

MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

The General Council of the Assemblies of God

THE THIRTY-SIXTH GENERAL COUNCIL

Denver, Colorado, August 14-19, 1975

MINUTES

of the

Thirty-sixth Session of

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

of the

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

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

Convened at Denver, Colorado
August 14-19, 1975

(Printed in the U.S.A.)

PREFACE

This book contains the minutes of the Thirty-sixth General Council, the Constitution and revised Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The Denver Council agenda was not as heavy as in several former sessions. This somewhat freer schedule was favorably reflected in worship and fellowship.

Delegates and visitors expressed great appreciation for those who ministered in both the day and night services. The inspiring keynote message of General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman was entitled "God Is Moving by His Spirit." Other inspiring messages were presented in the evening services by: Paul Lowenberg, Everett Stenhouse, Willard Cantelon, and Eleazer Javier. The able ministry of these speakers contributed greatly to the high spiritual tide of the convention. Since the *Pentecostal Evangel* has carried a report of the evangelistic services, further details are not included in the minutes.

Appreciation is expressed to Brother Noel Perkin for his leadership in the morning Hour of Prayer, to Brother Larry Ansel who served as leader of the child care center and to Brother Richard D. Emerson and Lynn Wickstrom who directed activities for the children. Youth activities were under the direction of Maurice Lednicky and Robert Palvado. The Executive Presbytery expressed appreciation to all who served in many facets of the council thus contributing toward making it stand out as one of the best in our convention history.

To God be all the glory!

Bartlett Peterson

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Administrative Offices: 1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802
Telephone (417) 862-2781

Executive Officers

Thos. F. Zimmerman	General Superintendent
G. Raymond Carlson	Assistant General Superintendent
Joseph R. Flower	General Secretary
Raymond H. Hudson	General Treasurer

The Executive Presbytery

Thos. F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent

Edgar W. Bethany	J. Philip Hogan
G. Raymond Carlson	Raymond H. Hudson
N. D. Davidson	Paul Lowenberg
Richard W. Dortch	D. H. McLaughlin
Joseph R. Flower	R. D. E. Smith
James E. Hamill	Roy H. Wead

MINUTES OF
THE THIRTY-SIXTH GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD CONVENED
AT DENVER, COLORADO
AUGUST 14-19, 1975

The Thirty-sixth General Council convened at Currigan Hall in Denver, Colorado, Thursday afternoon, August 14, at 2:00 p.m. The song for the opening devotional preceding the business session was led by the General Council song leader, Pastor Philip Wannenmacher, of Springfield, Missouri. Brother Paul Ferrin of San Jose, California, was at the piano and Mrs. Ferrin played the organ.

General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman called the Thirty-sixth General Council to order and stated that this entire Currigan Hall will become a divine sanctuary, a cathedral of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. He encouraged the people to have as much liberty and freedom as desired in responding by worshipping God.

Prayer was requested for Irving Mitchell, who had suffered an automobile accident while en route to Denver, and for Dr. Cordas C. Burnett. Edgar Bethany read the Scripture, Acts 2: 14-21, following which Noel Perkin, former director of the Division of Foreign Missions and honorary general presbyter, led in prayer.

Introduction of the Executive Presbytery

The Chair introduced the following brethren:

G. Raymond Carlson, assistant general superintendent; Bartlett Peterson, general secretary; Raymond H. Hudson, general treasurer; J. Philip Hogan, executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions; Edgar Bethany, N. D. Davidson, Richard W. Dortch, Joseph R. Flower, James E. Hamill, Paul Lowenberg, Dwight H. McLaughlin, and Roy Wead. Assistant General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson then introduced the general superintendent to which the audience responded with applause.

Introduction of Retired Executive Officers

The retired executive officers were introduced: Gayle F. Lewis, former general superintendent and former assistant general superintendent; Noel Perkin; George W. Hardcastle, Sr.; Bert Webb, former assistant general superintendent; and Charles W. H. Scott, former assistant general superintendent.

The chairman requested the general secretary to read a letter from Ernest S. Williams, former general superintendent. It was mentioned that Aaron A. Wilson, a former executive presbyter, was unable to be present because of physical ailments.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that greetings be sent to Brother E. S. Williams and Brother A. A. Wilson, extending our assurance of prayers and esteem.

Fraternal Delegates

Fraternal delegates were introduced and brought greetings:

Robert Taitinger, general superintendent of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada; Cullen Hicks, general superintendent of the Congregational Holiness Church, Inc., of Griffin, Georgia; Cecil B. Knight, first assistant general overseer of the Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee; Bishop J. Floyd Williams, general superintendent of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Gene Applegate, supervisor of the Rocky Mountain Division of the International Church of the Four-square Gospel and pastor of the Holly Park Foursquare Church, Denver, Colorado; Gerald Fortunato, instructor at Northeast Bible College, representing his father, Frank Fortunato, general superintendent of Christian Churches of North America.

The chairman stated that we have been highly honored by having these brethren with us.

The general secretary read telegrams from A. S. Bursey, chairman of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland, and from P. S. Brewster, general superintendent of Elim Churches of Great Britain. He also read a letter from The Honorable Gene Taylor, United States congressman from the 7th congressional district in Missouri. The chairman expressed a desire to respond to Congressman Taylor's greetings and assure him of our prayers. This was agreed to by general consent.

Appreciation to Rocky Mountain District Council and City of Denver

The chairman expressed appreciation to the City of Denver and to the Rocky Mountain District Council for helping us in making arrangements for this General Council. He introduced Clarence Lambert, Rocky Mountain District superintendent. Brother Lambert brought greetings in behalf of the churches of the district and the presbytery of the Rocky Mountain District Council: "It affords me great pleasure to extend a welcome to the State of Colorado and to the City of Denver. It is our hope that you will find time to enjoy the handiwork of God and the great splendor of the Rocky Mountains. We, along with you, welcome the presence of Almighty God to direct us in worship and in our business deliberations."

General Council Committees

The chairman called attention to the program booklet, to the local committees and to national and local chairmen:

Finance

Raymond H. Hudson, chairman; N. D. Davidson, Richard Dortch, Joseph R. Flower, Clarence Lambert

Ministerial Relations

Lowell Ashbrook, chairman; Raymond E. Book, Walter Dixon, James Dodd, James C. Ellis, Kenneth M. Freiheit, Leon Miles, W. Howard Roberson, Melvin Sasse

Music

L. B. Larsen, chairman; Max Eleiott, Gerald Fortunato, John Hall, Bud Tutmarc, Jory Waldon

Parliamentary

S. Harland Petersen, Fred A. Williams

Resolutions

Frank McAllister, chairman; William Behr, James Bridges, Dwight Brown, E. M. Clark, Clarence O. Cope, W. E. Cummings, Marvin Gorman, James Hennesy, J. D. Middlebrook, Harley W. Olson, Robert Schmidgall, Oliver Summers

Roster

Arthur Berg, chairman; James Allen, Marvin G. Barfield, Anna Berg, Manual R. Deeds, Miss Cordelia Donnell, Tom Goins, Leland Gross, Dale Harmon, Miss Mildred Holler, Mrs. Curtis LaVegne, Elmer Lindale, Darrel D. Madsen, Edward Menaldino, Ronald D. Mickley, Eddie E. Mosher, David Nelson, Dean Nygren, A. D. Pyle, Charles Savage, Norman L. Surratt, Claude White, John Wibley

Spiritual Life

James Hamill, chairman; Robert Abbott, E. R. Anderson, Glen D. Cole, C. W. Denton, Ivar Frick, Joseph L. Gerhart, Robert Graber, O. L. Harrup, Sr., J. Foy Johnson, Dwight McLaughlin, Armon Newburn, Thomas F. Zimmerman

Tellers

James E. Griggs, chairman; Roy D. Creamer, captain; Norman T. Field, captain; Joe G. Mazzu, captain; L. M. Addison, Paul Baldwin, Tom Botsford, J. E. Burkhalter, Adolfo Carrion, Wiley T. Davis, Robert Eastlake, Dale Eden, C. Dale Edwards, Andrew Eytzen, Don Farmer, Howard Flaherty, Elmer D. Geesey, Earl Goodman, Harold Headrick, Edwin Hollen, M. Earl Johnson, Roger Johnson, Sanford Jones, John Killingsworth, Don

Logan, Frank Maccarone, W. C. Mangrum, Daniel Mariano, James Monson, Hubert Morris, George Mullen, Jerald Ogg, Roger Perkin, T. Burton Pierce, Jr., L. Elwood Rakes, Darrell Redfeam, Carter Rogers, George Rohde, Raymond Rueb, Kenzy Savage, E. R. Schulz, Abraham Solomon, Ernest Steffenson, Douglas Stone, Russell Umphenour, Fleming Van Meter, W. Dean Ventling, Elmer T. Watkins, E. M. Yeats

Arrangements

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman; T. F. Zimmerman, Bartlett Peterson, C. W. Denton, Warren S. Grant

Coordinators

C. W. Denton, national; Warren Grant, assistant; Clarence Lambert, local

Child Care

Larry Ansel, local

Children's Activities

Richard D. Emerson, local; Lynn Wickstrom

Equipment

Arlyn Pember, national chairman; Glen R. Fields, local chairman; Melvin Snyder

Exhibits

Tom Sanders, national chairman; Manuel F. Hankins, local chairman; David Johnston

Housing and Hospitality

Harris Jansen, national chairman; Marcus Alexander, local chairman; Jewell Tucker

Photography

Gwen Jones, chairman; Dick Champion, Warren Grant, John Morar

Platform

Richard Champion, chairman and coordinator; Glenn Renick, assistant; Melvin Snyder, recorder; C. T. Beem, sound advisor; L. B. Larsen, music coordinator; Stan Michael, communion arranger

Program

Lee Shultz, chairman; Richard Champion, L. B. Larsen, Hardy Steinberg, C. W. Denton. Home Missions Feature: Lee Shultz, chairman; G. Raymond Carlson, T. F. Zimmerman, T. E. Gannon, C. W. Denton. Red Rocks: Lee Shultz, chairman; Richard Champion, J. P. Hogan, Hardy Steinberg, C. W. Denton. Visuals: Gwen Jones, chairman; David Gable, Sylvia Lee, Norman Pearsall, Dale Shumaker, Melvin Snyder, David A. Womack

Publicity

Warren Grant, national; Eugene Gustafson, local; Cathy Garlit

Registration

Warren Grant

Theme

Hardy Steinberg, chairman; Lee Shultz, Silas Gaither, Gwen Jones, Elva Hoover, C. W. Denton

Ushers

Niel DeVries, national chairman; Claudy Spilman, local chairman; Ellis Damiani

Youth

Maurice Lednicky, national chairman; Robert Polvado, local chairman; Terry Carter, Dave Gable, Brenton Osgood

Presentation of Headquarters Personnel

Brother Zimmerman introduced headquarters personnel who were assembled on the platform. At the conclusion the audience responded with applause.

Adoption of Agenda

The chairman referred to the agenda on page 27 of the program booklet. He announced the registration fee of \$5, explaining that by increasing the registration fee some of the expense offerings usually taken at General Council could be eliminated, thus saving time in the service.

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda as printed as a guide but not as a control. The motion was voted upon and declared carried.

Chairman Zimmerman referred to the resolutions in the packet and mentioned that there would be others forthcoming as referrals from the General Presbytery meeting.

Report of the General Superintendent

Reverend G. Raymond Carlson took the chair upon request of Brother Zimmerman. The general superintendent gave his report which was printed on pages 4 and 5 of the biennial report booklet. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the report be adopted with appreciation.

Philip Wannenmacher led the congregation in singing "To God Be the Glory."

The general superintendent again assumed the chair.

Jory L. Waldon, of Pasadena, Texas, sang an arrangement of "Amazing Grace."

General Secretary's Report

The chairman presented General Secretary Bartlett Peterson who read his report as it appeared in the printed report booklet which had been distributed to all registrants. It showed all-time high gains in membership and conversions.

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted with thanks. There being no negative votes, the chair declared the motion carried unanimously.

General Treasurer's Report

The chairman introduced General Treasurer Raymond H. Hudson, who read his report, referring also to the Audit Report. It showed a total of \$31,154,196 in World Ministries Giving. Brother Hudson asked, "Did we reach our potential? That figure divided by 785,348, our total membership, indicates that we gave \$39.67 per member, or \$3.31 per month, per member."

Several questions were directed to the general treasurer.

It was moved and seconded that the general treasurer's report be adopted, subject to the privilege of directing questions which may arise concerning it during the remainder of the session. The motion was declared carried.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur F. Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee gave the following report as of Thursday 1:00 p.m.:

Ordained ministers	835
Church delegates	364
Voting constituency	1,199
Licensed ministers	104
Visitors	1,123
Total	2,426

Brother Berg moved the acceptance of the first report of the Roster Committee. It was seconded and carried.

Departmental Reports

The chairman suggested that the body take time to read the divisional and departmental reports. In a subsequent meeting of the General Council, opportunity will be given to adopt them.

The meeting recessed at 4:20 p.m. with the singing of the Doxology and prayer offered by D. H. McLaughlin.

FRIDAY MORNING—AUGUST 15

The Friday morning meeting convened at 8:45 a.m. Brother N. D. Davidson presided over the devotional period. Philip Wannenmacher led the congregation in singing the choruses, "Jesus, Jesus," "Let's Just Praise the Lord," and "Thou Art Worthy, Oh Lord." Dwight H. McLaughlin read Acts 1:1-9, followed by prayer led by Edgar Bethany. Special music was presented by the Bethany Dayspring, a group from Bethany Bible College. Appreciation was expressed to Mrs. Robert Goree from Houston, Texas, and Mrs. Earl Johnson of Redding, California, who served as organist and pianist respectively. Richard Dortch, Illinois District superintendent and executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area, brought the morning devotional message. He used Acts 1:6-8 as his text. From this text he noted that (1) There are some things God does not expect us to know, (2) There is something He wants us to receive, and (3) There is something God wants us to be.

Robert Brandt, superintendent of the Montana District Council was asked to lead in prayer for God's direction in the business to be conducted.

Roster Committee Report

The chairman of the Roster Committee was requested to bring a report. As of 9:00 a.m. Friday registration was as follows:

Ordained ministers	1,756
Delegates	582
Voting constituency	2,338
Licensed ministers	153
Visitors	1,662
Total	4,153

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

The general secretary was asked to read a telegram of greetings from Reverend Austin Miles of Yakima, Washington, a minister to show people.

District of Puerto Rico

The chairman announced that in the General Presbytery meeting just concluded, Puerto Rico, which had formerly been a part of the Spanish Eastern District Council, had been granted the status of a district, becoming the 55th district of the Assemblies of God. He introduced two representatives from Puerto Rico, the Reverend Ruben Nieves, superintendent and Reverend Manuel Cordero, secretary.

Foreign Language District Study

An item of unfinished business from the 1973 General Council with reference to foreign language districts had been referred to a committee for study. Joseph R. Flower, chairman of the study committee, was asked to present the report. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the report be adopted.

The report, as adopted, follows:

"WHEREAS, The proposed bylaws change that would require Foreign Language Districts to have a minimum of 20 churches instead of the 12 now required would cause a hardship on existing Foreign Language Districts and would prematurely bring about their termination; and

"WHEREAS, Existing Foreign Language Districts are currently engaged in evangelizing people of their own ethnic and national background both in the U.S.A. and overseas; and

"WHEREAS, There are still sizable numbers of ethnic groups in the U.S.A. who can more effectively be reached by people of similar ethnic background; and

"WHEREAS, Existing Foreign Language Districts have been properly organized under the bylaws of the General Council for many years and have conducted their own business and have during this time demonstrated their loyalty and cooperation with the Assemblies of God and have substantially contributed to the development of the fellowship; and

"WHEREAS, Existing Foreign Language Districts are not a burden to the fellowship even though the number of churches in the last few years has diminished; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That any bylaws change affecting the number of churches required for a Foreign Language District shall not affect existing Foreign Language Districts unless they shall be reduced to less than 10 churches; however, be it further

"RESOLVED, That Article V, Section 4, paragraph a, be amended by substituting the words, '20 churches' in place of '12 churches.' It shall be understood that the requirement shall be applied to any Foreign Language group who in the future may desire to become a Foreign Language District of The General Council of the Assemblies of God; be it further

"RESOLVED, That all Foreign Language Districts be advised to follow closely the guidelines of Article V, Section 4."

American Bible Society Representative

Fred Lessten, one of our ordained ministers and a representative of the American Bible Society, was welcomed. He brought greetings from the American Bible Society and expressed appreciation to the Assemblies of God for its part in the translation and distribution of the Word of God. It was noted that Brother Lessten is now on special assignment to give attention to the Pentecostal groups.

Parliamentary Committee Recognized

The chairman recognized the members of the Parliamentary Committee:

S. Harland Petersen, superintendent of the South Dakota District Council, and Dr. Fred A. Williams, dean of South-Eastern Bible College.

Elections

The offices to be filled at this General Council are assistant general superintendent, general secretary, general treasurer, and the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions. It was noted that the general superintendent had been elected to a 4-year term in 1973 at Miami Beach, Florida, and thus was not up for election.

The chairman read from the constitution, Article IX. Officers, Section 1, a and b, and also the bylaws, Article II, Section 1. Officers, and Section 2. Nomination and Election.

Ballots were distributed for the first election which was for the office of assistant general superintendent.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that if any person being voted upon received a two-thirds majority of the votes cast on the nominating ballot that he be declared elected.

Frank McAllister, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, was asked to present the first resolution. Brother McAllister expressed appreciation to the members of the committee for their work, assistance, and counsel. Members of the committee were: Frank McAllister, chairman; William Behr, James K. Bridges, R. Dwight Brown, E. M. Clark, Clarence O. Cope, W. E. Cummings, Marvin Gorman, James Hennesy, J. D. Middlebrook, Harley W. Olson, Robert Schmidgall, and Oliver Summers.

Resolution 1. Election of Officers

It was moved and seconded that we adopt this resolution.

It was noted that the word *elected* in line 2 of the resolution should probably be *selected*.

It was moved and seconded to amend by adding to line 17 the following: "In the event a nominee has not received the necessary two-thirds majority after the fifth ballot in the caucus the two names having received the largest number of votes on the fifth ballot shall be presented as nominees to the General Council in session for election by that body." The motion to amend was carried.

The resolution as amended follows:

"WHEREAS, It has been recommended by a number of district councils that the nonresident executive presbyter be selected by caucus at the General Council by the area he is to serve; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article II. Election of Officers (page 126), Section 2. Nomination and Election (page 126), paragraph 'c' (page 127) of the bylaws be amended to read:

"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 the caucus of their area at the General Council in session to be balloted upon until one nominee receives a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. The selected area nominee shall be presented to the General Council in session to be elected by a two-thirds majority vote. In the event a nominee has not received the necessary two-thirds majority after the fifth ballot in the caucus the two names having received the largest number of votes on the fifth ballot shall be presented as nominees to the General Council in session for election by that body.'"

After discussion, the motion to adopt resolution 1, as amended, was voted on and declared lost.

Resolution 3. New Church Evangelism Department

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted. A question was raised as to the use of the word *division* in line 15, page 2. T. E. Cannon, national director of the Division of Home Missions, stated that the term *division* was intended.

A motion was made to amend page 2, line 15, to read: "d. The Division of Home Missions shall maintain a constant liaison with the various districts so that proven programs and innovations in new church evangelism may be refined and

offered to other districts." The motion to amend was seconded and carried.

