

A special feature of the 34th General Council was the emphasis on prayer. The morning Bible hour began at 8:45, with a 20-minute prayer "segment" immediately preceding the business meeting. Brothers Roy Wead and Wesley Hurst were in charge of the special prayertime.

U. S. Grant, pastor in Kansas City, Kansas, and local coordinator for the General Council, introduced Dr. Charles Wheeler, mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, who extended the official welcome to the delegates and visitors of the 34th General Council.

The General Superintendent introduced the superintendents of the host districts: W. B. Friend of Northern Missouri, Paul Lowenberg of Kansas, and N. Cleo Tapp of Southern Missouri. Brother Tapp responded in behalf of the districts and the ministers and churches of the Greater Kansas City area, welcoming all in the name of the Lord.

The chair introduced fraternal delegate Chester H. Heath of Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania, president of the Free Gospel Church, who brought greetings from that organization.

Also introduced were: Vincent Salituro of Springfield, Missouri, who brought greetings in behalf of Frank P. Fortunato, general overseer of the Christian Church of North America; B. E. Underwood, assistant general superintendent and executive director of world missions of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, was present to bring the official greetings of that group to the Council.

Pastor Victor Mannhalter of Kansas City, Missouri, superintendent of the Midway Division of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, likewise brought greetings in behalf of his church.

Roger Copin, editor of the official periodical of the French Assemblies of God, brought greetings from the brethren in France. Missionary Joe G. Mazzu served as interpreter.

The chair introduced the Executive Presbytery, as follows: G. Raymond Carlson, T. E. Gannon, Charles W. H. Scott, Kermit Reneau, J. Philip Hogan, assistant general superintendents; Bartlett Peterson, general secretary; M. B. Netzel, general treasurer; and nonresident executive presbyters: Edgar Bethany, E. M. Clark, N. D. Davidson, Joseph R. Flower, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Paul Lowenberg, D. H. McLaughlin, and Roy Wead. He stated that each has served with distinction in the area of his responsibility.

The chair also introduced retired executive officers: E. S. Williams, general superintendent; Gayle F. Lewis, general superintendent; Bert Webb, assistant general superintendent; and Noel Perkin, executive director of Foreign Missions.

The congregation stood in honor and recognition of the services they had rendered to the Fellowship and to the cause of Christ.

Greetings were extended from retired officer, Fred Vogler, assistant general superintendent, who had not been able to be present due to physical limitations.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the General Secretary send an appropriate telegram of greeting to Brother and Sister Vogler.

Brother Zimmerman expressed appreciation for all of the committees serving the Kansas City Council:

COMMITTEES

Budget

M. B. Netzel, chairman; L. W. Dickinson, David Flower, W. B. Friend, R. E. Goggin, James E. Griggs, G. W. Hardcastle II, Stanton Johnson, Paul Lowenberg, William Vickery

Ministerial Relations

Herman Rohde, chairman; Marshall Calloway, James Ellis, Robert Gatlin, Fay Hutchinson, Willard R. Leisy, Frank McAllister, Wallace Odum, Robert Pirtle

Parliamentary

S. Harland Petersen, chairman; Richard Dortch, Delmer Guynes

Resolutions

Fred Smolchuck, chairman; W. E. Cummings, J. B. Linney, Derald Musgrove, Arthur Parsons, Paul Radke, N. Glen Rich, Peter Rios, N. Cleo Tapp

Roster

Arthur F. Berg, chairman; G. H. Altman, Wanda L. Bain, Alex Bazan, William Bray, Charles E. Crank, James H. Gilbert, Ellwood Grissom, A. Reuben Hartwick, Mrs. J. O. Howard, Nelson Kenyon, Lewis I. LaMance, Raymond Loven, Harvey Meppelink, Armon Newburn, Morris Ohlin, Marion Ravan, David Scott, Charles Shaffer, Tom Shepherd, Bob Skipper, Howard Spruill, Norman Tosten, Lemuel D. McElyea

Tellers

Willis Berry, chairman; Albert Earle, Grant Wacker, and Gordon Zercher, captains; Marcus Bakke, John W. Beardsley, David Berquist, Joseph E. Blount, J. L. Boulware, D. J. Burrell, H. L. Carroll, Bob D. Claycomb, H. S. Cowart, Oliver Dalaba, Lloyd Eflin, Paul Evans, A. J. Frank, W. B. Franklin, Kenneth Freiheit, Norman E. Hartshorn, John Hollis, Claude E. Johnson, Arthur Klaus, Leland Lebsack, Joseph Lukowski, Frank Martin, Ammi H. Miller, Bud W. Orf, Robert Pagett, James E. Peters, Herschel Phillips, Don Rippy, GERALD ROGERS, Robert Sites, Lavern Snyder, Daniel Spina, Eddie Spinola, Melvin Steward, Glenn E. Strickland, Herman W. Thiemann, R. O. Tufte, A. F. Vigil, John Washler, Robert Way

National Committees

Arrangements

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman; Kermit Reneau, T. F. Zimmerman

Convention Coordinator

Warren F. McPherson

Child Care

Ann Ahlf; Bernice Lowenberg, assistant

Children's Activities

Jerry Stroup

Exhibits—Trucking

Harris Jansen

Housing—Hospitality

Gayle Erwin

Platform

Dick Champion, coordinator; David Irwin, assistant; Harris Lidstrand, song leader; Lee Shultz, music; Cyril McLellan, choir director; C. T. Beem, sound advisor

Publicity

Warren F. McPherson; Elva J. Hoover, assistant

Ushers

William G. Eastlake; Thomas Sanders, assistant

Youth Activities

Jerry Sandidge

Local Committees

Local Coordinator

U. S. Grant

Child Care

Herschel W. Barnett

Children's Activities

William Cambers, chairman; Ardelia Ladd, Virginia Solomon

Choir

Clinton Vanzant, chairman; Royce Beckett, C. G. McCleery, W. O. Montgomery, Bill Popejoy

Equipment

Paul W. Brewer, chairman; Lee Calhoun, John O. Howard, Vernon Porter

Exhibits—Trucking

Bob Johnson, chairman; E. E. Henley, Forrest D. McClellan, Luther Miller, W. B. Owen, T. W. Stark, Russell Wischart, Paul E. Morris, Herschel Phillips

Housing—Hospitality

John Thompson, chairman; Gail Howard

Publicity

G. W. Harcastle II, chairman; Larry Allbaugh, Vernon Cooper, Lester Duncan, G. A. Green

Ushers

Don Schoff, chairman; George Acree, Milton Beckett, Alvin L. Clevenger, E. Leon Coffey, Ralph Houghton, James R. Odem, Aaron H. Pack, Otho Smith

Youth Activities

Bruce Walker, chairman; James A. Bell, Ken Raggio

A motion to ratify the committees as presented was seconded and carried. The chair requested the Parliamentary Committee to be seated on the platform.

Adoption of Agenda

Attention was called to the agenda as printed on page 16 of the program. The chairman stated that in conformity with the request of the Dallas Council, resolutions had been prepared early and had been placed in the registration packets for the delegates.

Business of an emergency nature should be determined by a two-thirds vote of the Council, with the understanding that this would not apply to business growing out of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery meetings just prior to the General Council.

A motion prevailed that the agenda be adopted as a guide rather than a control.

Report of the General Superintendent

T. E. Gannon, assistant general superintendent, served in the chair as the General Superintendent, Thos. F. Zimmerman, brought the biennial report in behalf of the executive officers.

Brother Zimmerman presented an attractive four-color, 32-page brochure, which had been prepared in response to the action of the Dallas Council affecting departmental reports. The booklet contained an overview of Assemblies of God ministries, with ten year summaries of various areas. The brochure had been carried as a supplement to *Advance* magazine, thus providing a constituency-wide coverage of Assemblies of God ministries.

The chair directed attention to page 31 of the brochure which listed department and division leaders. He likewise introduced headquarters personnel seated on the platform. He stated that these represented over 600 faithful workers at general headquarters.

A motion prevailed that the report of the General Superintendent be received with thanks and appreciation.

The chair was returned to Brother Zimmerman.

General Secretary's Report

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, presented highlights from the printed brochure. He reported a total of 19,706 licensed and ordained ministers, including 1,842 Christian workers. Churches totaled 8,734, with a total membership of 645,891. The Sunday school enrollment was reported at 1,064,631.

A motion prevailed that the report be received with appreciation.

General Treasurer's Report

The General Treasurer, M. B. Netzel, called attention to the Ten Year Summary on pages 20 and 21 of the report. He gave additional information as to increases during the biennium in the following areas: Total assets on March 31, 1971 were \$22,181,627, representing a 22.72% increase over the past biennium. Gospel Publishing House sales were \$13,386,403 for the biennium, an increase of 17.69%. General Council receipts were \$31,553,715, an increase of 24.52%. The General Treasurer reviewed likewise pertinent areas of the official audit which had been prepared in a separate report and distributed to the delegates through the registration packet.

Following the General Treasurer's presentation, it was moved and seconded that the report be accepted, with the understanding questions could be asked later if it were so desired. The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was carried by a show of hands.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the reports be accepted as they have been distributed.

A motion prevailed to recess at 4:45 p.m., with the business session to reconvene at 8:45 Friday morning.

Following the *Doxology*, the service was dismissed in prayer by E. S. Williams, former general superintendent.

FRIDAY MORNING—AUGUST 20

M. B. Netzel, general treasurer, led the devotional service which began at 8:45 Friday morning. The Scripture reading was Psalm 119:17-24.

The message of the morning was brought by Carl O. Lindberg, superintendent of the Northern New England District. His text was Matthew 16:13-18, and the subject, "Revelation—its blessings, its testings, and its triumphs!"

The prayertime emphasis was led by Wesley Hurst, field secretary to the Far East. He called on Brother G. W. Hardcastle, Sr. to lead in prayer and to remember our pastors and ministers in addition to urgent special requests.

The General Superintendent called the business session to order at 10:10. He introduced Kiyoma Yumiyama, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Japan, who brought greetings from the brethren of that land.

The General Secretary read telegrams of greetings from R. W. Taitinger, general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and the Reverend A. C. Bates of Waxahachie, Texas.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that these greetings be received with appreciation.

Additional Tellers

The chair was advised that some of the tellers had been unable to attend the Council. He requested the following brethren to serve on the Tellers Committee: Fred Halquist, Wilmer L. Williams, Alan Phillips, Merle Harris, Vincent Salituro, G. P. Leatherwood, Noland Ball, Elbert Mason, Marvin C. Nelson, James Barnes, and J. Dan Woodall.

Article VIII Study Committee Report

The Dallas Council had referred two items of the committee's report for further study and reporting to the 34th General Council. They therefore appear as unfinished items of business on the agenda. D. H. McLaughlin, chairman of the committee, presented the report and expressed appreciation to other members of the committee: William Menzies, co-chairman; Carl Lindberg, Raymond Hudson, Hardy Steinberg, and G. F. Lewis.

He requested Brother Menzies to read the report:

First Item: Eschatology

The committee understood its assignment to be a matter of editing, so that what was passed by resolution at the 1969 General Council would appear properly in Article VIII of the Bylaws.

Recommended changes:

1. Article VIII, Section 3, subsection "c," paragraph 2, be deleted, but added to subsection "d" with the modifications indicated below.

2. Article VIII, Section 3, subsection "d" be titled "Amillennialism."

"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 substitutes for it the theory that this Christian or Church dispensation is the spiritual millennium of which, its proponents say, the Bible writers prophesied."

3. The paragraph from subsection "c" be modified and added to subsection "d," as follows:

"We recommend that should any of our ministers embrace any of the foregoing eschatological errors, they refrain from preaching or teaching them. Should they persist in emphasizing 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; 19; 20.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the committee dealing with eschatology be adopted. The motion carried.

Second Item: Divorce and Remarriage

Brother Menzies read the recommendations of the committee regarding the subject of divorce and remarriage. A motion prevailed to table this section of the report until copies could be distributed to the delegates.

Retirement Committee Report

This report also came as an item of unfinished business from the Dallas Council. Members of the committee were: T. E. Gannon, chairman; N. Cleo Tapp, E. M. Clark, Herman Rohde, Eugene Bell, William Robertson, Fay Hutchinson, M. B. Netzel, and S. Harland Petersen.

The committee offered the following recommendations:

"That Ministers' Benefit Association continue to be the official retirement program which the Assemblies of God makes available to its ministers. That the Board of Directors of MBA promote MBA:

1. By asking the Executives of the General Council to take the initiative in promoting it.
2. By encouraging active participation by district officers and local churches throughout the Fellowship.
3. That in our promotional material we incorporate positive statements of the needs and demands of ministerial retirees. Many of our ministers live in parsonages while actively engaged in the ministry. Maximum Social Security benefits are not adequate to provide a home as well as living expenses.
4. That at the earliest date possible the Board of Directors employ a full-time employee for the promotion of MBA throughout the entire constituency. This should include personal contact with district personnel and church boards. That should any General Council funds become available to augment MBA, priority consideration be given to using such monies toward the support and expense of maintaining full-time personnel and of providing proper promotional pieces. Such a service could become beneficial to all credential holders.

It was observed that literature on the Ministers Benefit Association is available for those interested.

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

Organizational Structure Report

The Organizational Structure Study Committee report came as a referral from the Dallas Council and was therefore on the agenda as an unfinished item of business. The recommendation for the study had been received from the Committee on

Advance and provided that "an in-depth study of the overall headquarters organization (structure, functions, and assignments) be made in relation to the new statement on purpose." In response to the action of the General Council, the following committee was selected to make the study: Cyril Homer, R. L. Brandt, R. D. E. Smith, Roy Wead, James Hamill, Louis Hauff, E. M. Clark, Joseph Gerhart, and Obie L. Harrup.

The report consisted of two sections: first, the report including sixteen recommendations; and, second, proposed constitutional and bylaw changes to implement the recommendations. It had been circulated to the ministerial constituency prior to the convening of the General Council.

Cyril Homer, committee chairman, read the report with its recommendations.

Following the reading of the report, a motion prevailed to receive the report and express profound appreciation to the committee for the many hours of work devoted to this report and for its clarity and conciseness, and the manner of its presentation.

Discussion followed as to procedure in considering the report and the accompanying proposed constitutional and bylaw changes.

There was a motion to recess at 11:45 to reconvene at 2 o'clock. The motion was seconded and carried.

Following the *Doxology*, prayer was offered by Brother N. D. Davidson.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 20

The afternoon meeting opened with the singing of a number of choruses. Chaplain Stanford E. Linzey led in prayer. Psalm 119:25-32 was read by Joseph R. Flower, superintendent of the New York District. The offering was received by M. A. Groff.

The business session was called to order at 2:20 p.m. J. Philip Hogan led in prayer.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee, made the following report:

Ordained ministers	2,509
Delegates	833
Voting constituency	3,342
Visitors	1,859
Exhibitors	41
Total	5,486
Licensed ministers	244

It was moved, seconded, and passed that the report of the Roster Committee be accepted with the understanding that the roster would remain open.

Organizational Structure Committee Report (Continued)

The question of procedure was again discussed. The chair recommended that the sixteen recommendations of the report be considered seriatim, and that corresponding enabling legislation be taken up in the section dealing with the proposed constitutional and bylaw changes.

A question of privilege was raised whereupon a motion was offered that the report be considered seriatim and that all sixteen recommendations be acted upon before the proposed constitution and bylaw changes are considered. The motion was seconded.

The voice was not clear and a division of the house was called for. The chair requested those in favor of the motion to stand; likewise, the negative vote. It was clear from the standing vote that the motion passed.

Cyril Homer read the first proposition:

1. That the General Presbytery shall be the official policy-making body of the General Council when the General Council is not in session.

It was moved and seconded that recommendation number one be adopted.

Discussion ensued regarding the implications of the role the General Presbytery would have in becoming a "policy-making"

body. It was the ruling of the chair that point one did not construe legislative powers. There was a request from the floor that the discussion include the underlying philosophy of a proposition. The chair stated that while there could be a prefatory statement from the committee when a proposition is presented, it would not be considered germane to engage in philosophical discussions. He pointed out, however, that it is the prerogative of the house to probe and find out anything it needs to know in order to reach a proper decision on what is proposed.

Following further discussion, the question was called for. The motion to adopt item one of the report was then voted upon and declared carried.

Brother Homer read item 2 and requested the privilege of presenting for consideration the first two sentences as 2-a, and then considering item 3 before taking up the rest of item 2, as item 2-b.

