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1960 YEAR BOOK

**CONSERVATIVE
CONGREGATIONAL
CHRISTIAN
CONFERENCE**

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Annual Report

1959-1960

THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL
CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

Twelfth
Annual Meeting

July 14-17, 1960

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF
NORTH COLLINS, NEW YORK

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TWELFTH ANNUAL MEETING

" . . . to know Christ and to make Him known . . . "

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1960

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Prayer Period—Rev. Samuel Hemberger
10:00 a.m. Business Session
12:30 p.m. Lunch
 Message of the President—Rev. George F. Kirgiss
2:30 p.m. Business Session
4:00 p.m. Workshops
 "Missions and the Layman"—Rev. Hector Goodall
 "Trends Among Evangelicals"—Rev. J. Marcellus Kik
 "Is Co-existence with Communism Christian?"—Rev. Robert Dempsey
5:30 p.m. Supper
8:00 p.m. Conference Messenger—Rev. J. Marcellus Kik

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1960

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Prayer Period—Rev. Richard Roberts
10:00 a.m. Business Session
12:30 p.m. Lunch
 Luncheon Speaker—Rev. Paul Bennehoff
2:30 p.m. Business Session
4:00 p.m. Workshops
 "Should a Roman Catholic Be President?"—Rev. J. Murray Marshall
 "Preaching from the Old Testament"—Rev. Arthur Fowler
 "The Christian in the World"—Rev. Roger G. Shafer
6:00 p.m. Conference Banquet
8:00 p.m. Conference Messenger—Rev. J. Marcellus Kik

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1960

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Prayer period—Rev. John Clymer
10:00 a.m. Business Session
12:00 noon Lunch
 Luncheon Speaker—Rev. Hector Goodall
1:00 p.m. Fellowship Afternoon at Niagara Falls and Picnic Supper
7:30 p.m. Rally—Rev. J. Marcellus Kik

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1960

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Hour
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Hour—Rev. J. Marcellus Kik
12:30 p.m. Dinner
3:00 p.m. Missionary Symposium—Rev. Paul Halbert, Rev. Hector Goodall,
 Rev. Theodore Overton
8:00 p.m. Evening Worship Hour—Dr. Henri Pol

THE OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE
CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE
1960 - 1961

Officers and Board Members

President Dr. Henri F. M. Pol, 1558 Fulham Street, St. Paul, Minnesota
1st Vice President Rev. Joseph Cooke, Route 3, Jefferson, Ohio
2nd Vice President Rev. Richard O. Roberts, 5214 No. Lombard, Portland, Oregon
Executive Secretary Rev. Robert B. Dempsey, Carlisle, Mass.
Recording Secretary Rev. Robert Hanna, R.R. #4, Union City, Indiana
Treasurer Rev. Paul Halbert, 208 S. Maple Street, Argos, Indiana

Board Members 1958 - 1961

Rev. Arne Avikainen, 4415 N. Missouri Ave., Portland 17, Oregon
 Rev. Joseph Cooke, Route 3, Jefferson, Ohio
 Rev. Chester Reed, North Webster, Indiana

Board Members 1959 - 1962

Mr. John Clymer, Andover, Ohio
 Rev. A. C. Abrahamson, 2267 S. E. 38th Ave., Portland, Oregon
 Mr. Florn Johnson, Lawtons, New York

Board Members 1960 - 1963

Rev. Samuel T. Hemberger, 30 Underhill Street, Tuckahoe, New York
 Rev. Raymond C. Bawden, Arena, Wisconsin
 Rev. Lynn Scovil, 318 Church Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Credentials and Placement Committee—Rev. Raymond Bawden, Rev. Joseph Cooke,
 Rev. George Kirgiss

Program Committee—Rev. Samuel Hemberger, Rev. Lynn Scovill, Rev. Ralph Shirk

Nominating Committee—Rev. Raymond Bawden, Rev. John Clymer, Rev. Richard
 Roberts, Rev. Samuel Hemberger, Rev. Harry Aufiero

Finance Committee—Mr. John Stewart, Rev. Theodore Overton, Mr. Florn Johnson

Missionary Committee—Rev. J. Murray Marshall, Rev. Lester Felker, Rev. Russell
 Christian

Christian Education Committee—Rev. Roy Shervy, Rev. George Kirgiss, Rev. Ray-
 mond Gillis

Publications Committee—Rev. Robert McKittrick, Rev. Paul Halbert, Rev. J. Murray
 Marshall

Church Extension and Evangelism Committee—Rev. Lynn Scovil, Rev. George Kirgiss,
 Rev. Jacob Waechter

Constitution Study Committee—Rev. John Clymer, Rev. Theodore Overton, Rev. Rob-
 ert Dempsey

Time and Place Committee—Rev. Paul Halbert, Rev. Lester Felker, Rev. Roger Shafer

Resolutions Committee—Rev. John Clymer, Rev. Jacob Waechter, Rev. Robert Hanna

Auditing Committee—Rev. Richard Roberts, Mr. Florn Johnson, Mr. Sherman Butler

WOMEN'S SOCIETY

President, Mr. John Clymer, *Vice President*, Mrs. Roger Shafer, *Secretary-Treasurer*,
 Mrs. Lynn Scovil

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference held July 14-17, 1960, at the First Congregational Church of North Collins, New York.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1960, Morning Session

The Annual Meeting was opened at 9:00 A.M. with a Bible study and prayer period led by Rev. Samuel Hemberger. Welcome was extended by Rev. Roger Shafer. Dr. Henri Pol called the meeting to order in the absence of the President, Rev. George Kirgiss. He gave thanks to the Lord, and to the host church. He expressed hope for a good ending, as well as a good beginning.

Matters dealt with at the Board of Directors meeting the previous day were brought before the Conference.

1. It was stated that the Board had instructed the President to send the old records in his possession to the new Historian, and that he submit a bill for expenses.
2. The Board recommended to the Conference that no minister be maintained on the rolls who is not willing to have his name published. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that this be accepted. Rev. Paul Halbert seconded the motion. It was carried.
3. The Board recommended to the Conference that the Executive Secretary be appointed to occupy our seat on the Board of Administration of the National Association of Evangelicals, when our constituency reaches 5,000. It was explained that the CCCC would be entitled to such a seat, when our constituency reached 5,000. Dr. Henri Pol has been serving on the Chaplaincy Commission of the N.A.E. and has been instructed by the Board to continue to do so. Rev. Paul Halbert moved that this recommendation be accepted. Rev. Dale Ginther seconded the motion. It was carried.
4. The Board recommended to the Conference that immediate steps be taken to have us listed in the *Year Book of Churches*, which is prepared by the National Council of Churches. Rev. Richard Roberts moved that the Executive Secretary be instructed to forward the necessary information to the N.C.C. Mr. Florn Johnson seconded the motion. It was carried.

The Chair then called for the following reports:

Executive Secretary. The report was read and placed on file. Dr. Henri Pol commented on the need for our organization to afford a place of fellowship for like-minded groups, and to act courteously to those of differing doctrinal views. We need discernment, which evidences grace. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that the report be accepted. Rev. Theodore Overton seconded the motion. It was carried. Dr. Pol suggested that we express thanks to the Carlisle Congregational Church for their graciousness in permitting Rev. Robert Dempsey, their pastor, to act in behalf of the Conference during the past year.

Publications Committee. In view of the absence of the Chairman, Rev. Robert Dempsey suggested that this report be reserved until later.

Treasurer. The report was read and placed on file. Rev. Paul Halbert moved that the report be accepted. Rev. Robert Dempsey seconded the motion. It was carried. Rev. Dale Ginther drew attention to the fine job done by the Treasurer, Rev. Paul Halbert. Rev. Robert Dempsey expressed appreciation for the monthly financial reports. Dr. Henri Pol stated that our Conference was in the healthiest financial condition it had ever been in. He drew attention to the need for greater proportional giving toward future needs. The Carlisle Congregational Church was cited as an example.

. . . Thursday, July 14, 1960

Auditing Committee. This was delayed because of the lack of a written report. Dr. Henri Pol requested the Treasurer to review the problems of his office. Rev. Paul Halbert stated that they were threefold: the problem of raising money without infringing upon the rights of the local church, the problem of knowing the basis upon which to disperse funds, and a lack of coordination.

Credentials and Placement Committee. The report was read and placed on file. Rev. Raymond Bawden moved the acceptance of the report. Rev. Paul Halbert seconded the motion. It was carried. Rev. Robert Dempsey requested a reading of the list of the names of the lay members. It was so done. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that action relative to the transfer to or removal from the permanent Conference roll of the names of those ministers, laymen, and churches which have been tentatively accepted for or suspended from Conference membership by the Credentials Committee as indicated in this report be approved; and that the list of lay members read by Rev. Raymond Bawden be accepted as the official Conference list. Rev. John Clymer seconded the motion. It was carried.

Church Extension and Evangelism Committee. The report was read and placed on file. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that the report be accepted. Rev. Joseph Cooke seconded the motion. It was carried.

At this point the list of registered delegates was read and greetings were expressed. The meeting was dismissed with prayer by Rev. Hector Goodall.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1960, Afternoon Session. (2:30 P.M.)

The minutes of the morning session were read, corrected and accepted. Committee reports were continued:

Auditing Committee. The report was read and placed on file. Rev. Richard Roberts moved that the report be accepted. Rev. Jacob Waechter seconded the motion. It was carried.

Missionary Committee. The report was read and placed on file. Rev. Paul Halbert moved that the report be accepted. Rev. Lynn Scovil seconded the motion. It was carried.

The Chair then called for action on the proposed revisions to the Constitutional By-laws, beginning on page 17 of the 1959 Year Book.

