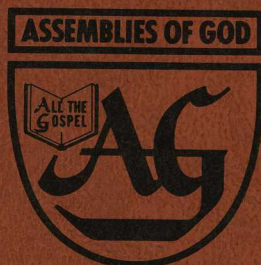


MINUTES

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

The General Council of the Assemblies of God



THE FORTY-FIRST GENERAL COUNCIL

San Antonio, Texas, August 8-13, 1985

MINUTES

of the

41st Session of

THE GENERAL COUNCIL

of the

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD



Convened at San Antonio, Texas

August 8-13, 1985

with

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

(Incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri,
October 13, 1916; amended September 26, 1919, Sep-
tember 7, 1965, and November 4, 1977)

Printed in U.S.A.

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THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

G. Raymond Carlson General Superintendent
Everett R. Stenhouse Assistant General Superintendent
Joseph R. Flower General Secretary
Raymond H. Hudson General Treasurer

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERY

G. Raymond Carlson, Chairman	
Robert L. Brandt	J. Foy Johnson
Glen D. Cole	Paul E. Lowenberg
Joseph R. Flower	Herman H. Rohde
Marvin E. Gorman	Robert K. Schmidgall
J. Philip Hogan	R. D. E. Smith
Raymond H. Hudson	Everett R. Stenhouse

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65802
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FOREWORD

The final report from the Roster Committee indicated a total registration of 13,232 at the 41st General Council of the Assemblies of God, which convened August 8-13 in San Antonio, Texas. The Council theme was "Stand Firm," with special emphasis by speakers in the services on the following subthemes: "... in the Faith"; "... in God's Will"; "... in Integrity"; "... in Freedom"; "... in Fellowship"; "... in Hope"; and "... Together." The different speakers ministered with great freedom and blessing.

A *Live! From San Antonio* telecast of the Sunday evening service was released nationwide.

J. Russell Hosey and Robert L. Sapp alternated as song leaders for the congregational singing, and Philip Wannenmacher led a time of prayer and praise on Friday and Monday mornings prior to the business sessions.

Preceding the opening business session on Thursday afternoon, General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman introduced the members of the Executive Presbytery, retired executive presbyters, and national directors of divisions. Appreciation was also expressed for headquarters personnel who were involved in a variety of General Council functions.

A number of fraternal delegates from sister Pentecostal organizations and national Assemblies of God bodies were welcomed and introduced.

Among the many important matters favorably acted upon by the body were the following:

1. Elimination of dual district membership for nationally appointed home missionaries, provision for honorary membership in home districts.
2. A strong statement relative to pornography.
3. An annual offering from churches for the support of headquarters with \$1 per church member recommended as a guide.
4. A Thomas F. Zimmerman Endowment Fund for Assemblies of God Education was established, the earnings to be distributed on a pro rata basis for capital expenditures.
5. A significant Report of the Spiritual Life Committee was adopted.
6. An updated position on Abortion, entitled "The Sanctity of Human Life," was adopted.

G. Raymond Carlson was elected general superintendent after Thomas F. Zimmerman requested the body to look elsewhere for leadership. Everett R. Stenhouse was elected assistant general superintendent, and the remaining executive officers and the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions were reelected. Newly elected nonresident executive presbyters are: Herman H. Rohde, Glen Cole, and Robert K. Schmidgall.

The following were elected as honorary general presbyters: Lowell C. Ashbrook, E. D. Beard, W. Earl Cummings, James C. Dodd, Jose E. Giron, James E. Griggs, and Thomas F. Zimmerman.

With thanks to God for past blessings, we face the future with faith and optimism.

JOSEPH R. FLOWER
GENERAL SECRETARY

MINUTES OF
THE 41ST GENERAL COUNCIL
OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
CONVENED AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
AUGUST 8-13, 1985

The 41st General Council of the Assemblies of God convened at the San Antonio Convention Center Arena, San Antonio, Texas, beginning Thursday, August 8, at 2 p.m. General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman, in his welcoming remarks, stated that we are "gathered together with a confident spirit, knowing that God has led us, and He will give us direction." Serving at the piano and organ, respectively, were Tom McDonald, minister of music, Trinity Assembly of God, Lutherville, Maryland, and Phil Pfaltzgraft, minister of music, First Assembly of God, Des Moines, Iowa. Brother Zimmerman announced that song leaders for the council services would be J. Russell Hosey, associate pastor, Heritage Village Church, Charlotte, North Carolina; and Robert L. Sapp, minister of music, Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California. He introduced Brother Hosey who led in singing a new chorus on the theme of this General Council, "Stand Firm," and "His Name Is Wonderful." A praise offering to the Lord followed.

Cecil B. Knight, assistant general overseer for the Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee, led in the opening prayer.

Introduction of Executive Presbytery

Brother Zimmerman introduced the members of the Executive Presbytery as follows: G. Raymond Carlson, assistant general superintendent; Joseph R. Flower, general secretary; Raymond H. Hudson, general treasurer; J. Philip Hogan, executive director of Foreign Missions; Robert L. Brandt, Richard Dortch, Marvin E. Gorman, J. Foy Johnson, Paul E. Lowenberg, R. D. E. Smith, Everett R. Stenhouse.

Introduction of Retired Executive Presbyters

The retired executive presbyters were introduced as follows: N. D. Davidson, James E. Hamill, G. W. Hardcastle, Sr., Bartlett Peterson, Kermit Reneau, and Bert Webb. Charles W. H. Scott and Dwight H. McLaughlin were unable to be present due to infirmities.

A motion prevailed to send messages from the 41st General Council to Brother Scott and Brother McLaughlin, conveying greetings and assurance of the prayers of this body.

Introduction of National Directors of Divisions

The chairman introduced the following headquarters personnel: Hardy W. Steinberg, national director of the Division of Christian Education; Silas L. Gaither, national director of the Division of Church Ministries; Lee Shultz, national director of the Division of Communications; Robert W. Pirtle, national director of the Division of Home Missions; and William G. Eastlake, national director of the Division of Publication.

He gave an expression of appreciation to the significant number of headquarters personnel who were involved in a variety of functions to make the General Council session run smoothly and who also make the work of the Lord go forward with such efficiency and effectiveness.

Introduction of Fraternal Delegates

The general superintendent introduced the following delegates: Cecil B. Knight, assistant general overseer, Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee; James M. MacKnight, general superintendent, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Toronto, Canada; Sidney Westbrook, South Central District supervisor, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel; Senior Pastor Aime' Blanc, Toulouse, France; Jean Tawentaore Ouedraogo, national superintendent, Burkina Faso; Alfonso de los Reyes, general superintendent, Mexico; Richard Shaka, national superintendent, Sierra Leone, Africa; Astley A. Williams, general superintendent, Jamaica; Chuma Iroezi, professor, Advanced School of Theology, Nigeria; Feri Apollonaire, Ivory Coast.

Offering

Cecil T. Janway, Louisiana District superintendent, gave the offering appeal. Don and Donita Shockley, Midland, Texas, full-time evangelistic ministers in Word and song, sang "His Word Will Stand" while the offering was received.

Greetings from Host Districts

The general superintendent noted that 26 years ago the General Council held its biennial meeting in San Antonio and has now returned for the second time. He introduced Josue Sanchez, Gulf Latin American District superintendent, and Howard Burroughs, South Texas District superintendent, who brought greetings from their respective districts. Brother Zimmerman expressed appreciation for the warm welcome and for the work and hospitality of the host districts.

General Council Committees

Brother Zimmerman expressed appreciation to the convention coordinators and to the members of the General Council Committees and the Operational Committees adding: "They are working hard. We appreciate them. Many of them will be working late into the night. Let us pray that

God will give them sustaining grace." Those who served in the respective capacities are as follows:

Budget

Raymond H. Hudson, chairman; James K. Bridges, Howard Burroughs, J. W. Farmer, Cecil Janway, Josue Sanchez, Paul Savage

Music

Lawrence B. Larsen, chairman; Pat J. Argue, Richard Crain, Tom McDonald, John McDuff, John Shows

Parliamentary

James C. Ellis, chairman; Charles E. Hackett, Armon Newburn

Resolutions

Bartlett Peterson, chairman; Arden K. Adamson, Earl Book, James K. Bridges, Samuel Di Trolio, Robert Gatlin, J. Foy Johnson, Jesse Miranda, William N. Sachs, Robert Sites, Robert H. Spence, Howard Spruill, Aaron M. Wall

Roster

Efraim Espinoza, Harold Walls, cochairmen; David E. Allen, Edgar F. Allen, Coy Barker, Wayne Blackburn, Willie R. Boyd, Joseph W. Brown, O. Michael Brown, Joe C. Cantu, Sandra Clopine, David R. Dohm, Josue Elorrea, Leon Freitag, L. Evelyn Glosser, David Guajardo, Mel Johnson, Spencer Jones, Betty J. May, Randel McCarty, Edgar E. McElhannon, John Mendez, James Millsaps, Delia Mora, William Nichols, Hipolito Pecina, James Plata, J. Don Ross, Hector Sanchez, Raymond Schaeffer, Robert Schooley, Alejandro Vargas, Louis Walton, James E. White, Robin Williams

Spiritual Life

Earl J. Banning, chairman; G. Raymond Carlson, vice chairman; James F. Allen, R. Earl Book, Dwight Colbaugh, Richard W. Dortch, Richard W. DuBose, Marvin E. Gorman, J. Philip Hogan, Gustavo Jimenez, J. Foy Johnson, J. Thomas Lofton, Frank E. Martin, Thomas F. Reid, Kermit Reneau, Lorin W. Short, Irvin Steiding, Everett Stenhouse, Karl Strader, L. Thomas Whidden, George O. Wood, Thomas F. Zimmerman; Charles W. Denton, resource; Hardy W. Steinberg, resource

Tellers

Frank Cargill, chairman; Kenneth D. Barney, Jr., Ben Leonard, Warren McPherson, captains; Larry Albanese, D. Ronald Bailey, Darold L. Beck, Stephen Bogdan, Marvin E. Boyce, Drexel T. Brunson, Warren D. Bullock, Glenn H. Burks, Dillard J. Burrell, George D. Cope, Raymond E.

Corlew, Seth B. Cotton, Clifford Coursey, Tommy G. Crider, Dan R. Crouch, L. Cordell Cunningham, Donald F. Dohm, Tullie C. Earnest, Johnny E. Elliot, Mark Ford, R. Kenneth George, Ted A. Gianopulos, Jack L. Glass, Weldon H. Gosnell, Tom H. Goins, Forrest H. Hall, Grover A. Hampton, Billy B. Hankins, Harold D. Hanson, Ronald D. Hastie, Marvin Hensley, Galen F. Hertweck, Roger D. Hoffpowier, David L. Houghton, C. Allan Hulten, Murray E. Kelley, Gerritt W. Kenyon, Paul D. Killingsworth, Paul A. LeRoy, Harris E. Lidstrand, Jimmie L. McNabb, Ralph M. Miller, Billy R. Newby, Robert E. Palmer, Tommy E. Parker, Donald E. Price, Richard Rapaglia, Noel E. Ravan, Doy G. Robinson, Carter E. Rogers, Paul R. Sandgren, David W. Savage, Charles E. Smith, Donald R. Spradling, Edward C. Summerfield, Carley M. Touchstone, Timothy L. Turner, David A. Ulseth, John A. Wilson.

Operational Committees

Arrangements

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman; Thomas F. Zimmerman, Joseph R. Flower, Raymond H. Hudson, Charles W. Denton, John V. Ohlin

Coordinators

Charles W. Denton, national coordinator for the Convention Center; John V. Ohlin, national coordinator for housing, preregistration, and meal functions; Howard Burroughs, Josue Sanchez, resource advisers

Communications

Lee Shultz, chairman; Harris Jansen, Melvin Snyder, Don Upton

Communion Arrangements

Stanley V. Michael, chairman; Silas L. Gaither, Thomas D. Lakey, J. B. Linney, Samuel P. Molina, Charles E. Savage

Equipment

Arlyn Pember, national chairman; Don Goss, Ernest Rifenburg; James Brothers, local chairman

Exhibits

Thomas F. Sanders, chairman; Carolyn Tripp; Juleen Turnage

Hospitality and Information Message Center

John Maempa, national chairman; Thomas M. Loven; Phil and Marleen Pedroza, local cochairmen

Photo Assignments

Gwen Jones, coordinator; James Allen, Phil Stovall, photographers

Platform

Mel DeVries, chairman; David Torgerson, assistant; Lawrence B. Larsen, Lee Shultz

Printed Materials

Richard G. Champion, chairman; Harris Jansen, Sylvia Lee

Program Resource

Lee Shultz, chairman; Richard G. Champion, Norman L. Correll, Charles W. Denton, Mel DeVries, Gwen Jones, Lawrence B. Larsen, John V. Ohlin, Robert W. Pirtle, Juleen Turnage; James D. Brown, resource; Robert H. Spence, resource

Publicity

Juleen Turnage, chairman; Richard G. Champion, Gwen Jones

Registration

William G. Eastlake, chairman; Jimmy V. Dunn, John V. Ohlin, Jim Stalnaker

Reports

Lee Shultz, chairman; William G. Eastlake, Silas L. Gaither, Gwen Jones, Hardy W. Steinberg, Juleen Turnage

Resolutions and Reports Expediter

Hardy W. Steinberg

Translation

Clarence Lambert, chairman; Bill J. Strickland

Transportation

Lamar Headley, chairman; Melvin Sachs

Ushers

Glenn Renick, national chairman; Evan Paul; Richard Garza, James Pinkston, local cochairmen

Youth and Children's Activities

Paul Tedesco, national Youth Congress chairman; Youth Department personnel; Steve Samford, Dino Espinoza, local chairmen; Don Triplett, national Kids Council chairman; Mack Praytor, Margarito Lopez, local chairmen; Sandra K. Askew, national preschool activities chairman; J. Sidney Watson, local chairman

Business Session

Brother Hosey led in a chorus as the transition was made to the first business session of the 41st General Council. Brother Zimmerman de-

clared the meeting officially called to order at 3 p.m. Brother Jose Caraballo led in prayer for the Lord's direction on the deliberations.

Procedural Motion

In response to a request, the chairman gave approval for the following procedural motion to be given: "It was moved that the first order of business Friday afternoon be the election of officers; and that in the event a candidate receives as much as a two-thirds vote on the nominating ballot, the nominating ballot be declared an elective ballot." The motion was seconded and following a stand-up vote, the chair declared the motion carried. However, a division of the house was called for with the results reported by Frank Cargill, Tellers Committee chairman, as follows:

Total voting.....	1,376
Needed for ⅔.....	918
Votes in favor.....	965

The chairman again declared the procedural motion carried.

General Superintendent's Report

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the general superintendent as it is printed in the 1983-85 Biennial Report booklet.

General Secretary's Report

The general superintendent called for the general secretary's report by Joseph R. Flower. He indicated he desired a response from the body relative to the reading of the report.

It was moved to accept this report and all the reports as printed. The chair stated it would be his understanding that an exception would be made relative to a review of the financial report. The originator of the motion agreed and the motion as clarified was seconded and carried.

General Council Audit Report

Raymond H. Hudson, general treasurer, gave an overview of the funds of the General Council as set forth in the printed Audit Report for the fiscal biennium of April 1, 1983, through March 31, 1985. He called special attention to a correction that should be made on page 10: Number 9 in World Ministries Giving should be First Assembly of God in Rockford, Illinois, instead of First Assembly of God, San Jose, California.

It was moved and seconded to accept the report as presented. After a satisfactory response was given to several questions the motion to accept the report was carried.

MBA Report

G. Raymond Carlson, chairman of the Ministers Benefit Association board, gave an update of the printed report, explaining that the MBA fiscal year ended on December 31, 1984. He stated that MBA is growing

at the rate of \$1½ million per month. He also mentioned that 29 districts have now enrolled their ministers with district participation.

A motion prevailed to receive the MBA report as it was updated.

Maranatha Village Report

The general treasurer gave an overview of the Maranatha Village finances as printed in the Audit Report, calling attention to a fund balance of \$2,938,144 for March 31, 1985, compared to \$2,398,720 for the fiscal year ending in 1984. He concluded his remarks by referring to the beautiful, debt-free chapel which has been erected at Maranatha Village.

A motion prevailed to accept the report of Maranatha Village as presented.

Recess

The assistant general superintendent reminded the delegates that Brother Zimmerman would be ministering at the Keynote Rally. He asked the executive presbyters and the retired executive presbyters to gather around Brother Zimmerman and pray for God's blessing and anointing upon him. Brother Carlson then led in prayer, and the business session recessed at 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY EVENING—KEYNOTE RALLY

Assistant General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson was in charge of the Keynote Rally. The Keynote message was brought by Thomas F. Zimmerman, general superintendent, with the theme "Stand Firm in the Faith." The service began with a color guard ceremony and the national anthem. Phil Driscoll, from Cleveland, Tennessee, played his trumpet during the presentation of the colors. Lee Shultz read the Scripture for the service from 2 Thessalonians 2:13 and 3:5. Prayer was offered by James MacKnight, general superintendent of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. The congregational singing, led by Robert Sapp, was accompanied by James Chambers and Stan Cook, both of Austin, Texas, at the piano and organ, respectively. Other special music was provided by a choir and orchestra from the churches of Austin, Texas, directed by Steve Black, minister of music, Central Assembly of God, Austin, Texas, and a duet by Karen Bickley and Kenton Lee from First Assembly of God, Tacoma, Washington.

FRIDAY MORNING—AUGUST 9

A time of prayer and praise began the 9:15 session on Friday morning. Philip Wannemacher, pastor of Central Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri, led the singing and prayer time. Musicians were Mrs. Lois Graber of Canton, Ohio, and Gwen Jones of Springfield, Missouri. Brother Wannemacher led in singing appropriate songs and choruses, emphasizing

ing the value of the supernatural: His power, His grace, His mind. Prayer times focused on praying (1) for one another; (2) for our nation—the executive, judicial, and legislative bodies of our government; and (3) for ourselves—“O God, revive me! Pour out Your Spirit on me.”

G. Raymond Carlson brought announcements pertinent to the day's activities and introduced Everett Stenhouse, executive presbyter and Southern California District superintendent, who presented the offering appeal. Soloist Ken Lee of Richmond, Missouri, accompanied by Tom McDonald of Lutherville, Maryland, brought the offertory.

Pastor Robert Strand of Grand Junction, Colorado, was introduced to speak in behalf of Gospel Publishing House Radiant Life curriculum materials. He urged pastors to use our literature in their churches, citing some of the benefits derived from using our quality materials with sound doctrinal content.

NAE Representation

Gordon Bacon, director of field services for the National Association of Evangelicals, brought greetings from NAE and expressed appreciation for the 128 Assemblies of God churches who support NAE, as well as for the faithful participation of Assemblies of God leadership—for prayers, personal support, and finances. He closed by praying for the following session of the General Council.

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

Roster Committee Report

Harold Walls cochairman of the Roster Committee gave the following report as of 10 a.m. Friday, August 9.

Ordained ministers	3,211	
Delegates	<u>1,052</u>	
Voting constituency		4,263
Licensed ministers	371	
Visitors	<u>5,276</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>5,647</u>
Total registration		9,910

A motion prevailed to receive this progress report.

Report of Committee To Study Complications of Dual Membership

Committee Chairman Robert W. Pirtle, national director of the Division of Home Missions, read the report, which was the first item of unfinished business from the 1983 General Council.

A question was raised as to whether or not this report should have been referred to the Resolutions Committee rather than bringing it to the Council floor again. Reference was made to action taken in the 1983 General

Council that appointed committees were to submit their reports to the Resolutions Committee for presentation to the General Council. The chairman of the Resolutions Committee explained that the committee had, indeed, checked to see if the Resolutions Committee would present the report, but it was felt that they were obligated to report to the General Council.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the committee report. A question was raised as to whether or not changes in this report would change the constitution. The chairman explained that it would be a change in the bylaws only.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by changing the percentages to read, “shall contribute 40 percent of their tithe to their member district where they serve and 10 percent of their tithe to their home district if they are listed as honorary members.” The motion was lost.

It was moved and seconded to amend the first sentence of proposed subparagraph (2) of paragraph b by deleting the beginning words, “In the case of,” and by inserting after the word “church” the following: “or a member of the staff of a Bible school,” and by deleting the word “he,” so the sentence would read: “A nationally appointed home missionary serving as a pastor or ministerial staff member of a church or a member of the staff of a Bible school, shall become a member of the district in which he serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary.”

A substitute amendment was moved and seconded so that subparagraph (2) would read as follows: “A nationally appointed home missionary shall become a member of the district in which he serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary.” The motion carried.

Concern was expressed that districts who are sponsoring home missionaries serving in other districts (particularly Arizona, Alaska, and New Mexico) should be faithful to support them, rather than leaving the entire financial burden with the district in which they serve.

In response to a question, Robert Pirtle stated that he did not think this policy would apply to Teen Challenge workers.

Following a time of discussion, the main motion to adopt the report as amended was carried. The report as amended and adopted follows:

The specially appointed committee to study the 1984 General Council's Resolution 5: Complications of Dual Membership, met on August 20, 1984. The committee submits the following resolution with a recommendation for its adoption:

WHEREAS, The provision for dual membership for nationally appointed home missionaries has resulted in administrative complications for the office of the general secretary and for the Division of Home Missions; and

WHEREAS, The desired results can be achieved and the complications avoided by eliminating the provision for dual membership in favor of an alternative provision; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article VII, Ministry, Section 9 (page 117), be amended by identifying paragraph c as subparagraph (1), and by adding subparagraph (2), so that paragraph b and its two subparagraphs will read as follows:

b. **Affiliation with district of residence.** All ministers ordained and licensed shall be expected to affiliate with the district council within the boundaries of which they reside and work in cooperation with the same.

(1) *Exception.* In the case where a minister resides in one district but pastors a church located in another district, he/she shall be required to be a member of the district in which the church is located.

(2) *Nationally appointed home missionary.* A nationally appointed home missionary shall become a member of the district in which he/she serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary. He/she may also retain honorary membership in his/her home district, be listed as a missionary under national appointment in the home district's yearbook, and be extended voice and vote in his/her home district while on official furlough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That paragraph d be relettered paragraph c; and be it further

RESOLVED, That subparagraph (3) of said paragraph, which reads as follows:

(3) *Financial responsibility of nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries.* Nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries who hold dual membership in a home district and in the district where they minister shall contribute 25 percent of their tithe to their home district and 25 percent of their tithe to the district where they minister. The home missionary who is a member only of the district where he ministers shall contribute a minimum of 50 percent of his tithe to that district.

Be amended by deleting the words "who hold dual membership in a home district and in the district where they minister" and the words "is a member only of the district where he," which shall cause the amended paragraph d (3) to read as follows:

(3) *Financial responsibility of nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries.* Nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries shall contribute 25 percent of their tithe to their member district where they serve and 25 percent of their tithe to their home district if they are listed as honorary members. The

missionary who ministers in his/her home district shall contribute a minimum of 50 percent of his/her tithe to that district.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article VII, Section 10, paragraph b (page 118), be amended by deleting subparagraph (5): "Those who are appointed home missionaries retaining membership in their home district," and by renumbering the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

Report of the Committee To Study Feasibility of Executive and National Directors on the Executive Presbytery

The general superintendent requested J. D. Middlebrook, chairman of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Executive and National Directors on the Executive Presbytery, to present its report. Before doing so, Brother Middlebrook was granted permission to read the following statement by the committee:

By action of the 1983 General Council, a committee was to be appointed to study the proposal contained in the title.

We who were asked to serve on this committee, to the man, are promoters and participants in the World Missions outreach of the Assemblies of God. None of us should have to defend "our belief in missions."

Our assignment made it necessary to study the structural configuration and the assigned duties of both the Executive Presbytery and the national directors of various divisions.

To the best of our ability we excluded personalities from our deliberations. We have prayerfully done our assignment. We present it to this body after great discussion, prayer, debate, and consideration. We ask your tolerance of a difficult task done as best we could.

Brother Middlebrook then read the report as follows:

The assignment given to the committee came as a result of Resolution 6 (Status of the Division of Home Missions) as presented to the 1983 General Council in Anaheim, California. The resolution proposed placing the national director of the Division of Home Missions on the Executive Presbytery. A motion prevailed to refer the resolution "to a special committee to study the possible advantages and/or disadvantages of having directors or executive directors seated on the Executive Presbytery; and to specifically address three questions."

Question 1. "Shall all of the directors or executive directors be seated?"

The committee does not recommend that all be seated. The rationale is as follows:

Directors are to manage specified areas of ministry with unique abilities and interests in these areas. To place them in a position of

carrying out policy affecting all other areas of corporate structure is contrary to all responsible management practices. It was noted the Fellowship moved away from elected officers with appointment to portfolios in 1971 in an effort to avoid this weakness.

To place all directors on the Executive Presbytery would have a parallel to placing department heads and/or assistant pastors on the official boards of local churches.

The committee recognizes the vast scope and responsibilities of all division directors and recommends that ways and means be studied to give them adequate input to the Executive Presbytery.

Question 2. "Shall none of the directors or executive directors be seated?"

The committee answers this question in the affirmative. The rationale is so interrelated to the rationale of the third question, it is necessary to answer question three before giving the rationale to question two.

Question 3. "Shall some of the directors or executive directors be seated?"

The rationale for this recommendation was the most difficult. The committee placed itself under the discipline of separating personalities from principles of good management. The committee then discussed a need to make a distinction between those who interpret policy and those who implement policy. Since it is the responsibility of the Executive Presbytery to interpret policy and the directors are to implement policy in their divisions, no single director should have privileged authority over his own division on the Executive Presbytery level.

In summary, the committee recommends:

1. That none of the executive/national directors be seated on the Executive Presbytery.
2. That all executive/national directors shall be seated on the General Presbytery with the privilege of voice and vote, effective immediately.
3. That all divisional directors shall be called "executive directors."
4. That all necessary actions be taken in the 1985 General Council to allow implementation at the time of a transition of leadership in the division.
5. That enabling resolutions amending the General Council Constitution and Bylaws be presented to implement the actions taken.

The members of the committee were asked to be seated on the platform for availability to respond to queries. It was moved and seconded to receive the committee report.

Inquiry was made as to whether or not it would be appropriate to have Resolution 1 presented so there would be an adequate base of information to make a responsible judgment. The chairman ruled that it would be appropriate.

Resolution 1. Status of National and Executive Directors

Bartlett Peterson, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, read Resolution 1 as follows and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded.

WHEREAS, The 40th General Council called for a committee to study the feasibility of seating executive and/or national directors on the Executive Presbytery; and

WHEREAS, That committee's report offers proposals which will, if adopted, require amendments to the constitution and bylaws; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution Article IX. Officers, Section 2, paragraph a (page 96), which now reads:

a. **Composition and terms of office.** 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 8 other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 13. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

be amended to read:

a. **Composition and terms of office.** The Executive Presbytery shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, the general treasurer, together with 8 other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 12. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution Article IX. Officers, Section 3, be amended by the addition of a new paragraph e to read as follows:

e. **Divisional executive directors.** The executive director of each of the following divisions shall be members of the General Presbytery: Division of Christian Education, Division of Church Ministries, Division of Communications, Division of Foreign Missions, Division of Home Missions, and Division of Publication.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That Article IX. Officers, Section 3, current paragraph e, be relettered f.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article II. Election of Officers, Section 2, paragraph f (page 102), which now reads:

f. **Executive director of foreign missions.** The executive director of foreign missions shall be elected in the following manner: The

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

be amended by deletion; and further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article III. Section 5 (page 104), which now reads:

Section 5. Duties of the Executive Director of Foreign Missions

He shall be the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction the division shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

- a. Keep a record of all official acts of the Foreign Missions Board and other committees of the division.
- b. Conduct all correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.
- c. Prepare the foreign missions material in the Pentecostal Evangel from missionary letters and reports.
- d. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God in all relationships with governments or authorities where our foreign missions work is involved.
- e. Direct the foreign missions activities of the Fellowship.
- f. Distribute all foreign missions funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Foreign Missions Committee.
- g. Keep such records of all funds received and disbursed as will safeguard the funds from loss en route to the field.
- h. Act as a purchasing agent for foreign missions supplies.
- i. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery.

be amended by deletion; and further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XV. Division of Foreign Missions, Section 2, paragraph a (page 150), which now reads:

- a. **Executive director.** There shall be an executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph f, of the bylaws.

be amended to read:

- a. **Executive Director.** The Executive Presbytery shall elect an executive director, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. He shall be charged with the oversight of the Division of Foreign Missions.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That the title executive director be substituted for national director wherever it occurs.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 12 noon with the singing of the Doxology. Missionary Mark Buntain of India gave the benediction.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 9

Brother Robert L. Sapp led in singing "Come Bless the Lord," "I Love You With the Love of the Lord," "Rejoice, Ye Children of the Lord," and "I Am Loved," as the afternoon session opened. Robert Ceabhart of Memphis, Tennessee, and Roger Thomassen of Sundusky, Ohio, served at the organ and piano, respectively. Philip Bongiorno, Pennsylvania-Delaware District superintendent, led in prayer for a special request and for God's guidance. The Council chorus, "Stand Firm" was sung several times.

Offering Appeal

J. W. Farmer, West Texas District superintendent, gave the offering appeal. Jim Tucker of Houston, Texas, sang while the offering was received.

Business Session

The general superintendent asked the members of the Resolutions Committee to come to the platform. It was learned that additional tellers were needed to service the large delegation of voters. A motion prevailed for the chairman in collaboration with Frank Cargill, chairman of the Tellers Committee, to appoint eight additional members. The following names were presented to add to the list of tellers: Paul A. LeRoy, Richard Rappaglia, George D. Cope, Mark Ford, Tommy G. Crider, Drexel T. Brunson, Harold D. Hanson, Dan R. Crouch. A motion prevailed to approve these additions.

Roster Committee Report

Efraim Espinoza, cochairman of the Roster Committee, gave the following report of the Roster Committee as of 2:30 p.m. Friday:

Ordained ministers	3,329	
Delegates	1,075	
Voting constituency		4,404
Licensed ministers	386	
Visitors	5,505	
Nonvoting constituency		5,891
Total registration		10,295

A motion prevailed to receive the Roster Committee Report as a progress report.

David Milley of Walpole, Massachusetts, led in prayer for God's guidance upon the voting. The chair read the constitutional provisions for executive officers and also the bylaw provisions for the election of officers.

Election of General Superintendent

Inasmuch as the first officer to be elected was the general superintendent, Brother Zimmerman turned the chair over to Assistant Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson. After ballots were distributed, Brother Carlson instructed that one name should be placed on the ballot, including either initials or the given name. The nominating ballots were cast and collected. Brother Carlson turned the chair back to Brother Zimmerman.

Feasibility of Executive and National Directors on the Executive Presbytery and Resolution 1—Continuation

The chairman explained that prior to the noon recess there were two motions before the house. The first motion was to receive the report of the committee. Immediately afterward, the house desired that Resolution 1 be presented. This resolution provided the enabling legislation to implement the recommendations of the study committee. In further summarization, the chairman stated that the motion to adopt the resolution was before the house.

Some questions were raised to clarify points in the committee report. After hearing several strong statements in opposition to the committee recommendations, the previous question was called for. This motion was carried by more than a two-thirds vote.

The ranking motion to adopt Resolution 1 was placed before the house. The motion was lost.

By hand vote, the motion to receive the committee report was tabled.

The chair indicated that an expression of appreciation was due the members of the two committees whose reports have been considered as unfinished business. The voters responded with a round of applause.

A motion prevailed to express appreciation to the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Executive and National Directors on the Executive Presbytery. It was noted that "they performed their task well. We asked them to assist in the problem we had 2 years ago, and they have assisted us even though we did not agree with their recommendation."

Resolution 2. Spiritual Life Committee

Bartlett Peterson read Resolution 2 as follows:

WHEREAS, The General Council in session in 1959 authorized a standing committee "to be a repository of field reports on spiritual needs which could be combined into data for the use of the executive brethren in guiding the spiritual affairs of the Movement"; and

WHEREAS, In each succeeding General Council a Spiritual Life Committee has convened and submitted its report; and

WHEREAS, The General Council in session in 1979 reaffirmed its desire for the Spiritual Life Committee to be a standing committee; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article IV (page 107), be amended by inserting the following:

Section 5. Spiritual Life Committee

A Spiritual Life Committee shall be appointed by the general superintendent in conjunction with the Executive Presbytery, selected from a cross section of the Fellowship. The committee shall function for a 2-year period and report to the biennial meeting of the General Council and to the Executive Presbytery as feasible.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That the present Section 5 be renumbered Section 6.