2-a. That the Executive Presbytery shall serve as the Board of Directors for the organization. They shall interpret the policies enacted by the General Council and by the General Presbytery.

It was moved and seconded that 2-a be adopted.

Again, a definition of policy was called for. Historically, the General Council in session has been the only policy-making body. Presently neither the General Presbytery nor the Executive Presbytery initiates policy that affects the Fellowship.

The committee chairman stated that the word "legislation" as contained in the report is not intended to give to the General Presbytery the power to revise the Constitution and Bylaws.

The motion to adopt item 2-a was then voted upon and declared carried.

Brother Homer presented item 3:

"That there shall be one assistant general superintendent who shall serve without portfolio. The portfolios carried presently by assistant general superintendents shall be placed at the national directors level."

It was moved and seconded that item 3 be adopted.

Discussion ensued as to the merits of the new legislation over what presently obtains. Opinions were expressed both for and against the proposition. Following continued debate, a motion prevailed that the session be recessed until Saturday morning. Following the *Doxology*, the session was recessed with prayer by Brother L. E. King at 5:05 p.m.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 21

Devotional services were not scheduled since prayer breakfasts had been planned for the men, women, and youth.

Don Stover and Dan Mercado served at the piano and organ as the business session began.

Brother C. Raymond Carlson read Psalm 119:33-40, following which Brother Lloyd Jorgenson, superintendent of North Dakota District, led in prayer.

The General Superintendent declared the business session open at 10:10 a.m.

Report of the Roster Committee

The report of the Roster Committee was presented by Brother Berg:

Ordained ministers	2,646
Delegates	860
Voting constituency	3,506
Licensed ministers	281
Visitors	2,322
Total registered	6,109

It was moved, seconded and carried that the report of the Roster Committee be accepted and that the roster remain open for further registration.

Cablegram—Ghana

The General Secretary read a cablegram received from the Assemblies of God in Ghana.

It was moved and seconded that the General Secretary respond to this cable and convey the greetings of this 34th General Council to the Assemblies of God in Ghana. The motion was carried.

Organizational Structure Report—continued

At the close of the session on Friday there was a motion on the floor to adopt item 3 of the committee report on Organizational Structure. Discussion on the proposition resumed.

A motion was made and seconded that item 3 be amended to read "there shall be four assistant general superintendents who shall serve without portfolio, thus striking out the word "one" and inserting the word "four."

A point of order was raised to the effect that the motion to amend was not a proper motion since all we would have to do is vote down item 3 and we would have the same thing.

With the concurrence of the Parliamentary Committee the chair sustained the point of order. There was an appeal from the floor on the decision of the chair. It was pointed out that the difference is in the words "serve" and "elect." Four assistant general superintendents serving without portfolio would not be the same as four assistant general superintendents *elected* without portfolio.

The appeal of the house was sustained and the motion to amend item 3 by substituting "four" for "one" was declared a proper motion.

Objection was raised to members of the Organizational Structure Committee using the platform mike for speeches. The chair ruled that the platform mike would not be used for speeches either for or against a proposition.

There was a motion from the floor to overrule the ruling of the chair to allow the members of the Organizational Structure Committee to use the platform mike. The motion was seconded and carried.

There was a motion calling for the previous question.

Objection was raised to the chair recognizing the motion calling for the previous question since it was felt those opposed to the proposition should have ample opportunity to speak. The chair sustained the objection, but again there was an appeal from the floor which set aside the ruling of the chair. The motion calling for the previous question was then declared a proper motion.

The vote on the motion calling for the previous question was declared lost.

A motion was made to amend the amendment by deleting the words "without portfolio" and inserting "There shall be 4 assistant general superintendents elected. Portfolios shall be assigned to these assistant general superintendents by the Executive Presbytery. The motion was seconded.

A motion was made to recess at 12 o'clock and to reconvene at 1:30. It was seconded and carried. After the *Doxology* prayer was offered by William Robertson, superintendent of Southern California District.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 21

The meeting began at 1:30 with prayer by Brother Edgar Bethany.

American Bible Society

Fred Lessten, representative from the American Bible Society, gave a brief report of the project to distribute Bibles in Burma and in Ghana. He conveyed the deep appreciation of the ABS to the Assemblies of God constituency for its participation and cooperation in the Bible distribution ministry.

Following Brother Lessten's remarks, Fred Smolchuck, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the General Council of the Assemblies of God firmly believes that eternal salvation is available to men only through belief in and obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ and that the Great Commission demands the Church to proclaim the gospel of Christ to all men in every nation; and WHEREAS, the ever-expanding missionary ministry of the Assemblies of God both in the United States and in 87 foreign countries of the world requires a continuous source of millions of copies of the printed Word of God in order to carry out the divine mandate upon this Fellowship; and WHEREAS, the American Bible Society has dedicated itself to the translation, publishing, and distribution of the Bible without profit and often below cost, thus providing an essential missionary service to our worldwide evangelistic ministry; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative efforts of the American Bible Society and the Assemblies of God had made possible such strategically important Bible undertakings as the present *Bibles for Burma* project and the new *Chinese Bible* project; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this 34th General Council of the Assemblies of God express its deep appreciation to Reverend Fred Lessten for his inspiring presentation of the ministry of the American Bible Society, and its continuing gratitude to the

Society for its invaluable assistance to the Assemblies of God in providing Bibles, New Testaments, and Scripture portions for its worldwide missionary work; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That we strongly urge each church in this Fellowship to contribute substantially to the work of the American Bible Society, with specific encouragement to receive an annual offering for Universal Bible Sunday; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That we re-emphasize the necessity of daily Bible reading for all Christian believers, and that we dedicate ourselves anew to the spreading of the Word of God to all men, both in America and around the world.

The motion to adopt the resolution was seconded and carried.

The General Secretary read a cablegram of greeting from Justice DuPlessis, general secretary of the Apostolic Faith Mission in South Africa.

It was moved and seconded that the General Secretary convey appropriate greetings to the Apostolic Faith Mission in South Africa. The motion carried.

A privileged motion was made that a telegram be sent to the President of the United States, informing him that the Assemblies of God is praying for him in the General Council in session in Kansas City, Missouri. The motion was seconded. It was suggested that the telegram be referred to the Resolutions Committee for proper wording. The motion was voted upon and declared carried with the understanding that the committee be given power to act. Leonard Palmer was asked to lead in prayer for the President.

Organizational Structure Study Committee (Continuation)

Discussion resumed on the motion to amend the amendment which was before the house at the close of the morning meeting: "That there shall be four assistant general superintendents elected. Portfolios will be assigned to these four assistant general superintendents by the Executive Presbytery."

A privileged motion was made to suspend the order of business and to begin the elections, passing over the elections of assistant general superintendents, and begin with the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of Foreign Missions, and the eight nonresident executive presbyters. The motion was seconded.

An amendment was offered to proceed with the elections as soon as item 3 had been decided. The motion to amend was seconded and carried.

The motion as amended to suspend the order of business and proceed with the elections at the conclusion of the action on item 3 was then voted upon and declared carried.

An objection was made as to the propriety of the action since there was not a clear understanding as to the meaning of the amendment, and what officers are to be elected.

The chair ruled that the action was in order. A motion appealing the ruling of the chair was seconded and carried.

Item 3 was therefore before the house. A motion calling for the previous question was seconded, but when voted upon was declared lost.

The motion to amend the amendment pertaining to item 3 which provided for 4 assistant general superintendents to be elected and assigned portfolios by the Executive Presbytery was voted upon and declared lost. The amendment to provide for 4 assistant general superintendents who would serve without portfolio was also voted upon and declared lost.

The main motion to adopt item 3 which provided for one assistant general superintendent to serve without portfolio was then before the house.

A substitute motion was made that there shall be 4 assistant general superintendents who shall be elected without portfolio and to whom portfolios shall be assigned by the General Superintendent in consultation with the nonresident executive presbyters; and, furthermore, that one of the assistant general superintendents shall be designated by separate election to be the successor to the General Superintendent in the event there is a vacancy in his office.

The chair declared it an improper motion.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

Item 3 was restated:

That there shall be one assistant general superintendent who shall serve without portfolio. The portfolios carried presently by assistant general superintendents shall be placed at the national directors level.

The main motion as stated was declared carried by a two-thirds vote.

It was moved and seconded to begin the elections by voting on the office of the general secretary, the general treasurer, the Foreign Missions director, and last the assistant superintendent. The motion was seconded.

Question was again raised regarding the propriety of starting elections since the Council had no clear direction on the offices to be voted upon. Point 16 of the committee's report was cited and inquiry made as to the meaning of the "two-year phase-out period in the transition from the present organizational structure."

Brother Homer asked for the privilege of offering a resolution from the committee which provided that the present assistant general superintendents be retained for the two-year phase-out period, or until they, of their own volition, elect to terminate. The resident Executive Presbytery would remain in office until such time as the adopted provision may be applied. A motion to adopt the resolution was seconded.

A question was raised as to the constitutionality of the proposition. It was pointed out that the General Council Constitution and Bylaws provide that officers shall be elected for specific terms, and by a two-thirds secret ballot. It was remarked that to elect by acclamation was without precedent.

The committee chairman on consultation with the committee requested the privilege to withdraw the resolution.

A motion prevailed to allow the committee to withdraw the resolution.

It was then moved, seconded, and carried to reconsider the question of starting the elections. A motion then prevailed to table the order of the day to begin elections until the entire report had been considered.

It was moved and seconded that since only three parts have been covered the remaining report be tabled until 2 years hence. The motion to table the rest of the report was declared lost.

Item 2-b was then read by the chairman:

"This Board shall consist of the general superintendent, assistant general superintendent, general secretary, general treasurer, the executive director of Foreign Missions, and the eight executive presbyters elected from their geographical areas."

It was moved, seconded and carried to adopt item 2-b.

A motion prevailed to limit debate to not more than three minutes for a single speaker. Item 4 was then read:

Item 4. That the Board of Administration (flow chart) shall be composed of the resident officers—the general superintendent, assistant general superintendent, general secretary, and general treasurer. This board shall not make policy, but shall administer the policy of the General Council and/or the General Presbytery as directed by the Executive Presbytery. It shall direct the day-to-day business of the denomination within these guidelines, and provide supervisory functions as needed and allocated to it. It was moved and seconded that item 4 be adopted.

An amendment to provide that the executive director of Foreign Missions be included on the Board of Administration was seconded, but when voted upon was declared lost.

The motion to adopt item 4 was then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 5, with sub-sections a, b, and c, was presented, as follows:

That the positions designated in the bylaws as "executive director" and "secretary" within the departments shall be renamed "national director." He shall be charged with the operational function of a department, where the term is applicable. He shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery and supervised by the General Superintendent within the guidelines set forth by the policy-making bodies.

a. It is suggested that the Executive Presbytery make a very careful survey of the movement for potential candidates when seeking to fill national director positions.

b. The national directors shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery.

c. The national directors shall present their programs and budgets in person to the Executive Presbytery for approval.

A motion to adopt item 5 was seconded.

An amendment was proposed that the word "elected" be changed to "nominated" and the word "ratified" be changed to "elected" in sub-section b. An amendment to the amendment was proposed to change "General Presbytery" to "General Council," to provide that the national directors shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Council in session. The motion to amend the amendment was seconded, but when voted upon was declared lost. The motion to amend was then voted upon and declared carried.

An amendment was proposed to amend item 5 by adding a sub-section d to provide "that the national directors be qualified educationally and with experience commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of the department." The motion was seconded but failed to pass when voted upon.

Item 5 with its sub-sections, as amended, was then voted upon and declared carried.

It was moved and seconded that "The General Superintendent call a special meeting of the General Presbytery to elect the national directors within a period of 120 days. The motion was seconded but when voted upon failed to carry.

Item 6 was presented:

That, in view of the vast responsibilities of the Executive Presbytery, they shall be relieved of serving as the Board of Directors of Central Bible College, and also of responsibilities relating to the handling of ministerial appeal cases. (This does not preclude the possibility of one or more executive presbyters serving on these boards.)

a. The General Presbytery shall provide for the selection of a new Board of Directors for Central Bible College and for a permanent appeals board.

It was pointed out the instruction in this item is in conflict with the General Council Constitution and Bylaws and that recommendations could be made to the General Council, but could not be implemented without favorable action of the General Council to amend the bylaws.

A motion prevailed to adopt item 6 with the above stipulation.

Item 7 was presented:

That the General Superintendent shall be authorized to select an administrative assistant for his office.

- a. This selection shall be approved by the Executive Presbytery.

A motion prevailed to adopt item 7.

Item 8 was presented:

That a committee of five general presbyters shall be appointed to review annually the salaries of the elected officers and the allowances of the members of the Executive Presbytery. The Executive Presbytery shall determine the salaries of the national directors of the various departments on the basis of their individual responsibilities and duties.

It was moved and seconded to adopt item 8.

It was moved and seconded that item 8 be deleted, but when voted upon the motion failed to pass.

Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the national directors be classified in one group and that their salaries be the same. The motion failed to pass.

The motion to adopt item 8 was then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 9 was presented:

That where feasible, related departments or divisions shall be placed under one national director. (For example, Sunday School and Church School Literature could be placed under one national director).

The committee chairman stated that the parenthetical statement had been included as an example and not as a recommendation. It was moved and seconded that item 9 be adopted. An amendment prevailed that this determination be made by the General Presbytery upon recommendation of the Executive Presbytery.

Item 9 as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

A motion prevailed to set the adjournment hour at 5:30 p.m.

Item 10 was presented, as follows:

That the essential function of the Home Missions Department shall be church planting and development and that this special function requires a concentration which should not be vitiated by any other interest; nor must the resources available to this function be diluted by other interests. The committee therefore recommends that special ministries be separated, realigned and merged with other departments.

The committee's recommendations are:

- a. Transfer prison work to Men's Fellowship
- b. Transfer Teen Challenge to Youth Department
- c. Transfer deaf and blind work to Education Department
- d. Jewish work to be under district supervision where work is located.
- e. Special language groups shall be merged into the local districts as soon as feasible. Until such time as recommendation can be implemented, they shall be under the supervision of the Board of Administration.
- f. Foreign Language Branches shall be removed from the supervision of the Home Missions Department and placed on the same basis as other districts as noted under Art. V of the Bylaws.

It was moved and seconded that item 10 be adopted.

The chairman of the committee stated that it was the wish of the committee to change the word "recommendations" in the first line of the second paragraph to "suggestions" so that the sentence would read:

"The committee's suggestions are"

A motion prevailed to change the word "recommendations" to "suggestions."

A substitute motion prevailed that the implementation of the suggestions be referred to the Executive Presbytery for further study and that its findings and recommendations be approved by the General Presbytery.

A further motion prevailed to insert in line 2 of the first paragraph of item 10 the following "through the auspices of the district councils."

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

Item 11 was presented:

That the activities of the Home Missions Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board. This shall consist of the national director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive Presbytery, eight other ministers selected from the eight established geographical areas of the country with at least four of the national board members selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of District Home Missions Director. The members of the Home Missions Board shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery. A term of office shall be for four years, and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire biennially.

A motion prevailed to adopt item 11.

The meeting recessed by motion duly carried at 5:30 to convene at 8 a.m. on Monday, with the business session to begin at 8:30.

After the Doxology, the prayer of dismissal was offered by Gene Jackson, secretary of the Tennessee District.

SUNDAY—AUGUST 22

Brother Charles W. H. Scott was in charge of the memorial and communion service which began at 9:45 a.m. in the Municipal Auditorium. The congregation was blessed through the anointed ministry of the "Singing Parsons," a choir led by Pastor John Wannemacher of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Brother Harris Lidstrand led the singing as Mrs. Robert Graber and Miss Leila Clements served at the instruments. Prayer was offered by Brother Bert Webb. Brother Joseph P. Wannemacher played a violin solo as an offertory. The speaker of the morning was Brother Kermit Rencau. He brought an inspiring message on the significance of the communion service.

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 Ralph M. Riggs, retired general superintendent who died on January 13, 1971, and to J. Roswell Flower, retired general secretary, who

had died on July 23, 1970. He stated that these brethren 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:

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Timothy 4:7, 8.

"Think of stepping on a shore,
And finding it heaven!
Think of taking hold of a hand
And finding it God's hand!
Think of breathing new air
And finding it celestial air!
Of feeling invigorated,
And finding it immortality!
Of passing from storm and tempest into
perfect calm!
Of awaking and knowing—
I am home!"

Honoring ordained ministers and missionaries of the Assemblies of God who have passed on to their reward, as reported to the General Secretary's Office for the period August 15, 1969 to August 20, 1971.