Resolution 3, as amended, follows:

"WHEREAS, There is at the present time no provision for the New Church Evangelism coordinator; and

"WHEREAS, There is a need to describe the duties of the New Church Evangelism coordinator; be it

"RESOLVED, That bylaws Article XVI. Division of Home Missions, Section 3. New Church Evangelism Department (page 178), be amended by deleting the entire section and substituting the following:

- a. The primary function of this department shall be the establishing of new churches in cooperation with the various district councils.
- b. There shall be a New Church Evangelism coordinator appointed by the Executive Presbytery.
 - (1) He shall be amenable to, and work in conjunction with, the national director of Home Missions in New Church Evangelism.
- c. Practical assistance shall be provided by:
 - (1) Developing and promoting a fund from which grants may be provided to the various districts for establishing new churches.
 - (2) Developing a program to assist in financing the founding and establishing of new churches.
 - (3) Seeking to acquire information regarding various methods of financing and make this information available to various districts.
 - (4) Providing information of available materials such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, and other helps for the new church and supply these as funds permit.
 - (5) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the planting and establishing of new churches.
 - (6) Assisting in the further development of programs for the involvement of students and faculty members from Assemblies of God colleges in New Church Evangelism.
 - (7) Assisting in the development of curriculum materials related to New Evangelism for Assemblies of God colleges.
 - (8) Utilizing the personnel resources of our fellowship in conjunction with MAPS (Mobilization

and Placement Service) to assist in New Church Evangelism.

- d. The Division of Home Missions shall maintain a constant liaison with the various districts so that proven programs and innovations in New Church Evangelism may be refined and offered to other districts."

The main motion to adopt the resolution, as amended, was declared carried.

Resolution 11. Division of Church Ministries

It was moved and seconded that this resolution be adopted.

A question was raised concerning the use of the word *areas* in line 15, of Section 1. Men's Department. It was stated that this meant areas within the department.

A motion was made to amend the resolution by omitting (page 22, lines 13 and 14) the words *the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, coordinator of Action Crusades, commander of Royal Rangers* and (page 23, line 19) the words *Y coordinator, Missionettes coordinator* and, to further standardize, in each area where the words *three representatives* appear, this be changed to *four representatives*. The motion to amend was seconded.

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

The chairman of the Tellers Committee, James Griggs, was asked to report the results of the nominating ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent:

Votes cast	1,809
Needed to elect	1,206
G. Raymond Carlson received	1,480

The chairman declared G. Raymond Carlson elected as assistant general superintendent having received well above the two-thirds vote required. The chairman of the Tellers Committee read the list of all those nominated:

G. Raymond Carlson, R. Carlson, Carlson, E. R. Anderson, Edgar Bethany, Robert Brandt, Dwight Beard, Kenneth Crouse, R. Dobbins, Richard Dortch, David Flower, R. J. Carlson, N. D. Davidson, T. E. Gannon, T. R. Gannon, Willard Cante-
lon, William Carlson, Paul Lowenberg, Clarence Lambert, James Hamill, Peterson, Bartlett Peterson, Raymond Hudson, J. R. Flower, Wiley T. Davis, J. R. Carlson, Kermit Reneau, Zimmerman, E. E. Yates, K. Ringness, William Robertson, C. W. Scott, E. Stenhouse, Leonard White, Bert Webb, Elbert Wilkinson, Flowers, Gannon, Jose Giron, Rayder O. Jacobsen, J. Foy Johnson, Wesley Hurst, Tom Zimmerman, Joe Gerhart, Robert E. Goggin, J. D. Middlebrook, Jimmy Mayo, Jr., Roy

Creamer, Frank McAllister, H. C. Noah, Olson, W. C. Man-
grum, John Paproski.

It was reported that Brother Willie Millsaps, who had at-
tended the first General Council in Hot Springs, was in
attendance. He was requested to be present to be recognized
in the afternoon meeting.

The meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m. with the singing of the
Doxology. Prayer of dismissal was offered by Gayle Lewis,
retired executive officer.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 15

Philip Wannemacher opened the Friday afternoon meeting
with the following choruses: "He's the Lord of Glory," "Vic-
tory in Jesus," "Oh, How I Love Jesus," and "He's the Saviour
of My Soul." Jerry Fortunato, instructor at Northeast Bible
College, was at the piano and Steve Booher, minister of youth
and music, of Aurora, Colorado, was at the organ.

Silas Gaither, national director of the Division of Church
Ministries, read Psalm 126. Brother Willie Millsaps, one of the
men who was in attendance at Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1914,
led in prayer.

Chairman Zimmerman called the Friday afternoon meeting
to order at 2:15 p.m. He reminded the assembly that G. Ray-
mond Carlson had been reelected to the office of assistant
general superintendent with a very strong vote on the nominat-
ing ballot. He then presented G. Raymond Carlson and also
introduced Mrs. Carlson to the assembly.

In his acceptance speech, Brother Carlson spoke of his sal-
vation as a boy and of the call of God, stating that he has
never had any regrets. He has taken as the motto of his life
Philippians 1:21, "For to me to live is Christ." "I owe every-
thing to my Lord, my Saviour, my God, the direction of the
Holy Spirit, and to this Fellowship. You have been so kind
in so many ways. I thank you and pledge to you and to our
general superintendent, whom I, with you, love so much, and
to my blessed Christ, that I will do my best to serve as God
directs."

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee, gave the
following report as of 1:30 p.m.:

Ordained ministers	2,159
Church delegates	745
Voting constituency	2,904
Licensed ministers	193
Visitors	2,065
Total	5,162

Election of General Secretary

Ballots were distributed for the office of the general secretary.

Bartlett Peterson asked for the opportunity to speak. Brother Peterson stated that he had enjoyed the privilege of devoting 28 years in administrative work to the General Council and a total of 36 years in administrative work to the Assemblies of God. He stated that sixteen very happy years have been served as general secretary. He felt that now at 66 it would be wise to make a change to a less confining schedule which would enable him to accept invitations which have come for ministry at home and in mission fields. Brother Peterson stated that he was now requesting that his name not be considered in balloting for the office of General Secretary. He expressed his high esteem for each of the officers stating that he had no complaints but only appreciation for the high privilege of serving the General Council as general secretary.

The assembly gave him a standing ovation and the general superintendent and several other executive brethren greeted him personally.

Brother Zimmerman responded by saying: "Only those who have worked the closest with him can appreciate his capability and his dedication. I feel very deeply in my own heart in responding to this. It was only after coming to Denver, in a quiet moment of personal interaction with our brother, that he made known to me his intention. He made it very difficult for me—he said he felt that this was what God wanted. To try to ask a man to reconsider when he feels he knows what God wants is a position I feel difficult to take. You have heard the words of our brother. I am sure there will be other times and ways in which the General Council will express its appreciation and gratitude for a man who has given so generously of his life and ministry over these many years. I tell you, Brother Peterson, you have been a strong tower to me. You know full well the many, many times we have conferred on such a wide variety of matters, and you also know how I have valued your judgment and counsel. I suspect one of the things that may soften the moment is the fact that he did not indicate he will vacate the headquarter's city. Hopefully, he will not be too far beyond the beck and call and the ability to confer and discuss." The Chair also spoke of the men who have served in this position with longevity and that it has been one of the reasons for our stability.

Nomination for General Secretary

The chairman requested that the assembly mark its nominating ballot for the office of general secretary, stipulating that initials or first names be used as well as the surname.

Resolution 11. Division of Church Ministries - (Continuation)

The chairman reminded the assembly of the amendment to Resolution 11 which was before the house at recess, as follows:

To amend by omitting on page 22, lines 13 and 14, the words *the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, coordinator of Action Crusades, commander of Royal Rangers*, and on page 23, line 19, the words *Y coordinator and Missionettes coordinator*, and, to further standardize, in each area where the words *three representatives* appear, this be changed to *four representatives*.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

Vote was taken on the motion to amend the resolution by show of hands. The motion was declared lost.

It was moved and seconded that line 16, page 22; line 1, page 23; line 10, page 23; line 21, page 23; and line 4, page 24; where the word *elected* appears that the word *appointed* be substituted. The motion to amend was declared carried.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to amend line 23, page 23 by substituting the word *shall* for *may*, thus making it conform with the other committees.

The question was raised as to how often the committees should meet. The Chair indicated he did not feel the word *annually* imposed a strict limitation.

It was moved and seconded that in each paragraph labeled b (2) in Article XIII of the bylaws, the words *subject to ratification by the General Presbytery* be inserted. The Chair stated that this would put this division out of harmony with every other division at headquarters. The motion was voted upon and declared lost.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended on page 24, line 3 by adding after "the secretary of the department" the words *the national Chi Alpha representative*. After discussion this motion was lost.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

Resolution as amended:

"WHEREAS, There is a need for clarification of the governmental and organizational structures of the various departments under the Division of Church Ministries; and

"WHEREAS, There was not always authorization as to how often the various departmental committees were to meet; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XIII. Division of Church Ministries (page 161) be amended as follows:

Section 1. Men's Department

Para. b. Government and Organization

- (2) There shall be a National Men's Department Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, coordinator of Action Crusades, commander of Royal Rangers, and four representatives—one from each of the above areas and one at large to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

Section 2. Music Department

Para. b. Government and Organization

- (2) There shall be a National Music Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

Section 3. Sunday School Department

Para. b. Government and Organization

- (2) There shall be a National Sunday School Department Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

Section 4. Women's Missionary Council Department

Para. b. Organization and Government

- (2) There shall be a National Women's Missionary Council Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, Y coordinator, Missionettes coordinator, and four representatives from the above areas of ministry appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

Section 5. Youth Department

Para. b. Organization and Government

- (2) There shall be a National Youth Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division

of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, with three others from the field at large, appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve a 2-year period. The national director of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the subsections (3) of the above paragraphs b. Organization and Government, be deleted."

The motion to adopt Resolution 11, as twice amended, was declared carried.

General Superintendent of Japan Introduced

Brother Zimmerman said, "The General Council of the Assemblies of God is highly favored to have our dear Brother Ryunosuke Kukuchi, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God of Japan, and his wife with us." He asked Wesley R. Hurst, foreign missions secretary of the Far East, Robert Houlihan and J. Philip Hogan, executive director of Foreign Missions, to join him in welcoming to the platform these outstanding and distinguished guests. General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman said, "As the chairman of this 36th General Council assembly, it gives me great pleasure on behalf of your brothers and sisters to extend to you our warm welcome to this very significant meeting. Our ties with you and your beloved Movement have been long standing. Our relationships have been of the most brotherly and edifying nature. We have prized that tie of brotherhood that has joined our lives and our hearts together in a mutual burden for the work of God. We rejoice in the outstanding progress that the Japan Assemblies of God has made. We congratulate you on your outstanding leadership."

Brother Kukuchi responded through an interpreter: "Greetings from all our believers from the Assemblies of God in Japan. I thank God that I can speak for them and that they send their love."

The general superintendent of Japan presented a plaque and read the inscription. Brother Zimmerman in turn presented a pen, which is to be inscribed, to Brother Kukuchi.

Philip Wannemacher led the assembly in singing "To God Be the Glory."

Manner for Reporting Nominees for Office of General Secretary

It was moved, seconded, and carried to suspend proper parliamentary procedure in this particular case and that the report of the nominating ballot include the number of ballots cast for each person in nomination.

Resolution 4. Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 4 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution on page 10, line 16, by substituting the word *institutional* in place of the word *prison*. The motion to amend was carried.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution on page 10, line 11 by inserting a comma after the phrase "Home Missions Committee" and adding the following: "the institutional chaplaincy representative and two institutional chaplains from the field appointed by the Executive Presbytery shall serve as said committee," and then continue with "and said committee shall serve as an industrial and institutional chaplaincy commission."

It was moved and seconded that the resolution and pending amendment be referred back to the committee so that it may be presented in a configuration similar to those presented in the morning business meeting for the Division of Church Ministries.

The Chair indicated that it was his understanding that this motion refers the whole resolution. If it carries, any persons interested should make their thoughts known to the Resolutions Committee, and the resolution is to be brought back to this session. The motion to refer was carried.

Resolution as amended and referred:

"WHEREAS, The ministry of the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy of the Assemblies of God, which now has 24 full-time institutional chaplains and 20 part-time institutional chaplains, has proven to be a most successful ministry; and

"WHEREAS, No provision has been made for a commission to process applications and to make denominational endorsements for the promotion and encouragement of this ministry; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XVI. Division of Home Missions, Section 5. Department of Chaplains, paragraph 'a,' subparagraph (1) be amended to read:

- (1) The industrial and institutional chaplaincy shall function under the supervision of the Home Missions Committee and said committee shall serve as an Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy Commission.

be it further

"RESOLVED, That a new subparagraph (3) be added which shall read:

- (3) The industrial and institutional chaplaincy shall be under the direction of an institutional chaplains representative.

Present subparagraph (3) shall be renumbered to become (4); be it further

"RESOLVED, That Article XVI. Division of Home Missions, Section 5. Department of Chaplains, paragraph 'c' be amended to read:

c. Chaplains Representative

There shall be a chaplains representative to assist in the operation of the Department of Chaplaincy. He shall be nominated by the Home Missions Committee and elected by the Executive Presbytery."

Resolution 10. Division of Communications

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 10 be adopted.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to amend line 17, page 21, by substituting the word *appointed* for the word *elected*.

The motion to adopt the resolution as amended was carried.

The resolution as amended and as adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, An Audiovisual Services Department is now functioning; and

"WHEREAS, A statement of clarification as to the scope of its ministry is needed; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XIV. Division of Communications, paragraph 'a' (page 168) of the bylaws be amended by adding the words *and audiovisual services* so that paragraph 'a' will read:

There shall be a Division of Communications which shall have general oversight over the following areas: Auxiliary Communications, the Office of Information, The Pentecostal Evangel, Radio and Television, and Audiovisual Services.

and be it further

"RESOLVED, That Article XIV. Division of Communications be amended by adding a Section 5 which shall read:

Section 5. Audiovisual Services

a. Authorization and Purpose

1. Audiovisual Services shall acquire and maintain such equipment as necessary to produce audiovisual materials.
2. Audiovisual Services shall assist departments in the preparation of audiovisual materials.
3. Audiovisual Services shall provide consultation to departments, missionaries, church officials, and others on production of audiovisual materials.

4. To build and maintain a rental library of films, filmstrips, slides, video tapes, tape and/or phonograph recordings, which shall be available to our constituency.
5. To produce a catalog of rental films—those produced by the Assemblies of God and other film makers.
6. Additional services shall be made available as authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Government and Organization

1. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint an audiovisual representative who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.
2. There shall be an Audiovisual Film Committee which shall recommend films to be included in the library, and classification of films and/or recordings. The committee shall consist of the national director of the Division of Communications, the audiovisual representative, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery.
3. The Audiovisual Film Committee shall serve a 2-year period or until its successors are appointed."

Resolution 9. Institutions

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Resolution 9 be adopted.

The resolution as adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, The General Council of the Assemblies of God in session in Portland, August, 1961, authorized the establishment of a graduate school of theology and missions at such a time as deemed advisable by the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Education; and

"WHEREAS, In May 1971, the General Presbytery approved a joint resolution from the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Education recommending the establishment of such a school with a target date for the fall of 1973; and

"WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God Graduate School has now been established in accordance with that resolution; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XX. Institutions (page 185) of the bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God be amended by adding a section to be known as Section 4. Assemblies of God Graduate School, which shall read as follows:

The Assemblies of God Graduate School, a graduate school of theology and missions, providing advanced training beyond the baccalaureate level for ministers, missionaries, evangelists, and other Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The Assemblies of God Graduate School is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths 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 Graduate School shall be delegated to a Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws. The Graduate School 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 Assemblies of God Graduate School."

Resolution 12. World Missions Plan

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Resolution 12 be adopted.

The resolution as adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, Speed-the-Light offerings have proven to be a most successful and profitable missions program; and

"WHEREAS, The General Council bylaws now includes administrative details, particularly, as it relates to Home Missions, which, if committed to the Home Missions Speed-the-Light Committee, would greatly facilitate its administration and operation; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XXIII. World Missions Plan, Section 2. Speed-the-Light Offerings (page 187) be amended by deleting the words, *Special Ministries* in line 2 and the last paragraph which reads, *the portion allocated to 'special ministries' shall be restricted to missionaries under home missions appointment*; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the Home Missions Speed-the-Light Committee be requested to develop specific guidelines for the administration of Home Missions Speed-the-Light grants. Their recommendations shall be submitted to the Home Missions Board for further study and recommendation. The Home Missions Board will report to the Executive Presbytery for final action."

Resolution 5. Superannuated ministers

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 5 be adopted.

The general secretary stated that the total number of ministers who are superannuated is 1,948; of these 1,439 are ordained and 509 licensed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution on page 13, line 10, by inserting after "of age," the words *or who is permanently physically disabled*, continuing with "and who is. . ."

It was moved and seconded that the resolution, together with the proposed amendment, be referred to a special study committee appointed by the chairman and that it report back to the next General Council. It was suggested that if the resolution is referred, the committee should look for a more suitable term than the one submitted. The motion to refer for report to the 1977 General Council was carried.

The resolution as referred follows:

"WHEREAS, There is sometimes a misunderstanding of the terms *superannuated*, *superannuation*, etc.; and

"WHEREAS, This misunderstanding on the part of some can create a problem with certain of our ministers; and

"WHEREAS, Even though the term may have a connotation of honor to some, this is because of it having been used in connection with the retirement of a minister, the real meaning of the term is hardly complimentary.

For instance, the definition of the word is:

Superannuated, v. 1. to allow to retire from service or office on a pension because of age or infirmity. 2. to set aside as out of date; remove as too old. 3. to be or become old, out of date, or retired.

Superannuated, adj. 1. retired because of age or infirmity. 2. too old for use, work, service, or a position.

FURTHER, in his book, *Modern Guide to Synonyms*, Dr. S. I. Hayakawa, one of the nation's leading semanticists states: "Superannuated and senile stress the negative aspects of aging. Superannuated emphasizes the idea of being considered too old to continue in one's job. In a specific sense, a superannuated person is one who has been retired because he has passed an arbitrary age limit, such as 65: a superannuated pensioner. In an extended sense, the word means too old to be useful or efficient and has a disparaging tone."

FURTHER, John B. Opdyke, in his book *Mark My Words*, states: "Venerable, and not in the least superannuated. The first meaning worthy of respect and dignity, entitled to that reverence and approbation

that accrue to character and reputation and achievement after a long life; the second meaning incapacitated by reason of age, discarded or dismissed because age disqualifies."

"WHEREAS, The use of the terms *retired*, *retirement*, etc., will be more readily understood; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article VII. Ministry, Section 9. Superannuated Ministers (page 137) be amended to read:

Retirement 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 65 years of age, and who is no longer engaged in full-time ministry, shall upon his request, or the request of his district, be indicated as retired.

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. and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the terms *retired*, *retirement*, etc., be substituted for the terms *superannuated*, *superannuate*, *superannuation*, etc., wherever they may appear in the bylaws."