A motion prevailed to adopt Resolution 2.

Resolution 3. Roster Committee

Brother Peterson read Resolution 3 as follows:

WHEREAS, The Roster Committee no longer uses the classification foreign missionary on badges it prepares; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the words "foreign missionaries" be deleted from the last sentence of Bylaws Article IV, Section 3 (page 107), so that the section will read:

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 the responsibility of examining credentials of all ministers and delegates. Ordained ministers shall identify themselves by fellowship cards 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, licensed ministers, delegates from assemblies, visitors, etc.

A motion prevailed to adopt Resolution 3.

Resolution 4. Proposed Resolution To Amend Constitution Article V

Brother Peterson read Resolution 4 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Statement of Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God (Constitution Article V, page 90), is a clear and accurate profession to the Fellowship and to the world of our beliefs; and

WHEREAS, The Statement of Fundamental Truths not only lists our tenets, but also reflects by implication the priority of those tenets to persons outside of the Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Faith in Jesus Christ is the foundational doctrine of the Church (Hebrews 6:1; Ephesians 2:20; etc.) and the heart of its gospel (1 Corinthians 1:23; Ephesians 3:6; etc.), and therefore is the most fundamental of all fundamental truths; and

WHEREAS, Our present Statement of Fundamental Truths appears to place "The Scriptures Inspired" (our first Fundamental Truth) above both "The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ" and "The One True God"; and

WHEREAS, While we honor the Scriptures as God's infallible Word to man, we do not honor the subject above the object of our faith nor the instrument above its creator; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution Article V, be amended to reflect the preeminence of the "The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ" among our fundamental truths by placing it first, instead of third, in our Statement of Fundamental Truths and by making our present first truth, "The Scriptures Inspired," third; and further be it

RESOLVED, That all immediate and subsequent future publications from, or related to, The General Council of the Assemblies of God reflect this amended sequence of our Fundamental Truths.

The motion to adopt Resolution 4 was seconded. A brief discussion followed in which it was pointed out that (1) nowhere in the documents of our history is there even the slightest suggestion that the fundamental truths were placed in order of their importance; and (2) all writers know it is important to state first the written source of information, and the inspired Scriptures listed first indicates the premise on which all our other beliefs are based.

The motion to adopt Resolution 4 was lost.

Resolution 5. Pornography

Brother Peterson read Resolution 5 and moved its adoption. The motion was seconded and discussion followed.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by adding item 5 to read as follows: That the General Council sponsor a national awareness week during 1986.

The chairman indicated that nothing had been offered to indicate how this would be implemented, but assumed that it would be referred back to the Committee on Mission.

The motion to amend was carried.

By common consent the words "women and" were inserted before the word "children" in the second whereas.

The parliamentarians were consulted to determine whether or not it

was proper to amend the preamble of a resolution. They ruled that the entire resolution was the property of the body. This was confirmed by Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised.

A motion prevailed to delete the third whereas of the resolution as printed which stated: "Whereas, The Supreme Court in 1977 reaffirmed that obscenity is not within the area of constitutionally protected speech and press."

The motion carried to adopt the resolution as amended. Resolution 5 as amended and adopted follows:

WHEREAS, Pornography in America has reached epidemic proportions with devastating effects on the morals of our nation by inciting evils ranging from sexual abuse to murder; and

WHEREAS, The moral fiber of our nation has been weakened to the point where pornography has been allowed to become prominent in cinema, television, and printed media, encouraging unscriptural conduct and culturally unacceptable perverted behavior, often involving horrifying abuse to women and children; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this 41st General Council of the Assemblies of God go on record:

1. Recognizing that pornography is the product of a wicked, spiritual force that has deplorable consequences for both adults and children in our society;
2. Joining other church bodies across our nation in opposing this growing evil by refusing to support those who promote and sustain pornography;
3. Recommending that our pastors urge members of their congregations to exert influence at all levels of government, local, state, and national, asking them to use all legal means to enforce anti-pornography laws;
4. Seeking ways to minister redemptively to the victims of pornography; and
5. That the General Council sponsor a national awareness week during 1986.

Resolution 6. Graduate School of Theology Name Change

Brother Peterson read Resolution 6 as follows:

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery in session August 24, 1984, approved the action of the Board of Directors to change the name of the Assemblies of God Graduate School to Assemblies of God Theological Seminary; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws Article XIX. Institutions, Section 4 (page 170), be amended to be titled "Assemblies of God Theological Seminary," and further be it

RESOLVED, That the entire section be edited accordingly.
A motion prevailed to adopt Resolution 6.

Resolution 7. Special Ministries Department Name Change

Brother Peterson read Resolution 7 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There is a need to more accurately set forth the functions of the Special Ministries Department of the Division of Home Missions in order to reflect a clearer image of its mandate to reach America's neglected groups; and

WHEREAS, Growing ethnic and cultural awareness makes it increasingly important that we avoid insensitivity which may impede effective evangelization of America's ethnic, language, and other distinct groups; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the name of the Special Ministries Department be changed to: Intercultural Ministries Department; and further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XVI, Section 1 (page 156), and Section 4 (page 158), be edited to reflect this name change; and further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XVI, Section 4, paragraph b (page 158), be amended to read:

b. Function. The Intercultural Ministries Department shall provide ministry among those groups of people in the United States whose evangelization involves specialized understanding and preparation. These groups are those having cultural, ethnic, or language distinctiveness; those constituting specialized communications groups such as the deaf and the blind; and those otherwise forming distinguishable groups.

The motion was seconded and discussion ensued. A question was raised as to whether this resolution meant that foreign language districts would come under the umbrella of the Division of Home Missions. The chairman responded by stating that foreign language districts are autonomous in their own right and do not come under the Division of Home Missions in an administrative capacity.

Report of Nominating Ballot for General Superintendent

The chair was turned over to Brother Carlson, and Frank Cargill, Tellers Committee chairman, made the following report:

Total votes cast. 3,307
Needed to elect 2,205

Nominees were as follows: Jay Alford, E. R. Anderson, Donald Argue, Earl Banning, Tommy Barnett, Almon Bartholomew, D. H. Bazan, Ed Bess, James K. Bridges, L. A. Buck, Howard Burroughs, G. Raymond Carlson, Frank Cole, Glen Cole, Russell Cox, David B. Crabtree, Robert Crabtree, Charles Crank, Samuel DiTrolio, Richard Dobbins, Richard W.

Dortch, Richard Dresselhaus, Donald Farmer, J. W. Farmer, George Flattery, David W. Flower, Joseph R. Flower, Richard B. Foth, Ivar Frick, Marvin E. Gorman, Charles E. Hackett, C. Harris, James Hennesy, James Henry, J. Philip Hogan, Raymond H. Hudson, Randy Hurst, Gene Jackson, Cecil T. Janway, J. Foy Johnson, Virgil L. Jones, Arvid Kingsriter, Clarence E. Lambert, R. V. Lambert, H. Maurice Lednicky, Paul Lowenberg, J. D. Middlebrook, Jesse Miranda, Ernest Moen, Darrell Musgrove, Armon Newburn, Thomas Paino, William Pruitt, George Raduano, Kermit Reneau, D. G. Robison, Dave Roever, W. Nelson Sachs, Robert K. Schmidgall, Robert A. Sites, Robert H. Spence, Howard Spruill, Everett Stenhouse, Karl Strader, Norman L. Surratt, Jimmy Swaggart, Thomas E. Trask, Loren O. Triplett, William Vickery, W. M. Vickers, Aaron Wall, Philip A. Wannenmacher, Norman Wenig, Austin Wilkerson, David Wilkerson, B. Wilson, John Wilson, George O. Wood, Woodrow Yasuhara, Thomas F. Zimmerman.

Brother Carlson noted that there was not an election on the nominating ballot and called for the distribution of ballots in preparation of casting the first elective ballot. He requested Bartlett Peterson to lead in prayer for God's guidance. Responding to the privileged motion adopted in the final session of the Council that this prayer be permanently memorialized in our records, it follows:

Our Father, we thank Thee that wisdom resides with Thee. Thou art the same, the great I Am. Thou art the Lord of lion's den and fiery furnace. Thou art the Lord of dungeon cell and Upper Room. The Church has always trusted in You, and we have trusted in You and have never been disappointed. We ask that You would bless our great Movement today as we bow before You as rain before the wind. Guide us. Speak to our hearts. Guide our hearts and guide our hands as we write on this ballot Your choice for this office. In the name of Christ, the Eternal, Unfailing One, we pray. Amen.

Remarks by Thomas F. Zimmerman

Brother Zimmerman asked for the privilege of the floor. He made the following statement:

I certainly want to take this occasion to thank this wonderful Fellowship from the bottom of my heart. It has been one of the great honors of my life to serve the Fellowship which has meant very, very much to me. I've had 26 wonderful years; it will be that when I complete my present tenure.

I have had nothing but the love and respect and support of all of my faithful brethren, not only in this country but around the world, and I have mingled emotions as I stand here today. I have sought earnestly the will of God, and I determined that in coming to San Antonio, I would take absolutely no initiative in interfering with trying to ascertain what God's will or purpose would be as far as any future that I might have. I feel God has spoken, and I accept with joy in my

heart that which has occurred. And I respectfully request that as you cast your ballot, please look to someone else. Thank you very much. At the conclusion of these remarks, the entire delegation gave Brother Zimmerman a standing ovation.

A request for clarification was presented inasmuch as it was felt that Brother Zimmerman had not precisely withdrawn his name. The chair ruled it was his opinion he had not.

Recess

The afternoon session recessed to reconvene at 10 a.m. Saturday. Armon Newburn, Oklahoma District superintendent, dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 9

The Friday evening service was under the direction of J. Foy Johnson, executive presbyter from the Southeast Area. Hardy W. Steinberg, national director of the Division of Christian Education, gave the Scripture reading from Psalm 40:1-8. Dean Romanelli, minister of music, Houston, Texas, and Joseph Abston, pastor, Missouri City, Texas, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Jesse Miranda, superintendent of the Pacific Latin American District, was the speaker for the service which had the theme "Stand Firm in God's Will." Special music for the service was provided by a choir directed by Mike Knowlton and Starla and Kendall Bridges, all of Pasadena, Texas, and by Vicente Montano, San Diego, California.

SATURDAY MORNING—AUGUST 10 GENERAL COUNCIL PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Prayer Breakfast was held Saturday, August 10, in the North Banquet Hall of the Convention Center beginning at 7:30 a.m. Its theme was: "Stand Firm in Integrity." The general superintendent served as master of ceremonies. G. Raymond Carlson gave the invocation and read Scripture from 1 Peter 5:1-11. Wayde and Wayne Wilson, brass ensemble of Woodward, Oklahoma, provided music prior to and during the breakfast. Sharon Corkran of Lake Charles, Louisiana, sang "It Is Well With My Soul."

Brother Zimmerman introduced the speaker, the Honorable John Ashcroft, governor of Missouri, and his wife Janet. They presented a song of his composing entitled, "The Reason," which included audience participation. He spoke on Deuteronomy 30:19, emphasizing the importance of making proper choices. He concluded his message by singing one of his songs, "Thanks for Power."

After a period of concerted prayer, J. Robert Ashcroft, president of Berean College of the Assemblies of God, concluded with the benediction.

Saturday Morning Business

"He Brought Me Out" was the opening chorus led by Roy Sapp as the business session began. Gloria Argue of Fremont, California, was the

organist and Ramona Crabtree of San Jose, California, was the pianist. Brother Kermit Reneau, former assistant general superintendent and honorary general presbyter from Houston, Texas, led in prayer.

Offering Appeal

Brother Carlson made the announcements and introduced Paul Savage, New Mexico District superintendent, who made the offering appeal. The offertory was a vocal solo by Jack Searle of La Jolla, California. He gave a brief testimony and sang "It Is No Secret."

Special Guest

Thomas F. Zimmerman introduced Brother Aime Blanc, senior pastor of the Assembly of God in Toulouse, France, and made a special presentation to him. Through an interpreter Brother Blanc greeted the General Council.

Business Session

The business session was called to order at 10:35 a.m. The first item of business was a report from the Roster Committee as of 10 a.m., Saturday.

Roster Committee Report

Harold Wall gave the following report:

Ordained ministers	3,422	
Delegates	<u>1,092</u>	
Total voting		4,514
Licensed ministers	414	
Visitors	<u>5,804</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>6,218</u>
Total registration		10,732

A motion prevailed to receive this as an updated progress report.

First Elective Ballot General Superintendent

The assistant general superintendent took the chair, and the chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the results of the first elective ballot for the office of general superintendent:

Ballots cast	2,830
Needed to elect	1,887

The results of the first ballot are as follows: Jay Alford 1, E. R. Anderson 2, Don Argue 20, Earl Banning 8, Tommy Barnett 1, Almon Bartholomew 3, D. H. Bazan 1, James K. Bridges 51, Howard Burroughs 2, G. Raymond Carlson 522, Frank Cole 2, Glen Cole 143, Russell Cox 1, Robert Crabtree 3, Charles Crank 7, Richard Dobbins 1, Richard Dortch 192, Richard Dresselhaus 2, J. W. Farmer 4, George Flattery 3, Joseph R. Flower 10, Richard Foth 4, Ivar Frick 3, Marvin Gorman 315, Charles Hackett 1, J.

Philip Hogan 6, Gene Jackson 3, Cecil Janway 1, J. Foy Johnson 14, Arvid Kingsriter 1, Clarence E. Lambert 7, H. Maurice Lednicky 4, Paul Lowenberg 9, J. D. Middlebrook 1, Jesse Miranda 12, Ernest Moen 5, Darrell Musgrove 1, Armon Newburn 24, D. G. Robison 1, W. Nelson Sachs 3, Robert K. Schmidgall 21, Robert A. Sites 6, Robert H. Spence 47, Howard Spruill 1, Everett Stenhouse 247, Karl Strader 5, Jimmy Swaggart 7, Thomas E. Trask 2, Loren O. Triplett 6, William O. Vickery 11, Aaron Wall 1, Philip A. Wannenmacher 14, Austin Wilkerson 1, David Wilkerson 1, B. Wilson 1, George Wood 3, Thomas F. Zimmerman, 1,062.

There was no election, therefore a second elective ballot was distributed.

Remarks by Thomas F. Zimmerman

Brother Zimmerman requested the privilege of the floor and made the following statement:

I suspect I need to reemphasize the fact that it is my feeling that the General Council has reached a time when in the providence of the Lord we should look for leadership in a new direction. For that reason I said what I said yesterday, not with any other motivation except sharing to you and with you what I felt in my heart. I hope nobody interpreted my remarks as having any political overtones whatsoever. I have never in all of my years of service to the General Council engaged in anything that I intended to be a ploy for support. I can assure you that my remarks yesterday had no intention of being that in any way, shape, or form.

I did not begin praying about what God would have me to do just since coming into San Antonio. This has been a serious matter of prayer, not only on my part but on the part of those very close to me. I do not look lightly upon the love, the support, the unswerving manner in which this Fellowship has given to me the opportunity of serving in the capacity to which I felt God had called me.

I never at any time in the 26 years that I have served in this office confused the general superintendency and Tom Zimmerman as being synonymous. I always revered the office and tried to fulfill its responsibilities with faithfulness, with dignity, and with the very best that I knew how, but never did I feel, nor do I feel, that the office is the property of any person. I do not believe that people own offices. So it has never been difficult for me to keep myself separated from an official title. I have tried to fulfill the responsibility of the office, and I hope, under God, I have done an acceptable job.

But this Movement need not go through the throes of feeling that turning now to finding God's will for new leadership is in any sense of the word a reflection of lack of love or disloyalty to the leadership that you have had. I hope you will understand that. And, please, do not prolong the voting procedures just to give me something to placate my feelings. I do not need that, brethren.

My standing is before God. My calling is from God. My service rendered has been as unto you, my brethren, but the service I have rendered has been in the name of Him whose name I bear. So please understand where I am coming from. God bless you!"

Following Brother Zimmerman's remarks the house responded with a standing ovation.

The second elective ballots for general superintendent were cast and collected. Brother Carlson returned the chair to Brother Zimmerman.

American Bible Society Representative

The general superintendent introduced J. Edgar Cunningham, of the American Bible Society, who brought greetings and expressed thanks to the Assemblies of God for its support, help, and love. He said, "Your emphasis on evangelism and missions and winning the people helps us to provide the Scriptures in the languages they can read and understand. I thank God for you. I pray for you, and I'm pleased to be a guest here this week."

Resolution 7. Special Ministries Department Name Change—Continuation

The chairman reestablished the action taken prior to recess on Friday afternoon, i.e., there was a motion before the house to adopt Resolution 7. A question was asked how the resolution would affect the statement in the bylaws. Robert Pirtle responded by reading the present wording on paragraph b. He pointed out that the nomenclature for the department would be changed. Also, the resolution proposes an updated statement defining the areas to which the department ministers.

The motion to adopt Resolution 7 was carried.

Resolution 8. National Home Missionaries Tithe to Division

Brother Peterson read Resolution 8 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Funds received for the Division of Home Missions are not sufficient to pay operational expenses; and

WHEREAS, The Division of Home Missions has historically operated with large annual subsidies from General Council funds in order to meet operational expenses; and

WHEREAS, The Division of Home Missions spends most of its energy and expense serving the interest of its missionaries; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That in order to provide a more adequate base of operation, Bylaws Article XVI, Section 6 (page 161), shall be amended by the addition of subparagraph g, to read as follows:

g. One-half of the tithes of all nationally appointed home missionaries.

The motion was seconded and several spoke in favor of the resolution and expressed concern for Home Missions.

During the time of discussion which followed, some strong appeals were made which suggested that due to the critical financial need in many areas where home missionaries labor, the body should be given opportunity to give to Home Missions.

It was moved to amend the resolution by adding paragraph h to read: "That our churches in the Council be encouraged to receive at least one annual offering to be sent to the Division of Home Missions to assist in support of the Division of Home Missions."

A motion then prevailed to table Resolution 8 with its proposed amendments.

A further motion prevailed to distribute pieces of paper on which individuals and churches could record a commitment to be paid on a monthly basis for the support of the Division of Home Missions, and that as soon as possible a report on that be given.

In response to a question, the general superintendent explained that there would be an opportunity to give to missions in the Sunday evening offering, half of which would be for foreign missions and half for home missions.

It was suggested that the chairman send a letter to ministers who were not present at General Council, asking them to cooperate in sending an offering to the Division of Home Missions. Brother Pirtle responded that they would be happy to do this. He also thanked "all of those who have participated in this generous outpouring to the Division of Home Missions. This will solve a lot of things for us, brethren, and we do appreciate it deeply and thank you brethren who spoke to this matter."

Second Elective Ballot for General Superintendent

Brother Cargill reported the results of the second elective ballot for the office of general superintendent as follows:

Ballots cast	3,605
Needed to elect	2,404

The results of the second ballot were as follows: Donald Argue 8, Earl Banning 1, James K. Bridges 63, G. Raymond Carlson 1,270, Glen Cole 209, Charles Crank 4, Richard W. Dortch 325, J. W. Farmer 1, Joseph R. Flower 1, Ivar Frick 1, Marvin E. Gorman 769, J. Philip Hogan 1, Raymond H. Hudson 3, J. Foy Johnson 2, Clarence E. Lambert 7, Paul Lowenberg 7, Jesse Miranda 12, Ernest Moen 1, Armon Newburn 31, Kermit Reneau 1, Robert K. Schmidgall 19, Robert A. Sites 1, Robert H. Spence 43, Everett Stenhouse 435, Karl Strader 3, Jimmy Swaggart 6, Loren O. Triplett 2, William Vickery 4, Philip Wannenmacher 5, David Wilkerson 1, Thomas F. Zimmerman 369.

No candidate received the required $\frac{2}{3}$ vote, therefore there was no

election. Attention was called to the provision of Bylaws Article II, Section 2, which calls for the 15 highest candidates only to be listed for the third elective ballot.

The names to be considered on the third elective ballot were: Don Argue, James K. Bridges, G. Raymond Carlson, Glen Cole, Richard W. Dortch, Marvin E. Gorman, Clarence E. Lambert, Paul Lowenberg, Jesse Miranda, Armon Newburn, Robert Schmidgall, Robert Spence, Everett R. Stenhouse, Jimmy Swaggart, and Philip Wannenmacher.

The ballots which had been distributed to the delegates were collected by the tellers, and the chairman declared the third elective ballot closed.

Recess

The session recessed at 12:10 p.m. to reconvene at 2:15 p.m. Paul Williams of Lakeland, Florida, dismissed in prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 10

J. Russell Hosey opened the Saturday afternoon session by leading in singing "We'll Give the Glory to Jesus," "Thy Lovingkindness Is Better Than Life," and "We Have Come Into This House." Brother Carlson was in charge of the preliminaries. Serving at the piano and organ, respectively, were Kathy Strandquist of Kenosha, Wisconsin, and Marian Kingsriter of Bloomington, Minnesota. Derwood Dubose, North Texas assistant district superintendent, made the offering appeal. CHRISM, a vocal ensemble from Evangel College, sang for the offertory.

Brother Zimmerman made a presentation to General Superintendent Ayad Shin-ooda of Egypt, who in turn made a special presentation to Brother Zimmerman.

Roster Committee Report

Efraim Espinoza, cochairman of the Roster Committee, brought the following report as of 2 p.m., Saturday:

Ordained ministers	3,446	
Delegates	<u>1,101</u>	
Voting constituency		4,547
Licensed ministers	419	
Visitors	<u>6,312</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>6,731</u>
Total registration		11,278

A motion prevailed to receive the Roster Committee report.

Report on Home Missions Pledges

Brother Zimmerman gave a progress report regarding pledges made for Home Missions, indicating that other pledges will be coming in: "At the present time \$18,200 a month or \$218,400 a year has been pledged. Annual commitments of \$3,750 were made on a one-time basis. The total tabulated

was projected to be \$222,150. I know Brother Pirtle appreciates this. I express my appreciation, because I know what a giant step forward this is. Thank you and thank God for His faithfulness."

Privileged Resolution

Brother Peterson received permission to present a privileged resolution. The assistant general superintendent took the chair while it was read as follows:

WHEREAS, God our Father, the generous Giver of gifts to His church, has favored the Assemblies of God with the gift of a great and able shepherd and leader in the person of Dr. Thomas F. Zimmerman; and

WHEREAS, Brother Zimmerman has served our Movement with great distinction, vision, dignity, and capability as its general superintendent; and

WHEREAS, This Council in session desires to express its continuing love and appreciation to him; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That the Executive Presbytery be hereby requested to formulate plans for an appropriate expression of love and appreciation to our beloved general superintendent and Mrs. Zimmerman for faithful service and commitment to our Fellowship.

The motion was moved and seconded. It was carried accompanied by a prolonged standing ovation to Brother Zimmerman. After returning to the chair, Brother Zimmerman thanked the body stating: "I don't think you expected me to answer. There will be a time when I can say what I feel."

Resolution 9. Editing of Bylaws Article XVI, Section 6

Brother Peterson read Resolution 9 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Bylaws Article XVI, Section 6, (pages 160 and 161), seems to be out of sequence in some regards; and

WHEREAS, Some editing should be done to provide better clarification; and

WHEREAS, The Home Missions Administrative Committee recommends this be done; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the sequence of the paragraphs under Bylaws Article XVI, Section 6, be changed to the following:

- a. remains a
- b. remains b
- c. remains c
- d. moved to f
- e. moved to d
- f. moved to e

The motion was seconded and carried.

Third Elective Ballot for General Superintendent

The Tellers Committee chairman brought the following report for the third elective ballot for general superintendent:

Total votes	3,220
Needed to elect	2,147
G. Raymond Carlson	1,406
Marvin E. Gorman	916
Everett R. Stenhouse	370
Richard W. Dortch	255
Glen Cole	172
James K. Bridges	35
Armon Newburn	16
Robert Spence	13
Jesse Miranda	10
Clarence E. Lambert	8
Robert Schmidgall	7
Jimmy Swaggart	5
Don Argue	3
Paul Lowenberg	2
Philip Wannemacher	2

The chairman declared that there was no election on the third elective ballot and ordered the distribution of ballots. According to the bylaws, only the names of the three receiving the highest votes were retained. The fourth elective ballot was cast and collected. The chairman declared the balloting closed.

Fourth Elective Ballot for General Superintendent

Brother Cargill brought the following report of the fourth elective ballot for general superintendent:

Votes cast	3,395
Needed to elect	2,264
G. Raymond Carlson	1,870
Marvin E. Gorman	1,134
Everett R. Stenhouse	391

The chair declared that there was no election on the fourth elective ballot and requested ballots be distributed for the fifth elective ballot. When the ballots were cast and collected, he declared the balloting closed.

Fifth Elective Ballot for General Superintendent

The Tellers Committee chairman brought the following report of the fifth elective ballot for general superintendent:

Votes cast	3,399
Needed to elect	2,266
G. Raymond Carlson	2,001

Marvin E. Gorman	1,297
Everett R. Stenhouse	101

The chairman declared that there was no election on the fifth elective ballot and requested ballots to be distributed for the sixth elective ballot. After the ballots were cast and collected, he declared the balloting closed.

Sixth Elective Ballot for General Superintendent

Brother Cargill brought the following report for the sixth elective ballot for general superintendent:

Votes cast	3,379
Needed to elect	2,253
G. Raymond Carlson	2,205
Marvin E. Gorman	1,138
Everett R. Stenhouse	36

The chair declared that there was no election on the sixth elective ballot and requested ballots be distributed. A suggestion was made for earnest prayer to be had at this time asking God's guidance. Brother Zimmerman led in prayer. He then called for the ballots to be cast and collected. The balloting was declared closed for the seventh elective ballot.

Seventh Elective Ballot for General Superintendent

Brother Cargill brought the following report from the Tellers Committee of the seventh elective ballot:

Votes cast	2,919
Needed to elect	1,946
G. Raymond Carlson	2,177
Marvin E. Gorman	726
Everett R. Stenhouse	16

The chairman, noting that G. Raymond Carlson received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him elected general superintendent.

The assemblage burst into applause and rose to acknowledge the newly elected general superintendent.

Remarks by G. Raymond Carlson

The newly elected general superintendent responded in part as follows:

Brother Chairman, I came to this General Council with a very sensitive feeling that our general superintendent would continue to serve us. When he chose to withdraw, it changed the picture for all of us. . . . I want to thank you for your vote. I need your prayers and your support. I will endeavor to do my best, but I want you to know that whoever you chose to follow T. F. Zimmerman, was following one of the great leaders of our generation. Twenty-six years ago in this city, he was chosen as our general superintendent. At that same meeting this Fellowship gave me the privilege of becoming a member of the Executive

Presbytery. Sixteen years ago, in the city of Dallas, this Fellowship gave me another high honor, one I felt unworthy of receiving, and that was being elected as one of the assistant general superintendents. When we came to Kansas City, again a mantle fell my way.

I have been pleased to serve the Fellowship, and I have been pleased to work with Brother Zimmerman who, as I said before, is one of the great leaders of our generation. He moves with presidents. I think he has been a guest at the White House with every president for approximately 2 decades. He is known worldwide as a leader, not only in Pentecostal circles, but in the evangelical world and in the entire church world. He is a force in our local community where we live. . . . God gifted this man and prepared him for leadership to our Movement. His dynamic leadership, his trust, and his faith, and all that's involved in personality and abilities that God gifted him with, have been so great in leading our Movement. All of you know what God has done for our Movement in these last 26 years, plus all the years of others who served so well prior to that time. I want to pay tribute to him. Now I stand here not able to fill those shoes, but I want to serve God, and I want to serve you as a Fellowship. I need your prayers, your support, and your understanding, for I will be prone to error. I will be prone to doing that which you possibly would not see as I see. By God's help I will want to work with the executive brethren you give us to work with, and to work with you the pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and, of course, district officers, leaders, and the laypeople of our church.

When the apostle Paul wrote to the church, he said, "Grace and peace be unto you." But when he wrote to the preacher, he added a third word, and that's the one I desperately need: "Grace, mercy, and peace." Give me your mercy, give me your understanding, and give me your prayers. . . .

My only desire, as I know it is yours, is that we may serve our Lord acceptably. I believe our time is short. We have a tremendous task, a great work to be done. . . . God has been so good to us as a Fellowship. . . . Again, I thank you, and I pray God to help us all that we shall move on triumphantly in the Lord and accomplish His purpose.

And, Brother Zimmerman, I appeal to you for your continued help in every way. I'm going to look forward to working with you in whatever way God will direct us. Thank you kindly.

Resolution 10. Terms of General Council Officers

Brother Peterson read Resolution 10 and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, This Fellowship has been distinguished by exemplary leadership throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, This God-given talent has been expressed most effectively through the office of general superintendent and the executive officers of our Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship is blessed with many men of diverse leadership abilities who would contribute a freshness in exchange of ideas and philosophy; and

WHEREAS, The regular succession of leadership would provide the impetus for continual growth and creative ministry; and

WHEREAS, The Fellowship would profit from such breadth of counsel; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Constitution Article IX, Section 1, paragraph a, Officers and terms of office, page 96, shall be amended by adding the following sentence:

An executive officer shall not be elected for more than two terms in succession.

The paragraph would then read:

The officers shall consist of the general superintendent, the assistant general superintendent, the general secretary, and the general treasurer, together with other officers as may be authorized in the future. Their terms of office shall begin 3 months after the date of election. The term of office for the general superintendent shall continue for 4 years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify. An executive officer shall not be elected for more than two terms in succession.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That this amendment shall affect neither the tenure of any present incumbent nor any future reelection or reelections to the office he presently serves.

The motion was seconded, but after a brief discussion, it was moved and seconded to table the resolution. The motion to table was lost. The motion to adopt Resolution 10 was lost.

Resolution 11. Support of Headquarters by Ministers

Brother Peterson read Resolution 11 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The ministers' tithes to the General Council presently fall considerably short of covering the budgetary requirements of executive administration; and

WHEREAS, All licensed and ordained ministers receive Advance magazine, General Council yearbooks, and minute books without cost; and

WHEREAS, It has been 6 years since there has been an adjustment in the ministers' required fee, during which time there has been a significant inflationary impact; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the annual financial obligation to the General Council shall be increased to \$120 for ordained ministers and to \$60 for licensed ministers; and further be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XVIII, Section 1, paragraph c (1) (page 163), be amended to read:

Ordained ministers should recognize their obligation to contribute \$10 per month from their tithes, or as an offering, or through their influence. Licensed ministers should contribute \$5 per month. All who can are strongly urged to give more than the suggested amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor.

The motion was seconded. Reference was made to page 10 of the Audit Report where "Offerings" are listed in the amount of \$11,926,600. Also "Excess of Support and Revenues Over Expenses" amounts to \$5,509,607. The question was asked in what way is there a deficit in the support of general headquarters. The general treasurer responded by explaining that the \$11 million plus figure includes seven different areas (further explained in the notes on page 14 under A). This money includes unrestricted resources, restricted resources, church loan funds, institutional and rental properties, Deferred Giving and Trusts funds, and Ministers Group Life Insurance Fund. The actual income from ministers' tithes and from churches amounted to just a little over \$1 million. From this fund such expenses are cared for as committees called for by the General Council and the General Presbytery, Executive Presbytery expenses, the executive officers, their office expense, their secretaries, including the executive director of Foreign Missions, and all related expenses. Brother Hudson indicated that this last year for the first time the fund went into the red by \$340,000.

A question was asked if income at the present rate would be sufficient if all our ministers cooperated as they should. Brother Hudson responded that we have many ministers who are over 65 and older who are in the retired status, and no support is required. "Some of these people are gracious and continue to support, but it is not accurate to multiply by the number of ministers."

A lengthy resolution was then presented as an amendment to Resolution 11, but the chair ruled that it went far afield of the resolution being considered. Further, it was too late for such a resolution to be considered by the floor due to specific guidelines in the bylaws setting forth procedure for the submission of resolutions.

It was moved to amend Resolution 11 by changing the annual amount for ordained ministers from \$120 to \$90 and for licensed ministers from \$60 to \$48; and by changing the monthly figures from \$10 to \$7.50 and from \$5 to \$4. The motion was seconded.

An amendment to the amendment was then moved and seconded as follows: That the annual amount for licensed ministers be adjusted to \$36

rather than \$48 and the monthly amount to \$3 rather than \$4. The amendment to the amendment was lost.

The motion to amend was carried.