DECEASED ORDAINED MINISTERS

August 20, 1971.

Irvin E. Ade, West Melbourne, Florida
Frank Adornato, Menlo Park, California
J. W. Aleshire, Front Royal, Virginia
Carl Allquist, Salem, Oregon
Elmer C. Andrews, Waxahachie, Texas
Jesse W. Arnold, Cherokee, Oklahoma
John N. Atwood, Luxora, Arkansas
Kenneth A. Auten, Orange, California

Richard A. Babcock, Norwood, Massachusetts
 S. Clyde Bailey, Benton, Illinois
 Olin L. Baker, Pensacola, Florida
 Luther Bates, Minden, Louisiana
 Olan Beuchamp, McCamey, Texas
 Arthur Bell, Belleville, Illinois
 John D. Birge, Tishomingo, Oklahoma
 Edward G. Block, Stanwood, Washington
 Oscar B. Braune, Fort Worth, Texas
 James Bright, Jenks, Oklahoma
 Marie E. Brown, New York, New York
 D. Herbert Browne, Montgomery, Alabama
 Walter P. Broyles, Mountain Hope, West Virginia
 Harold Brumback, Stratford, Connecticut
 Wesley C. Buchanan, Augusta, Georgia
 Alfred W. Buckley, East McKeesport, Pennsylvania
 Harvey L. Buckley, Bearden, Arkansas
 George A. Bullock, Salem, Oregon
 Aaron H. Burns, Westpoint, Texas
 Manuel L. Camara, San Leandro, California
 William L. Campbell, Greenville, South Carolina
 Luis G. Caraballo, San Francisco, California
 Ira A. Carlock, Guntown, Mississippi
 Conrad M. L. Carlson, Springfield, Missouri
 Fred V. Clark, Jennings, Missouri
 Murrell Clay, Booneville, Arkansas
 Edith I. Cline, Bakersfield, California
 Ralph C. Cobb, Nigeria
 Essie Colbert, Fresno, California
 B. Harold Conant, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
 James A. Cooley, Waynesboro, Mississippi
 Codie B. Corbin, Holt, Florida
 John Cosmides, San Francisco, California
 Charles E. Crocker, DeSoto, Texas
 George T. Cummings, Grant, Nebraska
 Edwin N. Daley, Grand Forks, North Dakota
 Herbie E. Darnell, Nashville, Tennessee
 Herbert C. Dodson, Rodeo, California
 Harold E. Doersom, Green Lane, Pennsylvania
 Harold Donaldson, Concord, California
 Meliton C. Donato, Brooklyn, New York
 Harry E. Dreyer, New Plymouth, Idaho
 Daniel J. DuBose, New Brockton, Alabama

James D. Gitchell, Amarillo, Texas
 Isaac M. Glanville, Sioux City, Iowa
 Earl W. Goodman, Billings, Montana
 Carl F. Graves, Amarillo, Texas
 Charley E. Greathouse, Prescott, Arizona
 J. C. Green, Oildale, California
 Apostolos Grillos, San Francisco, California
 Mia O. Gustafson (Mrs. C. J.), Eugene, Oregon
 Wayne W. Haun, England, Arkansas
 Charles C. Helvey, Neosho, Missouri
 Clyde Henson, Sacramento, California
 William L. Dumas, Springhill, Louisiana
 Martin D. Eaves, Jr., St. Louis, Missouri
 Robert F. Eby, Dallas, Texas
 Clyde M. Edwards, La Place, Louisiana
 Luella A. Engler, Tacoma, Washington
 Philip Erckmann, Joliet, Illinois
 John B. Essary, Fairfax, Oklahoma
 James I. Evans, Akron, Ohio
 Cornelius Eylander, Everett, Washington
 Curtis Farmer, Aulander, North Carolina
 W. L. Farmer, Pittsburg, California
 Thomas J. Farris, Bourbon, Missouri
 Nels Fast, Gresham, Oregon
 A. Herman Ferguson, Bethalto, Illinois
 B. C. Finfrock, Lakeport, California
 J. Roswell Flower, Springfield, Missouri
 Ray A. Ford, Flagstaff, Arizona
 Alonza W. Fox, Frederick, Maryland
 Ruby E. French, Zion, Illinois
 William F. Freeman, Salem, Oregon
 Max Freimark, San Jose, California
 Fred H. Frey, Ashland, Kansas
 Pete A. Friesen, Burke, South Dakota
 August Gaub, Glendive, Montana
 Wilma I. J. Gilbert (Mrs. W. A.), Odessa, Texas
 Roy E. Gilliam, North Little Rock, Arkansas
 Floyd R. Highfill, Irving, Texas
 Thomas Hindle, Ontario, Canada
 Oscar J. Hines, Laytonville, California
 Frank W. Holland, Franklin, North Carolina
 Glenn M. Horst, West Palm Beach, Florida
 Garfield C. Hosking, Davis, California

Henry L. Hudgens, Corpus Christi, Texas
 Robert F. Hudson, Crestview, Florida
 Clyde M. Huson, Wenatchee, Washington
 B. E. Hutzaluk, Detroit, Michigan
 Ernest T. Illum, Fort Collins, Colorado
 Emerson Jones, Winter Haven, Florida
 Harold S. Jones, South Africa
 Ida F. Jones, Alger, Ohio
 Thomas J. Jones, Prior Lake, Minnesota
 William R. Kamppi, Moose Lake, Minnesota
 Albert A. Kehr, Honolulu, Hawaii
 Edward L. Kent, Houston, Texas
 W. L. Kinsey, Gulfport, Mississippi
 Floyd G. Larson, Dorris, California
 Nickolaus Lesch, Benton Harbor, Michigan
 Phinis A. Lewis, Austin, Texas
 Raymond A. Livingston, Terrell, Texas
 Carl W. Loenser, Parma Heights, Ohio
 Eugenio H. Lopez, Santa Fe Springs, California
 Drusilla Lott, Cleveland, Arkansas
 Glyn Lowery, Sr., Milton, Florida
 R. Arthur McClure, Kansas City, Missouri
 W. Glen McClure, Tucson, Arizona
 Neil A. McMillan, Amarillo, Texas
 Sarah C. Mangum, Fort Worth, Texas
 Donald C. Manley, Fremont, Michigan
 Grady Q. Manley, Houston, Texas
 Claude E. Maples, Phoenix, Arizona
 Jeannette E. Marcley, Kansas City, Missouri
 Jack Martz, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Reuben A. Mason, Huxley, Iowa
 Newt G. Mathenia, Pittsfield, Illinois
 James C. Medley, Visalia, California
 James M. Medley, Rockdale, Texas
 Bessie Miller, Lewiston, Idaho
 Leslie J. Miller, Ocean Grove, New Jersey
 Lester R. Miller, Bismarck, North Dakota
 Harmon C. Mitchell, Panama City, Florida
 Joseph J. Murphy, Tacoma, Washington
 Henry E. Murray, Robinson, Illinois
 Henry H. Ness, Seattle, Washington
 Phillip A. Nichols, Kalispell, Montana
 Salvator R. Noferi, Brick Town, New Jersey

Ethel M. Norris, Dayton, Ohio
 Roy S. Nowack, Minneapolis, Minnesota
 C. A. Oliver, Fort Worth, Texas
 Carl E. Oster, Seattle, Washington
 Arthur G. Osterberg, Portland, Oregon
 James H. Owens, Lakeland, Florida
 Joseph Papiernik, Annapolis, Maryland
 Harland A. Park, Hong Kong
 Robert A. Paul, LaSalle, Colorado
 Rangnor S. Peterson, Orlando, Florida
 Frederick D. Pettet, Sr., Butler, New Jersey
 Luther Perkins, Monterey, California
 Nester O. Perez, Galveston, Texas
 Roy D. Pick, Hutchinson, Kansas
 James L. Pittman, Hedgesville, West Virginia
 John W. Plattenburg, Kansas City, Missouri
 William R. Porter, Modesto, California
 Thomas N. Powers, Clovis, New Mexico
 Peter Radzewich, Millville, New Jersey
 E. L. Raley, Marianna, Florida
 Luis M. Ramos, Beacon, New York
 Hubert C. Rannels, Sparks, Nevada
 Irma M. Raroha, Freemansburg, Pennsylvania
 Lonnie A. Rathel, Milton, Florida
 Vern H. Ray, Sapulpa, Oklahoma
 Park W. Reed, Lewiston, Idaho
 Roy K. Reed, Mandan, North Dakota
 William F. Reed, Port Orchard, Washington
 Carl E. Reynolds, Shreveport, Louisiana
 Jefferson L. Rice, Dothan, Alabama
 Verena M. Rich, Tacoma, Washington
 Ralph M. Riggs, Santa Cruz, California
 Garland N. Robbins, Monette, Arkansas
 Ossian A. Robertson, Santa Rosa, California
 Jesse L. Sanford, Lindale, Texas
 J. O. Savell, Houston, Texas
 Mattie D. Schliesing, San Antonio, Texas
 Howard E. Scott, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Douglas D. Sellers, Grand Blanc, Michigan
 R. L. Sharp, Seaside, Oregon
 Horace G. Shaver, Nacogdoches, Texas
 Elmer C. Shively, Santa Cruz, California
 John F. Slye, Alexandria, Virginia
 Floyd L. Smith, Paradise, California

Henry E. Smith, Kingstree, South Carolina
 John L. Smith, Jay, Florida
 Karol Smolchuck, Los Angeles, California
 Walter A. Spain, Milan, Tennessee
 Nikodem Stecewicz, Detroit, Michigan
 Sterling W. Stewart, El Salvador
 Guy E. Stone, Gate City, Virginia
 Fernie L. Strength, Clearwater, Florida
 Glen F. Strickland, Portland, Oregon
 Edwin L. Stubbs, Sr., Phoenix, Arizona
 Elmer R. Swick, Long Pine, Nebraska
 John H. Taylor, Dayton, Ohio
 Howard P. Trawick, Enterprise, Alabama
 Celso G. Valentin, San Francisco, California
 Robert C. Walker, Koshkonong, Missouri
 Gladys E. Wallace, Bakersfield, California
 John E. Ward, Glenolden, Pennsylvania
 William L. Ware, Troy, Missouri
 Edna L. Watson, Bettendorf, Iowa
 Edward G. Wellman, Malvern, Pennsylvania
 John A. Westfall, Petaluma, California
 Lottie W. Whittaker, Columbia, South Carolina
 F. A. Wick, Bowman, North Dakota
 Benjamin I. Wilkerson, Anaheim, California
 C. LeRoy Williams, Honduras
 W. R. Williamson, Detroit, Michigan
 Mary A. Wilson, Stockton, California
 Mary E. Wilson (Mrs. S. H.), Chatsworth, California
 Ross W. Wimberly, Bastrop, Louisiana
 Frances E. Winkelman (Mrs. H.), Oakland, California
 Hazen D. Wolverton, South Africa
 Lem V. Wood, Ardmore, Oklahoma

Following the reading of the names, the congregation stood in silent memory of these departed soldiers of the Cross. Assistant General Superintendent, Chas. W. H. Scott, presided over the Communion Table, being assisted by the general and executive presbyters. Brother Noel Perkin pronounced the benediction.

The afternoon service began at 2 p.m. with a missions rally. Brother J. Philip Hogan, executive director of Foreign Missions, was in charge of the service. Following the traditional missionary parade, the television choir from the First Assembly of God of Memphis, Tennessee, brought an inspiring message in song. Pastor Paul C. Schoch, Pastor of the First Assembly of God of Oakland, California, brought a message on the theme of intercessory prayer. His subject, "God, Let It Be Now!" Robert McGlasson, missionary secretary, read a Scripture selection from 1 Timothy 2:1-8. Brother Yumiyama from Japan presented a prayer-appeal, with the following countries emphasized: Japan, Ecuador, Poland, and Nigeria. A Good News Crusades offering was received amounting to \$5,600.

The evening service began at 7:15. The Scripture reading was given by Charles Denton, with a selection from Psalm 119:57-64. Prayer was offered by Arnold Segesman of Berlin Center, Ohio. Following the recognition of evangelists, Mrs. Dolly Eleiott brought a message in song. The offertory was a trumpet solo by John Polizzi of Granite City, Illinois. Lee Shultz featured IMPACT '72. Brother Lowell Lundstrom brought the evening message. Prior to his message the congregation was blessed through the special number in song by the Lundstrom Team.

MONDAY MORNING—AUGUST 23

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, led the devotional service. Mrs. Barbara Hardcastle and Mrs. Linda Bixler served at the instruments.

Brother Roy Wead read Psalm 119:65-72, and quoted additional selections from the Scriptures.

Clarence Lambert, superintendent of the Rocky Mountain District, brought the morning message. The theme of the message was "the Word of God in its purifying power."

The General Superintendent called the business session to order at 8:30. Brother Willard Leisy of Juneau, Alaska, led in prayer.

Brother R. J. Carlson requested the privilege of making a statement: "whereas, there is an overwhelming press of business; and whereas, we are entering into the last full day that we have to work, I would like to move that we lift item 16 out

of order in the series and consider it at this point; and, if this privilege is granted, and if this body so chooses, I would like to offer an amendment for the purpose of clearing the way for election procedures." It was then moved, seconded, and carried to consider item 16 of the report at this time.

Brother Homer read item 16:

That there shall be a two-year phase-out period in the transition from the present organizational structure to the new organizational structure.

It was moved and seconded that item 16 be adopted.

Brother Carlson then offered an amendment "that for the purposes of election procedures relative to the offices of assistant general superintendents, we proceed under the provisions of the present General Council Constitution and Bylaws, and that the phaseout shall be construed to mean that no replacement shall be sought for the office of assistant general superintendent as vacancies may occur during the ensuing two-year period looking toward the implementation of the policy already adopted by this General Council."

A motion to adopt the amendment offered was seconded.

A substitute motion was offered by Brother Dobbins "that we rescind our previous action and proceed with the consideration of the proposed Constitutional and Bylaw changes affecting the elections so that our action today is in keeping with the report of the committee." The motion was seconded. Charles W. H. Scott, assistant general superintendent, requested the privilege of the floor. The chair granted his request and Mrs. Scott was escorted to the platform.

Brother Scott then made the following statement: "...Two years ago, at the Dallas Council meeting, I contemplated making an announcement of this type. The action of the General Council indicated that it might be in the Lord's will for us to continue for another two years.

"After much prayer and soul-searching, I am requesting that you do not nominate me for office this year. The reason for this action is a change of pace from the pressure of these years of

service to give opportunity for time for study and preparation for any type of new field ministry wherever and whenever we can serve.

"Since I am still married to the sweetheart of my youth, who has stood by me for these forty-five years and helped me in the work of the ministry and has waited at home alone while I traveled up to 60,000 miles a year, I feel constrained to take this action.

"I do have a desire to spend as many years as we have left together in fruitful ministry, not in retirement for I am not even tired, but in a new and different ministry as the Lord shall lead and direct.

"I leave this office with recollections of fourteen years of joyous service and association with choice Christian leaders and competent staff people all of whom are dedicated to the ongoing ministry of our Fellowship."

Curtis Ringness, National Home Missions Secretary, presented the following motion: "That the General Council go on record as expressing heartfelt appreciation for the great contribution Brother and Sister Scott have made to our Fellowship, and that the Executive Presbytery be authorized to give Brother and Sister Scott a tangible and material expression of our gratitude for these wonderful servants of God." The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The motion to rescind previous action and to proceed with consideration of the proposed Constitution and Bylaw changes was before the house.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

The motion to rescind was then voted upon and declared lost.

The amendment to item 16 as proposed by R. J. Carlson was then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 16, as amended, was then before the house.

There was a motion to table item 16, as amended, and to proceed with items 12, 13, 14, and 15. The motion was seconded and carried.

Item 12 was read by the committee chairman:

That it shall be the responsibility of the Home Missions Board to evaluate Home Missions policies, and to offer guidance and counsel relating to church planting and development.

A motion prevailed that item 12 be adopted.

Item 13 was presented for consideration:

That in view of widespread interest and concern, the General Council shall provide or arrange for a loan fund of up to \$10,000,000 which shall be available for church planting and development of new churches.

It was moved and seconded that item 13 be adopted.

There was a motion to amend by the addition of the words "if possible" following the phrase "shall provide or arrange" so that the recommendation will read:

"That in view of widespread interest and concern, the General Council shall provide or arrange, if possible, for a loan fund of up to \$10,000,000. . . ."