Report of Nominating Ballot for General Secretary

The chairman of the Tellers Committee submitted the following report. He read the names and the number of nominations received for the office of general secretary, while an identical list was flashed on the screen. There were 152 nominees as follows:

Joe Adams 27, Glen Ahlf 1, E. R. Anderson 2, J. Robert Ashcroft 3, L. C. Ashbrook 5, Gerald Balius 1, E. W. Barnes 1, John Beardsley 1, Ed Berkey 2, Willis Berry 2, Edgar Bethany 5, S. K. Biffle 13, Elwood Bredbenner 1, Earl Book 1, Raymond E. Book 1, Robert L. Brandt 17, William Brandt 5, M. M. Brewer 1, James Bridges 2, M. L. Calloway 1, G. R. Carlson 4, R. J. Carlson 2, Owen Carr 7, F. C. Chamberlain 1, Richard Champion 1, D. B. Chaney 1, Lloyd Christiansen 1, E. M. Clark 4, Kenneth Claycomb 1, Wildon Colbaugh 2, Glen Cole 2, Clarence Cope 1, Hugh Corey 2, Norman Correll 1, Don Cox 1, Ben Crandall 1, Charles Crank 5, Roy Creamer 7, Philip Crouch 1, Henry Culbreth 3, T. C. Cunningham 3, W. E. Cummings 6, N. D. Davidson 16, J. T. Davis 1, Charles Denton 3, Mel DeVries 1, L. W. Dickinson 4, Richard Dobbins 1, James C. Dodd 2, Richard Dortch 269, Richard Dresselhaus 7, Sonny Eldridge

1, Gayle Erwin 1, Joseph Flower 101, Paul Fenton 2, David Flower 21, Kenneth Freiheit 6, T. E. Cannon 45, William B. Friend 1, David Gable 1, Silas Gaither 12, Joseph Gerhart 4, Jose E. Giron 1, R. Goodwin 3, Robert Goggin 12, Marvin Gorman 1, James Griggs 54, Warren Grant 1, Delmar Guynes 3, O. E. Hall 3, James Hamill 23, O. L. Harrup, Sr. 3, R. Hasting 1, James Hennesy 1, C. C. Hidle 2, Owen S. Hodges 1, Clifford Hobson 3, J. Philip Hogan 8, H. P. Holdridge 1, Cyril Homer 4, Raymond Hudson 49, Vernon Huffey 1, D. V. Hurst 10, J. Jackson 17, J. Foy Johnson 9, Lloyd Jorgenson 2, Charles Kendrick 1, Ernest Kumpe 12, Clarence Lambert 13, J. B. Larson 1, Fred Leader 2, Clifford Lewis 1, Gayle Lewis 10, J. B. Linney 10, Paul Lowenberg 30, D. Lunsford 1, Frank McAllister 15, Robert McGlasson 13, D. H. McLaughlin 2, Warren McPherson 2, Don Mallough 1, G. E. Mandel 1, H. Meyers 3, Stan Michael 2, Leon Miles 1, J. D. Middlebrook 4, Derald Musgrove 17, G. Nelson 1, Hal C. Noah 1, Dean Nygren 1, Wallace Odum, Sr. 8, Jerald Ogg 1, John Ohlin 2, H. Olson 4, Arthur Parsons 2, Bartlett Peterson 27, H. Peterson 8, Claude Qualls 1, Kermit Reneau 7, W. H. Robertson 23, Haskell Rogers 2, Erwin Rohde 1, George Rohde 1, Herman Rohde 10, Curtis Ringness 6, C. Rose 1, N. Sachs 1, R. Sapp 10, Paul Schoch 2, D. Shultz 1, L. Shultz 2, Elbert Smart 1, Fred Smolchuck 21, Abraham Solomon 2, Hardy Steinberg 17, W. C. Tapp 2, H. W. Thiemann 1, R. A. Thompson 12, Clinton Vanzant 1, Earl Vanzant 2, Vickery 2, Harry Vickery 2, O. W. Vickery 2, R. O. Vickery 1, William Vickery 125, Aaron Wall 1, Philip Wannemacher 9, E. Watkins 2, Roy Wead 18, D. Womack 1, Woodrow Yasuhara 2, L. Young 1

1,351 votes cast; 901 needed to elect. There was no election.

The chairman indicated that the first elective ballot would be cast before recess, and charged the members of the Tellers Committee not to divulge the results of the first elective ballot before the Saturday morning meeting.

William H. Robertson, Richard W. Dortch, and William Vickery each asked for the privilege of withdrawing their names from nomination.

The Chair requested that the first elective ballot be cast before any names are eliminated.

Several announcements were made at this point including that an origination of *Revivaltime* will be held at 6:00 p.m. in Currihan Hall.

It was moved and seconded that the counting of the ballots be left until the morning so that the information could not be divulged. Discussion followed. The motion was declared lost.

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 p.m. by the singing of the Doxology and by Wesley R. Hurst giving the benediction.

SATURDAY MORNING—AUGUST 16

Bicentennial Prayer Breakfast

The 1975 Bicentennial Prayer Breakfast was held in the Denver Hilton Hotel on Saturday, August 16, beginning at 7:30 a.m. Theme for the breakfast was "If My People . . . Pray" (2 Chronicles 7:14). Reverend G. Raymond Carlson, assistant general superintendent, served as chairman. Evangelist Bob Harrison offered the invocation, followed by the reading of Scripture by William G. Eastlake, national director of the Division of Publication.

Miss Evie Tornquist, recording artist for WORD, Inc., and a member of the Assemblies of God, was guest soloist.

Dr. Andrew Nelli, executive vice-president of Carnation International, and a member of the North Hollywood Assembly of God, spoke on the concept of profitability and return on investment, applying business principles to our spiritual lives. "We are not our own—we are His. We have been bought by His blood and He has a claim on our lives. It is only reasonable for Jesus Christ to expect a return on His investment in your life and mine." He spoke of the necessity of submitting ourselves to the most qualified auditor of all—the Holy Spirit.

Mrs. Goldia Anderson, national secretary of the Women's Missionary Council Department, Troy Compton, a businessman with Montgomery Ward in Iowa, and Reverend Watson Argue, Sr. were asked to lead in prayer for our world, our nation, and our fellowship respectively. The meeting concluded with groups praying one for another.

Saturday Morning Business

The business meeting opened with the singing of the chorus, "Jesus, Jesus." Pianist and organist for the morning meeting were Tim Senf and Mrs. Paul Cox respectively. Hardy Steinberg, national director of the Division of Christian Education, led in prayer.

Roster Committee Report

The business meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

Arthur Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee, presented the report as of 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning:

Ordained ministers	2,349
Church delegates	950
Voting constituency	3,299
Licensed ministers	221
Visitors	2,472
Total	5,992

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

First Elective Ballot for General Secretary

The chairman of the Tellers Committee, James Griggs, presented the report of the first elective ballot for the office of general secretary as follows:

Joe Adams 74, Robert Ashcroft 3, Gerald Balus 1, John Beardsley 1, Willis Berry 2, Edgar Bethany 1, S. K. Biffle 15, R. L. Brandt 28, M. M. Brewer 1, James Bridges 2, G. Raymond Carlson 2, Owen Carr 9, D. B. Chaney 1, E. M. Clark 2, Clarence Cope 1, Charles Crank 1, Roy Creamer 7, Philip Crouch 2, W. E. Cummings 8, T. C. Cunningham 1, N. D. Davidson 17, Charles Denton 1, Richard Dortch 228, Richard Dresselhaus 7, Flower 5, David Flower 10, Joseph Flower 362, T. E. Gannon 47, Silas Gaither 2, Jose Giron 2, Robert Goggin 4, James Griggs 62, D. Guynes 1, James Hamill 7, O. L. Harrup, Sr. 2, O. S. Hodges 1, D. Taylor Holden 1, Raymond Hudson 13, D. V. Hurst 3, J. F. Jackson 2, E. J. Kumpe 7, Clarence Lambert 7, J. B. Linney 4, Paul Lowenberg 29, Frank McAllister 8, Robert McGlasson 1, Warren McPherson 1, Don Mallough 3, Derald Musgrove 13, H. Myers 1, Wallace Odum, Sr. 1, John Ohlin 2, H. Olson 2, Arthur Parsons 1, Bartlett Peterson 5, H. Peterson 1, Kermit Reneau 8, Herman Rohde 11, Curtis Ringness 6, William H. Robertson 2, Roy Sapp 4, L. Shultz 5, Fred Smolchuck 30, Hardy Steinberg 12, H. W. Thiemann 2, R. A. Thompson 1, C. Vanzant 1, William Vickery 116, Aaron Wall 1, Roy Wead 15, Philip Wannenmacher 6

Total votes cast 1,245. Needed to elect 830.

No candidate received the necessary two-thirds vote, therefore there was no election on the first elective ballot.

Ballots were then cast for the second elective ballot for the office of general secretary.

Divisional and Departmental Reports

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the divisional and departmental reports be accepted as printed in the report book.

Resolution 14. Family Life Department

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 14 be adopted. The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the 20th-century family is faced with such severe crises as an increasing divorce rate, economic instability, conflict with children, new morals stimulated by modern social trends such as women's, men's, and even children's liberation: and

"WHEREAS, According to the New Testament e.g., 1 Corinthians, even Christian families are confronted with these crises; and

"WHEREAS, Many denominations have a department of this nature; be it, therefore

"RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized to establish a Family Life Department under the Division of Church Ministries, and a committee be appointed to develop the necessary bylaws, and said bylaws to be presented to the 1977 General Council in session."

A motion was made and seconded that lines 9 through 12 of Resolution 14 be amended to read as follows:

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized to appoint a committee to study the feasibility of establishing a Family Life Department under the Division of Church Ministries and that this committee develop the necessary bylaws for such a department, and bring their report and recommendations to the 1977 General Council in session."

A motion was made and seconded that this matter be referred to the Executive Presbytery, without calling for the establishment of a department, for the purpose of considering the need of a Family Life Ministry.

Attention was called to the fact that ministry to the family is already the concern of every area of the church, and a motion was made to table the resolution. The motion to table was seconded but when voted upon it was declared lost.

The motion to refer the entire matter to the Executive Presbytery was voted upon. A division of the house was called for. This revealed that those in favor numbered 693 and those opposed 601. The motion to refer was declared carried.

Discussion had brought out the fact that this resolution was an outgrowth of the action on divorce and remarriage at the Miami Beach General Council in 1973, desiring that more attention be given in our churches to preserving the relationships within the family and the home. The Chair mentioned that such attention is being given. A committee has studied the entire area and their report is being implemented. Some seminars have been held, others are being planned for the Graduate School, et cetera. The chairman expressed the opinion that there are better ways of doing this than by the creation of another department. As had been mentioned, family life should be the concern of the whole body.

Second Elective Ballot for General Secretary

The chairman of the Tellers Committee, James Griggs, reported the results of the second elective ballot for the office of general secretary as follows:

Joe Adams 57, E. R. Anderson 1, Edgar Bethany 2, S. K. Biffle 7, R. L. Brandt 14, Raymond Carlson 1, Owen Carr 4, Charles Crank 1, Roy Creamer 7, W. E. Cummings 4, N. D. Davidson 1, Richard Dortch 231, Richard Dresselhaus 2, Joseph R. Flower 703, Flower 14, David Flower 3, T. E. Gannon 9, Robert Goggin 3, James Griggs 52, James Hamill 1, D. V. Hurst 1, E. J. Kumpe 6, C. Lambert 2, J. B. Linney 3, Paul Lowenberg 9, Frank McAllister 2, Don Mallough 1, Derald Musgrove 2, Wallace Odum, Sr. 1, H. Olson 1, Bartlett Peterson 11, Kermit Reneau 1, Herman Rohde 4, Curtis Ringness 3, William Robertson 1, R. Sapp 1, L. Shultz 3, Fred Smolchuck 16, Hardy Steinberg 7, William O. Vickery 94, Philip Wannemacher 1.

Total votes cast 1,287. Needed to elect 858.

There was no election on the second elective ballot.

The chairman read from the bylaws, Article II. Election of Officers, Section 2, paragraph a., which indicated that "if no election had 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."

The top fifteen names were listed on the Vu-Graph. Ballots were distributed for the third elective ballot for the office of general secretary.

Resolution 15. Women's Missionary Council Department

It was moved and seconded to adopt Resolution 15.

A question was raised concerning the use of the term "Men's Ministry" on line 4. It was noted that at the present time the name of this department is the "Men's Department."

A motion was made to amend line 7 to read "Women's Department" in order to make it in conformity with the bylaw which refers to the Men's Department. The motion was seconded.

Nomination of General Treasurer

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, was requested to present the report from the General Presbytery and to read the bylaw governing the election of the general treasurer. He reported that in keeping with the provision of the bylaws, the General Presbytery has nominated Raymond H. Hudson for the office of general treasurer. The first elective ballot for this office was cast.

Resolution 15. Women's Missionary Council Department (Continued)

Discussion continued on Resolution 15. It was noted that the reasoning behind the resolution is that the word *ministries*

more accurately describes the department's activities.

The motion to amend the resolution on line 7 to read "Women's Department" was voted upon and declared lost.

The motion to adopt Resolution 15, as originally presented, was declared carried.

The resolution as adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, The Women's Missionary Council from its inception has been a ministry-oriented organization, and
"WHEREAS, The name of the men's organization has been changed to conform to its primary function—Men's Ministry; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the name of the women's organization in the Assemblies of God be changed to 'Department of Women's Ministries.'"

It was announced that total cash and pledges received for Home Missions thus far totaled \$226,843.

Election of General Secretary

James Griggs, chairman of the Tellers Committee, reported the results of the third elective ballot for the office of general secretary:

Joseph Flower 1572, Richard Dortch 200, William Vickery 53, Joe Adams 56, James Griggs 27, Robert Brandt 4, Bartlett Peterson 2, Paul Lowenberg 4, T. E. Gannon 5, S. K. Biffle 7, R. Creamer 6, E. Kumpe 7

Votes cast	1,943
Needed to elect	1,295
Joseph R. Flower received	1,572

The chairman having received the report of the third elective ballot for the office of general secretary declared Joseph R. Flower elected as general secretary. Congratulations were offered to Brother Flower. He requested permission to defer speaking to the body until the afternoon meeting.

Nomination of Executive Director of Foreign Missions

The chairman asked the general secretary to present the report from the General Presbytery. Brother Peterson read the bylaw provisions governing this office and stated, "In accordance with that provision, the General Presbytery presents the name of J. Philip Hogan as the nominee for the office of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions." The first elective ballot was cast.

Joseph R. Flower, superintendent of the New York District, requested that the delegates from the New York District meet with him on stage at 1:30 p.m. for the purpose of providing a nominee to be considered in election of the executive presbyter from the Northeast Area, in view of his election to the office of general secretary.

Following the singing of the Doxology, Dr. Willard Pierce was asked to lead in a prayer of dismissal. The meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 16

The afternoon meeting opened at 2:00 p.m. with the singing of "Where the Spirit of the Lord Is, There Is Peace," and "There Is a River." Philip Wannenmacher served as song leader, Mrs. David Crabtree was at the organ, and Mrs. Charles Crabtree was at the piano.

Hardy W. Steinberg, national director of the Division of Christian Education, read Philippians 3:7-14. Jose Giron, superintendent of Pacific Latin American District, led in prayer.

The chairman called the business meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Election of General Treasurer

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the results of the first elective ballot for the office of general treasurer:

Total votes cast	1,869
Needed to elect	1,246
Raymond H. Hudson received	1,804

Upon hearing the report of the Tellers Committee the Chair declared Raymond H. Hudson elected as general treasurer. He congratulated Brother Hudson as he entered his second term of service. He called for Mrs. Hudson to stand for introduction.

Brother Hudson expressed his deepest gratitude for the confidence placed in him by returning him to the office for another 2 years. He said, "God has been gracious and it is wonderful to work together with our beloved superintendent, the Board of Administration, the Executive Presbytery, the General Presbytery, and the staff at headquarters. I am highly honored and I pledge to you my very best."

Election of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the first elective ballot for the executive director Foreign Missions:

Total votes cast	1,600
Needed to elect	1,067
J. Philip Hogan received	1,557

The chairman noted that J. Philip Hogan received well above the two-thirds vote required to elect and declared him reelected as executive director of Foreign Missions.

Mrs. Hogan was introduced and then Brother Hogan gave an acceptance speech: "I believe this is the ninth time I have been summoned to this microphone by the ballot of the General Council. I well remember with what awe I came to the office the first time. That sense of awe has not lessened. I am highly privileged because I am enabled through this office to monitor the work of God around the world. I often return from trips abroad rejoicing in my heart that I have been able to visit the frontier of Christian endeavor and see what God is accomplishing. I am privileged to work with some of the finest men in the General Council. I pledge to the Lord of the Harvest to lay whatever talents God has given to me upon the altar afresh."

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg gave the following report of the Roster Committee of 2:00 p.m.

Ordained ministers	2,393
Church delegates	987
Voting constituency	3,380
Licensed ministers	229
Visitors	2,636
Total	6,245

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

The chairman observed that by all comparisons we have the largest number of delegates at this General Council that we have had to date.

Northwest Area Executive Presbyter

The ballots were distributed for the Northwest Area. The general secretary read the nominees as follows: E. D. Beard, R. L. Brandt, N. D. Davidson, Frank McAllister.

The first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Northwest Area was cast with the following results reported:

Total votes cast	1,615
Needed to elect	1,077
E. D. Beard	37
R. L. Brandt	343
N. D. Davidson	930
Frank McAllister	305

There being no election, the second elective ballot was cast.

Introduction of Mrs. Cho Yonggi

Brother Zimmerman called for Mrs. Cho Yonggi, distinguished visitor from Korea, to be escorted to the platform, stating, "It

gives the Chair a great deal of pleasure and joy to welcome a dear and wonderful friend to our General Council session. She is Mrs. Cho Yonggi, the wife of Dr. Cho Yonggi, who is pastor of the large Central Church in Seoul, Korea. She has been such a beautiful representative of the land of Korea."

Mrs. Cho Yonggi responded, "Thank you very much. I am very happy to come here and greet you." She indicated that this was her first trip to the States. She then played on the piano an arrangement of "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Brother Zimmerman asked her to take greetings from this body to her husband as she returns to Korea.

Acceptance Speech of New General Secretary

The Chair presented Mrs. Joseph R. Flower and then led in prayer for her physical needs.

Brother Flower referred to the last few hours as being filled with shock and mixed emotions. "Our roots are pretty deep in New York State where I have served for 21 years as district superintendent and at the last district council was elected for another 2-year term." He spoke of things pending in the district that are quite important. "The thing that grips my heart is that I don't want to miss God's will because God's will is the sweetest place in the world. We want to be a blessing to the Fellowship which has been such a blessing to us. Thank you very much."

The chairman responded by stating, "I am sure that seeing the name *Flower* as general secretary will not be a new experience to many of us. I am sure that if J. Roswell Flower were alive he would be happy to see his eldest son in this position."

Bartlett Peterson Elected Honorary General Presbyter

The following resolution was presented by Assistant General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson:

"The Constitution of the Assemblies of God makes provision for the selection of honorary general presbyters, but due to the uniqueness of the given situation, and because of his approximately 28 years of service to the General Council as an executive presbyter, the last 16 years as general secretary, and by the concurrence of the Executive Presbytery, I move that this General Council in session name our retiring General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, an honorary general presbyter."

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

North Central Executive Presbyter

Ballots were distributed for electing an executive presbyter from the North Central Area. The general secretary read the

names of the nominees: Harley W. Olson, S. H. Petersen, Herman H. Rohde, Allan Ullestad, Roy Wead.

By request the general secretary also read the names of the districts from which these men were nominated.

Resolution 17 was distributed at the request of Brother Zimmerman.

TV Premiere—"Turning Point"

The chairman requested Lee Shultz, national director of the Division of Communications, to give information regarding the proposed TV ministry of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. He expressed appreciation to each member of the TV Research and Development Committee.

The first production of *Turning Point* was premiered by the Council. At its conclusion, the audience responded with a sustained period of applause.

Brother Zimmerman stated in part: "I feel we have reached an epochal moment in the Assemblies of God. The radio ministry of *Revivaltime* has brought life to millions. We do not intend to abandon the miracle of radio. God has raised up twin miracles of electronic communication in our time. We have before us an equally effective medium as radio. We are going to reach many thousands of people that our ministry has heretofore not touched. Your Executive Presbytery has moved in a spirit of faith. We desire to lay before this 36th General Council of the Assemblies of God the challenge of raising in a 90-day crash program no less than \$300,000. That is not an impossible goal by any stretch of the imagination. I believe God wants us to make an expression of faith." At the conclusion of his statement an extended period of time was given for presenting pledges.

A total of \$179,000 in pledges and cash was received. Brother Zimmerman offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

Several announcements were given, specifically pertaining to the service to be held at the Red Rocks Amphitheater Sunday afternoon.

At 5.00 p.m. the chairman declared business recessed until Monday morning. The Doxology was sung and Dr. Fred A. Williams, dean at South-Eastern Bible College, dismissed in prayer.

SUNDAY—AUGUST 17

Brother D. H. McLaughlin was in charge of the memorial and communion service which began at 9:45 a.m. in Currihan Hall. Evangelist Bob Harrison from Canoga Park, California, and Evangelist Jim Sunderwirth from Independence, Missouri, ministered in song. Brother Gayle Lewis read 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 as the scripture for the service. The speaker of the morning was Reverend Hal Noah, pastor from Dallas, Texas.