After a period of further discussion, the motion to adopt Resolution 11 as amended was lost.

Resolution 12. Support of Headquarters by Assemblies

Brother Peterson read Resolution 12 and moved its adoption.

The motion was seconded, and the first person to speak on the motion referred to an action by the General Presbytery to establish an endowment fund calling for support from churches at \$1 per member or a percentage of their income. The following motion to refer was then presented and seconded:

Moved to refer Resolution 12 to a study committee, to be named by the Executive Presbytery, to report to the next General Council on the matter of church support for the General Council in either its Current Fund or its various funds and agencies. Such a report shall consider, but not be limited to the following questions:

1. Shall the request from the General Presbytery to churches to give one percent of their funds to the Thomas F. Zimmerman Endowment Fund for Higher Education be separate from the appeal for support of the General Council Current Fund?
2. Shall there be an appeal to churches for an allocation by some percentage of their tithes or general fund offerings for the support of the General Council and its agencies?
3. Shall any church continue to be listed in our directory as an Assemblies of God church or be permitted to continue its fellowship with us if year after year that church never gives to either the General Council or its agencies or any world or home missions endeavor; and if the answer to the above is negative, what policies and procedures need to be adopted by the General Council for pruning such a church from our rolls?
4. How shall our churches best be encouraged to support the General Council and its agencies?

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Zimmerman read again from the constitution and bylaws which give provision for the executive officers and their election.

A privileged procedural motion was presented that to "defer the nominating ballot for assistant general superintendent until the first order of business Monday morning and that we come for devotions at 9 a.m. and spend from 9 to 9:15 on our knees seeking God's will as a body before we proceed with the elections." The motion was seconded, but it failed to carry.

The ballot for assistant general superintendent was cast and the chair declared the balloting closed.

Procedural Motion

A motion prevailed to assemble at 9 a.m. Monday for prayer and then begin the business session at 9:15.

Recess

The meeting was recessed at 5:05 p.m. by singing the Doxology and with Pastor Richard Neubauer of Arlington Assembly of God, Arlington, Virginia, dismissing in prayer.

SATURDAY EVENING—AUGUST 10

The theme of the Saturday evening service was "Stand Firm in Freedom." J. Philip Hogan served as chairman, and Dave Roevers, evangelist from Fort Worth, Texas, brought the message. William Eastlake, national director of the Division of Publication, read the Scripture, Ephesians 6:10-20. Robert Sapp led the congregational singing. Gail Davis and Richard Page, both of Irving, Texas, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Special music was provided by the choir from Calvary Temple Assembly of God, Irving, Texas, directed by Lynn Hancock. Sharon Harris of Modesto, California, also provided special music. A children's choir directed by Dwayne Methvin sang prior to the evening service.

World Ministries Giving awards were presented by Raymond H. Hudson, and a special visual honoring the 50th Anniversary of the General Council Sunday School Department was shown.

SUNDAY MORNING—AUGUST 11

R. D. E. Smith was in charge of the Memorial and Communion Service, which began at 9:45 a.m. with the theme: "Stand Firm in Fellowship." Robert Pirtle, national director of the Division of Home Missions, read the Scripture from Philippians 1:3-11. The Harvesters, a choral ensemble directed by Grady Weisbrod from Southwestern Assemblies of God College, Waxahachie, Texas, provided special music. The speaker was Robert L. Brandt, executive presbyter from the Northwest Area. Paul and Marjorie Ferrin, Charlotte, North Carolina, served at the piano and organ, respectively. The offering appeal was given by Raymond H. Hudson and the offertory was a violin solo presented by Don Tanner, Lubbock, Texas.

In Memoriam

Joseph R. Flower presided during a visual presentation of the names of deceased ministers, accompanied by vocal selections by Lillie Knauls, concert vocalist. The congregation remained seated in prayerful meditation during the presentation.

The following list includes all whose names had been reported to the General Secretary's Office from April 1, 1983, to May 17, 1985.

ACKER, WILLIAM R., Wyncote, Pa.
 ADAMS, ALTON C., Dothan, Ala.
 ALBER, ALBERT M., Friend, Nebr.
 ALLEN, ALFRED, Byhalia, Miss.
 ALLEN, JACK L., Troy, Ala.
 ALLEN, JOHN W., Farmington, Mo.
 ANDERSON, JAMES T., Mountain Grove, Mo.
 ANDREWS, EMORY T., Phenix City, Ala.
 ANDREWS, IRENE (MRS.), Pasadena, Tex.
 ANDRUS, KENNETH H., Nuiqsut, Alaska
 ARBIZU, ANGELO, Oroville, Calif.
 ARGUE, WATSON, Santa Rosa, Calif.
 ASLINGER, A. H., St. Louis, Mo.
 AUSBURY, CARL B., Vero Beach, Fla.
 AYERS, GLEN H., Missoula, Mont.
 AYERS, ISAAC E., Alhambra, Calif.
 AYLOR, EDISON L., Livingston, Tex.
 BABLER, ORIN R., Waupaca, Wis.
 BAGWELL, ERVIN D., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 BARKER, EFFIE (MRS.), Oklahoma City, Okla.
 BARNETT, HERSHEL W., Kansas City, Kans.
 BARRETT, CHARLES W., Bakersfield, Calif.
 BARRICK, J. EDGAR, Grand Junction, Colo.
 BASELL, ANDREW G., Marysville, Ohio
 BAUGHN, KATHRYN, Matthews, Mo.
 BENJAMIN, SAUL P. N., Pacific Grove, Calif.
 BENNETT, FRED C. SR., Dillsburg, Pa.
 BENNETT, JAMES A., Mesquite, Tex.
 BENNETT, ROBERT L., Irving, Tex.
 BERG, ARTHUR F., Springfield, Mo.
 BLACK, RAYMOND E., Tampa, Fla.
 BLANKENSHIP, WARREN E., Panama City, Fla.
 BLANSCET, NATHANIEL F., Baytown, Tex.
 BLODGETT, CHARLES E., Bakersfield, Calif.
 BOPP, ROY O., Wautoma, Wis.
 BOTELE, IDA S. (MRS.) Perris, Calif.
 BOWNS, ROY, Brazoria, Tex.
 BOYD, FRANK M., Springfield, Mo.

BOYD, PAUL J., Madera, Calif.
 BRADFORD, ROBERT L., Anaheim, Calif.
 BRIGHTWELL, W. KENNETH, Northwood, Iowa
 BRYANT, JESSIE M. (MRS.), St. Louis, Mo.
 BULLARD, LIZZIE A. (MRS.), Kansas City, Mo.
 BUNTENBACH, FLOYD T., Sedalia, Mo.
 BURKES, MAMILEE (MRS.), Dekalb, Miss.
 BURNELL, BEATRICE (MRS.), Clarks Summit, Pa.
 BURNS, HAZEL (MRS.), Cement, Okla.
 BURRY, ELMER R., Bridgeport, Nebr.
 BUSBY, BERYL E. (MRS.), Spring Gulley, Australia
 BYERS, ROBERT B., Quincy, Ill.
 CAMPBELL, JAMES A., St. Joseph, Mo.
 CARTER, MARJORIE J. (MRS.), Jacksonville, Fla.
 CARTER, RUTH N. (MRS.), Springfield, Mo.
 CARTER, WALTER H., Lake City, S.C.
 CASTLEBERRY, JOSEPH C., Sylacauga, Ala.
 CAVANESS, AVELONE R. (MRS.), Nixa, Mo.
 CHESTER, HAZEN E., Sacramento, Calif.
 CHILDS, FORREST A., Fresno, Calif.
 CHISM, ALBERT S., Amarillo, Tex.
 CLARK, ROBERT D., Citrus Heights, Calif.
 CLARKE, SAMUEL J., San Bernardino, Calif.
 CLAY, MELVIN, Springfield, Mo.
 CLINGERMAN, LEONARD T., Auburn, N.Y.
 COLBERT, MICHAEL F., Fort Hood, Tex.
 COLE, DONALD G., Springfield, Mo.
 COLEY, FRANK C., Boise, Idaho
 CONNETT, OWEN C., Sapulpa, Okla.
 CONWAY, HERBERT C., Oklawaha, Fla.
 COOK, CHARLES J., Gulfport, Fla.
 COPENHAVER, J. WILBER, Marion, Iowa
 COPPLE, MYRL, Sacramento, Calif.
 COTTINGHAM, FRANK D., Tulsa, Okla.
 COTTON, JAMES H., Costa Mesa, Calif.
 COX, W. SHERMAN, Piggott, Ark.
 COYLE, CALLIE (MRS.), Henderson, Tex.
 COYLE, WILLIAM E., Henderson, Tex.
 CORBIN, MARTHA (MRS.), Holt, Fla.
 CRUMP, INEZ (MRS.), Wichita Falls, Tex.
 DANIELS, DANIEL, Montebello, Calif.
 DAVIDSON, MALIUS H., Cincinnati, Ohio
 DAVIS, ALBERT S., St. Clair Shores, Mich.
 DAVIS, CURTIS W., Mobile, Ala.
 DAVIS, RUBY L. (MRS.), Muleshoe, Tex.

DAVIS, SHERIDAN, Paramount, Calif.
 DEAN, SOLOMON S., Jacksonville, Ark.
 DELANOY, FLORENCE K. (MRS.), Lakeland, Fla.
 DEWLEN, PEARL L. (MRS.), Celina, Ohio
 DIAMOND, LENA (MRS.), Madera, Calif.
 DOLLINS, JAMES W., Springdale, Ark.
 DONAHUE, RICHARD E., Gassville, Ark.
 DOUGLAS, ROMAN, Tulare, Calif.
 DOUTHITT, EDITH V. (MRS.), Cumberland, Md.
 DRAPER, DANIEL F., Waco, Tex.
 DUKE, A. CLAYTON, Savannah, Ga.
 DUNN, HARVEY, Essex, Mo.
 DURHAM, RALPH A., Springfield, Mo.
 DUVALL, DON D., Sallisaw, Okla.
 EADS, JOHN F., Stephenville, Tex.
 EDWARDS, FANNY E. (MRS.), Roswell, N. Mex.
 EITING, FRED G., Tucson, Ariz.
 ELLENBURG, CASEY M., Newton, Ala.
 EMERY, PAUL J. SR., Harrisburg, Penn.
 ENGLISH, ARNICE L., Crestview, Fla.
 ENLOW, RUBLE, Nettleton, Miss.
 ENRIQUEZ, VIDAL, Farmington, N. Mex.
 ENZ, WILLIAM, Ocala, Fla.
 ESLINGER, HERSCHEL C., Waurika, Okla.
 EVANS, ELLA C. (MRS.), Spokane, Wash.
 EVANS, WILLIAM M., Macks Creek, Mo.
 EYTZEN, JACOB C., Mountain Lake, Minn.
 FARMER, CHARLES C., Bell, Calif.
 FAUSS, MILTON L., Lindale, Tex.
 FENTON, ALTA M., New Castle, Calif.
 FIELDEN, EDWARD J., Oxford, Penn.
 FIERRO, ROBERT F., San Jose, Calif.
 FITZGERALD, JOHN E., Everett, Mass.
 FORGA, ZENIA (MRS.), Romaland, Calif.
 FOUST, WILLIAM W., Lodi, Calif.
 FOX, OSCAR L., Tracy, Calif.
 FRANCO, SIMON R., Pico Rivera, Calif.
 FRANKLIN, MAXWELL J., Phenix City, Ala.
 FRATICELLI, ANGEL A., San Jose, Calif.
 FRISBY, ZEKE E., Crossett, Ark.
 FRY, LONEL F., Hoxie, Ark.
 GARCIA, MABEL (MRS.), Tulsa, Okla.
 GARLOCK, HENRY B., Dallas, Tex.
 GERDES, MARTIN E., St. Cloud, Minn.
 GIBSON, JOHN M., Pointblank, Tex.

GIESE, VAUD W., Venezuela, South America
 GILL, CLINT S., Leesville, La.
 GILL, NORMAN W., Hickory, N.C.
 GILLAM, N. VICTOR, Sylvester, W. Va.
 GOAD, CARL A., Riverside, Calif.
 GOGGIN, JULIAN B., Pasadena, Md.
 GONZALEZ, PABLO PEREZ, Hialeah, Fla.
 GOODIN, BEN F., Abingdon, Ill.
 GOTCHER, HENRY C., Sutherlin, Ore.
 GRANBERRY, HERBERT R., Palestine, Tex.
 GRANT, FLOYD J., Shawnee, Okla.
 GRAVES, SHELBY E., Ontario, Ore.
 GRAZIER, HOBART E., Phoenixville, Pa.
 GROVES, J. DANIEL, Ozark, Mo.
 GUALDARAMA, IGNACIO, San Leandro, Calif.
 GUNDERSON, JOEL G., Sedro Woolley, Wash.
 GYGAX, LULA M. (MRS.), Enterprise, Ala.
 HALL, JOHN F., Urbana, Ill.
 HANNA, HUGHIE L., Bogata, Tex.
 HARRIS, AUGUSTUS W., Texico, N. Mex.
 HARRISON, GEORGE G., Bossier City, La.
 HART, ALVIE, Opelika, Ala.
 HARTLE, RUSSELL E., Hagerstown, Md.
 HARTWELL, BESSIE (MRS.), Hobart, Okla.
 HAUFF, LOUIS H., Calimesa, Calif.
 HAYES, ERNEST E., Lake City, Fla.
 HAYS, WILLIAM H., Grand Terrace, Calif.
 HAZELRIGG, ANNIE C. (MRS.), Safford, Ariz.
 HEADY, FLOYD E., Fredericktown, Mo.
 HEINRICH, JACOB, Wilmington, Del.
 HEMMINGER, GEORGE G., Beaver, Pa.
 HERNANDEZ, LUIS E., San Sebastian, P.R.
 HILTON, MARSHALL C., Tucson, Ariz.
 HODGE, STANTON A., Corsicana, Tex.
 HOGAN, DAVID M., Springfield, Mo.
 HOLCOMB, WILLIAM T., Hemet, Calif.
 HOLLAND, CHARLES H., Chipley, Fla.
 HOLLAND, JAMES A., Waynesboro, Miss.
 HOLLIDAY, CLARENCE M., England
 HOOD, HULON W., Mesquite, Tex.
 HORN, EDNA J. (MRS.), Ionia, Mich.
 HOSBAND, ELMER M., Tyrone, Pa.
 HOSIER, VIRGINIA M. (MRS.), Des Moines, Iowa
 HOWARD, CHONITA M. (MRS.), La Habra, Calif.
 HUBER, FREDERICK H., Roselle, N.J.

HUFFMAN, GARLAND L., Cisco, Tex.
 HUGHES, WILLIAM P., Tallahassee, Fla.
 HUMMEL, J. ROLAND, Hollywood, Calif.
 HUTCHINSON, ALFRED R., Paris, Ark.
 HUTCHINSON, FAY, Paris, Ark.
 HUTCHINSON, M. RALPH., Mesa, Ariz.
 INGROUM, BARNEY G., Glendale, Ariz.
 IRBY, CHARLES W., Rowlett, Tex.
 IRWIN, CLIFFORD L., Olympia, Wash.
 IRWIN, DAVID K., Springfield, Mo.
 JACKSON, GEORGE A., Hendersonville, Tenn.
 JANTZEN, LOWELL D., Fritch, Tex.
 JEFFREY, J. L., Pittsburg, Calif.
 JENSEN, ALFRED J., Mansfield, Ohio
 JERNIGAN, MYRTLE (MRS.), Andalusia, Ala.
 JOHNSON, HARRY J. JR., Levittown, N.Y.
 JOHNSON, MARY E. (MRS.), Coral Gables, Fla.
 JONES, H. F. SR., Sarepta, La.
 JONES, W. PAUL, Rollins, Mont.
 KAUFMANN, ELMER W., Cottonwood, Ariz.
 KEENER, L. B., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 KELCHNER, HERBERT B., Flintstone, Md.
 KELLY, LOWELL M., Deer Park, Wash.
 KELLY, RAMONA J. (MRS.), Mercer, Mo.
 KENNEDY, WILLIAM C., North Augusta, S.C.
 KENT, JOHN M., Houston, Tex.
 KINDALL, JOHN T., Boise, Idaho
 KITCHENS, RUBY R. (MRS.), Kingsland, Tex.
 KITCHENS, WILLIAM D., Kingsland, Tex.
 KLEIN, SAM, Sacramento, Calif.
 KLEPPER, HARRY L., Azle, Tex.
 KNISELL, HARRY J., Stratford, N.J.
 KNOUSE, RUTH N., Bellflower, Calif.
 KOCKER, MARGARET J. (MRS.), Pacific Grove, Calif.
 KOLENDA, JOHN P., Modesto, Calif.
 KRUPNICK, LEE S., Tulsa, Okla.
 KYSER, DEWEY W., Carrollton, Tex.
 LAMONT, OLIVER J., Deer Park, Tex.
 LARSON, LYLE J., Valley City, N. Dak.
 LAWRENCE, DAVID B., Elizabeth City, N.C.
 LAYNE, NATHAN E., Henderson, Tex.
 LEE, EDWARD V., Sasakwa, Okla.
 LEMING, CHARLES, Indianapolis, Ind.
 LIND, DIONISIO, Levittown, Catano, P.R.
 LINDLEY, JOHN R., Mesa, Ariz.

LITTLE, MILTON L., Blairsville, Ga.
 LOCKWOOD, ROBERT L., Groveland, Fla.
 LOHR, OSCAR C., Leavenworth, Wash.
 LOPEZ, JOSEPHINE (MRS.), Rohnert Park, Calif.
 LOTT, JAMES W., Turlock, Calif.
 LOWRY, HUBERT A., Eustace, Tex.
 LUCE, CORABELLE J. (MRS.), Sacramento, Calif.
 LUCKEY, PAUL A., Republic, Mo.
 LUNA, EDDIE, Fort Smith, Ark.
 LYNN, SIMON, Avon Park, Fla.
 MAFFET, ESTELLA V. (MRS.), Brooksville, Fla.
 MALLORY, ROY L., St. Albans, W. Va.
 MANCHESTER, JOHNNIE S., Fontana, Calif.
 MARR, ORLAND E., Marysville, Wash.
 MARTIN, BEATRICE (MRS.), Fort Worth, Tex.
 MARTIN, WILLIAM G., Dallas, Tex.
 MARTINEZ, OSCAR, Central Islip, N.Y.
 MASON, ERVIN W. SR., Williamsport, Md.
 MATEJKA, ALBERT L., Vandalia, Ill.
 MATTA, FRANK M., Galveston, Tex.
 MAY, F. FRANK, Federal Way, Wash.
 MAY, VADA L. (MRS.), Bloomington, Calif.
 McBRIDE, ELSIE M. (MRS.), Cottage Grove, Oreg.
 McCARTER, WILLIE M. (MRS.), Fenton, Mo.
 McCASKEY, WILLIAM P., Fairview, Okla.
 McClURE, VIOLET C. (MRS.), Mineola, Tex.
 McCULLOUGH, CHESTER E., Mt. Pleasant, Mich.
 McDONALD, FRED E., Mishawaka, Ind.
 McDONOUGH, JAMES B., Oklahoma City, Okla.
 McDOWELL, NORMAN N., Las Vegas, Nev.
 McELHANY, JOE R., Miami, Okla.
 McENTYRE, BEN E., Ontario, Calif.
 McGINNIS, MAURICE M., Lakeside, Calif.
 McGOVERN, ROBERT L., Crestview, Fla.
 McINTOSH, J. CHARLES, Somis, Calif.
 McMURTRY, B. I., Wynne, Ark.
 McNAIR, GAINES D., Hattisburg, Miss.
 MEIER, IRVING H., North Fort Myers, Fla.
 MELTON, RALPH T., Sun Valley, Calif.
 METZGER, RUDOLF, Bath, N.Y.
 MICHAEL, PAUL J., Springfield, Mo.
 MILLER, LeROY J., Eloy, Ariz.
 MILLER, M. DAN, Thornton, Colo.
 MIMS, MORRIS E., Clanton, Ala.
 MIRANDA, MARTIN A., Samson, Ala.

MITCHELL, IRVING M., Canton, Mich.
 MONTGOMERY, DAVID P., Ingram, Tex.
 MONTOYA, FIDEL, Denver, Colo.
 MOORE, WILLIAM S., Poteau, Okla.
 MOOS, EDGAR T., Elizabeth, Ill.
 MORGAN, EDWARD J., Kirkland, Wash.
 MORRIELLO, GERALD D., Oceanside, N.Y.
 MORRISON, A. H., Orlando, Fla.
 MORRISON, J. C., Waxahachie, Tex.
 MORSE, HUBERT E., Irving, Tex.
 MURRELL, JAMES S., San Pablo, Calif.
 MUSGROVE, RUBY A. (MRS.), Wichita, Kans.
 MYERS, JOHN B., Walnut Shade, Mo.
 NARKUN, MICHAEL W., Lowell, Mass.
 NELSON, PAULINE E. (MRS.), Sacramento, Calif.
 NEWMAN, F. S., Phenix City, Ala.
 NEWMAN, OSCAR W., Hobbs, N. Mex.
 NICHOLS, JACKIE V., Batesville, Ark.
 NICHOLS, JESSE C., Hot Springs, Ark.
 NORRIS, GORDON R., Wichita, Kans.
 NOWELL, LEONARD R., Wallace, Mich.
 NUTT, PLEASANT H. (MR.), Henderson, Tex.
 OHDE, ERNEST F., Montrose, Colo.
 OLEHY, LEVIN V., Parsons, Kans.
 OLIVER, BARTOLO, Mayaguez, P. R.
 OLSEN, EVELYN M., Brooklyn, N.Y.
 OLSON, ELLA M. (MRS.), Laguna Hills, Calif.
 OLSON, JOSEPH C., Bothell, Wash.
 OLSON, JULIUS O., Springfield, Mo.
 OLSON, PETER O., Milwaukee, Wis.
 ONEY, CARL W., Pinole, Calif.
 ORCUTT, JOSEPH E., The Dalles, Oreg.
 ORRISON, FAY M., Springfield, Mo.
 PAGET, JACK L., Petoskey, Mich.
 PANNELL, ROBERT T., Roswell, Ga.
 PANOS, HAZEL M. (MRS.), Fort Worth, Tex.
 PARKER, ALTON E., McAlester, Okla.
 PATTERSON, WILLIAM R., Citrus Heights, Calif.
 PAYNE, FRANCES, Russellville, Ark.
 PAYNE, ODA (MRS.), Turlock, Calif.
 PECK, VANCE C., Coleman, Fla.
 PEMBERTON, DOROTHY N. (MRS.), Arlington, Tex.
 PENDERGRASS, E. E., Abilene, Tex.
 PENZES, VALENTINE, North Royalton, Ohio
 PERRY, D. PAUL, Castle Rock, Colo.

PERRY, JOSEPH S., El Dorado, Ark.
 PERSONEUS, FLORENCE L. (MRS.), Kittitas, Wash.
 PETERS, KENNETH L., Cannon Falls, Minn.
 PETERSEN, RICHARD A., Irvine, Calif.
 PETERSON, EVELYN E. (MRS.), Polson, Mont.
 PETERSON, LESTER D., Lake City, Minn.
 PETTIJOHN, FAE (MRS.), Grinnell, Iowa
 PETTIT, EMERY C., Maysville, Mo.
 PHELPS, GEORGE W., Emmett, Idaho
 PHILLIPS, JOHN R., Modesto, Calif.
 PHILLIPS, LYLE R. JR., Davison, Mich.
 PIERATT, HARLEY D., Bristow, Okla.
 POWELL, KENNETH E., George West, Tex.
 PRATT, DUDLEY R., Bonham, Tex.
 PREVATT, L. P., Old Town, Fla.
 PRIEST, JOSEPH E., Portage, Ind.
 PURVIS, J. C., Dothan, Ala.
 PUTNAM, LAURENCE G., Mosier, Oreg.
 RAHNER, ANDREW, Fremont, Calif.
 RAMBY, WILLIAM S., Lake Charles, La.
 RASCO, ARVIE C., Athens, Tex.
 RAYNOR, DAVID A. SR., Avon, N.C.
 RECKLEY, HOWARD J., Wiley Ford, W. Va.
 REDDOUT, WILLIE R., Cushing, Okla.
 REED, GLENN A., Longmont, Colo.
 REED, PAUL B. F., Grand Junction, Colo.
 REVELS, OVAL, Kansas City, Mo.
 REYNOLDS, LEROY B., El Segundo, Calif.
 RICE, DEWEY M., Lufkin, Tex.
 RICHARDSON, ELIZABETH M. (MRS.), Salinas, Calif.
 RICHARDSON, ELMER E., Midvale, Utah
 RICHESON, CLARENCE E., Carlinville, Ill.
 RICHMOND, GEORGE E., Latrobe, Pa.
 RICKNER, RAY E., Wyandotte, Okla.
 RISH, JULIUS L., Lake City, Fla.
 RITTER, CHARLIE C., Bainbridge, Ga.
 ROBERTS, JEAN E. (MRS.), Blaine, Wash.
 ROBIE, LEMAN C., Union Springs, N.Y.
 RODRIGUEZ, FELIX G., Los Angeles, Calif.
 ROEVER, LOIS M. (MRS.), Fort Worth, Tex.
 ROGERS, GLADYS K. (MRS.), Kinston, Ala.
 ROOP, ROBERT E., Barberton, Ohio
 ROSAS, MIKE A., Bryan, Tex.
 ROSSIGNOL, CLAUDE A., Redlands, Calif.
 ROUTH, ESTHER L. (MRS.), Springfield, Mo.

RUFF, RICHARD S. W., Carlsbad, Calif.
 SADLER, JEAN O., Berkeley, Calif.
 SALYER, SHELBY D., Channelview, Tex.
 SANDERSON, VICTOR A., Daly City, Calif.
 SAN FILIPPO, JACK A., Brooklyn, N.Y.
 SAPPINGTON, LLOYD A., Hanford, Calif.
 SCHELL, WILLIAM P., Noxen, Penn.
 SCHMID, EDWIN C., York, Pa.
 SCOMA, LOUIS, Dallas, Tex.
 SCOTT, GEORGE D., San Bernardino, Calif.
 SEABERG, ERIC H., Pinedale, Calif.
 SELLERS, E. O., Tallahassee, Fla.
 SEPPALA, NILO M., New York Mills, Minn.
 SERRANO, AMADOR, Jamaica, N.Y.
 SEVERANCE, FRANK E., Oxford, Fla.
 SFORTUNATO, THEODORE, Springfield, Mo.
 SHAW, ARLINE A. (MRS.), Renton, Wash.
 SHAW, LAWRENCE, Byesville, Ohio
 SHAW, ROBERT D., Pacific, Mo.
 SHEPPARD, KEVIN V., Ashdown, Ark.
 SHERMAN, RAYMOND L., Lakewood, Colo.
 SHIRER, MARGARET P. (MRS.), Baltimore, Md.
 SHOLTIS, NAOMI (MRS.), Montoursville, Pa.
 SIEBER, CHARLES L., Middletown, Ohio
 SIMPSON, ALMUS H., Dyersburg, Tenn.
 SISSOM, ED, Daingerfield, Tex.
 SKIPPER, JESSE W., Lakeland, Fla.
 SLAUGHTER, CHARLES A., Eagle, Idaho
 SLOAN, WILLIAM H., Trussville, Ala.
 SLYE, BENNIE M., Middletown, Va.
 SMITH, CALEB V., Mesa, Ariz.
 SMITH, HENRY, Trenton, N.J.
 SMITH, JESSE E., Columbus, Ga.
 SMITH, WALTER H., Peoria, Ill.
 SNYDER, MABELE C. (MRS.), McAfee, N.J.
 SNYDER, WAYNE C., Lindale, Tex.
 SORRELL, AGNES (MRS.), Eustace, Tex.
 SOUTHARD, JOHN E., Gig Harbor, Wash.
 SOVERN, ARTHUR J., Norwalk, Calif.
 SPULER, EDWIN P., Madrid, Spain
 STARNES, BILLY J., Livingston, Tex.
 STAUDT, LORENA B. (MRS.), Dehar Dun, India
 ST. CLERGY, LLOYD L. SR., West Monroe, La.
 STEELE, FLOYD L., Independence, Mo.
 STELLER, LAWRENCE A., Portland, Oreg.

STEPHENS, TED, Burkburnett, Tex.
 STEVENS, CLAUDE C. SR., Pineville, La.
 STEVENS, J. D. JR., Fort Walton Beach, Fla.
 STEWART, PETER W., Duncan, Okla.
 STONESIFER, IRVIN L., Winchester, Va.
 STOOPS, VERN L., Indianapolis, Ind.
 STOWELL, WILLIAM V., Sierra Vista, Ariz.
 STRONG, KENNETH B., Albuquerque, N. Mex.
 STUCKEY, EARL, Byron, Ga.
 SUAN, LEO A., Sacramento, Calif.
 SWANSON, MAY V. (MRS.), Sylmar, Calif.
 SWARTZ, FRANK J., Port Royal, Pa.
 TARVER, GEORGE R., Blakely, Ga.
 TERRY, LAWRENCE E., Garden Grove, Calif.
 THOMAS, CECIL F., Henryetta, Okla.
 THOMAS, VERNON H., West Melbourne, Fla.
 TIJERINA, ALBERTO, Wharton, Tex.
 TOMLIN, CECIL D., Chouteau, Okla.
 TOMLINSON, CHARLES J., Owasso, Okla.
 TON, J. RAYMOND, Salem, Oreg.
 TREFETHEN, EARL J., Hutchinson, Kans.
 TRIEMSTRA, JERRY, Durant, Fla.
 TRIPLETT, L. OTIS, Salem, Oreg.
 TURNAGE, A. E., Texarkana, Tex.
 TWENTE, C. M., East Alton, Ill.
 ULDIN, G. ADOLPH, Elkhart, Ind.
 UTU, LEMUEL, Pearl City, Hawaii
 VAN DYKE, JOHN H., Waldick, N.J.
 VARNADOE, LIONEL A., Union, S.C.
 VAUGHN, LEVI M., Fort Worth, Tex.
 VIDRO, DUILIO, New London, Conn.
 VILLAREAL, EDNA (MRS.), San Antonio, Tex.
 WAACK, CHESTER A., Tulsa, Okla.
 WAGLEY, MICHAEL W., Larned, Kans.
 WALDNER, HARRY J., Worthington, Minn.
 WALLACE, CHARLIE W., Alamogordo, N. Mex.
 WARD, WILLARD C., Troy, Ala.
 WARNER, JOHN W., Williford, Ark.
 WARREN, HENRY D., Tahmina, Okla.
 WARWICK, HARRY C., Salinas, Calif.
 WATTERS, LILLIAN O. (MRS.), Springfield, Mo.
 WAUGH, JOHN H., Raytown, Mo.
 WEDDLE, ARVA LEE, Lomita, Calif.
 WEDEN, GORDON A., Bellingham, Wash.
 WEIDES, MILDRED F. (MRS.), North Branch, Minn.

WELLS, EVERETT B., Okmulgee, Okla.
 WELLS, JAMES L., Mountainair, N. Mex.
 WELLS, LLOYD A., Bartlesville, Okla.
 WEST, BILL W., Greensboro, N.C.
 WESTOVER, DWIGHT R., Costa Mesa, Calif.
 WHITE, SARAH E. (MRS.), West Chesapeake, Va.
 WILCOX, DAVID C., Milwaukee, Wis.
 WILKINS, LAWRENCE E., Hastings, Nebr.
 WILLIAMS, WILLARD E., High Falls, N.Y.
 WILLIAMS, WILLIAM L. SR., San Jose, Calif.
 WILMOTH, BRADFORD, Reno, Nev.
 WILSON, AARON A., Springfield, Mo.
 WILSON, ARTHUR E., Waxahachie, Tex.
 WINSLOW, HERBERT H., Greenville, S.C.
 WOLFE, ARTHUR L., Hurley, Miss.
 WOLVERTON, J. BOYD, Scotts Valley, Calif.
 WOOD, GEORGE R., Costa Mesa, Calif.
 WOOLF, MRS. OSCAR C., Abilene, Tex.
 WRIGHT, R. E., St. Louis, Mo.
 WYNKOOP, RUSH I., Fort Cobb, Okla.
 YATES, JOSEPH D., Fort Worth, Tex.
 ZERBE, HUGO C., Wauconda, Ill.
 ZIEGLER, WILLIAM O., Oceanside, Calif.

The following names of deceased ordained ministers which had been reported to the General Secretary's Office after May 17, 1985, were also included in the presentation.