The motion to amend was seconded and carried. The motion to adopt item 13 as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 14 was presented:

That when setting up national representative boards, departments shall conform to the eight area arrangement instead of the six.

It was moved and seconded that item 14 be adopted.

A motion prevailed that item 14 be amended by the insertion of the word "geographical" so that the sentence shall read:

When setting national representative boards, departments shall conform to the eight geographical area arrangement instead of the six.

The motion to adopt item 14 as amended was then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 15 was read by the chairman of the committee:

That leadership training shall be provided for national directors and others.

A motion prevailed that item 15 be adopted.

Brother Kermit Reneau, assistant general superintendent, requested the privilege of the floor for the purpose of making a statement. The chair granted his request and Brother Reneau explained that while he had enjoyed his service on the Executive Presbytery board and the fellowship of his brethren at general headquarters, he had felt it to be the will of God to accept the position of superintendent of the South Texas District and would not be available for consideration for a national office.

The chair requested that an appropriate expression of appreciation for Brother Reneau be prepared for inclusion in the minutes. (See later resolution.)

There was a motion to take item 16 from the table and to give consideration to it at this juncture. The motion was ruled unnecessary since item 16 was automatically before the body.

Item 16 was read:

That there shall be a two-year phase-out period in the transition from the present organizational structure to the new organizational structure.

It was moved and seconded that item 16 be adopted.

There was a motion to delete item 16 from the report which the chair ruled an improper motion since the same thing can be accomplished by a negative vote on the motion before the house.

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

Item 16 was then voted upon and declared carried.

It was then moved and seconded to adopt the report as a whole, as amended. The motion was voted upon and declared carried.

Following the completion of the sixteen recommendations of the report of the Organizational Structure Committee, consideration was given to the proposed constitutional amendments. Cyril Homer, committee chairman, presented the recommendations seriatim.

Article IX. Section 1. Executive Officers

It was proposed to delete the "s" in the word *superintendents* (line 2), and change the word required to *authorize* (line 4), and to add a new paragraph *b* to read:

"b. The Executive Officers shall constitute a Board of Administration."

The amended Section 1 would then read:

Article IX. Officers

1. Executive Officers

"a. The officers shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with such other officers as may be authorized in the future . . ."

"b. The executive officers shall constitute a Board of Administration."

It was moved and seconded that the proposed amendments to Article IX, Section 1, be adopted.

An amendment was offered to include the executive director of Foreign Missions as a member of the Board of Administration. The motion to amend was seconded.

Question arose as to the propriety of amending the constitution by the inclusion of the executive director of Foreign Missions since earlier in the session the proposition had been declined. The question was raised if we can now amend a matter while voting on the Constitution and Bylaws, having previously voted to adopt the committee's recommendations. The Parliamentary Committee advised that the body would be in proper order to consider amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws.

A substitute motion was made to approve all of the Constitution and Bylaw changes to implement the committee's report. The motion was seconded. The chair, however, ruled it an improper substitute motion at this point.

Following considerable debate the chair ruled that in order to change the action taken earlier in the session there must be an approved motion to reconsider. The house sustained the ruling by motion duly carried.

There was a motion to reconsider items 2-b and 4 of the report to include the executive director of Foreign Missions on the Board of Administration. The motion was seconded.

Following further discussion, a motion calling for the previous question as it applied to the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Upon voting on the motion to reconsider items 2-b and 4, the motion was declared lost.

Prayer was requested for the guidance of the Lord.

It was moved and seconded to rescind the action to adopt the report of the committee and to receive it instead. The chair ruled the motion could not have two proposals and that the motion before the house would be a motion to rescind.

A substitute motion was offered that we accept all constitutional proposals as they are so stated. The motion was seconded.

A motion calling for the previous question was voted upon and declared carried.

The motion to adopt the substitute motion was declared lost. Likewise, the motion to rescind the action in adopting the report was voted upon and declared lost.

A motion was then offered to accept the proposed constitutional changes listed in item 1, page 9, on through and including item 21 of the proposed bylaw changes on page 48. The motion was seconded.

A substitute motion to adopt only the constitution and bylaw changes germane to the report which had just been adopted was not recognized.

The motion to adopt the constitution and bylaw changes from item 1, page 9, through item 21 on page 48, was voted upon and declared lost.

A motion calling for the previous question prevailed.

The motion to adopt the proposed amendments to Article IX, Section 1, was then voted upon and declared carried by a two-thirds majority vote.

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

WHEREAS, There are areas covered in the Structure Committee's Report that have been referred to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery which will require bylaw amendments in addition to those that have been included in its present report; and

WHEREAS, there are also recommendations for additional constitutional and bylaw amendments which are not directly related to the first eight pages of the report; and

WHEREAS, The Structure Committee has recommended that there be a two-year phase-out period in the transition from the present organizational structure to the new organizational structure; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Structure Committee's Report, in the light of areas already adopted, be referred to the Executive Presbytery for tooling out necessary Constitutional and By-law amendments to effect the implementation of the report, with the provision that the report of the Executive Presbytery be presented to the General Presbytery in its 1972 session; and subsequently to the 35th General Council for its consideration; and, further, be it

RESOLVED, That the time necessary to consider the report be scheduled for the 35th General Council; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 34th General Council proceed immediately with the election of its officers as provided in the current Constitution and Bylaws.

The motion lost.

It was moved that we interpret item 16 in the committee's report with reference to the phase-out period to mean that the Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to continue in the present pattern of appointment of national directors until the next regular meeting of the General Presbytery in 1972 at which time the new provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws as adopted here shall take effect. The motion was seconded, but when voted upon failed to carry.

Roster Report

Brother Berg reported the following:

Ordained ministers	2,791
Delegates	904
Voting constituency	3,695
Licensed ministers	320
Visitors	2,892
Total	6,907

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

A motion prevailed that immediately after casting the nominating ballot for assistant general superintendent the meeting be recessed and that the General Council be called into session at 1:30 instead of 2 o'clock.

A motion was seconded and carried that in the event there is a two-thirds majority vote on the first ballot in any of the positions to be voted upon, it shall constitute an election.

Following prayer, the nominating ballot was cast to elect the assistant general superintendent.

The meeting then recessed with prayer by Brother Paul Lowenberg following the *Doxology*.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 23

The meeting convened at 1:30 with the reading of Psalm 119:73-80. Immanuel Lazaro, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Tanzania, was presented to bring greetings.

Dr. T. A. Raedeke, executive director of Key 73, was introduced by the General Superintendent. He spoke briefly in behalf of the Key 73 Program, explaining its purpose and plans for implementation.

Following the remarks of Dr. Raedeke, the chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution:

KEY 73 INTRODUCTION

BECAUSE we believe an important part of the Church's mission is to reach the unsaved with the gospel; and

BECAUSE the imminence of Christ's return makes it imperative to get the gospel out by every means; and

BECAUSE there exists a new climate of openness among Christians of many denominations, and these people are convinced of the absolute need of spiritual renewal as the only answer to today's plaguing problems; and

BECAUSE God has entrusted us with the grave responsibility of moving with the Holy Spirit to redeem the time by reaching our generation with the gospel of Jesus Christ;

THEREFORE, We recognize the unparalleled opportunity for participation in "Key 73", an evangelism outreach in-

volving over 70 denominations, which presents as its spring-board:

1. The Bible is the Word of God through which Christ is made known
2. God through Christ offers man the way of salvation, wholeness, and meaningful life
3. Men are to be confronted with Christ's call and through the power of the Holy Spirit come to repentance and faith
4. Genuine saving faith affects every area of a person's life and engages him in Christ's serving ministry;

and sets forth as its objectives:

1. To confront every person in North America more fully and more forcefully with the gospel of Jesus Christ
2. To employ every method and means of communication of the gospel to create the conditions in which men may respond to God
3. To apply the message and the meaning of Jesus Christ to the issues shaping man and his society in order that they may be resolved
4. To develop new resources for effective evangelism for consideration, adoption, adaption, or rejection by the participating churches
5. To supplement the efforts of Christian congregations and organizations in becoming more effective redemptive centers and more aggressive witnesses to God's redeeming power in the world.

Resolution

WHEREAS our Executive Presbytery has carefully reviewed these objectives and feels they are in harmony with what God has called the Assemblies of God to do; and

WHEREAS our General Superintendent and other leaders of the Assemblies of God have been fully involved in planning for Key 73; and

WHEREAS this Biblically oriented, transdenominational effort will be loosely structured to allow each participating church, denomination, or organization to determine its own program and degree of involvement; and

WHEREAS 1973, as the final year of the Assemblies of God Plan of Advance, has been designated as a year of continuing mobilization for evangelism, with the theme, "Go Forward"; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the General Council of the Assemblies of God be authorized as a participating group in Key 73; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission be requested to prepare plans providing for national, district, and local participation in Key 73 to coincide with Impact '73, "Go Forward"; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Assemblies of God churches and members be encouraged to participate in every way they can in this major evangelism thrust to present Christ as the only answer to the unprecedented need of our generation.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to adopt the resolution on Key 73.

Roster Report

The chairman of the Roster Committee made the following report:

Ordained ministers	2,811
Delegates	913
Voting constituency	3,724
Licensed ministers	326
Visitors	2,915
Total	6,965

A motion prevailed to accept the report.

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Willis Berry, chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported the results of the nominating ballot for assistant general superintendent.

Number of votes cast	1,361
Needed to elect	908

He reported that there was no election since no nominee had received the necessary two-thirds majority vote. He read the list of those nominated:

E. R. Anderson, Lowell Ashbrook, H. W. Barnett, Gay Benson, Edgar Bethany, R. L. Brandt, G. Raymond Carlson, R. G. Carlson, R. J. Carlson, Marshall Calloway, Owen Carr, E. M. Clark, Robert Cooley, N. D. Davidson, F. D. Davis,

George Davis, Richard Dobbins, Richard Dortch, David Flower, Joseph Flower, Harmon N. Furr, T. E. Gannon, Joseph Gerhart, R. E. Goggin, U. S. Grant, Charles Greenaway, J. K. Gressett, M. A. Groff, D. R. Guynes, James Hamill, O. L. Harrup, Louis T. Hauff, Philip Hogan, Cyril Homer, Wesley Hurst, Raymond Hudson, Fay Hutchinson, J. Foy Johnson, Parvin Lee, G. F. Lewis, Paul Lowenberg, D. H. McLaughlin, Murray McLees, Lonnie Mullen, M. B. Netzel, Wallace Odum, Bartlett Peterson, Ron Prinzing, Kermit Reneau, Glen Rich, Haskell Rogers, Nelson Sachs, C. W. H. Scott, James Swanson, N. Cleo Tapp, C. M. Ward, Roy Wead, Bert Webb, Raymond Wiley, and T. F. Zimmerman.

The first electoral ballot was then cast.

While the ballots were being counted, business was resumed; however, the results of the balloting are reported in consecutive order for convenience.

The result of the first electoral ballot was reported:

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

The chairman of the Tellers Committee reported that there was no election. The results of the first electoral ballot were:

E. R. Anderson 15, Lowell Ashbrook 3, Gay Benson 1, H. W. Barnett 2, Edgar Bethany 5, R. L. Brandt 2, Richard Dortch 1, Marshall Calloway 3, R. J. Carlson 33, Owen Carr 7, E. M. Clark 11, G. Raymond Carlson 610, Robert Cooley 1, N. D. Davidson 6, F. D. Davis 2, Richard Dobbins 5, David Flower 7, Joseph Flower 11, Joseph Gerhart 8, U. S. Grant 8, T. E. Gannon 518, Chas. Greenaway 1, R. E. Goggin 16, J. K. Gressett 2, M. A. Groff 1, D. R. Guynes 5, James Hamill 34, O. L. Harrup 9, Philip Hogan 21, Cyril Homer 25, Raymond Hudson 6, Wesley Hurst 6, Fay Hutchinson 4, J. Foy Johnson 2, G. F. Lewis 5, Paul Lowenberg, 42, D. H. McLaughlin 11, Murray McLees 1, Mullen 1, M. B. Netzel 5, Wallace Odum 2, Bartlett Peterson 8, Haskell Rogers 2, N. Sachs 5, C. W. H. Scott 28, N. Cleo Tapp 9, C. M. Ward 4, Roy Wead 17, Bert Webb 28, and T. F.

Zimmerman 1.

The second elective ballot was then cast. The results of the second elective ballot were reported by the Chairman of the

Tellers Committee:

Total votes cast	1,698
Needed to elect	1,132

It was announced that there was no election on the second ballot. The results were as follows:

E. R. Anderson 10, H. W. Barnett 1, Edgar Bethany 1, Richard Dortch 1, R. J. Carlson 15, Owen Carr 1, E. M. Clark 1, G. Raymond Carlson 981, N. D. Davidson 1, Richard Dobbins 1, Joseph Gerhart 1, T. E. Gannon 630, Chas. Greenaway 1, R. E. Goggin 4, D. R. Guynes 1, James Hamill 7, Philip Hogan 2, Cyril Homer 6, Paul Lowenberg 18, Lonnie Mullen 1, C. W. H. Scott 3, N. Cleo Tapp 3, Roy Wead 3, Bert Webb 4, and T. F. Zimmerman 2.

The third elective ballot was then cast. The chair announced that in accordance with the bylaw provisions only the fifteen candidates having the highest number of votes would be retained.

The Tellers Committee reported the results of the third elective ballot for assistant general superintendent:

Total votes cast	1,680
Needed to elect	1,120

G. Raymond Carlson received 1,205 votes, T. E. Gannon 444, Paul Lowenberg 11, R. J. Carlson 3, E. R. Anderson 5, James Hamill 1, Cyril Homer 2, Bert Webb 2, R. E. Goggin 1, N. Cleo Tapp 1, Roy Wead 1, and T. F. Zimmerman 4.

The chair therefore declared G. Raymond Carlson elected to the office of assistant general superintendent.

A nominating ballot was then cast for the office of General Secretary. While the ballots were being cast business was resumed.

Article IX. Section 2 Executive Presbytery

Brother Homer presented the constitutional changes proposed for Article IX, Section 2, Executive Presbytery (lines 2, 3, 4, 6):

It was proposed to delete the *s* in the word *superintendents* (line 2) and change the word *sixteen* to *thirteen* (line 6); and to add a new paragraph "b" to read as follows:

b. The Executive Presbytery shall constitute a Board of Directors, performing such functions as usual and customary in the use of the term. *Executive Presbytery* and *Board of Directors* shall be interchangeable terms and wherever used shall be inclusive one of the other."

"The amended *Section 2* shall then read:

Section 2. Executive Presbytery

a. The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of Foreign Missions, together with eight other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to thirteen.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall constitute a Board of Directors, performing such functions as usual and customary in the use of the term. *Executive Presbytery* and *Board of Directors* shall be interchangeable terms and wherever used shall be inclusive one of the other."

A motion prevailed to adopt the proposed amendments to *Section 2* of *Article IX*.

Article IX. Section 3. General Presbytery

The proposed amendments to *Section 3* of *Article IX* were presented:

Place a period immediately following the word *immediately* in line 8 of paragraph 1 and delete the remainder of the sentence, which reads "subject to the approval of the Executive Presbytery." Delete the following "who for years have been highly esteemed among us as general presbyters," (line 3 paragraph 4) and insert the following, "who have served on the General Presbytery for twenty years, or more, and have reached the age of sixty."

It was moved and seconded that *Section 3*, *Article IX*, be amended as stated.

There was a motion to amend by the insertion of the principle of point 1 of the Structure Committee Report in the first paragraph to provide that "The General Presbytery shall be the official policy-making body of the General Council when the General Council is not in session."

The motion to amend was seconded and carried.

It was further moved to amend *Section 3* of *Article IX* to provide that at least one of the three general presbyters will be an ordained pastor. The motion was that *Section 3* be amended to read:

"Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members, the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by the District Council, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately."

The motion to adopt *Section 3*, as amended, was then voted upon and declared carried.

Article IX as amended was voted upon and declared adopted by a two-thirds majority vote.

Article XII. Local Assemblies

The following constitutional changes were proposed for *Article XII*:

In paragraph 1, line 1, delete "All true Pentecostal believers" and substitute therefor:

All true believers accepting the Assemblies of God tenets and associating themselves in local bodies . . ."

In paragraph 4, (lines 4, 7)

Add the following, beginning in the middle of line 4 with the words "The local assembly . . ." and ending near the end of line 7, with the word "conduct":

"and the authority to withdraw its certificate of membership if deemed necessary."

Add a new sentence to paragraph 4:

"When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery either by the local assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery." The amended *Article XII. Local Assemblies* would then read:

Paragraph 1:

All true believers accepting the Assemblies of God tenets of faith and 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.