Preamble. Rev. Richard Roberts moved that the word "creatures" on line 6 be changed to "person", that the word "Christian" be inserted before the word "Churches" on line 15, and that there should be a small "c" on the word Conference on line 19. Rev. Joseph Cooke seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article II. Rev. John Clymer moved that the word "Christian" be inserted before the word "Churches" on line 3 of Section 1; that Section 2 read "To lift up a faithful Biblical witness in this day of doctrinal vagueness, spiritual lukewarmness, indifference and worldliness"; that the term "the Sunday School" on line 1 of subsection (b) of Section 3 be changed to "Christian education"; that the words "boy and girl" on line 2 of sub-section (b) of Section 3 be changed to "individual"; that sub-section (c) of Section 3 read, "Encouragement of efforts by the churches to reach with the Gospel message spiritually neglected areas both on the local and on the national level; and of missionary work, both at home and abroad"; and that sub-section (d) of Section 3 read, "A dedication of ourselves to a deeper life among God's people." Rev. Joseph Cooke seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article III. Section 1. Rev. Richard Roberts moved that this section read, "We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired, the

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only infallible, authoritative Word of God." Rev. Raymond Bawden seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article III. Notes 1 & 2. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that on line 2 of Note 1 the word "Christian" be inserted after the word "Congregational"; that on line 1 of Note 2 the word "Christian" be inserted after the word "Congregational"; that on line 2 of Note 2 the spelling of the word "freedom" be corrected; that on lines 2 and 3 of Note 2 the words "mode of" be dropped; and that line 3 and following of Note 2 read, "baptism." It is expected of those holding or seeking ministerial membership in the Conference that they be willing to perform baptism, or to have another minister perform baptism by any of the traditional Congregational Christian modes, when requested." Rev. Richard Roberts seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article III. Note 3. Section D. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that Section D read, "The use of intoxicating beverages and of tobacco, and indulgence in worldly amusements will automatically disqualify for the ministry otherwise acceptable candidates. A candidate for ministerial membership will be expected to have a life which is bearing the fruit of the Spirit, and which is marked by deep spirituality and the best of ethical practices." Mr. John Swanson seconded the motion. It was continued until the next session.

Rev. Roger Shafer made announcements regarding the workshops and supper.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1960, Morning Session.

Morning devotions were led by Rev. Richard Roberts at 9:00 A.M. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Henri Pol at 10:00 A.M. Rev. William Crist opened the business session with prayer, after which the Moderator introduced several communications. Mrs. John Clymer announced that the meeting of the ladies of the CCCC would be held at 1:45 P.M. in the Youth Room. The Resolutions Committee invited suggestions. The minutes of the afternoon session of the previous day were read by the Recording Secretary, Rev. Lester Felker. Rev. Jacob Waechter moved their acceptance. Rev. Donald Coyle seconded the motion. It was carried.

The meeting returned to the motion regarding the revision of Article III, Note 3, Section D, which had been continued from the previous session. There was further discussion of this motion. Rev. Raymond Bawden suggested that we end the discussion. Rev. Robert Dempsey suggested that the motion might be tabled. Others suggested that we might have a more positive statement than even the revision contains. Rev. Ralph Shirk suggested that we use some Scriptural references to state the principles we wish to set forth in this section. The motion was voted on and was lost. (A unanimous vote was required. The motion received a large majority.)

The Chairman, Dr. Henri Pol, suggested that a committee be appointed to study the status of the "Notes" included under Article III. There was discussion to the effect that some revision be made to do away with the Notes, or to place them in the By-laws, since it does not seem expedient to have them included in the Statement of Faith. Also there was a suggestion made that we have further discussion on the purpose of our Conference.

Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that we continue with the revision of the Constitution, and that at 2:00 P.M. this afternoon we meet for a special session to discuss the purpose of our Conference. Rev. Paul Halbert seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article IV. Section 1. After discussion, Rev. John Clymer moved that we add to the section the following statement, "Churches are not necessarily barred from membership because of other affiliations so long as they adhere to the Statement of Faith and the workings of the Conference." Rev. Samuel Hemberger seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article IV. Section 2. There was some discussion regarding the term "affiliate membership" in the proposed addition. Rev. Robert Dempsey explained that regional fellowships have been set up because some of the churches are so far removed that they do not feel that it is possible to attend the national meetings. There was discussion at length. Rev. Richard Roberts suggested that Article IV, Section 2 be discussed this afternoon at 2:00 P.M. in order to make it clear where we are going, and whom we want to go with us. After further discussion Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that proposed Sections 2 and 3 of Article IV be returned to the Constitution Study Committee for further study, and that report be made to the Conference before the end of this annual meeting. Rev. Dale Ginther seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article V. Section 3. Rev. Robert Dempsey commented that the basic purposes of the proposed changes were to grant the right of vote to all the pastors of a church, where there was more than one pastor; to give the larger churches a larger voice in the Conference affairs, but not as large as is now possible; and to correct the situation which presently gives non-member churches as much voting power as member churches. It was stated that there was no effort on the part of the larger churches to dominate our Conference. Rev. Raymond Bawden moved that on the fourth line of the first paragraph of Section 3 an "s" be placed on the word "pastor"; that the last line of the first paragraph read, "500 members or fraction thereof"; and that the fourth line and following of second paragraph of Section 3 read, "lay members of the Conference, with the understanding that not more than one layman from any non-member church shall be entitled to vote." Rev. Paul Halbert seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article VI. Section 1. Sub-section (b). Rev. Richard Roberts moved that the last line read, "tvice Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Historian." Rev. Joseph Cooke seconded the motion. It was carried.

Article VII. Sections 1 & 2. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that both Sections begin with a capital letter. Rev. Raymond Bawden seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law I. Section 5. Rev. Raymond Bawden moved that Section 5 read, "The Board of Directors shall keep written minutes of each meeting, which are to be made available to the Conference upon request." Rev. Lynn Scovil seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law II. Section 7. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that the present Section 7 be dropped and the following become the new Section 7. "The Historian shall act as a repository for materials of historical interest, maintain an historical account of the Conference from its inception, and promote an interest in the churches in the details of their own histories and anniversaries." Rev. Donald Coyle seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law III. Rev. Robert Dempsey suggested that we consider By-law III as a whole, unless we come to a correction. The Chairman read the proposed changes. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that By-law III read as follows:

Section 1. A Credentials and Placement Committee of three to be . . . (the remainder as is).

Section 2. A Program Committee of five consisting of the Conference President, the host Pastor, and three memebtrs to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall prepare the details of the annual Conference meeting.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee of five, two to be appointed annually by the Board of Directors and three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating

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bais of three year terms. This committee shall provide a slate of candidates for the various offices and committees.

Section 4. A Finance Committee of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall devise ways and means, etc.

Section 5. A Missionary Committee of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall encourage and stimulate missionary interest in the local churches by providing missionary literature and missionary speakers.

Section 6. A Christian Education Committee to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall render counsel, etc.

Section 7. A Publications Committee of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall publish an annual year book, conference periodical, tracts and other necessary and desired literature.

Section 8. A Church Extension and Evangelism Committee of three to be elected by Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall make available to the Conference constituency information concerning potential areas for the organization of churches, and concerning needy churches to whom assistance and counsel would be helpful. The committee shall seek to interest non-member Congregational Christian churches in Conference membership; and shall encourage evangelism by every means, in the local churches, through example and counsel, through provision of appropriate literature, and through the suggesting of names of evangelists, to churches requesting them.

Section 9. A Constitution Study Committee of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall annually review the Constitution, By-laws, offer for consideration any appropriate revisions or amendments, and take the necessary procedural steps to bring them before the Conference.

Section 10. The Board of Directors shall appoint for each Annual Meeting the following committees of three each: Time and Place Committee, Resolutions Committee and such other committees as are deemed necessary. The Board of Directors will appoint an Auditing Committee of three at the annual meeting previous to the annual meeting at which they are to serve. They are to see that the books of the Treasurer have a public audit annually.

Section 11. A pastor of a member church, who does not hold his standing in the CCCC, may serve on any committee, with the exception of the Credentials and Placement Committee, as long as he is pastor of a member church. If he ceases his relationship to the member church, he is automatically dropped from committee membership, unless he is called to another member church. He may not to be elected to the Board or a Conference office.

Rev. Donald Coyle seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law IV. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that we drop the proposed changes to this By-law as printed in the Year Book, because there are more detailed revisions to be considered later. Rev. John Clymer seconded the motion. It was carried.

The Chair then called for action on the proposed revisions to By-laws made by the Board at their mid-winter meeting in Argos, Indiana.

By-law I. Section 4. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that the second sentence of this section read, "Such meetings shall also be called by the Executive Secretary in like manner, upon written request of any five members of the Board." Rev. Samuel Hemberger seconded the motion. It was carried.

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By-law II. Section 5. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that the following sentence be added to this section, "He shall also travel in the interests of the Conference so far as time and funds may permit." Rev. Samuel Hemberger seconded the motion. It was carried. On behalf of the Nominating Committee, of which he was Chairman, Rev. Dale Ginther inquired regarding the office of Historian. It was explained that the Historian is now an officer of the Conference, and that the Nominating Committee should have a nominee for the office.

Rev. Donald Coyle closed the session with prayer.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1960, Afternoon Session.

The afternoon session began with further discussion on Article III of the Constitution. Rev. Richard Roberts called for a division of the house on the question of revising Section D of Note 3 under Article III. A poll was taken to determine the number in favor of a positive statement to replace the negative one presently in use. There were twenty-three in favor and one opposed.

Rev. Richard Roberts moved that we interpret the Constitution as follows: The Statement of Faith is the seven sections of Article III, and can only be changed by a unanimous vote, and that the Notes are a part of the rest of the Constitution and may be altered by a 2/3 majority vote. Rev. Lynn Scovil seconded the motion. There were eighteen in favor and six opposed. The motion was carried.

Regarding Article III, Note 3, Section D, Rev. Paul Bennehoff, a visitor from Michigan, stated that the present reading kept some churches out of the Conference because it was an infringement upon Christian liberty. There was considerable discussion. Dissenter Rev. Dale Ginther moved that we reconsider the motion made this morning to revise Article III, Note 3, Section D. Mr. Edward Whitman seconded the motion. There were twenty-three in favor and two opposed. The motion was carried.

Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that Article III, Note 3, Section D be revised as stated in his earlier motion. Mr. John Swanson seconded the motion. There were 21 in favor, four opposed and one abstention. The motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned until later in the afternoon.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1960, Late Afternoon Session. (5:00 P.M.)

By-law VI. Sections 1 and 2. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that Sections 1 and 2 read as follows:

Section 1. Ministerial standing in the Conference shall require:

- a. A minimum academic attainment of a diploma from an accredited Bible Institute, or the equivalent. A Conference approved Study Course may, in cases of special need and merit, be applied toward the fulfillment of this requirement.
- b. Acceptable ordination to the Christian ministry.
- c. Reception into the Conference membership in the manner provided by the Constitution (Article IV).

Section 2. Good and regular standing of ministers shall indicate that they do hold Conference membership, are not under discipline and have no charges against them.