EASTES, CHARLES J., Amarillo, Tex.
 EVANS, JOSEPH H., Petoskey, Mich.
 FALCONE, JOSEPH A., Williamsville, N.Y.
 GONZALES, FIDEL, Palisades, Colo.
 HICKMAN, LENA C. (MRS.), Kinston, Ala.
 KING, L. E., Long Beach, Calif.
 LEBEL, CHARLES E., Kaufman, Tex.
 REED, DOROTHY F. (MRS.), Tacoma, Wash.
 SILVIUS, HENRY E., Oildale, Calif.
 STUMP, ELVA K. (MRS.), Boca Raton, Fla.

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

SUNDAY EVENING—AUGUST 11

Live! From San Antonio, a live 2-hour telecast of the service was produced during the Sunday evening service. The speaker for this telecast was Bernhard Johnson, missionary evangelist to Brazil. The theme for the

service was, "Stand Firm in Hope." Dan Smith, Fort Worth, Texas, and Richard Page, Irving, Texas, served at the piano and organ, respectively. The service featured a missionary parade and special music by the following: Dan Betzer, Revivaltime speaker; Choir and Orchestra, Bethesda Community Church, Fort Worth, Texas; The Couriers: Duane Nicholson, Neil and Phil Enlow; Doug Oldham; and Buck and Dottie Rambo. The Scripture from Revelation 21:1-7 was read by G. Raymond Carlson.

The missionary offering appeal was made by Glen Cole and the offertory was provided by a choir and orchestra from Fort Worth, Texas. The offering appeal following the telecast was made by John McDuff and the offertory was an organ solo by Richard Page, Irving, Texas.

MONDAY MORNING—AUGUST 12

In accordance with the procedural motion adopted Saturday afternoon, the body met at 9 a.m. for a period of worship and praise. Philip Wannenmacher led in several choruses. Gwen Jones of Central Assembly of God, Springfield, Missouri, was at the organ and Lois Graber, Bethel Temple Assembly of God, Canton, Ohio, was at the piano. Wayne Benson, Grand Rapids, Michigan, offered prayer for a number of needs and for God's guidance upon the business session which was called to order at 9:20 a.m.

Roster Committee Report

Harold Walls brought the following report of the Roster Committee as of 9:15 a.m.:

Ordained ministers	3,466	
Delegates	<u>1,105</u>	
Voting constituency		4,571
Licensed ministers	429	
Visitors	<u>6,391</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>6,820</u>
Total registration		11,391

A motion prevailed to receive the report.

Representative from Thomas Nelson Publishing House

Charles Moore was invited to make a special presentation. He stated in part: "It is my great honor to pay tribute to one of the great warriors of the faith. His dedication to the Word of God echoed these walls in his Keynote address Thursday night to this assembly. He reminded us that nothing can ever take the place of God's Word as the infallible authoritative rule of faith and conduct." He noted Brother Zimmerman's participation as one of 130 scholars, pastors, and lay people from almost every denomination to update the language of the beloved King James. He then presented an opened copy of the New King James Bible to Brother Zim-

merman, adding: "On behalf of Thomas Nelson Publishers and Christians everywhere, we pray that the blessing as inscribed in 1 Timothy 5:17 be yours. You are doubly honored for your labor in the word and doctrine. We thank God for you, for your contribution to this publication, to our cultures and lives in general."

Brother Zimmerman responded with, "Thank you very much for this treasured possession."

Election of Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Cargill brought the following report of the nominating ballot cast for the office of assistant general superintendent:

Votes cast	2,043
Needed to elect	1,362

The following were nominated: E. R. Anderson, Donald Argue, Earl Banning, Almon Bartholomew, Philip Bongiorno, Robert L. Brandt, James K. Bridges, James Brown, Owen Carr, Rollin J. Carlson, Rudolph Cerullo, Frank Cole, Glen Cole, Charles H. Cookman, Manuel Cordero, Hugh Corey, Charles Crabtree, Robert Crabtree, Charles Crank, C. R. Cummings, Howard Cummings, Oliver Dalaba, Richard Dortch, Derwood DuBose, Dwight Edwards, J. Eubanks, J. W. Farmer, Delbert Farr, David Flower, Joseph R. Flower, Richard Foth, D. Franklin, Ivar Frick, Silas Gaither, Marvin Gorman, D. Grant, James Hamill, Isabella Haupt, Lamar Headley, J. P. Hogan, Robert Hoskins, R. Hudson, Gene Jackson, Melvin Jaynes, J. Foy Johnson, John King, Clarence Lambert, Maurice Lednicki, Paul Lowenberg, Wilbur Mandigo, John McDuff, J. Miranda, Ernest J. Moen, Luther Moore, Derald Musgrove, Armon Newburn, Leonard Nipper, John Paproski, Arthur Parsons, B. Peterson, A. W. Pettet Sr., Robert W. Pirtle, Kermit Reneau, Herman H. Rohde, Hugh H. Rosenberg, Nelson Sachs, Paul Savage, R. Schaeffer, Robert Schmidgall, H. D. Schmidt, Daniel T. Sheaffer, Manuel Shoults, Robert Sites, Fred Smolchuck, Robert Spence, Hardy Steinberg, Everett Stenhouse, Karl Strader, C. E. Stubbs, Norman Surratt, Jimmy Swaggart, Jerry Trammell, Tom Trask, Loren Triplett, Q. Vanzant, William Vickery, Philip Wannenmacher, J. Willborn, Joe Wilmoth, George Wood, T. Zimmerman.

The following respectfully requested their names to be removed from the nominating ballot list: Melvin Jaynes, Marvin Gorman, and Richard Dortch. These requests were honored and ballots were marked for the first elective ballot for assistant general superintendent. Ballots were collected and the chairman declared the balloting closed.

First Elective Ballot for Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Cargill brought the following report of the first elective ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent:

Votes cast	2,112
Needed to elect	1,408

The nominees received the following votes: E. R. Anderson 13, Donald Argue 20, Earl Banning 22, Almon Bartholomew 32, Philip Bongiorno 21, Robert L. Brandt 16, James K. Bridges 166, James Brown 8, Owen Carr 29, Rollin J. Carlson 4, Frank Cole 1, Glen Cole 342, Charles H. Cookman 7, Hugh Corey 2, Charles Crabtree 14, Robert Crabtree 3, Charles Crank 28, C. R. Cummings 2, Oliver Dalaba 2, Richard Dortch 6, Derwood DuBose 7, J. W. Farmer 9, David Flower 9, Joseph R. Flower 27, Richard Foth 10, Ivar Frick 8, Silas Gaither 1, Marvin Gorman 24, James Hamill 3, Lamar Headley 2, Robert Hoskins 2, R. Hudson 2, Gene Jackson 20, J. Foy Johnson 67, Clarence Lambert 27, Maurice Lednicki 13, Paul Lowenberg 22, John McDuff 4, J. Miranda 18, Ernest J. Moen 14, Luther Moore 1, Derald Musgrove 2, Armon Newburn 78, Leonard Nipper 2, John Paproski 2, B. Peterson 1, A. W. Pettet, Sr. 1, Robert W. Pirtle 5, Kermit Reneau 1, Herman H. Rohde 5, Hugh H. Rosenberg 4, Nelson Sachs 8, Paul Savage 4, R. Schaeffer 1, Robert Schmidgall 53, Manuel Shoults 2, Robert Sites 3, Robert Spence 83, Hardy Steinberg 3, Everett Stenhouse 704, Karl Strader 7, Norman Surratt 3, Jimmy Swaggart 5, Tom Trask 6, Loren Triplett 9, William Vickery 20, Philip Wannenmacher 39, J. Willborn 2, Joe Wilmoth 2, George Wood 10, T. Zimmerman 19.

The chairman, noting that there was not an election, requested the tellers to distribute ballots for the second elective vote. After the ballots were marked and collected, the chair declared the second elective ballot closed.

Second Elective Ballot for Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Cargill presented the results of the second elective ballot for assistant general superintendent as follows:

Votes cast	2,581
Needed to elect	1,721

The nominees received the following votes: Donald Argue 3, Almon Bartholomew 8, Philip Bongiorno 6, James K. Bridges 252, James Brown 1, Owen Carr 8, Frank Cole 2, Glen Cole 703, Hugh Corey 1, Charles Crabtree 1, Charles Crank 15, Oliver Dalaba 1, J. W. Farmer 2, David Flower 1, Joseph R. Flower 5, Richard Foth 1, Ivar Frick 2, Gene Jackson 10, J. Foy Johnson 47, Clarence Lambert 17, Maurice Lednicki 4, Paul Lowenberg 6, J. Miranda 8, Ernest J. Moen 1, Luther Moore 1, Armon Newburn 65, Robert Schmidgall 18, Robert Spence 61, Everett Stenhouse 1,311, Tom Trask 2, Loren Triplett 1, William Vickery 4, Philip Wannenmacher 8, George Wood 1, T. Zimmerman 4.

Having heard the results of the second elective ballot, the chairman declared there was no election. It was noted that there was a tie vote at the point of the 15 names receiving the highest vote. The chairman declared that the 16 names receiving the highest votes should be retained for the third elective ballot as follows: Everett Stenhouse, Glen Cole, James K. Bridges, Armon Newburn, Robert Spence, J. Foy Johnson, Robert

Schmidgall, Clarence Lambert, Charles Crank, Gene Jackson, Almon Bartholomew, Owen Carr, J. Miranda, Philip Wannenmacher, Philip Bongiorno, and Paul Lowenberg. Ballots were distributed, marked, and collected, and the third elective ballot was declared closed.

Third Elective Ballot for Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the third elective ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent.

Votes cast	2,379
Needed to elect	1,586
Everett Stenhouse	1,380
Glen Cole	718
James K. Bridges	185
Armon Newburn	32
Robert Spence	19
J. Foy Johnson	12
Robert Schmidgall	7
Clarence Lambert	7
Charles Crank	5
Gene Jackson	5
Philip Wannenmacher	3
Paul Lowenberg	3
Philip Bongiorno	2
Almon Bartholomew	1

Having heard the results of the third elective ballot, the chairman declared there was no election and called for ballots to be distributed to cast the fourth elective ballot. At this point the three names receiving the highest number of votes were retained: Everett Stenhouse, Glen Cole, and James K. Bridges. Ballots were distributed, cast, and collected, and the chair declared the balloting closed.

Fourth Elective Ballot for Assistant General Superintendent

The Tellers Committee chairman reported the results of the fourth elective ballot for assistant general superintendent as follows:

Votes cast	2,208
Needed to elect	1,472
Everett Stenhouse	1,393
Glen Cole	664
James K. Bridges	151

No candidate received the required number, therefore there was no election. The fifth elective ballot for the office of assistant general superintendent was then distributed, marked, and collected.

Fifth Elective Ballot for Assistant General Superintendent

Brother Cargill reported the results of the fifth elective ballot for assistant general superintendent as follows:

Votes cast	1,707
Needed to elect	1,138
Everett Stenhouse	1,210
Glen Cole	395
James K. Bridges	102

Having received in excess of the number required, the chairman declared Everett Stenhouse elected assistant general superintendent. The body gave him a standing ovation.

Remarks by Everett Stenhouse

Brother Stenhouse responded by saying in part: "I'm not sure I can properly read my own emotions at this moment. I am deeply honored. Inasmuch as I am involved in the transition that our Fellowship is passing through at this moment, I use this moment to give public expression and say to you, Brother Chairman, and to these friends what a pleasure it has been for me to be supportive of your ministry and administration for 26 years. . . . We have elected a new general superintendent and . . . I want you to know, friends, that I regard G. Raymond Carlson as a close personal friend. It will be a delight for me to expend my energies in whatever way I can to support him."

Resolution 12. Support of Headquarters by Assemblies, Continuation

Brother Zimmerman read the proposal before the house at the time of recess Saturday afternoon, i.e., to refer Resolution 12 to a study committee. After discussion it was moved to table the proposal to refer until Resolution 12 was acted upon. The maker of the motion to amend concurred.

A motion prevailed to amend the first line of the proposed substitute to subparagraph (2) by striking out the words "shall be expected to" and adding the following at the beginning of the sentence. "It is recommended that."

Resolution 12 was adopted as amended, and it follows:

WHEREAS, Every church in the Assemblies of God receives many benefits from being a part of the Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Benefits and privileges call for responsibilities and loyalty to the General Council; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XVIII, Section 1, paragraph c, (2) (page 164), which now reads:

(2) *From assemblies.* If practicable, let each assembly contribute one offering of at least \$24 each year for the support of the national headquarters office and the travel expense of the executive officers.

Be deleted and replaced with the following:

(2) *From assemblies.* It is recommended that each church send

to the General Council at least one offering for each calendar year toward the support of the administrative offices of the General Council. This offering shall be included with the Annual Church Ministries Report. It is suggested that churches consider \$1 per year per church member as a guide for determining the amount of this annual offering.

The motion calling for a study committee was automatically taken from the table, and the maker of the motion was given an opportunity to speak in its behalf. The chairman called attention to the need for slight editing of the opening statement. By common consent the sentence was amended by striking out the words "to refer Resolution 12 to," making the sentence to read: "Moved that a study committee be named, etc." The motion calling for a study committee as outlined was carried.

Offering/Pledge Appeal

The chairman called on Glen Cole to present the burden on his heart. He stated he had learned that only \$75,000 of the budget had been received, leaving approximately \$150,000 to be raised. He suggested that 150 pastors and district superintendents pledge to send \$1,000 upon returning home to wipe out the remainder of the budget. Pledge cards were distributed to those who had stood in response to this appeal.

Brother Zimmerman informed the body that the missions offering Sunday night had totaled \$29,203.50, and that, with the Sunday night offering, approximately \$92,000 had been received toward the expenses of the biennial meeting.

Brother Zimmerman led in prayer and then announced that John and Faith Stalling, Orlando, Florida, were singing his favorite song, "Learning to Lean," while the pledges and offering were received.

Resolution 13. General Presbytery Representatives

The Resolutions Committee chairman read Resolution 13 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It is desirable, in the interest of ready reference, to locate in one place in the Bylaws pertinent provisions relative to the composition of the General Presbytery, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That an amendment be made to Bylaws Article II, Section 2, b, subparagraph (1) (page 101), which now reads:

(1) *District representation.* Election of general presbyters shall take place at the district council meetings.

Said amendment shall be made by substituting the following for the present subparagraph (1):

(1) *District representatives.* In addition to the district superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of his office, two others shall be elected by the district council in

session, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

Further be it,

RESOLVED, That present provisions now a part of Bylaws Article XV, Section 2, h (page 152), be transferred to become (2) under Bylaws Article II, b, said provisions shall remain unchanged and read as follows:

(2) *Foreign Missions representatives.* Field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions, representing the missionaries from their respective areas, are members of the General Presbytery by virtue of office. Two additional representatives on the General Presbytery from each field fellowship shall be chosen in the following manner: The Foreign Missions Board shall nominate four missionaries from each general area represented by the field directors, including international ministries. Nominees will be selected from missionaries who will be in the United States at the time of the General Presbytery Meeting and who preferably have had administrative experience in the field fellowship. Ballots shall be sent to all missionaries in each area who shall by vote select two to represent them on the General Presbytery. These shall be mailed to the general secretary who shall prepare a report to the Executive Presbytery. A simple majority vote shall be required to elect.

Further be it,

RESOLVED, That present b, (2) shall be retained and renumbered as (3) and shall read as amended by Resolution 16, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the following shall be inserted as paragraph h under Bylaws XV, Section 2 (page 152):

h. General Presbytery representatives. Each field fellowship shall be represented on the General Presbytery by its field director and two others. (See Article II, Section 2, b, (2).)

The motion was seconded and Resolution 13 was adopted.

Resolution 14. Licensed Ministers' Right To Vote

Brother Peterson read Resolution 14 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Under the General Council Constitution, Article VII, Section 1, membership is limited to ordained ministers who hold accredited fellowship certificates and to churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, Over a period of several years conditions and procedures for the ministry have greatly changed in our constituency, the General Council now providing special forms for the renewals and examinations for all ministers for various grades of credentials and

requiring financial support by licensed as well as ordained ministers; and

WHEREAS, It would appear that all licensed ministers should have the same privilege to participate in General Council sessions and be counted as members thereof; and to voice their support of matters concerning all the constituency; and

WHEREAS, Under the present procedure church delegates have a priority over licensed ministers which seems inconsistent; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article VII, Section 1 (page 95), of the General Council Constitution be amended to include the words "and licensed" so the paragraph will read:

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

The motion was seconded. An amendment was presented to add a qualifying statement following the words "licensed ministers" as follows: "who are active in the ministry and." The motion to amend was lost.

In the discussion which followed an observation was made that the difference between an ordained minister and a licensed minister is 2 years of experience in active ministry which affects one's perspective on things. The motion to adopt Resolution 14 was lost.

Distribution of Additional Resolutions

The chairman of the Resolutions Committee explained that action taken by the General Presbytery in its recent session necessitated a revision to Resolution 16. An amended copy was distributed together with Resolutions 31-37.

Resolution 15. Berean College of the Assemblies of God

Brother Peterson read Resolution 15 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery in its 1984 session authorized the formation of Berean College of the Assemblies of God; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article VII, Section 2, paragraph h (page 112), be amended by deleting "Berean School of the Bible" and inserting in its place Berean College of the Assemblies of God; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XIX Institutions (page 171), be amended by adding a new Section 5, Berean College of the Assemblies of God, with the following provisions:

Section 5. Berean College of the Assemblies of God

a. **Authorization and purpose.** Berean College of the Assemblies of God, a nontraditional college of Bible and general Christian service training, 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 preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. **Board of Directors.** 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.

c. **Amenability.** 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.

The motion was seconded. A question was raised whether the General Presbytery had the authority to approve the establishment of Berean College. The chairman explained that the General Presbytery is the legislative body which functions between the biennial meetings of the General Council. As such, it has all the powers of the General Council except to amend the constitution and bylaws. Berean School of the Bible had been established in 1947. The General Presbytery approved upgrading it to the college level where it could be properly accredited. The Executive Presbytery then implemented the matter of incorporation, and the application for accreditation was by action of the board of directors of the college. The proposal before the body is to give bylaws status to Berean College, to delineate its ownership and its amenability to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery in the same manner as the bylaws provide for the other schools and colleges which are owned and operated by the Assemblies of God.

The motion to adopt Resolution 15 was carried.

Procedural Motion

It was moved and seconded that Resolution 37 on the subject of abortion be considered as the next order of business. The chairman stated that there was a great amount of business on hand, and the meeting was scheduled to continue through Tuesday noon. The motion was lost.

Resolution 16. College Representatives on the General Presbytery

Bartlett Peterson read Resolution 16 as amended by the Resolutions Committee to comply with a recommendation from the General Presbytery as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council in session in 1983 empowered the Executive Presbytery to designate the three presidents who should first serve as college representatives on the General Presbytery and such empowerment no longer pertains; and

WHEREAS, It is desirable that said subparagraph (2) shall conform to terminology contained in Resolution #13 which uses college "representatives" in place of representation; and

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws do not state the number of votes required for an election of the aforesaid representatives; and

WHEREAS, The Bylaws provide that 2 years shall elapse after a term is completed before a president shall be eligible for reelection to the General Presbytery, thus making only seven presidents eligible for election at any given time; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Bylaws Article II, Section 2, paragraph b, subparagraph (2) (page 101), be amended by placing a period after the word "basis" and by deleting the following phrase:

"except that to initiate this provision the Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to designate three presidents who shall thus serve for the first 2-year term."

Further be it

RESOLVED, That subparagraph (2) be further amended by deleting the word "representation" in line 1 and replacing it with "representatives," and be it further

RESOLVED, That Article II, Section 2, paragraph b, subparagraph (2), be amended by deleting in the first sentence the words "General Presbytery and elected by the General Council," and substituting therefor the following: "Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery," so that the entire subparagraph will read:

(2) *College representatives.* College representatives, as provided in Constitution Article IX, Section 3, paragraph d, shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery for a 2-year term on a rotating basis. A two-thirds vote shall be required. Two years shall elapse after a term is completed before a president shall be eligible for reelection to the General Presbytery.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 17. Qualifications for Honorary General Presbyter

Brother Peterson read Resolution 17 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It has been the practice of the General Council, in line with Article IV, Section 3, paragraph e (page 97), of the constitution, to honor elder leaders of our Fellowship with status as honorary general presbyters; and

WHEREAS, Said honorary status is accorded to general presbyters who have served for 20 years or more and who have reached the age of 60; and

WHEREAS, The above provision is all that is necessary, and the additional stipulations, relative to age or infirmity and inability to assume the full burden of the office are nonessential and could be inapplicable, inappropriate, and offensive; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the words, "and who, because of age or infirmity, can no longer assume the full burden of the office," be deleted from Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the General Council Constitution.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 18. Honorary General Presbyter James E. Griggs

Brother Peterson read Resolution 18 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, James E. Griggs, a dedicated servant of the Lord, has given his life unselfishly for many years in faithful ministry in the Assemblies of God; and

WHEREAS, He has served with distinction and honor on all levels of our Fellowship, local, district, and national, including service as a general presbyter for 24 years; and

WHEREAS, His vast experience, wisdom, and maturity, distinguishes him as an elder whose counsel is highly esteemed and frequently sought; and

WHEREAS, The Southern Missouri District Council has recommended that his name be presented to the General Presbytery as a nominee for honorary general presbyter; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has approved placing him in nomination; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council elect James E. Griggs as an honorary general presbyter pursuant to the provisions of Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the constitution.

The motion was seconded by W. Nelson Sachs, Southern Missouri District superintendent, who had further words of commendation regarding Brother Griggs. The motion was carried. The chairman called for Brother Griggs to rise, and a round of applause was given him.

Resolution 19. Honorary General Presbyter James C. Dodd

Brother Peterson read Resolution 19 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Reverend James C. Dodd has served the Oklahoma District Council of the Assemblies of God as assistant district superintendent for 27 years, as district superintendent for 3 years and as a general presbyter for 30 years; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has approved placing his name in nomination for honorary general presbyter, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the constitution; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council declare James C. Dodd elected as an honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 20. Credit For "Life Experience"

Brother Peterson read Resolution 20 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws, Article VII, Ministry, Section 2, Basic Qualifications, paragraph h. Educational Requirements (page 112), states that "Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials"; and

WHEREAS, "It shall be required of applicants that they complete the prescribed study courses of the Berean School of the Bible or equivalent training in an approved school," is a statement of requirements for academic education; and

WHEREAS, Many have served successfully in the ministry for many years and show maturity in the ministry and skill in preaching the Word; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Article VII, Section 2, paragraph h, be amended by adding the phrase, "or by accredited life experience" so that paragraph h will read, "... that they complete the prescribed study courses of the Berean College of the Assemblies of God, or equivalent training in an approved school (or by accredited life experience), and pass examinations together with other training as may be prescribed by respective district councils in conformity with such provisions as are made for applicants by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The motion was seconded. Those speaking in favor of the resolution emphasized that the resolution makes provision for those who may not have had opportunity for college or correspondence school training but who have qualified themselves by fasting, prayer, and the study of the Word of God. It was suggested that the Credentials Committee of the General Council could set guidelines so those who have life experience can be approved for credentials.

Change in Time to Reconvene

Brother Zimmerman stated that the afternoon session would be convened at 1:45 p.m. instead of the time printed in the program. At that time discussion would resume on Resolution 20.

Recess

The meeting recessed by singing the Doxology. Philip Bongiorno, Pennsylvania-Delaware District superintendent, dismissed in prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON—AUGUST 12

The opening song for the afternoon session was "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me," led by Brother Hosey. Musicians were Tom McDonald of Lutherville, Maryland, at the piano; and Joseph Abston of Missouri City, Texas, at the organ. John Wilson of West County Assembly of God in St. Louis, Missouri, led in prayer.

Special Guests

Two special guests were recognized by the chairman. Astley A. Williams, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Jamaica, was presented an inscribed plaque in honor of his visit. Alfonso Reyes, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Mexico, was also recognized and presented a certificate written in his native language. He in turn presented to Brother Zimmerman a pin from the Assemblies of God in Mexico, which was made especially for the occasion. Through an interpreter he expressed gratitude to the Assemblies of God for bringing the Pentecostal message to Mexico some 67 years ago.

Roster Report

The business session was called to order at 2:05 p.m., and a progress report from the Roster Committee as of 2 p.m. Monday, was given by Efraim Espinoza:

Ordained ministers	3,473	
Delegates	<u>1,105</u>	
Voting constituency		4,578
Licensed ministers	432	
Visitors	<u>6,408</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		6,840
Total registration		<u>11,418</u>

A motion prevailed to receive the report of the Roster Committee as a progress report.

Resolution 20. Credit For "Life Experience"—Continuation

At the time of the noon recess, two speeches had been made favoring the motion to adopt Resolution 20. It was moved and seconded to refer the resolution to a committee for further study. The following rationale for referral was given: the statement in the bylaws needs to be carefully worded, definitions need to be clearly tooled out, and guidelines need to be set by which accreditation for life experience would be received. After

further discussion the motion to refer was carried. It was determined by common consent that the Executive Presbytery will appoint the committee.

Election of General Secretary

The chairman spoke of the qualifications and guidelines for election of the general secretary and asked that ballots be distributed for the election of general secretary. When the ballots had been marked and collected, the chairman introduced Duncan Brown, trumpeter from Bethel Assembly of God, Arlington, Texas. His wife Cindy accompanied him on the piano as he played a medley of "Crown Him" and "All Hail the Power."

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the nominating ballot for general secretary:

Ballots cast	1,921
Needed to elect	1,281
Joseph R. Flower	1,625

Since Joseph R. Flower received in excess of the two-thirds vote, this ballot became an elective ballot, and the chairman declared Joseph R. Flower reelected general secretary.

The following is a list of all other nominees: Joe Adams 1, Lowell Anderson 1, Donald Annas 2, Don Argue 4, J. Arnold 2, Jim Bakker 2, Earl Banning 1, Almon Bartholomew 1, Dan Betzer 1, James Brankel 1, James Bridges 29, Fulton Buntain 1, Owen Carr 4, W. Clark 1, Glen Cole 70, Hugh Corey 1, Fred Cottriel 2, Robert Crabtree 2, Charles Crank 4, C. Crisner 1, G. Cuff 1, Richard Dortch 3, Richard Dresselhaus 2, George Edgerly 1, David Flower 2, Richard Foth 1, Marvin Gorman 2, G. W. Hardcastle 1, Clifford Hobson 1, J. Philip Hogan 1, Doug Hollis 1, Raymond Hudson 46, Gene Jackson 2, J. Foy Johnson 4, C. Kelley 1, Charles Kelly 1, E. J. Kemp 1, Clarence Lambert 1, Fred Leader 1, Maurice Lednick 2, J. B. Linney 2, Paul Lowenberg 2, R. Lun 1, D. Lunsford 1, John McDuff 1, Jesse Miranda 2, Ernest Moen 1, Derald Musgrove 1, Armon Newburn 4, Leonard Nipper 9, Roger Perkin 1, Bartlett Peterson 14, Gene Petty 1, Doy Robinson 1, W. L. Rodgers 1, Herman Rohde 1, Hugh Rosenberg 1, Nelson Sachs 3, H. Servill 1, Robert Spence 4, Norman Surratt 2, J. Torres 1, Thomas Trask 1, William Vickery 28, Philip Wannenmacher 4, G. Wood 2.

Presentation of Joseph R. Flower

The chairman asked Joseph R. Flower to respond to his reelection. Brother Flower stated in part: "I do not take lightly the good will of my brothers and sisters in Christ. It means a lot to me to know that I have your confidence. I came to this General Council this year with an open heart, with a desire to know what God's will was for this body and for myself individually. And I feel that that understanding has come. I appreciate it. There is one thing I would like to say. I don't know that I've

ever said this before, but I followed a gracious man . . . Brother Bartlett Peterson. He made it a lot easier for me by the example he set . . . and you'll pardon me for just taking a little liberty . . . he left me a jewel in the person of my secretary. Her name is Jewell Woodward. . . . She's done a superb job and I don't know that I could effectively carry on if it wasn't for her help."

Resolution 21. Guidelines for Credentialing Non-Assemblies of God Ministers

Resolution 21 was presented by Brother Peterson, who moved its adoption. His motion was seconded.

It was moved and seconded to amend subparagraph (3) by adding after the word "affiliated" these words: "or letters of recommendation from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's previous ministry."

It was moved and seconded to amend the proposed amendment by inserting "unless such is not available" following the word "affiliated" in subparagraph (3). The amendment to the amendment was carried.

When the proposed amendment as amended was reread, an objection arose regarding the use of the word "or," which would give an option to the applicant. The feeling was expressed that a letter from the former affiliation was important.

A motion prevailed to accept a rephrasing of the proposed amendment which would retain the period after "affiliated" and add the following sentence: "If such is not available, letters of recommendation shall be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's previous ministry."

By common consent an editorial privilege was granted to the general secretary to edit the resolution to include the feminine gender where indicated.

Mention was made of Assemblies of God ministers who transfer from other countries and do not understand the process of applying for credentials. It was noted that this did not apply to the resolution under consideration, but a request for study could be directed to the general secretary's office.

The motion to adopt Resolution 21 as amended was carried. It follows:

WHEREAS, The study committee appointed to study and prepare guidelines for credentialing non-Assemblies of God ministers has recommended proposed procedures, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article VII, Section 2 (page 113), Basic Qualifications, paragraph 1. Ministers from other organizations, be amended to incorporate guidelines for the granting of ministerial recognition to ministers who previously held credentials with other organizations, as follows:

1. Ministers from other organizations. If a minister from another

reputable body desires to affiliate with the Assemblies of God, the credentials committees of both the General Council and the district councils are under no obligation to accept the applicant's previous ministerial status, but will judge each applicant on his/her own merits as to the level of credentials to be granted. Such applicants shall be required to:

- (1) Conform to Assemblies of God criteria for recognition.
- (2) Complete an application for ministerial recognition.
- (3) Submit a recommendation from the body with which he/she was formerly affiliated. If such is not available, letters of recommendation shall be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's previous ministry.
- (4) Take the credential examination.
- (5) Meet with the district credentials committee.
- (6) Be recommended by the district credentials committee for the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee.
- (7) All so approved shall not be reordained, but shall have the hands of the district presbytery laid upon them as they enter this new phase of ministry.
- (8) Ministers who receive Assemblies of God recognition will relinquish their ministerial credentials with any other organization.

Election of General Treasurer

The chairman read the bylaw provisions for the election of general treasurer. The name of Raymond H. Hudson was presented as the General Presbytery's nomination for general treasurer. Ballots were distributed, marked, and collected.

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

Ballots cast	1,978
Needed to elect	1,319
Raymond H. Hudson	1,915

The chairman, noting that Raymond H. Hudson received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected as general treasurer. Appreciation for Brother Hudson was expressed by a standing ovation.

The following were write-in nominees: L. Adams 1, J. Arnold 1, Earl Banning 1, Philip Bongiorno 1, James Bridges 4, J. Burgess 1, Owen Carr 1, Gordon Churchill 1, Frank Cole 1, Glen Cole 8, Fred Cottriel 5, Charles Crank 2, Richard Dortch 1, Richard Dresselhaus 2, J. R. Flower 1, Dick Foth 1, G. L. Haggard 1, Joseph Hardt 1, J. Ho 1, Clifford Kornmueller 1, W. Kraus 2, Maurice Lednický 1, J. B. Linney 1, F. Myers 1, Leonard Nipper 3, R. Pearson 1, B. Pierce 1, Herman Rohde 1, Hugh Rosenburg 3, Nelson Sachs 1, C. Savage 1, Fred Smolchuck 1, Robert Spence 1, W. O. Vickery 8, Joe Wilmoth 1.

Remarks by Raymond H. Hudson

Brother Zimmerman presented Raymond H. Hudson and asked him to make any comments he wished. Brother Hudson stated in part: "From the depths of my heart, I want to say thank you for your trust, for your confidence. I appreciate it so very much. . . . Your trust means more to me than any other trust in the world outside of the Lord himself and my darling companion that God so graciously gave me. . . . The greatest thing that ever happened in my life was when Jesus saved me, and then to become a part of this Fellowship. I have never been disappointed in it—not in the least. . . . To have you place trust in me as you did several years ago in Miami, and then to express it again today, I want to say thank you. And I want to thank you in behalf of a very faithful staff. Thank you for your giving. . . . We do our best to keep the money in the proper slots where you designate it and to exercise the best stewardship possible over every dollar. I feel that it is a ministry. I pledge to you to do my very best in the 2 years to come."