Paragraph 2. No change

Paragraph 3. No change.

Paragraph 4:

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 no wise 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 and conduct and the authority to withdraw its certificate of membership if deemed necessary.

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. When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the local assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery.

Paragraph 5. No change.

A motion prevailed to adopt the proposition as stated.

At the conclusion of the section dealing with the proposed changes in the Constitution, Cyril Homer, committee chairman, requested R. D. E. Smith to present the proposed changes affecting the General Council Bylaws.

Brother Smith stated that it was the purpose of the committee to change the term in the Bylaws, wherever it applied, from "executive director" or "national secretary" to comply with the new terminology to designate a "national director." It was

intended that these changes should be effected in a sort of "omnibus" procedure, provided the basic proposals were adopted to effect these changes.

Item 5 on page 15 of the report was then presented:

Article II. Election of Officers

In Section 2, paragraph a, line 2, eliminate the "s" in the word "superintendents."

In paragraph f, lines 1 and 2, delete "shall be an assistant general superintendent" so that the paragraph shall read:

"The executive director of Foreign Missions shall be elected in the following manner: . . ."

Add a new paragraph g to read as follows:

"The national directors of all other departments shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

In Section 3, paragraph a, line 5, delete the portion of the paragraph following the comma after the word "Council," beginning with the phrase "with the exception that. . .", and substitute therefor the following:

"the assistant general superintendent shall succeed to the office of General Superintendent until the next General Council."

It was moved and seconded that Article II, Sections 2 and 3 be amended as presented in item 5, page 15.

It was moved and seconded that the phrase "by secret ballot" be added to the proposed paragraph "g" of Section 2. The motion was voted upon and declared lost.

A further amendment to Section 3 was presented "that the assistant general superintendent shall fill the office for the duration of the unexpired term." The motion was voted upon and declared lost.

A motion was made and seconded to substitute the following for Article II, Section 2, paragraph "g":

"The national directors of all other departments shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery in session. In the event a vacancy occurs between General Council sessions, the election of a successor shall be by the General Presbytery in session; or, if the General Presbytery be not in session, an election shall be

by a poll made by mail of the members of the General Presbytery. The national directors shall be subject to election by the General Presbytery in session at the time of each biennial election of the officers of the General Council."

The motion was seconded.

Question was raised whether there would be any guidelines on the phase-out period as contained in item 16 of the Structure Committee's report.

A privileged motion was offered that we interpret item 16 to mean that the Executive Presbytery shall be authorized to continue in the present pattern of appointing national secretaries until the next regular General Presbytery meeting in 1972 at which time the new proposed Constitution and Bylaws as adopted here shall take effect.

The motion was seconded.

There was a motion to amend by substitution and that item 5-b of the committee report, page 5, be reconsidered.

There was a motion and a second to table the privileged motion. A point of order was raised and the chair ruled the maker of the motion could withdraw it on consent of the one who seconded it, but that a motion to table was an improper motion. The motion was withdrawn.

A motion then prevailed to reconsider item 5-b in the committee report.

It was then moved and seconded, that we return to the original wording of 5-b as contained on page 5 of the report to provide that "the national directors shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery."

A further motion to amend was seconded to provide that national directors "must be members of the Assemblies of God." The motion was voted on and declared carried.

After further discussion, a motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

Item 5-b, as amended, and as originally presented on page 5, was then voted on and declared carried.

It was then moved, seconded, and carried that item 5, new paragraph "g," be amended commensurate with the action previously taken, including the provision that the national directors shall be members of the Assemblies of God, and that the paragraph be brought into conformity by means of editing.

The motion to adopt the proposition as stated in item 5 to amend Article II, Sections 2 and 3, as amended, was voted upon and declared carried.

Election of General Secretary

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

Total votes cast	1,538
Needed to elect	1,026
Bartlett Peterson received	1,293

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

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 first electoral ballot was cast and the tellers reported the results as:

Total ballots cast	1,433
Needed to elect	956
M. B. Netzel received	1,346

The chair therefore declared M. B. Netzel elected on the first elective ballot to the office of General Treasurer.

Election of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions

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

The first electoral ballot was cast and the tellers reported the results as:

Total votes cast	1,194
Needed to elect	796
J. Philip Hogan received	1,133

The chair therefore declared J. Philip Hogan elected to the office of executive director of Foreign Missions on the first electoral ballot.

Item 6: Article III. Duties of Officers

The proposals for amending Sections 1 and 2 of Article III, page 17 of the report, were then presented:

Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent, Paragraph f
Insert "and the Board of Administration" so that the paragraph will read, "f. To preside at all sessions of the Board of Administration."

Paragraph "g" delete.

Renumber present paragraph "i" "h" and add the following:

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

Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendents

Delete the "s" in superintendents in the title.

Paragraph a, no change.

Paragraph b, eliminate the "s" in vice presidents and add, Board of Administration; so that the paragraph will read: "To serve as vice president of the corporation and to preside at meetings of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration in the absence of the General Superintendent."

Paragraph c, delete.

Paragraph d, delete.

Paragraph e, delete the word "finally" and begin paragraph with "To perform." Insert "the General Presbytery." The paragraph will then read:

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

A motion to adopt was seconded. By common consent it was agreed the General Secretary should eliminate the letter "s" in the word "superintendents" wherever it occurs in the Bylaws in order to conform to the constitutional changes adopted earlier in the session.

Question was raised as to why the wording "and to receive all communications directed to that body" had been eliminated

in paragraph "f" of section 1. A motion then prevailed that the phrase be retained and edited to provide that the General Superintendent should "receive all communications directed to the Board of Administration and to the Executive Presbytery."

A motion prevailed that the General Secretary be authorized to edit the Bylaws to provide for the proper use of the corporate name of the General Council.

The motion to adopt Sections 1 and 2, as amended, was voted upon and declared carried.

A motion prevailed to adopt proposed amendments to Section 3 of Article III, as follows:

Section 3, Duties of the General Secretary.

Paragraph a, no change.

Paragraph b, no change.

Paragraph c, line 1, insert "the Board of Administration" so that the paragraph shall read:

"He shall act as secretary of the Executive Presbytery, the Board of Administration, and the General Presbytery, and shall keep accurate minutes of the deliberations of these bodies."

Paragraph d, line 2, place a period after the word *documents*, and add a new sentence, as follows:

"He shall perform such other functions as are customary or as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery."

Paragraph e, no change.

Brother Kermit Reneau, retiring assistant general superintendent, spoke with deep appreciation for the dedicated workers at general headquarters, stating that many of them had given many years of service, representing the best years of their lives. He then offered the following motion:

"WHEREAS, There is a lack of clarity in the committee's report regarding the phase-out of the present format of operation and the implementation of the new; I, therefore, move that the chair appoint a committee to bring a clear recommendation as to the best method of implementing the phase-out, giving guidance for the operation during this phase-out, and that the report be made to this session of

the General Council." The motion was seconded, but failed to pass.

It was then moved, seconded, and carried that the Executive Presbytery be empowered to phase out the present alignment and to establish the lines which shall be followed, according to its best judgment.

There was a motion to recess at 5:25 and to reconvene at 8 o'clock following the evening service. The service was dismissed by singing the *Doxology*.

MONDAY NIGHT—AUGUST 23

A one-hour service was held from 7 to 8 o'clock, with Pastor Don M. Cox bringing a condensed, but inspiring message. Brothers Hilton Griswold and Paul Ferrin served at the instruments as Brother Lidstrand led the singing. The business session was called to order at 8:10 p.m.

The chair recognized each of the newly elected officers: G. Raymond Carlson, assistant general superintendent; Bartlett Peterson, general secretary; M. B. Netzel, general treasurer; and J. Philip Hogan, executive director of Foreign Missions. These brethren expressed appreciation for the confidence placed in them by the General Council. They pledged their service to the constituency and to the Lord.

Roster Committee Report

The Roster Committee brought a report as of 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 23:

Ordained ministers	2,819
Delegates	948
Voting constituency	3,767
Licensed ministers	327
Visitors	2,955
Total	7,049

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

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. The first elective ballot for the Northwest Area was cast in the Monday afternoon service, with balloting for the Southeast and Gulf areas being on Tuesday; however, for convenience, the results of the balloting are reported here.

Northwest Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,014
Needed to elect	674
N. D. Davidson, received	722
E. D. Beard	39
Frank N. McAllister	111
Erwin E. Rohde	101
B. P. Wilson	38

The chair therefore declared N. D. Davidson elected as a nonresident executive presbyter from the Northwest area on the first elective ballot.

Southwest Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,575
Needed to elect	1,050
Joseph L. Gerhart	332
J. K. Gressett	100
C. E. Lambert	156
D. H. McLaughlin	972
David Paco	15

Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	1,577
Needed to elect	1,052
D. H. McLaughlin	1,271
Joseph L. Gerhart	267
C. E. Lambert	26
J. K. Gressett	12
David Paco	1

D. H. McLaughlin was therefore declared elected as a nonresident executive presbyter from the Southwest area.

North Central Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,584
Needed to elect	1,056
E. M. Clark	601
Lyle Curtis	73
Lester Dickinson	25
W. B. Friend	48
Stanton Johnson	58
S. H. Petersen	57
Roy Wead	722

Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	1,474
Needed to elect	983
Roy Wead	900
E. M. Clark	559
Lyle Curtis	6
Stanton Johnson	4
S. H. Petersen	4
W. B. Friend	1

Electoral Ballot Number 3

Total votes cast	1,149
Needed to elect	766
Roy Wead	910
E. M. Clark	225
Lester Dickinson	1
W. B. Friend	1
Stanton Johnson	2
S. H. Petersen	1

Roy Wead was therefore declared elected nonresident executive presbyter from the North Central area.

South Central Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,577
Needed to elect	1,052
Paul Lowenberg	1,112
E. R. Anderson	208
Robert E. Goggin	114
Haskell H. Rogers	65
Earl G. Vanzant	41
Gerald P. Leatherwood	27
Jose Giron	10

Paul Lowenberg was therefore declared elected as nonresident executive presbyter from the South Central area.

Gulf Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,196
Needed to elect	798
Charles S. Craighead	14
James E. Hamill	667
G. W. Hardcastle Sr.	373
N. Cleo Tapp	110
L. O. Waldon	32

Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	527
Needed to elect	352
James Hamill	423
G. W. Hardcastle, Sr.	93
N. Cleo Tapp	10
Chas. Craighead	1

James Hamill was therefore declared elected as nonresident executive presbyter from the Gulf area.

Great Lakes Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,391
Needed to elect	928
Marshall Calloway	216
Richard Dortch	578
James C. Ellis	33
Stanley A. Lyon	26
Arthur H. Parsons	154
Fred Smolchuck	384

Electoral Ballot Number 2

Total votes cast	1,085
Needed to elect	724
Richard Dortch	875
Marshall Calloway	48
Stanley Lyon	3
Arthur Parsons	21
Fred Smolchuck	138

Richard Dortch was therefore declared elected as nonresident executive presbyter from the Great Lakes area.

Southeast Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,068
Needed to elect	712
Edgar W. Bethany	762
Chas. H. Cookman	29
Walter G. Dixon	39
J. Foy Johnson	73
T. H. Spence	165

Edgar Bethany was therefore declared elected as nonresident executive presbyter from the Southeast area.

Northeast Area

Electoral Ballot Number 1

Total votes cast	1,171
Needed to elect	781
Joseph R. Flower	887
David Flower	155
Russell Williams	71
F. D. Eide	49
Samuel DiTrollo	9

Joseph R. Flower was therefore declared elected as nonresident executive presbyter from the Northeast area.

It was reported that a total of \$19,221.36 in offerings had been received, leaving slightly less than \$750 needed to bring the budget into balance. It was recalled also that over \$85,000 had been received in cash and in pledges for home missions during the "mission America" rally on Friday night.

Structure Committee Report, continued

Brother R. D. E. Smith presented proposed amendments to Article III, Sections 4, 5, 6, and 7, including the renumbering of Section 7, to Section 8, and the insertion of a new Section 7 entitled "Board of Administration." He explained that the entire Article III as proposed was reproduced on pages 22-25 of the committee report. It was therefore moved and seconded that the following proposed amendments be adopted!

Section 4. Duties of the General Treasurer

Paragraph "a," no change.

Paragraph "b," no change.

Paragraph "c," no change.

Paragraph "d," no change.

Paragraph "e," line 2, insert "the General Presbytery" so that the paragraph will read: He shall perform such other functions as are customary to his office or as may be directed by the General, Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery."

Section 5. Duties of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions

Paragraph "a" to "i," no change.

Paragraph "j" insert "the General Presbytery" so that the paragraph will read:

"Perform such other functions as may be directed by the General Presbytery or the Executive Presbytery"

Section 6. Duties of the Executive Presbytery

Paragraph "a, line 5, add to the last sentence of the paragraph: "subject to the provisions of paragraphs "g" and "i" of Section 6 and paragraph "a" of the present Section numbered 7, as revised.

Insert a new paragraph b:

"The Executive Presbytery shall have the right and duty of interpreting policy originating in the legislation of the General Council or the General Presbytery. Such interpretations shall stand as final unless reversed at the next meeting of the body in which the legislation originated."

Paragraph "b" (present) no change in text. Change number to "c"

Paragraph "c" (present) no change in text. Change number to "d."

Paragraph "d" (present) no change in text. Change number to "e."

Paragraph "e" (present) no change in text. Change number to "f."

Paragraph "f" (present) no change in text. Change number to "g."

Paragraph "g" (present) change to "h" and add the following:

"The Executive Presbytery shall be amenable to the General Presbytery."

Paragraphs "h", "i" and "j" (present) no change in text. Renumber "i", "j", and "k", respectively.

Section 7 (new) Duties of the Board of Administration

Add a new section for the purpose of establishing the functions of the (new) Board of Administration:

Section 7. Duties of the Board of Administration

- a. The Board of Administration shall be the executive arm of the Executive Presbytery.
- b. The Board of Administration shall not originate or interpret policy but shall be confined to the administration of those matters delegated to it by the Executive Presbytery.

c. It shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery.

Section 7 (present) Duties of the General Presbytery, change to Section 8.

Paragraph a, line 4, delete: "It shall constitute an advisory body to the Executive Presbytery."

Paragraph "a," line 5, add the following sentence between the second and third sentence:

"Should an irreconcilable difference arise between the General Presbytery and the Executive Presbytery, the decision of the General Presbytery shall prevail until such time as the issue may be submitted to the General Council."

Add a new paragraph c:

"Any twelve members of the General Presbytery shall have the prerogative of calling a special session of the General Presbytery by presenting a signed request to the General Secretary who shall determine the time of such meeting in consultation with the Executive Presbytery."

Add a new paragraph c:

"Any District Council by the action of its District Presbytery or any three or more general presbyters may have a matter added to the General Presbytery agenda at any time during any duly called General Presbytery meeting."

Paragraph b (present) renumber d.

The General Secretary offered an amendment to the new Section 8, paragraph b, page 25 of the report, to insert the word "superintendent" instead of the word "secretary" so that the paragraph would read:

"Any twelve members of the General Presbytery shall have the prerogative of calling a special session of the General Presbytery by presenting a signed request to the General Superintendent who shall determine the time of such meeting in consultation with the Executive Presbytery."

The motion was seconded and carried.

Question was raised as to the intent of item 6-a in the committee report, page six, regarding the provision that the General Presbytery would select a new Board of Directors for Central Bible College and arrange for a permanent appeals board. The committee explained that this does not involve an amendment to the bylaws at this time, but that the next General Council should present a bylaw amendment to cover this.

Discussion further ensued concerning the last sentence of the proposed Section 8, paragraph a. Question was asked as to the interpretation of an "irreconcilable difference" and at what point the issue would be submitted to the General Council.

It was moved and seconded to amend Section 8 by the addition of a paragraph "e" to provide that the General Presbytery shall determine the salaries and/or allowances of all elected officers of the General Council, and that a committee of five general presbyters shall be appointed annually by the Executive Presbytery for the purpose of making a review of such salaries and allowances. It shall report its recommendations to the General Presbytery for final action. The motion was seconded and carried.

The motion to adopt Article III, as amended, was then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 7: Article IV. Committees

The following proposed amendments to Article IV were presented:

Section 1. Standing Committees. No change.

Section 2. Credentials Committee

Delete present section and add the following:

The Executive Presbytery 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.

It may delegate the routine work of the Credentials Committee to the Board of Administration.