IN MEMORIAM

The general secretary introduced the memorial service, stating that 273 ordained ministers had finished their work and had been called to their rewards during the biennium. He called attention to the Book of Remembrance in which the names of departed ministers had been inscribed. The list of names was then presented by use of slides while Dolly Eleiott ministered with appropriate songs. Organ music was supplied by Gwen Jones.

The following list includes all whose names had been reported to the general secretary's office to August 15, 1975:

DECEASED ORDAINED MINISTERS

August 17, 1975

Abshier, H. O., Archer City, Texas
 Adcock, Macie A. (Mrs.), Dardanelle, Arkansas
 Alcorn, George A., Broken Bow, Oklahoma
 Allen, Clifford E., Peru, Kansas
 Allen, Robert F., Columbia, Tennessee
 Anderson, Florence E. (Mrs. H. E.), South Africa
 Atwell, W. Lee, Nicoma Park, Oklahoma
 Bailey, William E., Butler, Pennsylvania
 Baird, Mollie E., Fort Worth, Texas
 Banning, Alice M. (Mrs.), Dilley, Texas
 Barnes, E. Lillian (Mrs. C.), Arkansas City, Kansas
 Bashore, Leona (Mrs.), Edgewater, Colorado
 Bates, Albert C., Waxahachie, Texas
 Beadle, Oscar L., Shelburn, Indiana
 Bell, C. Eugene, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania
 Bell, Elton E., Union, Missouri
 Benavidez, Rubel, Westminster, Colorado
 Benjamin, Alexander A., San Diego, California
 Beuttler, Walter H., Shavertown, Pennsylvania
 Biffle, S. K., Sr., Joplin, Missouri
 Bloom, Sadie V., Honolulu, Hawaii
 Blount, Catherine E. (Mrs. W. K.), Phoenix, Arizona
 Blue, Lawrence E., McKinleyville, California
 Borrero, Victoriano, Sacramento, California
 Bostrom, John H., San Gabriel, California
 Boucher, Florence N. (Mrs.), Modesto, California
 Brace, George H., Coffeyville, Kansas
 Brasher, James R., Brownfield, Texas
 Bressette, Robert W., Roswell, New Mexico
 Bright, Jessie M., Plymouth, Massachusetts
 Briley, Fred H., Rio Linda, California
 Brockman, Marion F., Eufaula, Oklahoma
 Brown, Annie B. (Mrs.), Marianna, Florida
 Brown, Theresa A. (Mrs.), Dayton, Kentucky
 Burk, Alford W., Silsbee, Texas

Burns, Oral J., Englewood, Colorado
 Burrough, John E., Monticello, Arkansas
 Butrin, George, Berwick, Pennsylvania
 Cadwalder, Hugh M., Sr., Waco, Texas
 Carlsen, Lester, Springfield, Oregon
 Carrillo, Juan A., Bakersfield, California
 Carroll, Johnnie I., Fort Valley, Georgia
 Carroll, Thomas P., Milton, Florida
 Carruthers, Lois (Mrs.), Laveen, Arizona
 Chandler, Earl, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
 Clark, William H., West Plains, Missouri
 Clement, Elwayne L., Bishop, California
 Clevenger, Leslie R., Las Vegas, Nevada
 Clifford, Walter H., St. Peter, Minnesota
 Collins, Willie E., Desloge, Missouri
 Congelliere, Samuel S., Aguanga, California
 Cook, Merlin W., Davisville, Missouri
 Cooksey, Edmund, Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York
 Cooper, Jerrel D., San Antonio, Texas
 Cooper, William R., Sierra Madre, California
 Cothran, Emmett V., Hartford, Arkansas
 Crabaugh, Cleo J., Yorba Linda, California
 Crace, Corbett C., Visalia, California
 Crank, Thomas J., Hamilton, Ohio
 Cravens, Earl B., Devine, Texas
 Crittenden, Lois E. (Mrs.), Kansas City, Missouri
 Davidson, James L., Antioch, California
 Davidson, Oscar L., Houston, Texas
 Davis, Louis J., Homer, New York
 DeLeon, Francisco, Pico Rivera, California
 Dial, Victor D., Atlanta, Texas
 DiCicco, James, Paterson, New Jersey
 Dmytrasz, Peter, Palatine, Illinois
 Dunlap, William G., Modesto, California
 Dunn, Oney E., Lamont, California
 Edwards, James W., Indianapolis, Indiana
 Eicher, Herbert E., Warren, Ohio
 Ellis, Hansel L., Southport, Florida
 Ellison, William A., Bronx, New York
 Elmes, Charles L., Walnut Creek, California
 Evans, Jerry W., Alexander City, Alabama
 Ewald, Margaret F. (Mrs.), Lakeland, Florida
 Flack, John L., Hartford, Illinois
 Flanagan, B. W., Many, Louisiana
 Foster, Jo Ellen (Mrs. E. R.), Bentonville, Virginia
 Fowler, Rufus, Hugo, Oklahoma
 Frampton, Lee R., Jr., Espanola, New Mexico
 Fulford, Russel G., Englewood, Colorado
 Garrison, Edward L., Pinellas Park, Florida
 George, Alexander B., Mansfield, Ohio

Gibson, Bruce K., New York, New York
 Gilbert, Waldo A., Odessa, Texas
 Glass, W. Albert, Kinston, Alabama
 Glendening, Margaret (Mrs. V.), Fort Collins, Colorado
 Glover, Carl B., Orange, Virginia
 Golden, Paul, Thomasville, Georgia
 Goliher, Ralph C., Montgomery City, Missouri
 Gonzalez, Jose, San Jose, California
 Graves, Arthur H., Lakeland, Florida
 Greeley, Everette D., Tacoma, Washington
 Green, Charles O., San Bernardino, California
 Hanley, George L., Joplin, Missouri
 Hansen, Michael, Staten Island, New York
 Hanson, Morton E., Port Orchard, Washington
 Harris, Glenn B., St. Louis, Oklahoma
 Hayes, Clyde F., Independence, Kansas
 Henderson, Henry W., Lake Wales, Florida
 Hensley, Robert C., Fair Play, Missouri
 Henson, El Roy, Dayton, Texas
 Hess, Coy E., Tulsa, Oklahoma
 Hild, Christian F., Garden Grove, California
 Hill, Billy J., El Dorado, Arkansas
 Hillardy, Derrick S., Kirkland, Washington
 Hobson, Johnnie A., Poteau, Oklahoma
 Holcomb, Mary E. (Mrs. K. C.), Sulphur Springs, Texas
 Howard, Stella I. (Mrs.), Apple Valley, California
 Howell, Henry, Bernie, Missouri
 Inostroza, Maria J. (Mrs.), San Jose, California
 Jacobson, A. T., Wiggins, Mississippi
 Jaus, Gordon C., Willits, California
 Jech, Paul R., Newton, Kansas
 Jett, James F., Morgan City, Louisiana
 Johns, Donald F., Springfield, Missouri
 Johnson, E. Paul, Fort Bragg, California
 Jones, Charles L., Akron, Ohio
 Jordan, Florence I. (Mrs.), Downey, California
 Kazan, Herman P., Anacortes, Washington
 Kelly, Clyde J., Wilson Creek, Washington
 Kelly, Glenn R., Denver, Colorado
 Kilmer, Harry W., Evans, Colorado
 Kizenik, John, New Hyde Park, New York
 Kononen, Wilmer, Grandview, Washington
 Krogstad, E. Elsworth, Springfield, Missouri
 Lagerholm, Elsie P. (Mrs.), Springfield, Missouri
 Lampp, Aubrey E., El Salvador
 Lane, Dora (Mrs.), Marble Falls, Texas
 Laymance, Floyd L., Farmers Branch, Texas
 Lefkowitz, Lorraine (Mrs. M.), Elberton, Georgia
 Leonard, Karl F., Seattle, Washington
 Lewis, Harry C., Jefferson City, Missouri

Lewis, James C., Midland, Texas
 Lister, Ono G. (Mrs.), Houston, Texas
 Lizardo, Clara E. (Mrs.), Gardena, California
 Long, Joe W., Bothell, Washington
 Love, Clarence, Van Buren, Missouri
 McClure, Katie E. (Mrs.), Tucson, Arizona
 McDowell, David H., Webster Groves, Missouri
 McIntyre, Albert C., Eugene, Oregon
 McKinney, G. Leman, Phenix City, Alabama
 McNutt, George H., Springfield, Missouri
 Mackey, A. Adine, Bellingham, Washington
 Maldonado, Charles, Fremont, California
 Marcum, Sam H., St. Joseph, Missouri
 Martin, Lloyd M., Mifflinville, Pennsylvania
 Martinez, Rodolfo, Montrose, Colorado
 Mason, Elmer E., Stratford, Texas
 Matlock, Henry P., Columbus, Georgia
 Mauck, Arleigh (Mrs. R. C.), Ozark, Arkansas
 Megna, Philip A., San Diego, California
 Messner, Nancy (Mrs. R. E.), Springfield, Missouri
 Mills, Gladys (Mrs.), Dyersburg, Tennessee
 Mitchell, Scott F., Lubbock, Texas
 Mock, Paul W., Houston, Texas
 Molina, Cruz, Lubbock, Texas
 Moore, Olen F., Van Buren, Arkansas
 Moore, Robert L., Lakeland, Florida
 Morgan, J. Vernon, Salem, Oregon
 Morgan, John H., Ames, Oklahoma
 Morken, William A., Redding, California
 Morrow, Donald W., McMinnville, Oregon
 Murray, Floyd S., Mooreland, Oklahoma
 Nathan, Louella E. (Mrs.), San Pablo, California
 Neece, Charles, Tampa, Florida
 Nelson, Lloyd W., Lancaster, California
 Nichols, Clifford A., Eau Claire, Wisconsin
 Nilsen, Joseph W., Medford, Oregon
 Nordin, Roland L., London, Arkansas
 Nutter, Charles W., Black River Falls, Wisconsin
 Overman, Forest, Warsaw, Missouri
 Owen, Elby L., Irving, Texas
 Palmer, Frieda M. (Mrs. L.), Los Angeles, California
 Park, D. Edward, Citrus Heights, California
 Parker, C. Glenn, Toledo, Ohio
 Paschal, Arthur M., Gibsonville, North Carolina
 Patton, Jodie F., Jr., Jackson, Mississippi
 Pennington, Harry D., Nigeria
 Perks, Mollie I. (Mrs.), Mt. Vernon, Washington
 Pershing, C. Elv., Colma, California
 Peterson, Julia M., Castro Valley, California
 Pettit, Nathan C., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Piper, Theodore A., Ottumwa, Iowa
 Plumer, Edith L. (Mrs.), Seal Beach, California
 Plymire, Ruth (Mrs.), Springfield, Missouri
 Pope, Francis, Greenfield, Tennessee
 Pope, Moses, Akron, Ohio
 Poplawsky, Edward, Woodbourne, New York
 Porter, George V., Sr., Ardsley, Pennsylvania
 Puckett, Beaddie (Mrs. T. M.), Liberty, Texas
 Racey, Joseph H., Stow, Ohio
 Ready, Earnest M., Lakeland, Florida
 Reaves, Robert J., England, Arkansas
 Reid, Albert E., Buffalo, New York
 Reidenbach, Frederick F., Wilmington, Delaware
 Reinhardt, John M., Bridgeport, Connecticut
 Reznicek, Raphael, Seal Rock, Oregon
 Robinson, William A., Santa Rosa, California
 Rodriguez, Jose, Cleveland, Ohio
 Rogers, General C., Marianna, Florida
 Ross, Henry E., Palisade, Colorado
 Rossi, John A., Massa, Italy
 Rowland, Raymond, El Dorado, Arkansas
 Rupp, Harry, Jr., Winter Haven, Florida
 Salyer, S. H., Kingsport, Tennessee
 Sanchez, Santos R., Greeley, Colorado
 Sanders, James L., Stillwater, Oklahoma
 Satterfield, Tinnie (Mrs. W. B.), Great Bend, Kansas
 Satterfield, William B., Great Bend, Kansas
 Schmidt, Jonathan, Turlock, California
 Schneider, Abraham, Los Angeles, California
 Sellers, Floyd R., Hattiesburg, Mississippi
 Sellers, Willis T., Monroe, Louisiana
 Shamp, Frederick A., Federal Way, Washington
 Sherman, Harry A., Puyallup, Washington
 Shewchuk, Harry R., Los Angeles, California
 Shires, Serena (Mrs.), Houston, Texas
 Shortes, Quentin, Waxahachie, Texas
 Shoults, Joe V., Salem, Missouri
 Silvers, Robert E., Colorado Springs, Colorado
 Sims, Brice C., Meridian, Mississippi
 Singletary, John, De Funiak Springs, Florida
 Smith, Jacob M., Lafayette, Indiana
 Snow, H. Mack, Orlando, Florida
 Statler, Frank J., Newman, California
 Stambaugh, Corbin B., Rushville, Illinois
 Steger, Roy L., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 Stewart, T. Lloyd, Boynton, Pennsylvania
 Sturgis, Leroy R., Rocky Mount, Missouri
 Suarez, Tiburico, Salinas, Puerto Rico
 Swanson, Ernest O., Eau Claire, Wisconsin
 Syverson, Joseph H., Walhalla, North Dakota

Tacker, Flora M. (Mrs.), Turlock, California
 Tangen, Robert B., Seattle, Washington
 Taylor, H. Wayne, Ozark, Arkansas
 Taylor, J. Howard, Wichita Falls, Texas
 Thompson, Chesteen E., Clinton, Iowa
 Thompson, Margaret E. (Mrs. M. S.), West Covina, California
 Tomassacci, Frank, Shillington, Pennsylvania
 Trotter, Blanche M. (Mrs. A. N.), Billings, Missouri
 Troutman, Dave, Metropolis, Illinois
 Tucker, John W., Lubbock, Texas
 Turnbough, Alva K., St. Louis, Missouri
 Turner, Sylvester, Lubbock, Texas
 Vassar, Theodore, San Angelo, Texas
 Vibbert, Edward L., Rockford, Illinois
 Villani, James A., Cucamonga, California
 Villereal, Gregorio M., Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Von Wald, Donald H., Stephen, Minnesota
 Wagner, Fred, Tice, Florida
 Wagnon, W. Wiley, Warren, Arkansas
 Wallace, Edna (Mrs.), Portland, Oregon
 Wallace, Thomas F., Granite City, Illinois
 Waterfield, Grover C., Wilmington, California
 Way, Elmer S., Williamsburg, Michigan
 Weaver, Gertrude (Mrs. F. C.), Bastrop, Louisiana
 Weidler, Samuel, Dalton, Pennsylvania
 Weir, William F., Corapolis, Pennsylvania
 Wells, Milton T., Schenectady, New York
 Westerfield, Edward H., Yakima, Washington
 Westman, John A., Seattle, Washington
 Weston, Arnold C., Oceanside, California
 Whitcomb, Eugene H., Rockford, Illinois
 White, Glenn, Harlem, Montana
 Whittaker, Lloyd L., West Columbia, South Carolina
 Wibley, Wesley C., Pontiac, Michigan
 Wilson, DeLois P., Little Rock, Arkansas
 Wingard, Clara (Mrs.), Tacoma, Washington
 Wood, Claude O., Fresno, California
 Yost, Herman C., Ellenton, Florida

General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman presided over the communion. He was assisted by members of the Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery.

The evening evangelistic service was held at Red Rocks Amphitheater and began at 5:00 p.m. The service began with music provided by John Shows and a brass ensemble. A special Bicentennial patriotic concert was provided under the direction of Ralph Carmichael with the following participating: The Hawaiians, Gloria Elliot, John Hall, Ken Carter, Dino Kartsonakis, and a mass choir. The speaker for the evening service was Evangelist Willard Cantelon. A colorful missionary

parade was a part of the service. The police in charge advised that the attendance was well in excess of 15,000 and this was the largest crowd ever assembled at Red Rocks.

MONDAY MORNING—AUGUST 18

The meeting was opened with the singing of "I Will Praise Him." Pianist was Mrs. Arvid Kingsriter of Bloomington, Minnesota, and organist was Bob Shedd from Northern California. Acts 4:23-31 was read by Charles W. H. Scott. Prayer was offered by Roy Wead. Phil Enloe from East Alton, Illinois, ministered in song. The speaker for the morning was Dr. Robert Spence, president of Evangel College, who used as his text Romans 12:1, 2.

The business meeting was called to order at 9:50 a.m. Fred Huber was asked to lead the congregation in prayer for God's direction in the business to be considered.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg, chairman of the Roster Committee, presented the report of registration as of 9:00 a.m.:

Ordained ministers	2,438
Church delegates	1,009
Voting constituency	3,447
Licensed ministers	240
Visitors	2,834
Total	6,521

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

Election Executive Presbyter—Southwest Area

The results of the first elective ballot for the selection of an executive presbyter from the Southwest Area was reported, as follows:

Total votes cast	1,733
Needed to elect	1,155
W. E. Cummings	189
Joseph L. Gerhart	234
Clarence E. Lambert	324
Dwight H. McLaughlin	986

There was no election on the first elective ballot. The chairman asked that a plain ballot be distributed for use as the second elective ballot for the Southwest Area executive presbyter.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the second electoral ballot for the Southwest Area executive presbyter:

Total votes cast	904
Needed to elect	603
D. H. McLaughlin received	717

The Chair declared Dwight H. McLaughlin elected executive presbyter from the Southwest Area.

Election Executive Presbyter—South Central Area

The names of the nominees for the South Central Area were presented by the general secretary: E. R. Anderson, Robert E. Goggin, Paul E. Lowenberg, Kermit Reneau, Haskell Rogers, Josue Sanchez.

The results of the first elective ballot for the South Central Area were reported as follows:

Total votes cast	789
Needed to elect	526
Paul E. Lowenberg received	531

Having received more than the two-thirds vote necessary to elect, the chairman declared Paul E. Lowenberg elected as the executive presbyter from the South Central Area.

Election Executive Presbyter—Northwest Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee reported the results of the second elective ballot from the Northwest Area as follows:

Total votes cast	1,789
Needed to elect	1,193
N. D. Davidson received	1,422

The Chair declared N. D. Davidson elected executive presbyter from the Northwest Area.

Election Executive Presbyter—North Central Area

James Griggs, chairman of the Tellers Committee, read the report of the first elective ballot for the North Central Area:

Total votes cast	1,825
Needed to elect	1,217
Roy Wead received	1,230

Upon receiving the report the Chair declared Roy Wead elected executive presbyter from the North Central Area.

Greetings from Dr. Benjamin Shinde

Brother Zimmerman presented Dr. Benjamin P. Shinde from Bangalore, India. Dr. Shinde has recently received his doctorate from Fuller Theological Seminary and will be returning to South India to his work at the South Asia Bible School in Bangalore. Dr. Shinde expressed greetings from both North India and South India, and requested the prayers of the people for India in this time of political unrest. He stated that he was a product

of the Assemblies of God, having been raised in the Assemblies of God orphanage in South India.

Election Executive Presbyter—Great Lakes Area

The general secretary was asked to read the list of nominees for the office of executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area: Charles E. Crank, Richard Dortch, James C. Ellis, Arthur Parsons, Irvin C. Steiding, and Thomas E. Trask.

The report of the first elective ballot from the Great Lakes Area was presented by the chairman of the Tellers Committee:

Total votes cast	1,158
Needed to elect	772
Richard Dortch received	939

The Chair declared Richard Dortch elected as executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area on the first elective ballot.

Election Executive Presbyter—Gulf Area

The nominees for the Gulf Area were presented by the general secretary as follows: L. C. Ashbrook, James E. Hamill, Fay Hutchinson, F. L. Langley, and N. Cleo Tapp.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee reported the results of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Gulf Area, as follows:

Total votes cast	1,239
Needed to elect	826
James E. Hamill received	908

The Chair declared James E. Hamill elected executive presbyter from the Gulf Area.

Request for Potomac Caucus

A privileged motion was presented requesting that a caucus of the Potomac District delegates be convened at this General Council for the purpose of selecting a nominee for the office of executive presbyter from the Northeast Area, with the recommendation that the nominee be selected by secret ballot. The motion was seconded.