Rev. Theodore Overton seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law VI. Section 3. There was considerable explanation and discussion of this section. Rev. J. Murray Marshall moved that By-law VI, Section 3 read, "An

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associate membership only may be granted to ministers having their credentials in a non-Congregational body, entitling them to all the privileges of the Conference, with the exception of holding office, committee membership and voting." Rev. Samuel Hemberger seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law VI. Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 read as follows:

Section 4. Ordination to the ministry shall be by a local church, after examination by a council called by said church.

Section 5. Ministerial license to preach, conferring authority of performing the regular functions of the parish ministry, including the solemnization of marriages, shall, in the absence of local association:

- a. Be granted by the national Conference, in annual convocation, or in cases of special need during the conference year, upon recommendation of the Credentials and Placement Committee to the Conference President.
- b. Be available only to lay members of the Conference, who shall revert to the status of laymen at the expiration of the license.
- c. Expire with the closing date of the ensuing annual meeting of the Conference; and be renewable at the discretion of the Credentials and Placement Committee upon application to its chairman thirty (30) days before expiration of the license.

Section 6. Ministerial membership cards, both for ministers in full standing and for licensees, shall be issued annually as of the closing date of the Annual Meeting, over the signatures of the President and the Executive Secretary of the Conference. A fee of \$1.00 shall be attached to each issuance.

Section 7. Prospective ministerial candidates, upon acceptance by the Conference Credentials and Placement Committee, may be received under Conference Care for guidance in ministerial preparation. Under such care the enrollee shall pursue the Conference Study Course, and have available recommendations as to Theological Schools, together with such other counsel and assistance as may properly be rendered. Rev. Ralph Shirk seconded the motion. It was carried.

By-law IX. Rev. Raymond Bawden moved that we adopt the following addition to By-law IX: "The various amendments, revisions and additions to the By-laws which may be presented at the forthcoming regular meeting may be accepted or rejected, individually, in part, if so voted; and the numbering or lettering of the resultant accepted text shall be adjusted as necessary." Mr. John Swanson seconded the motion. It was carried. Mr. Florn Johnson moved adjournment. Dr. Henri Pol closed in prayer.

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1960, Morning Session.

Rev. John Clymer led in the morning Bible study and prayer period at 9:00 A.M. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Dr. Henri Pol. Rev. Roger Shafer led in prayer. Request was made by the Recording Secretary, Rev. Lester Felker, for a typist to type some of the minutes of the previous meetings. Mrs. Dale Ginther offered her services.

Rev. J. Murray Marshall moved that we include all the changes to the Constitution and By-laws in the final typing of the minutes. Rev. Robert Dempsey seconded the motion. It was carried.

Minutes of Friday's sessions were read. Rev. Richard Roberts moved their acceptance. Rev. Joseph Cooke seconded the motion. It was carried.

Report of the Nominating Committee was given by Rev. Dale Ginther. Rev.

Ginther moved acceptance of the report. Rev. Raymond Bawden seconded the motion. It was carried.

Rev. Joseph Cooke and Mr. John Swanson were appointed tellers.

Rev. John Clymer suggested that the second highest number of votes received in the voting for Vice-president determine the Second Vice-president.

(Dr. Stephen Paine of Houghton College was present at the session, and was asked to say a few words to the Conference, while we were awaiting the result of the vote from the tellers. He spoke of the National Association of Evangelicals, explaining some of its work. There was some discussion involving Dr. Paine, Dr. Henri Pol and Rev. Robert Dempsey.) Dr. Pol received 13 votes, Rev. Halbert 8 and Rev. Kirgiss 4. Dr. Pol was declared President.

In addition to the names on the ballot for Vice-president, Rev. Dale Ginther nominated Rev. Paul Halbert. Rev. Donald Coyle moved that nominations for the office of Vice-president be closed. Rev. Lynn Scovil seconded the motion. It was carried. Those on the ballot in addition to Rev. Halbert were: Rev. Joseph Cooke, Rev. Robert McKittrick, and Rev. Richard Roberts. Rev. Joseph Cooke received 19 votes and was declared First Vice-president. Rev. Roberts received 13 votes, Rev. Halbert 13 and Rev. McKittrick 2. Rev. Robert Dempsey suggested that we take a vote between Rev. Roberts and Rev. Halbert to determine the Second Vice-president. Rev. Roberts received 16 votes and Rev. Halbert 6. Rev. Roberts was declared elected. Rev. Dale Ginther moved that nominations for Executive Secretary be closed. Rev. John Clymer seconded the motion. It was carried. Those on the ballot were Rev. Robert Dempsey and Rev. Lynn Scovil. Rev. Dempsey received 23 votes and Rev. Scovil 2. Rev. Dempsey was declared elected.

At this point Rev. Raymond Bawden read a letter from the Olivet Congregational Church of Bridgman, Michigan, requesting membership in the CCCC. The Olivet Congregational Church was welcomed and received into the fellowship of the Conference by unanimous vote.

Mr. Florn Johnson moved that nominations for Treasurer be closed. Rev. J. Murray Marshall seconded the motion. It was carried. Those on the ballot were Rev. Paul Halbert and Rev. Robert Hanna. Rev. Halbert received 26 votes and Rev. Hanna, none. Rev. Halbert was declared elected.

The present tellers were relieved of their duties, and Rev. Arthur Riewald and Rev. Robert Baker were appointed in their place. This was done so the former tellers could hear a report to be given.

Rev. Richard Roberts moved that nominations for Recording Secretary be closed. Rev. John Clymer seconded the motion. It was carried. Those on the ballot were Rev. Robert Hanna, Rev. Robert McKittrick, and Rev. Roy Shervy. Rev. Hanna was declared elected after the report of the tellers.

Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that a unanimous ballot be cast for Rev. Lester Felker for Historian. Rev. John Clymer seconded the motion. It was carried.

Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that we vote by a show of hands for the Committees. Rev. J. Murray Marshall seconded the motion. It was carried.

Board of Directors. The following were nominated to fill the three vacancies: Rev. Samuel Hemberger, Rev. Raymond Bawden, Rev. Dale Ginther, Rev. Lynn Scovil, and Rev. Jacob Waechter. Rev. Richard Roberts moved that nominations be closed. Mr. Florn Johnson seconded the motion. It was carried. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that we vote for the Board members by ballot, each voting for three. The motion was seconded and carried. Those elected were: Rev. Samuel Hemberger, Rev. Raymond Bawden, and Rev. Lynn Scovil.

Program Committee. Rev. Samuel Hemberger (21 votes), Rev. Lynn Scovil (21

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votes), Rev. Ralph Shirk (17 votes) and Rev. Lester Felker (10 votes). The three highest were declared elected.

Nominating Committee. Rev. Raymond Bawden, Rev. John Clymer, Rev. Richard Roberts and Rev. George Kirgiss. The first three were declared elected.

Finance Committee. Mr. John Stewart, Rev. Theodore Overton, Mr. Florn Johnson, Rev. Raymond Gillis and Rev. Norman Fitch. The first three were declared elected.

Publications Committee. Rev. Robert McKittrick, Rev. Paul Halbert, Rev. J. Murray Marshall and Rev. Thomas Figart. The first three were declared elected.

Church Extension and Evangelism Committee. Rev. Lynn Scovil, Rev. George Kirgiss, Rev. Jacob Waechter and Rev. J. Harold Loman. The first three were declared elected.

Christian Education Committee. Rev. Roy Shervy, Rev. George Kirgiss, Rev. Raymond Gillis, Rev. Duane Kusler and Rev. Raymond Maier. The first three were declared elected.

Constitution Study Committee. Rev. John Clymer, Rev. Theodore Overton, Rev. Robert Dempsey and Rev. Chester Reed. The first three were declared elected.

Missionary Committee. Rev. J. Murray Marshall, Rev. Lester Felker, Rev. Russell Christian, Rev. Donald Coyle and Mr. Florn Johnson. The first three were declared elected. Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that the Board of Directors assign the chairmanships of the various committees, and that they determine the length of the terms of each committee member in order to establish the rotating term system. Rev. J. Murray Marshall seconded the motion. It was carried.

Report of the Time and Place Committee was given by Rev. Lynn Scovil, who read an invitation from his own church, the Plymouth Congregational Church of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to hold the 1961 Annual Convention there. Rev. Robert Dempsey extended a verbal invitation, in lieu of the written invitation which had been sent to the committee chairman, Mrs. Olive Kirgiss, to hold the Annual Convention at the Carlisle Congregational Church of Carlisle, Mass., sometime during the last two weeks of September. Rev. J. Murray Marshall moved that we set the date of the Annual Convention for next year as September 27-29, 1961. Rev. Richard Roberts seconded the motion. Discussion followed. There were eleven in favor and eight opposed. The motion was carried. Rev. J. Murray Marshall moved that we accept with gratitude the invitation from the Carlisle Congregational Church. Mr. John Swanson seconded the motion. It was carried. The 1961 Annual Convention will be held at the Carlisle Congregational Church, Carlisle, Mass., September 27-29, 1961, Lord willing.

The meeting adjourned until the afternoon.

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1960, Afternoon Session.

Mr. Florn Johnson led in opening prayer.

Report of the Resolutions Committee was given by Rev. Joseph Cooke and was placed on file. Rev. Cooke moved its acceptance. Rev. Robert Dempsey seconded the motion. It was carried.

Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that greetings be sent to the Union of Evangelical Congregational and Christian Churches in Brazil, our member church in British Guiana, and to the six regional fellowships of conservative Congregational Christians in southern California, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Hawaii, greater New York City and New England. Mr. Florn Johnson seconded the motion. It was carried.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Publications Committee an oral report which was conveyed by phone from the Chairman was given by Rev. Robert Dempsey. A written report is to follow. A discussion of the publication followed. Rev. Dempsey stated that the publication must serve increasingly as an arm of extension of the Conference. Rev. Lynn Scovil urged that pastors circulate the publication more widely in their congregations. It was generally agreed that all errors in English and printing must be eliminated, and that the dating system of the publication must be revised. Rev. Dempsey moved the acceptance of the verbal report. Rev. Jacob Waechter seconded the motion. It was carried.

Rev. Robert Dempsey submitted the following proposed revisions to our Constitution:

Article III. Section 1. Insert the word "inerrant" after the word "only."