Resolution 22. Transfer of Credentials

The Resolutions Committee chairman presented Resolution 22 and moved its adoption, which was seconded.

A motion prevailed to change the word "faculties" to "staffs" in subparagraph (4) and to insert the word "nationally" before the word "appointed" in subparagraph (5).

A second amendment prevailed to delete subparagraph (5) which stated: "Those who are nationally appointed home missionaries retaining membership in their home district."

A question was asked whether the sponsor of this amendment considered a missionary on furlough who resides in a district other than that of membership and wishes to retain membership in his home district. The general secretary responded that this had not been considered. It was then moved and seconded that the following become subparagraph (5). "Those who are appointed foreign missionaries who are on furlough and reside in a district other than their home district."

By way of clarification it was further moved and seconded that the words "or on temporary assignment in the United States" be added following "furlough." This motion carried.

The motion to insert new copy for subparagraph (5) was carried.

An additional motion prevailed to add "home or" before "foreign missionaries" in the newly adopted subparagraph (5).

The motion to adopt Resolution 22 as amended was carried. It reads as follows:

WHEREAS, It would eliminate some confusion if the exceptive listing of Bylaws Article VII, Section 10, paragraph b (page 118), were clarified and expanded; and

WHEREAS, The said paragraph b, pertains to paragraph a, and not to the section as a whole; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the copy under paragraph b be added to the end of paragraph a; and further be it

RESOLVED, That the following copy be substituted for subparagraph (2):

Those who have attained the age of 60 and are no longer engaged in active ministry and those who have attained the age of 65 and are not pastoring a church.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That a new subparagraph (6) be inserted to read as follows:

Ministers having membership in one district and a mailing address only in another district.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That the present subparagraphs (6) and (7) be renumbered (7) and (8), respectively, and the present paragraph c be relettered b so the section will read as follows:

Section 10. Transfer of Credentials

a. **Certificate of transfer.** When a member minister takes up residence in another district, a certificate of transfer shall be issued within 60 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 the following:

- (1) Ministers moving to serve at general headquarters.
- (2) Those who have attained the age of 60 and are no longer engaged in active ministry and those who have attained the age of 65 and are not pastoring a church.
- (3) Those who are in the Armed Forces currently on active duty.
- (4) Those who are serving on the staffs of schools affiliated with the General Council and district council or nonaffiliated schools acceptable to the General Council and the district council in which the school is located.
- (5) Those who are appointed home or foreign missionaries who are on furlough or on temporary assignment in the United States and reside in a district other than their home district.
- (6) Ministers having membership in one district and a mailing address only in another district.
- (7) Students in schools outside their home district.
- (8) Those who are serving in a non-Assemblies of God institution providing:

(a) They have a regular scope of ministry which reaches beyond district boundaries.

(b) Both districts agree to the exception.

(c) The institution is acceptable to both districts.

b. **Transcript.** In order to assist a minister who is transferring into another district, a transcript giving helpful information concerning him/her and his/her spouse should accompany the certificate of transfer.

Election of Executive Director of the Division of Foreign Missions

While ballots were being distributed, the chairman read the bylaw provision for the executive director of Foreign Missions, and Brother Flower reported the action of the General Presbytery to nominate J. Philip Hogan for this office. Ballots were marked and collected.

Frank Cargill reported the results of the first elective ballot for the office of executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions as follows:

Votes cast	1,772
Needed to elect	1,182
J. Philip Hogan	1,579

Inasmuch as J. Philip Hogan received well in excess of the required vote, the chairman declared him to be reelected executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions.

The following were write-in nominees: Robert Brandt 1, James Bridges 4, P. Briton 1, Mark Buntain 1, R. J. Carlson 2, Owen Carr 3, Glen Cole 8, Don Corbin 1, Norman Correll 21, Fred Cottriel 1, Robert Crabtree 1, Charles Crank 1, Howard Cummings 1, H. H. DeMent 1, C. W. Denton 1, Richard Dortch 2, D. DuBose 2, F. Farmer 1, George Flattery 6, H. Foltz 1, D. Godwin 1, Delmer Goins 2, David Grant 2, Charles Greenaway 1, D. Guynes 11, C. Heath 1, Bob Hoskins 1, Raymond Hudson 1, Wesley Hurst 6, P. Hutsell 1, Ron Iwasko 1, H. Jeter 1, B. Johnson 7, J. Foy Johnson 1, S. Johnson 1, C. Lambert 2, Lawrence Larson 1, J. Linney 1, J. D. Middlebrook 1, Ed Nelson 3, Armon Newburn 2, Robert Pirtle 1, Hugh Rosenberg 2, J. Sandidge 3, Robert Schmidgall 1, Robert Spence 1, D. G. Steele 4, Karl Strader 1, B. Tipton 3, Loren Triplett 57, Philip Wannemacher 2, W. Weekley 1, M. Williams 3, D. Womack 1, J. Woolsey 1, T. F. Zimmerman 4.

Remarks by J. Philip Hogan

Brother Zimmerman presented J. Philip Hogan and asked him to make any comments he wished. Brother Hogan stated in part: "A great deal has been said since we have come to this city about the fact that 26 years ago we were here. It was on that occasion that this body summoned me to the office that I have been privileged to hold this quarter of a century. I remember the awe and the wonder that filled my heart, and I can say that I feel it again as strongly as I did then. I want to first of all thank the Lord

that He has allowed me this privilege. I have seen the work of the Division of Foreign Missions overseas triple and then double and double again. Our missionary family has grown tremendously, and what I owe to these friends . . . I can never repay. . . . I am, more than anyone knows, grateful for the fine men with whom I have been privileged to work. If God allows me the strength and the opportunity, I pledge to you and to Him, and to His kingdom, whatever poor talents He has allowed me to have."

Resolution 23. Ministerial Status Change

Brother Peterson read Resolution 23 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, It is essential for the national office to be kept up-to-date as to any changes in the status of ministers; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a new Section 11 in Article VII of the General Council Bylaws (page 118), be inserted as follows:

Section 11. Ministerial Status Changes

All changes in a minister's status are to be reported immediately by him/her to his/her district office, which in turn is to report this information to the office of the general secretary of the General Council, on the Ministerial Status Report form provided by that office.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That present Section 11, Privileged Communications, be renumbered as Section 12.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Election of Nonresident Executive Presbyters

A packet of all eight ballots for the election of the nonresident executive presbyters was distributed. Instructions were given for the electronic process that would be used in tabulating these ballots. All eight ballots were to be marked in numbered sequence and then collected as a whole. Each delegate had received the booklet which contained the picture and a brief resume for each nominee. When asked if the names of the nominees should be read by the general secretary, there was a negative response. The ballots were individually marked and collected.

Some of these elections were not finalized until Tuesday morning, but for the sake of clarity they are all reported during the Monday evening session.

Evening Business Session

The chairman announced that the afternoon business session would recess early, and the night service would begin at 7 p.m. instead of 7:15 p.m. Following the evening service, which will conclude at 8:30, business will resume until approximately 9:45 p.m.

Recess

The business session recessed at 4:40 p.m. with the singing of the Doxology and prayer by Brother Tom Cunningham, Tyler, Texas.

MONDAY EVENING SERVICE—AUGUST 12

The Monday evening service was under the direction of Everett Stenhouse, executive presbyter from the Southwest Area. Silas Caither, national director of the Division of Church Ministries, gave the Scripture reading from Ephesians 4:1-16. Joyce Rosa and Jeanette Martinez, both of San Antonio, Texas, served at the piano and organ, respectively. Armon Newburn, Oklahoma District superintendent, was the speaker for the service which had the theme, "Stand Together." Special music for the service was provided by Jose Guzman, West Chester, Pennsylvania; a piano duet by Mark Carlson and Duane Funderburk, both from Everett, Washington; and a local choir directed by Neta Watson.

A special portrait was presented to Brother Zimmerman, a personal gift and tribute from Mrs. Marjorie Wright McDowell of St. Louis, Missouri.

Monday Evening Business Session

The general superintendent called the Monday evening business session to order immediately following the evening service at 8:45 p.m. Don Wilkerson of Fort Worth, Texas, led in prayer.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Southeast Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Southeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,728
Needed to elect	1,125
Leslie Milford Addison	5
J. Edward Blount	24
David C. Boykin	30
Steven R. Brown	7
Charles H. Cookman	23
Richard Dortch	600
Robert J. Gatlin	18
Gustavo A. Jimenez	29
J. Foy Johnson	709
Vaudie V. Lambert	64
Crawford B. Railey	5
Karl D. Strader	177
Aaron M. Wall	37

Since there was no election a second ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,784
Needed to elect	1,190
Leslie Milford Addison	2
J. Edward Blount	14
David C. Boykin	2
Steven R. Brown	3
Charles H. Cookman	9
Richard Dortch	551
Robert J. Gatlin	1
Gustavo A. Jimenez	5
J. Foy Johnson	1,140
Vaudie V. Lambert	11
Crawford B. Railey	1
Karl D. Strader	37
Aaron M. Wall	8

Since there was no election a third ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the third elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,533
Needed to elect	1,022
J. Foy Johnson	1,452
Leslie Milford Addison	1
J. Edward Blount	3
Charles Cookman	1
Richard Dortch	74
Karl D. Strader	2

Since J. Foy Johnson had received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required on the third elective ballot, he was declared reelected executive presbyter from the Southeast Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—North Central Area

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the North Central Area:

Votes cast	1,687
Needed to elect	1,125
Marcus Bakke	40
Ted Heaston	40
Omer V. Kallevig	40
Arvid Kingsriter	285
Samuel A. Mayo	166
David L. Nelson	39
S. Harland Petersen	58
Samuel C. Peterson	89
Albert W. Pettet, Sr.	48

Herman H. Rohde	412
Allan Ullestad	83
Clinton E. Vanzant	309
Norman Wenig	14
James D. Wilkins	64

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Votes cast	1,648
Needed to elect	1,099
Herman H. Rohde	1,158
Marcus Bakke	28
Ted Heaston	6
Omer V. Kallevig	1
Arvid Kingsriter	124
Samuel A. Mayo	44
David L. Nelson	5
S. Harland Petersen	11
Samuel C. Peterson	19
Albert W. Pettet, Sr.	7
Allan Ullestad	6
Clinton E. Vanzant	229
Norman Wenig	1
James D. Wilkins	9

Having noted that Herman H. Rohde, Minnesota District superintendent, had received well over the two-thirds required for an election, the chairman declared him to be elected executive presbyter from the North Central Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Southwest Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Southwest Area:

Total votes cast	1,702
Needed to elect	1,135
Glen Cole	997
Richard Dresselhaus	140
Donald I. Farmer	48
Virgil L. Jones	7
Albert K. Kim	4
Nam So Kim	1
James Marocco	5
Jesse Miranda	142
John M. Neciuk	1
Roy Sapp	55

Robert A. Sites	94
Everett R. Stenhouse	2
William O. Vickery	157
Bobby J. Wilson	49

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the second elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Southwest Area:

Total votes cast	1,792
Needed to elect	1,195
Glen Cole	1,596
Richard Dresselhaus	14
Donald I. Farmer	8
Virgil L. Jones	1
Jesse Miranda	71
Roy Sapp	8
Robert A. Sites	19
Everett Stenhouse	2
William O. Vickery	64
Bobby J. Wilson	9

The chairman noted that Glen D. Cole, pastor of Capital Christian Center, Sacramento, California, had received well over the required two-thirds to elect, and declared him elected executive presbyter from the Southwest Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Northeast Area

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the first elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Northeast Area:

Total votes cast	1,674
Needed to elect	1,116
Almon M. Bartholomew	338
Edward B. Berkey	65
Philip Bongiorno	235
R. Wayne Clark	63
Hugh M. Corey	74
Samuel R. Di Trolio	39
James E. Morris	41
John J. Paproski	65
H. Robert Rhoden	23
R. D. E. Smith	648
Howard V. Spruill	73
Donald Veater	10

Since there was no election, a second ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,655
Needed to elect	1,104
R. D. E. Smith	1,195
Almon M. Bartholomew	246
Edward B. Berkey	7
Philip Bongiorno	155
R. Wayne Clark	11
Hugh M. Corey	13
Samuel R. Di Trolio	4
James E. Morris	6
John J. Paproski	10
H. Robert Rhoden	1
Howard V. Spruill	6
Donald Veater	1

Since R. D. E. Smith had received in excess of the two-thirds votes required, he was declared reelected as executive presbyter from the Northeast Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—South Central Area

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Total votes cast	1,701
Needed to elect	1,134
Earl J. Banning	82
James K. Bridges	383
Howard Burroughs	33
Frank Cargill	15
J. W. Farmer	41
J. Don George	130
R. Kenneth George	8
Paul Lowenberg	671
Derald Musgrove	53
Armon Newburn	223
Paul W. Savage	33
Raymond Schaeffer	10
Frank Trevino	19

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the second elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Total votes cast	1,792
Needed to elect	1,195
Earl J. Banning	10
James K. Bridges	360
Howard Burroughs	2

J. W. Farmer	4
J. Don George	27
R. Kenneth George	3
Paul Lowenberg	1,131
Derald Musgrove	4
Armon Newburn	246
Paul W. Savage	2
Frank Trevino	3

Since there was no election, a third elective ballot was cast.

Frank Cargill gave the following report of the third elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the South Central Area:

Total votes cast	1,069
Needed to elect	713
Paul Lowenberg	830
Earl J. Banning	1
James K. Bridges	147
Howard Burroughs	1
J. W. Farmer	1
J. Don George	15
R. Kenneth George	1
Derald Musgrove	2
Armon Newburn	69
Paul W. Savage	2

Since Paul Lowenberg had received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, he was declared reelected executive presbyter from the South Central Area.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Northwest Area

Brother Cargill gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Northwest Area:

Total votes cast	1,696
Needed to elect	1,132
R. Earl Book	134
Robert L. Brandt	883
Wesley J. Bransford	26
Fulton W. Buntain	335
Frank E. Cole	175
Dennis Davis	43
Edward L. Hughes	10
H. R. Kennedy	10
Edmund Lothar	11
E. E. Rohde	51
Lorin W. Short	13
Homer B. Walkup	5

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report on the second elective ballot:

Total votes cast	1,776
Needed to elect	1,172
Robert L. Brandt	1,469
R. Earl Book	24
Wesley J. Bransford	2
Fulton W. Buntain	224
Frank E. Cole	32
Dennis Davis	7
Edward L. Hughes	1
Edmund Lothar	1
E. E. Rohde	11
Lorin W. Short	2
Homer B. Walkup	3

The chairman, noting that Robert L. Brandt received well over the two-thirds vote required, declared him reelected on the second elective ballot.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Gulf Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Gulf Area:

Total votes cast	1,699
Needed to elect	1,133
Marvin Gorman	1,148
Walter L. Davis	5
Merle Harris	45
Gene Jackson	158
Cecil T. Janway	24
F. L. Langley	5
J. D. Middlebrook	39
W. Nelson Sachs	34
Philip Wannemacher	230
E. Joe Wilmoth	11

Noting that Marvin E. Gorman had received in excess of the two-thirds vote required, the chairman declared him reelected executive presbyter from the Gulf Area on the first elective ballot.

Election of Executive Presbyter—Great Lakes Area

The chairman of the Tellers Committee gave the following report of the first elective ballot for the executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area:

Total votes cast	1,694
Needed to elect	1,130
Jay Alford	22

Louie H. Calaway	13
Jack M. Carnley	8
Robert D. Crabtree	250
Charles E. Crank	239
James C. Ellis	12
Daniel B. Enriquez	20
Ivar A. Frick	81
Charles E. Hackett	34
Ignacio Marrero	10
Ernest Moen	376
Waymon L. Rodgers	67
Robert K. Schmidgall	533
Irvin G. Steiding	29

Since there was no election, a second elective ballot was cast.

Brother Cargill gave the following report on the second elective ballot for executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area:

Total votes cast	1,774
Needed to elect	1,183
Robert K. Schmidgall	1,408
Jay Alford	2
Louie H. Calaway	2
Robert D. Crabtree	63
Charles E. Crank	75
James C. Ellis	3
Daniel B. Enriquez	3
Ivar A. Frick	11
Ernest Moen	200
Waymon L. Rodgers	2
Irvin G. Steiding	5

Noting that Robert K. Schmidgall had received well in excess of the two-thirds vote required, the chairman declared Robert K. Schmidgall elected executive presbyter from the Great Lakes Area on the second elective ballot.

Resolution 24. Credentialing Authority

Brother Peterson read Resolution 24 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council Constitution Article X, paragraph d, Credentialing authority (page 98), is a bit ambiguous and needs clarification, particularly as it relates to the distinct functions of the credentials committees of the district councils and the General Council; and

WHEREAS, The first sentence of said paragraph d presently states: "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"; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the first sentence of Article X, paragraph d, be deleted, and the following be substituted therefor:

d. **Credentialing authority.** The district council shall have the authority to examine and license ministers who are to become members thereof. They shall report the names of approved licensed ministers to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The district council shall also have the authority to examine and ordain ministers after having received approval from the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

The last sentence in that paragraph shall remain unchanged.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 25. Men's Ministries Committee

Brother Peterson read Resolution 25 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Men's Ministries Department has had changes in programs such as Lifestyle Evangelism replacing Action Crusades and the addition of a new ministry known as Kingsmen International; and

WHEREAS, The present Bylaws Article XIII, Section 1, paragraph b, subparagraph (2) National Men's Ministries Committee (page 141), now reads:

(2) *National Men's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Men's Ministries 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.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the above-stated subparagraph (2) be amended to read as follows:

(2) *National Men's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the commander of Royal Rangers, the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, and four representatives—one from each of the following areas: Kingsmen International, Lifestyle Evangelism, Royal Rangers, and Light-for-the-Lost. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and 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.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 26. Honorary General Presbyter
Lowell C. Ashbrook**

Bartlett Peterson read Resolution 26 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Dr. Lowell C. Ashbrook has faithfully served the Louisiana District and the Assemblies of God as a whole for many years; and

WHEREAS, His leadership capabilities in every field of the ministry are recognized by all who know him; and

WHEREAS, The 48th Louisiana District Council of the Assemblies of God in session on May 8-10, 1984, unanimously passed a resolution recommending that Dr. Lowell C. Ashbrook be made an honorary member of the General Presbytery; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council elect Lowell C. Ashbrook as an honorary general presbyter pursuant to the provisions of Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the constitution.

The motion was seconded and carried, followed by applause.

**Resolution 27. Honorary General Presbyter
W. Earl Cummings**

Brother Peterson read Resolution 27 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Reverend W. Earl Cummings has served the South Dakota District of the Assemblies of God for more than 6 years, as secretary-treasurer and superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Brother Cummings has served the Arizona District 13 years as secretary-treasurer, and 12 years as superintendent; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a general presbyter for this period of more than 31 years; and

WHEREAS, The Arizona District Council has acted to nominate W. Earl Cummings as an honorary general presbyter; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has approved placing him in nomination; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council elect W. Earl Cummings as an honorary general presbyter pursuant to the provisions of Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e, of the constitution.

The motion was seconded and carried. The chairman asked Brother Cummings to stand, and he was greeted with a round of applause.

**Resolution 28. Deferred Giving and
Trusts Department**

Brother Peterson read Resolution 28 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees for the Deferred Giving and

Trusts Department has been functioning since its authorization in 1977; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article XVIII, Section 3, subparagraph (c), under paragraph b, (1) (page 165), be amended in the first sentence by deleting the words "beginning on a staggered basis of 1, 2, and 3 years" and substituting therefor the words "on a rotation basis." The subparagraph would then read as follows:

(c) *Qualifications and terms of office.* The trustees shall be qualified, reputable, and knowledgeable persons and shall serve for 3-year terms on a rotation basis. A majority of trustees shall not be members of the headquarters staff.

The motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 29. Central Bible College
Duties of Board of Directors**

Brother Peterson read Resolution 29 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The execution of policy and the administration of Central Bible College is delegated to its board of directors; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws Article XIX. Institutions, Section 2, paragraph b (page 170) be amended by substitution of the word "shall" for "may," so that the paragraph shall read:

b. *Board of Directors.* 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 motion was seconded and carried.

**Resolution 30. Evangel College
Duties of Board of Directors**

The Resolutions Committee chairman read Resolution 30 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The execution of policy and the administration of Evangel College is delegated to its board of directors; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws Article XIX. Institutions, Section 3, paragraph b (page 169 and 170), be amended by substitution of the word "shall" for "may," so that the paragraph shall read:

b. *Board of Directors.* 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 motion was seconded and carried.

Resolution 31. Specialized Ministries Examinations

Brother Peterson read Resolution 31 as follows, and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The General Council has recognized that God has called

individuals into full-time specialized ministries such as Christian education, music, or other full-time ministries; and

WHEREAS, The issuing of credentials for specialized ministries is presently an authorized practice; and

WHEREAS, Examinations for specialized credentials are the same as those used for license and ordination for the preaching ministry; and

WHEREAS, The nature of some of the questions in the examination indirectly create pressure upon the examinee to move toward associate type ministries as a stairway to the preaching ministry; and

WHEREAS, Present terminology is causing problems with recognition by state and federal governments; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That appropriate examinations be prepared for the ministry for which an individual is applying, whether Christian education, music, or other full-time ministries; and further be it

RESOLVED, That these examinations shall contain doctrinal issues and professional questions relating to each applicant's field.

The motion was seconded. Following a period of discussion, it was moved and seconded to refer the matter to a study committee. Noting that no guidelines were given, the chairman asked for more information, suggesting that perhaps the secretaries and treasurers of the districts could give the subject some consideration at their next annual meeting. The motion to refer was more specifically stated as follows: "I move to refer Resolution 31 for further study to the secretaries and treasurers in their annual meeting to bring any recommendations concerning what they feel would meet the need, if indeed they have discovered a need for such an instrument, and bring it in the form of a resolution, not necessarily a report to the General Council.

A proposed amendment was submitted which would include the entire examination structure for Christian workers, licensed, specialized ministries license, and ordination. Although it was seconded, the chairman indicated that this would be such an enlargement of the original proposition that he could not recognize it as a proper procedure.

It was suggested that possibly the secretaries and treasurers could report their findings on the General Presbytery level rather than to the General Council, but this had not been incorporated by amendment into the motion to refer. Following further remarks, Brother Zimmerman requested clear definition as to whether the report should be submitted to the General Council or to the General Presbytery. When he called for an indication of common consent to report to the General Presbytery, an objection was voiced. The chair recognized this as being a proper response.

It was suggested that the wording of the motion to refer allowed some leeway in interpretation. With the understanding that the report is to be brought to the General Council if, in the opinion of the secretary-trea-

surers, their report requires the action of the General Council to implement what they feel needs to be done. The motion was carried as indicated.

Recess

The evening session was recessed at 10:25 p.m. by singing the Doxology and prayer by Charles E. Hackett, one of the parliamentarians.

TUESDAY MORNING—AUGUST 13

The Tuesday morning session began with the singing of the council theme song, "Stand Firm," led by Brother Hosey. Herman H. Rohde, the newly elected executive presbyter from the North Central Area, led in prayer. The Meeks, Randy, Jana, and Fred, from Houston, Texas, sang. Margot Zilch, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, and Alletha Barnett, Watauga, Texas, served at the piano and organ, respectively.

Thomas F. Zimmerman Endowment Fund

G. Raymond Carlson reported an action taken in the meeting of the General Presbytery as follows:

The General Presbytery, in session in San Antonio, acted to take immediate steps to establish an endowment fund to assist all Assemblies of God endorsed institutions of higher learning, and that it be named "The Thomas F. Zimmerman Endowment Fund for Assemblies of God Higher Education;" and

That immediate steps be taken to solicit contributions for that fund by every practical means, including contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and such other sources as may be available; and

Further, investment of the fund be restricted to financing the construction of Assemblies of God churches with the yield (earnings) from the fund being allocated to the Assemblies of God endorsed institutions of higher learning on a pro rata basis based on the schools' FTE (Full-Time Equivalency), and that such allocations to the various schools be restricted to use in capital expenditures; and,

That the broadest possible participation in the Thomas F. Zimmerman Endowment Fund by our Fellowship be encouraged as follows:

1. Beginning with this fiscal year, one percent of the Current Fund of the General Council be allocated for that purpose as an example to our Fellowship.
2. Each district be asked to contribute one percent of its General Fund for that purpose as a further example to our Fellowship.
3. Each church in our Fellowship be asked to participate by contributing at least one percent of its General Fund for that purpose; and,
4. In instances where districts and churches have ongoing commitments to our colleges, it is expressly urged that such support

be continued and not be diverted to the Thomas F. Zimmerman Endowment Fund for Assemblies of God Education; and that support for the Endowment Fund be developed from new sources of revenue; and

5. When a district or church cannot begin immediately to give one percent of its General Fund or an amount equivalent thereto, it is recommended that the one percent participation be established as a goal to be attained in from 3 to 5 years; and participation begin by making the best contribution possible each year until the goal is achieved; and,

That the Executive Presbytery be requested to establish the principles and policies by which the fund is to operate and report back to the next meeting of the General Presbytery.

Brother Carlson further commented: "We feel very strongly that our institutions of learning must be kept close to the church. We don't want to go out to the world for support; we want to keep them close to the church so they will be the type of institutions that we want. Brother Zimmerman, we are delighted that this will be the program we are presenting."

Roster Committee Report

Harold Walls gave the final report from the Roster Committee as follows:

Ordained	3,473	
Delegates	<u>1,105</u>	
Voting constituency		4,578
Licensed	437	
Visitors	<u>8,217</u>	
Nonvoting constituency		<u>8,654</u>
Total registration		13,232

A motion prevailed to accept the report of the Roster Committee, as of 8 a.m., Tuesday, August 13, 1985; and that it be declared the final report to close the roster for this General Council.

Report of Spiritual Life Committee

Earl Banning, chairman of the Spiritual Life Committee was introduced to present the report which had been distributed. He asked George Wood, secretary of the committee to read the report.

After the report was read, it was moved and seconded to accept the report, with the request that it be published in the Pentecostal Evangel as soon as possible.

It was noted that "Smyrna" should be changed to "Sardis," where it appears in the first two paragraphs. By common consent it was agreed that these corrections be made to the report. The motion to accept the Spiritual Life Committee's Report as corrected was carried by unanimous vote.

The report follows:

Each individual and church should seek to avoid the reproval Jesus gave to the Sardis Christians: "You have the name of being alive, and you are dead" (Revelation 3:1, Revised).

History teaches us that churches may remain institutionally alive long after they have spiritually deceased. Therefore, we must consciously and constantly direct our attention to spiritual life within the Assemblies of God lest what has happened to others occur also to us. Let the Lord never need to reprove us as He did the church at Sardis!

Individual Christians and churches start down the road to spiritual death when they quit growing into conformity to the image of the Son of God. They cease exemplifying the basic qualities which produce life within the believer—those characteristics which cultivate an effective prayer life, a continual and fruitful incorporation of God's Word into daily life, and a life-style that separates them from worldliness. This then encumbers them from being effective as fully mature followers of Christ.

The fruit of evangelism is nonexistent in a spiritually deceased church because evangelism is born out of prayer, the proclamation and application of God's Word, and holiness in life-style.

We praise the Lord, however, that everywhere signs abound of spiritual life and vitality in our Fellowship. Although we are within 4 years of being 75, the life and work of our Movement (should Jesus tarry) is only just begun.

The committee wishes to call attention to the fact that our overall direction for the next 5 years, culminating in our diamond anniversary, has been set in powerful theme statements calling each of us to make the following affirmations:

1985	I Will Pray
1986	I Believe!
1987	I Surrender All
1988	I Am Ready
1989	I Will Go

The above themes, while annual emphases, are meant to serve as perpetual watchwords.

The sequence of the themes is intentional: everything begins with prayer! This year we have been called to pray in the Spirit, to pray in faith, to pray for the lost, to pray for our missionaries and leaders, to pray for boldness, and to pray for our families and all believers.

A great resurgence of prayer, linked to our 1985 theme, is now occurring. We take heart to see this emphasis both in our Fellowship and across the entire body of Christ. We call upon our Movement to remember that the Early Church was birthed in a prayer meeting that lasted 10 days, that the Pentecostal movement likewise came as a result of extended prayer meetings and emphasis on prayer. With all of our

modern know-how and all of our expertise on church management and growth, let us recognize there simply is no substitute for prayer.

A subtheme in this year's theme, "I Will Pray," is the October emphasis on Christian values as they apply especially to the home.

Children in the 1980s are growing up in a world of perversion, immorality, media hype, and idols. One of every five high school teenagers in America is an alcoholic. Young people are victimized by a multibillion dollar pornography industry that includes magazines, movies, and videos. Moral values (particularly those of the Christian family) are under siege! The values of young people are affected most by the home. Let us pray for families and for Christian values to stand strong in our society!

We are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. The unprecedented growth of pornography is one strong measure of the fact that we live in a morally corrupt world. We as a church must not only deplore such evil—we have a responsibility to let our light shine in varied and appropriate ways.

Many Christian marriages and families have had a breakdown in their prayer life together. We encourage pastors and churches to establish a Sunday of "Beginning Again" where commitments can be made which will help married couples and families break out of the habit and cycle of prayerlessness by reinstating daily family devotions.

A movement toward prayer engenders a hunger for the Word, both the Living Word and the written Word. Therefore, our 1986 theme is "I Believe!" Here we emphasize those things most truly believed among us.

The committee draws attention to our need for continual practice of those things which have shaped the life of our Fellowship and in which we have deeply believed:

—that we must *be* what the Lord wants, and not just *do* what He wants.

—that right belief on doctrine is a necessary precondition to right living.

—that the Acts 2 experience of being filled with the Spirit and speaking with other tongues leads to the Acts 4 experience of being filled with the Spirit and speaking the Word of God boldly.

—that there is no substitute for anointed worship and preaching.

—that services should include time for people to respond—that the call to an altar and/or to prayer must never be neglected.

—that the clear commands of Jesus to baptize in water those who believe and to share in Communion should be often and regularly practiced in each of our churches.

—that evangelism to the lost, both home and foreign, be ever emphasized.

—that the gospel is for "whosoever will," no matter what his or her ethnic, racial, social, political, or economic background.

In regard to the last item mentioned, we are encouraged by the increasing racial and ethnic diversity of local Assemblies of God churches. We see this as a work of God creating His church not around the center of social homogeneity, but around the center of Jesus Christ.

We know what God has called us to be and to do. Our reason for being is to glorify God, to build up believers, and to evangelize the world. This General Council's theme bids us therefore in these purposes and calling to stand firm! Indeed, let us stand firm in faith, God's Word, integrity, fellowship, and hope!

Let us stand firm together! A world at its worst needs a Church at its best!

Expression to Headquarters Staff

A motion prevailed instructing the general secretary to write a letter with worldwide coverage expressing appreciation to those at headquarters who have worked so diligently to make this General Council possible and that each of them receive our appreciation for the great work they have done to make possible what we have enjoyed so much.

Report on College Presidents To Serve on the General Presbytery

The general secretary reported action taken by the General Presbytery in electing college presidents to serve on the General Presbytery, subject to the adoption of Revised Resolution 16 by the General Council. The following have been elected, beginning December 1, 1985: Wayne E. Kraiss, Southern California College; J. Paul Savell, Southwestern Assemblies of God College; and James Hennesy, Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God.

It was noted that the resolution adopted in the 1983 General Council called for the college presidents to be elected by this body. In order to be covered, a motion prevailed that the three presidents announced by the general secretary be elected by acclamation. Future procedure for election will be governed by the bylaw adopted during this General Council.

Presentation of Nonresident Executive Presbyters

The chairman acknowledged the five reelected nonresident executive presbyters and invited them to give a word of response. Each expressed appreciation for being reelected and pledged to serve faithfully.

The three newly elected executive presbyters were: Herman H. Rohde, Glen Cole, and Robert Schmidgall. Brother Zimmerman asked each one to make any response they desired.

Brother Rohde stated in part: "I am greatly indebted to the fellowship of the Assemblies of God. A little over 40 years ago my wife Joy and I

began our ministry together on an Indian reservation in northeast Nebraska. Through the years it has been our joy to serve in various areas. . . . Twenty-one years ago I was elected district superintendent by my brethren in Minnesota, . . . and my wife shared a message with me: ". . . and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah 6:8). It is my desire to give mercy, to act justly, to walk with God, and to serve my Fellowship. Thank you, Brother Zimmerman, for being an example to us. It has been an honor to serve our Fellowship with you as our leader. And it is a special honor to serve with Brother G. Raymond Carlson. I've been his superintendent for these past years; now he is my general superintendent, and it is an honor."