Section 3. Roster Committee. No change.

Section 4. Other Committees. Substitute the following for the present wording:

Other committees may be appointed by the General Presbytery or the Executive Presbytery.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that item 7 with its recommendations for amending Article IV be adopted.

Article V. Districts

It was reported that inasmuch as the General Council had earlier referred *a* to *f* of item 10, page 7 of the committee report, no action was indicated at this time on the proposed amendments to Article V, page 27, and corresponding sections of Article XV.

Item 8: Article XI. Benevolence Department

The proposed changes for the Benevolence Department were presented:

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization, paragraph *a*:

Delete present paragraph *a* and substitute therefor the following:

"The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b" delete.

Paragraph "c" delete the present paragraph *c* and substitute therefor the following:

"The department shall be administered by a committee consisting of the National Director, and three other members who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

Paragraph "d," line 2, delete "one" and insert "two" so that the paragraph will read:

"The Benevolences Department Committee shall serve for a period of two years, or until its successors are selected."

Paragraph "e," no change indicated.

Section 3. Benevolence Funds. No change.

Section 4. Aged Ministers' Assistance. No change.

Section 5. Homes of the Aged and Homes for Children. No change.

Section 6. District Council Benevolent Institutions. No change.

It was moved and seconded that the amendments proposed for Article XI be adopted.

A motion prevailed to amend the proposed paragraph "c" of Section 2 by substituting "four" for "three" to provide for the selection of four other members of the Benevolence Committee.

The proposed amendments for Article XI as amended were then voted upon and declared carried.

Item 9: Article XII. Education

The following proposed amendments, for Article XII were presented:

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization. In paragraph "a," delete the present paragraph and insert instead:

"The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b," delete. Paragraph "c," lines 3, 4, 5, 6, 7:

Delete "The Executive Director, Secretary of Education" and substitute therefor "National Director." Change "six" to "eight" in line 5, and delete lines 6 and 7, beginning with "viz.;" and including "southeast."

Insert the following in place of the rest of the paragraph:

"The National Director, an executive presbyter and two members from each of the eight geographical areas of the United States (Article II, Section 2, Paragraph "d" of the Bylaws), with not more than one person from each area being a member of the faculty or administration of one of our schools at the time of election. One of these two shall be a pastor or a district official. Two laymen shall be chosen at large, nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery. The area members shall be elected by the general presbyters of the respective areas at called meetings during the annual session of the General Presbytery.

Paragraph "c" would then read:

"c. The government and work of the Department of Education and all of 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 National Director, an executive presbyter and two members from each of the eight geographical areas of the United States (Article II, Section 2, Paragraph d of the Bylaws), with not more than one person of the area being a member of the faculty or administration of one of our schools at the time of election. One of these two shall be a pastor or a district official. Two laymen shall be chosen at large, nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery. The area members shall be elected by the general presbyters of the respective areas at called meetings during the annual session of the General Presbytery.

In paragraph "d," line 4 change "Executive Director" to "National Director".

Change "Executive Director" to "National Director" in line 4.

It was moved and seconded that the proposed amendments be adopted. A motion prevailed to refer for study the proposed paragraph c of Section 2 to the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Education to see whether the provision cannot be more inclusive of the entire educational program, particularly as it affects the limitation of educators on the Board of Education, with the provision that a report be made at the next General Council.

The motion to adopt the proposed amendments to Article XII as amended was voted upon and declared carried.

T. E. Gannon Resolution of Appreciation

A motion prevailed that the Executive Presbytery be authorized to retain our esteemed Brother T. E. Gannon, if he is available, to serve as a special consultant for the two-year period of transition, making this very knowledgeable person and his services available to the Executive Presbytery, Board of Administration, and General Superintendent, during the period of transition or until resignation, and that remuneration for these services be continued as presently established for an assistant general superintendent.

Brother Gannon responded by expressions of gratitude to the General Council for its generosity and stated that he would need to look to the Lord for direction as to his future ministry at this time.

A motion prevailed to fix the time of recessing the night session as 11 o'clock.

Item 10: Article XIII. Finance

Item 10 calling for the proposed amendments to this article was presented:

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Paragraph "a." No change.

Paragraph "b" amend to read:

The Board of Administration shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

Paragraph "c"

Change the word "appointed" to "elected" in line 2 and the word "approval" to "ratification," so that the sentence will read:

"A Standing Committee on Finance consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. . . ."

Paragraph "d"

Delete points numbered (1), (2) and (3), in paragraph "d" and insert instead the following:

"The functions shall consist of those usual and ordinary to a Department of Finance, and to include the processing of mail."

Paragraph "d" (4) amend to read:

The Division of 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, shall function under the Department of Finance.

Section 3. Support of Headquarters. No change.

It was moved and seconded that the proposition be adopted.

A motion was made to amend by deleting paragraph "d" (4) with the provision that it be referred to the Executive Presbytery for further study, giving due regard to the recommendations of the committee, and that subsequent recommendations be made to the General Presbytery for final action. The motion was seconded and carried.

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

Item 11: Article XIV. Foreign Missions Department

Item 11 containing the recommendations to amend Article XIV was presented:

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization paragraph "a":

Delete "shall be an assistant general superintendent, who" so that the paragraph will read:

"a. The Executive Director of Foreign Missions shall be elected . . ."

Paragraph "b"

Change "appoint" to "elect" and add "subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery," so that the paragraph will read:

"b. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a secretary of the Foreign Missions Department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery, who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the department."

Paragraph "c," no change.

Paragraph "d," change "six" to "eight" in lines five and seven.

Paragraph "e," change "appointed" to "elected" in line 2.

Paragraph "f," no change.

Paragraph "g," no change.

Paragraph "h," change "six" to "eight" in line 1 and "six sections" to "eight areas" and "appointed" to "elected", line 3.

In paragraph "h," second paragraph, change "six" to "eight" to provide for eight laymen to be selected from the eight areas of the Fellowship.

A motion prevailed to adopt Item 11 as proposed.

Item 12: Article XV. Home Missions

Item 12 was presented with the explanation that since action had already been taken on the committee's report, and passed over in conjunction with Article V, only Section 2, remained pertinent for consideration at this time.

These recommendations follow:

Section 2. Government and Organization, paragraph "a."

Delete present paragraph and insert instead:

"The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery."

Delete paragraph "b" and renumber the succeeding paragraphs.

Paragraph "e" (present) no change.

Renumber present paragraph "c" the number "b". Delete the present wording and substitute the following:

"b. The Home Missions Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board which shall consist of the National Director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive

Presbytery, and eight other ministers selected, one from each of the eight established geographical areas of the Fellowship. Four of the national board members shall be selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of District Home Missions Director.

Insert a new paragraph "c" to read:

The members of the Home Missions Board shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

Paragraph "d" (present), delete present paragraph "d" and insert the following:

"d. Terms of office shall be for two years, and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually."

Paragraph "e" (present) no change.

Paragraph "f" (new) insert the following as a new paragraph and renumber the present paragraph "f," "g."

It shall be the responsibility of the Home Missions Board to evaluate home missions policies, to offer guidance and counsel in all areas of home missions ministries, to establish standards for appointed home missionaries and home missions institutions, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to field and department decisions.

It was moved and seconded that the proposed amendment be adopted. A substitute motion prevailed to refer the structure of the Home Missions Board back to the committee with a request a report be made on Tuesday morning.

A motion prevailed to recess at 11 p.m. and to reconvene at 8:30 Tuesday morning.

The meeting was dismissed following the *Doxology*.

TUESDAY MORNING—AUGUST 24

The meeting began at 8:30 with the singing of choruses. The Scripture reading for the service was Psalm 119:89-96. Brother Edgar Newby of Roswell, New Mexico, led in prayer. The business session was called to order at 8:40.

Item 12: Article XV. Home Missions Department (continued)

The committee presented the following proposal regarding the structuring of a Home Missions Board:

"The terms of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one half of the terms expire annually." A motion to adopt the proposition was seconded and carried.

The motion to adopt Item 12 as contained in the minutes on Monday afternoon was voted upon and declared carried.

Roster Committee Report

Brother Arthur Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee, brought the final report as of 8:50 a. m. on August 24:

Ordained ministers	2,819
Delegates	950
Voting constituency	3,769
Licensed	326
Visitors	3,298
Total	7,393

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the Roster Committee with appreciation and that the roster of the 34th General Council be closed.

The estimated attendance for the services was reported, as follows:

Thursday night	8,500
Friday night	9,500
Saturday night	12,000
Sunday afternoon	11,500
Sunday night	10,500
Monday night	7,500

Item 14: Article XVII. Men's Fellowship Department

It was stated that the covering motion as indicated in the beginning of the section dealing with the bylaws would apply to the changes proposed in this Article. The items referred to follow:

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Delete present Paragraph "a" and add the following:

"The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b," delete.

Item 15: Article XIX. Ministers' Benefit Association

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the following amendments to Article XIX be adopted:

Section 1. Organization

Delete the present Section 1 and insert the following instead: "There shall be an Association known as the Assemblies of God Ministers' Benefit Association."

Section 2. Administration

Delete the present Section 2 and add the following instead:

There shall be a Board of Directors elected by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. All boards of directors of this association shall be amenable to The Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Item 16: Article XX. Publications Department

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Delete the present paragraph "a" and add the following: "The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b," line 11 change "two additional executive officers appointed by the Executive Presbytery" to read:

"two additional members of the Executive Presbytery shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery and ratified by the General Presbytery."

Add to line 14 "and the General Presbytery."

Note: Also delete "Executive" in line 8 and substitute "national" to provide for the National Director to serve on the Board of Publications rather than "Executive" Director.

Paragraph "d," lines 4, 5.

Change "appointed" to *elected* and "approval" to *ratification*.

Paragraph "e," add, "and the General Presbytery."

A motion prevailed to adopt item 16 as presented.

Item 17: Article XXI. Radio Department

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Paragraph "a"

Delete paragraph "a" and add instead, the following:

The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

Paragraph "b," delete.

Paragraph "c," change "appointed" to "elected" and "approval" to "ratification," so that the paragraph will read:

"c. There shall be a Radio Committee which shall consist of the National Director and four others elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery." Paragraph "d" (change: from one to two years)

The Radio Committee shall serve for a two year period or until its successors are appointed.

Paragraph "e," no change.

Section 3. Funds

Change "radio director" to "national director."

It was moved, seconded, and carried to adopt item 17.

A motion prevailed that the General Secretary be given editing privileges to provide a proper statement in the bylaws covering the authorization for Assemblies of God departments.

Item 18: Article XXII. Sunday School Department

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Delete the present wording in paragraph "a" and add instead the following: "The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b," delete.

Change paragraph "c" to read: "The Sunday School Department Committee shall consist of the national director and four others elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "d": Delete "one" and substitute therefor "two" so that the paragraph will read: "The Sunday School Department Committee shall serve for a period of two years or until its successors are appointed."

Paragraph "e," no change.

Section 3. The Sunday School Counselor. No change.

Section 4. District Organization. No change.

Item 18 was adopted by motion duly carried.

Item 19: Article XXIII. Women's Missionary Council

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Paragraph "a"

Delete the present paragraph and add instead the following:

"a. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b," delete.

Paragraph "c," delete paragraph "c," and add instead the following:

"c. The Women's Missionary Council Committee shall consist of the National Director, one member from the Home Missions Department, one member from the Foreign Missions Department and two others elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "d," change "one" to "two" so that the paragraph will read:

"d. The Women's Missionary Council Committee shall serve for a period of two years or until its successors are selected."

Paragraph "e," no change.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that item 19 be adopted.

Item 20: Young Peoples' Department

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose. No change.

Section 2. Government and Organization

Paragraph "a," delete and add instead the following:

"a. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a National Director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery."

Paragraph "b," delete.

Paragraph "c":

The National Director with four others elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification 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.

Paragraph "d": change "one" to "two" so that the paragraph will read: "The National Christ's Ambassadors Committee shall serve for a period of two years or until its successors are selected."

Section 3. Official Organ. Change to: *Official Publication*. Change text, as follows:

"The official publication of the department shall be *Youth Alive*."
Item 20 was adopted by motion duly carried.

Item 21. Article XXVII. Quorum

Change "six" to "seven" in line 5, and add a new sentence:
"The presence of three members of the Board of Administration shall constitute a quorum."

The paragraph shall then read:

"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 seven executive presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of three members of the Board of Administration shall constitute a quorum."

A motion prevailed that item 21 be adopted.

A privileged statement was made as follows:

"... In a time when religious structures are being exposed as so rigid and inflexible as to discourage any hope among the young that the organized Church can be a viable structure through which the love and life of God in Christ can flow toward human need, the Assemblies of God has demonstrated

to its youth once more that we are determined to resist the historical face of denominationalism. We are determined to stay a revival movement.

"THEREFORE, in order to emphasize the importance of this historic 34th Session of the General Council of the Assemblies of God;

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Presbytery authorize for circulation among our fellowship the preparation of an appropriate expression of the historical significance of those circumstances and events leading up to and extending from the appointments of the committees on Advance and Organizational Structure and culminating in this General Council."

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted. It was moved and seconded that appreciation be expressed to the members of the committee for their work and the thorough job which they had done. The motion was declared carried.

Recognition of Retiring Executive Presbyters

The chair recognized retiring executive presbyters G. W. Hardcastle Sr. and E. M. Clark. He expressed deep appreciation for their contribution to the Fellowship.

Brothers Hardcastle and Clark expressed their thanks to the brethren for the privilege granted to them in serving the Fellowship.

Recognition of Newly Elected Executive Presbyters

The chair introduced the following nonresident executive presbyters:

N. D. Davidson—Northwest
D. H. McLaughlin—Southwest
Roy Wead—North Central
Paul Lowenberg—South Central
Richard Dortch—Great Lakes
Joseph R. Flower—Northeast
Edgar Bethany—Southeast
James Hamill—Gulf

Each of the brethren pledged his loyalty to the church and assured the brethren of his cooperation.

Article VIII. Divorce and Remarriage

The item referred to from the Friday session of the General Council was brought before the house.

The report of the committee follows:

Recommended Changes

1. The section to be introduced by a subsection outlining guidelines.

Subsection "a" to read:

"General principles to be advocated in dealing with the complex problems of divorce and remarriage should be:

(1) That priority be given to the Biblical teaching on the home, family, and marriage, so that judgments be made on the basis of Scripture.

(2) That the Church be viewed in its role as a teaching institution, bearing a responsibility to safeguard the sanctity of the home and marriage, by example and precept.

(3) That, insofar as possible, the Church bear in mind the well-being of the parties involved when a marriage is terminated."

2. Old subsection "a" shall be reconstituted as new subsection "b."

3. Old subsection "b" be reconstituted as new subsection "c" with the following changes:

a. The parenthesis in line 5 be enlarged to read "(Adultery refers to any violation of the marriage vows, including such perversions as homosexuality, Matt. 19:9)."

b. The following sentences be added: "It is recommended that our churches express prayerful compassion and concern for divorced persons who are endeavoring to follow the teaching of Scripture, trusting God to enable them to continue in the unmarried state. Such persons should be made eligible for church membership, and should not be deprived of responsibility and service in the local assembly, as long as they do not remarry while the former spouse still lives."

4. Subsection "c" be deleted, since it has been incorporated in essence in the above revision.

5. Subsection "d" and "e" to remain unchanged."

Article VIII. Section 5, as proposed, would then read:

Section 5. Divorce and Remarriage

a. General principles to be advocated in dealing with the complex problems of divorce and remarriage should be:

- (1) That priority be given to the Biblical teaching on the home, family and marriage, so that judgments be made on the basis of Scripture.
- (2) That the Church be viewed in its role as a teaching institution, bearing a responsibility to safeguard the sanctity of the home and marriage, by example and precept.
- (3) That, insofar as possible, the Church bear in mind the well-being of the parties involved when a marriage is terminated.

b. 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.

c. 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 (adultery refers to any violation of the marriage vows, including such perversions as homosexuality, Matt. 19:9); and recommend the remaining single of all divorced Christians and that they pray God so to keep them in purity and peace. (See 1 Corinthians 7.) It is recommended that our churches express prayerful compassion and concern for divorced persons who are endeavoring to follow the teaching of Scripture, trusting God to enable them to continue in the unmarried state. Such persons should be made eligible for church membership, and should not be deprived of responsibility and service in the local assembly, as long as they do not remarry while their former spouse still lives.

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.

3. 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.")

It was moved and seconded that the report be referred to the next General Council and that it become the first order of business.