Article III, Note 3 Section D to read, "A candidate for ministerial membership will be expected to have a life which is bearing the fruit of the Spirit, and which is marked by deep spirituality and the best of ethical practices. The candidate will be disqualified by any habits or practices in his life which will in any way defile his body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 3:16, 17), which does not glorify God in His body which belongs to God (I Cor. 6:19, 20), or which might cause any brother in Christ to stumble (Rom. 14:21)."

Article X. Section 2. In place of "Article III—The Statement of Faith—which article . . ." insert "Article III, i.e., the Statement of Faith not including the appended notes, which statement . . ."

Rev. Dempsey moved that they be acted upon at the next Annual Meeting. Rev. Joseph Cooke seconded the motion. It was carried.

The following budget was presented by the Board of Directors:

BUDGET FOR 1960 - 1961

Executive Secretary	\$1,500.00
Official Board Expenses	25.00
Gift to National Association of Evangelicals	30.00
International Extension Reserve	500.00
Conference speakers at Annual Meeting	100.00
Stationery and envelopes	100.00
Safety Deposit Box	10.00
Postage	80.00
Telephone	50.00
Year Book	180.00
Mid-winter conference	500.00
Church Extension & Evangelism Committee	500.00
Program for Annual Meeting	200.00
Credentials and Placement Committee	15.00
Publications Committee	1,500.00
	<u>\$5,290.00</u>

Rev. Robert Dempsey moved that it be adopted. Rev. Russell Christian seconded the motion. It was carried.

The following committees were appointed by the Board of Directors for the coming year:

Auditing Committee: (for the 1959-1960 fiscal year) Rev. Richard Roberts, Chairman; Mr. Florn Johnson; Mr. Sherman Butler.

Minutes of Annual Meeting . . .

Time and Place Committee: Rev. Paul Halbert, Chairman; Rev. Lester Felker; Rev. Roger Shafer.

Resolutions Committee: Rev. John Clymer, Chairman; Rev. Jacob Waechter; Rev. Robert Hanna.

Credentials and Placement Committee: Rev. Raymond Bawden, Chairman; Rev. Joseph Cooke; Rev. George Kirgiss.

Nominating Committee: (2 members appointed by Board) Rev. Samuel Hemberger, Rev. Harry Aufiero.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. LESTER FELKER, *Recording Secretary*

Reports

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE PRESENTED AT THE 1960 ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

The mind of man retains only those things which make a real impression upon it. Therefore Jesus reminded His disciples many times of the things He had told them. When they forgot the promises He had given them they proposed ideas of their own and then found themselves in trouble. Although Peter had heard Jesus refer to His coming death and resurrection, he did not grasp its significance and came forth with his own ideas—such things should never happen to Jesus. Then Jesus had to warn him that he was being led by Satan. It is Satan who is constantly advising man to trust in himself and reject the plan of God.

The organized church, all down through past ages, has needed to check on itself many times; and when a thorough investigation was made, found itself far from the simplicity of the early New Testament Church.

When the Father revealed to Peter that Jesus was "The Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus said . . . "upon this rock I will build my church." Therefore the New Testament Church was built upon the Rock, Christ Jesus, and He is its only authority, for He is the Head of the church.

Jesus gave no plans for organization nor for ornate buildings. The ecclesiastical machinery of our day is completely obliterating the simplicity of Jesus' formula for building His church. It was first of all based upon the fact that all power in heaven and on earth is in His hands; and He commanded those who trusted in His authority to go and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The things to be taught are to be: "All things whatsoever I have commanded you." And with it He gave the promise—"and lo, I am with you always."

Luke provides further facts on how this church is to be built, when he quotes the words of Jesus Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . ." It was only after the coming upon them of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, that they spoke the Word with power.

Peter, being filled with the Spirit, told the audience before him the things that were recorded in the Old Testament, foretelling what was happening that day. From this he presented the fact that ". . . God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye crucified, both Lord and Christ." The Holy Spirit brought conviction upon those who heard him and as many as believed were added unto them.

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit the church moved forward. When miracles were performed all glory was given to Jesus for He ". . . The Holy One and just . . . the Prince of life . . . through faith in His name hath made this man strong." Thus was the Christ constantly present as the Head of the Church and in full authority.

The disciples continued to tell of the Christ wherever they went and soon believers gathered for further learning of this *Way*. These little groups chose their own leaders and recognized Jesus as the Head of the Church. When questions arose as to the interpretation of some of the Holy Scripture they sent unto the more experienced ones for help. And these sent back word saying, "So it seems to us that the Holy Spirit would have it." This allowed the local church to be free to obey the will of Christ, the Head of the Church. With this independence went personal responsibility and complete trust in the leading of the Holy Spirit.

The work of Satan is to disrupt the unity in the church which is inspired by the Holy Spirit. Divisions began to arise in the early church over whom they were to

Reports . . .

follow. Some of Paul; or of Apollos; or of Cephas; and of Christ. Personalities were being considered here. The Holy Spirit was not given full rights. Thus self crept in and where self takes over the Holy Spirit power is gone, worship becomes formal, and man-made organization is set up according to the desires of man rather than dependence upon Christ, the Head of the Church.

History, from the creation of man, reveals the fact that whenever man chose to go his own way his relationship to God was changed, to his own hurt. The Israelites experienced that many times and it has been true of the organized church also. Spiritual heights are reached when Christ is the Head, through the power of the Holy Spirit, but as soon as man takes over, without the leading of the Holy Spirit, the church becomes merely a machine domineered by individuals who aspire to be in charge of all things. When man does his own planning it is tainted with self, and the Holy Spirit is crowded out.

The Conservative Congregational Christian Conference is a new venture, seeking to restore the fundamental principles of the New Testament Church where the individual is to be "a living stone" of the spiritual house, "An holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." I Peter 2:5. A *living* stone would indicate activity—taking part—having individual rights—being his own priest—direct access to God in the name of the Lord Jesus.

To be a spiritual house there must be unity, without it the house will fall. St. Paul tells us in Philippians 1:27 ". . . That ye stand fast in *one* spirit, with *one* mind striving *together* for the faith of the Gospel," and again in chapter 2:5 he gives the source of the one mind—"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Christ is the Head, the chief corner stone of the church.

The Congregational Church was founded upon the individual liberty given each believer as noted in the New Testament. As long as the individual allowed Jesus Christ to be Lord of his life, through the power of the Holy Spirit, there was true unity among believers, of which the true church is constituted. But history reveals that self crept in and thus man set up a great ecclesiastical organization and has allowed the world to have part in the church, disregarding the words of II Corinthians 6:17 "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing: and I will receive you."

The reason we are calling to mind these facts in this message is that we need to be on our guard lest we too soon fall into the same error of so many groups of the past, who thought to bring about a more spiritual body but failed after a few years. These things which have happened in the past are examples unto us as were the experiences of Israel unto the New Testament church.

We must remind ourselves again and again that Jesus Christ is the Head—the church is the body—and the Head must control the body. Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to give wisdom and power to His followers, and without Him there cannot be a true spiritual church. Our constant aim must be to deny self and be used of God in any way or place He chooses.

We must hold true to the Word, and *never compromise* in any way. To be true to our calling we must continuously "put on the *whole* armour of God and having done all, to *stand*." To compromise in a single phase of any of our "conservative" convictions is to invite a flood of compromises. No one continues long to place much faith in a compromising individual or organization.

Another year has passed since we last met as members, delegates and friends of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. The reports of the various committees will reveal our standing as compared with last year and you will hear

of several churches that have become members of our conference during the past year. You will also hear of a number of ministers who have united with us for the purpose of being associated with a group who believe in the simple New Testament Church.

Your president had the privilege of writing letters of welcome into our Conference to these churches and ministers. Besides that he wrote about 100 letters in the interest of the Conference. Also one trip of 375 miles was made to confer with a minister who was interested in learning something about the CCCC. After about 3 months of prayer and consideration of the matter he sent in his application for membership, which is now being processed.

There came to us recently an experience which reveals again how the Lord guides us in the work of His church. A man, who is a member of a Congregational Church in Alabama, wrote a letter, addressing it to The Congregational Beacon, Minneapolis, Minnesota; and with nothing more than that address to go on, the postal department of Minneapolis forwarded it to Spokane, Washington where The Congregational Beacon had last been mailed out. From there it was directed to me, as president of the CCCC, and I answered it explaining the changes which had been made in regard to our official publication, and sending him some sample copies of The Congregational Christian, our constitution, and some of our tracts explaining our work. As a result there are now several Congregational Churches in Alabama which have received information concerning the work of the CCCC.

Three delegates were appointed to the Convention of the National Association of Evangelicals which was held in Chicago last April. They were unable to attend but at least our Conference was registered as interested in and willing to work with the N.A.E. Our Conference should place the financial needs of the N.A.E. on the budget.

We should like to commend our treasurer for the business-like way he fulfilled his official duties. The monthly reports were very much appreciated by the Board of Directors, for thus each one knew the financial status regularly.

Our Conference is in need of a better financial system. As it now stands, the treasurer is burdened with the task of deciding how, when and where money is to be spent. All bills should be presented to a committee which in turn should issue orders on the treasury for the paying of those bills.

Consideration should also be given as to the proper use of funds from the view point of the contributors. Should they also receive a monthly report so they will know how their money is being used? In these days of such great need on mission fields, when every effort should be put forth to get the Gospel to all people, we need to be extremely careful that the Lord's money is used according to His plan.

To start "from scratch", so to speak, is not an easy task; but that is what our publications committee has been compelled to do. All are well pleased with the very fine beginning of the "Congregational Christian" magazine. Several reports have come to us and all of them favorable.

Our continued prayer and trust must be that each individual be so submitted to the Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, that the work of the CCCC may be under His guidance; for only then shall it succeed.

In His service,

GEORGE F. KIRGISS

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

"Giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son: in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Colossians 1:12-14.

The duties of the office of the Executive Secretary have brought many and varied duties in the service of Christ through the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. For whatever has been accomplished, I want to express my personal indebtedness to my Lord for strength and guidance, and to my wife, without whose help little could have been done. Approximately 400 pieces of correspondence have been mailed since the last Annual Meeting in the interest of the CCCC, the great majority of which had her "ad" in the lower left hand corner. Also, many were the days and nights on which she kept the home fires burning alone.