Brother Cole stated in part: "The Lord impressed upon me at the beginning of the year these words: 'Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it' (Revelation 3:8). I didn't really know what that meant at the time, but I think I understand it a little better now. I am deeply humbled and honored to be elected to this body. These are men whom I have admired and have been privileged to know, at least in part, for many years. And now to be able to serve with them is a deep honor to me. I want to thank God and thank you. . . . I will do my best and pray that my Lord will be honored."

Brother Schmidgall stated in part: "I think I understand some of the emotions Gideon went through when the Lord called him, . . . yet I joyfully accept the responsibility you have committed to me. . . . I have deep feelings of respect and love for Brother Dortch, who filled this place of service previous to me and thank the Lord for everything he has meant to me personally. I also appreciate the tremendous heritage we have in this Fellowship—the leaders who have so effectively guided us. . . . I would request your prayers (1) that the Lord will help me to retain my personal relationship with Him and to serve in the way I should, and (2) that God would help me to be the same, not to be affected by what some people may consider to be a position. I always want to be just what God wants me to be. I pledge that I will seek to follow the Holy Spirit, and I will give to these men who have been placed in leadership my love and loyalty."

Appreciation Expressed to Tellers Committee

The chairman expressed thanks to the members of the Tellers Committee for their outstanding work which facilitated the smooth flow of business.

Resolution 32. Ministerial Discipline

Brother Peterson read Resolution 32 and moved its adoption, which was seconded.

For the purpose of additional clarity, it was moved and seconded to amend the proposed format and wording so it would appear as follows:

(1) Interview with complainant(s). 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.

(2) Interview with accused minister(s). The accused minister(s) shall be interviewed by the district ministerial relations committee to discuss with the minister(s) the complaints received against him/her in the hope that the matter can be resolved.

The remaining subparagraphs would be renumbered accordingly.

When it was pointed out that all districts may not have a ministerial relations committee, the maker of the motion withdrew the words, "district ministerial relations," inserting instead the word "appropriate."

After further discussion, a privileged motion was moved and seconded to refer Resolution 32 to the General Presbytery for its consideration and recommendation back to this body. The motion was lost.

The feeling was expressed not to encumber the districts with another committee, that often the district superintendent does investigative work.

The motion prevailed to delete the words "by the appropriate committee."

Procedural Motion

A procedural motion prevailed that debate on any main question or amendment be limited to two persons in favor and two persons against, and that no speaker be permitted more than 3 minutes at one time or to speak more than once on a main motion or amendment.

Resolution 32. Ministerial Discipline—Continuation

It was moved and seconded that subparagraph (2) be further amended by inserting before the word "interviewed" these words: "given an opportunity to be" inasmuch as there are times when a minister refuses to respond to an attempt for an interview. The motion was carried.

The motion to adopt Resolution 32 as amended was carried. It follows:

WHEREAS, There is a need to highlight the steps in the procedure for discipline so that they will be clearly portrayed in the General Council Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for a provision in the Bylaws relative to suspension of credentials; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the present content of Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 4, paragraph a, (page 126) be restructured as follows:

Bylaws Article IX

Section 4. Investigation of Reports or Complaints of Alleged Violations of Assemblies of God Principles

a. Within United States. 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 appointed representative, shall make an investigation, having in mind that it is his responsibility to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the Fellowship. This shall be done to determine the source of the report or complaint.

(1) *Interview with complainant(s).* 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.

(2) *Interview with accused minister(s).* The accused minister(s) shall be given the opportunity to be interviewed to discuss with the minister(s) the complaints received against him/her in the hope that the matter can be resolved.

(3) *Signed Complaint.* In the event the investigation so warrants, signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant(s) describing the alleged violations.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That an additional provision be inserted as subparagraph (4) as follows:

(4) *Suspension for extended investigation or minor violations.* If the time required for the investigation exceeds 3 months and additional time is required to determine the validity of the complaints or charges, a minister may be placed under suspension for a period not to exceed 3 months in order to complete the investigation. This provision may also be applied for some minor infraction not meriting rehabilitation or dismissal, and which can be resolved within the above time frame, subject to renewal if deemed necessary.

Resolution 33. Preparation and Filing of Charges

Brother Peterson read Resolution 33 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, There is no reference to suspension of credentials in the General Council Bylaws apart from that stated in Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 9, paragraph c, subparagraph (1), (page 126) in connection with rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for such a provision, which in fact has been a practice for many years, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the General Council Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 5, be amended by substituting the following for the provision presently stated in that section:

Section 5. Status of Ministers Under Charges

a. *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 officary making the investigation may prefer charges based on the evidence in their possession.

b. *Accused ministers informed.* The person against whom charges have been filed shall be informed in writing by certified mail of the charges made (See Article IX, A, Section 2.).

c. *Suspension of credentials.* The credentials of a minister against whom charges have been filed shall be considered to be under suspension until either disciplinary action has been taken or the minister has been cleared of the charges.

The motion was seconded. In response to a question, the general secretary explained that suspension is a temporary action pending a final determination of whether a man is guilty or not. Final action can only be taken by the district credentials committee and the General Council Credentials Committee.

A motion prevailed to amend the proposed paragraph c of Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 5, by substituting the word "may" for "shall."

Considerable discussion ensued relative to the status of one who is under suspension. The general secretary responded to a query, stating that cessation of ministry would not occur until disciplinary action had been taken.

It was moved and seconded to amend the resolution by deleting paragraph c, but this motion was lost.

It was moved to amend paragraph c by the addition of the following sentence: "A minister under suspension shall not be circumscribed in his ability to perform ministerial responsibilities." This motion was seconded and carried.

A point of order was called for inasmuch as there had been no opportunity for discussion on the proposed additional sentence. One who voted for the amendment moved to rescind the action as did the one who seconded it. The motion to rescind was carried.

It was moved and seconded that the district superintendents, in their annual meeting, be requested to discuss Resolutions 32 through 36, and all matters pertaining thereto, and offer their findings and recommendations to a committee to be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, said committee to make its recommendations to the next General Council.

The motion requesting further study with a report to the next General Council was carried.

In response to a question, the chairman explained that Resolution 32 would stand as amended, but it would come under the purview of committee study. It was understood that discussion pertaining to Resolution 33 would be made available to the committee.

Resolutions 34-36 as referred follow:

Resolution 34. Dismissal and Rehabilitation (Not Adopted—Referred for Study)

WHEREAS, The General Council Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 7, paragraph b, subparagraph (1), (page 128) are not clear as to whether a dismissed minister may be immediately placed on the rehabilitation program; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the following sentence be inserted before the last two sentences in Article IX, A, Section 7, paragraph b, subparagraph (1):

It shall be left to the discretion of the Credentials Committee as to whether the circumstances of the case call for a minister's suspension with rehabilitation, or if he should be dismissed with or without rehabilitation.

The entire subparagraph (1) as amended will then read:

(1) *Dismissed.* A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article IX, A, 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, A, 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. It shall be left to the discretion of the Credentials Committees as to whether the circumstances of the case call for a minister's suspension with rehabilitation, or if he should be dismissed with or without 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 ministers letter.

**Resolution 35. Publication of Name of
Disciplined Minister
(Not Adopted—Referred for Study)**

WHEREAS, The rights of a disciplined minister are not exhausted until the 30 days given him to appeal for a trial have expired; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the following words be added to the sentence under Bylaws, Article IX, A, Section 7, paragraph b, subparagraph (4), (page 128):

and an additional 30 days have been given the disciplined minister to exercise his right of appeal.

Subparagraph (4) will then read:

(4) *Publication only after notification.* 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 and an additional 30 days have been given the disciplined minister to exercise his right of appeal.

Further be it

RESOLVED, That the following sentence be added to Article IX, A, Section 8, paragraph c, (page 128) of the General Council Bylaws: There shall be no publication of the name of a dismissed minister by either a district council or the General Council until the 30 days given him to request a trial have expired.

**Resolution 36. Ministry While Under Rehabilitation
(Not Adopted—Referred for Study)**

WHEREAS, It has been longstanding policy that the extent of ministry an ordained minister may have while under suspension must be approved by the General Council Credentials Committee; and

WHEREAS, This stipulation has not been stated in the bylaws; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 9, paragraph c, subparagraph (1), (page 129) be amended by inserting at the end of the second sentence the following words: "subject to the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee" so that the sentence will read:

The extent to which he may be permitted to minister, if any, shall be determined by the district presbytery, subject to the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee.

The entire subparagraph (1) as amended will then read:

c. *Procedure and requirements.* The following procedure shall be used by the district presbytery in determining the specific requirements of rehabilitation for the individual minister.

(1) *Suspension.* 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, subject to the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee. Certain offenses may not require complete cessation of ministerial activities, although some restrictions or limitations may be warranted.

Resolution 37. Abortion

Brother Peterson read Resolution 37 and moved its adoption. He then stated that the General Council had adopted a statement in 1970 which was reaffirmed in 1977. The proposed resolution presents some change in the stand previously taken.

In response to a question, the chairman explained that the General Presbytery in 1984 requested the Commission on Doctrinal Purity to prepare a position paper on this subject. The Executive Presbytery later appointed a small committee to prepare a resolution based on the stance that the position paper espouses.

It was moved and seconded to amend the fifth "resolved" by restating it as follows: "That we do always encourage and counsel those with unwanted pregnancies concerning the alternative of adoption."

Opposition to the amendment was voiced inasmuch as it would make no provision to counsel a mother in a family situation to raise the child. The motion to amend was lost.

A motion prevailed to amend the resolution by titling it "The Sanctity of Human Life" instead of "Abortion."

The resolution was unanimously carried followed by a round of applause. The resolution as adopted follows:

The Sanctity of Human Life

WHEREAS, Abortion is in the forefront of spiritual and ethical problems confronting the church and American society today; and

WHEREAS, The Scriptures must provide the basis for an answer to this issue which is being nurtured in a general climate of moral relativism and sexual permissiveness; and

WHEREAS, The Bible recognizes that a woman is with child even in the first stages of pregnancy (Luke 1:31, 36); and

WHEREAS, The Bible recognizes that God is active in the creative process of forming new life (Job 31:15, Isaiah 44:24, Jeremiah 1:5, Psalm 139: 13-16); and

WHEREAS, The Bible recognizes that God has plans for the unborn child (Jeremiah 1:15, Luke 11:17); and

WHEREAS, The Bible recognizes that God is sovereign in all things, including the quality of life of the unborn child (Exodus 4:11); therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Assemblies of God affirms its opposition to abortion; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we pray earnestly for a spiritual awakening to the end that our nation shall be delivered from the degrading national moral standards and consequently of laws that permit evils such as abortion; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we shall help provide for Biblical moral resolution in all possible forums in opposition to the standards of the church being influenced by an atheistic, humanist philosophy; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we shall oppose legislation which is designed to destroy the moral fiber of society; and encourage and support legislation designed to strengthen the sanctity of human life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we counsel those with unwanted pregnancies concerning the alternative of adoption; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we compassionately minister to those who suffer

overwhelming remorse and guilt from having had abortions or those who have participated in producing abortions.

Resolution 38. Honorary General Presbyter Jose E. Giron

Brother Peterson read Resolution 38 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Reverend Jose E. Giron has served the old Latin American District Council of the Assemblies of God in the U. S. A. for 11 years, as secretary-treasurer, and 13 years as superintendent, and

WHEREAS, Brother Giron has served the Pacific Latin American District Council for 13 years as superintendent; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a general presbyter for a period of 37 years; and

WHEREAS, The Pacific Latin American District Council has recommended that his name be presented by the General Presbytery to this General Council as a nominee for honorary general presbyter; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That by acting to adopt this resolution, the General Council declares Jose E. Giron elected as an honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried amid a round of applause.

Resolution 39. Honorary General Presbyter E. D. Beard

Brother Peterson read Resolution 39 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The Reverend E. D. Beard has served the Wyoming District Council in executive office for a total of 22 years, having served 19 years as district superintendent. His total service in executive office has thus extended over more than one-half of the district's existence; and

WHEREAS, He has served as a general presbyter for more than the required 20 years; and

WHEREAS, The Wyoming District Council has recommended that his name be presented by the General Presbytery to the General Council as a nominee for honorary general presbyter; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this General Council elect Brother E. D. Beard as an honorary general presbyter pursuant to the provisions of the General Council Constitution, Article IX, Section 3, paragraph e.

The motion was seconded and carried with applause.

Resolution 40. Honorary General Presbyter Thomas F. Zimmerman

The Resolutions Committee chairman read Resolution 40 as follows and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas F. Zimmerman has served 26 years as general superintendent, and six years as assistant general superintendent, and has been a member of the General Presbytery for 7 previous years, making a total of 39 years; and

WHEREAS, He has distinguished himself as the leader of the largest Pentecostal movement in the world and as a recognized leader in the Pentecostal World Conference, and in evangelical circles; and

WHEREAS, The General Presbytery has adjourned its 1985 session and is not now in session, and will not convene until 1 year hence; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That upon the recommendation of the Executive Presbytery, Thomas F. Zimmerman be declared elected as an honorary general presbyter.

The motion was seconded and carried followed by a standing ovation to Brother Zimmerman.

Resolution 41. Appreciation

As chairman of the Resolutions Committee, Brother Peterson read the names of the other brethren on the committee and expressed appreciation to them for their able service. He then read the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The 41st General Council of the Assemblies of God has enjoyed the gracious hospitality extended by the City of San Antonio, and the sponsoring districts: the South Texas District Council, and the Gulf Latin American District Council; and

WHEREAS, Many courtesies and acts of kindnesses have been extended by efficient services of numerous persons, committees, and agencies; and

WHEREAS, The faithful labors and outstanding talents of many people have contributed to the success of this Council and the well-being of our people; be it

RESOLVED, That by this act, we express appreciation to our host districts: South Texas District Council and its superintendent, Howard Burroughs; Gulf Latin American District Council and its superintendent, Josue Sanchez; and to the City of San Antonio; the Convention and Visitors Bureau; the San Antonio Convention Facilities; the San Antonio City Police Department; the Bexar County Sheriff's Department; to Jim Bakker and the PTL Television Network; the Christian Broadcasting Network; the Trinity Broadcasting Network; the Hyatt Regency San Antonio on the Riverwalk; the Hilton Palacio del Rio; the San Antonio Marriott Hotel; and all other hotels, motels, and travel parks; the San Antonio media; and to the editor and staff of the San Antonio Press; and further be it

RESOLVED, That this expression of appreciation also be extended to General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman, Assistant General Superintendent G. Raymond Carlson, the officers and members of the Executive Presbytery, and to the headquarters personnel for efficiency in planning and implementation of numerous details for all services rendered; and to all who have ministered unto the Lord and edified His people with able preaching, inspired songs, and talented music.

The motion was seconded and carried with a standing vote. The general superintendent added his personal appreciation "for the faithfulness and hard work of committee members and so many other people who have made the time in San Antonio a joy and delight."

Recommendation of the General Presbytery Relative to Restoration of Credentials

The general secretary read the first part of the report and then explained areas where new wording was proposed for the purpose of clarification and uniformity in the districts. A motion prevailed to adopt the report as presented. The report follows:

At the request of the General Presbytery in session in 1983, the Executive Presbytery appointed a committee to study Bylaws Article VII as it pertains to restoration of credentials. The report of the committee was "accepted for presentation to the General Council as a recommendation from the General Presbytery." It is therefore recommended to:

1. Change the title of Section 6 from "Renewal of Fellowship Certificates" to "Credential Renewals and Reinstatements";

2. Retitle paragraph c from "Reinstatement required after February 15" to "Reinstatement of lapsed minister";

3. Add a new paragraph d entitled "Reinstatement of other than dismissed minister";

4. Move paragraph (1) of Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 10, paragraph a, which relates to the restoration of credentials of other than dismissed ministers, to Section 6 of Article VII, since it more properly belongs there;

5. Delete the lead-in of paragraph (2) so only two sentences would remain under paragraph a, "Minimal time-lapse"; and

6. Indicate in paragraph c, as well as in the new paragraph d (transferred as noted above), that the reinstatement fee is nonrefundable.

The proposed Bylaws Article VII, Section 6, follows:
Section 6. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements

- a. **Expiration date.** All fellowship certificates are valid only until January 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister does not receive his renewal form by January 1, he should notify his district office.

b. Grace period until February 15. All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before January 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until February 15, to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices.

c. Reinstatement of lapsed minister. Ministers whose renewal applications are not postmarked by February 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes.

d. Reinstatement of other than dismissed minister. 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 dismissal, and shall apply for reinstatement, he shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement until at least 6 months shall have elapsed after his name has been stricken from our list of ministers. The application must be made in the district where he resides and be accompanied with a nonrefundable fee of \$50 which will be divided between the national and district offices. (See Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 10, paragraph a, for reinstatement of dismissed minister.)

The district of residence shall seek a letter of clearance from the district which processed the termination and, upon receipt of the clearance, may add its endorsement and forward the application, together with the letter of clearance, to the General Council Credentials Committee for its action.

The proposed Bylaws Article IX, Section 10, follows:

Section 10. Restoration of Credentials

a. Minimal Time-lapse. For a minister who is listed as "dismissed," the minimal time-lapse required before he is eligible to apply for reinstatement shall be 1 year, except that a minister who is dismissed because of charges as stated in Article IX, A, Section 2, paragraph a, the minimal time-lapse shall be 2 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.

Appreciation from Host District Superintendent

Howard Burroughs, South Texas District superintendent, voiced appreciation for the great job The General Council of the Assemblies of God had performed in San Antonio and extended an invitation for it to come back again.

Adjournment

The general superintendent made a simple closing statement, "God bless you, and thank you. I turn the chair to our general superintendent elect. God bless you." Members of the Executive Prebytery, including newly elected ones, gathered around Brother Zimmerman as the body gave him a prolonged standing ovation.

Brother Carlson prefaced his closing prayer with these remarks: "Brother Zimmerman, often words are totally inadequate for me, and this is one of those occasions when words fail me to express what we feel as a Movement, that which is in our hearts as we think of you. You've been God's gift to us and will continue to be so. We cannot measure in any way the contribution God has helped you to make to our Movement during these 26 years as our leader and those 6 years previously as you served effectively, and all of the other things you have been involved in. I know I cannot feel or comprehend all the trauma that's in your heart at this moment. We're praying with you and for you. And we say, 'thank you, thank you. God bless you.' I find when I cannot say that which I feel in my heart, I can talk to Father about it, and I want to pray with you, all of us do in these closing moments."

Following his prayer, someone spoke to Brother Zimmerman from the floor: "Everyone in the General Council needs to say what is in our hearts and that is, 'We love you!'" Then, "Lead us in the Doxology one more time." Brother Zimmerman responded by leading the body in the final singing of what has become a hallmark of his in recessing or adjourning the sessions of both General Presbytery and General Council Meetings.

The 41st General Council adjourned at 12:35 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13.

JOSEPH R. FLOWER
GENERAL SECRETARY

**Constitution and Bylaws
of
The General Council of the Assemblies of God
in the
United States of America and Foreign Lands
Revised to August 13, 1985**

CONSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION

WE BELIEVE:

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

That these believers, saved and called out of the world, constitute the body or church of Jesus Christ built and established upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone.

That the members of the body, the church (ecclesia) of Jesus Christ, are enjoined to assemble themselves for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, the work of the ministry and for the exercise of those spiritual gifts and offices provided for New Testament church order.

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

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

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

That we are a cooperative fellowship of Pentecostal, Spirit-baptized saints from local Pentecostal assemblies of like precious faith throughout the United States and foreign lands to be known as the General Council of the Assemblies of God whose purpose is neither to usurp authority over the various local assemblies, nor to deprive them of their scriptural and local rights and privileges; but to recognize and promote scriptural

methods and order for worship, unity, fellowship, work, and business for God; and to disapprove unscriptural methods, doctrines and conduct, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness 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 *General 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

The prerogatives of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be:

- 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 the 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 Corinthians 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 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 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 (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22).

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

(a) Terms Defined

The terms *trinity* and *persons*, as related to the Godhead, while not found in the Scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is *One Lord*, as a Trinity or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 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 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 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; Zechariah 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 no person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others (John 5:17-30, 32, 37; 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. (Romans 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. (Matthew 1:23; 1 John 4:2,10,14; Revelation 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 (Matthew 1:21-23; 2 John 3; 1 John 3:8; Hebrews 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; Hebrews 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 (Hebrews 1:3; 1 Peter 3:22; Acts 2:32-36; Romans 14:11; 1 Corinthians 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; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 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 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21).
- (e) His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; 1 Corinthians 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 (Ephesians 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 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 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 Corinthians 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; Hebrews 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 Initial Physical 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 Corinthians 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 (Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 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 (Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:5).

10. The Church and Its Mission

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22,23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23).

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

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

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

- a. Enables them to evangelize in the power of the Spirit with accompanying supernatural signs (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4:29-31; Hebrews 2:3,4).
- b. Adds a necessary dimension to a worshipful relationship with God (1 Corinthians 2:10-16; 1 Corinthians 12-14).
- c. Enables them to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in

expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11,12; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

11. The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23,24), and (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; Matthew 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 Thessalonians 4:16,17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 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 (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 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 (Matthew 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 an accredited fellowship certificate

and churches holding a Certificate of Affiliation issued by The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Section 2. Assemblies of God

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

Section 3. Voting Constituency

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

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

a. Regular sessions. 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. 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. Right of initiative. 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 15 ordained ministers, may be considered sufficient reason for the call of a special session, such statement to be filed with the Executive Presbytery, which 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. Officers and terms of office. 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 3 months after the date of election. The term of office for the general superintendent shall continue for 4 years or until his successor qualifies. The terms of office for all other officers shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

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

Section 2. Executive Presbytery

a. Composition and terms of office. 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 8 other brethren to be chosen from the active Fellowship to bring the number to 13. The terms of office for all members of the Executive Presbytery, except as stated in Section 1, shall continue for 2 years or until their successors qualify.

b. A Board of Directors. 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

a. Representation, qualifications, and responsibilities. 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.

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

c. Foreign missions representation. The foreign fields shall be represented on the General Presbytery by the field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions and by two others from each of the overall areas which the field directors represent.

d. College representation. The duly endorsed colleges of the Assemblies of God shall be represented on the General Presbytery by three college presidents.

e. Honorary general presbyters. 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. The addition of such honorary members shall not disturb the regular number of presbyters granted each district.

ARTICLE X. DISTRICT COUNCILS

a. Membership. Membership of the district councils 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. **Area of supervision.** 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. **Foreign language districts.** 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. (See Article V of the bylaws.)

d. **Credentialing authority.** The district council shall have the authority to examine and license ministers who are to become members thereof. They shall report the names of approved ministers to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. The district council shall also have the authority to examine and ordain ministers after having received approval from the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. 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. **Areas of authority.** The district council shall elect its own officers and arrange for its own meetings.

f. **Amenability to General Council.** 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. It shall be amenable to The General Council of the Assemblies of God in matters of doctrine and the personal conduct of all ministers who are permitted to have district endorsement.

ARTICLE XI. LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

Section 1. General Council Affiliated Assemblies

A General Council affiliated assembly is one which has applied for and has received a Certificate of Affiliation from The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

a. **Requirements for affiliation.** Churches desiring to be affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall meet the following requirements. They shall:

- (1) Accept the tenets of faith of the Assemblies of God.

- (2) Adopt a standard of membership which may be determined either by the local assembly or by agreement with the district council.

- (3) Have a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons who shall accept their full share of responsibility for the maintenance of scriptural order in the local body.

- (4) Adopt a constitution and bylaws compatible with those recommended by the district council.

- (5) Have an adequate number of spiritually qualified members to fill the offices of the church called for in its constitution and bylaws.

- (6) Make provision for a pastor who is a credentialed minister in good standing with the General Council and/or a district council.

b. **Relationship to and support of the General Council and district councils.** A General Council affiliated assembly should cooperate in the work and support the programs of the General Council and district councils and may send delegates to the General Council and district councils.

c. **Right of self-government (sovereign rights).** Each General Council affiliated 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 it is affiliated with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall in no wise destroy its rights as above stated or interfere with its sovereignty.

d. **Subordinate in matters of doctrine and conduct.** A General Council affiliated 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 Affiliation if deemed necessary.

e. **Right of appeal.** When in need of counsel or advice, the General Council affiliated assembly may appeal to the district officer for help. It may appeal from a decision by the district officer 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 General Council affiliated assembly or by the district presbytery, appeal may be made to the General Presbytery.

Section 2. District Council Affiliated Assemblies

Provision shall be made by the district councils for district council affiliated assemblies which shall be under the supervision of the district council, in accordance with the provisions of the district council constitution and bylaws. These assemblies shall be encouraged to proceed to

the status of sovereign General Council affiliated assemblies.

Section 3. World Ministries Participation

All assemblies are expected to have an interest in the world ministries of the Assemblies of God and to plan for regular contributions for its support.

ARTICLE XII. DISSOLUTION

The assets of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, a Missouri corporation, are irrevocably dedicated to religious and/or charitable purposes, the same being stated fully in its Articles of Agreement and heretofore in the articles of this constitution. In the event of liquidation, dissolution, or the revocation of its charter or abandonment of its stated purposes, after providing for the payment of debts and obligations of the corporation, the remaining assets will not inure to the benefit of any private person or persons but all such remaining assets will be distributed to a nonprofit organization, or to nonprofit organizations, which are organized and operated exclusively for religious and/or charitable purposes which are exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, under which section the organization or organizations shall have established tax exempt status.

ARTICLE XIII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution may be made at any regularly called session of the General Council provided that the proposed amendments shall have been submitted at least 6 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 60 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. Nominations and Elections

a. **General superintendent, assistant general superintendent, and general secretary.** All candidates for the offices 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 15 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 elective 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. General presbyters.

(1) *District representatives.* In addition to the district superintendent of each district, who shall serve on the General Presbytery by virtue of his office, two others shall be elected by the district council in session, one of whom shall be an ordained pastor of a church located in the district. They shall take office immediately upon election.

(2) *Foreign Missions representatives.* Field directors of the Division of Foreign Missions, representing the missionaries from their respective areas, are members of the General Presbytery by virtue of office. Two additional representatives on the General Presbytery from each field fellowship shall be chosen in the following manner: The Foreign Missions Board shall nominate four missionaries from each general area represented by the field directors, including international ministries. Nominees will be selected from missionaries who will be in the United States at the time of the General Presbytery Meeting and who preferably have had administrative experience in the field fellowship. Ballots shall be sent to all missionaries in each area who shall by vote select two to represent them on the General Presbytery. These shall be mailed to the general secretary who shall prepare a report to the Executive Presbytery. A simple majority vote shall be required to elect.

(3) *College representatives.* College representatives, as provided for in Constitution Article IX, Section 3, paragraph d, shall be nominated by the Executive Presbytery and elected by the General Presbytery for a 2-year term on a rotating basis. A two-thirds vote shall be required. Two years shall elapse after a term is completed before a president shall be eligible for reelection to the General Presbytery.

c. Nonresident executive presbyters

(1) *Nominations and elections.* 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 at its annual meeting prior to the General Council session shall nominate two ministers from its district, one of whom is not an elected full-time district official, to be presented to the General Council as nominees from its area. These nominees shall be presented to and be balloted upon by the General Council in session. A two-thirds vote shall be required to nominate and to elect.

(2) *Area divisions for electing nonresident executive presbyters.* 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, Montana, Northwest, Oregon, Southern Idaho, Wyoming

Southwest Area: Arizona, Hawaii, Korean, Northern California-Nevada, Pacific Latin American, Rocky Mountain, Southern California

North Central Area: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Northern Missouri, South Dakota, Wisconsin-Northern Michigan

South Central Area: Central Latin American, Gulf Latin American, Kansas, New Mexico, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas, West Texas

Great Lakes Area: Appalachian, German, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Midwest Latin American, Ohio

Gulf Area: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Southern Missouri, Tennessee

Northeast Area: Italian, New Jersey, New York, Northern New England, Pennsylvania-Delaware, Potomac, Southern New England, Spanish Eastern

Southeast Area: Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Peninsular Florida, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Southeastern Spanish, West Florida

d. Boards of education and foreign missions members. For the purpose of selection by the General Presbytery of the members of the Board of Education in compliance with Bylaw Article XII, Section 2, paragraph b, (2)(a), and of the Laymen's Advisory Committee of the Division of Foreign Missions as provided for in Article XV, Section 2, paragraph c, members of foreign language districts shall vote with the area in which the district office is located. Foreign missionaries on furlough shall vote with their home districts.

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

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

Section 3. Vacancies

a. Executive officers. In the event any of the executive offices of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall become vacant through death or other cause, the Executive Presbytery shall fill the office by appointment until the next meeting of the General Council, with the exception that in the event of death or incapacity of the general superintendent the assistant general superintendent shall succeed to the office of general superintendent until the next General Council.

b. General presbyters. In the event a general presbyter shall move to another district or shall vacate his office for any other reason, the presbytery of the district council shall appoint one to serve as general presbyter until that office is regularly filled at the next meeting of the district council.

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Duties of the General Superintendent

a. The general superintendent shall emphasize and implement the threefold mission of the church: the evangelization of the world, the worship of God, and the building of a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son; and promote and coordinate efforts directed toward the fulfilling of that mission.

b. He shall be general superintendent of all work on the field conducted in behalf of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

c. He shall supervise all the work of the general office, act as president of the corporation in all legal matters, and be an ex officio member of all committees and boards.

d. He shall preside at the sessions of the General Presbytery and the General Council.

e. He shall preside at all meetings of the Credentials Committee and sign all credentials.

f. He shall preside at all sessions of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration and receive all communications directed to these bodies.

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

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

i. He shall be authorized to perform any other functions usual and customary as presiding officer or such as may be directed by the General

Council, the General Presbytery, or by the Executive Presbytery.

Section 2. Duties of the Assistant General Superintendent

- a. The assistant general superintendent shall assist the general superintendent.
- b. He shall serve as vice-president of the corporation and preside at meetings of the Executive Presbytery and the Board of Administration in the absence of the general superintendent.
- c. He shall perform any other functions under the supervision of the general superintendent, or such as may be directed by the General Council, the General Presbytery, or the Executive Presbytery.

Section 3. Duties of the General Secretary

- a. The general secretary shall make and keep true records of the proceedings of the General Council and shall publish the same as approved and directed by the Executive Presbytery.
- b. He shall be the custodian of the official seal and shall issue credentials under the direction of the Credentials Committee and shall keep a record of all ordained and licensed ministers and assemblies in the Fellowship.
- c. He shall be authorized to sign all official and legal documents.
- d. He shall serve as secretary of the General Presbytery, Executive Presbytery, the Credentials Committee, and the Board of Administration and shall keep accurate minutes of the deliberations of these bodies.
- e. He shall be authorized to edit and prepare for distribution the minutes of the meeting of the General Presbytery after examination and approval thereof by the Executive Presbytery.
- f. 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.

Section 4. Duties of the General Treasurer

- a. The general treasurer shall be the executive director of the Division of the Treasury.
- b. He shall be custodian of all funds.
- c. He shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements, conducting the work of his office according to accepted business methods.
- d. He shall give a report from time to time as may be requested by the General Council or the Executive Presbytery.
- e. He shall give bond to the amount of \$50,000. The treasurer's books shall be audited annually by competent auditors.
- f. 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

He shall be the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions under the supervision of the Executive Presbytery. Under his direction

the division shall perform the following duties and render the following services:

- a. Keep a record of all official acts of the Foreign Missions Board and other committees of the division.
- b. Conduct all correspondence with prospective missionaries and with those already on the field.
- c. Prepare the foreign missions material in the Pentecostal Evangel from missionary letters and reports.
- d. Represent The General Council of the Assemblies of God in all relationships with governments or authorities where our foreign missions work is involved.
- e. Direct the foreign missions activities of the Fellowship.
- f. Distribute all foreign missions funds as directed by the donors by agreement with the Foreign Missions Committee.
- g. Keep such records of all funds received and disbursed as will safeguard the funds from loss en route to the field.
- h. Act as a purchasing agent for foreign missions supplies.
- i. Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Executive Presbytery or the General Presbytery.