Discussion revealed that in the Potomac District, the matter of the selecting of a nominee for the office of executive presbyter for submission to the General Council for election had been overlooked at District Council time. It was noted that the name submitted had been by decision of the executive committee of the district.

The chairman noted that a special caucus had been called for the New York District, but that this was necessary due to the fact that their original nominee, Joseph R. Flower, had been elected as general secretary.

The General Secretary, Bartlett Peterson, mentioned inci-

dences of precedent when the matter of selecting a nominee had been overlooked at District Council time and had been cared for in another manner with information being furnished to the office of the general secretary. It was also noted that a special caucus of the Potomac District would not at this time give a fair representation of the district. The motion calling for a special caucus was voted upon, and declared lost.

Election Executive Presbyter—Southeast Area

The general secretary presented the list of nominees from the Southeast Area as follows: Edgar Bethany, Charles H. Cookman, Robert J. Gatlin, J. Foy Johnson, and T. H. Spence.

The Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot from the Southeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,260
Needed to elect	840
Edgar Bethany received	853

On the first elective ballot Edgar Bethany was declared elected as executive presbyter from the Southeast Area.

Election Executive Presbyter—Northeast Area

General Secretary Bartlett Peterson, read the list of nominees from the Northeast Area: Samuel DiTrollo, Rayder O. Jacobsen, John G. Leardi, Wallace Odum, John J. Paproski, Russell Williams. A request was made that the name of R. D. E. Smith be entered on the ballot replacing Joseph R. Flower, who had been elected general secretary. This nomination was the result of a special New York District caucus earlier.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first electoral ballot for the office of executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,289
Needed to elect	859
Samuel DiTrollo	10
Rayder O. Jacobsen	9
John G. Leardi	63
Wallace P. Odum	295
John J. Paproski	149
Russell Williams	228
R. D. E. Smith	535

There being no election, the second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee read the results of the second elective ballot for the election of an executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,288
Needed to elect	859
R. D. E. Smith	1,026

The Chair declared that R. D. E. Smith had been elected as the executive presbyter from the Northeast Area.

Resolution 4. Department of Chaplains (Revised)

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee presented Resolution 4 as revised and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the resolution be referred to the Executive Presbytery and the Home Missions Board for study as to its relationship to the total operation within the Division of Home Missions, with presentation to be made to the 1977 General Council.

The resolution as referred follows:

"WHEREAS, The ministry of the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy of the Assemblies of God, which now has 24 full-time institutional chaplains and 20 part-time chaplains, has proved to be a most successful ministry; and

"WHEREAS, There is continuing need for a unified Department of Chaplains to process applications and make denominational endorsements for all chaplaincies—industrial, institutional, and military; and

"WHEREAS, There is confusion about the organization and operation of the Department of Chaplains, and

"IN ORDER, To bring the Department of Chaplains into closer uniformity with other headquarters departments; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article XVI. Division of Home Missions, Section 5. Department of Chaplains, paragraph 'a,' subparagraph (1) be amended to read:

- (1) The Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy shall function under the supervision of the Assemblies of God Commission on Chaplains; and be it

"RESOLVED, That paragraph 'b,' subparagraph (1) be amended to read:

- (1) The military chaplaincy shall function under the supervision of the Assemblies of God Commission on Chaplains; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That paragraph 'c,' be amended as follows:

c. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary and area representatives as needed who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions.
- (2) There shall be an Assemblies of God Commission on Chaplains, consisting of two executive presbyters, the national director of Home Missions, the secretary of the Department of Chaplains, and five

other members, including persons representing the industrial, institutional, and military chaplaincies, to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. The chairman shall be named by the Executive Presbytery. The Commission on Chaplains shall operate within guidelines adopted by the Executive Presbytery. Members of the Commission on Chaplains shall serve for a period of 2 years, or until their successors are appointed."

Study Committee—Executive Presbyters

A privileged motion with reference to the selection of executive presbyters was presented as follows: "That the Executive Presbytery appoint a study committee to review and study the role, function, and manner of selection of the executive presbyters from the eight geographical areas and report to the next General Council session, recommending definition of the role, function, and manner of selection for inclusion in the bylaws of the General Council."

The motion was seconded and carried.

Business was recessed at 11:50 a.m. with the singing of the Doxology and prayer by Harley Olson.

MONDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 18

The afternoon meeting opened by singing "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder" and "He Is Lord," led by Philip Wannemacher. L. B. Larsen, secretary of the Music Department, was at the piano and Mrs. James Grams, missionary to South Africa, served at the organ.

Dr. D. V. Hurst, president of Northwest Assemblies of God College, read Psalm 84, following which Bert Webb, former assistant general superintendent and an honorary general presbyter, led in prayer.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg offered the following report of the Roster Committee as of 2:15 p.m.:

Ordained ministers	2,453
Church delegates	1,017
Voting constituency	3,470
Licensed ministers	250
Visitors	2,866
Total	6,586

It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the report.

Closing of Roster

It was moved and seconded to close the Roster after the

Monday night meeting and that the report received at that time shall be shown in our official records for the 36th session of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The motion was carried.

Order of the Day

It was moved and seconded that it be made a special Order of the Day Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning to consider the following resolutions in the following morning without interruption, except as deemed necessary by the Chair: Resolutions 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20. These resolutions have been considered by the General Presbytery and have been referred to the General Council. Following that, Resolutions 2, 6, 7, 8, and 13 are to be considered. Following those, the honorary and courtesy resolutions will be heard. The motion carried.

Resolution 16. Assemblies

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 16 be adopted. A motion was made and seconded to amend Resolution 16 on page 2, line 5, by deleting the words *or approved* and substituting the words *with the approval*.

A question was raised whether this meant the majority of the people could not receive help unless the board also agreed. The Chair indicated he felt it meant a joint action.

It was moved to amend the amendment by striking the words *with the approval of* and inserting the following, *and ratified by the majority vote of the membership or by a majority of the membership alone*. The motion was seconded and after discussion, declared carried.

It was moved that as a matter of procedure the resolution be considered paragraph by paragraph, beginning with "b" and then "a," "c," and "d." The motion was seconded and carried.

The chairman requested the house to clarify how it wished to move because at the present time there is a motion to adopt the whole resolution. Consent was given for the chairman to declare that we have a motion to adopt paragraph "b," since it was not so stated but it was implied.

After further discussion it was moved and seconded to amend the resolution on page 1, line 17, by striking out the word *superintendent* and inserting the word *presbytery* and striking out the parenthetical phrase, *acting in behalf of the district presbytery and the district council*.

A motion for the previous question prevailed.

The motion to amend was voted upon and declared lost.

It was moved and seconded to refer Resolution 16 to the Executive Presbytery of the General Council with the request that a committee be appointed and that this be studied and brought back to the next General Council.

It was moved and seconded to amend the motion to refer to include that it be prepared and mailed at least 90 days in advance for consideration by the body. The motion was declared carried.

It was stated that we are missing the point if we fail to care for the small percentage of churches that need help when they are hurting. It was suggested that when the committee meets on this subject, opportunity be given to members of this body for input through the mail.

The motion to refer as amended was carried.

It was moved that the committee to be appointed be comprised of an equal number of pastors and district officials. Seconded.

The chairman questioned if this was ruling out representation of the general officers.

The originator of the motion corrected it to: "an equal number of pastors be represented on the committee." The corrected motion was declared carried.

Resolution 16 as amended, and referred, follows:

"WHEREAS, There is a need for clarification on the matter of relationships between churches, districts, and the General Council; be it

"RESOLVED, That Article VI, Section 3, of the General Council bylaws be amended by substitution to read:

Section 3. Safeguarding the Assemblies

a. Unreliable and questionable ministers go about seeking entrance into assemblies without any recommendation: therefore, all pastors should make proper investigation regarding persons not known to them, and the platform be denied strangers until proper recommendations be forthcoming. Since the use of non-Assemblies of God ministers may bring confusion and problems detrimental to the Fellowship, it is recommended that Assemblies of God churches use Assemblies of God ministers. Pastors and district officials should maintain a reciprocal exchange of information relative to unreliable persons seeking ministry in our assemblies.

b. The district superintendent, acting in behalf of the district presbytery and the district council, has supervision over all the ministers and churches of the district. For purposes of safeguarding the church from internal difficulties, or deviations in doctrine and conduct, the district has the prerogative and responsibility of entrance into an assembly for giving counsel and advice. When in need of assistance and guidance, the local assembly should seek the aid of the district officary. In instances where the peace and well-being

of a church are threatened, the district shall have the right to assume the supervision of the church on a temporary basis until such time as order and harmony have been restored, provided, however, that the assumption of such supervision shall be requested by the official board of the church and ratified by the majority vote of the membership or by the majority of the membership alone.

c. In instances when the district officary has rendered a decision which is unacceptable to the pastor, the church board, or a minority of the local membership which is guaranteed the right of petition by the local church constitution and bylaws, appeal from a district decision may be made to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Such an appeal shall be filed within 30 days of the notification of the district decision, with both the district superintendent and the general superintendent. 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.

d. If the district for some reason has not taken action in a local assembly where a problem exists that requires attention, the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall refer the matter, together with the fact and supporting instruments, to the district with which the church is affiliated. In the event the district fails to take action within 90 days after a matter has been referred to it, it shall be the responsibility of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God to take action."

World Home Bible League Representative

Brother Zimmerman introduced Dr. T. A. Raedeke, representative of World Home Bible League, and a member of The Lutheran Church of Missouri Synod, who brought greetings also from Dr. J. A. Preuss, president of the Synod.

Privileged Motion—Mailing of Resolutions

It was moved and seconded that as many resolutions as humanly possible that are to be considered at any General Council be mailed to all ordained ministers and all Assemblies of God churches 30 days before General Council.

The chairman stated that it was impossible for references of the General Presbytery to be processed and mailed since it meets within the same week as the General Council.

Some discussion followed and then the chairman noted that we adopted a procedural motion and he felt reluctant to entertain the privileged motion when we have a procedural motion carried to guide us. A call was given for the Orders of the Day.

Resolution 17. Manual on Ministers and Church Divisions

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 17 be adopted.

A motion prevailed to consider this resolution by sections indicated by Roman numerals I, II, and III.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to adopt section I.

It was moved and seconded to adopt section II.

A motion was made and seconded to delete paragraph 1 of section II, page 2, lines 21 through 24.

The chairman stated that the perimeters of the districts dealing with the ministers are stated in Article IX, page 145, of our constitution and bylaws.

The motion to amend by deletion was declared lost.

It was moved and seconded to amend section II of the resolution on page 3, paragraph 3, lines 3 through 5 by adding the following sentence: "A member of the dissenting group shall not be given ministerial recognition except under unusual circumstances and conditions."

It was moved and seconded to combine Resolution 17 in the referral already made to the Executive Presbytery involving Resolution 16.

The attention of the assembly was called to the fact that the Executive Presbytery, through a duly appointed committee, has been giving study to this for a period of 2 years. It has been carefully studied and carefully debated in two sessions of the General Presbytery. While Resolution 17 refers to Resolution 16, it does stand separately as a whole.

The motion to refer was voted upon and declared lost.

The motion to amend section II, paragraph 3 on page 3 was declared carried.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to amend section II, paragraph 1, page 2, line 21 by inserting the word *wrong* in two places to read: "wrong conduct and wrong attitudes."

A question was raised concerning page 3, line 7, paragraph 4, of section II, as to whether we could legally regulate where a minister can reside.

The chairman said we could not abridge his civil rights, but we could say whether he could have credentials.

A question was raised as to the meaning of the word *split*, specifically regarding numbers of people. The chairman stated that the word *division* could be used as well as the word *split*.

Several other questions were raised. It was noted that the term *pastor* and *minister* are herein used synonymously, and the term *associate pastor* would be under the same purview.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by deleting from section II, paragraph 3, page 3, lines 3-5. The motion to delete was declared lost.

A motion calling for the previous question prevailed.

The motion to adopt section II as twice amended was declared carried.

It was moved and seconded to adopt section III.

It was moved and seconded to amend section III, page 3, at the beginning of line 21, by adding these words: "Be approved as a home missions church or."

The Chair stated, "We do not have three levels of churches. We list district affiliated and General Council affiliated in the church directory. The chairman understands that any home missions church is a district affiliated church as soon as it hangs out a sign."

The motion was withdrawn following this explanation.

It was moved and seconded to amend section III by adding a paragraph "d" which shall read: "Recognition should come only after a 1-year probationary period." This amendment was declared lost.

The motion to adopt section III was declared carried.

The chairman asked for a vote on the motion to adopt the resolution as twice amended. The motion was declared carried.

The resolution as amended, and adopted, follows:

"WHEREAS, It is essential that we articulate our policy and express what attitudes we should show when a church divides and a new church results; and

"WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has approved the following guidelines to be used by district officials in dealing with church divisions; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the *Manual on Ministers and Church Divisions* be adopted by this 36th General Council now in session.

I. The District and the Church

1. Effort should be made to preserve Assemblies of God adherents and help them to become strong new Assemblies of God churches.
2. Whenever possible, Assemblies of God recognition should be granted any meritorious group desirous of Assemblies of God fellowship.
3. We should endeavor not to lose a church from the Assemblies of God, whether it is the existing church

or a new one that may be formed by a dissident group. However, we should not condone wrong conduct, attitudes, actions, or false doctrines that lead to division.

4. In order to protect the rights of the membership, districts should provide suggested constitution and by-laws for local churches which should include provision for an appeal to the district for help when church trouble develops.
5. Districts should exercise strong leadership, offering counsel to pastors, boards, and churches when there are indications of trouble.
6. The pastor and/or the official board should notify the district superintendent when a potential splinter group forms within the congregation, seeking his counsel and advice. Effort should be made to resolve the problem and prevent the split.
7. After efforts to maintain unity or to reunite the congregation have failed and when doctrine and district policy do not conflict, the district should offer assistance in establishing the new church. All procedures required for beginning any new Assemblies of God church shall be carefully followed.
8. District officers should approach each situation with an open mind and spirit, recognizing that local situations vary and all elements must be considered. Love and consideration should be shown to the existing church when the new group is seeking Assemblies of God recognition.
9. District guidelines should be established to provide consistency when dealing with churches and pastors involved in divisions. Care should be taken to provide flexibility in dealing with these complicated problems for the preservation of all concerned.
10. The district should seek to persuade the existing church to give its approval for district recognition of the new group. The existing church must not dictate what happens to the new group, but it should be considered and consulted. The existing church should be encouraged to release the fragmentation to the counsel and advice of the district officers and to cooperate with them, thus extending the kingdom of God.

II. The Minister and Church Division

1. If a minister is guilty of wrong conduct and wrong attitudes resulting in a split although he stays with the existing church, the district presbytery shall deal

appropriately with him as provided in Article IX, Section 2, of the bylaws.

2. If a minister has a long history of repeatedly causing trouble in churches resulting in a loss of members from the fellowship and possibly souls from the kingdom of God, serious consideration should be given to his eligibility for holding Assemblies of God credentials. (See Article IX, Section 2. d.)
3. A minister who remains with a dissenting group to start another church should lose his credentials, except when proper conditions result in approval by the district presbytery. A member of the dissenting group shall not be given ministerial recognition except under unusual circumstances and conditions.
4. The district may restrict a minister who has been involved in a church division from ministry and residency in the area where the division occurred.
5. When division is the result of accumulated grievances and incidents, and the minister who is the pastor at the time is an unfortunate victim of circumstances, the fellowship should support him in his critical time in his ministry and not add to his burden with censure and implication of guilt. Further, the district should seek to help him relocate, if deemed advisable.

III. Recognition of the New Church

1. To receive Assemblies of God recognition, the new group must meet the following requirements:
 - A. Agree with our doctrinal statement of faith and principles of cooperative fellowship.
 - B. Accept only approved Assemblies of God leadership.
 - C. Be set in order as a district affiliated church under the supervision of the district officary as provided in the district council bylaws.
2. All districts should seek to retain any meritorious group in the Assemblies of God fellowship."

Report of Spiritual Life Committee

James Hamill, chairman of the Spiritual Life Committee, asked Obie L. Harrup, Sr., secretary of the committee, to read the report.

It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted.

For clarification, it was moved and seconded that the report be amended by inserting the words *promulgation of the* before the word *purity* in paragraph 6 of IV. Recommendations. By common consent the words were inserted.

By common consent the third line of the second paragraph under I. *Recognitions*, was amended by deleting the word *another* and inserting *a continuing*.

On page 2, the second line of the second paragraph, under III. *Concerns*, was changed from *ex-scriptural* to *extra-scriptural* by common consent.

The motion to accept the report was declared carried.

The report as adopted follows:

"The Spiritual Life Committee was called by its chairman, James E. Hamill. The following members were present: Robert Abbott, E. A. Anderson, Ivar Frick, Joseph L. Gerhart, Robert Graber, O. L. Harrup, Sr., J. Foy Johnson, Dwight McLaughlin, Glen D. Cole, Thomas F. Zimmerman.

"This committee sought to evaluate the services and ministries of the Assemblies of God in the light of Luke 4: 18, 19. Jesus was ready to begin His earthly ministry. He had returned from His baptism in Jordan and subsequent wilderness temptation to the synagogue in Nazareth. Someone handed Him an Old Testament parchment and He read from Isaiah 61:1, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.'

"These six points constituted the earthly ministry of Jesus. Later he said to his disciples, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also.' John 14:12.

"The ministry of Jesus has been the ministry of this Pentecostal revival from its inception at the turn of the century. It became the ministry of the Assemblies of God from the day of its organization in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1914, and continues to be the central message of our pulpits.

"The purpose of the Church is to:

1. Worship God
2. Build the Church
3. Evangelize the world

"If we are to fulfill the eternal purposes of God in bringing us into existence, it must continue to be our ministry without deviation until our Lord returns.

"It is a ministry based on the authority of God's Word and fulfilled only in the power of the Holy Spirit, 'NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS,' Zechariah 4:10.

"In the light of these scriptures and the eternal purpose of the church, the Spiritual Life Committee presents its report in four divisions:

1. Recognitions
2. Commendations
3. Concerns
4. Recommendations

I. Recognitions

"This committee is cognizant of the continual—and in the past few years, increasing—blessing of God upon the worldwide ministries of the Assemblies of God.

"The Assemblies of God recognizes the present sovereign and universal move of the Holy Spirit and does not consider what God is doing to be the exclusive property of the Assemblies of God, but a continuing fulfillment of Joel 2:28: '. . . and it shall come to pass afterwards, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh. . . .'

"With grateful hearts we acknowledge that we are an integral part of this revival.

II. Commendations

"This committee commends with deep appreciation the God-anointed ministry of our general leadership and all the headquarters personnel. This spiritual ministry is evident also among district leaders, pastors, teachers, evangelists, and in our church outreaches.

"The general and departmental reports to this 36th General Council reveal God's blessing in the increase of converts, church membership, Sunday schools, home and foreign mission outreaches, and finances. We return thanks to God for the phenomenal growth in every area of our Movement.

III. Concerns

"Along with revival, other forces are at work for which we must be on guard. Some, depending on revelation, visions, etc., will subscribe to and teach unscriptural and extra-scriptural and unsound doctrines. These teachings go beyond sound Biblical interpretation, catering to the sensational and the emotional, resulting in carnal living which dishonors our Lord.

"Programs, forms, and rituals may also substitute for worship of God in Spirit and in truth which alone can build the Church, and win the lost to Christ.

"Attention and obedience to God's Word must influence our behavior and conduct and lead us to recognize the lordship of Christ in all things.

IV. Recommendations

"1. That we obey the injunction of Paul to the Corinthians: 'Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?' 2 Corinthians 13:5.

"2. That our leadership on national, district, and local levels take inventory to find out if God's Word, prayer, and total commitment to Christ is their very life, encouraging the people in private devotions, family altars, and the daily reading of God's Word, exalting Jesus Christ, resulting in 'doing the works of Jesus.'

"3. That our ministers not dissipate their physical, mental, and spiritual powers in things that detract from prayer, fasting, study, and the ministry of God's Word. Acts 6:3-6.