It was my privilege to speak publicly in behalf of our Conference approximately 30 times in the following ten states: Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri and California. The Executive Secretary has spoken in 6 of the 8 churches applying for membership this year. In addition to the public engagements a considerable number of personal contacts were made with ministers and lay people. In carrying out these responsibilities, the Executive Secretary travelled approximately 17,500 miles.

The expenses related to the past year's activities are as follows:

Travel	\$918.94	
Postage	25.00	(To this should be added a
Phone	48.30	small, but undetermined sum
Miscellaneous	17.30	for stationery.)
	<hr/>	
	\$999.54	

The total amount of expenses should be compared to the money, which was raised directly by preaching engagements (\$566.60), the Executive Secretary's own church (\$430.00) and himself (\$100.00). These receipts totalled \$1,096.60. This is approximately \$100 in excess of the expenditures. Not reckoned in the total amount of receipts is the sizable sum of money invested by the Carlisle Congregational Church for supply preachers in the absence of her pastor.

The experiences of the past year suggest the following five essential spheres of influence and fellowship for our Conference in the realm of growth and in the discharge of its responsibilities to the Church of Jesus Christ. These areas are suggested in addition to such vital and traditional areas as missions, Christian Education, evangelism, etc.

1. Churches, ministers and laity of Congregational Christian heritage.

Because our Conference has its roots in the hearts and lives of men and churches of the combined Congregational and Christian traditions, we obviously have an obligation here. Our particular interest is in those churches, ministers and people who are loyal to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to the faithful practice of Congregational polity. To such as these, the CCCC can be a source of fellowship, inspiration, strength and unity. We can be the channel through which all *truly Biblical* Congregational Christians can find a common ground in their service for Christ. Actually our numbers are too few to afford division. It is true that the CCCC is misunderstood, misrepresented and even opposed by some who are of the household of faith, but let these men exclude themselves rather than be excluded by us.

2. *Independent churches.*

There are a goodly number of independent, self-governing, gospel-preaching churches in danger of drifting into isolation. Some who are sensing this peril in their position are registering a real interest in our fellowship, which is committed to the Gospel and to a real and not theoretical practice of historic independency. These churches are practicing Congregationalists and we should seek to arouse their interest.

3. *Open liberal churches.*

Lacking the incentive of the Biblical position, liberalism fails to produce sufficient ministers, so we have an opportunity to place sound Biblical ministers in some of these churches. These situations provide problems, but they provide us with a ready-made mission field. If anybody should be interested in this opportunity in the Congregational Christian tradition, we should. Those who feel the call of the Lord to these challenging fields ought to receive from us ardent prayer support, fellowship and love. Some of these churches can be restored to a sound Biblical witness. There are hungry lay people who will respond to the ministry of the Word, and we should make every effort to take advantage of this situation. However, it ought not to be our goal to capture churches for the CCCC, but to preach the Word and let the Spirit of God lead.

4. *New Churches.*

Two of the churches applying for membership this year are new. Neither has a building of its own and one is yet without a pastor. In communities, new and old, which have no witness for Jesus Christ, we are obligated to see that such witnesses exist. However, we are basically committed to the idea that this type of growth be on a church to church basis, without the middle man of the Conference, doing anything except offering counsel, challenge and information to churches who have gained the vision for this kind of advance. It is my personal hope that my own church will place an item in its missionary budget for church extension, which will be sent directly to new and struggling churches.

5. *A place among responsible denominational fellowships.*

As we grow we must realize that there are larger responsibilities which we must fulfill. We are a group among other groups and our relationships to these other groups must be clearly defined.

a. *National Association of Evangelicals.*

We are a member of the N.A.E. When we reach 5,000 members, we will be entitled to a seat on the Board of Administration. Our voice will be heard in the affairs of the evangelicals of our land, but we must do our best under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to see that our voice is also respected. The N.A.E. should be commended to our churches for individual church membership.

b. *National Association of Congregational Christian Churches.*

The CCCC is not the only group to arise out of the Congregational Christian heritage in recent years. The sweeping centralization of the old denominational establishment and the ecumenical drive for greater denominational control have led others to seek new alignments also. The most significant of these other groups is the N.A.C.C.C. We must recognize that while there are some conservatives in the ranks of the N.A.C.C.C., a great theological gulf is fixed between the two groups. However, we must also recognize that we have a common interest in the preservation of congregational polity and a common enemy in the ecumenical movement, so that at least a channel of communication should be kept open. Although any suggestion of affiliation with this group is out of the question for us, yet we should treat them with courtesy. We should state our differences and

convictions clearly, but avoid open controversy because this will only aid a greater enemy that seeks to destroy us both.

c. *Regional fellowships of conservative Congregational Christians.*

We must recognize the existence of at least 6 regional fellowships of conservative Congregational Christians. These groups vary in their programs, organizations and size, but they are clearly evangelical and interested in our free way of church life. Our churches and ministers must seek to strengthen these groups in whatever ways are feasible. Our Conference will never come to full strength and service until we are in operation in the local areas. If our constitution and by-laws are revised as proposed, then we may enter into mutual affiliations with with these and other area groups. Such affiliations should be fostered by us at every opportunity. New regional fellowships should be sparked by those who are members of our Conference.

d. *National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.*

We should take each opportunity to express in clear terms in a manner consistent with being a Christian that the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches do not speak for Protestantism, and that they do not speak for us. The CCCC is disenchanted with the ecumenical aims of these two bodies, and we strenuously oppose their aims to dominate radio, television, locations of new churches, missions, social legislation, etc.

At this point I want to say that I am impressed by the hearty and almost universal acclaim given to our new periodical, *The Congregational Christian*. We owe our Publications Committee a tremendous debt of gratitude. Our periodical is making friends and influencing people. It is tying our fellowship together in a significant way.

In the area of publication, there is desperate need for a series of interpretive tracts concerning our heritage, position, beliefs and practices. These do not need to be numerous nor sensational, but well-written and neatly done. Most Congregational Christians and independent people are seriously lacking in their grasp of our past and present aims. An educated laity is an absolute essential.

The opportunities and challenges before us are many, and the future is as bright as the promises of God. Our commitment to the Gospel should be bold and persuasive, but that which is beyond the essential fundamentals of the Gospel must be kept as non-essentials. The CCCC is unique among evangelical denominational fellowships in that it limits its doctrinal requirements to the Gospel. No Christian brother is excluded because of secondary matters. This kind of stand gives us tremendous possibilities.

If we are to fulfill our greatest potential, we must also be radically consistent in the matter of the sovereignty of the local church. Many who are committed to this ideal of the New Testament church in theory, do not follow it in practice. We must pursue it in theory and practice. Healthy, virile, reproducing churches should be our main aim as a Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. ROBERT B. DEMPSEY, *Executive Secretary*

REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

As chairman of this committee, it has been my responsibility to answer a number of letters from laymen and ministers inquiring as to the Conference Study Course and Conference care.

I have had no replies on the study courses that have been sent out. The examiners, the Reverends Bawden, Abrahamson and Kirgiss, would know concerning this information.

There seems to be interest among young men studying in Christian colleges to eventually be a part of our Conference. This has been revealed as your chairman has spoken to some young people in Christian colleges and by one letter on file.

It is hoped that as the Lord directs, we may acquire more teeth in our Christian Education Department of our Conference and as our Conference as a whole advances and becomes better known, so will the work of the Christian Education Committee.

Because of distance, it has been impossible for the members of this Committee to be together.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. RAYMOND L. GILLIS, *Chairman*

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

During the past year the Missionary Committee received no requests for assistance from any of its member churches. However, the Chairman did have the privilege of speaking on the subject of missions on two occasions, once in the Carlisle Congregational Church in Carlisle, Mass., and once in the Barrington Evangelical Free Church in Barrington, New Hampshire.

We were able to lend our services to Miss Carolyn Tice in obtaining deputational meetings for her in five of our member churches.

The total missionary giving of 18 of our member churches amounted to \$311,581.31

\$33,993.31	Churches
277,588.00	Park Street Church
<u>\$311,581.31</u>	Total

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL HALBERT, *Chairman*

REPORT OF THE CHURCH EXTENSION AND EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Church Extension and Evangelism Committee has put in an active year. All three members have travelled and spoken to churches and individuals in behalf of the CCCC. Their journeys have carried them from Maine to California, and from Michigan to Alabama. We are happy to report a growing interest in our conference.

The Committee members also report that there have been no requests concerning evangelism nor evangelists. However, this should not be interpreted as a lack of evangelistic activity, but simply that there were no requests to our Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

REV. ROBERT B. DEMPSEY, *Chairman*

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Ministers Received:

Rev. Alec J. Edgar, Celina, Ohio, 7/11/59 (Not on 1959 report)
Rev. Jacob F. Waechter, Rte. 3, Elida, Ohio, 12/26/59
Rev. Keijo I. Aho, 9 Morton Street, Quincy, Mass., 11/18/59
Rev. Ralph Waldo Williams, 80 Hudson Street, Berlin, Conn., 5/19/60
Rev. John A. Gibbs, 131 Claremont Ave., Mt. Vernon, New York, 6/1/60
Rev. A. Roy Christensen, 21 Kenwood Road, Everett, Mass., 7/5/60

Laymen Received:

Robert F. Penrod, Salem, Iowa—Received and licensed to preach 9/8/59
Frank H. Bunker, Jr., 119 Union St., Mansfield, Mass.
Received and admitted to conference care in its Study Course 12/14/59

Ministers Dismissed or Dropped from Roll:

Rev. Harley D. Laffin, 1810 F Street, Sparks, Nevada
Rev. Earl Hurne, 2510 Fourth St., Moline, Illinois (To Evangelical Free Church)
Rev. George W. Shunk; no reply to correspondence

Churches Received:

West Andover Congregational Church, W. Andover, Ohio, March, 1960
Worthing Congregational Church, Worthing, South Dakota
University Park Congregational Church, 7459 North Haven, Portland 3, Oregon,
2/10/60
Mayflower Congregational Church, Main St., Kingston, Mass., 3/4/60
Grace Church, Congregational, 24 Housatonic St., Pittsfield, Mass. 3/4/60
First Christian Church, West Mansfield, Mass., 5/11/60
Calvary Church, Congregationnal, Rte. 3, Elida, Ohio 6/22/60
Note: Union Congregational Church, Tuckahoe, New York, discontinued dual
relationship by withdrawing from the New York City Congregational
Association, 4/27/60

Churches Dropped from Roll because listed in error or by request:

Shiloh Christian Church, Willow Hill, Illinois, 10/13/59
Bethany Congregational Church, Galesburg, Illinois, 10/1/59

Roll of Lay Member of Conference accumulated 1945-59 revised on basis of previous and current correspondence regarding Conference membership as of 11/24/59, and with any subsequent additions presented herewith to the annual meeting for adoption as current lay roll of the Conference: (See attached membership lists).