Discussion ensued on the propriety to refer since the report came as an item of unfinished business from the Dallas Council.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

The motion to refer was voted upon and declared lost.

A motion prevailed to limit the time of discussion for each speaker to 3 minutes.

It was moved and seconded the report be adopted.

A motion prevailed to amend by considering the report seriatim.
"1-a. General principles

It was moved and seconded to adopt Section 5, subsection "a."

It was moved and seconded to amend paragraph 3 by inserting the word "eternal" immediately preceding the word "well-being," and by substituting "when a marriage relationship is ended" for the phrase "when a marriage is terminated"; and, also, to amend by the deletion of the phrase "insofar as possible." The motion to amend was voted on and declared lost.

The motion to adopt Section 5-a as presented was then voted on and declared carried.

Section 5, subsections b, c, d, and e were presented. It was moved and seconded Section 5, subsection, b, c, d, and e be adopted.

A motion was made and seconded to substitute the phrase "sexual act" in place of "violation of the marriage vows."

An amendment was offered to insert the word "illicit" so the phrase would read "illicit sexual act."

It was moved and seconded to refer the entire Section 5, as proposed, back to the committee, with a request that the committee be enlarged and that there be a more in-depth study made; and, further, that the report include an exegetical treatise in its preamble.

Areas discussed, included the meaning of the word "adultery"; is remarriage after divorce always sin; if so, is it a perpetual and unpardonable sin; interpretation of 1 Cor. 7:27; is "loose" defined as death, or does it include divorce?

A motion calling for the previous question prevailed.

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

A motion prevailed that the General Superintendent appoint a committee of five who will give careful, in-depth study to the subject of divorce and remarriage and that it place its findings in a white paper to be made available to the constituency.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the committee's report be included in a mailing prior to the next General Council.

A further motion prevailed that the committee's report include guidelines for ministers performing marriage ceremonies.

A motion prevailed that appreciation be expressed to Brother McLaughlin and other members of the committee for their time and work over a 4-year period.

Resolution 10. Supervision of Churches

A motion prevailed that Resolution 10 become the next order of business.

Brother Smolchuck, chairman of the Resolutions Committee then presented the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, The General Presbytery in its 1969 session heard a committee report on Supervision of Churches, and adopted a recommendation offered therein, that each District Council give serious consideration to adopting as a part of its district policy specific guidelines whereby the district officials may intervene in the government of a local assembly when discord causes major problems and threatens proper functioning and,

"WHEREAS, The result of the discussion of this subject caused the General Presbytery to call for the appointment of an additional committee to which was assigned the task of preparing a resolution for the amending of the Constitution and Bylaws relating to a District Council's intervention in local assemblies, the committee being also instructed to define what is meant by *sovereignty* and *disapproved* as applied to this area of relationship, and

"WHEREAS, The committee in considering its assignment took cognizance that in an organization encompassing 11,910 ordained ministers and 8,734 churches, in order to facilitate smoothness of operation and fellowship there must be guidelines for the governing of conduct and rules for effective operation and, further, that neither the church nor the minister can lay claim to sovereignty but must operate within these guidelines of operation and rules of conduct, and

"WHEREAS, The word 'sovereignty' is found only once in the General Council Constitution and once in the Bylaws, and

"WHEREAS, The context clearly shows this sovereignty to be limited to self-government in the calling of its pastor, election of its official board, the administering of discipline to its members, the right to own and hold title to its property and to determine standards for membership, and

"WHEREAS, The local assembly is amenable to the General and District Councils in matters of doctrines, methods, and conduct, and

"WHEREAS, These limitations are contrary to the true concept of sovereignty, and

"WHEREAS, Any broader interpretation of the term sovereignty would violate the Constitution and Bylaws and basic principles of the Assemblies of God, and place the assemblies in position of authority above the pastors in the organization; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XII, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, entitled 'Local Assemblies,' be amended by placing a period after the word 'stated' in the third line and thereby deleting 'or interfere with its sovereignty,' so that the

sentence will read, '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 no wise destroy its rights as above stated.' The balance of the paragraph shall remain as it is now stated; and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That Article VI of the Bylaws shall be amended by adding the following as Section 4:
Church Supervision

- a. The district officary may intervene in the government of a local church when discord causes major problems and threatens the proper functioning of the assembly.
- b. The courtesy of entry shall be accorded district officers to services and business meetings of the church for the purposes of aiding, counseling, and guiding the congregation when it is the united judgment of the district officary that this is advisable and necessary.
- c. As a last resort, the District Presbytery may disapprove a church when it becomes apparent in its judgment that the church is unwilling or unable to remedy problems of chronic strife, or unacceptable standards, or erroneous teachings, practices or doctrines. Upon becoming convinced that the situation cannot be remedied, the District Presbytery may advise the General Council Executive Presbytery to remove the church from its official list of affiliated churches; and, be it further

"RESOLVED, That it is recommended that District Councils amend their Constitutions and Bylaws by adopting provisions similar to the foregoing."

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted.

A motion to amend was seconded and carried to add a new paragraph "d" to read: "That such intervention shall not lift or suspend financial, mortgage, or legally contractual obligations of the local Assembly of God."

Following debate, a motion calling for the previous question was seconded and carried.

The motion before the house to adopt Resolution 10 as amended was then voted upon and declared lost.

Credential Renewals

A motion was duly passed to consider a resolution affecting the procedures for the renewal of ministerial credentials. This came as a referral from the General Presbytery.

Brother Smolchuck therefore presented the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, there has been some confusion as to the period of grace given ministers in the renewal of their credentials; and

"WHEREAS, the present reading of the bylaws encouraged rather than discouraged delinquency in renewing credentials, therefore be it

"RESOLVED, that Article VII, Ministry, Section 7, (page 114) of the bylaws be amended by deleting the last sentence, 'Ministers who become delinquent ten months or more shall apply for reinstatement,' and in its place insert the words, 'ministers who have not renewed by April 30 shall apply for reinstatement and pay a \$10.00 reinstatement fee,' be it further,

"RESOLVED, that Article IX, Discipline, Section 8-c (1) (page 126) of the bylaws be amended by replacing the words 'the first of December' with the words 'April 30,' so that Section 8-c (1) shall read:

"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 April 30 and are restored to the ministerial list"; and be it further

"RESOLVED that Article IX, Section 8-c (2) be amended by deleting all of the words beginning with the word 'credentials' and in their place insert 'names have been deleted from the official ministerial list,' so that Section 8-c (2) shall read:

"The term 'reinstatement' shall apply to those whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list."

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

A motion prevailed that the chairman be requested to bring before the house the most important items which should be considered prior to adjournment.

Resolution of Appreciation—Retired Officers

A resolution of appreciation was read:

WHEREAS, Our beloved brethren, Theodore E. Cannon, Kermit Reneau, and C. W. H. Scott, have faithfully served the General Council of the Assemblies of God as assistant general superintendents, and E. M. Clark and G. W. Harcastle, Sr., have faithfully served as nonresident executive presbyters, and

WHEREAS, Their highly effective service and personal dedication have substantially contributed to the efficiency and successful advance of our movement; therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this 1971 General Council publicly express its appreciation to these beloved brethren with a standing ovation.

The resolution of appreciation was adopted by a standing ovation.

Resolution 21.

Bert Webb Honorary General Presbyter

Brother Smolchuck presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The General Presbyters of the Assemblies of God have officially recognized that Bert Webb has for many years rendered faithful and distinguished service as an executive of both his district and the General Council, and have nominated him for appointment to continue to serve as an honorary member of the General Presbytery; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this council in session appoint Bert Webb an honorary general presbyter.

A motion prevailed that the resolution be adopted.

Resolution 16.

Foreign Missions Funds

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, In a survey made May 11, 1971 it was noted that foreign missions receipts from all sources continue to increase at a most gratifying rate; and

“WHEREAS, It was also noted that there is an alarming trend within this growth pattern, because during this time when general designated offerings to foreign missions expanded, the *undesignated* portion of these receipts declined.

(In 1962 four percent of all foreign missions offerings were undesignated, while in 1970 only 2.4 percent of the offerings were undesignated); and

“WHEREAS, This means that the time-honored practice of honoring designations leaves the Foreign Missions Department with fewer funds to meet emergency and other contingency needs that constantly arise (although the Foreign Missions Department still operates with a five percent override for administration, the budget has risen in this interim because costs such as postage, transportation, accounting, and receipting procedures have risen precipitously); and

“WHEREAS, The Bylaws of the General Council provide for the Foreign Missions Department to operate its administration from funds designated for office expense and ten percent of undesignated offerings, however, due to constant increasing costs of administration and steadily declining receipts in undesignated funds, the Foreign Missions Department is caught in a perpetual squeeze; and

“WHEREAS, In 1961 the Portland General Council authorized the creation of an emergency fund by setting aside two percent of general missionary offerings for emergency purposes, however, with mounting responsibilities, unparalleled opportunities overseas, and with the general volume of responsibility growing each year, it is now impossible to cover present emergencies of the missionary family and administer the program without an increase in this emergency fund; therefore, be it

“RESOLVED, That Article XIV of the General Council Bylaws, Section 5, paragraph ‘b’ be amended by the substitution of the word ‘five’ in place of ‘two’ so that the paragraph shall read:

“All funds assigned to particular persons shall be forwarded by the Foreign Missions Department exactly as directed, except that five 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.”

Following discussion, a motion prevailed that resolution 16 be adopted.

Resolution 20
Men's Fellowship Department

The chairman of the committee presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, A misconception of the ministry of the Men's Fellowship Department has become associated with its name, and has in many areas hindered or prevented the development of the program; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to expand the ministries of men so that all men attending Assemblies of God churches may be included; and

WHEREAS, There is a need to involve more of them directly in Christian service and to align their ministries more closely to the local church program; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for the national department to provide services for all Assemblies of God men, which would include materials, training, and areas of involvement; and

WHEREAS, The change of name will closely identify the men with the work of our constituency and more adequately meet the present approaches to men's work prevailing in Christian circles today; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws, Article XVII, be amended by substituting "Assemblies of God Men's Department" in place of the present title; and by deleting the word "Fellowship" in Section 1, subsection "a"; by substituting "constituency" for "Fellowship" in paragraph (1) of subsection "b"; by substituting "Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church" for the present paragraph (2); by substituting "men" for "Men's" and deleting the word "Fellowships" in paragraph (4); by substituting "Publicizing the work of the Assemblies of God men" for the present paragraph (9).

The Article shall further be amended by deleting the first two lines of Section 2, subsection "c" and substituting the words, "There shall be a National Men's Committee consisting of the Executive Director and the Secretary of the Men's Department..." etc., and by substituting "National Men's Committee" for "Men's Fellowship Committee" in subsection "d"; so that the Article as amended shall read:

"Article XVII. Assemblies of God Men's Department"

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

- a. There shall be a Men's Department which shall... (rest same)

- 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 constituency.
(2) Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church.

- (3) (Same)

- (4) Coordinating the efforts of the men in local and district organizations within the Assemblies of God.

- (5) through (8) (Same)

- (9) Publicizing the work of the Assemblies of God men.

Section 2. Government and organization

- a. (Same)

- b. (Same)

- c. There shall be a National Men's Committee consisting of the Executive Director and the Secretary of the Men's Department... (rest of paragraph the same)

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

- e. (Same)

A motion prevailed that Resolution 20 be adopted with the understanding that Article XVII shall be edited to conform to the action taken regarding the Organizational Structure Committee report affecting this article.

Brother Smolchuck, Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, then presented the following resolutions, with the Council taking the actions as indicated:

Resolution 12.

Youth Department

RESOLVED, That the title of Article XXV of the bylaws be amended so that it will read, "YOUTH DEPARTMENT"; Be it further

RESOLVED, That in Section 1, paragraph "a" the word "Youth" shall be substituted for "Young People's."

A motion prevailed to adopt Resolution 12.

Resolution 6. Women's Missionary Council Funds

WHEREAS, The 1953 General Council in session at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, provided direction to the Women's Missionary Council for financial support of its national office, and WHEREAS, The department has continued to operate on that basis continually since that date, and

WHEREAS, The plan did not become a part of the Bylaws of the General Council inasmuch as bylaw provisions for the department were adopted later; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Article XXIII of the Bylaws be amended by adding the following:

"Section 3. Funds

- a. An annual National Women's Missionary Council Day shall be observed at which time the ministry of the Women's Missionary Council shall be promoted. It is recommended that an offering be received in each church which shall be sent to the national Women's Missionary Council for use in the support of the national office and to aid in costs of services it offers to district and local units.
- b. To aid further in support of the work at both district and national levels, it is urged that each local Women's Missionary Council group shall be faithful in tithing its income into the district Women's Missionary Council office and the district Women's Missionary Council office in turn to tithe to the national office."

It was moved, seconded, and carried that resolution number 6 be adopted.

Resolution 7. Graduate School of Theology

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the following resolution (7) be adopted:

WHEREAS, The significance of the word "seminary" in present-day usage does not adequately express the type of graduate training that is being provided for those desiring graduate work in the field of Bible and religion; and

WHEREAS, There appears to be a need to clarify the usage of these terms; be it

RESOLVED, That Article XII, Section 4, paragraph 6 (page 136) be amended to delete the words "a theological seminary with graduate work" and instead to insert the words "a graduate school of theology." The amended paragraph will then read:

"As progress and growth demand, the General Council in session may provide a graduate school of theology for those who seek special training for the ministry in the United States or foreign lands."

Resolution 9.

Nomenclature for Churches

WHEREAS, the 1967 General Council had instructed that the entire question of the manner of listing churches in the directory be reviewed after sufficient time had been given in the districts to see the results of efforts put forth to bring cooperative churches into full affiliation with the General Council or the District Council, and

WHEREAS, it seems that four years is a reasonable length of time for implementation of the program; therefore, be it RESOLVED:

1. That districts continue to list the three classifications of General Council affiliated, District affiliated, and Cooperative non-affiliated churches.
2. That cooperative non-affiliated churches previously unlisted in General or District Council directories will not be listed in future directories.
3. That a continuing effort be made by Assemblies of God pastors, districts, and the General Council to encourage churches which are presently listed as "Cooperative Non-affiliated" to affiliate with the Assemblies of God.
4. That all districts maintain an open door to non-affiliated churches and encourage such churches who qualify by General Council and District Council standards to affiliate with the Assemblies of God.
5. That Assemblies of God ministers be permitted to pastor such churches with the understanding they shall abide by the principles, doctrines, and policies of the Assemblies of God (Article VIII of the General Council Bylaws).

A motion prevailed that Resolution 9, entitled "Nomenclature for Churches" be adopted.

Resolution 19.

Non-Preaching Ministers

WHEREAS, The qualifications for ministry as stated in Article VII, Section 2, of our General Council Bylaws clearly indicate a preaching ministry as qualification for both licensed and ordained ministers; and

WHEREAS, There are those who display an evident purpose to devote their lives for ministry in positions as assistants and in other areas that do not require a preaching ministry; and

WHEREAS, The practice of issuing credentials does not conform to present policy; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Superintendent appoint a committee of five to restudy the area of credential requirements and make recommendations that would provide ministerial recognition to cover those who may not qualify under present bylaw requirements; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That such recommendations be presented to the next General Council.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Resolution 9 calling for the study committee be adopted.

Statement on Abortion

The following statement was distributed to the General Council for information. Although the statement was not read, a motion prevailed that it be adopted. The statement follows:

"WHEREAS, abortion has been catapulted into the forefront of spiritual and ethical problems confronting the church today, and the issue has been nurtured in a general climate of moral relativism, a growing sexual permissiveness, and a threatening population explosion; and,

"WHEREAS, the moral issue of abortion is a question of whether there are circumstances under which it may be permissible to terminate a pregnancy rather than a question of freedom of a woman to control the reproductive functions of her body; and,

"WHEREAS, the Scriptures allude to the principles of divine blessing upon unborn infants, and divine displeasure on undue actions which result in the death of the unborn; and,

"WHEREAS, Christians must be involved in the decision making process as much, if not more, than other citizens since legislatures of nearly every state consider abortion legislation; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, that the Assemblies of God affirm its conviction that abortion for reasons of personal convenience, social adjustment, or economic advantage is morally wrong, and that it also expresses its firm opposition to any legislation designed to legalize abortion for those reasons; be it further

"RESOLVED, that we also recognize there may be occasions which make abortion necessary for therapeutic reasons to

safeguard the health or the life of the mother, as is the case with tubular pregnancies which are stated by doctors to be fatal unless terminated; be it further

"RESOLVED, that in the event the individuals involved believe that pregnancies resulting from rape or incest should be terminated they should be advised to reach their decision only after spiritual, medical, and psychological counselling has been obtained. Wherever possible the final decision should be made by the woman. Where such determination has been reached, the individual involved should not be subjected to censure."