"4. That our worship be Christ-centered, honoring the presence of the Holy Spirit, recognizing and exercising His gifts in an orderly and scriptural manifestation.

"5. That we encourage all of our churches to make room for the praying for the sick and expect God to confirm His Word.

"6. That since our colleges will greatly affect our future, this General Council requests that each board and administration of our colleges guard the doctrinal teachings of the Assemblies of God, to insure the promulgation of the purity of these historic doctrines. Acts 2:42.

"7. That the carrying out of these recommendations will result in continual blessings of God upon our whole fellowship, enabling the Assemblies of God to fulfill its ministry until the coming of the great God, our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ."

The chairman announced that devotions Tuesday morning would be from 8:45 until 9:00 a.m. with a 15-minute segment of prayer to take the place of the Council prayer meeting. Business is to begin at 9:00 a.m. and will proceed to an orderly adjournment.

Following the singing of the Doxology, R. D. E. Smith, executive presbyter elect for the Northeast Area, dismissed in prayer. The meeting recessed at 5:05 p.m.

TUESDAY MORNING—AUGUST 19

The meeting was opened with the singing of several choruses: "Magnify the Lord With Me," "When We All Get to Heaven," and "My Wonderful Lord." Gwen Jones served at the organ and L. B. Larsen played the piano. The congregation joined in prayer units, remembering several prayer requests which were mentioned, concluding with the singing of "Hallelujah"

and "He Is Lord."

The final business meeting of the 36th session of the General Council was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Prayer was offered by Reverend William Behr of the New York District.

Roster Committee Report

Arthur Berg gave the final Roster Committee report:

Ordained ministers	2,457
Church delegates	1,019
Voting constituency	3,476
Licensed ministers	251
Visitors	3,922

Total 7,649

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

Due to the death of one of the pastors in the Northwest District, Frank McAllister, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, found it necessary to leave early. Harley Olson, a member of the Resolutions Committee, served as temporary chairman of this committee and presented the remaining resolutions.

Resolution 18. Assemblies

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 18 be adopted.

The chairman noted that this resolution establishes the by-law provision for the manual which was approved in the Monday afternoon session.

It was moved and seconded that the word *wrong* be inserted in the resolution before the word *conduct* in line 21 and *attitudes* in line 22, in order to be consistent with Resolution 17 as amended and carried in the Monday afternoon session. The motion to amend was declared carried.

The motion to adopt Resolution 18 as amended was voted upon and declared carried.

The resolution as amended and adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, There are times when problems arise in an established church causing cleavage which becomes difficult and often impossible to mend or reunite; and

"WHEREAS, It should be the prime concern of all people involved to salvage as many souls as possible, and seek ways and means to save the original church and any fragmentation for the Assemblies of God; therefore in accordance with the *Manual on Ministers and Church Divisions*, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article VI of the bylaws be amended by the addition of the following, to be known as Section 4: Section 4. New Assemblies Resulting from a Division

a. When efforts to maintain unity and harmony in an assembly have failed, and a division results in a new congregation being formed, the district should exercise strong and wise leadership in ascertaining the facts, and seek to preserve Assemblies of God adherents for the Fellowship. Within the bounds of ethical principles, sound doctrine, and district policy, all districts should seek to retain any meritorious group within the Assemblies of God.

b. Circumstances of the occasion would determine whether the minister should be disciplined or denied ministry in either the original church or the dissident group, or even residency in the area where the division occurred. If a minister is guilty of wrong conduct and wrong attitudes resulting in a split, the District Presbytery shall deal appropriately with him as provided in Article IX, Section 2, of the bylaws."

Resolution 19. Clarification of Bylaws Article IX

Re: Discipline

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

The resolution as adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, There is need for clarification with regard to the matter of discipline of a minister who has been found guilty of violating any principle set forth, Article IX, Section 2; and

"WHEREAS, There is a need to strengthen our program of rehabilitation; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That bylaws, Article IX, Section 7, paragraph b (1) be amended by substitution in the third sentence so that (1) shall read:

(1) Dismissal. A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article IX, Section 2, shall be subject to disciplinary action by the credentials committee. Said discipline shall be administered in brotherly love and kindness in an effort to lead the offending minister through a program of rehabilitation (Article IX, Section 9).

The credentials committees shall weigh decisions on the basis of the offense itself, the attitude of the offending minister toward the discipline, the manner and thoroughness of his repentance, the desire he manifests to cooperate, and the possibility of success in his rehabilitation. In the event rehabilitation is not feasible or fails, the minister shall be listed as having been dismissed. His name shall be published

as dismissed in the minister's letter known as "Assemblies of God Minister."

Resolution 20. Policy Guidelines for Minimal Membership for General Council Affiliated Assemblies

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 20 be adopted.

A motion prevailed to amend line 7 by inserting the words *at the discretion of the district officers* following the word *notified*, and line 9 by deleting the word *automatically*.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 20 be further amended by changing the words *ninety days* to *one year* in line 7. A division of the house was called for and the results were as follows: In favor—286; opposed—266. The motion to amend was declared carried.

A question was asked with reference to the minimum membership requirement when a church wishes to become affiliated with the General Council. The general secretary replied that the minimum number is 20.

A further question was raised as to how many churches would be affected by the adoption of this resolution. The general secretary reported that this would affect approximately 10 percent of our churches. This was based on a partial survey made covering sixteen districts (11 average size, 3 large, and 2 small). In each instance the figure was 10 percent. There are 5,791 General Council affiliated churches, therefore, this would indicate approximately 579 would be reduced to district affiliated status.

The question was called for, and the motion to adopt Resolution 20 as amended twice was declared carried.

The resolution as amended, and adopted, follows:

"WHEREAS, In response to a special committee assignment to recommend policy guidelines for minimal membership for General Council affiliated assemblies, their recommendation is that the following procedure be adopted; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That when an annual questionnaire for a General Council affiliated church reflects that its active

voting membership has dropped below 20, the church shall be notified at the discretion of the district officers, that unless the membership is increased to a minimum requirement of 20 active voting members within 1 year, the church shall revert to district affiliated status. When such action is taken, the district office shall notify the general secretary of the General Council and the local church. The church shall remain in a district affiliated status until sufficient growth and maturity has been demonstrated to

qualify for General Council affiliation. An application for same shall be filed with the district secretary and approved by the District Presbytery."

Recognition of Executive Presbyters

Executive Presbyters Roy Wead, Edgar Bethany, Richard Dortch, James E. Hamill, N. D. Davidson, and Paul Lowenberg were introduced. It was reported that Dwight McLaughlin and newly elected Executive Presbyter, R. D. E. Smith, had found it necessary to leave Denver on Tuesday morning, and thus were not present to be introduced. The chairman expressed his personal appreciation to the body for electing such a stalwart group of men to serve in this important role.

Resolution 2. Committees

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 2 be adopted. The chairman noted that this resolution picks up a resolution from a previous council and gives it bylaw status.

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 2 be amended as follows: "Label line 10 through line 19 as paragraph 'a' of Section 4, and insert a new paragraph 'b' to read: 'All resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee shall be signed by the author or sponsor. When a resolution is presented for the consideration of the General Council in session, the author, sponsor, or a spokesman therefor shall be expected to be the first speaker on behalf of the resolution.'" The motion to amend was declared carried.

It was moved and seconded that line 19 of the resolution be amended to read: "All resolutions arising from the business of the General Presbytery or Executive Presbytery immediately prior to the General Council shall be presented in printed form to the General Council on or before the second of the General Council in session. If these resolutions cannot be so provided, they shall be held over to the next General Council." The motion to amend was declared lost.

It was moved and seconded that line 13 be amended to read 120 days instead of 90 days, and that the following be added to line 15: "and mailed to the General Council ministers and churches 60 days prior to the General Council."

A motion to amend the amendment by inserting 30 days instead of 60 days was seconded and carried.

It was moved and seconded to amend the motion as amended by changing 120 days to 100 days on line 13. The motion was declared carried.

The motion to amend was voted upon and declared carried.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

The motion to adopt Resolution 2 as amended twice was declared carried.

The resolution as amended and adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, The 1969 General Council passed a resolution stating that all resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, be presented to the general secretary's office at least 90 days prior to a General Council session; and

"WHEREAS, This has been the common procedure since that council; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the Bylaws, Article IV. Committees, Section 4. Other Committees (page 133) be amended as follows:

SECTION 4. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

a. That a Resolutions Committee be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and that all resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, be presented to the general secretary's office at least 100 days prior to a General Council session; that the Resolutions Committee prepare the resolutions in printed form and mail them to the General Council ministers and churches 30 days prior to the General Council, with the understanding that this does not apply to business growing out of Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery meetings just prior to the General Council; and that resolutions of an emergency nature be decided by a two-thirds vote of the Council.

b. All resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee shall be signed by the author or sponsor. When a resolution is presented for the consideration of the General Council in session the author, sponsor, or a spokesman therefor shall be expected to be the first speaker on behalf of the resolution; be it further,

"RESOLVED, That the prerogatives and duties of the Resolutions Committee be defined by the Executive Presbytery or a committee which it would appoint with a report to be made to the next General Council in resolution form; be it further

"RESOLVED, That Article IV, Section 4. Other Committees become Section 5. Other Committees."

Resolution 6. Ministry in Non-Assemblies Church

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 6 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be amended by deletion beginning with "We recommend" on line 18, page 1, and continuing through line 3, page 2.

A motion was made and seconded to table Resolution 6. This motion was declared lost.

A motion to consider the previous question carried.

The motion to amend Resolution 6 was voted upon and declared lost.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the resolution by deleting the word *Pentecostal* in line 20.

A substitute motion was offered inserting the words *any church group or organization* following the word *in* on line 20, making it to read *in any church group or organization not affiliated with the Assemblies of God*. This motion was seconded.

A motion prevailed calling for the previous question.

The substitute motion was voted upon and declared carried.

The motion to adopt the resolution as amended was carried.

The resolution as amended, and adopted, follows:

"WHEREAS, There seems to be some misunderstanding as to the real meaning of Article VIII. Doctrines and Practices Disapproved, Section 9. Ministry in a Non-Assemblies Church (page 143); and

"WHEREAS, Many of our ministers are receiving invitations from various denominational churches, as a result of the charismatic renewal; and

"WHEREAS, We can be of some spiritual help to these newly Spirit-filled people looking to us for guidance; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That Article VIII. Doctrines and Practices Disapproved, Section 9. Ministry in a Non-Assemblies Church (page 143) be amended as follows:

"That we do not limit or restrain our ministers from entering open doors to preach this Pentecostal message, so long as they retain Assemblies of God doctrine, standards of holiness, proper attitudes, and proper ministerial conduct without compromise.

"Inasmuch as unity is a vital principle for growth and spiritual development of the Assemblies of God fellowship, 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 any church group or organization not affiliated with the Assemblies of God so as to ascertain whether such ministry might result in confusion or misunderstandings. If the minister does not have district approval, he 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.”

Resolution 7. Committee on Positional Papers

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 7 be adopted.

It was moved and seconded to amend lines 8 through 10 to read as follows:

“RESOLVED, That as study committee be appointed to draft and/or promote existing apologetic and inspirational articles, pamphlets, and books designed to advance and defend our doctrinal position as given in statements 7 and 8, Article V of the constitution.”

And amend lines 13 and 14 to read:

“RESOLVED, That said committee take initiative in developing materials that are needed to correct any errors and practices which may occur in the Movement regarding the person and work of the Holy Spirit.”

And further that the name of this study committee shall be changed to “Committee To Advance Our Pentecostal Witness.”

The motion to amend Resolution 7 was voted upon and declared carried.

A procedural motion was made and seconded to limit debate on all remaining resolutions to three speakers on each side of the issue and that each speaker be limited to 1 minute. The motion was declared carried.

The motion to adopt Resolution 7 as amended was declared carried.

The resolution as amended and adopted follows:

“WHEREAS, There is now an exceedingly great interest in the Pentecostal persuasion across the country and around the world; and

“WHEREAS, There is a very real danger of subtle error in much of the information being sold on the market today in the name of apologetic analysis; and

“WHEREAS, This obligation of teaching rests in the hands of those who have the oversight of the Church in terms of doctrinal direction; therefore, be it

“RESOLVED, That a study committee be appointed to draft and/or promote existing apologetic and inspirational article, pamphlets, and books designed to advance and defend our doctrinal position as given in statements 7 and 8, Article V of the constitution; and be it further

“RESOLVED, That this committee give support to the existing positional papers dealing with doctrinal errors; and be it further

“RESOLVED, That said committee take initiative in developing materials that are needed to correct any errors and practices which may occur in the Movement regarding the person and work of the Holy Spirit; and be it further

“RESOLVED, That this committee be appointed by the general superintendent and its findings be subject to approval by the Executive Presbytery.”

The chairman introduced Dr. Eugene R. Bertermann, executive director of the Far East Broadcasting Company, who extended greetings to the council.

Resolution 8. Assemblies

“WHEREAS, There is no recommended or generally recognized procedure to follow in the transfer of members between General Council affiliated churches; and

“WHEREAS, A uniform procedure would facilitate such transfers and eliminate confusion on the part of churches and pastors on the subject; and

“WHEREAS, The Assemblies of God has forms in print and available from the Gospel Publishing House for such a procedure; therefore, be it

“RESOLVED, That Article VI. Assemblies (page 134) of the bylaws be amended by adding ‘Section 4. Transfer of Local Church Membership’ which shall read as follows:

1. It is recommended that the member shall request a letter of introduction from the church of which he is a member to be sent by mail to the church with which he wishes to affiliate.
2. It is recommended that the receiving church shall give an acknowledgement of transfer to the former church.”

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Resolution 8 be adopted.

Resolution 13. Sex Education

“WHEREAS, The General Council in session in 1969 adopted a statement on pornography and sex education (page 85, 1969 Minutes); and

“WHEREAS, Since that time there has been an increase of sex education included in the curriculum of our public schools; and

“WHEREAS, Many of the children’s sex educational books are extremely explicit both verbally and pictorially with various types of sexual activity being shown; therefore, be it

“RESOLVED, That the General Council reaffirm the following statement:

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

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

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

and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the above declaration be published through our various publications throughout the Assemblies of God constituency."

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Resolution 13 be adopted.

Resolution 21. Expression of Appreciation for Bartlett Peterson

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 21 be adopted. The motion was carried by a standing vote.

Bartlett Peterson expressed his deep appreciation for the manner in which the body had shown its love and appreciation on many occasions and this one especially.

The chairman expressed the feeling that it was the desire of this body to authorize that Brother Peterson be honored with an appropriate, tangible expression of gratitude for his years of service.

The resolution adopted follows:

"WHEREAS, Brother Bartlett Peterson has served for 22 years as an Executive Presbytery, being first elected in 1947 at the Grand Rapids General Council; and

"WHEREAS, He served with distinction for 10 years as

President of Central Bible College from 1948-58; and

"WHEREAS, He has also served with distinction and efficiency as general secretary for 16 years, having been elected in 1959 at San Antonio, making a total of administrative service to the General Council of 28 years; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be authorized to honor Brother Bartlett Peterson with an appropriate tangible expression of our gratitude for his years of service."

The chairman expressed appreciation to Eleazer Javier of the Philippines for his ministry at the General Council and at the School of Missions. A gift was presented to him to serve as a memento of his visit to the United States.

Resolution 22. Honorary General Presbyter

"WHEREAS, Reverend Lester W. Dickinson served as district secretary of the Nebraska District for 10 years and superintendent of the same district for 24 years, making a total of 34 years of service to his district and for the same number of years as a general presbyter; and

"WHEREAS, This recommendation was passed at the Nebraska District Council and was approved by the General Presbytery; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the name of Reverend Lester W. Dickinson be placed in nomination as an Honorary General Presbyter from the Nebraska District at this 36th biennial meeting of the General Council of the Assemblies of God."

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

Resolution 23. Honorary General Presbyter

"WHEREAS, The beloved district superintendent of the Rocky Mountain District, Reverend Russel G. Fulford, has completed at least 20 years of service as a general presbyter of The General Council of the Assemblies of God; and

"WHEREAS, The Rocky Mountain District at its 57th Annual Convention passed the recommendation, which in turn has been approved by the General Presbytery; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That the name of Reverend Russel G. Fulford be placed in nomination posthumously as an Honorary General Presbyter from the Rocky Mountain District at this 36th biennial meeting of The General Council of the Assemblies of God." (Since nomination by the district, Brother Fulford had been called to his reward.)

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

Resolution 24. Resolution of Appreciation

"WHEREAS, It would be impossible to plan and conduct a General Council without the services, talents, cooperation, and assistance of so many; therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, That this 36th General Council express appreciation for the many courtesies and great assistance; and that the general secretary convey these sentiments in writing wherever practicable to the following: City and County Officials, News Media, Convention Bureau, Management and Staff of Currihan Hall, Area Hotels and Motels, and the Host District.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Resolution 24 be adopted.

The chairman also expressed appreciation to the many who had served on various committees during the General Council. Special appreciation was expressed to Charles W. Denton, who served as coordinator of the General Council.

Nonconformity of District Constitutions and Bylaws

It was moved, seconded, and carried that a committee be appointed by the Executive Presbytery to study the matter of nonconformity of district constitutions and bylaws with the General Council constitution and bylaws, and that this committee shall be charged with the responsibility of compiling a list of violations and that such violations be called to the attention of the District Presbytery of the districts involved.

The Chair expressed caution, stating that he believed the best discipline is self-discipline. Beyond the work that any committee would be called upon to do is the work that can best be done within the districts themselves. Each district ought to do some careful self-study.

1977 General Council

It was announced that the 1977 General Council will be held in Oklahoma City on August 18-23, 1977.

A motion was made and seconded that the chairman be commended for the fine manner in which he conducted the affairs of this General Council and that he be commended for the totally fair and fine chairmanship which he exhibited. The motion was carried by a standing vote of appreciation. Assistant General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson asked that it be entered into the record that this motion was unanimously carried.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that Brother and Sister Zimmerman be sent to India on a vacation, if he desires to go.

Brother Carlson expressed appreciation to Brother Zimmerman on behalf of those who work so closely with him in the office in Springfield. He asked that Brother Charles W. H. Scott, retired executive officer, lead in prayer as the members of the Executive Presbytery gathered around Brother Zimmerman in prayer.

A privileged motion was presented that the Executive Presbytery be authorized to provide the permission that in this instance, regardless of policies at headquarters, that Mrs. Zimmerman be invited to go with Brother Zimmerman to India and that the entire trip be covered by the General Council. It was ruled that this was included in the previous motion.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the general secretary be authorized to edit and publish the minutes, subject to the approval of the Executive Presbytery.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the 36th General Council. Those in favor were asked to arise.

The Doxology was sung, and R. C. Cunningham, editor of *The Pentecostal Evangel*, was asked to dismiss in prayer.

The 36th General Council was declared adjourned *sine die* at 12:40 p.m., August 19, 1975.

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 19, 1975

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, fel-

lowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order.

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

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

That the Assemblies of God exists expressly to give continuing emphasis to this reason-for-being in the New Testament apostolic pattern by teaching and encouraging believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit which enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs, adding a necessary dimension to worshipful relationship with God, and enabling them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ. That we are a cooperative fellowship of Pentecostal, Spirit-baptized saints from local Pentecostal Assemblies of like precious faith throughout the United States and foreign lands to be known as The General Council of the Assemblies of God whose purpose is neither to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural and local rights and privileges; but to recognize and promote scriptural methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work, and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural methods, doctrines and conduct, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).

ARTICLE I. NAME

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

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

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

ARTICLE II. NATURE

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

ARTICLE III. PREROGATIVES

- a. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
- b. To encourage and promote the worship of God.
- c. To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
- d. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like precious faith.

e. To establish and maintain such departments and institutions as may be necessary for the propagation of the gospel and the work of this Pentecostal fellowship.

f. To approve all scriptural teachings, methods, and conduct; and to disapprove unscriptural teachings, methods, and conduct.

g. To have the right to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease or otherwise dispose of, such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the prosecution of its work.

ARTICLE IV. PRINCIPLES FOR FELLOWSHIP

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

ARTICLE V.