Report of Placement Committee work, 1959-60:

Names of ministers were submitted to a number of churches and through the co-operation of Rev. Harry Aufiero candidates were on occasion suggested to churches of the Mid-west Christian fellowship.

Definite placements of ministers by this committee cannot be cited in the current year. At the present time no calls for ministers are at hand. At last report perhaps five or six men would be interested in a change of location.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND C. BAWDEN, *Chairman*
Credentials and Placement Committee

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Be it resolved that the members and others in attendance at the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference, meeting at North Collins, N. Y., express their sincere appreciation and thanks for the courtesy and hospitality extended them by the pastor, members and friends of the North Collins Congregational Church; for those who so graciously provided and prepared the meals and for those who opened their homes for the comfort and enjoyment of us all.

Be it resolved that this conference offer its sympathy and prayers to the Howard Murphy family of West Plains, Missouri, upon the loss of their son and brother.

Be it resolved that this Conference offer its sympathy and prayers to Mrs. A. A. Luther upon the passing of her husband, the Rev. A. A. Luther.

Be it resolved that this Conference extend its hearty congratulations to the Rev. Clarence Roberts of Egg Harbor City, New Jersey, upon his completion of fifty years in the service of our Lord and Saviour at Egg Harbor City.

Be it resolved that this Conference extend its thanks to the Rev. George Kirgiss for his services to the Conference in the past year and express our appreciation for his splendid presidential address read by the Vice-president.

JOSEPH COOKE, *Chairman*
RAYMOND BAWDEN
JAY WATERMAN

REPORT OF THE AUDITING AND RECORDS COMMITTEE

As a committee we tried several ways and times to get together that we might audit the books and look over any materials on hand at the office of the treasurer, Mr. J. A. Stueckle, which might be useful to the Conference.

The final result was that the chairman of the committee was delegated to visit Mr. Stueckle's office and he brought back with him all materials which the Conference might be able to use.

The auditing was done by a legal auditor of Spokane, Washington, and the final balance was forwarded to the present treasurer, Rev. Paul Halbert.

Since Mr. J. A. Stueckle was also editor and publisher of The Congregational Beacon, the magazine which had been used in our Conference, he also possessed a large number of tracts concerning the CCCC. These we took to our home but, upon careful examination, find they are out-dated and need to be discarded.

There are a large number of treasurer's books, beginning with the organization of the CCCC. The accounts in them are recorded in various ways and rather difficult to understand. As chairman, I am asking your advice as to what should be done with these old treasurer's books. Some are heavy board cover—the loose leaf style—and rather large. I have them stored at my home at present but cannot promise to be responsible for them in case I should move from my present location.

GEORGE F. KIRGISS, *Chairman*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts

Receipts from Mr. Stueckle at close of his books	\$ 323.55
Receipts from churches	1,765.84
Receipts from individuals	1,005.72

Total Receipts \$3,095.11

Disbursements

Marian Blood (for services rendered to Conference)	\$ 50.00
Membership cards and certificates	8.25
Conference Speakers	75.00
Travel Expenses	958.82
Stationery and Envelopes	83.33
Safety Deposit Box	6.60
Postage	76.48
Phone	56.08
Year Book	179.00
Loan Returned	55.00
Mid-Winter Conference at Argos	197.51
Publication of Congregational Christian	941.29
Handling and Mailing of Publication	390.00
Miscellaneous expenses	12.35

Total Disbursements \$3,089.71

Balance on Hand July 1, 1960 5.40

Total Receipts \$3,095.11

MISSIONARY FUND

Receipts

Ladies' Group of the Conference	\$ 6.70
Salem Congregational Church (Salem, Iowa)	60.00
Hope Congregational Church (Superior, Wisconsin)	10.00
David Coleman	18.00
Paul Halbert	15.00
Mrs. E. A. Schaap (Dundee, Michigan)	5.00

Total Receipts \$114.70

Disbursements

Sudan Interior Mission	\$ 50.00
The Evangelical Alliance Mission	10.00
J. A. Stueckle (for Jokessari)	18.00
Miss Carlyn Tice	36.70

Total Disbursements \$114.70

With the exception of \$16.70, all receipts for the Missionary Fund were designated

MEMBER CHURCHES AS OF JULY, 1960

OFFICIAL ROLLS

<i>Location</i>	<i>Church Name - Address</i>	<i>Pastor's Name and Address</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Date of Admission</i>
<i>Connecticut:</i> Eastford	Congregational Church Eastford, Conn.	Rev. Ralph Shirk Eastford, Conn.	Robert F. Froehlich Eastford, Conn.	161	1959
<i>Indiana:</i> Argos	Congregational Church 208 So. Maple St. Argos, Indiana	Rev. Paul Halbert 209½ S. Michigan St. Argos, Indiana	Mrs. Louise Pershing 209½ S. Michigan St. Argos, Indiana	172	1958
No. Webster	No. Webster Christian Church No. Webster, Indiana	Rev. Leroy J. Stucky 216 N. McKinley St. Warsaw, Indiana	Mrs. George Fidler Route 1 Cromwell, Indiana	13	1948
<i>Maryland:</i> Baltimore	Second Cong'l Church 6940 German Hill Rd. Baltimore 22, Md.	Rev. Thomas Figart 6940 German Hill Rd. Baltimore 22, Md.	R. Milton Riffin 21 N. Highland Ave. Baltimore 24, Md.	90	1951
<i>Massachusetts:</i> Boston	Park Street Church Boston 8, Mass.	Dr. Harold Ockenga Rev. J. Murray Marshall Rev. Calvin Malefyt Rev. Sherwood Strodel c/o Park Street Church Boston 8, Mass.	John M. Osepchuk 29 Colony Road Lexington, Mass.	2200	1959
Carlisle	Carlisle Cong'l Church Carlisle, Mass.	Rev. Robert Dempsey Carlisle, Mass.	Mrs. Anna Johnson Carlisle, Mass.	162	1958
Kingston	Mayflower Cong'l Church Kingston, Mass.	Rev. George Buhl 10 Center St. Kingston, Mass.	Mrs. George Cobb 265 Main Street Kingston, Mass.	126	1960
Pittsfield	Grace Cong'l Church 24 E. Housatonic St. Pittsfield, Mass.	Mr. Kenneth Dahl R.F.D. #1 Canaan, New York		17	1960

MEMBER CHURCHES AS OF JULY 1960

<i>Location</i>	<i>Church Name - Address</i>	<i>Pastor's Name and Address</i>	<i>Clerk</i>	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Date of Admission</i>
W. Mansfield	First Christian Church W. Mansfield, Mass.	Rev. Russell Christian 159 Elm Street W. Mansfield, Mass.	Miss Muriel Ballou Gilbert St. R.F.D. 1 Mansfield, Mass.	92	1960
<i>Michigan:</i> Bridgman	Olivet Cong'l Church Bridgman, Michigan	Rev. Fred Williams Bridgman, Michigan	Ethel Burns Bridgman, Michigan	155	1960
<i>Minnesota:</i> Round Prairie	Round Prairie Cong'l Community Church Round Prairie, Minn.	Rev. Harold Brickson 3049 17th Ave. So. Minneapolis, Minn.	Mrs. Geo. Thompson Round Prairie, Minn.	11	1945
<i>New York:</i> Morristown	First Cong'l Church R. R. #2 Hammond, New York	Rev. Wm. C. Crist R. R. #2 Hammond, New York	J. Preston Lowery Morristown, N. Y.	40	1949
North Collins	First Cong'l Church North Collins, N. Y.	Rev. Roger Shafer Vermont Street North Collins, N. Y.	Mrs. Irene Johnson Gowanda State Rd. No. Collins, N. Y.	153	1949
Tuckahoe	Union Cong'l Church Tuckahoe, New York	Rev. Samuel Hemberger 30 Underhill St. Tuckahoe, New York	Mrs. Alvin Jacobson 7 Longview Drive Tuckahoe, New York	148	
<i>Ohio:</i> Elida	Calvary Church Elida, Ohio	Rev. Jacob Waetcher Route #3 Elida, Ohio	Mrs. Betty Beck Route #3 Elida, Ohio	50	1960
Andover	W. Andover Cong'l Church	Rev. John Clymer Andover, Ohio	Mrs. Maynard Gay Andover, Ohio	50	1960

MEMBER CHURCHES AS OF JULY 1960

Location	Church Name - Address	Pastor's Name and Address	Clerk	Membership	Date of Admission
Williamsfield	W. Williamsfield Cong'l Church Williamsfield, Ohio	Rev. J. Wayland Kemp Gageville, R. R. #2 Ashtabula, Ohio	Mrs. Marjorie Biesterveld Williamsfield, Ohio	206	
<i>Oregon:</i> Portland	Staub Memorial Cong'l Church 3120 S. E. Taylor St. Portland 14, Oregon	Rev. Alfred Abrahamson 2267 S. E. 38th Av. Portland 14, Oregon	Mrs. J. L. Clem 3142 S. E. Taylor St. Portland 14, Oregon	246	1958
Portland	University Park Cong'l Church 7459 North Haven Portland 3, Oregon	Rev. Richard Roberts 5214 No. Lombard Portland 3, Oregon	Karl Sloan 8231 North Foss Portland 3, Oregon	103	1960
<i>South Dakota:</i> Worthing	Worthing Cong'l Church Worthing, S. D.	Rev. Ray Persson Worthing, S. D.	Mrs. Bert Johnson Worthing, S. D.	40	1960
<i>Wisconsin:</i> Oshkosh	Plymouth Cong'l Church 302 Church Ave. Oshkosh, Wis.	Rev. Lynn Scovil 318 Church Ave. Oshkosh, Michigan	Mrs. Lynn Scovil 318 Church Ave. Oshkosh, Wis.	185	1949
Superior	Hope Cong'l Church 19th & Wyoming Sts. Superior, Wis.	Rev. George A. French 1916 Lackawanna Ave. Superior, Wis.	Miss Eileen Lindstrom 1624 Susquehanna Ave. Superior, Wis.	75	
<i>British Guiana:</i>	Bethel Cong'l Church Beterverweging East Coast Demerara British Guiana, S. A.	D. A. C. Miller 246 New Garden St. Georgetown Demerara British Guiana, S. A.	J. Arnold Henry 42 Triumph St. East Coast Demerara British Guiana, S. A.	185	