Section 6. Duties of the Executive Presbytery

- a. The executive presbyters shall serve as trustees of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. They shall be empowered to supervise and have general oversight of all departments. They shall be authorized to act for the corporation in all matters that affect its interests while the General Council is not in session, subject to the provisions of paragraph h and j of Section 6 and paragraph a of Section 8 of this article.
- 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 divisions, 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 12 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 cards. 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 the responsibility of examining credentials of all ministers and delegates. Ordained ministers shall identify themselves by fellowship cards 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, licensed ministers, delegates from assemblies, visitors, etc.

Section 4. Resolutions Committee

a. **Procedure for presentation of resolutions.** A Resolutions Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. All resolutions for presentation to the General Council, except emergency measures, shall be presented to the general secretary's office at least 100 days prior to a General Council session. The Resolutions Committee shall 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 shall be decided by a two-thirds vote of the council.

b. Sponsorship policy. 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.

c. Appropriateness of resolutions. The Resolutions Committee shall, by a two-thirds vote, determine the appropriateness of a proposed resolution, including the following criteria in its decision:

- (1) Possible conflict with the corporate charter, constitution, or by-laws.
- (2) Those proposals absurd in substance.

d. Right of sponsor. If the Resolutions Committee determines that a resolution is inappropriate, it shall so advise the author and shall apprise him of his right to present the proposed resolution to the house for determination as to appropriateness.

e. Format of presentation. The Resolutions Committee shall:

- (1) Put resolutions in proper form.
- (2) Eliminate duplication where similar resolutions relating to a specific subject will be offered in a logical sequence.

Section 5. Spiritual Life Committee

A Spiritual Life Committee shall be appointed by the general superintendent in conjunction with the Executive Presbytery, selected from a cross section of the Fellowship. The committee shall function for a 2-year period and report to the biennial meeting of the General Council and to the Executive Presbytery as feasible.

Section 6. Other Committees

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

ARTICLE V. DISTRICT COUNCILS

Section 1. Formation of New Districts

a. Conference status. In isolated geographical areas where there is a growth and development potential, the first step may be the establishing of a conference status which would provide the supervision and assistance of an existing established district until the new district is capable of an aggressive program.

b. Guidelines. Guidelines for the establishing of new districts shall include:

- (1) Number of General Council affiliated churches.
- (2) Size and maturity of the churches as to membership, leadership, and program ministries.

(3) The location, the size, and the potential growth of the geographical area under consideration.

(4) The effect the establishing of the proposed new district will have on the district or districts involved.

c. Boundaries. The boundaries of the new district shall be determined or rearranged by cooperative agreement between the district or districts involved 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. Recognition qualifications. In order to become a district of the Assemblies of God, a foreign language group must have a minimum number of 20 churches. 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. Equality with geographical districts. 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. Cooperative relationship. 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. Sponsorship and affiliation of a foreign language group. Should an English-speaking church desire to initiate sponsorship of a foreign language group, it should consult with both the geographical and the foreign language districts for counsel and guidance and seek assistance from the foreign language district for a minister to the group. Such an effort should be initiated with the objective in mind that it will develop into a foreign language church in affiliation with the foreign language district. The sponsoring church may provide facilities and/or support to such a work through its district home missions department. When such a group reaches as many as 20 adult foreign language members, and desires to become a separate church, the sponsoring church should take steps to encourage the group to become affiliated with the foreign language district.

e. **Church transfer procedure.** 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).

Section 5. Dissolution of District

a. **Loss of recognition.** In the event an existing district (foreign language or geographical) shall be reduced to less than 10 churches, General Council or district affiliated, its recognition shall cease.

b. **Foreign language districts guidelines.** Guidelines for dissolution of foreign language districts are provided for in Section 4, paragraph a, of this article.

c. **Geographical districts guidelines.** Dissolution of geographical districts shall be the prerogative of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God in cooperation and consultation with the original district or districts involved.

ARTICLE VI. ASSEMBLIES

Section 1. Procedure for Affiliation

It shall be the responsibility of the district presbytery to determine when an assembly has reached a state of growth, stability, and maturity qualifying it for affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Qualifications shall include a minimum active voting membership of 20 persons. The assembly shall have matured to a point where a sufficient number of qualified persons are available for the offices called for in its constitution and bylaws.

The procedure for affiliation shall be:

a. A church desiring affiliation shall forward its request to the office of the district in which it is situated. The district council shall provide an approved application form and procedural instructions.

b. The meeting in which an assembly shall be set in order shall be presided over by an officer of the district who shall assist the assembly in the adoption of a constitution and bylaws acceptable to the district.

c. An existing, mature church which desires to affiliate with The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall apply to the office of the district council for guidance and assistance.

d. Upon approval by the district presbytery, the application for affiliation shall be forwarded to the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Recognition of affiliation shall be regarded as completed upon receipt by the assembly of an official Certificate of Affiliation to be issued by the general secretary.

Section 2. Annual Report 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

Pastors and leaders of assemblies should make proper investigation regarding persons who seek to gain entrance to teach or minister. Use of the platform should be denied until spiritual integrity and reliability have been determined. 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 unknown persons seeking ministry in our assemblies.

Section 4. Relationships Between Churches, District Councils, and the General Council

a. **Nature.** General Council affiliated churches are deemed to be sovereign, autonomous, self-governing, and self-determining bodies which have, by their sovereign, self-determining action in making application for and receiving recognition as a General Council affiliated church, entered into an agreement with the Fellowship to be amenable to the General Council and district council in matters of doctrine and conduct. (See Article XI, Section 1, paragraph d, of the constitution.)

b. **Relationships.** *Cooperative fellowship* describes both the relationship that exists between local churches and their relationships with the district councils and the General Council.

c. **Organizational assistance.** The services of both the General Council and district council are available to assist the General Council affiliated church in dealing with any of its problems, either internal or external, when requested by the pastor and/or a majority of the official board of the church or a petition signed by 20 percent of the voting members.

d. **Preservation of affiliation.** In the event the termination of affiliation with The General Council of the Assemblies of God is under consideration by an affiliated assembly, the pastor and/or the board shall invite the district officer to participate in a specially called business meeting for the express purpose of giving the district officer the opportunity to present the case for continued General Council affiliation. Final disposition of the matter may then proceed in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the local church.

Section 5. Guidelines for Minimal Membership for General Council Affiliated Assemblies

When the membership of a General Council affiliated church falls below

20 active voting members, it shall seek the assistance of the district officary for help in maintaining the minimal requirement for General Council affiliation. If after 1 year the minimal number of 20 members is not attained the church shall revert to district affiliated status. The church shall remain in a district council affiliated status until it again meets the standard for affiliation as a General Council affiliated church as provided for in Article XI, Section 1, of the constitution. An application for same shall be filed with the district secretary and approved by the district presbytery.

Section 6. New Assemblies Resulting From a Division

a. **Status of assembly.** 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. **Status of minister.** 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, A, Section 2, of the bylaws.

Section 7. Transfer of Local Church Membership

a. **Letter of introduction.** 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. **Acknowledgment of transfer.** 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.

Section 2. Basic Qualifications

The following qualifications pertain to all applicants for ministerial recognition:

- a. Testimony to having experienced the new birth (John 3:5).
- b. Testimony to having received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial physical evidence of speaking in other tongues according to Acts

2:4. The Spirit-filled life will enable him to fulfill the threefold mission of the church (Article V, paragraph 10, of the constitution).

c. Clear evidence of a divine call to the ministry, evidenced by a personal conviction, confirmed by the work of the Spirit and the testimony of fellow ministers.

d. A blameless Christian life and a good report of those who are without (Titus 1:7; 1 Timothy 3:7).

e. A thorough understanding of and agreement with our doctrinal position as contained in the Statement of Fundamental Truths.

f. A satisfactory working knowledge of the principles, practices, and purposes of the Fellowship through a study of the General Council and district council constitution and bylaws.

g. An active loyalty to our constitutional agreements, a cooperative spirit, and a readiness to seek and receive the counsel of older brethren and those in positions of authority.

h. **Educational requirements.** Any certain extent of academic education shall never be a requirement for credentials, but it shall be required of applicants that they complete the prescribed study courses of the Berean College of the Assemblies of God or equivalent training in an approved school, and pass examinations, together with other training as may be prescribed by respective district councils in conformity with such provisions as are made for applicants by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

i. **Marriage status.** We disapprove of any married persons holding ministerial credentials with the Assemblies of God or district councils granting credentials to such, if either marriage partner has a former companion living, except as hereinafter provided.

j. **Annulments and marriage dissolutions.** 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.

k. **Eligibility of women.** The Scriptures plainly teach that divinely called and qualified women may also serve the church in the ministry of the Word (Joel 2:29; Acts 21:9; 1 Corinthians 11:5). Women 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, are entitled to whatever grade of credentials their qualifications warrant and the right to administer the ordinances of the church when such acts are necessary.

1. **Ministers from other organizations.** If a minister from another reputable body desires to affiliate with the Assemblies of God, the credentials committees of both the General Council and the district councils are under no obligation to accept the applicant's previous ministerial status, but will judge each candidate on his or her own merits as to the level of credentials to be granted. Such applicants shall be required to:

- (1) Conform to Assemblies of God criteria for recognition.
- (2) Complete an application for ministerial recognition.
- (3) Submit a recommendation from the body with which he/she was formerly affiliated. If such is not available, letters of recommendation should be sought from three reputable ordained ministers who are familiar with the applicant's ministry.
- (4) Take the credential examination.
- (5) Meet with the credentials committee.
- (6) Be recommended by the district credentials committee for the approval of the General Council Credentials Committee.
- (7) All so approved shall not be reordained, but shall have the hands of the district presbytery laid upon them as they enter this new phase of ministry.
- (8) Ministers who receive Assemblies of God recognition will relinquish their ministerial credentials with any other organization.

Section 3. Graded Qualifications

a. **Christian worker.** Efficient helpers in gospel work who devote a part of their time to Christian service, and whenever possible remain under the supervision of a pastor, may be recognized as Christian workers. They shall preach at least 12 times a year or be actively engaged in some other aspect of ministry, except in case of ill health or infirmity.

b. **License.** Qualifications for license shall be in two categories:

- (1) **Preaching ministry.** 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 15 times a year, except in case of ill health or infirmity.
- (2) **Specialized ministry.** An evident purpose to devote one's time to a specialized ministry such as Christian education, music, or other full-time ministries. The same qualifications as outlined in Section 2 of this article shall apply.

c. **Ordination.** Qualifications for ordination are outlined in the New Testament Scriptures (1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:7-9). In addition:

- (1) Applicants must be 23 years of age or older.
- (2) They must have met all the requirements in making application and in completing the prescribed application form.
- (3) 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, evangelist, or some other recognized and proven full-time

preaching ministry for at least 2 full consecutive years immediately prior thereto.

(4) **Residency requirements of applicants.** Applicants must be residents of or hold credentials in the district where they make application and appear before its credentials committee. District councils are required to refrain from approving any applicant for ordination who may have been licensed in another district, until such licensed minister shall have been a member of the district in which he is seeking ordination at least 1 year. If the applicant has not been a member of the district where he applies for ordination for 2 full consecutive years, he must meet the requirements and secure the endorsement of the officary of the district in which he was previously licensed, as well as the district of his residence.

(5) **Exceptions to residency requirements.** In the event that an applicant has qualified and been approved for ordination by the district of his former residence before being publicly ordained, the district where he resides may waive the 1-year residency requirement and ordain him upon the request or approval of his former district.

(6) In order to maintain active status, ordained ministers must preach at least 15 times each year.

Section 4. Action of Credentials Committee

a. **Christian worker and license.** The district councils have the authority to recognize approved candidates as Christian workers and to grant licenses to those who qualify. The names of approved licensed ministers and Christian workers shall be reported to the office of the general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. **Ordination.** The General Council Executive Presbytery constitutes the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, and has the authority to give recognition as approved ordained ministers to those endorsed and recommended by the district councils to the General Council Credentials Committee. This approval must be obtained prior to the public ordination. All ordinations shall take place under the auspices of the district councils.

Section 5. Certificates

a. **Christian worker and license.** Christian workers certificates and licenses shall be granted by district councils to properly qualified applicants.

b. **Ordination.** The Executive Presbytery, in its capacity as the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, is authorized to issue ordination certificates together with the accompanying annual fellowship cards.

Section 6. Credential Renewals and Reinstatements

a. **Expiration date.** All fellowship certificates are valid only until January 31 of each year and must be renewed annually. The renewing of credentials is the responsibility of the individual minister. In the event a minister

does not receive his/her renewal form by January 1, he/she should notify his/her district office.

b. Grace period until February 15. All who shall have failed to renew their fellowship certificates by mail postmarked on or before January 31 shall be considered delinquent. They shall be required to pay a late fee of \$25 up until February 15, to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices.

c. Reinstatement of lapsed minister. Ministers whose renewal applications are not postmarked by February 15 shall be recorded as lapsed as of the expiration date of January 31. They must make application for reinstatement and pay a nonrefundable fee of \$50, which shall be divided equally between the district and the General Council offices. These ministers shall not be subject to the minimal time-lapse required of those whose credentials have been terminated for other causes.

d. Reinstatement of other than dismissed minister. 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 dismissal, and shall apply for reinstatement, he/she shall in no case be eligible for reinstatement until at least 6 months shall have elapsed after his/her name has been stricken from our list of ministers. The application must be made in the district where he/she resides and be accompanied with a nonrefundable fee of \$50 which will be divided between the national and district offices. (See Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 10, paragraph a, for reinstatement of dismissed minister.)

The district of residence shall seek a letter of clearance from the district which processed the termination and, upon receipt of the clearance, may add its endorsement and forward the application, together with the letter of clearance, to the General Council Credentials Committee for its action.

Section 7. Official List

a. Active ministers. An official list of all ordained and licensed ministers shall be compiled by the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and published for the convenience of the Fellowship, with the understanding it is not to be used for purposes of solicitation. This official list shall be revised annually and shall contain the names of those who are engaged in active ministry and whose Certificates of Ordination have been renewed by the issuance of a fellowship card for the current year.

b. Inactive ministers. All ordained ministers who shall withdraw from active ministry or shall cease to engage in pastoral, evangelistic, or other full-time ministry shall be expected to notify the district office, which shall inform the general secretary. He shall then be authorized to transfer the names of such persons to the inactive list, unless the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise.

(1) *Definition.* All ordained ministers who shall have preached less than 15 times within a period of 1 year shall have their names placed

upon the inactive list for the following year.

(2) *Removal of inactive ministers from ministerial list.* When a minister is definitely inactive for 2 consecutive years, his name shall be eliminated from the ministerial list, unless the credentials committee of the district of which said person is a member specifically requests otherwise by letter.

(3) *Exceptions.* 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 such as headquarters or district workers, educators, ministers of music, ministers of youth, and ministers of Christian education; or those who have reached the age of 60 years; or those ministers who have had 25 years of approved service as ordained ministers in the Assemblies of God, regardless of age.

(4) *Disabled ministers.* A permanently disabled or permanently ill minister whose illness prevents him or her from engaging in active ministry shall be indicated as inactive. The credential status of the disabled minister shall remain unchanged. The annual renewal of his or her credentials shall take place in the regular manner. Disabled ministers thus approved by their district shall not have further obligation of financial support to the General Council.

c. Restoration to active status. Should the minister at any time return to active ministry, his or her name may be restored to the active list upon application bearing endorsement by the district officary.

Section 8. Senior Ministers

In respect and honor to those ministers who have given years of service to the Fellowship, senior status shall automatically be given to all credential holders who have reached the age of 65, whether they continue in full-time ministry or not.

a. Terminology

(1) The term *senior-active* shall be used for credential holders who continue to serve three-quarters to full time in the ministry.

(2) The term *senior-semiretired* shall be used for credential holders who continue to be active, but for half time or less.

(3) The term *senior-retired* shall be used for those who have ceased to engage in any regular appointed ministry.

b. Application for retired category. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired status shall be granted only to those ministers who filed a request for such status with their district office. The district secretary shall forward annually to the general secretary a list of those ministers who have made these requests.

c. Guidelines

(1) *Reports.* Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to file their annual reports and pay the General Council portion of their tithes in the regular manner. Senior-retired ministers shall file

an abbreviated report to maintain a correct address file for mail and insurance purposes.

(2) *Sources of income.* These designations and guidelines shall apply regardless of whether the senior minister's income is from his ministry, from retirement plans or Social Security payments, or from investments or other employment.

(3) *Designation in publications.* No distinguishing mark shall accompany the listing of senior-active in the official publications of the Assemblies of God, but may be so indicated in the working lists used for insurance and retirement purposes. Senior-semiretired and senior-retired ministers shall have this status appropriately indicated in the Official List of Assemblies of God Ministers.

(4) *Support of General Council headquarters.* Senior-active and senior-semiretired ministers shall continue to designate \$5 monthly to the support of the General Council headquarters. Senior-retired ministers shall be free to distribute as they desire the portion of their tithes previously paid to the General Council.

d. Limitations of this Section 8

(1) *For General Council usage only.* The definitions and decisions included in Section 8 apply only to General Council usage and are not binding upon the various districts, nor to the official legislation under which their members serve.

(2) *Other financial responsibility not circumvented.* No part of Section 8 is intended to modify the responsibility of ministers to their districts nor to terminate the Biblical responsibility for tithing.

Section 9. Ministerial Relations

a. Amenability. 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. Affiliation with district of residence. All ministers ordained and licensed shall be expected to affiliate with the district council within the boundaries of which they reside and work in cooperation with the same.

(1) *Exception.* 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.

(2) *Nationally appointed home missionary.* A nationally appointed home missionary shall become a member of the district in which he/she serves and shall be listed on the ministerial roster of that district by the office of the general secretary. He/she may also retain honorary membership in his/her home district, be listed as a missionary under national appointment in the home district's yearbook, and be extended voice and vote in his/her home district while on official furlough.

c. Cooperation with other districts. Ministers shall be expected to cooperate with other district councils in which they may labor temporarily.

It is recommended as a standard of proper practice that all ordained and licensed ministers conform to the financial policy of the district with which they are affiliated with the following exceptions:

(1) *Financial responsibility of foreign missionaries.* Foreign missionaries will be obligated to pay \$25 per month to their home district when resident in the U.S. and \$10 per month when resident on their fields.

(2) *Financial responsibility of chaplains.* All chaplains, military and institutional, will be obligated to their home district in the amount of 10 percent of their tithes from income earned from the chaplaincy. All chaplains are also encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the district in which they fulfill their assignments.

(3) *Financial responsibility of nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries.* Nationally appointed and/or approved home missionaries shall contribute 25 percent of their tithe to their member district where they serve and 25 percent of their tithe to their home district if they are listed as honorary members. The missionary who ministers in his home district shall contribute a minimum of 50 percent of his/her tithe to that district.

Section 10. Transfer of Credentials

a. Certificate of transfer. When a member minister takes up residence in another district, a certificate of transfer shall be issued within 60 days by the district of which he/she is a member, unless there are definite charges pending against him/her. The certificate of transfer shall be accepted by the district into which he/she moves. Exceptions may be made for the following:

(1) Ministers moving to serve at general headquarters.

(2) Those who have attained the age of 60 and are no longer engaged in active ministry and those who have attained the age of 65 and are not pastoring a church.

(3) Those who are in the Armed Forces currently on active duty.

(4) Those who are serving on the staffs of schools affiliated with the General Council and district council or nonaffiliated schools acceptable to the General Council and the district council in which the school is located.

(5) Those who are appointed home missionaries or foreign missionaries who are on furlough or on temporary assignment in the United States and reside in a district other than their home district.

(6) Ministers having membership in one district and a mailing address only in another district.

(7) Students in schools outside their home districts.

(8) Those who are serving in a non-Assemblies of God institution providing:

(a) They have a regular scope of ministry which reaches beyond district boundaries.

- (b) Both districts agree to the exception.
- (c) The institution is acceptable to both districts.

b. Transcript. In order to assist a minister who is transferring into another district, a transcript giving helpful information concerning him/her and his/her spouse should accompany the certificate of transfer.

Section 11. Ministerial Status Changes

All changes in a minister's status are to be reported immediately by him/her to his/her district office, which in turn is to report this information to the office of the general secretary of the General Council, on the Ministerial Status Report form provided by that office.

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

A. COMMISSION ON DOCTRINAL PURITY

a. Authorization and purpose. A Commission on Doctrinal Purity shall be established for the purpose of giving careful attention to preventing deviations from the Statement of Fundamental Truths and proliferation of unscriptural teachings. The commission shall receive its assignments from and make its reports to the Executive Presbytery.

b. Appointments and terms of office. The commission shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and shall consist of 10 members representing, insofar as possible, the geographic area divisions of the Assemblies of God. Members shall be recognized authorities in Biblical knowledge. Their terms of office shall be for 4 years.

c. Vacancies and terminations. The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to declare the office of any commission member vacant should it deem such action advisable. A decision to declare a vacancy and to fill such vacancy may be made at any meeting of the Executive Presbytery.

B. LIST OF 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.

e. Credentials jeopardized if made an issue. 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 Thessalonians 5:9,10; 2 Thessalonians 1:4-10; Revelation 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 wholehearted devotion to the cause of spreading the gospel (Luke 9:62), and it is well known that the various secret orders require much valuable time and interest, thus diverting the servant of the Lord out of the way (Ephesians 5:16).

The nature of such organizations demands secrecy (John 18:20; Acts 26:26) reinforced by religious oaths (Matthew 5:34) and strong attachment by binding obligations to persons who are for the most part unregenerated (2 Corinthians 6:14). 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) *Marriage entanglements before conversion.* 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) *Common-law marriage.* 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) *Standard for offices of bishop, or elder, and deacon.* 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) *Prerogative of local assemblies.* 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) *Ministerial guidelines.* 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, B, 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) *Violation of conscience not required.* We realize that the remarriage of such persons included in the exceptive circumstances in Article VIII, B, 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 2, paragraphs i and j.)

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 authorization of the district officer.

Projects or institutions of national scope must have the authorization of the Executive Presbytery of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Promotion of all projects of a missions 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 of 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 officer or by the Executive Presbytery. Such discourtesy will seriously affect the granting of annual fellowship cards 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 superchurch 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. (See Article VIII, B, Section 5, paragraphs d and e.)
- j. Violations of ministerial courtesy. (See Article VIII, B, Section 8.)
- k. Ministry without prior approval in a non-Assemblies church. (See Article VIII, B, Section 9.)
- l. An improper attitude toward those dismissed from the Fellowship. (See Article VIII, B, Section 10.)

Section 3. Initiative

a. **Authority.** 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.

b. **Prior right of district.** 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, A, 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 to the minister's home district.

c. **Responsibility of 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.

d. **Responsibility of General Council Credentials Committee.** 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 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. **Within United States.** 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 appointed representative, shall make an investigation, having in mind that it is his responsibility to safeguard the church, the minister, the district, and the

Fellowship. This shall be done to determine the source of the report or complaint.

(1) *Interview with complainant(s).* 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.

(2) *Interview with accused minister(s).* The accused minister(s) shall be given an opportunity to be interviewed to discuss with him/her the complaints received against him/her in the hope that the matter can be resolved.

(3) *Signed complaints.* In the event the investigation so warrants, signed complaints shall be filed with the district office by the complainant(s) describing the alleged violations.

(4) *Suspension for extended investigation or minor violations.* If the time required for the investigation exceeds 3 months and additional time is required to determine the validity of the complaints or charges, a minister may be placed under suspension for a period not to exceed 3 months in order to complete the investigation. This provision may also be applied for some minor infraction not meriting rehabilitation or dismissal, and which can be resolved within the above time frame, subject to renewal if deemed necessary.

b. *Outside United States.* In case the alleged misconduct occurs outside the United States in an area under the general oversight of the Division of Foreign Missions, 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 Division of Foreign Missions shall convey all information available to the home district in the following manner.

(1) *Report to home district.* At the earliest date after the Division of Foreign Missions 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) *Confidential file.* 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 director of the field involved and shall be presented to the district superintendent for his use in any action the district may take.

(3) *Additional information.* When in the judgment of the Division of Foreign Missions 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 officers 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 occurred, 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 and Bylaws of this ecclesiastical body.

Section 7. Credentials Terminations

In all cases the minister shall be requested to surrender his Certificate of Ordination and his current fellowship card 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. Refusal to surrender his Certificate of Ordination and current fellowship card 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.

(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 as "lapsed" in the Assemblies of God Minister, hereinafter referred to as the ministers letter.

(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 Cre-

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. (See Article IX, A, Section 3.)

(1) *Dismissed.* A minister who has been found guilty of violating any of the Assemblies of God principles set forth in Article IX, A, 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, A, 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 ministers letter.

(2) *Inactive.* When a minister becomes inactive for 2 consecutive years, according to the stipulations set forth in Article VII, Section 7, paragraph b, of the bylaws, his name shall be published as inactive in the ministers letter.

(3) *Not renewed.* If in the opinion of the Credentials Committees a minister's credentials should not be renewed short of disciplinary action, his name shall be published as not renewed in the ministers letter.

(4) *Publication only after notification.* 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 card 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

a. District recommendation. If it is determined that a minister's cre-

entials 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.

b. General Council Credentials Committee action. 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.

c. Right of appeal. Thirty days from the date of the notification of the decision of the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be allowed for the accused to request a trial. He shall be apprised officially of this right at the time the decision of the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God is made.

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, A, 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:

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

b. Period of time. The period of rehabilitation shall be not less than 1 year except when the violation involves misconduct defined in Article IX, A, Section 2, paragraph a, in which case it shall be for not less than 2 years.

c. Procedure and requirements. The following procedure shall be used by the district presbytery in determining the specific requirements of rehabilitation for the individual minister.

(1) *Suspension.* 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.

(2) *District member with conditions.* 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.

(3) *District progress reports.* The Credentials Committee of the district shall submit to the Credentials Committee of the General Council on February 1 and August 1 of each calendar year a progress report relative to the rehabilitation of ministers under discipline.

(4) *Minister's reports.* The minister must submit reports quarterly to the district superintendent.

(5) *Classified information.* 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.

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

(7) *Terms subject to district discretion.* The terms of rehabilitation as above stated shall be administered at the discretion of the district presbytery.

(8) *Ministerial benefits not forfeited.* During the period of rehabilitation the minister shall continue to be eligible for benefits such as the Ministers Group Insurance and Ministers Benefit Association.

d. Eligibility for rehabilitation.

(1) *Previous dismissal.* 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 appropriate rehabilitation program as prescribed in Section 9, paragraph b, of this article, with the provision that he shall not be eligible for reinstatement until the requirements of the program have been satisfactorily completed.

(2) *Previous rehabilitation.* In the event a minister has undergone a previous rehabilitation experience, and/or has a record of a prior violation(s) of Assemblies of God principles necessitating disciplinary action as defined in Article IX, A, Section 2, permission for rehabilitation shall be granted only by the General Council Credentials Committee and terms of such rehabilitation shall be approved by that body.

Section 10. Restoration of Credentials

a. Minimal time-lapse for dismissed minister. For a minister who is listed as "dismissed," the minimal time-lapse required before he/she is eligible to apply for reinstatement shall be 1 year, except that a minister who is dismissed because of charges as stated in Article IX, A, Section 2, paragraph a, the minimal time-lapse shall be 2 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. (See Bylaws Article VII, Section 6, for other renewals and reinstatements.)

b. Rehabilitation requirement obligatory. When a minister has been dismissed from our Fellowship and applies for reinstatement, it shall be the responsibility of the district council and General Council credentials committees to determine if he should go through the formal rehabilitation program, or if he has satisfactorily fulfilled the remedial requirements of such rehabilitation as outlined in Bylaws Article IX, A, Section 9, paragraph c.

c. Option to refer to General Presbytery. The Credentials Committee may also hold reinstatement of a minister's credentials 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.

d. Authorization. Application for reinstatement may be made through the district council within which territory the applicant resides. The applicant shall be considered subject to the approval of the district in which the termination was made.

e. Terminology

(1) *Renewed.* The term renewed shall be used to apply strictly to those who for inadvertent reasons fail to comply with the annual deadline of January 31, but do renew with said renewal bearing a postmark of not later than February 15.

(2) *Reinstatement.* The term *reinstatement* shall apply to all those whose names have been deleted from the official ministerial list for whatever reason and have paid a \$50 reinstatement fee to be divided equally between the district and General Council offices, and received district clearance for restoration to the ministerial list. (See also Article IX, B, Trial by Jury, Section 15.)

B. TRIAL BY JURY

Section 1. Right of Appeal and Authorization for a Trial

a. Filing of appeal. If a disciplined minister desires to appeal from the decision that has been rendered, his request shall be filed by him with the office of the general superintendent within 30 days of his notification.

A copy of his appeal must be sent to the superintendent of the minister's home district, and copies filed with other districts involved.

b. **Record of proceedings.** The district shall be expected to furnish a record of the proceedings leading up to the district action.

c. **Remanding of case to district.** If in the judgment of the Credentials Committee of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, justice has not been served, the case shall be remanded to the district presbytery for review and reconsideration.

d. **Authorization for a trial.** In the event there is no change of viewpoint by the district, a trial by jury may be authorized by the General Council Credentials Committee.

e. **Denial of appeal.**

(1) *Forfeiture of right of appeal.* 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.

(2) *Insufficient grounds for appeal.* The General Council Credentials Committee shall have the prerogative to determine whether there is sufficient cause to authorize a trial.

f. **Surrender of credentials.** The accused minister shall be required to surrender his current fellowship card, 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.

g. **Right to appeal to General Presbytery.** A disciplined minister who has been denied a trial may appeal to the General Presbytery for that right. The decision of the General Presbytery shall be final.

Section 2. 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 3. 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. The judge shall be

authorized and instructed to conduct a fair trial.

Section 4. 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 5. 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 6. 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 30 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 7. 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 Committees 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 8. 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 9. 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 10. Witnesses

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

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

Section 11. 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 instructions 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 12. 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 district 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 13. 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 30 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 14. 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 30 days following the notification of the decision of the Appeals Board.

Section 15. Reinstatement

a. A disciplined minister shall have the right to apply for reinstatement of his credentials, according to the provisions for such set forth in Article IX, A, Section 10. This provision shall apply to disciplinary action taken by either the General Council Credentials Committee or the General Presbytery, and also to action sustained by a trial.

b. 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 both the district officary and the General Council Credentials Committee.

c. 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. Organizations

a. Coordinator. 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. Committee on Mission. There shall be a Committee on Mission to assist in promoting and coordinating efforts to fulfill the threefold mission of the church.

(1) *Function.* 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 divisions and departments the emphasis which it or the general superintendent places upon each phase of the threefold mission.

(2) *Composition.* 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 chairman of the Committee on Mission. The Spiritual Life—Evangelism coordinator shall serve as secretary.

(3) *Subcommittees.* 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. Functions

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

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

c. **National director.** 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. **Amenability.** The division and all of its departments shall be ame-

nable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

Section 1. Church School Literature Department

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) *Editor.* 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) *Responsibility of Executive Presbytery.* 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.

(3) *Approval for budget changes.* 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 Publication before being initiated.

Section 2. Education Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibility.* There shall be an Education Department 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) *Purpose.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.

(2) *Board of Education.* There shall be a Board of Education which shall consist of 18 members to be constituted as follows: The national director of the Division of Christian Education, an executive presbyter,

one pastor or district officer not associated with the internal administration of an Assemblies 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.

(a) *Selection of board.* The national director shall serve as chairman of 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.

(b) *Terms of office.* The members of the Board of Education will serve for terms of 3 years or until their successors are elected. These terms shall be arranged so that the term of only one member from each area will expire annually.

(c) *Authority and amenability.* The government and work of the Education Department shall be vested in and committed to the Board of Education. 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 shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. Duties and functions

It shall be the responsibility of the Education Department 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 Education Department 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:

(1) *New schools.* It may offer guidance and counsel in the opening of new schools, academic and theological, and may take the initiative in the establishing of such schools.

(2) *Expansion of school services.* It may recommend the broadening of the scope of individual school services.

(3) *Standard for endorsement.* It may 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.

(4) *General service to all schools.* The Education Department 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.

d. Rights and prerogatives

(1) *Annual certificates of endorsement.* The Education Department 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 Education Department and has been officially approved by such department.

(2) *Supervision of funds.* It shall be the prerogative of the Education Department 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.

(3) *Equality of endorsed schools.* In the discharge of its duties and functions and the exercise of its rights and prerogatives, the Education Department 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 Education Department shall enjoy equal rights of publicity and emphasis in Assemblies of God publications and in the promotional work of the Education Department.

(4) *Textbooks.* It shall also be the prerogative of the Education Department to seek to provide our own textbooks for our Bible schools.

(5) *Correspondence courses, institutes, and seminars.* It shall be the prerogative of the Education Department 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.