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

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

1. The Scriptures Inspired

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

2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matt. 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. 14:15; 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 Af-

filiation 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. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for two years or until their successors qualify.

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 Division 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 member 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. A foreign language group may be recognized as a district of the Assemblies of God in accordance with the provision for district councils in the bylaws. The territory of such a district is confined to ministry among certain language groups, and its geographical areas of operation may therefore overlap or coincide with that of one or more District Councils. (Cf. Article V of the Bylaws)

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

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

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 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. 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 XII. 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 "Assemblies of God Minister" 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

The work of the General Council shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as set forth in the current edition of "Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised," 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

ments. 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 Division 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 de-

partments. 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. The Board of Administration shall provide for general services as required for the various operations at general headquarters.

d. 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 the 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. Resolutions Committee

a. That a Resolutions Committee be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and that all resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, be presented to the general secretary's office at least 100 days prior to a General Council session; that the Resolutions Committee prepare the resolutions in printed form and mail them to the General Council ministers and churches 30 days prior to the General Council, with the understanding that this does not apply to business growing out of Executive Presbytery and General Presbytery meetings just prior to the General Council; and that resolutions of an emergency nature be decided by a two-thirds vote of the Council.

b. All resolutions presented to the Resolutions Committee shall be signed by the author or sponsor. When a resolution is presented for the consideration of the General Council in session the author, sponsor, or a spokesman therefor shall be expected to be the first speaker on behalf of the resolution.

Section 5. 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.

Section 4. Foreign Language Districts

a. In order to become a district of the Assemblies of God, a foreign language group must have a minimum number of 20 churches. In the event an existing foreign language district shall be reduced to less than 10 churches, its recognition shall cease. If a group does not qualify for recognition as a distinct foreign language district, the pastors and the congregations will find ready acceptance in the fellowship of the geographical districts in which they are located.

b. A foreign language district shall have the same privileges and responsibilities which are accorded district councils within the framework of these Constitution and Bylaws.

c. Both the foreign language district and the geographical district shall seek to promote a spirit of fellowship and cooperation. The foreign language officers shall consult with the officials of the geographical district concerning the opening of new works, or institutions of any kind, in a given area. The churches shall unite, where possible, in fellowship activities.

d. When a church desires to transfer from a foreign language district to the district in which it is located, a church business meeting shall be properly called and the minutes of said meeting shall reflect the action authorized by the congregation. This action shall be submitted to the officers of the foreign language district and the geographical district. If either district has objections, the church shall have the right of appeal to the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution (Article XI).

ARTICLE VI. ASSEMBLIES

Section 1. Membership Certificates

The general secretary's office shall issue a Certificate of Af-

filiation to each church coming into the Fellowship. The certificate 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.

Section 4. New Assemblies Resulting From a Division

a. When efforts to maintain unity and harmony in an assembly have failed, and a division results in a new congregation being formed, the district should exercise strong and wise leadership in ascertaining the facts, and seek to preserve Assemblies of God adherents for the Fellowship. Within the bounds of ethical principles, sound doctrine, and district policy, all districts should seek to retain any meritorious group within the Assemblies of God.

b. Circumstances of the occasion would determine whether the minister should be disciplined or denied ministry in either

the original church or the dissident group, or even residency in the area where the division occurred. If a minister is guilty of wrong conduct and wrong attitudes resulting in a split, the District Presbytery shall deal appropriately with him as provided in Article IX, Section 2, of the bylaws.

Section 5. Transfer of Local Church Membership

a. It is recommended that the member shall request a letter of introduction from the church of which he is a member to be sent by mail to the church with which he wishes to affiliate.

b. It is recommended that the receiving church shall give an acknowledgment of transfer to the former church.

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 license shall be in two categories:

(1) Preaching Ministry

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. They shall preach at least twenty times a year, except in case of ill health and 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.

(2) Specialized ministry

An evident purpose to devote one's time to a specialized ministry such as Christian education, youth, music, or other full-time ministries. The same spiritual qualifications shall apply as outlined in Article VII. Section 1.

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. Licenses and Christian Workers Certificates

Licenses 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 women in the church, divinely called and qualified women may also serve the church in the ministry of the Word. Women who may have demonstrated a distinct ministry of evangelism and who have met the requirements of district councils may be licensed to preach the Word. Mature women of not less than twenty-three years of age who have developed in the ministry of the Word so that their ministry is acceptable generally and who have proved their qualifications in actual service and who have met all the requirements of the credentials committees of the district councils may be ordained to the ministry of the gospel and may serve either as evangelists or as pastors as their qualifications warrant. The right to administer the ordinances of the church, when such acts are necessary, shall be included in the ordination.

Section 5. Exceptions

a. It is recommended that our district councils refrain from ordaining to the ministry any preacher who may have been licensed in another district until such licentiate shall have resided in the district in which he is seeking ordination at least one year and shall have met the requirements of the district granting him license, and until endorsement be secured from the officary of the district in which the candidate was previously licensed.

b. We disapprove of district councils granting credentials to married persons in cases where either the applicant or the married partner has a former companion living (see Article VIII, Section 5e).

c. The Executive Presbytery shall have the authority to determine whether an applicant's annulment of a former marriage is consistent with the scriptural position of the Fellowship relating to the granting or holding of ministerial credentials; or, in the case of a divorce or a dissolution whether the circumstances would more appropriately be classified as calling for an annulment. The application must be accompanied by clear and satisfactory evidence of an illegal marriage through deception or fraud. Appeals from the decisions of the Executive Presbytery may be made to the General Presbytery.

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. This official list shall be revised annually and shall contain the names of those who are engaged in active ministry and whose certificates of fellowship have been issued for the current year.

b. All ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry for a period of one year or more shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary. He 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 a 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. This shall not apply to those whose inactivity has been caused by the infirmity of old age or ill health, or those engaged in other aspects of full-time ministry. 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 officer.

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. In the case where a minister resides in one district but pastors a church located in another district, he shall be required to be a member of the district in which the church is located. Ministers 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, for those who are retired from active ministry, for those who are in the armed forces currently on active duty, for those who are serving on the faculties of our schools, for those who are appointed home missionaries retaining membership in their home districts, for evangelists residing outside their home districts, and for students in schools outside of their home districts.

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. Membership

- (1) 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 people be received into the membership of local assemblies and that their marriage complications be left in the hands of the Lord (1 Corinthians 7:17,20,24).
- (2) We recommend that in no case shall persons be accepted into membership who are known to be living in a common-law state of matrimony.

b. Remarriage

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 fornication and adultery (Matthew 19:9). Where these exceptional circumstances exist or when a Christian has been divorced by an unbeliever, we recommend that the question of remarriage be resolved by the believer as he walks in the light of God's Word (1 Corinthians 7:15,27,28).

c. Local Church Leadership

- (1) Since the New Testament restricts divorced and remarried believers from the church offices of bishop, or elder, and deacon, we recommend that this standard be upheld by all our assemblies (Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy 3:12). However, we recommend that all other opportunities for Christian service for which these believers may be qualified be made available to them.
- (2) It is understood that recommendations are not binding, but local assemblies shall maintain the prerogative of setting their own standards (in accord with provisions of Article XI of the Constitution).

d. Performing Marriage Ceremonies

- (1) 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 unless his case is included in the exceptional circumstances described in Article VIII, Section 5, paragraph "b." Any minister of our fellowship who performs a ceremony for a disapproved marriage (indicated above), unless he has been innocently deceived into doing so,

may be dismissed from the Fellowship. An Assemblies of God minister is required to counsel applicants for marriage ceremonies with scriptural guidelines for Christian marriage prior to the performing of the ceremony.

He may not perform ceremonies for persons who, in the minister's opinion, approach marriage without proper forethought, wisdom, and sobriety.

- (2) We realize that the remarriage of such persons included in the exceptive circumstances in Article VIII, Section 5, paragraph "b," could violate the conscience of a minister, and if this should be the case, the minister should not be expected to perform such ceremonies.

e. Ministerial Credentials

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 officary.
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 relation to the Assemblies of God members involved in such ownership.

Section 8. Violations of Ministerial Courtesy

All discourteous conduct is disapproved, and all ministers are advised against interfering with pastors in charge of assemblies, whether it be by going in upon their work without consent or by such correspondence with members of the assembly as will hurt the influence of the leader. All correspondence which concerns the whole assembly shall be addressed to the one in charge and not to individual members. Where there is no pastor, letters concerning the work shall be addressed to the officers of the assembly.

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

Section 9. Ministry in a Non-Assemblies Church

Ministers shall not be limited or restrained from entering open doors to preach this Pentecostal message, so long as they retain Assemblies of God doctrine, standards of holiness, proper attitudes, and proper ministerial conduct without compromise.

Inasmuch as unity is a vital principle for growth and spiritual development of the Assemblies of God fellowship, 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 any church group or organization not affiliated with the Assemblies of God so as to ascertain whether such ministry might result in confusion or misunderstandings. If the minister does not have district approval, he 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. The Nature and Purposes of Discipline

Discipline is an exercise of scriptural authority for which the church is responsible. The aims of discipline are that God may be honored, that the purity and welfare of the ministry may be maintained, and that those under discipline may be brought to repentance and restoration.

Discipline is to be administered for the restoration of the minister, while fully providing for the protection of the spiritual welfare of our local Assemblies. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective, and is to be exercised as under a dispensation of mercy.

Section 2. Causes of Disciplinary Action

Violation of Assemblies of God principles as stated in these 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 5-d and e)
- j. Violations of ministerial courtesies. (Cf. Article VIII, Section 8)
- k. Ministry without prior approval in a non-Assemblies church. (Cf. Article VIII, section 9)
- l. An improper attitude toward those dismissed from the Fellowship (cf. Article VIII, Section 10)

Section 3. 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 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. Reports or complaints against a minister, alleging violations of Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, Section 2), 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 the minister's home district.

If the district in which an 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 the 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 4. Investigation of Reports or Complaints of Alleged Violations of Assemblies of God Principles

a. When a report or complaint of alleged violations by a minister is received, the superintendent of the district in which the alleged offense is reported to have occurred, and/or an ap-

pointed 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 or complaint. The persons involved shall be interviewed in order to ascertain the facts in the case and the reasons underlying the persistence of the reports or complaints, after which the accused minister shall be interviewed. In the event the investigation so warrants, signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant describing the alleged violation.

b. In case the alleged misconduct occurs outside the United States in an area under the general oversight of the Foreign Missions Division that division shall take the initiative to place complete data in the hands of the home district of the minister involved. Any hearing or trial affecting that individual's ministerial credentials shall be held in the home district. The Foreign Missions Division shall convey all information available to the home district in the following manner:

(1) At the earliest date after the Foreign Missions Division receives a report of misconduct, such report shall be conveyed by telephone and by letter to the superintendent of the home district of the minister or missionary, with a copy to the district missionary secretary.

(2) A confidential file shall be submitted to the superintendent, conveying to him all information as it becomes available to the division. A final complete file shall be prepared under the direction of the field secretary of the field involved, and shall be presented to the district superintendent for his use in any action the district may take.

(3) When in the judgment of the Foreign Missions Division or the district involved, basic information is lacking (which information may be available at the site of the alleged misconduct) arrangements may be made for the gathering of such.

Section 5. Preparation and Filing of Charges

If after due investigation it is determined that charges should be made, proper charges shall be prepared and filed in the district office. If no one appears to sign the charges, members of the district officiating making the investigation may prefer charges based on the evidence in their possession. The person against whom charges have been filed shall be informed in writing by certified mail of the charges made in keeping with Article IX, Section 2.

Section 6. District Hearing and Discipline

In the event the reports or complaints 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 oc-

curred, or the superintendent of the district with which the minister is affiliated, shall arrange for a hearing by the district credentials committee for the accused minister. The minister shall be requested to appear at the hearing in the hope the matter can be resolved.

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 and found guilty of charges preferred, if he refused to appear at the hearing, or proof is found of willful neglect on his part to take advantage of his rights and privileges.

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, Article IX, Section 2, shall be subject to disciplinary action by

Section 7. Credentials Terminations

In all cases the minister shall be requested by the district to return to the general secretary's office the credentials which had been issued by that office. Refusal to surrender his Certificate of Ordination and current Fellowship Certificate shall be considered insubordination and may result in placing a charge against the minister. Credentials terminations may occur in the following manner:

a. On the initiative of the minister by resignation.

(1) Lapsed. A minister who does not elect to renew his credentials, providing there is no cause for disciplinary action, shall be listed as having "lapsed." His name shall be published in the Ministers Letter as "lapsed."

(2) Resigned. A minister who has elected to remove himself from the Fellowship, and against whom there are no charges filed, shall be published in the Ministers Letter as "resigned." In the event of the announced desire of a minister to resign 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, 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.

b. On the initiative of the district resulting from disciplinary action by dismissal (Cf. Article IX, Section 3)

(1) Dismissal. A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article IX Section 2, shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Credentials Committee. Said discipline shall be administered in brotherly love and kindness in an effort to lead the offending minister through a program of rehabilitation (Article IX, Section 9). The Credentials Committees shall weigh decisions on the basis of the offense itself, the attitude of the offering minister toward the discipline, the manner and thoroughness of his repentance, the desire he manifests to cooperate, and the possibility of success in his rehabilitation. In the event rehabilitation is not feasible or fails, the minister shall be listed as having been dismissed. His name shall be published as dismissed in the minister's letter known as "Assemblies of God Minister."

(2) 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.

c. As a result of affiliation with other church organizations.

In the event a minister shall identify himself with another organization granting ministerial credentials, and shall have received such credentials, he shall then be requested by the district to surrender his Certificate of Ordination and his current Fellowship Certificate to the district office. The district shall forward these to the office of the General Secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. An investigation shall be made to determine the proper category of termination.

Section 8. Referral for Action to The Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

If it is determined that a minister's credentials are to be terminated, 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 Section 7 of this Article.

Such recommendation 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 the 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 9. Rehabilitation

When it has been determined, either by a confession of the minister involved or by deliberation of the district presbytery, that there is a cause for disciplinary action as a result of a violation of Assemblies of God principles as set forth in Article IX, Section 2, it shall then be the responsibility of the district presbytery to determine whether or not the offense warrants expulsion from the Fellowship by dismissal or restoration to good standing in the Fellowship through a program of rehabilitation. Recognizing that the underlying principle involved in discipline is redemptive, and that man's conscience frequently brings him to judgment and confession, and that justice can sometimes best be served with mercy; therefore, the following provisions for rehabilitation shall apply:

(1) Those found to have violated any of the Assemblies of God principles (Article IX, Section 2) shall be subject to a period of rehabilitation.

(2) The period of rehabilitation shall be not less than one year except when the violation involves misconduct defined in Section 2a in which it shall be for not less than two years.

(3) The following procedure shall be used by the district presbytery in determining the specific requirements to rehabilitation for the individual minister.

(a) The minister shall be considered to be under suspension during the entire period of rehabilitation, and his credentials shall be held in the district office. The extent to which he may be permitted to minister, if any, shall be determined by the district presbytery. Certain offenses may not require complete cessation of ministerial activities, although some restrictions or limitations may be warranted.

(b) The minister must remain a member of the district during the period of rehabilitation. While his credentials are in a state of suspension, his name shall not be published as removed from the ministerial roster. In the event his ministerial activity has been terminated, the minister must become established in a local church working under the supervision of a pastor and presbyter.

(c) The minister must submit reports quarterly to the district superintendent.

(d) The rehabilitation record shall not accompany the Certificate of Transfer to another district. The information shall be preserved for future reference in the files of the district and the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(e) When the rehabilitation period is satisfactorily completed, the minister shall be considered in good standing and his credentials restored.

(f) The terms of rehabilitation as above stated shall be administered at the discretion of the district presbytery.

(g) During the period of rehabilitation the minister shall continue to be eligible for benefits such as the Ministers Group Insurance and Ministers Benefit Association.

(4) In the event a minister who has been dismissed shall later show repentance and indicate his desire for reinstatement, he shall, upon obtaining the approval of the district, enter the two-year rehabilitation program with the provision that he shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements of the program have been satisfactorily completed.

Section 10. 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 "dismissed," the minimal time-lapse required before he is eligible to apply for reinstatement shall be one year, except that a minister who is dismissed because of charges as stated in paragraph a of Section 2, 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 not 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 11. 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 12. 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 13. 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 14. 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 15. 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 16. Notice of Trial

Preceding the trial the accused shall be notified by the judge of the time and place of 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 17. 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 trial 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 proceeding 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 18. 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 19. 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 20. 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 effect the testimony of witnesses. Opportunity for cross-examination of witnesses shall be given as the case proceeds.

Section 21. 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 shall 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 will be selected.

Section 22. 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 23. 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, such new trial shall be authorized and conducted as herein defined.

c. Review by the Appeals Board. The Executive Presbytery on notice of an appeal shall appoint an Appeals Board of seven impartial ordained ministers of The General Council of the Assemblies of God to hear the case and render a decision. Appeal from a trial cannot result in a retrial at the Assemblies of God national headquarters. It shall be the duty of the Appeals Board 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 Appeals Board 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 24. Review by the General Presbytery

When exceptions are taken to the decision of the Appeals Board, 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 Appeals Board.

Section 25. 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

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

There shall be a Spiritual Life—Evangelism planning and coordinating office to assist the general superintendent in implementing the threefold mission of the church. Divisions and departments shall cooperate in this priority effort.

Section 2. Organization

a. This office shall be under the direction of the general superintendent and amenable to the Executive Presbytery. A Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall be nominated by the general superintendent and appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist in promoting and coordinating efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church. The committee shall offer advice, indicate ways in which divisional and departmental resources can be used in fulfilling the mission of the church, and communicate to departments the emphasis which it, or the general superintendent, places upon each phase of the threefold mission.

c. The Committee on Mission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of the Board of Administration and 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 emphasis to the mission of the church. They shall be appointed by the Board of Administration.

Section 3. Function

a. The Spiritual Life—Evangelism office shall serve as an agency to provide leadership and to coordinate efforts through all divisions and departments.

b. Specific functions shall include:

- (1) Providing leadership in coordination of efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.
- (2) Planning and promoting special evangelistic and spiritual-life emphases.
- (3) Developing and implementing the Mobilization and Placement Service.
- (4) Developing and implementing the Evangelism Literature for America program.
- (5) Serving the evangelists' fellowship.

ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 1. Purpose and Scope

National directors shall be selected to serve as the heads of the various divisions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God as need may require. They shall be responsible to the Executive Presbytery and supervised by the general superintendent within guidelines set forth by the policy-making bodies.

Section 2. Selection

a. The Executive Presbytery shall make a 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, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. Their terms of office shall continue for two years or until their successors qualify.

c. All national directors shall be members of the Assemblies of God.

d. The Executive Presbytery shall determine the salaries of the national directors.

Section 3. Duties

The duties of a national director shall include the following:

a. He shall be charged with the operational function of the division in accordance with the job description provided by the Executive Presbytery.

b. He shall have the prerogative of presenting the programs and budgets of the division in person to the Executive Presbytery for approval.

c. He shall coordinate the various functions of the departments in such a manner as to provide needed services and ministries for the constituency with efficiency and economy.

ARTICLE XII. DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

a. There shall be a Division of Christian Education which shall have general oversight over the Department of Church School Literature and the Department of Education.

b. The purpose of the division is to correlate the emphases on curriculum development and training of church leaders.

c. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Christian Education.

d. The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Department of Church School Literature

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) There shall be a Church School Literature Department which shall be charged with the responsibility of the preparation of all curricular materials for church schools.
- (2) 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.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) There shall be an editor of church school literature who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Christian Education in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.
- (2) The Executive Presbytery shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial and curricular content of all publications and periodicals within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies. New materials or changes in style or format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publications before being initiated.

Section 2. Department of Education

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) 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.