MEMBER MINISTERS AND LAY PEOPLE

as of July 1960

MINISTERS

1. Alfred C. Abrahamson, 2267 S. E. 38th Ave., Portland 14, Oregon
2. Keijo I. Aho, 9 Morton Street, Quincy 69, Mass.
3. Wilbur J. Antisdale, 914 N. Pierce Road, Opportunity, Washington
4. Harry Aufiero, Route 5, Greenville, Ohio
5. Arne J. Avikainen, 4415 N. Missouri Ave., Portland 17, Oregon
6. Elizabeth Avikainen, 4415 N. Missouri Ave., Portland 17, Oregon
7. Raymond C. Bawden, Arena, Wisconsin
8. Lewis C. Carr, Montague, P.E.I., Canada
9. A. Roy Christensen, 21 Kenwood Road, Everett, Mass.
10. Hubert K. Clevenger, 126 N. East Street, Winchester, Indiana
11. Joseph Cooke, Route 3, Jefferson, Ohio
12. Donald R. Coyle, Box 281, Geneva, New York
13. Robert B. Dempsey, Church Street, Carlisle, Mass.
14. Alec J. Edgar, R.R. #5, Celina, Ohio
15. Lester Felker, Polk, Nebraska
16. Washington P. Gawne, Freeland, Michigan
17. Henry M. George, 135 Washington St., Carbondale, Pa.
18. John A. Gibbs, 131 Claremont Ave., Mt. Vernon, New York
19. Raymond L. Gillis, 76 Congress Street, Portland, Maine
20. Dale Ginter, Box 208, Winona Lake, Indiana
21. Paul Halbert, 208 S. Maple Street, Argos, Indiana
22. Robert Hanna, R.R. #4 Union City, Indiana
23. Robert D. Heinson, 609 Pacific Avenue, Tillamook, Oregon
24. Samuel T. Hemberger, 30 Underhill Street, Tuckahoe 7, New York
25. Stanley B. Hopper, Bedford, Indiana
26. C. Robert Huntress, 314 Amesbury Line Road, Haverhill, Mass.
27. Chester Jones, Wrentham, Mass.
28. Sherman Keeler, 307 North Wilson, Oblong, Illinois
29. George F. Kirgiss, Box 336, Touchet, Washington
30. Duane K. Kusler, 531 West Whitman Drive, College Place, Washington
31. J. Harold Loman, Box 42, Greensboro, North Carolina
32. Raymond Maier, 5633 N. Kerby Avenue, Portland 17, Oregon
33. Robert B. McKittrick, Lake Grove, L. I., New York
34. A. Carlyle Miller, 246 New Garden St., Georgetown Demerara,
British Guiana, S. A.
35. Theodore Overton, 42 Liberty Street, W. H., Newburgh, New York
36. Henri F. M. Pol, 1558 Fulham Street, St. Paul 8, Minnesota
37. Alvin Prestholt, Arcadia, California
38. Chester Reed, North Webster, Indiana
39. Richard Owen Roberts, 5214 North Lombard, Portland 3, Oregon
40. Lynn Scovil, 318 Church Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
41. Roy Shervy, Farmland, Indiana
42. Ralph Shirk, Eastford, Connecticut
43. Edward G. Smith, 2125 Emerson Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minnesota
44. Marion Towne, R.R. #2, Pittsford, Michigan
45. Jacob F. Waechter, R.R. #3, Elida, Ohio
46. Jay N. Waterman, Dunlap, Iowa
47. LeRoy D. Webber, 246 Mohawk Dr., Carol Stream, Wheaton, Illinois
48. Ralph W. Williams, 80 Hudson Street, Berlin, Connecticut

LICENSED MINISTERS OF THE CONFERENCE

1. John Clymer, Andover, Ohio
2. Norman E. Fitch, Tinsed, Idaho
3. Robert Gillespie, Willow Hill, Illinois
4. Robert Penrod, Salem, Iowa
5. Howard Murphy, 903 St. Louis Street, West Plains, Missouri

Those with ministerial student standing: (Lay membership standing)

1. Frank H. Bunker, Jr., 119 Union Street, Mansfield, Mass.
2. Larry W. Crabb, Argos, Indiana

LAY MEMBERS

1. Cecil Argetsinger, Mantorville, Minnesota
2. Mrs. Grace E. Coleman, Willow Hill, Illinois
3. David Coleman, 432 Wellington, Chicago, Illinois
4. Mrs. Olive Kirgiss, Box 336, Touchet, Washington
5. Miss Merle Long, 1225 Mt. Vernon Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
6. Matt Markko, 1846 George Street, Chicago, Illinois
7. Mrs. Matt Markko, 1846 George Street, Chicago, Illinois
8. Amond Olson, Route #1, Shiocton, Wisconsin
9. Jake W. Roth, Jr., Weatherford, Oklahoma
10. Ed Stueckle, LaCrosse, Washington
11. Mrs. Ed Stueckle, LaCrosse, Washington
12. Fred Stueckle, LaCrosse, Washington
13. Mrs. Fred Stueckle, LaCrosse, Washington
14. J. A. Stueckle, LaCrosse, Washington
15. Mrs. J. A. Stueckle, LaCrosse, Washington
16. Mrs. Fred Williams, Bridgman, Michigan

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE
1960

PREAMBLE

In gratitude to Almighty God for the gift of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, and believing that the supreme task of the Church of Jesus Christ is that of world-wide evangelism through the faithful witness of the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person and that every church should therefore be a living soul-winning agency; and believing, further, that there is a definite need among our Congregational Christian Churches for an organization of churches of unqualified loyalty to the gospel of Christ as revealed in the Word of God, in the interest of a renewed emphasis upon this supreme task among all Congregational Christian Churches; we, therefore, as conservative churches, laymen and ministers of the gospel, humbly invoking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, have banded ourselves together in a conference of Conservative Congregational Christian Churches, and have established an organization which shall function under the following constitution and by-laws:

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be: **THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.**

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

1. To provide through this avenue a means of encouragement to all Conservative Congregational Christian Churches for a more effective fellowship one with the other.

2. To lift up a faithful Biblical witness in this day of doctrinal vagueness, spiritual lukewarmness, indifference and worldliness.

3. To facilitate cooperation in the full support of the ministry of these churches by:

(a) An emphasis upon the place of world-wide evangelism and personal soul winning as the definite responsibility of each individual church and Christian believer.

(b) An emphasis upon Christian education as an effective means of getting every individual in each community into a church where they may be taught the Word of God and brought into saving knowledge of, and into experimental relationship with Christ as personal Saviour.

(c) Encouragement of efforts by the churches to reach with the gospel message spiritually neglected areas both on the local and on the national level; and of missionary work, both at home and abroad.

(d) A dedication of ourselves to a deeper life among God's people.

4. To be a means of service to the churches but without right of infringement upon their autonomy.

ARTICLE III - STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

3. We believe in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

4. We believe that for salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by Whose indwelling power and fulness the Christian is enabled to live a godly, holy life in this present evil world.

6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

7. We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in Christ.

Note: The above recorded Statement of Faith shall be the basis of Conference theological requirement. The following doctrinal and practical interpretations are appended for the purpose of clarifying the Conference position on certain important matters.

1. *The Human Will.* There shall continue the traditional Congregational Christian freedom of interpretation and thought in regard to the age-old controversial questions of determination and freedom of will (Calvinism and Arminianism are specifically in mind).

2. *Baptism.* Traditional Congregational Christian freedom shall be continued in regard to baptism. It is expected of those holding or seeking ministerial membership in the Conference that they be willing to perform baptism or to have another minister to perform baptism by any of the traditional Congregational Christian modes when requested.

3. *Ministerial Standing and Procedure.*

A. Except as pertains to proper credentials of missionaries, ministerial standing is not ordinarily to be extended to women.

B. Persons divorced and remarried shall not retain or obtain ministerial standing.

Constitution and By-laws . . .

C. Ministers are not to unite in marriage divorced persons whose previous union is judged to have been severed on unscriptural grounds.

D. The use of intoxicating beverages and of tobacco and indulgence in worldly amusements will automatically disqualify for the ministry otherwise acceptable candidates. A candidate for ministerial membership will be expected to have a life which is bearing the fruit of the Spirit and which is marked by deep spirituality and the best of ethical practices.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Conference shall be attained by the voluntary association of churches, ministers or individual laymen who find themselves in full accord with the Statement of Faith outlined in Article III of this constitution, and with the general principles of this Conference as set forth in the constitution and by-laws. Conference membership, whether of laymen, church or minister, may be granted upon application to and approval by the designated Conference officials, subject to review by the ensuing annual meeting of the Conference. Ministerial membership shall be accorded on the basis of the approved ministerial standards of the Conference, as set forth in the by-laws of this constitution. Churches are not necessarily barred from membership because of other affiliations so long as they adhere to the Statement of Faith and the workings of the Conference.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

1. *Annual Meeting.* There shall be an annual meeting of the Conference at such time and place as determined by the Executive Committee, unless the same are specifically designated by the annual meeting of the previous year.

2. *Special Meetings.* These may be called at the direction of the Executive Committee, or upon written request of members representing one-fifth of the total membership of the Conference.

3. *Representation.* Churches becoming members of the Conference shall be entitled to representation at the various meetings of the Conference by the pastors and two lay delegates per first 100 members or fraction thereof, and thereafter one delegate for each 500 members or fraction thereof.

Voting privileges at Conference meetings shall also be extended to ministerial members who are without a charge, and to individual lay members of the Conference, with the understanding that not more than one layman from any non-member church shall be entitled to vote.

4. *Procedure.* The guide for parliamentary procedure in all meetings shall be Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

1. The elected officers of this Conference shall be:

. . . *Constitution, Articles VI, VII, VIII, IX, X*

(a) A President, who shall be eligible to succeed himself for two terms only.

(b) A First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, an Executive Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Historian.

(c) The term of office for each of the above officers shall be one year; and for the duration of their tenure they shall be members of the Conference Board of Directors with full voting rights.

2. The duly elected officers of the said Conference shall hold their office until their successors are chosen and qualified in their stead.