ARTICLE XIII. DIVISION OF CHURCH MINISTRIES

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

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

c. **National director.** 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. **Amenability.** 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 Ministries Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* There shall be a Men's Ministries 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) *Functions.* The functions 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) Publishing the work of the Assemblies of God men.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Department secretary.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the division.

(2) *National Men's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Men's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries, the secretary of the department, the commander of Royal Rangers, the secretary of Light-for-the-Lost, and four representatives—one from each of the following areas: Kingsmen International, Lifestyle Evangelism, Royal Rangers, and Light-for-

the-Lost. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery and 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

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Functions.* There shall be a Music Department 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) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* 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) *Department secretary.* 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) *National Music Committee.* 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) *Approval for budget changes.* 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 Publication before being initiated.

Section 3. Sunday School Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibilities.* 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) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* 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.

(3) *Functions.* 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) *Department secretary.* 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) *National Sunday School Committee.* 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. Official publication. The Sunday School Counselor shall be recognized as the official publication of the Sunday School Department.

d. District organization(s)

(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 establish written operational policies based on the National Sunday School Guidelines.

(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. Women's Ministries Department

a. Authorization and purpose

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

(2) *Functions.* 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) *Department secretary.* 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) *National Women's Ministries Committee.* There shall be a national Women's Ministries Committee which shall consist of the national director of the Division of Church Ministries and the secretary of the department by virtue of office; two other persons from within the department recommended by the department secretary to represent Women's Ministries and its auxiliaries; and four representatives from the field who represent the areas of Women's Ministries, all of whom shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery, to 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) *National Women's Ministries Day offerings.* 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 Women's Ministries Department for use in support of the national office and to aid in costs of services it offers to district and local units.

(2) *Tithing of income to district and national offices.* 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) *Responsibilities.* 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) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* The primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission: evangelization of the world, worshipping God, and building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. In part, it shall fulfill this responsibility by planning and promoting a spiritual program directed toward the youth of the Assemblies of God, encouraging the youth to assist in fulfilling the threefold mission of the church.

(3) *Functions.* 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) *Department secretary.* 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) *National Youth Committee.* 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 the Division of Church Ministries shall serve as chairman. The committee shall meet annually.

c. 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 35 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.

d. 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.

e. Speed-the-Light offerings. (See Article XXIII. World Missions Plan, Section 2.)

ARTICLE XIV. DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS

a. Sphere of authority. 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. Agency to fulfill church's mission. The primary responsibility of this

division, and the departments in its field of activity, shall be to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

c. **Purpose.** 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.

d. **National director.** 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.

e. **Amenability.** 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. **Promotional periodicals.** 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. **Editors.** The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to employ editors as may be needed.

Section 2. Office of Information

a. **Disseminator of news.** 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. **Host to visitors.** The office shall provide services as needed in hosting visitors to general headquarters.

c. **Secretary of information.** 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) **Official organ.** The Pentecostal Evangel shall be the official organ of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(2) **Purpose.** The Pentecostal Evangel 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.

b. Government and organization

(1) **Editor.** There shall be an editor of the Pentecostal Evangel who shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) **Amenability.** 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.

(3) **Approval for budget changes.** 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 Publication.

Section 4. Radio and Television Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) **Agency to fulfill church's mission.** 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) **National broadcast.** 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) **Program policies.** 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) **Transcription library.** A transcription library shall be provided for our ministers to draw upon for use in preparation of local broadcasts as may be desired. Complete transcriptions shall also be prepared for optional use of ministers and churches. Such transcriptions shall allow time for local announcements. An appropriate series of transcriptions offering a distinctive presentation of our Statement of Faith shall be prepared for use in extended home missions work.

b. Government and organization

(1) **Department secretary.** The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint a department secretary who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.

(2) **Radio and Television Committee.** 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 ratification by the General Presbytery. Committee members shall serve a 2-year period or until their 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.** Audiovisual Services shall:

(1) Acquire and maintain such equipment as necessary to produce audiovisual materials.

(2) Assist departments in the preparation of audiovisual materials.

(3) Provide consultation to departments, missionaries, church officials, and others on production of audiovisual materials.

(4) 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) Produce a catalog of rental films—those produced by the Assemblies of God and other filmmakers.

(6) Make available additional services as authorized by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Audiovisual representative.* The Executive Presbytery shall be empowered to appoint an audiovisual representative who shall serve under the national director of the Division of Communications.

(2) *Audiovisual Film Committee.* 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. Committee members shall serve a 2-year period or until their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE XV. DIVISION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. Sphere of authority. 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 Division of Foreign Missions to which shall be committed all the foreign missions interests of the Fellowship.

b. Agency to fulfill church's mission. 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. Strategy. The missions strategy of the division shall be:

(1) The widest possible evangelization of the spiritually lost through every available means.

(2) The establishment of indigenous churches after the New Testament pattern.

(3) The training of national believers to proclaim the gospel to their own people in an expanding mission to other people.

(4) The showing of compassion for suffering people in a manner representing the love of Jesus Christ.

d. Indigenous principle. The Pauline example shall be followed as far as possible by seeking out neglected regions where the gospel has not

been preached and by establishing self-supporting, self-governing, self-propagating national churches in all regions.

Section 2. Government and Organization

a. Executive director. There shall be an executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions who shall be elected in the manner described in Article II, Section 2, paragraph f, of the bylaws.

b. Administrative assistant. The Executive Presbytery shall elect an administrative assistant who shall serve under the executive director in the administration of the division.

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

d. Foreign Missions Board

(1) *Composition.* The activities of the Division of Foreign Missions shall be under the supervision of the Foreign Missions Board which shall consist of the executive director of the division, two executive presbyters, the administrative assistant, four field directors, and eight pastors of proven foreign missions zeal and accomplishments. The pastors shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery from the eight established geographical areas of the United States and ratified by the General Presbytery.

(2) *Terms of office.* The term of office of the appointed pastors shall be for 3 years, rotated so three will be appointed annually for each of two terms and two will be appointed in the year of the additional term. Upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The responsibilities of the Foreign Missions Board shall be to establish and evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the areas of its supervision, to establish standards for appointed foreign missionaries and foreign missions institutions, and to examine and approve candidates for foreign missions appointment. The decisions of the board shall be subject to review by the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

(4) *Board of Appeals.* Those members of the Foreign Missions Board who are not members of the Foreign Missions Committee shall sit as a Board of Appeals to act upon any appeal from decisions of the division. In such an appeal, members of the Foreign Missions Committee may present the case for the Division of Foreign Mission's decision to the Board of Appeals, but shall not be present at the time of deliberation or voting. The missionary or Foreign Missions Committee may appeal to the Executive Presbytery or General Presbytery from the decision of the Board of Appeals.

e. Laymen's Advisory Council. An advisory council 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 and shall meet with the Foreign Missions Board at least once annually or as often as deemed necessary by the executive director of the division.

They shall be chosen from churches other than those whose pastors will be serving on the Foreign Missions Board at the same time. They shall have the endorsement of their respective pastors. Their terms of office shall be for 3 years, rotated so three will be elected annually for each of two terms and two will be elected in the year of the additional term. Upon completion of a term they shall not succeed themselves in office.

f. Field directors. There shall be four field directors who shall direct the missions activities in their assigned geographical areas. They shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery on the basis of nominations by the missionaries in the respective areas, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

g. Foreign Missions Committee. The general administrative work of the division shall be conducted by a Foreign Missions Committee consisting of the executive director as chairman, the administrative assistant as vice-chairman, the field directors, the heads of major departments of the division, and other personnel as determined by the Executive Presbytery. 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.

h. General Presbytery representatives. Each field fellowship shall be represented on the General Presbytery by its field director and two others. (See Article II, Section 2, b, (2).)

i. Foreign missions policies. All appointed foreign missionaries shall be required to work in accord with the published policies of the division as authorized by the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 3. Personnel Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Function. The Personnel Department shall serve as the primary source for missionary personnel data and shall be responsible for:

- (1) Recruiting and processing prospective missionary candidates, both career and short-term.
- (2) Physical and mental health care of the missionaries and their dependents.
- (3) Family and children's programs.

(4) Supervision of continuing education programs for missionary personnel.

(5) Coordination of the missionary-in-residence program of Assemblies of God colleges.

(6) Other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 4. Promotions Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Function. The Promotions Department shall manage the United States relationships of the Division of Foreign Missions. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Create, direct, and evaluate all promotional and fundraising strategies.
- (2) Coordinate public, district, church, institutional, and parachurch relations.
- (3) Provide for deputational ministries and editorial services.
- (4) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 5. Finance Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the executive director of the Division of Foreign Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Function. The Finance Department shall serve the missionary family and the division's administrative function in all matters related to financial processing and accountability. Its responsibilities shall be to:

- (1) Execute and administrate the plans and policies set forth by the Foreign Missions Board with regard to missions finances.
- (2) Provide contact with outside agencies, associated departments, service departments, and districts with regard to the division's finances.
- (3) Perform other duties as may be assigned by the executive director of the division or the Foreign Missions Board.

Section 6. Support of Division of Foreign Missions

The Administrative and Emergency Fund of the Division of Foreign Missions shall be provided from:

a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan Offerings. (See Article XXII. 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 division.

d. All undesignated funds.

e. Five percent of all missionary offerings (with the exclusion of special designations) received directly by the division shall be transferred to the Administrative and Emergency Fund to meet the administrative and emergency expenses for which the Division of Foreign Missions is responsible.

Section 7. Missionary Candidates

a. **Appointment.** The selection and appointment of missionaries shall be the prerogative of the Foreign Missions Board on recommendation of the Foreign Missions Committee.

b. **Examination criteria.** The Foreign Missions Board shall be governed in its selection and appointment of missionaries by examining each applicant as to:

(1) Personal experience of full New Testament salvation.

(2) Definite experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4.

(3) Definite call to foreign work.

(4) Physical, mental, and spiritual fitness to work.

(5) **Christian standing and general qualifications.** It is required that each applicant receiving appointment shall have the unqualified endorsement of his/her district council, particularly in regard to effective ministry and Christian character. Applicants shall not be granted general missionary appointment until they have first qualified for ordination by The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Candidates shall prove their ministry and stability of character by a qualifying period of service in the United States.

c. **Specialized service.** 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.

Section 8. Support of Missionaries

a. **A faith mission.** The foreign missions program of the Assemblies of God is a faith mission. Missionaries are urged to place their faith in God for supplying their needs. Thus missionaries itinerate among the churches to solicit prayer and financial support.

b. **Church support.** Every local church shall be encouraged to assume responsibility for support of duly appointed missionaries and approved ministries in cooperation with the Division of Foreign Missions.

c. **Undesignated and general emergency funds.** Undesignated funds and general emergency funds may be used to meet the emergency needs

of missionaries who raise their prescribed pledge and cash support and submit required financial reports to the division.

d. **District support.** It is recommended that districts endorsing candidates for missionary appointment assume responsibility for their support as far as practicable. (See Article XXII. World Missions Plan.)

Section 9. Ordination of Missionaries

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

Section 10. Field Organizations

a. **National church organization.** Missionaries shall make every effort to establish indigenous Assemblies of God national church organizations in the countries they serve. Organizational patterns shall conform to practical, cultural forms acceptable to the body of believers. Close fraternal relationships with Assemblies of God organizations in other countries shall be encouraged without infringement affecting the autonomy of each national organization.

b. **Field fellowships.** Missionary field fellowships, composed of all appointed missionaries and approved ministers abroad assigned permanently to a field of the Division of Foreign Missions, 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 Division of Foreign Missions since missionary appointment automatically confers membership in the field fellowship. The missionary field fellowships shall serve in a consultative capacity to the Division of Foreign Missions 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 Division of Foreign Missions and with the national church.

In those fields where there are insufficient personnel to make the organization of a field fellowship practical, the Division of Foreign Missions may appoint a representative(s) to act for the field in matters normally handled by the field fellowship.

Section 11. Property

a. **Investment principles.** 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 the title, and in order to maintain a proper relationship between these missions projects and the Division of Foreign Missions, these principles shall be followed:

(1) **Title to missionary residences.** All missionary residences shall be

held in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God wherever legally possible.

(2) *Title to institutional properties*

(a) *General policy.* It shall be a general policy to hold institutional properties in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

(b) *Exceptions.* The Division of Foreign Missions 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. Church buildings or pastors' residences which are procured solely for the benefit of the local church with either local or foreign funds shall 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.

(3) *Title policy on General Council loans.* In all cases where the Division of Foreign Missions has advanced 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. *Field fellowship project endorsement.* Missionaries contemplating the purchase of property or erection of buildings shall cooperate with the missionary fellowship on the field and must secure its endorsement before requesting the approval of the division.

c. *Legal documents.* A certified copy of the property deeds, titles, and other legal papers relating to all mission properties which have been purchased shall be forwarded to the Division of Foreign Missions for filing.

ARTICLE XVI. DIVISION OF HOME MISSIONS

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. *Sphere of authority.* 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 Division of Home Missions.

b. *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* 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. *Departments.* The work of the division shall include three major departments:

- (1) New Church Evangelism Department
- (2) Intercultural Ministries Department
- (3) Chaplaincy Department

Section 2. Government and organization

a. *National director.* The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director, subject to ratification by the General Presbytery. He shall be

charged with the oversight of the Division of Home Missions.

b. *Home Missions Board.* The New Church Evangelism Department and Intercultural Ministries Department shall be under the supervision of a Home Missions Board. It 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 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.

(1) *Elections.* The members of the Home Missions Board shall be elected by the Executive Presbytery subject to ratification by the General Presbytery.

(2) *Term of office.* A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* It shall be the responsibility of the Home Missions Board to evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the areas of its supervision, to establish standards for appointed home missionaries and home missions institutions, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to the field and division decisions in its area of supervision. It shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. *Commission on Chaplains.* The Chaplaincy Department shall be under the supervision of a Commission on Chaplains appointed by the Executive Presbytery according to the provisions set forth in Section 5 of this article.

d. *Home Missions Committee.* 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.

e. *Advisory Committee.* The department secretaries of the Division of Home Missions together with the national director shall constitute an Advisory Committee.

f. *Special committees.* Other special committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Executive Presbytery.

g. *National representatives.* 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. *Functions.* The Division of Home Missions shall provide coordination, promotion, assistance to motivate action, and the receiving and disbursing of funds.

i. *Liaison with districts.* The division and its departments shall maintain a constant liaison with the various districts so that proven programs and innovations in each area may be refined and offered to other districts.

However, the supervision and administration of the work of the various ministries shall be committed to the districts where they are located.

Section 3. New Church Evangelism Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

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

Section 4. Intercultural Ministries Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Function. The Intercultural Ministries Department shall provide ministry among those groups of people in the United States whose evangelization involves specialized understanding and preparation. These groups are those having cultural, ethnic, or language distinctiveness; those constituting specialized communications groups such as the deaf and the blind; and those otherwise forming distinguishable groups.

c. Cooperation with districts. The Intercultural Ministries Department shall function in cooperation with the various districts as set forth in Section 2, paragraphs h and i.

d. Teen Challenge representative. Teen Challenge ministries shall be under the direction of a Teen Challenge representative. His duties shall be in accordance with the provision set forth in Section 2, paragraphs h and i. There shall be a proper liaison between this function and the Teen Challenge work which is carried on overseas under the auspices of the Division of Foreign Missions.

e. Representative to deaf and blind. Ministries to the deaf and blind shall be under the direction of a national representative. His duties shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 2, paragraphs h and i.

f. National home missionaries. National home missionaries shall be appointed by the Home Missions Board with the approval of their home districts and the districts in which the missionaries will be working. All missionary appointments and renewals thereof shall be made according to administrative criteria established by the Division of Home Missions.

g. Home missions policies. All appointed home missionaries shall be expected to work in accord with the policies of the division as set forth in the Home Missions Manual.

Section 5. Chaplaincy Department

a. Department secretary. There shall be a department secretary who shall be amenable to and serve under the national director of the Division of Home Missions in supervising the work of the department. He shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

b. Commission on Chaplains

(1) *Composition.* The Commission on Chaplains shall consist of the national director of the Division of Home Missions, a representative of the Military Chaplaincy, and a representative of the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy, one of whom shall be the secretary of the Chaplaincy Department, and eight others. They shall consist of two executive presbyters, two active-duty military chaplains, two institutional chaplains (one prison chaplain and one hospital chaplain), and two members at large. The commission shall serve as the endorsing agency for The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Members of the commission and its chairman shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Term of office.* A term of office shall be for 2 years and so arranged that one-half of the terms expire annually.

(3) *Authority and amenability.* The government and work of the Chaplaincy Department shall be vested in and committed to the Commission on Chaplains. The commission shall operate within guidelines adopted by the Executive Presbytery. It shall have the responsibility to evaluate policies, to offer guidance and counsel in the area of its supervision, to establish criteria for the appointment of workers in the Military, Industrial, and Institutional Chaplaincies, and to sit as a Board of Appeal in all matters relating to its area of supervision. It shall be

amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy

(1) *National representative.* There shall be a national representative for the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy (except Veteran's Administration Hospital Chaplaincy).

(2) *Functions.* The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Industrial or Institutional Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for its official endorsement.

(b) Providing supportive ministry for full-time and part-time chaplains.

(c) Supplying Bibles, training courses, and other literature for individuals in industry and institutions.

(d) Seeking opportunities for ministry for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(e) Receiving offerings designated for this ministry and support from its various chaplains.

d. Military Chaplaincy

(1) *National representative.* There shall be a national representative for the Military Chaplaincy.

(2) *Functions.* The basic functions of this area shall include:

(a) Processing applications of candidates for the Military Chaplaincy for submission to the Commission on Chaplains for it to extend ecclesiastical approval and endorsement.

(b) Working among service personnel, known as Military Personnel Ministries, with the understanding that there shall be a proper liaison between the Military Personnel Ministries work and that which is related to the service personnel's ministry overseas under the auspices of the Division of Foreign Missions.

(c) Appointing contact pastors for each of the active military bases in the United States.

(d) Working among veterans, particularly those confined to hospitals.

(e) Seeking opportunities for ministry for chaplains and encouraging them therein.

(f) Receiving offerings designated for these ministries and support from its various chaplains.

Section 6. Support

Financial assistance in meeting the operating expense of the Division of Home Missions shall be provided from:

a. The assigned percentage of World Missions Plan offerings. (See Article XXII. World Missions Plan).

b. Offerings designated for office expense. Churches which do not con-

tribute under the World Missions Plan should designate a portion of their offering for home missions office expense

c. Five percent of all funds contributed through the national Division of Home Missions for nationally appointed and/or approved home missions workers.

d. An appropriation of 10 percent of undesignated contributions.

e. Five percent of all funds for approved district, regional, or national home missions projects.

f. All endorsed and/or approved Assemblies of God chaplains actively serving full- or part-time, reserve chaplains, chaplain trainees, military trainees, and military seminarians shall contribute one-half of their tithe from their income earned from chaplaincy services to the Chaplaincy Department. Industrial and institutional chaplains' contributions shall be placed in the Industrial and Institutional Chaplaincy Fund, and the Military Chaplaincy contributions shall be placed in the Military Chaplaincy Fund.

ARTICLE XVII. DIVISION OF PUBLICATION

Section 1. Authorization and Purpose

a. *Responsibilities.* 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. *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* 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. *National director.* The Executive Presbytery shall elect a national director of the division, subject to the ratification of the General Presbytery.

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

c. *Board of Publication.* There shall be a Board of Publication 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 Publication shall function within the framework of the guidelines established by the Executive Presbytery for the editorial and curriculum content of all publications and periodicals.

(1) *Composition.* The Board of Publication 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 Publication shall meet monthly.

(2) *Amenability.* The Board of Publication shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

(3) *Subcommittees.* Subcommittees 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 Publication. All committee decisions shall be reported to the Board of Publication for approval and authorization. They shall be amenable to the Board of Publication.

d. *Amenability.* 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 interest, 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. DIVISION OF THE TREASURY

a. *Sphere of authority.* There shall be a Division of the Treasury which shall have general oversight of the Finance Department, the Stewardship Department, the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department, the Church Loan Department, the Audit Department, and the Benevolences Department.

b. *Purpose.* The purpose of the division shall be to have the oversight and responsibility of safeguarding, supervising, and investing the finances of The General Council of the Assemblies of God and to oversee its benevolences ministries.

c. *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the division.

d. *Amenability.* 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. Finance Department

a. Authorization and purpose.

(1) *Functions.* There shall be a Finance Department which shall have

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

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Executive Finance Committee.* The Board of Administration shall constitute the Executive Finance Committee.

(3) *Committee on Finance.* There shall be a Committee on Finance, consisting of seven men from the constituency on the field, 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.

The terms shall be for 3 years and so arranged that two shall be elected in each of successive years and three in the third successive year.

(4) *Investment Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a qualified Investment Committee of no less than four members to approve and make all decisions in regard to the investing, safeguarding, and buying and selling of all investments. This committee shall meet regularly and prepare written detailed minutes. Each and every decision to buy or sell any assets for which the department is responsible shall be signed by no less than three members on a numbered form prepared to record the authorization. These forms shall be kept in a numerical sequence file for review by all controlling and reviewing bodies and auditors. The Investment Committee is hereby charged with the prudent man rule in making its decisions.

c. Support of headquarters

(1) *From ministers.* 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 \$5 per month from their tithes, or as an offering, or through their influence. Licensed ministers should contribute \$3 per month. All who can are

strongly urged to give more than the suggested amount, either personally or through the assemblies they pastor.

Compliance with the above requirements shall be a prerequisite for renewal of credentials of all active ministers. If their contributions are in arrears, they shall be given an opportunity to meet this deficit with their renewal.

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:

- (a) Collectively, through district publications.
- (b) Individually, through personal letters.
- (c) 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.

(2) *From assemblies.* It is recommended that each church send to the General Council at least one offering for each calendar year toward the support of the administrative offices of the General Council. This offering shall be included with the Annual Church Ministries Report. It is suggested that the churches consider \$1 per year per church member as a guide for determining the amount of this annual offering.

Section 2. Stewardship Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Responsibility.* There shall be a Stewardship Department which shall be responsible for promoting Bible-based stewardship among our churches and membership.

(2) *Functions.* The functions of this department shall be:

(a) *Provide stewardship materials.* To prepare and provide, as needed, materials that stress Biblical concepts of the stewardship of life, time, testimony, talent, and treasure.

(b) *Encourage support and provide reports.* To encourage faithful support of World Ministries Giving and to provide periodic reports to districts and churches on World Ministries Giving.

(c) *Encourage scriptural methods of support.* To encourage scriptural methods of financial support for local assemblies, district councils, and the administrative offices of the General Council.

(3) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Stewardship Committee.* There shall be a Stewardship Committee which shall give counsel for the operation of the department. The committee shall be composed of the general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, who shall serve as its chairman; the secretary of the Stewardship Department; and three others from the field at large, appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term. The committee shall meet annually.

c. World Ministries Giving

(1) *Participation.* 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.

(2) *Combined report.* 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.

(3) *Credit.* World Ministries Giving recognition shall provide credit to Assemblies of God churches for contributions to the Divisions of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education (including educational institutions), and Church Ministries (including Men's Ministries, Women's Ministries, Sunday School, and Youth Departments), Radio and TV, the executive and Spiritual Life-Evangelism offices, Benevolences Department, and other General Council, regional, and district-sponsored or approved projects. Contributions from districts other than where a district-approved project is located can only be granted World Ministries Giving credit if the district where the contribution originates gives its approval, and if the contribution is channeled through that district or the national headquarters. It is expected that the national division related to a given project will be notified of approved projects. It is also understood that no district or region may receive World Ministries Giving credit for projects specifically disapproved by the General Council.

Section 3. Deferred Giving and Trusts Department

a. Authorization and purpose.

(1) *Responsibility and scope.* There shall be a Deferred Giving and Trusts Department which shall have the responsibility of developing, promoting, and administering all areas of deferred giving, including but not limited to all types of trust funds, wills, estates, annuities, unitrusts, annuity trusts, life income contracts, pooled income funds, remainder trusts, life ownership of property, remainderman agreements, life insurance agreements, and any other legal, ethical, and proven programs.

(2) *Amenability.* The Deferred Giving and Trusts Department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Title and signatories.* The title and authority of any legal instrument shall be in the name of The General Council of the Assemblies of God. Those officers who are designated and authorized to sign all documents for that body shall be authorized to act in the same capacity for the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department.

(4) *Control.* These bylaws shall govern the entire authority, control, and operation of the department.

(5) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the primary responsibility of this department in its field of activity to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) Board of trustees

(a) *Authorization.* The Deferred Giving and Trusts Department shall be under the supervision of a board of trustees consisting of not less than five members.

(b) *Amenability.* The board of trustees shall be appointed by and responsible to the Executive Presbytery.

(c) *Qualifications and terms of office.* The trustees shall be qualified, reputable, and knowledgeable persons and shall serve for 3-year terms on a rotation basis. A majority of trustees shall not be members of the headquarters staff.

(d) *Meetings and responsibilities.* The board shall meet not less than once each 3 months and shall review all actions of the deferred giving and trusts administration for the prior period. It shall review and give guidance in regard to investments, instruments, documents, financial reports, and internal controls, and keep detailed minutes of each meeting.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall be the business administrator and shall be in charge of all activities, including the office, files, safeguarding of assets, and the administration of all documents and assets in accordance with each document.

(3) Administrative Committee

(a) *Composition and responsibility.* The board of trustees shall appoint three qualified personnel to function as the administrative committee of the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department in charge of the day-to-day operations. The administrative committee of the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department shall always act under the prudent man rule in its conduct. The members of the administrative committee shall be the department secretary and two other members from headquarters personnel.

(b) *Amenability.* The administrative committee shall be responsible to the General Council Board of Administration, the Executive Presbytery, and to its own board of trustees.

(4) *Director of field services.* There shall be a director of field services who shall be in charge of field representation, public relations, and shall assist in estate planning such as wills, trust instruments, annuity agreements, and any other authorized programs of deferred giving.

(5) *Accountant.* A qualified accountant shall be in charge of all record keeping, general and detailed books of account to reflect all activities of each document, as well as all activities by classes of trusts, gifts, annuities, unitrusts, and all other categories for proper accounting records. Each trust or each instrument should identify in each file where the funds are invested and their earnings, and the disposition when closed. The accountant shall develop a system of internal controls with checks and balances that will conform to sound and generally accepted auditing standards.

(6) *Investment Committee.* The Executive Presbytery shall appoint a qualified, experienced, and trained Investment Committee of no less than four members to approve and make all decisions in regard to the investing, safeguarding, and buying and selling of all investments. This committee will meet regularly and prepare written, detailed minutes. Each and every decision to buy or sell any assets of the department shall be signed by no less than three members on a numbered form prepared to record the authorization. These forms shall be kept in a numerical sequence file for review by all controlling and reviewing bodies and auditors. The Investment Committee is hereby charged with the prudent man rule in making its decisions.

(7) *Annual review.* The General Council Committee on Finance shall review the operations of this department each year.

(8) *Undesignated assets.* Upon the receipt of any assets not specifically designated by the donor, the General Council Board of Administration shall give written authorization for the sale of or other disposition by the Deferred Giving and Trusts Department.

(9) *Authorization for distribution.* When assets are freed from all contingencies they shall be approved for distribution to the particular ministry, fund, division, charity, or other parties as specified by the instrument providing the assets. The Executive Presbytery shall give final approval for the distribution of all funds designated to the General Council or any of its affiliates and shall have the authority to designate and distribute undesignated funds.

Section 4. Church Loan Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Function.* There shall be a Church Loan Department which shall provide loans and assist in obtaining financing for churches that need such assistance.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall serve as the church loan officer.

(3) *Church Loan Committee.* There shall be a Church Loan Committee which shall act upon all loan applications. The committee shall consist of the general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God, who shall serve as its chairman, the secretary of the department, and two other persons appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term.

Section 5. Audit Department

a. Authorization and purpose

(1) *Function.* There shall be an Audit Department which shall conduct independent protective and constructive audits and review effectiveness of controls, financial records, and operations.

(2) *Agency to fulfill church's mission.* It shall be the responsibility of this department in its field of activities to act as an agency of the church in fulfilling its threefold mission.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Internal auditor.* There shall be an internal auditor who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery. He shall be under the supervision of the general treasurer and shall be directly accountable to the Board of Administration and the Executive Presbytery.

(2) *Responsibility.* The internal auditor basically serves management by measuring and evaluating the effectiveness of controls. His work is complementary to the independent auditor, using a similar approach but a different application of auditing techniques, independence, reporting, and interests served.

c. Annual audit. There shall be an annual audit of the financial records of The General Council of the Assemblies of God by an independent auditor, prepared in conformity with generally accepted auditing standards.

Section 6. Benevolences Department

a. Authorization and purpose. There shall be a Benevolences Department 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.

b. Government and organization

(1) *Executive director.* The general treasurer of The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be the executive director of the department.

(2) *Secretary.* There shall be a secretary of the department who shall be appointed by the Executive Presbytery.

(3) *Administrative Committee.* There shall be a Benevolences Committee to administer the department. It shall consist of the general treasurer, who shall serve as chairman, the secretary of the department, and three other persons appointed by the Executive Presbytery for a 2-year term.

(4) *Amenability.* The department and all of its functions shall be amenable to and under the general supervision of the Executive Presbytery and the General Presbytery.

c. 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 Benevolences Department in its monthly budget.

d. Aged Ministers Assistance. Assistance shall be made available to ordained ministers (the term includes ordained missionaries) of the Assemblies of God and to their widows, because of age or physical infirmity and for whom no other means of support is available. Eligibility shall be determined on the following bases:

(1) *Ministerial requirement.* The applicant shall have been an ordained minister in good standing and have held credentials for at least 10 years immediately prior to retirement.

(2) *Age requirement.* The applicant shall have reached the age of 65 in the case of an ordained minister, or 60 in the case of a widow of a minister.

(3) *Disability requirement.* Ministers who have been disabled to the extent that they cannot perform their ministerial duties shall also be eligible to make application.

(4) *Financial cooperation requirement.* 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.

(5) *District endorsement requirement.* Unqualified endorsement must be given by the district officary.

e. 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 appointed by the Executive Presbytery. These boards shall be responsible to the Be-

nevolences Department in matters of policy and administration, and their actions shall be reviewed by the Executive Presbytery.

f. 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 Benevolences Department. They shall be expected to conform to the standards approved by the department.

ARTICLE XIX. INSTITUTIONS

Section 1. Miscellaneous Institutions

a. Missionary homes. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall be in sympathy with the establishment and maintenance of missionary homes.

b. Missionary schools on mission fields. 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

a. Authorization and purpose. 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.

b. Board of Directors. 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.

c. Amenability. 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

a. Authorization and purpose. 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.

b. Board of Directors. 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.

c. Amenability. 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 Theological Seminary

a. Authorization and purpose. The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, 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 Theological Seminary 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.

b. Board of Directors. The execution of policy and the administration of the Theological Seminary shall be delegated to a board of directors in accordance with the provisions of its constitution and bylaws.

c. Amenability. The Theological Seminary 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 Theological Seminary.

Section 5. Berean College of the Assemblies of God

a. Authorization and purpose. Berean College of the Assemblies of God, a nontraditional college of Bible and general Christian service training, 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 preeminence in all things and is bound to the Statement of Fundamental Truths and policies and standards as set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.

b. Board of Directors. 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.

c. Amenability. The college and its board of directors shall be amenable to the Executive Presbytery and to the General Presbytery. The General Council of the Assemblies of God shall have control over all phases of the college.

ARTICLE XX. 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 XXI. 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 XXII. WORLD MISSIONS PLAN

Section 1. World Missions Offerings

It is recommended that all World Missions offerings shall be divided as follows:

- 70 percent foreign missions
- 5 percent foreign missions office expense
- 5 percent national home missions
- 20 percent district home missions

Section 2. Speed-the-Light Offerings

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

- 72 percent foreign missions and home missions—Speed-the-Light
- 18 percent district home missions—Speed-the-Light
- 10 percent 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 18 percent returned to district home missions under World Speed-the-Light shall be allowed for the administration of the district Christ's Ambassadors office at the discretion of the district officer.

ARTICLE XXIII. ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

1. Report of the general superintendent
2. Report of the general secretary
3. Report of the general treasurer
4. Departmental reports
5. Unfinished business
6. Election of officers
7. New business
8. Adjournment

All business sessions of the General Council shall commence with prayer.

ARTICLE XXIV. 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 XXV. 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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