- (2) 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.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.
- (2) The government and work of the Department of Education shall be vested in, and committed to the Board of Education, which shall consist of eighteen members to be constituted as follows: The national director of Christian Education, an executive presbyter, one pastor or district officer not associated with the internal administration of an Assembly of God college from each of the eight geographical areas of the United States, two laymen and six presidents of endorsed institutions of higher learning.
- (3) The national director shall serve on the Board of Education by virtue of office; the executive presbyter shall be selected by the Executive Presbytery; the eight regional members shall be elected by the general presbyters of the respective areas at called meetings during the annual meeting of the General Presbytery; two laymen shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery; and six presidents shall be appointed to the board by the Executive Presbytery on a rotating basis. One year shall lapse after a term is completed before a president is returned to the board.
- (4) 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 the 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 right 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. DIVISION OF CHURCH MINISTRIES

a. There shall be a Division of Church Ministries which shall have general oversight over the following departments: Men, Music, Sunday School, Women's Ministries and Youth.

b. The purpose of the division is to coordinate and correlate local church programs on the national level.

c. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Church Ministries.

d. The division and all of its departments shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Men's Department

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) 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.
 - (2) The function of this department shall include:
 - (a) Encouraging development of the work of the men at the local, district, and national levels of the constituency.
 - (b) Promoting the participation of men in the ministries of the local church.
 - (c) Developing the interest of men in supporting all programs of the Assemblies of God.
 - (d) Coordinating the efforts of the men in local and district organizations within the Assemblies of God.
 - (e) Encouraging and teaching men to engage in personal witnessing for Christ.
 - (f) Organizing and promoting a program for boys.
 - (g) Participating in sponsoring world missions evangelistic literature crusades and such other programs as may be approved in the future.
 - (h) 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.
 - (i) Publicizing the work of the Assemblies of God men.
- b. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.
- (2) There shall be a National Men's Department Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, coordinator of Action Crusades, commander of Royal Rangers, and four representatives—one from each of the above areas and one at large to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

Section 2. Department of Music

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) There shall be a Department of Music which shall be responsible for the preparation of music publications and for the encouragement of the ministry of music

- in the local church. It shall provide music seminars as may be needed.
- (2) 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.
- b. Government and Organization
- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.
 - (2) There shall be a National Music Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.
 - (3) The preparation of new materials or changes in style and format which affect the budget of the Gospel Publishing House must have the approval of the Board of Publications before being initiated.

Section 3. Sunday School Department

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) There shall be a Sunday School Department 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.
- (2) 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.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to ap-

point a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

- (2) There shall be a National Sunday School Department Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the Department, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. The Sunday School Counselor

The *Sunday School Counselor* shall be recognized as the official publication of the Sunday School Department.

d. District Organization

- (1) Provision shall be made for a district Sunday school department in each district of the Assemblies of God. The purpose shall be:

- (a) To coordinate national, district, sectional, and local efforts for Sunday school efficiency, growth, and development.

- (b) To encourage every Sunday school in the district to attain to the National Sunday School Standard.

- (c) To promote Sunday school efficiency through seminars, tours, conventions, or by any other acceptable means.

- (2) There may be a district Sunday school director. He shall be chosen in keeping with the District constitution and bylaws.

- (3) There may be a district constitution and bylaws which shall be presented to the district council for approval.

- (4) Time may be given throughout the year for the advancement of all phases of the district and national Sunday school calendar.

Section 4. Department of Women's Ministries

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) There shall be a Department of Women's Ministries which shall have as its primary responsibility in its field of activities to act as an agency of the Church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

- (2) The functions of this department shall include:

- (a) Encouraging development of the work of women at the local, district, and national levels of the Fellowship.

- (b) Correlating the work of the women with the needs

represented by Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Benevolences 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.

- (c) Encouraging district and local groups to view their service as a spiritual ministry and stewardship in which faithfulness is important.

- (d) Encouraging the women of the fellowship to engage in the ministry of personal witnessing and the ministry of intercessory prayer.

- (e) Offering encouragement and assistance to district leaders and local groups for organization and operation.

- (f) Conducting conventions, seminars, and rallies concerning Women's Ministries and its program.

- (g) Organizing and promoting a program for girls.

- (h) Preparing and publishing handbooks and manuals, and issuing such bulletins as may be needed to implement the department program.

- (i) Publicizing the Women's Ministries through the media of the *Pentecostal Evangel* and other periodicals as opportunity affords.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.

- (2) There shall be a National Women's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, Y coordinator, Missionettes coordinator, and four representatives from the above areas of ministry appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve for a 2-year period. The national director of the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. Funds

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

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

Section 5. Youth Department

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) There shall be a Youth Department which shall be responsible for the youth work known as Christ's Ambassadors. The department may be responsible for other related youth programs which shall be deemed feasible and desirable.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The functions of this department shall include:
 - (a) Encouraging and assisting the developing of district young people's programs.
 - (b) Coordinating the development and promotion of projects of national scope.
 - (c) Producing literature and helps to meet the needs of youth.
 - (d) Promoting spiritual programs adaptable to the particular problems of young people in high schools and colleges;
 - (e) Developing and promoting guidelines for use at the district and local level.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Church Ministries.
- (2) There shall be a National Youth Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, with three others from the field at large, appointed by the Executive Presbytery, who shall serve a 2-year period. The national director of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. Official Publication

The official publication of the department shall be *Youth Alive*.

d. District Christ's Ambassadors Organizations

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.
- (3) A constitution and bylaws covering the activities of the district organization shall be submitted to and approved by the district presbytery.
- (4) The president of the district organization shall be subject to call by the district presbytery for consultation in matters pertaining to young people.
- (5) 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.

e. Local Christ's Ambassadors Organizations

- (1) 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.
- (2) The members of this group shall be born-again young people living consistent Christian lives.
- (3) 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.

- (4) 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 XXIII. World Missions Plan)

ARTICLE XIV. DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS

a. There shall be a Division of Communications which shall have general oversight over the following areas: Auxiliary Communication, the Office of Information, the *Pentecostal Evangel*, Radio and Television, and Audiovisual Services.

b. The purpose of the division shall be to correlate information from general headquarters, both through our periodicals and in the effective use of available communication facilities, such as, radio, television, audiovisual, and recording devices.

c. The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the operation of the Division of Communications.

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

Section 1. Auxiliary Communications

a. In order to strengthen the flow of information to all segments of the Fellowship in the most economical and efficient manner, all periodicals of a promotional nature other than those produced at divisional or departmental levels shall be under the general supervision of the Division of Communications.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to employ editors as may be needed.

Section 2. Office of Information

a. There shall be an Office of Information which shall serve as an agency in the dissemination of news about the Assemblies of God to the Fellowship and the general public. This shall include releases to district bulletins, religious magazines, news syndicates, and radio and television stations.

b. The office shall provide services as needed in hosting visitors to general headquarters.

c. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint

a secretary of information who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.

Section 3. The Pentecostal Evangel

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) The *Pentecostal Evangel* shall be the official organ of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and shall be published:

- (a) To fulfill the threefold mission of the church;
- (b) To propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ;
- (c) To give proper emphasis to Pentecostal distinctives, including the baptism in the Holy Spirit and its desired effects in the lives of believers; and
- (d) To strengthen the Fellowship

- (2) The preparation of the *Pentecostal Evangel* shall be a function of the Division of Communications.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) There shall be an editor of the *Pentecostal Evangel* who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery.
- (2) The Executive Presbytery shall have the overall responsibility for the editorial content of the *Pentecostal Evangel* within the guidelines set by the policy-making bodies. It is understood that changes in style and format affecting the budget of the Gospel Publishing House shall not be initiated without the approval of the Board of Publications.

Section 4. Radio and Television Department

a. Authorization and Purpose

- (1) There shall be a Radio and Television Department whose primary responsibility in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.
- (2) 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.
- (3) Programs shall originate from such sources, and be released through such outlets, and feature such talents as shall meet the requirements of the department.
- (4) 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 trans-

criptions offering a distinctive presentation of our Statement of Faith shall be prepared for use in extended home missions work.

b. Government and Organization

- (1) The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.
- (2) There shall be a Radio and Television Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Communications, the secretary of the Radio and Television Department and three others elected by the Executive Presbytery, subject to the ratification by the General Presbytery.
- (3) The Radio and Television Committee shall serve a two-year period or until its successors are appointed.

c. Funds

The national director shall be authorized to employ such means for the raising of funds as shall be deemed advisable by the Radio and Television Committee.

Section 5. Audiovisual Services

a. Authorization and Purpose

1. Audiovisual Services shall acquire and maintain such equipment as necessary to produce audiovisual materials.
2. Audiovisual Services shall assist departments in the preparation of audiovisual materials.
3. Audiovisual Services shall provide consultation to departments, missionaries, church officials, and others on production of audiovisual materials.
4. To build and maintain a rental library of films, filmstrips, slides, video tapes, tape and/or phonograph recordings, which shall be available to our constituency.
5. To produce a catalog of rental films—those produced by the Assemblies of God and other film makers.
6. Additional services shall be made available as authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Government and Organization

1. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint an audiovisual representative who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.
2. There shall be an Audiovisual Film Committee which shall recommend films to be included in the library, and classification of films and/or recordings. The committee shall consist of the national director of the Divi-

sion of Communications, the audiovisual representative, and three others appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

3. The Audiovisual Film Committee shall serve a 2-year period or until its successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XV. DIVISION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

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 Division to which shall be committed all the foreign missionary interests of the Fellowship.

b. The primary responsibility of this division 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 Division, 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 Division.

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 Division who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the division.

c. The division 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 Division shall be under the supervision of a Foreign Missions Board which shall consist of the executive director of the division, two executive presbyters, the division secretary, four field secre-

taries, 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 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 sections of divisional 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 division 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 Appeals in all matters relating to field decisions. In the case of divisional decisions which are appealed, there shall be a Board of Appeals consisting of those members of the Foreign Missions Board who are not members of the Foreign Missions Committee. This board shall act upon any appeal from a division decision. Members of the Foreign Missions Committee who are members of the board may present their case to the Board of Appeals but shall not be present at the time of deliberation or voting.

The missionary or the Foreign Missions Committee may appeal to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery from the decision of the Board of Appeals.

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 division shall be conducted by a Foreign Missions Committee consisting of the executive director as chairman, the division secretary as vice-chairman, the field secretaries, and the heads of major sections of the divisions. The responsibilities of this committee shall be the general supervision and direction of the work of the division 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 missionaries, who will at that time be home on furlough, from each general area represented by the four field secretaries of the Foreign Missions Division, 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 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 Division.

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 Division

The expense of operating the Foreign Missions Division shall be provided from:

a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan offerings. (See Article XXIII. 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 Division.

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 Division.

g. The Foreign Missions Division 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 Division 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 Division for administrative expense.

b. All funds assigned to particular persons shall be forwarded by the Foreign Missions Division exactly as directed, except that five percent of all missionary funds (with the exclusion of special designations) handled directly by the division shall be transferred to an emergency fund to meet emergency expenses for which the Foreign Missions Division 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 Division. It shall not be incumbent upon the Foreign Missions Division 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 Division shall report to the Foreign Missions Division and receive its approval before leaving this country. The Foreign Missions Division 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 XXIII. World Missions Plan.)

Section 6. Ordination of Missionaries

The ordination of missionaries under appointment of the Foreign Missions Division shall be determined on the basis of their qualifications for ordination rather than on the basis of their appointment.

Section 7. 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 Division, shall be formed in each political or geographical area as circumstances may indicate. These Field Fellowships are to be considered as the direct creation of and amenable to the Foreign Missions Division since missionary appointment automatically confers membership in the Field Fellowship. The Missionary Field Fellowships shall serve in a consultative capacity to the Foreign Missions Division 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 Division 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 Division 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 8. 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 Division, 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 Division 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 Division 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 Division.

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 Division for file.

Section 9. 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 10. 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 Division 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 Division in consultation with the Missionary Fellowships on the various fields. It shall not be incumbent on the Foreign Missions Division 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 Division.

c. It shall be the responsibility of the Missionary Field Fel-

lowship to recommend to the Foreign Missions Division 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 Division 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 XVI. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS

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 Division.

b. The primary responsibility of this division in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission, the essential function being the establishing of new churches through the auspices of the district councils.

c. The work of the division shall include:

- (1) New Church Evangelism
- (2) Ministry among those people in the United States who are in need of special help by reason of cultural barriers, handicaps, or geographical isolation.

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 Division 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. 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.

f. The general administrative work of the division shall be conducted by a Home Missions Committee consisting of the national director as chairman, and four others appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

g. National representatives to serve in specific areas of home missions work may be appointed by the Executive Presbytery as it becomes advisable and practical.

h. The work of the Home Missions Division shall be under the general oversight of, and amenable to the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. New Church Evangelism Department

a. The primary function of this department shall be the establishing of new churches in cooperation with the various district councils.

b. There shall be a New Church Evangelism coordinator appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(1) He shall be amenable to, and work in conjunction with, the national director of Home Missions in New Church Evangelism.

c. Practical assistance shall be provided by:

- (1) Developing and promoting a fund from which grants may be provided to the various districts for establishing new churches.
- (2) Developing a program to assist in financing the founding and establishing of new churches.
- (3) Seeking to acquire information regarding various methods of financing and make this information available to various districts.
- (4) Providing information of available materials, such as evangelism literature, Sunday school materials, and other helps for the new church and supply these as funds permit.
- (5) Providing promotional materials for districts, colleges, and local churches to impart vision and motivation for the planting and establishing of new churches.
- (6) Assisting in the further development of programs for the involvement of students and faculty members from

Assemblies of God colleges in New Church Evangelism.

- (7) Assisting in the development of curriculum materials related to New Church Evangelism for Assemblies of God colleges.
- (8) Utilizing the personnel resources of our fellowship in conjunction with MAPS (Mobilization and Placement Service) to assist in New Church Evangelism.

d. The Division of Home Missions shall maintain a constant liaison with the various districts so that proven programs and innovations in New Church Evangelism may be refined and offered to other districts.

Section 4. Special Ministries Department

a. Work in the field of special ministries shall function in cooperation with the various districts. This shall include ministry in the specific areas listed in Section 1, paragraph c-2. The Home Missions Division shall provide coordination, promotion, criteria for the appointment of workers, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds. The supervision and administration of the work in the special ministries field shall be committed to the districts where the works are located.

b. Teen Challenge ministries shall be under the direction of a Teen Challenge representative. His duties shall be in accordance with the provisions of paragraph a of this Section 4. There shall be a proper liaison between this function and the Teen Challenge work which is carried on overseas under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Division.

c. All other work in the special ministries field shall be combined in one section under the direction of a special ministries representative.

d. Special ministries representatives shall be amenable to the national director of the Home Missions Division.

e. National home missionaries shall be appointed by the Home Missions Board with the approval of their home district and the district in which the missionaries will be working. These appointments are subject to renewal annually. All missionary appointments and the annual renewals thereof shall be made according to the provisions of criteria established for that purpose.

f. All appointed home missionaries shall be expected to work in accord with the policies of the division as set forth in the home missionary manual.

Section 5. Department of Chaplains

a. Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy

- (1) The industrial and institutional chaplaincy shall function

under the supervision of the Home Missions Committee.

- (2) The ministry of this section will concern itself with the work of chaplains in industries and institutions.
- (3) The Home Missions Division shall provide coordination, promotion, criteria for the appointment of workers, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds.

b. Military Chaplaincy

- (1) The military chaplaincy shall function under the military chaplaincy commission which shall consist of a chairman and five others appointed by the Executive Presbytery. The national director of the Home Missions Division shall be a member of the commission by virtue of his office. The term of office for the members of the commission shall be for two years. The commission shall operate within guidelines adopted by the Executive Presbytery.

- (2) The basic function of the military chaplaincy shall include:

- (a) Work among servicemen. (It shall be understood that there shall be a proper liaison between the servicemen's work and that which is related to the servicemen's ministry overseas under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Division.)
- (b) Work among veterans, particularly those confined to hospitals.
- (c) Responsibility for processing applications for candidates for the military chaplaincy and extending ecclesiastical endorsement.
- (d) Responsibility for receiving support from the various chaplains for the operation of the section on the military chaplaincy.
- (e) Responsibility for seeking opportunities for ministry for chaplains and to encourage them in entering open doors of ministry.

c. Chaplains Representative

There shall be a chaplains representative to assist in the operation of the section who shall be nominated by the Commission on Chaplains and ratified by the Executive Presbytery.

Section 6. Finances

a. The division 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 Division.

ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF PUBLICATION

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. There shall be a Division of Publication which shall serve the Fellowship and to which shall be committed the management and operation of the Gospel Publishing House. The responsibilities of the Gospel Publishing House shall include the publication and distribution 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.

b. The primary responsibility of this division 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 division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

b. The division shall consist of the Department of Marketing and Distribution and the Department of Production, which shall be supervised by a manager of each selected by the Executive Presbytery.

c. 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 Division of Publication. The Board of Publications shall function within the framework of the guidelines established by the Executive Presbytery for the editorial and curriculum content of all publications and periodicals.

d. The Board of Publications shall consist of the national director of the Division of Publication, the general superintendent, the general treasurer, and two additional members from among the Executive Presbytery or the national directors, who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery. The national director of the Division of Publication shall serve as chairman. The Board of Publications shall meet monthly. It shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

e. Committees shall be named as necessary in carrying on the work of the division. They shall be nominated by the national director of the Division of Publication and ratified by the Board of Publications. All committee decisions shall be reported

to the Board of Publications for approval and authorization. They shall be amenable to the Board of Publications.

f. The division 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 Gospel Publishing House

The Gospel Publishing House, its plant and equipment, its general business interests, and the promotion and production of all salable periodicals and publications, shall be under the supervision of the Division of Publication 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 XVIII. 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 Benevolences Department shall function under the direction of the general treasurer.

b. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the general treasurer.

c. The department shall be administered by a committee consisting of the general treasurer, the secretary of the Department of Benevolences, and three others who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery.

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

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. 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 Minister Assistance

Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers and missionaries of the Assemblies of God and to their widows, be-

cause 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 officary.

Section 5. Homes for the Aged and Children

Benevolent institutions of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be operated by boards of directors nominated by the Benevolences Committee and ratified by the Executive Presbytery. These boards shall be responsible to the Benevolences Department in matters of policy and administration, and their actions shall be reviewed by the Executive Presbytery.

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 XIX. 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.

Section 4. World Ministries Giving

a. In order to support and develop the work and ministries of the Assemblies of God at home and abroad, all its churches shall be encouraged to send offerings therefor at regular intervals.

A combined report of all offerings which are designated for departments shall be given under the caption of World Ministries Giving. The intent is to provide recognition for contributions to all ministries of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, to place each appeal and ministry on an equal basis and to lend encouragement to churches and individual contributors to determine the appeal to which they will respond under the leading of the Spirit.

b. World Ministries Giving recognition shall provide credit to Assemblies of God churches for contributions to: Foreign and Home Missions, Spiritual Life-Evangelism, support of executive offices, Education, Sunday School, Youth, Radio and TV, Benevolences, Women's Ministries, Men's Department, educational institutions, and other General Council, regional, and district sponsored or approved projects. It is understood that no district or region may receive world ministries credit for projects specifically disapproved by the General Council.

ARTICLE XX. 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

Central Bible College, a ministerial training institution providing Bible-centered courses of training to prepare Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, 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 shall 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.

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.

Section 4. Assemblies of God Graduate School

The Assemblies of God Graduate School, a graduate school of theology and missions, providing advanced training beyond the baccalaureate level for ministers, missionaries, evangelists, and other Christian workers for effectual service at home and abroad, shall be owned and operated at all times by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The Assemblies of God Graduate School is forever bound to give Christ preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths 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 Graduate School shall be delegated to a Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws. The Graduate School 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 Assemblies of God Graduate School.

ARTICLE XXI. 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 XXII. 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. The board 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 XXIII. 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

Speed-the-Light offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 72% Foreign Missions and Home Missions—Speed-the-Light
- 18% District Home Missions—Speed-the-Light
- 10% National Youth (CA) Department Administration Costs, 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 ministries, with the exception that up to one-half of the eighteen 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.

ARTICLE XXIV. ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

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

All business sessions of the Council shall commence with prayer.

ARTICLE XXV. QUORUM

All members registered and voting in any meeting of The General Council 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 XXVI. 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.

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