Spiritual Life Committee

The report of the Spiritual Life Committee was presented although it was not read. A motion prevailed to recommend that the constituency be exposed to the report. The full report follows:

"The Spiritual Life Committee met at Kansas City, Missouri, on Thursday, August 19; Friday, August 20; and Saturday, August 21, 1971. Members present were Chairman Dwight McLaughlin, Edward B. Berkey, H. A. Brummett, Paul Lowenberg, and Bert Webb.

"Special guest for the beginning of the initial session was Charles Denton, member of the Spiritual Life—Evangelism Commission, who discussed with the committee the objectives of the commission. Following the comments by Brother Denton, the Spiritual Life Committee discussed at length the many areas of Assemblies of God ministries. The following commendations and recommendations were made.

"The Spiritual Life Committee wishes to commend the authorship of our 1971 workers' training text, *The Assemblies of God in Mission*, for its most excellent emphasis upon worship. We strongly urge that our pastors lead our great Fellowship into worship, not merely in church services, but as a way of life. The spirit of worship should be cultivated throughout the service from the beginning to the end. Worship is an attitude, a relationship with Christ. We, therefore, urge our pastors to lead their congregations into worship as a spiritual habit to be continued in all phases of life rather than as an ecclesiastical exercise, confined within the walls of the local church.

"We look forward with great anticipation to Impact '72, the fourth year in the Assemblies of God Five-Year Plan

of Advance, highlighting the Biblical command: "Be filled with the Spirit." Impact '72 will begin with one week of intense prayer.

There is thrilling evidence that God is moving mightily among the Assemblies of God. Thousands of human beings are being brought to Christ and to the fullness of Pentecost. New churches are being born. Your committee also recognizes that God is moving in the earth outside the normally recognized Pentecostal organizations. Let us be careful lest we develop a wrong attitude and close our minds to that which God is doing. It is important that we manifest a gracious, charitable attitude, taking note of the fact that we are living in a time of a greater fulfillment of Joel's prophecy. While avoiding excesses, let us watch, with prayerful concern, for opportunities to offer guidance toward a life bearing the fruit of the Spirit while displaying the gifts of the Spirit.

"We recognize that many experiences of salvation and baptisms in the Holy Spirit are occurring among certain youth groups. We believe that a genuine conversion and baptism in the Holy Spirit should produce a life of true Bible holiness and righteousness. We recommend that our ministers use their influence, wherever possible, to strengthen these believers with Christian guidance and Bible teaching.

"These are days of great revival in many churches while other churches are enduring a spiritual dearth. We believe that revival can and should be the norm for every congregation. Because we believe our ministers to be the key to revival, we urge our men to become mighty in God. As never before, the church needs a special breed of men—men who are different because they are possessed of a different spirit. We urge our ministers to become mighty in the Spirit, staying within the mainstream of the Pentecostal experience exemplified by the First Century Church.

"Our ministers should strive to become mighty in the Scriptures, to develop a diversified ministry of topical, expository, and inspirational messages, and to utilize the *series* method of preaching so that they might make a more comprehensive presentation of the *whole* Truth. Paul admonished Timothy to *preach the Word* (2 Tim. 4:2), and the Ephesian elders to *feed the church of God* (Acts 20:28). Peter also instructed the elders to *feed the flock of God* (1 Peter 4:2). It is through the anointed preaching of God's Word that the

Church shall become *mature, thoroughly furnished unto all good works* (2 Tim. 3:17).

"We highly commend all our national and district departments and local churches for their accomplishments in evangelizing our generation through the various means that are being employed to reach this world for Christ.

"We acknowledge the contributions being made by our colleges and strongly urge that they challenge the graduates of our colleges to enter some phase of full-time Christian service. We further recommend that all who are involved in the leadership and training of our young people should stress experiential allegiance to the Pentecostal testimony.

"The committee takes notice of the coming Council on Spiritual Life, scheduled for Minneapolis, in August, 1972. We also note with appreciation the purpose for which such a council is being called. We join this General Council in praying that the theme of that council, *Let Thy Mantle Fall on Me*, shall become a living reality throughout our Fellowship."

"We are pleased that emphasis will be given to expository preaching, using Paul's Epistles to the Galatians and Ephesians. We strongly recommend that our ministers and laymen, insofar as possible, attend this council in Minneapolis.

"We note with concern the tendency toward scheduling our church calendars so heavily with organizational events that sufficient time is not left for concerted evangelistic campaigns. It should be remembered that throughout the history of our movement the revival meeting has been one of our main strengths. Great effort should be put forth by our entire Fellowship to provide opportunity for Holy Ghost revival and a genuine spiritual impact in revival power. Respectfully submitted, Your Spiritual Life Committee"

Courtesy Resolutions

Fred Smolchuck presented the following resolution after which he moved its adoption:

"WHEREAS, the planning and conducting of a General Council requires the services, talents, and cooperation of many; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the 34th General Council express deep appreciation for every courtesy and assistance given, and that the secretary convey those sentiments in writing wherever practicable to the following:

1. The officers, pastors, and churches of the Kansas, Northern

Missouri, and Southern Missouri District Councils for their interest, enthusiasm, and support and help in many ways.

2. The Greater Kansas City Assemblies of God ministers and churches for unexcelled help in making the convention a success by promoting it, giving generously, and providing volunteers to work in so many areas.

3. The Kansas City newspapers, radio, and television stations for the friendly reception and good coverage of the General Council.

4. The Convention Bureau for assistance and services before and during the Council; particularly the workers who helped with registration.

5. The Municipal Auditorium management and staff, city government, police department, hotels, and other businesses for their courtesies and interest.

6. The many committees for working so hard and faithfully.

7. The companies who made unique contributions through their colorful and informative exhibits; the Xerox Corporation for the use of duplication equipment in the convention office.

8. The convention staff members and many other volunteers who have worked hard and faithfully to meet the needs of the entire General Council."

The motion to adopt was seconded and carried.

A privileged motion was offered that "this 34th General Council in session commend the General Superintendent for the fine and impartial manner in which he presided over the sessions when at times they were most difficult."

The motion was seconded and carried by a standing ovation.

Expressions of appreciation were voiced for all those who had helped to make the Council a success, including, among others, the Parliamentary Committee, the brethren of the Kansas, Southern and Northern Missouri districts, the General Secretary and his staff of recording secretaries.

A motion prevailed that the minutes of the 34th General Council be submitted to the Executive Presbytery for approval.

A motion was made and seconded that the 34th General Council be adjourned sine die and that unfinished items of business, if they still obtain, be referred to the next General Council.

The motion was carried by a standing vote.

Following the *Doxology* the benediction was pronounced by Chas. W. H. Scott, retiring assistant general superintendent.

The Council was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Bartlett Peterson, General Secretary

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

August 24, 1971

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 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:

- To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16).
- To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- 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:

- 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).
- Adds a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12, 13, and 14).
- 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

Section 1. Executive Officers

a. The officers shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with such other officers as may be authorized 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.

b. The executive officers shall constitute a Board of Administration.

Section 2. Executive Presbytery

a. The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, the executive director of Foreign Missions, together with eight other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to thirteen.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall constitute a Board of Directors, performing such functions as usual and customary in the use of the term. Executive Presbytery and Board of Directors shall be interchangeable terms and wherever used shall be inclusive one of the other.

Section 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. The General Presbytery shall be the official policy making body of the General Council when the General Council is not in session. Each district shall have the privilege of representation on the General Presbytery by three members, the district superintendent together with two others who shall be elected by the District Council one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately.

All members of the Executive Presbytery shall be ex officio members of the General Presbytery.

The foreign fields shall be represented on 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 have served on the General Presbytery for 20 years, or more, and have reached the age of 60, and 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.

d. 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.

e. 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.

f. 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 believers accepting the Assemblies of God tenets of faith and 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 no wise 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 and conduct and the authority to withdraw its certificate of membership if deemed necessary.

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. When exceptions are taken to the decisions of the Executive Presbytery, either by the local assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery.

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 Superintendent, 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 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.

g. The national directors of all other departments shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. They shall be members of the Assemblies of God.

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 assistant general superintendent shall succeed to the office of general superintendent until the next General Council.

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 the Board of Administration, and to receive all communications directed to these bodies.

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

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

Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendent

a. To assist the general superintendent.

b. To serve as vice president of the corporation and to preside at meetings of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration in the absence of the general superintendent.

c. To perform any other functions under the supervision of the general superintendent, or such as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, 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, the Board of Administration, 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. He shall perform such other functions as are customary or as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, 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, the General Presbytery, 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 General Presbytery or 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, subject to the provisions of paragraph "h" and "j" of Section 6 and paragraph "a" of Section 8.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall have the right and duty of interpreting policy originating in the legislation of the General Council or the General Presbytery. Such interpretations shall stand as final unless reversed at the next meeting of the body in which the legislation originated.

c. 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, of 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.

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

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

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

g. 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.

h. In all matters of great importance, the Executive Presbytery shall communicate with the members of the General Presbytery before final action shall be taken. The Executive Presbytery shall be amenable to the General Presbytery.

i. 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.

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

k. 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 Board of Administration

a. The Board of Administration shall be the executive arm of the Executive Presbytery.

b. The Board of Administration shall not originate or interpret policy but shall be confined to the administration of those matters delegated to it by the Executive Presbytery.

c. It shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery.

Section 8. 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. Should an irreconcilable difference arise between the General Presbytery and the Executive Presbytery, the decision of the General Presbytery shall prevail until such time as the issue may be submitted to the General Council. All decisions pertaining to constitutional order or fundamental doctrines shall be referred to the General Council for ratification in the manner provided in the Constitution.

b. Any twelve members of the General Presbytery shall have the prerogative of calling a special session of the General Presbytery by presenting a signed request to the General superintendent who shall determine the time of such meeting in consultation with the Executive Presbytery.

c. Any District Council by the action of its District Presbytery or any three or more general presbyters may have a matter added to the General Presbytery agenda at any time during any duly called General Presbytery meeting.

d. 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.

e. The General Presbytery shall determine the salaries and/or allowances of all elected officers of the General Council. A committee of five general presbyters shall be appointed annually by the Executive Presbytery for the purpose of making a review of such salaries and allowances. It shall report its recommendations to the General Presbytery for final action.

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

The Executive Presbytery shall constitute a Credentials Committee. It shall have authority to issue certificates of ordination to approved ministers, who have District Council endorsement, and to issue annual fellowship certificates. It may delegate the routine work of the Credentials Committee to the Board of Administration.

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 committees may be appointed by the General Presbytery or the Executive Presbytery.

ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS

Section 1. Boundaries

The boundaries of the district 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

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his 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 have not renewed by April 30 shall apply for reinstatement and pay a \$10 reinstatement fee.

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.

d. Amillennialism

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 substitutes for it the theory that this Christian or Church dispensation is the spiritual millennium of which, its proponents say, the Bible writers prophesied.

We recommend that should any of our ministers embrace any of the foregoing eschatological errors, they refrain from preaching or teaching them. Should they persist in emphasizing 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; 19, 20.)

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 Courtesies

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. 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 stan-

dards 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 courtesy. (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 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. 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 April 30 and are restored to the ministerial list; (2) The term "reinstatement" shall apply to those whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list, but have received district clearance for restoration to the ministerial list. (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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.
- b. The department shall be administered by a committee consisting of the national director, and four other members who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.
- c. The Benevolences Department Committee shall serve for a period of two years, or until its successors are selected.
- d. 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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. 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 national director, 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.

c. 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 national 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 graduate school of theology 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 Board of Administration shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

c. A Standing Committee on Finance consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification 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 consist of those usual and ordinary to a Department of Finance, and to include the processing of mail.

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 elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph "f" of the Bylaws.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a secretary of the Foreign Missions Department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery, 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 eight pastors of proven missionary zeal and accomplishments who shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery from the eight 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 elected 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 eight 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 eight areas of the nation, designated for the eight 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 out missionaries until the condition of its finances fully warrants such action.

h. Each missionary shall be expected to devote two full years to language study, if necessary, before taking up his full active work. Courses of study with examinations shall be

arranged by an advisory committee on each field. Failure on the part of any missionary to obtain a working knowledge of the language during his first term shall furnish ample ground upon which to question his fitness for a second term.

Section 5. Support of Missionaries

a. The undesignated funds sent to the Foreign Missions Department shall be distributed to those who have received the appointment of the Foreign Missions Board, with the exception that up to ten percent of undesignated funds may be used by the Foreign Missions Department for administrative expense.

b. All funds assigned to particular persons shall be forwarded by the Foreign Missions Department exactly as directed, except that five 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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

b. The Home Missions Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board which shall consist of the national director, one member of the Board of Administration, two nonresident members of the Executive Presbytery, and eight other ministers selected, one from each of the eight established geographical areas of the Fellowship. Four of the national board members shall be selected from among those district officials who have assigned to them the portfolio of District Home Missions Director.

c. The members of the Home Missions Board shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

d. A term of office shall be for two years, and so arranged that one half of the terms expire annually.

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. It shall be the responsibility of the Home Missions Board to evaluate home missions policies, to offer guidance and counsel in all areas of home missions ministries, to establish standards for appointed home missionaries and home missions institutions, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to field and department decisions.

g. 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 national 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 national 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 DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. There shall be a Men's 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 constituency.
- (2) Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church.
- (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 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 Assemblies of God men.

Section 2. Government and Organization

a. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. There shall be a National Men's Committee consisting of the national director, 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.

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

d. 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

There shall be an Association known as the Assemblies of God Ministers' Benefit Association.

Section 2. Administration

There shall be a Board of Directors elected by the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. All boards of directors of this association shall 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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. There shall be a Board of Publications which shall have the 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 national director of the Department of Publications, the general superintendent, the general treasurer, and two additional executive presbyters elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Presbytery. The national director of Publications shall serve as chairman. The Board of Publications shall meet monthly. It shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Divisional committees representing each of the major divisions of the Department of Publications shall be elected 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 national 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 elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification 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 and the General Presbytery.

Section 3. The Pentecostal Evangel

The Pentecostal Evangel shall be the official organ of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and shall be published in the 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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. There shall be a Radio Committee which shall consist of the national director and four others elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

c. The Radio Committee shall serve a two-year period or until its successors are appointed.

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

Section 3. Funds

The national 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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

- b. The Sunday School Department Committee shall consist of the national director and four others elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

- c. The Sunday School Department Committee shall serve for a period of two years or until its successors are appointed.

- d. 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 publication 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 Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. The Women's Missionary Council Committee shall consist of the national director, one member from the Home Missions Department, one member from the Foreign Missions Department and two others elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

c. The Women's Missionary Council Committee shall serve for a period of two years or until its successors are selected.

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

Section 3. Funds

a. An annual National Women's Missionary Council Day shall be observed at which time the ministry of the Women's Missionary Council shall be promoted. It is recommended that an offering be received in each church which shall be sent to the national Women's Missionary Council for use in the support of the national office and to aid in costs of services it offers to district and local units.

b. To aid further in support of the work at both district and national levels, it is urged that each local Women's Missionary Council group shall be faithful in tithing its income into the district Women's Missionary Council office and the district Women's Missionary Council office in turn to tithe to the national office.

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 officary.

The portion allocated to "special ministries" shall be restricted to missionaries under home missions appointment.

ARTICLE XXV. YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose.

a. There shall be a Youth 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.

Section 2. Government and Organization

a. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the department, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. The national director with four others elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to the ratification 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.

c. "The National Christ's Ambassadors Committee shall serve for a period of two years or until its successors are selected.

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

Section 3. Official Publication

The official publication of the department shall be *Youth Alive*.

Section 4. District Organizations.

a. Groups of local organizations may be formed into district organizations, with the approval of the officary of the District Councils involved. The district organizations shall be governed by the principles of cooperative fellowship and shall be considered as a branch or department of the District Council. The District Council officary shall be considered as the honorary membership of the district organization and shall be honored and respected in all matters affecting the activities of the organization. The district organization shall have the right to elect its own officers when deemed advisable by the District Presbytery, and to supervise its own activities within the boundaries of the territory involved. The Superintendent of the District Council shall be an ex officio member of all district committees.

b. The manner of election of the district 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 seven executive presbyters at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery shall constitute a quorum. The presence of three members of the Board of Administration 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.