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The business of the Conference shall be conducted by a Board of Directors, numbering not fewer than twelve nor more than thirty members, and shall include the elected officers of the Conference. The initial Board having been elected in three equal groups, for one year, two years and three years respectively, one-third of the membership of the Board of Directors (exclusive of the Conference Officers named in Article VI) shall be elected annually for a term of three years, at future annual meetings of the Conference. In the election of members at large, consideration shall be given to proper representation of membership both geographically and organizationally (the latter having reference to foreign-speaking groups).

2. The Board of Directors shall establish an Executive Committee, to consist of the officers of the Conference and five other members of the Board. The Board may delegate to the Executive Committee such of its powers and authority as may be deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the Conference.

3. The Board of Directors shall fill any vacancy arising among the officers of the Conference or in the Board itself, until the next annual meeting of the Conference at which time the Conference shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VIII - INCORPORATION

This revised Constitution and By-laws shall become the Constitution and By-laws of the Corporation established under the Constitution and By-laws replaced by this instrument.

ARTICLE IX - BY-LAWS

The Conference shall adopt such By-laws as it shall deem appropriate and necessary for the operation of the conference. The By-laws shall provide for the manner of amendment thereof.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to this constitution shall be proposed in writing by submitting the same to the recording secretary at the annual meeting preceding their consideration for adoption. The Board of Directors shall immediately after the annual meeting

Constitution and By-laws . . .

at which the amendments are proposed cause copies of the same to be mailed to each of the Conference members (churches, ministers, and individual lay members). A two-thirds favorable vote of the delegates duly elected, and of others entitled to vote (see Article V. paragraph 3), shall meet the requirement for adoption.

2. The provisions of paragraph one (1) in this article shall apply to all articles of this Constitution, with the exception of Article III—The Statement of Faith—which article may be amended only by unanimous vote of the entire number of delegates, ministers and laymen, present at any annual meeting and voting on said amendment, following proper notice to amend, and publication of, the proposed amendment, as required in Paragraph one (1) of this article.

BY-LAWS

I. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The property and business of the Conference shall be managed by the Board of Directors.

2. The President of the Conference shall serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors, and shall preside at all meetings.

3. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at such times and places as shall be determined by the Board, but not less than once a year.

4. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Conference President on one month's notice to each Board member. Such meetings shall also be called by the Executive Secretary in like manner upon written request of any five members of the Board. A business quorum shall be any majority of the members of the Board.

5. The Board of Directors shall keep written minutes of each meeting, which are to be made available to the Conference upon request.

II. OFFICERS

1. The Board of Directors or the Executive Committee may appoint in addition to the officers provided for in the Constitution, such assistant secretaries, assistant treasurers and other subordinate officers and agents as may be deemed necessary. Such officers, when appointed, shall hold office for the terms, exercise the powers and perform the duties assigned to them by the said Board or Committee. Any officer or agent so appointed may be removed at any time by the action of the appointing body.

2. The President shall be chief executive officer of the said Conference. He may, with the consent of the Board of Directors, delegate to such other officers authorities and powers as from time to time may be deemed appropriate and necessary to facilitate the operation of the Conference.

3. The Vice-Presidents, in the order of their rank, shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties and functions of his office, and in addition thereto such other duties as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe.

4. The Recording Secretary, or a temporary substitute, shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Conference, and cause to be recorded all the votes and the minutes of all proceedings in a book to be kept for that purpose. He shall perform all such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.

5. The Executive Secretary shall conduct the official correspondence of the Conference and his office shall be located in a place suitable to him and to the work of the Conference. He shall give, or cause to be given notice of all meetings of the members and of the several committees of the Conference; and shall likewise perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors or by the Executive Committee, under whose supervision he shall be. He shall cause to be kept in safe custody the seal of the Conference and, when authorized by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, shall affix the same to any instrument requiring it. When so affixed, it shall be attested by his signature, or by the signature of such other officers as shall be designated by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary shall keep an accurate roll of the names and addresses of the members of the Conference, which roll shall be the official record of the Conference for all its purposes. He shall also travel in the interests of the Conference so far as time and funds may permit.

6. The Treasurer shall have custody of the corporate funds and securities of the Conference, and shall cause the same to be kept in a safe deposit box as directed by the Board of Directors. He shall cause to be kept full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Conference, and shall deposit all monies and other valuable effects in the name of and credit of the Conference, in repositories indicated by the Board of Directors. The treasurer's books shall be submitted annually to a Conference approved auditor.

7. The Historian shall act as a repository for materials of historical interest, maintain an historical account of the Conference from its inception and promote an interest in the churches in the details of their own histories and anniversaries.

III. COMMITTEES

In addition to the Executive Committee indicated in Article VII, Section 2 of the Constitution, the following committees shall be provided:

1. *A Credentials and Placement Committee* of three to be selected by the Board of Directors; which committee shall review all applications for membership in the Conference and requests for transfer or dismissal and make recommendations to the proper Conference officials.

The Committee shall render all assistance possible to Conference ministers seeking

Constitution and By-laws . . .

pastorates, and to churches seeking pastors, by making available proper information at hand to those who request it.

2. *A Program Committee* of five consisting of the Conference President, the host Pastor, and three members to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall prepare the details of the annual Conference meeting.

3. *A Nominating Committee* of five, two to be appointed annually by the Board of Directors and three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall provide a slate of candidates for the various offices and committees.

4. *A Finance Committee* of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall devise ways and means of providing for the financial needs of the Conference, and shall make such financial needs known to the constituency. The chairman of this committee shall serve as a financial secretary.

5. *A Missionary Committee* of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall encourage and stimulate missionary interest in the local churches by providing missionary literature and missionary speakers.

6. *A Christian Education Committee* to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall render counsel to Conference youth in matters of preparatory education. They shall provide a suitable course of theological study for such otherwise acceptable aspirants to the ministry seeking ordination and conference membership to whom a complete residence course of study would be impossible or impractical.

7. *A Publications Committee* of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall publish an annual year book, conference periodical, tracts and other necessary and desired literature.

8. *A Church Extension and Evangelism Committee* of three to be elected by Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall make available to the Conference constituency information concerning potential areas for the organization of churches, and concerning needy churches to whom assistance and counsel would be helpful. The committee shall seek to interest non-member Congregational Christian churches in Conference membership; and shall encourage evangelism by every means, in the local churches, through example and counsel, through provision of appropriate literature, and through the suggesting of names of evangelists, to churches requesting them.

9. *A Constitution Study Committee* of three to be elected by the Conference on a rotating basis for three year terms. This committee shall annually review the Constitution and By-laws, offer for consideration any appropriate revisions or amendments, and take the necessary procedural steps to bring them before the Conference.

10. The Board of Directors shall appoint for each Annual Meeting the following committees of three each: Time and Place Committee, Resolutions Committee and such other committees as are deemed necessary. The Board of Directors will appoint an Auditing Committee of three at the annual meeting previous to the annual meeting at which they are to serve. They are to see that the books of the Treasurer have a public audit annually.

11. A pastor of a member church, who does not hold his standing in the CCCC, may serve on any committee, with the exception of the Credentials and Placement Committee, as long as he is pastor of a member church. If he ceases his relationship to the member church, he is automatically dropped from committee membership, unless he is called to another member church. He may not be elected to the Board or a Conference office.

IV. FINANCE

The Churches are encouraged to assume their proportionate share of the responsibility for the financial support of the organization of the Conference and of its cooperative enterprises—evangelism, missionary endeavor and publication work.

V. CONFERENCE RECORDS

All records of Conference business in the hands of Conference officials are the property of the Conference, contents of which must be made available to authorized Conference Officials upon request, and which must be delivered to the Conference upon termination of the service of officials.

VI. MINISTERIAL STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Ministerial standing in this Conference shall require:

a. A minimum academic attainment of a diploma from an accredited Bible Institute or the equivalent. A Conference approved study course may, in cases of special need and merit, be applied toward the fulfillment of this requirement.

b. Acceptable ordination to the Christian ministry.

c. Reception into the Conference membership in the manner provided by the constitution. (Article IV)

2. Good and regular standing of ministers shall indicate that they do hold Conference membership, are not under discipline and have no charges against them.

3. An associate or fellowship relationship only may be granted to ministers having their credentials in a non-Congregational body, entitling them to all the privileges of the Conference, with the exception of holding office, committee membership and voting.

4. Ordination to the ministry shall be by a local church, after examination by a council called by said church.

Constitution and By-laws . . .

5. Ministerial license to preach, conferring authority of performing the regular functions of the parish ministry, including the solemnization of marriages, shall, in the absence of a local association:

a. Be granted by the national Conference, in annual convocation, or in cases of special need during the conference year, upon recommendation of the Credentials and Placement Committee to the Conference President.

b. Be available only to lay members of the Conference, who shall revert to the status of laymen at the expiration of the license.

c. Expire with the closing date of the ensuing annual meeting of the Conference; and be renewable at the discretion of the Credentials and Placement Committee upon application to its chairman thirty (30) days before expiration of the license.

6. Ministerial membership cards, both for ministers in full standing and for licensees, shall be issued annually as of the closing date of the Annual Meeting, over the signatures of the President and the Executive Secretary of the Conference. A fee of \$1.00 shall be attached to each issuance.

7. Prospective ministerial candidates, upon acceptance by the Conference Credentials and Placement Committee, may be received under Conference Care for guidance in ministerial preparation. Under such care the enrollee shall pursue the Conference Study Course, and have available recommendations as to Theological Schools, together with such other counsel and assistance as may properly be rendered.

VII. SEAL

The seal of the Conference in use at the time of this Constitutional revision shall continue as the official seal of the Conference, and shall be used by having the same, or a facsimile thereof, impressed or affixed, or reproduced otherwise.

VIII. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Conference shall be adjusted at the discretion of the Board of Directors to conform to the time of the annual meeting.

IX. AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be altered or amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Conference members present and voting at any regular meeting of the same, provided that thirty days notice of intention to so amend the By-laws be given to all the members of the Conference. The various amendments, revisions and additions to the By-laws which may be presented at the forthcoming regular meeting may be accepted or rejected, individually, in part, if so voted; and the numbering or lettering of the resultant accepted text shall be adjusted as necessary.

Thirteenth
Annual Meeting

SEPTEMBER 27 — 29, 1961

CARLISLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CARLISLE, MASSACHUSETTS